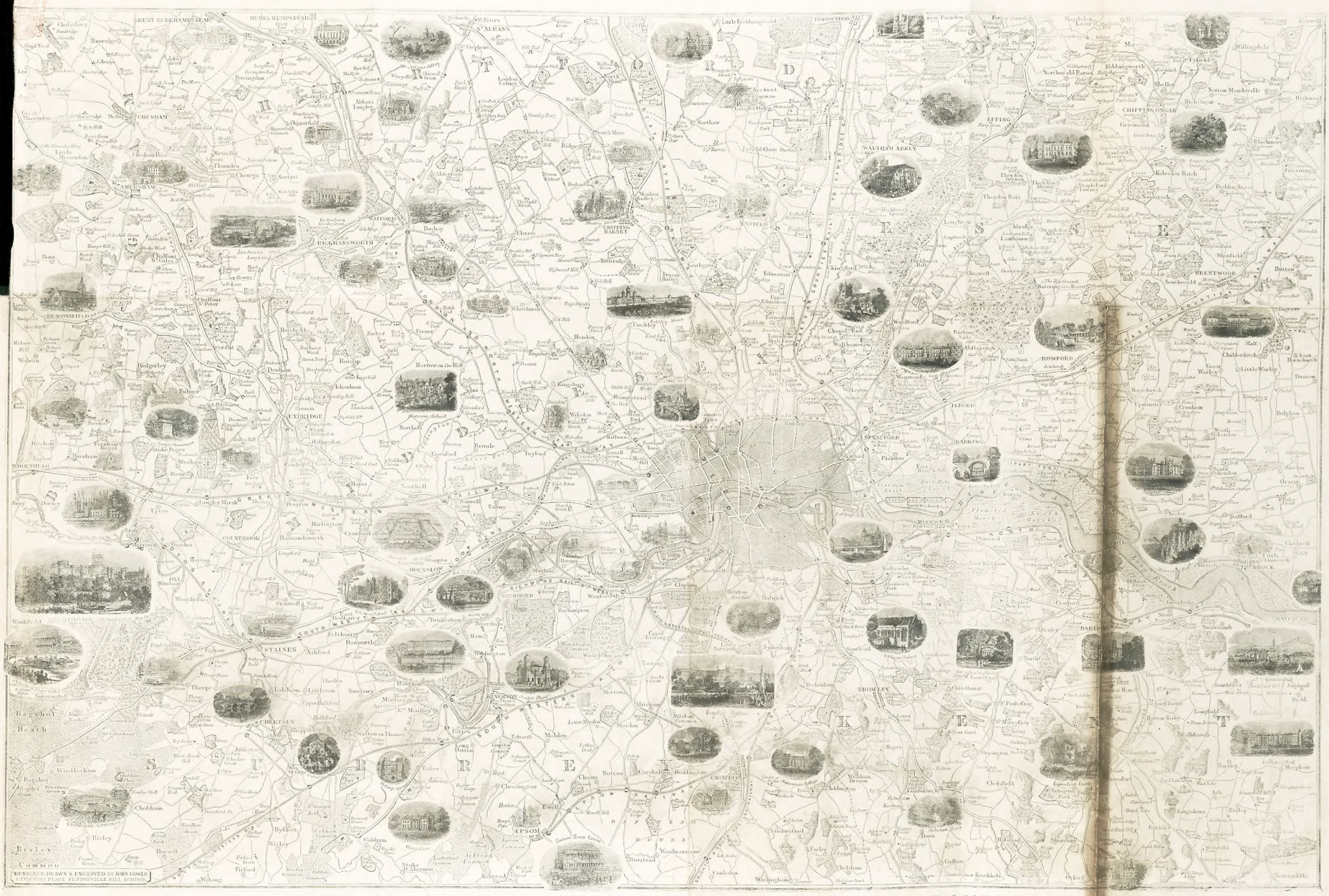

ENVIRONS OF LONDON.—WINDSOR CASTLE TO GRAVESEND.

ARRIVAL OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH AT WINDSOR CASTLE.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 722.—VOL. XXVI] SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE ARMY, THE MINISTRY, AND THE PRESS.

WHILE our Army in the Crimea has been performing acts of heroism worthy of any age and of any nation, and earning for itself immortal renown, and the gratitude of every lover of Justice and Freedom, a state of feeling has been produced at home which, if unchecked, or allowed to extend, would serve to paralyse its efforts, and to turn victory and glory into defeat and humiliation. Englishmen would have cause to blush for themselves if the efforts of the writer, or writers, who have closed the old and opened the new year with their gloomy retrospect, and still gloomier predictions, could produce any permanent effect upon their minds. Happily the heart of the nation is sound. A sensation is created—all the greater in proportion to the magnitude of the bad taste, or of the unpatriotism, displayed by writers such as those to whom we have alluded; but it passes away, at the first moment of cool reflection, without other effect than loss of credit to those who prove themselves to be so unworthy of their countrymen. The blatant bullies of the press—if there be more than *one* journal deserving of such an epithet—bellow in vain. They do not represent the sentiments of the people. They speak for themselves alone, or for that small and sour section of disappointed men who act upon the principle of Satan—that it is "better to reign in hell than serve in heaven;" or who sacrifice truth upon the shrine of their wounded self-conceit or unreasoning vindictiveness.

Many mistakes have doubtless been made in the conduct of the war. It would have been extraordinary, indeed, if there had not; and the prescience of Ministers, and of all their functionaries—from the highest to the lowest grades, both military and civil, would have been something superhuman, if no club-room critic, no tap-room statesman, no General of Puddledock had been able to point out an error, a defect, or a failure. When the Arch-fiend is represented as rebuking Sin, the poet or the philosopher who puts words into his mouth, always shows us the infernal motive for so singular a display. The journal which for the last two weeks has been doing its utmost to sow disunion and produce discouragement, to prevent recruiting, and to disgust the nation with the war, should be judged in the same way. Before its rebuke be accepted as a thing of any value, we should look to its character and its antecedents.

If we do so, we shall find that it has been dishonest throughout; that it has striven, before and after the commencement of the war, to serve the cause of the enemy; that its correspondents have been injudicious, and its conductors malevolent. One day it has striven to disgust the bulk of the people by the unfounded statement that the war had increased the price of bread, and would increase it still more, until famine and all its horrors invaded the land. On another it has asserted that this great and mighty nation—allied with another nation as great and mighty as itself—had undertaken an enterprise beyond the limits of its power; that it tottered upon the pinnacle, and was ready to fall; and that the foe, reinforced at the rate of thirty thousand a day, would crush and overwhelm us. So powerfully, and with such unction, was the picture drawn, that every one imagined the writer would be rather pleased than otherwise at the realisation of his vision, and that shame and discomfiture would better suit his calculation than the victory of his countrymen. Though the misleading journal could not deny the undoubted heroism displayed at Alma, at Balaclava, and at Inkerman, it discovered dark spots on the sunlike brightness of the glory, and spoke of cowards and of deserters—of eight unwounded men seeking an excuse to get out of harm's way by carrying one wounded man to the rear—and of officers throwing up their commissions, not in disgust, but in fear. And, amid these and countless other misrepresentations, the strong under-tide of all its lucubrations was to depict us in the eyes of the Emperor of Russia as a dispirited and divided people. When, on the very day that Parliament rose after its short session, the *Times*, knowing that there could be no Parliamentary reply to its attack until the 23rd of the present month, chose to assert that our army in the Crimea was drifting to destruction; that the General was "invisible," and not known by sight either to officers or private soldiers; that every department was grossly mismanaged; that there was no directing head, no energy, no authority, no supervision;—that the men were actually rotting away, and that a body of the finest and bravest soldiers in the world were ruthlessly and blindly sacrificed by incompetence and stupidity; the first impulse of its readers was to ask the motive of the publication? If the facts were wholly or partially true, it was asked why they had not been published on the Friday, when Parliament was sitting, instead of the Saturday morning, when it would be impossible to call its attention to the subject? Patriotism, if such a virtue had inspired the divulgement of a painful story, would have been glad to have given Parliament an opportunity of eliciting further and possibly more correct information, and of putting an immediate end to a state of affairs, of which every hour's continuance was a national disgrace as well as calamity. But it did not answer the purpose of the writer that Parliament should take up the question. The publication was, therefore, postponed until

THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA ON HIS THRONE, IN THE IMPERIAL PALACE, ST. PETERSBURG.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

the business of Parliament was concluded. The question may well be asked—if Patriotism or even Honesty inspired such a writer.

But supposing the facts to be true, the nation will form its own opinion of the motives of those who chose such a time to publish statements which were sure to be telegraphed within a few hours to St. Petersburg, for the comfort and the guidance of the Emperor Nicholas. If, on the other hand, we suppose the story to be altogether untrue, or grossly exaggerated, what language can sufficiently designate the wickedness, if not the treason, of those who made themselves responsible for it? The liberty of the press is one of the noblest boons this country enjoys. It has laid the foundations of our greatness, and will help to complete, as it already adorns, the structure. But licentiousness of the press—an evil in times of peace which the ordinary tribunals can easily correct—becomes in times of war a dangerous nuisance. We hope the day will never come when sterner and prompter agencies may, for the public interests and safety, be found essential to control it.

Yet although the country owes no thanks to the motives of those who have made these melancholy statements, it is notorious that they are not altogether unfounded. The French army, more numerous than our own, has, it appears, been well supplied with every article which its necessities and its efficiency require. While our men are in rags, and are hutless, and almost foodless, the French are trim and tight, and in admirable order, have huts to cover them, and can spare from their superfluity to help the necessities of their allies. This we believe to have been true; but it should be borne in mind that much of this misery in the British Camp was caused by the fearful hurricane of the 14th of November, which wrecked our transports, and did incalculable damage in a thousand other ways; and that daily since that disastrous visitation reinforcements of men and supplies of stores have been landed in the Crimea; and that the complaints, however well founded, refer to a state of things which has passed away, and been remedied. It should also be borne in mind that we know our own afflictions, but not those of our opponents or of our allies. Prince Menschikoff is the only "Own Correspondent" in the Russian Camp; and General Canrobert will have no newspaper reporters within his lines. The world only knows a very little of what passes in the French army; while the proceedings and state of the British Camp are as plain and clear and minutely exposed to all the world—the Czar included—as if they were photographed.

The attacks upon the Ministry need excite no particular regret or animadversion, and, for our parts, we are not Ministerial apologists. In this free country, any one who consents to be a Minister of State makes up his mind to be attacked; and a large portion of the public enjoys the spectacle. So it always has been, and so it ever will be; and Ministers are none the worse, but, we believe, a good deal better, for the party jealousy or animosity that besets them. It is not of much, if of any, importance, that we are aware of, that the Duke of Newcastle should continue to be War Minister. If he be neither popular nor effective, the world can wag without him. If he have committed blunders, he and his colleagues, all equally guilty, can be made responsible for them; and if the Ministry itself stand in the way of a proper prosecution of the war, the nation has statesmen enough to supply the places of most, if not of all, of them. It would be an inconvenience at the present time to change them; but the inconvenience would after all be but slight; and the benefit of a Ministry thoroughly popular, and having the confidence of the great bulk of the nation, would far more than counterbalance any evil caused by the removal of any man, or set of men, who, whatever their abilities, might labour under the disadvantage of unpopularity.

The attacks upon Lord Raglan stand on a totally different footing. They are unjust and ungenerous in the extreme. To say that they display bad taste and presumptuous ignorance on the part of those who put them forward is not to characterise with sufficient force the pragmatic stolidity of those who, sitting comfortably at home, without any other experience than that of the pen, scribble away—in as far as lies in their power—the reputation of honourable men, who are risking their lives in defence of their country, and who are laden with the heaviest responsibilities that can be laid on the head or the heart of a human being. The Ministers can fight their own battle with hostile critics. Not so Lord Raglan. The only answer he can make is to conquer the enemy. That he will do so, even with the means already at his command, or on the way, or with those provided by our brave and true allies the French, there are very few persons in the country, competent to form an opinion, who have ever presumed to doubt. The true hero is always magnanimous; and Lord Raglan, strong in conscious rectitude, will let the little flies buzz in his ear, and do his duty unconscious of their existence.

THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA UPON HIS THRONE.

The scene of Imperial State represented upon the preceding page possesses the most significant interest at the present moment—more especially by those who join in the poet's creed—

> 'Tis the sunset of life gives the mystical lore,
> For coming events cast their shadows before.

Perchance those shadows may dim the brilliancy of the scene of Imperial splendour which our Artist has depicted mainly from the sketch-book of a tourist who lately visited St. Petersburg. The Emperor is seated upon his Throne, in a magnificent Chair of State; above are emblazoned the Imperial Eagle, and other insignia of the empire; the canopy is of crimson velvet, and deep gold fringe; and the Corinthian columns are of white enamel, with richly-gilt capitals. It is altogether a scene of impressive splendour.

Eighteen Hundred and Fifty-five.—By a strange coincidence which will not again occur for a long time, the new year commences on the same day as in 1849, and consequently all through the year the date will be on the same day. But what is more singular is, that all the moveable holidays, from Septuagesima to Advent, fall on the same dates and the same days. The almanacks of 1849 might therefore serve for the present year.

The Freehold Land Society Movement.—A general meeting of the members of Freehold Land Societies was held at the Royal Hotel, Birmingham, on Wednesday night, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Mr. James Taylor, the founder of these institutions, and the secretary of the Birmingham Society from its commencement, but from the active duties of which office he is about retiring in consequence of declining health. The testimonial consisted of a tea and coffee service, handsomely wrought in silver, and a purse containing 500 guineas. Mr. Taylor, in returning thanks for the present thus made to him, gave a hasty sketch of the rise and progress of freehold land societies. In the last seven years 2000 allotments had been distributed in Birmingham alone, although on the first night the society met only twenty-eight shares were taken, and 28s. subscribed; whereas the subscriptions in that town alone now amounted to more than £10,000 per annum.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

Paris, Thursday.

The receptions at the Tuileries on the occasion of the New Year have been very brilliantly attended, showing a marked difference in this respect to those of last year. On the the 28th the Empress gave a small *soirée intime*. The same evening the Emperor received the Corps Législatif, their President at the head, in the Galerie de Diane; and, after hearing the substance of the vote of the Assembly and replying in a short speech, his Majesty invited the whole body to present themselves in the *salon* of the Empress, whither they proceeded through a double range of the Cent-Gardes. The unexpected addition of upwards of 260 persons to the number already collected in the apartment of the Empress (the party consisted chiefly of members of the Corps Diplomatique, with a sprinkling of Austrian officers, and some of the *élite* of Parisian society, among whom ranked not a few Legitimist names) caused at first considerable crowding; but by degrees space was cleared, and each of the deputies was enabled, in his turn, to salute her Majesty, who received them with her usual graciousness. The Emperor retired as early as ten o'clock—the Empress, an hour later.

It is said that the Duc de Montebello is likely to enter the Senate, and later to replace the Marquis de Turgot, whose health continues to be very precarious, as Ambassador to Spain.

The health of M. Bineau, Minister of Finance, which a short time since was so seriously impaired as to cause much apprehension, is so far restored as to enable him to resume his Ministerial functions.

The attempted assassination of the General de Rostolan is still a subject of much excitement here. The general being on horseback in the middle of his Staff, a man in a blouse approached and fired at him, but the ball, missing its object, struck Colonel Fornier de St. Lary, the principal Aide-de-Camp, in the leg, wounding him—happily not severely. The Colonel, with the aid of General Rostolan and the Staff, was conducted to the neighbouring military post. The intended assassin—who, it seems, was formerly one of the corps of Zouaves, who wished to serve as a substitute, but had been refused on account of the badness of his official notes—was seized by a dragoon. General Rostolan, who thus narrowly escaped falling a victim to the insensate rage of a miscreant whose vengeance he had done nothing whatever to provoke, is one of the most distinguished and respected veterans in the French army. He was formerly Commandant of the *élèves* of the Ecole Polytechnique; first organiser of the Tirailleurs de Vincennes; and, after Oudinot, Commander-in-Chief of the expedition to Rome. For the last year he has been incessantly employed in superintending with the utmost skill and activity the embarkation of the troops for the East; and, during the time when the cholera raged so fearfully and fatally at Marseilles, displayed a zeal, an attention, and devotion to the cure of the inmates of the military hospitals that was beyond all commendation. Colonel Fornier, whose wound is not likely to produce any serious results, is well known and much esteemed in his civil as well as military character, having been a member of the Legislative Assembly, where he always remained among the partisans of order; and since then head of the Staff at Toulouse, and at Marseilles, his present post.

The inquiriès respecting the late troubles at Dreux have led to various arrests—among others that of the Marquise de Jarsy, at her château of Seine-et-Marne, for the distribution of seditious papers, brought through Belgium. An examination took place at the domicile of M. Caylas, late editor of the *National*, but it is believed that nothing of a particularly suspicious nature has been discovered.

The Comédie Française and the Odéon have both, with the departure of the old year, experienced serious losses in the *personnel* of their companies: the former, in the death of a young, handsome, and attractive actress, Mdlle. Rimblot, who died suddenly of a disease of the membranes of the brain, at the age of six-and-twenty. Without possessing a remarkable talent, Mdlle. Rimblot had sufficient to fulfil more than satisfactorily the *rôles* confided to her: her beauty, her absence of pretension, and good sense, predisposed both her colleagues and the public in her favour, and she is universally regretted. Mdlle. Fernand was one of the principal supports of the Odéon: her distinguished air and manner, her pure and energetic diction, her grace and ease, peculiarly fitted her for the parts of *grande dame*, in which she never failed to obtain merited applause. Her success in the part of *Madame de Fermesel*, in "Que dira le Monde?" was one of her latest and most brilliant successes. Madame Ugalde has returned to her post at the Opéra Comique, in the *rôle* of *Galathée*, one of her best. M. Achille Fould, Minister of State, has accorded the sum of 12,000 francs, to be divided among the five oldest *sociétaires* of the Théâtre Français—MM. Samson, Geffroy, Regnier, Beauvallet, and Provost. The last *sociétaire* received in this theatre is Mdlle. Emilie Dubois, whose first *rôle*—that of *Jeanne*, in "Lady Tartuffe"—placed her, at the age of fifteen, in the rank of *première ingénue*, and has already obtained her the position of *sociétaire*, which Mdlle. Rimblot, among others, had for years been vainly desiring to gain. The theatrical reports inform us that, during the course of the past year the different houses in Paris brought out 193 vaudevilles and other light pieces, 24 dramas, a single tragedy, 18 operas, 17 comedies, and two ballets—in all, 255 pieces. The "Trovatore," at the Italian Opera, has a great and popular, though disputed, success. Like all Verdi's music, it is loud, and often more remarkable for singularity than melody; and the poem is confused, and at times almost incomprehensible; the effect, however, is fine as a whole, and all the parts are remarkably well rendered.

AMERICA.

By the mail steamer *Union*, which arrived off Cowes, on Tuesday, *en route* to Havre, we have New York letters and newspapers to the 16th ult.

The proceedings in the Legislature are unimportant. In the Senate a memorial from the New York Chamber of Commerce, asking for an expedition to relieve Dr. Kane, was referred. A measure authorising the President to procure the erection of a lighthouse on Cape Race was introduced in the Lower House.

A telegraphic despatch from Washington, in the *New York Herald*, says:

It is believed in well-informed circles, that a portion of the Cabinet are in favour of adopting hostile measures towards Spain, and incidentally having a brush with England. The theory of this policy would be the annexation of Cuba and Canada at the same time. Mr. Cushing is the mastespirit in this movement, and, if he succeeds in getting the President to adopt it, Marcey will have to leave the State department to make room for the fighting brigadier. The *Union* this morning, in an article apologising for the Greytown outrage, takes occasion to pitch into England savagely. The article is understood to be from the pen of General Cushing, and is in harmony with his views publicly expressed. General Cushing is smart enough to be convinced that nothing but saltpetre can save the Administration, and, as self-preservation is the first law of nature, he is willing to sacrifice the true interests of the country to further his selfish ends. The programme does not include the necessity of a war with France, for it is supposed the temporary and unnatural alliance now existing between England and that country will soon be abruptly terminated.

The *New York Herald* contains the following announcement respecting the intended establishment of a new line of ocean steamers between Europe and New York, on a route which has been so strangely neglected by British enterprise:—

During the past year the steam-ship lines between Europe and this continent have been materially reduced. The Collins Company have lost the *Arctic*, the Havre Company have lost the *Humboldt* and *Franklin*, and several of the Cunard line to New York, and others of the British Northern Provincial and West India lines, have been drawn off for transportation purposes to Sebastopol. There is room for more Atlantic steam-ships, and, just in the nick of time, we have the man to step in and fill up the deficiency, so far as New York is concerned. We understand that Mr. C. Vanderbilt is now building two fine steamers, upon the general plan of the *North Star*, to ply from New York to Havre or Liverpool, and that they will be ready for sea in the course of the coming spring. We are also informed that the Commodore intends, within the course of sixteen or eighteen months, to have six or eight additional steamers put upon the Atlantic, to ply between this port and Havre or Liverpool.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The *Ganges*, which left Constantinople on the 25th ult., arrived at Toulon on Tuesday with more encouraging news from the seat of war than those brought by the previous steamer. Nothing was yet known as to what Omer Pacha intended to do; but the transportation of the troops from Varna was going on. No less than eighteen Turkish battalions had already landed at Eupatoria. As soon as the 30,000 men were completed, it was expected that the Allies would resume their grand operations. The besiegers had in part reopened their fire. The weather had become better, and the communication by sea was regular.

According to one account, the fire was to open on Christmas-day, from 300 guns, with such a supply of ammunition as would enable them to continue, without stopping, for forty-eight hours, after which an assault, from both armies, would take place. If the weather has been favourable, we may, therefore, expect to hear some decisive news in a few days. On the 22nd there was a sharp frost at Sebastopol, accompanied with snow, and both sides were said to be preparing for a battle.

The Russian troops in the field were suffering very severely from the weather. Prince Menschikoff complained that he was sustaining great losses of men and horses from the severity of the weather, and a despatch from Odessa states that two companies of Russian soldiers and a considerable number of sick (conveyed in forty carriages) have perished from the extreme cold. Accounts received from Sebastopol at St. Petersburg mention that 7000 of the inhabitants of the former place had quitted it, in order to take refuge at Simpheropol, and that it resembled some vast barracks in ruin, rather than a city.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR THE CRIMEA.

A despatch from Admiral Hamelin, dated December 22, states that more that 4700 troops had arrived between the 13th and 18th; and that 2170 had reached Kamiesch on the 20th ult. Should supplies continue to arrive at this rate—1000 men per day—the French contingent will soon be strong enough to take Sebastopol without any help from either English or Turks. Nor is the supply likely to slacken for some time.

The French papers state that 5000 men were embarked for the East at Toulon and Marseilles in the course of last week, and that after the departure of the 9th Division, which is now nearly complete, the 10th will be organised. One of the regiments belonging to it has already arrived at Marseilles. The two war battalions of the 49th Regiment of the Line, in garrison at Nîmes, have been ordered to the Crimea. The first left for Marseilles on the 20th, and the second on the 24th. General Cœur, Commander of the 9th Division, sailed in the *Sinai*, on the 29th, for Constantinople, with 10 officers and 400 rank and file.

As regards the strength of the English army in the Crimea, no accurate information on the subject has been allowed to transpire lately, but there can be no doubt that it has received considerable additions within the last month or two, as the Russians have found to their cost. The letters brought by the *Ganges*, which left Constantinople on the 25th, state that "the extension of the Allied lines has very much interrupted the communications and the transport of provisions between Sebastopol and the Russian corps near Balaclava."

In virtue of a French ministerial decision of the 28th ult., a detachment of 400 Marines has been sent to reinforce the expeditionary corps of that arm now before Sebastopol. Those men were supplied by the dépôts of the 1st and 2nd Regiments, quartered at Cherbourg and Brest, and are to sail directly for the Crimea in the steam corvette *Phlegeton*

THE RUSSIAN ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

If any faith can be placed in letters addressed to, and intelligence received by, German journals from Odessa, considerable bodies of infantry are being pushed down to the Crimea from the Bessarabian army, and their places are filled up by reserve brigades and by divisions from General Paniutin's (Second) Corps, hitherto stationed in Volhynia; whilst the latter are relieved by divisions of the First Corps and Corps of Grenadiers. The Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Divisions, forming the Third Corps, now commanded by General Read, in the place of General Osten-Sacken, removed to the Fourth Corps, are said to have marched through Odessa on their way to Perekop, in successive columns of brigades, whose movements are to be aided by waggons, principally furnished by the German colonists, who meet the intervening steppes, in the same manner that they aided with 2000 waggons in the transport of the Fourth Corps immediately previous to the battle of Inkerman. Taking the Russian returns at their value on paper, the three divisions, each of sixteen battalions, would give 48,000 bayonets, including the Third Battalion of Rifles. But the utmost average amount of effective combatants does not and cannot exceed 700 men, half of them being recruits of the last eighteen months' levies. The actual force of the three divisions, when they reach Sebastopol, will therefore be about 32,000 bayonets, with 140 field-pieces; that is, if the fourteen batteries of the corps can keep up with the infantry.

To this corps is attached the Third Division of Light Cavalry, consisting of the 5th and 6th Lancers and 5th and 6th Hussars, each of eight squadrons, or about 2200 effectives. It has also fourteen field-batteries, of ten guns each, divided into three brigades, one of which is horse of two batteries. A position battery of 12 or 18 pounders is attached to each foot brigade. The corps has further a battalion of Sappers, and six battalions (or rather strong companies) of field-train; so that its total amount may be set down at 44,000 effectives. Supposing this corps to join the Crimean army, the following will be the general detail of infantry, according to *corps d'armée*:—

	Battalions.	Men.
Grenadier Corps: 2nd Carbineers (Moscow)	3	2,100
3rd Corps: Three Divisions, six brigades	49	33,000
4th Corps: Three Divisions, six brigades	49	28,000
5th Corps: One brigade	8	4,800
6th Corps: Two Divisions, four brigades	33	16,600
Black Sea Line Cossacks	4	2,400
Marines	8	4,000
Total	154	90,900

Thus, allowing 25,000 men for the service of the place and forts, Prince Menschikoff will have 65,000 bayonets disposable for outside work, with at least 12,000 horse, and 300 field-pieces. Of the Danube army, originally under Prince Gortschakoff, only the Second Brigade of the Fourteenth and the whole of the Fifteenth Division will remain in Bessarabia. Common reason shows, therefore, that the places of the six Divisions, moved or moving from thence to the Crimea within the last two months, have been filled up by troops from Volhynia and Podolia, so as to give at least 60,000 effectives to Prince Gortschakoff's force.

Having a knowledge that Prince Menschikoff will shortly be enabled to dispose of the above-mentioned force of 90,000 bayonets, of course the British and French Governments must be fully aware that it is for them to take such precautions as shall place the Allied Commanders in a position to attack or defend upon tolerably equal grounds.

THE BLACK SEA FLEET.

Karatch Bay, the little inlet adjoining to the one containing the French ships, now holds the remnant of the Black Sea fleet. As an anchorage it is decidedly superior to the Katscha. No wind, except, perhaps, a westerly hurricane, such as there is little reason to anticipate, can disturb the ships which lie on its bosom. The *Vengeance* and *Rodney*, in tow of the *Agamemnon* and *Algiers*, joined the Commander-in-Chief, from the Katscha, on the 11th ult. These, with the *Hannibal*, compose our whole force of line-of-battle ships at present watching Sebastopol. The French retain but four. The gunnels of this is again thrown down to the enemy to engage upon equal terms; for our superiority in screw-ships may be fairly supposed to be counterbalanced by the superior strength of their three-deckers. The *Bellerophon*, at Eupatoria, and the *Sanspareil*, at Balaclava, would be unable to partake in the conflict. No one expects, however, to see a Russian, either by sea or land, dare to engage on equal terms. A report that they were preparing for sea caused much joyous excitement a short time ago, but according to the latest accounts the grim hulls were lying as listlessly as ever beneath their batteries and behind their sunken ships. The passage through this breakwater appears, from the course of the *Vladimir* on the day of her attack on the French lines, to be on the southern side, and not to be a straight one, as the ship made a considerable angle. In her gallant fight on that day the *Valorous* was struck five times, and so near did she approach the batteries that Minié balls were picked up on the deck. Fort Constantine fired very little, and from one of the tiers of guns being almost wholly removed, and many guns from the other tiers, it is inferred that it is no longer in a state to afford much resistance to a brisk cannonade.

Admiral Hamelin, to whom Count de Lastic presented the insignia of his new dignity, was to resign on the 23rd the command of the French fleet to Vice-Admiral Bruat, and was expected at Constantinople on the 26th. Admiral Dundas had arrived at Constantinople on his way to Eupatoria, having left Rear-Admiral Lyons at the head of the English squadron.

THE WAR IN ASIA.

he *Courrier de Marseilles* has letters from Trebizond to the 5th of De-ber, from which it appears that the Russian army had advanced to rak-Kalé, by the routes of Diadin and Utch-Kliesseh. The greatest con-nation prevailed at Erzeroum, though the garrison of that city had reinforced by 8000 Turks; but these forces were scarcely organised, their good conduct in the field was a matter of doubt.

he Russians have organised a native militia in various parts of Circassia, cered by Muscovites. Columns of this militia had made their appearance several points, and strong detachments had attacked Redoubt-Kalé on 3rd ult. As soon as the Intelligence reached Trebizond, the military ernor set out for Tchourouk-sou, to concert measures with Mustapha ha, the General commanding in Anatolia.

THE SULTAN'S VISIT TO THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.

he *Journal de Constantinople* of the 24th December contains the folling account of the visit paid by the Sultan to his Royal Highness the ke of Cambridge:

is Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, whose health is better, left the el d'Angleterre on Monday last, to take up his residence at the Palace of the ish Embassy at Pera.

e Friday last his Imperial Majesty the Sultan, accompanied by his ordinary e, proceeded to the Palace of the Embassy to visit His Royal Highness. The an was received at the entrance of the Palace by Lord Redcliffe, Redcliffe, the whole *personnel* of the British Legation in full uniform, and by the e of Cambridge, who waited at the head of the grand staircase. ttended into the chief saloon, the Sultan entered most affably into conver-n with the Duke. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, and M. Etienne Pisani, First tman of the Embassy, were present at this interview; and, as the noble lander remained standing, his Majesty graciously requested him to be ed. After the interview—which lasted twenty minutes, and at which the an expressed to the Duke his sentiments of friendship and sympathy for en Victoria and the English people, and his satisfaction at the improvement the Duke's health—his Majesty visited Lady Stratford, who, with daughters, was in the ball-room, and conversed with them the most ndly manner.

e Duke accompanied the Sultan half way down the grand staircase, when Sultan insisted he should go no further. Lord Stratford and the other mem-of the Legation accompanied his Majesty to the great vestibule. M. Etienne ni accompanied his Majesty to the palace gates, where the Sultan mounted horse and returned to Tolcragan

THE CZAR'S PREPARATIONS FOR 1855.

he latest accounts from St Petersburg speak of the Emperor Nicholas devoting himself with the most untiring activity to the business of the ssian War office, in anticipation of hostilities with Austria. The ddisters Nesselrode, Dolgorouki, and Panin have a great deal to do. former has had to abandon his favourite pleasure of playing at st and hombre; Dolgorouki is required to present every day an in-se of the army; and Panin to present a new register of voluntary ations

o make up the deficit resulting to the Treasury by the diminution of duties on foreign imports, the Minister of Finance, M. de Brock, has recourse to various expedients. The price of salt, for example, has been siderably increased in a great part of the empire; and a recent ukase vides for the organisation of the revenue from the monopoly of tobacco.

Minister of the Interior, Count Panin-Koslof, animated with same national zeal, excites by different measures, and especially by the et action of the Government functionaries and the clergy, the patriotic nusiasm of the people, so as to cause them to make voluntary donations. is, for example, when in a province a contractor for the sale of liquors, ch is a Government monopoly, does not make a voluntary sacrifice of e hundred quarts of spirits of wine for the troops on the march, it is ain that the contract will not be prolonged. The fanaticism of the ssian serfs is excited by different means: but a great many people are r already learning to make a distinction between the interests of the stry and those of Czarism. It is thus that the Russian peasant hears to se misery and famine that it lessens the rigour of its fiscal measures. is, in Finland, it has not dared yet to prohibit the exportation of hemp, ax, pitch, and timber, as it has prohibited the export of the raw material he south of Russia

he Admirals of the Russian Baltic fleet and the Generals having com-nd in the large towns on the shores of the Gulf of Finland have been mmoned to the Ministry of War at St. Petersburg, where a number of ntelli have been held. It has been decided that the fortifications of the ic towns must be strengthened, and that intrenched camps, each large ugh to receive an infantry division, must be formed near them. A em of strongly-intrenched camps, which is forthwith to be carried into ution, will extend from Cronstadt to most of the strategetic points in and

, private letter from St. Petersburg, dated Dec. 26th, mentions that e important changes have taken place, and more were expected, ing the officers of the army. The one looked upon as the most pos is the nomination of General de Berg, who distinguished himself Revel by the measures he adopted for the defence of that place against Allied fleets. He has been appointed Commandant-in-Chief of Fin-d, in the place of General Rokossowki, who commanded there when narsund was attacked by the Allies. This nomination is considered the more significant that Finland is fully expected to become the theatre, ather one of the theatres, of war next spring. Political persons at St. ersburg fully believe that the King of Sweden is determined to ndon all idea of neutrality, and whenever hostilities recommence in north to take an active part with the Allies. A similar resolve is ex-ed from the King of Denmark, particularly since the fall of the ated Cabinet, which was favourable to the Russians

n Imperial manifesto has been issued. It contains the following sages:

ur duty as a Christian forbids us to desire a further shedding of blood, and ainly we will not reject any propositions and conditions of peace, provided be compatible with the dignity of our empire and the welfare of our ects

ut another and a no less sacred duty bids us, in this distinct struggle, to e every effort and prepare for every sacrifice which the greatness of the ns of attack brought against us demands

e will all, if necessary, show a bold front to our enemies, with sword in d and the cross in our hearts

he Grand Duke Michael and Nicholas, who left Sebastopol on the h ult, at the urgent request of the Empress, are to return to the Crimea the 7th inst.

THE CONFERENCE AT VIENNA.

he final decision of Austria, which was to be made on the 1st of uary, has been postponed for another fortnight, at the request of nce Gortschakoff he not being authorised, he alleges, to give a cate-ical answer to the Note agreed upon by the Three Powers, explanatory he Four Points which are to form the basis of negotiations The most tradictory statements are given regarding the probable result of this attempt to bring Russia to reason. One account represents the Czar aaving declared his willingness to accept "the principle of the four points their integrity, and without reserve," which declaration is said to have n deemed satisfactory by Austria. On the other hand, a letter from nna, of the 26th ult., affirms that Russia will not enter into negotia-n on the basis of the Four Points unless hostilities are instantly sus-nded, and the Allied army withdrawn from the Crimea. A more recent mmunication from Vienna, in the *Frankfort Journal*, says—

ot only has no reply arrived from St. Petersburg to the Austrian summons, not even has any written acknowledgment been sent from that city of the ification of the treaty of December 2, which certainly the Russian Cabinet ht to have at least duly thought politeness. When, therefore, it is ned in various quarters that Prince Gortschakoff has already handed in a visional note from St. Petersburg, we are able to declare that that asser-t is altogether erroneous. We doubt are even entertained of the arrival of r such document for some days to come. It is easy to imagine that these eedings of the Cabinet of St. Petersburg are not satisfactory, although ng the higher officers of the give verbally pacific assurances It is at the e time exceedingly to be regretted that the efforts of Prussia to maintain ce between Russia and Austria find so little support at St Petersburg War ween Russia and Austria is looked on in well-informed circles as inevitable In se circumstances it is not improbable that orders have been sent, as is affirmed, the army to leave its winter quarters, and take up strategical positions at the commencement of January.

Italianari quotes a letter from Berlin, dated the 28th ult., which says:—ccording to recent accounts from St. Petersburg it may be considered as tain that the Emperor of Russia will for the present refuse any ulterior cession. Very confidential communications have been made in this se to the Prussian Cabinet.'

The Conference at Vienna on the 28th was not attended by the Russian Plenipotentiary, as has been stated in some of the papers, nor was the protocol agreed upon communicated to him. Count de Buol, Baron de Bourquency, and the Earl of Westmoreland, having signed the protocol containing their interpretation of the Four Points, the Austrian Minister conveyed to Prince Gortschakoff "the sense of the interpretation," which he has transmitted to St Petersburg. If the Czar is anxious for peace, a telegraphic despatch will convey his answer, no doubt. If he is resolved to go on, he will take advantage of the fortnight's grace, as on former occasions

THE FOREIGN ENLISTMENT BILL

The question of the enrolment of foreign troops for the English service is exciting much attention in Belgium and in Holland. In both countries, but particularly in the former, there are many retired army officers desirous of entering the above service. Numerous young officers, too, in the Belgian army are also willing to quit it for the English one, provided they have the guarantee that at the end of the war they will be received back into the former with the grade they have attained in the latter There is, however, no little difficulty in the way of such a guarantee, particularly as Belgium is, by virtue of existing treaties, a neutral country

The two papers speak of an interview having been held between our representative in Switzerland and the President of the Confederation, the subject of which was understood to be the desire of our Government openly to enlist men in Switzerland for the purposes of the war with Russia. Several newspapers of rank were spoken of as willing to raise auxiliary troops for England.

The *Swabian Mercury* states that in Spain, Holland, and Hamburg, depôts for receiving volunteers for the Foreign Legion which England is about to raise are to be established under the direction of English officers. Each volunteer, it adds, is to receive 20f. on entering, and 300f. when he shall have joined his regiment. He is also, it says, to receive as much tea, liquor, &c., as he likes

The Prussian Government, as was to be expected, is using every means to prevent its subjects from enlisting The Governor of the province of Posen has issued the following notification:—

The criminal code of Prussia prescribes that whoever enlists a Prussian into the military service of foreign States, or induces him to their recruiting agents, likewise whoever intentionally seduces a Prussian soldier to desert or knowingly assists his desertion, will be punished with from three months' to three years' imprisonment. Any agent at the above will be visited with a similar punishment. As offices are now about to be opened in the Netherlands and free towns, for the purpose of enlisting men into foreign service, I take the opportunity of bringing the above penal law to mind, and call upon all the police authorities of the province immediately to arrest any recruiting agent, and hand him over to the State prosecutor, to take from him his papers, and, if he is a foreigner, to take measures for his being sent over the frontier after undergoing his punishment. I require to be informed of each separate instance.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL JAMES ROBERTSON ARNOLD, K.H

LIEUT.-GENERAL ARNOLD, K.H., K.C., died at his residence in Onslow square on the 27th ult. The gallant officer was second son of the late General Benedict Arnold, by Margaret, his wife, daughter of Edward Shippen, Chief Judge of Pennsylvania; and elder brother of the late Colonel William Eitch Arnold, of Little Missenden Abbey, Bucks. He entered the corps of Royal Engineers in 1798, and served more than half a century. In 1800 he was present at the blockade and surrender of Malta; in 1801 participated in the campaign in Egypt, at the capture of Aboukir Castle, the battle of Alexandria, and the expulsion of the French from Grand Cairo. He was subsequently for several years in the West Indies, and took part in the conquest of the colonies of Demerara, Essequibo, Berbice, and Surinam At the last-named place he was severely wounded, while successfully leading the storming party against the redoubt Frederic and Fort Frederic. For his conduct on that occasion he was honourably mentioned in the public despatches, and was presented by the Committee of the Patriotic Fund with a sword of the value of £100. His last military services were in Jersey and Guernsey, in which latter he was commandant of Castle Cornet. Lieut-General Arnold was appointed one of his Majesty's Aides-de-Camp He married Virginia, daughter of Bartlett Goodrich, Esq., of Saling Grove, Essex

WILLIAM HOWE WINDHAM, ESQ., OF FELBRIGG-HALL, NORFOLK

THIS gentleman is one of the principal landed proprietors of the county of Norfolk—died on the 22nd ult., at 11, Berkeley-square, the residence of the Marquis of Bristol. Mr. Windham represented the Eastern Division of Norfolk in the first reformed Parliament. He was the eldest son of the late Admiral Windham, of Felbrigg, who changed his patronymic Lyon for the surname of Windham, on succeeding to the estates of the distinguished senator, the Right Hon William Windham; and grandson of the Very Rev. George William Lukin, Dean of Wells

Mr. Windham came into possession of the Felbrigg estates at the death of his father, in 1833, and in 1842 served as High Sheriff of Norfolk. He was born 30th March, 1802; and married, in July, 1835, Lady Sophia Hervey, daughter of the Marquis of Bristol, by whom he leaves a son and heir, William Frederick, born 9th August, 1840

BRIGADIER GENERAL GEORGE GUSTAVUS DU PLAT, K H.

THE death of Brigadier-General Du Plat, her Majesty's Military Commissioner at the Head-quarters of the Austrian Army, took place at Vienna, on the 21st ult., from dropsy. The Brigadier entered the Royal Engineers in 1814

MRS LEE

THIS lady, who died on the 1st instant, in Bryanston-street, Portman-square, was Elizabeth, only daughter of the late Major Lee, of Belsey Court, Oxfordshire, and widow of his Excellency Henry Hamilton, fourth son of the Hon. Henry Hamilton, by Mary, daughter of Joshua Dawson, Esq., of Castle Dawson, County Derry; and grandson of Gustavus, 1st Viscount Boyne. His Excellency Henry Hamilton was Governor of Canada, the Bermudas, and lastly Commander-in-Chief of the British West India Islands and Governor of Dominica Mrs Lee was descended from the family of Cunningham, of Kilmaurs, Ayrshire, and, settled there in the twelfth century, and was nearly allied to the 15th and last Earl of Glencairn—who was the friend and patron of Robert Burns, and the subject of one of his most touching poems; and at whose death, in 1796, the title of Glencairn became extinct.

WILLS AND PERSONAL ESTATES. Mr. Joseph Hudson, of Oxford-street, tobacco and snuff manufacturer, died possessed of personality amounting to £160,000 Mr. Francis Thorpe, flax-spinner and thread-manufacturer, Lanark House, Peckham, £70,000. Mr. Alexander Ross Saddler, of Southwark and Lower Edmonton, mustard-mill proprietor, £45,000. Mr. W. Brookes, Devonshire-street, Queen-square, £38,000. Dr. J. N. Merriman, £35,000. The Rev. Henry Harvey, Vicar of Overton and Canon of Bristol, £16,000. Miss Agnes Lockey, whose will was proved under £12,000, has bequeathed to the Gloucester Infirmary £100; Gloucester Magdalen Institution, £50; British and Foreign Bible Society, £200; and the Society for Additional Curates, £100.

RELIC FROM BOMARSUND. During last week Captain B. Hall, who, with his little *Bullldog*, has so gallantly redeemed his fame in the Baltic during the summer, has returned to his old residence at Weymouth, and has made a present of the white flag of truce held out by the Russians at the capitulation of Bomarsund to Ali Sofa's Masonic Lodge.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT ON THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.—A serious accident took place on Wednesday night on the Great Northern Railway, at a short distance beyond the Leeds central station, to the train which leaves that town at 6.35 p.m., and arrives at King's-cross at 8.10 p.m. The train was passing over a crossing on one of the viaducts, when the first carriage behind the engine struck against the points, and was immediately detached from the train by the breaking of the coupling-chain, and thrown over the viaduct, forty feet high. In the carriage, which was composed of first and second-class compartments, was the Recorder of Doncaster, Mr. R. Hall, who was travelling to that town to preside at the sessions on the following morning. His right leg and shoulder were fractured, and he was very much bruised by the fall of the carriage, which was smashed to pieces. There were two or three other persons in the carriage, who were also much injured An order was forwarded to Doncaster to adjourn the sessions for one month.

LOSS OF THE GOVERNMENT STAFF OF PHOTOGRAPHERS.—Some months since Government dispatched Mr. Nicklin, photographic artist, with two Sappers and Miners as assistants, with a valuable set of apparat s, for the purpose of taking views of the fortifications about Sebastopol. We regret to learn that the whole perished with the *Lip ann Wrecke*, which foundered in the late hurricane off Balaclava.

THE AFFAIR AT PETROPAULOVSKI.

The following despatch, relating to the affair at Petropaulovsk., has been published at the Admiralty

President, at San Francisco, Nov. 15, 1854.

SIR, As a sequel to Captain Sir Frederick Nicolson's letter of the 14th September last, addressed to me, the duplicate of which was forwarded hence on the 16th ult., I beg to transmit lists of the names of the seamen and marines belonging to her Majesty's ships who were killed at Petropaulovski, or who have since died of their wounds I am, Sir,

(Signed) CHARLES FREDERICK, Commodore

Ralphe Osborne, Esq., M.P., Admiralty

Return of Officers, Seamen, and Marines belonging to H.M.S *President* who were killed or died since from wounds received in the attack on Petropaulovsk

Officers—Captain Charles A. Parker, Royal Marines; Lieutenants James Arnell, James Callaghan, David Stephens, A.B.; John Lewis, Richard Lewis, George Dickson, midshipmen *Marines*, Richard Turrell, John Saines, Francis Russell, George Henderson, Robert Woodwards, privates. (Signed) RICHARD BURRIDGE, Captain

List of Men belonging to H.M.S. *Pique*, who were killed, and who have since died of wounds received in the operations against the batteries and towns of Petropaulovski, Kamtschatka, on the 4th September, 1854.

Joseph Hart, master at arms, W. H. Garland, 2nd Ord; Daniel Davey, A.B., died on board from wounds on 13th September; James Alfred, captain fore-top; Charles Browne, captain G. Thomas M'Dermot, loading seaman, died on board from wounds on Oct. 12, Noah Yates, sailmaker's crew, ditto on Sept. 7; Thomas Morison (1), Ord; James Hanna, A B James Fairbairn, A.B.; Joseph Dawes, ordinary; James Marks, boy first class. Royal Marines: Lanman Race and John Carter, sergeants, Joseph Jackson, private Henry Jefferies, private, died on board from wounds on 5, 6th; Thomas Hewson, private, William Carne, private, died from wounds on Oct. 15th

List of Persons belonging to H.M.S *Virago* killed during operations, and since dead from their wounds

Killed at Petropaulovski, Sept. 4, 1854: George Tee, stoker; Henry Fox, engineer, H M A., third class; Thomas Martyn, ordinary, H M., third class, George Jeffer, engineer, H M.A., died on Sept. 14th; Samuel Sergeant, died—fireman, stoker, died Oct 14th

THE REPRESENTATION OF SUNDERLAND. The nomination of candidates for the vacancy in the representation of Sunderland, caused by the appointment of Mr. W. D. Seymour to the office of Recorder of Newcastle-on-Tyne, took place on Monday in front of the Commission-rooms. Mr Seymour and Mr. Fenwick were the two candidates. The show of hands was in favour of the former; but the polling, which took place on Tuesday, gained Mr. Fenwick at the head of the poll. The result was as follows: Fenwick, 366; Seymour, 645.

BRANDY AND BITTERS. A bill was lately handed to the authorities of San Francisco for payment for refreshments furnished to the grand jury of that city, while pursuing their investigations, which contained the following items: "One dozen claret wine, 3300 cigars, one dozen Martel's brandy, four gallons ditto, five baskets Heidsieck, one bottle of bitters, two tins of crackers, and 123 dollars' worth of cherry brandy." The jurors would give to each of the twenty-three jurors, two-and-a-half bottles of cherry, 150 cigars, two-and-a-half bottles of champagne, and one-and-a-half quart of brandy. In reply to some inquiries of the supervisors, the chairman of the jury replied, their deliberations were so intense that they required some artificial stimulants.

GAMBLING IN SALFORD.—The police of Salford have discovered an extensive system of gambling carried on in that borough by means of lotteries. It was stated that weekly lotteries were drawn at the Dyers' Arms public-house, kept by John Penny, in which as many as 10,000 shilling tickets were sometimes sold amongst the working classes, whilst the prizes yielded varied from 10s. to £40. The conductors of the lottery have been committed for trial for conspiracy to contravene the Acts of Parliament in force against lotteries.

A NEW SUGAR PLANT.—The scarcity of corn in France has drawn attention to a new plant, recently introduced from China, which promises to supersede to a certain extent the use of beetroot in the manufacture of sugar and the distillation of alcohol. The Agricultural Committee of Toulon recently addressed a report to the Minister of War, in respect to the use of the plant in question. It is called the *sorgho*, or *holcus saccharatus*, and was first introduced into France in 1851 by M. de Montigny, the French Consul in China, who sent some grains of the seed to the Government. Since then the culture of the plant has been commenced with success in Provence, and promises to be of great advantage to Algeria. The *sorgho* has called the "sugar cane of the north of China," and numerous experiments have recently been made with a view to ascertaining if it possesses the properties necessary for producing a crystallisable syrup, so as to become a rival to sugar-cane and beetroot. According to the report of the Toulon Agricultural Association, it would appear to have been completely successful. The fact has been ascertained by a series of experiments made in the department of the Var. It also appears to be richer in the saccharine principle than any known plant, except the vine. Beetroot contains from eight to ten per cent of sugar; the *sorgho* produces from sixteen to twenty per cent, from which eight or ten per cent of pure alcohol, fit for all industrial and domestic purposes, can be produced. The refuse is excellent food for cattle, who are very fond of it. The plant grows with great rapidity, and does not require irrigation. The *sorgho* is not a new discovery, as it has been used from time immemorial by the inhabitants of the north of China, by whom large quantities of sugar are extracted from it. But this is the first time it has been introduced on anything like an extensive scale in Europe.

NEW-YEAR'S GIFTS IN FRANCE

THE season for balls and festivities—for the reunion of long-parted friends—for the giving of presents and the interchange of compliments, has again arrived. The old legendary salute of "A happy New Year and many returns of the day!" again flies from lip to lip; but, kind hypocrites that we are! we all of us feel in our hearts how vain is the fond wish with which we beguile ourselves and our neighbours. We cannot ring the joy-bells to welcome Fifty-five, for Death has caught a hold of the ropes, and tolls a dirge

The residents in Paris have at last begun to deplore the abuse of gift-making in the present day. We referred in our Christmas Supplement of last year to the nuisance which this once cheerful duty has by degrees become in that country. Of all the taxes in the year none are so exorbitant as those which are levied by servants, friends, acquaintances, and relatives, on this one day. The tax-payer knows exactly how much is expected of him by the Government, and arranges his affairs accordingly. But not so the donor of these compulsory gifts. I rounds have, of course, too much delicacy to draw up a printed formula of what they think they ought to get on New Year's-day; they leave it to one's "sense of honour," as amiable cabmen do. So that, when with the fear of appearing parsimonious towards dependents and relations, to say nothing of the "quiet hints" of young ladies and the undisguised cravings of little children, he who happens to have a wide circle of friends finds himself in a somewhat awkward predicament. Our readers will not be surprised to learn that many Parisians, and many, if not all, foreigners resident in Paris, make a point of absenting themselves from home on "important business" about the close of the year; just a few very time, above all others, when their fond friends were expecting to see their dear old faces at the door

Far be it from us, however, to deny that there are cases in which the giving of presents is not only pleasing to the receiver but gratifying to the donor. The scenes illustrated in the accompanying Engravings are proofs that the old original feeling which prompted the donation of presents to those we love or esteem is not utterly extinguished in France. Gifts, in the true sense of the word, are outward expressions of the inner sentiments of the soul. To value a gift merely by its money-worth betrays a mean and mercenary nature. The book or trinket does not lie on your table or adorn your person as the representative of so much coin, but the tangible representative of so much intangible spiritual affinity which exists for you in your neighbour's heart. Regarded in this light, gifts become something holy, and the season for their distribution becomes a social festival from which no well minded person would desire to shrink. But the abuse of the custom is another matter, and it is an abuse which in France has gone to such an extreme as to render it probable that a remedy will soon be provided. In reference to this subject, we borrow the following sensible observations from a recent letter from the French capital:—

Though France has made many revolutions under the pretext of abolishing old abuses, there is one which all murmur at, against which all protest, but which all, except one few of the most daring, slavishly submit to; and it is doubtful whether it will ever be extirpated. The most courageous only avoid it by flight, with the excuse of a journey of the utmost urgency; and, while they pretend to leave for the most distant part of France, conceal themselves in some obscure town or village of the province, and submit to the discomfort of exile, in order to shun, as if it were a pestilence, the obligation of New-year's Gifts. Each returning season brings still nearer the prospect of ruin. The march of intellect and enlightenment, instead of abolishing the tyrannical custom which forces people to throw away in one hour the savings, if not the income, of months, has increased the burden more than a hundredfold. The maker and vender of New-year's Gifts have, indeed, advanced with his age. Except in the lowest booths, and scarcely even there, you seek in vain the modest dolls, the small puppets, the manikins, the manikins, the horses of wood, the hues of force soldiers in lead of other days. Objects of far greater value, playthings unknown to the past generation, articles of complicated mechanism and of fabulous price have replaced them.

A simple paper of *bonbons* was formerly gracefully and gratefully accepted, not for the envelope, but for the sweets it contained. Now the bonbons are

NEW-YEAR'S GIFTS IN PARIS.

[illegible] valued for the [illegible] *pallisandre* [illegible] which [illegible] them. The principal gift is of little value; it is the accessory which is esteemed; the worth of the former may be 3f. or 4f., that of the latter will [illegible] Then consider, if you have an extensive acquaintance, blessed with a [illegible] family! And the *étrennes* [illegible] to your porter, to your servants, to the servants of all your acquaintances, to the letter and [illegible] carriers, and to the whole tribe of tradesmen's servants and messengers who prey on you on that fatal day! It is terrible to contemplate! A man with such a prospect before him, and who has not the courage to defy the worst, ought not to approach the Seine at such a moment, as there is no knowing what despair may drive him to do

The abuse, however, must bring its own remedy. The fearful exaggeration for some past in the cost of articles for New-Year's Gifts will not fail to produce some day a terrible reaction. The tyranny of the custom must fall Like all oth[illegible] [illegible] same no longer tolerable even to the [illegible], or even more, must, sooner or later [illegible] they are now exhibited so temptingly, for no [illegible] ase them

NEW-YEAR'S GIFTS IN PARIS.

THE ROMAN WINE-CARRIER.

DRAWN BY GEORGE THOMAS.

SONG OF THE ROMAN WINE-CARRIER.

DRINK, brothers, drink! But O, not in the grape
Let us drink to the hearths of home
Though freemen we stand on our native land
Mid the vine-clad hills of Rome
At morn on the breezy mountain side
At noon in the sultry vale
Or pausing at night 'neath the dying light
Let us drink of the Roman well

O, little they heed in their banquet-halls—
They for whom the red grape hath flowed
As they crowd the board where the wine is poured—
Of the peasant who bears the load.
No matter! God's rivers are freer than wine
And man he knoweth right well,
The hand that filleth the Roman vine
Filleth also the Roman well

Drink deep, O my comrades! [illegible] health in [illegible] cup.
[illegible] our burthens to bear;
[illegible]
[illegible]
Say; what shall [illegible] deep?
Only bitterness wrought by a slavish [illegible]
Can poison the Roman well.

[illegible] we rest from our toil,
[illegible] the fount gushes stainless and free,
How the water was blest by a holier guest
[illegible]
[illegible] at crimsons our southern sky
[illegible] shall fill
[illegible] rest on his beam
[illegible]
[illegible]

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, JAN. 7.—1st Sunday after Epiphany. Fenelon died, 1715.
MONDAY, 8.—Plough Monday. Fire Insurance due.
TUESDAY, 9.—St. Lucien Cape of Good Hope taken, 1809.
WEDNESDAY, 10.—James Watt born, 1736. Royal Exchange burnt, 1838.
THURSDAY, 11.—Hilary Term begins
FRIDAY, 12.—Outbreak at Sheffield, 1840.
SATURDAY, 13.—St. Hilary Old New-Year's-day. C. J. Fox born, 1749

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 13

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
4 31	4 47	5 4	5 20	5 38	5 57	6 17	6 36	6 56	7 17	7 42	8 12	8 43	9 17

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1855.

THE private sentiments of the Queen do not often come before the public—but on all questions and on all subjects they are known to be such as to entitle her to the respect and love of her people. On the 6th of November last her Majesty addressed a letter to Mr. Sidney Herbert, which was first made public in the Crimea, and which we are certain will excite at home an admiration and a sympathy worthy of a great Sovereign to receive, and of a great nation to bestow. The letter, or an extract from it, was transmitted by Mr. Sidney Herbert to Miss Nightingale, whom it especially interested; and, if any breach of etiquette has been committed in its publication, it may well be forgiven, when the result is to show the Sovereign in a light so amiable, so patriotic, and so Christianlike. Its effects will be incalculable in cheering the spirits of our wounded soldiers, and in infusing, if that be possible, new life, energy, and courage among the unwounded. The following is the extract alluded to, which was first published in the *Morning Post*, in a letter from a Crimean correspondent of that journal :—

"WINDSOR CASTLE, Dec. 6, 1854.

"Would you tell Mrs. Herbert that I begged she would *let me "see frequently* the accounts she receives from Miss Nightingale or "Mrs. Bracebridge, as *I hear* no *details of the wounded*, tho' I see "so many from officers, &c., about the battle-field ; and naturally "the former must interest *me* more than any one.

"Let Mrs. Herbert also know that I wish Miss Nightingale and "the ladies would tell these poor noble wounded and sick men that "NO ONE *takes* a warmer interest, or feels *more* for their sufferings, "or admires their courage and heroism MORE than their Queen. "Day and night she thinks of her beloved troops. So does the "Prince.

"Beg Mrs. Herbert to communicate these my words to those "ladies, as I know that *our* sympathy is much valued by these "noble fellows. (Signed) "VICTORIA."

THERE has been a long lull before Sebastopol. Their signal defeat at Inkerman disposed the Russians to keep quiet; and the discouraging state of the weather from the 11th or 12th of November to the end of the year was sufficient of itself, independently of other causes, to reduce the military operations of besiegers and of besieged to a minimum. During this gloomy interval—only cheered in the British and French armies by the remembrance of the mutual glory which they had so recently achieved—the sufferings of our gallant soldiers have been neither few nor small. It is easy for brave men to confront the dangers of the battle, but it is not so easy to confront or endure the miseries of rain and mud, of cold and of starvation. But that melancholy period has passed away. The weather has brightened, and brought not only comfort to the minds but to the bodies of the troops. The roads have been rendered hard by frost; supplies and reinforcements have been received, and hailed with acclamation, both in Sebastopol and Balaclava. We may expect, therefore, to hear at no distant day of new and great battles in the Crimea. We neither know nor can compute the strength of the Russians; but we know that the French and British armies (without counting the Turks who have landed in the vicinity of Eupatoria to the number of 20,000 men) may be calculated to include an effective force, notwithstanding all their losses from sickness and on the battle-field, of upwards of 100,000 men. But are these numbers sufficient for the task in hand? We believe not. High military authorities are of opinion that they are scarcely half enough to act with such vigour upon the offensive, as to secure the speedy capture of Sebastopol. Great Britain and France, and all Europe, miscalculated the power of Russia, and the strength of her Crimean fortress. The mistake was not peculiar to Ministers, to Diplomatists, or to Generals. It pervaded all ranks; and the truth was, perhaps, known to none but to the Czar himself, and a few of his immediate functionaries. But the error is at length seen and confessed; and we hope and trust that it is not too late to remedy it. Neither France nor Great Britain has yet put forward a tithe of its strength; and the Turks, under Omer Pacha—if they cannot be useful in the attack or investment of Sebastopol—can and will render essential service, by keeping the Russians in check at Eupatoria and Bagtcheserai. Inkerman showed of what metal the British and French armies are composed; and the sufferings in the British Camp that followed that day of dearly-bought but imperishable glory, though they have exasperated the troops, have only made them the more eager to measure bayonets with the foe. There can be no doubt that their temper has been sorely tried; but, if the effect of their irritation is such as to render them more formidable than ever, to any number of enemies that may think proper to attack them, the cause may be deplored by every true heart in Britain, but the Russians, at least, will have no reason to rejoice at the result. A thousand British soldiers shivering knee-deep in the trenches, or slumbering in slush and mud, would think it a high privilege and favour to have a tussle with six or seven times the number of Muscovites. Every letter from the Crimea in which private soldiers relate the history of their hardships—and these brave men do not whine, as the comfortable critics of the war whine for them in London—manifests a spirit of pugnacity, and of impatience at the compulsory inaction to which the weather has reduced them, that augurs ill for the success of the Russians in the next battle that either party may provoke. The town of Sebastopol lies white and fresh, and apparently unharmed, before the gaze of our soldiers; and we know, on their own evidence, that there is not a man among them who would not much rather storm it, than look at it. All the most recent accounts tend to confirm the belief that the wished-for opportunity will not much longer be denied them, unless, as a preliminary operation, Lord Raglan and General Canrobert shall feel themselves strong enough to detach a portion of their forces, to deliver battle with General Liprandi. Such a movement is by no means improbable. Numerous as the Russians may be, they will speedily have more than enough on their hands to confront successfully the dangers that are concentrating around them. On every side they will discover a foe—either French, English, Turkish, or Austrian. In less than a fortnight they will, in all probability, have the whole power of the Austrian Empire arrayed against them; and Austria, besides rendering it necessary for the Czar to defend a long line of frontier against the hostility of 100,000 fresh and highly-disciplined troops, has at least 100,000 men to spare, if need be, to support the Allied armies in the Crimea. The mischievous outcry raised against the good faith of Austria by English newspapers, in the interest of the Red Republicans and ultra-Revolutionists of the Continent, has gradually been dying away, and few, if any, are left to share the opinion of M. Kossuth, that Austria will play false to her allies. On the contrary, public confidence—which, there can be no doubt, was somewhat shaken—has been restored; and a few days will prove, beyond even the power of cavillers and Red Republicans to deny, that Austria is heart and hand with France and England, and will aid them with all her armies, and with all her resources, both in Bessarabia and in the Crimea.

The ancient nations considered it treason to despair of the fortunes of the Commonwealth. We have in England a few traitors of this kind—craven hearts—who, by their cowardice, and by the loud utterance which they give to it, do much to harden the heart of the modern Pharaoh, and to protract a war which depends on his obstinacy alone. But the nation itself knows no despair. It treats the cravens with contempt, and will win the desperate fight, at whatever cost. Though we should be beaten at Sebastopol; though the Czar's orders to Menschikoff should be literally carried out; though our last man in the Crimea should be bayoneted on the field by a savage Muscovite, or driven into the sea, the nation would not, and could not, renounce the struggle. We should send round the fiery cross rather than succumb. Our old men as well as our young ones—nay, our very women would lend a hand, and do men's work at home—so that every male in the kingdom fit to bear arms should be made available, rather than that England and France should be foiled in the encounter which they have undertaken. Great Britain and France cannot despair. If they could, they would be alike bankrupt in fortune and honour; they would descend in the rank of nations, becoming second or third-rate States—breathing at the mercy of Czar Nicholas—crawling under his huge legs, and relapsing, as a necessary consequence of their dependence, into the semi-barbarism of Egypt or Assyria, or any other Power that once flourished and fell. But this will not be. The croakers croak in vain, and will gabble at no remote day of the glories which they did not aid, and of the victory which they discouraged. But whether they gabble or croak, the work will go on; and this mighty nation, true to itself, will vindicate its position, and crown its enterprise with that great crown of success, which fools and wise men alike acknowledge.

THE ungenerous outcry against the employment of foreign troops in the British army has produced a very bad effect on the Continent. Though the Ministers have got their bill, it is uncertain whether they will get their men. Germans and Swiss, who have been designated as "cut-throats" and "assassins" to say nothing of the milder epithets of "hirelings" and "mercenaries"—do not feel much disposed to offer their services to a country in which they are led to believe that this is the prevalent opinion regarding them. This is unfortunate; and the more so as the accusation brought against such men is as untimely as it is unjust. Is there a living Englishman, Scotchman, or Irishman who would dare to say that the gallant Sir De Lacy Evans was, when he commanded the British Legion in Spain, a cut-throat, or a leader of cut-throats?—an assassin—or a chief of assassins—or even a mercenary and a hireling? We believe there is not one; or, if there be one, that he would not like to trust himself before an audience of his countrymen to say so, lest he and the tar-bucket, or the parish pump, should be brought into unpleasant companionship. We are of the number of those who thought it a mistaken policy to raise a foreign corps before we had tried the preliminary expedient of throwing open the British service to the ambition of the brave and aspiring youth of our own country; but we never joined in abusing foreign troops merely because they were foreigners. Now that the bill has passed, and that the Ministers have reaped whatever odium was attached to its introduction, we may express regret that such odium should be incurred in vain. But, failing Germany, Switzerland, and Sardinia—from which good soldiers might have been procured—have we no reserves of our own on which we might draw in case of emergency? A suggestion has been made that a portion of the Irish Constabulary Force—soldiers—and first-rate soldiers, too, in everything but the name—might, with proper encouragement, be made available for the Crimea. The suggestion appears to be reasonable. The force in question is in the highest state of discipline and efficiency, and is composed of picked men. If the nation opened up to them the higher honours of the British Army as the rewards of their valour, it is probable that one-third or one-half of them would gladly volunteer for service in the Crimea. Ireland, very fortunately, stands in no need of their presence. Disloyalty and disaffection are defunct in that country. There is no longer any fear of rebellion. The race of agitators is extinct; and warm-hearted people, so far from being inimical to the war, its enthusiastic supporters, and have sent to the Crim some of the bravest of the brave in our armies. By fortunate combination of circumstances, for a country situa as Ireland, even Religion itself, for so long a peri the source of bitterness and dissension, takes part against Rus in the struggle. The Roman Catholic priests look upon Czar not only as the disturber of the world's peace, but as Ar christ; and it is difficult to say under which character they disl him most. But, though the consent of the Irish constabul might, without much difficulty, be obtained, the cons of Parliament is requisite, and Parliament is not sitti At a time like this, when a day's delay might prove of inj to the effective prosecution of the war, it seems unwise to hi adjourned Parliament for a whole month. The Legislature ought this moment to be in full Session; for, if the trained and ex rienced troops which were expected to be raised in foreign Sta were as absolutely essential to the carrying out of Lord Ragla plans as the Ministry led the nation to suppose, some new resou ought to be immediately discovered, on the failure of the old o As far as the public knows, nothing has been yet gained by t Foreign Enlistment Act; and for nearly a month nothing can done to remedy the failure. Our hope is, that the matter was of such consequence as it was represented. If it were, it is di cult to say who is most to blame the Ministry which proposed, the Opposition which discredited and vilified, a Foreign Legion.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

DESPATCH FROM GENERAL CANROBERT.

The French Minister of War has received from the Commander in Chief the Army of the East the following report, dated the 22nd December, 1854

Monsieur le Marechal,—The bad weather has continued with but tr and short intermissions We do not the less continue our operations much as possible to surround the place with our trenches, and all the sie works are becoming perfect and consolidated, notwithstanding the rai weather, which renders transportation very difficult.

The two armies mutually assist each other. I am indebted to t English army for the transport of nearly all the cavalry which I have the Crimea; and on my side I have put at the disposal of Lord Ragl my ambulances to carry his sick to Balaclava, and horses for the tra port of his munitions. These interchanges contribute to keep up the e cellent understanding and perfect cordiality which subsist between t two armies

A night seldom passes without a sortie being made on some portion our approaches, which, however, generally costs the enemy dear

Yesterday, at two in the morning, the Russians, after having made sortie on the third parallel of the English, which the latter vigorously r pulsed, made also a demonstration on the centre and left of our wor Received by a lively and well-directed fire, they retired before our soldie who pursued them with the bayonet. The enemy left many dead on t ground

In order to render more effectual the guard of the trenches, I ha formed a corps of volunteers, whose duty it will be to watch during t night the entries to our works. I expect good results from this insti tion, which completes that of the franc-tireurs, formed at the commence ment of the siege, and who do duty during the day in the trenches, a have already caused much injury to the enemy.

As I have already informed you, our works now extend to the bottc of the bay of the Quarantine. The enemy is evidently alive to the effor we are making on this side, and his artillery briskly disputes with us t ground, where we are, as nearly everywhere else, obliged to dig in t rock, but our progress is not less real, and we remain the possessors.

I have already informed you that the enemy had evacuated the pa of the valley of Baluclava where we formerly perceived him in gre masses. As I wished to inform myself of the situation which he had fask in this direction. I yesterday pushed towards the village of Tchernaya reconnaissance, consisting of a brigade of cavalry, under the orders General Allonville. It encountered at the back of the village of Kamara some bodies of tirailleurs, whom it drove into the ravines. Some grou of cavalry, accompanied with artillery, and several battalions of infantr appeared on the flanks of the reconnoitring party, but did not attempt interfere with its object, which was very happily accomplished.

At the same time a thousand infantry—Scotch and Zouaves—sen from Balaclava on the right of our position, and explored the heigh which extend towards the valley of Baidaky. All they encountered w a post of Cossacks.

In fine, I think that on the left bank of the Tchernaya there are only few posts of the enemy, watching from a distance our positions. There evidently a movement in the Russian army, produced probably by t continued landing of the Turkish troops at Eupatoria. I shall soon kn how to proceed in this respect.

Although the number of the sick has a little increased, in consequen of the perpetual humidity, in which we live, the sanitary state of the arm is satisfactory, and its *moralé* is perfect.

If the troops have been incommoded by the wet, they have not as y suffered from cold. The snow, which has for some time covered the to of the mountains of the interior, has not yet appeared on the plateau w occupy, and the thermometer has not once fallen below zero. The general conditions are rendered better by the care which is taken for o soldiers; and, thanks to the wise foresight of the Emperor and his Gover ment, the army enjoys a relative welfare, which causes it to bear chee fully the fatigues which are imposed upon it

The total of the sick in our military hospitals at Constantinople 3794, of whom 1387 are wounded. Amongst this number are 200 Russian I have established in the Crimea, near the bay of Kurateh, a depôt fo convalescents, where will be placed those who, on leaving the am bulances, require a little repose before resuming service

His Royal Highness Prince Napoleon, who is still detained at Con stantinople by the illness which forced him to leave the Crimea, has ex pressed a wish to rejoin us; but I have thought it my duty to oppose h return, which might seriously affect the health of the Prince.

Accept, &c., CANROBERT.

The following are among the latest telegraphic despatches received :—

VIENNA, Jan. 4.

Prince Gortschakoff has had an audience of the Emperor, which laste an hour and three quarters, but his Majesty is not likely to make an concession to Russia

General OSTEN SACKEN is to act against Eupatoria with 40,000 men an eighty guns

According to telegraphic despatches from French head-quarters, bot armies are preparing to attack the southern part of Sebastopol

The *Moniteur* contains a telegraphic despatch, dated December 2 from the Chargé d'Affaires of France at Constantinople, in these words :—

General Canrobert writes to me on the 26th :—"We shall very soon b in a position to assume the offensive. We are renovating our condition much faster and more effectually than the enemy can do with his W are full of confidence."

ST. MARY-LE-STRAND CHURCH. This beautiful edifice has bee repaired, adorned, and in the best process, and its free accomm dation augmented, under the auspices of Rev. J. F. Denham, Rector; an Messrs. Stewart and Saunders, Churchwardens. By the removal of a unsightly range of middle pews, the altar has been thrown open to th view of the whole congregation, and the well known elegance of th interior completely restored. We congratulate the parish and its autho rities on the unanimous zeal with which, we understand, these judicion arrangements have been conducted. The fabric now affords its origin illustration of the classical taste of its architect, and is in all respect worthy of its pre-eminent position in the great thoroughfare of the metro polis.

BUST OF THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.—Mr. Patric Park ha had the honour to submit to her Majesty the Queen, and his Royal High ness the Prince, the bust of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of th French, which he has executed for his Grace the Duke of Hamilton This fine bust is engraved in No. 698 of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

REOPENING OF PAYNER-ALLEY.—This thoroughfare, leading from Farringdon-road to Newgate-street, which has been entirely closed for period of about six months, in consequence of the pulling down of th premises at its Newgate-street end, has been reopened to the public. Th ancient stone, with the inscription denoting it to be the highest ground in the City, and about which much solicitude has been expressed, is now again open to public view. The stone also marks the boundary between the parishes of St. Vedast-Foster and St. Michael-le-Quern—the church o which last-named parish formerly occupied the now open space at the west end of Cheapside.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JAN. 4

Month of Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°	°		Inches.
Dec. 29	30.462	40·5	27·5	34·8	— 2·4	91	W.S.W.	0.00
" 30	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 4·2	91	W.S.W.	0.01
" 31	[illegible]	47	[illegible]	41·2	+ 4·5	91	W	0.00
Jan 1	[illegible]	[illegible]	42·[illegible]	47·7	+ 11·2	81	N.W.	0.01
" 2	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	47·7	+ 11·1	91	N.N.W.	0.04
" 3	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	48·1	+ 12·0	86	N.W.	0.00
" 4	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	48·1	+ 8·1	86	N.W.	0.00

Note.—The sign denotes below the average and the sign + above the average. The [illegible] in the seventh column are calculated upon the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.46 inches at the beginning of the week to 29.81 inches by January 1st; increased to 30.22 inches by the 4th, and decreased to 30.18 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of eighty-two feet above the level of the sea, was 30.157 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 43·5°, being 7° *above* the average of thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 24·2°, being the difference between the lowest on December 29th and the highest on January 1st.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 8·8°. The greatest was 13·2° on December 31, and the least was 4° on January 4.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of six-hundredths of an inch.

The weather during the week has been distinguished by a high temperature both by day and night, and a cloudy sky. On January 1 there was a heavy gale from the S.W.

Lewisham, 1855, January 5. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The number of births within the week ending December 30th, registered within the metropolitan districts, was 1649, of these 825 were boys, and 824 were girls. The averages for the same week for the preceding nine years were 655 and 643 respectively. The number of deaths within the same period was 1038; of these 513 were males, and 525 females. The number of deaths exceeded the average number as found from the preceding ten years, corrected for increase of population, by 269. The health of London does not seem to improve; it is nearly in the same state as it has been during the preceding three weeks. The average number of deaths lately has been about 1200 weekly; the excess this week is mainly owing to coroners' cases, which have been accumulating till the end of the quarter, and these deaths for the most part were caused by violence, privation, and intemperance. Two deaths were referred to cholera in the week. During the fifty-two weeks of the year 1854 the total number of deaths in London amounted to 73,708, showing the rate of mortality 29 in 1000 persons. The average rate of mortality in London in one year is 26 out of 1000 persons; so that the presence of the epidemic of cholera has raised the mortality one-fifth part above the average.

BROMPTON HOSPITAL. His Grace the Duke of Richmond, K.G., has intimated his consent to preside over the coming anniversary festival of the Hospital for Consumption at Brompton; on which occasion a numerous gathering of noble and benevolent individuals is expected, inasmuch as the indoor accommodation of the hospital is about to be extended from 90 to 120 beds, and the good offices of the charitable will be needed to expedite so desirable an object.

CHARING-CROSS HOSPITAL.—At a quarterly meeting of the committee of the institution on Tuesday—Charles Few, Esq., in the chair—it was reported that during the past quarter there had been relieved by the hospital—of in-patients, 1338; out-patients, 14,875; total, 16,008. In the above were included 3288 cases of accident and dangerous emergency, of which 246 were so severe as to require to be immediately admitted as in-patients. The deep regret of the governors for the loss which the hospital has sustained by the death of the late Dr. R. Rowland, an efficient officer of the Hospital, and a very kind and able physician, was directed to be recorded in the minutes.

PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK. On Thursday a general meeting of the Committee of the Royal National Life-Boat (saving life-boats) Institution was held at the society's offices, Mr. F. Chapman, F.R.S., in the chair. The silver medal of the institution was voted to Lieut. Joachim, R.N., and £19 8s. to nineteen others who had gone off with him in the *Pelerine* life-boat, to the rescue of the crew of a Norwegian brig which during a gale of wind had been driven on the Holme Sand. A reward of £3 was also voted to two men who in their yawl had succeeded in rescuing the crew of the sloop *Request*, of Cardiff, which foundered near that place on the 21st ult. A reward of £18 was also granted to the crews of the life-boats of the institution stationed at Burmouth and Portmadoc, for rendering, during their laudable services to the crew, consisting of thirty-seven men, of the ship *Pride of the Sea*.

DRAINAGE OF LONDON.—At the meeting of the Metropolitan Commission of Sewers, on Tuesday, Sir John V. Shelley gave notice of a motion to the effect that for the complete drainage of the metropolis two main sewers must be formed, one on the north and the other on the south side of the Thames, thus preventing the pollution of the river. That, in order to carry out this object, an outfall on each side of the river be made, in the only near the mouth of the Thames to prevent the drainage, when once discharged, being brought back by the tide into the waters of the metropolis. That, as the law at present did not enable the Commissioners to effectuate such a scheme, inasmuch as they had no power to take land for the purpose of outfall works, and as the sanction of Parliament for the raising of £300,000 to be spent on the main drainage of the metropolis was obtained during last season, with the distinct understanding that the whole sum should be expended on the outfalls exclusively, in any bill to be introduced into Parliament for the better legislation of the metropolis, provision should be given to the Commissioners to take land for the purpose of works upon which, as outfalls, the ultimate successful carrying out of vast drainage operations must mainly depend.

TRIAL OF EMANUEL BARTHELEMY.—The trial of Emanuel Barthelemy (for the murder of Mr. George Moore and Mr. Collard, in Warren-street, Fitzroy-square) took place at the Central Criminal Court on Thursday. The Jury after an hour's deliberation, returned a verdict of Guilty, accompanied by a strong recommendation for the mercy of the Court and of her Majesty the Queen. Lord Campbell, in passing sentence of death upon the prisoner, said he entirely concurred in the verdict, and considered the prisoner's crime to have been one of great atrocity, without a single mitigatory circumstance. The prisoner heard sentence of death passed without exhibiting the slightest emotion.

RAILWAY TESTIMONIAL.—A very gratifying mark of respect for long service and just appreciation of private worth has just been conferred upon Mr. Richard Peacock, a retiring officer of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company. Mr. Peacock had long filled the office of Locomotive Superintendent in the above Company, and this public recognition of his merit was given at the close of a connection of fourteen years. With the exception of the contributions of a few friends of Mr. Peacock, who were anxious to participate in this substantial expression of regard, the entire amount of the subscription for the testimonial was raised among the officers of the Company, and about one third of it was given by the men employed at the locomotive works at Gorton. He gave a festival dinner to the workmen, with a crowded attendance, and the particulars of the value of the testimonial, consisted of a fluted column, with six branches for lights, and a basket for flowers and around the column are seated three figures, emblematic of Industry, Perseverance, and Science. On one of the panels of a hexagonal base is the following inscription:—

Presented, with other plate, to RICHARD PEACOCK, Esq., on his retirement from the service of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company, by the officers and servants of the Company, and other friends, in token of their high appreciation of the zealous and [illegible] private worth manifested by him during the fourteen years in which he has filled the position of Locomotive Superintendent of the above Company.

The presentation took place in one of the large sheds at Gorton, when upwards of 200 of the workmen were present, besides most of the chief officers of the company. Mr. Rose, the secretary of the company, presented the testimonial to Mr. Peacock, and, in a short speech, referred to the exertions of the general manager of this company, Mr. Watkin, who had always been an active and zealous promoter of education, and had already set machinery at work which would shortly give to those employed at these works the benefits of these libraries and reading-rooms, and he trusted he had only to call this to their minds to make them anxious to avail themselves to the utmost of the facilities for mental knowledge. The testimonial was presented to Mr. Peacock amidst loud cheers; and that gentleman said he felt especially proud that so large a proportion of it was contributed by those who had been under his control. The whole of this superb Plate has been designed and executed by T. Sharp, Connaught-terrace, London. The characteristic bas-reliefs on the Candelabrum were modeled from the works at Gorton.

DOD'S PEERAGE, BARONETAGE, AND KNIGHTAGE. The edition for the current year of this valuable manual evidences, in a remarkable manner, the untiring observation and care bestowed in its preparation. The political changes of the past year and the war with Russia have brought about more than the usual number of additions and changes in the titled world; and upon turning over the pages we find that they have been recorded with remarkable precision and completeness down to the very latest date.

GENERAL SIR HOWARD DOUGLAS ON THE CRIMEAN EXPEDITION.

SIR HOWARD DOUGLAS, in a new edition of his treatise on "Naval Gunnery," introduces a chapter on the history and present aspect of the Crimean Expedition, which deserves more extensive notice than it is likely to receive in a purely technical work.

This publication is important as being, amongst the numerous commentaries volunteered upon the subject of the war, the first which has been issued upon professional authority of acknowledged weight and character. In proposing now to give a brief abstract of the observations of the gallant veteran, we may remark *en passant*—and we do it with no small degree of satisfaction—that his opinions on almost all points are of a tendency to confirm those which from time to time we have ventured to publish upon this subject; and this fact is the more significant and important, inasmuch as the opinions which we have so adventured have all been based upon the best authorities in military science. This consentaneousness in views by those entitled to propound them, whilst it leaves no doubt of much error in the past conduct of affairs, is encouraging, as giving confidence in the suggestions of remedy for the future; and as establishing that the art of war, particularly in that most important operation, a siege, is not a matter of mere chance, but, on the contrary, one of calculation and of certainty.

Sir Howard Douglas, after referring to the unprepared state in which the country found itself when it had fairly drifted into this war, owing to the "reckless spirit of economy" which during a long peace had abolished or reduced all our military establishments, points to the undeniable fact—beside which establishment efficiency becomes a matter of secondary consideration, a fact which we have more than once adverted to: that the expedition to the Crimea was undertaken with an army much too weak, numerically, for the purpose; and that even thus inefficiently projected it was commenced too late in the season, except under the notion of taking Sebastopol by a *coup-de-main*. The battle of Alma, though a brilliant affair, by weakening our army, and leaving a hostile army of observation in our rear, which from time to time threatened our rear, prevented the siege; and this chance was again diminished when, by force of circumstances (the validity of which, however, Sir Howard disputes), we made the flank march, by which we abandoned the attack on the northern for one on the southern side of the town. Sir Howard contends that this movement was fatal to the cause:—

The flank march of the whole army to the south (he observes) abandoned at once to the enemy a perfectly free communication between the place to be besieged, and his army of observation in the field, and left open their line of operation from Inkermann, base at Perekop; *it disclosed the alarming fact that, from want of sufficient force, Sebastopol could not be invested on every side;* that the most advantageous point of attack was not to be attacked, but turned; that the enemy's communication with the strongest portions of the town, its citadel, its keep, and the key of the whole position, was to be left open to him; and that, instead of besieging Sebastopol, the Allied army was only to attack an intrenched position on the southern heights, supported in its rear by the strongest features and the most formidable works of the place, and open to receive succour or reinforcements to any extent; also, that the attack of the place was to be carried on without a covering army, distinct from the besieging force, to protect it from being disturbed in its operations by the enemy in the field, who was thus left in direct and immediate communication with a city which he might support with all his force. The flank march of the whole army to the south was an error in strategical science imposed of necessity upon the Allied Commanders by want of numerical strength to render the attack of Sebastopol safe and successful; and such error can only be justified by the absolute inability of the army to fulfil the conditions on which the siege of a fortress with a large army of observation in the field can be successful.

He then goes on to show how the operations ought to have been conducted on the north side, supposing the force for the purpose to have been sufficient; but upon this point we need not enter, for the necessary conditions did not exist. We entered upon a campaign, in an enemy's country, with a force utterly inadequate, and, more fatal error still, without a reserve to call to its aid. The miserable reinforcements now being scraped together in all directions, and hastily dispatched to the seat of war, will, it is to be feared, not be available for duty during the campaign to do more than fill up the gaps which pestilence and war have made in the Allied army.

And as to the new campaign of the New Year now opening upon us, what must we look to? "Not the driblets which we are now sending out, and shortly of new-raised men, will suffice; 300,000 men at least will be required to retrieve our errors there, and to carry on the war in the Crimea. It is curious that 200,000 was the very number we suggested as necessary for this purpose, writing on the subject some weeks ago.

How the troops now before Sebastopol have managed to hold their ground, and to carry on their work in the trenches, the gallant writer pronounces to be "a miracle of war." The force for guarding the trenches cannot be regulated by any calculation of the number of the garrison, for the place is being invested the moment the army, in the number opposed to it, is indefinite; "but this we know, that the men on duty in the lines of approach are very nearly half the effective strength of the army; and that a very large portion of those who so heroically repulsed the attack of the 5th of November had just left their nights duty in the trenches."

In short, the ordinary relative positions of the besieged and besiegers are reversed in the present expedition; the besieged are strongest, and, being so, indulge in frequent sorties, a species of operation which a garrison should rarely undertake, first, because, being an operation of an "eccentric" character, the sallying party is at a disadvantage; and secondly, because the loss of a single man out of a weak garrison is more serious than that of half a dozen to a strong besieging force. The first of these considerations is not important, where the second fails; and, in the case of Sebastopol, the very contrary of the presupposed case exists; and, as Sir Howard observes, "when the garrison of a place is strong, or the besieging army inadequate to the enterprise (both of which is the case in the attack on Sebastopol, it not being invested), the loss of one man to the Allied army is far more serious to it than a much greater loss to the defenders of a position which may be strengthened to any extent commensurate with its force in the field."

We must copy two more brief paragraphs, in which the writer insists upon all that he has already advanced, and holds out a discouraging prospect of affairs, as the siege, or rather attack, is at present conducted:—

The southern heights (he says) may be crowned by our batteries; but lodgments formed on the face of the slope descending to the town, docks, and harbour, would be so much exposed to the fire from large octagonal work, and of all the batteries which, no doubt, have been established on the opposite side, that the occupation of the place appears to be utterly impracticable, without *first reducing the works on the northern side;* and to effect this will require another siege. Such is the necessary consequence of having attacked the place at the wrong side.

And again:—

Such a place need not, and will not, capitulate, attacked as it is, however successful that attack may be. The garrison cannot be captured; since, after making the most determined resistance, it may retire to the northern heights, or it may evacuate the place altogether, and unite itself with the army already in the field, after having rendered the town uninhabitable, and destroyed all the warlike stores it contains.

Having thus stated the more important of Sir Howard Douglas's observations—in the general principles of which we entirely concur—we may be permitted to make a remark which may slightly qualify their application to the particular case under consideration. The gallant General's personal experience in siege operations has been chiefly found in the brilliant Peninsular campaign of forty years ago, where the contending parties were the flower of two of the bravest armies in the world—free men, fighting for fame, for country, for position. Can this be said of the case between those two armies, now happily in alliance, and the base and barbarous serfs—not of Russia, but of the Russian Autocrat? Will these continue to defend their prison-house and their chains, when successful breach being made, they have a prospect of freedom? Will these men defend their ground inch by inch, as the French did at St Sebastian and Badajos—preferring death in common to defeat? Or, to refer to the example of another brave people, fighting for freedom and nationality, will they mine and explode the ground under their feet, rather than yield, as the Spaniards did at Saragossa? With all due acknowledgment of the bravery which the Czar's army has already shown in the field, and behind their fascinated batteries, we cannot expect to see such desperate resistance when the case becomes one of extremity; and, in the interest of humanity, would fain hope that, once we are in strength and position to turn the tide against the enemy, the ultimate struggle may be less sanguinary than Peninsular precedents would lead one to expect. Still, however, until the Allies have 200,000 men in the field, it is premature to speculate upon the issue.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

LORD ROKEBY and Major-General Barnard embarked on Wednesday afternoon, at Pl'y mouth, on board the *St. Jean d'Acre*, 101; and at four o'clock she steamed out of Plymouth Sound for Queenstown, on her voyage to the Black Sea.

RETURN OF THE "HIMALAYA."—The *Himalaya* arrived at Spithead on Tuesday afternoon, from the Black Sea, Malta, and Gibraltar. She has brought home nearly 800 wounded and invalid officers and men, women, children, and others. The number of wounded on board, independently of officers, are—men, 48, sick, 88; whilst there are also 22 women and children. In the passage from Malta there have been six births on board the *Himalaya*, and one death—that of a private of the Royal Artillery. On coming up to Spithead the *Himalaya* had the yellow flag flying from her foremast head, and it was at first believed that cholera or other sickness prevailed on board. She soon, however, after coming to anchor, obtained pratique, and lowered the ominous flag. Upon the whole, she has been free from all ill health, considering that she includes, and wounded. The sea-breeze and the approach to the British shores have evidently done good to both sick and wounded. The *Himalaya* will have to go to Southampton to have repairs effected. These will require be extensive, but they will have to be done at the expense of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Packet Company, from whom Government purchased the *Himalaya*, and who are bound to keep her in repair for twelve months after the date of the purchase.

THERE are at present in course of preparation at the Naval Arsenal at Malta a number of shells, to be used in blowing up the Russian ships sunk at the mouth of the port of Sebastopol. The shell is of the usual spherical shape; and is divided into two sections, each having an outer rim, by which, when charged, the two parts are firmly screwed together. These shells are of different sizes—some constructed to contain 250 lb., others 500 lb., and others even 1000 lb. of gunpowder. When required for operation, a copper wire will be attached to each, in connection with a galvanic battery, and the shell dropped into the hold of the vessel.

THE Government has ordered iron stabling for 2000 horses to be constructed, to be ready for dispatch to the Crimea in three weeks.

ACCORDING to the returns made up to Monday, at the Admiralty, Great Britain has 143 vessels of war propelled by steam-power afloat and in commission, and 16 sailing ships—total, 246

By advices received from Constantinople, the *Metropolitan* steamer, the *Charity* steamer, the *Bavilbec* steamer, the *Hydaspes*, *Norman*, *Jura*, *Blake*, *Algore*, and *Robert Lowe* had all arrived safely from England, laden with troops, stores, and munitions, and passed on to the Crimea since the 15th ult.

ON Monday the labourers in the Tower, assisted by the fatigue parties furnished by the garrison of the fortress and upwards of 100 extra workmen, were actively engaged in dispatching commissariat and military stores to the Crimea. The stores principally consisted of warm fur cloth, sing, flannels, blankets, preserved meats, Minie rifles and rifled carbines, sabres, bayonets, revolvers, lances, various articles of accoutrements, horse clothing, nose-bags, and picket posts and ropes (halters). There are now above 25,000 stand of Minie rifles required

COLONEL HARRY G. JONES, director of the engineering establishment at Chatham, is under orders to proceed to the seat of war in the Crimea. It was expected that he would embark at the same time as the 1st Company of Royal Sappers and Miners, now at Chatham, under orders of readiness to embark for the Crimea. The Sappers have been medically inspected, and are now receiving a supply of warm clothing and very strong boots for trench work.

EMBODIMENT OF THE ENTIRE MILITIA. It is intended to call out the whole of the Militia regiments of the United Kingdom, including the entire Irish as well as Scotch Militia. Already sixty-four English and Welsh regiments are embodied, and sixteen more are ordered out, making thirty out of the twenty-four of England and Wales. The remaining twenty will make the last batch. The number of men authorised by Parliament for this part of the local force is 80,000, whilst the number for Scotland is 10,000, and for Ireland 30,000. If, out of these, 80,000 can be got together, it will be an outside number. Some 15,000 of the better prepared Militia regiments will garrison the Mediterranean colonies, requiring a fourth more to remain at home for the purposes of depôts and keeping up the force abroad. Thus 20,000 are provided for. The remaining 60,000 will be required for home duty, in conjunction with the depôts of the regiments of the Regular army, in an enemy's land. It is expected that sufficient barracks will soon be ready for the whole number—sooner, in fact, than the men can be procured. In the military colonies of Malta, Corfu, Malta, and the Militia regiments will do the garrison duty at Malta, in addition, it is intended to have a reserve force of regulars in training, and ready for immediate embarkation to any point where their services may be required in the field. Already a most lively competition is displayed by the Militia regiments longest enrolled for the first turn of garrison service in the Mediterranean.

A NEW FIELD BATTERY FOR THE CRIMEA.—A new and powerful field battery, Captain Ward's Company, 3rd battalion Royal Artillery, joined the brigade of field batteries on Monday last, and, with Captain Smythe's Company, 6th Battalion, will form a new and powerful field battery of heavy guns, which will proceed to the Crimea early in the spring. Captain Smythe's Company will take the right half of the battery, and Captain Ward's Company the left half. The guns will be iron 32-pounders, of 42 cwt., and will be twelve-horse, and it is the intention to harness them three abreast, as in the Swedish service. Great interest is attached to the formation of this battery, as it is the first ever composed of such heavy guns; their great advantage over light guns being shown at Inkerman, when Colonel Gamber brought up his two 18-pounders, which mainly contributed to decide that glorious victory. The guns for this field battery are to be made up to 250 non-commissioned officers, gunners, and drivers, and 230 horses are to be attached to it

AN entirely new and very extensive factory is forthwith to be erected for the manufacture in large quantities of the rifle-musket; and the Board of Ordnance has now entered into the necessary contracts for the buildings and machinery. Messrs. Fairbairn, the well-known engineers of Manchester, have contracted to complete in six months the whole of the buildings, motive power, and mill-shafting, &c.; and other contractors will, within the same period, complete and fix the tools and machines used in the various processes of rifle-making. The machines are to be capable of exerting a force of upwards of 200-horse power; and machines of the newest and most improved character will be employed in every department of the manufacture, so as to ensure both perfect accuracy in the workmanship and economy in the cost of its production. The extent of the contract with Messrs. Fairbairn is understood to be about £60,000

THE second London detachment of the men engaged by Messrs. Peto and Betts to construct the railway from Balaclava to the trenches before and the heights around Sebastopol left Blackwall on Tuesday, in the *Hesperus*, 800 tons. She carries her full burden, 800 tons of rails, sleepers, and other materials, with fuel for twelve days, but presents no appearance whatever of being unduly laden, and, should the weather be but moderately favourable, it is anticipated that she will reach Balta without stopping at Gibraltar to coal, and accomplish the entire voyage to Balaclava in three weeks. She will be followed by the *Prince of Wales* and the *Earl of Durham*, the former carrying 80 and the latter 50 navvies

THE *Euphrates* freight-ship sailed from Spithead on Wednesday afternoon for the Black Sea. The *Clyde* steam-transport, with a few troops and a cargo of stores for the Crimea, left Portsmouth on Wednesday morning. On the same day the Government chartered an island from Torbay, laden with provisions, stores, and munitions of war, for Balaclava

CAVALRY REINFORCEMENTS FOR THE CRIMEA

THE fine illustration upon the following page represents the uniforms of some of our Cavalry Regiments which so gloriously distinguished themselves at the battle of Balaclava. In a former number of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS we published a detailed account of each corps. Sickness and the enemy's guns have sadly thinned the ranks of those fine-looking fellows who, but a few months since, left our shores in robust health. But, although their numerical strength has diminished, the energy and patient endurance of both men and officers remain unconquerable. Orders have been issued for augmenting each cavalry regiment in the Crimea, increasing them to eighty horses, and equipping them with a proportionate number of troopers

CAVALRY AND ARTILLERY REINFORCEMENTS FOR THE WAR.—(SEE PAGE 9.)

5TH HUSSARS — 17TH LANCERS — ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY

CHAIN-CABLES.

CHAIN-CABLE FORGING, AT THE [illegible]NIA WORKS, TIPTAUT, NEAR BUDDY—CUTTING THE ROD OF IRON.

MANY a stroller upon the Chain pier at Brighton will recollect that around a sun-dial placed on the transverse platform is inscribed the name of the inventor of this elegant structure—Captain Sir Samuel Brown, R.N. To the same skilful engineer we owe the invention of the Chain-cable. He established his works upon the Isle of Dogs some forty years ago, and the invention was thus noticed in the "Reports of the Jurors of the Great Exhibition of 18[illegible]:

A Captain of the British Navy (Sir Samuel Brown) introduced cables made [illegible] arranged as to be easily worked. These [illegible] in ships of war, but also [illegible] shipping [illegible] union. We should have been happy [illegible] improvement had been recent enough to have received the highest of our awards, as

CHAIN-CABLE FORGING.—SIDE-WELDING.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

being one of the greatest boons effected for the shipping interests, and the preservation of life and property.

It is to a principal seat of this branch of manufacture that our Artist takes the reader in the pair of Illustrations engraved upon the preceding pages, as being fraught with interest at the present moment, when so many additional thousands of lives are exposed to the perils of stormy seapassage.

These scenes have been sketched at the Phœnix Works of Messrs. Melrose and Hussey, at Tividale, near Dudley, who are now casting an extensive order of Chain-cables for the Government.

There are two methods of making Cables, technically termed "side-welding and "end-welding;" the latter is the old-fashioned and the most common method, there being but few establishments laid out for side-welding. This is rather more expensive, but makes the best chain, not only as regards appearance, but also quality. All the Cables for the Government are made so as to enable them to stand the severest test to which they are subjected. The smaller-size Cables, however—say up to one inch are all end-welded. The method of making side-welded chain is as follows; viz.:—The bars of iron are put into a furnace, and, when hot, are cut up into pieces of the required length to form one link, by means of a circular saw. The cut is made in a sloping direction, so as to form what is termed the scarf, and so as to present as large a surface as possible for welding. From the saw, and when still hot, the scarf is taken to the bending-machine, and bent to the required form of the link. When a number of links are thus formed, they are handed over to the chainmakers for completion. This consists in welding the ends of the links together; connecting one link with the other, and inserting the stay-pins or studs, which are used to give additional stiffness to the chain. They now only remain to be tested, by means of a powerful hydraulic-machine; and the side-welded Chain is ready for use.

For the "end-welded" Chain, the iron is cut off cold of the required length to form the links, by means of a large pair of shears worked by a steam-engine. The remainder of the operation is performed by the chainmakers themselves, who bend the link to the required form by hand, instead of by machinery; after which they weld the ends together. In some establishments, which have not the benefit of machinery, the iron is entirely cut by hand, and the fires blown by bellows; but this is a very tedious operation. In all large establishments machinery is brought into requisition as much as possible; and the fires are all supplied with blast from a fan worked by the engine; so that the chain-makers have only to open a valve, and the fires are blown for them.

The difference between "side-welding" and "end-welding," as the name implies, is merely that, in one case, the junction of the iron is made at the side of the link; and, in the other case, at the end.

The Illustrations are a pair of Vulcanian scenes. In the first is shown the mode in which the long rods of iron are cut by the circular saw. At one end the rods rest upon a trestle, in the foreground of the workshop; while the other ends are placed in the furnace, and are there heated to red heat—three or four, or more, at a time, as required. They are then drawn from the furnace by a man and a boy; the man taking the cold ends of the bars, while the boy carries the heated end by means of a hooked piece of iron. Thus they carry each rod to the bench where is placed the saw, which revolves with great velocity, by means of steam-power. The boy then lays the end he has borne on the spot close to the saw, while the man presses it to the wheel, and places it so that it may be cut off somewhat wedge-shaped. The rods are thus cut into proper lengths for each link, according to the size required. The wheel in cutting the red-hot iron causes it to give off a molten shower of large sparks in an unbroken circle, resembling a firework wheel.

The second Illustration shows the method of "side-welding," already described.

THE COURT.

The Queen and the Prince-Consort have commenced the New Year by dispensing their annual bounty to an increased number of the poorer residents in the Royal borough of Windsor and its vicinity. On New-Year's-day, at seven o'clock in the morning, the band of the Royal Horse Guards assembled on the East Terrace, and played a selection of favourite airs. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent came from Frogmore at nine o'clock, and breakfasted with her Majesty and the Prince. At ten o'clock her Majesty's annual gifts were distributed to about 600 poor persons resident in the parishes of Windsor and Clewer. The interesting ceremony was witnessed by her Majesty and his Royal Highness, who, accompanied by the Royal children, left the Castle, and proceeded to the gallery of the Riding school, within which the distribution took place, under the superintendence of the clergy of the joint parishes, and the district visitors of the poor. The gifts consisted of joints of meat, coals (proportioned to the various families), and clothing, divided among the members of the Clothing Club, established under the patronage of her Majesty; all members receiving according to their contributions, with the addition made by the Queen's bounty. In the evening the Queen gave a dinner-party. After the banquet a performance of choral music took place in St. George's Hall. The solo vocalists were Madame Clara Novello, Mrs. Weiss, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Weiss.

Lord Byron and General Sir Edward Bowater have succeeded Lord Camoys and the Hon. Mortimer Sackville West as the Lord and Groom in Waiting.

H.S ROYAL Highness the Duke of Cambridge continues, by the latest authentic accounts from Constantinople, in imperfect health; and it is not considered probable by those persons best able to form an opinion that his Royal Highness will return to the Crimea.

The Duke of Somerset, we are glad to learn, is going on favourably. His Grace has gained some strength during the last few days.

The Marchioness Dowager of Londonderry is passing the recess at Wynyard-park, surrounded by a family circle. The interesting ceremony of opening the Londonderry Literary Institute was celebrated at Seaham Harbour on Wednesday. Sir Archibald Alison delivered the inaugural lecture.

The health of the Earl of Westmoreland, which for some days antecedent had occasioned much anxiety, is described by letters from Vienna, dated the 27th ultimo, as having undergone a favourable change.

The Earl of Aberdeen left Argyll-house on Wednesday afternoon, for Windsor Castle, on a visit to her Majesty. His Lordship returned to town on Thursday morning.

The Earl of Lichfield is, we are glad to learn, recovering from his recent severe indisposition.

The Earl of Derby's new residence in St. James's-square (the late Earl of Dartmouth's) is nearly ready for the reception of the family.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories:* The Rev. P. S. Newell to Wheathill, Somerset; Rev. F. Trevor to Upwell, near Axbridge; Rev. E. A. Cooper to Ludford Parva, with the Vicarage of Ludford Magna, Lincolnshire; Rev. W. S. Hemming to Rayne, Essex; Rev. H. Alexander to Stoke Rivers; Rev. Wm. Gee to St. Martin, Exeter. *Vicarages:* The Rev. H. Prince to Sedbury; Pomeroy, near Crediton, Rev. M. Atkins to Harewood, near Leeds. *Incumbency:* The Rev A. Swinbourne to the Mariners' Church, Hull. The Rev. G. H. Heslop, M.A., has been appointed to the head mastership of St. Bee's Grammar-school.

The Rev. Alfred J. Deck, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, has been appointed to a Mathematical Professorship in the Royal Military College, Sandhurst.

MISS STEWART, sister of Sir Michael R. Shaw Stewart, Bart., has given £10,000 to endow an Episcopal Chapel in Port-Glasgow, securing £200 a year to a Rector, and £100 to a Curate.

SETTING A THIEF TO CATCH A THIEF. At Bow-street Police-court, on Thursday, Charles King, a police-constable, who has been attached to the force several years, and has usually done duty in private clothes, was brought up in custody of Inspector Durkin and Sergeant Langley, charged with having been, in a great number of cases, the accomplice of thieves. The prosecution was directed by the Police Commissioners, in consequence of disclosures which had been made from time to time by the young criminals confined in the House of Detention—several of whom were brought to the court, under the charge of the prisoner, to give evidence. Several witnesses having been examined, Mr. Hall said it was one of the most frightful cases of delinquency that could well be imagined. It was due to the public that the matter should be thoroughly sifted, and he trusted the authorities would deem it of sufficient importance to engage the services of some professional gentleman to conduct the prosecution. The prisoner, who said nothing to the charge, was remanded for further examination for a week.

On Sunday last, the Rev. Henry Brooks christened 104 children in St. Peter's Church, Liverpool—the largest number ever known in one day in the parish.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE New Year opens with the same inactivity in literary circles with which the year 1854 concluded. There is no prospect before Christmas of two more volumes from Mr. Macaulay; and, from what we hear, as little prospect of our receiving the two volumes of Moore's Journal and Letters from Lord John Russell. There are, however, promises of moment in the literature of the Fine Arts. We are to have new lives of Velasquez, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Sir Robert Strange, and the late Mr. Etty. The Life of Velasquez comes from the pen of Mr. Sterling.

Another year reminds us of the veterans in literature, art, and the stage, still in the body among us. Our oldest poet is, of course, Mr. Rogers—now in his ninetieth year. Our oldest historian is Mr. Hallam—now in his seventy-fourth year. Our oldest critic is Mr. Wilson Croker—now in his seventy-fifth year. Our oldest novelist is Lady Morgan—but we shall conceal her Ladyship's age. Our oldest topographer is Mr. Britton—now, if we remember rightly, in his eighty-third year. Our oldest topographer in point of publication is the historian of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, whose first work was a quarto, published before 1789. We refer to Sir Henry Ellis, still the active Principal Librarian of the British Museum. Mr. Leigh Hunt was a poet with a printed volume of his effusions in verse, and his own portrait before it more than half a century ago, and is now, in good health, in his seventy-first year. Our oldest artist is Sir Richard Westmacott, the sculptor, the father of the Royal Academy. Our oldest actor (now that Charles Kemble has gone) is Mr. T. P. Cooke, who was, when we saw him-the other day, ready to dance a hornpipe with all his wonted English vigour and sailor-like skill.

A *new* letter of moment in the story of Swift's Life has just been published by Mr. Cunningham in the concluding volume of his edition of "Johnson's Lives." It is a letter from Sir William Temple, the great statesman, to Sir Robert Southwell:—

SR, This afternoon I hear, though by a common hands, that you are going over into Irelande, Secretary of State[for that kingdome, upon wch I venture to make you the offer of a servant, in case you may have occasion for such a one as this bearer. He was borne and bred there (though of a good family in Herefordshire), was neer seven years in the Colledge of Dublyn, and ready to take his degree of Master of Arts, when hee was forced away by the desertion of that colledge upon the calamyty of the country. Since that time hee has lived in my house, read to me, writ for mee, and kept all accounts as farr as my small occasions required. He has learn'd French and greek, some Italian, writes a very good and current hand, is very honest and diligent, and has good friends, though they have for the present lost their fortunes, in Irelande, and his whole family having been long known to mee obliged mee thus farr to take care of him. If you please to accept him into your service, either as a Gentleman to waite on you, or as a Clarke to write under you, and either to use him as if you like his service, or upon any establishment of the Colledge, to recommend him to a fellowship there, wch he has a just pretence to, I shall acknowledge it as a great obligation to mee, as well as to him, and endeavour to deserve it by the constancy of my being always,

SR, yr most faithfull and most humble servant, W. TEMPLE.

Moor Parke, near Farnham, May 29, 1690.

When this letter was written Swift was in his twenty-third year. The description of Swift's capabilities is curious.

In the same volume, and also published for the first time, is Swift's last letter to Dr. Arbuthnot. Most touching is the account he gives of his own condition and prospects:—

[Dublin, 1733?]

My dear Friend, I never once suspected your forgetfulness or want of friendship, but very often dreaded your want of health, to which alone I imputed every delay longer than ordinary in hearing from you. I should be very ungrateful, indeed, if I acted otherwise to you, who are pleased to take such generous constant care of my health, my interests, and my reputation, who on presented me so favourably to that blessed Queen your mistress, as well as to her Ministers, and to all your friends. The letters you mention which I did not answer I cannot tell what they were, but I have all that ever came from you, for I constantly endorse yours and those of a few other friends, and date them: only if there be anything particular, though of no consequence, when I go to the country I send them to some friends among other papers for fear of accidents in my absence. I think you kindly for your favour to the young man who was bred in my quire. The people of skill in music represent him to me as a lad of virtue and hopeful and endeavouring in his way. It is true he was full I. I give you trouble, because you never refused me anything in your life. You tout my heart with the ill account of your health; yet, if it should please God to call you away before me, I should not pity you in the least, except on the account of what pains you might feel before you passed into a better life. I should pity none but your friends, and among them chiefly myself, although I never can hope to have health enough to leave this country till I leave the world. I do not know among mankind any person more prepared to depart from us than yourself—not even the Bishop of Marseilles, if he be still alive; for, among all your qualities that have procured you the love and esteem of the world, I ever most valued your moral and Christian virtues, which were not the product of years or sickness, but of reason and religion, as I can witness after above five-and-twenty years' acquaintance. I except only the too little care of your fortune: upon which I have been so free as sometimes to examine and to chide you, and the consequence of which has been to confine you to London, when you are under a disorder for which I am told, and know, that the clear air of the country is necessary. The great reason that hinders my journey to England is the same that drives you from Highgate—I am not in circumstances to keep horses and servants in London. My revenues, by the miserable oppressions of this kingdom, are sunk £300 a year, for tithes are become a drug, and I have but little rents from the demesne lands, which are my only sure payments. I have here a large convenient house; I live at two-thirds cheaper here than I could there; I drink a bottle of French wine myself every day, though I love it not; but it is the only thing that keeps me out of pain. I ride every fair day a dozen miles, on a large strand or turnpike road. You in London have no such advantages. I can buy a chicken for a groat, and entertain three or four friends, with as many dishes, and two or three bottles of French wine, for ten shillings. When I dine alone, my pint and chicken, with the appendices, cost me about fifteen pence. I am thrifty in everything but wine, of which, though I be not a constant housekeeper, I spend between five and six hogsheads a year. When I ride to a friend a few miles off, if he be not richer than I, I carry my bottle, my bread and chicken, that he may be no loser. I talk thus foolishly to let you know the reasons which, joined to my ill health, make it impossible for me to see you and my other friends. And perhaps this domestic tattle may excuse me, and excuse you. I could not live with my Lord Bo——r or Mr. Pope: they are both too intemperate and too wise for me, and too profound and too poor. And how could I afford horses? And how could I ride over their cursed roads in winter, and be turned into a ditch by every carter or hackney-coach? Every parish minister of this city is governor of all carriages, so are the two Deans, and every carter, &c., makes way for us at their peril. Therefore, like Cæsar, I will be one of the first here rather than the last among you. I forget that I am so near the bottom. I am now with one of my Prebendaries, five miles in the country, for five days. I brought with me eight bottles of wine, with bread and meat for three days, which is my club: he is a bachelor with £300 a year. Pray God preserve you, my dear friend. Entirely yours, J. SWIFT

Dr. John Arbuthnot, at his house, Cork-street,
Burlington-Gardens.

A curious controversy is waging about the money value of the small triangular opening at the east end of St. Paul's Cathedral—for no one seems to doubt the architectural value of such an open space. The controversy is conducted, not anonymously, as is too often the case, but openly, and by well-known persons. The actual place, we are assured, one-fifth of an acre, or 8700 feet; and the money value, at City frontage prices, is estimated by Mr. Tite at £60,000. Messrs. Daniel Smith and Son, the surveyors, value the land at *half* that sum; and Mr. Dickinson, the papermaker, is inclined to agree with the Messrs. Smith in their estimate of its value. All the combatants are able men at figures, and each has a large experience of the value of frontage ground in the city of London. In one thing they are all agreed—that the opening must be preserved; and all are willing to put their hands into their pockets towards its purchase.

We have received the following letter (one among many) on the subject of Mr. Martin's celebrated picture of "Belshazzar's Feast

46, Portland-place, January 1, 1855.

SIR,—In your number of Saturday last—article, "Town and Table Talk of Literature and Art" in reference to the late lamentable destruction of Mr. Naylor's pictures, you state that the original and *only* painting of "Belshazzar's Feast" by Martin, and *that from which the print was engraved*, has been so seriously injured by the late accident as to be past all chance of restoration.

As a sincere lover of art no one can regret more than I the loss sustained by that liberal patron Mr. Naylor. At the same time, I think it right to correct the statement above referred to—first, by saying that Mr. Naylor's was not the *only* picture of the subject by Martin; and next, that Mr. Naylor's was not the picture from which the engraving was taken. It will be a matter of congratulation that the subject of Mr. Naylor's picture differs materially from the print. The original picture, from which the engraving was taken, is now in the possession of Mr. White, publisher, of Brownlow-street, Holborn; and I am sure he would be happy to show it to you or any person who would call upon him.

I remain, sir, your obedient servant, C. J. PALMER.

We have not seen the picture in Mr. White's hands, but can state (from our own knowledge, derived from Mr. Martin himself) that the engraving—and a most excellent one it is—differs materially, and for the better, from the first design, from Mr. Naylor's picture, and from every other variation of the subject made by Martin himself. Mr. Martin's family look upon Mr. Naylor's picture as the original picture, and regret its destruction.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE New Year has opened with a steeplechase meeting at Manchester, which was a very sickly shadow of the bygone Grimaldi and Lottery days of the sport; and as yet no more are set down on the January list, except one at Croydon for the 31st. The Liverpool entries are not as yet complete, but we hear that they will probably fall about eight short of last year, and the Great Handicap entries are also expected to be below the average.

The public coursing meeting for the ensuing week are seven in number: Claddesley (Corbett), Worcestershire, claims Plough Monday; and the courses of Erin have their meeting at Kilkenny on Tuesday and Wednesday; Biggate (Ogilvie), which is reached by a six-mile ride over the wolds from Pocklington, is appointed for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday; Spelthorne for Wednesday; Lytham (Wharton open), for Thursday and Friday; Red Dial (Wigton), for Thursday; and Caledonia (Lanark), for Thursday, &c. McGeorge is to be the trier at Huggate and Mr. Dunlop will hold that office at the next Lytham meeting which is fixed for January 29th.

There is little to record of the hunting season, except that Melton is very full of fashionables, and that Mr. Tattersall will bring seventeen or eighteen good, seasoned specimens to the hammer on Monday. The fox is generally are said to be very good, now that the importation of "French men," who were spoiling the breed (as much as the red-legged partridge was spoiling the science of our setters and pointers), has very much ceased, and Irish foxes substituted in their place. One of the monarchs of his vulpine race was killed by terriers last week, in Cumberland, among craig where "the horn of Royal Inglewood" is no longer heard, and was found to weigh 22 lbs. It seems that the celebrated Pytchley run, to which we alluded some time back, will be known to all time as the "North Kilworth day," and rank among fox-hunting archives with "the Billesdon Coplow day," and that leash of remarkable runs which three packs, one of them Earl Fitzwilliam's, had on the same wonderfully scenting morning about seven seasons ago. "Scribile," in the *Sporting Magazine* of this month, thus epitomises the above Pytchley run:—"It lasted three hours, engaged two foxes, and extended over about eighteen miles; *from point to point*. It certainly was one of the most brilliant runs on record; and as Charles Payne accounted for his fox not by a *lucky* or *him*, but by running him to ground, every credit should be given to him for his patience and perseverance. The fox was changed in Scotland Wood, after running at a wonderful pace from North Kilworth, by Stanford Hall, Hemplow, Hill, Sawdy Willows, and Silbertoft; and in the second fox was run to ground near Cottesbrook late in the day, without three horses persevering to the finish."

The same number of the *Sporting Magazine* contains a capital likeness of the celebrated Cinderella, who proved a winner in his hands. At this time he was able to ride six stone, and even now he can ride 7st. 8lbs., without any serious discomfort, when a great occasion calls for it. All the memoir, last year, occupied with mental speculations on the weights for the great handicaps, which have just closed, and business at "the Corner" is not lively. John Scott has already 66 nags in hand, and now includes the Hon. Stanhope Hawke amongst his numerous patrons. Gladiator is quite at the head of French fires, in point of winners and amount; and the four-year-old brother to Maid of Masham, whom the Earl of Glasgow was anxious to purchase, when a yearling, for 400 guineas, appears in the Derby, with 27 stake arrears.

The York blood stock sales this week were fairly good. Mr. W. Stebbings bought Sicily for 400 guineas, and Lord Londesborough the brood mare Florence for 270 guineas. It is said that his Lordship is to have Newminster for £1600 at the close of the present season, during which he has been let for £250. Thomas Dawson bought Red Lion in for 400 guineas, Chief Justice was sold for 410 guineas, and Inheritress (not in foal) for 110 guineas.

Rare sporting pictures are announced for publication by Messrs. Fores shortly, and contain capital portraits of Voltigeur, Teddington, and West Australian; and a most speaking print has just come out of Tom Egan, in his well-known boating attire.

THE NEW BANK OF ENGLAND NOTE

To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

Engineering Department, Bank of England.

In your Paper of the 30th December, 1854, in the article on the subject of the Bank of England Note, relative to the Water-mark, it is stated that "the models from which the paper is made are executed by Mr. Brewer." I beg to inform you that the whole of our valuable patent process for the manufacture of the new Water-mark is executed on the premises of the Bank in London (and not at the mill), as stated, by my own hands, under the supervintendence of Mr. Henshaw, the engineer-in-chief; by whom it is sent to Mr. W. S. Portal, at the Mill, when Mr. W. Brewer places the different portions together on the moulds-frames, superintends any repairs, &c., that may be necessary. (See extract of Mr. Simee's paper, at Society of Arts, December 20th, 1854. Journal, page 85.)—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN SMITH.

January 2nd, 1855.

*** In the account of the Bank-note Paper-mill, at pp. 703-4, for "Messrs. Donkin and Co., of Manchester," read "Messrs. Donkin and Co., of Bermondsey."

LOUIS THE FOURTEENTH'S BUILDING EXPENSES. A curious document has been lately found amongst the papers of a rich Versailles tradesman, recently deceased. This document is an account of the building expenses incurred by Louis XIV. under Mansard. The account is drawn up by Martin, a clerk in the architect's employ. We add a few items: Versailles, Marly, and dependencies, 116,238,869 livres; Saint Germain, 6,155,551 livres; Fontainebleau, 2,775,746 livres; Chambord, 1,225,765 livres; Louvre and Tuileries, 10,465,985 livres; the Observatory, 1,374 livres; the Invalids, 1,718,382 livres; Place Vendôme, 2,062,629 livres; Canal de Languedoc, 7,736,655 livres; Gobelins, &c., 3,645,242 livres, on account of manufactures, 1,979,950 livres: total, 158,000,000 livres, or upwards of six millions sterling.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL. On Monday a meeting was convened by Mr Robert Owen, which was numerously attended. The subject of his lecture was connected with a proposition by Mr Thomas Atkins, C.E., Oxford, to establish an industrial and practical social, scientific and educational institution, in connexion with a college to educate youth of both sexes in the practical duties of life—a sort of "model university," indeed, in which the six great positive sciences of human nature and society—magnetism and electricity, astronomy and geology, chemistry and mechanics—shall be taught by means of easy, industrial healthy labour." In the course of the lecture Mr. Owen complained of having been neglected or obstructed by the press his advertisements having been frequently refused, notwithstanding his willingness to pay for them. He proposed, further, that on Monday, the 14th May next, a great aggregate meeting in the metropolis should be held, consisting of delegates from all Governments and countries, religious sects, parties, and classes. Among the speakers were Mr. Atkins, Mr. Pemberton, Mr. Wilkins, and Mr. Campbell. At length the proceedings were adjourned until the 14th May, when a "Universally Attractive System" is to be put into operation.

Government are said to be about to cut down very considerably the working expenses of the Irish General Post office.

MUSIC.

HERR GOFFRIE's second soirée musicale, at the rooms of the Réunion des Arts in Harley-street, on Wednesday evening, attracted a large and fashionable assemblage, including many of our most distinguished professional musicians and amateurs. The entertainment was worthy of the audience. The principal pieces were Mozart's second quartet in D minor, and Beethoven's first quartet in F; performed by Messrs. Ernst, Goffrie, Hill, and Piatti; a new sonata, for the piano and violin, composed by Mr. Benedict, and played by the author and Herr Goffrie; Moscheles's celebrated pianoforte duet, "Homage à Handel," performed by Messrs. Wallace and Mullen; Bazzini's solo on the violoncello by Signor Piatti. The quartets, two of the finest specimens of their respective composers, displayed Ernst's great (we may almost say unrivalled) qualities as a chamber performer—his delicacy, vocal tone, refinement, and feeling. He was admirably supported by his three conductors, Piatti especially, who maintains his ground as the first of our violoncello-players. Benedict's new sonata is a masterly work, well deserving of the warm applause bestowed upon it by a very critical audience. Two airs, well sung by Miller, Baxter, formed an agreeable variety. The last of these elegant entertainments is announced for the 17th of this month.

THE concerts of the PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY are to commence this season on the 16th of March. Signor Costa is no longer the society's conductor. It is understood that the engagement for the season was offered him as usual, but unexpectedly declined, on the alleged ground of the state of his health; though he seems to be pursuing his professional avocations without any abatement of activity. This unlooked-for disappointment has of course considerably embarrassed the directors, who have been for some time past anxiously endeavouring to find a competent successor—a most difficult task which, it appears, has not yet been accomplished.

THE NEW PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY have announced that their concerts are to commence in February. They are to return to Exeter-hall, their original *locale*, instead of St. Martin's-hall, where the concerts took place last year. The first two concerts are to be conducted by M. Hector Berlioz, the remaining four by Dr Wylde.

MR. CHARLES SALAMAN has announced two lectures, to be delivered at the Marylebone Literary and Scientific Institution, on the 5th and 16th of this month: the first, "On the Ancient Keyed Stringed Instruments which Preceded and Originated the Pianoforte;" the second, "On the Invention and Development of the Pianoforte." These are curious and interesting subjects, to which Mr. Salaman, by his learning and attainments, is well qualified to do justice. His first lecture, we observe, is to be illustrated by *actual performance* of specimens of the music of the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries, on the very instruments for which they were composed, the *virginal* (Queen Elizabeth's favourite instrument), the *spinet*, and the *harpsichord*. In the second lecture Mr. Salaman will be able, we believe, to throw light, by newly-discovered evidence, on the disputed question of the invention of the pianoforte, and to trace the progressive improvements which it gradually produced the magnificent instrument we now possess.

BEAUMONT INSTITUTION, MILE-END-ROAD.—The second concert of the season took place on Wednesday, January 3, the room being crowded to excess. The principal vocalists engaged were Mdme. Clara Novello, Miss Messent, and Mdlle Julie Mouat; Mr. Farquharson, Mr Bolton, Mr. Montem Smith, and Mr. Sims Reeves; with Mr. Frank Mori as conductor. Mdme. Novello's fine pure voice told admirably in Verdi's aria, "Ernani involami;" she also sang a new song, by Hatton, "How pretty they'll hear this at home," and "Bonnie Prince Charlie." Mr Sims Reeves was unrivalled in "Fra-Poco"—managing his voice with rare skill, and displaying a *chiaroscuro* to be heard only in great artistes. He also, with Mdme. Novello, created a *furore* in Verdi's duet from Rigoletto, "E il sol dell' anima," and was rapturously encored in Charles Mackay's new patriotic song, "Strew roses," set to music by Frank Mori, and which we may venture to augur will become before long a household tune. Miss Messent, Mr. Farquharson, and Mr. Montem Smith gave great satisfaction in the pieces allotted to them.

THE THEATRES.

DRURY-LANE. On Monday a new drama was produced. It is by Mr. Dion Boucicault, and entitled "Eugénie." It is of the class of pieces denominated *petite*; and to which a certain amount of levity is expected to be shown, on account of the limits to which the action is confined. The rapidity with which the story is developed in this brief domestic drama, and a climax of distress accumulated on the heroine, was not in exact accordance with the taste of the audience; who, in one short act, could not understand how George *Thurton* (Mr. Belton) could pass from one mistress to another, and accomplish a marriage with the second, just at the moment that he was to have effected it with the first Miss Marriott performed *Eugénie*, the deserted lady, and it would appear that the scenes were contrived to exhibit the special capacity of the actress. She certainly has a degree of pathos and an emphatic kind of elocution that is not altogether ineffective; but the force that she manifests is at present in a provincial state, and "requires much castigation, exercise devout," before it can be so reduced in quantity and improved in quality as to command the suffrages of a metropolitan audience. The house was exceedingly well attended.

PRINCESS'. Mr. C. Kean appeared on Wednesday night, for the first time this season, in *Hamlet*—a character which he has long since made his own—and in which he stands unrivalled amongst living artists. The house, as might have been expected on such an occasion, was crowded in every quarter soon after the doors opened. There is much to occupy the public mind at present of a more grave character than mere amusement; the performance that commands such powerful attraction at such a moment proclaims its own strength, and speaks a volume of criticism on its inherent merit. Mr. C. Kean, by time and study, has improved on his original vigour and elegance in this great part, and was applauded with as much enthusiasm in all the most striking passages as during his first successful career at Drury-lane in 1839. The tragedy was well played throughout. Miss Heath was a highly-interesting *Ophelia*, while Mr. Ryder and Mrs. Phillips imparted the importance so often wanted when inferior actors are placed in the characters of the *King* and *Queen*. Mr. W. Lacy made a most impressive and majestic *Ghost*.

ROYAL MARIONETTE.—A troop of well-trained dogs and monkeys is performing here with great success; and their imitations of humanity are surprisingly close.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.—Lady Raglan and family visited the dioramas of the events of the war on Saturday last. The following distinguished and fashionable visitors have also honoured the above diorama with their presence; viz., the Duchess of Argyll, Marquis of Lorn and family, the Duke and Duchess of Montrose and party; his Excellency the Count Walewski, the French Ambassador, accompanied by the Countess of Walewska; the Earl of Erroll, Earl of Carlisle, the Marquis of Winchester, the Countess of Bathurst and party, Lord Stanford, Lord and Lady Polthimore and party, Azemullah Khan, Lord Ranelagh, Lady Brougham and party, &c

THE BONMAHON INFANT, INDUSTRIAL, AND RAGGED SCHOOLS, WATERFORD.—In February last we called the attention of our readers to these schools, which have lately received a mark of Royal patronage, by her Majesty having graciously accepted a beautifully-bound copy of Dr. Guthrie's "Commentary on the Scriptures," which was printed at the schools. It comprises six thick royal octavo volumes, and contains 46,200,000 letters, which were "set" or put together by little Irish boys 2250 sets were printed, comprising in the whole 1800 volumes, for which nearly 100,000 sets of letters were required. The work was accomplished in a most remote village, and under the greatest possible disadvantages, and, although the boys were, they paid from the fifth week of their entrance, the underwriter left a surplus of £200, which the founder (the Curate of the parish, the Rev. D. A. Doudney), has devoted to the erection of a globe house for the clergyman. On Tuesday week a Christmas dinner of soup, beef, and plum pudding was given to the children of the Infant and Embroidery Schools. Upwards of seventy sat down to dinner, all newly clad, the clothes of the latter being the fruits of their own industry. In the evening the party was joined for nearly the same number of the printing-boys and the parochial school children. These schools are altogether a striking proof of what may be accomplished under the greatest possible difficulties

SECULAR BREQUET. Captain Clias, a well-known teacher of gymnastics, not only in France and Switzerland, but in England, having been professor at most of the large public establishments of this country, died lately at Berne, where he lived in comfortable retirement. He has left to that city several considerable sums for public purposes, under the condition that his skeleton should be exhibited in the Cabinet of Natural History of Berne, as a palpable confirmation of the beneficial effects of gymnastics (*turkisme*) on the human body.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS

VIATOR.—You will find an excellent little Chess-club at Leamington. President Rev J H Smith, Vice-President, the Rev W Temple. The Club-rooms are at No 4 Upper Parade

OXONIENSIS. We had not the pleasure of hearing Mr Capper's Lecture on Chess at Crown Hall, but are glad to learn from such good authority that the subject was treated with the hands of the accomplished lecturer, to uncertain amusement and not the instruction for some hours

H. Hassell's complete Treatise on *Odds* at Chess is that on Carrera's work, of which a very good translation was made by Mr Lewis, some years back. Carrera touches upon every well known description of *Odds*, and an infinity of others, which not one player in a hundred ever heard of. He would seem indeed to have exhausted the subject but the Rev H Bolton, to whose ingenuity we are indebted for some of the most masterly Chess Problems ever published, has submitted to us a kind of *Odds* which even Carrera was unacquainted with. This novelty consists in the *first* player agreeing not to give *check* to his adversary until, with check, he gives *checkmate*. These odds Mr. Bolton estimates as about equal to giving the Queen

J. T. C.—We have received a copy of the poem entitled "Chess," published by Harrison, of Pall mall, and when less pressed for space intend to notice it. Meanwhile we can have no hesitation, notwithstanding its frequent blemishes of expression, and many defects in versification, in commending this "Poem" to the attention of our readers as the production of an elegant and thoughtful mind.

AMATEUR. The most effectual course will be for you to transmit your "Stage stions on the subject of the proposed Grand Chess Tourney in Paris" direct to the Committee, under cover to M de Rivière, Rue. Sen. of the Paris *Cercle des Echecs* It is impossible for us at the moment to find room for them in *extenso*

BOOKWORM. To the allusions to Chess in works of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, which you adduce, we could add several. For the moment we can recall to mind a passage in Rabelais out two in an author whom you name as one of those who never heard of the game. If you will look again at Chap xxii, Book ii, of Warner's "Albion's England," you cannot miss—

"Yet could she not so give the *checke*
But that she tooke *the mate*."

Again, in Chap xxviii, Book V, you will find

"Of villaine, cd-knave, clowne, and knaves,
That *checkmate* durst to beap

J. A. M, Fakenham; J P, Bolton; and F T., Derby, are wrong in supposing Mate can be effected in Problem No. 564, by the *modus operandi* they suggest. The only course is that traced out in our solution

M. F., of C—l The name to "Black and White" was not addressed to you, but to a Correspondent who adopted that signature ? Your Problem is too simple even for the purest eyes.

F T., Derby—They shall be examined

F. R., of Norwich.—If in Problem No 564, White play I B takes Kt, then Black, by playing P to Q R 8th, becomes a Q in lieu Mate impracticable in five moves.

J P Your analysis of No. 564 is defective At move 3 of your Third Variation Black plays Kt, *takes B P*, and escapes

B (S. L., Manchester.—In the situation you show there is nothing whatever to prevent Black playing his Pawn on. He may either march forward, stand still, or take the adverse Pawn

G. F. C —1 There is no such term as "stale mate" in Chess, but it is a common "slang" phrase for a game, that is a game which, by mistake, or design, ends in a drawn game, and either pleasing or displeasing the amusement of a distant or of the competitors

E B C, Hoocken.—Yes, there is an edition, published in 1842 which is obtainable in London

YOUNG A L.—A reply has been forwarded by post

DR R., of Paris.—We shall be glad to receive a prospectus and a full report of the doings at the last general meeting.

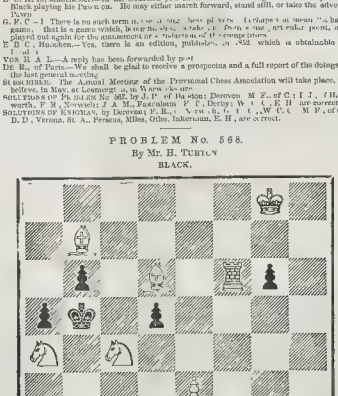
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO 567, By Mr Brien: Dereven M F., of C; I T, Hanworth; P H, Norwich; J A M., Fakenham P T, Derby; W C, E H are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by Dereven, Dr Pocock, J W C, C M F, of C; D D, Verona, St A., Persous, Alfeo, Otho, Inkermann, E H, are correct.

PROBLEM No. 568.

By Mr. H. TURTON

BLACK.



WHITE.

White, playing first, mates in three moves.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

The following Game forms part of a little Match played between Mr. Staunton and Mr. Brien; Mr. B. giving in each the odds of the Rawn and two Moves.

(Remove White's K B Pawn from the Board)

Black (Mr. B.)	White (Mr. S.)	Black (Mr. B.)	White (Mr S.)
1 P to K 4th		15. Kt takes Kt (ch)	Q takes Kt
2 P to Q 4th	P to K 3rd	16. P takes P	Q to Q R 4th (c)
3 P to Q B 4th	B to Q Kt 5th (ch)	17. Q R to K sq	Q R to K B sq
4 Q Kt to Q B 3rd	K Kt to K 2nd	18. Q R to K 2nd	K R to K B 5th (d)
5. Q B to K Kt 5th	Castles		
6. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q Kt 3rd	19. Q to K Kt 6th	Q to Q B 3rd
7. K B to Q 3rd	P to Q 3rd	20. Q to K R 7th (ch)	K to B 2nd
8. Castles	B takes Q Kt	(e)	
9. P takes B	Q Kt to Q 2nd	21. B to K Kt 8th (ch)	K to his 2nd
10. P to K 5th	B to Q K 2nd	22. Q takes Kt P (ch)	K to Q sq
11. Kt to K 4th	P to K R 3rd	23. B to K 4th (f)	Q takes P
12. Q to R K 5th (a)	P takes K P (b)	24. Q R to Q 2nd (ch)	K to Q B sq
13. Kt to K Kt 6th	Q Kt to K B 3rd	25 B takes B (ch)	K takes B
14 B takes Kt	R takes B		

The game from this point, with steady play on both sides, would, probably, have been drawn; but Mr. Brien unfortunately committed a *faux pas*, and lost one of his Rooks, which, of course, decided the battle.

(a) The obvious course of play here is for Black to take the Kt, and then plant his own Kt at Kt 6th; but, as the following Variations show, that leads to many complications, at the end of which it is doubtful whether White has not quite as good a game as his adversary. For example —

12	B takes Kt — Q takes B
13	Kt to K Kt 6th — Q to K Kt 6th
14	P to Q 5th (best) — K R to K B 4th

(The only move, we believe, by which White can succeed in "hold his own.")

15. P to K 5th 4th (best) — Kt to Q R 4th

Instead of this move, White may take the Kt with his Queen, or take the Q P with his K P, the results of which it may be well to demonstrate before proceeding with the main Variation. Suppose then

To the first place:—

15.	Q takes Kt	17 B takes R	Q to K 2nd
16 P takes K P	B takes K P	18. P takes P	

And White has evidently a bad game.

To the second place

	P takes Q P	17. R P takes P	Q takes P
16. Kt to K Pth (ch)	Q takes Kt	18. R takes R	

And so on. White is at a disadvantage.

16. Kt to K 7th (ch. (best)	Q takes Kt	18. K to R sq	
17 P takes R (best)	Q to K Kt 4th (ch)	19. P to K P 3rd	K P takes Q P

He may also play "Q B P takes Q P" first, and then P to K B 3rd; but without any material advantage to his game.)

19.		Q to K 6th	
20. B to K 2nd		Q takes K P	

And now as White must win a pawn and has a fine free game with all his pieces in play, we should take his side for choice.

(b) It is a matter of no moment, but it would have lost the game in three moves.

(c) It is a refining over much, and ought to have lost the game. The plain and simple course was to play the Queen to K B 2nd, and then, from Black having two Pawns doubled, and the one on his Q Rook's file almost indefensible, White would have had at least as good a game as his opponent

(d) This enables Black to take the square he wished, but White had an better move (e) At this place Black deliberately for some time whether to give the check or play his Q R to Q 3rd; and, unhappily for him, chose the wrong move. Had he placed the Rook at Q 3rd, he would have cost White the exchange at the very least.

(f) Played apparently under the misconception that White must take it with the Rook, which would have been immediately fatal to Black, as, as the best, have a sl him a clear piece.

CHESS ENIGMAS

No. 566.—By E. B. C., of Hoboken., United States.

White: K at Q 3rd., Ps at K B 7th, K 4th, and Q B 7th
Black: K at K 3rd P at K 4th

White to play and mate in three moves.

No. 906.—By the same Composer

White: K at Q 4th, B at K Kt 5th; Ps at K R 4th, K B 7th, K 7th, and Q Kt 6th.
Black: K at Q 3rd; Ps at K Kt 2nd and 3rd, and Q Kt 2nd.

White to play and mate in three moves

No. 907.—By Herr Carnac.

White: K at K B sq, Q at Q B sq, B at K 6th, Kt at Q B 3rd, P at Q R 2nd
Black: K at Q Kt 5th, Ps at Q 6th and Q Kt 2nd.

White to play and mate in three moves.

THE LATE DR. ROUTH, PRESIDENT OF MAGDALEN COLLEGE, OXFORD.

THE President of Magdalen, whose death we recorded last week, had entered on his hundredth year, having been born 15th September, 1755. The departure of the venerable Doctor will revive old memories of times and men long passed away. Dr. Routh had known Dr. Theophilus Leigh, the contemporary of Addison; had seen Dr. Johnson "in his brown wig, ascending by the steps of University College;" and had been told by a lady of her aunt who had been present when Charles II. walked round the parks at Oxford. Dr. Routh was the connecting link between the last and the present centuries. His father, the Rev. Peter Routh, was instituted to the Rectory of St. Margaret's Church, South Elmham, Beccles, Suffolk, in 1753, and became Master of the Grammar-school, Beccles, in 1774.

In 1770 Martin John Routh matriculated at Oxford; and, about 1785, being Senior Proctor of the University, officially attended an entertainment given to George III. and Queen Charlotte, on their visit to Oxford. In 1791, on the resignation of Dr. Horne, Bishop of Norwich, the well-known commentator on the Psalms, he was elected President of Magdalen, and continued to fill that honourable post until the time of his death, a period of sixty-three years, during which he admitted 188 fellows, 294 demies, and 162 choristers. Amongst his numerous friends may be especially mentioned Dr. Parr, Porson, Dr. Maltby, Sir Francis Burdett, and William Windham. The fruits of Dr. Routh's learned life do not afford a fair estimate of the immense extent of his reading and knowledge. In 1814 and 1816 appeared his "Reliquiæ Sacræ"—a laborious compilation, highly eulogised by Dr. Parr; in 1823 his edition of "Burnet's History of his own Times;" and in 1852 his annotated impression of the same author's "Reign of James II."

In 1810 he became Rector of Tylehurst, near Reading. Here he enjoyed the vacation allowed him by the statutes of his College; and here, in 1820, he married Eliza-Agnes, daughter of John Blagrave, Esq., of Calcot Park, in that neighbourhood. Dr. Routh had the courteous manners of the old school; and he bound every friend to him by his paternal kindness, his warmth of heart, and the accomplishments of his well-stored mind. His memory will long be cherished by the educated society of this country.

Dr. Routh had maintained an immediate and personal connection with the University of Oxford for upwards of eighty years, and his long life supplied many instructive links between the present and the past.

He was born in the reign of King George II., before the beginning of the Seven Years' War, before India was conquered by Clive, or Canada by Wolfe, before the United States ever dreamt of independence, and before Pitt had impressed the greatness of his own character on the policy of Britain. The life of this college student comprehended three great epochs—three periods of prodigious importance to the interests of humanity and the history of the world. Martin Routh saw the last years of the old state of society which introduced the political deluge; he saw the deluge itself—the great French Revolution, with all its catastrophes of thrones and opinions; and he lived to see the more silent but not less striking changes which forty years of peace engendered. Perhaps, however, the very magnitude of the view precluded any comprehensive survey: and indeed it is not a little striking to read of such a man—of a man who had lived through the most astonishing events of recent history—that the times on which his thoughts chiefly dwelt were those of the Stuarts. It seems as if the traditions of Oxford which he found when he entered made an impression on his mind beyond the power of succeeding events to efface, and as if he recurred to what he had learnt from his early contemporaries and his predecessors, in preference to imbibing new ideas from the scenes of his manhood and his age. The truth is, perhaps, that when the days of revolution arrived they found him beyond the age at which external scenes prove most impressive. He was past his youth before even the last generation commenced, and his ideas had already been formed from the associations of a still earlier period. The peculiar nature of his office and his abode conduced, no doubt, to the result. If any of his early associates were men of eminence, they could have spoken of such times from their own recollections; nor is it altogether surprising that a man should talk about the Stuarts who might himself have shaken hands with the Pretender. This Prince did not die till young Routh was ten years of age; so that, if accident had put the chance in his way, he might easily have had an interview with the representative of James II. Rarely indeed is it that we meet, under any circumstances, with the example of so protracted a life as that which has just now terminated; but the instance becomes still more striking when, as in the present case, studious habits, literary connections, great opportunities, and unfailing faculties are combined with a length of days so far above the common lot. *Times*

The funeral of the President of Magdalen took place on the 30th ult., at twelve o'clock, and was in solemnity, impressiveness, and largeness of attendance, all that such a funeral could have been expected to have been. The procession, headed by the Vice-President and the Bishop of Oxford, who preceded the coffin, which was followed by the relatives and friends, took up, as it passed the entrance to the College Hall, the Fellows, Demies, and other members of the College, with the choristers and choir, and moved down two sides of the cloister of the quadrangle, the choir singing the opening sentences of the service. On entering the choir of the chapel it divided, and stood round the altar on both sides. The grave was immediately before the altar, on the north and south sides of which stood the Bishop of Oxford and the Vice-President, who read the service, the choir chanting the opening psalms, and singing the musical parts. The long rows of chapel lights showed the stalls of the Fellows and other seats in the Chapel occupied by the family and friends of the President, and a large attendance from the University, while below the altar lights was the open grave, surrounded by the Fellows of the College in their surplices and funeral scarfs. But the true solemnity of the scene was derived less from its outward funeral honours than from the deep feeling with which so many generations of the Society of Magdalen stood watching the consignment to the vault of the last remains of one who had been so long a father and a friend; joined with the consciousness which every one of that large body had of the thoughts, contemplations, and recollections which were passing through the mind of any other. It was a scene of which the impressions can never wear away from the mind of any one who was present. The singing was most striking and effective, especially that which accompanied the procession through the cloister, which had that exquisitely solemn but piercing character which belongs to the highest order of funeral music. The Bishop, at the conclusion, gave the benediction, the congregation kneeling.

Through the obliging aid of Mr. Joseph Skelton, we are enabled to engrave the accompanying Portrait of the late President, who kindly consented to sit for a Photograph *on his hundredth birthday*. From this Photograph, a beautiful picture, by Mr. Robert Faulkner, has been finished, and is now in the possession of the Rev. Dr. Bloxam, Fellow and Bursar of Magdalen College. We have copied our Portrait from this picture, which Mr. Skelton intends to carry out into a highly-finished Engraving.

LECTURE IN THE GREAT HALL OF HAMPTON COURT PALACE.

THIS fine apartment has lately been appropriated to a two-fold national object of great interest and attraction—the delivery of two Lectures upon the National Flags of England, in aid of the Patriotic Fund. Our Artist has sketched the Hall as it appeared on Friday week.

The eastern side of the central quadrangle of the Royal Palace of Hampton Court is occupied by the Great Hall, a noble apartment, of the time of Cardinal Wolsey, which is approached by a broad flight of steps leading upward from the outer hall under the ancient passage between the first and second quadrangles of the building. The Hall itself is 106 feet in length, 40 feet wide, and in height 60 feet proportions which produce upon the spectator very powerful impressions of grandeur and also of symmetry. A series of large and lofty perpendicular windows admit light into the Hall, along both its sides, and also at either end; and, in addition to these, at the south-eastern angle, a fine oriel window of the *beau-ideal* of a Gothic Hall. The windows have all been recently filled with glass by Mr. Willment; the whole being of an heraldic character, which harmonises well with the Gothic panel-work in plaster, with pendants, &c

The north, south, and east walls of the Great Hall are covered with tapestry, in eight compartments, and representing the History of Abraham

Above the doorway at the east end of the Hall, upon a boldly projecting bracket, stands a figure of St. George, in plate armour, in the act of piercing the dragon, which lies writhing at his feet. On either side of the patron saint of "merrie England," each upon a separate bracket, is a figure of a man-at-arms. A trophy of armour, weapons, and banners, appears above the gallery at the opposite end of the Hall. At each of the four angles is a banner, bearing either the Royal Arms of King Henry VIII., of the same Royal Arms, impaling

THE LATE REV. DR. KITH. (FROM A DRAWING BY R. PALMER, SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

the paternal Arms of Queen Jane Seymour; and from each of the [illegible] which carry the pendant-posts and hammer-beams of the roof the [illegible] with the armorial bearings of Wolsey or of [illegible] the Stuarts, with their [illegible] where he had [illegible] Stags heads with the [illegible] the [illegible] and other weapons introduced, amongst a rich profusion of the heraldic devices of the House of Tudor, complete the decorative accessories of this [illegible] Hall.

[illegible] the reign of Elizabeth and James I. this Hall was occasionally used for theatrical [illegible] and there is a tradition that here the first performance of some of Shakspeare's plays took place. It was again fitted up as a theatre in the time of George I.; but since October 16th, 1731 (on which occasion a play was performed for the entertainment of the Duke of Louvaine, afterwards Emperor of Germany), the Hall has never been used, with one single exception only, until the two lectures, which, with the special sanction of her Majesty the Queen, have recently been given in it by the Rev. Charles Boutell, in aid of the Patriotic Fund. The exception which we have noticed has reference to the use of the Hall for the purpose of parochial worship during the two years (commencing in 1529) in which the present parish church of Hampton was in the course of erection.

The fine effect of the Hall when filled with a numerous assemblage, and its admirable adaptation both for military music and also for speaking, lead us to hope that it may in time to come be granted for at least occasional use. Possibly, at a more genial season in the coming spring, the claims of the "Patriotic Fund" may again gather together a crowded audience to hear another lecture on the "War," under the aspect which it will then have assumed; or, far better still, perchance the re-establishment of peace may furnish a more welcome subject to the lecturer on the war, and may be the means of attracting a numerous assemblage within the walls of Wolsey's Hall.

After some general remarks on the origin of heraldic devices and cognizances, the lecturer gave an account of Flags and Banners mentioned in Holy Writ, and found amongst sculptures at Nineveh and Egypt; then passed on to notice reference to their Standards by Greek authors, with a more complete description (illustrated) of Military Ensigns of Romans. Thence, passing on to the "Middle Ages," he described the "Pennons," "Banners," and "Standards" then in use, and pointed out their distinctive peculiarities. The difference between the Royal Banner and the National Banner of England was traced from the earliest period. The Banners of St. George, St. Andrew, and St. Patrick were described. The first complete [illegible] Flag, by command of James I. [illegible] with the subsequent incorporation of the Banner of Ireland in 1801, were fully described, and copiously illustrated, and the term "Union Jack" explained. The Standards now in use by our cavalry and the "Colours" of our infantry were also minutely described; as were the "Ensigns" used at sea with the Flags and Pendants of our Admirals and other officers in command of her Majesty's [illegible] ships, with the Flags of the Admiralty, the Trinity-house, the Ordnance, the [illegible] London, &c.; the whole being traced historically, from their earliest forms to their present condition. The lecture concluded with some remarks upon the sentimental nature of Flags, and their various associations; and reference was continually made to the gallant conduct of our soldiers and seamen in arms in the Crimea under the National Flags of England, and finally the lecturer pointed to the Red Cross in our National Flag as the symbol of that high and pure faith which should animate us in all things, and constitute our guiding, our inspiring, and controlling principle, and which we are bound to spread abroad to others, whithersoever our Flag is borne, as to cherish and realise it in and for ourselves.

MONUMENT TO A CHAPLAIN ACCOMPANYING THE ARMY IN THE CRIMEA

THIS Tablet has just been erected in Christ Church, Watney-street, Commercial-road East, by the [illegible] as an affectionate token [illegible] the memory of the Rev. [illegible] Mockler, who, after having officiated as Curate of the [illegible] church, for [illegible] years, went out last spring as Chaplain to the Army in the East. He joined the Third Division at Galata, near Varna; and, amongst other arduous clerical duties, [illegible] the Holy Communion to the officers and men of that Division on that [illegible] when they had [illegible] service before embarking for Sebastopol. The Rev. Mr. Mockler accompanied the troops to the Crimea, was present at the Battle of the Alma, attended to the wounded, and buried the greater part of the English who fell in that engagement. He then marched with his Division to Balaclava on foot, and was, with the rest of the army, exposed for many days and nights to the inclemencies of the weather without tent, or any covering except a blanket. These exposures, coupled with his overwhelming official duties, proved too much for his physical energies, and he died of exhaustion and fatigue shortly after his arrival at Balaclava. The tablet bears the following inscription:—

"Erected to the memory of the Reverend G[illegible] Mockler, M.A., [illegible] Curate of this church, and late Chaplain to the [illegible] British Army, in alliance with [illegible] and Turkey, engaged [illegible] He had endeared himself during a ministry of [illegible] years to [illegible] gation, who have raised this memorial of their attachment and esteem. The zeal evinced by him for the welfare of the dying [illegible] wounded, after the battle of Alma, so exhausted his physical [illegible] that he sank under [illegible] and died on the 2nd day [illegible] His remains were interred upon the [illegible]

MONUMENT TO THE REV. MR. MOCKLER, JUST ERECTED IN CHRIST CHURCH, WATNEY-STREET.

LECTURE UPON FLAGS, DELIVERED BY THE REV. MR. BOUTELL, IN THE GREAT HALL, HAMPTON COURT.

WEST-STREET, IN D'URBAN. FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.

NATAL.

(From a Correspondent.)

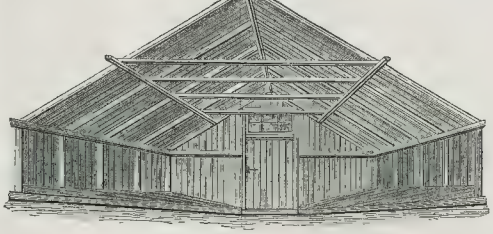
Now that fleets and armies are rushing, in your part of the world, to the sanguinary fight, cannot you find a place for a more quiet scene, taken from the middle of our West-street in D'Urban?

Natal has passed through the ordeal to which all young colonies are in the beginning of their career subjected, and is now emerging from her state of trial into circumstances of prosperity. The system of cultivation which the emigrants at this place pursued at the commencement of their colonial life has given way to the cultivation of the sugar cane, the coffee-tree, and other tropical productions; and the results are of a most encouraging character. Sugar is produced equal to any from the West Indies or the Brazils, and before long you will see Natal sugar supplanting much of that which is now sent to the London market from other parts of the world

At the time of writing this letter (July) our coffee-trees are bearing fruit, and anticipations of no visionary kind are beginning to bless the often-daunted but never-defeated enterprises of the English settler. We have lately had a legislative reform in the country, which is now divided into counties or districts, each having its own Council. Boroughs have been formed, and Corporations called into existence; and, as a consequence, society is become more stable.

From ignorance of the climate and capabilities of the soil, and the misfortunes arising out of that ignorance, a large amount of prejudice has existed against Natal. The ignorance dissipated, the prejudice has been removed with it; and now many are actually re-emigrating from golden Australia to this place; the salubrious nature of our climate being more essential to their health and happiness than the gold of the country.

OFFICERS' BARRACKS.



PRIVATES' HUT, SHOWING INCLINED SLEEPING-FLOOR

FRENCH PORTABLE PAVILION BARRACKS, DESIGNED BY HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

SHOAL OF WHALES IN THE SOLWAY FIRTH.

WE this week give an Illustration showing some of the *Delphini* recently captured on the coast of Cumberland from one of the most extraordinary shoals of *Cetaceæ* ever known to visit our shores. They were first seen by some fishermen in the Irish Sea, on Saturday, 16th December; when it was evident that they were out of their reckoning, as they lay floundering about on the surface of the water in a state of great exhaustion. On the following day they were brought by the tide to the mouth of the Solway Firth, and their numbers and magnitude were then more clearly ascertained As far as the eye could reach, these huge black creatures were to be seen rolling about in the sea, and spouting out great columns of water. The

SHOAL OF WHALES IN THE SOLWAY FIRTH.

noise made by their blowing and lashing the water, as they got into the shallows, soon drew attention, and great numbers of fishermen and country people came to the shore, hoping to take some of them. A considerable number were slaughtered, but, owing to there being a scarcity of horses to drag the carcass up the beach, they were one by one floated off by the returning tide, and carried out to sea. On the following day, however, a number of horses having been brought to the shore, very many were secured. Within a distance of two miles from Silloth Bay, where our Sketch is taken, upwards of twenty were taken.

On Tuesday they got still further up the Firth, and at Annan Durnoch and other places many 200 were killed, and oil to the value of upwards of £600, has been secured.

It is estimated that there were several thousands of them. Their dimensions varied from 18 to about 30 feet, and about 12 feet in girth. They were of the family *Ambloctonidæ*, having teeth only in the upper and eighteen in the lower jaw. They appear to have belonged to the sub-order *Delphinidæ*. In their magnitude, however, and several other characteristics, they differ altogether from the *Delphinis phocæna*; while in some respects they resemble the *Catodon*, or Spermaceti Whale

Quoate delphinis balæna Britannia Major

WOODEN BARRACKS FOR THE FRENCH ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

Two descriptions of Wooden Barracks are now being shipped from, this country for the French army of the Crimea. Of the first of the two buildings, engraved upon the preceding page, 1500 have been ordered by the Imperial Government for the soldiers; and the other for the accommodation of the officers; and of these latter 250 are in course of delivery. They both measure 29 feet long by 16 feet wide; the sides of the soldiers' barracks are 3 feet 6 inches in height; and of the officers, 6 feet, high; the roof of both being precisely similar.

The soldiers' house is provided with bed-boards raised on sleepers above the ground, with a 4-foot passage running through the centre; and the accommodation is ample for twenty-six men.

The officers' barrack has no bed-boards, but a raised floor, but will be divided by curtains into four compartments, each furnished with a window; the officers' beds being placed transversely across the building during the night, and by day the whole space of the building will be used as a messroom

It may not be uninteresting briefly to state the circumstance which induced the two Allied Governments to provide these Wooden Barracks for the soldiers [illegible] Hitherto [illegible] [illegible] large [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Fourth Morning Performance of the Pantomime [illegible] THIS DAY, JANUARY 6, commence at Two, over by Four o'Clock. A Juvenile Night on TUESDAY next, JANUARY 9, commence at Ten o'Clock.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—The Pantomime of [illegible] who hot hot Shots [illegible] and Friday, [illegible] Tower, which will [illegible] crowded at "Court" and the Pantomime.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE. Monday, [illegible] a series of Lyons Tuesday, Gordeau Brothers, Wednesday, Ada, Thursday, Romeo, Friday, Rivals, Saturday (first time), in XII. The Pantomime Every Evening.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION. 14 Regent-street. The CAVALRY CHARGE at BALACLAVA, the Alps, the INDIANA ILLUSTRATED EVENTS of WAR. The LECTURE by Mr. STOCKDALE, Daily, at 3 and Eight. Admission, 1s. 2s., and 3s.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC is NOW OPEN EVERY EVENING (except Saturday), at Eight, Thursday, and Saturday, at Three o'Clock. Stalls can be had. Box-office every day from Ten till Four.—Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

TO and Hear LOVE, the greatest DRAMATIC CONVERSAZIONE in Europe, at the UPPER HALL, ST. JAMES'S GALLERY, 85, Quadrant, Regent-street, Every Evening, Eight, except Saturday; Saturday, at Three.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.—The collection of living Animals includes a magnificent series of Lions, Lions, Whelps, Clouded Tigers, Panthers, Jaguars, Leopards, Bears, Elephants, Rhinoceroses, and a Hippopotamus, together with an immense number of Birds, Reptiles, and other Marine Animals. Admission, 1s. on Monday, 6d.

CRYSTAL PALACE, Sydenham.—The PALACE and PARK are OPEN to the Public on MONDAYS 10 a.m. on TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and FRIDAYS, at 10 a.m. on which days the admission is 1s.; and on SATURDAYS at Noon, when the admission is 5s., and close each day at 5 p.m. Tickets of admission, including conveyance by railway, can be obtained at the London-bridge Terminus, and at the several depôts in London.

Trains run at 8 10 a.m., at 9 10 a.m., and every half-hour from 10 10 a.m. up to 4.10 p.m.; returning from the Crystal Palace Station up to 6 p.m.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.—ROYAL POLYTECHNIC OF SCIENCE AND ART, Leicester-square. NEW ATTRACTIONS ALADDIN and THE WONDERFUL LAMP, with Accompaniments on the Grand Organ, by Mr. W. T. Wright, and the Legend of Aladdin told by Mr. LEIGHTON BUCKNILL, Hypnotic Views of the War in the Crimea. Lectures contain 100 feet high. Heinke's Diving Dress. Lectures on the Stereoscope, Lectures on the Crystal Cistern. Lectures on Electricity, with Duvall of Car Nicholas. Lectures on Electro-Magnetic Industry, Natural History, and the History of the Day. Lectures on Chemical Illusions, using the Morning Performances. Franklin's Lectures, and Natural Magic, in the Evening. Doors open, commencing at Twelve; in the Evening, Saturday excepted, at Seven. Admission, 1s.; Schools, and Children under Ten, Half-price.

QUEEN'S CONCERT ROOMS, Hanover-square.—The AZTEC LILLIPUTIANS (the repeated Gods of Mexicanus, and the [illegible] GIANTESS, or ARGAMANTHA, the Mexican Queen, under great [illegible]). The Pride of either race ever seen in Europe, the existence of which has been much disputed. Grand Ethiopian Entertainments Daily, from Twelve o'clock. Lectures Twelve, Admission, 2s.; Reserved Seats 3s.; Children, Half-price. MILLIONS for the MILLION in the LINWOOD GALLERY, Oxford-street. Observe the Pictures [illegible] Gods of the Half-Seals, 3s. Daily, from Three to Five, and Seven to Half-past Ten. Lectures at Four and Eight. The Rose [illegible] having been presented for the purpose, will accompany the Doll [illegible] Wallworth, Mr. Henry Smith, and Mr. [illegible] Stalloboxis, will assist these human puppets [illegible] Entertainments are patronized by the London Lecture of the Age.

BALL, Baron NATHAN begs to inform the Public that his ANNUAL BALL will take place at his Residence, ASSEMBLY ROOM, [illegible] Lambeth, on MONDAY, JAN. 8th. Tickets, 5s.

MR. CALDWELL'S GRAND JUVENILE BALL and SOIREE, on TUESDAY, JAN. 9, commencing at Ten. The second GRAND BAL MASQUE will take place on TUESDAY, JAN. 23, on the same principle as before. Six Private Lessons, at any hour, £1 1s.—[illegible] street, Soho.

EDUCATION by the SEA, WESTON-PARK SCHOOL, Well-ington House, Weston-super-Mare. Somerset. Rev. J. HOPKINS, assisted by able Masters, continues to receive a limited number of Young Gentlemen. Mr. H. will treat for exchange of one of his Sons, and the services of an Articled Pupil Assistant.

A LADY, residing in a retired part of Oxfordshire, is desirous of taking TWO or THREE YOUNG LADIES under twelve years of age as PUPILS. They would be the objects her undivided care and attention both in education and general living, and also be treated all the comforts of home. Her Instructress would include French, Music, and Drawing, together with the best masters of an English education. Further particulars by Mr. [illegible] Post-office, Leamington.

MEDICAL PRACTICE WANTED.—A [illegible] married Medical Man will give half the Profits to any one who will inform him of a good Practice to commence Practice in. It must be in a pleasant part of the country, one of the southern counties, or on the south coast, as the advertiser moving to the south on account of the delicate health of an only surviving child.—Address A. B., Post-office, Bradford, Yorkshire.

TO POULTRY FANCIERS, FOR SALE, A FEW PAIRS of the SEMI-TATOO, the Fowl of the Island, bred from the Birmingham prize birds, represented in the illustrated LONDON NEWS of December 29, page 653 (No. 10). Given in 1 WATTS, Monkhams Hampstead.

TO PARENTS, &c.—Mr. GEORGE HAYES, of CONDITT-STREET, REGENT-STREET, has a vacancy in his PUPIL (in or out door). As he would join the family of a clergyman, he can offer the most advantageous terms. To such, unusual advantages are offered, combining a thorough knowledge of the Surgical and Mechanical departments of the Dental Profession.

THE PRINCIPAL of a FIRST-CLASS SCHOOL, situate in the country, will be happy to take a few PUPILS, at his own house. Reference to the Clergyman of the parish in which the School is situate, and to parents having sons at the establishment.—Address Delta, 50, Trinity-square, Tamworth.

CHAPPED HANDS and LIPS CURED in ONE NIGHT, by CHARLES GROSSMITH'S EMOLLIO, giving the skin soft, clear, and white. Perfectly innocent. Patent peculiar. Price 1s. 1d. Manufactory, 124 and 125, Strand.

PAINLESS TOOTH EXTRACTION, without Chloroform. Mr. WALTER BELDERBILL is at home daily, on Ten till Four, for Dental Operations under his new Patent process.—39, New Broad-street, City.

DEAFNESS.—Patronised by Royalty. PINE'S ACOUSTIC REPOSITORY for the Relief of the Deaf is the best invention ever offered to the Public. They can be worn in the hat or bonnet. To be obtained of Mr. W. Pine, at his Acoustic Repository, 324, Strand (one door from Wellington-street).

BOOK to YOUR LEGS.—If they swell, or if the veins are enlarged, get one of BAILEY'S ELASTIC STOCKINGS or KNEE-CAPS, to draw on without lacing. The prices are moderate.—W. H. BAILEY, 418, Oxford-street, London.

BEADEN COMBS for gradually Darkening Grey Hair. They are recommended by the faculty as superior to lesser dyes. Securely packed, with directions for use. Post free, 30 stamps. Regular only of the sole Manufacturer and Proprietor, ARLEN, 12, Broad-court, Long-acre, London.

CROGGON'S PATENT ASPHALTE ROOFING FELT, INODOROUS FELT, for damp walls, lining from houses, sold in rolls, 32 inches wide, ONE PENNY per SQUARE FOOT. Also, DRY HAIR FELT, for preventing the radiation of heat and deadening sound, and SHEATHING FELT, for keeping out damp, on which the copper lies smooth. Samples, directions, and estimates sent by post.—Croggon and Co., 2, Dowgate-hill.

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(*Continued from page 14.*)

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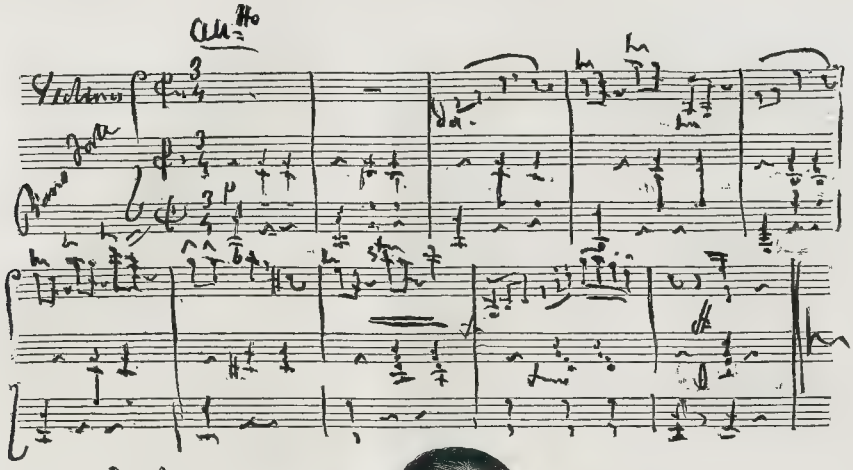
The appearance of Herr Ernst, the great violinist, is announced, and also Madame Pleyel's performance of one of Mendelssohn's concertos. These, and other novelties, we shall have occasion to [illegible] next week.

M. JULLIEN'S CONCERT, AT THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA-HOUSE, COVENT GARDEN.



MADAME BORGHI MAMO.

THIS lady is at present the chief object of attraction at the Paris Italian Opera, and is, undoubtedly, the most remarkable dramatic singer of the day. There is reason to expect that she will appear at our Royal Italian Opera in the course of the approaching season; and a few words, therefore, respecting her career may be acceptable to our musical readers. Her voice is a contralto—a species of organ which is rarely found in a high degree of excellence, and still more rarely accompanied with genius and musical acquirements. On the Italian stage, consequently, it is always a desideratum. The last great dramatic contralto who has been heard in London was Alboni; and, since her retirement, many fine parts have either been most inadequately supported or laid aside altogether. But these parts have been now revived by Madame Borghi Mamo, with an *éclat* hardly, if at all, surpassed by the triumphs of her gifted predecessor.

Madame Borghi Mamo is about five-and-twenty. Her biography is little more than a series of successes, constantly increasing.

Adelaide Borghi was born at Bologna, or in its neighbourhood. Her family were neither musical nor in affluent circumstances, so that she grew towards womanhood with scarcely any musical instruction. But she had received from nature those precious gifts which instruction (though it can improve them) cannot give. It happened, when she was about fifteen, that she was taken to a musical party in Bologna, where she contributed to the entertainment of the evening by singing an air from Vaccai's "Romeo e Giulietta," with so much sweetness and feeling that she attracted the notice of Madame Festa, the distinguished contralto singer, who was so charmed with her artless talent that she embraced her warmly, foretold that she would one day be a great artist, and undertook the charge of her musical education. Two years afterwards she made her début at Urbino in the "Giuramento" of Mercadante, with sufficient success to attract the attention of managers. In the following year she had engagements at Modena, Rimini, and other places in the north of Italy, where she appeared in various contralto parts, especially *Orsini*, in Donizetti's "Lucrezia Borgia." It was in this character (so well known in this country by the splendid performances of Alboni) that she gained her first great triumph. She then went to Malta, where she remained three years; during which time she performed almost all the principal parts suited to her voice of the modern Italian répertoire. By this time her fame had spread over Italy, and in 1851 she was engaged at Naples, where she made her first appearance at the San Carlo in the "Cenerentola." She immediately became the idol of the Neapolitan public, performing the part of the *Zingara*, in the "Trovatore" of Verdi, no less than seventy-four times consecutively. When she took her leave of Naples, in January last, after the performance of the "Trovatore" for her benefit, she had an "ovation" to be met with only in Italy. She was escorted in triumph from the theatre to her residence, and serenaded by the orchestra and chorus of the theatre, amid the acclamations of the multitude; and the journals teemed with sonnets in her praise, in which, whatever might have been their poetry, there was no lack of enthusiasm. It is no wonder that these children of the South are apt to be chilled by the coldness of our northern latitude; but they are soon reconciled to John Bull's want of demonstrativeness by the weight of his purse and his readiness to open it.

Last spring Madame Borghi Mamo went to Vienna, where her reception was most flattering. During the summer she visited Leghorn and Florence; and it was while singing at the latter place that she received those overtures which have brought her to Paris. She has there brought the "Trovatore" into the highest vogue at the Italian Opera; and M. Ragani, the manager, is so sensible of her importance to the theatre, that he has wisely entered into a new engagement with her for several seasons. Mr. Gye, we have been informed, is endeavouring to engage her for Covent-garden; where, however, she can appear only for two months during next season, having a subsequent engagement at the Imperial Theatre of Vienna.

MADAME BORGHI MAMO, OF THE PARIS ITALIAN OPERA.

FOX-HUNTING.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

Madame Borghi Mamo is handsome and attractive. She is a graceful and intelligent actress, as well as a most accomplished singer. Her voice is a pure contralto of the richest quality and extraordinary compass, extending from F in the bass clef to C—two octaves and a fifth; and so skilfully does she join the chest voice with the falsetto, that in the whole of that great range there is not the slightest inequality.

Subjoined to our Portrait of this distinguished lady is a *facsimile* of a very interesting musical autograph. When she was at Florence this time twelve months Rossini had her sing in his own "Cenerentola," and was so lavish in his expressions of the pleasure he had received from her performance, that she was emboldened to ask him for a few lines in his own handwriting, handing him a piece of music paper for that purpose. The maestro immediately wrote down this extemporaneous fragment—a graceful little melody for the violin, with an accompaniment for the piano. A musician of taste, taking it as a theme, could easily expand it into an elegant movement.

FOX-HUNTING

There were many came down to the banks of the brook
Came down with a rush—not to leap but to look
There were horsemen who took to the water like rats
There were steeds without riders and men without hats

Ingoldsby Legends.

YO-HO! over she goes. There's the cream of the thing in a grass country—the pack streaming away over a flat country, too fast for music, the bright green of a field of a hundred acres, and a row of pollard willows give warning of a brook, not to be seen at a distance though full to the brim, and chill many a heart by anticipation, for there's not an open bridge within a mile. The first flight are all right, the pace has weeded the field, and the men and the horses know how and where to make the rush needful for clearing a wide unceiling number of yards of water. The lady would not be there if she had not full confidence in herself and her horse.

We said all, but there is one exception in the unhappy gentleman without his hat; it is quite evident that neither he nor his horse means making a cold water bath. By nicking or skirting, or some unlucky accident, he has got far too forward for his comfort; and now he has seen the last of the sport for the day, he may pick up his hat and go home by the road, for there are five miles of grass between the fox and the next cover, and, according to all signs the pack will race over every yard of it. Never mind, he will have plenty of "companions of his solitude." The rush is too far behind to face that water on the chance of a check. They must all ride round a mile or two for the highway bridge. Brook-jumping—like storming a fortified town, charging squares of infantry with cavalry, and many other feats—is invariably performed with great ease and success *after dinner, over the mahogany*; but in a fast run in an open grass country, there is nothing that thins a well-mounted field like a brook that must be jumped; and in grazing countries the farmers have an awkward trick of locking high-backed spiked gates in the centre of accommodation bridges.

Neither men nor horses like water. Men don't like the chance of a day in wet clothes, not to speak of falling between two high banks, and requiring the help of a plough-team to get out; and horses that will do every other kind of leap in perfection, will often so absolutely refuse to face water, that no persuasion, determination, or skill on the part of the rider can get them over. And what is worse, a horse that has once fallen into water will generally refuse, or jump short, from fear, ever after—an effect which no fall over any other kind of fence will produce; indeed, there is a prejudice, which we do not share, that a fall over a gate or a hedge makes a young horse jump cleaner in future.

We remember seeing Captain Beecher ride a thorough-bred he was training for steeplechasing into two brooks, one after the other, without being able to produce the semblance of a leap. The brute gallopped straight on, as if his legs were of wood, and the water had been solid ground.

On another occasion, last season, the Whip of a metropolitan pack of staghounds rode his horse three times into a brook without success—the last time parting company, and scrambling out on the far side, while the horse turned back to the close. A gentleman passing by on foot, who had witnessed the scene, volunteered to ride the animal over, and did, successfully, at the first trial, without whip or spurs. So much for the man's part on a good horse. After all, however, there is no leap so safe as water, where the horse is a water-jumper, where the banks are sound, and you can gallop up to the "taking off" over a surface not too deep for wind and speed. Very often the banks are foulock deep in mud, trodden down into a paste by bullocks drinking, washed out by the stream. The best ground will usually be found near trees or bridges. The Everesbute in Oxfordshire is the water stopper of that country, and hard, with a stiff clay bottom and precipitous banks.

When Earl Fitzhardinge first looked at it, he asked his Whip, "How broad is it?"

"About nine yards, my Lord."

"Dead and awkward place to get in," he observed. "And how deep is it?" he continued.

"About ten feet, my Lord."

"Dead and awkward place to get out."

[illegible] the Wilson Line, in Leicestershire, which [illegible] a leading feature in Nimrod's celebrated sketch of Leicestershire, the Mole, in Surrey, which no one has celebrated; and all the water jumps noted among fresh hunters.

Water must be ridden at fast, but not wildly. People talk of twenty miles an hour—fourteen miles an hour for the last 150 yards is more like the reality. But, whatever the pace, your horse should be collected to a measured stride, so that he can measure his distance, and not be hurried to take off too soon or too late. The rider must be determined—hands steady, and legs and thighs clasped, in the way that means going. If his nerves fail him at the last moment, or, as is often the case, he changes his action at the best place for taking off, the horse will to a certainty stop or swerve, or jump into a cold bath.

As to how an awkward place should be ridden at, we remember seeing the celebrated Jack Goddard, of the Heythrop, ride down to the banks of the Evenlode three times, back, and forward, at a canter, to choose a place of firm ground for leaping off, and the circling back, without stopping, to the top of the field, he returned at a thundering pace, and skimmed across like a bird, while half a dozen, more rash and less knowing, were floundering in the stream. Every season horses, perfect in other respects, are sold out of the Leicestershire country, because they cannot be made to face water in proper style. So, before a man goes into any of the brook-divided countries, he should make sure if he means to ride straight, that his steed won't make him look ridiculous.

Before entering into descriptions of particular packs (which we propose to illustrate with Portraits of some of the most celebrated Masters of Hounds and Huntsmen with their packs—commencing with the Quorn, the Brocklesby, the Belvoir, and Mr. Assheton Smith's), it may be well to say a few words on two or three subjects likely to be useful to those who make their first appearance in the hunting-field this season.

And first as to railroads. Railroads have completely changed the character of hunting-fields by making large circles possible for those whom the meeting of Parliament, or other engagement, compel to spend the season in London, as well as by extending the circle of the principal centres where hunting men congregate; as, for instance, Melton, Leicester, Leamington, and Cheltenham. Oxford undergraduates can now reach, for a few shillings, distances which formerly cost two hacks and an unlimited quantity of beer. Indeed, railroads have almost made hacks unnecessary. For instance, Sir Richard Sutton frequently leaves London in the morning, and meets his hounds between Leicester and Syston stations.

Taking London as the chief centre of railroads available for those who either return to town the same evening, or keep up a hunting-box within telegraphic distance of the political clubs and the Stock Exchange,—the following is a condensed list of the accessible railroad stations and Packs of hounds:

Beginning on the north side of the Thames. The Great Western Railway:—Slough, reached in 27 minutes from Paddington, is in the centre of the Queen's Buckhounds. At Reading, an hour and a quarter from Paddington, Mr. John Phillips, and the South Berkshire. We have seen a very quick thing with the Pytchley, within sight of Magdalen Tower. At Didcot, two hours and a quarter from Paddington, the Craven, lately taken up by the young Earl of Portsmouth; and the Old Berkshire, hunted by Mr. Morrell, the brewer and banker, of Oxford, meet all round. On the other side of Oxford, the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton intersects the Heythrop: master, Lord Redesdale; huntsman, the celebrated Jem Bills. On the other side, Mr. Thomas Drake, the descendant of a long line of sporting squires, hunts a country which the triangle of the Buckinghamshire lines intersects.

Thus, leaving London in the morning at ten minutes before eight o'clock, you can be at Didcot at half-past nine; or, by sleeping at or near Oxford, a good day's sport may be enjoyed with either the Heythrop, the Drakes, the Old Berkshire, Mr. Phillips's, and often with the Warwickshire, with the opportunity of returning, if necessary, to London, by trains leaving Oxford at nine or ten o'clock p.m.

The London and North-Western Railway taps a district even richer than the Great Western, and grants peculiar facilities to sportsmen in the shape of tickets, available for hunting purposes only, at £10 to Tring and £90 to Rugby, for the season.

The notable stations are Watford, Tring, Leighton, Wolverton, Weedon, Blisworth, and Rugby—Watford, twenty-five minutes; Tring and Leighton, about two hours; and Rugby, three hours and twenty minutes, go through the centre of the following Hunts: Lord Dacres, who occupies the chief part of Hertfordshire, formerly hunted by the Earl of Salisbury, and afterwards by Mr. Delmé Radcliffe, author of a standard book upon the "Noble Science." Lord Lonsdale, who has taken up the Old Berkeley country, and keeps both fox-hounds and harriers at Tring; the Baron Rothschild's stag-hounds, hunting the grass country in the Vale of Aylesbury; Lord Southampton's hunting part of Beds, including part of the wild country given up by Mr. Selby Lowndes, and part of Northamptonshire; and, lastly, the Pytchley, a district of Northamptonshire, not second to Leicestershire in broad pasture fields and with even stiffer fences. On an emergency, by leaving London at half-past six o'clock in the morning by the Great Western Railway, may be reached at 8.50, which will be time enough with a hack to get to a few of the best meets, not only of the Pytchley, but of the Warwickshire also. The same train also reaches Weedon at 9.17, giving time to get to the famous Crick Meet. But these are extreme exceptions, not worth while, considering that good accommodation can be had for hunters and huntsmen at Tring, at Leighton, at Rugby, and other stations which it would take too much space to name. Rugby, indeed, stands in the first position as a hunting centre; and a series of trains—the last leaving at 9.10 from Rugby—will deliver the town sportsman before twelve o'clock at night.

The Great Northern is less rich in hunting districts than the two other great metropolitan lines; but it passes through the best part of Lord Dacres' hunt. Between Hatfield, less than an hour from London, and Hitchin, by express five minutes more than an hour, eight meets are passed—all within four miles of a station. At Biggleswade, one hour and a half from London, the Cambridgeshire hunt is accessible, where the Misses Reynolds have performed their feats of horsemanship; and at Peterboro', which can be reached by ten o'clock, Earl Fitzwilliam's is within an easy canter—certainly one of the best country houses and packs out of what may be called the fashionable districts. The inn accommodation is excellent, and hack-hunters may be hired.

The Eastern Counties Railway, with its double lines, opens up hunting districts of very varied character. For instance, for the benefit of the City men living on the east side of London, there is the South Essex, a provincial pack, hunting twice a week over a flat grass country, interspersed by broad deep drains, which require a steady clever horse to execute comfortably and fast. This district has recently been brought within two hours' travelling by the Tilbury and Southend Railway, with one terminus in Fenchurch-street, and the other at Tilbury, opposite Gravesend, which passes within a couple of miles of the best covers. The South Essex is in every respect the reverse of the Pytchley; but a clever horse is required. Then the Eastern Counties Railway surrounds with its two arms the "Essex hunt," which has been rendered classical in a fox-hunting sense by the fact that it was once hunted by Colonel Cook (whose book was long a standard authority with masters to hounds), and it has since been held for more than forty years by Mr. Conyers, who resigned it two seasons ago, and was succeeded by Mr. Henley Greenve. Essex is a plough country where the scent lies well; the foxes are wild; and the deep ditches and high banks require more than pluck to surmount. Bishop Stortford, on the one side, which can be reached in an hour, at 9.4 a.m., and Ingatestone station, which can also be done in an hour, arriving at 8½ a.m., place you within reach of all the best meets. The latter station approaches a few meets of the Essex Union—a rough country with Devonshire banks, hunted for a short time by Jim Morgan; now, we believe, with Lord Lonsdale.

Crossing the Thames, we have the East Kent, with kennels close to Gravesend, hunted by Mr. Colyer, entirely at his own expense, on a very liberal scale, over, as we hear, a very rough, unsatisfactory country, with too many covers and too many unjumpable banks for much sport. Next to the East Kent lies the Old Surrey, to be reached by the Croydon line, in an hour from town. The Surrey is an excellent country for a constitutional ride; but it is so strictly a subscription pack that the presence of strangers is not desired.

The Reigate and Guildford Junction line between the South-Eastern and South-Western, intersects the best part of the Surrey Union, thus completing the circle round London, and accommodating all tastes, from the very quiet constitutional cob-rider, to the man who can go first flight with the Pytchley. We may mention, from personal experience, for the information of travellers in strange countries anxious to see sport, and of gentlemen in their first season, that very capable hack-hunters, with the option of purchase, may be had from Charles Simmonds, Oxford; T. Percival, the Haycock, Wansford, near Peterborough; Tollit Streatham, Croydon, for the Surrey and the Queen's. There are, no doubt, many others equally to be depended on—we speak of those we have found up to their work.

(*To be continued.*)

DEAR OF CAMBRIDGE.—The Duchess of Cambridge received letters on Saturday, brought by the Queen's messenger, who arrived that morning from Trieste, addressed to her Royal Highness the Duchess, which give a favourable account of the health of his Royal Highness. The Duke has been staying at Theraplia, and his health has gradually improved, mainly from change of scene. The Duke is most anxious to rejoin his division, but his medical attendants insist on his not quitting for the Crimea until his health shall be completely restored. It was thought his Royal Highness would leave towards the close of December.

THE RUSSIAN INTRIGUANTE IN PARIS.—Some sensation has been created in Paris by the arrival of the Princess Lieven at her old residence in the Hotel Talleyrand. The Princess arrived on Friday night. It is said that she is on her way to Nice, where she has been commanded to proceed for the benefit of her health; but it is thought likely that she will not proceed on her journey immediately; indeed, many affirm that she will remain in Paris during the winter. The Princess is said to have obtained permission from the French Government to pass through France.

RELIC OF THE GREAT FIRE.—There still exists a financial relic of the Great Fire of London. A return has just been printed, at the instance of Mr. Mason, of the sums of money raised and paid by parishes within the city of London, under the Act 44th George III., chap. 89, "for the relief of certain incumbents of livings in the city of London," since the passing of that Act. All parishes, the churches of which were not burnt down in the Great Fire of Lon lon, are exempted from the operations of the Act. From the figures supplied in the return, it appears that £350,000 have been paid annually under the Act; and, as it was passed just half a century ago, it follows that there has been raised under it, up to this time, a gross amount of something like £320,000; or, adding about the average for the two parishes in which the amount is not named, probably £350,000 would be nearer the mark.

ENGLISH GOVERNESSES IN RUSSIA.—Private letters from English governesses in Russia state that it has been intimated from high quarters that it is desirable for them to return immediately to their own country. The cause of this measure is said to be, that the Czar thinks that, as the war will reduce a great many wealthy persons to poverty, their daughters ought to find employment given to them. As most of the noble families are quite aware of what "the gentleman with mild eyes" means by a hint, they have advised their governesses to take it, however unwilling to lose their services, and have the opportunity of quitting in comfort; as, by waiting for an official order, they might have to do it with inconvenient haste, or possibly not be permitted to leave at all, and be favoured with an opportunity of verifying their geographical studies under disagreeable circumstances.

THE ARMY OF THE GERMAN CONFEDERATION. A general view of the force forming the army of the German Confederation will not be without interest. The contingents of the federal strength, according to the returns for 1853 laid before the Military Committee of the Diet, amounts to 825,937 men, and is divided as follows:—The First, Second, and Third Army Corps (Austria, Prussia, the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Army Corps (Prussia) make 170,509; the Seventh Army Corps (Bavaria), 50,236; and Eighth Corps (Wurtemberg, Baden, and Hesse Darmstadt), 47,827; the Ninth Corps (Saxony, Electoral Hesse, Nassau, Luxemburg, Limburg), 35,336; the Tenth Corps (Hanover, Brunswick, Oldenburg, the Hanse Towns, Mecklenburg), 49,918, the Infantry Division of Reserve, 18,156, among them 3371 are on the Staff. The Infantry amount to 404,592 men, of whom 28,621 are Chasseurs and Riflemen. The Cavalry are 71,149, with 42,002 horses doing work. The Artillery consists of 40,278 men, with 24,144 horses. The so-called technical troops amount to 7745 men; to whom are to be added 1470 army surgeons and 16,838 men attached to the transport service. The siege-park contains 250 pieces of ordnance, 122 of which are cannon, 31 howitzers, and 97 mortars. According to its tactical distribution, the Federal Army consists of 387 battalions, 409 squadrons, and 147 batteries, with 1122 guns.

THE ENTENTE CORDIALE. In the beginning of the campaign occasion officers of the Guards invited several officers of General Bosquet's division to dine at their mess. The French officers sent a deputation to decline the invitation in the most delicate and friendly terms possible. Most of them, they said, had little or nothing beyond their pay to live upon; they could not, consistently with the same style that they knew it would be offered to them; and they felt certain that English officers would understand their scruples, and not press them to accept civilities which some at least among their number might feel as laying them under the weight of an obligation. They would eagerly seize every occasion to grasp the hand of an English officer, would be delighted to join in a promenade or a game of quoits, but the whole, thought it best to abstain from entering upon a course of dinner-giving. Against such an excuse of course no remonstrance could be made, and the English officers merely expressed their regret that they could not see so much of their comrades in arms as they had hoped to do. But after the battle of Inkerman the English mess in question had lost their plate and china, their cellar, their potted meats, hams, preserves, and other luxuries, and, owing to commissariat difficulties but too notorious, found it difficult to procure the most ordinary rations. When these misfortunes became known in the Camp, the French deputation of officers renewed their visit, and said, with comic good-humour, that, since the fortune of war had removed the inequalities which originally constituted their only objection to an interchange of feeding, they hoped the English officers would condescend to take potluck with them. This *spirituel* invitation was naturally accepted, and the delightful fraternity which prevails between the two services was thus cemented by another link.

TWO NEW-YEAR'S-DAYS.

A STORY.

BY AMELIA B EDWARDS

I AM the organist to St Martha-cum-Silvermere, a little quiet church, in a little quiet town, some five-and-forty miles north-east of London. It is not a very brilliant appointment—thirty pounds a year, and a small old-fashioned house to live in. But I can exist upon it. I have a few pupils; a gratuity from the Vestry on Christmas-day and Shrove-Tuesday; and, above all, a contented disposition, and a sincere love for my art. Besides, do I not possess a first-class certificate of merit from the Musical Academy of Zollenstrasse, in the Duchy of Zollenstrasse-zum-Rhein, where I received my professional education? Do I not possess a testimonial signed by the Chamberlain of my hereditary letter addressed to me by the wife of the Town-Councillor Von Stumpf! Am I not the proud and fortunate competitor who carried off those two bronze medals, and that faded laurel-wreath, which were awarded at the three grand examinations, and which now adorn the mantelshelf of my little parlour?

The worst part of it is that I have no one to whom I can show these trophies, excepting my little pupils and my child-servant. I am very lonely. How it happens that I possess no friends or kindred in all my native England is of no importance here. My residence abroad and my foreign education have something to do with the matter, and . . . But I will not enter upon that subject, as it is painful to look back upon a home and social circle broken up—upon a sunny childhood faded—upon parents lost, but unforgotten: and, moreover, that has absolutely nothing to do with my story.

Yes, I am lonely; and, for one still warm of heart, it seems a strange, cold fate enough. Yet my life is not without its pleasures. I like my little church, with its curious tombs and Gothic crypt, and monuments, brasses here and there. I am interested in the aged sexton, and in his long, prosy tales of the De Lacy family, whose tattered banner hangs above the old oak sculpture near the altar-rails. I am attached to the little, rosy-faced rustics of the Sunday-school, who sing every Wednesday to the tune of "Hallelujah!" I may prize their sweet infant voices in those chants and psalm-tunes which they sing during the services of the Sabbath. Above all, I love my quaint old organ, up in the dark nook over the church door. I love its triple row of black keys, its obsolete stops, its curiously-carved music-desk, and the little gilded angels with trumpets and violoncellos which are perched so uneasily on the top, and "pipe to the spirit-ditties of no tone."

It is true that the organ is not perfect; nay, I must confess that it is, in many respects, somewhat of an eccentric instrument. There is a trumpet-stop in the great organ which always plays a tune and a half too high, and which I have not dared to use for the last two years. The pedals are so worn down by the friction of more than a century, that they are reduced to the thinness of laths, and many of them are dumb. And there is something odd the matter with the bellows, so that the wind comes with a puffy, intermittent sound, as if the organ were asthmatic—a defect which is peculiarly annoying, as it makes the old dame (long) and sigh and pipe the effect of my most brilliant passages. However, I am a very constant little woman in my attachments, and I love the organ dearly for all that

Silvermere is a very pleasant place in the summer time; and, though I always find plenty to occupy my time and my thoughts, I certainly feel happier then than during any other period of the year. I have my walks in the fields and by the river side; my long practices in the empty church, when the mellow evening sunlight comes streaming through the oriel window, and glinting all along the gilded angels; my garden to cultivate; and my little vases on the chimneypiece all filled with fresh, sweet flowers. But sometimes I find the winters hunger very dreadly. Mind, I do not complain; I have my books and my fireside, and many, many comforts, for which I am grateful; yet the long, dark evenings do seem heavy to me at times, and the brightest fire loses half its cheerfulness when one has to sit by it alone. Of all days in the year New-Year's-day seems the loneliest and dreariest to me. I had been accustomed, while in Germany, to see this anniversary merrily celebrated, and long for a merry share in the good cheer, and good wishes, and balls, and pleasant social festivities with which the Germans usher in the great Birthday and the new-born year; yet it is no wonder I should feel sad now when all Silvermere is gay, when London friends come down to spend their winter holidays with our townsfolk; when joyous parties are taking place night after night all around me, and I alone receive no loving smiles or gentle greetings from any human creature

It seems strange that some of the inhabitants of this town have noticed or betriended me. The Rector is always kind to me, but his wife is far too haughty even to speak, and the rest of our little aristocracy, the lawyer's, doctor's, and squire's families follow her example. With the tradespeople I am, in my humble way, too proud to associate, and I have to depend on the author. I know that I am not a prepossessing person. I have not the gift of pleasing where I choose. I am silent, and distant, and plain; but oh! I know how full my heart is of love and charity, and how it yearns for something to lean upon and cherish! But there are none who care to read that heart, and none for it to love.

But it was not always thus—there was once. . . . It was a long time ago. I had been about four years in England, and scarcely two at Silvermere, when I met with a lover, and he was young, and well to look upon, and talented, as I am now. The organ, too, was in better condition, and not so asthmatic as it is at present.

I saw him first at church. How well I remember it! It was towards the autumn. The weather was gloriously beautiful; and the days were so long and calm that life seemed twice its usual length. The afternoon service was just about to commence—in fact I was playing the opening voluntary when one of the children, who sat beside the organ, stole round softly to my elbow, and whispered—

"Please, Ma'am, there's a strange gentleman in the church!"

A stranger amid a country congregation is an event, and an important one. He attracts more attention than the sermon, for the most part. But, a more remarkable person in the eyes of the children than the beadle himself

It was my duty to keep the little urchins in order, so I shook my head gravely, and said, "Hush! don't talk in church," and went on with my voluntary

"Please, Ma'am, he looks like a Frenchman, or—or a Turk!"

This last suggestion was hazarded dubiously, and accompanied with a peep between the red curtains that hid me from the congregation Now a peep between the curtains was a liberty and an act of disobedience which I never would permit; besides, it looked so badly from below; so I turned round very sharply, and tried to assume an exceedingly angry countenance

"Sarah Wilson!" I said to the offender, "go back to your place directly, and pay attention to the service. It is of no consequence to you who is, or is not, in the church!"

Sarah Wilson retreated to her seat in disgrace; but I am forced to confess that I was myself guilty of the offence for which I had punished her, for I could not resist peeping through the curtains on the sermon began

He was sitting in the farther corner of a pew midway between the altar and the door, and leaning back in such a manner that I could see his pale face and his large dark eyes distinctly. His features were of a foreign make and style; he had a face long, and fell in carelessness massive about his face; I was probably a large moustache that caused the child to take him for a Frenchman "or a Turk." His face was more intellectual than handsome; and I could not help thinking, as I looked at him, that he must be ill, or sad, or

somehow I took especial pains with my concluding voluntary that afternoon. and it was wonderful how long it took me to select one from amongst the piles of music in the corner. First I fixed upon a fugue of Sebastian Bach's; then upon a "Gloria" by Mozart; then upon a movement from the "Mount of Olives." At last I chose the Hallelujah Chorus in the "Messiah" (the most divine piece of music in the world), and played it with all my heart. Indeed, I entered into it with so much enthusiasm and pleasure, that, until I had concluded, and charged to turn round and see him standing there in his place alone in the church, and looking up earnestly towards the organ, I had forgotten all about the foreign stranger.

Of course I drew back directly, and busied myself in putting away the music, and locking the organ doors, and when I looked round again he was gone

I saw no more of him, heard no more of him—yet I could not keep from thinking of him all the week, and wondering whether he would return on the following Sunday. I fancied that he would—indeed, so certain of it was I, that, when I found him already occupying his former place before any one else had entered the church, I felt no surprise at it.

This time he not only remained alone listening to my playing after the rest had dispersed, but he waited beside the porch till I came out, and advancing towards me,—

"Permit me to thank you, lady, for your beautiful music," he said courteously. "I had not expected to hear such in this remote country place."

I blushed, bowed, and passed on; but his words rung in my ears for days after, and I was angry with myself that I thought of him so much; yet his look, the tone of his deep voice, the hesitating accent with which he spoke, made a strange impression on my mind. I felt that he was a foreigner; it seemed to me more as if he had lived much abroad. As for his age (though I was too young to be a judge), it was perhaps thirty or thirty-five. He might be younger; but the gravity of his manner gave him the appearance of a man in the prime of life.

For two or three more Sundays this continued. Each time he contrived to address me, but always with the deepest respect; and I grew at last so absorbed in the interest with which these weekly meetings filled my mind, that I thought of little else from Sabbath to Sabbath.

One morning I met him by the river side. It was my favourite walk and,

though the autumn was far advanced, it was not yet too cold to stroll, book in hand, through the green meadows and under the alders which stretched along beside the water's edge

He spoke to me—he walked beside me—he talked of music, of books, of rural life. He told me that he was an author and spoke of the lands he had visited, and of the scenery through which he had passed. I listened in a sort of dream. I had never heard a voice so eloquent before. Has every word sunk into my heart, and warmed my imagination. He said that he would lend me a book which he had written, and that he would bring it the next morning to the same place where I at first met him. I made an effort to refuse it, but he over-ruled my objections, and—I went.

Let me pass over the weeks that followed. Let me not dwell upon the frequency of our after-meetings—the charmed eloquence of his speech—the wrapped and humble delight with which I listened and learned. His books were grave and full of thought—far more profound than any that I had attempted to read before. Yet I strove to comprehend his philosophy, and pored over the pages night after night that I might be able to speak of them with him, and render myself worthier of his friendship

Ay! his friendship—for he never spoke to me of love. Yet I loved him—loved him timidly, reverently, as a child might have loved! The very touch of his hand when we met and when we parted made me tremble—the merest glance from his calm eyes seemed to blind and trouble me. Had they dared, they looked upon me in anger, I felt as if I must have fallen at his feet and died

It was wrong, foolish, childish—what you will; but it was not surprising that I should so worship the first who had been kind and gentle with me

Remember—I was so young, so lonely, so in need of affection and support!

The winter came, and there were many days of rain and snow, when I could not venture out; and those were melancholy days for me—yet sometimes, even then, he would not suffer them to go by without once seeing my face, and would walk patiently up and down the road in front of my little cottage, till I chanced to see him.

Then came Christmas time, and he told me that he must go to London for some days to visit his friends. He parted from me very coldly and gravely, as was his wont; but, when he had gone a little distance, came back, and, saying that he should return on New-Year's-day, lifted my hand suddenly to his lips, and then went hastily away.

It was the first token of love that he had shown for me—the very first! Sometimes, it is true, I had fancied that there was a deeper thrill in his voice, a darker fire in his eyes—but it was so fleeting that I had scarcely dared to trust into words; and, after all, it might have been my fancy only. But this kiss! the burning kiss upon my hand! I hastened home; and, entering my little parlour, burst into tears, and kissed my own hand over and over again where his lips had rested upon it.

I do not now remember any circumstances of those days, between Christmas-day and the last day of the old year. They glided past me like the pictures of a magic lantern, and I lived as one dreaming. Nothing wore the same aspect to me, which it used to wear, before that day. People's faces passing in the street, seemed more cheerful; the wintry landscape looked beautiful in my eyes; the sound of my own voice, as I sang to sit singing softly to myself, appeared to have grown sweeter with my happiness

Then arrived the thirty-first day of December. To-morrow! ah, to-morrow I should see him again. My heart beat strangely when I thought of that; and I so longed to greet the day and year which would herald in my golden future, that I resolved to sit by my fireside and hear the clocks strike twelve.

It was a very cold and silent night. My little house stands just on the outskirts of the town, and the far fields beyond the hedge were covered with deep snow. The town was dreary, and I drew the curtains closely, I led a blazing fire, and tried to read. It was useless I could not fix my thoughts that night. There was a strange, restless, expectant feeling upon me; and as the evening hours went by I grew nervous and agitated.

All at once I felt that he was there, and I trembled. I had heard no sound—I had had no warning of his coming, and yet I knew that he was standing yonder outside the window

What awful mysterious sympathy is this which I then experienced, and which occurs to all of us at some time or other during life!

I rose, went over, and drew the curtain. Merciful Heaven! the promptings of my heart were right—he was standing close beside the lattice, and the moonlight was shining down upon his face!

"Alice!" he said softly. "Alice!"

I opened the window and leaned out into the cold night

"I said that I would be here on New-Year's-day," he said, and his voice was agitated and broken. "It will be New-Year's-day in a few minutes more. I have travelled miles that I might see you. Come to say good-bye!"

I would have spoken: but the words died away upon my lips, and I could only clasp my hands silently together.

"I have received news of my brother's illness," he continued; "that brother in Madeira, of whom I have told you. I must go to him; but I will write to you by the first ship. I felt that I must speak to you again before I left. I could not go without telling how I love you! Hark!" he said, pausing suddenly, and lifting his finger, "they are tolling out the year!"

And the low solemn tones of the bells of St. Martha came moaning through the night.

"The year is almost gone, Alice! Tell me, before it is past, that you love me!"

"I do love you

The church clock now began to strike

"I shall be home again in a year! Promise me that you will be my bride before these clocks strike out a year again!"

"I promise"

The clock was yet striking

He grasped the vine with both his hands, and climbed up to the window where I stood.

"Kiss me. Alice!—kiss me on the lips before I go! I must be in London by daylight; and the chaise waits for me in the road. One kiss, my life!—one kiss at parting!"

He was hanging to the window by his hands. I laid mine upon them, for he could not remove them to clasp my fingers in his; and then, bending down, I kissed him for the first and only time.

At that instant the joy-bells rang out their merry chimes like a chorus of laughing voices—his hands slipped away beneath mine—he dropped down upon the snowy path below, and, crying aloud to me, "A happy New Year, darling!" ran swiftly along the road and disappeared

How long I stood there at the open window listening to the bells and looking down at his footprints underneath, and at the places which his hands had made upon the snowdrift on my window-ledge, I know not; but when I returned to my seat, the fire had gone out, and the candle was expiring in the socket.

And now I have but little more to tell; and yet I feel that I would fain write on and on, and still defer the story of my sorrow. But it must be said, and a very few words will suffice to relate it: *no letter from him ever came to me*

The year, weary months passed by: the spring-time came and went; the golden summer brought its flowers, the autumn its fruits; and yet I never heard from him. Life grew stale and heavy for me; hope died slowly from my heart; a dull, listless melancholy took possession of my whole soul; and I only wished to die.

Then the winter came again with all its varied aspects, and my only comfort was in wandering where I had wandered, a year since, with him in recalling each word that he had uttered in reading once more each book that I had read with him. The Christmas-day passed on. If I had had any hope left it faded from me when this day was past; "for surely," I thought," were he still alive, he would have written to me now"

The New-Year's-eve was come again; a foggy, misty night unlike the last. I was sitting by my fireside with my head buried in my hands, too, miserable for tears, when there came a knock to my door, and a letter was brought in and laid before me—a letter written in an unknown hand; a letter which had been directed and re-directed many times, and which bore the postage marks of many places. A dread came upon me, for again I felt that here was something which concerned him whom I loved. For several moments I dared not open the letter, and when I had opened it, it was some time before I could read it. It was addressed to me—

"Madam. It has devolved upon me to inform you of the painful intelligence of the death of Mr. B——, of ——. He was taken seriously ill during the voyage to Madeira, and expired before we reached the port of Funchal. I enclose a piece of his hair and this ring, which he was in the habit of wearing.—I am, Madam, &c., &c."

You see that my story is but a commonplace one, after all; but perhaps, now that you have heard it, you will not be surprised when I say that New-Year's-day was the happiest and the most sorrowful of my life.

PHENOMENON NEAR ABERSYCHAN.—An extraordinary natural phenomenon occurred, on Tuesday week, at the Rhiwfrank Mountain, near Abersychan, Glamorganshire. About five o'clock on the morning of that day a shaking of the earth was felt in the neighbourhood, but it was believed by the shock of an earthquake, produced considerable alarm among the parties resident in the neighbourhood, especially to Mr. Roger Newell, whose house is near the Abersychan works, at the foot of the mountain. As soon as there was sufficient daylight to investigate the cause, it was ascertained that the top of the mountain had descended to the base, a portion of the fragments falling into Mr. Newell's garden. In its descent the mountain-top had torn up oak and other trees by the roots, and had split the trunks of many of them in fragments. There had been no underground workings in the mountain, and there seems nothing to account for the phenomenon. Some country people state that they saw flashes of fire issue from it; but that must have been mere fancy.

LOANS OR TAXES?

A GREAT controversy is beginning, whether the expense of the war should be defrayed by Taxes to meet the whole cost as it arises; or by Loans, to pay a great part of the cost now, and the remainder year after year, through an indefinite period. In reference to this important subject, we have received the following from an esteemed Correspondent, whose position and study of the question entitle his opinions to a fair and respectful hearing. We do not undertake to vouch for the correctness of every part of his reasoning, but present his views, as a contribution to the proper discussion of a matter of high public interest at all times, and especially important at the present period:

(From a Correspondent.)

An individual always borrows from other individuals, but a nation rarely borrows from other nations. So far as it can a loan may be useful. We are, in fact, about to borrow the assistance of foreign capital, though we purchase it; and if we could borrow, were they wanted, foreign ships, or foreign cattle, or foreign corn, they might assist us to bring the war to a more speedy and successful conclusion. So, if the nation borrowed money from other nations, and with it bought the services of their people, their ships, cattle, or corn, it might add to the national power, as the loans of a trader enable him to extend his business, and might, by enabling us to win a battle, be worth borrowing. But we are not likely to borrow from other nations. England is the great lending nation of the present time. Holland is also a lending nation to some extent. But almost all other nations are rather borrowers than lenders, and as the rule they come to us for their loans. We may exclude, therefore, from our argument, though there may be instances of some few foreigners lending us money, the supposition that any part of the Loan is to come from abroad, and consider it entirely and exclusively as the nation lending to itself. In fact, the Government, in the name of the nation, borrows from one portion of the people a sum for the use of which some other portion has to pay

It is said that Loans throw part of the cost of the war on posterity, or spread it over a long period; that the war is waged partly for the advantages of our successors, and they ought to pay a part for it. Can we throw any part of the burden on posterity? The supposition appears to be a mistake. It is the fallacy which lies at the bottom of the whole argument. We cannot possibly fix any such obligation on posterity. All the money in the country is worth, at the most, £800,000,000. The value of all the goods bought and sold in the country is probably ten times as much as the value of the money; and the bulk of this remains in the country year after year; while all our bread, and beef, and ale, and cloth, and gunpowder are made or grown, and used month after month, and year after year, as they are required. Money is merely the instrument for counting wealth, and is not wealth itself. An individual borrows money to spend it, and he gets a greater share of the objects he purchases than he would otherwise have. But a nation borrowing from itself cannot get more of the objects it requires than it already possesses. The present generation cannot borrow a grain of gunpowder, a musket, or the use of one arm from posterity. It must, therefore—and cannot help itself—really pay its way as it goes. The real expense of the war to the nation consists in so much labour employed in soldiering and in sailoring, in erecting batteries, blowing away gunpowder, destroying the stone walls of the enemy, and putting the enemy to death; and in providing all the materials which all the persons engaged in the war use or consume. All this labour must be done daily, and no part of it can by any possibility be put off for posterity to do, or postponed even till to-morrow, without risk or loss. The real cost of the war, consisting of so much labour or stock applied to work destruction, must be paid day by day; and it is a shallow fallacy to suppose that the present generation can, by borrowing money, the mere instrument of counting, throw a single expence of this cost on posterity. The generation adds neither to its wealth nor its power by borrowing of itself.

A Loan, in fact, is merely getting the moneyed classes to pay at present a much larger share of the cost of the war than is fair; but they advance the money voluntarily because the Government undertakes to pay them in return, a certain sum annually, for an indefinite, or it may be a definite, number of years. A subscriber to the Loan of £100 pays £100 of the year's expense of the war, when his fair share of the annual taxation is, say £10; and for the loan of his £100, he receives back an annual payment, say of £5—the sum being determined by the rate of interest at which the loan is negotiated. Thus his share of the national burdens is immediately lessened by £5; and by the community paying him this sum annually, it bears so much of his fair share of the public charges—less, to state the matter with strict accuracy, the little part which he, as a tax-payer, will have to bear of it. This sum must be paid to him in perpetuity, or until the whole sum of £100, in addition to the interest, is repaid to him. Loans by the State from a portion of the people are a means of exonerating the lenders who advance £100 now, to be paid £5 at the end of the year, and every succeeding year, from a share of taxation. They enable the rich to escape, and throw the whole burden on those who cannot advance their capital to redeem themselves They exonerate capitalists, and increase the burdens of industry; they make the rich richer, and the poor poorer. The very evil those writers deplore who now recommend us to defray the expense of the war by Loans

Taxes in every shape and form are great evils. Direct taxes introduce great inequalities of taxation and great tyranny. Day after day we experience their inconvenience and injustice. They should be continued, therefore, for as short a time as possible. We cannot raise one per cent from every man's income, in order to pay the interest of a Loan, without so complicate a system of supervision, of appeals, and commissioners, as would raise ten or twenty per cent, and pay the whole expense of the year. The Chancellor of the Exchequer means to retrain the present rate of Tea-duties, but to levy it he will not require an additional Custom-house officer, nor would he have dismissed one had the promised reduction taken effect. We can levy two or three Excise duties, and two or three Custom-house duties, as cheaply as we can levy one; and we can levy them at a high rate as cheaply as at a low rate. But every such duty requires the services of a great number of officers and the imposition of a great number of restrictions in order to levy it. We have enjoyed the prodigious advantage of getting rid of the Excise on glass and soap, and the Customs duties on silk, wool, &c. Every tax, therefore, whether direct or indirect, should be imposed for the shortest possible time. By every single tax, too, as large a sum should be levied as it can conveniently yield, so that the number of taxes—each one carrying with it injustice, vexation, and petty tyranny—may be as small as possible. To borrow of our capitalists, instead of paying our way as we go, is to doom our industry to a long continuance of taxes and to vexatious restriction What writers call throwing part of the burden of the war on posterity means dooming it to taxes on knowledge, and light, and cleanliness, to taxes on varying and uncertain incomes, to surcharges, appeals, summonses, and distraints, such as have, for so many years, plagued us, and impeded our progress, cut up our comfort, and lessened our power. It is supposed by Mr. M'Culloch that £12,000,000—and that is, probably, an exaggerated estimate—would have sufficed to pay the national expenses year by year since the peace, had our predecessors not burdened us with taxes to pay the interest on their Loans. The misery entailed on the community by collecting £28,000,000 per annum since 1815 to pay the interest of the Debt is beyond human power to describe. We get glimpses of it in the continued poverty and continued crimes of the multitude. Shall we leave an increased heritage of the woe to our posterity! If we so decide, we must at the same time recollect that we shall not exempt ourselves from one atom of evil, for the taxes which must be levied to pay the interest of the Loans, carry with them all the evils, all the restrictions, and all the official tyranny of an amount of taxation, judiciously levied, which would render Loans wholly unnecessary. We have a Property Tax, and a Succession-tax already in existence. By an increased per centage on one or all of them, we might levy all the money the State requires, and impose no additional restriction on trade or industry. Those who deny the utility of Loans, do not propose as a substitute, as is implied by some writers, the renewal of indirect taxes, and the imposition of fresh restrictions on industry

There is one moral effect of Loans amongst many which we cannot overlook. Individuals desire to provide for their offspring, and to secure them against the necessity of eating bread by the sweat of their brow. We applaud the object, but it may be carried too far, and the desire is not one the State should strengthen. Take every title in the peerage, from the Dukedom of Wellington downwards, which has been earned by great abilities and great toils; look at the original possessor and his offspring, and the conviction will flash on the inquirer that the robust-minded struggling parent was, in every condition of his existence, however severe his toil, a happier being than any one of his well-provided, listless, aimless, offspring. It is, in most cases, an injury to children so to provide for them as to relieve them from the necessity of exertion. It crushes the soul to impart a little comfort to the body. The interest of all Loans, however, being paid by the annual produce of taxes, become a property in taxes, bequeathed from parents to children; they are a provision for idleness; they quarter a certain number of persons on the public, and doom some to inaction and others to excessive toil. We all see examples of young people beginning life on a competency left them by their parents, and living on to the end of their days nearly useless to all but themselves. Nobody pays them for useful labour. Their services are worth nothing. There is for them no mutual paying and receiving. They promote no man's welfare, they are generally extremely selfish; and far from [illegible] to render, the community, the sensitive, regulated or scrupulous [illegible] gentleman with a moderate income, hovering about the Court, and wasting his or her time at watering-places, is almost as useless a person as is provided for in the earth. National loans give national security to a great multitude of small little incomes, are a great and permanent injury to the industrious part. They substitute idleness for activity, and make drones of the people who should be honey-bees. We say nothing against the desire to relieve children from some of the difficulties their parents have encountered, but the State should not encourage a system which, among so set aside a dispensation of Providence, dooms the many to increased toil, while it deprives others of motives for honourable exertion

Let us cast a glimpse for a moment at the comparative expense. The security of the Government has to be surpassed, and therefore money or capital will be lent to it in preference. It will be abstracted from trade and manufactures. But the security [illegible] the Government is already pledged to an immense sum, so much of the available funds of all the moneyed classes is invested. The money so invested, as the rule, is withdrawn from the old securities and lent on the new. The old securities are sold to the public at large, who are tempted to purchase by a fall in the price of the Funds. The capitalists who sell out of one security to invest in another of only equal validity, or advance the Loan, would not do this unless they were to gain by it Thus we may be quite sure that every new Loan is contracted for at some percentage rate of interest higher than the market rate of interest on all the previously existing securities. Capitalists will only take it at a more advantageous investment, and the Loan can only be made on terms advantageous to them. Their sale of old securities, together with the superior rate of interest on the new Stock, inevitably have the effect of depreciating all existing securities. The whole of our £800,000,000 of debt will be to some extent lowered in value by a new loan of ten or twenty millions After a season the new and the old securities come to have an equal market value; but the addition of so much new Stock to that already in the market lessens the value of the whole; and, where it is so vast as in England, a very small percentage on the whole may be equivalent to the new Loan. All the possessors, therefore, of landed property, and all other securities, will lose, to some extent, to enrich the contractors and grantees of the new Loan. This is one of the losses

The Government, by its Loan, enters into competition with all the industrious classes, who carry on their business partly by credit. It offers a higher than the current rate of interest for the use of capital, and it unduly abstracts so much capital from trade. It raises for a time, *pro tanto*, the rate of interest throughout the community, and a few pennies increase on all the paper negotiated in the year—many thousand millions—would be equivalent to a considerable increase in the rate of the Property tax. To all trade an increase in the rate of interest is a serious evil, and, like a small tax, puts a stop to many transactions, much to the public detriment

Let us suppose that the increased expense of the war for the year is £20,000,000 over and above the ordinary expense of our military armaments By increasing the rate of Direct Taxation this sum might be raised without adding expence to the cost of levying it, and without imposing a single additional restriction on the industry of any class. All would be felt as free as at present to gain more. It would impose on many a necessity to expend less, and might stimulate exertion to gain more. They would endeavour to save the tax, and no other injury would be done by it to the productive power of the nation than the unavoidable diversion from the profitable work of making carriages and breeding horses, importing wine and preparing feasts, to the destructive work of war By Direct Taxes the State induces people to save in another direction, and to exert themselves to gain Loans supply less motive for saving, and consequently the destruction of war and the destruction of extravagance continue together. By Taxation to meet the expense of war we check the extravagance and dry up one source of loss and ruin. To make a precise estimate of the advantage is not possible; still we believe it would be equal to the amount of the Loan, and which is the end the public would have.

The waste of labour and of capital by the war cannot be stopped, and the problem is to make it as little as possible. The most direct means is the best. For the mere management of the Debt the annual cost is not less than £800,000. If we raise an additional £20,000,000, paying the Bank £300 per million for management, we should have to pay £6000 per annum more. There will be premiums and other incidental expenses amounting to a considerable sum. In no case does the whole amount of money contracted for find the way into the Exchequer, and former modes of borrowing, perhaps now to be repeated, subjected the nation to a loss on the Loans contracted chiefly during Mr. Pitt's administration of from £7,000,000 to £8,000,000 If we look at the depreciation of property already produced, at the loss of trade by raising the rate of interest, at the waste caused by Loans, there can be no question that in a pecuniary sense it is much less [illegible] gious to defray the expense of the war year by year by Taxation than to defer any part of it by Loans. The present loss to the industrious classes, mostly by the ruin of moneyed capitalists, would be very great, and the evils of Taxation as continued beyond the period of war, to pay the interest of the Loan, would be to our posterity, as we have found it, nothing short of a dire curse

FRENCH MEDICAL STATISTICS. From the 10th October to the 30th November, from 8000 to 9000 sick and wounded entered the French ambulances 1000 have died, 1500 have returned to their duty, and 6000 have been sent to the hospitals at Constantinople. This, however, is an average of less than 3000 per month, more than one-half of whom rejoined their ranks after a month's absence, and which reduces the total of the losses for the effective strength of the Army to 750 per month, that is to say, a loss of about two per cent per month on our effective strength, which is a trifling loss when we take into account the arrival of fresh contingents.

THE ROYAL WEST INDIA MAIL STEAM-SHIP "TRENT"

ALTHOUGH we have frequently had occasion to notice the services of the steam-transport fleet, chartered by the Government for the conveyance of troops and stores to the Black Sea, there are many of the vessels employed which deserve more than a passing word. The West India mail-steamer *Trent*, under the command of Captain Gordon Ponsonby, is one of these, which has been found most useful since the commencement of the operations in the Black Sea, as the following record of her services will show:

The *Trent* left Southampton on the 4th of April, 1854, with the 23rd Regiment—1150 strong—for Constantinople. Notwithstanding her heavy living freight, she towed up from Malta, on her way, the steam-ship *Tonning*, Franklin commander, that ship having broken down. Both ships experienced a heavy gale in the Doro passage, during which the hawsers parted. The *Trent* stood by, and, fresh cables having been made fast, the two vessels proceeded on their way. The *Trent* then returned to Malta with the *Tonning* in tow; and, on her arrival there, she was fitted up as a horse-transport, by order of Admiral Stewart. Having taken on board 700 men of the 53rd, and staff horses to the number of 120, she again proceeded to Constantinople These horses had been brought to Malta in the *Bulbek* and *Sinda* screw-steamers, which had grown so ill from the long and tedious voyage from the Thames, that they were in jeopardy from the attacks of the mob.

The mules having been landed without loss, the *Trent* took part in the first expedition to the Crimea, taking on board and landing in safety the whole of the 11th Hussars and part of the 17th Lancers. Proceeding from Old Fort to Varna, she took on board the dismounted troops, and a number of staff horses for Lord Raglan, Lord Cardigan, and General Scarlett; and though she encountered a heavy gale, during which the *Rip Van Winkle* parted from her, she reached Balaclava without a single loss in men or horses. From Balaclava the *Trent* proceeded to Burgas, and took up in safety to Kherson Bay 304 men and horses of the French Chasseurs d'Afrique. Returning to Varna, she brought back to Balaclava 60 draught horses for the Artillery, and 240 French gunners and horses. During her stay at Varna she had ridden out one of the severest gales of the season, making her way out, under steam, through the midst of a mass of sailing transports. Damaged as she was on this occasion, her paddle-box boats being unserviceable, her other boats swept away, and her bowsprit carried off, she still performed valuable service. Though farther damaged in the gale of the 14th at Balaclava, she took from thence 320 sick and wounded to Constantinople without the loss of a man. From Constantinople she brought a large number of invalids to Malta, where she is now refitting. During the whole of her trip the *Trent* towed seventy sailing-ships

THE ROYAL WEST INDIA MAIL-PACKET "TRENT," AT MALTA.

Such is a catalogue of the services rendered by one of our transport steam fleet in a period of eight months. Doubtless many other steamers—the *Medway*, Captain Baynton; the *Orinoco*, the *Himalaya*, the *Emperor*, the *Jason*, the *Simla*, the *Hydaspes*—have done excellent service also; but none, at all events, have done it better, or more effectually, than the *Trent*.

THE HOSPITAL, SCUTARI BARRACKS.

We have been favoured by a Correspondent at Constantinople with the accompanying View of the Barracks at Scutari; and from another obliging Correspondent we have received the following extract from a letter, dated Dec. 14th, from the Rev. C. E. Hadow, Resident Chaplain, Scutari Barracks:—

This Hospital, which is the larger of the two, is capable of containing 3000, but has not more than 2000 in it now. It is a wonderful institution; and great credit is due to Dr. MacGrigor, and those under him, for so admirably arranging the accommodation for the sick and wounded. His difficulties must have been enormous; but he has triumphed over them, and it is now beautifully arranged. I enclose you a plan of the building, showing all the floors now used as Hospital in these Barracks. It improves daily, and through the joint co-operation of Dr. MacGrigor and Lieut. Gordon, R.E., it will, doubtless, become a model for military hospitals. The corridors, full length, contain 200 men—the wards an average of 30. The medical officers and the nurses have, now that the Engineers have repaired the south-west side of the building, the means of preparing accommodation for the freshly-arrived patients, so that they no longer wait in the passages on their beds, but are taken immediately to the ward, or corridor, prepared for their reception. I can find my way about to any ward, and to any man, with perfect ease, thanks to Lieut. Gordon's having lettered the corridors and numbered the wards. The comforts which our men enjoy here are very many:—First, there is assiduous medical attendance, and careful watching by orderlies or nurses, good shelter, good food, warm beds, and, I am happy to add, warm rooms, from the stoves now put up by Lieut. Gordon.

The kitchen of Miss Nightingale is constantly at work for those, too, who require extra nourishment. She herself is literally everywhere, and her emissaries do their best to emulate her activity. They are the first to call the aid of the doctor at a critical moment; and I can add with much gratitude that they never miss an opportunity of sending to the chaplain when the way seems opened to the heart of any poor fellow whom they may be tending.

With regard to my labours, I can truly say they have been most encouraging. Great respect is paid to the clergy by the soldiers, and the eagerness with which many of them look for our visits leads one to hope that some really care for the message which we bring. The convalescents come to our services when they know the hour (for as yet there are no clocks in the corridors; get rich friends to send some out). On Sunday nights my quarters (Corridor A 18) are crowded with a most attentive set; and on the week-day, at seven o'clock, there is a gathering in Corridor F, Quart. 5, where the evening service and a short exposition on the second lesson attracts them; last night the first chapter of the First Epistle of St. Peter was very forcibly felt, as addressed to "Strangers scattered in Bithynia."

The chaplains now here are Mr. Halpin and Mr. Lawless, chaplains of division; Mr. Sabin, and Mr Lewes, together with myself. Mr. Halpin and Mr Sabin share this hospital with me; Mr. Lewes and Mr. Lawless work the General Hospital, containing about 1600; and we take it by turns at the Hulks moored off Pera, which contain about 600. The funerals also we share; they have averaged about 100 a week, but are now decreasing, I rejoice to tell you.

BARRACKS AT SCUTARI.—THE BRITISH HOSPITAL.

SEBASTOPOL.

FORT ALEXANDER.

THE accompanying Sketch of Fort Alexander was taken by an officer of the *Valorous*, who was present when the Russian prisoner, Captain Kouyowloff, was landed at Sebastopol, on the 7th ult., in exchange for Lord Dunkellin, and who forwards an account of what he saw —

On the 7th December the *Valorous*, 16, paddle steam frigate, Captain Buckle, having received instructions from the Admiral, proceeded off Sebastopol, for the purpose of landing the prisoner Captain Kouyowloff (exchange of Lord Dunkellin) When about two miles off the outer fort, the ship was stopped, the Russian ensign hoisted at the main, and a flag of truce at the fore. A cutter was then manned, and sent in with the prisoner, under a flag of truce, in charge of the First Lieutenant, accompanied by the Chaplain, to act as interpreter. We pulled in for the outer forts, and, on nearing Fort Alexander, a Russian boat pulled out and showed us a passage by which we might approach the beach, as we had some difficulty in avoiding the rocks which lie off the point A convenient place was then pointed out, where we landed, and delivered our charge over to the embraces of his countrymen, who flocked down in crowds to the beach to welcome the returned captive

We now had a good opportunity of observing the fortifications, which were within fifty yards of our place of landing Fort Alexander, as shown in the Sketch, appears very similar in construction to the fortifications of Bomarsund; the only apparent difference being, that the top of the former has a tier of guns mounted on it, which are protected by sand-bag parapets, whereas the latter had none. We also saw close to us the mast heads of the sunken vessel at the entrance of the harbour The passage appears to lie between them and Fort Alexander

Our prisoner and his baggage having been landed, we returned to our ship; and it was on our way off that the Sketch was taken.

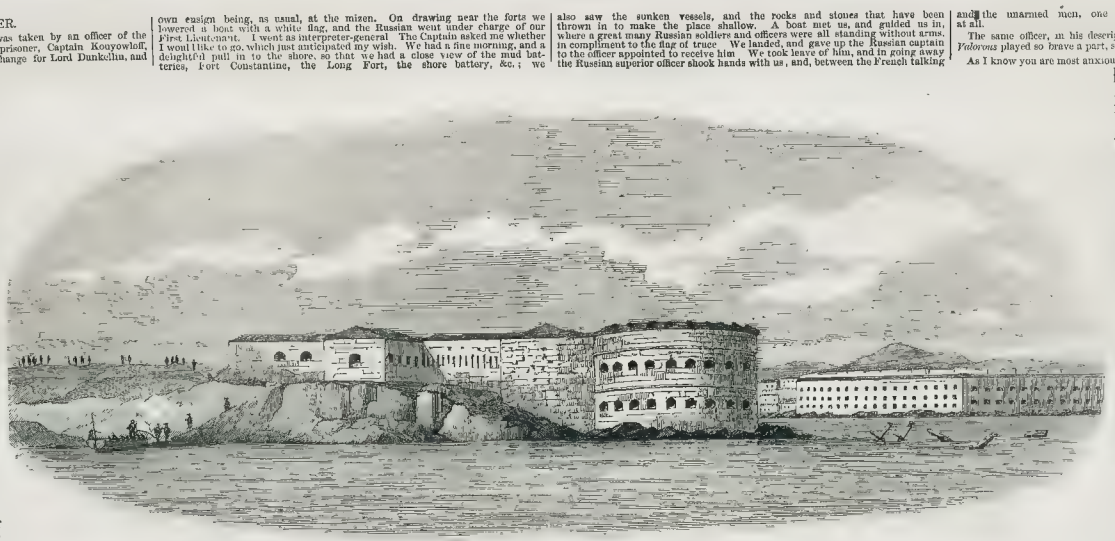
Fort Alexander is a strong, square fort, mounting 84 guns, in two tiers. It lies next to the Quarantine Fort, from which it is distant about 300 or 400 yards. An officer on board the *Valorous*, who officiated as interpreter on the above occasion, gives the following account of the transaction: —

Yesterday (Dec 7) we received orders to take on board from the flag ship a Russian Captain of Artillery, and land him, under protection of a flag of truce, at sebastopol, to be exchanged for Lord Dunkellin. So we went down to the forts, carrying a flag of truce at the fore, and the Russian ensign at the main; our own ensign being, as usual, at the mizen. On drawing near the forts we lowered a boat with a white flag, and the Russian went under charge of our First Lieutenant. I went as interpreter-general The Captain asked me whether I would like to go, which just anticipated my wish. We had a fine morning, and a delightful pull in to the shore, so that we had a close view of the mud batteries, Fort Constantine, the Long Fort, the shore battery, &c.; we also saw the sunken vessels, and the rocks and stones that have been thrown in to make the place shallow. A boat met us, and guided us in, where a great many Russian soldiers and officers were all standing without arms, in compliment to the flag of truce We landed, and gave up the Russian captain to the officer appointed to receive him We took leave of him, and in going away the Russian superior officer shook hands with us, and, between the French talking and the unarmed men, one would scarcely suppose we were enemies at all.

The same officer, in his description of the affair on the 6th ult., in which the *Valorous* played so brave a part, says —

As I know you are most anxiously regarding the war with Russia in a prophetic point of view, perhaps it may interest you to hear of the chase of two Russian steamers into Sebastopol by her Majesty's ship *Valorous*, on the 6th of December, last. The particulars are these The fleet lay at some distance from the harbour in a safe anchorage, one small French steamer being the only vessel anchored close in, just outside the range of the forts; she was stationed there as a look-out We perceived the French steamer suddenly slip her cable, and go out to sea as fast as possible in the direction of the fleet, firing, meanwhile, upon a Russian steamer which was fast coming out from under the forts in pursuit and firing on the Frenchman, who, from his inferior size, was forced to keep up a running fire. We at once received the order, "Up anchor," and the captain flew round; but, as there was a deep anchorage, and, consequently, a good deal of chain out, it would have taken some time, but that the appearance of a second Russian steamer made the Admiral make signal, "Chase the enemy at once" This, of course, was enough—they ceased to have up the anchor, buoyed the chain, and let it run out, and having thus "slipped the cable," we went in at the Russians full speed, and, although the Russian steamers, Fort Constantine, the Wasp Battery, and the long mud battery, were all firing upon us, we were able to make them retreat into Sebastopol.

I thought Bomarsund hot work, but it was nothing to this In the Baltic our guns were so large that we were able to batter the forts, while we escaped, to a great extent, by keeping out of the range of the forts' guns On this occasion, however, we escaped by the reverse of that excuse, namely, by managing close in under the batteries, so that two thirds of their shot and shell went over us It was a very daring thing to do but our captain is a fine, cool, brave man under trying circumstances Many of the Russian shot and shell told upon the hull and rigging of the vessel: several marks are on the sides—the ropes are cut, and a large shot went right through our large ensign at the mizzen-stop. One of our boats was shot away Several shells burst over us, and the men picked up the splinters and pieces on deck. Notwithstanding this, and the fact that these were the same batteries that injured the fleet so much before, and that on one occasion we were so close in as to see Riflemen creeping along the beach and firing on us, yet, strange to say, we had not one man killed nor one wounded.



FORT ALEXANDER, SEBASTOPOL.—FROM A SKETCH TAKEN DURING THE LANDING OF THE PRISONER KOUYOWLOFF.

LITERATURE.

THE LIFE OF P. T. BARNUM. Written by HIMSELF. S. Low, Son, and Co.

Barnum, the Yankee showman, having made a princely fortune, and built a princely residence out of the confidence of a gullible public, resolves, while yet in the meridian of life, to spend the remainder of his days in tranquillity, in his own home, in the midst of his family, home and family, as he observes (for Barnum is sometimes seriously inclined, and troubled with lofty aspirations), home and family being "the highest and most expressive symbols of the kingdom of heaven!" Well! Barnum, looking back upon the chequered career of the past, has some misgivings, and in his celestial retreat having no some leasure, he resolves to make a clean breast of it, and reveal to the public the proceeds of disinterested gullibility, resolves, while somewhat shamelessly on all occasions he has bamboozled them. A man less squeamish than Barnum, or, as he would say, less *conscientious*, would have shrunk into his boot before making such revelations; he would have considered that in so doing he was only adding insult to injury, and mingle gall with wine for the windows of Ironistan. But Barnum has no such misgivings; he knows his public, and justly shows his supreme contempt for them by giving them a kick at parting:—"It will be seen," says he, "that I have not covered up my so-called 'humbugs,' but have given a full account even of such schemes as 'Joice Heth,' and the 'Fejee Mermaid,' and the 'Woolly Horse,' while I trust that I have displayed no more than an *honest pride* (!) in recounting the history of the American Museum and General Tom Thumb. The musical campaign of Jenny Lind, on which all hands seem to be satisfied and congratulated, is herein minutely described. None of my enterprises have been omitted; and, though a portion of my 'Confessions' may by some be considered indelicious, I prefer frankly to acknowledge the corn wherever I have had a hand in plucking it." As for "Joice Heth" (the pretended nurse of General Washington), and the "Fejee Mermaid," and the "Woolly Horse," we shall not enter upon their history; only observing that if they elevate Barnum, in audacity and unscrupulousness, above all travelling pedlers on this side the Atlantic, they also prove the vulgar curiosity and easy credulity of Brother Jonathan, so far exceed those of John Bull. The affair of the American Museum, also, we shall pass over, as involving merely points of sharp practice, in which the public had neither more nor less part. The history of General Tom Thumb, however, which Barnum recounts "with no more than honest pride," comes nearer home, for more reasons than one, and claims attention. Many readers, who recollect the General's crowded levees at the Egyptian-hall, and who filled the diminutive little man's private parts, some dozen years ago, will be glad to know who and what he really was. We have his pedigree and first starting in life thus ("with no more than honest pride") set forth by Barnum himself:

I had heard of a remarkably small child in Bridgeport, and by my request my brother brought him to the hotel. He was the smallest child I ever saw that could walk alone. He was not two feet in height, and weighed less than sixteen pounds. He was a bright-eyed little fellow, with light hair and ruddy cheeks, was perfectly healthy, and as symmetrical as an Apollo. He was exceedingly bashful; but, after some coaxing, he was induced to converse with me, and informed me that his name was Charles S. Stratton, son of Sherwood E. Stratton.

He was only five years old, and to exhibit a dwarf of that age might provoke the question—How do you know that he is a dwarf? Some licence might indeed be taken with the facts; but even with this advantage it really felt that the adventure was nothing more than an experiment, and I engaged him for the short term of four weeks at three dollars per week—all charges, including travelling and boarding of himself and mother, being at my expense. He was exceedingly bashful; but, after some coaxing, he was induced to converse with me, and informed me that his name was Charles S. Stratton, son of Sherwood E. Stratton.

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Under his great patron's tuition, Master Charles Stratton learned many engaging ways; and soon being recognised as an "established fact," was re-engaged first for a year at seven (increased gradually to twenty-five) dollars a week; then for another year at fifty dollars a week, "with privilege of exhibition in Europe."

The honest showman lost no time in sailing for England with his protégé, intent upon turning him to the best account, before, by any treachery of nature, the poor child might show signs of growing. At Liverpool the crowds were sorely struck down when the proprietor of a wax-work exhibition made an offer of only ten dollars a week, for himself and the child at his establishment; and when an affable old Manchester gentleman whom he met one night at the theatre, told him (having regard to the projected exhibition in Manchester) "You should put admission at one penny, for that is the usual price for seeing giants and dwarfs in England." However, Barnum had a soul above coppers. "Never," he exclaimed, "shall the price be less than one shilling sterling, and some of the nobility and gentry of England will pay a guinea to see General Tom Thumb." And so they did—to Barnum's, if not to poor Tom's, immense enrichment.

The General was honoured, on more than one occasion, by being summoned into the presence of Royalty. On the first visit of the party to Buckingham Palace, the Lord in Waiting enlightened Barnum upon some points of Court etiquette; notably, as to advancing and retiring with his face to Royalty, and as to answering all her Majesty's inquiries through him—the Lord in Waiting, however, the loquacious showman did not always adhere to, much to the Lord in Waiting's annoyance. The closing incident of the scene is too amusing to be omitted:

The Lord in Waiting was perhaps mortified towards me when he saw me following his illustrious example in retiring from the Royal presence. He was accustomed to the process, and therefore was able to keep somewhat ahead (or rather aback) of me, but even I stepped rather fast for the other member of the evening party. We had a considerable distance to travel in that long gallery before reaching the door, and whenever the General found he was losing ground, he turned around and ran a few steps, then resumed his position of "backing out," then turned around and ran, and so continued to alternate his methods of getting to the door, until the gallery fairly rang with the merriment of the Royal spectators. It was really one of the richest scenes I ever saw, especially the concluding section. Running, under the circumstances, was an offence sufficiently heinous to excite the indignation of the Queen's favourite poodle-dog, and he vented his displeasure by barking so sharply as to startle the General from his propriety. He, however, recovered himself instantly and very his little cane commenced an attack on the poodle, and a funny fight ensued, which renewed and increased the merriment of the Royal party. This was near the door of exit. We had scarcely passed into the antechamber when one of the Queen's attendants came to us with the expressed hope of her Majesty, that the General had sustained no damage; to which the Lord in Waiting playfully added, that in case of injury to so renowned a personage he should fear a declaration of war by the United States.

The General also visited the Dowager Queen Adelaide, who, after presenting him with a handsome gold watch and chain, took him upon her knee, and "gave him some excellent advice in regard to his morals, which he strictly promised to obey." And then, with a burst of sublime benevolence, the Lord in Waiting adds: "Indeed, I am happy to say in this place, that I never knew the General to utter a profane or vulgar word in his life. His morals in all respects are unexceptionable, and his disposition most amiable."

Of the amiable and intelligent nature of the poor little fellow we have no grounds to doubt; indeed, he interested all who saw him as much by these qualities, as by the accident of his diminutive formation. And here we pause to speculate with a profound feeling of melancholy upon the history of that "life," which had extended but to seven years at the time Barnum writes of him—nearly two of which he had been hawked about, flattered, and petted as a public idol. Where is he now? Retired, perhaps, upon the wealth amassed in a brief and glittering career of favour! We fear not! We fear not! Barnum admits that the profits of the exhibition at the Egyptian-hall were about 500 dollars a day, or £600 a week; added to which "the General" attended three or four parties a week, at eight and ten guineas each; making in all, say, very nearly £600 a week; out of which the poor little fellow had for his own share, and that of his parents, fifty dollars, or £10 a week.

The Jenny Lind speculation is too recent, and has been too generally chronicled in the newspapers, to possess "historic interest" for us at present. Nevertheless, in some of the Showman's revelations of the beginning and ending of that notable affair, are some points which may both amuse and surprise the reader.

Altogether, a more impudent, though, in some respects, edifying, volume, we have seldom met with, in autobiographic literature, than that of Barnum the Showman.

A TREATISE ON THE ELEMENTS OF ALGEBRA; for the Use of Schools and Private Students. By G. AINSWORTH, B.A., and J. YEATS, F.R.G.S. H. Ingram and Co.

This is a great improvement upon the old style of school-book, wherein a hard "rule" followed by a dry "example," and a dozen "exercises" for practice, was all that was vouchsafed, the duty of explanation being left for the master. Here, following the more conciliatory method observable in some of the best modern elementary works of the Continent, the authors begin by treating the student as a rational and reasoning being;—in the successive stages of their labours set out with an obvious truth, deduce from it a more consequence; and so, step by step, make their way to the position or result intended to be established; so that the "rule" is learned before it is propounded. The charm and advantage of this mode of instruction must be obvious to all who contrast with it their recollections of the old parrot fashion in which they got up their "Bonnycastle" in early youth, to the tender accompaniment of the writing-master's ferule. The mind is interested and encouraged, instead of being insulted and oppressed, and that which at so acquired will not be easily forgotten.

The Treatise comprehends every branch of the study usually falling within the province of what is termed the "first part" of Algebra (ending with quadratic equations); and the observation, analytical, geometrical, and harmonic sequences, series, permutations, combinations, and variations, present these curious departments of figure calculation in a most attractive form. The examples throughout are abundant and well chosen.

AUSTRALIA AND ITS GOLD-FIELDS. By EDWARD HAMMOND HARGRAVES, late Commissioner of Crown Lands in Australia. H. Ingram and Co.

Mr. Hargraves, to whose quick intuitive perception and prompt and well-directed research we are indebted for the discovery of the gold deposits in Australia—a discovery whose important and beneficial results it is impossible at this time to foresee or over-estimate—publishes in the present volume an authentic account of the history and circumstances of that discovery, the observations which led to it, and the consequences which immediately followed and are likely to follow upon it. He also goes into an interesting history of the origin and progress of the colony generally; and of Gold in all times and in all parts of the world. In a word, Australia and Gold are his twin themes, and anything that relates to either receives attention and elucidation at his hands. As a settler of some years' standing in the colony—one who has fought his way to independence in it, when its produce was restricted to that of the field and the flock, Mr. Hargraves takes increased pride and interest in it now that gold in abundance is poured into its lap; and rightly estimates the revolution which the last accession is likely to work both in the character of the colony and its prospects. His concluding chapter is devoted to an impartial and liberal consideration of the "present aspect of the land question," in which he points out the danger of leaving the interests involved in it to be settled as chance or interested motives may dictate; and he calls upon the Imperial Government, before finally resigning the colony and its destinies to local management, to make some provision against an obvious difficulty and probable injustice. He alludes more particularly to the pretensions of the "squatter" class—pretensions which, if yielded, would put the bulk of the wealth and influence into their hands; but which, if yielded, would not allow us to do more than refer all interested in this subject to the pages, wherein they will find it ably discussed.

With respect to the gold discoveries, Mr. Hargraves gives all the honour due to Sir Roderick Murchison for what he calls the "scientific discovery" that is the prediction of the existence of gold in Australia, deduced from observations in geology, and disallows as untenable the pretensions of a Mr. Clarke, who upon grounds most weak, and by a process of reasoning most illogical and fallacious, has attempted to snatch the priority of "scientific discovery" with that gentleman. The practical discovery belongs unquestionably to Mr. Hargraves, and most remarkable is the manner in which it happened. Without having given it special knowledge, having simply the use of his eyes, and judging it probable that like and like might go together, he was struck with the peculiar character of geological formations in the gold regions of California (whither, with so many thousands of his fellow-colonists, he had gone to "dig") and called to mind the existence of precisely similar tracts of land in Australia, and therefore became so convinced of the existence of gold in the latter, that he wrote to that effect in a letter, dated San Francisco, 5th March, 1850, a letter addressed to S. Peck, Esq., of Sydney. Here is the passage:—"I am forcibly impressed that I have been in a gold region, in New South Wales, within 300 miles of Sydney; and unless you know how to find it, you might live for a century in the region and know nothing of its existence."

In the February of the following year, Mr. Hargraves, having returned to Australia, proceeded to act on the part of the country where his dream of gold was centered, having with him only a simple country lad to assist as helper or guide; and he was not disappointed. Mr. Hargraves' account of the grand discovery is highly graphic and interesting:—Having arrived at the spot he had determined to explore, he first ate his dinner (and he failed, he says, to eat not have eaten it afterwards), then with his trowel dug up a portion of loose soil, washed it, and produced gold; and again, and again, the same in other places. "This" he exclaimed, addressing his guide, "is a memorable day in the history of New South Wales. I shall be a Baronet, you be knighted, and my old horse be stuffed, put into a glass case, and sent to the British Museum."

Having communicated his discovery to the Colonial Government, and opened a correspondence in regard to the reward he should receive for it, Mr. Hargraves was induced, as a beginning, to take an appointment as Commissioner of Crown Lands for a twelvemonth, at 20s. per diem; and eventually the Legislative Council awarded him the sum of £10,000 in full requital of his important services. Not, indeed, a very liberal compensation, which I by no means complain of;" although he suggests that it is small enough when it is considered that 10s. per cent commission on the gold exported in the first three years after the discovery (about £50,000,000), would have amounted to £250,000.

Not the least valuable part of Mr. Hargraves' book is that which relates to the theory of the sources of gold, and the various methods of working it in ancient and modern times. He particularly warns his readers against the delusions of the quartz "matrix" theory. Whilst he admits that in some cases gold may be found in quartz in sufficient quantity to repay the expense of crushing, he utterly repudiates the notion that wherever there is quartz there must be gold, and in equal abundance; and predicts the ruin of those who engage speculatively in enterprises based upon it.

Mr. Hargraves' book will be equally interesting to the colonist and intending emigrant and to the speculator in gold.

A FEW WORDS, by Way of a LETTER Addressed to the DIRECTORS of the CRYSTAL PALACE COMPANY. From a Shareholder. J. E. Smith.

Mr. Sotheby—the well-known and respected auctioneer of art and literary property, of Wellington-street—being a shareholder of the Crystal Palace Company, adopts the press as the medium of communication with the Directors, in preference to making any observations at the next general meeting, at the risk of being "pooh-poohed" by the dominant party and their friends. We think he has done right; and, whatever may come of it, this, his "Few Words by Way of a Letter," will undoubtedly be extensively read by all who are interested in the fate of the great undertaking whose affairs he discusses.

Mr. Sotheby, having a residence near the Crystal Palace, has watched over its progress to completion, and its general management, from the hour when the first pillar was erected; and, though a warm admirer still of the general design, he has found abundant grounds for complaint in matters of detail, in almost every department. Financial—the loan, or attempted loan, *i. e.* preference share scheme to begin with; Refreshmental the obtrusive clatter of pots and plates, and the no less obtrusive perfumes at the very entrance; and above all its mismanagement, ending in loss; Architectural—the colouring of the nave, which he denounces upon grounds which we fully concur in; and the want of classification in the arrangements, evinced in the placing of a colossal statue of the late Sir Robert Peel opposite the "Farnese Hercules." His criticisms upon the Sydenham Palace, and his suggestion that the Alexandrian and Pompeian with figures in appropriate costume, after the fashion of those at the Turkish Museum, are worthy of attention. He condemns the Egyptian Court, bedaubed as it is, as conveying but a large idea of the grandeur and sublimity of the ancient Pharaohs; and concludes Egyptian Court, which "by being lighted up, is an inducement to people to remain," and is "perhaps just a 'feeling' for the commencement of a second 'Vauxhall,' or night entertainment!"

These and other strictures—which though occasionally severe, never transgress the bounds of legitimate criticism—Mr. Sotheby winds up by recommending certain modifications in the constitution and business arrangements of the direction, having for object a more direct application of the representative system.

THE GLASGOW ART-UNION.—The print issued to subscribers to the Glasgow Art-Union for the present year is from a line engraving by Holl, after Frith's "Coming of Age in the Olden Time;" a picture which was much admired when exhibited at the Royal Academy. The size of engraved surface is 36 inches by 22 inches.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—The meetings will be henceforth held at the Society's new house, 15, Whitehall-place. If a member desire to introduce more than one visitor to the meetings, he is requested to apply to the secretary for a card of admission. The map-rooms of the Society will be open to the public from eleven a.m. to three p.m. daily, until further notice.

RUSSIAN CONTEMPT OF AUSTRIA.—On St. Nicholas-day, according to the Greek calendar, the 18th, General Count Stackelberg, the military member of the Russian Embassy at Vienna, gave a dinner in honour of his Imperial master. The party was exclusively composed of Russians, and severe strictures having been made by one of the guests on the conduct of Austria, a member of the embassy observed that she was not to be feared, "for if Russia but showed her teeth and cried 'Down!' Austria would soon crouch at the feet of the Emperor Nicholas!" This allusion to the despatch in which Prince Paskiewitch announced that Georgey had surrendered, and that Hungary was at the feet of the Czar, met with general approbation.

EPITOME OF NEWS.—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC

Major-General Gough is named in the military circles in Vienna as the successor of General Du Plat as representative of England at the Austrian head quarters.

Prince Napoleon Bonaparte is said to have received orders to return to France immediately. His recall is ordered on the plea of bad health; having, since his arrival at Constantinople, had a fit of gout.

It is stated in Vienna that Prince Esterhazy, Austrian Ambassador to the Czar, had made preparations to leave St. Petersburg on the 3rd of January.

The latest accounts from Alexandria announce but slight improvement in the health of Lord Haddo, M.P. His Lordship is not expected to return to England before April.

The *Journal de St. Petersbourg* of the 26th December announces the arrival at Gatschina of the Grand Dukes Nicholas and Michael. They left Sebastopol on the 13th December to pay a short visit to the Empress, whose health has improved.

Baron Manteuffel has returned from a flying visit to his estates in Lusatia, where he is understood to have established fine flocks, and to have devoted much attention to the improvement of the breed of sheep.

The Countess Poulett is on the eve of starting for Constantinople.

The *Moniteur* contains a notification that, as the Emperor and Empress wish to exercise a free choice in purchasing articles at the Exhibition, they cannot accept any which may be offered to them.

Prince Gortschakoff is making preparations for leaving Vienna. He has dismissed his steward, and has caused the rich furniture which he had recently purchased to be valued by an auctioneer in order to be immediately sold.

The Duke of Buccleuch's mansion, opposite Downing-street, is shortly to be pulled down, and a handsome new edifice erected on its site. The noble Duke has taken the late Earl of Brownlow's house, in Belgrave square, until his family residence is rebuilt.

The Emperor and Empress of the French, on the occasion of the New Year, received in their apartments the congratulations of Prince Jerome Napoleon, Princess Mathilde, Prince Lucien Bonaparte, Prince Lucien Murat, Princess Napoleon Baciocchi, and the Princess Lucien Murat. The family dinner party which usually takes place at the Tuileries on New Year's-day was held at the Palais Royal, the residence of Prince Jerome—the Emperor finding himself fatigued to preside on the occasion at his own table.

The Prince Augustus and Princess Clementia of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, accompanied by their youthful family, arrived at Dover on Saturday evening, from Ostend, in one of the Belgian mail packets. On Sunday morning the Prince and Princess, with their family and suite, left Dover *en route* for Claremont, on a visit to the ex-Royal family of France.

Lord Desart has lately served his tenantry with notice that he will not henceforth permit them to grow potatoes, as they were a failing crop.

The reports of Count Molé's illness are entirely unfounded. He is in excellent health.

A funeral service to the memory of M. Visconti, the architect, at which the Minister of State, M. Lefuel, several members of the Institute, and a number of other friends of the deceased were present, was performed in Paris on Saturday at the Church of St. Philippe du Roule.

On Thursday evening week Mr. Charles Dickens gave a reading of his "Christmas Carol" in St. George's-hall, Bradford, before a very numerous and respectable audience. The reading was given gratuitously, in aid of the funds of the Temperance Educational Institute of that town. There were at least 3000 persons present, many of them from Leeds, Halifax, Huddersfield, and neighbouring towns.

Barnum, the American speculator, submitted his "Autobiography" to the New York publishers for the highest bidding. Fifteen bids are recorded, the highest being 75,000 dollars (equal to £15,000), and 50,000 copies of the work are said to have been subscribed for by the retail booksellers, before it was put up to competition.

Mr. Thomas D'Arcy M'Gee, who was obliged to withdraw from Ireland in consequence of the part he took in the proceedings of the Irish Confederation in 1848, and who has been, during the intervening period, conducting the Roman Catholic newspaper in the United States, is about to revisit his native country.

M. Guerazzi, whose recent work, published at Pisa, and suppressed by order from Florence, has had an immense clandestine circulation and created a sensation in Italy, is engaged on two new themes. A novel may be shortly expected from his hand, having Gen. Paoli, the last of the Corsicans, for hero.

News-vendors, booksellers, and proprietors of circulating libraries, have been ordered by the Hessian Government to close their business establishments in Cassel.

The Scottish Exhibition of Arts and Manufactures connected with another one was opened on Friday week, in the building erected for the purpose in Bath-street, Glasgow.

All the efforts made by Prussia to induce the small German States to allow themselves to be represented, at the Great Exhibition at Paris, by the Prussian Commissioner have completely failed. Each has resolved to have a Commissioner of its own.

Among the curiosities which will be sent from Australia to the Paris Exhibition is part of the frame of the pulpit, now growing at Botany Bay, on which the great navigator, La Pérouse, carved his name when he anchored off that part of the coast.

The Mayor of Hobart Town has paid into the colonial treasury £2000, to be remitted to England for the aid of the wives and families of British soldiers during the war.

The Governor of Nova Scotia has issued a proclamation authorising certain American goods, under the Reciprocity Treaty, free of duty.

A ukase had been issued by the Czar ordering that for the soldiers forming the garrison of Sebastopol each month's service shall count for a year.

Several extensive districts of the west coast of Inverness and Ross shires are at this moment threatened with a famine. The potato crop of this season has turned out almost as bad and scanty as that of 1845-6.

A letter from Berlin states that the French Government is buying up most of the stocks of wine in the Moselle for the Army.

At the last weekly meeting of the Manchester Board of Guardians, a site for the erection of a new workhouse, at the estimated cost of £36,000, and £7000 for the site, was adopted.

An earthquake took place at Marseilles on the 29th ult., which was also felt in the country around. The shock, which came from north to south, lasted about three seconds.

Two Juvenile Reformatories are to be built in Liverpool, one on land, the other in a hulk on the river.

Three millions of francs are to be spent on the new cathedral at Lille (the competition for architect is open to all Europe. The successful competitor will receive 10,000f.; the second approved design, 6000f., and the third, 2000f.

There are only 24,118 persons in Ireland assessed to Income-tax; and the total amount assessed is £689,271—which gives an average of £23 12s. for each person.

The lower part of the town of Danzig has been inundated by some days in the neighbourhood giving way. The magazines of Gotho Barracks were undermined, and in danger of falling. All the soldiers were got out in boats, but one officer was drowned.

Since the introduction of Mr. Forbes Mackenzie's Act there has been a great deal of illicit distilling in Kintyre, and the Excise officers have become proportionately active.

The Russian Government has issued orders to its agents to engage as many rifle gunmakers as possible in Belgium and Holland, and to forward them to the Imperial arms factories at Tula and elsewhere.

The Horticultural Society have issued their circular for meetings in the present year. Among the alterations, we observe that the garden meetings are to be held on Wednesdays instead of Saturdays.

The Americans are going largely into the Australian trade. They have a regular monthly line of sailing-vessels conveying the mails from New York. In the fifteen months ending with September, there had arrived at the port of Melbourne more than 190 American vessels, with 120,000 tons of merchandise, valued at three millions sterling.

A pan, containing about 600 gold coins, mostly Spanish but some English, was recently dug up in the city of Utrecht. The earliest of these coins is the year 1464, the latest of 1684.

The manufacture of small-arms, particularly guns and bayonets, continues very active in Birmingham, and contracts are represented to be progressing satisfactorily.

A Mr. Jackson has invented a method of expanding gas by the introduction of a platinum wire into the burners, which effects a saving of 17 to 25 per cent., while an equal amount of light is afforded.

Upon a farm near Ipswich several foundation walls and a considerable quantity of tesselated pavement have been uncovered, and appear to have belonged to a Roman villa.

A successful inventor has offered the War-office an electric rifle which greatly surpasses any weapon in use, flinging a ball from 1000 to 2000 feet, at the rate of sixty shots per minute.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 723.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE.

THE hostile attitude assumed by Austria has produced its effect upon the Czar, with a rapidity that was wholly unexpected. When Prince Gortschakoff declared at the conference of Vienna that he had no instructions to accept the interpretation of the "Four Points" which Austria, Great Britain, and France had unanimously determined to insist upon and abide by, a delay of fourteen days was granted to him to communicate with St. Petersburg. If at the end of that period—which would have elapsed to-morrow (the 14th of January)—the Czar had accepted the points, but rejected the interpretation, the Austrian Government would have united itself with France and Great Britain in offensive and defensive alliance. The war would immediately have assumed larger and more formidable proportions, and involved the whole of Europe. But the Czar has not felt disposed to incur so heavy a responsibility. The identical propositions which he rejected with contempt a few months ago, as inconsistent with his dignity, and as only fit to be proffered to a defeated and exhausted Power, he has now expressed his readiness to accept. In less than eight days, instead of the fourteen allowed him, his Plenipotentiary at Vienna has been instructed to negotiate a peace on the minimum proposed by the Allies; and negotiations will be forthwith resumed, if they have not already commenced. The representative of only one of the Great Powers of Europe will be absent from the Conference. Though Prussia may, at the last moment, wish to share in the deliberations, her opinion will neither be asked, nor listened to, if proffered. She is self-exiled from the councils of the world, and has, with her own hand, sealed her doom of degradation.

The perfidy and treachery of the Czar have been so often exhibited during the progress of the unhappy war which his ambition has forced upon Europe—and in no instance more notably than in the proclamation which he has recently issued to his subjects—that a very natural doubt is felt in many quarters whether his expressed willingness to accede to terms of peace is to be depended upon. Without giving him any undue credit for sincerity, or placing any reliance upon his sense of duty, the world may, at all events, give him the credit of sagacity. It is so obviously his wisest and safest policy to yield to the pressure of events which he can no longer hope to control, that his sincerity seems more probable than the reverse. To yield to the remonstrances of Europe before a signal and otherwise inevitable defeat is a course of conduct to be expected of a Potentate not wholly blinded and maddened by ambition and wrong-doing. If the Czar be still a sane man, as we believe, he cannot fail to see that his submission at the present moment would entail upon him fewer sacrifices, and be accompanied by a smaller loss of dignity and honour, not only in the eyes of Europe, but in those of his own people, than submission consequent upon the attacks of Austria, on the capture and destruction of Sebastopol by the Allies, and on the threatened reconstruction of the kingdom of Poland. Submission at the present time, and on the terms proposed, would leave him a character for wisdom as well as magnanimity, which he might hereafter turn to account; while submission after defeat, and on terms dictated at the cannon's mouth, would, in contemporary opinion, and in the page of history, give him no title to either quality. Magnanimity should sacrifice pride, if it could spare the effusion of innocent blood; and where would be the magnanimity of a struggle as sanguinary as it would be hopeless? Wisdom—even that lower quality of it designated as "worldly" wisdom—would extricate itself from an untenable position at the least possible loss; and where would be the wisdom of yielding all with discomfiture and ignominy, rather than yield a portion without a crushing defeat and with comparative security and honour?

For these, among many other, reasons we think the Czar is in earnest in authorising Prince Gortschakoff to negotiate a peace on the basis of the four famous propositions of the Vienna Conference. Popular as the war is among the British and French people, wicked as the Czar has shown himself to be, highly as he may deserve punishment, and righteous as may be the cause in which France and Great Britain are allied, war is too frightful a calamity to be persisted in a moment longer than it is necessary. Lord Aberdeen, whose fame is already emerging from the dark clouds which for a time threatened to obscure it, declared that war under such circumstances was a crime. The wise and the good, as well as the brave, are of this opinion; and, however the factious or the ignorant may clamour, this country, and France also, as well as Germany and every part of Europe, will hail with sincere satisfaction the re-establishment of peace.

But if the Czar be insincere? If he be seeking to gain time, and to sow disunion among the Allies? Even in such a case no evil can accrue. He will not succeed in his attempt. Austria is no less determined than England and France to fight out the quarrel to any or every extremity, if it be not possible to secure a lasting and an honourable peace on any other condition than "war to the knife." The antecedents of the Czar are such that no one would trust his readiness to make peace, if the negotiation of the

H.M.S. WAR-SHIP "THE ST. JEAN D'ACRE" LEAVING CORK FOR THE CRIMEA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

preliminaries were to put an end to the operation s of the war. The Allies know their duty too well to accede to such a proposition if it were made, and are too clear-sighted to fall into any pitfall of the kind, if the cunning of the Czar should have induced him to dig it for them. Whatever may be the cha racter of the events that take place at Vienna, the war will not slacken in consequence of the renewal of negotiations. If we read aright the feeling of the British and French Governments, and the feeling, at the same time, of the British and French people, the siege of Sebastopol will be pressed, if possible, with even greater vigour than before, so as to confirm the Czar in those good intentions of which his fear, and not his sense of justice, has been the parent. It is wholesome dread that has brought him to abate his high pretensions. The Czar finds the "knout" his most effective instrument of government. Europe will take a lesson from the Muscovite book, and coerce the Monarch whom it cannot control by appeals to his conscience. Should there be many delays at Vienna, Sebastopol we hope and believe will fall in the interval, and help to expedite the solid peace which Europe expects.

EMBARKATION OF TROOPS AT CORK FOR THE CRIMEA.

The embarkation of reinforcements for the seat of war continues; and the Illustration upon the preceding page shows one of these spirited scenes of departure, at Cork, on Thursday week. In the afternoon, the *St. Jean d'Acre*, 600-horse power, Capt. the Hon. H. Keppel, arrived at Queenstown, having sailed from Plymouth in less than twenty-one hours. She had already two general officers on board; and carried besides a number of horses and a large quantity of stores

Intelligence of her arrival was transmitted at 3h. 30m. p.m. to Mr. Donegan, River Steamers' Secretary, and at five o'clock the *Prince* steamer started, having in that short space of time taken on board the entire baggage and guard of the various drafts, which on arrival at Queenstown was embarked on board the *St. Jean d'Acre*. The drafts went down numbered 640 men, of the following regiments:—

51 of the 33rd, with Lieutenants Hunt and Hand.
51 of the 39th, with Captain Robertson, and Lieutenant Hill
97 of the 39rd, with Captain Ellis, Lieutenant Wallis, and Ensign Ellis.
109 of the 41st, Captain Bertram, Lieut. Lambert, and Lieut. Nowlan.
67 of the 47th, Captain Elgee.
122 of the 17th, Captain Colthurst, Lieut. Thompson, Ensigns Travis and Disbrowe
11 of the 50th—no officers
45 of the 68th—no officers
39 of the 88th, Lieutenant Hannay.
67 of the 69th, Lieutenant Eustace
9 of the 57th, Captain Brown, and Lieut. Ashwin.

The *St Jean d'Acre* has on board Major-General Lord Rokeby and Major-General Barnard, both appointed to command divisions of the army in the Crimea. Such was the haste used in the embarkation, and so sudden was the arrival of the *St. Jean d'Acre* that several officers who should have embarked in her were absent on a shooting excursion, and were unable to go on board with the drafts of their regiments.

The noble vessel, one of the finest and fleetest in the British Navy, left her anchorage at about half-past seven o'clock on Saturday morning; her topgallant-masts were lowered; but she proceeded to sea in a spanking style. She had altogether 1700 men on board on leaving Cork harbour.

Our Sketch, by Mr. R. L. Stopford, represents the *St. Jean d'Acre* passing the Lighthouse

PROPOSED CATHEDRAL AT LILLE.

An architectural competition of more than usual importance and interest has been announced in France—the construction of a new church of "monumental" character at Lille, to be dedicated as Notre Dame de la Treille et St. Pierre. This building is destined to serve hereafter as the Cathedral of that city, under the not-unlikely contingency of its being detached from the see of Arras and being made the seat of its own diocesan. The projectors of this scheme have issued a prospectus, by which it appears that the building is to be from 100 to 110 metres (above 300 feet) in length, with one or two spires, and to cost, exclusive of decorations, 3,000,000 francs (£120,000). The style prescribed is the Gothic of the earlier portion of the thirteenth century, or what in England would be termed developed First Pointed. The competition is thrown open to the whole world—the architects of England and of Germany, who have made church building their peculiar study, being invited to enter into an honourable rivalry with those of France itself;—a proceeding creditable to those who have offered the invitation, and creditable to those who will accept it. Several of our most distinguished ecclesiastical architects are, we understand, thinking of entering into the scheme. The size and importance of the city of Lille, and its proximity to England (lying as it does—since the organisation of the great Continental railway system—at the divergence of the high roads from our country to Paris on the one side, and Belgium and Germany on the other), render the erection of a church there of the proposed dimensions and character a work of no ordinary interest. To all lovers of mediæval architecture it must present itself as an unmistakable and tangible proof of the European triumph of the Pointed style for church purposes. Among the names of persons mentioned in the programme as connected with the undertaking we observe those of gentlemen known beyond their own respective countries for their cultivation of Mediæval art, such as M. le Père Martin, M. Didron, M. de Caumont, M. d'Arcimoz, M. Reichensperger (the recently-elected Vice-President of the Second Prussian Chamber), &c. The 1st of Dec., 1855, is fixed as the date, previous to which it is expected that the designs (which are, of course, to be anonymous) shall be sent in. Three prizes of 600Cf., 4000f., and 3000f. are offered for the three designs which shall appear to the judges most worthy of honourable distinction; the sum to be included (in case of the adoption of any of them for the actual building) in the architect's commission, which is to be at the rate of five per cent for the first 1,000,000 francs expended, four per cent for the second, and three per cent for the third; or an average of four per cent on the whole anticipated outlay of 3,000,000 francs. If the first prizeman shall be selected (as it is contemplated as the most probable result), an immediate advance of 10,000 francs is promised. Mr. Dolman, the well-known bookseller, of Bond-street, is named as the agent in England, to whom architects desirous of procuring copies of the prospectus are to apply.

Papier-Mache.—This artistic trade in Birmingham is tolerably active. Messrs. Jennens and Bettridge have just completed for her Majesty an admirable specimen of art-manufacture of the above class. It consists of a beautiful screen in three folds, the ornamentation of which is very artistic in design as well as skilful in execution. The effect of the whole is very chaste and attractive, and worthy in every way of the eminent establishment which has had the honour of supplying it to the Royal household.

The Cape of Good Hope and Natal steamers belonging to the General Screw Steam Company have been ordered home, and the steam communication between Cape Town, Algoa Bay, and Natal, will therefore for the present be suspended.

The receipts of the theatres, balls, singing cafés, and curiosities of Paris, in the month of December last, were 1,225,759 fr., which were 114,867 fr. more than in November. The total receipts of the year were 12,409,061 fr.

A New Russian Rifle Corps.—A private letter from St. Petersburg states that the Crown serfs have offered the Emperor Nicholas a contingent of 60,000 men, who are to be employed as sharpshooters. Among them are to be all the ermine-hunters, who are estimated at 20,000. These are said to be skilful marksmen, who pass their whole lives on the banks of the Ural or the Oby, in the chase of the fox, the beaver, and the ermine. It is known that this animal can only be aimed at from a considerable distance, and must be hit in the nose to avoid injuring the skin. The whole of these hunters (so the letter says) are to be immediately organised and sent to the Crimea. They are to be armed with the Minié rifle

An innovation has been introduced into the army of the Two Sicilies, namely, that of a singing school. Thirty man from every regiment are to be instructed in singing religious hymns, in order that they may perform at processions and on other great occasions.

Piracy in the China Seas. Despatches from Rear-Admiral Stirling report the operations of the boats of the *Spartan*, under Lieutenant Pallister, in pursuit of pirates, which have resulted in the recovery of a French lady who had been seized by the pirates, and part of the cargo of a vessel they had plundered, as well as in the destruction of three forts mounting seventeen guns, the piratical settlement and twenty piratical junks, without the loss of a single man. The Admiralty have promoted Lieutenant Pallister to the rank of Commander.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

Paris, Thursday.

The announcement of the circumstances which seem to lead to a well-grounded hope that negotiations, tending to produce a solid and honourable peace, are about to be entered upon, has, as may be supposed, the happiest effect on the public mind here. The report, which was circulated about the Boulevards—the great centre of Paris—as early as Sunday night, was not generally spread till Tuesday morning, and was at all sides greeted with marks of the liveliest satisfaction; and the probability that matters will really terminate in the establishment of peace seems to be almost universally accredited.

Already has this prospect given a new impulse to affairs of all sorts, and the balls and receptions—public and private—which, frivolous as they may be in themselves, yet in such cases acquire an importance of no mean degree, as symptomatic of the state of the public mind, begin to assume an animation which they wanted. That of the Hôtel de Ville—the first of the season—to take place on the 20th, is expected to be particularly brilliant. The first official ball of the season was given by M. Billault on Saturday last.

The semi-official journals have dwelt much on a circumstance which did not seem to merit any very particular notice—the annual dinner of the Imperial family at the Prince Jérome's, which an indisposition of the Emperor prevented his attending. The real signification of the air of importance given to this réunion is the fact of its being the occasion of a complete reconciliation between the Princess Mathilde and her father—a reconciliation which the Emperor has long desired, and which he has finally brought about. It appears certain that the Prince Napoléon returns almost immediately to France for the restoration of his health—a decision arrived at before the prospect of the negotiation of a peace was brought forward.

The New Year's custom of persons sending cards to all the members of their acquaintance has, this year, been marked in several instances by a singular innovation, the appearance of photographic portraits of the sender on the cards

The French Government has manifested an act of tolerance and liberality, which is a favourable sign of the times, in giving an official mission to M. Frossard, Protestant pastor of Bagnères de Bigorre, to go to the East, to organise a service of almoners for such of the troops as profess the Reformed religion. This mission is (of course in case of the continuance of the war) to occupy five months; and M. Frossard has already left France to commence his operations.

Various essays are being constantly made of new arms and projectiles for the necessities of the times. At Vincennes a newly-invented shell was, a short time ago, exhibited, but, bursting too soon it occasioned some slight accidents. It appears, however, to combine so many elements of success that a fresh experiment is to be tried with it. A celebrated artist, the first flower-painter in France, has made the discovery of a new projectile, which he has come from Lyon to Paris to submit for the approval of Maréchal Vaillant. The Minister and the Committee of Artillery have been much struck by the value of the invention, which, in addition to various other advantages, unites the extremely important one of enabling the shot to be directed, by night as well as by day, to any given spot with almost unerring precision. At St Chamans several hundred cannons are being constructed on the model of the Minié rifles, and are to carry twelve-pound shot. *Apropos* of this subject, there exists in the Institute of France, in one of the twelve autograph volumes left by Leonardo da Vinci, the description of a steam-cannon, drawn and designed under the name of Architonitruo: this bears the date of 1490, and Leonardo da Vinci declares that the invention is not his own but is borrowed from "The Book of Fires" of Archimedes: thus the ancients were evidently acquainted with steam as a motive agent.

One of the visitors to Paris on the occasion of the Great Exhibition is to be no less a personage than Queen Pomare—so at least the Bordeaux journals inform us.

Within the last five or six weeks there have been baptised at various churches in the capital five girls under the name of Alma.

At the Institute is now being displayed a splendid picture of Horace Vernet, representing the "Celebration of Mass in the French Camp in the Crimea." At the moment that the priest raises the *hostie* a ball falls in the midst of the assembly, and covers several of them with the earth it has ploughed up in its course. The energy and animation displayed in the figures, and, above all, the effects of light and shade, are peculiarly striking and truthful. The picture is to appear in the approaching Exhibition.

The Grand Opera has received a reinforcement in the person of the Senora Angèle Fortuni, a Spaniard, who has *débuted* with considerable success in the part of *Lucia di Lammermoor*. She has a most agreeable voice, a good method, a pretty face, and splendid hair: surely with such advantages the public ought to be satisfied! Neri Baraldi has made his appearance in the *Favorite*; France, it seems, is not in the vein of native singers, for the moment. Report states that M. Arsène Houssaye is about to resign the direction of the Théâtre Française, that the Emperor intends to bestow the functions of the office on a Senator or a Deputy, and that, as the salary of such a post would be not in accordance with the electoral law, he will receive, instead, *les frais de représentation*, amounting to 25,000f. (£1000). Another rumour asserts that the office of Grand Aumônier is to be reinstituted, and to be bestowed on the Cardinal Dupont, Archbishop of Bourges, with a palace and 60,000f. salary.

The manufacturing of flint for the service of the army is the great occupation of the *salons* at this moment: the Empress and her attendants set the example, which is of course followed by the guests.

DISTURBANCES IN SPAIN.

The news from Spain lately has not been of a very satisfactory nature. Disturbances have taken place in various parts of the kingdom, which are partly ascribed to Carlist intrigue, partly to local grievances. Malaga has been one of the worst places apparently.

In the morning of the 28th ult. the Governor caused a proclamation to be stuck up on the walls, announcing that the examining magistrate had ordered the detention of certain persons who were concerned in some disturbances that took place on the 18th ult. This detention being displeasing to a portion of the population, numerous groups assembled, and proceeded to tear down the placards. The alcalde thereupon assembled the municipality, and at their head went to the Governor to ask him to use influence to have the parties in question released. The Governor, after some hesitation, consented to do what they required, and the municipal authorities made an announcement to that effect. Nevertheless, the groups refused to disperse; and, having united into one body, proceeded to the residence of the Governor, uttering seditious cries, and demanding that he should be put to death. They attempted to force their way into his house; but a detachment of carabineers and civil guards which came up prevented them. The National Guard turned out, and used all their efforts to establish order. According to the *Espana*, the mob, after the failure of their attack on the Governor's house, committed no other excesses, and tranquillity was re-established. It adds, however, that the Civil Governor had resigned his post, and retired to Granada; and that the Military Governor had undertaken the administration of civil affairs until a new Governor should arrive

Some of the Spanish journals, and private letters also, make mention of disturbances as having taken place at other points—at Teruel, Valencia, Granada, and Arbacete—ascribable, in the first place, to the municipal elections and discontent at the octroi duties; and in the last, to a band of Carlists, who proclaimed the Conde de Montemolin as King. There may be added to this catalogue, disturbances at Cordova, where a young gentleman of high family narrowly escaped massacre; a Carlist attempt at Pampeluna, rendered abortive by the vigilance of an individual sergeant, and of Montemolinist factions at Lugo, Santiago, and Orense, all of which were instantly put down by the civil and military authorities.

PROJECTED BOMBARDMENT OF SEBASTOPOL.

Rumours of the taking of Sebastopol have been current both in London and Paris during the last two or three days, but no value is attached to them by those who are presumed to be in the secrets of the campaign. The general belief, however, is that a general bombardment, with a view to an assault or a general engagement, will have taken place by this time if the weather has been favourable. Much would depend on that. The French batteries were quite prepared for the attack some weeks ago; and there is little doubt but more of the English army would be completed before this time. The Allied forces were estimated at 75,000 French and 28,000 English, on the 22nd ult.; since which period considerable reinforcements must have arrived. The Turkish force, including the Egyptian contingent, will consist of 40,000 or 50,000 men and 60 guns. Omer Pacha had sailed for Balaclava on the 1st inst. to concert his movements with Lord Raglan and General Canrobert The understanding seems to be that the Turks will concentrate their forces at Eupatoria, and take the Russians in the rear when the decisive moment comes. Unless Prince Menschikoff receive large reinforcements soon, he will find himself in a very awkward position.

A correspondent of a French paper, writing from the heights of Sebastopol, on the 23rd ult., after an extensive excursion through every portion of the French camp, gives the following *résumé* of their military position:

Since the two attacks which were made against Sebastopol attacks necessarily limited by the insufficiency of our siege artillery—our army has completed immense works, which will double our means of action. Our batteries, which were only eleven in number, are now tripled, and armed with guns of heavy calibre, recently brought from France or taken from the ships of the fleet. The armament of all the batteries is now completed. We can oppose 160 guns to those of the enemy; one-half of these guns belong to the navy, and are served by sailors and marines. The batteries have been constructed by engineer officers, assisted by our brave soldiers, with inconceivable rapidity, despite the incessant and well-directed fire of the town.

The line of the trenches is nearly three leagues and a half in extent. This will explain at once the amount of energy, labour, and patience that was required to execute so colossal a work in so short a time. We are quite ready to open fire, but happily the English have not been able to push on their works so rapidly as us. Notwithstanding the ardour displayed by our allies, it is impossible that their batteries can be ready to open fire before the 10th or 12th of January

The immense stores of the Russian arsenals give them a notable advantage over us. The batteries which protect the place on the land side are armed with about 260 pieces, to which we can only oppose about 230. It is only, therefore, a vigorous assault, after a furious cannonade, that can procure us any real success.

According to reliable information, which is justified by the opinion of all competent men, it is almost certain that the Commanders-in-Chief will not attempt the assault until they have acted in a decisive manner against the enemy's army in the field.

The Turkish army, which is landing at Eupatoria, will take the Russians in the rear, so as energetically to second the attack made in front by the Allies. Prince Menschikoff seems to be quite aware of the difficulties of his position. He has retired with the main body of his army between the right bank of Tchernaya, the main road of the peninsula and the Belbec, and he endeavours to make good his position and his communications with Sebastopol by covering his army by immense defensive works erected along the banks of the Tchernaya. His army, at the present moment, does not appear to exceed 80,000 men.

The garrison of Sebastopol, on the other hand, is not inactive. For the last three weeks great activity has been visible in the construction of additional works of defence between the Flag-staff and Quarantine battery.

As you are doubtless aware, General Liprandi's Division, which threatened Balaclava, has joined the main body of the Russian army; but the General has left from 6000 to 8000 men in the mountain passes from the Tchernaya to the hills behind Balaclava. The duty of these troops is, probably, to watch our movements; they are only separated by the plain of Balaclava from our great line of circumvallation and from General Bosquet's Division.

In addition to the great works directed against the city, the Allied armies have constructed strong defensive works on various points. Thus, Balaclava is covered by many redoubts to prevent an attack by the Russians

On our extreme left the trenches have been carried to the far end of the Quarantine Battery under the guns of the fort, so as to assure direct communications with the sea. Such is the complete *ensemble* of the works of attack and defence, and the general dispositions of the Allied armies

Other correspondents, both English and French, describe the position of all the French ordnance as most commanding. If it is to be done by powder and shot, the Russians will be driven out in twenty-four hours.

There is not a single house or building, even on the north side, which their mortars cannot reach, and there is no precaution known to modern warfare which can avert the terrific effects of mortar shells. A 13-inch shell exploding levels all ordinary buildings for a space of twenty or thirty feet round the spot. Shell fired from cannon hardly do as much mischief as cannon-shot even among men. Shell fire has been so far from proved successful or not, none can say; but the general opinion in both camps is that the forty-eight hours' bombardment will hardly leave one stone of Sebastopol upon another. Of course this refers to the houses and smaller batteries, for the strong forts are bomb-proof, and will, therefore, suffer comparatively little, except in men.

The English are to support the French attack by a tremendous cannonade and bombardment on the eastern side of the town and head of the harbour; while Kertch is to be attacked by a fleet of light gun-boats and batteries have been replaced by new ones, and an advanced parallel, containing eight guns, thrown up near the Ovens. This latter work is within 300 yards of the walls, and may therefore be considered as a kind of breaching battery. In place of the Lancaster guns, mortars are mounted; and also in our other chief batteries (viz., Gordon's, the Naval, and Green Mound) large mortar banks have been thrown up, and the ordnance placed.

The new work at Inkerman was nearly finished when the last steamer sailed, and the greater part of the guns placed: 21 English and 17 French heavy guns and mortars will command the harbour from this spot. Great things are expected from its fire, which, it is said, must destroy the shipping in twelve hours.

The small "Cochorne" are to be moved into a little breastwork at the Ovens, and employed in throwing 5½-inch shell among the troops working the batteries, and into the nearest guardhouses and troop stations. These little mortars, which two men can run away with with perfect ease, will certainly do as much service in their way as the larger comrades. Their range is not above 1200 or 1300 yards; but from the Ovens at that range they can command most of the south side of the town, and nearly all the batteries opposed to the English. With these cohorns are to be placed five or six light field-pieces, for the purpose of destroying the formidable *chevaux de frise* and abatis which surround the Russian batteries, as with these in the way no storm could be attempted. A rocket battery will be stationed at Inkerman, and in the batteries of our old right and left attacks. In all—with French and English—we shall open with about 200 pieces of ordnance of all descriptions. Some accounts make the number of guns and mortars still greater.

It is said that, in the instructions which Count Montebello lately carried to the Commanders, the most positive orders were given to hasten on the works and expedite the fall of Sebastopol before any possible negotiations between the Cabinets could take place, and orders for a general suspension of hostilities be given. Nothing could be more unpopular, or give greater dissatisfaction to the troops, than such an order for an armistice arriving.

In the meantime, the besieged are not idle; but, on the contrary, busily engaged in fighting, mining, repairing damages, and preparing barricades and other contrivances to obstruct our eventually passing through the streets. That the garrison consider themselves as lost is evident from their not wishing to let the women and children be destroyed in the universal carnage that must ensue, but turning them out of the town. Even those women who had been still left there to wash and cook for the garrison have quitted the place. In passing through our lines they were very loud in their crying and lamentations; and our men, after feeling them, let them pass to Inkerman, where General Liprandi furnished them with camels and madjaris, the waggons of the country, and sent them on to Bagtchesai.

It is a mistake to suppose that the Russian vessels of war have been so much injured or weakened by our guns, as has been represented by many correspondents. By their facility of changing position, getting shelter behind projecting points, or under high cliffs, and from our guns hitherto not having been of sufficient range, they have contrived to elude every effort at their destruction, and escaped with scarcely any damage. They are one of the most serious obstacles in the way of our taking the town, and would fall be so in preventing our keeping possession of it, were they permitted to remain in their present whole and active state Whether the new naval Commander-in-Chief will be able to assist us by his tactics, in ridding the besieging army of this thorn in their side, remains to be proved. On the night of the 19th ult. Captain Gordon traced out a new work very far in advance of those already made or in course of construction—so close that from it a stone may be thrown into the water—and the guns of which, there is little doubt, will command the shipping over a very extensive portion of the roadstead.

THE ARMY AT EUPATORIA.

The *Constitutionnel*, after stating that officers of artillery and engineers had been sent to Eupatoria to throw up earth-works and fortifications, in order to make it as strong a position as Balaclava, and as such the *point d'appui* of an army of operation, proceeds to say:—

This army must now have arrived there: it consists of the Egyptian division of the best troops of Omer Pacha, and is commanded by the Turkish Generalissimo. We have said that Eupatoria is to be to the north of Sebastopol what Balaclava is to the south. That fact will suffice to show in what a situation the disembarkation of Omer Pacha will probably place the Russian army—it will be placed between two fires. One of two things will happen: either the Russian army will endeavour to crush the troops whose basis is at Eupatoria, with the certainty of being immediately attacked in the rear by the Anglo-French army—and the descension of the Russian army would deprive Sebastopol of all hope of making a successful resistance; or, in the second place, the Russian army, in order to accept battle in such a disadvantageous position, and with such adverse chances, will retire from the banks of the Belbec, as it has retired from the banks of the Tchernaya; will concentrate itself on Bagtchesarai, or on Simpferopol, and will abandon Sebastopol to its own resources and to the chances of an assault. Such a retreat of the Russian army would, in fact, be immediately followed by the complete investment of the place, and the *dénouement* would not be waited for long. Thus, we shall have a decisive battle in the most favourable conditions for the Allies, or the retirement of the Russians without combat, and the immediate assault of Sebastopol. Such was the situation of affairs in the Crimea at the end of the year. Let it be certain that the year 1855 will have well commenced for the arms of France and her allies.

A RUSSIAN SORTIE AND SURPRISE.

On the morning of the 21st ult., a little before three o'clock, the whole Camp before Sebastopol was suddenly aroused by repeated musket shots sounding the alarm. As the stirring notes ran from regiment to regiment, in many instances followed by the "double," the troops started up from their sleep and were quickly under arms. The night was fine and starlight, but there was no moon visible. Along the whole line of batteries was heard the sharp fire of musketry, and the sky was constantly illumined by the reflected flashes of the heavy guns and the flight of shells in the air. To the westward, in the direction of Cape Chersonesus and the fleet, were also frequent flashes of light, which, at first, it was not easy to determine. The wind was blowing from the south, and in consequence of this direction, and some peculiar condition of the air, neither the discharge of the heavy guns in the batteries, nor the bursting of the shells, made the intense boming impression on the ear which, under other circumstances, from their numbers, they would have made. Some of the shot were thrown very far forward; and this fact, together with the direction of the shells, proved that many of them were aimed at reinforcements which might be expected to be approaching from the Camp to assist the men in the trenches. The rush of these missiles in opposition to the current of air was particularly and most unpleasantly audible as the regiments moved on in advance to the support; but, although the shot were heard to fall thickly around, no casualty was occasioned by them

The cause of the alarm and turn-out proved to be a sortie made by the Russians against the advanced works both of the English and French batteries. Distinct attacks had been made nearly at the same time on the troops in advance of Captain Gordon's battery on Frenchman's-hill, and on those protecting the advanced work which some time since was wrested from the Russians; another body approached the intrenchment originally made in advance of Captain Chapman's battery on Greenhill. The enemy came on in comparatively such limited numbers against the advanced work in front of Frenchman's-hill as almost to lead to the belief that it was planned as a feint, while the more earnest attack was made against Greenhill and the advanced French works

In both of the British positions there was an inexcusable amount of negligence, and in consequence there was exhibited, though in a very limited and diminutive scale comparatively, a repetition of the disastrous victory of Inkerman But though comparatively trifling in its results, had the Russians been aware of our failing, and in force sufficient to take advantage of it, the issue might have been very serious, especially at Frenchmen's-hill, for the guns in the battery might have been dismiled, and the contest carried into the very camp of the Light Division, as before Into that of the Second Division. Neither men nor officers were on the alert, and all were taken by surprise. There were eight companies in the advanced work of Captain Gordon's battery, taken from the 7th, 23rd, 33rd, and 34th Regiments; and this force, properly prepared and organised, was sufficient to hold it against double the number of the enemy who attacked it. As it was, however, the sentries posted only a few yards in front of the work must have been utterly careless, and in all probability were lying down, if not asleep; for the first intimation of the attack to the men and officers lying within the work was given by the shouts of the Russians themselves who had mounted the parapet, and were already committing havoc among the sleepers. The consequence was there was a panic, scarcely any resistance was made, and the covering party hastily fell back upon the battery. Some of the men even crowded in at the embrasures, and thus prevented the guns being used against the Russians who had gained possession of the advanced work. Others crowding within the battery impeded the action of the troops stationed there for a time; but when order was restored, and an advance was made to regain from the enemy the work they were supposed to be still holding, it was found that they had already abandoned it. They were not in sufficient force to retain it, extending as it does for a long distance across the hill towards the middle of Orchakov ravine; but they had had time to carry off considerable booty in arms, blankets, and accoutrements. Five men were killed, and had all been stripped, even to their boots. One body was found with eight bayonet wounds; another was mangled, and thrown into the well. Fifteen were wounded; some so badly that they were left for dead in the work by the Russians. These had been most humanely treated, having been repeatedly wounded after they had fallen, and in three or four instances had also been kicked and beaten over the head with the butt of the musket, to ensure destruction of life. About twenty-seven were missing—no doubt having received wounds which did not disable them from marching, and being carried away as prisoners. Among the latter was Lieut. J. Byron, of the 34th Regiment. This officer was seen to fall by a sergeant, who states that he was wounded, but apparently not severely, and has not since been forthcoming. There can be little doubt but that he was taken away as a prisoner.

FRENCH PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

Whatever may be doing at Vienna, the French Emperor shows no abstemiousness of zeal in forwarding troops and munitions of war to the Crimea. Letters from Toulon state that orders have been received to hasten as much as possible the completion of the gun-boats which are building there, and which are said to be intended for the Sea of Azoff The Government is said to have placed at the disposal of the naval engineer charged with the direction of the works an unlimited supply of men and *matériel*, and it is expected that these boats will be ready by the month of April. As regards war *matériel* a letter from Metz says:—"During the last month we have sent by railway for Marseilles and Toulon, for the army in the East, upwards of a million of Congreve rockets, large bombs, and howitzer-shells, and 150,000 kilogrammes of gunpowder."

On Tuesday last the Empeor, attended by the Minister of War, and Generals Regnault de St. Jean d'Angély, Rolin, de Cotte, and Mellinet, reviewed, in the court of honour before the Tuileries, the detachments of the Imperial Guard destined to join the army of the East in the Crimea, and whose departure was to take place on the 10th or 11th inst. These troops, under the command of General Ulrich, were composed of one company of Sappers of the Engineers, of detachments from the 1st and 2nd Regiments of Grenadiers, of detachments from the 1st and 2nd Regiment of Voltigeurs, of a half-battalion of the Foot Chasseurs, and of the batteries of horse artillery. The infantry was arrayed in three lines, with the artillery behind it.

His Majesty after passing down the front of the troops, stationed himself near the Clock Pavilion, where the battalions were formed in square. The Emperor advanced to the centre, and pronounced the following address in a firm and fervent tone of voice, amid repeated cries of "Vive l'Empereur!"

Soldiers,—The French people, in the sovereignty of their will, have set up again many things deemed for ever dead, and now the Empire is reconstituted. Intimate alliances exist with our former enemies. The flag of France waves with honour on distant shores which until now the bold flight of our eagles has never reached. The Imperial Guard, the heroic representative of military glory and honour, is here before me, surrounding the Emperor as of yore, wearing the same uniform, carrying the same flag, and, above all, cherishing in its heart the same feelings of devotion to its country. Receive, then, these flags, which will lead you on to victory, as they led your fathers, as they have just led your comrades. Go and share what dangers yet remain to be surmounted, what glory to be gathered. Soon you will have received the noble baptism to which you aspire, and *you will have helped to plant our eagles on the walls of Sebastopol.*

After this harangue the Emperor alighted from his horse, and with his own hand gave the flags to the two Colonels commanding the Grenadiers and the Voltigeurs. Her Majesty the Empress, present in the balcony, then descended into the square, and walked round it, leaning on the arm of the Emperor. Their Majesties stopped several times to speak to the soldiers. Seeing the emotion of the Empress, these warriors redoubled their enthusiastic cries. The Emperor, after conducting the Empress back, remounted his horse, and the ranks began to defile past him. A considerable crowd pressed against the iron railing of the Carrousel, and mingled their acclamations with those of the soldiers.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE.

Instead of refusing to accept the Four Points as interpreted by the Three Powers, the Czar has hastened to announce to Prince Gortschakoff, by electric telegraph, that he is perfectly willing to agree to the terms proposed. On Sunday last a conference was held at Vienna, at which the Russian Ambassador stated that he was authorised to enter upon negotiations with a view to the re-establishment of the peace of Europe. On Monday the Conference again met, and, the declaration of Prince Gortschakoff having been considered satisfactory, it was agreed that the negotiations for peace should commence as soon as full powers have been conferred on Lord Westmoreland and Baron de Bourqueney. The readiness of the Czar to give in is said to be owing to the bad news he has received from the Crimea. If that be true, his submission to terms may be sincere. The *Kreuz Zeitung*, the organ of the Berlin Russian party, which will naturally feel angry at the turn affairs seem to be taking, professes not to believe the report

There has not appeared as yet any authentic account of the identic interpretation of the four guarantees. These guarantees were laid down in the identic notes of the 8th of August. It was then declared by each Power separately, but in the same terms, that the relations of the Sublime Porte with the Imperial Court of Russia could not be re-established on solid and durable basis

1. If the protectorate hitherto exercised by the Imperial Court of Russia over the Principalities of Wallachia, Moldavia, and Servia, be not discontinued for the future; and if the privileges accorded by the Sublime Porte to those provinces, dependencies of their empire, be not placed under the collective guarantee of the Powers, in virtue of an arrangement to be concluded with the Sublime Porte, and the stipulations of which should at the same time regulate all questions of detail.

2. If the navigation of the Danube at its mouths be not freed from all obstacle, and adapted to the application of the principles established by the acts of the Congress of Vienna

3. If the treaty of July 13, 1841, be not revised in concert by all the high contracting parties in the interest of the balance of power in Europe. ("Si le traité du 13 Juillet, 1841, n'est pas revisé de concert par toutes les hautes parties contractantes dans un intérêt d'equilibre Européen.")

4. If Russia does not give up her claim to exercise an official protectorate over the subjects of the Sublime Porte, to whatever rite they may belong; and if Austria, Great Britain, France, Prussia, and Russia do not lend their mutual assistance (ainsi que se substituant) from the Ottoman Government, the continuation and the observance of the religious privileges of the different Christian communities, and to turn to account, in the common interest of their co-religionists, the generous intentions manifested by his Majesty the Sultan, at the same time avoiding any aggression on his dignity and the independence of his Crown ("sans qu'il en resulte aucune atteinte pour sa dignité et l'indépendance de sa couronne")

Lord Clarendon, in his despatch of July 22, explained the meaning attached by the English Government to the guarantees. He said—

These guarantees are naturally suggested by the dangers to guard against which they are required

Thus Russia has taken advantage of the exclusive right which she had acquired by treaty to watch over the relations of Wallachia and Moldavia with the suzerain Power, to enter those provinces as if they were part of her own territory

Again, the privileged frontier of Russia in the Black Sea has enabled her to establish in those waters a naval power which, in the absence of any counterbalancing force, is a standing menace to the Ottoman Empire

The uncontrolled possession by Russia of the principal mouth of the Danube has created obstacles to the navigation of that great river which seriously affect the general commerce of Europe

Finally, the stipulations of the treaty of Kukschuk-Kainardji, relative to the protection of the Christians, have become, by a wrongful interpretation, the principal cause of the present struggle

Upon all these points the *status quo ante bellum* must undergo important modifications

The interpretation placed upon the guarantees by the French Cabinet is expressed in similar terms by M. Drouyn de Lhuys, in his despatch of the same date. In reciting the third guarantee, he adds, "and in the sense of its limitations" mentioned in the Black Sea."

In addition to these identic interpretations by the Ministers of England and France, we have the opinion of the guarantees given by the Russian Minister in his despatch to Prince Gortschakoff of August 14 (26). After first declining to examine the four guarantees, on the ground that even their acceptance would not put a stop to hostilities, he characterises them as "conditions which, if they were to remain as they have been actually submitted to us, suppose Russia to be *already enfeebled by the exhaustion of a long war*; and which, if the force of temporary circumstances forced us ever to submit to them, so far from assuring to Europe a solid and especially a durable peace, such as the Austrian Government appears to expect, would only expose that peace to complications without end." Count Nesselrode adds:—"In acceding as he has done to the principles laid down in the protocol, the Emperor certainly had not any intention of attributing to them the signification which has been here claimed." This, however, it will be remembered, was the decision of Russia before the expedition to the Crimea.

We know now that Austria agrees with the Western Powers in their interpretation of the four guarantees, and the above extracts enable us to conjecture the character of that interpretation—now accepted by the Emperor of Russia. It must be borne in mind, however, that the four guarantees, as interpreted, are put forward as the minimum of the Allied demands, and that all the questions arising out of the eventualities of the war are expressly reserved.

THE BALTIC TRADE.

Letters from Riga state that, from the extreme mildness of the season, the ports in the Gulf of Finland remain open, and the arrivals and departures are exceedingly numerous. Though two Imperial edicts had successively prohibiten the exportation of corn from that part of the empire, the Russian authorities, looking to the benefit of the commercial and agricultural interests, which had suffered so grievously from the war, opposed no obstacle at present to this traffic. Neutral vessels were freely loading grain, principally rye and wheat. Danish and Swedish vessels were preferred, as greater confidence was felt in the continued neutrality of those two flags. A good deal was also doing on Dutch account, and not less than ten vessels under that flag had very lately left for the ports of Holland.

AMERICA.

The steam-ship *Pacific*, which left New York on the 28th ult., did not arrive at Liverpool till Wednesday, having been detained by fog

In New York a memorial to Congress had been numerously signed, calling upon the Government to tender the mediation of the United States in the pending war in the East. We also learn from Washington that the Committee of Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives had concluded to report a resolution in support of the proposition.

In the House a resolution had been brought in the principal item being to unite with Great Britain in building a first-class lighthouse on Cape Race. After some debate the resolution passed.

There was a very strong probability of a resolution being adopted by Congress to send a vessel to Smith's Sound, in the spring, in search of Dr. Kane and the crew of his brig, the *Advance*.

The Washington correspondent of one of the best-informed New York papers states that the rumour that the British and French Ministers had entered a protest against the annexation of the Sandwich Islands to the United States is without foundation at present.

CATCHING A TARTAR.—Two Turkish Mulazim (Lieutenants) have been just brought into the Camp in a most dreadful state. They had been on with their detachment on patrolling duty, and fell in with a horseman in a rich Tartar dress, whom they took with them to show them the road. He rode between the Mulazim, pretending to be a nobleman, and professing the greatest kindness towards the Russians. He, however, led them into an ambush, and galloped off in the confusion that ensued. The detachment of Turks was cut off nearly to a man. The Russians were, however, disturbed in their work by the appearance of a band of Tartars, and made off as fast as their little Cossack horses could carry them. The two Turkish officers are, however, seriously hurt: one of them received no less than seven wounds from the lance in his body and legs; the other lost his right hand, broke his leg in falling, and, whilst lying on the ground, received a pistol-shot in his face, which carried away his lower jaw.—*Letter from the Camp, Dec. 30.*

At the last sitting of the French Academy of Sciences, M. Halpen exhibited the large diamond called the Star of the South, which was found in Brazil, and of which he is the owner. It weighs 244 carats, but it is estimated that it will lose half its weight when cut. M. Halpen values this diamond at five millions of francs. When cut it will be placed in the Great Exhibition of the Palace of Industry.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

A letter from Paris says that the Emperor intends to visit the South next summer

A medical board was held on his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge on the 27th, at Scutari, and he has been advised to return home: his complaint is stated to be intermittent fever.

Prince Napoleon was preparing to leave Constantinople to return to the Crimea by the last accounts; but the Emperor, having been informed by the medical men that the state of health of the Prince would not allow of his continuing the campaign, has given him orders to return to France.

The Princess of Prussia is suffering at Coblentz from a slight attack of erysipelas, but it is hoped that she will completely recover in a few days

The Earl of Cardigan has arrived in Paris, from Marseilles, *en route* from the seat of war in the Crimea. His Lordship is daily expected to arrive in town.

The Duchess of Brabant returned to Vienna on Friday, from a visit to her sister, the Princess Elizabeth, at Pesth.

The health of King Louis of Bavaria is not yet re-established, but it appears that it has sensibly improved. The symptoms of his malady have diminished, and his strength is gradually returning

Lord Elgin was one of the passengers by the *Pacific*, which arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday

Madame de Fonton, the wife of the Russian Councillor of Legation at Vienna, left St. Petersburg for Vienna on the 21st December. The Viennese gossips are inclined to believe that she has been employed *a la Russe* on a diplomatic mission

Musa Pacha (Sir S. Lakeman) has quitted Bucharest, having received an order to repair to Varna in the quality of Quartermaster-General, and there to superintend the embarkation of the Ottoman troops for the Crimea

It is said that the Duke de Montebello—who was a member of M. Guizot's Administration at the period of the Revolution of February, 1848—has given in his adhesion to the Imperial Government, and is to be created a Senator, and sent as Ambassador to Spain

The Hon. Charles A. Murray, C.B., our newly-appointed Minister to the Shah of Persia, has arrived at Teheran from England, via the Overland route

Letters from Tripoli give hopes that the report of Dr. Barth's death may be unfounded

The Grand Duke of Tuscany has decreed the cessation of the state of siege at Leghorn from the 2nd inst

Cardinal Wiseman has been appointed by the Pope a member of the Sacred Congregation of the Index

A tribute has been paid to art in appointing Professor Kiss (the sculptor of the "Amazon") President of the Society for the Advance of Art.

Mr. Cobden intends paying Leeds a visit before Parliament reassembles, to give renewed expressions in public to his views of the present war.

Count Buol gave a grand dinner at Vienna on the 31st of Dec. All the diplomatic corps were present, with the exception of the members of the Russian Legation.

The Duke of Sevillano, the Spanish Minister of Finance, has advanced several millions from his private fortune to meet the wants of the state.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Saxe-Coburg left Southampton on Tuesday, for Lisbon, in the *Great Western* steamer

The saloons of Paris occupy themselves with conjectures as to the scene at the Tuileries when M Guizot, as Director of the Academy, shall have to present M. de Berryer, the newly elected member, to the Emperor; and, further, ask the Emperor's approval of the election of the Duc de Broglie and M. Falloux

General Viscount Combermere has had recently manufactured a portable steam-engine for farming purposes. He intends it to be used mainly in the cutting of timber

The Berlin carnival is expected to be unusually brilliant, and the *fêtes* at Court more than ordinarily splendid.

The *Belfast Mercury* makes the strange announcement that the corporation of Belfast is bankrupt—that it has, in fact, failed, with a debt of £280,000.

The Academy of the Beaux-Arts, on Saturday, appointed M. A. Thomas as President, and M. H. Lemaire as Vice-President.

Mr. Archibald Prentice, formerly editor and proprietor of the *Manchester Times*, has received a substantial testimonial of the respect of his friends for his public services during a period of thirty years, consisting of an investment of £1600, the produce of a subscription amongst them, in a life annuity of £150 for the lives of himself and Mrs. Prentice

The theatres at Verona and Brescia have been closed on account of disturbances having taken place during the performances.

A few days ago, during a pantomimic performance at the Theatre Royal Glasgow, one of the performers had two of his fingers blown off, from the incautious use of a pistol.

It is rumoured that 8000 of the French Imperial Guard are to leave for Strasburg, and the movement is considered in the light of a demonstration against Prussia.

A vote of £2000 had been introduced into the Nova Scotia House of Assembly towards the relief of the orphans and widows of the soldiers who may fall in the present war.

The Government of Honduras has agreed to sell Tiger Island to the United States for 20,000 dollars

The number of men who, up to the present moment, have sailed from France and Algeria for the seat of war in the East amounts to 118,000.

The Committee on the Spanish Budget have resolved to propose a reduction of 500,000 reals in the allowance of the Duchess de Montpensier.

The colonists of Sydney, New South Wales, are forming themselves into a volunteer corps, to be ready to repel any attack that may be made by the Russians.

Recruiting for the Papal service is very actively carried on in the cantons of the ex-Sonderbund, and particularly in Lucerne and Friburg

The want of rain is much felt all over England. A large number of corn and paper mills in the south have been stopped for some time on account of the drought.

The navigation between Rouen and Paris, which had been interrupted in consequence of the rising of the Seine, is again open, the river having fallen more than seventy centimetres during the last four days.

On the evening of the 23rd of December, from some unexplained cause, the gaslights went suddenly out in Stockholm, not only in the streets, but also in the shops and houses.

Such was the force of the gale on the night of Sunday week that every signal-lamp on the line of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway was blown out.

Among the passengers by the West India mail-steamer *Arrato*, which arrived at Southampton last week, were twelve French Republican proscripts, returned from their exile in Cayenne.

The copyright convention signed by the Governments of France and Spain came into operation on the 1st of January, 1855

Some missionaries of the Mormons are labouring most sedulously amongst the ignorant populations of several districts in Gloucestershire, particularly urging the doctrine of polygamy.

The Imperial Commissioner of the Great Industrial Exhibition of 1855 has addressed a communication to French and foreign artists, inviting them to exhibit their works of art. Several facilities are offered by the French Government.

So great is the mildness of the season in Paris that roses and other flowers may be seen in abundance in the public gardens.

During the last year 210,742 persons left Liverpool as emigrants, being at the rate of more than 4050 each week.

The Legislative Body of Bremen have adopted a bill which prevents any Jew from residing there without having obtained permission from the Senate; thus legalising what has hitherto been the custom

A lunar rainbow was recently observed during the night in front of Coniston Old Man.

New South Wales is going ahead at a great rate in the cost of her Government—In 1854 it doubled, and the estimates for 1855 are £766,456—the population being only 231,800

The new Police in Paris is reported to work exceedingly well. About 3500 men are already on duty.

More than 19,000 persons are under restraint as lunatics in England and Wales

The "Orphan of Lowood" ("Jane Eyre" dramatised) has become a stock play on the German stage

The first locomotive engine ever constructed in Italy left the factory at Sampierdarena (Genoa) on the 30th ult. Its trial trips to Pontedecimo proved satisfactory.

The office of Grand Almoner of France, which was suppressed in 1830, is likely to be revived in the person of Cardinal Dupont, Archbishop of Bourges. Sixty thousand francs a year, and a palace to live in, are spoken of as the emoluments of this office.

The vault at Weimar which is the burying-place of the Princes of the Grand Ducal family, and in which the bodies of Schiller and Goethe are also deposited, has been broken into by thieves, who opened three of the coffins, and carried away all the ornaments in gold, as well as the jewels and gold opalettes

NAVVIES FOR THE CRIMEA.

THE BALACLAVA RAILWAY CORPS

The departure of the second detachment of the men engaged by Messrs. Peto and Betts to construct the railway from Balaclava to the trenches before the heights round Sebastopol, which we briefly noticed last week, was witnessed by a large party of noblemen and gentlemen. The "navvies," who are nearly all young men in the prime of vigorous manhood, presented all those evidences of stalwart strength and endurance for which their class is proverbial.

Every navvy, besides his pay and rations, has given to him gratuitously complete suits of clothing adapted for every variety of weather and work in which he may be engaged. They consist of a striped cotton shirt, over which a large red flannel shirt of stout quality. The trousers are of moleskin, lined throughout with flannel; strong worsted stockings, with laced boots, technically known as "ankle-jacks." The waistcoat is also of moleskin; and the coat a sort of "pea-jacket," which is also padded and lined with flannel. Some of the gangs were supplied with large roomy white flannel shirts or smocks. When working in boggy soil or in water, high boots are to be worn, as shown in our Illustration. We also give the costume to be adopted in wet weather, consisting of a complete suit of waterproof, with a "south-wester," instead of the woollen cap to be ordinarily worn. It is needless to add that the whole of the clothes are of excellent quality, and well adapted for the wear and tear they will have to undergo. The men themselves, who may be said to be the best judges, were highly pleased, and expressed themselves well contented with their "rig."

A large crowd assembled on the Brunswick Pier to witness their departure. Shortly after two o'clock the men were mustered on the fore-deck in their new clothing, to hear addresses from Capt. W. S. Andrews, managing director of the North of Europe Steam Navigation Company, and Lord Henry Clinton, who, with a party of gentlemen connected with the undertaking, were on the platform [illegible]

Capt. Andrews addressed the navvies in brief but homely and energetic terms which elicited hearty plaudits from his hearers. He told them that though the accommodation to be found on board ship necessarily differed considerably from what they had been accustomed to, yet nothing had been neglected that could contribute during the voyage to their comfort and the preservation of that health and strength on which so much reliance was placed, not only by their employers, but by the whole country. Everything that could be done had been done as far as human foresight could effect it for them; and if they would only be united and cordial among themselves—exhibiting good temper, cheerfulness, docility, and confidence and respect towards those placed over them on board—they would be as happy as the circumstances of the case would permit in a lengthened voyage at this period of the year. For his own part, he could unhesitatingly say, that he never knew an emigrant vessel—and he had known many—that had furnished quarters in any respect preferable to those on board the *Hesperus*. He then explained the more immediate objects of the expedition, and dwelt upon its importance as an auxiliary to the operations of our gallant countrymen in the Crimea. They were going to the aid of our heroic defenders, who had not only to fight—and how they fought the whole world would for ever admiringly testify—but had also to work and perform many duties for which it could not be expected that soldiers were so well adapted as the skilled and trained men who were now going out to relieve them, and leave them at full liberty to deal with the enemy as they had done in the dashing rush at Alma and the immortal conflict at Inkerman. The future success of the siege operations, and of other operations, too, in the Crimea, would depend in a great measure on the present expedition; and it might be said, accordingly, with far more truth of Peto's navvies than of more aspiring experimentalists, that "the eyes of Europe were upon them." They must expect, and would not be cast down by, hardships and privations; some of these, perhaps, would not appear so very terrible in the Crimea as at home. There would be no public-house to go to; but there would be plenty of good substantial refreshments always available when needed, and while that was the case he had no fear that there would be much grumbling at whatever work might be expected at their hands. They were not like Russian serfs, who dare not call their souls their own, but who must slay and be slain without asking why or wherefore. They were free Englishmen, volunteers at perfect liberty to go or stay just as they pleased, according to their own unbiassed judgment, without the least undue influence, concealment, artifice, or exaggeration used to warp their opinion one way or the other. All that was said or done was to guarantee them good clothing, good food, good pay, a good ship, and a good Captain. They had a good cause—the cause of the country, the cause of justice, and fair play. They would bring good hearts to the cause—English hearts that never recoiled from the obligations of duty, come in what shape they might, whether at the point of the pick or the bayonet; and he doubted not that the British navvy would prove himself as great a benefactor in repelling the evils of barbarism abroad as he had been in extending the blessings of civilisation at home. At the invitation of Captain Andrews, who was loudly applauded, three cheers were given for the Queen, and three for Messrs. Peto and Betts.

Lord Henry Clinton then addressed them, and said that it had been the intention of his brother, the Duke of Newcastle, to have been present, as his Grace would have been proud to make the acquaintance of the men who were going with so much alacrity to the aid of an object he had so much at heart as the Balaclava and Sebastopol Railway, but was unable to attend, owing to a Cabinet Council being held that day, and at that hour. His Lordship also dwelt on the importance of the undertaking, and enforced Captain Andrews's admonition as to the desirability of maintaining sobriety, union, and good humour in the face of every annoyance to which they might unavoidably be exposed; for then he was sure that the energy for which they were so deservedly famous would carry them triumphant over every impediment. The disinterested, self-sacrificing promptitude with which Mr. Peto had acted upon the suggestion which led to the present magnificent enterprise was beyond all praise, even the praise it had everywhere been met with. As it was raining, and time pressed, he would not detain them with a long speech, but would conclude by earnestly wishing them a safe and pleasant voyage, and a speedy return to their families and to their country, which they might be sure would welcome them as they deserved.

Three cheers were given for his Lordship, and three for the Duke of Newcastle, by whom, on the part of the Government, this undertaking has been entered upon. Captain Raymond, the Marine Superintendent of the intended works, and Mr. Kellock, Superintendent in the Crimea, each spoke a few words of encouragement, which were received with great cordiality; the cheering being renewed as the visitors and officials put off for shore in a waterman's boat. The *Hesperus* then steamed down the river.

By way of summary, it may be stated, that, from the original conception of the plan to the completion of the final details thus far, everything connected with the expedition has been conducted not only with the greatest celerity, quite unprecedented in an undertaking of this magnitude, but with uninterrupted success. The great secret of this has been a judicious division of labour, and the entrusting of each department to a competent official; the whole being supervised by the experienced eye, and stimulated by the energetic example, of Captain Andrews—whose varied knowledge of administrative requirements in controlling large bodies of men proved of the utmost value in an enterprise of such very miscellaneous characteristics as the present. All the vessels of the "navvy" fleet have now sailed, with the exception of the *Leonie*, which sails this day. One of the firm of Peto and Co. has had an interview during the present week with Sir De Lacy Evans, by whom the plans of operation in connection with the Railroad have been thoroughly approved of; but the nature of these plans is, for obvious reasons, not to be made public. Enough to say, however, that there is substantial ground for calculating with confidence that the expectations formed of the efficacy of the navvy corps will be completely realised in the Crimea; and that, if even peace should supervene, and there be no absolute necessity for employing them in actual belligerent purposes against Sebastopol, enough will remain to be done to demonstrate the sagacity of intrusting its execution to such hands, and to render it certain that the precedent now adopted will be followed on all occasions of a like nature for the future, if such occasions should unfortunately arise. We may, perhaps, take this opportunity of saying that the suggestion offered in a leading journal

THE ADDRESS TO THE NAVVIES ON BOARD "THE HESPERUS."

NAVVIES RECEIVING AND CARRYING THEIR KITS ON BOARD.

CLOTHING FOR THE NAVVIES.

"THE PRINCE OF WALES" STEAM-SHIP LEAVING BLACKWALL WITH NAVVIES FOR THE CRIMEA.

by Sir F. B. Head, as to the preferability of plank-roads, on the Canadian plan, over the proposed railway, would be quite inapplicable to the circumstances of the case in the Crimea. The delay in obtaining huts for the men all this winter is conclusive as to the impracticability of procuring wood of a kind suitable to roads—to say nothing of the difficulty of having it sawn and dressed in a proper manner, and in the enormous quantity that would be needed for the distance from Balaclava to the heights around Sebastopol; while a scarcely less serious objection arises from the wide-spread injury to the road itself, and to all in the neighbourhood, from the splinters that would be caused by the Russian shot and shell falling upon so exposed and fragile a surface. The engineers entrusted with the construction of the Balaclava Railway are perfectly conversant with the merits of all modes of traction in all parts of the world, and not less so in Canada than elsewhere; and we may be quite sure they will adopt that which is best suited to the present undertaking, in every respect.

Previous to the departure of the ships from Blackwall, all the men were assembled in the premises occupied as storehouses by the Crimean Expedition, and, under the able superintendence of Captain Raymond, the Commodore of the fleet of those transports, each man was furnished with his kit. The beds were first carried on board, and then the individual parties returned for the remainder of their outfits, the last article delivered to them being a stout leather strap capable of embracing all the articles delivered to them. On getting on board, most of the men immediately equipped themselves in their new outer clothing, and in it exhibited themselves to the people on shore. One navigator distinguished himself by ascending to the foretop of the *Hesperus*, in full costume, and cheering his friends from his elevated position, to the great amusement of the assembled crowd.

The *Prince of Wales*, with fifty more men on board, left Blackwall on Friday afternoon, the 5th instant, and proceeded to sea on Sunday last.

THE VINE DISEASE.—A commission established at Bordeaux, to make investigations respecting the malady in vines, and the means proposed for its cure, has published a series of resolutions, in which it declares that the various remedies that have been recommended have produced no satisfactory results. It declares also that the malady was less intense last year than previously, that the vines are at present in an infinitely better condition than at the same period in 1852 and 1853, that the malady appears to have entered on its period of decline, and that it would be a great error to pull up the vines, which form the principal wealth of the Gironde.

NEW CHURCH AT CHELTENHAM.

NEW CHURCH OF ST. LUKE, CHELTENHAM.

THIS Church (which was consecrated on the 9th ult.) owes its origin and accomplishment to the Rev. Francis Close—assisted by grants from various societies, and by the Lord Bishop of the diocese personally, amounting altogether to about £800; the remainder of the funds being obtained by public subscription.

Some sixty years since Cheltenham had but one church; but the rapid growth of the population has rendered the present additional Church accommodation absolutely necessary for their requirements; and there are now in the parish, including St. Luke's, nine churches, accommodating 11,000 or 12,000 persons. This latter edifice provides for 1040 persons, 576 sittings being free for ever. The proceeds from the appropriated seats are devoted to the repairs of the Church and the maintenance of the minister. On the completion of the purchase of the site, the committee sought by public competition for plans adapted to their views. The designs of Mr. Frederick W. Ordish, of the Adelphi, London, were approved of, and the Church has been built in conformity therewith. It is an elegant ecclesiastical structure. Its style is the Geometric Decorated, and is in its embellishment and character both simple and inexpensive. The detail is treated in accordance with that prevailing throughout the churches of Lincolnshire.

The interior dimensions are about 131 feet long, and about 54 feet wide. The plan is composed of nave, aisles, north and south transepts chancel, and chancel aisles. The Church is well arranged for sound, and is lighted with gas. The warming is by hot water, at a low pressure, and the temperature can be raised to 60° of heat.

The spire would have appeared more graceful had it been carried up 30 feet or 40 feet higher, as planned by the architect; but its accomplishment involved a greater outlay than the committee were justified in incurring. The edifice is built and covered in with native stone; and the contract has been executed by Mr Ranger, of Cheltenham, in a workmanlike manner; Mr. H. J. Ingram being the clerk of the works.

A RUMOUR is prevalent in Paris of a project for making the Archduke Louis, brother of the Emperor Francis Joseph, King of Poland. The Archduke Louis is at present at Lemberg, in Galicia. This project has been so seriously spoken of that amongst the higher Poles in Paris it is rumoured that Count Zamoiski, nephew of Prince Czartoryski, intends proceeding from Bucharest, where he is at present, to Lemberg, to assure the Grand Duke of his complete devotedness.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Jan. 14.—3rd Sunday after Epiphany
Monday, 15.—Oxford Term begins. Queen Elizabeth crowned, 1559.
Tuesday, 16.—Battle of Corunna, 1809. Gibbon died, 1794.
Wednesday, 17.—Dr. Franklin born, 1706.
Thursday, 18.—Old Twelfth day. St. Prisca.
Friday, 19.—Earl of Surrey beheaded, 1547.
Saturday, 20.—St. Fabian. American Independence acknowledged, 1783.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,

FOR THE WEEK ENDING JAN. 20.

Sunday	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday
M h m 9 46	A h m 10 25	M h m 11 2	A h m 11 38	M No Tide	A h m 0 9	M h m 0 46	A h m 1 9	M h m 1 38	A h m 2 3	M h m 2 29	A h m 2 53	M h m 3 21	A h m 3 47

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

One who Shakes in taking tea "Illustrated London News."—The information you require, even in the most abridged form, would far exceed the space devoted to such subjects in this paper. Every particular may be gathered by consulting "Colonel Burne Dictionary," "The British Gunner," and "The Artillerists' Manual," published by Messrs. Parker and Furnivall, Military Library, 30, Charing-cross.

H Leo.—It is impossible to give any information without having seen the 200 coins. Send them to Mr. Webster, 17, Great Russell-street, Covent-garden.

William Wray.—The crown and half-crown of Charles II are of no value. The first is not the famous trial-piece, by Simon

W. T. C., near Guernsey, is thanked; the evidence is not conclusive.

A Constant Reader, Nottingham.—A stamped Newspaper, of any date, can be sent to any part of England, postage free.

An Old Subscriber.—We are not in possession of the names.

E. B. B., Edinburgh.—We cannot avail ourselves of your favour.

G. G., Gloster.—Apply to the Income-tax Commissioners of your district.

An Old Subscriber need not fear; we have no intention of illustrating the subject in question.

A Correspondent, who inquires as to the respective portions of the invention of the Paper Machine, by the Brothers Fourdrinier, is informed, that to Mr. Sealy Fourdrinier was due the merit of discovering the mode of giving a straight edge to the continuous paper, and thus rendering the invention perfect. With respect to the informality in the Law of Patents, in connection with the invention, we may add that, at the trial before Sir Charles Abbott, afterwards Lord Tenterden, it appeared, by the specification of the patent, that Henry and Sealy Fourdrinier claimed to be in possession of "a machine or *machines* capable," &c.; the evidence before the jury was, that they had "*one machine*;" and upon this quibble, not upon any real defects or merits of the Paper Machine, or its capabilities, was the fortune of those two patentees, and of many other persons, sacrificed.

A Constant Reader, Whitfield.—The national song of "Rule Britannia" was written in 1740, by Thomson, in the masque of "Alfred," which was represented before the Prince and Princess of Wales, at Cliefden. Thomson wrote this piece in conjunction with Mallet, to whom Mr. Bolton Corney, "on no slight evidence," ascribes "Rule Britannia."

L. M.—The poet Rogers was born in 1760: his "Pleasures of Memory" was published in 1792

One who Seeks a Colonial Home.—Sidney's "Three Colonies of Australia."

G. J. had better apply to the Secretary of the Geographical Society, 15, Whitehall place.

H F, Herts.—The picture in question, painted in 1716, is by Jan Weenix "the Young," a distinguished Dutch painter, who greatly excelled in hunting and sporting pieces; but, like his father, painted in almost every department. Weenix "the Young" died in 1719.

Declined.—R. R., Penzance; J. D., Hampstead; Vlsv; W. J. B., W. L.

A. B. the lines—

> There is a tide in the affairs of men.
> Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune—

are from Shakspeare's play of "Julius Cæsar," act iv, sc. 3

A Regular Reader is reminded that a Map of the Crimea appeared in the Illustrated London News for September 29.

V., Middlesex.—The best Elementary works on Fortification and Siege Operations are those by Macaulay and Straith.

Ignoramus.—Lady Clementina Davis is sister of the Earl of Perth and Melfort.

Inquirer.—The Beauchamp Tower, at the Tower of London, is now exhibited with the other portions of the fortress. The last edition (1854) of Mr. Hewitt's correct Guide, "The Tower: its History, Armouries, and Antiquities," contains a full account of the restored Inscriptions in the Beauchamp Tower. See also Mr. Davis' careful fac-simile inscriptions.

An Old Subscriber, Manchester, is informed that with the last ten years—the statement cannot be extended to *twenty* without considerable trouble—the population of several towns has increased faster than that of Liverpool. The rate of increase has been in Liverpool 31½; in Glasgow, 35; Belfast, 36; Bradford (Yorkshire), 44; Brighton, 50; and Luton (Bedfordshire), 71 per cent. An Old Subscriber must, however, remember that Liverpool, being a limited space, and being almost full before the beginning of the decennial period, does not increase the people within its limits so much, as it overflows on the country around. Thus in the ten years, Walton-on-the-Hill, near Liverpool, but not included in its boundaries, has increased 120 per cent. He should consult our Census, from which this and a great variety of similar and other information may be gleaned

M. S.——B, Doncaster, will find the addresses of the Foreign Ambassadors and Consuls resident in London, in the "Post-office Directory."

T. E. C. L. Castle, is thanked for sending the photographs, of which we regret we cannot avail ourselves

T. S. L.—We cannot undertake the recommendation; it would occupy much more space than we possibly spare.

C. S., Oswestry.—Received.

W. J. B., W. L., and J. B., Lewes.—Declined.

W., Bayswater.—Apply to the Secretary to the Society.

R. I., Jun.—A Sixpence of Queen Elizabeth of no value

C. B., R.N., is thanked; but we have not space for the sketch.

A. W., Leamington.—We cannot undertake to ascertain the value of the coins in question

C. M., Jamaica, is thanked; but we have not space for his letter.

Kate.—The shortest day happens on the 22nd of December, in the 2nd and 3rd years after leap year. The cause is the accumulation of the excess of the year above 365 days.

M.—"Loans and Taxes" in our next, if possible.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1855.

There have been rumours during the week, both in London and in Paris of the surrender of Sebastopol; but they have not been traced to any reliable source. But it is evident, from the tenor of all the accounts that come to hand from the Crimea, that an attack upon the fortress by the combined armies may be daily expected. The Turks under Omer Pacha are mustering in force at Eupatoria, and will hold the Russians in check in that quarter, even if they do not achieve more important triumphs, worthy to rank with, if they do not surpass, the successes of Citate, Oltenitza, and Silistria. As we stated last week, the number of British and French troops concentrated around Sebastopol amounts to at least 100,000 men; all of whom, despite the lugubrious lamentations of white-livered journalists at home, are animated with the best spirit, and long for nothing so much as for an opportunity of active exertion, either in battle on the open field, or by a dashing assault upon Sebastopol. It is impossible to read the simple, manly, straightforward, sensible, and affectionate letters of the private soldiers of the British army without being convinced that they at least feel no discouragement; and that to them must not be attributed the demerit of habitual and systematic grumbling, such as is found in the letters of their superiors in education, and of subaltern officers, who perhaps fancy that if they were in the position of Lord Raglan they could manage matters better. The French army is animated by equal courage and hopefulness—if it does not share that still more lively feeling of impatience which sometimes breaks from the ranks when General Canrobert rides along the line, and is urged by a respectful cry from some unknown soldier, "To the assault, my General!" Many facts might be cited so prove that, whatever distresses and hardships these brave fellows may have endured, they have not had the effect of demoralising or discouraging them. They are up to the mark. They know that war is no child's play; and fully appreciate their duties and responsibilities, and the magnitude as well as the splendour of the achievement for which they have been landed in the Crimea. Whenever the Generals are ready for the work, their troops will be ready to accomplish it. The French had been, for some days prior to the date of the last letters, prepared to open their fire on the town, and only awaited a similar state of preparation on the part of the British, who have had to transport their guns and heavy ammunition over a distance more than twice as great, and through steep unpaved roads knee-deep in mire. But all difficulties yield to energy and perseverance, when rightly directed; and by the first day of the year it is confidently believed that the English batteries were fully armed, and ready to recommence the bombardment, as soon as such an operation should be decided on. Neither the nation nor the army expects a cheap or an early triumph; but neither the army nor the nation doubts the ultimate victory. There is but one circumstance that can save Sebastopol from the gallant soldiers of France and England; and that is the immediate surrender of the Czar, and his acceptance of the terms of peace to be imposed upon him at Vienna. But such surrender is not likely to be immediate; and in the meantime events will march, and prove to the whole world—even to the Russians themselves—that the Allied Powers are first in Might as they are in Right; and that no Potentate, however arrogant or grasping, can be allowed to break the peace of the world without being called to account in the Present, and restrained in the Future.

The national Revenue to the end of the year is somewhat larger than was expected. It exceeds the calculations of our financiers, who do not in general make low estimates; and is a proof of the increasing resources of our country. In the last quarter of the year the excess over the corresponding quarter of 1853 was £1,440,567; in the whole year, the excess was £2,291,356; and in the nine months of the financial year which began on April 5th, 1854, and ended on January 5th, 1855, the excess was £1,928,316. There are, however, but few of our readers not aware that, in 1853, considerable alterations were made in our system of taxation, including a change in the Property-tax, the addition of the Tax on Successions, and an increase of the Spirit-duties; and that, in 1854, large additions were made to the taxes, including an increase in the rates of duty on property and income, on malt, and on spirits, with a change in the Sugar-duties, which had the effect of increasing slightly the Customs revenue obtained from sugar. It is extremely difficult to estimate the effects of these changes on the produce of the Revenue in the two years, so as to enable us to make a fair comparison betwixt them; but we must remind our readers that only a small portion of the increased Property-tax—that which is paid out of dividends and salaries—has yet been collected. The actual increase of the Revenue in the year, and in the financial year, is therefore only an imperfect index to the increased Revenue which will be yielded by the new taxes before the close of the financial year in April. Amongst all the changes made, however, there are only two which affect the Customs revenue in the last quarters of 1853 and 1854; one is the reduction of the Tea-duty of 4d. in the pound, which took away from that revenue in the quarter of 1854 about £200,000; and the other is the change in the Sugar-duties, which increased it by a very trifling but unknown sum. Had consumption, therefore, not been greater in the last quarter of 1854 than in the last quarter of 1853, the Customs revenue would have been nearly £200,000 worse. In fact it was £284,072 better; which is an index—though not perfectly correct, the plainest and best supplied by the Revenue returns—to the increasing consumption, wealth, and power of the nation.

The Board of Trade tables, just published, for eleven months of the year, supply some evidence of the same progress. In 1852 the total declared value of our exports was £78,076,854; in 1853 it reached the extraordinary sum of £98,933,781 an increase in one year of £20,856,827, or about thirty-seven per cent., giving a rough average increase of £1,738,000 per month. Of this increase, £1,595,000 occurred in November. But the value of the exports in November, 1852, was £844,000 greater than the value of the exports in November, 1851, and was nearly one-fourth of the total increase, £3,600,000, in the value of the exports in the whole of 1852 above the value in 1851. In the month of November, 1852, there was, therefore, a great increase in the exports; and in November, 1853, there was a still greater increase; making the difference, between November, 1851, and November, 1853, above £2,400,000. Now, it happens, in the month of November, 1854, in consequence of the markets of the United States being disordered by a wide-spread bankruptcy amongst banks and merchants there, and in consequence of the markets of Australia having been actually flooded with our exports, a sudden and a severe check has been given to our exports. The declared value has fallen from £7,628,760 in November, 1853, to £5,771,772 in November, 1854—a decline of £1,850,000; which leaves the value, however, more than £500,000 above the value of the exports of November, 1851. It pleased a very influential contemporary, however—who is fast usurping the functions of Government, trying to nominate a prime Minister and clothe her Majesty's regiments after his own fashion, out of funds entrusted to him to relieve the sick—to look, most unstatesmanlike, no further than the first fact of the decline of our exports in November, 1854, which fell under his nose on Thursday, and he immediately set up a howl over the national decay, as if he were, after the fashion of the Irish, "waking" the dead prosperity of the empire. In the same column, however, the *Times* showed by enlarged imports, and by increasing consumption—though from the sinister motive of desiring to prove that the nation would be beggared by having to pay for them—that the prosperity had continued without any serious abatement to the end of November. In fact, the value of the total exports of the eleven months of 1854 exceeds the value of the total exports of the eleven months of 1852, though a little less than the value of the exports of 1853, by no less a sum than £13,793,704. In fact, too, up to the end of the year, the bulk of the population has been fully employed, if not quite so actively as in 1853. Many of them are extremely well employed and well paid; and the inference, from one little check, that the national prosperity is coming to an end, is totally unwarranted. The trade-tables of November, 1854, certainly show, in general, diminished imports and diminished exports in the month, as compared with November, 1853; but then trade was unnaturally excited and overdone, and is now returning from a fever to a condition of health.

The value of the enumerated exports in the eleven months of 1854 is no less than £79,073,838, and only £1,710,677 less than the extremely large exports of 1853. There are, besides, a number of small articles exported called unenumerated, the value of which, in the eleven months of 1854, amounted to £10,673,997; making the total of the eleven months £89,747,835. With the previous year we cannot compare these figures, because unenumerated articles are included for the first time in the monthly returns of 1854; but they are included in the totals of all preceding years. Comparing them, we find that the value of the exports of eleven months, in 1854, exceeds by almost £12,000,000 the highest total export of any previous whole year except 1853. It is only necessary, therefore, to look a little below the surface, to find in the Board of Trade tables, as in the Revenue tables, the most striking proofs of growing prosperity, which leave a public writer no excuse for endeavouring to propagate despair and discord through the hearts of the people.

Our trade in 1854 has, however, been exposed to many adverse circumstances. In the first months there was an apprehension of war, which led to some premature speculations; there was then war itself, with partial and uncertain blockades cutting off portions of our accustomed supplies; doubtful prospects; a sudden and exorbitant rise in the price of various articles, such as hemp, flax, and tallow, not afterwards realised, to the loss of hasty speculators; and all the fluctuations and disasters attending a war, of which this generation previously knew nothing. War was conjoined with a bad harvest in 1853, and an extremely high price of bread in the first months of 1854, followed by such a comparatively low price between June and September, that the importation of corn almost ceased; and, in spite of our own excellent harvest, was followed by very high prices, continued to the present time. We have had both high and fluctuating prices of food in the year, which has tended to curtail and render uncertain many enterprises. With war and dear food, we have also had a commercial convulsion in the United States, more severe than trade has experienced since 1847, which in the latter months of the year has put an end to at least one-third of our trade with the States. Without being at war, that country, our largest customer, has been very seriously afflicted; and her affliction—her deranged credit, her numerous bankruptcies—has seriously affected us. To all these causes we have to add the checked trade to Australia, which swelled the returns of 1853 to diminish those of 1854. In spite of all these adverse circumstances, favoured by an abundant harvest, which has given life to the home trade, and wealth to the agriculturists, the country has gone forward, though not quite so fast as in 1853, in her career of prosperity. Our united, patriotic, and contented people feel none of that howling despondency which the *Times* tries to beget; but are grateful, as they may well be, for rich rewards showered on their well-directed and energetic exertions, and for the conspicuous part they have been chosen to perform in the history of civilisation.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Prince Albert have paid a flying visit to their marine residence at Osborne during the past week. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness left Windsor Castle on Friday morning and arrived at Osborne in the afternoon. On Tuesday the Queen and Prince, with the Princess Royal and Princess Alice, attended by the Viscountess Canning, Major-General the Hon. Charles Grey, Colonel F. H. Seymour, and the Master of the Household, left Osborne at two o'clock, and proceeded to Windsor Castle, where the Royal party arrived at a quarter past five

Lieut.-General Sir De Lacy Evans has had the honour of being invited to Windsor Castle, but has been prevented by indisposition from obeying her Majesty's commands.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent left Frogmore House on Saturday morning, and came to town, for the purpose of paying a visit to her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, who is passing the winter at her town residence, Gloucester House, Park-lane. The Duchess returned to Windsor about four o'clock in the afternoon.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Brabant left Vienna on the 3rd for Pesth, whence they were to return on Saturday. Their Royal Highnesses were to take their departure from Vienna on the 8th inst.

His Royal Highness the Duke Augustus of Saxe-Coburg left Southampton on Tuesday, for Lisbon, in the *Great Western* steamer

The Earl of Glengall, who has been seriously indisposed, at Lord Chesterfield's seat, Bretby Park, was stated, in answer to inquiries, to be better. His Lordship is suffering from a paralytic attack.

His Excellency Lord Cowley left town on Wednesday evening, on his return to the British Embassy in Paris

The marriage of Lord Massy with Isabella, eldest daughter of the late George More Nisbett, Esq., of Cairnhill, county of Lanark, took place in Edinburgh on the 3rd inst.

Lord and Lady John Russell left town on Monday for Paris, in consequence of the illness of Lady John Russell's sister in that capital.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

Preferments and Appointments.—*Rectories:* The Rev. W. Stockdale, to Wilshford, near Nottingham; the Rev. G. N. Barrow to West Hampton, near Colchester. *Vicarages:* The Rev. Henry Meares to Levendeign; the Rev. Herbert James to Goodnestone, Kent; the Rev. G. Lobb to Caldecote, Lincolnshire. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. A. Swinburn to the Mariners' Church, Hull; the Rev. R. Rolleston to Scathwaite, in the parish of Kirkby Ireleth, Lancashire; the Rev R. H. Poole to St. Thomas's Church, Leeds. The Rev. F. Tearle, Assistant Tutor of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, to be Diocesan Inspector for the diocese of Ely.

On Saturday last, being Old Christmas-day, the ancient ceremony was performed in the Chapel Royal, St. James's Palace, in commemoration of the offering of the three Kings, a remnant of Christian symbolism.

Ages of British Statesmen.—The following gossiping statistics on the ages of British statesmen is going the round of the papers:—Lord Lyndhurst, 85; Lord Brougham, 76; Marquis of Lansdowne, 75; Earl of Aberdeen, 71; Lord Hardinge, 70; Lord Palmerston, 70; Lord Raglan, 67; Lord John Russell, 62; Earl of Derby, 55; Earl of Harrowby, 67; Earl of Clarendon, 55; Earl of Malmesbury, 48; Earl Grey, 52; Earl Granville, 40; Earl of Carlisle, 53; Duke of Newcastle, 44; Duke of Argyll, 32; Lord Stanley, 29; Lord Cranworth (Lord Chancellor), 64; the Right Hon. Sir James Graham, 63; the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, 45; the Right Hon R. Labouchere, 57; the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, 44; the Right Hon. B. Disraeli, 49; the Right Hon. T. B. Macaulay, 55; the Right Hon. Sir W. Molesworth, 45; the Right Hon. S. Herbert, 44; the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, 56; the Right Hon. Sir C. Wood, 54; the Right Hon. Sir J. Pakington, 54; Richard Cobden, 51; and John Bright, 44.

General activity prevails at all naval stations of the United States, in consequence of recent orders from Washington to fit vessels for sea as speedily as possible.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCHES.

(From the Daily News, of Friday.)

PARIS, Friday Morning.

The following most important telegraphic despatch has come to hand:—

BRAILOW, January 9th.

The Russians have crossed the Danube, invaded the Dobrudja, and taken both Tultscha and Babadagh

Sadyk Pacha defended Tultscha as long as possible.

CONSTANTINOPLE, January 1st.

Two or three vessels have come into the Bosphorus damaged by an ordinary storm in the Black Sea. Guns, horses, and men, are daily landed at Eupatoria. It is not expected that the active co-operation of the Ottomans there can commence before a week or ten days hence, by which time the French and English will be better prepared than at present

Advices from Vienna state that the belief gains ground that the interpretation given to the Four Points by the Allies, while it is clear so far as it goes, leaves undetermined essential and inevitable questions which may give rise to insurmountable difficulties.

WARSAW, January 5th.

General Berg leaves to-morrow for Finland, to organise his army for the expected Baltic campaign.

Captain Ericsch has arrived with 10,000 first-rate rifles, made with all the recent improvements. He bought them in Belgium, having been sent thither especially for that purpose.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JAN. 11.

Month and Day.		Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer		Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
			Highest Reading	Lowest Reading					
		Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches
Jan.	5	30.137	49·5	42·0	45·5	+ 10·0	84	S.W.	0.00
"	6	30.252	51·0	43·3	47·2	+ 12·5	90	S.W.	0.00
"	7	30.436	49·6	45·0	47·4	+ 13·3	85	W.	0.00
"	8	30.472	48·0	43·3	45·6	+ 10·7	82	S.W.	0.00
"	9	30.267	49·6	42·4	45·5	+ 10·8	83	W.	0.08
"	10	30.239	41·0	26·0	34·6	— 97	97	E.	0.00
"	11	30.525	37·8	24·0	31·3	— 79	94	—	0·00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average and the sign — below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.14 inches, at the beginning of the week, to 30.08 inches by the afternoon of the 5th; increased to 30.47 inches by the 8th; decreased to 30.27 inches by the 9th; increased to 30.54 inches by the 10th; and decreased to 30.47 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of eighty-two feet above the level of the sea, was 30.320 inches

The mean daily temperatures from the 5th to the 10th were very high, averaging 11° in excess; the mean temperature of the period was 46·4°, and is the highest mean temperature consisting of the corresponding consecutive days at present recorded—the register extending back to the year 1816.

The mean temperature of the week was 42·8°, being 7·4° above the average of thirty-eight years

The range of temperature during the week was 37°, being the difference between the highest reading on the 6th and the lowest on the 11th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 8·6°.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of eight-hundredths of an inch

The weather during the week was fine, but the sky, with few exceptions, was cloudy. *Fog* was prevalent on the 10th and 11th.

Lewisham, January 12, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—In the first week of the year the births of 1787 children were registered within the metropolitan districts—908 were boys, and 879 were girls. In the ten corresponding weeks of the year 1845 to 1854 the average number was 799 and 748. Within the same week the deaths of 1404 persons were registered within the metropolitan districts, the calculated number of deaths for the week was 1414; so that the public health in this week was in about its average state for this time of the year

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, CHARING-CROSS. At a quarterly meeting of the Governors of this Institution, held on Thursday week, the Secretary reported that the number of poor persons who had applied for letters to be admitted as out-patients from 1st January to 31st December was 5767 (the number for the quarter, 1257), and 136 poor persons admitted as in-patients, making a total of 5903 persons to the 31st December, 1854; the quarterly account of receipts and expenditure, being submitted to the Governors, showed a deficiency of assets to pay the quarterly bills of £24 18s. 8d. It is deeply to be regretted that the funds of this useful charity are not adequate to its increasing demands; diseases of the eye being very prevalent amongst the poor, we most earnestly hope this hospital will meet with the assistance it stands in need of from a benevolent public

THE widening of Chancery-lane is being carried on. On Monday, by instructions of the City Commissioner of Sewers, the building materials and fittings of several more of the old houses, and also a large one nearly new, standing in Chancery-lane, within a few doors of Fleet-street, were disposed of by public auction, in order that the houses may be pulled down and rebuilt further back, and the thoroughfare thus be widened. The old houses, standing opposite, on the east side, have also been pulled down, and are now being rebuilt, but they are built as forward to the street as the former houses, which is several feet in advance of the line of the adjoining buildings of Serjeants'-inn.

ANOTHER DOUBLE MURDER.—Scarcely has the excitement created by the recent double murder in Warren-street, London, subsided, when we have to record the perpetration of a similar offence by another foreigner, in almost the immediate vicinity of the former outrage. The scene of the catastrophe was Foley-place, Portland-street. About half past nine o'clock on Sunday morning, the inhabitants of that neighbourhood were alarmed by the report of fire-arms, and by a woman rushing into the street in a frantic state, screaming that her master had been murdered. The house was tenanted by Mr. Joseph Lambert and his wife, both about thirty-two years of age. The upper part of the house was let out furnished, and a Mrs. Jane Williamson, described as a milliner, and who is separated from her husband, occupied the apartments there. They were acquainted with an Italian, named Luigi Baranelli, who is about forty years of age, and was formerly valet to Mr. Thomas Stewart Drummond, of Perth, by whom he was much esteemed, and from whose brother he had a pension of £20 a year. An attachment had sprung up between the Italian and Mrs. Williamson, which the Lambertsbth had discouraged. He had been ordered to quit the house; and it would appear that in consequence of this he had resolved on a terrible revenge in the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Lambert. The murderer, Baranelli, reached Foley-place about half-past nine on Sunday morning. He asked the servant where her master and mistress were, and on her replying, "In the back parlour, in bed," he proceeded thither, placed the pistol at the back of Mr. Lambert's head and shot him dead, and then shot Mrs. Lambert. It would appear that the unfortunate murdered man was shot while he was asleep. The report of the pistol roused Mrs. Lambert, and she was in the act of jumping out of bed when she received the contents of the second pistol in her arm and breast. The wounds, however, were not immediately fatal, though it is not likely she will recover. About half-an-hour, after committing the atrocious deed, ran up-stairs, and, after an ineffectual attempt to enter Mrs Williamson's bed-room, sought refuge in an attic, where he shot himself with a pistol. His wound was at first thought to be mortal, but it is now said that he may possibly recover. He made a full confession of his guilt, ascribing the crime to the desire of revenge for his ejectment from the house. On the police searching his lodgings, they found a small packet addressed to Mrs. Williamson, which, on being opened, was found to contain a small daguerreotype portrait of the murderer in a morocco case. Inside the cover

SHIPMENT AT TRIESTE OF WOODEN HOUSES, FURS, ETC., FOR THE ALLIED ARMIES IN THE CRIMEA.

SHIPMENT OF HUTS AND CLOTHING FROM TRIESTE.

In addition to the Huts which have been sent from Southampton for the Allied army, a large number have been forwarded to the Crimea from Trieste within the last few weeks. Those sent from the latter port were made at Cilli, in Steiermark; and our Correspondent at Trieste, who has sent the accompanying Sketch, states that all the joiners in the surrounding districts had been working day and night for some time to complete the order. The result of this activity has been, that the first shipment of the Huts was dispatched about three weeks ago, and must have reached Balaclava before this time

Several hundred bales of furs have been shipped by Lloyd's steamers for Constantinople. We see also that Lord Westmoreland, on the part of our Government, has made a contract with the house of Weikersheim and Co., at Vienna, for an immediate supply of furs and winter clothing for our troops in the Crimea.

A large number of articles of winter clothing, and particularly of shoes, ordered of a house at Berne, on account of the British Government, left Switzerland last week.

BURNING OF A TURKISH SHIP OF WAR OFF EUPATORIA.

(From a Correspondent.)

A Correspondent, writing from Eupatoria, Dec 22, says, "I send you an outline of a little adventure which took place here yesterday. At eight a.m., the 21st Dec., a Turkish line-of-battle ship, which was wrecked in the gale of November last, about four miles from this place, was observed to be on fire, when boats from H.M.S. *Curaçoa* were sent to try and extinguish the flames. There being large bodies of Cossacks on the beach, and in the immediate neighbourhood, the *Viper*, one of the new gun-boats, was sent to protect the boats' crews. On arriving at the wreck she was found to be in one mass of flame, fore and aft. The boats returned to their ship, and the *Viper* steamed a few miles along the coast towards an out picket near the sea, from which the Tartars had been driven during the night by the Cossacks. From not knowing the coast soundings, we proceeded with great caution, having a boat ahead to sound; this gave the Cossacks time to get away from the picket-house, where they had taken up their quarters. On arriving within 4000 yards we fired our Lancaster guns, with shot, at 18 deg. elevation, to try the range, when both shot fell in amongst them; at which, being evidently surprised at our long range, they galloped off as fast as their horses could carry them, extending into very open order over the plain. It is not known if any damage was done by our shot, but two riderless horses were seen galloping off. As we steamed within 600 or 800 yards of the beach into two fathoms water, we opened again with shell; but, from the way they had opened out, without doing anything beyond frightening some of them—as was seen by one man going down on his face till the shell had burst, and then up and away. They disappeared over some low hills about 4000 or 5000 yards off.

"Observing a good-looking boat on shore, we landed a party to bring her off or destroy her, which latter they did. This was probably the boat in which the Cossacks came off and set fire to the wreck."

The accompanying Sketch, by *Lieut.* Lodder, is taken at the moment the main-mast was falling over the side, the mizen-mast having previously fallen. The boats are seen leaving the wreck. The *Viper*, with her boat ahead, sounding, is on the right, firing upon the Cossacks near the Picket-house. Some Tartars galloped along the coast, abeam of the vessel, and in the retreat of the Russians entered the picket-house, and brought out some lances, evidently left in the hurry of departure by the Cossacks.

Costume in the Crimea.—A young officer of cavalry, in a lively letter to his father, admitting his severe privations, but undepressed by them, gives the following account of his clothing:—A pair of large sailor's boots, a pair of coarse sailor's trousers, a peajacket with anchor buttons, and his own old foraging-cap, the last remnant of his regimental rags.

Paris under Julius Cæsar covered a space of 15 hectares 23 ares (the hectare is nearly 2½ English acres), under Julian, of 38 hectares 79 ares; under Charles V., of 250 hectares 87 ares; under Louis XIV., of 1193 hectares 91 ares; and at present it is, within the fortifications, 25,755 hectares and 80 ares—which is more than half the department of the Seine.

The Electric Telegraph in the Euxine.—Mr. Liddell, the engineer of the new Leicester and Hitchin Railway, has obtained leave of absence for two months to lay a submarine cable for telegraphic purposes from Varna to either Cape Chersonese or Balaclava. The cable is ready, and Mr. Liddell is on the point of sailing to complete his commission of thus bridging the Euxine, 300 miles across, for the flight of intelligence between the Allied armies in the Crimea and their respective Governments

The tenant-right agitators are preparing for a "demonstration" in Wexford, in which a so-called county meeting is to take place on the 23rd instant.

The clipper-ship *Blue Jacket*, one of the Fox line of packets was on Wednesday taken up by the Postmaster-General, for the conveyance of the Australian mails of the 5th of March next.

BURNING OF A TURKISH SHIP-OF-WAR, OFF EUPATORIA.

ILLUS LONDO NEWS

GENERAL CANROBERT.

THE Portrait of the French General which we give this week is from a Sketch taken by our Artist on the memorable afternoon of the battle of Inkerman. General Canrobert does not appear to be afraid of the Russian sharpshooters, as he always wears his gold-laced hat, with white feathers, even when in action. From all accounts it would appear that the French troops altogether, both officers and men, attend much more to the "pomp and circumstance" of war than our countrymen do. For example, in a grand reconnaissance made by the French on the 28th ult., frequent allusion is made by those who describe it to the gallant show which our allies made on the occasion.

At ten o'clock on the day above mentioned, large bodies of French cavalry were seen from the English Camp in motion across the plain; the glittering helmets, *pantalons rouges*, and white horses upon which one regiment was mounted, forming, in contrast with the green plain, a pretty spectacle in the morning sunlight. They advanced skirmishers in front to the well-known Turkish redoubts, from which the Cossack pickets and videttes beat a hasty retreat. A body also galloped to their left, and crowned the heights close underneath which courred the memorable Light Cavalry charge on the 25th October. Turning to their right, the reconnaissance galloped towards the village of Kamara, and then came in full pursuit of many Cossacks who, with their shining spear-heads in the air, made the best of the way before them, with the exception of one, whose horse stumbling brought him to the ground, and, after running for some distance, was made prisoner. The Cossacks continued to retreat until they reached the entrance of a gorge, where stands a ruined house; here the French halted, the cause being soon rendered apparent by the appearance of a large force of Cossacks and the rallying of the runaways. A sharp interchange of fire from the respective carbines on either side took place, which lasted for several minutes, when the Cossacks again retreated through the gorge, and a portion of the French cavalry galloped gallantly up to the crest of the brown hill overlooking it, firing down below, and evidently making also the best use of their eyes in their commanding position, from which might be had a fine view of the Ruslan camp. This same camp has been observed for some minutes to have become the scene of some great activity, and from it emerges a large cavalry force, and ten guns are by this time horsed and being moved from a redoubt by the rear to a commanding position. The Russian trenches, too, are lined by their great-coated soldiers. The French cavalry are quickly seen retiring from their position on the top of the brown hill, having seen all they wanted to see; and it is rather well for them that they have beaten a retreat, for a long line of skirmishers gradually appears, and Russian battalions now top the heights; the bodies of Russian cavalry, too, on the Mackenzie-road made preparations for passing the lower bridge; whilst the French troops, having finished their reconnaissance, retire over the hills of the Turkish redoubts, which, in their turn, are again occupied by the advancing Cossacks, who, however, come thus far and no further, having a salutary remembrance of the batteries occupied by the Marine Artillery and Marines. The French cavalry remain for some time on the plain in the event of the Russian troops being drawn on to attack, and then return to their Camp. Whilst all this was going on, a reconnaissance was also attempted on the right of the English Camp, in front of the heights: a regiment of Zouaves, the left wing of the 2nd Battalion of Rifle Brigade, and the 42nd Regiment, the Royal Marines, also having orders to be ready to stand instantly to their arms. Here, however, little was done. The Russian pickets, of course, made the best of their way from their picket-house (800 yards only in advance of our pickets, and occupying an extremely beautiful position in a hollow between two high hills), leaving behind them all their cooking utensils and a Cossack lance: the former useful articles were, of course, immediately appropriated by the Zouaves, the latter became the capture of the bow and spear of Colonel Sterling, the Assistant Adjutant-General. At this point the troops forming the French reconnaissance were seen to retire down the vale between the mountain ridges, and our reconnaissance, therefore, followed their example. Daylight, on the morning after these proceedings, revealed the Russians prepared for an attack; battalions crowned their hills with skirmishers thrown out in front; and a breastwork which had risen during the night crossed the face of the brown hill, up which the French cavalry had advanced; they remained working at this the whole day, they threw up these works with wonderful quickness, and they appear to be exceedingly well made.

GENERAL CANROBERT, SKETCHED AFTER THE BATTLE OF INKERMAN.

VISIT OF THE SULTAN TO THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE

THIS event, of which our Artist has given a Sketch, has excited a wonderful sensation among the orthodox Turks, and indeed among all classes in Constantinople. That a Sultan should not only enter the house of an Ambassador, but actually comply with Christian usages, so far as to allow of the presentation of ladies, is thought to be one of the most startling innovations witnessed since the war began. The visit, which took place on the 24th ult., is thus described by the *Journal de Constantinople*:—

VISIT OF THE SULTAN TO THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, whose health is better, left the Hotel d'Angleterre on Monday last, to take up his residence at the palace of the British Embassy at Pera. On Friday last his Imperial Majesty the Sultan, accompanied by his ordinary suite, proceeded to the palace of the Embassy, to visit the Royal Highness. The Sultan was received at the entrance of the palace by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and the whole *personnel* of the British Legation in full uniform, and by the Duke of Cambridge, who waited at the head of the grand staircase. Introduced into the chief saloon, the Sultan entered most affably into conversation with the Duke, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and M. Etienne Pisani, first dragoman of the Embassy, were present at this interview, and as the noble Ambassador remained standing, his Majesty graciously requested him to be seated. After the interview—which lasted twenty minutes, and in which the Sultan expressed to the Duke his sentiments of friendship and sympathy for Queen Victoria and the English people, and satisfaction at the improvement in the Duke's health—his Majesty visited Lady Stratford, who, with her daughters, was in the ball-room, and conversed with them in the most friendly manner. The Duke accompanied the Sultan half-way down the grand staircase, when the Sultan insisted he should go no further. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and the other members of the Legation accompanied his Majesty to the great vestibule. M. Etienne Pisani accompanied his Majesty to the palace gates, where the Sultan mounted his horse and returned to Tophanah.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE *Himalaya* left Portsmouth harbour for Southampton on Saturday morning last. Having been now commissioned as a ship belonging to the fleet, she will receive an armament and a staff of naval officers.

THE *Ripon* arrived at Malta on Dec. 30 from Constantinople, with invalids for England direct. On her arrival, however, her destination was of a sudden changed, the troops disembarked, and the ship was ordered to proceed to Marseilles for the conveyance of French troops.

ON December 28 the *Fairy* yacht, laden with stores sent out by the Crimean Army Fund, sailed from Malta for Balaclava, as also the following transports, carrying reinforcements, stores, warm clothing, winter huts, and stoves—namely, the *Rajah*, the *Empress*, the *Candia*, the *Edwin Fox*, the *Army and Navy*, and the *Alster*.

THE *Pincher*, one of the new light draught gun-boats, having had her engines put on board at Deptford, was brought down to Woolwich dockyard on Saturday, to have her gun mounted and be completed for sea. Several of the other gun-boats building at Northfleet are in an advanced state. They are all ordered to be ready previous to the ice breaking up in the Baltic in the spring of the present year.

THE following detachments are under orders to proceed to the Crimea as soon as possible, to join their respective corps, viz.:—the 9th, 14th, and 30th Regiments, consisting of 430 men, to embark at Portsmouth in the steam ship *Princess Royal*. Drafts for the 4th, 7th, 18th, 19th, 23rd, 28th, 34th, 38th, 42nd, 54th, 46th, 77th, 88th, and 93rd Regiments, and Rifle Brigade, consisting of 17 officers and 1135 men, will embark in the steam ship *Cressa* for the Crimea.

THE Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh have issued a notice to medical students intimating that those whose course of study would be completed at the end of the present session, and who intended to apply for admission to the Army Medical Service, may be admitted to examination for the diploma on or after the 16th January, provided they produce a certificate.

NO MORE GROWING LADS WANTED.—The following circular has been issued for the guidance of recruiting parties: "Horse Guards, Jan. 5, 1855.—It being very desirable that the recruits enlisted for the infantry should be of sufficient age and strength to enter immediately upon their duties as soldiers, the General Commanding-in-Chief directs that, until further orders, no recruit of the class of growing lads be received below the age of seventeen years.—By command, G. A. WETHERALL, A.G."

ACTIVE measures are being taken for carrying out the intentions of the Government of establishing a reserve at Malta. The reserve will, we believe, be composed of three companies of each of the regiments in the Crimea, and, for the purpose of forming these companies, a call will be made for the army, as soon as attested, are to be sent to Malta, there to be drilled, before they receive their clothing. A number of efficient non-commissioned officers are to be selected from the different depôts in England, and sent to Malta to instruct the recruits. Temporary barracks are now in course of erection in the island, for the accommodation of the depôt.

THE *Saladin*, laden with a large number of wooden houses for the French troops in the Crimea, left Southampton on Monday, towed by the *William Jeffermack* steamer. A delay of a day or two in her getting away arose from the difficulty of obtaining hands, in consequence of the articles they had to sign being for two years, provided the ship is wanted so long in the Black Sea. The screw-steamer *Black Boy* left Southampton also yesterday with eighty wooden huts for the English troops in the Crimea. A sapper from the Southampton Ordnance-office, and a number of carpenters from Gloucester, who are expert at getting up the houses, have gone out in the *Black Boy*.

ARRIVAL OF INVALIDS FROM THE CRIMEA. The *Candia* arrived at Southampton on Sunday from the Crimea—to which she conveyed French troops from Marseilles to the number of 1160 men, who were landed in good order and condition. She brings invalided troops of various regiments—from Scotland, rank and file, 86; Malta, 1; Gibraltar, 38—the whole under the command of Lieutenant Streatfield, of the 44th, and in medical charge of Staff Assistant-Surgeon Reade. She also brings the following invalided officers:—Captain Hume and Lieutenant Burnston, of the 55th Regiment; Brevet-Major Thompson, 10th Hussars, wounded at Inkerman; Lieutenant Newnham, 63rd Regiment; Major Sargent, 30th Wiltshire; Captain Rumley, 57th Regiment; Lieutenant Clarke, 20th Fusiliers; Captain Rumbold, 63rd Regiment; Lieutenants Granville and Greenwood, 23rd Fusiliers; Brevet-Major Yates, Royal Artillery; Captain Tryon, 7th Fusiliers. Private Southland, Scots Fusiliers, and gunner Bowes, Royal Artillery, died on the passage, home, and were buried at sea. Among the passengers by the *Candia* are five Sisters of Mercy of Miss Nightingale's party, and two of Miss Selden's, with three hospital nurses, besides some officers' wives from Gibraltar. About 25 or 30 of the officers and soldiers brought by the *Candia* are severely wounded, and in very bad state of health; the remainder are in various stages of convalescence, and generally in good spirits. Sir Frederick Smith and Colonel Lord Methuen were most indefatigable in personally directing the movements of those under their orders, and, as a consequence, the work of disembarkation was entered upon with propriety, and pursued with care and diligence until the ship was cleared. The medical staff of the garrison was most assiduous with its important aid; the wounded were removed to sick quarters under personal medical superintendence; and all engaged in the melancholy duty received the cordial and most cordial assistance from Captain Field and the officers and crew of the *Candia*, whose number of invalids amounted to 194. Thousands of people crowded the docks to catch a sight of the wounded soldiers, and the greatest sympathy for their condition was manifested. Refreshments of all kinds were spontaneously tendered to the men, and one firm in Southampton (Messrs. Cooksey) sent a waggon containing five kilderkins of porter, with tobacco, &c., as a present to the men, but the commanding officer declined to accept it.

THE *Alfred*, screw steam-transport, is at Deptford, being fitted as a baking establishment for the Black Sea. It is stated that another vessel will be fitted as a flour-mill, which, with the baking establishment, will supply sweet new bread to the troops in the Crimea. Surely some means will also be adopted for supplying the troops with fresh-roasted coffee.

THERE is now in Southampton Dock a screw-steamer called the *Loire*, loading with wine for Balaclava. A machine with wire rope is to be sent out in the *Loire* to draw the casks and barrels of wine up the sides of the rocks at Balaclava.

THE Government fleet of hired transports has within the last ten days been increased by addition of twelve steam-vessels of considerable tonnage, viz.:—The *Lady Eglinton*, the *Union*, the *Foyle*, the *Prompt*, the *Marley Hill*, the *Kangaroo*, the *Eagle*, the *Peninsula*, the *Black Boy*, the *Whitley Park*, the *Cochrane*, and the *Canadian*. The total number of transports employed is 178—of which, 67 are steamers and 105 sailing-vessels.

OUR readers will be gratified to hear that the Board of Admiralty have paid a just tribute to the exertions and talents of Lieut. Montagu O'Reilly, by giving an order that he is to be the *Sebastopol* to England, on the removal of Captain the Hon. J. Drummond to the *Tribune*.

FRENCH SANG-FROID. The Russians having abandoned the ground in front of the Quarantine Fort, occupied by a small village, the French soldiers hurried in to seize on all they could—vegetables from the gardens, articles of furniture, and even the doors and windows from the cottages. Gen Bizot had six windows placed aside to serve in Gen. Canrobert's dining room, when erected. "All this," says a letter from a French officer, "was done under a sharp fire of musketry; which, however, only wounded two men slightly. I saw Capt. de Marivault, of the navy, carrying away with the greatest precaution a window, which he protected with infinite address with his body against the balls. Near him I saw an artilleryman gathering a salad in one of the gardens. A ball knocked out of his hands what he had collected. Grumbling at being so treated, he again set about his work, and finished it without further molestation. Such examples of *sang froid* are by no means rare."

THE whole of the 500,000,000 French loan is already subscribed for, and no doubt is entertained that the entire subscription will exceed 600,000,000.

NOTES OF SIEGE OPERATIONS AND FIELD FORTIFICATIONS.

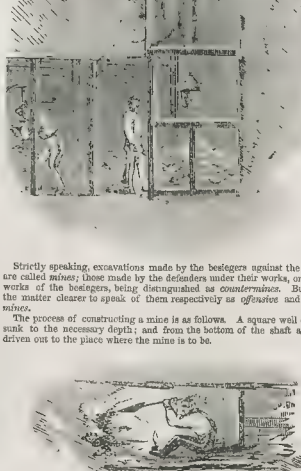
MINING.

MINING is a most formidable element in the art of fortification, and in siege operations, offensive and defensive; and often decides the issue of the conflict, after all the resources of skill above ground have been exhausted. It is a complete species of attack and defence in itself, and may be used to such an extent, and so successfully, by the weaker party, as to neutralise the effect of superior numbers and superiority of works above ground. One important feature in favour of the use of mining by the besieged is the comparatively few hands it requires. So long as the garrison is sufficiently strong to guard the posts against surprise, a company of fifty or sixty miners will be sufficient to render the approaches formidable; destroying batteries of attack, one by one, as they are brought to bear, and blowing up the outer works of defence, as soon as the enemy obtains footing on them. What is true also of mining in the defence of places is true also in the attack. "Mines," says General Monk," where you may come to make them, are much better than batteries for the taking of towns or castles; because they always prove much more dangerous and terrible to an enemy, by means of their sudden and unexpected operations; and all sudden and unexpected actions are very successful in all martial affairs." He adds, "A commander cannot take any place of strength with any certainty or safety without the use both of batteries and mines;" by which, as we apprehend, he means that a commander cannot be certain of being able to take a place without having recourse to the use of mines, just as he cannot be certain of taking it without completely investing it; although many instances have occurred, both before and particularly since Monk's time, of places of great strength being taken without mining, as there have been some, but by no means numerous, of places taken without regular and complete investment.

The strength of mining lies in that which is the prime virtue of all military operations, the secrecy of its workings; and the protection under which, until discovered, those employed at it work. In works of attack it fairly counterbalances the advantages obtained by the concealed ramparts under Vauban's system of fortification; and, if left undisturbed in its operations, may be used to blow up a portion of the very wall of the rampart, or, by means of a subterranean passage, to bring cannon to the very ditch for the purpose of breaching it. But precautions are usually adopted in all permanent fortifications to prevent such methods of approach.

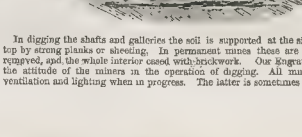
Every completely fortified place is provided with a system of mines, with galleries running not only under different parts of the works, but even beyond them, beneath the exterior ground. The system most generally employed would consist of—1. A gallery running all along under the *banquette* of the covert-way, and called the *counterscarp* gallery. 2. A gallery at the distance of the salient or extreme point of the ravelin, and called the *envelope* gallery, this used formerly to extend all round the work, like the counterscarp gallery, but its position being found to be exposed, it is now generally only laid at the salient angle itself. 3. Between the counterscarp gallery and the envelope are laid galleries called *galleries of communication;* and beyond these, (4) shooting out in all directions, and even beyond the foot of the glacis, *listening-galleries* in all directions. The outline of the whole scheme is very similar to that of a spider's web. The object of the first of these positions is to blow up parts of the works upon which the besiegers may have made a lodgment; that of the last, as the name implies, is by means of listening to discover if the enemy are making any approaches by mining: and, if so, to thwart them, by destroying such works. In listening, the ear is applied to the soil; and although the question as to what distance the mining operations of an enemy may be discovered by this means cannot be precisely determined, 90 feet may be taken as a safe medium in ordinary soil; and, consequently, listening-galleries should not be further than 180 feet apart.

Taking into consideration the advantage which the besieged have in being thus prepared beforehand with a system of mines, giving them the command over any works of the kind constructed by the enemy, it may be assumed as a fair position that whilst in siege operations above ground the attack has the superiority over the defence; beneath the surface the defence has the superiority over the attack. In a word, generally, mining is of more advantage to the besieged than to the besiegers; and in the case of weak fortifications, weakly garrisoned, this advantage, skilfully and zealously improved, may effectually turn the scale against the latter.



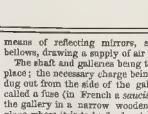
Strictly speaking, excavations made by the besiegers against the place only are called *mines;* those made by the defenders under their works, or under the works of the besiegers, being distinguished as *countermines*. But it makes the matter clearer to speak of them respectively as *offensive* and *defensive mines*.

The process of constructing a mine is as follows. A square well or shaft is sunk to the necessary depth; and from the bottom of the shaft a gallery is driven out to the place where the mine is to be.



In digging the shafts and galleries the soil is supported at the sides and a top by strong planks or sheeting. In permanent mines these are afterwards removed, and the whole interior cased with brickwork. Our engravings show the attitude of the miners in the operation of digging. All mines require ventilation and lighting when in progress. The latter is sometimes effected by means of reflecting mirrors, sometimes by candles—the former, by large bellows, drawing a supply of air through tubing from the outer atmosphere.

The shaft and gallery being thus prepared, the loading of the mine takes place; the necessary charge being placed in a box, and deposited in a chamber dug out from the side of the gallery into the soil. A hose containing powder, called a fuse (in French a *saucisson*), is then fixed in the box, and laid along the gallery in a narrow wooden trough (in French called an *auget*), to the place where it is to be fired. As soon as the charge is lodged in the chamber, and the hose-trough fixed, the chamber is blocked up with earth—a process called *tamping*—so as to prevent the explosion from wasting itself laterally in the gallery. The charge put into the mine depends upon the depth perpendicularly (called the *line of least resistance*), the nature of the soil, and the nature of the explosion required. When the explosion forms a crater about twice as wide across the top as the depth, the charge is called a *two-line charge*, and the crater a *two-line crater*. Increased charges will give craters having diameters equal to three, four, five, and six times the depth, or line of least resistance. A mine loaded with a very great charge of powder is called a *globe of compression*, from its compressing or disturbing effects upon the ground beyond the sphere of its crater. It is said that a charge equal to a two-line crater will ruin galleries at a distance greater than four times the line of resistance. Hence they are much resorted to by besiegers to destroy defensive mines. Sometimes the mine, after being charged, is filled up with stones to make the explosion the more destructive.



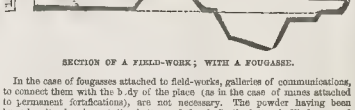
CHAMBER OF A MINE.

In destroying an enemy's mine or subterranean work, or to stifle those employed at it, where it is not required that the explosion should extend to disturb the surface of the ground, a much smaller charge is employed, calculated according to the radius to which the explosion is intended to operate. This smothered mine is called a *camouflet*.

FOUGASSES.

An important application of mines is in the defence of field-works. In this case they are of much smaller dimensions than in works of permanent fortification; and they are here called *fougasses*. They are, of course, generally constructed before the weakest parts of the works, or those most exposed to attack, and particularly all salient angles or faces not protected by cross-fire: these points being so defended, even if an enemy should have advanced within a few paces of a work, yet they are not, in the smallest degree, nearer becoming masters of it; since, on springing the mines, they are blown up in a moment, which, besides the loss of men, throws the others into the utmost confusion, not supposing in the least what is prepared for them. To be effectual, this system of defence should be judiciously organised, and upon a scale of some extent. To resist a determined attack by a strong force, the fougasses should be laid in several lines, at appropriate distances from each other: for should there be only one line, the enemy, on its blowing up, would instantly push forward in the certainty of not meeting any more obstacles of the same kind. When the garrison is strong enough to permit of sallies, the explosion of mines affords good opportunity for making them with advantage.

The construction of *fougasses* for field-works is much simpler than that of larger mines. At the distance of ten, twelve, or even fourteen feet from the ditch of a work, a pit, or shaft, three feet square, is dug to the depth of six, seven, or eight feet. When the earth is not of a very firm nature, the sides, as in the case of larger mines, are supported with boards or sheeting. When the shaft is of sufficient depth, a square hole is made at the bottom, in that side next the work, and extending towards it, in order to form a lodgement for the box of powder. This excavation is called the chamber of the mine. The dimensions of the box holding the powder fit the height and breadth of the chamber, which should be exactly a cube, whose side is one-sixth part the depth of the shaft. The inside of the box must be a cube, whose side is exactly the ninth part of the depth of the shaft. The cover is not made to fit the hole, as such is half square, is cut in the side of the box, about an inch from the bottom, to admit a small wooden tube, intended to conduct the fire to the powder. It appears about an inch on the outside, but reaches quite to the middle of the box within, that the powder may kindle from the centre, which produces the best effect.



SECTION OF A FIELD-WORK; WITH A FOUGASSE.

In the case of fougasses attached to field-works, galleries of communications, to connect them with the body of the place (as in the case of mines attached to permanent fortifications), are not necessary. The powder having been buried in its chamber at the bottom of the shaft, the latter is filled up; and the auget containing the saucisson or fuse is conducted to the interior of the redoubt, or other field-works, after being made to pass under the glacis, and across the ditch, in a small trench dug for the purpose, or over it, supported upon pickets of wood.

OF BATTERIES AND VARIOUS KINDS OF FIRE

A Battery is a certain number of cannons, ranged side by side, so placed as to direct their fire upon a particular object. There are various sorts of batteries; but it will be sufficient to explain the nature of the principal descriptions.

Batteries of the Field are generally composed of light pieces, therefore called "field-pieces," which are moved in different directions, according to circumstances.

Siege Batteries, on the contrary, are permanent in their arrangement; being placed behind a bank of earth constructed for the purpose, which is called the *épaulement*, and the object of which is to conceal from the enemy the working of the pieces, and protect the men working them. The height of the épaulement is about six feet. The épaulement itself is pierced with cuts, through which the cannons are fired, which cuts are called *embrasures*. The embrasures are made wider on the outer than the inner side of the work, on account of the spreading fire of the cannon, and to prevent the cheeks, or sides, thereof from being destroyed, and also to allow of the cannon being moved round horizontally, according to circumstances—that is to command as wide a range as possible. The portions of the épaulement where it is not cut through with embrasures are called *merlons*.

Siege batteries are divided into batteries à ricochet, and batteries in breach.

A Battery *à ricochet* is intended to enfilade a piece of fortification, so that the shot, falling upon a given spot, shall afterwards proceed by leaps and bounds—something after the fashion of a stone skimming the water—and, traversing the whole length of the rampart struck, overthrow everything that opposes its passage. The use of these batteries, which are placed at a certain distance off the sides of the works attacked, is principally to destroy or silence the guns of the enemy, so as to allow of the works of approach against the place to be carried on unmolested.

Batteries *en breach* are employed to destroy the rampart itself, or make such an aperture in it as to allow of the entrance of the besieging troops. They are, therefore, placed directly opposite, instead of off, the side of the works attacked.

Batteries *en barbette* have an épaulement of only about three feet or less in height, and the guns so placed as to fire over it. These batteries are especially available in situations higher than those of the enemy, which not being commanded by direct fire on a level, the comparatively low épaulement is sufficient protection. Guns *en barbette* have the advantage, that, not firing through embrasures, they may be turned to fire in any direction.

It may be desirable here to explain, for the information of the non-professional reader, the peculiarities of the various modes of firing which are employed in siege operations, and which are spoken of as "direct," "enfilade," "ricochet," "vertical," "pitching," "plunging," *&c.* *Direct fire* is that which proceeds from a gun pointed at right angles with the face of the fortification, or object attacked; and, of course, is that best adapted for breaching purposes. *Enfilade fire* is that which proceeds from a gun placed in line with the face of the wall, or object attacked; so as to sweep along from end to end of it. *Ricochet fire* differs but slightly from enfilade, or rather is a species of it; the only peculiarities being in the charge of powder, which is considerably less than that for a sweeping enfilade, and in the slight elevation given to the gun, by which the shot is made to touch the ground within the enfiladed face, and then to bound along the terre-plain. *Vertical fire* is peculiar to mortar-practice; in circumstances a very terrible mode of attack. Here the mortar being elevated to forty-five degrees, the shells take a bold curve in the atmosphere, and fall within the enceinte of the place besieged, where they burst, scattering destruction around. *Pitching fire* is employed in the case of projecting a shot or shell against a wall or other object, which itself is concealed from view by a mass of earth, or other obstruction. To this end the gun is elevated, so that the ball or shell may fail so as to graze the further side of the obstructing mass, and glance off against the wall or object to be destroyed. *Plunging fire* is that directed from a gun situated on a considerable eminence, and pointed downwards upon an object.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE memoirs and letters of the Rev. Sydney Smith, privately printed by his daughter, Lady Holland, will be published, it is said, with certain omissions, early in the present season. The few who have been permitted to see the work are delighted with Sydney's letters.

Mr. Lockhart's books will, we hear, be added to the library at Abbotsford. Mr. Lockhart, it is understood, has destroyed much of his extensive, and it is easy to believe valuable, correspondence. His predecessor in the editorship of the *Quarterly* did the same.

So little is known of William Vandervelde the younger (the great painter), that we shall be more than excused for bringing to light the following new facts about him. On the 18th of April, 1658, William Vandervelde, the younger painter, and Mrs. Magdalen Walravens, his wife, went before a Public Notary in Amsterdam, and attached their names to a document that the survivor of the other should be the sole heir of what they both possessed. This was done from the uncertainty of life, and from the fact, as the document sets forth, that Mrs. Magdalen Walravens was then "expecting her gone with child." Now, this very document, written in Dutch, at Amsterdam, in 1658, was in 1707 the only will of the great painter, and was proved as such in London in that year by Magdalen Walravens, the painter's widow. To this we will add another new fact, that the widow made her will August 13, 1716, describes herself therein as of the parish of St. Margaret, Westminster, and leaves all her estate, real and personal, to her daughter, Sarah Burgess, wife of John Burgess, of St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, Esquire. Collectors of Vandervelde's works will like to know the descent of the painter's property? Who was Mr. Burgess? and are there any representatives of the Vandervelde now alive?

The following interesting letter tells its own story. It is from the favourite daughter of the distinguished painter of "Belshazzar's Feast".

In reference to the communications of your correspondents on the subject of the "Belshazzar's Feast," you may probably like to know the whole history.

My father painted two finished oil sketches of the "Belshazzar" before he executed the large picture; but the latter was not copied from either; and a comparison of the three would satisfactorily prove to any one that the sketches were merely memoranda of the first conception of the subject. My father himself viewed the sketches much in this light, and always spoke of the perfected work as the original, though literally it could scarcely be so esteemed. One of the sketches was purchased by Mr. Belisario, a merchant; and the other by Mr. Wilson, a lawyer—both patrons of the fine arts—five-and-thirty years ago. Which of the two sketches may now be in the possession of Mr. White I cannot pretend to say.

As regards the engraving, it was, like all the other engravings executed by my father, designed upon the plate from his recollection of the principal picture, aided by his own imagination and by occasional reference to the sketches; and, as you observe, it differs materially, not only from the large picture which it most resembled, however—but from the previous sketches

On one point there can scarcely be two opinions—that, however curious and interesting the original sketches may be, their existence can in no way compensate for the loss of the great picture itself. Nevertheless my father was alive to the defects in the painting; and was, besides, so satisfied that he could vastly improve the composition, that he determined on painting a fresh picture on a larger scale, which he intended to leave as the picture of "Belshazzar's Feast;" and one of the last conversations I ever had with him was on this very subject.

Artists express astonishment at the large amount of money which Mr Brockedon has left behind him. His property has been sworn under £30,000. He did not make his money by Art; but by indiarubber corks and other ingenious contrivances, to which we called attention at the time of his death.

Mr. Tupper, the author of "Proverbial Philosophy," has given a gold medal "for the encouragement of literature in Liberia." The medal itself is from the graver of Mr. W. C. Taylor, and merits notice as a work of art. It bears no personal allusion to its donor.

We are sorry to record the death of the Belfast Government School of Design. It faded under the shadow of the Marlborough-house protection, soon found the self-supporting system one under which it could only starve, and has now decently given up the ghost. Marlborough-house will, in the long run, it is feared, swallow up all the provincial schools; but, in doing this, will it supply anything of corresponding value? and is it not likely to come into unpleasant collision with the Royal Academy in Trafalgar-square?

The dispute about the date of publication of the first edition of Pope's "Dunciad," which our contemporary *Notes and Queries* undertook to comprehend and decide, has just been determined. The "Dunciad" first appeared in May, 1728.

The many admirers of Turner are angry with Mr. Leslie, the painter for saying that Turner was a poor hand at painting a tree. 'With the exception of here and there a willow, and, in his Italian views, the frequent pine and cypress, I look in vain," says Mr. Leslie, "for a specific discrimination in his trees; or in the vegetation of his foregrounds, in which there is little that is English. I cannot remember an oak, an elm, an ash, or a beech in any picture by him; nor do I remember anything much like the beauty of an English hedge. Neither has he expressed the deep verdure of his own country; and hence he is the most unfaithful among great painters to the essential and most beautiful characteristics of English midland scenery." This cannot satisfy either Mr. Ruskin or Mr. Munro; but the truth of Mr. Leslie's position is, to our thinking, not to be doubted.

The forthcoming article in the *Quarterly* on Mr. Leech, the deservedly-favourite artist of English domestic life, is, it is said, by Mr. Thackeray. If, in this case we may foretell a treat.

ROYAL VISIT TO THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.—On Thursday the exhibition of the Photographic Society was visited at eleven o'clock by the Royal Highness Prince Albert. The collection, which is rather an extensive one, has just been completed. The pictures include many by distinguished amateurs, and agreeably illustrate the progress made in the different branches of photography. Not the least interesting and attractive are the stereoscopic pictures. Several were exhibited by professional gentlemen—one stand being remarkable, as it not only exhibited the wonders of the stereoscope in producing the illusion of solidity, but presented wonderfully accurate likenesses of popular and well-known men, such as Mr. Charles Dickens, Mr. G. V. Brooke, Mr Charles Kean, Mr Macready, Mr. Charles Mathews, J. B. Gough, &c. These portraits were from the photographic establishment of Mr. Mayall, in Regent-street.

POSTAL REGULATIONS FOR THE WAR.—The Post-office authorities in St. Martin's-le-Grand, in order to give the greatest facilities with respect to the transmission of correspondence to and from the seat of war, have determined to increase the staff of officers in the department at Constantinople and certain other stations between the United Kingdom and the Crimea. Orders were issued a few days since for the engagement of a number of clerks, letter-sorters, and letter-carriers, for the performance of this "foreign duty," preference being given to men in the General Post Division, in the first instance, who might be inclined to volunteer. Yesterday the appointments of a number of sorters and letter-carriers were authorised by the Postmaster-General, and these officers will in consequence be dispatched without delay. Most of them are of some years' standing in the office. Eight are destined for Constantinople, and others for other stations will follow. The pay is to be liberal, and a complete outfit is to be provided for them.

INCREASED SALARY TO COUNTY COURT JUDGES. By an order of the Government, fifteen of the sixty County Court Judges have been selected to receive a salary of £1500 a year each. Under a recent act of Parliament the maximum salary to be paid to the County Court Judges was £1500, and the minimum £1200. The labour of all the Judges has been considered by the Government, and the result is, that the maximum salary is to be awarded to fifteen out of the whole number. The Judges are precluded, by a provision, from practising at the bar. It is understood that the metropolitan Judges have been included in the highest amount of salary to be paid. In some of the districts the causes entered have annually exceeded 10,000 in each. The County Court Judges are allowed their travelling expenses.

VIENNA, on the night of the 1st inst., was visited by a tremendous hurricane. One of the old walls of the Church of St. Stephen was blown down, and the roofs of several houses were carried away. It will be remembered that here the new year was ushered in with a violent gale, and the great storm at Hamburg raged on the same day.

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE ORIGIN OF CHESS.

BY DR. DUNCAN FORBES.

CHAPTER VII.—ON THE INVENTION OF CHESS IN INDIA—ACCORDING TO THE ARABS AND PERSIANS.

THE writers of Arabia and Persia are nearly unanimous on the following points:—1. That the game of Shatrang was invented in India. 2. That the inventor's name was "Sassa," or "Sassa," the son of Dihir. 3. That the aim and object of the game was to teach, explain, or illustrate the art of war. And 4. That it was introduced from India into Persia during the reign of Nasshirwan the Just, as we have fully detailed in the last chapter. So far, "Doctors agree;" but they almost all differ as to the precise time and place (meaning, by the latter term, that precise part of India) of the invention. Suffice it to say that it occurred, as they believe, between the period of Alexander's expedition and the reign of Nasshirwan

I have already expressed my answer conviction that what the Arabs and Persians consider as the "Invention of Chess," means merely the very natural modification of the "Chaturanga" into the "Shatranj." It is curious, too, that in this conviction I am confirmed by the author of a Treatise on Chess, belonging to the Asiatic Society. Unfortunately, this work is incomplete, and the author's name is not given. It is evident, however, that he lived either during the reign of Timur, or somewhat later; for he gives in his work eighteen problems (of which some will appear hereafter) which occurred in actual play to "Khâja Ali Shatranji," the Philodor of Timur's Court. This anonymous author has given the three following different accounts of the Invention of Chess, which I have slightly abridged. He differs from all other writers in this:—"Sassa, the son of Dihir, did not invent the game of Chess, but that he merely modified an older, and—as he thinks—a more perfect form of the game. He is also singular in asserting that the Hindûs did not invent the older game; giving as his sole reason for thus differing from all previous writers, "that the Hindûs were a dull and stupid race, incapable of doing such a thing. This he repeats, in I believe half-a-dozen places, without the least variation. He, for some reason or other, detested the Hindûs, and conferred the honour of the invention on the Greeks!' It must be said in his favour, however, that he *nowhere* claims it for his own nation. But let us allow the author to speak for himself:—

FIRST ACCOUNT OF THE INVENTION OF CHESS.

"They relate that immediately after the invasion of Alexander the Great, there reigned in India a King, by name Kind. He was very powerful and wealthy, and liberal and brave. He was passionately addicted to war, and always proved victorious over his enemies. In the course of time he became sole master of the whole of the land of Hind; nor did there remain in that extensive region a single King or Prince inclined to dispute his authority. At length, when he no longer had an enemy left to conquer, he was necessarily compelled to cease from war, which to him had become a second nature. Now this King was endowed with high principles of justice, honour, and truth, for which noble qualities he was adored by his servants and subjects. While occupied in subduing the neighbouring kingdoms, his ruling passion was fully gratified in the pursuit of conquests, and in the acquisition of fame, which he considered as the only means of happiness in this world. To him, now that no enemy remained, peace became intolerably irksome; but his sense of justice would not permit him to involve in the miseries of war those who had already submitted to his authority. All his people, from the very highest to the lowest, passed their days in the enjoyment of peace and prosperity, while he himself had fallen a prey to sorrow and affliction to such a degree that he lost all relish for food and drink, and looked upon death as his only relief

"The King had a Minister, by name Sassa, a man of profound wisdom and penetration, to whom he communicated his miserable condition, saying, 'Day and night my mind is harassed with the thoughts of war and strife; when in the hours of the night sleep overpowers me, I dream of nothing but battlefields and conquests; and in the morning, when I awake, I still think over my imaginary contests and victories. Now you are well aware that I have no longer one single enemy or rebel in my whole dominions with whom to contend. It is utterly repugnant to justice and common sense to go to war without any cause. If I were to do so God would be displeased with me, and a severe retribution for my evil deeds would soon overtake me, even in this world. For is it not said that "a kingdom governed by falsehood and oppression is void of stability, and it will soon pass away?" Tell me, then, O Sassa, for great is thy wisdom, what am I to do in order to regain my peace of mind, and obtain relief from my present state of weariness and disgust?'

"When the wise Sassa had heard from his Sovereign the detail of his grievances, he instantly bethought him of a rare game, known to him by report, the invention of an ancient Grecian sage, by name Hermes, which had recently been introduced into India by Alexander and his soldiers, who used to play at it at times of leisure. This game, in truth, the 'Shatranj Kâmil,' or 'Perfect Chess' of which the Hindûs had acquired a crude notion; but not one of them could play it correctly, because *they were a stupid and ignorant race of people.* This much, however, Sassa had learned, that the game of Chess, the invention of Hermes, the Grecian sage, represented an exact image of war, such as might have been carried on between two Kings, and consequently that it might, in reality, prove to be a seasonable remedy in the case of his own Sovereign. Then said Sassa to the King, 'Sire, grant me a little time on this important business, and I believe I shall be able to accomplish something in your behalf, so that you may still enjoy all the excitements of war, and the delights of victory, while at the same time your servants and subjects may live safe and secure in the enjoyment of peace and prosperity.' At this proposal the King was highly pleased, he granted the Minister the time required, and said to him, 'On that day when you shall have relieved my mind from its present state of misery, I will freely confer upon you whatever boon you may ask.'

"Sassa immediately sent messengers in quest of the chess board and men, which were accordingly procured for him. Inasmuch as he was a man of great penetration, he soon succeeded in discovering the moves of the pieces and the nature of the game. This done, he said to himself, 'Verily the inventor of this game was a profound philosopher; the sages of Hind could never have accomplished this; nor are they capable of understanding it. Now if I were to present the game in this perfect state, before my own Sovereign, assuredly he would never learn to play it, neither would his mind find any delight therein. Let me then amplify this mere invention of the Grecian sage, so that it may fall within the scope of the Royal understanding and capacity; for, hath not our prophet Muhammed (on whom be peace!) said to one of his companions, 'you must address yourself to mankind in accordance with the nature of their dispositions and the extent of their capacities.'

"Hereupon, Sassa, the wise Minister, reduced the fifty-six pieces of the 'Perfect Chess' to thirty-two in number; having thus discarded twenty-four pieces from the great board of the Grecian sage. All that had been difficult in the original game he rendered easy; and he conferred on all the Pawns the very same privileges, viz., that of becoming Farzins only, on reaching the opposite extremity of the board; and not that of becoming a Rook, a Knight, or a Bishop, according to circumstances, as in the older game. And he made the board to consist only of eight squares by eight, that is altogether sixty-four squares—the form in which it is now used; and then he presented it to the King. The latter soon acquired the theory and practice of the game, and night and day it formed his supreme delight, and he thenceforth gave up all thoughts of war and bloodshed in the real battle-field. One day he thus addressed his wise Minister, 'O, Sassa, did I not promise thee that I would give thee as a boon whatever thou wouldst be pleased to ask of me? Now is thy time to claim thy reward. I am a King of my word; for base and contemptible is that Sovereign who deceiveth in falsehoods, and who shrinketh from the fulfilment of his promise.'

"The sage Minister replied, 'O, my Sovereign, may you live a thousand years! I merely ask as my reward that for the first square on the board you give me one silver dram, two for the second square, four for the third, and so on, doubling the number for each square, till the sixty-fourth square is attained.' To the King the demand seemed very insignificant, and as he spoke, 'Friend Sassa, I have hitherto looked upon you as a man of wisdom; why will you render me ridiculous by limiting your demand to such a contemptible and trifling sum! You ought to have asked for something worthy of one of my munificence and of your own merit.' The Minister made his obeisance and said, 'Sire, I am quite satisfied with what I have asked, nor would it be becoming in your servant to alter his demand, merely because your Majesty is bountiful and liberal.' Once more the King said, 'Sassa, have you ever found me backward or ungraceful in rewarding the faithful services of my friends? Your wits have altogether forsaken you; ask me at least to make you ruler of one of my kingdoms, or possessor of one of my well-stored treasuries.' To this Sassa replied, 'Sire, I will thus far comply with your commands, that if, after my present demand is settled, you should think that ought further is due to me, I will freely accept the same as a mark of your Majesty's bounty and liberality.'

"To this proposal the King readily agreed. He then sent for his treasurer, and said to him, 'Take with thee the sage Sassa, and pay to him from our treasury the small sum he hath demanded of us.'

"Hereupon the treasurer, together with the accountants and the sage Sassa, went to the Royal treasury, and brought themselves to the calculation of the 'gross sum.' At first matters went on easily and rapidly, and the accountants indulged in sundry facetious remarks, not over-complimentary to Sassa, on the score of worldly wisdom. But by the time they had passed the thirty-second square or so their mirth was changed into gravity. The treasurer clearly perceived that all the dirams in the face of the earth, if multiplied millions of times over, would not suffice to satisfy Sassa's demand. This astounding fact was explained to the King; who, after due reflection, said, 'I now perceive the full extent of Sassa's profound wisdom. Verily I know not which I ought most to admire, the ingenuity of the game itself, or that of the Minister's demand. It is evident that what he asks is not in my power to give; but all that I possess is the way of territories and treasures I will freely bestow upon him. The whole of my possessions are henceforth his, and in the disposal of them his commands shall be paramount; all I ask is, to be allowed to pass the remainder of my days under his shadow, in the enjoyment of the game of Chess.'

"Then Sassa thus spake:—'Sire, I will have none of your territories and treasures; I am far happier in what I already enjoy—that is, your Majesty's esteem. As to mere worldly wealth, of what use is it to me? Have I not hitherto lived upon your bounty! Your property has at all times been to me as my own; and, should I ever want aught, I will freely ask it of your Majesty, without any fear of disappointment. Sire, you have been pleased to acknowledge that I possess some wisdom; and that is the only wealth I really stand in need of. It is a species of property which no one can take from me by force or fraud; while territories, and treasures, and palaces, and thrones, are all liable to decay. Sire, let us all seek after knowledge and wisdom, for these are the only possessions that will abide with us till the hour of death.'"

SECOND ACCOUNT.

"It is related that once upon a time there reigned in Hind a certain King, whose name was Kûr. He possessed great wealth, extensive territories, and a numerous army. On his death he was succeeded by an only son, then under age; and the consequence was, that the neighbouring Kings, who had stood in awe of the father, endeavoured to wrest his territories from the youthful and inexperienced son. From all quarters of the kingdom tidings arrived of the oppressive measures taken without, and of the insolence of rebellion within. In this state of things the elders of the people assembled together and said 'O, Prince, your enemies are collecting their forces, with a view to wrest from you your kingdom, your treasures, and your life.' The Prince said, 'I am very young, and as yet without experience; I pray of you to advise me as to what you consider best to be done.' They answered, 'It behoveth thy father's son to draw the sword, and lead forth our gallant troops against the enemy.' The young Prince replied, 'Assuredly my hand is ready to draw the sword; but, alas! I have never seen war. How, then, can I presume to become the leader of brave men?' They said, 'Fear nothing, you shall be surrounded by able and experienced warriors, and by wise counsellors, who will soon instruct you how to conduct your forces in the battle-field. All your faithful subjects will support you with their lives and fortunes. But time presses, and the foe must be met before he can enter your territories, slay your people, and burn your towns.' Now they say that Sassa, the son of Dihir, was this Prince's Prime Minister and Chief Counsellor. He abridged the 'Perfect Chess,' as already mentioned, and brought the board and men to the Prince, saying, 'Here you have an exact image of war, which is conducted on principles similar to those which regulate this wonderful game. The same caution in attack, and coolness in defence, which you have to exercise in war, you will have occasion to put in practice on the battle-field.' The Prince with eagerness availed himself of Sassa's instructions until he made himself fully acquainted with the principles of the game. He then assembled his army, and went forth in full confidence, to encounter his enemies, whom he utterly defeated at all points. He then returned home in triumph, and ever after he cherished his love for Chess; to a knowledge of which he considered himself indebted for the preservation of his honour, his kingdom, and his life."

THIRD ACCOUNT.

"In Firdausi's epic poem, the Shâhnâma, it is related, that about the time of Nasshirwân the Just there reigned in Northern India a King, by name Jambir, whose sway extended from East to the confines of China. On his death he left an infant son whose name was Gau; and as usual in such cases, the people conferred the Sovereignty on the late King's younger brother, who, in course of time, married the elder brother's widow, by whom he had a son named Bakhtiar. In a short time the King also died, and the people then conferred the sovereignty on the widow. This state of things continued till her two sons became of age. As these two Princes were equally ambitious of sovereign power, they one day went to their mother, and said, 'Which of us two do you deem best qualified to become your successor?' The mother at this question was greatly distressed, for she loved both her sons alike, and she could not name one of them her successor without grieving the other. She, therefore, answered, 'That one of you shall be my successor, who shall prove the bravest in battle, the wisest in council, and the most beloved by the people and the army.' At this reply the brothers withdrew, but frequent and angry altercations used to take place between them. Tukhaud, the younger, contended that the Sovereignty was his as his father's inheritance; Gau could say in reply, 'The kingdom was given to your father merely on trust, as my guardian; he was only to act as Regent during my minority. Besides, I am our mother's eldest son; and in every view of the case I am the rightful heir to the throne.' The mother, on hearing of these disputes, was sadly perplexed, for she was really desirous of retaining the love and affections of both her sons, which now appeared to be altogether impossible. She, therefore, proposed that the people and the army should be appealed to for their decision—a measure to which the Princes agreed. Unfortunately the people and the army were divided in their sentiments; some declared for the elder brother and some for the younger; so that at last the matter terminated in a civil war

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To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

Sevenoaks, 8th January, 1855.

In the report of the meeting which I held in St. Martin's Hall, on the 1st January, it is stated that I complained of obstructions from the press. I complained only of the *Times*, which is the only paper that refused my advertisement, and declined to give any reason for so doing, or to say on what principle it was rejected

I have no complaint to make against any other paper; and your correction of this error will oblige,

Yours faithfully, ROBERT OWEN.

WAR MEETING IN WESTMINSTER.—On Wednesday evening a public meeting of the inhabitants of the parish of St. Ann, Westminster, was held in the vestry-hall, Dean-street. The meeting was convened in consequence of a numerously signed requisition addressed to the churchwarden, and for the purpose of expressing deep sympathy with the brave army now being sacrificed in the Crimea, and of petitioning her Majesty to remove the efficiency of the various heads of departments, that confidence may be restored, and a belief created that every effort will be made to preserve the remainder of the British army from destruction. Mr. George, the churchwarden, presided; and, in opening the proceedings, commented strongly on the culpable neglect of the Ministry, which had led to our forces being ruthlessly sacrificed. He had no hesitation in saying that the Government was not in earnest in carrying on the war, and had failed to avail themselves of the boundless resources placed by the country at their disposal. Mr. J. Rogers proposed, and Mr. H. Frost seconded, the first resolution, which was unanimously adopted, and was as follows:—"That the meeting, in expressing its sympathy for the brave army now being sacrificed in the Crimea, cannot help mourning the unnecessary sufferings, diseases, and death to the delay and mismanagement on the part of the Government, and the neglect and indifference of those placed in authority." Resolutions were then passed to the effect that a petition, embodying the objects of the meeting, should be presented to her Majesty, and forwarded to the Earl of Derby for the purpose of such presentation. A vote of thanks was awarded to the chairman, and the meeting separated.

STORY OF A WILL. We find the following anecdote in the *Times*:—One of the most opulent of the Amsterdam capitalists died a few days ago, one Mynheer Van der B. He was during his lifetime very careful not to disclose to any one the amount of his possessions. He would not even confide in his notary. Thus, when a few years ago this worthy Dutchman a Roman Catholic—made his will, he resolved not to permit even his professional advisor to have anything to do in its composition. In the privacy of his own cabinet he made such a division of his almost fabulous wealth as he deemed right. The document was then sealed up and enclosed, then placed in an envelope, sealed it with his own signet, and transferred it to the archives of his notary, by whom (and four witnesses, as the law requires) it was signed, registered, and (only legalised as the will of the person whose signature it bore. On his death bed he communicated to certain of his friends the fact that one of the items in his will was 250 florins as a legacy for every Roman Catholic priest residing in Amsterdam. This was no great tax upon the good man's heirs, and Mother Church required some proof of affection from her dying son. He died shortly after, and his will was opened. But the shrewdness of a Dutch capitalist had been deceived. The Roman Catholic priests were not mentioned in the document; that word had, by some accident, escaped the writer's pen, and the legal heirs, as the notary read to them their rather small legacies, (including residing in Amsterdam at the time of his decease the sum of 250 florins, or words to that effect, thinking on the established care of the late testator) contend, as the notary read to them their rather small legacies, proceedings have been instituted by the family to obtain a rule against the enforcement of the will, but, as the error cannot be proved, the writer of it was never afflicted with an hour's insanity, and his profits will far more than meet all the claims resulting from this singular accident, it is not probable the plaintiffs will obtain a verdict. Several years ago, have already been made, and it will probably reach about 12,000,000 florins to carry out the liberal conditions of the will. However, 49,000,000 or 50,000,000, it is said, will still be left as a consolation for this injured family.

THE LATE LIEUT.-COLONEL PAKENHAM.—FROM A DRAWING BY HENRY TIDEY.

LIEUT.-COLONEL PAKENHAM.

The late Lieut.-Colonel E. W. Pakenham, 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards, was the eldest son of the late Lieut.-General the Hon. Sir Hercules Pakenham, K.C.B., and nephew of the late Earl of Longford. He entered the service some years ago, and got his promotion on going to the seat of war in February last. He was returned a member of Parliament for his native county of Antrim at the last election. The career of this gallant young officer was glorious though short. He was amongst the first who embarked for the East, for though the possessor of an extensive estate, in the enjoyment of which he might have surrounded himself with all the gratifications of public and private life at home, he accompanied his regiment to find there, in the bloom of youth and vigour, a soldier's grave. It is, however, to his sorrowing relatives and his attached constituents a proud though sad solace, that in his fall the honour of his country, and of the heroic family whose name he bore, as well as of that glorious name of Wellington with which his own is connected by ties of family, has been nobly sustained. After escaping the sickness of Minié ammunition, piles of shell, trusses of hay, and sacks of barley and potatoes, which are all landed in the wet, and stacked in the mud The motley crowd that is perpetually wading about among these piles of uneatable eatables is something beyond description. The very ragged, gaunt, hungry-looking men, with matted beard and moustaches, features grimed with dirt, and torn great-coats stiff with successive layers of mud these men whose whole appearance speaks toil and suffering, and who instantly remind you of the very lowest and most impoverished class of Irish peasantry—are the picked soldiers from our different foot regiments, strong men selected to carry up provisions for the rest of the Camp Mixed with these are about 200 horsemen, whose lank, feeble steeds, seem barely able to move about with their riders through the thick, tenacious mud. The horsemen themselves are all pretty much alike—that is, they are all ragged and all muddy; yet, on examining these men closely, you perceive that some have dingy brass helmets on their heads, others the small Scotch cap of the "Greys;" the remnants of red trousers indicate a Hussar; while a head-dress curiously misshapen discovers a Lancer. The led horse carries one bag of biscuit, and frequently is unable to bear this weight (80 lb.) more than half the distance to the Camp, when they fall and get rid of two burdens—their lives and their biscuits—together.

that raged at Varna and its vicinity, he landed in the Crimea on the 14th of Sept.; and distinguished himself at the battle of the Alma, and in the magnificent charge made by the Guards, which turned the fortune of the day, he was foremost in leading on his men to victory. He and his company were amongst the first who entered and retained possession of the famous battery on the height that had previously caused such dire destruction to our troops. He himself first jumped over the embrasure, and was seen by one of the other Colonels of his regiment to scratch "Grenadier Guards," and the number of his company (7), with the point of his sword on the gun that was then taken. He had his right epaulette shot off by a cannon-ball in this battle. He was at the action of Balaclava, and went through the arduous march and siege operations, with the intense privations and difficulties that followed the landing of the troops, till the day of Inkerman, with the greatest patience and self-denial. At that most brilliant and hard-fought battle, at the Sandbag Battery, the key of the position held by the Allies, he fell, after displaying great bravery, covered with wounds. He lived, however, long enough to express his sincere hope as a brave soldier and sincere Christian.

BALACLAVA IN DECEMBER.

Compared with the dull marshy solitude of the Camp, Balaclava is quite a metropolis; in fact, there is not another village in the world which, for its size, could show the same amount of business and excitement as is perpetually going on ward in that little collection of huts which all the world is talking of under the name of Balaclava. The harbour is now like the basin of the London Docks, so crowded is it with shipping of all kinds; and from every one of these vessels, at all times of the day, supplies are being constantly landed. Along a flat, dirty causeway, rather beneath the level of the harbour, are boats and barges of all kinds, laden with biscuit, barrels of beef, pork, rum, bales of winter clothing, siege guns, boxes

CATHEDRAL IN THE ISLAND OF CEYLON.

The Cathedral of Christchurch, Colombo, has lately been consecrated to its sacred purposes by the Bishop of the Diocese. It is the first church in the colony, on a large scale, that has been designed in strict correspondence with the principles of Gothic architecture. It hitherto had been a matter of doubt whether it were possible to reproduce, under a tropical sky, the church of our English homes; or, if possible, whether such would be the best adapted to the climate, and convenient in other respects; the erection of the Cathedral has been eminently successful, notwithstanding many and serious difficulties. It must have been no easy matter for European art to accommodate itself to native means and native materials. A large share of the credit attaching to the successful completion of the work is due to Corporal Moore, of the 15th Regiment, who has been the resident architect, and superintended every stage of the operations. The original design was received from England, but various circumstances and difficulties compelled many departures from it, in which Corporal Moore was left to his own taste and ingenuity. The result has proved that her Majesty possesses in a corporal of her 15th Regiment a skilful architect as well as a loyal soldier.

NEW CATHEDRAL AT COLOMBO.

The interior length of the Cathedral is nearly 100 feet from east to west; its breadth is about 40 feet. The height and very graceful pitch of the roof (rising at an angle of forty-five degrees from the side walls) give the whole Church an appearance of lightness which cannot fail to strike on the first entrance. The plan consists of a nave and two side aisles; the latter separated from the nave by a row of four arches, supported on pillars of plain octagonal shafts with simply yet richly-moulded bases and capitals in the First Pointed or Early English style, which is strictly maintained throughout the whole Cathedral. Above the arches is the clerestory, marked off by a stringcourse, and pierced with five double-light windows. There is also a beautiful stained glass window above the west entrance. But, perhaps, the pride of the whole building, in an architectural point of view, is the chancel arch, with a height of 22 feet and span of 17½, exceeding, we believe, in both dimensions any pointed arch east of the Cape, even those in the Cathedral at Calcutta. The chancel itself is about 20 ft. square, paved with Minton's encaustic tiling. The east window has three lights; and on each side of the chancel are stained glass windows of simple design.

Another beautiful feature in the Cathedral is its furniture: the rich massiveness of the ebony in the chancel and the graceful form of the satin-wood in the nave display great taste in the design. As an illustration, we may notice especially the selection for ornament of such forms of foliation

BALACLAVA AND HARBOUR.

in finials and bosses as correspond with a tropical rather than a temperate climate. All is finished with the greatest nicety and care.

The exterior of the Church is equally worthy of praise. The gneiss or granite of which it is built gives an impression of solidity, and contrasts well, in its rich yet sober grey tint, with the fresh bright green of the surrounding foliage. The tower rising from the north-west angle of the Church is nearly seventy feet high, and will form a conspicuous and useful landmark, as it is visible for many miles out at sea.

Ceylon now possesses a Church combining beauty of proportion with elegance of detail—a centre of union where all Churchmen can meet in harmony and concord. She possesses, also, in the Co' ge and School of St. Thomas an establishment which contains within itself the germ of "better things to come" to many now in heathen darkness.

DR. WILSON.

THIS gentleman, who so highly distinguished himself in the battle of Inkerman, has just returned to this country in the *Himalaya* steam-ship. Dr. Wilson belongs to a family much esteemed and respected at Stranraer, in Wigtownshire. Finding that the 7th Hussars, of which he is Assistant-Surgeon, was not likely to be employed in active service, he got himself attached as volunteer to the Brigade of Guards; and at a most critical

DR. WILSON (7TH HUSSARS.)

moment of the battle of Inkerman succeeded, by his courage and presence of mind, in rescuing the Duke of Cambridge from a position of extreme danger For this service he received the thanks of his Royal Highness, at the head of the Brigade of Guards, at the close of that sanguinary engagement.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, CHATHAM, CONSECRATED ON THURSDAY.

Lord Raglan, in his despatch of Nov. 11th, states:—"His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge speaks in the highest terms of the spirited exertions of Assistant-Surgeon Wilson, of the 7th Hussars, who at a critical moment rallied a few men, which enabled them to hold the ground till reinforced."

Colonel Kingscote bears the following testimony:—"The Duke of Cambridge was quite surrounded once, and had it not been for Dr. Wilson, who was in the 7th Hussars, drawing his sword and cheering some men on, I believe he must have been taken or killed."

Dr. Wilson has been extremely popular both in the 7th Hussars and in the Guards, and is also much esteemed in the county in which he resides.

The accompanying Portrait is from a Daguerréotype lately taken in Edinburgh.

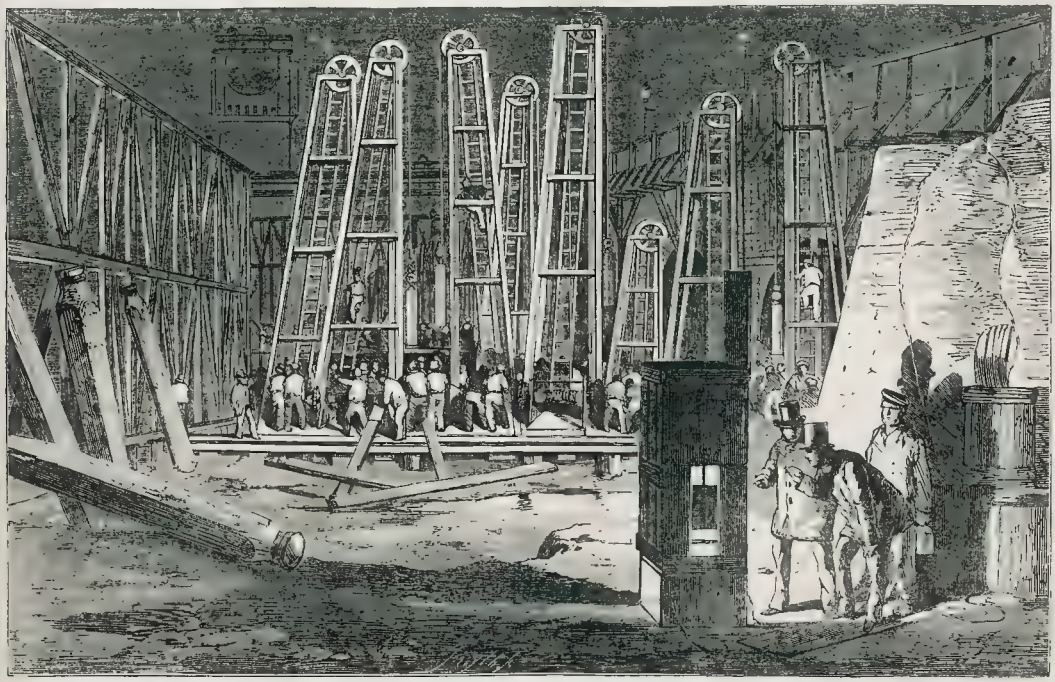
NEW CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, CHATHAM.

THE erection of this Church was commenced in the autumn of 1852, and the corner-stone of the tower was laid on the 23th of May in the following year, by the Earl of Shaftesbury; but its completion has been delayed by various circumstances.

The Church is situated on the slope of the hill on the south side of the New-road, Chatham, near the turnpike-gate. The assigned district consists of part of Chatham and part of Gillingham parishes

The Church is built of Kentish rag-stone and Bath stone dressings. The style is the Anglo-Norman of the twelfth century; its details partaking of much of the boldness and richness of effect found in the ancient example of the later period of that style. In plan the Church is a Latin cross, consisting of nave, transepts, and choir, with a semicircular apse forming the termination of the chancel. The tower occupies the north-east angle of the intersection of the choir and transept; and a turret-staircase at the south-east angle gives access to the transept galleries. There is also a western gallery. The other parts of the Church are entirely free and unobstructed. From the New-road a broad flight of terrace steps of easy descent lead down to the south porch or principal entry to the Church.

Accommodation is provided for 1010 persons, entirely free. The seats



COMMENCEMENT OF WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE.—THE WORKS BY THE ELECTRIC LIGHT.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

are open benches, and, with the roof-timbers throughout, are stained and varnished. The pulpit and font, together with the arcade-work of the choir and chancel-arch, are of stone, in full accordance with the style and character of the Church itself. The architect is Mr. A. D. Gough, of Lancaster-place, Strand.

The Church was consecrated on Thursday, by the Lord Bishop of Rochester. Prayers were read by the Rev. George Venables, who has been appointed the incumbent of this new district. An eloquent sermon was preached from the 56th chapter of Isaiah, 7th verse—"My house shall be called a house of prayer for all people"—by the Rev. Thomas Robinson, D.D., Master of the Temple and Canon of Rochester.

The Church has been erected by subscription, aided by grants from her Majesty's Commissioners for Building Churches and the Church Extension Fund; together with two donations of £1000 each from private individuals. The Church is situated in the midst of a very poor district, the population of which amounts to 5000. The endowment has been provided by the Dean and Chapter, who have apportioned for that purpose £250 of the Vicarial tithe-rent charge of the parish of Chatham. After the consecration a collection amounting to £49 18s. was made towards defraying the debt which still remains on the fund for building the Church.

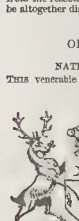
NEW WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE.

THE high illuminating power placed at our disposal by combustion through electric agency has been lately turned to good account in lighting the works now in progress at Westminster-Bridge. The coffer-dams formerly very generally employed in laying the foundations of a bridge are abandoned in the present case; tidal-working being now practicable. As the business of pile-driving can only be proceeded with at low water, it was desirable that the works should progress by night as well as by day, and the electric light appeared to Messrs. Mare and Co., the contractors for the works, a valuable agent for the purpose. A battery, consisting of seventy-two cells, placed under the centre arch of the bridge, supplied the power necessary, the lighting apparatus being stationed at the Surrey end of the Bridge. By means of a reflector a powerful light was thrown on a working stage in the bed of the river, a distance of some 200 feet, where iron piles of great length and solidity were being driven into the ground by the ponderous monkey-hammers. Although a much higher illuminating power might have been obtained than that used, every part of the works was flooded with a radiance far exceeding the brightest moonlight, though resembling its cold gleam in colour. The only drawback on the complete success of this light, and what will probably limit its usefulness, was the blackness of the shadows, from the absence of reflected light: every spot on which the light did not fall was intense obscurity, probably the greater from the contrast. It will certainly go far to supersede the old duck-lamp, and similar contrivances; though, from the reason we have named, the use of an auxiliary light will never be altogether dispensed with.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

NATHANIEL, SECOND EARL OF LEITRIM, K.P.

THIS venerable nobleman, who was in his 87th year, died on the 2nd inst., at his seat, Killadoon, county of Kildare. His Lordship was a Knight of St. Patrick, Lord-Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the county of Leitrim, Custos Rotulorum of Donegal, Colonel of its Militia, a Trustee of the Linen Manufacture, and Port Searcher of Dublin.



The family of Clements settled in Ireland in the reign of James I., and became ennobled in the person of Robert Clements, Esq., son and heir of the Right Hon. Nathaniel Clements, M.P., Deputy Vice-Treasurer of Ireland, who was created Lord Leitrim October 11th, 1783, and advanced to an Earldom October 6th, 1798. His son, the Peer whose death we record, obtained a Barony of the United Kingdom in 1831. He married Mary, eldest daughter and coheir of the late William Burnwyham, Esq., of Ross Hill, county of Galway, and by her, who died February 6th, 1840, leaves surviving issue three sons and three daughters. Of the former, the eldest, William Sydney, succeeds as third Earl; and of the latter, the eldest, Lady Mary, is married to the Hon. and Rev. Edward Southwell Bourke; and the youngest, Lady Caroline, to John Ynyr Burges, Esq., of Parkmaur.

The Earl of Leitrim was entitled to a large pension from Government, in right of services performed by his ancestor, but this pension he always declined to claim or receive.

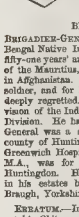
GENERAL CHARLES O'NIEL PRENDERGAST.

THE death of this distinguished officer occurred on the 9th ult. General Prendergast entered the Scots Fusilier Guards at an early age, and served with his regiment in the Peninsular War, where, to quote the *St. James's Chronicle* of the time, he "proved at Salamanca and Vittoria that he was a worthy scion of his time-honoured race." The ancestors of the late General have often taken an active part in the battles of their country, from the time of their Norman progenitor, Sir Maurice Prendergast, who assisted in the conquest of Ireland, to Brigadier-General Sir Thomas Prendergast, who held a command in Marlborough's army, and was killed in the battle of Malplaquet. At the present day, too, the name is of high military repute. The uncle of the subject of this notice, General Sir Jeffery Prendergast (who still survives), was at the storming of Seringapatam, and a youthful scion of the family, Lieutenant Lenox Prendergast, of the Scots Greys, is now returning from the Crimea, disabled by a severe wound in the foot, received whilst gallantly charging with his regiment on the memorable 25th October.

The deceased General was unmarried. His property is left principally to his brother, Jeffery Prendergast, Esq. (also formerly in the Guards), and to the family of his only surviving uncle, General Sir Jeffery Prendergast; with legacies to the relations of his mother and grandmother, the families of O'Niel and Gordon.

SIR GEORGE STRACEY, BART.

THE death of this Baronet, at the age of eighty-four, occurred on the 27th ult., at Thorpe, near Norwich. Sir George was second son of Sir Edward Stracey, of Rackheath Hall, county Norfolk, on whom a Baronetcy was conferred in 1818. He married, in 1814, Sophia-Anne, youngest daughter and coheir of Edmund Mapes, Esq., of Rollesburg Hall, by whom he leaves two daughters—Sophia, wife of Henry Heydges Clarke, Esq.; and Charlotte Brookshank, wife of Berkeley Augustus Macdonald Macpherson, Esq. Not having had male issue, he is succeeded in the title by his brother, now Sir Josias Henry Stracey, fourth Baronet, whose eldest son and heir-apparent is the present Captain Henry Josias Stracey, of Rackheath Hall. The late Sir George Stracey was in Holy Orders, and held the Rectory of Rackheath.



BRIGADIER-GENERAL THOMAS PALMER.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL THOMAS PALMER, Colonel of the 73rd Regiment Bengal Native Infantry, died recently at Mussoorie, aged sixty-seven, after fifty-one years' arduous service in India, including the expedition to and taking of the Mauritius, in 1810; the Nepaul War, in 1814 and 1815; and the war in Afghanistan. General Palmer was highly respected for his qualities as a soldier, and for his warm-hearted and benevolent disposition. He has died deeply regretted. He was at the time in command of the Cawnpore Division of the Indian army. Having previously been at the head of the Sirhind Division. He had also commanded, as Brigadier, at Delhi. The gallant General was a son of William Palmer, Esq., of Brampton House, in the county of Huntingdon, Commissioner of the Royal Navy, and Director of Greenwich Hospital. The General's only brother, the Rev. William Palmer, M.A., was for forty-four years Rector of Eynesbury, in the county of Huntingdon. He died in November, 1851. General Palmer is succeeded in his estates by his cousin, Thomas William Palmer, Esq., of Hull and Brough, Yorkshire.

ERRATUM.—In the head-line of the memoir of Mrs. Hamilton, in last week's Obituary, page 3, for "Mrs. Lee" read "Mrs. Hamilton."

WILLS AND PERSONALTY.—General the Right Hon. Sir James Kempt, G.C.B., died possessed of personalty estimated at £120,000.—Rear-Admiral W. W. Henderson, C.B., £12,000.—Colonel Trevelyan, £8000.—The Rev. Henry Anson, of Bath, £70,000.—James Bennett, Esq., of Enfield-highway, £30,000.—William Stubbs, formerly of Lancaster, file-manufacturer, £20,000.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The news received from Vienna in the early part of the week, that the Emperor of Russia had accepted the Four Points as laid down by the Allied Powers as a basis upon which to negotiate peace (and as negotiations have been since carried on upon the points in question), has had great influence upon the English Stock Market. A considerable rise, equal to two per cent, has consequently taken place in the quotations; and altogether the amount of business doing, both for immediate delivery and time, has been extensive. As regards the new French Loan, we may observe that the greater portion of it has already been taken up in France, and that the subscriptions here rather exceed £3,000,000 sterling. In the Stock Exchange it has been done at 2½ to 2¾ premium.

Some uneasiness has been felt in certain quarters as to the amount of gold which will be supplied to France on account of the new loan. No doubt the amount will be large, but about £10,000,000 has been sent off, and large supplies will follow during the next ten days. This drain, coupled with the total cessation of imports from the United States, will, in all probability, reduce the stock of gold in the Bank of England to something like £19,000,000 by the end of March.

There has been a good demand for money for commercial purposes. It has, however, been met, without leading to any change in the rate of discount.

The Consol Market on Monday was very active, and prices rapidly advanced. The Three per Cents Reduced were 91¼ up to 92; the Three per Cent Consols, 91¼ to 92¾; the New Three per Cents, 91¾ to 92¾; and Consols for Account, 91¾ to 92¾. Bank Stock was done at 208¾ to 210; India Stock, 224 to 225. India Bonds were 13s.; Exchequer-bills, 4s. to 7s. premium, Exchequer-bonds, 99 ½ ¾. There was less activity in the market on Tuesday; nevertheless, the previous day's advance was fairly supported. The Three per Cents Reduced varied from 91¾ to 92¼; Three per Cent Consols, 91¾ to 92¾; New Three per Cents, 92¼ to 92¾; Long Annuities were 4 3-16; India Stock, 226; India Bonds, 11s. to 14s.; Exchequer-bills, 4s. to 7s. premium. Exchequer-bonds, 99¾ ¼. On Wednesday no material change took place in the quotations. Bank Stock was 208¾. The Three per Cents Reduced rose from 92¼; the Three per Cent Consols, 92¾; New Three per Cents, 92¾; and Consols for Account, 92¾. India Bonds were 14s.; Exchequer-bills, 4s. to 7s. premium. The dealings on Thursday were steady, and prices somewhat firmer. The Three per Cents, for Money, were 91¾ to 92¼ and ditto, for Account, 92¼ to ⅝. Bank Stock marked 208¾. Exchequer-bills, 4s. to 7s. premium. Exchequer-bonds, 99¾ ⅝. The New Three per Cents Reduced, and the Three per Cents Reduced, 92¼ to 92¾.

There has been considerable activity apparent in the Foreign House, and large purchases of Stock have been made at, in some instances, a considerable rise in the quotations. Brazil Five per Cents have marked 99; Mexican Three per Cents, 21¾; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 71; Russian Five per Cents, 102; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 92, ex div.; Spanish Three per Cents, 22; Ditto, New Deferred, 33¾; Ditto, Old Deferred, 17¾; Portuguese Four per Cents, 16; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 61¼ ex div.; Dutch Four per Cents, [illegible]; Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, [illegible]; Ecuador Bonds, 4; Portuguese Four per Cents, [illegible]; Chilian Five per Cents, 85.

Joint-stock Bank Shares have been firm, and prices have slightly advanced:—Australasia have realised 79; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 1¼; London Chartered, 21¼; London and Westminster, 42¾; New South Wales, 35; Oriental, 38¼; Union of Australia, 66¼. Miscellaneous Securities have sold as follows:—Australian Agricultural, 35½; Canada Government Six per Cent Bonds, 107; ex div.; Crystal Palace, 3; General Steam Shipping Company, 13¼; London Dock, 103 ex div.; Mexican and South American, 6¾ ex div.; North-British Australasian, ¾; Peel River Land and Mineral, ¾; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 89; Royal Mail Steam, 61; South Australian Land, 37; Tasmanian Company of Upper Canada, 5¾; City Navigation Bonds, 80; Ditto, Patent Candle Company, 36¾. Canal Shares have been firm. In prices very little change has taken place. Ashton and Oldham, 141; Coventry, 209; Derby, 84; Grand Junction, 53; Grand Surrey, 48; Leicester, 89; Loughborough, 675; Neath, 150; Oxford, 110; Regent's, 15; Rochdale, 80; Stafford and Worcester, 428; Stourbridge, 285; Worcester and Birmingham, 26 to 24. In Railway Stock Shares very little has been done. Berlin, 3; Grand Junction, 70; Kent, 79; Southwark and Vauxhall, 39¾; New River, 85; West Middlesex, 98. Gaslight and Coke Companies' Shares have realised the following quotations:—British Provincials, 21; City of London, 100; Equitable, 29; Great Central, 11; Imperial, 96; Ditto, New, 10. Phœnix, 26¾; Rateliff, 70; Surrey Consumers', 11; United General, 19¾; Westminster Chartered, 40. Insurance Companies' Shares have ruled very little attention. Globe, 124 ex div.; Guardian, 54¾; Imperial Fire, 330; Ditto, Life, 18¾; London, 29; Marine, 23; Provident Life, 39; Rock Life, 7¾; Sun Life, 57¾; Victoria, 5¾. Bridge Shares have been flat at Hungerford, 12; Vauxhall, 23; Waterloo, 4¾; Ditto, Old Annuities of £3, 31; Ditto, New of £7, 28.

Railway Shares have been in good request. Prices generally have advanced. The following are the official closing quotations on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Caledonian, 62; Dublin and Belfast Junction, 43; Dundee, Perth, and Aberdeen Junction, 66; Eastern Counties, 11¼; Eastern Union, 12; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 52; Great Northern, 91¼; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 91; Great Western, 69¼; Lancaster and Carlisle New Thirds, 11; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 75; London and Blackwall, 8¼; London and Brighton, 108; London and North-Western, 101¾; London and South-Western, 84¾; Midland, 69¾; North British, 31¾; North-Eastern—Berwick, 77; Ditto, Leeds, 142; Ditto, York, 54; North Staffordshire, 13¾; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 33¾; Shrewsbury and Hereford, 8¼; South-Eastern, 60; South Wales, 28; Thames Haven Dock and Railway, 3; Vale of Neath, 16¼

LINES LEASED AT A RENTAL.—Buckinghamshire, 97¼; Clydesdale Junction, 100; London, Tilbury, and Southend, 11¾; Royston, Hitchin, and Shepreth Stock, 134¼.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—East Lancashire Six per Cent, 135; Great Northern Five per Cent, 113; Ditto redeemable at Ten per Cent prem., 110¾; Ditto Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 100¼; Great Western irredeemable Four per Cent, 93; Ditto Birmingham Stock, 72¾; London and Brighton Five per Cent, 113; South-Western Thirds, 7¾; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire New £10 Shares, 12¾; Norfolk Four per Cent, 88; North British, 101; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Six per Cent, 113; South-Eastern Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 97.

FOREIGN.—East Indian Five per Cent, 21¾; Ditto Extension, 2¾; Grand Trunk of Canada Six per Cent, 90; Great Indian Peninsula, 5¾; Great Luxembourg, 3¾; Great Western of Canada Shares, 16¾; Paris and Rouen, 40; Sambre and Meuse, 8¾.

The Mining Market has been steady, but the transactions in it have been devoid of interest.

THE MARKETS.

CORN-EXCHANGE, *January 8.*—We had a fair supply of English Wheat on sale here to-day. All kinds met a very dull inquiry, at a decline in the quotations of from 2s to 3s per quarter. Foreign wheat met a very slow sale, and prices were almost nominal. In barley scarcely any business was transacted. Fine parcels gave way to, other kinds 2s per quarter. All kinds of malt sold heavily, on easier terms. The oats were slow to move, at lower money. For beans and peas, we had scarcely any inquiry, at a fall in value of 1s. per quarter. The flour trade was very dull.

January 10. The general demand to-day was in a most depressed state, and prices were nominally unaltered.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent red, 70s. to 74s.; ditto, white, 74s to 83s.: Norfolk and Suffolk red, 72s to 74s.; rye, 44s. to 47s.; grinding barley, 31s. to 33s.; distilling, 35s to 38s.; malting, 35s to 37s. Lemon and Scotch, 40s to 42s.; brown ditto, 38s to 40s; Chevalier, 37s to 38s.; and Ware, 70s to 71s.; Chevalier, 72s to 73s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 23s to 27s.; potato ditto, 28s. to 30s.. Youghal and Cork black, 26s to 29s.; ditto, white, 26s. to 31s.; tick beans, 43s to 47s.; grey peas, 40s. to 42s.; maple, 42s to 45s; white, 47s. to 49s.; boilers, 49s. to 50s. per quarter. Foreign—Wheat, 68s. to 72s.; country marks, 53s to 60s. per 280 lbs.

Seeds. There is less doing in our market, as follows:—

Linseed, English, sowing, 72s. to 75s.; Baltic, crushing, 66s. to 68s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 66s. to 70s. Hempseed, 56s. to 58s. per quarter. Coriander, 16s. to 18s. per cwt. Brown Mustard seed, 12s. to 16s.; white ditto, 9s. to 13s. Tares, 9s. to 12s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £53 to £55 per last of 10 quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £12 to £13, ditto, foreign, £10 10s. to £12 10s. per ton; rape cakes, £6 5s. to £6 10s. per ton. Oats, 24s. to 25s. per quarter.

Bread. The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 10d. to 11d.; of household ditto 8½d. to 9½d. per 4 lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average. Wheat, 71s. 3d.; barley, 34s. 5d.; oats, 27s. 4d.; rye, 46s. 4d.; beans, 46s. 1d.; peas, 46s. 3d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 73s. 6d.; barley, 34s. 8d.; oats, 28s. 1d.; rye, 46s. 8d.; beans, 46s. 5d.; peas, 47s. 7d.

English Grain sold last week. Wheat, 90,641; barley, 109,183; oats, 14,656; rye, 317; beans, 3159, peas, 1907 quarters.

Tea. About an average business is doing in our market, and prices generally are well supported. Common sound congou, 12d. per lb.

Sugar.—The qualities have sold to a fair extent, at full quotations. All other kinds have met a very inactive demand. Low to mid. yellow Barbadoes has changed hands at 31s. to 34s.; brown Grenada, 29s. to 30s.; low to mid. yellow, 31s. to 32s.; low to fine Manilla, 29s. to 32s.; Mauritius, 34s. 6d. to 36s.; fine ditto, [illegible]; Cuba, [illegible]; Brown Penang, 28s. 6d. to 29s.; low to fine Bengal, [illegible]; Bengal white, [illegible] per cwt. Refined goods have changed hands to a moderate extent at 42s. 6d. to 44s. per cwt.

Coffee.—Nearly all kinds have sold slowly. In prices, however, we have very little change to notice. Good ordinary native has realised 45s 6d. to 46s 6d. per cwt.

Rice.—Our market is very dull, and, to effect sales, lower rates must be submitted to.

Provisions. There is a moderate inquiry for Irish provisions for about misbrancy prices. Fine foreign is somewhat easier; but English qualities are slow in sale. There is more doing in the Irish market, and the quotations have an upward tendency. Hams are very dull and lower.

Tallow. The demand is heavy, at a decline of 3s. per cwt. P.Y.C., on the spot, has changed hands, at 69s. to 61s. per cwt. Rough fat, 3s 6d. per 8 lb.

Oils.—Our market is very dull, and prices generally are drooping. Linseed oil has sold at 34 to 34½ 6d. In turpentine scarcely any transactions have taken place.

Hops.—The demand is very inactive, at from 90s. to 130s. per cwt. Pockets of Kent and Sussex have realised from 50s. to 80s. per cwt.

Wool.—So little business is doing in wool, that the quotations are almost nominal.

Potatoes.—The demand is very inactive, at from 90s. to 130s. per ton.

Smithfield.—Each kind of stock has been heavily at drooping prices.

Beef, from 3s 2d. to 3s 8d.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 3s.; veal, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; pork, 3s. to 4s. 4d. per 8 lb. to sink the offals.

Newgate and Leadenhall.—The trade has ruled dull this week, on lower terms.—

Beef, from 3s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 4s. to 4s. 10d.; pork, 3s. to 4s. 6d. per 8 lbs. by the carcase.

ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5.

WAR-OFFICE, JAN. 5.

Cols. W. D. Jones, W. Brereton, T. Pearson, to be Major-Generals

Lieut.-Cols. R. F. Grant, G. J. Beresford, H. C. Staun, and Brevet Lieut.-Col. the Hon. R. C. H. Spencer, to be Colonels in the Army.

Royal Horse Guards. Cornet J. D. Shakle to be Lieutenant

2nd Dragoon Guards. Troop Sergeant-Major T. Cooper to be Quartermaster

6th Cuirbt C. Sewell to be Paymaster

Grenadier Foot Guards. Troop Sergeant-Major C. M. Foster to be Quartermaster

Grenadier Foot Guards. Ensign and Lieut. G. H. Turner to be Lieutenant and Captain; Ensign A. W. Hamilton to be Ensign and Lieut.

1st Foot. Lieut. H. W. Turner to be Captain. Ensign H. G. White, Ensigns Rowland, L. S. Curtois, to be Lieutenants; the Hon. T. O. W. Plunkett to be Ensign.

3rd Foot. Lieut. M. Elliot Murray, Ensign T. G. Massy, H. B. Maude, H. P. Stokes, to be Lieutenants. Ensign to be Ensign.

[illegible] Lieut. W. Thomas, R. L. O. Pearson, H. W. F. Butler, [illegible] Brevet Lieut.-Col. J. H. Hayland, to be Captains; W. Hope to be Ensign

5th. Capt. E. H. Yate to be Captain; Ensign W. C. Elliott, H. H. Thompson, to be Lieutenants. Lieut. J. H. Cumming to be Ensign

14th. Lieut. J. G. Kaynoch to be Captain; Ensigns E. W. Saunders, W. Dodds, A. Gordon, to be Lieutenants.

17th. Brevet-Major C. Seagram to be Captain; Ensigns E. J. Lees, G. S. Butler, J. O. Travers, to be Lieutenants.

[illegible] Ensigns E. C. Wilford, J. F. Blag, to be Lieutenants

[illegible] Lieut. G. S. Nutting to be Lieutenant, F. Davis to be Ensign.

[illegible] Lieuts. H. James, G. Bennett, to be Captains; Lieut. F. G. Hewett, Ensigns J. S. [illegible] to be Lieutenants. [illegible] Blakelyn, to be Lieutenants

[illegible] Ensign [illegible]

[illegible] Lieut. [illegible] Maddon to have the rank of Lieutenant, Ensigns H. H. [illegible] to be Lieutenants

[illegible] Lieut. J. W. M'Cormack to be Ensign

[illegible] Ensign [illegible] to be Lieutenant

[illegible] Lieut. [illegible] Nov. 1854, to be Lieutenants, Ensign W. M. Dunbar to be Ensign.

[illegible] Brevet Lieut. [illegible] to be Major

44th. Ensigns [illegible] to be Lieutenants.

45th. Lieut. W. [illegible] to be Lieutenant

[illegible] Lieut. S. B. Keswick to be Lieutenant

[illegible] Lieut. H. B. Eager to be Lieutenant; W. M. Thorpe to be Ensign.

[illegible] Lieut. G. H. Thomson to be Captain

[illegible] Ensigns W. H. Northey, S. F. W. Browne, C. J. Mounsey to be Lieutenants

[illegible] Ensign F. N. Woodall to be Lieutenant

77th. Capt. Dudley W. Battley to be Captain

80th. Ensigns J. D. Morgan to be Lieutenants

[illegible] Ensign A. Breedon to be Lieutenant

[illegible] Ensigns R. Tyers, R. F. S. Richardson, C. Lane to be Ensigns.

1st West India Regiment. Ensign C. G. Anderson to be Lieutenant.

2nd Major D. E. Law to be Lieutenant-Colonel.

UNATTACHED.—Lieut. D. H. Plate to be Captain

ADMIRALTY, JAN. 4.

Commander J. B. J. Pears, to be Captain; G. Rogers to be Captains; Lieuts W. [illegible] W. Holland, G. Johnston, H. Lloyd, W. Bowden, J. P. Lucas, and [illegible] to be Commanders; Lieut. A. Gayton, F. B. Harrison, J. D. Robertson, A. T. Stubbs, and H. J. Chaille to be Lieutenants; H. L. Cleveland to be Master, G. A. Ryan, J. Forbes, H. J. Ellis, and J. H. Morgan to be Engineers; W. Warburton, H. Gray (A.), and J. H. Jackson to be Paymasters.

BANKRUPTS.

J. A. LINFORD and W. RICHARDSON, Shorbourne-lane, tavern and eating-house keepers.—G. HART, strand, ironmonger.—J. [illegible], Chertsey, Surrey, builder.—M. LOCKER, Bloomsbury-square, cabinetmaker.—J. [illegible] and W. B. SAUNDERS, Pontypool, Monmouthshire, [illegible].—J. [illegible] and W. [illegible], Pudsey, Yorkshire, scribbling miller.—J. [illegible], Pudsey, Yorkshire, [illegible].—J. [illegible], Gloucester-place, Camden-road, [illegible].—B. RANKING, Crook-road, Deptford, [illegible].—J. HARRIS, Bow, Middlesex, [illegible].—J. Mether Tydeil, Lincoln-terrace, Hoxton, [illegible].—J. DIGBY, Bury, Lancashire, W. T. ASHWIN, Montpelier-walk, Blackheath, chemist and druggist.—H. DEMPSEY, Bow-road, Middlesex, [illegible].—J. AIREN, Liverpool, draper.—J. HALL, Manchester, commission-agent.—J. DIXON, Gateshead, Durham, draper

BIRTHS

On the 8th inst., the wife of Mr. P. H. Delamotte, of a daughter

On the 9th inst., at Deare-house, Hampshire, the wife of P. Roland Lee, Esq., of a daughter

On the 8th inst., at Stoke, Devonport, the wife of Lieut. Wm. Glennie, R.N., of a son

On the 6th inst., at Wimbledon, Surrey, prematurely, the wife of Monsieur Constant Gibert, of a son, stillborn

On the 9th inst., at Clapham, the wife of Lieut.-Colonel Bunbury, 23rd Fusiliers, of a son.

On the 7th inst., at Dangerfield, Worcestershire, the wife of the Rev. G. E. Biggs, of a son, stillborn

On the 8th inst., at Harley-street, Cavendish square, the wife of Rev. E. Thompson, D.D., Vicar of Kington, Herefordshire, of a daughter

On the 2nd inst., at Spring-gardens, the residence of her father, J. Wilkin, Esq., the wife of the Hon. Mr. Justice Wilkinson, of the Supreme Court of Judicature at Bombay, of a son.

On the 3rd inst., at the Vicarage, Alrewas, near Lichfield, the wife of the Rev. R. K. Haslehurst, of a son

MARRIAGES

At the Cathedral, Barbadoes, on the 9th ult., by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of the diocese, the Rev. Preston Bruce Austin, Garrison Chaplain, and Curate of St. George's, to Sarah Anne, eldest dau. of the Rev. W. A. Smith, Rector of Great Bentley, Essex, to Anna Eliza, only child of the late Richard S. Griffith, Esq., M.D., of the above island

On the 30th ult., at St. Quentin, by the Rev. C. L. M. Phillips, Vicar, Mr Frederick W. Ordish, architect, London, to Isabella, youngest daughter of the late John Kilby, Gent., of Quentin-cough Hall, Leicestershire.

On the 2nd inst., at Tor Church, by the Rev. Dr. Harris, assisted by the Rev H. Woolcombe, the Rev. E. G. Brown, son of Lieut.-General the Hon. E. Brown, to Caroline, eldest daughter of A. Carthew, Esq., of Abbey Vale, Torquay

On the 6th inst., at St. James's Church, by the Lord Bishop of London, the Lord Bishop of Gibraltar, to Eleanor Jane, daughter of Colonel Fraser, of Castle Fraser, N B

On the 10th ult., at the parish church, St. John's, Hampstead, by the Rev. T. Aingar, incumbent, W. Wray, Esq., to Isabel Grace, youngest daughter of the late Major-General A. Hogg.

On the 6th inst., according to the rites of the Catholic Church, and afterwards in St. James's Church, Paddington, by the Rev. Mr. Cambell, M. J. O'Connell, Esq., oldest son of J. O'Connell, Esq., of Lakeview, Killarney, Ire., to Emily Chase, youngest daughter of Rear-Admiral Sir R. O'Connor, K.C.H., of Westbourne terrace, Hyde-park.

DEATHS

On December 20th, at Brighton, Isabella, relict of Harry Harwood, Esq., formerly of Wellington-house, Hertford, Esq., and daughter of the late Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Bart., Lady Cunning, in her 77th year

On the 7th inst., at St. Leonard's, the Lady Ann Maria, wife of W. Monsell, Esq., M.P., aged 41.

On the 3rd inst., at his residence, Bullwick, Brecon, the Rev. T. Vaughan, M.A., of Jesus College, Oxford, Rector of Llandefaelog Fache, Breconshire, Vicar of Billingsley, Shropshire, and for thirty years an active magistrate for the county of Brecon.

On the 4th inst., the Rev. H. Cooper, Vicar of Marton in Cleveland, aged 65.

On the 10th ult., at Kiposd, in Hungary, after a short illness, Lieut.-Col. L. Cary, 6th Regiment of Cuirassiers (Wahrendorf), aged 43

On the 6th inst., at Lowick, the Rev. J Stoddart, D D., Rector of Lowick and Islip, Northamptonshire, aged 80

On Thursday, the 4th inst., at the residence of her son, Duke-street, Westminster, Sophia, widow of Sir R I Brunel, aged 80

On the 8th ult., at Florence, J S Rodney, eldest son of the late Hon. J. and Lady L. Rodney

On the 5th inst., at Skelton Castle, Yorkshire, in her 81st year, the Hon C Wharton, widow of the Rev W Wharton, Vicar of Gilling, near Richmond, Yorkshire

On the 28th ult., at Weybread, Suffolk, Ann, widow of the late Rear-Admiral W. H Daniel, late of Dedham, Essex, in the 83rd year of her age

On the 8th inst., at Cambridge Villas Notting hill, Flora Sophia Anna, the beloved wife of Colonel C. C. Yarborough, Bias Regt.

On the 6th inst., at Sandgham, in the county of Norfolk, the Rev S Jodrell, in the 87th year of his age, and more than forty-two years Rector of that parish

On the 5th inst., Maria Catherine Parish, widow of the late Captain H W. Parish, Royal Horse Artillery, and daughter of the late General D. Drummond, of the Royal Artillery.

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE. — Lessee, Mr E T SMITH Reduced Prices.—Fifth Week and continued career of success of the GRAND NATIONAL HISTORICAL FANCY PANTOMIME, never equalled for rapidity of effect on the English Stage The Magical Transformations, Scenic Wonders, and the Palace of a Hundred Revolving Silver Columns in the Illuminated Temple of British and Allied Glories, produce each Evening tumults of applause from delighted thousands. New Comic Scenes each Week. Increased attraction in the Dancing First appearance of Jenny Wren Juvenile Banjo Dancing First appearance of Jenny Wren Juvenile Banjo Dancing First appearance of Jenny Wren Juvenile Banjo

A DREAM OF TWELFTH-NIGHT.—DRAWN BY GEORGE THOMAS.

Sir dreams! Through all her hush of night
A breeze of joy floats wild and warm;
No shadow dims the halo light
That rays her sleeping form,
Where, robed in spotless youth, she lies,
A saint, whose soul is in the skies!

For, is not earth here turned to heaven?
Her childhood's heaven—a dream of bliss,
A rapture scarce to mortals given,
A joy the sages miss,
O'er whose dim night shall rise no more
The spells that fly when hearts grow hoar.

No train of state encumbereth her,
Nor golden crown her golden hair;
No regal cares her bosom stir;
She mounts no marble stair.
Yet, tranced, she walks a land of light—
In thought, she is a Queen to-night.

Bright fairy forms, through visions glancing,
Have ringed her in a magic round.
The strains to which her feet are dancing
On earth shall never sound;—
But oh! such dreams are nearer truth
Than our sad world—that weeps its youth

Life's skies for her have lost the cloud:
Not yet—not yet the tempests roll;
Nor blinding tears have learned to shroud
The visions of the soul,
Where thrills through each God-given sense
The spirit-joy of Innocence!

O, not unhallowed is the theme,
Through which her girlish fancies glide!
Thou pour'st in one delicious stream,
Old Yule! thy sacred tide;—
The thought, the hope, the chastened glee,
O, Dawn of Love, speak all of Thee!

By those pure lips, so silent now,
All solemnly the prayer was said;
And by each living pulse we know
Who watcheth by the bed!
A guardian care is His, and deep,
"Who giveth his beloved sleep."

"Our Father," God, who knoweth best,
Who gives soft night the closing flower,
Who gives, in shadow and in rest,
Dreams meet for childhood's hour.
Shall He not give to Christ's dear care,
The child that sleepeth after prayer?—E. L. Hervey

THE THEATRES.

We are now terminating the third week of the pantomimes and burlesques, and the regular dramatic business of different establishments is accordingly about to recommence. For the three weeks just past the character of the entertainment at almost all the houses has been very miscellaneous, and various novels have been ventured under the shelter of the different attractive afterpieces. These have been performed for a night or two, and then withdrawn; but something of a more permanent character may now be expected. Thus, at the Princess', as we have mentioned, *Sir Edward Mortimer*, the *Stranger*, and *Hamlet* have furnished Mr Charles Kean with the opportunity of showing how delightfully and powerfully he can prove his title to the classic walks of the drama, and inspire us with hope, from the reception that he has experienced, that the public will sufficiently encourage him to justify his continuance in the same. This evening (Saturday) he will support, as further earnest of his desire to persevere in the legitimate direction, the part of *Louis XI.*, in M. Casimir Delavigne's excellent historical drama, which has been translated for the purpose. This part is not new to the English stage, having been performed by Mr. Davenport, at Drury-lane, two or three seasons ago; but it is one which is peculiarly adapted for the display of Mr. Kean's genius, and we expect that he will manifest in it no little of the depth and grandeur of passion that is so readily acknowledged in his *Hamlet* and *Glo'ster*. We trust that Mr. Kean may be able to plant the tragedy on his boards and thus initiate a new era in his management.—In like manner, at Sadler's Wells, Mr. Phelps has been indulging in a variety of characters including *Sir Anthony Absolute*, the *Stranger*, and *Hamlet*, the preference having been given to the last, which has been acted several times; but this week the recurrence of steady business is marked by the reproduction, on Wednesday, of the tragedy of "Pericles," for a second run. The cast continues the same as it was prior to Christmas; the characters of *Thaisa*, *Dyonizia*, and *Marina* being performed by Miss Cooper, Miss Atkinson and Miss Edith Bersad. At the Marylebone, Mr. and Mrs William Wallack have been resting, and depending on their past fame to ensure a temporary currency to a series of the better class of melodramas, which have been respectfully supported by the working company. When these have run their course, the tragedy of "Violka" will be rehearsed, to introduce —At the St. James's a similar register may be noted. Mrs Sevigny having appeared in some of Sheridan's and Bulwer's comedies. A lyrical drama, however, from the Greek, by Mr H Spicer, is now undergoing the rehearsal. At the Adelphi, and the Olympic, will probably depend, as their manner is, for some time yet to come, on their burlesques and extravaganzas, with an occasional revival.—The Haymarket will, for the present, trust to some reproductions of its already established pieces; but we may expect in due season, an original drama of more than ordinary merit.

Drury-lane.—This management has also fallen back on an old drama for temporary support—"The Regent," by Mr Planché—a translated piece, in which, some five-and-twenty years ago, Mr. Warde and Miss Somerville made considerable reputation. There is in it much amusing intrigue, and Mr Meud and Miss Marriott supported on Monday, with respectability, the principal parts. The audience were evidently pleased, and accordingly this revival may be pronounced successful.

Adelphi.—The management of this theatre has thought it expedient to corroborate their spectacle with a revival, on Monday, under the title of the "Mysterious Stranger," of one of Mr. C. Selby's versions from the French—the "Satan," in fact, of MM Clairville and Damarin. Madame Celeste performs the *rôle* of the lady, who, for the sake of love, assumes the appearance of the fiend, until, by such pretended magic, she has freed the object of her passion from the dangers by which he was surrounded. The various disguises by which she contrives to accomplish this purpose received from Madame Celeste their requisite and characteristic significance. Mr. Leigh Murray supported the part of the Parisian dupe with meritorious and discriminating propriety. The house was full, and the reproduction of this singular drama was received with approbation.

"A SKETCH."

PAINTED BY W. HEMSLEY.

In this clever little work (which we admire at the Winter Exhibition-room Pall-mall) Mr. Hemsley shows an improved and improving hand—a consciousness of power, and a self-reliance, which are the surest guarantees of success in art. He does not here depend upon a numerous group of characters, or upon a comically-contrived incident; nor, on the other hand, upon exaggeration of feature in his single subject. He appears to have studied simplicity as an element of effect; and he could not act on a truer principle. We have but one figure in this picture, that of a hard-working lad employed in a lowly, every-day office; but the life thrown into the action, the artist-like attitude, the intelligence of the expression—as if a professor observing the progress of an operation of all-engrossing importance—the appropriateness of the costume, and all the et cetera, constitute a picture of eminent merit

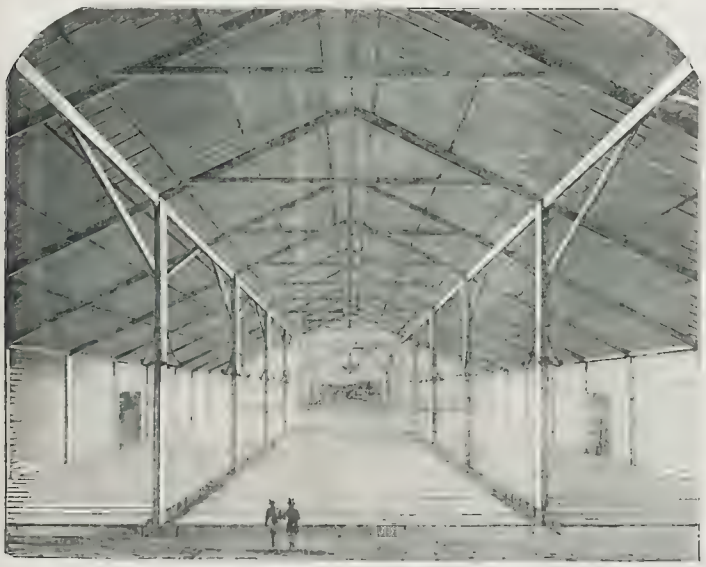
"A SKETCH."—PAINTED BY W. HEMSLEY—FROM THE WINTER EXHIBITION, PALL-MALL.

DUNSE TEMPERANCE PAVILION

Dunse is a small country town, situated in the centre of Berwickshire. Though the largest town in the county, it contains only a population of 2800. There is an old saying, that "Dunse dings a'." If ever there existed a doubt in the mind of any one as to whether Dunse really deserved this enviable pre-eminence over the other provincial towns of Scotland, the proceedings connected with the Great Pavilion must have for ever dispelled it. It appears that the well-known J. B. Gough was, some time since, engaged by the Total Abstainers to deliver an oration on Temperance in Dunse, when, in order to afford an opportunity to as great a number of persons as possible of hearing the lecturer, two of the largest churches in the town were [illegible] asked for the occasion. Both of these churches having been refused, and the others in the town being too small, the Committee, with that energy and enterprise for which they have all along been noted, resolved to erect a large wooden pavilion, capable of holding 3000 persons. For this purpose plans were prepared; [illegible] to work, and, in a brief space, the Pavilion was completed. The erection is 100 feet in length, 70 in breadth, and 30 in height. The roof, which covers the whole with one span, is supported by two rows of massive pillars. The speaker's platform is 7 feet high, and has space on both sides capable of holding 140 persons, which is occupied by the Committees of the Temperance Society in the county. Behind the platform is a large picture of the town of Dunse, measuring 30 feet by 20, [illegible] for the occasion. The building is brilliantly lighted with gas, and, [illegible] decorated with flags and other devices, presents a very tasteful appearance.

The opening of this Pavilion on the 21st of November last was a scene of intense interest. Long before the hour of meeting the vast area was filled with company, who were entertained with vocal and instrumental music. Shortly after eight o'clock Mr. Gough, the Committee and friends, left their room, and ascended the platform stair. The appearance of the great orator was the signal for a robust shout. The Rev. Mr. Ritchie presided: a brief but earnest prayer was offered up, and, with a few words, Mr Ritchie introduced Gough to his magnificent audience. He commenced in a few reluctant, hesitating sentences; then quicker, then faster and firmer still, until he gradually acquired that impetus which made him master of himself and of his great audience; and thus he held the mastery over them through a powerful oration until he closed with an affectionate "good night." The multitude heaved and applauded in ecstacy. The multitude again became hushed. The chairman congratulated them upon such an oration, and presented a number of books to the lecturer as a tribute from the Committee. Mr. Gough rose, and thanked the Committee and all present in a touching address. The benediction was pronounced, and the assembly broke up.

Mr. Gough again appeared in the Pavilion on the evening of the 6th of December before a still larger and, if possible, more enthusiastic audience. Before the meeting separated Mr. D. M. Horne, of Wedderburn, one of the largest landed proprietors in the county, who had been present on both occasions, moved a vote of thanks to the Committee for the energy and spirit displayed by them in the erection of this magnificent building, and for furnishing such an intellectual treat as had been enjoyed by the meeting on this and the previous occasion. The vast assemblage then retired, delighted with the eloquence of the great Orator of Temperance.



TEMPERANCE PAVILION, ERECTED AT DUNSE.

PLATE PRESENTED TO CAPTAIN CHARLES MACLEOD, LATE COMMANDER OF THE 1ST REGIMENT OF THE NIZAM'S CAVALRY.

This elegant Testimonial, a silver epergne of appropriate design, has been presented to Captain Charles Macleod, by the native officers and men of the 1st Regiment of the Nizam's Cavalry, under the following circumstances.

For a period of fourteen years Captain Macleod commanded that portion of the force of native troops formerly known as the 1st Regiment of Cavalry of his Highness the Nizam's army. Prior to January, 1854, the officers in command of, and attached to, the Nizam's army, chiefly held commissions from his Highness, their nominations to the service having originally received the sanction of the Supreme Government. At the above date, the Government of India, having concluded a treaty with the Nizam, by which a portion of his territory became ceded to the Company, the force hitherto designated as his Highness the Nizam's army, merged into the Hyderabad contingent, and was incorporated with the Hon. East India Company's forces. The officers holding local, or Nizam's commissions, on this change being made, were pensioned off; and, on this occasion, the native officers and men have presented the handsome Testimonial to Captain Macleod, who was so long their Commander. It bears the following inscription:—

Presented to Captain Charles Macleod by the Native Officers and Men of the 1st Regiment of his Highness the Nizam's Cavalry, as a humble token of their esteem and respect, for his zeal in maintaining their honour and promoting their welfare; for his unwearied attention to their interests and that of their families, during the long period of fourteen years that he held uninterrupted command of their Regiment.

The commission for this piece of plate was entrusted to Messrs. Smith, Elder, and Co., of Cornhill; and the manufacturers are Messrs. Smith, Nicholson, and Co., Duke-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

PLATE PRESENTED TO CAPTAIN MACLEOD, LATE OF THE NIZAM'S CAVALRY

The Queen of Spain's Present to the Pope.—On Christmas-day the Pope wore for the first time the magnificent tiara just sent to him as a present by the Queen of Spain, glittering with a triple row of splendid diamonds, and valued at half a million of francs. In the present critical condition of the Spanish throne such extent of piety and purse cannot fail to excite surprise. The remainder of her Majesty's offering, in the shape of six Andalusian horses, is said to be on its way to Rome

At St. Petersburg Lord John Russell's declaration in Parliament, that the Allies were content to leave Russia a great and powerful State, has been adopted as the *refrain* of a popular political song, the inscription of which is—"O, how sour are the grapes."

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

(FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE" OF TUESDAY.)

War Department, Jan. 8, 1855.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle has this day received a despatch, of which the following is a copy, addressed to his Grace by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, December 18, 1854

My Lord Duke, Nothing has occurred since I had the honour to address your Grace on the 11th instant.

The weather, which was then fine, changed on the following afternoon, and, [illegible] the morning of the 16th, it hardly ceased either to rain, hail, or snow.

The night of the 16th was particularly severe; but it cleared up yesterday, and we have had a fine day.

The hail days above mentioned have, however, rendered the communications more difficult, and materially retarded the movement of supplies and stores.

The [illegible] 17th Regiments have arrived from Gibraltar, and will take their [illegible] Brigade.

A considerable portion of the warm clothing has been received, and is in course of issue; and the men are most grateful to her Majesty's Government for having provided for them what conduces so essentially to their comfort.

I have the honour to transmit returns of the casualties between the 11th and 18th.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c.

RETURN OF CASUALTIES FROM 11TH TO 18TH DECEMBER 1854 INCLUSIVE

[illegible] Sergeant 1 rank and file, wounded
[illegible] Killed
[illegible] wounded
[illegible] 1 sergeant, 1 rank and file, wounded
[illegible] wounded
[illegible] rank and file killed, 8 rank and file wounded
[illegible] rank and file wounded
[illegible] Rifle Brigade 2 rank and file wounded
Total—3 rank and file killed, 7 sergeants, 17 rank and file, wounded

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General.

RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND MEN KILLED AND WOUNDED FROM 11TH TO 18TH DECEMBER, 1854, INCLUSIVE.

KILLED

[illegible] Guard Daniels
[illegible] Matthocks
[illegible] Dunce
7th Fusiliers—Privates Charles Marp, John Nowlan.

WOUNDED

[illegible] Sergeant John Smart, slightly; Privates John Innes, severely
[illegible] Private Michael Crawley, severely; William Morey slightly
[illegible] Foot—Privates Wm Brown, slightly
[illegible] Sergeant Michael Connor, slightly; Privates John Jones, severely
[illegible] Michael Mahoney, slightly
[illegible] Joseph Gaston, severely
[illegible] Patrick Redmond, William M'Connell, Peter Golding,
[illegible] severely. Privates Henry Thompson, Simon Doyle, severely.
[illegible] Corporal Peter Sweeney, slightly; Private John Lawrence, slightly
[illegible] Jutlandish Rifle Brigade—Sergeant Samuel Barwell, severely. Private Thomas Swindell, [illegible]

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General

War Department, January 9, 1855.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle has this day received two despatches, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Grace by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, December 23, 1854

My Lord Duke, [illegible] deal of rain has fallen in the last forty-eight hours, and the weather has become very [illegible]

The only occurrence [illegible] has been a sortie made by the [illegible] during the night of the 20th—the one [illegible] ently, the other with drums beating, and shouting; the first being probably the real object of the alarm, as nearer to the Inkerman heights.

Owing to the extreme darkness of the night, the enemy was enabled to come very near the right attack without being perceived; and having made a sudden rush upon the most forward parallel, they compelled the men occupying it to withdraw, until reinforced by a party under Major Welsh, of the 97th Regiment, when it was [illegible] possession of, and the Russians retired, not, however, without occasioning some loss in both killed, wounded, and missing. Lieut. Byron, of the 88th Regiment, being amongst the latter.

On the left attack the enemy were met with great gallantry, by Lieutenant Gordon, of the 38th Regiment, who, when supported by the covering party of the trenches, under Lieutenant-Colonel Wood, of the 50th, succeeded in at once driving them back. But here, I regret to say, the loss was still more severe. Major Miller, of the 50th, fell mortally wounded, and I am concerned to add a since dead; Captain Fraunton and Lieutenant Clive, behind the 50th Regiment, are missing. Sir Richard England speaks in high terms of the gallantry and vigilance of these troops, and of the distinguished conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Welsh.

I enclose a return of the casualties to the 20th inclusive

Two regiments of French cavalry, under General D'Allonville, made a reconnaissance on the 20th, towards the ground recently occupied by the enemy in front of Balaclava; while the 42nd Regiment, a detachment of the Rifle Brigade under Colonel Cameron, 42nd Regiment, and a battalion of Zouaves, made a corresponding movement on the [illegible] side. The latter saw only a picket of Cossacks, which retired upon the approach; the former exchanged shots with the enemy, and ascertained that they had scarcely any troops on the left bank of the Tchernaya.—I have, &c., RAGLAN.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c

RETURN OF OFFICERS WOUNDED AND MISSING FROM 17TH TO 20TH DECEMBER INCLUSIVE

WOUNDED

50th Foot. Major J. O Moller, dangerously slightly

MISSING

[illegible] Foot—Lieutenant J. Byron.
50th Foot—Captain H. J. Fraunton, Lieutenant M. A. Clarke

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General

Before Sebastopol, Dec. 26, 1854.

My Lord Duke,—I have nothing to report to your Grace to-day

The rain which prevailed on Saturday [illegible] on Sunday, and it was almost the worst day [illegible] At night it froze, and the frost has continued ever since, without being severe; and it has not as yet tended to dry the ground, still in a lamentable state

Every effort is making that the state of the roads will permit to bring up ammunition and the materials of siege, and General Canrobert's, in this respect, affording us the opportunity [illegible]

[illegible] Heavy fire upon our lines last night, and [illegible] Inkerman, that we daily suffer [illegible]

RAGLAN

RETURN OF CASUALTIES FROM 17TH TO 20TH DECEMBER, 1854.

[illegible] rank and file, wounded
[illegible] rank and file, missing
[illegible] 1 rank and file killed, 7 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file, missing
[illegible] 9 rank and file killed, 1 rank and file, wounded; 2 rank and file, missing
[illegible] 2 rank and file, killed; 1 sergeant, 4 rank and file, wounded, 1 officer missing
Sappers—1 rank and file, killed 4 rank and file, wounded
[illegible] Regiment—1 rank and file, wounded
[illegible] 1 rank and file, killed
[illegible] Sergeants, 12 rank and file killed, 1 officer 18 rank and file, wounded; 2 [illegible]
[illegible] rank and file, wounded
[illegible] Regiment, 1 rank and file, killed
[illegible] Regiment—1 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file, missing
[illegible] Regiment—1 rank and file, killed
[illegible] Rifle Brigade 2 rank and file killed, 1 rank and file, wounded
[illegible] Regiments, 13 rank and file, killed; 1 officer, 1 sergeant, 48 rank and file, wounded; 1 officer 21 rank and file, missing

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General

RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND MEN KILLED, WOUNDED, AND MISSING, FROM THE 17TH TO 2ND 20TH DEC., 1854, INCLUSIVE

KILLED

[illegible] Sergeant James M'Mahon
[illegible] Privates Timothy Holroyd, Stephen M'Garry.
[illegible] Private George Brown, Henry Watts
[illegible] Foot—Private Alexander Blair
[illegible] Foot. Private John Hill
50th Foot. Sergeant James Howarth; Corporal Benj Inglefield; Privates James Carmichael, James Coll, Stephen Connolly, Patrick Delaney, Samuel Dermitar, Timothy Keefe, James Malley, James Moran, Samuel Thompson, Patrick Thompson, Edward Wood; Lance Sergeant Thomas Andrew
[illegible] Drummer
[illegible] Privates Charles Hulcock and Thomas Malford

WOUNDED

[illegible] Foot. Thomas Ball, Edward Ball, [illegible] James Nowe, Thomas Watkins
[illegible] Watts, John Farrow
[illegible] Thomas Veins and Patrick Fitzgerald severely Edward [illegible] slightly
[illegible] Sergeant [illegible] severely; Privates Edward Howcott, Bartholomew [illegible]
[illegible] Privates John [illegible] Walsh severely
[illegible] Sergeant Kidder, severely; [illegible] slightly
[illegible] Private Alfred Hawks, severely
[illegible] Sergeant [illegible] Thomas Williams, William Walcroft,
[illegible] Henry [illegible] Thomas Malones Michael Nicholson,
[illegible] Sergeant Major [illegible] severely,
Privates [illegible] Michael Cummins, Nathan Wood, John Brady, Charles M'Carthy, John Taylor slightly
97th Foot. Private Edward Nugent, severely
1st Battalion Rifle Brigade. Private Frederick Hill slightly

MISSING.

19th Foot. Private William Vickers
23rd Foot. Privates Thomas Hunt, John Gillance, Thomas Gelling, George Sparks, Patrick Fagarty, John Thompson, Robert Cass, Matthew Dwyer, Andrew Hudson
33rd Foot—Privates Henry Smith and Thomas Baldwin
50th Foot. Corporal Timothy Calnan, Privates John Callaghan, Thomas Corcoran, Matthew Dagan, George Doyle, Edward Hartigan, Lawrence McAuliffe, Thomas Sinnott.
56th Foot. Private James Maher

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General.

RETURN OF CASUALTIES FROM 21st TO 23 DECEMBER, 1854, INCLUSIVE.

[illegible] rank and file wounded
[illegible] rank and file missing
[illegible] rank and file wounded
[illegible] rank and file wounded
[illegible] rank and file wounded
[illegible] rank and file wounded
[illegible] rank and file wounded
[illegible] rank and file wounded
[illegible] rank and file wounded
[illegible] rank and file wounded
Total—8 rank and file killed, 1 sergeant, 18 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file missing.

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General

RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND MEN KILLED, WOUNDED, AND MISSING, FROM 21ST TO 24TH DECEMBER, 1854, INCLUSIVE

KILLED

19th Foot.—Private James Edwards
[illegible] Privates Thomas M Grath, John M'Neil
[illegible] Privates James Graham, Thomas Wales, Thomas C Bennett, Hugh M Cassgon, John Mason

WOUNDED

[illegible] Privates James Hawkins, slightly. Isaac Jennings, Thomas Neale, severely.
[illegible] Private Charles Smith, slightly
[illegible] Sergeant James Atkins, slightly. James Patingham, severely.
[illegible] Foot.—Sergeant [illegible] Aaron Pagan, Charles Carroll, severely
49th Foot. Privates John Laughlin, James Nugent, slightly.
1st Battalion Rifle Brigade.—Corporal Richard Brooks, severely, Private Charles Bailey, severely

MISSING.

[illegible] Private [illegible] Buckingham, supposed to be killed in last return

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant General

THE QUEEN'S THANKS TO THE ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

The following Despatch from his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, Minister at War, has been published in General Orders, and read to the troops serving in the Crimea:—

War Department, Nov. 20, 1854

My Lord,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches, Nos. 83 and 84, of the 13th and 23rd of October

I have submitted to the Queen the interesting reports with which your Lordship has furnished me, on the detachments of the commencement and subsequent progress of those vast operations in which the Allied armies and fleets of her Majesty and of the Emperor of the French, in conjunction with those of the Sultan, are engaged against the strongholds of their common enemy; and I am commanded by her Majesty to express to your Lordship, and, through you, to the army under your command, the high satisfaction with which she has received the intelligence, so free of the efforts in a manner in which the fire of the Allied batteries was opened, than of the energy and determination with which that fire was subsequently sustained. The unfortunate occurrence of the explosion of a magazine in one of the French batteries, which took place at an early stage of the operations, must doubtless have prevented any immediate effect of a decisive nature being produced on the enemy's works; but her Majesty rejoices to find that the energetic and persevering efforts of the French commander enabled him to overcome the temporary check which this disaster appears to have imposed upon the exertion of the forces under his command.

Her Majesty is fully sensible of the motives which induced your Lordship to secure the co-operation of the combined fleets in the attack upon the enemy's works at the mouth of the harbour, simultaneously with the fire from the batteries on the land side. The aid which, so far as they were enabled to render it, was then afforded by the naval to the exertions of the land forces is highly appreciated by her Majesty, and I am further commanded to express the great satisfaction with which Her Majesty has received the intelligence communicated by your Lordship of the [illegible] assistance afforded by the sailors from the fleet, under the command of Captain Lushington and Captain Peel, in the land [illegible]

The [illegible] sympathises with those who, during the progress of the [illegible] of your present despatches, have been wounded, in the service of their country; and has received with sincere sorrow your report of the loss of those of his gallant soldiers and sailors who have been killed. It is impossible that opens one of such great magnitude and difficulty, more especially when the vast resources of the enemy and the powerful means of [illegible] nation, should be unattended by loss; and Her Majesty cannot but regard the continued exposure to the incessant fire of an enemy vastly superior in numbers to which her forces both naval and military have been subjected, that loss, during the period included in the returns of casualties enclosed in your despatches, is not so great as might have been anticipated. I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

NEWCASTLE

Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B., &c.

The following have also been published in General Orders:—

Extract from a Letter of the Duke of Newcastle to Lord Raglan, dated November 21, 1854.

I take the present opportunity to assure your Lordship of the satisfaction with which I have received the testimony borne by Major-General Sir Colin Campbell in his representations, contained in your despatch of the 28th of October, to the assistance rendered by the Royal Marine Artillery and Royal Marines, in opposing the advance of the enemy's cavalry in the action before Balaclava of the 25th of that month.

War Department, Nov. 23, 1854

My Lord,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch, No. 84, of the 30th of October, which reached me on the 17th instant.

I have lost no time in submitting to the Queen the names of those officers whom Lieutenant-General the Earl of Lucan considers as entitled to [illegible] mentioned for their services in the action of the 25th of October in front of Balaclava, and whom your Lordship commends to my notice; and I have received her Majesty's commands to desire that you Lordship will convey to each of the officers in question the high appreciation with which her Majesty views of their valour and excellent conduct in that action. I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient and humble servant,

NEWCASTLE

Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B., &c.

MISS NIGHTINGALE.—The following letter, written by Mrs. Frances Nightingale, mother of Miss Florence Nightingale, has been addressed to Mrs. Bennett, whose son now lies in Scutari Hospital, having been severely wounded in action:—

Emley-park, Romsey, Nov. 20, 1854.

We are very sorry to hear from Mr. George, of Romsey, that you have a son at the hospital at Scutari, particularly as you have it not in your power to send him the comforts and necessaries he requires. I hope your son is not dangerously wounded. As to his being taken care of, and having every comfort and consolation under his circumstances, I think I can make your mind easy. We hear every often from my daughter, and every letter tells us how kindly they have been received, and how everybody is helping them with comforts for the poor soldiers. At first the wounded came in so fast that things sufficient could not be provided for them; but since my daughter arrived there, and fourteen more surgeons sent by Government, and 40 nurses, and stores have poured in, all have improved from day to day. The three head doctors, who are good, have taken charge of the wards under Miss Nightingale. The soldiers are all arranged in comfortable beds, and, my friends say, look cheerful and calm. The hospital is very large, clean, and airy; there are two chaplains, who read prayers morning and evening at eight o'clock; and an excellent clergyman from Dorsetshire (Mr. S. Godolphin Osborne), who devotes himself to comforting the patients. Besides the large kitchen, which supplies the general food, the nurses have special kitchens, where some are always preparing some sort of delicacies and nourishing things, such as jelly, panada, arrowroot, and soup, and broth, and chickens, for those who require them. The soldiers are so grateful, and bear their sufferings so patiently, and comfort themselves with such propriety, that it is quite a pleasure to see them. I will mention your son to Miss Nightingale, and will get some account of him for you; but perhaps you may have heard from him, as there are two gentlemen in the hospital who devote themselves to writing letters for the wounded men to their friends. May God comfort you under your trial is the earnest hope of your well-wisher,

FRANCES NIGHTINGALE.

AMBIGUOUS PRUSSIA.—At a levee held on the morning of New-Years-day, at his palace in Coblentz, the Prince of Prussia told the assembled officers that various portions of the army were already fully prepared for war, and it might easily happen that very soon the whole of the army might be called to arms. "Should that be so, he would repeat to them what he had said to them last year: it was for the King to point out to them towards which side they were to front, and on which side they were to fight; it was for the army to think only how it could best preserve and increase its glory and honour. To attain this end every nerve must be strained, even in peace, that they might the better stand their trial on the battle field."

TAKING THE WRONG SOW BY THE EAR.—The French, having remarked an unusual activity among the garrison of the Quarantine Fort, were anxious to know the cause of it, and for that purpose determined to get hold of some Russian sentinel at the outposts. But as it was no easy matter, the sentinels being usually on the alert, and taking good care to keep out of danger. At last a Zouave offered to furnish them with a prisoner in an hour. That very night a sentinel was heard a rustling among the bushes. He cried, "Who goes there?" but the only answer he received was a grunt. Thinks he to himself, "This is some fat pig that has deserted from the enemy. Bless me, if I could only get hold of it, and smuggle it into the fort, so that our officers may not lay hold of it!" With this view, he returns the grunt, the conversation becomes interesting to both parties, and at last the worthy Russian sees the object of his desires approach. He lays down his musket to seize it, but, oh horror! the treacherous beast turns the tables upon him, throws him down, and gags him in no time; then, with a low whistle, he calls five Zouaves to his aid, who carry off his victim to the French Camp in triumph.

SIR ARCHIBALD ALISON AT SEAHAM.

SIR ARCHIBALD ALISON last week opened the new Mechanics' Institution at Seaham Harbour, which has been built by the Marchioness of Londonderry for the use of the inhabitants of that seaport. A meeting, attended by the *élite* of the district, was held in the hall of the new building; Earl Vane in the chair. After some introductory remarks from the noble Earl,

Sir Archibald Alison spoke, and he had assisted at meetings in the great old cities of the empire—in London, Manchester, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Aberdeen; but this was the first time he had been honoured to attend a meeting of a different description—a meeting which was called, not in an ancient and a rich city, but in a little seaport, for the effectuation of civilisation, but in the commencement of it (Cheers). When they looked around them and saw this beautiful harbour and this flourishing country, and reflected what the site was twenty-five years ago, they were led to think that they were not standing in the midst of the civilisation of England, but among the rising energies of America—on the shores of the Ohio, or on the banks of the Mississippi; for in no part even in this favoured land had been found, he believed, more rapid progress or more durable prosperity (Cheers). They would not forget, when they saw the present magnificent docks and harbour and all the symptoms of rising prosperity, that they were mainly owing to the determination and ability of one man (Cheers). He trusted that as one man had laid the foundation of the edifice, so many men would come in its superstructure. It was a matter of no small importance to enlarge on the inestimable benefits of institutions of this kind in forming private character and in withdrawing from habits of idleness and in elevating and improving all classes of society. For be it from him to throw any chill on such pleasing anticipations; they must all see in their experience many instances in which they had been realized (Cheers). It was in vain to say that they could separate the elevation of the middle and working classes from the general prosperity of the empire. The Constitution had given them a preponderating influence in the Government; they returned a decided majority in the House of Commons, and they must look for the foundation of the measures of the Government in the thoughts and feelings of the constituencies. Misdirected zeal, misdirected energy, was the prolific cause of misery in all the departments of the State, both in social and political life (Applause). There was another matter to which he would refer—taxation. He did not know if they were aware that half of all the taxes pressing on the country—£26,000,000 a year—might have been avoided, if the advice tendered to the people in the country in former times had been followed. If the Sinking Fund existing at the end of the war had been kept up—if they had not repealed the indirect taxes which supported it—they would have had at this moment no National Debt. They would all have been paid off in 1845, and at this moment the nation would have been paying £26,000,000 less of taxes: £15,000,000 a year would have paid off £300,000,000 in 1846: £10,000,000 a year would have paid it off at the time when the peace party had succeeded in reducing it to the extent of £40,000,000 a year, and yet, if they had kept £10,000,000 of that, they need now have had no National Debt at all. Why had this enormous benefit to the nation been lost? It was just because the working classes were not instructed, and followed any person who offered to reduce the taxes. There was another matter which must be interesting to any person who heard him—the present state of the war on the Continent. They could not look into the newspapers, or enter into any society, but they saw that this was the prevailing and pre-eminent point [illegible] anxiety to all. There was hardly a family which had not [illegible] a relation, or a friend exposed to the dangers in the Crimea. There was not an individual in the Empire not interested in that great event of the family of their noble patroness there was one in the Crimea; of the family of him who addressed them there were two sons engaged in the same perilous enterprise. There were many families from whom [illegible] of the vessels which conveyed our gallant countrymen to the [illegible] away all the endearing memories of the past, and all the hope of the future, and cast upon the ultimate issue of events a dark cloud, which no human foresight could fathom. Such was the interest of the war that it was of the last importance to consider the nature of the enemy with whom they had to contend. He was not an insignificant enemy. The Emperor Nicholas was over 70,000,000 of men, all devoted to war. Commerce, agriculture, science, literature, philosophy, were in little esteem; all the talent of the nation was devoted to war. Every young man of ability was sent to the military schools; in these school 80,000 young men were educated to the science of war, the ablest of them were selected for the duties of diplomacy. At the head of the empire there was a man of vast energy, stubborn courage, and great dexterity. He directed the energies of the great empire to the objects of external aggression, and was actually supported by the whole Russian nation; every man, from the Emperor down to the serf, was impressed with the idea that Russia was to be the conqueror of the world. The Emperor was now making war on the idea that he was merely giving vent to the national feeling. To him might be applied, with the alteration of a few words, the lines of a poet of the last century:

> No joys to him pacific sceptres yield,
> War sounds the trumpet, rattles in the field;
> Behold surrounding Kings their power combine,
> * * * * * * *
> Peace counts his land but spreads her charms in vain,
> "Think nothing gained," he cries, "till nought remain,
> On Stamboul's walls till Russian standards fly,
> And all the nations crouch to the Emperor."

Now, how was it that, in the course of a few great Powers, they had made so sudden a transition from the exultation of victory to almost the despondency of defeat? They saw a great deal in the journals endeavouring to throw blame on this and that Ministry, on this and that General. He stood here neither to vindicate one Ministry or one Minister, to vindicate one General or another. But he stood there to point out to his fellow-countrymen the errors—he might almost say the national crimes—which were now meeting with national punishment. They were now in a state of anxiety here on account of the state of the army in the Crimea. Why was it that the noble army which had done such great things had been exposed to such defeats? Just because it was one-half its proper size (Applause). Let them open the papers, and they would find the reason why the English were in a much worse position than the French; our army of 20,000 men was all got to do the work of 60,000 men. While the French were only obliged to go into the trenches once in every four days, the English soldiers must go in every other night ("Hear, hear," and applause). This of course weakened their frame, and they could not withstand the cold, wet, and storms which prevail in that inhospitable climate. If England, when the war broke out, had had 100,000 regular troops, 10,000 cavalry, and 3,000 militia, they would have gained a decided success in the first campaign. Suppose they had had 100,000 men to transport, they might have sent 40,000 to the Baltic and taken Cronstadt, and 50,000 to the Crimea and taken Sebastopol. Why, if 6,000 cavalry, instead of 700, had been at the Battle of Alma, they would have converted it into a total rout, and the Russian army, broken and disorganised, would have been unable to defend Sebastopol. At the Battle of Balaclava, after the lapse of 430 years of the very anniversary of the battle of Agincourt, if there had been 5000 English there, the valuable port of Balaclava would have been preserved, and supplies would have been carried up with perfect safety. 5000 English horses would have marched triumphantly through 10,000 Russians. The battle of Inkerman, destined to be immortal in the world, and to take its place with the battles of Marathon and Platæa—at that battle, if we had had 20,000 more English troops, while with the right wing we hurled the Russian battalions down the heights, with the left wing we would have taken Sebastopol, and the two Grand Dukes would have come up to the theatre of action only to see the total destruction of their father's hopes (Applause). See now what a dreadful is ye their army had been brought into in consequence of the incessant clamour for reduction. If they would see the good effects of war, they would have to call out their armies, and see the officers who had been trained in every luxury, and the soldiers accustomed to every comfort, enduring patiently every hardship and submitting to every privation, and ready every moment to lay down their lives for the country (Applause). But see also the good effect of the war on the nation. Let them look around, and they would see people of all classes—from the Queen to the peasant, even including the captive in his dungeon—sacrificing certain comforts and doing everything in their power to provide for the widows and children of those who had fallen in the cause of their country. He would say one word of consolation for those who were left bereaved; the memories of those who were dear to them were embalmed in the recollection of a grateful country, their names would never be forgotten, and to them they might apply the beautiful lines of the poet:—

> By fairy hand their lonely lyre is strung,
> By forms unseen their dirge is sung,
> There Honour comes, a pilgrim grey,
> To deck the tomb of their mouldering clay,
> And Freedom shall awhile repair
> To dwell a weeping hermit there.

A RUSSIAN PRIZE. The *Froww Hawwina*, a galliot, with a cargo of saltpetre, which cleared from London with a declaration that the saltpetre was intended for consumption in Portugal, has been seized in the Tagus by a French steamer. It was on its way to Hamburg, and was undoubtedly intended for importation into Russia. The French vessels in the Tagus have now intercepted a rigid search of all vessels leaving the river, as it is discovered that the Russians have organised, through false documents, a regular system of trade in the munitions of war.

SKETCHES IN JAPAN.

[We have been favoured, by a Correspondent, with the following interesting Narrative of a recent visit to Japan; and by two other Correspondents with the accompanying illustrative Sketches.]

ARRIVAL OF THE BRITISH SQUADRON AT JAPAN.

ON the 7th September, H.M. Ships the *Winchester*, the steamers *Encounter*, *Barracouta*, and *Styx*, anchored in the outer harbour of Nagasaki, Japan. They crossed over under sail only from Woosung, at the mouth of the river Yangtsekiang, in six days. Under other circumstances it might be done in two or three days. Several boats, pulled by twelve men each, met the squadron far outside the harbour. Two or three men, stationed on a wooden roof in the bows of the boats, waving white bundles of flags stuck on bamboos, seemed anxious to send the ships away. But no notice was taken of these wild gestures, beyond the taking on board one or two written notices in Japanese, Russian, Dutch, and English, in which all comers were prohibited, on pain of punishment and death, from entering the harbour. At noon the anchor was let go in twenty-four fathoms. The Captain of the Governor's Life-de-Camp, and an Inspector of Customs came on board the flag-ship, attended by seventeen persons, each carrying two swords, which were of the finest workmanship, bright and sharp as razors. They did not like the ships, and looked at, or even touched. The officers were shown into the Captain's cabin, where a conversation was begun through the medium of a Japanese named Otô, whom the Admiral had brought with him from Shanghae. This man had been wrecked in a trading junk more than twenty years ago. After many vicissitudes of life, including a visit to England, a temporary employment with the late Dr Gutzlaff, and other missionaries, he is now storekeeper to Mr. Bowes of Dent, Bowes and Co.'s house, worth a large sum of money. The Japanese waiters, taken on board, he said he had a wife and children at Shanghae, and preferred remaining under the protection of the English flag. One of the Japanese said, "a sorrowful wife and weeping children." Otô merely pointed to the flag in reply. They inquired about the exact rank of the Admiral; they said it was well the ships had been anchored according to the port regulations. They took a letter from the Admiral to the Emperor officer of the streets, and asking for a place to land his men upon for exercise. They said they would forward it to the Emperor at Yeddo, that an answer might be expected in forty days. Meantime the English might enjoy the hospitalities of the port. The Governor could not receive the Admiral's visit nor visit him; the Dutch man-of-war (which lay close to the town, two miles farther in than the *Winchester*, and had arrived a few days before her) was prohibited from all communication with the English, who were not to be suffered to land anywhere, and were surrounded with fen guard-boats; nor would the Japanese allow the Admiral to pass a line of junks moored across the mouth of the long narrow creek leading to the town. For three weeks the four ships by in this very unpleasant state, nor were such humiliating restrictions ever more patiently, nay, courteously, submitted to.

The scenery round the harbour is very beautiful. A range of hills encircles the swelling slopes which reach the shores, on these slopes picturesque cottages and neat-looking hamlets are gracefully scattered, amid verdant terraces and rich crops of every kind. The shore is indented with numerous pretty bays, and fringed with islets of bright green foliage. The water is deep, clear, blue, and smooth. The rise and fall of the tide is about ten feet, but no perceptible set or current attends the ebb and flow.

The Admiral expressed a wish to buy provisions for the squadron; but the Japanese said, their laws absolutely forbade any trade whatever. They would, however, supply water, and such fresh provisions and vegetables as were required; and on the 9th September three boats came alongside, bringing three pigs, forty-two fowls, eight sacks of pears and sweet potatoes, packed in rice-straw, weighing about a picul, or 133 lbs. each; several bunches of radishes and onions, and a basket of eggs. Some sand had also been asked for. Three boat-loads of quartz gravel were sent in the first instance; this was rejected as unfit for scouring the decks; in a day or two three more boats came under with clean, sharp, brown sand; each boat was accompanied by a guard-boat, which watched the delivery of the last grain. The Admiral asked to be allowed to haul the seine nets for fish in some retired sandy bay on the islands outside. He was not permitted to do so, but a supply of fish was to be sent. Six or seven baskets of good fish—bream, mullet, and soles—were received on the 22nd. An apology was made for the small quantity, which was just enough to supply the *Winchester* for one day. On the 25th were brought three baskets of sardines, which were sent to the *Encounter*, a second boat, full of vegetables, a few fowls, and a jar containing four or five pounds of fine tea, came as a present to the Admiral. The Japanese had taken care to ascertain the number of persons on board the four ships; and, seeing that the amount was a round thousand, their supplies were not profuse. However, they had been told the ships wanted nothing from them without payment, and had merely come to say "How do you do!—what news about the Russian ships!—good-bye!" which seems to be a fair epitome of the first visit of a British naval commander-in-chief to the inhospitable shores of Japan. He was allowed to land for scientific purposes only, on a small piece of rock, or rather heap of shells, covered at high water; and even this, only after making a signal, on which the rock was surrounded with guard-boats. He did visit it once in his barge, attended by his whole staff.

When a supply of fish was promised, a strong wooden frame-work of great size was quickly constructed on the shore abreast of the flag-ship. On this a series of large thatched masses appeared in the evening. Next day they had developed themselves into a huge net, surrounded by enormous floats. This great net was moved by a number of men in military order, and placed in a kind of lighter, fitted with a wooden stage to receive it. We have seen how small were the proceeds of so large an apparatus.

One evening, when the weather was bad, the guard-boats went into shelter. A sort of smuggling boat came alongside. On being hailed, the crew answered "Fish." Two men came up the side, and quickly crouched down in the gangway, as if fearful of being seen from without. They offered boxes and other curiosities, saying the Russians had taken many from them. The Captain sent them away at once; nothing was suffered to be bought from them. The same thing was done at each of the other ships; and an idea arose that they were spies sent to test the sincerity and consistency of the professions made by the Admiral, that he would pay undeviating respect and obedience to all the laws and customs of Japan;—having asked if Quelpart Isle belonged to Japan, that he might give orders to men-of-war, which he might send there, to observe these laws and customs.

On the 26th the Admiral held an inspection of all the boats of the squadron, fully manned, but not armed. At ten o'clock, twenty-two boats, manned by 250 men and with twenty-one officers, assembled round the flag-ship. After forming line in close order, they made all sail. Then down all masts and sails, like magic, at the word of command. The awnings were all spread. The boats pulled, in slow time, round the squadron. They then formed in line abreast along the shore; and lastly raced home to the flag-ship. This must have been a beautiful sight from one of the hills overlooking this lovely harbour. All the Japanese guard-boats were on the *qui vive*. They could not tell what to make of it.

On the 27th, Mr. May, the Master of the *Winchester*, and Mr Bushnell, the gunnery Lieutenant, went away in a boat to sail round the islands, to sound and examine the passages and defences of the harbour. The result was no less important a discovery than that good coal existed in abundance, and was actually dug out in heaps of 200 or 300 tons, on the shore of the outer island, from two pits. The mouth of one was arched over with brick, and both were within fifty yards of the shore, where boats might load in four or five feet water. The Japanese were asked to send some of this on board. At first they professed ignorance of it. When they found that the Admiral had seen it, they said it belonged to some Prince, with whom the Governor of Nagasaki could not interfere.

On the 28th the squadron had been exactly three weeks in durance vile, when the Admiral sent for the Japanese authorities, and communicated to them by a letter to the Governor his intention to proceed at once to Yeddo. "He had complied with all formalities, tried every means, in vain. He conceived he had been subjected to such treatment as a nation of England's great power never had been used to; and he saw no alternative but to go to the principal seat of government." This announcement appeared to cause much dismay. The Japanese urged that the Governor had done all which his laws empowered him to do, and would have sent more liberal supplies had they been desired; that a reply from Yeddo would be sure to arrive in ten days; that if the Admiral were to go there now, he would lose time in going through all the formalities again. They were surprised the Admiral should be in such haste to leave a port where he was well treated, &c. They asked, "how long it was possible to feel surprised that men who had been cooped up in ships in port for twenty-one days, without ever being allowed to put foot on shore, could feel otherwise than disgusted and anxious to depart?" They would ask the Governor, if there was not time to wait, that the Admiral might delay his departure for a few hours, if that would enable the Governor to solve the difficulties.

At nine o'clock the same evening the same officers came on board with a communication from the Governor, with an assurance that the Emperor's answer would arrive in ten days: that the Governor would find a small place, the next day, on which the English might land, since pulling about in boats was no exercise; this, although contrary to the laws, he would do on his own responsibility, that the people should not fall sick. They added that the refreshments sent hitherto were a private compliment from the Governor, which he was willing and desirous to continue; but that if general supplies for the squadron were required they might be ordered, and payment made through the Superintendent of the Dutch Factory at Desima.

The Admiral replied that he would remain ten days at the request of the Governor, and on the assurances given by him; in the due observance of which he would consult his best interests, as in giving them he had shown his good sense.

Next day the Captain and some officers landed to have a look at the place pointed out by the Japanese as the spot where the English might land for exercise. It was a miserable bit of land, about as big as the deck of one of the steamers. It was planked in with a fence, and a kind of vegetable-narrow, and was worse than any wretched lazaretto. It almost appeared as if they were joking in the matter. This was put right on their next visit. A small mound, with some trees on it, was given up; and the Admiral accepted it, landing small numbers at a time, under the charge of a lieutenant. The Governor now sent off to say that he would be happy to make the necessary arrangements for the Admiral's landing to visit him at the Palace at Nagasaki; which took place on October 4.

VISIT OF SIR JAMES STIRLING AND SUITE TO THE GOVERNOR OF NAGASAKI.

The arrangements for the intended visit had been specially made. The Admiral was respectfully requested to fix his hour, to name his intended retinue, to specify whether he would land with or without a guard; and a kind of programme was sent a day before him of the reception and ceremonial to be gone through. It was intimated to him that a communication from the Emperor was to be read to him, although the final answer to his letter had not yet arrived. At 9.30 October 4, five boats left the flag-ship, the *Winchester*, containing the Admiral and about fifteen of his officers. Although a little later than the time named, some delay or mistake had occurred in transmitting to the officer in charge of the entrance the necessary order. A boat was therefore sent in hot haste to stop the procession. The officer in her explained to the interpreter that his duty must perform the disagreeable operation of disembowelling himself if the boats were to advance. They were instantly stopped, and the three leading ones turned round, forming again in close order ahead of the Admiral. A few minutes removed the difficulty. A large boat came volunteering to lead the way. The sixteen junks receded, eight on each side, leaving open the centre of the passage. Twenty-five or thirty boats, with black, white, and red flags gaily flying, escorted the Admiral on each side, beating tom-toms, and keeping a sort of order. The distance from point to point where the line of junks was might be about 300 yards. These points were seen to be defended by twenty-one guns each; and were a formidable termination to a line of batteries and guns concealed among trees and brushwood. Inside these points the shores gently recede, and again approach, at the distance of a mile: a succession of beautiful views delighted the eye; picturesque positions displayed large military stations and encampments, ornamented with banners of bright colours; and the approach to the city of Nagasaki was of varied richness and beauty.

The Dutch factory, or prison, of Desima, is next passed on the right hand. A long rough wall, raised about six feet above the water, forms the front. On this stands a green paling, above which rise the staff angular dwellings and store-houses of the Dutch, facing the sea. Behind, from a narrow creek runs, across which is thrown a melancholy-looking bridge, which is strictly guarded, and over which the Dutch residents are rarely allowed to pass. From the corner of this creek the cloth hangings begin to spread along towards the landing-place. They were marked with horizontal stripes alternately of blue and white hung on poles. The landing-place was kept well clear by the Government boats. It was composed of long, rough, granite steps, without coment. The officers landed first, and formed two lines, between which Sir James Stirling advanced towards two full Japanese officials, who awaited him at twenty yards from the steps. They politely welcomed him, and said they were sent to convey him to the Governor's presence. The road was closed in on both sides with the tressome hangings—here twenty feet high—not striped, but marked with discs or circular shields, of 3½ feet diameter, bearing a peculiar fan-like wreath. Along these lines were stationed soldiers, at two or three yards interval, bearing on their left shoulders a matchlock enclosed in a red cloth case, and having a double coil of slow-match cord hanging on the butt-end of the stock. The procession advanced along an ascending road, broken by small flights of low steps occasionally. At a distance of 150 yards from the boats this road turned sharp to the right, and soon opened into an oblong open space, surrounded by guard-rooms, in front of which, sitt or rather squatted the guards, their long spears close beside each. Two stands contained ten very long spears in each: one set had round black tufts, the other a large bunch of black feathers on each. Out of this open space was a large gate hung by five massive copper hinges, on a frame made of pine wood, 14 inches by 12. The gate was hard wood, 4½ inches thick, unpainted. On each side of this gate stood a guard-room, within a smaller court. The side opposite the gate forms the front of the Governor's palace. It is a low and gloomy-looking old building, showing, in various places, marks of recent repair. A small hall, with a guard-room at the farther end of it, opened into a corridor 9 feet wide, which led round the building; the doors of the rooms opening into it. Two of these rooms were pointed out as allotted to the Admiral and his suite. He passed on at once into a further room, where stood the Governor, having on his right the Inspector. Behind them were four young officers, holding sheathed swords in their hands by their points, the handles being above their heads. Two little short officials were down on their knees and elbows, their heads leaning on the matted floor, and about two feet from the two great men. The Governor is called Mizuno Skugonokami: he is a quiet, intelligent, nice-looking man, about thirty-six years of age, and rather below the middle size. He responded a few low, gentle tones to the abject bows at his feet, who scarcely dared to look up at his Lord, and who gave token of having comprehended each sentence by a sort of spasmodic "Ich, ich!" and, when the Governor ceased to speak, he kissed the matted floor several times before he repeated to Otô and Admiral's interpreter, the Governor's words. Otô told the Admiral that the Governor offered his kind compliments, and was happy to see the Ad-

B. The Rock where the English might land for scientific purposes. This is in lat. 32 42 20, N.; long. 128 50 56, E.

The dotted lines on Two-rima mark a passage which can be stopped with pontoons. This has always been considered an one island.

NAGASAKI HARBOUR.

miral and his officers; he hoped they were quite well and comfortable in Nagasaki.

Admiral: Tell the Governor I thank him for his civility; and that, owing to the supplies he has kindly sent, we are all well and comfortable.

The Governor had hoped to have received and communicated the answer from Yeddo to the Admiral's letter. He was sorry it had not yet arrived. He expected it in a few days.

Admiral: Tell the Governor that I will wait a few days in the hope of receiving the reply.

The Governor hoped that the Admiral would repeat his visit.

Admiral: I shall be glad to do so.

Exactly the same complimentary dialogue took place with the Inspector, through his abject mouthpiece on the floor, and then through Otô, the Admiral's interpreter. The English officers then bowed themselves out.

The Admiral and his staff took their seats in one of the rooms, the attending officers took their places in the other; in both, the exact number of arm-chairs required were placed ready. When the party were all seated, an armed official presented a cup of fine tea, in a circular Japan waiter, with a round hole in its centre, to each of the English officers, kneeling. A tray raised six or eight inches was then laid before each, bearing a box filled with sponge-cake and bright-coloured sweetmeats. The box was ten inches square, and four inches deep, beautifully put together. A few sheets of cotton paper were laid with each, and some peculiar-coloured string to tie it up with. Each officer was asked to write his name on his box, in order that it might be sent to his ship as a slight memento of his visit. Between every two chairs were placed oblong trays, with fine tobacco of a light brown colour, a porcelain vessel with fire, and a smaller one to hold the ashes from the pipes, which were small brass heads as large as a marble fixed on cane stems about a foot long. The pipe, therefore, required to be refilled after a few puffs. The Japanese officers of the house walked about or sat outside the doors in the corridor. The rooms were low, separated by a partition which ran up about three-quarters of the whole height, surrounded by panels rather more than five feet high, and twenty inches wide, joined by hinges—every six panels forming one moveable screen, so that they might serve for various rooms and purposes—each panel was well painted and highly varnished. The tiles, the stork, and crane, appeared on some: while others had splendid groups of flowers. After a lapse of half an hour, the Admiral, his secretary, and the senior Captain, returned to the Governor's room, where a good deal of writing and talking was kept up for a couple of hours; at the expiration of which the Admiral returned to his sitting-room, saying, that if he had kept his officers waiting rather long, he had the pleasure to tell them the result of his interview was, so far as it went, satisfactory. The party then were served with more tea, and two thick round slices of a sweet plum dumpling in thin syrup. These slices were served in a basin of red lacquered ware with a cover like a saucer inverted, both of superior make; they were laid on the same black tray before used for the box of sweetmeats, and with them was a massive silver spoon, also a silver fork and a pair of new chop-sticks. No wine nor spirits of any kind appeared; and, although the diplomatic arrangements appeared to be faultless, the order perfect, and the polite dignity of the people unexceptionable, much cannot be said in favour of their *cuisine*. Nothing was seen of the Dutch—all communication with whom was prohibited. But one of the Japanese in attendance spoke Dutch, and acted, he said, as interpreter for them. The floors were all covered with fine matting, three feet wide, and in lengths of three yards, neatly joined and laid down over some elastic substance which made them soft and pleasant to tread upon. The Japanese left their shoes outside their houses and their boats. Seeing an English officer spit on the floor, one of the Japanese said in English, very slowly, "If—you—please—you—must—not—spit. Japanese—men—sit here." They are very cleanly in their dress and their dwellings, as may be judged by the way in which they keep their boats. At half-past two the party returned to the boats, and in three-quarters of an hour were on board the flag-ship; terminating very pleasantly an interesting visit, in which the only thing to be regretted was, that the view was strictly bounded by two lines of soldiers and screens of cloth—and that nothing could be seen of the people, their shops, their trades, arts, manufactures, or dwellings. A long period of patient management will be necessary to overcome their reluctance to hold any social or commercial interchange with foreigners.

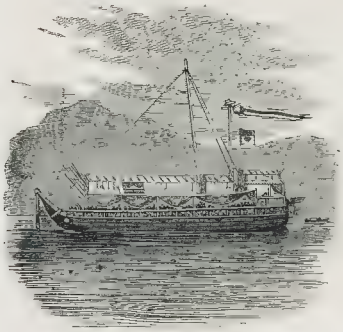
In four days after the Admiral's first visit to the O'Bugyo, or Governor of Nagasaki, a second was arranged for the 9th of October. Five boats and about a dozen officers formed the procession, which left the flag-ship at 12.30. The landing, reception, and entertainment were exactly as before. The Governor and Inspector "hoped the Admiral and his servants were all well." They were quite well; and they "hoped the O'Bugyo and all his were equally well."

The O'Bugyo had received the Emperor's reply from Yeddo. It was unrolled in a long scroll, or series of scrolls. The purport of it was made known; the hearers were to retire, meditate upon it, and act accordingly. A third and final visit would then conclude the diplomacy. This reply acknowledged in courteous terms the compliment of the English visit and communication; expressed the high consideration cherished in the Imperial breast for the great English nation, the Queen, the Admiral, &c., regretted that necessity had arisen for war and its attendant horrors; explained that the Emperor's views of duty towards his subjects were such as to make him observe a strict neutrality. "He could not take either side in this serious quarrel without exposing himself to the wrath of the other party, and without drawing down awful calamities upon numbers of his poor weak people;" and the observations made on these points were most just, sensible, and dignified. He had "commissioned the two principal officers of Nagasaki to make such a treaty in his name as the laws and the interests of his Empire permitted, and he was willing to concede to the English all the accommodations and advantages enjoyed by the most favoured nations, except the peculiar commercial privileges limited to the Dutch and Chinese nations."

The Emperor's letter was considered to be a very remarkable production. It was a close, reasonable, straightforward statement of duties and intentions, conceding all that could be expected; inspiring full confidence, and defining the principles by which future actions were to be guided. It required a long visit to go through, and accurately to obtain, the meaning of all that. While it was going on, the rain began to fall in great abundance. This gave occasion for the exercise of polite and hand attentions. The boats' crews—the band and

SKETCHES IN JAPAN.

HARBOUR AND CITY OF NAGASAKI.

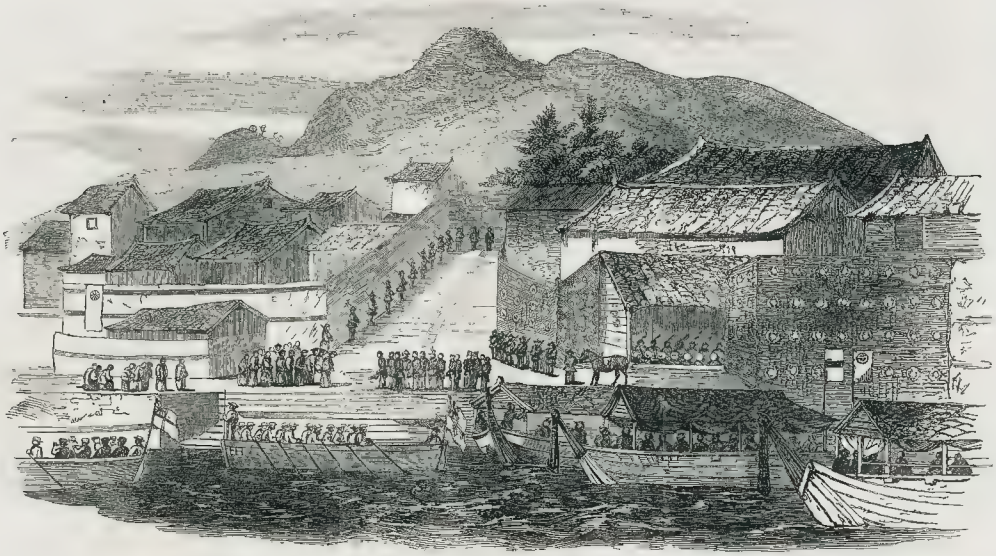


FAN YACHT OF A JAPANESE GRANDEE.

DUTCH FACTORY, DESIMA, NAGASAKI.

CESSION OF BOATS, AT NAGASAKI.

SKETCHES IN JAPAN.

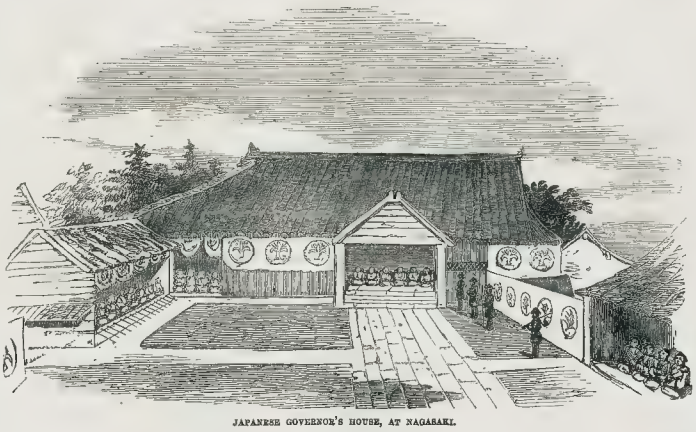


THE LANDING-PLACE, AT NAGASAKI.

officers in charge of them—were all conducted to shelter in the Palace. It was now quite dark, the rain still pouring down. An umbrella was presented to every one of the party; covered barges were prepared; the Admiral and all his party returned, safe and dry, in Japanese Government boats, to the flag-ship at half-past seven o'clock.

Four or five days were spent in drawing up the treaty, and the Japanese officers frequently came on board several times in the day to adjust certain minor points. They often remained till nine o'clock at night, engaged in conference. All being ready on the 14th, the Admiral, attended as before, went to Nagasaki. The treaty was read to the Governor. About two o'clock it was signed in duplicate by the Admiral. It was then sent out somewhere; it is supposed to the Dutch Factory, probably with the view of ascertaining that all was quite correct. The Governor and his brother Commissioners then signed both parts; and the Ratification is to take place within a year.

A very fair dinner was served on tables somewhat after European fashion. The sweetmeats were of a finer kind, and presented on porcelain dishes. The dishes were sent on board for each officer, as the boxes had been on former occasions. When the time came for the return to the boats, it was quite dark; but the street or way was lined with men holding lanterns beautifully painted, all bearing the Government device. As the Admiral passed on, the lantern-bearers closed up; forming at last, round the landing-place, a circle of coloured light. The water was also covered with boats, each sporting several of these tasteful and elegant lanterns; producing altogether a novel and brilliant effect. The polite but unobtrusive hospitalities, the generous and delicate attentions, the admirable order, discipline, and good sense of this peculiar people, surprised and pleased their guests. Theirs was spontaneous kindness. What a marked improvement is here observable in the state of affairs. A few weeks before, the English ships were warned off, and scarcely permitted to approach the port in peace. After they had anchored they were surrounded by guards, and placed under strict surveillance—no landing, no purchasing supplies; evasions, delays, excuses, suspicion, etc. This unpleasant position was endured with patience, and gradually improved. Great care was taken that neither officers, nor men, nor boats, should transgress the limits prescribed, that no attempt should be made to trade or hold any communication with the people. Strict orders were wisely issued to this effect, and they were cheerfully obeyed. The treaty now made with Japan contains nothing about commerce, yet it opens the way, and prepares for future negotiation on this important point. It has been effected without violence or menace. It has occasioned no expense or inconvenience, but the contrary. The four ships found, in the fine harbour of Nagasaki a safe and salubrious anchorage at a bad season of the year. They were well supplied with fresh provisions and water, the health of the crews improved, nor was there a single death during the six weeks of their stay. The Japanese officers observed, and fully appreciated, the perfect order, cleanliness, and discipline prevailing, not only on board the ships, but in the boats and on the island; and often expressed their admiration of these qualities, as well as of the superior scientific and mechanical arrangements—not without an admission how much they had to gain and to learn by intercourse with Europeans. They were pleased with the deference paid to their laws, the respect shown for their rights. They are a remarkably sensitive, quick race of men; perceiving, almost intuitively, the least slight or rudeness, exceedingly delicate and subtle in their feelings, recoiling from rough or coarse treatment. Whatever they grant freely and with really good will they observe and act up to most thoroughly; whatever is extorted from them by menace may promise fair, but will not produce lasting or satisfactory results; and, it is highly probable that what has been quietly done by Sir James Stirling at Nagasaki, may exceed in durability and value the work done at Yeddo by the Americans, although that cost a special mission, and was heralded to the world with a very loud flourish of trumpets indeed. There is another point of view in which the treaty now made seems important. The Japanese have been made to feel and to



JAPANESE GOVERNOR'S HOUSE, AT NAGASAKI.

OFFICIALS. SAILORS. SOLDIERS. COURTIERS.

JAPANESE COSTUMES, SKETCHED AT NAGASAKI.

understand that while they possess a prominent and insular position—brought by steam among the ocean highways of nations, with fine harbours, in which the fleets of nations may repose and repair—events may and must take place which will render their exclusiveness impossible. In the great crush of world-wide interests they must be made to act like other people, and "wheel into the rank" of civilised usage. They have combined to render that war inevitable, and the alliances which indicate a speedy termination of it. They understand why England, who did not intrude much upon them before, has now to perform a duty to herself, and must see that no foe shall avail himself of her forbearance, to encounce in the secluded harbours of Japan the hostile man-of-war or treacherous privateer.

The day after the last interview presents were sent on board for all the officers of the squadron. To the Admiral an oblong case, divided into five compartments, each containing a cup, saucer, and cover, packed in cotton, these were the most delicate and beautiful specimens of porcelain. Four pieces of silk, of various colours; a box of lacquer, beautifully inlaid and polished, and filled with sweetmeats, arranged in an elegant manner. A pair of pretty small dogs, in little boxes, cushioned neatly at the bottom: the dogs are active and well formed—white, with a few black spots, and wore red silk pelerines round their necks. And, lastly, a pair of ducks, with a wicker cage. The Commanders got cups, box, and silks. Lieutenants, five cups and saucers each; other officers, ten plates, all of blue ware. These were stated to be a general present from the Emperor to the officers. A day or two before sailing, Sir James Stirling sent two revolvers to the Commander of the Pelorus, or Inspector; which were accepted and acknowledged by a special present to Sir James Stirling, consisting of a pair of porcelain vases, two large basins, and stands, two smaller basins, with covers, one black lacquer inlaid cabinet, on a frame, a flat box of similar materials and workmanship, and a jar of saki. These presents were pronounced to be of surpassing beauty.

On Friday, October 20th, exactly six weeks after their first arrival, the ships left the harbour of Nagasaki. They were escorted out to sea by a guard of honour, beating tom-toms, and showing demonstrations of good-will and respect. The strong north-east monsoon supplied them with wings, and brought them in six days to Hong-Kong where the letters and newspapers of nearly three months awaited the anxious voyagers.

The whole of the supplies purchased from the Japanese on public account and for the officers' messes, amounted to about £600, and was paid for by Navy bills through the Dutch. The bill for the private messes was made out as follows:

Note of Provisions sent off to Her Britannic Majesty's squadron, under the command of H. E. Sir James Stirling, for the use of the officers.

(3 tbsls. of [illegible] D.C.; 1 kanty = 50 Dutch lb., or 1½ lb. avoirdupois.)

[illegible]	..	..	150 bottles	..	..	[illegible]
Eggs	..	..	11	..	..	[illegible]
Fowls [illegible]	..	..	11	..	..	[illegible]
Yams (sweet potatoes)	..	..	2[illegible]	..	..	[illegible]
Flour	..	..	[illegible]	..	..	[illegible]
Fish	..	..	[illegible]	..	..	[illegible]
[illegible] (Japan-ses)	..	..	[illegible]	..	..	[illegible]
Qhi (a-rel)	..	..	[illegible]	..	..	[illegible]
Eggs	..	..	[illegible]	..	..	[illegible]
Fruit (fresh)	..	..	[illegible]	..	..	[illegible]
Soy, 164 bottles	..	..	[illegible]	..	..	[illegible]

1 tsl is about £171

[Articles which cannot be supplied: Sheep, [illegible] ..., geese, ducks, [illegible], pepper, [illegible]

PIETER DIJKER, Superintendent of the Dutch [illegible]

To such readers as wish to know the market prices at Japan, this bill will be interesting. The articles were all of first-rate quality, and correct to an egg. The Japanese were previously aware of the existence of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. They asked to see some of the pictures. They said they had heard of the English had built and equipped the largest screw man-of-war afloat, and asked to be shown a drawing of her. They were much pleased when the found the fine engraving of the *Duke of Wellington* in one of the Numbers. It afforded a gratifying proof of the wide-spread appreciation of this remarkable publication, to see a number of the Japanese officers squatted in the Governor's corridor, poring over a file of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS which the English officers had brought, and were endeavouring to explain; and the Japanese readily understood the majority of the Engravings, which thus produced a national benefit across half the circumference of the globe.

LITERATURE.

A MONTH IN THE CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL. By A NON-COMBATANT. Longman and Co.

The author of this little volume is a Templar, who, making the most of the long vacation, undertakes a journey to the Crimea and back, instead of the usual annual lounge to Paris, or the German watering-places. He does so in a laudable spirit of inquiry, considering that "it will be satisfactory mode of finding out what our gallant fellows are really doing and suffering in that distant and dismal encampment is, to pitch one's tent for a few weeks amongst them. "Their own letters, deeply interesting as they are, owing to a kind of 'professional modesty' do not supply all the information that is wanted;" and "even 'our own correspondent,' who now always does such excellent service in this respect, leaves something to be desired. He is obliged to be so clever, so busied with the depths and general bearings of things about him, that he cannot be still to leave many gleanings for a plain man to pick up." Non-Combatant as he is, his gleanings have more to do with the economy of the camp than with the business of the siege, and his book will therefore disappoint those who might look to it for a connected *resumé* of that arduous undertaking. Leaving Scutari, casting the cares of his professional campaign behind him; provided with a luxurious kit and plenty of letters of introduction to some of the crack officers in the army; going also at a time when the sea was not yet rough and full of promise when the weather was just too cold to be pleasant, influences had damped the military ardour of our troops so conspicuously displayed at Alma, at Balaclava, and at Inkerman, he treats the whole affair almost as a "lark, or grand field-day, the serious episodes being thin scattered. Nevertheless, there are many observations which show practical shrewdness, and suggestions about camp life and soldiers' equipments which are not unworthy of attention even at head-quarters.

Upon the subject of the medical department, with its undeniable shortcomings, "Non Combatant" acknowledges the difficulty of permanently increasing the medical staff of an army the size of ours, so as to meet a temporary emergency, and yet sees the cruel alternative of leaving numbers of the sick and wounded to perish for want of timely aid, and attention, accompanied by the administration of ordinary comforts, and he suggests, as a palliative or intermediate course, the appointment, temporarily, of a lower-paid grade of men, to come to the rescue in cases where medical or surgical aid is not immediately wanted or available.

I heard a story the other day (he writes) about a soldier who, after some bloody affair, lay in the trenches, apparently in the last stage of cholera. A couple of men passed by with a stretcher, exclaiming that this was clearly no use in picking *him* up. "Don't you be in a hurry," gasped the poor soul, "I'm not dead *yet!* I daresay I should do well enough, if I could only get something 'of it'." So strenuous an appeal was irresistible, and they carried him off. But I hope his recovery did not depend on the speedy administration of the treatment he himself indicated; for, pending the demand at that moment for the scalpel and the saw, "something 'of' was the most thing he was likely to get. Now, there are few men, however slight their knowledge of medicine, who could not be of use in such cases as this. They might apply friction; put on hot flannels, and mustard poultices; they might, in short, administer a hundred simple remedies which would save valuable lives; and that with no better skill than they could pick up from the general instructions which, of course, would be issued to them by the regular Medical Staff.

He describes some noticeable points of difference between the campaigns of the French and ours; of which we can only glance at a few. With respect to tents, every French soldier carries his little piece of a tent on his back, three or more of which may be fastened together, and thus they escape the risk of having to bivouac in the open, as our men did on their first landing. True, this adds a little to the weight the soldier has to carry, so as to interfere with the speed of a forced march, whilst the tent produced does not afford one quarter as much comfort and space as a bell tent. In the important matter of the preparation of food, the French soldier, as the Frenchman generally, appears to have much the advantage of us. With them, one man cooks for twelve, the office falling by rotation; giving all the increased advantages attendant upon division of labour and aggregation of material and resources. The English soldier cooks for himself as they best can; and the consequence is, discomfort and waste. Again, for carrying water, instead of our clumsy little wooden canteen, the French carries a cylindrical shaped tin canister, curved so as to fit the shape of the body, and with two convenient orifices in it for use in filling the vessel and in drinking from it.

The author's account of an open-air church parade is graphic and striking.

The Chaplain, with his dark velvet [illegible] and his [illegible] moustache and beard, reminded me [illegible] ... scarcely placed in position before the loud rush of round-shot from the fort was heard, again and again, in our rear, causing sundry dislocations of the square—the men grinning and swaying about at each whirr in a kind of jocular disorder. Nothing was left for it but to move off. So we took up our ground a few hundred yards lower down; and here—though a fleecy little cloudlet, which announced its birth in a thunder-clap, showed that a shell had burst above us, not very far off to our rear—the service was conducted to a close. Everybody, of course, stands upon these occasions throughout the ceremony. To obviate fatigue, therefore, the litany of the Compline was omitted. The Chaplain preached extemporaneously, and with so excellent a voice that, though the wind was blowing his surplice about, it did not drown his tones. I was amused by his British *sang-froid*. The reverend gentleman neither noticed the pyrotechnic salute nor the shell, but went on with his sermon, and when it was finished, turned his back to the fort, and preached on some every-day text, and never changed his voice, or turned his head, in compliment to shot or shell.

We are told upon the authority of a Polish deserter that Menschikoff "had given out that our triumph at the Alma was entirely due to our superiority in fire-arms; and that we could only be effectually opposed with the bayonet." The story, ridiculous as it sounds, received some colour of probability from what was observed by one of our sentries stationed close enough to overlook part of the interior of Sebastopol, namely, a body of infantry practising charging at wooden boards—practising, moreover, *charging* as they did so. We should be inclined, however to take the story with a slight qualification, and in an opposite sense. The probability is that Menschikoff was practising his men to compete with us in our own mode of fighting—the bayonet charge, in which we had been so destructively conspicuous at the Alma.

The Non-Combatant had a glimpse of the battles of Balaclava and Inkerman, but not so comprehensive, nor from a point sufficiently near, to give him a satisfactory general notion of either. When the last affair took place he had already broken up his camp, and was on board H.M. ship [illegible] preparing to start on his return home; and that he was a good hand, and preserved his regard for the Commissariat to the last, will be found in the remark with which he winds up his account of that long and murderous fray:—"As I had to return in time for [illegible]'s dinner, I could not, as some of my friends did, go over the field that evening." And so, wishing him good appetite, we close his gossiping, amusing pages.

HISTORY OF THE IRISH BRIGADES IN THE SERVICE OF FRANCE. By JOHN CORNELIUS O'CALLAGHAN. Vol. I. Dublin: M. M'Glashan.

The Irish Brigades in the service of France belong to a troublous and transition period. Their origin dates from the expulsion of James II., in the English Revolution, in 1688, and their end came with the French Revolution, and the era of the Guillotine, little more than a century afterwards. The Colonels of the three regiments of which the Brigade consisted are of some of the noblest families in Ireland; indeed Mr. O'Callaghan claims for them a Royal pedigree—Justin M'Carthy and Daniel O'Brien having been lineal descendants, respectively, "from Deas-Mumhain, South Munster, or Desmond, and Tuath-Mumhain, North Munster, or Thomond, by whom, for 900 years previous to the Anglo-Norman invasion of Erin in the twelfth century, Munhain, or Munster, is related to have been ruled;" whilst the origin of the family of the Thos. Arthur Dillon is ascribed to a Prince named Lochan Diolmana, or Lozan Dilmana, of the Royal house of O Neill, who, early in the seventh century, having slain his cousin, Colman Rimidh, was obliged to fly to Gaul. We may add, that the historian himself appears to have been of Royal descent, a note informing us that "the great founder of the name of O'Callaghan, who reigned in the same county (Tipperary), or at Cashel, its metropolis, as King of Munster, died in 954;" only 900 years ago. Indeed, for the number of illustrious names, and of family papers and local annals referring to them cited, the present work is a marvel of patient industry, and has obviously been a labour of love.

Of the Brigade in its military capacity—of the numerous wars in which it took part—Mr. O'Callaghan does not say much leaving that duty to whoever may complete the history commenced by the late Matthew O'Conor. Mr. O'Callaghan's is chiefly a personal history, and, besides those comprised in the King of France's Brigade, he commemorates many distinguished Irishmen who fought during the same century in other continental services—those of Spain, Austria, Russia, &c. Those who take interest in such details will find an inexhaustible store of entertainment in these pages.

The commands of the Brigade, and of the regiments composing it, were a valuable property in the hands of the Royal sons to whom they were given, the Colonels, in addition to receiving higher pay than native-born officers of similar rank, having a perquisite of a sol in the livre (equal to five per cent), as well from the appointments of all the officers to them from funds for the mutual maintenance of their respective regiments. Mortly after the formation of the corps, however, the extra pay as Colonels was resigned, the gallant sons of Erin, after their defeat at Limerick, consenting to take the same pay as French soldiers—a trait of loyalty which "King James," that "by an instrument under his hand and seal he made a solemn promise he would pay them what their actual pay wanted, to make it full English, whenever God was pleased to restore him, and so made it his own and his Crown's debt."

The Irish Brigade not only fought manfully for their lawful Sovereign in Europe, but made part of the expedition which went over to assist the American colonists against the mother country, a proceeding (however we may now look upon the merits of that quarrel) which his French Majesty considered "ought rather to be considered as consistent with the rights of international law. Dearly, however, did France, and the Irish Brigade also, pay for thus meddling in other people's quarrels. The spirit of freedom and the example of successful revolt soon spread their influence throughout French society, and hurried on the catastrophe in which the expatriated sons of Erin were to share the misfortunes of another Royal house. One example will suffice of the vicissitudes and terrible destiny to which the force of circumstance brought some of these adventurers. A grand banquet was held at Paris, November 18, 1792, to celebrate the triumph of liberty, and the defeat of the invaders of France (at Verdun, in which General Dillon shared with Dumouriez the honour of the day), and amongst the proceedings, "which were marked by the greatest revolutionary enthusiasm," Sir Robert Smith and Lord Edward Fitzgerald resigned their titles, the former giving the toast, "The abolition of hereditary titles in England." "Then General Dillon rose, and, expressing the satisfaction which he felt at meeting so respectable an assembly on so happy an occasion, testified the joy he felt in being one who had contributed to drive the horde of its invaders from France, and his willingness when called on to perform a similar service to his own country." These professions, however, did not protect him from the suspicion of still holding allegiance to the family of his Royal master and generous patron; and early in 1793, ardent Republican as he was, he was led to the guillotine. His last words on the scaffold showed that his sincerity had not been suspected without cause, viz., "Vive le Roi!" he exclaimed, in tones which resounded from the scaffold through the Place de la Revolution, "as if he had been addressing the assembled guard for a military evolution."

Mr O'Callaghan's materials have been compiled with great industry, but it is strange that in cases he does not see their purport; and that, regardless of the changes which more than a century and a half have wrought, he still will talk as if the battle of the Boyne had to be fought over again, and the rights of the house of Stuart had never been legitimately disposed of. He speaks of our glorious revolution as the "Williamite revolt" or "insurrection," "the revolt of England against the King in 1688," "the defection of England to the Prince of Orange," and persists in calling James II "the King," and "his Majesty," and "that Monarch," &c., even when speaking of events long after his deposition.

THE KING OF NAPLES AND THE JESUITS. The wrath of the King of Naples against his quondam friends and allies, the Jesuits, has had its effect even here, in the head-quarters of the long-probed brethren and one of the most influential members of the synod has been offered by his colleagues as a scapegoat to appease the Royal Ferdinand's ire. This is no other than the Father Curci, who recently published a work, entitled "Origin and Progress of the Civilta Cattolica" (the Jesuits' Review), in which the conduct of various Governments was criticised, and especially that of Naples, alluding to its expulsion of the Jesuits last century, when the Minister Tanucci was in power. King Ferdinand, already chafed at these remarks, became still more angry on perusing some articles in the *Civilta Cattolica*, more favourable to the Allies than to the King's dear friend and patron, the Czar. Warned by these symptoms, the wary Jesuits, by a stroke of policy peculiarly their own, had two editions of their review published, one for the King of Naples and his subjects, and the other for Rome and Northern Europe—the first omitting the expressions hostile to Russia contained in the last. A murder will out, however, and the cooked broth of the Neapolitan and burst out into a tremendous rage against the Jesuits, whom he would have [illegible] with from the Borbonic dominions, had the Austrian and Neapolitan Pope interceded to avert so drastic [illegible]. Although this extreme measure was not carried out, the King [illegible] the Jesuits from all spiritual superintendence and possession of the Royal seminary, the Marine School, and the prisons, and forwarded a demand that the editors of the *Civilta Cattolica* should be immediately banished from Rome. This has been recently modified by the departure of Father Curci for Milan, at the prudent suggestion of his alarmed brethren.—*Letter from Rome.*

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

PEREGRINE.—You will find a list of Chess-clubs, which no travelling amateur should be without, published in [illegible] of the *Chess-Player's Chronicle*.

[illegible] Our Problem column we would have [illegible] and [illegible] by sending use of [illegible] diagrams [illegible] Messrs. Routl. of Farringdon-road.

[illegible] Alnwick, India.—They are all much too simple for publication.

[illegible] Derby.—Nos. 1 and 2 are moderately good, but No. 2 is quite below our mark.

[illegible] We know nothing of "Double Chess" and game therefore enlighten you.

[illegible] line in Mr Lenchars, Pl. [illegible], London, who [illegible] the sort of hand you [illegible]

W. T. H.—Certainly you may.

[illegible] We believe you are mistaken with regard to No. 1 but we must leave the question to the author now.

R. D. D., Lisbon.—The error was pointed out by us in a [illegible] number.

W. C. C.—It is effect like 1 Q to Q R 3rd (ch) [illegible] R to Q Kt 3rd—Mat.

[illegible] It appears to us a drawn game with perfect play on both sides.

[illegible] The information given to Mr Ireland by the spirited Lady [illegible] under the Presidentship of Sheriff Bell, took place in June, 1853, not 1852, as your opinion states.

R. B. W. Many thanks.

*** Many answers are unavoidably deferred till next week.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No 567, by Alma, Mathematicus, Decorum, G. F. C., A. L. M. are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 568, by Decorum; M. F.; of C.; W. C. E., W. G. C., J. P. t. J., Wyndham, F. R., Newcastle; T. T., Hunworth, P. H., Peter, Oulderon, Orlando, F. T. W., [illegible]

[illegible] M. L., Ft. Decorum, G. P. C., F. R., Norwich, Sylvanus, [illegible] Sidcup, Sidcup, Sidcotter, Inkermann, J. P., Dalston, and [illegible] All [illegible]

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No 567.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Kt at B 6th to Q Kt 5th.	K to K 4th.	3. R to K 2nd (ch)	P takes B
2. Q to K R 2nd	R to K R 4th	4. Q Mates.	

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 568.

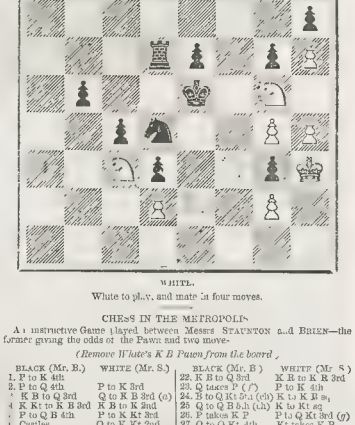
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B to Q Kt 4th	Any move	2. R takes P (ch)	

And Mates next move.

PROBLEM No. 569.

By E. B. C., New Jersey, United States.

BLACK



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

An instructive Game played between Messrs STAUNTON and BRIEN—the former giving the odds of the Pawn and two move.

(Remove White's K B Pawn from the board.)

BLACK (Mr. B.)	BLACK (Mr. S.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	22. K R to Q 3rd
2. P to Q 4th	P to K 3rd	23. Q takes P (f)
K B to Q 3rd	Q to K B 3rd (e)	P to K 4th
4. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to K 2nd	24. B to Q Kt 5th (ch)
P to Q B 4th	P to K Kt 3rd	K to K B sq
Castles	Q to K Kt 2nd	25. Q to Q B 4th (ch)
7. Kt to Q B 3rd	K Kt to Q B 4	K to Kt sq
8. Q Kt to Q Kt 5th	Q Kt to Q R 3rd	26. P takes K P
9. Q B to K B 4th	P to Q 3rd	P to Q Kt 3rd (g)
10. Q to Q 2nd	K Kt to K B 2nd	27. Q to Q Kt 4th
11. P to K 5th	P to K Kt 4th	Kt takes K P
12. P takes Q P	P takes P (b)	28. Kt takes K R
13. Q B to K 3rd	Q B to Q 2nd	Q takes Kt
14. Q to Q R 6th (c)	K B to Q sq (d)	29. R takes Kt
15. Q to Q R 3rd	B takes Kt	30. P to K Kt 3rd
16. P takes B	Q Kt to Q B 2nd	31. B takes Kt
17. P to Q Kt 6th (e)	P takes P	32. B takes R
18. Q to Q R 6th	P takes P	33. R to K sq
19. P takes B	Q R to Q B 2nd	34. R to Q B 5th
20. Q to Q B 6th	P to Q Kt 4th	35. Q to Q Kt 7th
21. Q to Q R 4th (ch)	K to K 2nd	36. P to K Kt 3rd
	K to K 3rd	37. B to K 7th (i)
	P to K R 4th	38. Q takes B
	P to Q 4th	39. K to Kt 2nd
	K to K sq	40. K to B sq
		41. K to K 2nd
		And White, in a move or two, resigned.

BLACK (Mr. S.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)
K R to K B 3rd	P to K 4th
24. B to Q Kt 5th (ch)	K to K B sq
25. Q to Q B 4th (ch)	K to Kt sq
26. P takes K P	P to Q Kt 3rd (g)
27. Q to Q Kt 4th	Kt takes K P
28. Kt takes K R	Q takes Kt
29. R takes Kt	K R to K 3rd (h)
30. Q B takes Q Kt P	Q to K B 4th (i)
31. B takes Kt	B takes B
32. B takes R	Q takes R
33. R to K sq	Q to K B 4th
34. R to Q B 5th	R to Q sq
35. Q to Q Kt 7th	Q to K B 5th
36. P to K Kt 3rd	Q to Q 7th
37. B to K 7th (k)	P to K Kt 5th (l)
38. Q takes B	Q to Q 6th (ch)
39. K to Kt 2nd	Q to K B 6th (ch)
40. K to B sq	Q to Q 6th (ch)
41. K to K 2nd	

(e) We have no recollection of seeing this move played by the defending party in the Evans and Two-Move Game before. It strikes us as even better than the novelty 3 Q to [illegible] which we first introduced by Mr S. a few years ago. He [illegible] the [illegible] the genius of that powerful [illegible] of play [illegible] from the nature of the opening [illegible] trace without great danger; while the attack affords such [illegible] that we [illegible] it.

(f) It clear to us that White might [illegible] have taken the Bishop with advantage.

12.	P takes
13. P takes B	Q takes P
14. P to K Kt 3rd (best)	Q to K B 3rd

And White has certainly a promising attack in his hands, without having sustained any loss in material.

(g) A successor of this character of which Black might have used if his opponent so taken the offered [illegible].

In his 3d play, White would have seen at a glance that [illegible] was the opportunity for [illegible] and mate.

(h) This was very well considered. To the momentary loss of a Pawn is indemnified treated [illegible] he [illegible] it afforded.

(i) Q to Q B sq would perhaps have [illegible]

(k) Q to Q R 4th followed by K R to Q B 3rd, or K R to Q R 3rd, would have been of no avail. The importance of dislodging the Queen before capturing the Pawn will be manifest in a moment, by subjoining

38.	Kt takes K P
	Q takes Kt
39. P to K B 4th &c	

(k) Giving up this Pawn was unadvised and quite unnecessary. By retaining it, White might most likely have drawn the game.

(l) White appears to have set still his Pawn under the impression that it could afterwards [illegible] have discovered his error in time. The following [illegible] clearly prove that taking the Q P Pawn would have been fatal.

32. K R takes Q	Q R takes P	33. K B to his sq	K R takes R
	Q R takes Q R (ch)	34. K to his sq	

and White can win the minor pieces, and at the proper moment play his Queen, so as to defend his K Bishop.

[illegible] result it appears as if White must now draw the game by perpetual check, but [illegible] well calculated all consequences before he ventured to play his Rook, and his adversary had no longer a chance of winning the game.

(m) Had he played the obvious move of R to K B sq, Black would have won easily, for [illegible]

37.		37. R to K 8th (ch)	K takes R
38. B takes P (ch)	K to R sq	39. Q takes B (ch)	K to R sq
	(If to K 3rd, or Kt 3rd, the result is the same.)		
40. Q to K 5th (ch)	K to R 2nd	41. Q to K Th (ch), and wins	

THE EMPRESS OF RUSSIA. As a general rule, the Russian journals are strictly prohibited from publishing any personal news about any member of the Imperial family. In all cases of births, deaths, and marriages, it is the Czar himself who acquaints his loving subjects with the news by means of a manifesto to the nation. Under these circumstances, it is not to be wondered at that the newspapers here have not dared to say a word about the alarming illness of the Empress; but today it has slipped out for the first time in rather a startling manner. In communicating the fact of this arrival, the day before yesterday, of the grand Dukes Nicholas and Michael from the army in the Crimea, "on a visit to their sick mother." It goes on to add, "the health of the Empress is improving;" from which it appears that she is still unwell. It is privately circulated here, in well-informed circles, that her illness is more a disease of the mind than of the body, and mainly brought on from her intense anxiety to prevent a rupture between the Czar and her brother, the King of Prussia.—*Letter from St. Petersburg, Dec. 2.*

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The course of instruction includes the English, French, German, Italian, Greek, Latin, Languages, Mathematics, Arithmetic, Writing, Drawing, Geography, History, Drawing, Chemistry, Natural Philosophy, and Vocal Music.
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Sir HENRY WILLOCK, K.L.S., Chairman
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The successful results of the Society have enabled the Directors for the last twelve years to reduce the premiums on policies entitled to participate in profits on an average more than forty four per cent, and during the last four years a reduction of forty-five per cent has been declared. Weekly Board-day, Thursday; one month.
MICHAEL HAZLAH IMPEY, Secretary.

DISPENSARY for CONSUMPTION BALL. THE SIXTH ANNIVERSARY BALL in AID of the DISPENSARY for CONSUMPTION and DISEASES of the CHEST 26, Margaret-street, Regent-street, will be held at WILLIS'S ROOMS, King-street St. James's, on WEDNESDAY, JAN 17, 1855. Tickets 10s 6d each (Subscribers and Subscribers, included), to be obtained of the Stewards, or of SAMUEL FOWELL, Esq., Secretary, 98 New Bond-street, and at the Dispensary. LAURENT'S PRIVATE BAND will attend.

ROYAL SOCIETY for the PREVENTION of CRUELTY to ANIMALS. Established 1824.
Patron—The QUEEN
President—The Marquis of Westminster.
At the Monthly Meeting of the Committee, held at the Offices, 12, Pall-mall, on Monday, January 8th, 1855, the report of the Society's proceedings having been read, it appeared that the operations of the Society during the past quarter had resulted in Ninety-one Convictions for the following offences:—

Cruelty to horses	9	Ill-treating bullocks	6
to drivers with wounds, &c.	45	Leaving sheep to be driven	
Letting for driving horses with wounds, &c.	2	without food or water	3
Ill-treating horses	4	Ill-treating sheep	2
Burning a horse's mouth	1	Ill-treating cats	3
Causing a donkey to be driven while in a weak state	1	Total	91
Ill-treating dogs	5		

The punishments for these offences included imprisonment (with hard labour) in the Houses of Correction, in the Metropolitan Districts, for two cases, and the following pecuniary fines—Four of £5, one of £4, three of £3, three of £2 10s., eight of £2, twenty-six of £1 and the remaining twenty-four of £1 and under.
By order of the Committee,
January 8, 1855. GEORGE MIDDLETON, Secretary.

THE HON. ARTILLERY COMPANY of LONDON, the most ancient Corps of Volunteers in England is open for the enrolment of gentlemen residing in the metropolis and its environs, who are willing to give a portion of their time to military exercises.
The Company is empowered by Royal Patents and Warrants from her present most gracious Majesty and her Majesty's royal predecessors, to train persons to the use of arms and to the practice of military evolutions and exercises.
The company possesses an extensive drilling ground, a lodge-gallery 230 feet long, armoury-house, arms, and every facility for efficient military training.
The Officers are selected from the Company, and hold her Majesty's commissions.
Gentlemen under twenty-one years of age are admitted as Cadets, but must produce the consent of their parents or guardians.
Members have to pay an annual subscription of One Guinea, an entrance fee, and to provide themselves a dress and undress uniform.
The expenses of the Band, Arms, Ammunition, &c., are defrayed out of the funds of the Company.
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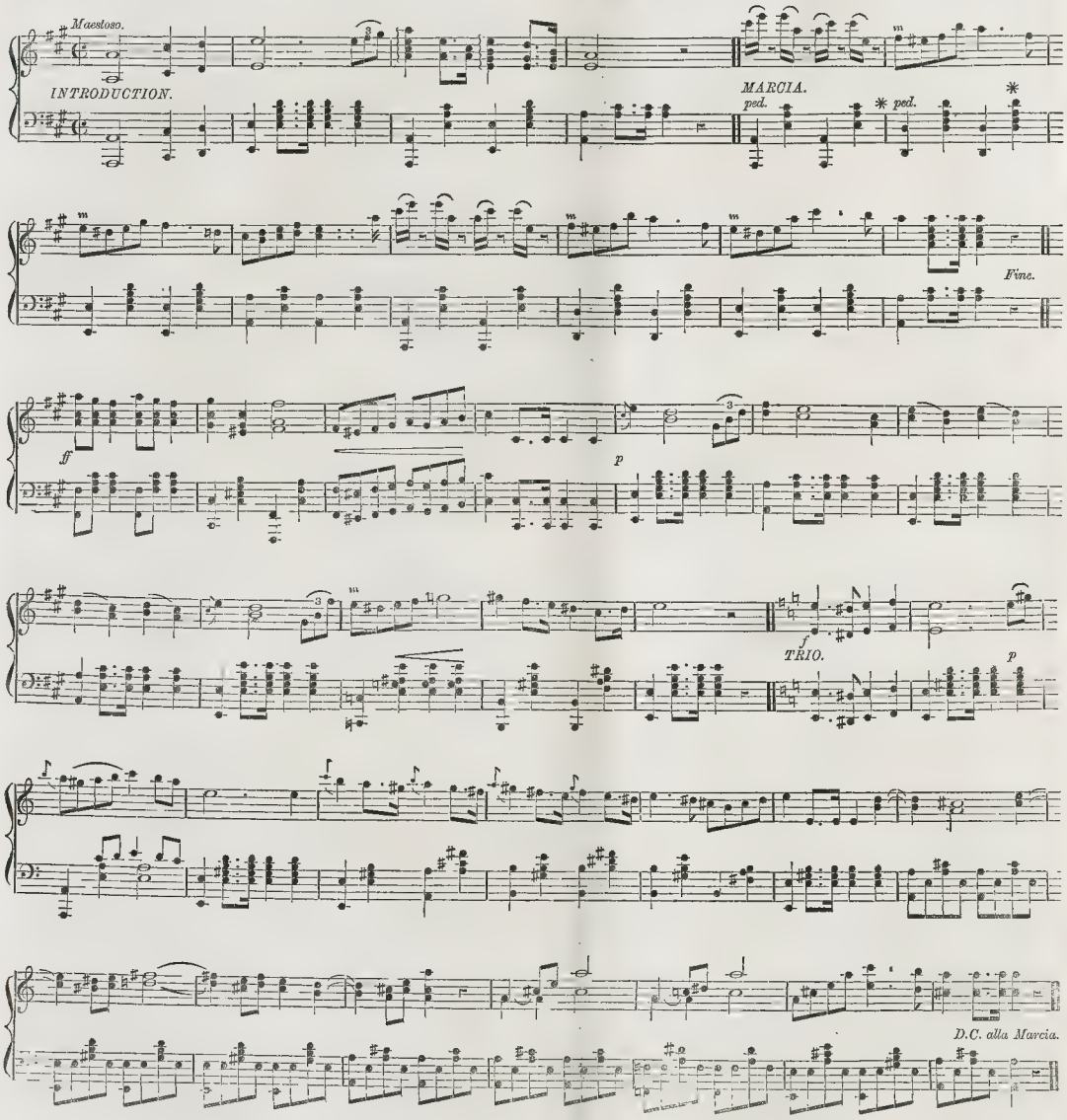

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The first of these songs is light, fanciful, and elegant—quite fairy music. The accompaniment is simple, but contains some happy traits of harmony and modulation. The second song is exceedingly pleasing: the fair authoress has evidently a talent both for poetry and music; and we recommend her composition to those who prefer the unaffected expression of natural feeling to exaggerated sentiment and laboured attempts at originality.

Dear Edwin, much 'twould grieve me. Ballad. The Melody and Words by Dr. Morison; the Pianoforte Accompaniments and Symphonies by Sir Henry R. Bishop. Jullien and Co.

This is a pretty ballad, about a shepherd youth who leaves his betrothed to seek his fortune in "a land of gold," and, having gained it, returns to his home and his bride. The melody, which is simple and unpretending, is graced by Sir Henry Bishop's imaginative and expressive accompaniment.

A Treatise on Counterpoint and Fugue. By L. Cherubini. Translated by Mrs. Cowden Clarke.—A Treatise on Choir and Chorus Singing. By F. J. Fetis. Translated by the Rev. Thomas Helmore, M.A.—Novello's Analysis of Vocal Rudiments, by Question and Answer. J. Alfred Novello.

These books of instruction are calculated to be very useful to the musical student. Cherubini's "Treatise on Counterpoint and Fugue" is a work of European celebrity, and the most valuable extant on the subject of which it treats. It may, indeed, be said to stand alone; for the previous works on counterpoint and fugue—such as that of Marpurg are tinged with the heavy pedantry of the old school, and are adapted to antiquated forms of the art. Cherubini's work contains the principles and rules of counterpoint as applicable to the practice of modern music; and we look upon its study as being indispensable to every one who aspires to the character of a composer. It is not, we must observe, an elementary work; it is intended for the advanced student, and presupposes a knowledge of the tonal system and the rudiments of harmony, the power of reading music with facility and some acquaintance with classical compositions; but the student who is possessed of these attainments will find it a sure guide through the more profound and intricate paths of the art. Nor is it to the young composer only that such a work is of value. The study of composition is of importance to the amateur, even should he never think of becoming a composer; for a knowledge of the principles and methods of an art is essential to the true and thorough enjoyment of its masterpieces. The uneducated ear may derive a certain pleasure from a grand fugue in the "Messiah;" but how immeasurably greater is the enjoyment of those who are able to understand its structure, perceive the resources of art, and follow the processes of mind employed in its development! Without a knowledge of the art, it is impossible to comprehend and feel the genius of the artist. This work is the commencement of a serial publication, entitled "Novello's Library for the Diffusion of Musical Knowledge," which (as the publisher announces) is to consist of "a variety of standard Treatises on the Art of Music, written by the most esteemed English and Foreign Masters, at prices which will place them within the means of every student." There is a previous English edition of Cherubini's work; but this new edition is equally complete, and is sold at one-fifth of the price.

Fétis's "Treatise on Choir and Chorus Singing" is likewise a work of very great value. M. Fétis is the most eminent among the musical literati of the day; and this treatise, which is marked with his usual ability, is upon a subject hitherto neglected—the instruction and discipline of choral bodies. We have conductors and chorus-masters (witness Mr. Costa and Mr. Hullah), who train their tuneful forces with ability and success; but the methods of doing so have never (till this work of M. Fétis) been reduced to a system founded on rational and artistic principles. This the distinguished author has now done most effectually; and his work, published in a cheap and easily accessible form, ought to be used as a handbook by directors and teachers in every choral society, every church and place of worship, and every school where music forms a branch of education, in the kingdom.

Novello's "Analysis of Vocal Rudiments" is a tiny volume, containing much useful matter in small compass. It is a manual to be used in teaching young beginners; and we cannot describe it more justly than by quoting the lines from Shakspeare which form the motto on its titlepage:—

> I must begin with rudiments of art,
> To teach you gamut in a briefer sort,
> More pleasant, pithy, and effectual
> Than hath been taught by any of my trade
> And there it is in writing, fairly drawn.

London: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by William Little, 195, Strand aforesaid.—Saturday, January 13, 1855.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 724.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

AMERICA AND THE WAR.

THE public opinion of civilised Europe is so decidedly hostile to the Czar, and the sympathies of the wise and the good are so strongly expressed in favour of those who are engaged in the herculean task of punishing his aggression and setting limits to his ambition, that it sounds strange to European ears and more especially to English ones—to hear that the great and free people of the United States of America are favourable to the cause of Russia, and pray for the humiliation of Great Britain. But, when the first feeling of surprise naturally caused by such an announcement has passed away, Englishmen as naturally ask themselves whether it can be true? and if true, what can be the reason of a state of opinion so inconsistent with the traditions, the consanguinities, and the free institutions of such a country as the United States?

It is unfortunately beyond a doubt that there is a party, or the dregs of a party, in America which hates England. This party, which we do not believe to consist of native-born Americans, or to have any deep root among the "Know Nothings," is principally composed of Irishmen, or of the sons of Irishmen, who preserve that fierce hostility to this country which the late Daniel O'Connell, and his successors, the Smith O'Briens, the Mitchels, and the Meaghers, so mischievously inculcated. In Ireland itself this feeling has died out. The old hatred is extinct, or so nearly so, as to count for nothing. The famine year, and the unparalleled efforts made by the British Government and people to mitigate its calamities, administered the last blow to the expiring monster of Sedition. But the Irish who emigrated prior to and during that period of miserable agitation and sectarian bitterness carried away with them the feelings prevalent in the Old Land—to brood over, to nurse, and to exasperate them in the New. The New York press, or that portion of it which speaks loudest, and trumpets itself most pertinaciously in Europe as the organ of American sentiment, is, to a considerable extent, conducted by politicians of this class. England and Ireland are happily rid of them, and wish them no further punishment than the chance of revisiting the country of their birth, to see with their own eyes the good which their absence has done it, and the benefits which have resulted from the bold and humane legislation of the last seven years. If Irishmen in Ireland furnish heroes for Alma and Inkerman, and throb with as generous and sincere an ardour in the war against Russia as ever animated English, Scotch, or French, there is no occasion for distress of mind if Irishmen, or pseudo-Irishmen, in America proclaim "that they do not love Russia more, but hate her less, than they do England." These writers are not true Americans, and do not speak the sentiments of that great and free people. They speak for themselves alone, and will not influence the opinions or the acts of leading American statesmen.

But this is not the only class in the Republic which sympathises with Russia. Wrong begets Wrong; and Bad Principle is the parent of Bad Feeling. The Republic is in its hot youth. It is full of energy, of impulse, and of ambition. It feels itself destined in the natural course of events to be one of the greatest States that ever existed on the globe; and longs for extension of territory. It covets Mexico, it would like to have Canada, and no inconsiderable numbers of its people have made up their minds, *coute que coute*, to possess themselves of Cuba. People who openly advocate so glaring a wrong as the seizure of Cuba see nothing iniquitous or unnatural in the attempt of the Czar to appropriate Constantinople and the Turkish Empire. In their eyes such an attempt is but sharp practice, to be looked on with pleasure by a sharp people, and "clever go-a-headism," to be approved by the "smartest nation in creation." The result is one which they do not particularly desire for itself, but for the encouragement which it would afford to their own lawless longings for the fair island which Spain so justly, but inconveniently, determines not to part with. The lust of dominion is unhappily a vice which is not peculiar to barbarous and despotic States. If it were, we should hear of no encouragement to Russia from the other side of the Atlantic. If Republicans were as wise in practice as in theory, enlightened and free America would be unanimous in support of Great Britain and France in their disinterested and generous struggle against the wicked aggressor and disturber of the world's repose. But while we admit the existence of this pro-Russian feeling among our brothers in blood, and the coheirs of our language, our religion, and our institutions, we should guard ourselves against the injustice of imagining that such sentiments are universal or even widely prevalent among them. Besides, the feeling is one that is not likely to outlive the first signal reverse which shall befal the arms of Russia. With the triumphant capture of Sebastopol the admiration of the American friends of the Czar will droop and cool; and when he has accepted terms of peace, which must of necessity be terms of greater or less humiliation, his summer flatterers wil discover in the winter of his discomfiture that he has been

INSPECTION OF THE EAST MIDDLESEX MILITIA, WELL-WALK, HAMPSTEAD. (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

rightly served after all, and will seek to free their consciences from the reproach and their character from the odium of ever having spoken in his praise, or breathed a wish for his triumph. They will shout applauses at the names of England and France, and will dwell with pride upon the fact that they, too, have French and British blood in their veins, and catch, if they can, a reflex from the glory which they did not win. All this is natural; and need excite neither surprise nor regret in this country.

There is, however, another—and, we believe, a far more influential class in America which desires to intermeddle in the war now raging in Europe, and to turn it to account in the party politics of the Union. They allege that the United States are a great nation, and as such deeply interested in putting an end to a war which interrupts their commerce. They desire peace on the same grounds that the trading interests of Gr at Britain and France demand it; but, as their national honour is not involved, they look upon the war—as Mr. Sturge or Mr. Bright may look upon it—as a nuisance to be removed *à tout prix*. In this spirit they have begun to talk of offering their mediation between the contending parties. Such an offer, if accepted, would not only flatter them with the hope of peace, but would give the United States a footing in European politics, and exalt their importance in the general comity of civilisation. But their objects are too narrow and too selfish to meet with approval in Europe. An offer of intermediation such as is proposed—however well meant it might be—would be simply an impertinence. The only negotiators that the Allies can admit into their councils are negotiators prepared, if need be, to support their opinions by the whole weight of their arms and the whole amount of their resources. If the United States, like Austria or Sardinia, were—in the name of right and justice, and for the interest of civilisation and humanity, imperilled by Russian violence and aggression—to offer to accede to the treaty of the 2nd of December, 1854, and to accomplish all its duties and stipulations, we should hail such an act as the grandest moral triumph of our time. The Americans would be welcomed to the World's Congress at Vienna with the acclamations of every friend of human liberty and progress. But on no other terms can America be admitted into the councils of the Allied Powers. They want and will accept no such intermediation. For the United States they will continue to feel the utmost deference and respect, but they will manage their own business and defend their own honour. The one might be injured, and the other would most certainly be imperilled, by any new negotiator, however well disposed, who did not enter into the dispute with arms in his hands. We do not anticipate such an offer from the United States of America. Short of that the Allies have nothing to ask but the good wishes and favourable opinion of their best and most enlightened citizens. These, we believe, are already on the side of Great Britain and France, whatever may be said to the contrary by Filibusterers, or by Irish immigrants who consider Smith O'Brien a wise man, and John Mitchel a real friend of Ireland.

THE EAST MIDDLESEX MILITIA.

This fine Regiment was embodied, and ordered to its rendezvous at its head-quarters, Maryon House, Hampstead, on the 26th of December, since which it has been at daily drill on Hampstead-heath. The Regiment now consists of between six and seven hundred men, and is daily augmenting its numbers by enlistment. Colonel Wood has been its commander for upwards of forty-five years.

The illustration on the preceding page shows the Inspection, by Colonel Wood, at the Well-walk, Hampstead.

To induce the men to refrain from intemperate indulgence as much as possible, and otherwise for their benefit, a room has been set apart for their accommodation at the Dispensary, Hampstead, as a news and reading room, which is supplied with newspapers, &c., gratuitously, and tea and coffee at cost price; and we are glad to be able to state that the men billeted about Hampstead avail themselves of the privileges thus accorded them.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The Emperor and Empress last week visited the constructions that are being erected in the Faubourg St. Antoine for the reception of 200 of the daughters of the labouring class, which is the one that almost exclusively inhabits this quarter. It may be remembered that at the period of the Empress's marriage, the city of Paris requesting to be allowed to offer her a diamond necklace, her Majesty desired that the sum it was to cost should be applied to this purpose. The Emperor and Empress were received by the Préfet de la Seine, and, attended by the architect, they passed in review the whole details of the buildings, which are on a most extensive and commodious scale. The workmen employed in the establishment, and those of the quarter in general, greeted the Imperial guests with repeated cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" "Vive l'Impératrice!" It is said that two additions are to be made to the Empress's household, in the persons of Madame de la Grange, daughter of one of the members of the *Corps Legis laif*, and whose husband is *écuyer* to the Emperor, and the Comtesse de Labédoyère. It is decided that the Prince Napoleon returns to France on the 25th inst.; his health continues in a very precarious condition.

The exterior works of the Palais d'Industrie are nearly, if not quite, completed, and the scaffolding will in a few days be removed. The difficulty of giving places to the crowd of exhibitors is becoming daily more evident. A question has arisen whether the different states of the Zollverein are to be represented separately, or to be confounded in one, as in our London Exhibition. Saxony, it appears, particularly deserves to stand alone, on the plea that its productions, though few, are superior to those of almost any other of the States: its specimens of linen are, it seems, peculiarly beautiful, and it wishes to have the credit of its name attached to them.

A speculation is being organised by the proprietors of the Palais d'Industrie. As it is forbidden to sell any of the articles exhibited within the precincts of the Exhibition, 1800 temporary shops are to be by them erected in the Allée d'Antin, close to the building, where the owners of the different objects can sell them. Each of these shops is to be let for forty pounds for the season.

It is stated that MM. Ingres, Scheffer, Horace Vernet, Paul Delaroche, and Delacroix have all the intention of sending various specimens of their genius to the Great Industrial Exhibition.

The gigantic speculation, the Dîner de l'Exposition, undertaken by the *Société* Gastronomie, opened its doors on Monday for the reception of guests. The building has two entrances—one in the Rue Lafitte, the other in the Rue Lapelletier, opposite the Grand Opera. Our space does not permit us to give a description of this prodigious culinary monument; suffice it to say that the open fireplace alone can roast a hundred and ten head of fowl or game at once, and all the rest is in proportion, and that with luxury and comfort a wonderful economy is combined.

A most interesting piece of intelligence for the literary world, is the announcement, as yet only *officieux*—not official—that M. de Lamartine is about to produce his "Memoires." It appears that a weekly review, in the course of formation, has offered the celebrated poet and historian the sum of sixty thousand francs for the work in question, but desiring that it should be confined within the limits of two volumes. M. de Lamartine has, however, replied that six would be barely sufficient to contain the matter he proposes to publish, and therefore declines the proposition. The first volume is to give the correspondence of the principal members of his family, more especially of his father, who was in the Garde du Corps under Louis XVI.

M. Henri de la Madeleine, a young writer of great promise, and one of the editors of the *Revue de Paris*, is collecting, for publication, the Correspondence of the unfortunate and gifted Comte de Raousset Boulbon, whose singular history, whose varied talents, and tragic end, render any notice of him a subject of peculiar interest and curiosity.

It appears that the King of Prussia, having the desire to give to the public the letters of Frederick the Great, has employed emissaries to obtain from the collectors of autographs in France all that can be acquired of that Monarch. A large number have already been forwarded to the King by M. Feuillet de Conches, one of the greatest autograph-collectors in France.

The Queen Pomaré, whose approaching visit to Paris we last week announced, is to lodge during her stay with the wife of Admiral Bruat, who made the acquaintance of her Majesty during the time that the Admiral commanded the station of Océanie. It appears that the august lady in question is perfectly ready to conform to the usages of European society and costume in the main, but that she considers the use of shoes and stockings a barbarism not to be tolerated by a woman who respects herself, and she therefore appears in Parisian dresses and *coiffures*, but with her feet unshackled by any of these inconvenient appendages.

The reception of M. Berryer at the Academy is fixed for the 25th inst. As M. Guizot has been appointed Director for three months, on him will devolve the duty of introducing the new member.

PROGRESS OF THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

The *Euphrate* steamer, which left Constantinople on the 8th inst., arrived at Marseilles on Wednesday morning, with news from the Crimea to the 3rd inst. The French batteries were daily approaching nearer Sebastopol, but the weather had been so bad that very little firing had been exchanged between the belligerents. The various accounts still agree in stating that a tremendous final struggle was about to take place. A telegraphic despatch from Admiral Bruat, dated 5th January, mentions that there had been a heavy fall of snow, but the sun shone again brightly, the thermometer was at two degrees below freezing point, and north-easterly winds prevailed, which would favour military operations by drying the ground.

Omer Pacha was at the Camp of the Allies on the 5th inst., where he concerted measures with Lord Raglan and General Canrobert as to the campaign. On the 6th the Turkish Commander returned to Varna, where he would immediately assume the direction of the operations entrusted to him. Six steamers, under the command of Achmet Pacha, have been constantly employed in going between Varna and Eupatoria.

The Russians appear to be rather alarmed at the new turn of affairs The presence of the corps of Omer Pacha in their rear at Eupatoria, and the extreme difficulty in conveying their troops in a country where roads no longer exist, or are rendered impracticable, evidently disturb their projects. The country in the neighbourhood of the Russian army is exhausted; and the Tartar population, alarmed at the requisitions made on them, have driven off all their flocks into the mountains The Russian line of observation is very extended. The Twelfth Division, under General Liprandi, occupies the position of the Belbec; two other divisions extend themselves from the Tchernaya to the Katscha, and another division remains at Simpheropol, which they are occupied in fortifying The cavalry is watching Eupatoria. It is said that General Osten Sacken has called for large reinforcements; indeed, that he has declared that he want at least 40,000 men to enable him to resist. The united force of the Allies will soon be about 130,000 men, including the Turks at Eupatoria If the important diversion undertaken by the Turks can be first effected before the arrival of Osten-Sacken's reinforcements, he will find himself with the enemy in his front and rear. At all events, the demand for reinforcements proves the apprehensions which the Allied troops before Sebastopol occasion. The following letter from Odessa, dated January 2nd, gives a melancholy picture of the state of the Russian army:—

Prince Menschikoff can with difficulty feed the troops around him, and yet he incessantly demands reinforcements, more especially since he has ascertained with certitude that a Turkish corps, 50,000 or 40,000 men strong, will be landed at Koslov (Eupatoria). The Turks will play there the *rôle* performed a short time ago by Liprandi. In his position to the rear of Baiaclava. As the operations of the Allies were checked and hemmed in by Liprandi, so will the movements of Menschikoff be restricted and hampered. Every vulnerable point is therefore being looked to, and the works of defence around Perekop and Simpheropol are being recommenced with vigour.

The forces which are being dispatched to Prince Menschikoff are anything but choice troops; all those that could be spared here and in Bessarabia are already in Sebastopol. If the troops already at the onset of their march have no imposing aspect, what a scene of misery must they present on arriving at their destination! It is impossible to describe the extreme hardships over which these poor fellows must triumph. Hitherto waggons were employed in transporting them; but that is now utterly impossible, as the frost has not even improved the condition of the roads. I am assured that above ten per cent of the expeditions sink on the road from hunger and exhaustion, never again to rise; and that of those who are happy enough to arrive, a large portion are received into the hospitals.

THE SORTIE OF THE 20TH OF DECEMBER.

There certainly never was a siege of such grandeur as the present with fewer remarkable incidents. With the exception of the advance of the army in the rear on the 26th October, and the grand sortie on the 5th ult., no movement of any moment has been attempted by the Russians to raise the siege. They have confined themselves to occasional surprises in the trenches, which end usually in a little skirmishing and the loss of a few men on both sides. The conformation of the ground is very favourable for such attempts; the whole line is intersected by ravines, so that with a little caution the enemy may creep along and come within a few yards of the Allied troops without being observed: besides this, most of the ridges on which our lines are situated are covered with brushwood, which helps to conceal the approach of infantry during the night

On the night of the 20th ult. one of these attempts was made on several points of the English line. On the right, where one of the fresh regiments was on picket, they succeeded in carrying away some blankets, but on the left they did rather more damage. In front of the left attack there is an earthwork thrown up for infantry, which runs down towards the great ravine forming the continuation of the military harbour of Sebastopol, which divides the town proper from the so-called military town This ravine is the boundary between the English and French positions. In order to guard this point the sentries of the French and English outlying pickets ought to be in constant communication with each other. Somehow or other this appears not to have been the case in the present instance, and the Russians must have been well informed of the fact, for, following the ravine, they succeeded in coming close to the sentry on the extreme left, bayoneted him, and penetrated into the earthwork before they were recognised as Russians. In order to deceive the sentries they commanded in French, which ruse was so successful that they killed and wounded sixteen men—among the former Major Möller, of the 50th and carried away eleven men and two officers, Captain Frampton and Lieutenant Clarke, as prisoners. They were, however, after a short skirmish, driven back by the 34th before they could do any further mischief.

THE RUSSIANS IN THE DOBRUDJA.

Considerable excitement was created at Vienna and Paris in the beginning of the week by the announcement that a large Russian force had entered the Dobrudja. A despatch from Ibraila, of the 12th, stated that the invading army consisted of 20,000 men, and that 15,000, with 50 guns, were advancing towards Baltschik. Later accounts deny that the affair was on so large a scale. They represent the Russian irruption into the Ottoman territory as a mere feint, with a view to detain the Turkish troops which were on their way to the Crimea. In official quarters at Vienna it is affirmed that whatever affair may have taken place was one of outposts, or, at most, a reconnaissance. Still it is considered strange that the moment when Russia is engaged in pressing her pacific propositions on the Cabinet of Vienna, with the object of preventing Austria from proving, by acts of hostility in the field, the sincere and serious character of her alliance with France and England, should be that chosen by her to invade the Ottoman territory again, and to impose on Austria the necessity of defending it.

THE FRENCH £20,000,000 LOAN.

Saturday being the last day for receiving subscriptions to the national loan (it closed at five o'clock), the crowds at the Mairies, even in the more distant quarters of the city, were so great that they could not get places near the door of the Mairies that several common street-messengers (*commissionaires*) are said to have made 500f. by selling the places they succeeded in occupying after a night passed in the open air. Many of those places were sold for 20f., and some even reached 100f.

From the provinces the accounts are that the peasants flock into the towns, with drums beating, to subscribe. Many of them seem to be under the impression that their subscriptions are intended for the personal benefit of the Emperor himself, and they thus hasten to prove their devotedness to his rule by confiding to him their savings. The ancient Monarchical parties—Legitimist and Orleanist—who had, both in the origin of the first loan of 250,000,000, and of the present, predicted its failure, and denied its progress, until facts showed the contrary to be the case, now profess themselves unable to explain such a phenomenon except by the existence of a cupidity or inordinate desire of gain, by which they allege the nation was uncontaminated in the purer days of the last reign. The few Republicans whom France still boasts are not more successful in their attempt to explain the remarkable fact. The supporters of the present *regime*, on the contrary, point to it triumphantly in evidence of the devotedness of the nation to the Bonaparte dynasty, or to the person of the Emperor, as, in truth, the most complete vote of confidence that has ever been given to any Government as an approval of all its acts; and, while comparing it to a second vote for the establishment of the Imperial Government, they challenge their opponents, Royalists and Republicans alike, to produce anything like so substantial a manifestation under the Bourbons, or under the Republic. It may be admitted that with the more patriotic motive which influence the subscribers is mixed up the natural desire to profit by the advantages which are offered by the loan. But we must not forget that great pecuniary advantages were also offered under the Republic of 1848 to those who might be disposed to relieve it from the financial difficulties which pressed upon it; and yet, although the moment was most critical, and though a Finance Minister of the day was urged to fill in this way the exhausted coffers of the State, and thus test the Republicanism of the nation, he did not dare to make the appeal which is now made, and he admitted that if he did he could scarcely get a score of people to listen to it. The grand total of the subscriptions is reported by the *Moniteur* as amounting to 2,175,000,000 francs, or about £87,000,000. Under these circumstances the applications of large capitalists, and those transmitted from London, which amounted to 150,000,000 francs, cannot be entertained. As the course of the Money-market, and the current of the precious metals, have of late been exceptionally affected by the French loan, this fact is invested with considerable importance. The astonishing success of this financial operation is the subject of general comment, and attests in a striking manner the vastness of the pecuniary means lying at the disposal of the two great nations of Western Europe for the prosecution of the war. If the Czar be reasonable to reason, there is no fact since the war began better calculated to induce him to pause in his violent career than the eagerness with which this French loan has been taken up as contrasted with the miserable failure of his own attempts to raise money.

The large mercantile and monetary houses in London which opened subscription lists have given notice that they are ready to pay back the deposit of ten per cent to the subscribers. The following is one of the notices issued:—

Messrs. Baring Brothers and Co. beg to inform the subscribers on their list to the French Loan of 500,000,000f., that having received advice last evening from Paris of the whole loan being taken by the individual applications in France for 500f. francs and upwards, there will be no division to make to other parties. Messrs. Baring Brothers and Co. are therefore ready to pay back the deposit of ten per cent on and after to-morrow, the 18th inst., between the hours of eleven and three o'clock, at their counting-house, No. 8, Bishopsgate-street Within, on production of the receipt given for the same

8, Bishopsgate-street Within, Jan. 17, 1855.

Messrs. Rothschild and Sons have also commenced repaying the ten per cent received by them

As the subscribers on this side to the new French loan will not participate in its distribution, all those and the speculators who have sold for its coming out will either have to buy back or obtain the stock from Paris. The effect of this circumstance has been to force up the Scrip here to 4½ to 4¾ prem.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCE

A telegraphic despatch from Vienna, dated January 17th, states that, on the 16th, Baron de Bourqueney and Lord Westmoreland received, by telegraph from Paris and London, instructions to open the Conference, and that the despatches to that effect were on their way. The belief in the sincerity of Russia, however, has not increased lately.

As regards the disposition of Austria, the *Journal de Constantinople* of the 8th inst. states that, at a great diplomatic dinner given by M. Bruck, Austrian Internuncio, M. Bruck gave as a toast, "The Sultan and his brave army of the Danube, who are the admiration of all Europe." "There," the Internuncio exclaimed, "they have, in every action, defeated the Russians; they have taught the Russian Court that they were able gloriously to defend the rights of Turkey against Muscovite ambition. Like the Western Powers, Austria was willing to fight for the rights of Turkey and of justice, whatever might be the result." And he stated, in conclusion, with remarkable energy, that Russia was no longer to be feared—she must yield. The emotion of the guests was extreme; and the Grand Vizier warmly thanked the Internuncio.

THE SARDINIAN TREATY.

The *Constitutionnel*, the *Indépendance Belge*, and some of the Italian papers, circulate various reports, more or less detailed, respecting the part which Piedmont is to take in the war. So far as can be ascertained the essential conditions of the treaty of alliance between Piedmont, France, and England, which was signed on the 10th inst., are as follow:—"Piedmont will supply 15,000 men of all arms, with a large park of field artillery; the expenses of transport will be defrayed by France and England. A loan of 10 millions per each year the war lasts will apply the Sardinian Government with the means absolutely requisite for keeping its army on a war footing, while France and England both engage to render the conclusion of the loan as easy as possible, both as to the conditions and the execution of the operation. The Sardinian division will join the English. The command of it will probably be entrusted to General La Marmora, the present Minister of War, to whom the army is indebted for its entire reorganisation.

THE FOREIGN LEGION

The Swiss newspapers report that the military service of England is already very popular in Switzerland, and recruits are presenting themselves fast. Nothing like the capitulations into which the Swiss Cantons unwilling to earn an enforced peace status is to be expected now, but as long as our agents take care to proceed with discretion they will have no reason to complain of want of success.

The *Journal de Genève* reports:—"Enlistments for the Foreign Legion in the city of England are proceeding very actively in Berne, and the police have not hitherto interfered to prevent them; on the contrary, many of our functionaries consider it fortunate for the country to get rid of a considerable number of young and robust men, who are either unable or unwilling to earn an honest living by working. I cannot tell you if overtures were made to the Federal Council on the subject; but, if I am to judge by the result of the enlistments thus practised underhand, there is no necessity to embarrass the Federal Council by an application for leave to recruit in Switzerland, an operation succeeding perfectly well without it."

The Senate of Lubeck has just issued a prohibition of foreign enlistment in that free town. Prussia has published prohibitions in Treves and Magdeburg.

WAR BURDENS ON POLAND.

Letters from Cracow give a melancholy picture of the state of things in Russian Poland. The greater part of the weight of the war appears to be thrown on the shoulders of that unfortunate country. Measures are being taken for hermetically closing the long line of frontier towards Germany, and cutting off all communication As present the frontier guards allow travellers to pass into Poland, provided their passports are *en règle*, and

their names are not to be found in the list of the proscribed; but it is very difficult to get out again, so that comparatively but few Russians have taken advantage of the permission, and those only on business of the last importance.

Overwhelming as are the forced contributions of provisions for the troops and provender for the horses which the inhabitants of Poland have to make as their quota of the war expenses, they may be considered light in comparison with those to which the provinces of Podolia and the Ukraine are subjected. Those of Podolia alone amounted to more than four millions of silver roubles during the past year; and these forced contributions will never cease for. Several thousand waggons, which, with the necessary number of horses and drivers, were required by the Government in the month of September last for the transport of provisions, baggage, and soldiers, have not only not yet been returned, but have actually never since been heard of. They have been sent to Siberia, or be sticking at this moment in the impassable sloughs of the Crimea. In many of the frontier towns of Podolia—for instance, at Kaminitz—hundreds of waggons are kept in readiness to be loaded at a moment's notice with the public treasury, archives, and books, and carry them to a place of safety more inland. These waggons are relieved every fortnight.

Recruiting is carried on in Poland to a much greater extent, and with more oppressive severity, than in Russia Proper. The third levy in particular was most heavily felt, so that when it is completed Poland will have but few men left capable of bearing arms. More than 60,000 men have been raised in Poland during the past year, of whom, however, the fourth part were carried off in the hospitals by sickness and disease before they were able to join the regiments for which they were destined. The cholera still ravages the unhappy country, but it is typhus which has decimated the ranks of the recruits.

DRILL INSTRUCTORS FOR THE KHAN OF KOKAN'S FORCES.

The *Mofussilite*, received by the last Overland Mail, states that the Khan of Kokan has applied for drill instructors; and Government has allowed of such being permitted to volunteer from the artillery and infantry of the frontier regiments. Whether this means the regular troops on the frontier, or the Punjab force, is not stated. It is not of much importance, however, whence the volunteers are to come: for, if drill instructors are really to go to Kokan, there cannot, we imagine, be any foundation for the report that the Russians have already established themselves in the country; and the report that an alliance has been formed between the Khan and the British is probably correct. Native officers and men volunteering are to receive half their present pay for five years from the British Government, and at the expiration of that time are to be allowed to return to their regiments, counting the period of their absence as service, if they do not like the service of the Khan.

AMERICA.

The steam-ship *America* arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday morning, from Boston and Halifax, after a somewhat protracted voyage, having left Boston at noon on the 3rd inst., and Halifax on the morning of the 5th. The delay was occasioned by strong easterly winds.

The Congress at Washington resumed its sittings on the 2nd, when Senator Mayall, of Maine, spoke in opposition to the reciprocity treaty; esteeming it to be entirely to the advantage of the British American provinces, and intimated his intention of introducing a bill which would mutually benefit both the United States and Canada.

Mr. Sumner's proposition to offer the mediation of the United States for the settlement of the Eastern war is said to be gaining strength every day. It is viewed with much favour by the Russian Legation at Washington, and there is reason to believe that if the mediation is tendered it will be promptly accepted by Russia. It is said that Mr. Mason, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, is favourably disposed on the subject, and that Secretary Marcy will be very glad to draw up a despatch tendering the mediation, if it shall be authorised. The Washington correspondent of the *Pennsylvanian* says, under date December 27th:—"Mr. Clingman's mediation resolutions will pass the House, and the question is already asked, will the President send across the Atlantic to pour oil on the troubled waters of Europe? Will it be a commission of one, two, or three? The names of Van Buren, Tyler, and Fillmore are seriously mentioned here in connection with the proposed peace commission. The whole country would endorse their pre-eminent fitness for the delicate work.

By way of New Orleans advices from Mexico to the 19th ultimo had been received. General Santa Anna has been elected President by nearly a unanimous vote. Reports were prevalent at the capital of skirmishes and victories of the Government troops over the insurgents; and it was likewise stated that General Alvarez had approached within eighteen leagues of the city.

HAYTI.

The steam-ship *America*, from Boston, arrived at Liverpool on the 17th inst., by which we have news from Hayti to the 18th December, stating that the population was greatly excited from the law lately made to increase the duties on goods from Europe, as well as upon the coffee exported from the country, which is calculated greatly to restrict the commerce of the island, already at a low ebb. The impolitic measures advised by Chancellor Delva are sensibly diminishing the well-merited popularity which Emperor Soulouque has been enjoying for the last two years. The island is very healthy, and ready for the market very freely; and had it not been for this increase of both import and export duties, business would have been very brisk this season.

INDIA AND CHINA.

Letters and advices dated Bombay, 14th of December; Calcutta, 4th of December; and Hong-Kong, 27th of November, have been received.

Friendly relations are now established between Dost Mahomed and the Government of India; and it is reported that a British Envoy is to be sent to Cabul, and one of the Dost's sons to the Governor-General.

Nothing is known of the strength of the invading Russian force on the Jaxartes, except that it has hitherto been strong enough to beat everything that the invaded districts have been able to bring against it; and that the chief of the patrimony of Baber and the successor of Mahmoud of Ghuznee have been under the necessity of asking us for help to resist it; but there can be little doubt that this force is numerically weak, and that it has counted on the co-operation of the Persian army at Merve for its ulterior objects. The prevailing impression is that our alliance with the Dost will be a sound one. The Bombay Correspondent of the *Times* remarks that "the Dost's dominions extend north to the Hindoo Koosh; and we could easily, from our enormous force in the Punjaub, spare a couple of brigades to reinforce his army at Balkh, together with any support that would be necessary; and the appearance of our flag on the north of the Hindoo Koosh would raise the Usbecks against the Russians, and compel them at once to a disastrous retreat. We might then, after a military promenade, retire ourselves. We never have had such an opportunity of raising our *prestige* in Central Asia and in India on the ruins of that of Russia, or of opening to British commerce so important a trade as that with Central Asia.

The Burmese embassy has arrived at Calcutta, and been received with great pomp. There are to be reviews and sham fights on a most extensive scale, State railway excursions, and everything else calculated to give the Ambassador as high an idea as possible of British power.

The Bombay papers state that orders had been received for the immediate dispatch of four Queen's regiments from India to Turkey, viâ Egypt. The 10th Hussars were to march from Kirkee to the Presidency, where they were expected in a fortnight; they would proceed direct to Suez, and thence march across the desert. It was not supposed that any difficulty would be experienced in covering the distance of eighty-six miles from Suez to Cairo in four forced marches. They will then proceed down the Nile by boat to the railway terminus, and may probably be at Alexandria within a fortnight of their reaching Suez. The 14th Dragoons were expected to follow, and the 80th and 83rd Foot were understood to be under orders. The Hussars will hardly be there before the beginning of March, nor can the other troops be expected early than June, considering the great deficiency of steam conveyance at Bombay for large bodies of men on long voyages. India can easily spare the troops, which are, in point of number, greatly in excess of what the act of Parliament allows, as well as of the country requirements in periods of profound peace.

The city of Shanghai continues to be held by the rebels.

Pekin gazettes are to the 22nd of October, and report the further successes of the Imperialists. Several towns in the Hopih province have been retaken by them, one being the provincial city Wuchang.

Following up the late expedition against the pirates, Rear-Admiral Sir James Stirling dispatched on the 11th Nov. a large force, consisting of her Majesty's steamers *Encounter*, *Barracouta*, and *Styx*, accompanied by the United States' chartered steamer *Queen*, and two small steamers of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, to destroy a stronghold of the pirates at Coulan, a place to the southward of Macao, and which was perfectly successful, having also burnt fifty piratical junks. The principal force of the pirates, when it was known that the steamers were cruising, went up the river, and are presumed to have joined the Imperial force. At Ningpo a large number of junks were detained in port from fear of the pirates.

MR. COBDEN AT LEEDS.—THE WAR.

On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Cobden, M.P., visited his constituents at Leeds. It had not been disguised that the object of the hon. member's visit was to address the electors on the subject of the war. The Peace party, being favourable to his views, took in hand the management of the meeting, and by placards and other means for several days previously very copiously spread abroad their sentiments, and, in short, left no stone unturned to turn the popular feeling into the peace current. The meeting was first convened to be held in the Music Hall, but its magnitude to accommodate the large masses who flocked thereto soon rendered it quite inadequate, in consequence of the extensive use of the Coloured Cloth Hall-yard. The meeting was one of the largest political assemblies ever congregated in the borough, and included many of the leading men of all parties. Between 5000 and 6000 persons were present, and most of them remained through a protracted meeting, in defiance of a coating of snow and very intense cold.

Alderman Carbutt, a leading West Riding Liberal, and chairman of Mr. Cobden's committee at the last election, presided.

The Chairman, in the course of some introductory observations, said that in taking the chair he was placed in a somewhat anomalous position, for it was the general practice to elect to the chair a gentleman whose opinions more or less harmonised with the promoters of the meeting. He, however, had the misfortune to differ on this occasion from their worthy representative, Mr. Cobden. So strong was this feeling that when Mr. Cobden communicated to him in the first instance his desire to address a public meeting in Leeds on the aspects of the present war, he informed a number of his political friends, who came to the unanimous opinion that it was not desirable, at the present juncture of affairs, that a public meeting should be held upon the subject. Mr. Cobden had, however, determined to come; and, though they might differ from his opinions, none of them could doubt the sincerity of Mr. Cobden's convictions (Hear, hear). He knew that in coming amongst them he was coming to oppose the current of public opinion, and they therefore must admire his honesty and his manliness ("Hear, hear," and applause). In addition to his being one of the members for the West Riding, the great services which he had rendered to the country gave him a paramount claim to a patient and a candid hearing, which he hoped they would accord to him. Clamour never put down the voice of truth, but clamour and persecution might give strength to a bad cause; and, if they determined not to hear Mr. Cobden, the conclusion that would be arrived at in Russia would be, that they dared not hear him.

During Mr. Carbutt's speech he was continually interrupted with cries of "Adjourn, adjourn!" and a motion was proposed and seconded, that the meeting should be adjourned to the Cloth Hall-yard. At the close of Mr. Carbutt's remarks the meeting was adjourned to that place.

Mr. Cobden, who was received with parade applause, began by stating that he had come there to explain his opinions regarding the war, because he understood that a majority of his constituents were opposed to the views which he advocated. He would not go into a history of the war. We were in it, and the question now was how to deal with it. He quite agreed with those who said that if England was to have a war it could not be a little one. She must carry it on with vigour. That, however, required money; and then came the most important question of all How were the supplies to be raised?

I think (said Mr. Cobden) that the Government, and even the Chancellor of the Exchequer—much as I regard him—had a fair chance—have rather lent themselves to the delusion that they could indulge the people of this country with a cheap war. Mr Gladstone told us he wanted £10,000,000, and we voted that sum. You have had an opportunity of judging how that money has been spent, and you can form some idea of what will be wanted to carry on the war, if it must be carried on if it should continue.

If they were determined to carry on the war with vigour, they must make up their minds to pay for it, and that must either be done by taxes, or by additional taxation. He was opposed to loans, because the money could be raised too easily that way. He held that the greater the difficulties in obtaining money to carry on a war the better for the country, as it would make Government all the more careful and on guard with other nations. As regarded the peace question, he was not in favour of peace at any price. He had been urged by the members of the Peace Society to disavow their doctrines on that head, because, unless he did so, he should lose all influence with practical minds in advocacy of peace principles. He then went on to discuss the policy of the war, and the way in which it has been conducted, both of which he condemned in the strongest terms.

I think (said Mr. Cobden) that the expedition to Sebastopol was a mistake. It has, indeed, been acknowledged to be a mistake so far that it was a leap in the dark. I think the practical question for Englishmen is how you are best to get out of that mistake. If you are going to fight it out there, then I say the course that pursued by our Government is wholly inadequate to the object you have in view (Hear, hear). You must raise enormous armies. You must find an immense amount of treasure; and you must carry on the war in the Crimea on a very different scale from what you have done hitherto ("Good sense in that"). But I think there is another way by which your brave men may be removed from that position in which, by a mistake, they have been placed; and I think that, without consulting our own position, and without looking too much to exaggerated hopes and expectations, we are bound in all fairness to consider the position of those brave men, and we are bound not, if we can help it, to throw any obstacles in the way of securing peace to those countries, and restoring those men to their homes (Hear, hear). I would further have those brave men, when brought home from Sebastopol, to be received with all honour as if they had succeeded in their objects, because you may depend on it they have suffered ten times as much in their abortive effort to take that place as they would have done had they succeeded in taking it by a *coup de main* (Cheers). Now, is there no reason to suppose that there is a possibility of effecting a safe and honourable peace? Is there not ground for supposing that, at the present moment, the Governments of Europe have approximated by their negotiations to such a state of things as may render it possible to arrange the terms of an honourable peace? And now I would address a word to my friends behind me. They propose, I believe, to submit to this meeting a resolution calling for the vigorous prosecution of the war ("Hear," and cheers). I have told you frankly that if the war is to be carried on it must be carried on in a very different spirit and on a very different scale from what it has hitherto been. But I would put it to my friends behind me, whether, by passing in the midst of this important conference such a resolution as I understand has been prepared? (Loud and general cries of "No, no!") My own impression, drawn from those public sources of information which are open to us all, is that attempts are now being made—which are not unlikely to prove successful, if they are not thwarted by the public opinion of this country—to arrive at an honourable peace, and I ask you and my friends behind me to consider well before you say or do one single thing that can by possibility impede the progress of these pacific negotiations

As for destroying Sebastopol, of what use would that be? In less than ten years Russia would come to Baring Brothers, in London, for a loan, and would build up Sebastopol with more skill, and in greater perfection than before. Some the fears of those who spoke of danger to England from Russian aggression As for the increase of territory, about which so much was said, England was far more to blame than Russia. He concluded by urging them not to commit themselves to the passing of any resolutions which might hinder the negotiations for peace.

Mr. G. Marshall then moved the following resolution:—

That, in the opinion of this meeting, the war in which England and France are engaged with Russia is a great contest forced upon them by the outrageous aggression of the latter Power upon the Turkish empire, and is intended to create a spirit of aggrandisement on the part of the Czar, which threatens the independence of other nations, and this meeting is of opinion that the war ought to be prosecuted with the utmost vigour until safe and honourable terms of peace can be obtained

He was greatly mistaken if the meeting would allow this question to remain as their honourable member Mr Cobden had left it

Mr. Edward Baines seconded the resolution. He was sure, as regarded the interests of peace, that the resolution now proposed would have no unfavourable effect upon the Government. But there was another party to be consulted before they could have peace, and that was the Emperor of Russia. It was not by a resolution in favour of peace, but by a strong army sent to the Crimea, that they could work upon the mind of the Czar (Cheers). The true plan was to be slow in going to war; but, once engaged in a just war, to prosecute it with such vigour to an issue that the enemy would not be likely to renew it again. He regarded this as a great and important crisis, when a league was being formed which might affect the destinies of Europe for ages to come. For the last century and a half the attitude in which Russia had presented herself to Europe was that of an ambitious, encroaching, and selfish Power, while she was at the same time the most despotic, intolerant, and barbarous of European nations. Nothing was therefore more to be deprecated than that Russia should acquire a predominant influence among the Continental Powers.

The following amendment was proposed by the Peace party amidst much disapprobation:

That this meeting, without giving any opinion on the origin or conduct of the war, earnestly desires that the present negotiations for peace may be carried to a successful issue, and the further evils of a protracted contest spared to this country, to Europe, and to the world.

(Cries of "No, no!")

Mr. R. M Milnes, M.P., supported the resolution He hoped that no sham peace would be made, but one of permanent character, so that the expense of keeping up a large standing army for fear of war breaking out might be avoided, and such a peace would be best procured by showing a firm confidence in the justice of the war in which this country had engaged (Applause)

Major-General Thompson, in a facetious speech, condemned the way in which the Government had entered upon and conducted the war, and called upon the meeting to show their common sense by voting for the amendment.

The amendment was then put to the meeting, and negatived by an overwhelming majority, and when the original motion was submitted to the show of hands only a very few were exhibited against it.

LOANS AND TAXES

To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

Sir,—Under the heading "Loans and Taxes" you have a remarkable communication from a Correspondent in your Number for Jan. 6. No doubt it is highly proper for a journalist to admit the discussion of such a subject in his pages; and Mr. Gladstone himself could scarcely have desired a more ingenious argument than your Correspondent has introduced: at the same time it is, if I mistake not, most fallacious.

It is quite true that borrowing by the Government does not increase the wealth or material means of the nation, unless the borrowing be effected from foreigners; yet it is perfectly ridiculous to argue that borrowing does *not throw any part of the burden on posterity*. In the first place, if the money be borrowed, it comes only from those who have surplus cash to spare, and who immediately receive a claim on the Government as security; which claim being transferable not only do the parties in question lose nothing by the transaction, but probably effect a profitable investment of their surplus capital, while the remainder of the community, the non-lenders, are merely passive in the transaction, and in no way whatever affected for the worse.

Take the opposite case, of providing *means by taxation*. Here the entire amount comes out of the pocket of the community, and the entire community is rendered pro tanto poorer, except so far as they save the amount by retrenchment in their several expenditures; and thus the bulk do, or at least attempt to do; the consequence of which is, that every man in the way affects his neighbour's trade—the draper the shoemaker, and the shoemaker the draper; while persons of fixed incomes affect the trade of all; and thus a universal depression is produced, as at present. Look at France and England. Both have had a bountiful harvest, both are engaged in a heavy war expenditure; yet the trade of the one is prosperous, highly prosperous, and of the other universally depressed. I am not now speaking on the question as whether the payments for a war expenditure should be provided by loans or taxes. I am merely confining myself to your Correspondent's argument whether there be *any present difference* to the community. And I contend there is the greatest possible difference, and that this is the real cause, above all others, why France is now prosperous, and England depressed. The one is providing the means out of taxes, and the other by loans. In the one case the people are endeavouring to save the money out of expenditure, and thereby every man is decreasing his neighbour's trade; while, in the other case, each man is carrying on his expenditure as usual, and many are even increasing it by the profit they receive from the extra Government expenditure. But if this be not the true view of the case, why does your Correspondent deplore the effect of the taxation, to which we have been subject during the last twenty years, in order to pay the interest on former loans? Why deplore this if loans do not throw the burden on posterity! In this he is inconsistent with himself. Again I repeat I am not arguing

SKETCHES AT EUPATORIA.

EUPATORIA.—EAST ENTRANCE, AND WORKS THROWN UP BY THE FRENCH.

EUPATORIA.—ROCKET AND GUN BATTERIES.

THE ALLIES AT EUPATORIA.

GENERAL RAGLAN was blamed by many newspaper critics for having left a small garrison at Eupatoria, after landing in the Crimea, but the importance of taking up that position begins to be seen now by most people When the Allied forces landed on the 14th of September, the town surrendered at discretion, giving up all its stores of cattle and provisions The 20th Regiment was ordered to take up its quarters there, accompanied by 2000 Turks and 1000 Zouaves. At a later period a number of French engineers were sent to Eupatoria, and a considerable body of French infantry. The former have been employed for some weeks past in erecting redoubts and other defences, in the anticipation of a more serious attack than any that have yet been made by the bands of Cossacks who hover about the vicinity, ready to make a razzia upon the flocks and herds of the peaceful Tartars, when they think they can venture with safety.

The landing of the Turkish army under Omer Pacha, which commenced about the middle of last month, was to be finished about the middle of January, by which time it is said than no less than 40,000 Turks will be assembled at Eupatoria. With such an army, comprising a fair proportion of cavalry, Omer Pacha is likely to give the Russians some trouble

The Sketches we have given in this week's publication will show how the town was fortified, when they were taken, some weeks ago. We learn, however, that in December French and English engineers were busily surveying the place with a view to erect a new chain of forts round it. The following letter from an officer on board one of her Majesty's vessels lying off Eupatoria, speaks of frequent skirmishes with the Russians, in which the latter always seem to come off rather badly:

CHASSEUR DE VINCENNES — ZOUAVE IN UNDRESS, WITH BURNOUS OR CLOAK. — ZOUAVE. — GRENADIER, WITH CAPOTE TURNED BACK. — GRENADIER IN UNDRESS. — FUSILIER IN FULL DRESS — GRENADIER, WITH CAPOTE AND KEPI (COMMON CAP).

FRENCH INFANTRY OF THE LINE.

H.M.S. ———, Eupatoria, 13th December, 1854

Dear Mr. ———As you profess yourself not bored by my letters, I will just write you a few lines by this post, and I am very happy to say that I have no more commissions to pester you with.

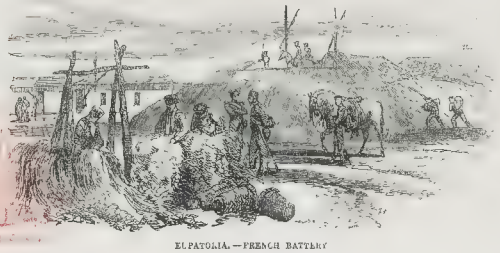
We are going on very quietly here, I was about to say peaceably, for we have very few warlike demonstrations. The Russians come in about five times a month, and then we have a banging match, with tremendous losses to them, and scarcely any to ourselves

They muster now about 8000 sabres and about 18 guns. They will not dare to come down now, for the main body of the Turks, to the number of 40,000, are coming here (4000 have arrived)—cavalry, artillery, and infantry—under no less a personage than H.H. Omer Pacha.

We shall be able to meet these gentry on their own ground, outside the town. Up to this time, we have been obliged to keep strictly behind our redoubts.

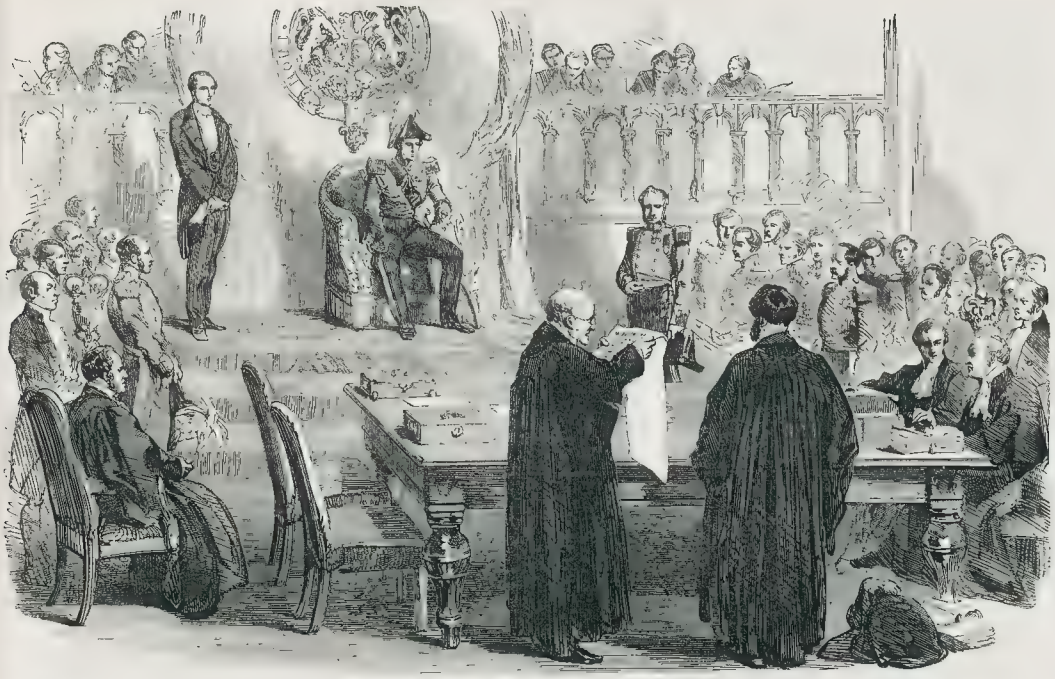
I will just send you a Sketch of our present defences, &c. (See Engraving.)

Yesterday we had intelligence from Sebastopol of another sanguinary battle between the Allies and the Russians, somewhere about the same place as that of Inkerman, of famous memory.



EUPATORIA.—FRENCH BATTERY

EUPATORIA.—REAR OF ROCKET AND GUN BATTERIES.



THE EARL OF ELGIN GIVING THE ROYAL ASSENT TO BILLS PASSED BY THE CANADIAN LEGISLATURE.

THE LATE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF CANADA.

ON Monday, the 18th of last month, the Earl of Elgin finished his career as Governor-General of Canada. The Engraving represents his Excellency giving the Royal assent to upwards of ninety bills, passed by the Provincial Parliament during the session then about to adjourn. The chief of these measures were the Clergy Reserves and the Seignorial Tenure Bills. Both of them were subjected to protracted discussion, but they were finally passed by very large majorities, and with the concurrence of, at least, nine-tenths of the whole Canadian community. The settlement of these two important questions, which have agitated the public mind of Canada for several years, and which, but for the wise course taken with reference to one of them by the British Parliament in 1853, might have led to serious differences between the mother country and the colony, has thus happily wound up the sagacious administration of Lord Elgin; and it is a significant fact, as illustrating his Lordship's foresight and wisdom, that these measures should have been carried through Parliament by the Conservative party, which, until a very recent period, had violently resisted their progress.

At a later period of the same day his Excellency received the following joint farewell address of both Houses of Parliament. It was voted unanimously in the Legislative Council or Upper House. There were eleven dissentients in the Legislative Assembly; three being avowed American Annexationists connected with Montreal; seven, "Red" Lower Canadians; and only one, a Mr. MacDonald, connected with Upper Canada.

May it please your Excellency,—

We, her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council and Commons of Canada, in Provincial Parliament Assembled, humbly beg leave to approach your Excellency for the purpose of expressing our sincere regret at your Excellency's retirement from the Government of this colony which you have for so many years administered with honour to yourself and advantage to the country, and to congratulate your Lordship on the improvement of the happiness and prosperity of the province which has attended the able discharge of the high trusts reposed in your Excellency by our gracious Sovereign, and in the dignities which have been conferred on your Lordship, as marks of her distinguished favour, and in appreciation of the services rendered by your Excellency to her Majesty's Crown. And further, to assure your Excellency that we shall ever feel the highest esteem and respect for your exalted character and an anxious solicitude for your future welfare and happiness, and that we sincerely hope your Excellency may long live to enjoy the favour of your Sovereign and the approbation of your country.

JOHN ROSS, Speaker Legislative Council.
L. V SICOTTE, Speaker Legislative Assembly.

The reply of Lord Elgin was as follows:—

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly—

The expression of your approbation and regard at such a moment, is in the highest degree grateful to me. I am conscious that I brought to the discharge of the functions of Governor-General of Canada few qualities except an earnest desire to do my duty to my Sovereign and the people of the Province

THE LAST OF THE WRECK OF "THE CHARLOTTE," OFF THE CAPE COAST.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

and a just appreciation of the magnitude and importance of the trust confided to me

If any success has attended my endeavours, it is mainly due to the fact that I have been, throughout, enabled to co-operate cordially with the other branches of the Provincial Parliament, and with the public men enjoying their confidence.

The testimony which you bear in this address to the improvement which has taken place in the happiness and prosperity of the Province, is of the greatest value. I pray God that Canada may advance with an accelerated speed in all the lines of progress, material and moral, during the years that are to come, and that this magnificent province may continue to furnish an example of the noble purposes to which powers of self-government may be turned by an enlightened and high-minded people.

On the following day, the 16th, the Governor-General received the farewell address of the Corporation and citizens of Quebec; and in the afternoon Sir Edmund Head was sworn in as successor to Lord Elgin.

On Friday, the 22nd, his Lordship finally quitted Quebec; and, although the hour of his departure was fixed for a little before eight a.m., and the thermometer stood at twenty degrees below zero, the whole of the troops of the garrison lined the streets to the wharf on the St. Lawrence; and several thousands of the inhabitants, including all the principal persons in the city, their ladies, and families, were present, to offer this their last mark of respect to a Governor who had endeared himself to them by his straightforward and honourable impartiality, by his earnest zeal for Canadian interests, and by his warm-hearted and never-ceasing hospitality every section of political parties.

Amid deafening cheers, intermingled with cries, such as "God bless you, Lord Elgin," and with his friends surrounding him to the very water's edge, his Lordship embarked, and the boat moved away from the shores. During his journey through the United States to New York, Lord Elgin was everywhere received with the most marked cordiality; and he would have been entertained at a public dinner at New York, but for a misunderstanding, by which it was supposed he would not arrive there until a couple of hours before his sailing for England. A large number of leading gentlemen, residents of the city, waited upon him, and escorted him to the place of embarkation.

We understand that his Lordship has prepared a very interesting despatch, in which he reviews the extraordinary progress—material, social, and political—which Canada has made since he assumed its Government eight years ago. It will also, we believe, dwell at considerable length upon the important results which cannot fail to flow from the Reciprocity Treaty that he has lately effected for the free interchange of the products of the British-American provinces, and of the United States, one with the other.

THE WRECK OF THE "CHARLOTTE."

A Correspondent, who witnessed the last of this unfortunate wreck off the Cape coast, has favoured us with the Sketch of the ship and some engraved upon the preceding page. The full details of the wreck were given, with two Illustrations, in our Journal for December 30. The Sketch, taken by Mr. Oliver Lester, represents "the last" of the ill-fated ship—its masts and timbers drifted upon the rocks upon the shore, whence the melancholy catastrophe was witnessed by thousands who vied with each other in their endeavours to render assistance, but were scarcely able to succour the persons on board.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

Sunday, 21.—3rd Sunday after Epiphany.
Monday, 22.—St. Vincent. Lord Byron born, 1788.
Tuesday, 23 W. Pitt died, 1806. Duke of Kent died, 1820.
Wednesday, 24.—Frederick the Great born, 1712.
Thursday, 25 Conversion of St. Paul
Friday, 26.—Brazil discovered, 1498. Dr. Jenner died, 1823.
Saturday, 27.—Mozart born, 1756.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING JAN. 27, 1855.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
6 9	4 33	4 56	5 20	5 43	6 4	6 26	6 49	7 12	7 36	8 1	8 30	9 3	9 40

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1855.

Believing as we do that the Emperor of Russia has been encouraged to make war, and to persist in it, by the speeches of Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, and the members of the Society of Friends—which he erroneously imagined to express the sentiments of the British people—we are glad to see that the large and influential constituency of the West Riding have emphatically disavowed participation in the peculiar sentiments of their representative. At the meeting held at Leeds, on Wednesday last, Mr. Cobden reiterated his well-known opinions on the subject of the war, and met with a reception which may well make him doubtful whether he will ever again enjoy the distinguished honour of representing the largest and wealthiest constituency in the kingdom. Mr. Cobden is an admirable debater. It is impossible to hear or read his speeches on any subject and fall asleep over them. If he does not convince, he startles or exasperates; and if he cannot always instruct he invariably manages to interest, his audience. But his speech on Wednesday had not the usual heartiness. He had no public enthusiasm to animate him; no sympathetic cheers to encourage and inflame his eloquence. Of all his public displays, it was the most ineffectual. Mr. Cobden, the Democrat *par excellence*, who is all for the "voice of the people" when the voice of the people happens to be in accordance with his own, but who speaks of the same people with most aristocratic scorn when it does not ratify his arguments, or dares to dissent from his doctrines, has come to the conclusion that his countrymen possess "an immense amount of pride, arrogance, and conceit;" and his address at Leeds was a lecture upon this subject. The burden, if not the text, of his discourse was that everybody and everything is wrong—except Mr. Cobden. No reasoning pleases him but his own. No event—past, present, or prospective—gives him the least satisfaction to remember or to anticipate. The Emperor of Russia is wrong for commencing the war; the Sultan is wrong for being a despot, and for ruling over Mahomedans; Louis Napoleon is also wrong for being a despot, as well as for retaining a portion of the Sultan's African dominions in Algeria; England is wrong in making herself the judge and arbiter of nations, and fighting battles with which she ought to have nothing to do; and has sinned more heinously even than Russia during the last hundred and fifty years as an aggressive and conquering power;—the Ministry is wrong—collectively and individually in everything that they have done or attempted to do; and Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston are more particularly wrong than the rest, in having spoken favourably and respectfully of the Emperor Nicholas at a time when they were fully aware of the "secret and confidential correspondence," and of the Emperor's plan to kill the "sick man" and give England a share of the plunder to be expected of him; the functionaries in every department of the State and the Government are wrong; the Generals in command are wrong;—the Admirals are wrong;—the press is hopelessly wrong;—and the people are stupidly led astray. Though Mr. Cobden did not in precise terms claim to be infallible, he took care to impress upon his constituents that he never expressed a wrong opinion or advocated a wrong policy upon any great question, foreign or domestic, that has come before the public or the Parliament since he travelled in Russia and emerged into public life with a pamphlet. The country may well ask what this Mentor and guide of the nations requires in the present state of affairs? To make Mr. Cobden Premier? No! To make him Commissary-General in the Crimea, and Mr. Bright a General of Division—as Mr. Monckton Milnes suggested? No! Mr. Cobden advises Peace, and Peace only; and, lest he or his constituents should imperil the blessing, he earnestly recommends them—after having congregated in thousands, to hear him, and to learn how arrantly wrong they and everybody else had been—to go quietly home, and to express no opinion on the subject. But Mr. Cobden does not so ardently long for peace, because he agrees with his friend Mr. Bright and the Society of Friends, for he took especial care to assert that they also are wrong like the rest of the world, and that he "never avowed, uttered, professed, or entertained" their fundamental doctrine that war under any circumstances is contrary to the precepts of Christianity. His opinions have not even the negative merit which those of Mr. Bright and Mr. Sturge may claim, for Mr. Cobden believes war may at some time be necessary and honourable. But that time has not arrived. We ought not, he thinks, to make war against one despot, with a second despot for our ally, a third despot for our client, and a fourth despot for an ally sought but not yet obtained,—especially in a cause which does not interest us, and in which we had no moral or legal call to interfere. The men of Leeds and the West Riding entertained nobler and juster sentiments than these, and the amendment of Mr. Cobden's friends, expressing no opinion on the origin or conduct of the war, but merely stating a desire of immediate peace, was rejected by a large majority; while the original resolution stating the opinion of the meeting that the war was a great contest forced upon the Allies by the outrageous aggressions of Russia, and ought to be prosecuted with the utmost vigour until safe and honourable terms of peace could be obtained—was carried by acclamation. Manchester stultified itself by coming to no decision upon Mr. Bright's courageous but falsely-reasoned and mischievously-intended letter to Mr. Watkin; but Leeds and the West Riding have refused to act so unworthy a part. They have spoken out as became a great and intelligent constituency, and have given a proof to the Czar that Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright no longer speak the sentiments of the people of England. These gentlemen will not, as they hope, disgust their countrymen with the war; but we hope they will disgust the Emperor Nicholas with it; in which case the people of England may, after all, be very much obliged to them.

The old question, "What is be done with our criminals?" is continually recurring. It is not many weeks ago since public attention was directed to the subject—by the refusal of an important colony to relieve us of the burden of looking after them, and by the notorious failure of the "ticket-of-leave" system; and now a voice has been raised from the Bench of Justice, demanding to be heard on that interesting branch of the subject—the means of reforming youthful criminals. Justice sometimes reaches—but almost invariably fails to amend—criminals of tender years; and Mr. Baron Alderson, whose recent address to the Grand Jury of Yorkshire, of which we have reprinted a considerable portion in our Supplement of this day, is not the first of the enlightened administrators of the law who has come to the conclusion that law has hitherto been wrongly employed in its efforts to punish, "and that the cheapest as well as the most humane mode of treating criminals is to reform them." The learned Judge is strongly in favour of the establishment of reformatory schools; a mode of proceeding which was admitted by the late excellent Mr. Rushton, the stipendiary magistrate at Liverpool—a man who, from his position, had a more accurate knowledge of the extent of juvenile crime than can well be gathered by the superior judges. The Act of Parliament 17 and 18 Victoria, cap. 86, permitting the establishment of reformatory schools, and regulating their connection with the State, does not appear to be so generally known as it ought to be; and Mr. Baron Alderson has, therefore, done good service by drawing the attention of the Grand Jury of Yorkshire to the powers therein conferred. We can add nothing to the forcible words of the learned Judge, and can but solicit a careful perusal of his observations from that larger body of the public which gathers all its knowledge of law and social politics from the newspapers. We agree with his Lordship that reformatory schools, such as he so well describes, are as necessary appendages to every good gaol as the doors or the locks, and far more effectual.

THE QUEEN'S COMMENDATION OF THE FRENCH ARMY.

General Canrobert has issued the following "General Order" upon the receipt of the Queen's despatch relating to the conduct of the French troops at the battle of Inkerman:—

[Translation.]
General Order.

The Commander-in-Chief is happy to have to communicate to the troops the expressions, most honourable for our arms, in which her Majesty the Queen of England appreciates their conduct at the battle of Inkerman.

The Queen has remarked with graceful satisfaction the vigour with which the troops of her ally, the Emperor of the French, came to the assistance of the divisions of the English army engaged in so unequal a combat. Her Majesty is profoundly sensible of the cordial co-operation of the Commander-in-Chief, General Canrobert, and of the valiant conduct of that distinguished officer, General Bosquet. She beholds in the cheers with which the soldiers of the two nations mutually encouraged each other during the action proofs of the reciprocal esteem which this campaign and the traits of bravery it has produced have given rise to on both sides.

Her Majesty the Queen of England could not praise in a more flattering manner the attitude of the army at the battle of Inkerman. In marching to the aid of our brave allies we fulfilled a duty which they themselves would fulfil towards us with that valour we know they possess, and so many proofs of which we have witnessed with our own eyes.

Head-quarters before Sebastopol, Dec. 28.

The Commander-in-Chief,
(Countersigned) Canrobert.
The General Chief of the Staff

Among the invalids who arrived at Chatham the other day from the Crimea was Sergeant-Major Silver, of the 8th Hussars, who excited some curiosity owing to his dress: he wore a Russian coat and cap, which he took two days after the battle of Alma from a baggage-wagon, which they fell in with belonging to the Cossacks.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The latest news from the Crimea is of the 10th inst., at which date nothing of importance had occurred before Sebastopol.

A letter from Constantinople, of the 5th instant, in the *Pays*, furnishes some fresh details of the late events in the Crimea. As regards the skirmish between the Turks and the Russians at Eupatoria, the affair is described as an attack on a Russian convoy carrying provisions and military stores to the *corps d'armée* of General Liprandi. This convoy, which was escorted by a strong body of Cossacks, is said to have been surprised by a column of Turks in the neighbourhood of Eupatoria, and fell into the hands of the latter, with several hundreds of horses belonging to the cavalry killed in this rencontre. The success of the Turks deprived the Russian army of the supplies it expected.

A column of Riflemen has taken possession of the important position of Camara, near Balaclava, after driving out the Russians who occupied it. The enemy in this affair experienced severe losses. The were completely put to the rout, and fled precipitately, burning their forage and tents. The loss of the Russians at Sebastopol and the neighbourhood, during the last days of December, is estimated at more than 6000 men.

FRENCH REINFORCEMENTS.

Eighty-two officers and 2053 rank and file of the Imperial Guard embarked on Thursday from Marseilles for the Crimea. General Niel, Colonel de Faubert, Aide-de-Camp to General Canrobert, and two Protestant clergymen, took their departure from Marseilles on the 16th, in the *Gange*.

THE SARDINIAN CONTINGENT.

The *Opinione* of Turin, of the 15th inst., states that the departure of the Piedmontese troops for the Crimea will take place on the 28th of February. According to that journal the contingent is to consist of 20,000 men, 15,000 of whom will embark on that day, and the 5000 others are to form the reserve.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.

Private letters from Vienna say that Prince Gortschakoff has instructions to accept everything, and accede to all the Allies may demand, *except the reduction of the Russian fleet and the occupation of the Russian territory.*

THE COURT.

The Queen and the Prince continue in the enjoyment of excellent health. Her Majesty has received a succession of distinguished visitors during the week just closed.

His Serene Highness Prince Nicholas of Nassau arrived on the 12th instant, and remained at the Castle until Monday last. His Serene Highness Prince Ernest of Leiningen has also been on a visit, and took leave on Tuesday; and on the same afternoon the Earl of Cardigan arrived, on a visit to her Majesty.

The Duchess of Wellington has succeeded the Viscountess Canning as Lady in Waiting to her Majesty; and Lord Rivers and Mr. Grimsby Gore have succeeded Lord Byron and General Sir E. Bowater as Lord and Groom in Waiting.

His Excellency the Count Walewski, French Ambassador, and the Countess Walewska, returned to London on Wednesday, from a visit to her Majesty at Windsor Castle; and in the afternoon paid a visit to the Earl of Clarendon, at the Foreign-office, Downing-street.

We regret to learn that the venerable Countess of Carlisle has been attacked by severe illness, and that but slight hopes are entertained of her Ladyship's recovery.

The Earl and Countess of Erroll left town on Monday for Slaines Castle, Aberdeenshire. We are happy to learn the noble and gallant Earl is recovering from the wound he received the battle of Alma.

The Earl of Lichfield has arrived in town from Scotland. His ordship is still very weak, but we are happy to learn that he is progressing satisfactorily towards recovery.

Viscount Melville, who has recently returned from the East Indies from active duties with his corps, has left town for Edinburgh to assume the command of that district, in the room of General Napier.

We are happy to learn that accounts were received in town on Saturday, from Paris, which announce that Lady Harriet Elliot (daughter of the Earl of Minto) is much better. Lord and Lady John Russell returned to London on Tuesday.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

Preferments and Appointments. *Rectories:* The Rev. E. T. Austen to Barfreystone, Kent; the Rev. H. H. Knight to Newton Nottage, Glamorganshire; the Rev. J. W. Mellard to Shimpling, in Norfolk. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. G. Venables to the newly-consecrated church of St. Paul, Chatham; the Rev. W. D. Long to St. Paul's Church, Bermondsey; the Rev. R. V. Sheldon to St. Matthew's, Liverpool; the Rev. J. Boyle to Stramshall, Staffordshire.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

Lieutenant Glyn, of the "Britannia."—The following despatch has been received from Vice-Admiral Dundas—

Britannia, in the Dardanelles, December 30, 1854.

Sir,—I beg you will be pleased to lay before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the following statement I consider it my duty (as it may have escaped the observation of their Lordships) to submit for their favourable consideration before I resign the command of the naval forces in the Mediterranean. Early in July last Lieutenant Henry Cecil Glyn, of the *Britannia*, accompanied by his Serene Highness Prince Ernest of Leiningen, and thirty picked seamen of the fleet, were detached on service to Rustchuk, on the Danube, for the purpose of organising the Turkish gun-boats, and throwing a bridge across the Danube at that point. This work was most effectually performed by the great exertions and ability of Lieutenant Glyn and his Serene Highness, who were frequently exposed during these operations to the harassing fire of the enemy. His Excellency Omer Pacha rendered his thanks in person to those officers; and the bridge, which is still standing, has been of great assistance to the Turkish army. It may be necessary to add that both Lieutenant Glyn and Prince Ernest, with their men, suffered materially in health from fatigue and the unhealthy season in which these operations were obliged to be undertaken. Medals were offered to those officers from the Turkish Government, but which they declined; and I trust my Lords will consider their services to be deserving of promotion.—I have, &c., J. D. Dundas, Vice-Admiral.

The Secretary of the Admiralty

In consequence of the importance, at the time, of the above service, and the very praiseworthy manner in which it was performed, Lieutenant Glyn has been promoted to the rank of Commander.

On Monday morning the *Levant* paddle-wheel steamer sailed from Greenhithe with the last detachment of navvies and 25 horses for the Crimean Railway. For the horses there is three months' fodder on board, together with a portable stable and fittings. There are also several portable houses sent out for the accommodation of the men; and carts, waggons, and trucks for the works. When the railway is completed, the waggons are to be drawn up each ascent with chains or rope by a steam-engine stationed on each hill. As the first and second vessels with men on board are reported to be far on their way to Balaclava, we may expect soon to hear of the wished-for beginning of the line.

Government have engaged the following steamers as regular transports, in addition to those already engaged—viz, the *Daily, Imperador, Durham, Retriever*, and the *Rajah*. The screw-steamer *Amity* arrived at Southampton on Sunday, to take out wooden huts to the Crimea for the English army.

A Canadian Brigade.—The latest accounts from Quebec state that some gentlemen of the colony, and some members of the Assembly, were seriously contemplating the raising of a Volunteer Brigade—not, as might be supposed, for home duty, but for service in the Crimea. One gentleman, indeed, Mr. Rankin, is said to have offered to raise a thousand men in Upper Canada to form one wing of a brigade to be formed by the two provinces; the other wing to consist, of course, of the descendants of our gallant allies.

The London Militia.—The Lord Mayor, as Lord-Lieutenant for London, has received her Majesty's warrant to embody the whole of the City of London Militia forthwith. The body will assemble, in the first instance, in the Artillery-ground, and when complete will be sent to do garrison duty wherever her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department may appoint. It is supposed that the first visit will be to the Tower. On former occasions they generally took the duty at Deptford, or Greenwich, or Woolwich.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JAN. 18.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Melted Snow in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches
Jan. 12	30.552	40·0	31·0	36·0	+ 0·7	98	N.E.	0.00
" 13	30.554	40·5	34·1	37·1	+ 1·6	86	N.E.	0.01
" 14	30.445	40·2	30·0	35·4	− 0·3	92	N.	0.00
" 15	30.437	35·0	26·9	30·6	− 5·2	95	W.N.W.	0.00
" 16	30.062	39·0	23·5	34·3	− 1·7	97	N.E.	0.16
" 17	30.088	30·6	25·3	27·3	− 8·7	97	N.E.	0.11
" 18	30.107	33·0	21·8	27·9	− 8·5	75	N.E.	0·01

Note. The sign + denotes above the average and the sign − below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.55 inches at the beginning of the week, to 30.02 inches by the afternoon of the 16th; increased to 30.15 inches by the 17th, and decreased to 30.03 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.303 inches

The mean daily temperatures have varied from 1½ above to 9½ below their average values. The mean temperature of the 17th (27·3°) is the lowest on that day since the year 1850, when it was 27·1°, and that of the 16th (27·9°) is the lowest since 1838, when it was 21·2°.

The mean temperature of the week was 32·7°, being 2·2° below the average of the corresponding week during thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 18.7°, being the difference between the highest reading, 40·5° on the 13th, and the lowest, 21·8° on the 18th

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 8·4°.

Snow fell on the 16th and 17th to the depth of about an inch on the level ground, and produced 0.27 in. when melted.

The Weather during the week was fine, and the sky at times nearly free from cloud. *Fog* was prevalent all day on the 12th.

JAMES GLAISHER.

Lewisham, Jan. 19, 1855.

HEALTH OF LONDON Within the week ending January 13, the births of 881 boys, and of 829 girls, in all 1706 children, were registered within the metropolitan districts. The average number deduced for the same week in the ten preceding years was 1446. The number of deaths within the same period was 1466, being an increase on the previous week of 44. The mortality of London is still high, as it has been for a long time. The excess above the corrected average for the week was 184. Of these less than 20 deaths are referable to diseases mostly epidemic in infants: 19 are referred to small-pox, 25 to measles, 62 to scarlatina, and 65 to hooping cough. Influenza is on the increase; bronchitis is fatal, and caused 78 cases; pneumonia carried off 139 persons, and consumption 150. In the week 650 persons died under 20 years of age, 193 between 20 and 40, 226 between 40 and 60, 285 between 60 and 80, and 63 at ages exceeding 80 years.

INCREASE IN THE ASSESSMENT OF MIDDLESEX.—At the meeting of the Marylebone Vestry, on Monday, Mr. Greenwell, the vestry-clerk, presented a notification he had received from the magistrates of the county of Middlesex, stating that the magistrates had prepared a new basis or standard for a fair and equal county-rate. The effect of this will be to increase the assessment of the county upwards of another million per annum. The following are a few of the increased assessments of the principal parishes:—St. Marylebone, increased from £987,548 to £1,025,000, or an increased assessment of £37,452; St. Pancras, from £855,612 to £724,500, increase £68,888; Paddington, from £316,200 to £426,000, or an increase of £113,001; St. George, Hanover-square, from £[illegible] to £916,900, increase £88,168; St. Luke, City-road, from £163,980 to £166,000, increase £12,020; St Mary, Islington, from £209,844 to £267,000 increase £127,156, St. John, Hackney, from £164,688 to £237,820, increase £73,131; St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, from £117,624 to £248,500, increase £[illegible]; St. Luke, Chelsea, from £149,230 to £222,250, increased assessment of £73,020. The parish of St. James, Westminster, is left at its present assessment of £121,918; and St Martin's-in-the-Fields at its present assessment of £295,[illegible]. St Clement Danes, at its present assessment of £[illegible] 21, St Paul, Covent garden, at its existing assessment of £44,[illegible], and St Ann, Soho is increased from £[illegible] to £[illegible]; whilst St. Margaret and St John's is increased from £212,296 to £237,856, or an increase on the assessment of £25,470. This document, showing a total increase on the county assessment of £978,936, was signed by Mr. C. Wright, the clerk to the justices. Mr. Greenwell (the vestry-clerk), in answer to a question, said that, by the operation of the law, an increase of the county valuation had the effect also of increasing the amount paid for police rate. The assessment for the police rate was based upon the county valuation. On the motion of Mr. Clement George, seconded by Mr. Nicholay, a committee was appointed to investigate and report upon so extraordinary an increase in the county assessment, and to wait on the magistrates in reference thereto.

GENERAL SIR DE LACY EVANS.—A meeting of some of General Sir De Lacy Evans's friends and former political supporters in Westminster took place on Monday evening, at Beaufort-buildings, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of welcoming and congratulating him on his return to England. There were present on the occasion Mr. Prout, Dr. Bainbridge, Mr. Pouncey, Mr. Joseph Parkes, Mr. Cossin, Mr. Lathum, Mr. Walker, Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Cubitt, various other others representing the several parishes of Westminster. An address, embodying the sentiments of the meeting, was read by Mr. Prout, the chairman. It contained an eloquent resumé of the various, and valuable services of the General, both as a soldier and a politician; and expressed a fervent hope that in a short time his health would be so far re-established as to enable him to resume his parliamentary duties. The chairman stated that he had received a note from the General, in which he said that it was his intention, if possible, to be in town by the end of this week, and that he would most probably receive the deputation on Monday After an interesting discussion, it was decided that a committee should be appointed to make some verbal alterations in the address, and that those present should be again called together to form a deputation to wait upon the General on his arrival in London.

IMPROVEMENTS NEAR THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT. Some alterations have just been completed in Palace-yard, which will tend very much to the convenience of members and others attending the Houses of Parliament, as well as those who have business to transact in the courts of law To a person wishing to cross, no place presented so many difficulties as Palace-yard, arising from the number of vehicles which were constantly being driven backwards and forwards during the Parliamentary session and the sitting of the courts. The west, or exposed, side has now been railed in, with the exception of two portions, one for the entrance and the other for the exit of vehicles. Several dozens of lamps have been erected in the centre and at various other parts of the yard, so that the difficulties in the way of the traveller's progress—difficulties so well known to those whose duties call them to the spot at night will be removed. On the south side of the yard a large and substantial shed, though not very ornamental, has been erected as a shelter in rainy weather for members' horses.

SMITHFIELD-MARKET.—The new cattle-market will shortly be opened. By the Act of 1851 it is declared that from the time to be fixed by the Secretary of State for opening the new market Smithfield-market is to cease to be a market for the sale of cattle and horses. The question will then arise as to what will be done with the open space. The authorities of St. Bartholomew's Hospital have urged upon the Government to keep the open space open for the benefit of the inhabitants and the patients of the institution. The law officers have been consulted as to the right of the Crown to the open space, with the view to its appropriation. It appears that the fields on which the market now stands were granted by a charter of King Charles I., and no buildings were to be erected or permitted by the charter. The stipulation, it is considered, will not be binding after the removal of the market. The law officers are of opinion that the soil of the market will belong to the Crown, and it is submitted whether it will not be proper that her Majesty's pleasure should be taken as to the appropriation of the portion of the soil which would fall to the title of the Crown extends after the market has been removed under the provisions of the Act of 1851, either as an open square or garden, or in some other manner equally conducive to the health and enjoyment of the public.

MR. PARK'S BUST OF THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.—The Duke of Hamilton, the Marquis of Breadalbane, and the French Ambassador and Countess Walewska, and several other notabilities, have visited the studio of Mr. Patric Park during the last week, to inspect the bust of the Emperor Napoleon III, just executed in marble by that artist His Excellency the French Ambassador gave very gratifying testimony to the truth of the likeness, and to the beauty of the bust as a work of art.

AUSTRIAN FINANCE.—Despatches from Vienna state that Baron Bruck, the Minister of Finances and Commerce, tendered his resignation on the 11th. It has been accepted. Baron Bruck, whose name is certain to turn up whenever an Austrian Finance Minister is displaced, is spoken of to succeed him. Baron Prokesch, who was formerly Ambassador at Constantinople, is popularly named as Baron Bruck's successor as Ambassador to the Sublime Porte.

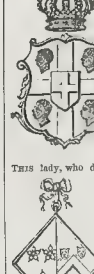
THE JEWS IN POLAND.—The recruiting amongst the Jews, and the carrying off (for the military schools) of Jewish children aged from eight to ten, cause amongst that class of inhabitants in Poland indescribable terror and desolation. In all the towns and villages near Kielce nothing but weeping and lamentation are to be heard.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE QUEEN DOWAGER OF SARDINIA.

MARIA THERESA, QUEEN DOWAGER OF SARDINIA, the widow of the gallant unfortunate Charles Albert, died at Turin, on the 12th inst. Her Majesty was the second daughter of the late Ferdinand III., Grand Duke of Tuscany, and was sister of Leopold II., its actual Grand Duke; she was an Archduchess of Austria. She was born the 21st March, 1801, and became, the 30th September, 1817, the consort of Charles Albert, who resigned the Crown of Sardinia, and died an exile in Portugal in 1849. Her Majesty leaves issue of this marriage two sons—viz., Victor Emmanuel II., present King of Sardinia; and Ferdinand Maria Albert, Duke of Genoa.

MRS. HAMILTON.



THIS lady, who died on the 1st inst., in Bryanston-square, was Elizabeth, widow of the late Governor Henry Hamilton, of Dominica, brother of the Right Honorable Sackville Hamilton, and grandson of Gustavus, first Viscount Boyne—which title was conferred upon him for his distinguished valour and eminent services at the battle of the Boyne under William III. Henry Hamilton, Mrs. Hamilton's husband, was Governor of Canada, Bermuda, and Dominica. Mrs. Hamilton was the daughter of Major Wm. Lee, of Bolney-court, Oxfordshire, and was descended maternally from the ancient family of Cunninghame of Kilmaurs, Scotland, founded by Warnebald, who settled in Cunninghan in the twelfth century. The chief line of this ancient race—the Cunninghames of Kilmaurs, Earls of Glencairn—became extinct at the decease, in 1796, of John, fifteenth Earl of Glencairn, the friend and patron of Robert Burns

SIR GEORGE WOMBWELL, BART.

SIR GEORGE WOMBWELL died on the 14th inst., at his town residence, George-street, Hanover-square He had retired to rest on the previous night at ten o'clock, apparently in his usual health and cheerful spirits, but in the morning, when his servant went to call him, he found his master dead. Sir George was born 13th April, 1792, the eldest son of Sir George Wombwell, the second Baronet, by the Lady Anne Dashwood, daughter of the Earl of Henry, second Earl of Fauconberg, and grandson of Sir George Wombwell, Chairman of the East India Company, who brought back into the family the ancient estate of Wombwell, and was subsequently created a Baronet in 1778. The gentleman whose death we record married, 23rd June, 1824, Georgiana, second daughter of the late Thomas Orby Hunter, Esq., of Croyland Abbey, county Lincoln, and leaves four sons, by the eldest of whom he is succeeded.

T. D. SHUTE, ESQ.

THOMAS DEANE SHUTE, Esq., late of Branshaw-hill, in the county of Hants, was for many years a magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant of the county of Hants, for which he served as High Sheriff in 1821. He married Charlotte, daughter of Lieut.-General William Neville Cameron, E.I.C.'s service, by Charlotte his wife, second daughter of Sir William Gordon, seventh Baronet, of Embo, county Sutherland, and has left issue five sons and six daughters

Mr. Shute died at his residence, 19, Chesham-place, Belgrave-square, on the 24th ult., after a short illness, aged sixty-two.

LORD ROBERTSON

THE Hon. Patrik Robertson, Lord Robertson, a distinguished Judge of the Court of Session in Scotland, died at Edinburgh on the 15th inst. Lord Robertson was son of the late James Robertson, Esq., of Edinburgh, Writer to the Signet. He was born in Edinburgh, in 1794: he passed Advocate in 1815 The clearness of his intellect and the readiness and versatility of his powers soon won him great practice at the Bar. His humour, readiness, and success as counsel in civil actions, and especially when acting for the defence, were proverbial. Robertson was chosen Dean of the Faculty of Advocates in November, 1842. A twelvemonth afterwards, on the resignation of Lord Meadowbank, he was promoted to the Bench of the Court of Session. He was elected Lord Rector of Marischal College and University of Aberdeen in 1848.

Lord Robertson's convivial renown was early established. It is now nearly forty years since his friend Lockhart (whom he outlived only a few weeks) wrote of him thus:—

The last of two or three Presidents, Mr. Patrick Robertson, a young counsellor of very rising reputation and most pleasing manners, made his approach to the chair, amidst such a thunder of acclamation as seems to have mantled into the cheeks of the Bacchantes when Silenus gets astride on his ass, in the famous picture of Rubens. Once in the chair there was no fear of his quitting it while any remained to pay homage to his authority. He made speeches, one chief merit of which consisted (unlike epic poems) in their having neither beginning, middle, nor end. He sung songs in which music was not. He proposed toasts in which meaning was not. Hot over everything that he said there was flung such a radiance of sheer mother-wit, that there was no difficulty in seeing the want of meaning was not involuntary want. By the perpetual dazzle of his wit, by the cordial flow of his good humour, but above all by the cheering influence of his broad, happy face, seen through its halo of punch steam, he contrived to diffuse over us all, for a long time, one genial atmosphere of unmingled mirth

Robertson is commemorated by Lockhart in many parts of his "Life of Scott." Robertson having over been the dear friend and boon companion of the author of "Waverley."

REAR-ADMIRAL SIR RICHARD O'CONOR, K.C.H

THE death of this gallant officer occurred on the 10th inst., at his residence, 71, Westbourne-terrace, Hyde-park. He was the second son of the late Sir Patrick O'Conor, of Cork, and grandson, maternally, of John Thery, Esq., of Castle Thery, in the same county. He entered the Navy September, 1798, and was, consequently, more than half a century in the service. The rank of retired Rear-Admiral was obtained in 1850. In 1813 he accompanied the expedition to Canada, assisted in the actions of Lake Ontario, and superintended the naval yards on the great Canadian lakes. In 1814 he was Flag Captain to Commodore Sir J. L. Yeo, at the capture of Oswego, and was entrusted with the direction of the boats and gun-vessels employed in landing the troops. In 1815 he attained Post rank, and in 1836 was nominated a Knight Commander of the Guelphic Order. Sir Richard O'Conor married Hannah, daughter and cohee of John Rose, Esq., an eminent merchant and British India Director, and had one son, an officer in the H.E.I.C.S., and three daughters, of whom the eldest married a Swiss nobleman, and the youngest, Emily-Clinton, was married, four days only before her father's death, to Maurice James O'Connell, Esq., eldest son of James O'Connell, Esq., of Lakeview, Killarney.

SIR A. F. BARNARD, G.C.H., G.C.H.

GENERAL SIR ANDREW FRANCIS BARNARD, Lieutenant-Governor of Chelsea Hospital, was son of the Rev. Henry Barnard, by his wife, a daughter of Dr. Robertson, and was grandson of Dr. Barnard, Bishop of Derry, mentioned in Goldsmith's "Retaliation." Andrew Francis Barnard was born in 1773, and entered the British Army, as Ensign of the 90th Foot, in 1794. He first saw active service at St. Domingo, from April to August, 1795; and he accompanied the expedition under General Sir Ralph Abercromby to the West Indies, and was at the reduction of Morne-Fortunée. He went to the Helder in 1799, and was present in the actions there on the 27th of August, 10th of September, and 2nd and 6th of October of that year. Barnard subsequently shared in the glory of the Peninsula; at Barossa he was severely wounded; he was present at Chiclad-Rodrigo, at the battles of Salamanca and Vittoria, and at Nivelle (where he was again wounded), and at Orthez and Toulouse. During the last four years of the Peninsular strife Barnard commanded the 1st Battalion of the Rifle Brigade. He received a third wound on the field of Waterloo. The Duke of Wellington had such high opinion of Barnard's martial talents that, on the capitulation of Paris, he appointed him Commandant of the British division occupying the French capital. In George IV., in 1821, Barnard was appointed a Groom of the Bedchamber; and in 1826 was made Equerry to the King. On the accession of William IV. he was appointed Clerk-Marshal in the Royal Household, and for many years prior to her decease he was Clerk-Marshal to Queen Adelaide. He was Knighted and created a G.C.B. in 1840, and became a General in 1851. Sir Andrew Barnard was also Colonel of the 1st Battalion of the Rifle Brigade. On the death of General Sir George Anson, in 1849, Sir Andrew was selected by the Duke of Wellington to be Lieutenant-Governor of Chelsea Hospital. The gallant General had a great number of Crosses, English and foreign Sir Andrew died at his residence, Chelsea Hospital, on the 17th inst.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

MARY RUSSELL MITFORD—has just been taken from among us in the sixty-ninth year of her age, and the forty-fifth year of her authorship. She herself has told her story to the public so recently, and the main features of her life have still more recently been narrated in the columns of this Journal, that we shall content ourselves on this occasion with but a very few words about one whose name will live while there is a love left among Englishmen for transcripts of rural life drawn with such a convincing air of locality, that they make their way at once to our most pleasing recollections and kindliest sympathies. Her first work was a volume of poems, published in May, 1810, price seven shillings. The volume took. Even the *Quarterly* reviewers,

Those clippers and hewers,

dealt more than kindly with the youthful poetess. From this period, till within a very few years, her literary career was one course of progress and improvement. She will not live, however, by her poetry. "Rienzi" is her best play, but "Our Village" is the work by which she will survive. Some one called her, not unhappily, "a healthy Hannah More." Goldsmith's "Village" is tinged throughout with a touching melancholy; Crabbe's "Village" is one that no cheerful person would wish to live in; but the "Village" of Mary Russell Mitford is truly English—true to English life and English scenery, and one in which the healthiest mind will find inclds nts to delight and scenes to solace and improve.

On the 16th of December Miss Mitford wrote to a friend:—"This is a day I never hoped to see—my sixty-eighth birthday." We name this because the *Athenæum* gives her age as sixty-six, an error which has been copied by several of our contemporaries. It has been hitherto only known to a few that last autumn her Majesty the Queen, on her return from the Highlands, sent Miss Mitford a present of £50, as a testimony of her respect for her genius, and sympathy with her then great physical sufferings. Miss Mitford, we understand, was advised that her Majesty did not wish the fact to be made public; and therefore, it was only communicated to a few private friends. But, death having done his work, there is no reason why a circumstance so honourable to the Royal heart should be any longer concealed. It is another instance of how truly the Queen of England sympathizes with literature, and of the happiness she feels when she is unostentatiously doing good. The funeral took place on Thursday, at Swallowfield; and it was her particular desire that, like her life, it should be free from pomp or ceremony. She was quietly borne to the grave by some who shared and enjoyed her bounty; followed only by the Rev. Mr. Harness, her executor; and her medical attendant and friend, Mr. May, of Reading; and her faithful man and woman servant.

We have been silent on the subject of an alleged discovery of an unpublished novel by the Author of "Waverley," in (it is said) Sir Walter's own handwriting. The truth is, we put no kind of belief in the assertion when we first heard of it, nor do we give it any kind of credence now that we have made some inquiries about its truth. Who could believe that a complete unpublished novel existed by the best known author of his age, who sent whatever he wrote to press as soon as it was written?—and by one who had so many inducements to turn whatever he possessed of the kind immediately into money. The intimate friend of Sir Walter's whom we have consulted on the subject observes, pointedly enough, "I consider the recent story of a newly-discovered romance by Scott as a much greater fiction than any of his own." We must have other proof than has yet been afforded before we can give any belief to so unlikely a supposition. We will put Mr. Gordon to the test. The gentleman still lives—Mr. George Huntly Gordon—who acted as Scott's amanuensis, and who actually transcribed for the press *thirty* volumes of the Novels and Tales, and "Life of Napoleon," from Sir Walter's original manuscripts. Let the manuscript be shown to Mr. Gordon, and, if Mr. Gordon says it is in Scott's handwriting, the manuscript should be published forthwith, and the tale tried by its own merits. Scott's alleged letter of gift, and which is printed, is only a clumsy imitation of Scott's natural style. It is not strange that this much-vaunted discovery should have been made public immediately after the death of the person who was best able to settle its genuineness? The manuscript correspondence of Sir Walter, we have authority for stating, shows, up to 1827, no trace whatever of an unpublished tale from his own pen. We have had Byron forgeries—is not this a Scott forgery?

Peter Robertson is no more! And who was Peter Robertson? hundreds will ask inquiringly, to whom his name is entirely unknown. Can we answer the question? Peter was a Lord of Session in Scotland—(Borwells be true, and Jeffrey the critic, were paper-lords, like Peter)—a lord among Edinburgh wits, and a wit among London lords. This conveys something; but, alas! how little of Patrick or Peter Robertson! Peter was in Edinburgh society what Dick Estcourt was among the wits of London in Queen Anne's reign, and what the late Mr. Luttrell was in Whig society during the Whig importance of Holland-house. Peter was a fellow of infinite humour, a laborious but poor poet, a man who united (what a rare union!) English with Scotch humour. How will he live (what a rare union!) English with Scotch humour. How will he live when by-gones? He was the friend of Sir Walter Scott; and it was Peter who gave the happy name to the great novelist of "Peveril of the Peak." All who remember Scott's towering forehead, like a sugar-loaf, will relish the cognomen. Wilson Scott heard of it (it was said subsequently within his own hearing), he replied cleverly, but less happily, "As well be that as Peter o' the Paunch" (paunch). God, kind-hearted Lord Robertson, he died from exultation in good news He had—has still, we are happy to think—a son serving nobly in the Crimea. A letter from that son, telling him of his hairbreadth escapes and health, was too much for him—and the wit and the father died with his son's newly-received letter in his hand.

It is matter of remark in literary circles that Scott's friends are dying off as rapidly as his own family. Within two months we have lost his son-in-law, literary executor, and biographer, Mr. Lockhart; his oldest surviving companion, Sir Adam Ferguson; and that Lord of Misrule, in whose doings he took so much delight, poor Peter Robertson. The men and women commemorated by Boswell. Of the Abbotsford circle (an existing glory of forty years ago) how very few remain!

We were right in our information. The article in the new number of the *Quarterly* is by Mr. Thackeray; and an admirable article it is full of beauty and exquisite appreciation, and full of Mr. Thackeray's driest and most pungent humour. It might have been easily extended, with other references, to bygone picture books, but the article would have suffered (so the critics say) by the least addition to its length. We have, however, one complaint of—why has Mr. Thackeray been forgetful to render full justice to the inimitable tailpieces of "Bewick," and to the "Robinson Crusoe" and other book illustrations of Stothard?

The Bernal sale at Christie's will occupy thirty-two days, and the Illustrated Catalogue of the sale is to cost the purchaser eight shillings. Mr. Shaw (well and widely known by his many beautiful works) is employed, it is said, on some of the choicer illustrations.

Sculptors are asking (not unnaturally) in what way the prudence and valour of the late Sir George Cathcart, who fell so nobly before Sebastopol, are to be commemorated by her Majesty's Government. Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's are crowded with monuments to men who died in the service of their country? Are we to have no monument to Sir George Cathcart? "Think," said an enthusiastic sculptor, panting for a Government commission, "how noble a Cape lion would figure upon a monument to Cathcart!" as if we had not enough already of Asiatic and other lions on our public monuments—the base of the Nelson column in Trafalgar-square always excepted. Our sculptors find (we are sorry to say) very little encouragement, either public or private. Marble monuments seem going out of fashion. Men are no longer buried in churches, and our cemeteries call for Aberdeen granite obelisks and altar-tombs, which any mason may hew out, not for Carrara marble and the delicate chisel of the refined sculptor. Earl Nollekens flourished in these days, it would have been impossible for him, with all his scrapings and savings, to have died worth one-third of the amount his immense property was sworn under.

PANORAMIC VIEW OF SEBASTOPOL.

THE View of the Russian stronghold, which we give in page 56, is from a sketch taken by Captain Hawker, of the 21st Fusiliers. The intervening country, from the heights of Balaklava (where the View was taken) to Sebastopol, bears a strong resemblance to many parts of the coast of Sussex. Many of the soldiers from the south of England have noticed this resemblance. One of them says—"The cliffs near Balklahava are very much like some parts of the coast between Brighton and Beachy Head, and the country frequently reminds me of the Sussex Downs, only that it is rather colder."

PANORAMIC VIEW OF SEBASTOPOL, SKETCHED FROM THE HEIGHTS OF BALACLAVA, BY CAPTAIN E. A. HAWKER, 21st FUSILIERS.

MAP OF THE COUNTRY
BETWEEN
THE RIVER ALMA
AND BALAKLAVA,
Illustrating the Advance of the
ALLIED ARMIES.
Route of the Allies shown thus
Scale of English Miles
Russian Versts
KALAMITA BAY
From Eupatoria 25 Miles
SLIGHTLY HILLY GROUND
SLOPING TOWARDS THE NORTH
BAY OF ALMA
HEIGHTS
HILLY COUNTRY
INTERSPERSED WITH
RAVINES
Village of Eskel
Allied Armies halted Sept. 23rd
Mouth of the R. Katscha
POSITION OF THE COMBINED FLEET
GRADUALLY RISING GROUND
HIGH GROUND
OPEN PLAIN
Belbek
Tchakova
Tchkniu
High Ground
Ravines
WOODY
SEBASTOPOL
BRITISH
FRENCH
French Head Quarters
British Head Quarters
Khutor
Tchorguna
Kaptorka
Black River
Tchirkakaasi
BALAKLAVA
Entered by the Allied Armies Sept. 26th
BAIDAR VALLEY
Kulle
Mangup
Al Todor
Adim Chokrak
Tchulu
Sivritash
Tiberti
Dermen
Duvankoi
Kamishli
Zulankoi
Cherkes Kermen
Mackenzie's Farm
Inkermann
Kamara
Kadikoi
Kadikoi
Tchorgun
Kaptorka
Tchirkakaasi
Batteries
Camp
Khutor
Balaklava
(Copyright) DRAWN & ENGRAVED BY J. DOWER, PENTONVILLE, LONDON

REVIEW OF THE CRIMEAN CAMPAIGN.

(Accompanied by a Map.)

In the interval of comparative inaction between the first abortive attack upon Sebastopol and the renewal of active siege operations, we naturally turn to review the history of this grand enterprise; to criticise the policy of those entrusted with the conduct of it; to inquire how far accident may have influenced the results, and, at the same time, to speculate upon the probable events and issues of the future. With a view of aiding these inquiries we have produced a Map, on a sufficiently large scale, of the country between the river Alma and the harbour of Balaclava, with the position of the march of the Allied armies marked, as well as their halting-places; the spots on which actual engagements have taken place; and the principal features of the siege works, and of the intrenched camp of the besieging army, at the present time. In the discussion which we shall now proceed to, ourselves, and various incidental matters connected with them, we have from time to time taken our full share; and in the interests of truth and impartiality we have also fairly recorded the opinions of competent authorities who have written on the subject. The account

ST. JAMES'S.—Mr. H. Spicer's "Alcestis" was produced on Monday with distinguished success. With us the subject of this charming play, as treated by Euripides, has ever been "a thing of beauty and a joy;" and in this its modern form—though filtered through divers French versions, operatic and dramatic—the beauty of the original idea still convinces, overbearing the objections that may be validly entertained against the variations in its treatment. Racine and Alfieri, as well as some inferior French adapters, have all tried their powers upon this fine and exquisitely pathetic theme; but hitherto it has been a stranger to the English stage. Miss Vandenhoff has been selected as the fittest representative of a classic heroine, and justified by her admirable acting the judgment by which she had been chosen. The action is divided into three scenes, separated by the fall of the curtain. The first shows the tale of *Apollo's* relations with *Admetus*, sets forth his love for *Alcestis*, as also his excessive love of life, his wife's sympathy with which feeling is very beautiful. The second act exemplifies her devotion, her resignation, her death; brought into contrast with her husband's hospitality towards *Hercules*, and the rivals of the strong man in the house of the widowed. This contrast is exceedingly well managed; nor must we omit here to praise Mr. Stuart for the broad and classic style in which he realised the situation. The third part shows the affectionate victim in her tomb, and also the triumph of *Orcus*, or Death in his proper person, insulting the group of mourners. But *Hercules* enters, and subdues the exulting Shadow, who, being vanquished, consents with an oath to restore *Alcestis* to her husband. Then follows the pathetic scene in which she is brought back to *Admetus*, his refusal to entertain her as a second wife, his recognition of her as his first, and her restoration to complete consciousness Euripides throughout this scene makes her silent, which in a purely dramatic sense is right; but a stage effect is got out of her restoration to sight and speech, which gave to Miss Vandenhoff a splendid opportunity for a fine classic attitude. Gluck's music was employed in the chorus, consisting of sixty persons; Sir H. Bishop presided over its execution; and the audience, as we have already intimated, crowned the whole performance with enthusiastic plaudits.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE ensuing week is fated to be again drawn blank by sportsmen, so far as steeplechasing is concerned; but if the present frost continues it will delight the heart of many a stud-groom who sees his favourites growing sadly stale, and play havoc with several cursing messings. Of these, Bradwardine is fixed for Tuesday: Bigger Club for Tuesday, &c.; Southminster for Tuesday and Wednesday; Durham Union and Hewell for Wednesday; and the Amicable (Hampton), and Oswestry (Porkington), for Thursday.

That evergreen steeplechaser, Peter Simple, and Half-and-Half, are to be disposed of at Tattersall's next Monday, as well as some nineteen hunters Glenalvon is also in the market, as well as Orinoco and three others of Mr. John Stanley's horses; and the same may be said of the celebrated greyhound Barabbas, and three of his high-bred kennel companions.

The days of suspense before the publication of the Chester Cup weights, &c., have been of course accompanied by some wild betting on that event, in which Calamus, the horse who, to Job Marson's bitter chagrin, would not leave the St. Leger post, has most unaccountably figured. There is no surer way to spite an owner than for a party to get up a few sham bets about a horse before the weights are out, as it invariably causes the handicapper to put on a few pounds extra, for fear of being thought to have "stood in." St. Hubert is also in great force both for the 2000 Guineas and the Derby; in the former of which The Nailer, Dirk Hatterick, Strood, Claret, Lord of the Isles, and Bonnie Mora are also mentioned. The former race is far from being contemptible; and, with Scythian and Virago in the stable, John Day, sen., is not likely to make a great mistake as to his powers. It seems that Cruiser will most certainly be the Danebury Derby horse; and, though small, he is a very clever son of the "golden bay." Venison, whose last batch of foals appear as two-year-olds this year. He has only appeared once—viz., in the Criterion, when he ran a good second to Pars, whose jockey is said to have backed him for the Derby immediately after the race.

The lists of horses, with the different trainers, are now beginning to be published. W. Butler numbers 23; Dockeray, 22; Cooper, 15; Osborne, 26; Scott, 59; Hayhoe, 16, among whom King Tom again ranks.

Some of Alderman Copeland's horses are now with Saunders, and it is said that Prince, who had not ridden for some five years, since his connection with the Eglinton stable ceased, till he reappeared towards the close of last season, is regularly engaged to Lord John Scott. The old backers of Cleverhouse, who, it will be remembered, won not much short of £8000 in his two-year-old career, and then stopped as if he was shot, after running about 300 yards in Daniel O'Rourke's Derby, were not a little amused to hear lately that he had been turned into an officer's charger, and that, but for some delay at Varna, he would have carried his owner in the fatal charge at Balaclava. He was the most chicken-hearted of horses, and was not only lighter in his three-year-old season than he was the year before, but his trainer told us that he at last quivered all over like an aspen whenever he was saddled for a race.

Hunting goes on merrily, and the Pytcheley are said to have had another great run from Naseby. A good story is told of the Cleveland hounds, and their adventures with a bag fox lately. When first turned down he ran a mile and a half, and earched in the flue of an old hothouse wall. Being dislodged from thence, he sought a drain, and when dug out for the second time succeeded in giving them the slip altogether, in a manner which the huntsman can never yet account for. This is almost as much calculated to put "the bag" (and all the whipping round large cages, and attaching of weights to the foxes when out at exercise, which the system entails) out of fashion as the celebrated scene at a London station some three or four years back. In that instance the fox which a certain noble sportsman (who was simply seated in market in his friendly cab) was taking to turn down that very morning before his hounds escaped from its basket, and rushed up and down the platform, with all the porters and the booking-clerks at its heels, and finally ensconced itself, yapping furiously, among a pile of newspapers under the book-stall.

Peculiarly large vermin seem to have been falling victims late to those village sportsmen who love to wander with a faithful wire-haired Dandy Dinmont at their heels; as, in addition to the monster fox and badger which we lately alluded to, a polecat has just been killed in one of the border counties which measured, according to the local journal, *two feet* from the nose to the tail.

WORCESTER MUSICAL FESTIVAL. The Rev Robert Serjeant, the active and zealous honorary secretary of the three last musical festivals in Worcester, has been presented with a testimonial, consisting of a silver candelabrum and salver, of the value of £150. At the presentation of the plate at the Guildhall, highly complimentary acknowledgments of Mr Serjeant's exertions were made by the Earl Beauchamp, the Right Hon Sir J. L. Pakington, Sir E. H. Lechmere (who was the chairman), the Very Rev. the Dean of Worcester, Sir O. P. Wakeman, the Canons Wood and Cocks, the Mayor, Admiral Powell, J. S. Pakington, Esq., &c.

SALE OF LOUIS PHILIPPE'S PROPERTY.—The estate of Rainey, formerly the property of King Louis Philippe, was offered for sale by auction at Versailles, last week, at the upset price of 990,000f. Four companies presented themselves to bid; the Compagnie Générale Immobilière represented by M. Millaud, its managing director; a company represented by M. Olagnier, notary at Paris; a third by MM. Parent and Schaken, builders; and a fourth by M. Mouton, ex director of the Charleroi Railway. After some keen competition the Compagnie Générale Immobilière offered 1,350,000f.; but M. Olagnier's company made a bidding of 1,351,000f., and the estate was knocked down to it at that price.

REDUCTION OF OCEAN POSTAGE.—The American Government has adopted the principle of Ocean Penny Postage between the United States and Australia, and a postal convention has just been concluded between Great Britain and France which virtually establishes a half-penny rate for the sea-transit between the two countries. The whole charge for a single letter from any town in Great Britain to any town in France, and *vice versâ*, is to be fourpence; that is, one penny for the present English inland rate, twopence-halfpenny for the present French inland rate, and a halfpenny for the future transit by mail-steamers from shore to shore. This can only be the commencement of that great and beneficent change which must shortly bestow upon the people of all lands the inestimable privilege of a universal Ocean Penny Postage. Petitions should again flow in freely to the ensuing Parliament praying for the early adoption of this enlightened measure.

SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT IN IRELAND. In the opening of the North Riding of the Tipperary Quarter Sessions at Nenagh, on Friday, last week, the assistant barrister, Mr. Serg. Howley, congratulated the grand jury on the present condition of their county, the great mass of the population of which appeared industrious, prosperous, and well-conducted.

AMONG the recent departures from the Crimea for England was Sir George Brown's grey horse on which he rode at the battles of Alma and Inkerman. Eleven balls have been extracted from the horse; it is that recovering, and Sir George hopes to ride his faithful steed once more in Hyde park.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS

PYTHIUSLEA.—Assuredly a drawn game the Knight. Before attempting to play again, prepare some treatise on the game, and learn the moves and powers of the men. Without this preliminary knowledge it is in vain to attempt to play the game with any success.

K. M.—St John's-wood.—Castling, or castling move, or move castle, are terms used to Pawn-talk.

E. H., Ireland.—No such phrase as "backgammon" is known in Chess. In the game you cite, where the author says he has met many who "are willing enough to take back moves," he means simply who retract or take their moves back when they think they are in.

SCHAHLUSKEN.—1. When the conditions of a Problem are that White is to mate, we will say, in four moves, it is understood that mate will be given at eight or every possible number of Black moves. 2. We mate as the mate is indicated in the stipulated number of moves.

The Problem is faulty, and requires reconstruction. 3. Only in name.

M. G.—The prototype is the following, which, if we remember not, is the composition of Mr. Silas Angas, and was published at least ten years ago. White, K at K R sq, Q at Q Kt 6th, Kt at K 4th. Black, K at K 4th. White is made to mate in three moves. The original was similarly preferable to the copy.

JUVENIS.—The Problem in question is one of the masterpieces constructed by the Rev. H Bolton and first appeared in a Treatise on the Game, by Mr Lewis

J. B. R.—Sittingbourne.—Your communications and solutions are received, but the last Problem with which you favored us requires some special help

I. S., Dublin.—Kindly received, and acknowledged in the usual channel immediately

QUITTONS.—The Minor Chess Club meets daily, at their rooms in Ridgefield. Apply for admission to Mr. Kipping, the Hon Sec.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.—For full particulars of the proposed Chess Meeting at Leamington we must refer you to the Rev W. Temple, of Leamington

CANTAB.—1 The match between Mr Brien and the Belgian Amateur, Mr. Jansens, has terminated in favor of the English player by a large majority. 2. That by correspondence between Oxford and Cambridge is not yet concluded. 3. The President of the Paris Cercle des Echecs is the Duc de Cormans

S. S., Sunderland; W. C., Gravesend.—It shall be examined

LEWIS.—The Edinburgh Tourney.—The arrangements, we have reason to know, are proceeding satisfactorily. M. St. Amant who lost very heavily at the Paris Chess Tourney, consequent on his intoxication at the last dinner, calling upon all true amateurs to assist in an undertaking so well calculated to promote the interest of Chess and announcing his intention of again resuming the position he so worthily occupied at the head of the French school We are in daily expectation of receiving this appeal, and the list of subscriptions already offered

A C, Canterbury. He can castle, if he has not moved

R B M, Preston.—No. It requires four moves. Look at the diagram again

E. H, Norwich. We expressly mentioned that many answers were unavoidably postponed

ANTICLAY. The only authentic history of Oriental Chess is that by Dr Forbes, now published in the Transactions. See the last three or four chapters, which are full of interest, and read Sir Wm Jones's Dissertation on the game of the Asiatics.

W. T. Dublin. If Pawns can be placed in the first rank, or promoted. How others so recently they record the moves? 2. The "Chess Player's Chronicle" (Boston, U.S.) also, by Bohn, Covent-garden.

T. B. Pentlands. Stamford's work is out of print, but a copy is valuable

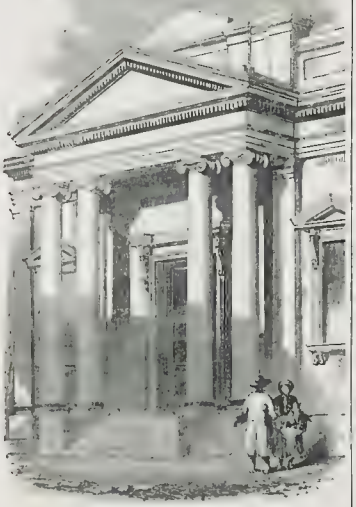
EMULUS. Sent direct to Mr. Chase by W. C. Dublin.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No 568, by Baron Mr Tonis, Dr. Pasantus, A. B. D., Cant, M. P., Scott, Dr. Pasantus, Dr. Pasantus, Dr. Pasantus

FARMYARD IN SNOW-TIME.—DRAWN BY E. DUNCAN.

THE DISS CORN-EXCHANGE

This handsome edifice has recently been erected through the liberality of Mr. Thomas Lombe Taylor, who has placed it at the disposal of the public under the following interesting circumstances:—For a long time the want of a commodious Corn-Exchange had been felt by the farmers of the wealthy agricultural district around Diss; when Mr T. L. Taylor, who is lord of the manor of that town, conceived the design of erecting one for their use, and of attaching to it reading rooms and a library. The building is not only admirably adapted to its purpose, but beautiful in the harmony of its proportions, and its ornamentation. The design is by a young architect of Diss, named Atkins, by whom also the carpenter's work was executed. The workmen employed in the other departments were also inhabitants of Diss, with the single exception of the Ransomes, of the neighbouring town of Ipswich, who supplied the finely-wrought iron girders of the roof.



NEW CORN EXCHANGE, AT DISS.

"It is [illegible] a contemporary, no slight proof of the diffusion of [illegible] throughout the country that a population of between two and three thousand souls affords men capable of designing and executing a work of such beauty and utility."

The opening of the Corn Exchange took place earlier than it was intended, in consequence of the desire of some young musical amateurs of Diss to give a concert for the benefit of the Patriotic Fund. Application was accordingly made to Mr. Taylor for the use of the Hall; when volunteers, vocal and instrumental, presented themselves in unexpected numbers, and a concert of sacred music was specially arranged. The orchestra was composed of between eighty and ninety performers, and among them were the contractor, builder, and many of the workmen employed in its erection.

FARMYARD IN SNOW-TIME.

Here is a farmyard, but one of the old sort, before model high farmers and agricultural associations had learned to double produce at the sacrifice of the picturesque. These improvers would pull down that vast wooden barn with its thick thatched roof, gutterless of spouted eaves, now snow-covered, but stained with many a tuft of grass and sheet of moss, and all alive with squeaking mice and chattering sparrows, in spite of the nightly efforts of the pair of cream-coloured owls, which, from time immemorial, have made their nest in the topmost corner of the rafters. For wood they would substitute brick or stone, and exchange the slow thud, thud of the thrasher's flail for the continuous whiz of a steam-driven machine. That shed where the long-coated bullock now so picturesquely stares and starves would be exchanged for a warm feeding-box. Of the group of live stock that are so patiently waiting their mouthful of fresh straw, there is scarcely one that would pass muster under the critical eye of a modern amateur in Short-horns or Herefords, Devons or Ayrshires, or West Highlanders—unless it be among the poultry, for geese are still geese, not larger or finer than in the days of our youth, if they have not positively degenerated.

No one who has had the good fortune to pass a wintry week in a hospitable farm house of the old sort can fail to recognise its picturesque truth. Well, in these times, when mouths grow so much faster than corn-fields that we cannot put up with slovenly farming for the sake of picturesque beauties, it is a consolation to know that, under any cultivation, a full harvest of corn, or a stack-yard re-thatched with snow, have beauties of their own, and that the best farming will leave ample subjects for our painters of rural life and rural scenes.

DEATH OF MISS MITFORD.

The author of "Our Village" died at Swallowfield Cottage, near Reading, on Wednesday week, in her 68th year. Of her literary life we gave an extended memoir, with her portrait, in the Illustrated London News, No. 679, April 22, 1854; and we have, in another column of the present Number, noticed her decease.

Swallowfield is a picturesque village, partly in Berkshire and partly in an insulated portion of Wiltshire. The road thence to Arborfield is delightful. Lofty and thickly-grown hedges overshadow the whole way; and ever and anon the thatched cottage peeps from beneath a canopy of [illegible]. Amidst such scenes [illegible] the author of "Our Village" passed from her long suffering, leaving her numerous works, which [illegible] with holy thoughts and healthful beauty; a few of which were written in her cottage at Swallowfield. The locality is not of "unlettered fame," for at Swallowfield-place, the manor-house, Lord Clarendon is stated to have written his "History of the Rebellion." The association of the place with Mary Russell Mitford and her writings is, however, of a more kindred interest.

Scarcity of Labour in Ireland.—It is a remarkable fact in the history of Ireland to hear serious complaints coming from the province of Connaught, in the month of January, of the great scarcity of labour; yet so it is. The farmers can with difficulty procure hands, and then only at such wages as have never before been paid in the middle of winter. If such be the case now, what will they do when spring requires a vast augmentation in the number of labourers? And worse still, when the next harvest requires to be reaped? There is a remedy for the present and the apprehended embarrassment. Let wages be raised to such a standard as will enable the peasant to support himself, and he will not emigrate [illegible] in either the Line or the Militia for the mere sake of earning a livelihood. It was all very well when the Irish labourer could [illegible] potatoes (which he grew them not on his own holding) at about 2d. per stone, to offer him 6d. or 8d. a day at this period of the year; but now, when potatoes are 8d. a stone, and all other descriptions of provisions proportionately dear, 1s. a day will not procure him as much as the [illegible] had done formerly. Then there is the tempting pay of the Militia [illegible] a day, in opposition to the farmer. This sum must be expended [illegible] Pilots and best labourers in the country will don the new and attractive uniform.

Our Gallant Guerillas.—Our sharpshooters have had a most exciting and dangerous time of it. They go out with their Captain, Gerald Goodlake, of the Coldstreams, and fight entirely on their own book. The other day they started down the ravine which leads to the harbour of Sebastopol, and, after an intensely exciting stalk of four hours, they got past the line of Russian sentries, and came upon a picket of four times their number, who were cooking and smoking. They attacked them with great success, killing and wounding several, and were only obliged to retreat by a sortie from a breastwork in their rear. Captain Goodlake had a very narrow escape, as he was left with a sergeant, and had to cut his way through them, luckily with no more damage than a bullet through his coat. He was, as you know, always a right good sportsman, and is quite in his element with this guerilla warfare. This has created a great sensation here, as they got within 200 yards of the harbour and town of Sebastopol, and nearer than any Englishman (not prisoner) has reached since we landed on the Crimea.—*Private Letter from the Camp.*

SWALLOWFIELD COTTAGE, NEAR READING, THE RESIDENCE OF THE LATE MISS MITFORD.

THE SOUTH SEA HOUSE, THREADNEEDLE-STREET. THE QUADRANGLE

THE SOUTH SEA COMPANY, AND ITS HOUSE.

THE history of the South Sea Company is of too interesting a character for us to part with its "House" without a passing record of its foundation. The building, of which we engrave the handsome quadrangle, is not, however, the house in which the Company originally assembled. This was a smaller building in Old Broad-street, long known as the "Old South Sea House," the site of which is now occupied by the City Club-house. The present edifice was erected in 1726-27, in Threadneedle-street, chiefly through the increase in the Company's business, consequent upon the creation of the first portion of the South Sea Annuities. It is a massive brick and stone edifice, remarkable for its strength and solidity, and for the size and loftiness of its rooms—one of which, originally used as the Transfer-office of the old South Sea Annuities, on the first floor, has been much admired for the beauty of its ceiling and decoration. The Court-room is also handsome, and contains fine full-length portraits, by Sir Peter Lely, Ramsay, Lawrence, and Beechey, of the Kings of the Brunswick dynasty; the Sovereign, from George I to his late Majesty, having held the office of Governor of the Company. The room has also the Royal arms, and those granted to the Company, finely carved; the patent, by the way, bears the signature of Sir John Vanbrugh.

The South Sea Company originated in an attempt to reduce the National Debt, in the reign of Queen Anne, into a more regular form. The first proprietors of the Company being the holders of a large portion of the floating debt of the country, viz., Army, Navy, Transport, and Victualling Debentures, chiefly resulting from the long wars under the Duke of Marlborough, when Harley, Earl of Oxford, the well-known Minister, conceived the project of incorporating these national creditors into a Joint-stock Company, to whom should be given as an inducement, the privilege of trading to the South Seas. An Act of Parliament to this effect (9th Queen Anne) was accordingly passed; and a Royal Charter granted, bearing date Sept. 8, 1711, whereby the before-named proprietors were formed into a Corporation for ever, with the style of "the Governor and Company of Merchants of Great Britain Trading to the South Seas and other parts of America, and for Encouraging the Fishery." A fixed rate of interest on their capital was guaranteed by the State.

ARMS AND EMBLEMS OF THE SOUTH SEA TRADE.—FROM THE COURT-ROOM.

An Act passed in 1720 (George I) by which the Company was permitted to increase its capital and take in subscriptions, for the purpose of its trading and financial purposes, was the origin of the famous South Sea Scheme—when the extravagant expectations that were formed of enormous profits to be gained by the Company's trade in South America and treaty with the King of Spain induced the public eagerly to subscribe and the stock to rise, until, in June of the same year, it reached the extraordinary price of 1000 per cent: as it proved by Stock receipts now extant. Subsequently its fall was as rapid; and the follies and excitement of the mania, and the ruin following the discovery of the fallacious hopes of the gold-seekers of the period, form an instructive chapter in Mackay's "Popular Delusions;" they were also illustrated by caricatures of the period by Hogarth.

Perhaps, however, the most curious memorial is in the Company's well kept ledgers of this period existing in the library, and which would give mute evidence of the rage with which all classes of the community were seized for stock-jobbing; among the names are many celebrities of the time. The admirable picture by Ward, now in the Vernon Gallery, could have been no exaggeration of the speculative warfare of Change-alley in the days of the "Bubble."

On the consequent reverses, the House of Commons undertook the settlement of the Company's affairs, and instituted a rigid inquiry into the conduct of the originators of the scheme. Various measures of relief were adopted, and one-half of the Company's Stock divided from the fluctuations of the trade, and formed into annuities with fixed interest. In 1733 the other portion of the Stock was again divided by the formation of a second description of the South Sea Annuities; the remainder being left as the Company's trading capital, still existing, and known as "South Sea Stock."

The trade carried on was not attended with any signal success, and has

NEW WORKS, AT HAMPTON, MIDDLESEX, FOR THE GRAND JUNCTION, WEST MIDDLESEX, AND SOUTHWARK AND LAMBETH, WATER COMPANIES.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

so long ceased that it would seem scarcely possible to imagine, from its long continued state of quiescence, that in this House large public sales were once held, and an active mercantile business carried on connected with the Company's exports and imports, and their factories and forts abroad; when the words "For Sale by the Candle," or "By Auction, at the South Sea House," was to be found at the top of many a bulky catalogue of merchandise, and in advertisements in such sound newspapers as flourished in the times of the first and second George; when the arrival and departure of the Company's ships—the *Royal George* and *Royal Caroline* among them, called in honour of the reigning family—were chronicled as events of interest and importance.

Upon the termination of the Company's trade, the business consisted only of the management of transfers and dividends of their Stock and Annuities—the latter gradually diminished by purchases by the Commissioners for Reduction of the National Debt; until last year, when, by the operation of an Act introduced by the present Chancellor of the Exchequer (who, in introducing the subject, April, 1853, spoke in very favourable terms of the manner in which the South Sea Company had managed this portion of the Public Debt), their Annuities were provided to be paid off by the Company before the 1st June last, or to be at once converted into new Stocks created by the Act (viz., 16 and 17 Vict., c. 23); Mr. Gladstone using the South Sea Annuities as an experiment for funding, as he stated his intention a Twelve-Month Half year then, Consol Stock. The same Act provided for paying over to the Corporation the amount of its Stock; thus leading to the winding-up of the Company—now about to take place; and to the sale of its House—now advertised.

We have engraved the Quadrangle and the Arms from the Court-room. The statue and the chair are described:—

Az. a Globe, whereon are represented the strait of Magellan and Cape Horn, all proper; in the sinister chief two herrings haurient in sallier ar. crowned or, on a canton the united arms of Great Britain, of the second. Crest: On a wreath a ship of three masts, in full sail, all ppr. Supporters: On the dexter side the emblematic figure of Britannia, with the shield, lance, &c., all ppr.; on the sinister, a fisherman completely clothed, with cap, boots, fishing-net, &c., and in his hand a string of fish, all ppr. Motto—"A Gadibus usque Auroram."

IMPROVED SUPPLIES OF WATER TO THE METROPOLIS

It will be recollected by all who have paid attention to the agitation of this important question that from it resulted, in 1852, the passing of an Act, of which, however, it may be useful to subjoin a summary of its principal provisions.

It subjects all the Companies to the provisions of the Water-works Clauses Act of 1847, and to the supervision of the Home Secretary. It indicates the source whence water may be taken, and prescribes the mode of supply. The rates which may be charged are reduced from 50 to 75 per cent with respect to the Companies which had Parliamentary scales; and the reduced scale is applied to those which had previously been unlimited in their power of charging.

The capitals on which the Companies may pay dividends were revised and reduced (in some cases very considerably), the principle understood to have been adopted by the Committee being, that no outlay other than that on works then in use, or thereafter to be used, should form part of such capital.

Parochial authorities to have power to demand a supply for poor tenements on stipulated terms.

The works for this purpose which the Act enforced on the Companies required, as appears from a Parliamentary return, an outlay of £1,250,000, and the actual expenditure will exceed £2,000,000.

The time prescribed for the execution of the new works varied for the different Companies; but, with respect to the three to which, for the present, our remarks are confined, namely, the West Middlesex, the Grand Junction, and the Southwark and Vauxhall, the limit was three years from the passing of the Act.

When the Lambeth Company, in 1848, applied for an Act to change their source of supply from Hungerford to Pimlico, seven years were allowed by Parliament for the change; and the construction of the works actually occupied four years, namely, from 1848 to 1852. The Committee on the bill of 1852 had allowed five years, which was, however, on account, perhaps, of the urgency of the matter, reduced by the House to three. As soon as the bill was passed, the Companies above named (having severally obtained private Acts, enabling them to comply with its provisions) entered into contracts to carry the requirements of the Legislature into effect. These contracts were all to be completed within two years, or nearly one year within even the short period allowed by the Act.

The three Companies named have their new works contiguous to each other, on the north bank of the Thames, immediately above the village of Hampton: 22 miles above Vauxhall-bridge, 6 miles above Teddington Lock, 1½ mile above the confluence of the Mole, 1½ mile above Hampton Lock, and at the eastern or lower extremity of a portion of the stream extending many miles, singularly free from even the slightest influence by which its water might be injuriously affected. From this point the water is brought by the Companies to their several works, after deposit, filtration, and distribution by three great mains—two of 36 inches and one of 33 inches diameter. These mains are together capable of bringing 60,000,000 gallons in the twenty four hours—a volume of water equal to the contents of a river 30 feet wide, 3 feet deep, and flowing at the rate of a mile an hour.

As far as the village of Twickenham the mains lie side by side; there the Grand Junction main diverges through Isleworth and Brentford to the works of that Company near New-bridge. The two other mains, after being taken under the bed of the Thames at Richmond, separate at Sheen. The West Middlesex main goes through Mortlake to their reservoirs of deposit and filtration at Barn Elms, on the Surrey bank, opposite to, and connected by a main under the Thames with, their works at Hammersmith. The Southwark and Vauxhall main continues through Putney and Wandsworth to the site of that Company's works in the new park at Battersea. The length of the mains respectively is as follows:—The Southwark and Vauxhall, 13½ miles, or 23,000 yards; the West Middlesex, 8½ miles, or 15,000 yards; the Grand Junction, 7½ miles, or 13,500 yards. The aggregate area of the sites of the works of the three Companies, at Kew Bridge, Hammersmith and Barn Elms, and Battersea, is 120 acres.

The progress made in the execution of the works enumerated, to the present time, is as follows:—

The reservoirs and filter-beds at the works of all the Companies are completed. The engine and boiler houses at Hampton are roofed in, and ready to receive the machinery, a considerable portion of which is on the ground, and now being

The length of mains laid on is as follows:—The Southwark and Vauxhall Company, 12,500 yards; the West Middlesex Company, 14,500 yards; the Grand Junction Company, 7500 yards.

In this statement of the mains laid is comprehended the portion of the two 36-inch mains laid under the bed of the Thames at Richmond an engineering work of no little difficulty, but which has been accomplished with complete success.

It would of course be desirable, but it is obviously impossible, to state the precise period when all the works we have described will be completed; but, as we have already stated, no doubt can exist of their completion within the time allowed by Parliament.

Upon an impartial view of the facts stated in the foregoing brief summary, it would be difficult, we think, to maintain that Parliament had shown any want of due regard for the interests of the public, or the Companies any lack of zeal and energy in carrying into effect the requirements of the Legislature.

The daily delivery of water to London during the last few months has fallen little short of 100,000,000 gallons.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The numerous failures lately announced have been productive of considerable distrust and embarrassment. They appear to have chiefly resulted from over-trading to our colonies in Australia. Money has been in good request, and the supply has continued tolerably abundant.

On Monday Consols were firm, but no material change took place in the quotations. Bank Stock was done at 215½. The Three per Cents Reduced were 92 to 91⅞; the Three per Cents, 92⅛ 91⅞ 92; Consols for Account, 92 91⅞ 92; and the New Three per Cents, 92⅞ to ⅛. Long Annuities, 18⅝, were 4⅞; India Stock, 223; India Bonds, 1½ to 1⅝; and Exchequer-bills, 4s. to 7s. prem. Exchequer Bonds marked 99⅞. The business transacted on the following day was rather extensive:—The Three per Cents Reduced realised 91⅞ ⅞ 92; the Three per Cent Consols, 92 to 91⅞ 92; Consols for Account, 92⅛ ⅛ 92; New Three per Cents, 92⅛ ⅛; Long Annuities, 18⅛; Bank Stock, 216½; India Bonds, 1⅝; Exchequer Bills, 1⅝ 1⅞ prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 99⅞ ⅞ per cent. On Wednesday the market was steady: The Three per Cents Reduced were done at 92⅛ ⅛ 92; the Three per Cent Consols, 92⅛ ⅛; Consols for Account, 92⅛ ⅛; the New Three per Cents, 92⅛ ⅛; Long Annuities, 18⅛; Bank Stock was dull, at 211 to 209½; India Bonds, 1⅝; Exchequer-bills, 4s. to 7s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 99⅞ ⅞. The English Stock Market was very quiet on Thursday.—Consols were 92 to 92⅛ 92 for transfer; and 92⅛ ⅛ for the Account. The New Three per Cents were 92⅛ ⅛; and the Reduced Threes, 92 to ⅛. Bank Stock, 210 to 211; Exchequer bills, 4s. to 7s. prem.

The Foreign House has been firm, and Turkish Bonds have advanced to 77½. Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents have been quoted 71½; Mexican Three per Cents, 21½; Spanish Five per Cents, 17½; Ditto, Three per Cents, 35½; Ditto Four-and-a-Half ps. Ce ts, 62 ex div; Dutch Four per Cents, 92¼; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 91 ex div.; Ditto, Five per Cents, 103½; Austrian Five per Cents, 85; Brazilian Five per Cents, 97½; Ditto, Four per Cent B Bonds, 81; Granada One-and-a-Half per Cents, 28; Spanish Passive, 4½; Ditto, New Deferred, 18½; Venezuela, One per Cent Deferred, 9⅝; French Rentes, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 92f. exchange, 25f. These are the highest quotations paid in the course of the week.

The business doing in the Railway Share Market has been tolerably extensive, and the general tendency of prices has been to a tendency to improve. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 20½; Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Dudley, 52½; Bristol and Exeter, 52½; Eastern Counties B Stock, 21; East Lancashire, 74; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 57½; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 20; Great Northern, 91 ex new; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 90; Great Western, 58½; Ditto, Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 26½; Midland, 70½; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 41½; Norfolk, 51½; North-Eastern Berwick, 77; Ditto, Extension, 14½; Ditto, Leeds, 19½; Ditto York, 74½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 32; Stockton and Darlington, 36.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—West Valley, 3½.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Great Northern Five per Cent, 115; Ditto, redeemable at Par, Four per Cent, 109; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 100½; Ditto Five per Cent, 23½; Great Western (Chester), 71½ ex. div.; North-Eastern (Berwick Four per Cent), 91½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 14.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 6½; Belgian Central Guarantee, 1½; Eastern of France, 30½; East Indian, 21⅝ ex. int.; Ditto, Extension, 6⅝; Grand Trunk of Canada, A issue, 5⅝; Great Luxembourg, 3; Ditto, Obligations, 9½; Great Western of Canada, 16; Northern of France, 35½ ex int.; Paris and Lyons, 38½; Rouen and Havre, 22.

Mining Shares have been rather flat. On Thursday Imperial Brazilian were done at 3½; Cobre Copper, 60; Colonial Gold, ⅛; English and Australian Copper Smelting Company, 1; Santiago de Cuba, 3½; United Mexican, 2.

Friday Evening.

Consols have been very flat to-day, and prices have not been supported. The Three per Cents have been done at 91⅞ 92 to 91⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 92⅛ ⅛ ⅛; and the New Three per Cents, 92⅛ ⅛ ⅛. India Bonds, 1½; Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 7s. prem. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares have been heavy.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday) Moderate supplies of English wheat, 2240 quarters—have been received up to our market this week, continue. Fresh up-lines to our market, this arrivals were limited, and the show of samples was small. There was more firmness in the demand for all kinds than on Monday, and in some instances late rates were exceeded, but the business doing was very moderate. We had rather a slow sale for foreign wheat; importers, however, were firm, and prices were supported. We and a very dull inquiry for barley, at Monday's decline in price. Malt of all kinds was heavy; but we have no further decline to notice in the quotations. There was a moderate inquiry for oats and flour; but both beans and peas were very dull.

ARRIVALS: English—Wheat, 2240 quarters; barley, 6170, malt, 2590, oats, 2716; flour, 1530. Irish, Oats, 160. Foreign Wheat, 7180, oats, 12,870; flour, 650 sacks.

English: Wheat, Essex and Kent red, 48s. to 52s.; ditto, white, 49s. to 54s.; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 48s. to 50s.; ditto white, 48s. to 54s.; rye, 44s. to 48s.; grinding barley, 30s. to 34s.; distilling ditto, 34s. to 35s.; malting ditto, 35s. to 38s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 68s. to 70s.; brown ditto, 62s. to 66s.; Kingston and Ware, 70s. to 74s.; Chevalier, 7s. to 78s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 25s. to 27s.; potato ditto, 28s. to 30s.; Youghal and Cork black, 25s. to 26s.; ditto white, 26s. to 28s.; fine beans, 44s. to 46s.; pigeon ditto, 48s. to 49s.; ditto white, 48s. to 50s.; harlow ditto, 48s. to 50s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 65s. to 70s. per sack; ditto country marks and Irish, 60s. to 65s. per 280 lbs.

Foreign: Wheat, Dantzic, Konigsberg, and Pomeranian, 60s. to 62s.; ditto, red, 58s. to 60s.; Mecklenburgh and Holstein, 60s. to 62s.; Danish and Schleswig, 60s. to 62s.; Russian, 60s. to 62s.; Marianopoli, 60s. to 62s.; Egyptian, 60s. to 62s.; Spanish, 60s. to 62s.; French, 60s. to 62s.; Belgian, 60s. to 62s.; Dutch, 60s. to 62s.; Hanoverian, 60s. to 62s.; Prussian, 60s. to 62s.; Pomeranian, 60s. to 62s.; Russian, 60s. to 62s.; Danish and Baltic, 60s. to 62s.; Polish, 60s. to 62s.; Portugal, 60s. to 62s.; Sicily, 60s. to 62s.; Leghorn, 60s. to 62s.; Tuscany, 60s. to 62s.; Trieste, 60s. to 62s.; Venice, 60s. to 62s.; Genoa, 60s. to 62s.; Marseilles, 60s. to 62s.; Odessa, 60s. to 62s. Foreign Barley, 32s. to 36s.; malt, 70s. to 74s.; Chevalier, 76s. to 78s.; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 48s. to 50s.; ditto white, 48s. to 54s.; rye, 44s. to 48s.; grinding barley, 30s. to 34s.; distilling ditto, 34s. to 35s.; malting ditto, 35s. to 38s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 68s. to 70s.; brown ditto, 62s. to 66s.; Kingston and Ware, 70s. to 74s.; Chevalier, 7s. to 78s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 25s. to 27s.; potato ditto, 28s. to 30s.; Youghal and Cork black, 25s. to 26s.; ditto white, 26s. to 28s.; fine beans, 44s. to 46s.; pigeon ditto, 48s. to 49s.; ditto white, 48s. to 50s.; harlow ditto, 48s. to 50s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 65s. to 70s. per sack; ditto country marks and Irish, 60s. to 65s. per 280 lbs.

Wheat, Dantzic, Konigsberg, and Pomeranian, 60s. to 62s.; ditto, red, 58s. to 60s.; Mecklenburgh and Holstein, 60s. to 62s.; Danish and Schleswig

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE-ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Monday and Thursday, PAUL PRY. Paul Pry (first time), Mr. Compton. Tuesday, a Juvenile Night, the Pantomime over at 8 o'clock, commencing at seven, with Box and Cox. Wednesday and Saturday, Presented at Court. Friday, The Knights of Thrift. Saturday, the Pantomime every evening. A Morning Performance of Table The Pantomime on Saturday next. Jan. 27, commence at 7, over by 4.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, LOUIS XI. Wednesday HAMLET, Saturday, RIVALS. PANTOMIME Every Evening.

MADAME TUSSAUD & SONS' GALLERY, BAZAAR, Baker-street.—The HERO of ALMA and of INKERMAN.—A MODEL of that chivalric Soldier, Field-Marshal Lord RAGLAN, in the full costume of his high rank, is now added —Admittance, 1s. Napoleon Rooms, 6d

GO and Hear LOVE, the greatest DRAMATIC VENTRILOQUIST in Europe, in his New Entertainment, called THE LONDON SEASON, at the UPPER HALL, REGENT GALLERY, Quadrant, Regent-street.—Every Evening, at Eight, except Saturday, Saturday, at Three

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC IS NOW OPEN EVERY EVENING (except Saturday) at Eight o'clock. The Morning Representations take place every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at Three o'clock. Stalls can be taken at the Box-office every day from 11 to 4 at Egyptian hall, Piccadilly

LEICESTER-SQUARE.—The AZTECS and THE FURTHMEN.—The first of either pair now seen in Europe Exhibition DAILY, from Three to Five, and Seven to Half-past Nine. Lecture at Four and Eight. Vocal and Instrumental Concerts every Lecture at Four and Eight. Vocal and Instrumental Concerts every Evening at Half-past Eight. Admission, 1s.; Reserved Stalls, 2s.; Reserved Stalls, 3s.; Reserved Stalls, 5s.; Stalls, 3s.; Exhibition Admission Stalls, 2s.; Reserved Stalls, 3s.; Stalls, 3s. HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, DAILY, from Twelve to Five Tickets, 1s. and 2s.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK.—The collection of living Animals includes a magnificent series of Lions, Lions, Wolves, Clouded Tigers, Hunting Dogs Leopards and Panthers, Elands, Elephants, Rhinoceros, and a pair of Hippopotami; together with an immense number of Birds, Reptiles, Fish, and other Marine Animals. Admission, 1s.; on Mondays, 6d.

THE ROYAL PATRIOTIC FUND BALL will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, under distinguished Patronage, on FRIDAY, JANUARY 26. Honourable Full Band of Twenty Performers. Single Tickets, 10s. 6d.; Double Tickets, 21 1s.; Family Tickets, admitting three Ladies and one Gentleman, 42 Guineas, to be had of the Stewards.—HORY. W. OLLIVIER Hon. Sec., 19, Old Bond street, of whom all particulars may be obtained

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REAL BALBRIGGAN STOCKINGS.—The most quality for walking, at 2s. 6d.; the finest, for full dress, the finest. Made in black, pink, and lavender as well as the natural cream colour. Drawers, and vests, by the original [illegible] Baker-street. Mrs. W. O. TAYLOR (late Halliday)

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MOURNING. The Public are respectfully informed that every article for MOURNING, in all its grades, and the greatest possible variety, suited to every one's requirements, is ready for immediate use at the Establishment, 53, Baker-street, the United Kingdom, for the exclusive sale of Mourning Attire. Families who can not call at any office, on by a pattern letter post, every thing requisite will be immediately forwarded in the best and most simple style, at prices ensuring future favours.—PUGH'S Family Warehouse, 183, Regent street (near Burlington street)

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DICKINS, STEVENS, and DICKINS, beg to inform the Nobility and Gentry that they have opened a department consisting of every description of LADIES' UNDER-CLOTHING, BABY LINEN, INDIAN and WEDDING OUTFITS, to which they respectfully invite their attention. D., S., and D., can confidently recommend all the articles as their new department, which is under experienced management, as they are made from materials selected from their own extensive stock of goods, the character of which is so well established for durability and economy.

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BONNETS, CAPS, HEAD-DRESSES, &c.—PARISIAN MILLINERY DEPOT.—Rich Millinery.—Bonnets, Caps, Head-dresses, Now Materials, from 14s. 6d. to 21s. for Morning, Opera, Dinner, 25s. 6d. each; Brides' Chip Bonnets, 21s. each; Children's Leghorn Hats, 5s. 11d. to 5s. 9d. Leghorn, Tuscany, Dunstable, Rice Straw, &c., equally cheap; with Caps, Head-dresses, &c. at CHANDLER'S, 19, Dean-street, No. 38, Cranbourne-street, Leicester-square Proprietors, E. WOOKEY and CO

THE CASPIATO, or FOLDING BONNET, a new invention, for which J. and E. SMITH have her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent, combines convenience with elegance, it is packed in a case 14 inch deep, thus dispensing with a bonnet-box; it is plain or trimmed in the highest fashion; price moderate. Also every kind of Bonnet in the best Paris taste. Wedding Bonnets at 21s. Bridemaids' Bonnets at 10s. 6d.; Mourning Bonnets at 12s. 6d. J. and E. Smith's Show-rooms, 53, Baker street, opposite Baker street, London.—Directions for self-measurement sent post-free

UNDER DISTINGUISHED PATRONAGE.—PETER ROBINSON'S EXPERIENCE ESTABLISHMENT, which equals of the highest class can be obtained at moderate prices. MOURNING SKIRTS, BONNETS, and MANTLES, and every requisite for family or complete mourning. A large stock of Skirts for widowhood and family wear always kept made up, and supplied on the minute. Ladies requiring a complete outfit either for themselves or servants should inspect this excellent and economical establishment. Dressmakers and milliners will find it their own residence, either in town or country. Country orders attended to with the greatest punctuality.

Superior Skirts, trimmed handsomely with Crape, 1 guinea to 3 guineas. Skirts, trimmed handsomely with Crape, 1 guinea to 3 guineas. Fresh Bonnets, 18s. 6d. to 1 guinea

French Mantles, from 18s. 6d. to 1 guinea

Silks, in black and half-mourning, 1 guinea to 5 guineas

Patterns free. Address Peter Robinson, Mourning Establishment Oxford-street

GUIDE for VISITORS to the REGENT-CIRCUS "MAGAZIN DE NOUVEAUTES." Quotations from the present Scale of Reduced Prices.—The Largest Assortment of Mourning Articles in the World. Best quality Silk Mantles, 1 guinea; Cashmere Superfinely Cleaned Spitalfields Moire Antiques, 3 guineas the Dress. Best quality French Merinos, in Black, Stripes, and Fancies (widest width and longest lengths), £1 11s. 6d. to 1s. 6d. all the way, and [illegible] Real value from 7s. 6d. to 1s. 6d. [illegible] Mourning Department, at the [illegible] Stock, and stringently enormous reductions Marabu, Shawls, Silks, Furs, Lace, &c., as a corresponding ratio. Best French Barege, for Evening Dresses, reduced from 17s. to 8s. per yard. On View and Sale during the Present Month, at SOWERBY, TATTON, and CO. 8, Regent-circus Oxford street.

THE OLD YEAR and the NEW. The reinvestment of Mr Dawson from the REGENT-CIRCUS ESTABLISHMENT (which is the Decanter of 1855) to Oxford-street, enables the Proprietors to reduce their enormous Stock by a GRAND CLEARANCE SALE. Fancy Silks, Mourning Silks, Shawls, Mantles, Furs, Lace, and Dresses, have also added its influence, and led them to make further most extensive reductions; all their energies being now directed towards one object—the speedy disposal of all last year's Goods at prices that must ensure their immediate sale

N.B. Abridged Catalogues of the Articles now submitted for public competition, with the reduced prices attached, to be had at the door, and post free

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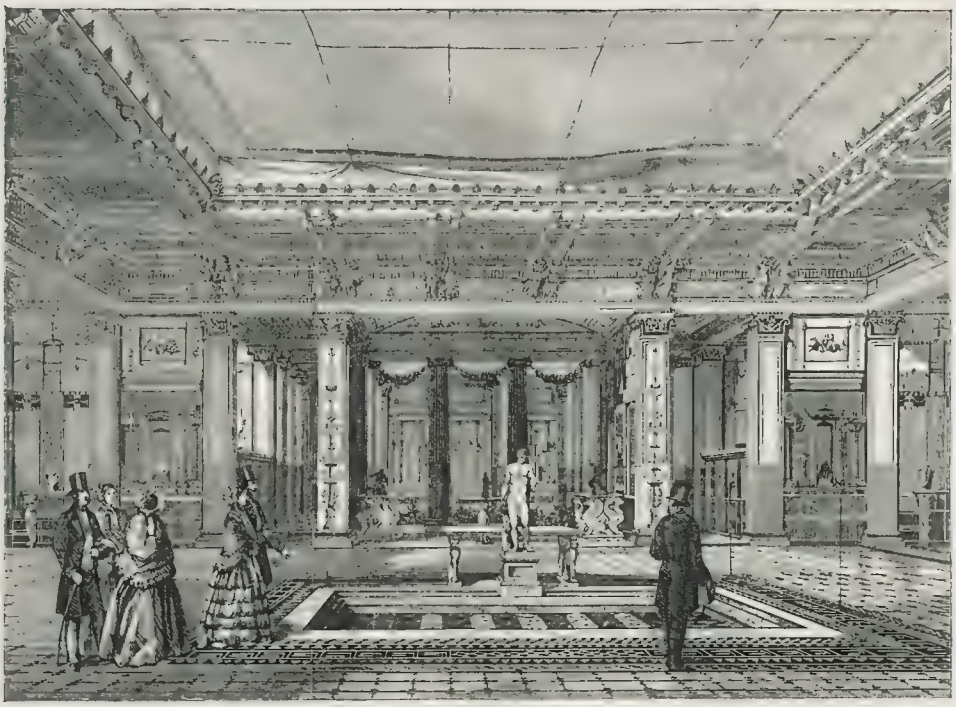
SYDENHAM TROUSERS, 17s. 6d.—SAMUEL BRIGHTON, 21, Ludgate-hill, Inventors and Sole Manufacturers of the Sydenham Trousers, at 17s 6d., unequalled for superior style, fit, quality, perfect ease and gracefulness, so requisite for gentlemanly appearance, and certainly char



THE POMPEIAN COURT, AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—(SEE PAGE 62.)

(*Continued from page 62.*)

additional church-room is required for 21,000 in St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, is a deficiency of 14,000; in St. Mary Newington, 22,000; Whitechapel, 29,000; Stepney, [illegible]; St. Luke's, 12,000; St. [illegible]; and St. George-in-the-East, 18,000. If the great [illegible] of [illegible] churches, 20,000. These numbers are taken from Mr. Mann's tables, omitting all figures below 1000. The myriads of our labouring population really as ignorant of Christianity as were the heathen Saxons at Augustine's landing, are as much [illegible] enterprise to bring them into practical acquaintance with the Scriptures, and with the dingy territories of this alienated nation, are [illegible] called by aggressive Christian agency, we cannot reasonably look for that more general attendance on religious ordinances which, with many other blessings, will, it is anticipated, certainly succeed an active war of such benevolent hostilities.

With the object of aiding the funds of the charity, a musical entertainment was given at the School-house, in Grove-walk, Hoxton-square, on Tuesday evening, the 9th inst., under the direction of Mr Smythson. The rooms were tastefully decorated for the occasion, and were brilliantly lighted with gas and lamp devices. Pianofortes were lent by Messrs. Broadwood, Collard, and Kirkman. The programme included a selection of popular airs, which were well sung, and ably accompanied; commencing with "God Save the Queen," and closing with "Rule Britannia," the air of "Partant pour la Syrie" being called after "God Save the Queen." The Vicar, churchwardens, and overseers were present. The performance was fully attended, and we are happy to learn that the result is a handsome addition to the funds.

The principal object of this benevolent movement in St. Leonard's is to raise for the Schools an endowment fund, it is hoped, of £1000. Four Bishops have subscribed £5 each; and Lieut.-Colonel Wilbraham has sent from the Crimea the sum of £10.

In connection with this movement the school children, 400 in number, have had a public breakfast, and a collection; the parents, a tea-party and concert; the subscribers, the Concert we have Illustrated. Eight hundred persons were present; and the entertainment was repeated on Wednesday.

We have only to add our earnest hope that the great object of the School Committee will be carried out by aid of these festivals and gratifying scenes of rational recreation.

MUSICAL SOIRÉE IN AID OF ST. LEONARD'S (SHOREDITCH) SUNDAY AND NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

THE SANDPIPER.

(From a Correspondent.)

WILL you allow me, through the medium of your Journal, to make known the occurrence (for the first time in this country) of Bartram's Sandpiper (*Totanus Bartramius*)? It was shot on the 12th of December, 1854, about three o'clock in the afternoon, in a ploughed field between Cambridge and Newmarket. Some farm labourers, who were engaged in thrashing near the spot, observed a strange bird flying round in large circles over the adjoining field, and uttering a whistling cry at short intervals. It frequently alighted, and ran along on the ground like a corn crake. One of the men thought he could catch it with his hat, and gave chase; but the bird, as soon as he came near, rose, and flew round whistling as before. On seeing that it did not fly away, the son of a gamekeeper, who lived close by, went into his father's cottage for a gun, and came out and shot it. He sent it to me a few days afterwards, calling it a whistling plover.

Through the assistance of Mr Alfred Newton, of Magdalene College, I was persuaded that it could be no other than Bartram's Sandpiper, described by Wilson in his "Birds of America;" and, on referring to the figure given in Mr. Gould's "Birds of Europe," this opinion was abundantly confirmed. It is an extremely graceful bird, and has been remarkably well stuffed by Mr. Savill, of Cambridge.

Its length is 12¾ inches; expanse of wing, 24½ inches; height, 8½ inches. The colour and markings are very like those of the skylark, on a large scale, especially about the head and neck. The tail (which is 3½ inches in length), is very like that of the common snipe.

I send you a drawing of the bird, and remain, &c.,

FREDERICK TEARLE.

Trinity-hall, Cambridge.

We have been favoured by Mr. Gould, F.R.S., F.L.S., with the accompanying communication:—

20, Broad-street, Golden-square, January 13th, 1855.

I am in receipt of your note containing a drawing of a Bartram's Sandpiper, lately killed in Cambridgeshire, and also the accompanying letter from Mr. Tearle. This is only the second instance that has come under my notice of its occurrence in England, and the species must now be included in our fauna. The other British specimen was killed in Warwickshire a year or two ago, and is now in the collection of Lord Willoughby de Broke. Continental writers have long noticed Bartram's Sandpiper as an occasional visitor to Europe; but the only instances of its having been found in England are those above mentioned. I have lately received, from the Directors of the Museum at Sydney, in New South Wales, a specimen of this bird which had been killed near Botany Bay. This is the first, and at present only known, instance of its capture in Australia. The species is evidently a great wanderer, its true habitat being the northern portions of America, from Canada, throughout the United States, to Mexico; in all which countries it is very common. It is a bird of very peculiar form, resembling in some respects that of the members of the genus *Œdicnemis*, and in others the *Tringa*. Its habits also partake of those of the birds of both those groups. The peculiarity of its form has caused it to receive many generic appellations—among them, *Tringa*, *Totanus*, *Actiturus*, *Tringoides*, *Bartramia*, and *Euliga*. Of these, perhaps the term *Actiturus* (proposed for it by Prince Charles Lucien Bonaparte) will be the one adopted, in which case the bird will stand as *Actiturus Bartramius*, *Bonap.* An interesting account of the habits and economy of this bird will be found in Audubon's "Ornithological Biography" vol. iv., p. 24.

JOHN GOULD.

SANDPIPER (TOTANUS BARTRAMIUS), SHOT IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

CAPTAIN PERCY WILLIAMS AND THE RUFFORD HOUNDS.

THE Rufford Hunt is situated in a part of Nottinghamshire much more to the taste of the lovers of landscape-painting than of fox-hunters. But, as the best farmers are to be found in the most unfertile districts, so two of the worst hunting districts in England—Whaddon Chase (now abandoned by Mr. Selby Lowndes, in favour of Warwickshire) and Rufford Forest—have produced, under the care of two accomplished and enthusiastic sportsmen, Captain Percy Williams and Mr. Lowndes, two packs of hounds of very superior hunting qualities; and, in the case of Captain Williams, by personal attention, with very limited subscription.

The Rufford Hunt, bordered by the Quorn, the Belvoir, and Burton, includes part of South Notts (formerly hunted by the celebrated Squire Musters), Sherwood Forest (where Robin Hood, a still more celebrated hunter, chased the wild red-deer), and nearly all that beautiful woodland district known as the "Dukeries" in which the parks of Clumber, Welbeck, Thoresby, adjoin, and extend into Derbyshire, as far as Hardwick Hall, one of the many seats of the Duke of Devonshire. The Rufford is an extremely wild, rough country, divided locally into Clay and Forest. When foxes can be forced out of the forests into the open, the runs lie either across open moors, without a tree, or over well-fenced fields of wheat and roots in a high state of cultivation. The best time for seeing these hounds is after Christmas. Early in the season the bed of half-decayed leaves are very much against holding scent.

The kennels are in Rufford-park, on the Earl of Scarborough's demesne, two miles from the pretty village of Ollerton, seven miles from Tuxford station, on the Great Northern Railway.

The following are the principal meets. In winter and frosty weather the Forest is often open when the Clay is unridable from the snow:—

Besthorpe Hall (clay), three miles from Newark.
Berry Hill (forest).
Bilsworth Dale (ditto).
Clipstone (ditto).
Clown (clay).
Cocking Moor (ditto), four miles from Ollerton.
Epperstone (ditto).
Fox and Hounds, (part forest and clay)
Hardwick Hall, six miles from Chesterfield.
Keelham (clay), two miles from Newark.
Kirklington (ditto), three miles from Southwell
Labour-in-Vain (forest)
Langwith (limestone).
Laxton (clay), two miles from Tuxford.
Lound Hall (forest and clay), half-way between Retford and Ollerton.
Norwood (clay), one mile from Southwell
Ossington (clay), seven miles from Newark.
Oxton (clay), seven miles from Nottingham
Oxton Warren (forest), seven miles from Nottingham.
Park Hall (forest), four miles from Mansfield
Rufford Abbey (forest), two miles from Ollerton.
Thresby Park (forest).
Thurgarton Priory (clay), near Southwell and Flaxerton stations
Upton (clay) } two miles from
Walesby (forest) } each station
Wellow-green (clay), one mile and a half from Ollerton
Winkburn (clay), seven miles from Newark.

The subscription was last winter increased from £1600 to £1800 a year, for four days a week—a sum barely equal to the expenses. Captain Percy Williams has been Master and huntsman since 1841; and, during a period of thirteen years, has never missed going out and returning with the hounds, except for a short time, when he was confined to his room with a broken collar-bone. He began with one hound; and, in forming his pack from draughts, was obliged to get rid of thirty couples for vice in the first season. At present the pack is as remarkable for its perseverance and steadiness from riot as for its docility. The first Whip, Jack, began as a boy, feeder's help in the kennels. His predecessor went as huntsman to Lord Henry Bentinck.

It is worth remarking, by way of contrast with some crack packs, that oaths and foul language are never heard in or out of the field from the Rufford servants, addressed to either hounds or strangers.

Nottinghamshire was famous as a stag-hunting district before it was divided among the four packs which now occupy it.

Gilbert, Earl of Shrewsbury, writes to his wife, in the time of James I., a letter dated "Rughford, 21st August, 1616, about eleven of the clock," in which, after acknowledging the receipt of twenty lemons, and twenty cowcumbers, and explaining how he disposed of them, he says he "went to Hatfield, accompanied by my two nephews, and killed three stagges with my bow, but it is as hard to kill fat deere in this forest and Hatfield, as easy in Hatfield. Here I mean to tarry to Saturday night, and then to Welbeck, on Monday to Wingfield, and there three or four, or five dayes, it drynke last, then to Sheffield, and so to Tankersley, and so run up and down that circle so long as we stay." Although the drinking has gone out, we are happy to say that the hospitality still continues.

According to Cecil, one of our best modern authorities on hunting, a part of Nottinghamshire was regularly hunted by Theophilus, Earl of Lincoln, in 1667, and this establishment was mentioned by his grandson. But these we think must have been stag-hounds. The next master of hounds in the county was Lord Castle-

FOX-HUNTING.—CAPTAIN PERCY WILLIAMS, AND THE RUFFORD HOUNDS.

ton, of Sandbeck, who hunted the district until his death, in 1723; when he was succeeded by Thomas, third Earl of Scarborough, who also hunted the country until his death; when a pack was maintained by subscription, until it passed into the hands of Mr. Francis Foljambe, and there remained until 1788, when Sir George Saville established a pack at Rufford, in the kennels they now occupy. These hounds were afterwards removed to Sandbeck, by Lord Lumley, afterwards Richard, Earl of Scarborough, and hunted the country now occupied by Mr. Lumley

The Rev. John, Earl of Scarborough, better known in his time as "Black Jack the Mace," again established a pack at Rufford.

Lord Henry Bentinck came next, and was followed by Lord Galway; after which the hounds were sold, and, as already observed, Captain William Jones, who had recently left the 9th Hussars, undertook to get up and manage a subscription pack. The Earl of Scarborough, in whose park the kennels and the cottage stand, and Earl Manvers subscribe liberally.

The Rufford kennels are old fashioned, but roomy and airy, and in a good situation. There is no positive deficiency except in the boiling-house; that seems as old as the time of Black Jack; and there is a waste of at least sixty per cent in fuel, and fifteen or twenty per cent in oatmeal, which might be saved every year by a good steaming apparatus.

A fixed agricultural steam-engine, of about four-horse power, would be an economical addition to every two thousand pound kennel. The engine would pump water, cut chaff, split beans, and chop up horse-flesh if required. The boiler would supply steam for all the boiling and washing of the establishment at half the expense of open fires

CHINA.—BRITISH AND AMERICAN VISIT TO THE PEI-HO RIVER

(From a Correspondent.)

The Pei-ho (called by the Chinese the Teen-tsin) river has been little visited by foreigners. Before the China war it was comparatively unknown; and, since the peace, only one vessel, the *Reynard*, in 1850, has left us any record of a voyage to those regions. It may not, therefore, be uninteresting to give a short sketch of the recent expedition to that locality by the British and American Ministers, Sir J. Bowring and Mr. R. M. McLane.

When the British treaty with China was made, in 1842, it contained a clause that all privileges granted thereafter to other nations should be also enjoyed to their fullest extent by Great Britain; and in the American treaty, made some time afterwards, was inserted a clause authorising a revision of the compact, after the lapse of twelve years; so that England now claims the benefit of this concession, in itself a most reasonable one, when it is considered that at the time when it was made the trade of China and foreign intercourse with that country were but in their infancy, and that increasing commerce and enlarged communication could not fail to alter most materially the position of the two countries, and to force upon the attention of both many modifications essential to their mutual well-being. This circumstance—twelve years having expired in August last since the ratification of our treaty—and the accumulated grievances that the disorganised state of the country, the faithlessness, the annoyance, the insulting demeanour of the local mandarins, and their absolute refusal of redress, had at last rendered unbearable, was what, in all probability, originated this expedition. But of this we cannot speak with confidence, inasmuch as the causes of the visit, and the negotiations which have been the result, have been in like degree kept secret for the present

The expedition left Shanghae river on the 11th October, and on the 14th arrived at the mouth of the Pei-ho—having experienced the most delightful weather, which continued without a single break until their return to Shanghae, more than a month afterwards. Such delightfulness, such delightful bracing weather—the air only cold enough to be agreeable, the sun only hot enough to be pleasant—such freedom from accident or misfortune, have been seldom the lot of mortals at this season of the year in those latitudes, and completely belied the sad forebodings of our friends, who took leave of us with misgiving, advised a treble supply of monkey jackets and comforters, and looked up for us the best recipes for frost-bitten toes and fingers.

The fleet consisted of her Majesty's steam-ship *Rattler*, and a small vessel of 70 tons, hired for the occasion, and decorated with a British ensign and pennant, called a *lorcha*, and named the *Chusan*; of the American steam-frigate the *Powhattan*, a leviathan of near 3000 tons; the *John Hancock* screw steamer, of 600 tons; and the schooner *Perimore Cooper*, also of the United States' navy, of about 100 tons; forming, altogether, a very respectable fleet. Having kept company all the way up in brotherly style, the subsequent proceedings were conducted in a like fraternal manner; the ships and boats were at the service of either Minister, as might be most useful; their stores freely provisions were freely passed from one ship to the other, as each had most need; and the well trained band of the *Powhattan* played "God save the Queen" quite as often as "Hail, Columbia," or "Yankee Doodle."

After due consultation between the Ministers, their respective secretaries were sent on shore to open negotiations; and this proved to be no light matter, for the difficulties of navigation were added to the usual impracticability and imperturbability of Chinese diplomatists. The lorcha, drawing but little water, and cunningly formed in the wake of inward-bound junks, reached the river in safety; but the schooner, being of deeper draught, was soon fast locked in the mud, whence she was finally extricated only after several days' labour, and all the assistance that the ships could render. At last, however, she joined her little consort in the river, at a distance of about ten miles from the larger vessels, which dared not, on account of the shallowness of the water, approach nearer, though the *Hancock* was able to run in about half this distance to the bar (on which, at spring tides, there is little more than ten feet), and thus to become most useful in towing boats and delivering the frequent messages that passed between the Ministers and their delegates.

On the 3rd November, a Commissioner having been sent by Imperial command to the forts at the mouth of the river, and tents having been erected and furnished, and all due preparations made for an interview, the two foreign Ministers proceeded on shore, accompanied by about 200 marines and sailors, and the band of the frigate. The procession consisted of about eight boats, which pulled towards the place of landing in equal and separate divisions. The marines drew up and formed two lines, through which the Ministers and their suites, in full uniform, accompanied by numerous American and English officers, marched in due form to the tent where the Imperial Commissioner and his attendant Mandarins were in waiting to receive them; the band meanwhile playing the national airs, and the marines presenting arms, to the great satisfaction of numbers of gaping Chinamen, who came as near to the fun as the well-piled whips of the Celestial police would allow. What passed at the meeting is among the *arcana Imperii*, which time alone will bring to light. But we are able to say, upon good authority, that the objection which was served during the conference, and which, in China as in other places, is supposed to be a potent aid to diplomacy, was of the first order.

The Commissioner was a mild-looking man who had seen his 63rd summer, but vigorous, sharp in his remarks, and courteous in his manners. The next in rank was a younger man, a Tartar of a most intelligent and astute countenance, who sate quietly, made few remarks, but told, by the brightness of his eye and the frenetical expression of his mouth, that he was far from being an unconcerned spectator or auditor of what was passing around him. The other two attendant Mandarins were the Intendant of Circuit and the Military Commandant of the district—the former a petulant-looking old gentleman; the [illegible] rather [illegible] fellow, who immediately attracted [illegible] by his good-humoured face, his physical *tout ensemble*, and his apparent honesty of purpose.

There is probably a great trade at Teen-tsin, about seventy miles, by the circuitous water route, from the entrance of the Pei-ho; for numerous junks—to which, owing to their flat bottoms, the shallow water on the bar is a comparatively small obstruction—are continually passing and repassing, trading between this Lake of the Chinese Edinburgh, and the numerous ports and places to the south, and on the coasts of Leaou-tung and Corea. The land is low, flat, and muddy, and salt is produced in great quantities by evaporation, and then piled up in large heaps on the river banks. The grapes are most delicious, and the apples and pears require only proper culture to be as fine as those of Europe. The climate, if our experience of it is to be taken as a sample of its whole, is most delightful; though in the winter, as the river is frozen over annually so hard, say the natives, as to bear carts and horses, it must be rather too cold to be pleasant. The adjacent coast is said to produce coals in large quantity, and the natives seem civil and well-disposed towards foreigners, and desirous to trade.

[illegible] this visit may do something towards extending [illegible] a larger reciprocation of benefits—commerce [illegible] with this most interesting people, the Chinese—so fatally susceptible of good, so ripe for its bestowment, so checked and stifled by a Government which, under the guise of paternal authority, endeavours to place as it were a wall of fire between the people and all that would exalt them in the scale of freedom and happiness

[illegible] Sketch accompanied this letter will be engraved next week.]

ON THE REFORM OF YOUTHFUL CRIMINALS BY MEANS OF REFORMATORY SCHOOLS,

Under 17 & 18 Vict., c. 86, being part of the Charge of Mr. Baron Alderson to the Grand Jury of Yorkshire at the Winter Assize, 1854

PRELIMINARY NOTICE. BY MR. BARON ALDERSON.

I have been induced to print the following observations, which formed the concluding part of my Charge to the Grand Jury of the county of York at the late Winter Assize, in the hope of drawing attention to the very valuable work of Mr Comyn on the "Principles of Criminal Legislation," which I have read with great interest, and, I hope, with some advantage.

Without agreeing entirely with the speculations of that gifted writer, I must candidly say that I think his work contains most valuable materials for careful thought, and observation of every sincere reformer of our criminal population ought to weigh well and deeply consider

I wished also to call the attention of the influential body whom I was then addressing to the Act of last Session, which (*me judice*, if I may presume to say so) does so much honour to the labours of the Parliament of 1854

30th December, 1854.

CHARGE.

And now permit me, in conclusion, to advert to a topic which does not seem out of place on an occasion in which we are called together at what used to be in this county, when I first knew it, an unusual period of the year for the purpose of administering the criminal law. We have in that period over which my experience extends—the interval between 1811 and 1854—a great and apparently permanent increase of crime. Whence does it arise? How is it to be diminished? These are questions of no light concern to us all.

It is not my intention to discuss the former of these questions, to which I am really at a loss to give any sufficient answer; there being in truth various causes probably conducing to produce this sad result. I would rather desire to direct your thoughts to the second, which is one (to me, at least) of far greater interest. How is this increase of crime to be met, and, if possible, repressed?

To this question, if you ask it, you always receive one answer, "By improving the education of the people." True enough, no doubt, but labouring under one difficulty—that this usual cautious leaves us in general no wiser than we were before. The real question is, "What is that education which is to produce this effect?" You will remember that we are speaking of that class of our population alone out of which our criminals come. This consists of individuals of as various characters and dispositions as possible. Now, to educate some of these properly would be to apply a process which would be useless—perhaps worse than useless—to others. Our punishments ought, no doubt, to be directed towards this object of reformation; but how far are we at present from any scientific discrimination in our punishments! We do but administer, so to speak, stronger or weaker doses of one and the same specific. Six weeks' hard labour; three months' hard labour; nine months', and the like. But what is all this, except to imitate the quack, who, for each varying disease (say fever, gout, paralysis, or the like), says, "Take my medicine; five pills for the first, ten for the second, and so on." We laugh in scorn at such folly; but are we wiser ourselves?

It may, however, be said—and I admit the value of the answer, and with some additions to it would admit its complete truth—that the discipline of each goal may supply the variety of medicine adapted to each individual case. A judicious governor, a humane and intelligent chaplain, may supply what is wanted. And so they may: but then in practice—and I wish to call your attention to it—there is this difficulty; we do not suffer these judicious and kind men to have sufficient time effectively to do this. Crime, believe me, is a disease—a chronic disease—in most of our criminals. Some eminent physiologists in modern times have even connected it with a defective organism of the brain. Without discussing this, which might lead me into doubtful disputations on the constitution of mind and with the organism of the body, I remember that those who hold this doctrine, do, at least, admit that moral training and religious influences do also react on and materially affect even the bodily organs—I shall amply call your attention to the practical result, that it has be so, and if crime partakes in some sort of the character of a disease, you must carefully examine in detail its symptoms, and give the full time for the remedies, if they are to be effectual, to operate. And this brings me to the observation, that to punish with short terms of imprisonment young or first offenders is by no means a wise or a humane proceeding. Then only—I fear that must be admitted—is the chance of reclaiming them. Will you let me call your attention to the facts detailed in the book before me—"Combe on Criminal Law," p. 22. The author of that very striking and intelligent work says that:

In 1835 the late Mr. William Brebner, Governor of Glasgow Bridewell, framed a table, founded on an average of ten years' experience, to show the effects of first sentences for different periods of confinement, of which the following is a copy:

Of Prisoners sentenced for the first time to 14 days' confinement, there returned to gaol for new crimes about 75 per cent

30 days	60 "
40 days	50 "
60 days	40 "
4 months	25 "
6 months	10 "
9 months	7½ "
12 months	4 "
18 months	2 "
24 months	None

But this last was not for want of cases, for

During the ten years (which ended on the 25th December, 1825) 81 persons were committed for the first time for two years, of whom not one returned. Mr Brebner did not assume that all the 81 were permanently reformed; [illegible] elsewhere [illegible], that when prisoners came back two or three times, they went on returning at intervals for years; *and that many of those who were committed for short periods for first offences were subsequently transported or hanged.* In that prison strict discipline was maintained, but the prisoners were trained to industry, and educated with something like a paternal regard to their welfare after liberation; and he ascribed the salutary effects of the prolonged confinement partly to dread of renewed punishment, and partly to the habits of order and application acquired in gaol.

I have read this passage as it affords materials for serious thought. You will observe that the increase of the severity of punishment for the first offence is *invariably* followed by a less percentage of recommitals. You will observe also the startling consequence, that after coming back two or three times they returned, at intervals, for years, and that many who received small punishments at first ended with capital convictions. Do not, therefore, I beseech you, try at your sessions to gain a character for that spurious humanity, which is real cruelty, by neglecting to punish effectually at a time when the impression on the criminal, if ever, may be really made. But severity in an extended degree is not, perhaps, essential, but one step—and a bad one, if not accompanied by proper discipline afterwards. What should this be? And first let me speak of the youthful part of the criminal population. I read from a report as to the Redhill establishment—a farm of 130 acres, devoted to this object (Combe, 72–79). The passage is as follows—it is taken from one of the returns made to the Government

Two main objects (says Mr. Tufnell) were contemplated by the removal of the Institution from London to the farm at Redhill. First, it was thought that agricultural work afforded more likely means for the reformation of habits, and for implanting an industrial character, than manufacturing occupations, in which children must necessarily be massed together in considerable numbers. Secondly, it was by far the most important part of the scheme, it was intended, instead of keeping them in one large unity [illegible] to separate them into distinct families or households, each under one head, who should be responsible for all the members of the family. It was thought that more individual superintendence and more kindly domestic influence might thus be substituted for the ordinary mechanical and formal discipline that necessarily prevails when large numbers are congregated together

The boys who compose the school, 178 in number at the date of my visit, may be divided into three classes. First, there is the voluntary class, who come entirely of their own free will, on the application of their friends, or of their parents, and wishing to reform. Secondly, there is the compulsory class, being boys who have been sentenced to transportation, and have received a pardon, conditional on their submitting to the regulations of this school, of which, the committee, who meet every fortnight. Two of these households consist of fifty each; one embraces sixty of the older lads, and the fourth contains twenty lads employed in the stable, cowhouse, and farmyard, who are intended for others at the beginning of each month. The class of sixty is considered too large, and it is intended to diminish it, and to add to the farmyard class of twenty. As it is considered that the chief cause of the past offences and immorality of the inmates is the want of steady habits of industry, by far the greater portion of their time is devoted to hard work, in which they are generally engaged from nine to ten hours daily. Each lad receives for his labour a payment, varying from 1d. to 3d. per week, according as his work is well or ill performed; but wherever it is possible he works by task. This latter mode appears by far the best for implanting industrious habits: and I can bear testimony to the energy and good-will with which the labour appears to be performed. Many of them, during my visit to the school, were engaged in brick-making, which is one of the most laborious occupations to which a labourer can be put; and I never witnessed a heartier exhibition of unremitting industry. Under at work they are scattered over the premises in small parties, under industrial superintendents; it being deemed an important object to prevent the congregating in large numbers, which, with this class, often leads to immoral conversation. Every boy attends school for three hours on five mornings in each fortnight, in addition to the evening reading, and to the extra schooling of very wet days, when the usual employments on the farm are interrupted.

The punishments consist of confinement in light cells, and of flogging; which last, however, is very rarely inflicted, not offtener hitherto than once in five or six months, and only for disgraceful offences

I attended the school during the hours of instruction, which is imparted directly by the masters, with no aid from monitors or pupil-teachers, which are inapplicable to schools of this description. The masters appear competent to their duties, but owing to the neglected state in which most of the lads enter the institution the standard of acquirement is very low. Of 150 who were admitted last year, fifty could neither read nor write, seventy could read and write a little, and only thirty could read and write well.

There are a few youths of superior education, but these are by no means the best conducted; and all the teachers concurred in opinion that those whose intellectual capacity was the highest were not those who gave the least trouble, or were the most trustworthy, but rather the contrary."

On this the chaplain writes:—

Judging from the boys received in the Philanthropic, their criminality does not arise from want of school instruction. I have had as many good scholars as bad ones; and most of those unable to read and write have been at school, or rather have been sent to school, and put in the ordinary paths of what it has been the fashion to call education. But in all these has been no restraining or impelling force even to keep the boy at school, far less to regulate his habits and association during the hours when the school is not open to him, and when his parents are mostly employed and absent from home

I beseech you all, gentlemen of the Grand Jury, to observe this: for this it is, I venture to assure you, which constitutes the true difference between the education which really restrains from crime, and that mere knowledge (not education) which only gives the criminal greater power to execute his criminal purposes.

Mr. Tufnell proceeds to say:—

On these grounds it is obvious that little or nothing is to be learnt from an ordinary school examination of the youths in this institution. The school attendance is mixed with all industrial work, and the school-rooms are superintendents, and their time is chiefly taken up not in giving literary information but in managing the tempers, reforming the habits, and generally regulating the dispositions and behaviour of those who are placed under them; in other words, their duty is to impart education in its highest sense, and on this, as it appears to me, dependence is very properly placed for attaining the object of the society, the reformation of juvenile offenders.

He then proceeds to give us the results of the most interesting experiment—

The number of youths that have been received at Redhill, since the school opened in 1849, is 461, up to the 1st June, 1853. Of these, 289 have been discharged, in the following ways: 157 have emigrated either to Australia or America; one has been sent to sea; seventy have been apprenticed or assisted to employment in England; and sixty are been discharged at their own request, or as unimprovable, or have deserted. Of the latter class, however, several have been subsequently reformed, the good seed sown in them while so in the walls of this institution having at a later period produced its fruit. The success that attends the operations of this society may be optimated as follows: of the whole number of criminal boys received seventy-five per cent are reformed and become the honest and industrious members of the community; twenty-five per cent relapse into their former courses, at least for a time, though several of these eventually shake off their evil habits and turn to the paths of industry and respectability.

Now, if such results as these, or any thing like them, can be attained by reformatory schools for young criminals, you will by promoting them have taken a most important step in the direction of humanity, and of economy also. For if you take into account the amount stolen, the expenses of the police to watch offenders, the cost of prosecuting and afterwards maintaining them in gaol, I believe you will find that the cheapest as well as the most humane mode of treating criminals is to reform them. And that you will be enabled to do by adopting the provisions of an Act of the last session of Parliament, which I hold in my hand

By that Act, 17 and 18 Vict. c. 86, it is provided, that the Home Secretary, on application made to him by the directors and managers of any Reformatory School, may direct one of the inspectors of prisons to examine and report to him upon its condition and regulations. The Home Secretary may then certify under his hand and seal his satisfaction, and that the school is in his judgment useful and efficient for its purpose, and such school shall thereupon be held to be a Reformatory School, under the Act

By the second section, if any person under sixteen years of age shall be convicted, either by indictment or summary conviction, it shall be lawful for the Court or convicting Magistrate, in addition to the sentence of imprisonment for fourteen days at the least (thus you see confining its operation to offences already punishable with imprisonment), to direct such offender to be sent at the expiration of his sentence to one of these certified Reformatory Schools, to be named in such order, the managers of which may be willing to receive him: and to be there detained for a period of not less than two years and not more than five years, and such offender shall be liable to be detained pursuant to such direction.

There are then provisions for defraying the maintenance of such criminals—by the Government in the case of poor boys, wholly or in part; and in other cases by the parents of the criminals themselves, to a limited amount in relief of the Government. All this is as it appears to me, most usefully and admirably provided. And this my recommendation in an earlier part of my observations with respect to the necessity of a long imprisonment, even to the extent of two years, will be made less apparently severe and more effectual by substituting fourteen days' imprisonment and two years' detention in a Reformatory School, for this long imprisonment. All you will have to do will be to provide the building and to devise, with the advice of the Secretary of State, proper regulations, and to be at the charge of maintaining the necessary officers. The criminals will be at the charge of the Government.

I have spoken hitherto of young offenders, but the same principle, *mutatis mutandis*, is true for the adults also. An adult convict is but an overgrown wicked child, who has erred from inherently vicious dispositions, defective instruction, or evil example. But it is only in his habits and intelligence a child grown larger and stronger; but the same method of reforming him must be, as for children, to change his habits to excite his powers (dormant, as yet, of moral restraint) by firm and wholesome severity, accompanied, however, with kindness. Depend on it he has a heart, though at present encrusted over and insensible from misery, perhaps, and vice

Try to touch that heart; let him feel that, though you punish, you do it for his good; and remove from him the great impediment, unreasoning vengeance, and cultivate what still is left of moral power originally possessed by him. Touch not the smoking flax of his agonized repentance, and you will have a good chance of success even with him. But treat him firmly—do not spare to make him suffer for his crime. What he wants is moral power against temptation. In this, as it seems to me, the evil of penitentiaries, which are solely dependent on the effect of separate imprisonment, consists. The defect of mere separate imprisonment is this, that the patient is by it too often *subdued*, but not *reformed*. He still wants the strength which could prevent his relapse when he gives him, to fit him for a return to the world from which he has been shut out for a long period. He is, perhaps, convalescent, but not cured; and it ends too often in a fatal relapse. Besides, it is a discipline which does not suit all; some require to be subdued, others to be supported; and for this reason there should be some prison or penitentiary in the whole, after separate confinement, the prisoner should carefully and gradually be accustomed to work in common with others before his ultimate discharge. For the most part he should be subjected to the discipline of the world or otherwise: for that is the best remedy and security against relapse. Not, as I think, to be unaccompanied with some profit arising from that labour and gives to the criminal. God governs us all by rewards as well as punishments: why should we not, at however remote a distance, try to follow His course of Providence, which is always the wisest and best?

I have now, perhaps at too great a length, offered some suggestions on these important subjects to you; I wish you to turn them in your own intelligent minds. You may not agree with me; but at least to think about them will conduce to settle your minds on the question, and that will be a great good attained. By discussion we shall make an approach to the truth. I commend the subject to you, hoping that at least you will take into consideration what I have spoken and what I shall have to say to the institution of Reformatory Schools throughout the length and breadth of the county. I believe them to be as necessary appendages to every good goal as the doors, or the locks, or the treadmill and far more effectual

Note The connection of Reformatory Schools in each county with the gaols is of more importance than at first sight would appear. For unless it be so, there will be a great difficulty in carrying the late Act practically into effect; as it is framed at present, the sending the young criminal to the school is to be part of the sentence at the Assizes, or at the hearing before the magistrate

Now the criminal is to be sent to a school where the managers *are willing to receive him*, and the school is to be named in the sentence. How is a Judge to ascertain this during his stay (sometimes very short) at the Assize town?

It might be remedied by altering the Act and enabling the Judge to do it by sole order. But if the School were, so to speak, part of the gaol the information would be always at hand, and no difficulty could arise.

* For this latter class a payment—usually 5s. a week—is asked; but in case of poor parents much less is taken.

LITERATURE.

THE ENGLISHWOMAN IN RUSSIA. By a LADY. Murray.

The Englishwoman the authoress of this volume has just returned from a residence of ten years in Russia, where, moving in what is called the best society, and chiefly, as we apprehend, in the capital, she had ample opportunities of observing the manners and conduct of all sorts of people in public and private capacities, from the Emperor downwards. The result is a humiliating picture which we regret to consider can be true in the 19th century; and in which, seeing the deep ingraining of the colours, we see little hope of change. Fraud and peculation, combined with oppression of those under them, is the rule with public functionaries of all grades and classes; and so little is thought of it, or rather so recognised a condition does it seem to be, that in St. Petersburg, under the very eye of the Court, and, of course, with its sanction, a stage play is constructed to crowded and delighted audiences, the material of which consists in the development of the whole ramified system of bribery and corruption which exists in all official departments. And sorry we are to add that sins of those in office do not end here: the police, under the semblance of guarding the lives and property of the public, are frequently themselves robbers and assassins; the most frightful crimes of their doing every now and then coming to light. But they are good spies and traitors, and that is all the Czar cares for; indeed, the deeper their abasement and profligacy, the better they may be supposed to be adapted to their degrading work; and so they are left to amuse themselves as they list at the expense of the public, until they are found out; and then, for being found out, they are punished signally.

In private life, in society generally, the same lax morality prevails. Where in every assemblage of three one is sure to be a spy, conversation is impossible, except upon the most trivial and vulgar subjects; and gambling, intoxication, and demoralising dissipation of all sorts, engross the time of the upper classes; whilst the lower are all slaves, mere machines and chattels in their hands. What are we to think of an old lady having all her female serfs hair shaved off (a mark of shame attached to the order), in order to pay her card debts out of the proceeds; of another lady knocking her waiting-woman down with a chair, and knocking two of her front teeth out of her head, for having answered her impertinently; of a female serf being sold for a hundred roubles and an old piano; of a master sending his coachman to the police to be punished for having inflicted at night and in a secluded spot, in order to avoid disturbance by the victim's cries) whenever the fancy takes him, and of the said servant next morning crouching to the ground and humbly thanking his master of a master for the correction so bestowed upon him; or of a serf being threatened with being sent for a soldier, and remaining in trembling awe for the bare idea for two years afterwards; finally, of serfs being pulled off by dozens at a time in "marriage" (saving the blasphemy of so using the sacred term), just as cattle would be in a fair, the parties to the ceremony not consulting their own wishes in the matter; or, in short, of the hundred examples given in these pages alone of the horrible tyranny, and the total alienation of moral feeling, under which the great mass of the Russian population exists; and what hope can we entertain of amendment in the condition of such a community, except at the expense of some dire catastrophe? After giving a vivid but temperate picture of their wrongs, the authoress says:—"Men and women in name, and children in their thoughts and ideas, they are even governed like so many infants; but when the day comes on which they will awaken to their true condition, how fearful will be the retribution on the heads of those who have oppressed them! 'We all look forward to a revolution,' said a gentleman of great talent one day; 'we all look forward to a revolution; and, when it does break out, the French tragedy will be but a game of play in comparison to it.'"

The horrors of the Conscription are told in various pages. Whole districts are virtually depopulated by it, the male inhabitants having been carried off, or having fled from the scene, and women being obliged to do all the labour, even to working on the roads. In short, "the numerous conscriptions levied since the Russians entered the Principalities have taken away not only the worthless slaves but the very flower of the states, and great was the dissatisfaction even openly expressed by the proprietors. 'Notre Empereur se trouvera en face de son peuple,' said one of them; from which an inference may be drawn. On all sides universal disapprobation was heard; but they were careful not to lay the blame on the Czar, so their anger was vented on the English and Lord Palmerston, whom they still persist in saying was the prime mover of all, and on whom, of course, their own Government are glad to throw the odium."

Of the sort of stuff the Czar's "children" are whom we have to encounter in the Crimea two brief passages will serve to illustrate:—

When the young men are taken for soldiers, their relations do not even expect to see them again. One morning a poor woman came to me crying most bitterly, and saying that her twelve-year-old son had been forced from her house to go into the army. I tried to console her, saying that they would return when the war was over, but this only made her more distressed. "No, no," exclaimed she in the deepest sorrow, "they will never come back any more; the Russians are beaten in every place." Until lately the lower classes were always convinced that the Emperor's troops were invincible, but it seems, by what she said, that even they have got to know something of the truth. A friend writing to St. Petersburg informed me that he had "gone to see the recruits that morning, but there did not seem to be much patriotism among them: there was nothing but sobs and tears to be seen; among those who were pronounced fit for service, whilst the rejected ones were frantic with delight, and bowed and crossed themselves with the greatest gratitude." The most distressing scenes may be seen in the streets amongst the friends of recruits—wives, mothers and sisters, or wives, all weeping together as they walk along; for the women, with innate tenderness, accompany them for many miles out of the town, unwilling, until the very last moment, to bid the objects of their affection adieu for ever, whilst the latter, in entering the Russian army, like the condemned in Dante's "Inferno," leave all hope behind.

And again, with an honest fervour worthy of a woman's heart, she writes:—

Every morning, look out of the window at what hour I would, hundreds, nay thousands, of raw recruits, torn from their villages perhaps a thousand miles off, were tramping wearily along, with all their worldly riches in bundles at their back, with dresses wet and muddy, and faces stricken with grief, as they marched in the direction of the palace in order to receive the Emperor's approval. I knew not what the feelings in that man's breast can be as he scans the downcast countenances of so many miserable wretches, and then sends them down to the seat of war, really and truly for nothing else than to become food for cannon, and the prey of vultures and jackals. Does he ever reflect that for each life he thus sacrifices for his ambition he will be called to account and stand arraigned as a murderer before the judgment-seat of God, who has committed them into his hands that he may be the protector and not the slayer of his people!

The feeling of hatred entertained by Russians of all ranks against the English ever since the declaration of war, and particularly since the affair of Alma, is manifested in a variety of petty ways, too contemptible to notice; and in the midst of their impertinence they are as boastful as ever.

The upper classes (writes the authoress) were equally enraged against us, and even in society they seemed to delight in reminding me of their anger and spite within the bounds of politeness and propriety. One day I called on a lady of rank, and I had scarcely sat red the room ere she began to attack me in a rather violent manner concerning the present war. It was in vain that I assured her that I knew nothing at all about it, and that I was an alien of the Government. "Ah," said she, "you pretend to be very cool and unconcerned, but I know you will yell another tale when you see the Russian flag flying over the Tower of London!"

And she adds:—

The boastings of the Russians are intolerable. To hear them talk you would think that, like the Khan of Tartary, their Czar bids all the Kings of Potentates of the earth to eat their dinner; and if, before the Russian flag were demolished by the Allies, and Moscow in ruins, they would still declare that they were invincible. If their Emperor is not exactly the brother of the Sun and Moon, he is Heaven's First Lieutenant at the very least. Perhaps this fanaticism is a remnant of their Asiatic habits, which may possibly shortly be cured by European remedies.

The worst circumstance in the case, as regards the prospects of peace, is that, even if the Czar were personally disposed to draw in his horns, his enslaved people, whom he has excited to run a muck against the Western Powers, would not let him go back

"He would be too glad to do so, said an intelligent Polish gentleman to the authoress, "but he dares not. He has raised a legion of demons that he cannot lay. Why, what would the proprietors say? What would the nobles and serfs think? And what would become of him if he were thus publicly to acknowledge that he is in the wrong! No! Now that he has advanced so far, he is obliged to continue, and leave the hill he has drawn to be dishonoured by those that come after him."

In the above remarks we have chiefly restricted ourselves to various points of deep import in connection with the present crisis and the future destinies of this large but rotten State. Those, however, who turn to the book itself will find it to abound in sketches and incidents of every shade and hue, told in a lively and graphic manner. By way of relief we will indulge in a little bit of green-room gossip about the Czar in his character of patron of the drama:—

The French theatre is extremely good; all the best artistes from Paris are engaged for the season at enormous salaries. We were informed that his Majesty once said to the director that "he was one of his best friends, because he amused society." A great deal more was perhaps *sous-entendu* than the mere words expressed. It is certain that, as long as the Government can get the people that is the prime business. There are no "gods" in Russia; to quarrel and quarrel about the merits of an actress or a singer, instead of thinking upon what great events are passing around them, it is safe enough, and consequently they were being transacted, Mdlle. Rachel was imported; I forgot the exact amount she received, but the diamonds and jewels with which she was presented were of enormous value, and her performances, the Czar's patronage, and her *conduct* furnished all the nobility and gentry with a fruitful theme of conversation. As the climax to all the compliments paid this actress, the Emperor did the *Empress* the honour of presenting Mdlle. Rachel to her, and gracefully led her to his Consort's presence. Mdlle. Rachel, in return, wrote a flourishing letter to the Emperor (a copy of which was shown me), containing innumerable high-flown compliments on his might and power, and she spoke of the sense of gratitude she shed on her return to her lodgings, &c. It was handed round with about as much reverence as we should do an autograph epistle of Shakspeare or of Alfred the Great. Doubtless, the great tragedian laughed heartily at it all, and thought the Russians a set of dupes

We promise the reader who takes this volume in hand, that he will not be disposed to skip over many pages of it till he comes to the end of it. It will well reward perusal.

LIGHTS AND SHADOWS OF AUSTRALIAN LIFE. By MRS. CHARLES CLACY. Hurst and Blackett.

Mrs. Clacy has already written one of the best books of *fact* on the subject of Australia, and she has now written one of our best books of *fiction*, derived from Australian sources. Along with many of our contemporaries, we have paid our tribute of warm appreciation to her excellent work, "A Lady's Visit to the Gold Fields of Australia," and now we have occasion to speak not less approvingly of her "Lights and Shadows of Australian Life."

This book is a collection of Tales, descriptive of the features, both physical and moral, of those distant regions. "They are all founded," says Mrs Clay, "upon facts that have occurred in real life; the greater portion of them having fallen within the personal knowledge of the author. Whatever faults, therefore, of matter or manner they may possess, they can safely lay claim to the one merit of truth." That they possess this—the greatest of all merits—is unquestionable. Mrs. Clacy has already shown her thorough knowledge of our Australian colonies and their inhabitants; and her pictures, moreover, contain the strongest internal evidence of their accurate fidelity. It is impossible to read any one of these tales without feeling convinced that every scene, every description which it contains is drawn directly and faithfully from nature and from the life. But this is very far from being the sole merit of these Tales. The delicious naiveté which forms the frame-work of the pictures are happily devised, and full of interest. Mrs. Clacy's style is animated and attractive; and the book, through a most pleasing medium, conveys a large amount of important information and instruction

THE ART OF TRAVEL; or, Shifts and Contrivances available in Wild Countries. By FRANCIS GALTON. Murray.

This little compilation will be useful to the class of travellers to whom it is addressed. The contents are various; including water—how and where to find, and how to carry; fuel and camp fires; bivouacking generally; food and cookery; clothes and personal requisites; as to finding one's way across country, and fording rivers; capturing and taming wild cattle; self-defence against marauders; and how to catch a Tartar and secure him when caught

WAR OBITUARY.

ADAMS (Major-General Henry William), C.B., died at Scutari on the 19th December, from the effects of the wounds he received at Inkerman, just seven days after he was raised to the rank of Major-General, for the distinguished gallantry and ability he displayed throughout the operations in the Crimea, while in command of the Brigade of the Second Division, composed of the 41st, 47th, and 49th Regiments. Few officers ever died so beloved and lamented by his comrades. He had been in the Army more than thirty years His first commission bears date 31st July, 1823. The rank of Lieutenant-Colonel he attained in 1840. At the head of the 49th Regt. Royal Irish, which distinguished corps he commanded through the Chinese war—at the first capture of Chusan, the storming of the heights above Canton, the taking of Amoy, the second capture of Chusan, the storming of Chinhae, and the fall of Ning-Po The 49th Regiment, which was likewise actively engaged in the same scene of warfare, was shortly afterwards returning to England, and Lieutenant-Colonel Adams exchanged into it. Subsequently he served with that regiment in England, Ireland, and the Mediterranean. Brevet Adams was Deputy Adjutant-General in the Army under Henry Cadwallader Adams, Esq., of Anstey Hall, county Warwick, by Emma, his wife, eldest daughter of Sir William Curtis, Bart., Lord Mayor of London in 1795. Of his brothers, George Curtis Adams is a Commander in the Navy; Frank, Lieutenant-Colonel of the 28th Foot; and Cadwallader, Captain in the 49th. General Adams's only surviving uncle is Mr. Serjeant Adams, the Assistant Judge of the Middlesex Quarter Sessions. The Adamses of Anstey are a very ancient family, and can be authentically traced to Simon Adams, merchant, who died in 1443, leaving property in the city of London to the Drapers' Company. General Adams married, Nov. 28th, 1843, his cousin, Catharine, daughter of the late Rev. Thomas Coker Adams, Vicar of Anstey; but has left, we believe, no issue.

BROWNE (William), Surgeon of the 95th Regiment, died on the 28th of November, at Scutari, of remittent fever, brought on by incessant attention to the sick and wounded, and by exposure on the heights near Sebastopol. He accompanied the Staff all through the battle of the Alma, and was also present at other engagements.

BUTLER (Captain Henry Thomas and James Armar). The hero of Balaklava and his equally gallant brother, Captain H. T. Butler, Deputy-Assistant Adjutant-General in the East, who died a soldier's death at Inkerman, have gained such lasting renown, and excited so much public interest, that we deem no apology necessary for the following additional and authentic details concerning them. They were the sons of Lieutenant-General the Hon. Edward Butler, uncle and heir presumptive of the present Earl of Carrick, and derived their descent from a common ancestor with the illustrious house of Ormonde. There is a beautiful incident in the life of James, Duke of Ormonde, which may be well applied in the present instance. When some one was offering obtrusive condolence to the Duke on the death of his all-accomplished heir, the gallant Earl of Ossory, Ormonde, with exquisite feeling, replied, "I would rather have my dead son than any living son in Christendom." The following letter of the Duke of Cambridge has not been published:—

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 2nd, 1854.

SIR, Having been prevented by press of business and indisposition from writing to you sooner, I feel that an apology is due to you on my part that I have not sooner performed a painful and most melancholy duty. You will easily understand to what I allude—your gallant and most amiable son was attached to the First Division during the whole period of our army being in the field. He was, therefore, under my constant observation; I had many opportunities of judging of his talent and of his worth. It was, therefore, with deep grief that I saw him fall at the battle of Inkerman on the 5th of last month. He is deeply regretted by all who knew him, and by none more so than by myself; but his death was gallant, and I trust not painful. I can easily understand what your feelings must be to hear of his loss, after your recent bereavement, when another gallant son also fell in the performance of his duty, and in so distinguished a manner. I shall not, therefore, further trespass on your moments of sorrow and grief than to inform you of my deep sympathy.—I beg to remain, Sir, yours very truly (Signed) GEORGE.

Lieut.-General the Hon. H. E. Butler

CHAMPION (Lieut.-Col. John G.), of the 95th, died at the hospital, Scutari, on the 30th November, from a wound received at Inkerman, when in command of his regiment. This gallant soldier was the eldest son of the late Major John Cary Champion, of the 21st Royal Fusiliers, by Elizabeth Herrie, his wife, younger daughter of William Urquhart, Esq., of Cromarty and Craigston, county Aberdeen, a descendant of one of the most distinguished families in Scotland. He was born at Edinburgh, 5th May, 1815, and gained his commission twenty-four years ago at Sandhurst. In 1831 he was appointed Ensign in the 95th, and from that period to the glorious conflict at Inkerman, served uninterruptedly with his regiment at home, in the Mediterranean, and in Africa. He availed himself of every opportunity in leisure hours to prosecute researches in the natural history of those countries. An accomplished botanist and zoologist, he made large collections of the different objects of interest, and it was his custom to forward them to the public institutions at home. Kew and the British Museum profited largely by his liberality; and the names of "Rodolei Championi," "Rhododendrum Champione," "Eythus Championi," &c., will long preserve to the votaries of natural science the memory of one who did so much for their favourite pursuit. He embarked as Senior Major of the 95th with them last April, for the Crimea, and joined General Pennefather's Brigade, in the Second, or Sir De Lacy Evans's Division of the army. At the Alma, when Lieutenant-Colonel Webber Smith was wounded, the command of the 95th devolved on Major Champion, and he received the thanks of Lord Raglan for his conduct, in a despatch to the Duke of Newcastle, dated 31st of October. Major Champion conducted the command of the 95th during all the subsequent harassing operations. On the 5th of October, when the Russians made an attack on the Second Division, they were met by a resistance from the pickets commanded by Majors Champion and Dunn—so admirably conducted as to elicit the warmest praise from his General, Sir De Lacy Evans, in his despatch published by Lord Raglan; and this dashing affair was considered by his army to have been a service in which his ability as an officer was eminently displayed. The prolonged and gallant defence of these pickets not only saved the lives of many, but enabled the Second Division to turn out in such order as to ensure the complete defeat and ignominious rout of the Russians On the morning of the battle of Inkerman Major Champion entered the field at the head of the 41st Regiment, with a wing of the 95th. They were met and repulsed the enemy. They were then desired to hurry to the assistance of the Grenadier Guards, at a hollow where the enemy pressed them hard. Constantly, these brave men (Guards, 41st, and 95th) drove the enemy down the hill, after a long and most deadly struggle, hand to hand, and the ammunition all expended. It was towards the end of this struggle that Major Champion (then we believe, senior survivor) proposed to some of the hand of heroes to mount and charge over the battery—which they did in style; and he then received his death-wound from a musket-ball through the breast and lungs.

GODFREY (Lieutenant Arthur William) of the 1st Battalion of Rifle Brigade, died 27th November, in camp, on the heights before Sebastopol. He was second son of John Godfrey, Esq., of Brook-street House, Kent, by Augusta Isabella, his wife, daughter of John Ingram, Esq., of Staindrop, county Durham; was born 9th March, 1829, and entered the Army the 3rd December, 1845. He was a direct descendant of Peter Godfrey, Esq., of Hodsford, in Kent, eldest brother of Sir Edmundbury Godfrey, Esq., murdered in 1678, in the evil days of Titus Oates.

MÖLLER (Major John Claus), of the 50th, was killed at a sortie made by the Russians from Sebastopol on the 20th ult. "The enemy (we quote Lord Raglan's despatch) were met with great gallantry by Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon of the 38th Regiment, who, when supported by the covering-party of the trenches, under Lieutenant-Colonel Waddy, of the 50th Regiment, succeeded in at once driving them back; but here, I regret to say, the loss was severe, Major Möller of the 50th, fell mortally wounded, and I am concerned to say is since dead." The gallant officer entered the Army 18th June, 1841, and obtained the Majority of his regiment 3rd March, 1854

RICHARDS (Captain Edwin), of the 41st Regiment, killed at Inkerman, was eldest son of Captain Edwin Richards, R.N., of Ravensden-house, county of Carlow, grandson of the late Solomon Richards, Esq., of Solsboro, county of Wexford, and nephew of the Rev. S. Richards of that place, who is the head of one of the oldest and chief families in that county, and of the name in Ireland. He was born 14th September, 1826, partly educated at the Royal Naval School, New-cross, and finished his education at a military college near Bon, Prussia; presented with his first commission as Ensign in the 41st Regiment, without purchase, on 23rd February, 1849, by his Uncle Duke of Wellington, in consideration of his father's services, promoted to his Lieutenancy by purchase, 27th December, 1850, and to his Company by purchase, 28th March, 1854. He served with his regiment in Ireland, Ionian Islands and Malta, till they embarked from Malta for Turkey in the spring of the present year. He was left at Varna with the dépôt, when the regiment embarked on the 1st September for the Crimea, on which occasion he thus describes his feelings in a letter:—

The 41st embarked yesterday with the rest of the Division, and here am I, miserable, unfortunate wretch, left with the sick men of the brigade. I feel as if I would go mad. There are no doubt for the Crimea, and will have hard fighting. I suppose a team of each brigade throughout the Army has been left behind; and, unfortunately, I am the youngest in mess. I went to Generals Adams and Pennefather, and neither could do anything for me: they were both very cool; but said it fell to my lot, and they could not with justice try to keep any one back. General Adams was very kind and better about it. My brother officers are as much disgusted as I am about it, but that does not make me less miserable. There is, however, a Captain of the — sick at Constantinople; and the General—if I could effect an exchange with him I might go on; so there is some chance.

On the 14th Sept. he was still left at Varna, and wrote:—

I hope there is a chance of my getting on before long; but am I not unfortunate in being left here? I do not think, if sentence of death had been passed on me, I could have felt more horrified than when I received the order to remain with the dépôt. It was done at the last moment, after we had received the order to embark, and were all in the highest spirits

He did at length get an officer to exchange with him, and went on to the army before Sebastopol the last week in September, and was as happy as if the greatest honour had been conferred on him. From that time he took his part in the trenches and pickets, and all the works of the siege; was in the battle of the 26th October, when Sir De Lacy Evans' Division so signally defeated the Russians; thus describing it in his letter of the 27th October:—

We had a pretty hot affair yesterday for about an hour and a half: it ended by our driving the enemy back with a loss of 1000 killed and wounded on their side, and only 58 and 5 officers on ours. They did very well, indeed, when opposed to our pickets, who always wear great-coats; but when we drove them out of the ravine yelling like savages, they could stand it no longer. I believe there is something in the colour which frightens them. I do believe we are the kindest enemy in the world. It is wonderful to see the attention our soldiers pay to those wounded Russians, and our surgeons take as much pains with them as with our own. The enemy are certainly not to be despised. Two of their battalions advanced yesterday like men, under a heavy fire of our artillery. I forgot over the loss of Alma yet; but still I cannot grumble, as I am the only Captain who managed to get away from the dépôt at Varna yet.

The last letter his family received from him was on the day after. They had read the account of his death at the battle of Inkerman. It was written in pencil, and dated "Near Sebastopol, 3rd November, 1854," in which he wrote:—

I am on picket to-day, and have not time to say more than that I am still alive and well, and in possession of my usual number of arms and legs. On cold, and I shall be glad when we get inside Sebastopol Sleeping, or rather being out all night agrees with me very well, and I feel twice as fresh as I used to be after a ball. What do you think of that?

The heroic manner of his death is thus detailed:—

3rd Regiment, Camp before Sebastopol, Nov. 7th.

The 41st picket was attacked by the enemy on Sunday morning before daylight. Edwin's company was ordered out to strengthen them; but before he Lad advanced far he was surrounded by Russians. Refusing to surrender himself a prisoner, he fought for four of his companions, and killed two with his sword; thus dying the noblest and most glorious death a man can die—without pain—shot through the body, and stabbed by several bayonet wounds, he suffered no pain, and must have died almost instantaneously. The Colonel, Carpenter was killed, poor Edwin's subaltern killed, and several others of his regiment. It was an awful day. After eight hours' fighting, most of it hand to hand (under the fire of twenty pieces of heavy artillery), we drove the enemy from the hill, which Edwin and others had so gallantly died in defending. Edward and I went over the field as soon as we could strip from our posts to look for poor Edwin; but he had been brought in, and was buried with four other officers by the Chaplain of the Second Division next morning.

SANITARY ORGANISATION OF THE FRENCH ARMY. It would appear, from the *Moniteur Officiel*, that the medical officers of the French army are not the only ones to whom praise is due for maintaining the soldiers in their efficient and healthful state. There is at the seat of war a powerful, skilful, and well-instructed body of men, highly paid and favoured. This body—which is not military, but only administrative—establishes and maintains the sanitary service of the army. It direct the presidee over all the hospitals; it regulates the provisioning of the army; it controls the pay, the expenses; it enters into contracts in the name of the State. The supply of food and the exigencies of the hospitals thus bring into cognizance the "military intendants," who had complete control over all that concerns locality, *matériel*, and *personnel*. To them is entrusted the relates to marches to be made, conditions to be executed, referred all that relates to marches to be made, conditions to be executed, subsistence to be furnished to the troops. Under the actual *régime* the Surgeons in-Chief exert but an indirect action upon the *personnel* of the sanitary department. Their power is rather moral than official. The intendants, and all their decisions are submitted to the consideration of the intendants. The intendance, which is not medical, directs the general medical affairs—that is to say, the officers of the military hospitals, and the medical depôts. The installation of hospitals, the subdivision of the patients. They have referred to them questions relating to health, sanitary measures, prescriptions, the allotment of hospital *matériel*, and the *personnel*. To them is entrusted the duty of the medicines. By means of their position they may exert considerable direct influence upon the distribution of the medical men. It is their duty to provide against epidemics, and to calculate the probable severity of disorder

RUSSIAN ACCOUNT OF THE CAUSE OF THE WAR. A Constantinople letter gives, as from a Russian, the following explanation of the origin of the present war:—"The Turks made a complaint to the Bishop and to several Russian priests at Jerusalem. God, in his wrath, sent a squadron of angels to carry away the tomb of Christ, which remains at this moment suspended in the heavens, and he commissions the Czar to avenge the Pagan sacrilege. When the Emperor Nicholas shall enter Jerusalem a conqueror, as by the aid of Russia he certainly will do, Christ's tomb will be restored to its place. The phalanx of angels will line the road along which the conquering Russian army will pass, and will present arms to them. Then the Czar will be master of the whole world, which will renounce its errors and become converted to the orthodox faith." This story is implicitly believed by the Russian serfs.

FRENCH CONCERT IN THE HALL OF THE MAISON DIEU, AT DOVER, IN AID OF THE PATRIOTIC FUND.

GRAND FRENCH DEMONSTRATION, IN AID OF THE PATRIOTIC FUND, AT DOVER.

A very gratifying instance of the generous sympathy of the French character has just occurred at Dover, where a large party of musical gentlemen from France have given, under the patronage of the Mayor of the town, a musical performance in aid of the Patriotic Fund. The festival took place on Thursday (last week), when the afterpart of the day was observed as a general holiday, and the town throughout the day was a scene of gay sights and joyous excitement. At an early hour the French colours were hoisted at all points; and the sun, breaking through the mist which heralded a fine day, saw the "red, white, and blue" of *la belle France* and old England lovingly commingling. From the Town-hall and other public buildings immense tricolors were flying; the shipping in the harbour was gaily decorated with the flags of all nations, the French predominating; while from private houses in almost every street might be seen the ensigns of the two countries with appropriate mottoes and devices, including a large display of the initial "N." wreathed with laurels. Lines of flags extended across many of the streets; and thoughts of the holy cause in which the armies of England and France are engaged were occasionally inspired by the sight of a Turkish colour flying in company with its defenders.

The members of the band of the municipality of Calais (numbering forty-seven) and the Choral Society of St. Omer (numbering forty-two performers) arrived at Dover on Thursday morning, at five o'clock, by the packet *Ondine*, and proceeded to the hotels where accommodation had been provided for them. At ten o'clock they assembled at the railway station, and having formed into procession (the French band displaying French and British ensigns), they left the terminus at half-past ten, preceded by the band of the Royal Staffordshire Militia, and marched to the Market-place, where the French band played several airs, which were enthusiastically cheered by the people. At eleven o'clock the visitors were received by the Mayor and Corporation, in the old Town-hall; and were addressed by the Mayor, to whom M. de Marsilly, the head of the Calais deputation, replied. A déjeûner was then served; after which the procession re-formed, and visited various parts of the town. In the afternoon the band dined at the Ship and Lord Warden hotels, and were met by several of the town authorities.

In the evening the concert took place in the great hall of the Maison Dieu, which had been characteristically decorated for the occasion

The Board of Ordnance readily supplied a quantity of *matériel* from the Armoury for military emblems; the town of Calais furnished a number of their national flags and emblems; and the officials of the South-Eastern Railway and others also poured in liberal contributions of flags. The orchestra was erected at the north-east end, over which appeared an elegant device, having as its centre the initials "N. V.," partially surrounded by "Alma, Balaclava, and Inkerman," in a semicircular scroll, and based with the singularly-appropriate motto of "Our Honour, our Sympathy, our Hopes, are one!" Portraits of Queen Victoria, the Emperor Napoleon, and the Empress Eugénie, graced the back of the orchestra; and motto, device, and portraits were surmounted by the arms of England and France, and a spiculated military trophy, interspersed with stars of swords, French and English flags, laurels, &c. Fronting the orchestra, at the south-western entrance, a commodious gallery was erected for the accommodation of 250 visitors. The front displayed elegant military devices, and the upper part was decorated by flags, most tastefully grouped. On either side of the hall flags, evergreens, and military stars were skilfully arranged, which displayed to great advantage the numerous portraits belonging to the Corporation. The whole hall was surrounded by gas jets, which when lighted gave a magnificent effect to the venerable edifice.

The concert commenced at seven o'clock, when the hall was crowded with company, the majority of the ladies displaying the tricolor in their dress. Upwards of 1100 tickets were issued. The programme consisted of a selection of grand military, vocal, and instrumental pieces, which were admirably performed. At the conclusion of the first part a general call was made for "Partant pour la Syrie," which the band immediately played, and followed by loud cheers, and shouts of "Vive l'Empereur!" The concert terminated with "God Save the Queen," by the Choral Society; after which three cheers were given for Queen Victoria by the French band, à *la basse*. The Mayor proposed a similar compliment for the Emperor and Empress of the French, which was followed by "Victory and Success to the French and English nations;" "The Ladies of England and France." The company then retired, highly gratified with the entertainment.

LORD RAGLAN'S QUARTERS NEAR SEBASTOPOL.

The accompanying Sketch of the head-quarters of the Commander-in-Chief in the Crimea is taken from the camp of the Heavy Cavalry Brigade. The place is about half-way between Sebastopol and Balaclava, and is, therefore, most favourably situated for Lord Raglan visiting the English lines, which he does daily, if we are to rely upon the information contained in numerous letters from private soldiers. The assertion in the *Times*, that his Lordship is hardly ever seen in the Camp, turns out to be founded on false reports. The following extract of a letter from a private soldier is only one out of numbers of a similar kind:—

Notwithstanding the severity of the weather Lord Raglan has been out of doors daily, at different parts of the Camp, so much so that some of his Aides-de-Camp have remonstrated with him, saying he had better allow them to do the work for him. He has been known frequently to give a hard-worked private his own bread, and even to let some poor soldier have a good suck at his brandy-bottle. The men venerate him, but rail against the Government for not giving him proper means to enable him to make them more comfortable

It is a singular fact that the letters of private soldiers from the Crimea are characterised by a much manlier and more hopeful spirit than those of their officers. The latter have furnished many sad illustrations of their want of the essential qualities of good soldiers—the power of undergoing hardships and fatigue without murmuring. Taking them throughout they have shown themselves much inferior to the men.

HEAD-QUARTERS OF LORD RAGLAN SKETCHED FROM THE CAMP OF THE HEAVY CAVALRY BRIGADE.

DESIGN FOR A MONUMENT TO THE OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS WHO FELL AT THE BATTLES OF THE ALMA, BALAKLAVA, AND INKERMAN.

MEMORIAL OF THE WAR.

THE custom of raising memorials to the dead—which dates from the earliest antiquity—can scarcely be more legitimately honoured than in recording the fate of those who have fallen in defence of liberty. The fate of our brave troops who have been slain in the war in the Crimea, suggests a fit opportunity for the exercise of this noble feeling of humanity; and, in this spirit, a Correspondent has proposed the accompanying design for a Memorial, which bears "Alma, Balaklava, and Inkerman;" to be inscribed also with the names of all the officers and soldiers killed in these battles, accompanied by the following lines:—

THESE FOR THEIR NATIVE LAND IN BATTLE TRIED
THEIR ARMS, AND SCATTERED ALL THEIR FOEMEN'S PRIDE.
BRAVELY THEY FOUGHT, AND NOBLY SCORNED TO SAVE
THEIR LIVES, AND FOUND MAN'S COMMON LOT—THE GRAVE.
FOR US THEY FELL, LEST OUR FREE NECKS SHOULD FEEL
THE FOUL REPROACH OF RUSSIA'S DESPOT HEEL.
NOW DOTH THEIR COUNTRY ON HER LOVING BREAST
INSCRIBE THEIR DEEDS, AND CONSECRATE THEIR REST;
AND CRY, WHILST POINTING TO EACH HONOURED NAME,
READ, YOUTH OF ENGLAND READ—AND DO THE SAME!"

The object of perpetuating the heroism of these brave men bespeaks the best feelings of our nature, and will it is hoped, be not lost sight of by their countrymen, grateful for the patriotic services of the slain, and anxious to perpetuate the memory of their good deeds for the imitation of posterity.

By order of the Lords of the Admiralty the Russian prisoners captured in the *Atlantic*, condemned as a lawful prize in the port of Leith, have been released, and permitted to enter themselves as merchant seamen, to navigate British vessels to Australia, giving their parole not to bear arms against England or France during the present war.

THE VALLEY OF INKERMAN.

INKERMAN.

THE scene of the sanguinary struggle at Inkerman is a site of considerable historic interest, independently of the prominence which it will occupy in the future records of the war.

Inkerman is a village and seaport of the Crimea, lying thirty-five miles south west of Simpheropol. Its name is Turkish—from "In," cavern, and "Kerman," fortress; the place having numerous caverns cut in its rocks, supposed to be the works of the monks in the middle ages. The place is described in the travels of Pallas, Clarke, and Demidoff, but we prefer the most recent account, viz., from Mr. Scott's "Travels"—a second edition of which popular work has just appeared:—

We are rowing up the bay of Inkerman. Passing on the right hand the Careening Harbour, some ancient chambers, and a chapel cut in the rock, now used as a powder magazine; and, from time to time, the beautiful arcades carrying the aqueduct over the inlets of the bay; and, on the left, the ruined village of Aetlar, the navy baking-house, the white cliff, and the lighthouse; at length we swept into the "Tchernaya-Retchka," here running through a marshy flat of its own depositing, covered with rank vegetation, the prolific mother of miasma. Disembarking at a little bridge, we walk through the 900 feet of tunnelled aqueduct, and then visited the great limestone quarries, whence most—would that we could say all!—of the material of the immense works of Sebastopol were procured. Returning to the valley of Inkerman, here narrowed by two approaching mountains, we found their perpendicular sides completely dotted over with perforations of various shapes and sizes—the doors and windows of the queer abode of the Taures, who fixed their homes where eagles well might build their nests. Near to the entrance of the tunnel we had passed through, and on the face of the western mountain, we entered a small opening leading to a flight of stairs on the right and left of which were cells; those on the one hand receiving light from holes cut through the surface of the cliff, those on the other being dark and gloomy. Having traversed a passage about fifty feet long, we reached a church or rather the remains of one; for a portion of the living rock in which all these works were cut had fallen, and carried with it half of this curious crypt. Its semicircular vaulted roof, and the pillars in its corners, indicated it to be of Byzantine origin; while a Greek sculptured cross, in the centre of the roof, told that it was a temple dedicated to that religion. The altar, and any sculpture which might have existed near it, are gone, and have long since been burnt into lime, or built into some work at Sebastopol. Beyond the church we found a large square apartment, entered by another passage, and looked over the valley of Inkerman. A few more cells, resembling those on the stairs, composed the whole of this series of excavated chambers; the arrangement of which at once proclaimed them to have been a monastery. These were the cells, the refectory, and the church

There is nothing remarkable in their construction as a work of art; yet there is an absence of their roughness and simplicity which exist in many of the caverns of the opposite mountain; and which indicate their being of a much earlier date than these.

Descending to the valley, we crossed the bridge, to examine the caves of the great perpendicular wall of rock which faced us; and which above, below, on every side was pierced with openings. Entering one of them, we got upon a stone stair, and, passing some small chambers, arrived at a gallery which led to a most interesting church. On each side of the nave are four square pillars and pilasters, from which spring arches forming aisles and transepts. The altar is in an "apsis," and over it is sculptured the Greek cross of four equal arms. The roof is vaulted; and the arches round; thus being of the same style as that we had previously examined. Its total length is rather more than twenty-three feet by nearly eighteen in width. Going on by another door, we came upon a flat-ceilinged oblong chamber, about eighteen feet by thirteen; descending from which was another flight of stairs, leading to more small caverns, probably the cells of monks. Returning through the church again, and examining more particularly the gallery, the end of which formed a portico, we found it lighted by a triple semicircular-headed window, and on its right hand some sarcophagi, still containing human bones. There is also a small chapel near, which appeared to be connected with the tombs. We now followed the eccentric windings of another stair, passing through and into many dens and caverns, all likewise excavated in the solid rock, until at last we emerged from the lower regions, and reached the mountain top. Here were the ruins of a great fortress or castle: on examining which it was clear that the whole had not been erected at the same epoch; but that certain parts had been merely repairs or additions to an original building. It is quadrangular in form, situated at an angle of the mountain, which formed the boundary on two sides; the other two being defended by a ditch and strong wall, flanked with towers. We could trace the foundations of houses in parallel lines, showing the direction of the only street it contained. There was one very large reservoir, entering into which were the ends of earthenware pipes, leaving no doubt of its having been used as a cistern for water. The only other opening into it was from the top; but that was much enlarged, from a portion having lately fallen in. The face of the ditch opposite to the walls was also pierced by many caverns. And all along the edge of the mountain, on each of its sides, were numerous passages leading to chambers, in such numbers that we only attempted to visit a few, but still enough to prove that some consisted of whole suites of apartments, while others were smaller, and many had only a single chamber. Connecting them is a labyrinth of galleries, and staircases innumerable. There were also holes for fires in the centres of some of the rooms, and the chimneys could be traced; while excavated recesses served as places for beds. The workmanship of most, and especially of those left on the southern face of the mountain, was rude enough, the marks of the masons' chisels being still upon the sides. At very [illegible] in many parts of Palestine. We could find no inscriptions either in Greek or on the walls of the castle; but the caves bear the stamp of greater antiquity than the [illegible].

The observations and researches of "De Montpéreux" fully establish the fact, that the mountain caves of Inkerman were the work of the Taurians, and existed before the Heraclean colonists of Chersonesus called on Mithridates for assistance against Saloroous, the King of the Tauro-Scythes. Diophantes, the [illegible] by Mithridates, at once recognising the strength of the position, [illegible] edge of the precipice, and raised at Eupatoria, in honour [illegible] Mithridates replaced a more ancient one, or whether any [illegible] would be hard to decide with certainty, as no inscrip[illegible] conjecture to a proof that this castle was [illegible] possessors would have hardly destroyed it. [illegible] may have the appearance of much greater age than others, it may be fairly presumed that portions of the citadel of Mithridates are still there. Now, as the limits of the fortress are circumscribed, consisting, as can be traced by the foundations, of a single street, it cannot be doubted that a garrison occupying the heights would take advantage of the rocky dwellings [illegible]

[illegible] middle of the first century the Taurie Chersonesus was overrun by the [illegible] bes of Alains, a people who [illegible]-pised fixed residences, and were therefore [illegible] difficult a task as to cut dwellings in the solid rocks. They were overcome by the Goths in the middle of the second [illegible] and 200 years afterwards hordes of Huns came rolling from the [illegible] west, and the Goths were driven to the strong positions of their mountains. The Huns did not, however, remain to take permanent possession of the country, but passed on to seek a wider field for their adventurous passions. It is probable that, at this time, the number of caves at Inkerman were increased. For a whole people, driven into these isolated fastnesses, would, as a matter almost of certainty, have found insufficient accommodation; and this might have been the period when the caves in the face of the most were made.

In the meantime the light of Christianity had shed its benign influence over the Goths, their form of worship appearing at first to have been exceedingly simple. In the reign of Justinian I. a Bishop was appointed, for whom they had at petitions to that Monarch. As monasteries already existed throughout the East, where they had been especially encouraged by the Emperor and his mother Helena, it is more than probable that those of Inkerman were excavated in his reign. The monks always chose strong positions, to guard their little communities from the danger of sudden attack, as well as to afford an asylum, in case of necessity, to those of their followers who might require it, and the style of architecture of these cavern churches agrees with that period. Whether the Goths were at that time followers of the doctrines of Arius is uncertain, but they did not come under the government of the Greek Church before the year A.D. 547. They maintained their position in the [illegible] Princes until 1475, when the Eupatoria of Diophantes, after other names, had become Theodori, was taken from Mohammed II., and called, by the Turks, Inkerman, from "In," cavern, and "kermen," fortress; the Cteneos of Strabo being applied to the locality, and not to the fortified place. It is certain that the Genoese never held this fortress; and, according to Bronevius, Greek inscriptions and other sculpture still remained in the time of the Turks. These Greek Princes appear to have left the Genoese unmolested; indeed, they were not strong enough to take up an offensive position against that people, who were, therefore, benefited by such industrious and peaceable neighbours; especially as they followed agricultural pursuits, and did not interfere with commerce, which was the monopoly of the adventurous Italians. "De Montpéreux" gives the translation of an inscription which he had seen, wherein the name of "Alexis, Sovereign of Theodore, and the neighbouring country of the sea," is mentioned, and which bears the date of A.D. 1437. After the Turkish conquest, the fortress of Theodori was allowed to fall into disrepair by the garrison, and was finally abandoned to become what it is at present, only a deserted and interesting mass of ruins.

We again descended to the valley to examine the stupendous quarries in the same mountain whence the stone was taken to build the ancient town of Chersonesus, and then proceeded to the southern side, in which most of the oldest [illegible] Nearly the whole of these caves, however, lay partly hid, the [illegible] for the purpose of [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] of Sebastopol, and part of the harbour. The face of the rock now only presented a number of square recesses and indented lines, the backs of chambers, passages, or staircases.

The Russian Frigates "Aurora" and "Dwika."—Accounts from Calcutta, of the 5th of December, state that the Russian frigates, the *Aurora* and *Dwika*, had been captured by a combined English and French squadron. These accounts, which we only notice because they are already gaining currency in London, are certainly incorrect. It might be proved that they are a mere echo of false news which for a time circulated in England.

The Transport Service.—Mr. W. S. Lindsay, M.P., when addressing a meeting of friends at Tynemouth the other day, observed that very little regard to the management of matters connected with the transport service. France was greatly in advance of us. We had men of the first ability at the Admiralty—we could hardly find a more able man than Sir James Graham—but, when he told them that the same system was now in operation which was pursued a hundred years ago, they would not be surprised at the difficulty and confusion which prevailed. The form of the charter-party was *verbatim* the same as in the days of the Dutch war, whereas the French adopted a simpler form, like that used in the merchant service, being in this respect, therefore, a great step in advance of us. These were facts the recital of which might give offence to some, but he thought it his duty to the country to state them thus publicly. Then, again, France had a responsible head, to whom all might appeal. If a merchant had occasion to send a message by telegraph to the Minister of War, requesting to know, for instance, when goods were to be shipped in a certain vessel, there was an answer by the same rapid medium by four o'clock in the afternoon. But if you wrote to the Admiralty (much nearer), the probability was you would not get an answer in a week, and sometimes five weeks elapsed before an answer was returned. This was not the fault of the men, but the system; there was no responsible head responsible to the House of Commons, and through it to the country. Messages were sent from the Admiralty to the War-office, from the Ministry of War to the Ordnance, from the Ordnance to Deptford, and then came back to the source from which they originally proceeded! A change, therefore, must be made in this respect before they could reasonably hope matters would improve. They had also excellent men as subordinates, but the staff must be increased. At Deptford they had the same staff as during peace, which rendered it impossible for the men to get through the work; and he ventured to say that, if £10,000 had been disbursed in clerks at the commencement of the war, some hundreds of thousands would have been saved to the country.

CRIMEAN ARMY STOVE AND LANTHORN.

Among the numerous modes devised for adding to the comforts for our Camp in the Crimea, the invention of a Stove by Price's Patent Candle Company is entitled to special notice, as well for its ingenious adaptation to the peculiar requirements of the case, as for the generous spirit in which the offer has been made to the War Department of the Ministry.

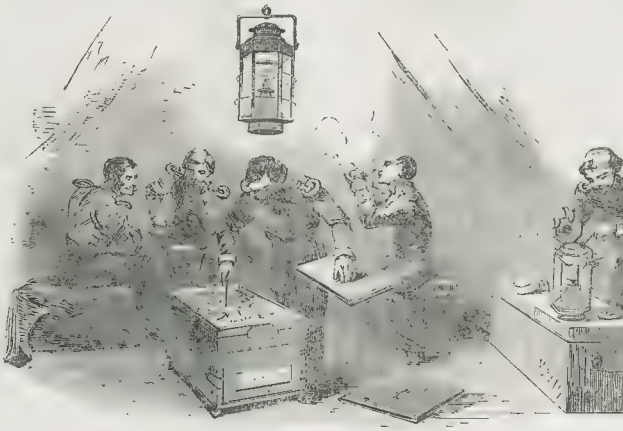
The Company have offered to supply to Government 4000, or any less number, of the above stove, with a proper quantity of cocoa-nut fuel for them; the stoves to be delivered at the rate of 200 a day; with any required quantity of Cooking Lanthorns, and candles for burning in them—all to be charged at the cost paid by the Company.

These stoves will bake 3 lbs of bread every hour, besides warming a tent. The lanthorns, besides giving light, will boil a pint of coffee in half an hour. The Company and individual members of it have already sent out as their contribution £600 worth of candles, lanthorns, &c.; and further subscriptions received from shareholders and their friends will be laid out in a number of stoves and a quantity of cocoa-nut fuel, which are to be dispatched by the next ship sent out by the Crimea Fund Committee. Any person wishing to send out a stove and fuel to friends in the Camp will be allowed to purchase them upon the same terms as the Government, at the cost price. As their manufacture is not part of the Company's regular trade (having been invented only for the present emergency), they are not supplied on other terms.

A mark of generous sympathy with the army was recently shown in connection with the making of the stoves at Wolverhampton. A manufacturer, owing to the pressure of the case, asked his men to give up their holidays, and make stoves through the Christmas week; to which the man cheerfully assented; and Messrs. Thornycrofts offered to keep their great mill open, to roll the small quantity of iron that would be required.

The Lanthorns were designed to give light only; but for our soldiers in the Crimea the following auxiliaries have been added, enabling them to boil water or cook a ration of meat when no fires can be lighted:—1st, three bent wires rivetted to upper side of reflector; 2nd, round cooking dishes with covers. If you want to boil water without lighting a fire, open the lid of the Lanthorn, place your canteen on the wires at the top of the reflector, and the flame of the candle will boil a pint of water in half an hour: the canteen or vessel holding the water should be wiped quite dry on the outside before placing it over the flame. A ration of meat may be cooked in a similar manner by means of the small round cooking dishes with covers, which have been provided and sent out with the Lanthorns. A chop or a steak will be well cooked in half an hour, and, when once put over the candle and covered up, no attention is required till the meat is done.

The Stove consists of the following parts:—A square sheet-iron box, with door and latch, a cover for ditto, two gratings, a baking-pan with cover, two tins to hold the cocoa-nut fuel. Place one of the gratings on the bottom shelf, let the baking pan with cover rest upon the top shelf, put the cover on the box or Stove, open the door and place two pounds of cocoa-nut fuel each in a tin upon the grating in bottom shelf, light the twelve wicks, and shut the door; in less than half an hour the stove will be at a proper baking heat. If the top of the Stove be covered with a coat or a blanket, the heat will be got up sooner, and it will bake more rapidly: be careful that the baking-pan be on its own cover, as well as that belonging to the Stove. For boiling: Remove the baking-pan, and let *one* of the gratings to carry the saucepan rest upon the middle shelf, on the bottom place the other grating, upon which put one or two cakes of cocoa-nut fuel in tins as before, and light the wicks. For warming a tent: Remove the baking-pan, and upon the bottom grating place one tin of cocoa-nut fuel, light the wicks, and cover the Stove. Six lights will be found better than twelve, if the Stove is only required for warming



CRIMEAN ARMY STOVE AND LANTHORN.

THE NEW ROAD TO THE CRIMEA.

The Crimea, at present the scene of hostilities, is a peninsula situated at the extreme south of the Russian Empire, and connected, as most of our readers are aware, with the continental territory by the Isthmus of Perekop. Across this isthmus, it has been generally understood, all Russian troops must be marched to the relief of their comrades before Sebastopol, and great stress has naturally been laid upon the expediency of blockading or occupying this important passage. The isthmus itself is but a narrow strip of land, and is traversed by a wall of masonry from sea to sea. The only access to the peninsula is through an arched gateway in this wall; and thus (according to a note in one of the best and most recent maps of the country in question) the possession of this fortified line effectually closes the Crimea against an enemy. Now, at this moment "the enemy" advancing from the north is no other than the Russian reserve, which may ultimately prove to be 200,000 or 300,000 men. If, therefore, the Isthmus of Perekop could be occupied, the Crimea and its fortresses would be at the mercy of the Allies on the single condition of dealing satisfactorily with the Russians actually in Sebastopol or the vicinity. No further reinforcements could be brought up. The Crimea would be "invested" far more completely than Sebastopol itself, and the whole peninsula, rather than the principal town, would be in a state of siege. Such has been hitherto the prevailing belief, and various plans have been accordingly suggested for bringing to pass a result so desirable. Turks were to be landed at Perekop and put in possession of the line; gun-boats were to be stationed along the shore; and, altogether, it was argued that a pass so easy both to occupy and defend might be made our own with great advantage to the Allied cause. Even if we could not absolutely keep out the Russians, we should, at any rate, be accurately informed of their coming, and could certify the strength of each reinforcement, and the time of its approach, for the benefit of Lord Raglan's army. These schemes, it now appears, would, one and all, have been perfectly useless. It now turns out that some time ago the Russian Government constructed across the shallows of the Putrid Sea another great military road to the Crimea, so effectually that it is actually the better road of the two, and so quietly that Western Europe never heard a word about the matter.

If the reader will take any ordinary map of the Crimea he will see that to the east of the Isthmus of Perekop there extends a species of narrow inland lake, known as the Putrid Sea, which is separated from the Sea of Azoff by a curious dyke like strip of land, running up from the eastern corner of the Crimea, and almost, but not quite, touching the Russian continent at a point called the Straits of Genitsch. It is possible for troops advancing into the Crimea from the interior of the Empire to leave the Isthmus of Perekop in their rear, to march along the coast of the Putrid Sea, to cross the Straits of Genitsch, and then, by toiling along the whole length of the dyke-like strip above mentioned, called the Isthmus of Arsha, to enter the Crimea a few miles north of Kaffa. This route was actually taken by a Russian general in the last century, and it still forms a commercial road between the eastern parts of the Crimea and the Continent. Some nine or ten years ago, however, a road was commenced upon bridges and viaducts across the Putrid Sea itself, and was completed a considerable time before the outbreak of the present war. At what points the communication between the two shores has been effected we cannot precisely say; but they approach each other so closely in many places, and the whole sea, besides being narrow, is so full of shoals and shallows, that many facilities for the undertaking were no doubt discovered. According to recent information, foundations were probably laid at favourable points of the shoals, and bridges then carried from one point to another, till the communication was complete. The road itself, now that it is finished, is said to be the best road available for the passage of troops and stores from Russia to the Crimea. For troops moving from Odessa the Perekop route would, probably, be preferable, but for reinforcements arriving from the south-east of the empire and the country of the Cossacks the route across the shallows would be more convenient, for this case the distance between Simpheropol and the interior would be much shortened, and it is not improbable that both routes may have been recently employed when it was desired to surprise the Allies with an overwhelming superiority of force suddenly brought up.

A Hindoo Aeronaut.—The *Bombay Times* says Rajah Issan Chandersing, Secretary to the British Indian Association, made a balloon ascent on November 22nd, at Jumroo Candy, where his palace is situated. The balloon was constructed under his own directions, and he managed the descent entirely by himself.

The Hospitals at Scutari.—A considerable change is taking place in our band of nurses, in consequence of the arrival of fifty new ones, under Miss Stanley. Miss Nightingale and Mrs. Bracebridge have gradually established the original band of nurses here, and this in spite of many and serious difficulties. What we all feared would be an impossibility has been admirably accomplished, and will, I doubt not, be continued with success. I think that the only way to secure future success is the plan proposed and now carrying out, which is not to establish a separate band of nurses, but to take in as many of the fresh ones as can be profitably employed. Miss Stanley, acting under Miss Nightingale, takes charge of a certain number in the General Hospital, and though it is impossible that all can be at once employed, yet in time all who are fit for the work will be brought into use. Several have been sent home from Miss Nightingale's original band, from ill health and other causes; three of the sisters have gone, three nurses, and five nuns. These latter had been cloistered nuns all their life, and their being thrown at once among such a busy scene has made their stay unadvisable, on the other hand, the other five nuns who came with them, are found to be most valuable and experienced nurses. It cannot be expected that out of ninety nurses rapidly selected, all should be fit for the work, while Miss Nightingale's judgment will enable her to select a strong band of really efficient nurses in a very short time, and this from actual observation of their work. She looks mainly to the working powers of her band, and, with unrivalled working powers herself, soon marks who are fitted for this most difficult work. We have now [illegible] Protestant to [illegible] Roman Catholic nurses, not one more than is needed, since so sick is a large number for one man to see and speak to, and almost impossible for him to know personally; but I hope none will be spared of the many who are coming. There are four regular services and Holy Communion is administered every Sunday. Besides these, services are held at the General Hospital, and on board each hulk, and in various corners of the barrack where a few of the invalids can be got together. The books we hear of as being sent out from the religious societies come in very slowly, but, perhaps, it is not time for them yet. The books and papers from the War office come regularly, and are much used. It is very pleasing to see the groups of men collected round the stoves to hear one man read, or a poor fellow with one arm gone steadying a paper or a book with the other, and I am glad to say that the most frequent book in their hands is the New Testament. Copies of the Queen's letter to Mrs. Herbert have been made and distributed, and also posted on the walls in several places. One of the clergy went into various wards and read the letter, ending with the prayer "God Save the Queen," to which the response was almost startling so hearty and vigorous is from the lungs of sick and dying men came the sincere "Amen!"—*Letter from Constantinople.*

Jonathan becomes Suspected.—Dutch politicians and merchants are beginning to view with apprehension the threats of the American press. "Hitherto," says the *Vaterlandsche Courant*, "we have been accustomed to look only upon England as that dangerous Power which threatens our Colonies; but for some time past we have been warned to keep a sharp eye on the conduct of America. The treaty with Japan, the affair of Captain Gibson, the pretensions to Curacoa, the taking possession of Bird Island, as well as many other circumstances, admonish us that it is our duty not to neglect these warnings."

RECRUITING FOR THE CAVALRY

A room at the Hampshire Hog, Charles-street, Westminster, is the place represented in the Sketch at page 72. In the foreground is a Light Cavalry Sergeant about to give the shilling to a new recruit, who has not been frightened by all the melancholy stories in his Lord Aberdeen's and other hardships endured by the cavalry in the Camp before Sebastopol. Perhaps he fancies that by the time he has been properly drilled the worst part of the year will be over, so that, even if he should be sent to the Crimea in spring, he will just arrive in time to enjoy the fine weather which comes round in a few months.

In the background another sergeant is measuring the stature of a young military aspirant, who seems to have drawn himself to his full height for this occasion. The various pictures of a military nature, would be enough to show that the room is the head-quarters of a recruiting party, without any description, and that the various members of it are busily engaged in their vocation. The Hampshire Hog has long been "a noted house" for cavalry recruits. Excellent samples of the different horse regiments now in want of "a few young men of good character," as the handbills have been saying for so many years, may be seen, at any hour of the day, inside and outside the above-named tavern, amidst crowds of young men attracted to the spot by the talk about the war, or by having companions who have enlisted, or who intend to do so if possible.

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RECRUITING FOR CAVALRY, CHARLES-STREET, WESTMINSTER. (SEE PAGE 70.)

SHIPPING OF STORES AT THE TOWER.

OWING to the enormous quantity of stores ordered to be sent to the Crimea, no less than 100 extra labourers were employed in the Storekeeper's Department at the Tower on Tuesday, exclusive of all the soldiers who could be spared from military duty, to deliver military and warlike stores, and ship them on board lighters and other craft for conveyance to Woolwich, Sheerness, and Portsmouth, for the Crimea. The stores consisted of fur and other warm clothing, watertight cowhide boots, great-coats and blankets, horse clothing, Minié rifles, rifled carbines, pistols, sabres, and cuirasses.

No less than 500 barrels of winter boots, each containing thirty, have already been shipped from the Tower-wharf, to be put on board the transports at Woolwich for conveyance to the Crimea. These boots are made for the upper leather to reach to the hip, perfectly waterproof, and are met at the tops by a waterproof cape, the ends of which strap to the trunk of the boot, completely shielding the weaver from all outward moisture.

Notwithstanding the extraordinary exertions of the Board of Ordnance, it is not expected that the whole of the fur clothing can be dispatched to the Crimea before the latter part of the ensuing week.

When such is the difficulty of sending off the stores from the Thames, where there is plenty of room, and where there are so many hundreds of clerks and labourers, all straining every nerve to forward the work, it is easy to understand why so much loss of life has been caused by the want of proper arrangements for landing the stores at Constantinople, and in the crowded harbour of Balaclava. The following instance of the way in which stores have been kept back, to the great injury of our army, will show what grounds there are for complaint:—

Some time ago Mr. Waterhouse, on behalf of the tea-merchants of London, offered to supply the hospitals at Scutari with tea and sugar gratuitously. The Duke of Newcastle wrote back, thanking them, but stating that supplies had been sent to the sick and wounded. If sent, they never arrived, as Mr. Osborne stated publicly that at the time the offer was made there were but six pounds of Government tea in the hospital stores. The following letter to Mr Waterhouse, from an invalided officer at Scutari, (dated British Camp, Dec. 26), shows that even at so late a period as Christmas the promised supplies had not arrived:—

Sir,—Your handsome proposal to forward tea, &c., and the reply it met with have, by chance, been read by me in a foreign paper. I write a few words to thank you as an individual. I have but time to tell you, as a regimental officer, that, had your offer been accepted, in all probability many lives would have been saved—gallant hearts have lived to fight another day. The commonest comforts are altogether out of the reach of the poor soldiers. Tea and sugar, bread, butter, procurable at most of the French regiments' "cantine," are not to be had for love or money by our men, whose pay is due to them since their debarkation in the Crimea. I have seen how readily they will buy when by chance they can get a little tea at the exorbitant price demanded by stewards of vessels, at 5s. per lb.* I have supplied, from a small stock, men under amputations, none being in hospital. The reply given in England differs, alas! in too many instances, from that of these on the spot. Want is the word now ever in the men's mouths.

A full meal—a change—warmth, cleanliness, and dry shoes, are unknown Now, with snow and wet, we hear of increasing supplies.

* In comparing this with the price at which tea is sold in this country, it must be remembered that here we have to pay a Government duty of 1s. 6d. per lb No doubt the tea to which the officer refers could have been well supplied at 1s. 6d. per lb.

SHIPPING ORDNANCE STORES AT THE TOWER.

London: Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by WILLIAM LITTLE, 198, Strand, aforesaid.—SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1855.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

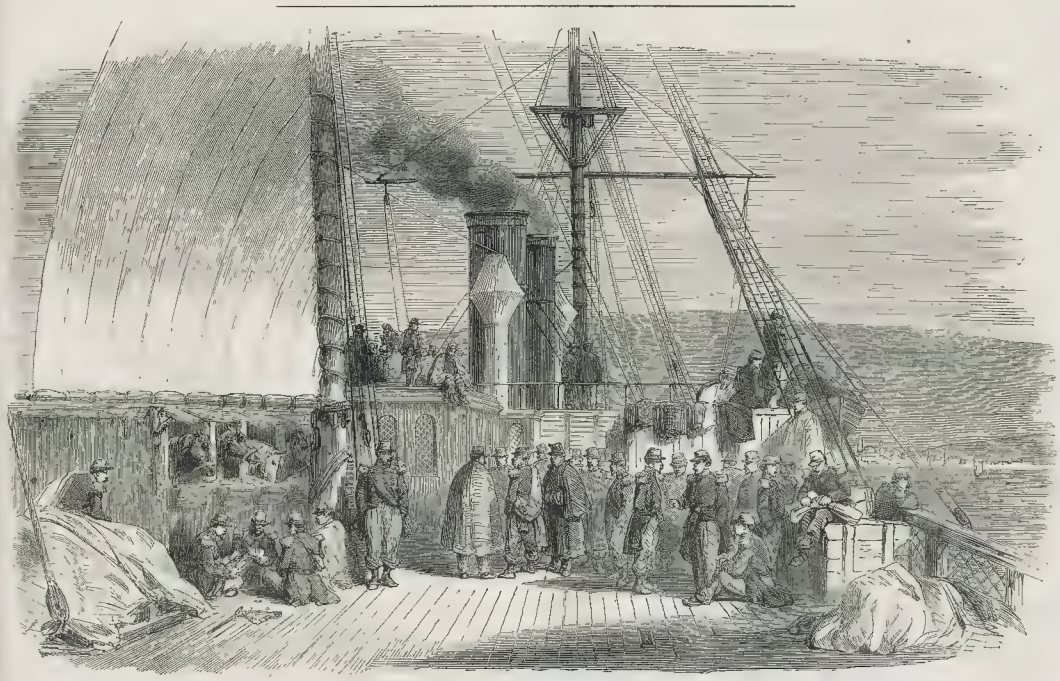
No. 725.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE RE-ASSEMBLING OF PARLIAMENT.

CAN this great and free nation carry on a mighty war to a successful issue in the blaze of publicity? Is the fullest liberty of speaking and writing consistent with a state of warfare? Can a Commander-in-Chief, with newspaper correspondents in his camp, detailing his every movement, divulging to some extent his plans, criticising his conduct, exposing to the world his weaknesses, and informing his enemy of much that an enemy ought not to know, cope on anything like equal terms with the forces opposed to him by a Despot inexhaustible in resources, uncontrolled by any human check, having absolute power, and carrying out his own objects in silence and secresy? Can the Parliamentary system of Government, with its virulent party animosities, its diffusion of powers and authorities, and its uncertainties of Ministerial tenure, be trusted with the conduct of a war against one of the most formidable Empires of the earth, in which there are no such elements of change to supersede to-day the authority of yesterday, and in which concentration and centralisation act on the grandest scale, and in the most rapid and effective manner? These are but a few of the questions that thoughtful men are asking themselves in the present critical condition of Europe and of our national fortunes, and to which a response will be sought in the deliberations of the British Legislature.

We have no fears for the result. Great as may be the inconveniences, resulting in certain cases from the license of opinion in the press, in society, and in Parliament, the advantages of the fullest liberty outweigh the evils a thousand times over. If the war have been mismanaged, it is right that the truth should be told, in order that the remedy may be applied. If our administrative forms are cumbrous, costly, and mischievous, he is a public benefactor who proclaims the fact—more especially if the accusation lead to the change of a bad and unworkable system for a good and an effective one. If any man in power have been incompetent (which some may have been), or dishonest (which we do not believe), his accusers should be invited to speak out, so that disgrace or punishment shall overtake him. If the system of promotion in the Army, and the sale of commissions, have given us subaltern and superior officers, ignorant of their profession, having no love for it, and destitute of all merit but that of personal courage—in which the private soldiers are their equals, if not their superiors—the truth ought to be told, that the system may be changed before irreparable calamity befall our arms or sully our hitherto spotless honour. In our nation men can dare to speak the truth. We are not, like ostriches, to hide our heads in a hole, and console ourselves in the delusion that, if we refuse to see a wrong, the wrong is not existent. The enemy is welcome to the knowledge of our shortcomings and failures, and to all the good that he can derive from it; for he will learn at the same time, or very shortly afterwards, that the common sense of the British people has devised a remedy for every proved abuse. The Aristocracy has done good service, and will do it again; and, if it be desirable to throw open the prizes of the Army to merit, and to place in the knapsack of the humblest soldier the chance of becoming a General or a Field-Marshal, the Aristocracy will not only yield to, but approve, the change. If our officers are mere dandies, who bought commissions for the sake of wearing the gaudy uniform—if they are men who like playing at soldiers in time of peace, but detest the real business of war, and demoralize themselves and the soldiers under their command, by grumbling, and whining, and railing at those above them, when they ought to set an example of stoicism, if not of heroism, the nation will find the means to dispense with their services, and to invite the middle classes to enter the Army, by offering to talent a fair field of ambition, and a sufficient pecuniary inducement. We say, therefore, let the grumblers and the growlers speak out; for the grumbler may, after all, be a patriot. Let faction say its say. Let the conduct of men in power and command be canvassed as freely as possible. Whatever truth there may be in such accusations will, by being told, produce a reformation. Whatever falsehood there may be in them will recoil in shame upon the heads of those who foolishly or maliciously invented it, or lent themselves to its promulgation, and will not tarnish the fame of men who, in a period of unexampled difficulty, have been placed at the head of the councils or of the armies of their country. Freedom is our life's blood; and if it sometimes result, from our system, that incompetency and red-tapism be found in high places, our freedom gives us the means of removing, as well as of discovering, the obstruction.

During the Session—which recommenced on Tuesday last—all these topics will be earnestly considered. The nation need not fear a more than usually factious discussion of them. Parliament, the very arena of faction, is far less factious than the press; and when Parliament begins to speak, the organs of party, following the lead of its chiefs, usually relapse into more sober behaviour. When Parliament is not sitting the perversion published in the morning may remain uncontradicted for weeks and months; but when the House of Commons is deliberating, the falsehood is comparatively harmless, for it may be demolished in the evening in the Senate of the country. Instead of complaining of publicity, what the nation in reality requires at such a crisis as the present is a greater publicity. The publicity of "leading articles" is not sufficient. We want the publicity of full debates and of Ministerial statements. If the one be the bane, the other shall prove the antidote. We are known to be a nation of grumblers; but, if we grumble, a sound common-



DECK OF THE FRENCH TRANSPORT, "L'EUCHRATE," OFF MESSINA.—SKETCHED BY E. A. GOODALL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

sense forms the substratum of our character. If we grumble at the tax-gatherer, we pay him; and if we grumble at our hardships in the Crimea, or elsewhere, we conquer in spite of them. Such has always been our character, and such it will ever be. All England speaks in every man of us; and when we fight, all England fights in the person of every soldier. Such a people may make a mistake, but is never to be despaired of: for it will rise superior to them all, and gather strength from the encounter with its difficulties.

The Session—towards which the eyes and ears of all Europe will be directed with an interest and anxiety far beyond anything witnessed in recent times—opened with a calmness quite unexpected. It may have been only the calm which is to precede a storm; or it may have been the calm which is the concomitant of conscious power, and of a foregone conclusion, based upon reason and not upon passion. Whatever may have been its causes, the spectacle was remarkable. In the midst of a European war, assailed by one portion of the press as traitors, and by another as incapables; and, if neither traitors nor incapables, having enough on their hands to occupy all their attention and task all their energies, the heads of the various departments of the Ministry coolly announced a series of measures of internal reform of the highest interest to the social welfare of the people. A bill to promote Education in England and Wales, to be introduced by Lord John Russell; another, to amend the Law of Partnership, to be introduced by Mr. Cardwell; a third, to alter and amend the Public Health Act, and to provide, to some extent, Municipal Institutions for the Metropolitan Boroughs, to be introduced by Sir Benjamin Hall; and a fourth, to be introduced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to regulate anew the Stamp-duties on Newspapers;—such are among the measures which Parliament is to be called upon to sanction, whilst the war is still raging, and while the fate of Europe is weighed in the balance at Balaclava and Sebastopol. Parliament was not surprised at these announcements, but received them as things which it had a right to expect. Is this a proof of Ministerial strength, or weakness? Time will show. But until the motions that have already been placed on the paper for an inquiry into the conduct of the war shall have been fully debated, it will serve no purpose to hazard an opinion. We can but say that it looks like strength, and hope that it will prove so.

THE FRENCH TRANSPORT "EUPHRATE."

We have received from our Correspondent *en route* for the Crimea the accompanying spirited Sketch of the deck of the French transport *Euphrate*. This vessel was built for the Australasian and Pacific Mail Steam Packet Company, and has been bought for the Paquebots Poste de la Méditerranée:—

"We sailed (writes our Correspondent) from Marseilles on the evening of the 25th ult., with 490 men, drafts for the 6th, 12th, 27th, 28th, 31st, and 64th French Regiments serving in the East; besides several staff officers, and General Brunet, who goes out to the Crimea to command the 9th Division of the French Army. On the morning of the 27th we touched at Messina, to leave the mails, the Captain having orders to remain as short a time as possible. In the bay were several other mail-steamer-transports full of troops. The accompanying Sketch was taken from the deck of the *Euphrate*, off Messina. On the 30th we were at Athens; on the 1st inst. we arrived at Constantinople, the day after the last mail, which sailed for Marseilles on the 21st ult. Among the passengers on board the *Euphrate* were Major Benson, 17th Lancers, and Mr. Black, who married Lord Byron's Maid of Athens."

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

PARIS, Thursday.

The unfavourable influence which the uncertain state of affairs exercises upon commerce here induces the Court to abandon the intention expressed by the Emperor of remaining in comparative retirement until matters shall assume a more favourable aspect. It being found that great balls are the fêtes most calculated to produce a favourable influence on trade, it is decided that a series of these will be given at the Tuileries during the season, and the Ministers and other high functionaries are invited to follow the example thus set them. M. de Morny, the Duc de Bassano, M. de Cambacérès, the Prince Murat, M. Drouyn de Lhuys, and various others are taking the hint, and giving balls, soirées, and concerts in pretty rapid succession.

On Monday took place the first ball at the Hôtel de Ville, which was organised with peculiar splendour, and with a regard to selectness which gave it a marked superiority in this respect. The long gallery leading to the Salle du Trône was decorated with eight views taken exclusively in the departments of the Seine. On the other side of the Salle du Trône on the ceiling of the Salle du Zodiaque, were placed four beautiful landscapes by M. Cogniet, representing the Four Seasons, and in the middle an Aurora of remarkable beauty. The long gallery was completely lined with bars of looking-glass, which produced a most singular and brilliant effect. The rest of the decorations bore no less the stamp of richness and good taste. So many precautions were taken to abridge, by judicious arrangements, the interminable weariness of the train of carriages conveying between six and seven thousand persons, and such strict measures adopted to prevent the sale, and transfer by other means, of invitations, that the two great set drawbacks to the entertainment were, as far as possible, obviated, and altogether the reception was one eminently successful.

The sanitary condition of the capital and its environs is, we regret to say, in a bad state. Experienced physicians declare that the past year and the commencement of the present have been the most unhealthy they have witnessed for the last ten years.

We do not recollect ever experiencing in any part of Europe that we have visited—certainly not in England or France—any succession of days so cold as the whole of those of the past week. Not only did water become solid ice in almost all rooms without fires, but the moisture that exuded from tiled and flagged floors congealed, and the dwellings of many of the poor and working class were thus floored with a coating of ice: The Seine, and most of the other rivers, have quantities of floating ice; and the snow, which fell thick and fast, to the depth of many inches, in no way diminished the rigour of the temperature. The cavalry guard usually placed at the Arch of the Carrousel were withdrawn in consequence of the intense cold.

The weekly return of fires in the capital and its environs has been really frightful. One day last week there were no less than four-and-twenty, and no day has passed without a certain number occurring; indeed, this winter has been unusually prolific in these accidents, proceeding principally from the faulty construction or fitting of chimneys and stoves—an evil for which there ought surely to be some easy mode of redress.

As a valuable counterbalance to these disadvantages, reports from various parts of the provinces state the aspect of the grain crop, especially the wheat, promises a yet more magnificent harvest than that of last year, and it is hoped that the vines will be greatly benefited by the frost.

It appears that the health of the Prince Napoléon is so seriously affected as to cause a delay in his return to Paris, to which his physicians desire him to proceed only by extremely short journeys, with intervals of rest between.

On the 31st of this month a brilliant concert is to take place at the Salle Herta, for the subscription for the soldiers and sailors of the Crimea. The concert is to be given by the celebrated Fumagalli, aided by the Bosio, MM. Baraudé and Graziani (of the Italian Opera), and by M. Jules Lefort, whose charming talent as a *salon* tenor gives him few rivals. He is to sing a romance composed for the occasion by M. Dufrène, "En avant, les Zouaves!" M. Fumagalli, among other *morceaux*, will perform his grand fantasia on "Robert le Diable" with the left hand.

The reception of M. Berryer at the Académie de France, which was announced to take place on the 25th, has been deferred indefinitely—or, at least, the period for its occurrence is not known.

Already are the products that are to be displayed in the Palais d'Industrie beginning to be admitted. Some of the works of art have already been received; and there seems to be little doubt, notwithstanding the various reports circulated to the contrary, that the opening of the Exhibition will take place at the period named. The butchers of Paris have united to hire the Salle Monsequien for the purpose of establishing a magnificent restaurant for the occasion.

The sudden influx of visitors to the Dîner de l'Exposition (of which we last week gave a notice) has been so enormous, that, notwithstanding all the preparations made for their reception, it has been found impossible, as yet, to organise the service of the *cabinets particuliers*, or to serve any but the public rooms. Measures are, however, being taken to meet this exigency, and it is expected that in another week the difficulty will be obviated.

The Théâtre-Français is giving the new creation of Mdlle. Rachel, "La Czarine," by Scribe. The success is not altogether what was anticipated, nor does the celebrated tragedian seem so much at home in her *rôle* as in certain others, more especially those of the classic tragedy. Still, as a whole, the piece may be considered as a successful one. The Emperor and Empress, and the Prince Jérôme, accompanied by his daughter the Princesse Mathilde, were present at the first representation. But the theatrical production of the moment, that promises to secure the greatest popularity, is "Le Chien du Jardinier," at the Opéra Comique—the words by MM. Lockroy and Cormon, the music by M. Albert Grisar, whose well-established reputation as a composer of *opera-bouffes* has gained fresh laurels in this most lively and agreeable little production. The subject is taken from peasant life ("Le Chien du Jardinier" is the French version of the "Dog in the Manger"), and is admirably sung and acted by Faure, Ponchard, and Mdmes. Lefebvre and Lemercier. The *livret* is sprightly and amusing; and the music gay, original, and full of pleasing and uncommon effects.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The Russian reports, which come down to the 14th, say that nothing decisive has yet been done. The state of the weather will account for this, as winter seems to have fairly set in. The Russians had made one or two sorties, but had not met with any success. A letter dated Kamiesch, the 8th January, states that the batteries of mortars established by the French greatly annoy the Russians, who have in great numbers retired to Simpferopol.

The *Courrier de Marseille*, of the 23rd inst., publishes the following letter, dated before Sebastopol, the 7th inst.:—

The weather has been frightful for some days, snow having fallen without intermission during twenty-four hours. But this was not the greatest inconvenience we had to endure. The sun appearing converted that snow into liquid mud, which now covers our Camps, and renders all the roads impassable. Towards evening the cold again sets in, which is endurable in our cantonments, but extremely painful to the men on duty in the trenches. It appears certain that a great portion of the corps of Liprandi, has marched in the direction of Eupatoria, for we no longer perceive its fires on the neighbouring heights. The Russian General, it is said, intends to attack the Turkish division before it receives reinforcements from the army on the Danube. But no fears are entertained for the security of the place, which has been put in a respectable state of defence by the French officers of Engineers and Artillery. The 12,000 or 14,000 men already landed there are, besides, more than sufficient to repulse the enemy.

In the evening of the 3rd a strong division of Cossacks made its appearance in the vicinity of Balaclava. The Russian Generals, no doubt, intended to draw thither a part of our force, for, on the following morning, they sallied out of the batteries of the Garden, and attacked the French lines. Their attempt, however, was completely repulsed, and vigorously driven back into the place. Omer Pacha, accompanied by Mustapha Pacha and some English and French officers, arrived on the 5th at the head-quarters of the Allies, where he was enthusiastically received. After a long conference, General-Generalissimo to Lord Raglan and General Canrobert, a council of war, at which Admirals Lyons and Bruat assisted, sat for several hours. As you may suppose, the result of that conference was held secret. However, from what transpired, it is believed by the superior officers that Omer Pacha, at the head of an army of at least 50,000 men, reinforced by an Anglo-French Division, will operate, toward the close of the month, to the north of Sebastopol, keeping in check the Russian troops resting on Simpferopol and the reserves which may arrive from the interior of Russia. Prince Menschikoff appears determined not to risk any general affair, whether his army is still under the impression of its defeat at Inkermann, or that he relies on the inclemency of the season on our soldiers. This last opinion is evidently entertained by the Russian General, who is reported to have said—"Our troops may, yet; Generals January, February, and March will fight their battles far better than they could." These are in reality the auxiliaries on which the Russians always most confidently rely, for it is to them they are indebted for their most decisive successes. But, thank God! the situation of the Allied armies is such that they can bear without any great inconvenience the inclemency of a climate to which they are now inured, and it is little probable that the Russians themselves are in so favourable a condition. Moreover, under existing circumstances, eight days of fine weather may totally change the aspect of affairs. At the request of Lord Raglan, our interdance placed 10,000 cloaks with hoods at the disposal of the English army, which consequently now wears the French uniform.

OMER PACHA AT VARNA.

A letter from Eupatoria of the 3rd inst states that a body of ten thousand good Ottoman troops was then in that town, under the command of Behram Pacha and Teffik Pacha, the son-in-law of Omer Pacha. On the 31st of December the battalion of sharpshooters landed, having been conveyed from Varna by the *Colombo*. This battalion consists of about 600 well-disciplined men. The town has been so well fortified by French and English engineers, that it can be defended against 100,000 Russians.

Later accounts say that the whole of the Turkish contingent had arrived at Eupatoria, and that Omer Pacha was about to take the command of the army. An officer on board the *Inflexible*, in a letter dated Varna, January 9, says:—

On New-Year's-day we left this place for the Crimea with Omer Pacha, accompanied by the Commissioners, Colonels Simmons and Diez, Prince Sturdza, and suite. On Wednesday morning his Highness landed at Eupatoria, and examined the defences of the place (where there are, I believe, about 10,000 troops, mostly Turks, with forty guns), and there he left fighting old Iskender Bey, the hero of Kars-kal. On Thursday morning we started again, and passing through the fleet lying off Kazatch and Kamiesch bays, where the Admiral saluted the Pacha, proceeded to Balaclava. The Marnar had intended to examine the coast on the way down, as it was said that the Russians were again in force on the Alma; but the snow fell heavy and continuously, and prevented our approaching the land. Immediately after we had anchored at Balaclava, Colonel Simmons proceeded on shore to inquire Lord Raglan and General Canrobert of the Pacha's arrival, and next day, the 5th, his Highness took part in the council of war which was held. On Saturday we left, and on Sunday evening the Pacha disembarked at this place. We are to have the honour of carrying him again to the Crimea when he takes the field. Meanwhile we are busily superintending the embarkation of his army, which is to proceed without delay.

The same correspondent, writing on the 8th inst., says:—

The weather is still very cold; snow and frost during the day are not at all agreeable; but it is desperate work at night under canvas. We have no means of transporting our wooden houses, and the chance of getting them up before the summer is as far off as the summer itself. I was informed yesterday by two officers who had seen them that there are bales of sheepskin coats, to the number of 7000 or 8000, on board the *Golden Fleece* at Balaclava, sent from Trieste as a present to the officers of the army. The commander of the ship tells us that he is exceedingly anxious to get rid of them. But the Quartermaster-General's department have received no official letter about them, and will not receive them. They are, therefore, going to Corfu, as the ship is to sail in a day or two! There is not an officer who would not give £5 for one of them, and think himself fortunate indeed.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE.

The statement of Mr. Cobden at the Manchester tea-party, that Government had made up its mind to conclude peace with Russia on such terms as would not satisfy the country, was not borne out by the explanations which Lord John Russell gave on Tuesday evening. The various accounts also which have been given of the interview between the Russian Minister and the representatives of the Western Powers show that no progress has yet been made, or is likely to be made, under present circumstances. It appears that, on the 6th instant, Prince Gortschakoff suddenly declared that he had orders to accept the Four Points (which had so recently been declared incompatible with the dignity of Russia), and that he was prepared to negotiate. On the 7th the different clauses of the interpretation put upon these Four Points by the Western Powers were slowly and distinctly read to Prince Gortschakoff, and at the end of each article he said, "I accept that in the name of the Emperor of Russia." But, when the reading was concluded, he said in a general way that he was not prepared to admit any excessive encroachment upon the independence of Russia. At the same time he said he was fully empowered to treat for peace, and desired that the negotiations might begin immediately. The Austrian Minister, M. Buol, then spoke. He congratulated the Conference upon the unanimity of feeling which prevailed, and supported Prince Gortschakoff's demand that negotiations should be opened at once. M. de Bourqueney then said, in the name of himself and Lord Westmoreland, that this was impossible, as they had not sufficient powers, and, moreover, nothing definitive could be done without the presence of a Turkish Plenipotentiary. The meeting then broke up, M. Buol requesting the French and English Ambassadors to obtain full powers as soon as possible. This narration is consistent with the remarkable telegraphic despatch which stated that Count Buol had "invited the representatives of France and England to treat for peace. There was an initiative taken by Austria, which was not acceded to. After the above conference M. Buol gave a large evening party, at which Prince Gortschakoff was present. The Austrian Minister appeared quite joyous, and spoke confidently of peace being at hand. M. de Bourqueney's conversation to the friends who pressed around him was in quite another tone. He said he must wait for instructions, and before instructions arrived Sebastopol would probably be taken.

The following communication, from a well-known trustworthy correspondent of the *Augsburg Gazette*, will show the Emperor of Russia's interpretation of the Four Points:—

As a complement of what I have already sent you on the present state of affairs, I now transmit the interpretation of the four guarantees, such as it was drawn up by Prince Gortschakoff himself, and which, when sent by him to St. Petersburg, before the conference of January 7, was accepted by the Emperor of Russia, as intimated by the telegraph. It was on this basis that a provisional understanding was come to in that conference. This draught, thus prepared by Prince Gortschakoff, was then submitted to the Emperor of Austria and to the King of Prussia. It runs thus: 1. The abolition of the exclusive protectorate of Russia in Moldavia and Wallachia, the privileges conceded to these provinces by the Sultan being placed under the guarantee of the Five Powers. 2. Free navigation of the Danube, according to the principles established by the acts of the Congress of Vienna concerning fluvial communications. Control of a mixed commission, invested with the necessary powers to remove all obstacles, now or hereafter, at the mouth of that river. 3. Revision of the treaty of July 13, 1841, in order to connect more completely the existence of the Ottoman empire with the European equilibrium. I do not refuse to come to an understanding, in formal conference for peace, on the means which the Three Courts may propose in order to put an end to what they call the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea, on condition that, in the choice of means, nothing be introduced calculated to affect the rights of sovereignty of my august master in his own territories. 4. A collective guarantee of the Five Powers (substituted for the exclusive one) which some of them have hitherto possessed) for the observance of the religious privileges of the various Christian communities, without distinction of creed, on condition that the realisation of the solemn promises made in the face of the world by the greatest Christian Powers be a subject of conscientious work, and that the promised protection be a *fait fide* one, and not an empty word.

The latest news from Germany are that the hopes of peace are becoming more and more faint. The transformation of the defensive treaty into an offensive one is proceeding actively at Vienna.

Preparations for war are being continued with undimini-hed energy. On the 10th another note was sent by Count Buol to Berlin, calling upon the Prussian Cabinet to fulfil its obligations, under the treaty of April, to mobilise its army.

The *Indépendance* of Brussels has telegraphic information that in this note Austria informs Prussia that, should she not obtain a majority in the Diet on the question of mobilisation, she will proceed under the 42nd article of the Federal Pact, i.e., will accept the active alliance of such Germanic States as may choose to join apart from their federal obligations.

RENEWAL OF BLOCKADE IN THE BLACK SEA.

The following telegraphic despatch has been received at the Admiralty from Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons:—

Being informed that some trade consignments of munitions and contraband of war have taken place from neutral ports of the Mediterranean to those of Odessa and Kertch, the Admirals of the English and French squadrons have determined on establishing a blockade of the principal Russian ports in the Black Sea, and to notify the strict enforcement of this blockade from the 1st of February, 1855. Steps have been taken to provide for an efficient force for the said date, and further information respecting the principal ports which are to be blockaded, furnished with due authority for the purpose in the names of the two Governments.

RUSSIAN REINFORCEMENTS FOR THE CRIMEA.

By consular reports from Galatz and Braila we learn that the march of troops from the Russian Danubian army to the Crimea, by way of Odessa, still continues. An infantry division, which was in garrison at Ismail, and also the reserves which were standing at Kischenef, Akerman, and Kiew, are advancing in forced marches to the seat of war. The whole reinforcement is estimated at about 20,000 men. At the same time that the Russian manifesto of the 26th of December appeared the Czar addressed a warlike proclamation to the army.

A letter, purporting to proceed from St. Petersburg, dated the 10th, says that for some time past numerous relays are posted at intervals of four leagues from Odessa to Sebastopol for the purpose of conveying, as soon as the snow is frozen over, reinforcements to the amount of 40,000 men for the Russian army. The Russian papers affirm that they will have on the 15th of February an army of 160,000 men in the Crimea.

According to the latest authentic information, conveyance by sledges cannot be thought of in the Crimea, and even on a part of the steppes which are above Perekop, as a mode of transport of a permanent and regular nature, because the snow does not generally remain sufficiently long and with the necessary degree of solidity, therefore, only upon the sledge in the interior of the Crimea, and it will not be possible for them to make use of it, except to a certain distance above Perekop.

A letter from Odessa of the 8th says:—

It is not doubtful that Russia is preparing for a long and obstinate war. A great number of ships are being built to prove this, but we will cite only one. The buildings which were temporarily constructed last autumn at Odessa, in the government of Novogorod, because the storehouses and workshops of that military establishment, though more than large enough in ordinary times, were not considered sufficient, are about to be replaced by permanent constructions of such a nature as to prove they are not only intended as a protection against a *coup de main*, and even an attack of the enemy's fleets, but are intended to defy the more destructive effects of time.

At St. Petersburg complaints are heard against Prince Menschikoff, who, strange to say, is accused by the Imperial *entourage*, and even by the people, of excessive prudence, and a total want of that perilous quality which sometimes impels a General to seek a good deal to chance. He is accused of being too faithful a disciple of General Koutousoff, who is said to have fought, in spite of himself, the battle of the Moskowa in 1812, which was disastrous to the Russians, and not to have displayed sufficient energy in preventing the French from penetrating into Russia. The people are beginning to get clamorous against the Prince, and discontented even with the Czar, who, they think, has already made far too many concessions. To more they will not listen. Osten-Sacken is again spoken of as likely to obtain the command in the event of Menschikoff's removal, with Liprandi as his second. In case of a change, it is not certain whether the Prince will be summoned to St. Petersburg, or be left in the Crimea with the duty of defending the city during the assault, while Osten Sacken commands the army in the field. The letters repeat the assurance that the feeling of the population of St. Petersburg is decidedly for war.

A RECONNAISSANCE IN FORCE.

On the night of the 29th ult. orders were sent from Sir Colin Campbell to the 79th Regiment, and to the four companies of the 2nd Battalion of the Rifle Brigade, commanded by Major Bradford, to be ready and under arms at half past six o'clock the next morning. It was a cold but fine day; and at dawn all the troops were drawn out, and remained on the heights above Balaclava for some time, very curious to know what they were going to do. The demi-battalion of Zouaves encamped near the Marines were also out, and soon after seven o'clock the advanced guard of a strong division of French troops appeared in the valley on the left, and proceeded to

the hills lately occupied by the Russian redoubts. The French force consisted of about 8000 men, and it was accompanied by two squadrons of cavalry. As soon as they had occupied the plain of Balaclava, the Rifles and Zouaves were pushed on in front, preceded by cavalry skirmishers and videttes. Sir Colin Campbell was on the ground, with several of his staff, and with General Bosquet, whose division seemed to furnish the bulk of the troops on the field, had the direction of the movements of the day.

The force was all in motion before eight o'clock, the Rifles and Highlanders turning to the right, and covering the flank of the little expedition as it proceeded on, or keeping the woods and ravines which abound along the mountain chain on the left of the valley. As the force approached Kamara the Cossack videttes came in sight, retiring slowly, but the French pushed on rapidly, and the Cossacks retreated from the village, which has been in a ruinous state since the storm of the 25th of November and the first French reconnaissance. The videttes fell back on a strong body of Lancers and Light Cavalry, which seemed disposed to await the shock of the French Chasseurs. The retiring and advancing cavalry skirmishers exchanged a few carbine shots before they fell in with their respective squadrons, and when the French had arrived within about 800 yards they broke from a trot into a gallop, and dashed right at the Russian cavalry. The latter met the shock, but made no attempt to charge upon the French, who broke them in an instant, and chased them right back to the infantry, who were assembled in three small bodies on the hills, close to the village of Tchourgoum. The Russians cut very feebly, and fought without spirit, so that the French had only a few men wounded. As the French approached Tchourgoum they were received with a brisk fire of shot and shell from some heavy field-pieces, to which their guns were unable to reply at so great a distance; but they soon pushed within range of the enemy, and the Russians again retired, and abandoned the village of Tchourgoum to our allies, as well as the line of cantonments and huts which they had constructed since Liprandi's advance in October. The object of this expedition was merely to beat up the Russian position, and to ascertain the strength of the enemy—it was, in fact, a reconnaissance in force, and there was no intention of bringing the Russians to an engagement. Had any such intention existed, it would have been unsuccessful, for the enemy retired with great speed, and fell back on the heights over the Tchernaya and the road to Mackenzie-farm, covered by their artillery, which was as heavy as usual, and quite sufficient to crush the fire of the light French field guns. Our allies at once burst into the village, but the Cossacks had been there too long to leave anything to plunder, and so the French set it on fire. At the same time they applied combustibles to the huts of the Russians, and soon the whole encampment was in a blaze, while great volumes of white smoke curling up into the air, and spreading in sheets along the crest of the hills, indicated the destruction of the village, and informed the Russians that they could no longer hope for snug quarters there. The huts built by the Russians were very commodious and comfortable. Each was capable of containing twenty or thirty men, and held an oven for baking at the end, which also warmed the room. The camp, though rather dirty, was well built, and in excellent order. The object of the reconnaissance being thus accomplished, the expedition was halted, and the men set to work at once to avail themselves of the abundance of wood along the hill sides, and to make enormous fires, which almost obscured the retreat of the Russians. It was ascertained that they were very weak, and that they did not number more than 5000 or 6000 men. They appeared to march in broken masses up the steep and difficult roads leading to the heights over the Tchernaya. Two strong bodies of the enemy were, however, visible on these hills, nearly opposite to our right flank, towards Inkerman. They had a tall white flagstaff erected in front of their position, from which they hoisted one large red and one white flag when the French were entering Tchourgoum. Towards evening they lighted their camp fires, and it was evident that a considerable force still remained on the hills between the Tchernaya and the Belbec. The French remained on the ground till it was almost dark, and then returned to their camp. The Highlanders and Rifles, who had made a very romantic march through some beautiful valleys on the right, returned without seeing anything of the enemy, and did not fire a shot. The French lost two officers wounded (one since dead) and about twenty men put *hors de combat*. They took seventeen of the Russian cavalry and a few infantry prisoners

HOW THE FRENCH MANAGE IN THE CRIMEA.

The distance between the head-quarters of General Canrobert and the port of debarkation is between six and seven miles. An excellent macadamised road, with a trench on one side, and drains running under it at intervals, has been nearly completed the whole way; and along this route may be seen constantly passing lines of mules carrying well-balanced packages of biscuit from Marseilles or Toulon, or other *vivres militaires*, destined for the respective divisions of the army, and returning empty. Heavy waggons are also drawn by mules, bringing planks, chests, forage, and every description of army stores in the same direction. As soon as the brow of the hill overlooking Kamiesch Bay is arrived at, the spectator exchanges the comparatively quiet plateau—the monotonous road—for the bustle of a place which has only been broken by the presence of a ruined farmhouse, or the remains of a vineyard, once flourishing in some little sheltered spot—for all the varied scene and business of an active seaport. Up to the very end of the harbour itself, as far as the eye can see, the ground, which, rising almost from its mouth, is densely packed a long line of merchant-vessels, ranged side by side in rows varying in depth according to the variations in shape and capacity of the bay, from eight or ten to five-and-twenty in number in each row. Stretched across the wider part of the bay, near the communication with the sea, are several large line-of-battle ships, between which from time to time is sailing in or out some of the smaller merchant craft. Several large vessels are lying in Double Bay beyond; and from the point of Cape Chersonese, with its white lighthouses along the coast towards Sebastopol, other war-steamers and ships are moving along, or lying at anchor. The new town is built, or rather encamped, towards the southern end of the harbour—the military stores, landing places, and offices being nearer to the seaboard. The principal street, the "Rue de Commerce," consists of two lines of booths and stalls of every imaginary shape and contrivance for answering the double object of protecting the articles from the weather, and at the same time exposing samples with an inviting aspect to the gaze of the visitor. Masts, beams, rigging, and canvas from the ships have been the chief materials used in the construction of these shops and dwelling-places. Every house is numbered, and placards announce the name and place of connection of the resident proprietor, and the principal wares to be sold. Articles of clothing, preserved provisions, and groceries are staple commodities. Wines and French liquors are to be obtained, but generally of an inferior description; the better sorts can only be purchased on board the vessels in the harbour. Among the shopkeepers are several of the Greek sutlers; and the regimental *cantiniers*, in their trim military attire, may be seen busily following their active avocations. Some of the shopkeepers are Maltese; there are a few Germans also. Some very large stores with stone walls, and others of considerable extent made of wood, are rapidly advancing towards completion. In a short time the Rue de Commerce will be put into the shade by its broader and more solid neighbour, which is stretching up the hill, and at right angles to it. Great activity prevails at the military end of the port. Stores are being landed from the ships, and packed on the beach, or are being carried up by the troops into temporary storehouses and dépôts. Mules are coming down with empty pack saddles; others are passing on their return to the camp laden with their respective burdens. Large piles of timber planking are stacked up, and there are heaps of grain and forage, and other kinds of provisions. A number of Ottoman troops are encamped close by to assist in the labours of the port. These troops have made long lines of ground huts for themselves, which appear sufficiently snug and warm. Although Kamiesch Bay has not the same advantages as a harbour as are presented by the sheltered port of Balaclava, its shores, shelving very gradually and rising to an extensive plain, offer unlimited space for the landing of stores and erection of storehouses. None of the difficulty is therefore experienced which so much impedes the progress of disembarkation of ordnance and military matériel at Balaclava, where one narrow road for some distance forms the only available line of route for all the passengers and traffic passing in and out of that mountain-locked inlet

THE WAR IN ASIA

Accounts from the Turkish army in Asia up to the 20th ult. have been received All the environs of Kars are garnished with fortifications. At all proper points, bastions and redoubts are to be seen in course of construction by Major Mahmoud Effendi, after the plans of Hussein Pacha, the chief of the staff, and infinitely better than those of the past year. Each spot has been appropriated to a particular regiment or battalion in case of attack; and even the inhabitants have their stations for defence assigned to them Every week the soldiery are perfected in a different manœuvre, and are prepared for the various evolutions that may be necessary during a campaign The bread and rations are said to be excellent, and the men have quite forgotten their past misery. The sanitary condition of the army is perfect

The Reis Kerim Pacha had effected a communication with Schamyl, and hoped to hear from him within three days. A little time back Schamyl entered Sarybach and made prisoners of some hundreds of Russians. He then withdrew to Aver, leaving at Sarybach Daniel Sultan and Mahmoud Gari Effendi, his son and the brother-in-law of Daniel Sultan. The latter was formerly a Russian General, but is now Commander-in-Chief of Schamyl's army. He has 20,000 men under him, of whom 6000 are regular troops, principally Russian deserters officered by Poles. He has also thirty two guns. The inhabitants of the Caucasus, notwithstanding their difference of religion, really rejoice at the approach of Schamyl, though they suppress any open manifestation of feeling, in dread of the Russians. They afford Schamyl all the assistance they dare, and his army is daily augmented by deserters

Very lately the Polish Prince Bariatynski, a Lieutenant in the Imperial Russian Guard, deserted, and entered the Turkish service.

THE RUSSIAN FORCE IN THE PACIFIC.

We learn by an extra issued from the office of the *Polynesian*, and received by the last steamer from the United States, that the American brig Alert, from Honolulu, in the Sandwich Islands, on the 12th of November, direct from Petropaulovski, where she was lying at the time of the attack by the Allied fleet in August last. The *Noble* was struck by several shots from the squadron during the action, but sustained no very serious damage

She left at Petropaulovski the Russian frigate *Aurora*, the transport *Dwina*, a corvette recently arrived, and two small craft belonging to that Government. The frigates *Diana* and *Palladar* are both at the river Amoor, a Russian military colony; where are also the Governor-General of Siberia, Admiral Putatine, and about 5000 troops, and two or three small vessels, including a steamer

The *Echo du Pacifique* says

It is understood that the Russian ship *Kamschatka*, which now lies in the harbour of Sandwich Islands, is only a prisoner, prepared to leave at the first earliest moment, to attack the French and English merchantmen; but we can assure our readers with regard to her. If the *Kamschatka* desires to begin her adventures she will soon find somebody to speak to. The English frigate *President*, which left two days after the arrival of the *Kamschatka*, did not go without learning the true character of the latter vessel, and has not left the vicinity of San Francisco; and will re-enter the harbour about the 15th or 20th of the month. Besides, the French frigate *Alceste* left Callao on the 10th October, destined hither, and is now due. The English steamer *Virago* will likewise soon be back to our harbour. We know that the *Kamschatka* has eight guns and a crew of 100 men, and that she did not come hither for nothing; but she is watched so closely that if she leaves the harbour she will follow the *Sitka*.

AMERICA.

The steamer *Atlantic* arrived at Liverpool on Monday morning last, having left New York on the 10th instant

Money matters were beginning to appear more favourable in New York, although there were still complaints of hard times

Political affairs were quiet, and the proceedings in Congress have been quite uninteresting. The proposed medication of the United States in the European war appears to be shelved for the present in the Congressional Committee of Foreign Affairs

Some important recommendations are contained in the Governor of Massachusetts' Annual Message. He calls on the general Government to exercise a consolidating and ameliorating power over the elements of emigration. He asks the American authorities to dispel from popular use every foreign language; to print all public documents in the English tongue alone; to ordain that all schools aided by the State shall use that language; to disband military companies founded on and developing exclusive foreign sympathies; to discourage imported political demagogues, the broken-down leaders of insular aristocracy or Continental Red Republicanism; to Americanise America; to teach the Bible in the common schools; to keep entire the separation of the Church and State; to nationalise before neutralise, and to educate before either. He further recommends an amendment of the Constitution, to the effect that no one of alien birth shall be qualified to vote by naturalisation until he has been in the United States twenty-one years, nor then unless he can read and write the English language.

Admiral Bruce has sailed from New York in the steamer *George Law*, on his way to California, to take command of the British squadron in the Pacific A public meeting has been held at New Orleans in aid of the Patriotic Fund

The intelligence from California is not of importance. Commercial affairs were quiet. Mining was still retarded by want of water

INDIA, CHINA, AND AUSTRALIA.

The steamer *Calcutta* arrived at Trieste from Alexandria on Wednesday, in 116 hours, having left that port on the 19th inst. The Marseilles portion of the Overland Mail was leaving Alexandria on the 19th. The following is a summary of the intelligence

The dates of advices are—from Calcutta 29th, Madras 24th, and Bombay 31st of December. The mission of the Burmese Ambassador, it is fully expected, will lead to a treaty. The deficiency of the opium revenue of the year is only 1½ per cent of the whole Indian revenue. The Bengal Bank has again raised its rate of discount all round. Trade in India is dull, money is scarce, and freights are low.

The latest advices from China are to the 2nd Shanghai, 5th; Canton, 11th; and Hong-Kong, 12th Dec. The Imperialists have recaptured four towns in the north of China. The town of Canton is in great distress, and all business is stopped.

From Australia the dates are—Sydney, 29th; Melbourne, 26th; and Adelaide, 28th Nov. (nearly a month later than the latest previous advices). In Australia the predominance of imports over exports is excessive The prices of wool are maintained. Supplies of tallow are active. Accounts from the gold fields are steady and satisfactory.

AN IMPORTANT CABINET COUNCIL.—A Cabinet Council (summoned to meet at two o'clock) was held on Wednesday afternoon at the Foreign office. The Ministers present were the Earl of Aberdeen, the Lord Chancellor, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Duke of Argyll, Viscount Palmerston, the Earl of Clarendon, Sir George Grey, the Duke of Newcastle, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir James Graham, Sir Charles Wood, Earl Granville, the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, and Sir William Molesworth. The Council sat three hours. The Earl of Aberdeen left London for the Cabinet Council for Windsor Castle, to have an audience of her Majesty. Another Cabinet Council was held yesterday (Friday) afternoon.

THE VARIOUS ROADS INTO THE CRIMEA. In reference to the statement, that Perekop is not the only road by which Prince Menschikoff could receive reinforcements, the *Kreuz Zeitung* enumerates a number of Russian military operations against the Crimea whilst in possession of the Tartars, and in which they gained access to the peninsula from the main land by other roads than along the Isthmus of Perekop. Thus in 1736 Field-Marshal Munich led 70,000 Russians through the Taurian steppe up to the lines of Perekop, where the Tartar Khan was waiting for him. By a feint they got possession of the Tartar forts, and this time marched through into the Crimea, though they subsequently retired for fear of being cut off by the Tartars from their base of operations. In the following year General Lascy, finding the Tartars posted in strength at Perekop, threw a bridge across the narrow strait of Genitschi, which separates the Sea of Azoff from the Siwasch, and thus attained the long spit of land, Zenieska, which runs at a little distance all along the east coast of the Crimea. Hearing, however, that the Tartars had posted themselves at Arabat, where the Zenieska spit of land runs out from the Crimea, he caused the Siwasch to be sounded, and found a spot so shallow as that, by means of fascines, &c., the whole corps could venture to lead his infantry across this floating bridge, while his cavalry waded through. After having laid the land waste, General Lascy led his forces back to Russia by way of a projecting headland on the north coast of the Crimea, called Tschongar, which runs up very close to the main land. In the campaign of 1738 the Khan of Tartary occupied all three points Perekop, that opposite to Genitschi, and that by Tschongar. There was, however, a ford discovered between Perekop and Tschongar which was easily passable when a west wind blows; profiting by a wind from this quarter, the whole corps passed over on foot and arrived safely at Kaffa. If these data be correct it would be necessary for the Allies to occupy not only Perekop, but the whole north and eastern coasts of the Crimea, if we would prevent the access of fresh reinforcements or cut off the retreat of the Russians from Simpheropol To cover the sea of Azoff with gun-boats simultaneously with the occupation of Perekop would perhaps attain the same end The necessity of commanding at least the mouth of the sea of Azoff is evident from the facility there exists at present of supplies of provisions being introduced into the peninsula at the straits of Kertsch, and as a line of retreat the road to Kertsch and across the straits would possess but little value for the Russians, if we were to post any amount of shallow going gun-boats along the coast and across the straits.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE NEW MORTAR VESSELS

On Tuesday the trials of Captain Julius Roberts's plans for mortar-vessels were concluded on board the *Drake*, and terminated in a satisfactory manner. The vessel was returned to the dockyard and carefully surveyed, and it was found to perform of cushioning, putty, and the bolts and ironwork (in the frame) had not been found to be perfect, after all the severe trials to which they had been subjected, both on shore and on board.

As it is said that the Russian ships which have thrown shells with such mischievous effect into our trenches at Sebastopol were armed with mortars constructed on the principle suggested and tested by Captain Roberts so long since as 1847, an explanation of that principle may be acceptable to our readers.

The timber, weighing upwards of five tons, oscillates freely, being suspended from a horizontal bar by two wrought-iron arms attached to the trunnions. It is kept at the usual elevation of 42° by an iron band passing round the muzzle and attached to the aforesaid arms. This band is so fitted that when the mortar is not in use it may be removed and the mortar lowered and stowed into a recess in the bottom of the vessel, thereby removing the top weight which vessels of so small a tonnage could not well carry on deck in heavy weather. The band is secured in its position by a small chain passing round the trunnion, or attached to a ring screwed into the mortar The whole system oscillates with the rolling of the ship, so as to secure a constant angle of elevation—an advantage never before attained. But the most important advantage is, that the whole impulsive action is considerably diminished and rendered entirely vertical; the horizontal part, so destructive for vessels on the old system, being entirely removed. Thus four upright pillars support the whole, thereby leaving scarcely for five times as much weight and power, and saving about 25 tons of solid timber in the supports. The experiments on Tuesday were conducted in the midst of heavy snowstorms; and the mortar-bed, which should traverse easily so as to train the mortar in any direction, was frozen in its position. The freely weather discussed the severity of the tests to which the ironwork was subjected, and which it bore in a satisfactory manner In the first experiments the muzzle-band was made too slight, and broke. It was then replaced, with entire success, by a stronger band, five inches broad and one inch thick, padded, at Mr. Nasmyth's suggestion, with leather. On Tuesday, after the ninth round, the ring by which the muzzle-band is kept in place gave way, having been wrenched round on the previously day by the mortar falling from the crane in the dockyard. This defect was speedily remedied by a little spare chain, and the practice continued up to twenty-five rounds (which exhausted the ammunition) without the slightest derangement in the vessel or the mortar fittings

Thus has been effected one of the most important modern improvements in naval warfare; and, whatever may be said of the inefficiency of ships' broadsides opposed to stone walls, these engines of destruction, operating at the side destroyed of more than two miles, will produce a fearful effect upon the strongholds of our enemies. A large flotilla of these vessels, both French and English, is in process of construction, and Mr. Nasmyth has applied to the Government for permission to mount his huge malleable guns on the same principle

MILITIA FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN.—It is arranged that fifteen regiments of militia—selected from those most numerous and longest embodied—shall be permitted to volunteer immediately for garrison duty at Malta, Gibraltar, and Corfu. These regiments will release an equal number of the line, either for immediate transmission to the seat of war, or with a view to the formation of a corps of reserve at Malta, for the lodging and training of which accommodation is actively preparing, to the extent of 10,000 men. The regiments proceeding to the Crimea will be made up from their dépôts at home to the full force of 1000 men each. The militia regiments will send out six companies each—600 men—leaving at home a dépôt for recruiting and keeping up the available force. It is almost unnecessary to say that no militia officers or soldiers will be required to go to our Mediterranean colonies—even for garrison duty only—unless with their own free will, and that every care and comfort will be provided for their reception in the most generous and lively manner. Everything is arranged, and it is possible that many of them might have already embarked, had not our transports been engaged for the more urgent necessities of the war.

THE SICK AND WOUNDED AT SCUTARI. The Director-General of the Army and Ordnance Medical Department has been instructed to report to the Duke of Newcastle on the practicability of furnishing periodical returns of the sick and wounded at Scutari, showing the progress towards convalescence in each case. His Grace has also instructed Lord William Paulet, Commandant of the British Military Establishment in the Bosphorus, to appoint a competent person to ascertain from every officer, and, if possible, from every private soldier, who may be admitted into the military hospitals in Turkey, the name and address of his nearest relative or friend, so that, in the event of his death, the fact may be communicated to such person.

TRANSPORT OF CANNON OVER MUD. The authorities at Woolwich have now under trial a vehicle constructed to meet the great difficulty at Balaclava—the transport of cannon over mud. The cannon is slung under a pole resting between two high wheels, which as they revolve lay down a block or paddle, surmounted by an iron rail, and dovetailing at its extremity with a succeeding block, continuing the line. The block they down the iron railway as it progresses, while the sleeper from which it recedes acts as a lever, and lifts up the wheels from the bed of mud. It is found that the carriage will transport the heaviest guns in this way through a perfect slough. There are doubts, however, whether it will answer so well on rocky ground, as during the frost the resistance of the hardened earth drew out some of the bolts from the wheels; but it is thought that some modification of the paddles will overcome this impediment.

THE COAST GUARD. Returns are being prepared by order of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty specifying the number of seamen fit for active service who have been appointed by the Admiralty, and are now doing duty in the Coast Guard. The returns will show their respective ages, length of sea service, and also the period employed in the Coast Guard. Similar returns are ordered to be made of the men employed in revenue vessels, and of men employed in Custom house boats. It is stated that this is done with a view to ascertain the number of seamen the Government can command in the event of the fleets destined for the North Sea and the Baltic are about to be fitted out.

THE following Cavalry regiments will proceed to the Crimea early in the spring, when it is expected that each will be augmented to 800 sabres, exclusive of trumpeters and farriers: viz., 1st, 2nd, 6th, and 7th Dragoon Guards, 3rd Light Dragoons, 7th Hussars, and 18th Lancers. The following are the Infantry regiments under orders for the Crimea: viz., Second Battalion 1st Foot, from Corfu; 3rd Buffs, from the Piræus; 14th Light Infantry, from Gibraltar; 31st and 48th Foot, from Corfu; 54th, from Gibraltar; 71st Highland Light Infantry, from Corfu, 82nd Foot, from Edinburgh; 91st, from Malta; 92nd, from Gibraltar; and the Third Battalion of the 1st Royals, 60th Rifles, and Rifle Brigade, which are now being raised. These regiments which are stationed in Malta, Gibraltar, and the Ionian Islands will be replaced by militia regiments which are relieved by the regiments of Militia which have volunteered for foreign service

ON Monday nearly 2000 hair beds and bolsters, 4000 pairs of cotton sheets, and about the same number of blankets, were put on board lighters at the Tower Wharf, to be shipped on board the transports at Deptford, to be conveyed to the hospital at Scutari for the use of the sick and wounded. Another extensive shipment of Canada stoves for the Crimea took place from the Tower on the same day, as also several thousand feet of iron tubing for chimneys. For the convenience of fixing, this tubing, which is eight inches in diameter, is made in lengths. 120,000 waterproof articles of dress for the army in the Crimea, consisting of hoods, coats, and leggings, have just been sent into the Government stores by the contractors. A further contract has been entered into by the Government for the supply of 3000 revolving pistols for her Majesty's service.

THE Black Sea fleet gets more and more transformed into a steam fleet. With the exception of the *Vengeance* and *Rodney*, there is no sailing-vessel remaining, and these two will likewise take their departure as soon as the steamers coming out from England shall have repaired.

WE have reason to believe that the second command of the British army in the Crimea has, after due deliberation, been conferred upon our distinguished countryman, Sir Colin Campbell. *Scotsman*

THE old-fashioned cross-belts, which were worn by the household troops in the Crimea, having been found to be extremely cumbersome—contracting the chest and retarding the movements of the Guardsman—the commanding officers of the brigade of Guards have dispensed with the side cartridge belt, and the men have only a shoulder-belt for the pouch, and are accoutred in every respect as the regiments of the line.

REAR-ADMIRAL SIR HENRY LEEKE is hard at work at Bombay fitting out the *Punjab* (which was built for a steamer), 1800 tons, as a sailing-transport, to convey the 10th Hussars to Suez. The *Punjab* will carry 480 horses and men.

THE medal for the Crimea is to be of the same description as the good-conduct medal. In the instance of any one who may have been specially noticed for gallantry an inscription is to be made on it for "distinguished conduct in the field."

THE Secretary-at-War has approved of one shilling per day being allowed to staff officers for each soldier-servant.

DEPARTURE OF THE BRITISH EXPEDITION FOR THE TIEN-TSIN RIVER.

SIR JOHN BOWRING'S MISSION TO PEKIN.

We have this week given the Sketches relating to the English mission to Pekin which we promised in our last publication. The following account of the transaction is from the *Friend of China*, Nov. 22, 1854:—

Her Majesty's ship *Rattler* (Captain Mellersh) has returned to Woosung from her expedition to the Gulf of Pecheli, bringing back his Excellency Sir John Bowring and suite. We understand she was anchored nearly a month at the mouth of the Pei-ho (more properly the Tien-tsin-po) in company with the United States steam-frigate *Powhatan* (which conveyed his Excellency Mr. M'Lane, the American Commissioner, and his party) and the United States steamer *John Hancock*.

Communications were regularly kept up between the ships in the bay and the Secretaries of the two Ministers, who were established in the river on board the United States' schooner *Fenimore Cooper* and lorcha *Chusan*, which had been towed up by the larger ships as auxiliaries to the expedition. A grand display took place on the 3rd November, when, preceded by the band of the *Powhatan*, and passing through lines of about 200 men, consisting of naval officers, marines, and seamen, accompanied by the national flags, the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and America landed, and, walking arm in arm, were received by an immense crowd of Mandarins, who escorted them to tents which had been prepared for the occasion; at the entrance of which they were met by the Imperial Commissioners deputed by the Emperor to receive them. When the usual compliments had passed, the inner tent was cleared of the multitude of Chinese Mandarins and foreign officers who had crowded into it, and the high functionaries proceeded with their negotiations. After the interview, which lasted several hours, the Plenipotentiaries remained six days in the bay, which the *Rattler* left on the 10th instant.

Nothing whatever has transpired as to the result of the conferences which have taken place, and the public curiosity will probably remain ungratified until the respective Governments see fit to publish the communications of which the Plenipotentiaries are bearers. We understand Count Kleskowski was introduced by the British and American ministers, as charged with communications from the French Minister, who was unable to proceed in a national ship of war to the Pei-ho, in consequence of the disaster which happened to the frigate *La Jeanne d'Arc* at the entrance of the Yang-tze-kiang.

While the Ministers were engaged in their conference with the high Mandarins, ample supplies of refreshments, tea, &c., were provided for the whole party who had accompanied their Excellencies to the shore. Tents had been erected for the accommodation of everybody, and many a laughable scene took place in the process of fraternization between the subjects of "Western outer nations" and native officers and attendants, many of whom saw our people for the first time. A black man from the *Rattler* was an especial object of curiosity and wonderment.

Newspapers sent Abroad.—A very large number of newspapers for places abroad, upon which a postage ought to have been prepaid, being continually posted without such prepayment, the Post-office authorities have issued a notice recommending persons who are in the habit of transmitting newspapers to foreign countries, or to any of the colonies, to satisfy themselves, by inquiry at the Post-office, whether or not any postage is payable upon them in this country, before they deposit their newspapers in the letter-box. Newspapers for foreign parts, which have been improperly posted unpaid, are detained and sent to the Dead Letter-office.

A Frosty Night in the Crimea.—Words cannot describe the suffering which the army must have undergone last night. During the whole of yesterday it snowed heavily, and about eight p.m. the wind veered round to the north, when it commenced freezing very sharply. To-day snow is on the ground knee-deep, with a clear sky, and a keen wind from the north that would "cut a feather." This morning at daylight the men found their boots frozen like a lump of iron, and most of them had no others to put on. Their bed-clothes, also, notwithstanding the heat of the men's bodies, were frozen. Many of the men are suffering from chilblains. The boots that are served out are of no use; the snow soaks through them as it would through a piece of sponge, and if they step in above the ankles it falls in that way. It is said that the "men will all have high Turkish boots eventually;" but winter is here, and now is the time they want them. Even the moisture which gathers on a blanket from a man's breath freezes now. Huts are a farce; spring will be here before half of the army obtain them. In the meantime a fearful number of men will be lost. I heard an officer say that some men going on duty into the trenches last night were actually observed to be crying, and these were men of stout hearts, who had not quailed under the fire of the enemy at Alma and at Inkerman. A battle is, indeed, a horrible affair; but starvation from cold is worse. In the one, a man dies with the reflection that his death is honourable; in the other, what must his feelings be? I know, from experience, what others suffer, for I myself frequently experience the sensation that my hands are increased to the size of legs of mutton, and this from cold alone. The army has all the comforts sent out that a generous nation can give; they know it. Even the meanest man in the ranks knows it. But Balaclava harbour and Sebastopol heights are two places! An immense gulf separates them, and this is the stumbling-block of all their luxuries. The distance of ten miles here is less surmountable than the whole journey from England. Requisitions are freely given for everything required by the Quartermaster-General's department; but then comes the rub—the articles are at Balaclava. They are wanted on the heights. And whose fault is it? It is, perhaps, hard to say; but all turn to the chief of the commissariat. Our commissariat has no idea of working except by contract. Contract in a foreign land is out of the question, since we only possess a portion of the enemy's country.—*Letter from the Camp, January 5.*

Fracas between Paraguay and the United States.—A Washington letter, written on the 9th, says:—"President Lopez of Paraguay took down the American flag, banished Hopkins, and took possession of the property of an American company established to navigate the Paraguay river. He ordered all Americans connected with it out of the country, forbade American vessels of war to enter the waters of Paraguay, and stopped all further operations of the United States surveying expedition."

SQUARE FORT AND OUTWORKS ON THE NORTH BANK OF THE TIEN-TSIN-PO.

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

SKETCHES IN JAPAN.

MILITARY STATION, HARBOUR OF NAGASAKI.

NAZUMA SIMA ISLAND FOR EXERCISE.

Two weeks ago we gave an account of the late Expedition to Japan, accompanied by a number of Sketches illustrative of the dress and manners of the inhabitants, &c. In our publication of this week we engrave a few additional sketches of Japanese scenery and costume, which will assist our readers in forming some notion of the appearance of the inhabitants of that remarkable island. The following extract of a letter from a young officer on board the *Winchester*, dated Nagasaki, October 5, 1854, gives an interesting account of what he saw in Japan, during the visit of the English:—

The scenery, in making the island, is very beautiful. Mountains in the interior are very lofty, and covered with forests on their southern fronts, but the larger vegetation ceases directly you arrive at the summit; and the whole northern slopes are destitute of trees, but covered with smaller verdure, presenting a strange appearance—the northerly winds having shaded them as regularly as if done by man. The ridges are crowned with a row of treetops—their roots being sheltered on the south side—looking like the bristles on a hyena's back. The closer you approach the land the more it displays its beauties. The country, which is undulating, and in parts very lofty, is covered with verdure, and cultivated to the very tops of the mountains. The atmosphere is delightful, clear, and transparent, quite in opposition to the humid, yellow, windy atmosphere of China. The temperature, too, has fallen to 70 deg., which we feel delightfully cool. Having notified our arrival to the Governor, and intimated our intention of going into harbour, we went in accordingly. The entrance is remarkably pretty, being covered with several picturesque islands, with plenty of guns in battery, but evidently planted by some one totally ignorant of fortification; they are all mounted *en barbette*, hardly any of them covering another. The fort at the entrance is mounted with two-and-twenty remarkably handsome pieces of ordnance. We anchored off the mouth of the inner harbour, across the entrance of which was drawn a cordon of large boats connected by hawsers. Directly we were anchored the Admiral sent despatches to Jeddo. After being here a week they allowed us to land on a little island, about two acres in extent, covered with trees and bamboos, under extraordinary restrictions, guard-boats all round to cut off communication with the shore; no fires to be lighted, trees cut, or rocks to be moved, and every one to be off by sunset. The Japanese are small of stature, and of rather an intellectual expression, very clean in their persons and boats. Not having seen their houses, I cannot speak of them. They are all armed; men of superior rank with two swords; others with one. Their dress is plain, consisting of a dress of grass-cloth or crepe, and silk trousers; they wear shoes, grass soles, with a strap across the instep, going down between the big and second toes; they are better-looking than the Chinese, on whom they look with contempt. Talking about the Russians, they said they did not think much of them—they were dirtier than the Chinese. The latter are allowed to send four junks a year, and the Dutch two ships, which is the only external trade the Japanese have.

JAPANESE COURT OFFICIAL COSTUME.

Last week it was arranged that the Admiral should visit the Governor, who was received at the landing by the principal officers of the city, and conducted by them to the Governor's house. The street, or rather flight of steps, was lined on either side with troops—a very meagre lot, who had their matchlocks covered with red baize, it not being considered orthodox to expose steel to the eyes of a friend; indeed, we had great trouble in persuading one or two to show us the blades of their swords, which appeared beautifully-tempered weapons. The Admiral was graciously received by the Governor, and the officers accompanying were presented in due form. A collation of sweetmeats and pound-cake was served up. When the repast was finished the Admiral held his interview. The diplomacy progressed slowly but satisfactorily; and at length a treaty was drawn out, and another interview held with the Governor, at which it was signed. The exact purport I do not know; but it was to the effect that we should enjoy all the privileges conceded to other nations at any time; that a certain number of ports should be open to us; that the Russians should receive no assistance at the hands of the Japanese. The Governor required a list of the officers of the squadron, stating that it was the Emperor's wish that a present should be made to each according to his rank; when they appeared, however, they were nothing but a number of sets of inferior china. The Admiral's, however, which came direct from the Emperor, were splendid: a most magnificent cabinet of lacquered ware, inlaid in the best taste with mother-o'-pearl; two beautiful embossed china vases, with dishes, trays, &c., to match; some silks, &c.; lacquered boxes; two little dogs, a specimen of spaniel these I believe he intends for the Queen. After the treaty was signed we remained for some days whilst the papers were being translated. The Japanese expressed regret at our leaving, and seemed anxious that commercial relations should be opened between the two countries.

The position of Japan, favoured also as it is by climate and soil, renders the Japanese to a great extent independent of other countries; and, as everything must be measured by comparison, they, knowing no other world but Japan, judge of their degree of happiness and prosperity by those of their own state around, never having enjoyed European luxuries, excepting the small quantities brought by the Dutch ships.

JAPANESE VILLAGES, IN MAINLAND.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, Jan. 28.—4th Sunday after Epiphany. Admiral Byng shot
MONDAY, 29.—George III. died, 1820.
TUESDAY, 30.—King Charles I. beheaded, 1648.
WEDNESDAY, 31.—Hilary Term ends. Guido Fawkes executed, 1606
THURSDAY, Feb. 1.—Partridge shooting ends.
FRIDAY, 2.—Candlemas-day.
SATURDAY, 3.—St. Blaise

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 3, 1855.

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
10 17	10 56	11 36	Tide	0 11	0 43	1 8	1 32	1 55	2 15	2 33	2 52	3 9	3 25

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1855.

THE Government, having got itself into difficulties, on account of its inability, or that of the Attorney-General, and the Judges of the land, to define what a newspaper is, has resolved to get out of them by changing the law regulating the Newspaper Stamp-duties. The subject is to be introduced by Mr. Gladstone, by a resolution in Committee of the whole House on Monday next. We do not know what form Mr. Gladstone's proposition will assume, and only allude to the subject at the present time to restate in a few words our own opinion of the matter, as one affecting our interests in as high a degree as those of any of our contemporaries. Some months ago, when the subject was under discussion prior to its postponement until the present Session—we stated our belief that a very simple alteration would meet all the requirements of the case. Our proposal was that the stamping of newspapers should be voluntary—not compulsory—and that such journals as chose to be stamped, in whole or in part, should enjoy the privilege they sought—paying as now the penny stamp, which should entitle each number so stamped to be transmitted by post as at present. We further proposed that unstamped newspapers, if sent by post, should either be chargeable as letters, or rejected by the Post-office altogether; and that it should be incumbent on those sending newspapers through the Post-office to have the stamp folded outside, so as to be easily seen by the Post-office authorities. A reconsideration of the subject has not enabled us to suggest any simpler or more satisfactory contrivance, or one that would more effectually promote the interests of all parties, whether the Post-office or the existing newspaper press. It would give the advocates of a cheap press the boon they seek; and would not be unjust towards established journals of any class. We do not think, however, that our plan, or even the total abolition of the Newspaper Stamp, which we do not propose, would give Mr. Milner Gibson, and the friends of what they call a "free" press, the advantage of cheapness. Of itself, the modification or abolition of the Stamp-duty will, we think, accomplish little or nothing in the direction of cheapness; but, if either were accompanied by the repeal of the Excise-duty on paper, it is possible, if not highly probable, that the price of newspapers might be so greatly reduced as to lead to a complete revolution in that branch of literature. We are not aware, however, that Mr. Gladstone contemplates any such change at the present moment. If he do, the sacrifice of revenue, though considerable, would not be embarrassing. The Excise-duty on paper is a tax on the raw material of many important branches of industry and commerce. It not only affects newspapers, but Literature of every kind; and not only Literature, but a vast variety of trades and manufactures employing many thousands of people—as the inhabitants of Birmingham, Sheffield, Manchester, Glasgow, and other large towns have more than once testified in memorials to the Government. The Paper-duty, as regards the commercial principle involved in its abolition, may be considered doomed. Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Disraeli, in common with all political economists and free-traders, take the same view of it; and as its abolition is simply a question of time, we imagine he could not have a better time than that which he has himself chosen for the readjustment of the Newspaper-stamp.

MR. BRIGHT, though ostensibly a man of peace, is fond of war. War is the bent of his nature; and as the man who is too much addicted to the use of strong liquors binds himself to sobriety by becoming a teetotaller, so the pugnacious member for Manchester, lest he should become too quarrelsome, swathes himself with the bands of the Peace Society, that he may repress, if he cannot altogether subdue, his innate bellicosity. But genius will out, and the genius of Mr. Bright is aggressive. He made war against the Corn-laws, and won the battle. He has now declared war against the public opinion of his countrymen, and against the press, as its exponent. But this new battle he will not win; although we must confess that he fights it with great courage, and displays the sturdy limb, the brawny fist, and the deep chest of the practised gladiator to no small advantage. What a splendid soldier the world might have had in Lieutenant-General Sir John Bright, if Mr. Bright had not unfortunately been a Quaker! In his war against the press, the people are no longer to be called the people. For, presuming to disagree with Mr. Bright and Mr. Cobden on the merits of the Emperor of Russia and the duty of Great Britain, they are proclaimed to be the "populace;" and the press, that was formerly so courted and so praised, is declared to be no longer an instructor, which appeals to the reason and the common sense of the people, but a "venal" thing, and a pander to the basest passions and prejudices of "the populace!" Mr. Cobden—who is the more peaceable man of the two, although he believes war may sometimes be necessary and honourable, which Mr. Bright does not has taken care not to make such violent attacks on his countrymen and their opinions as Mr. Bright has done, and has managed to give his own view of the case, without throwing dirt at all who disagree with him. Mr. Bright, who possesses more vigour, and less compunction, and who disputes as an athlete fights, with no other object than to hit hard, will not give his opponents credit either for sagacity or for honour. Amongst the newspapers which were the objects of his vituperation, at the recent tea-meeting at Manchester, he particularly selected the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. We quote his attack in full:—

Take the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, which has its artists at the seat of war, and gives you pictures every week. It was a paper before the war of a gentility so unexceptionable that it never said a harsh word of anybody on behalf of the people. Now it descends to abuse of every kind, of every man who dares to form an opinion for himself, adverse to the prevailing opinion But if it has advanced its circulation since the war broke out, by 20,000 or 30,000 a week; if at this moment an eminent engineer is at his wits' end to form a machine to print the paper fast enough; and if the proprietors are putting in their pockets many thousands a year, as the fruit hanging ready for picking, the growth of this infernal war—I charge them not with dishonesty or insincerity; they may believe everything that they put in their pictures, leading articles, and ballads they publish—but, I ask you, whether, in any case in a court of justice or a matter of your own personal concerns, you would take the evidence of men having so direct an interest in the matter?

We are happy to corroborate Mr. Bright's assertion, as to the growing prosperity of this journal—a prosperity not, however, the result of the war, as Mr. Bright seems to think, but the result, we are glad to know, of the growing confidence and esteem of the public, and which takes its origin in causes far antecedent to the war, or even to the repeal of the Corn-laws. We illustrate the war—because the nation is at war—as we illustrated the Great Exhibition of 1851, or the French Revolution of 1848 because they were facts. We illustrate it for the same reason that Mr. Bright speaks of it, and that the public thinks of it—because it is the event of the day. Our prosperity is not a thing dependent on war. The history of this journal is one of steady progress and increase. From a sale of thirty thousand copies a week—in itself a large circulation—we have grown year by year, to a circulation double, treble, quadruple, and quintuple that number. We have increased in peace as well as in war, and more in peace than in war; and shall, we have every reason to believe, increase still more largely, even if the war should be brought to an end to-morrow—which, if it could be done with honour and safety, we should most unfeignedly rejoice at. We approve of the war, because we think it right, and just, and honourable; because we love peace far above war; because we detest the wicked ambition of the Emperor Nicholas, which has forced this country and France to take up the cause of Right against Wrong, and of Independence and Civilisation against aggressive Conquest and barbarous Cossackism; because we really love peace "at all price," even at the price of the necessary and inevitable war, which will secure it for half a century or a century to come; and because, when strong nations resort to physical force and set reason and justice at defiance, we believe, with the vast majority of our countrymen, and of all reasonable people in every portion of the world, that they must be confronted with and overpowered by physical force—the only *ultima ratio* that exists, or ever can exist, until men are degraded into sheep, or exalted into angels. Mr. Bright can imagine no motive but a sordid one as swaying the actions of the writers and conductors of this or any other journal. We will not assert that he weighs others by his own weight, and measures other people's consciences by the standard of his own; but perhaps if we did so we should not be far wrong in our estimate. If Mr. Bright will not give us credit for honesty or honour, he will possibly give us credit for some degree of sagacity—in foreseeing the war long before it was dreamed of by him and the comfortable citizens, who will neither fight nor relieve the miseries of the widows and orphans of those who do. So early as 1849 we drew attention to the designs of the Czar against Turkey, and advocated the alliance of Great Britain and France to secure the peace of Europe, by restraining his aggressive ambition against that Empire. It will be seen from the following extracts from our leading columns of the 6th of October, 1849, that war was then imminent, and that a union between France and Great Britain was advocated by us, to prevent Russian aggression against Turkey

The gravity of the position is apparent. A Cabinet Council was summoned by Lord Palmerston on Tuesday, and sat for three hours, when we may suppose that this important question was anxiously debated. The duty and true interest of Great Britain and France are to throw the whole weight of their joint influence in favour of the Porte. To forsake that Power in an emergency like this would be suicidal policy for each of them They would fall at once into the rank of second rate Powers, and leave Russia the virtual mistress of the destinies of Europe. It will depend upon the attitude they assume whether Russia will attempt to parallel the audacity of her language by the audacity of her deeds, and involve Europe in a war by the possession of Constantinople A war made by Russia on such a pretext would be so wholly without justification, so utterly destitute of that moral force which neither great nations nor small individuals can safely despise, that however much Russia may covet the possession of Turkey, or any part of it, we cannot believe that she will run the risk of a general war, especially at such a period as the present. To the Government of France such a war would be a golden opportunity; and to the people of France it would be the most popular war upon record. Even in England—overburdened as we are with debt, and indisposed for war as all our great trading and commercial interests must be considered—an armed intervention with France in favour of the Porte would enlist the sympathy and good wishes of most classes of politicians. If we are to retain India—to say nothing of our influence in Egypt and the Mediterranean—Russia cannot be allowed to conquer Turkey; and France, on this occasion, has interests, if not identical with, most certainly as strong as, our own.

Events have at least proved that we could see further into foreign politics than Mr. Bright or any of his school. Long before war was declared, we advocated a vigour of action on the part of Great Britain and France, which we then believed, and which we still believe, would have prevented the war of 1854, as a similar policy prevented the war of 1849. But both Mr. Bright and Mr. Cobden take a mean view of the war and of their countrymen. They are always harping on the expense of the struggle, and hope to disgust the people, not so much with its bloodshed as with its cost in hard money. They have yet to learn, apparently, that there are things in this world far more precious than money, and, among them, honour and justice. Until they assume a higher and nobler position, they will cease, if they have not already ceased, to be leaders of the people. They will fall from their once high estate, and no longer be of weight in the councils of the nation. If we were all influenced by feelings like those of Mr. Bright and Mr. Cobden, we should indeed be a nation of miserable shopkeepers. Happily, Englishmen are made of nobler stuff, and, with their allies the French, will lead the civilised world in the path of peace and honour for ages yet to come; loving peace, as all Christians ought to do, but not being afraid of war in a righteous cause, whatever its cost, and whatever its inconvenience

We will not enter into the quarrels of Mr. Bright with the contemporary journals, which he insults even more grossly than he has insulted us. Those journals can vindicate themselves if vindication from such an assailant be necessary. We will simply remind both him and Mr. Cobden that it was the press which made them what they are—or were. Happily, it does not need the press to unmake them; for they spare it the trouble, by destroying their own reputation more rapidly and effectually than the press could do it for them.

RESIGNATION OF LORD JOHN RUSSELL. On Thursday it was announced that Lord John Russell no longer held office, having tendered his resignation to her Majesty, which resignation is believed to have been reluctantly accepted. For the proceedings consequent upon this event we refer our readers to our Parliamentary Report.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The *Telemaque*, with advices from Constantinople of the 15th, arrived at Marseilles on Thursday. Letters from the Crimea of the 12th state that the Flagstaff Battery had been mined by the French, who only waited a favourable opportunity to blow it up. Sickness was on the increase in the camps. The ground was covered with snow. The batteries of mortars greatly annoy the enemy

Several vessels, with provisions and munitions for the Russian army, have been captured by the Allies near Odessa and Kertch

A correspondent of the *Cologne Gazette*, at Odessa, writes that Prince Menschikoff, having received considerable reinforcements, estimated at 25,000 men, including the Eighth Division, Third Corps, has determined to resume the offensive, and make another general attack on the Anglo-French lines, immediately after the return of the two Grand Dukes, for whose special edification this spectacle is reserved.

AUSTRIA AND THE WESTERN POWERS.

It is reported and believed in Paris that the military convention between Austria, France, and England will be signed at Vienna within the next forty-eight hours. It is already understood that by one of the clauses of this convention an auxiliary French army will be allowed to march across Lombardy and the Austrian States, to take part in the war on the Danube.

There are rumours also that an announcement is to be made between the Western Powers and Prussia, which will allow that Power to join the Western alliance in terms exactly analogous to those of the Treaty of December 2.

DESPATCH FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, Jan. 23.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle has this day received a despatch, of which the following is a copy, addressed to his Grace by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, Jan. 6

My Lord Duke, The weather has been so bad since I wrote to your Grace on the 2nd inst., that I have not yet been able to disembark the 39th, with a view of encamping the regiment, and it still remains on board the *Golden Fleece* in the harbour

The ground is thickly covered with snow, though not very deep.

All my endeavours are directed to the speedy disembarkation and getting up of the huts, which have now arrived in considerable numbers, and the establishment of the dépôt of provisions, which I alluded to in my last despatch, near head-quarters, which I am now enabled to do, with the assistance of the 18th and 39th Regiments—the first encamped near Balaclava, the last still sleeping on board the *Golden Fleece*.

There has been no movement on the part of the enemy.

I enclose a return of the casualties that have arisen up to the 4th inst.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND MEN KILLED, WOUNDED, AND MISSING FROM 29TH DEC., 1854 TO 4TH JAN., 1855, INCLUSIVE.

KILLED

1st Battalion Rifle Brigade—Privates Wm. Borrowdale and James Graham
1st Foot—Private Thomas Walker.
2nd—Private Lowell Hole.
47th—Privates Eugene Griffin and Thomas H Spiller.
50th—Private Patrick Beecke.
57th—Sergeant John Kyle; Privates Robert Walsh and Martin Byrne.
68th—Private John Wright

WOUNDED

1st Battalion Rifle Brigade—Corporal Daniel Bell; Privates Charles Baker, Walter Engle, Thomas Bartley, John Jones, Josiah Wood, severely
1st Foot—Private Isaac Parker, severely. Lance-Sergeant Michael Kanny, slightly. Corporal Benjamin Norman, Privates T. Mullins, John Moran, Henry Dow, slightly.
5th—Private Stephen Monaghan, severely
30th—Corporal Edward Black, severely
21st—Privates Michael Cavery and James McCallum, slightly
38th—Lance-Corporal Joseph Bell and private William Crossley, severely.
44th—Private John Farmer, severely
46th—Private Patrick Holloran, slightly
47th—Privates Patrick Flinnery, Joseph McMahon, Joseph Marshall, Thomas Gould, severely. Private Michael Cornelick, slightly
49th—Private Michael Kenney, severely
57th—Privates John Herbert, severely; Thomas Trayner, slightly
68th—Privates Thomas Fitzgerald, slightly, William Collins, severely
88th—Private James Mahey, slightly
95th—Private James Buckley, slightly

MISSING

7th Foot—Private Charles Clarke.

J. B. BOCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General

THE COURT.

The event of the week in Court life has been the visit of the Earl of Aberdeen to Windsor Castle on Wednesday, charged with the important duty of announcing to her Majesty the resignation by Lord John Russell of his seals of office as Lord President of the Council. It is thought probable that the political exigencies of the moment will have the effect of hastening the return of the Court to London.

On Tuesday morning the Prince Consort travelled to town by the South-Western Railway, and presided at a meeting of the Governors of the Wellington College. The other Governors present were the Earl of Derby, Sir Howard Douglas, and the Rev. G. R. Gleig. The meeting, which was held at the New Palace, Westminster, broke up a quarter past one o'clock, when his Royal Highness returned to Windsor. Major-General Simpson had the honour of dining with her Majesty in the evening.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Genoa was stated to be seriously indisposed at the date of the latest accounts from Sardinia.

The Earl and Countess of Derby and family have arrived in town from Knowsley.

The Countess of Carlisle, we are happy to announce, is better.

The Earl of Caledon is reported to have been seriously indisposed at his seat in Ireland.

Lord Dunlo, eldest son of the Earl of Clancarty, having just attained his majority, the event has been celebrated with great rejoicing on the family estates in Galway.

The Right Hon. B. Disraeli and Mrs. Disraeli have arrived at Grosvenor-gate from Wynyard, where they have been on a visit to Frances Anne, Marchioness of Londonderry.

The first meeting of the Fox Club will take place at Brooks's this evening (Saturday). A large meeting is expected.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories*: The Rev. S. C. Mason to St. Clement Danes, Westminster; Rev. J. W. Millard to Shimpling, near Diss; Rev. T. Miles to Stockton, near Heytesbury; Rev. H. W. Long to Whaddon, near Trowbridge; Rev. W. W. Ellis to Magdalen Laver, near Chipping Ongar. *Vicarages*: The Rev. C. Smith to Tarrington, near Ledbury; Rev. H. I. Blackburne to Rostherne, in the county of Chester; Rev. R. Mackell to Marton in Cleveland; Rev. S. King to Cantley, Yorkshire; Rev. G. Alexander to Woodford, Northamptonshire; Rev. J. Best to Kirk Oswald, Cumberland; Rev. C. Porter to Raunds, Northamptonshire; Rev. P. Smith to Grinton, Yorkshire; Rev. W. Speke to Skenfreth, Monmouthshire; Rev. J. Wallace to Wellow, near Bath. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. J. Harman to St. James's, Enfield; Rev. J. M. Clarke to Christ Church, Forest-hill, Sydenham; Rev. R. F. Ozanne to St. Matthew's, Guernsey; Rev. G. Thompson to Leigh, near Sherborne.

TESTIMONIAL.—A copy of Baxter's comprehensive Bible, with a purse of fifty sovereigns, was presented to the Rev William Duncan Long, M.A., Incumbent of St. Paul's, Bermondsey, by the congregation of St. John's Episcopal Chapel, London road, Southwark.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 3, 1855.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Melted Snow in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches
Jan. 18	29.996	27·5	13·0	19·3	— 17·3	83	N.E.	0.34
" 20	29.815	39·2	19·2	27·0	— 9·7	68	N.E.	0.00
" 21	29.863	36·1	18·5	22·1	— 14·6	83	N.E.	
" 22	29.776	31·8	21·0	26·5	— 10·3	90	S.W.	0.18
" 23	29.837	33·2	23·2	26·3	— 9·8	88	S.W.	
" 24	30.009	35·7	31·0	32·7	— 4·3	86	N.E.	0.00
" 25	30.038	37.1	29·9	34·7	— 3·4	87	N.	0·00

Note. The sign denotes below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.00 inches at the beginning of the week to 29.77 inches by the 20th; increased to 29.83 inches by the 21st; decreased to 29.77 inches by the 22nd; increased to 30.04 inches by the 24th; and decreased to 29.9 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the sea, was 29.898 inches.

The mean daily temperature was below the average on every day of the week. On the 18th the depression was as great as 17½°; on the 20th, 9¾°; on the 21st, 14½°; on the 22nd, 10½°; on the 23rd, 8½°; on the 24th, 4½°; and on the 25th, 3½°.

The temperature on the 18th of January, 1838, was, however, lower than the above, and was 17·9°; on the 20th of January, 1838, it was as low as 16·9°: this day was rendered remarkable, Murphy, in his almanack, having predicted it as a cold day. We must go back to 1814 for so cold a day as Jan. 21 in this week; in that year it was 22·2°, differing by one-tenth of a degree only from that in the above table; in 1829, on Jan. 23, the mean temperature was 23·9°; in 1838, on Jan. 24, the temperature was 26·2°.

The mean temperature of this week was 27.1°, being 9.7° below the average of the same week in thirty-eight years. The mean temperature of the same seven days in the year 1848 was 34½°; this week was the coldest as far as my registers extend, and the past week was the next in order of lowness.

The wind blew generally from the N.E. The amount of water produced from melted snow was 0·2 inch (two tenths of an inch)

The weather has been excessively cold, but fine. Snow has been falling frequently. On January 28 light feathery snow was falling; each particle crystallised, and falling together in light clusters of from a dozen to twenty. At nine a.m. they were falling abundantly; temperature at the time, 27°. The crystals were more attenuated, and larger, than those of last year—less glistening, but spicular finer

JAMES GLAISHER.

Lewisham, Jan. 30, 1855.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending January 20 the births of 779 boys, and of 732 girls, in all 1511 children, were registered within the metropolitan districts. The number of deaths 1549, exceeding the births by 38, which is very unusual, except in periods of epidemic. 779 of the deaths were males, and 770 were females: of the deaths no less than 720 occurred at ages less than 20 years; 234 at ages between 20 and 40; 224 in the next 20 years; 295 at ages exceeding 60 and less than 80 years; and 75 at ages exceeding 80 years. These numbers show an excess in each period of life, but to the greatest extent at ages exceeding 60 years. Those, however, have suffered the least from the coldness of the weather, which has severely affected the health of those whose ages are between 40 and 60 years.

CORPORATION REFORM. The following amendment was carried on Tuesday at the Court of Common Council by a majority of 59 to 49.—

That the recommendations of the Consolidated Committee—amounting to the surrender of the charters, the restriction of the elective privileges of the liverymen by reducing the number of their representatives, the disturbance of the well-known ancient boundaries of the wards, the withdrawal of the power of the livery to elect their officers, and the degradation of the magisterial office—were propositions subversive of the liberties and privileges of the citizens, and in opposition to the administration of justice, and to the wishes of those who were most deeply interested.

AN OVERSIGHT was committed, in the neglect of the advocates of the amendment to call for the disposal of the original question (in favour of discussing the propositions of the Consolidated Committee), which thus remains as open as ever to discussion

VALUE OF LAND IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF LONDON.—Notwithstanding the war, it appears that there is no lack of capital for investment on the part of members of freehold land societies to invest their capital on estates on which building operations are sure to be commenced The Old Ford estate, Bow, which the Hon. Mr. Ashley, M.P., and Mr. Hamlets, was allotted on Wednesday, at the offices of the Conservative Land Society, and small plots to the value of upwards of £9000 were eagerly selected by members. The allotment of the land excited much interest. It is close to the Victoria-park; and a new church is about to be erected in its immediate neighbourhood. On the same day the society offered another estate situated at East Retford, Nottinghamshire, which found equal favour in the eyes not only of local but of distant shareholders.

FOUR LIVES LOST ON THE ICE IN LONDON. The ornamental water in St. James's-park, London, being coated over with ice on Saturday last, many persons ventured thereon. That portion opposite to the Horse Guards had been pronounced "dangerous" early in the day; but during the afternoon some foolhardy youths crossed the lake to the Wildfowl Island, and, while a number of them were sliding on a frozen piece of water, the party fell down. The ice broke, and he and three others were in an instant precipitated through the fracture, and, before the officers of the Royal Humane Society arrived, all four sank. The bodies were shortly afterwards taken out of the water, but every effort to restore animation was unsuccessful.

EXECUTION OF BARTHELEMY.—The execution of this man for the murder of Mr. Collard took place on Monday morning. On Sunday he had been engaged in writing letters all day, and declined attending Divine service in the chapel. At ten o'clock at night he went to bed, and slept soundly till four o'clock the next morning. He was closely watched all night, as he had held out a determination that, as he was tired of life, if the law was not executed on him, he would take it on himself. He had been visited by a Catholic priest, who he said he had the good taste not to speak of religion to him. At eight o'clock on Monday morning he was visited by the Sheriffs, the Rev. J. Davis, the Chaplain of Newgate, Abbé Roux, a Catholic priest, and others; and in reply to the officers he said he had nothing to communicate. "I have," he said, "written to my father and friends, and I have given the letters to the governor." After leaving his cell he strode up the scaffold with a manly firmness. Ten thousand persons had assembled to witness the execution; but the sight of this vast multitude failed, as everything else had failed, to move him. Whilst on the scaffold he asked Calcraft to do his work as quickly as possible. At the given signal the bolt was withdrawn, Barthélémy fell, and died without a struggle. The body was removed to the cell where an hour before he was in perfect health. A cast of his face was taken, and subsequently the corpse was buried in the precincts of the gaol. The motives which prompted Barthélémy to the commission of the murder are still involved in mystery. There has been no confession beyond a statement which he volunteered to Mr. Davis, that the young woman who accompanied him to Mr. Moore's house was the illegitimate daughter of a Catholic priest, who was to receive money from Mr. Moore. (Some political subjects connected with the French Government were mentioned in connection with this money). He denied that he took the formidable weapon found in Mr. Moore's bed-chamber with him to the house, and asserted that it was used by Mr Moore for business purposes. Mr. Davis reports of him that he was the hardest criminal with whom he ever had to deal.

DOCK LABOURERS FOR THE CRIMEA.—On Tuesday fifty of the men selected by the Government agents from the London Dock labourers to go out to Balaclava, to assist in unlading the transports as they arrive out from England, and in warehousing the stores, went before the authorities to be finally approved. The men, having been medically inspected and passed, signed articles for six per diem and rations, and the foreman, 7s. and rations, with free passage out and home; each man received a bounty of £11 to provide himself an outfit, and was told to hold himself ready to embark at forty-eight hours' notice. Mr. Goodman, of a Warehouse, London Dock, goes out as head foreman over these men, and one of the Customs landing-waiters as superintendent. They are expected to sail in the *Cornelian* screw-steamer, from Dartmouth, early next week.

THE *Retribution*, 28, paddle-wheel steam-frigate, arrived at Spithead on Tuesday night from the Crimea and Malta. She has brought home 49 invalided and wounded soldiers, who were landed next morning, and conveyed to the Military Hospital at Portsmouth. Lieutenant Cator, 68th Light Infantry, who is wounded, came home by this ship. The *Retribution* bears very strong proof of the severity of the treatment she received at Sebastopol, during the attack on the forts by the English and French fleets. Her mainmast is quite gone, having been knocked away by a shell, whilst her rigging is almost entirely destroyed. Her hull also has marks of shot and shell in several places. The *Retribution* made the voyage from Constantinople to Spithead in twenty-one days, including her stoppage at Malta.

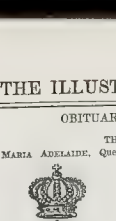
JANE POWIS, a pauper belonging to the City of London Union, has been compelled to refund to the parish authorities the enormous sum of nearly £250, invested in the Three per Cent Consols. She had been in the receipt of out-door relief for the last ten years.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE QUEEN OF SARDINIA.

MARIA ADELAIDE, Queen Consort of Sardinia, was the eldest child of the Austrian Archduke, the late Renier Joseph, Viceroy of Lombardy, by his wife (who is still living), the Princess Mary, sister of the late Charles Albert, King of Sardinia. Maria Adelaide was born the 3rd June, 1822, and was married the 12th April, 1842, to her first cousin, Prince Victor-Emmanuel, who succeeded his chivalrous father on the throne of Sardinia, the 3rd April, 1849, and who is, as Victor-Emmanuel II., the reigning Monarch. By this union Queen Maria Adelaide leaves three sons, viz., the Prince Royal of Sardinia, and the Dukes of Aost and Montferrat; and two daughters, the Princesses Clotilda and Maria.

Queen Maria Adelaide died on the 20th instant, at Turin, of puerperal fever; the immediate cause of her death being the shock she sustained at the news of the demise of her Royal mother-in-law, the Queen Dowager, to whom she was devotedly attached.



Her own demise—young and in every way admirable as she was—the darling—for so they called her—of the people of Sardinia—has caused universal public grief throughout the realms of her husband; the sympathy has extended over Europe. The King's grief is said to be terrible; and, in the midst of the present troubled state of Sardinian politics, this double loss of mother and wife has revived all the affections of his gallant and right royal house.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JAMES DENNIS, K.C.B.

THE death of this gallant officer, at the age of seventy-eight, occurred on the 14th inst., at 69, Pall-mall. Sir James entered the Army so far back as September, 1796, and served with the 49th on board H.M.S. *Monarch* at the battle of Copenhagen, being wounded in both hands and contused. In the last American war he was actively engaged, taking part in the battle of Queenstown, the storming of Fort George, the action at Stoney Creek, and the conflict of the Rapids at Hooples Creek. In 1843 he commanded a division at Maharajpore, and for his gallantry on that occasion received the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Bath. Sir James Dennis was the son of John Dennis, solicitor, and married in 1801 Miss Lawton, daughter of Hugh Lawton, Esq., of Cork

LADY GORE BOOTH

CAROLINE SUSAN, wife of Sir Robert Gore Booth, Bart., M.P., died on the 16th inst., in Merrion-square, Dublin. Great has been the mortality of late in her Ladyship's family. It is but a short time since we recorded the decease of her brother, Mr. Wyndham Goold, M.P. for Limerick—immediately after an uncle, Mr. Michael Goold, died in London; and within the present month a sister-in-law, Lady Anna Maria Monsell, sank under the effects of a comparatively brief illness, at St. Leonards. Lady Gore Booth was second daughter of the late Thomas Goold, Esq., of Dublin, a Master in Chancery. She became, 2nd April, 1800, the second wife of Sir Robert Gore Booth, Bart., of Lissadell, and by him leaves two sons and three daughters. Of the former, the elder, Robert Newcomen, is a Lieutenant in the 4th Light Dragoons.

SIR THOMAS FRANKLAND LEWIS, BART., M.P.

THE Right Hon. Sir Thomas Frankland Lewis, whose death occurred on the 22nd inst., at Harpton Court, Radnorshire, was the only son of John Lewis, Esq., of Harpton Court, by his second wife, a daughter of Admiral Sir Thomas Frankland, Bart. Thomas Frankland Lewis was born in London, in 1780, and was educated at Eton, and at Christ Church, Oxford. He was Lieutenant-Colonel of the Radnorshire Militia from 1806 till the end of the war, and he, for more than a quarter of a century, during his subsequent laborious career has filled a succession of public appointments. He was Commissioner of Inquiry into the Irish Revenue in 1821, and into that of Great Britain and Ireland from 1822 to 1825: he was then made First Commissioner of Inquiry into Education in Ireland. In 1827 he was Secretary to the Treasury, and he was Vice-President of the Board of Trade in 1828. He was Treasurer of the Navy in 1830. Chairman of the Poor-law Commission from 1834 till 1839, and a Commissioner to inquire into the Turnpike Outrages in Wales in 1843. He has represented in Parliament successively Beaumaris, Ennis, and Radnorshire; and Radnor, for which he was M.P. at his death. He was made a Privy Councillor in 1828, and was created a Baronet the 27th June, 1846. He married first, the 11th March, 1805, Harriet, fourth daughter of sir George Cornewall, Bart., and secondly, the 15th October, 1839, Mary Anne, daughter of Captain Anderson, of the Royal Horse Guards. Sir Thomas, by the former lady, who died the 11th August, 1838, leaves issue two sons, George Cornewall Lewis and the Rev Gilbert Frankland Lewis. The elder, now Sir George Cornewall Lewis, who succeeds as second Baronet, has married Maria Theresa, sister of the present Earl of Clarendon, and relict of Thomas Henry Lister, Esq.

THE REV. S. W. WARNEFORD, LL.D

THIS venerable and munificent divine died at his Rectory, Bourton-on-the-Hill, on the 11th inst. Dr. Warneford was generally known as a Christian philanthropist. His donations in furtherance of public charity have been very great; in fact, such in number and extent as to have embraced colonial as well as domestic gifts—assistance to Scotch and Irish as well as English institutions, but more particularly to the Queen's College Hospital, Birmingham—and to infirmaries, medical schools, and colleges, parochial schools for youth and infancy, and almshouses, while the clerical eleemosynary department of London has largely partaken of his benefactions. To the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge (in addition to former gifts) he has left £20000, and the same to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. His benefactions were all done in his lifetime; they were donations *inter vivos*; he left them not to the cascades of life nor to questions of their legal validity. He was his own executor and superintendent, and in some degree the director of his own works, and all this in the full vigour of health and strength of mind and body. Very few have expended with such studious selection of purpose, such energetic and self-denying devotion, a sum which has amounted to at least £200,000. The donor of all this, Samuel Wilson Warneford, was born in 1768, at Sevinghampton, near Highworth, in North Wilts. His father, the Rev. Francis Warneford, was eldest son of Richard Warneford, D.D., Vicar of St. Martin's, Coney-street, York, and sub-chanter of the cathedral of St. Peter's, and known as the author of two volumes of sermons. His mother was Catherine, daughter of Samuel Calverley, an opulent drug-merchant of Southwark, who resided at Lewes, in Surrey. At the usual age Samuel Wilson Warneford went to Oxford University, where he entered Pembroke College. In October, 1796, he married Margaret, daughter of Edward Loveden Loveden, Esq., M.P. (afterwards Edward Pryse Pryse, Esq.), of Buscot, near Faringdon, and a few years after became a widower. He leaves no issue. In 1809 Dr. Warneford (who took his degree of LL.D. about the same time) was made Rector of Lidiard Millicent, in Wilts—a preferment valued at £800 per annum; and in the following year he succeeded to an advowson of £750 per annum; but he was ever ambitious of ecclesiastical distinction. A considerable provision having been made for younger children, under the marriage settlement of the doctor's father and mother, and his wife's fortune having devolved upon him on her decease, it may be easily supposed that the Doctor's income soon accumulated far beyond the requisite expenditure of a person of his delicate health and retired habits. It was this that suggested to Dr. Warneford the noble design of devoting as he did, even while living, almost his all to works of charity. The family of Warneford is the most ancient of those in North Wilts which have retained any of their original possessions, and which are traced from the period of the first Crusade.

WILLS and PERSONALITY. The Rev. G. H. Peel, of Great Marlow, has left personalty estimated at £30,000; the Rev. Charles Lucas, of Devizes, £30,000; the Rev. E. Page, late Rector of Bawdrip, Somerset, £12,000; Mrs. E. Slaughter, of Southampton, £20,000; Lady Brunel, £18,000.

BEQUESTS.—Miss Millicent Hall, of Albany-street, Regent's-park, and of Hayes, Kent, has bequeathed £2000 to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts; £1000 reversion and £100 immediate for extending the Colonial Episcopate, £2000 to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, £2000 to the Orphan Asylum, Regent's-park; and £100 to the Clergy Orphan Asylum.

SWEDEN PREPARING FOR WAR.—Orders have been given for placing the entire Swedish army upon a war footing. The measure is to be executed with the greatest promptitude, as it is required to have the troops ready to march

CHRISTIAN EVIDENCE IN TURKISH COURTS OF LAW.—Since the promulgation of the firman for admitting before the tribunals the evidence of persons of all creeds, two cases have occurred in Damascus which show in the clearest possible manner that the principle contained in the new law can easily be carried out. The first case related to Jews, and the second to Christians, and in both the Mussulman accused was condemned. In the second case a custom-house officer had insulted and assaulted the Superior of the Lazarists. The Mussulman denied the charge, and the offence could not have been proved but for the evidence of Christians, who alone witnessed the affair. The examination into the matter took place in presence of an interpreter attached to the French consulate; and the Pashaw, after hearing the evidence, condemned the defendant to three months' imprisonment.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THIS week has produced a remarkable proof that our Newgate Last Dying Words and Confession Poetry has not improved or altered, indeed, in any way since the times of Dick Turpin and Governor Wall. We have before us, while we write, the penny broadside which Grub-street has given us on the execution of Barthélémy, on Monday last. We have the same artless way of telling a story, with the same rough lines and still rougher rhymes common to the Catnach school of Old Bailey poetry. What is still more remarkable, the very cuts are the identical blocks of bygone times. The view of the dangling murderer, of St. Sepulchre's Church, and Newgate itself, is one that has done like duty on many other hanging occasions. The female costume of the cut is that in vogue long before (to use Mr. Thackeray's expression) Pleneus was Consul. Stranger still, the cut which represents the murderer shooting Mr. Moore is the actual ballad-block of Bellingham shooting Mr. Perceval in the lobby of the House of Commons! We may yet see it reproduced on an occasion of the same kind. The identical woodcut of Tarlton, the famous clown, who drew tears of delight from the eyes of Queen Elizabeth, was in use in Grub-street between 1580 and 1820, or nearly two centuries and a half.

This mention of our current ballad literature reminds us of the story recently revived in the newspapers concerning Mr. Macaulay and his purchase at Whitechapel of a bunch of ballads. Our contemporaries have post-dated the incident. The whole story was got up by a wag, not when Macaulay's "History" appeared, but on the publication of his "Lays of Ancient Rome," a few years before.

The "Dental Catalogue" is out with its seventy illustrations, price 8s. The arrival of the news of the fall of Sebastopol before the sale takes place will, it is said, increase its produce by several thousands of pounds. Disastrous news may seriously decrease even the lowest figure at which skilful auctioneers have been heard to place it.

The readers of Carlisle's "Life of John Sterling" will hear with regret that the Venerable Archdeacon Hare died at Herstmonceaux Rectory, on the 23rd instant, aged fifty-nine.

Dr. Routh, the late learned President of Magdalen, has given his library, amounting to some 20,000 volumes, to the University of Durham. Though an Oxford man, and deeply attached to his mother University, his good sense told him that Durham was more in want of books than Oxford.

The Shakspeare and Garrick Goblet, made from the memorable mulberry-tree that grew in Shakspeare's garden at Stratford-on-Avon, was sold last week at Sotheby and Wilkinson's, for thirty-two pounds. Garrick drank out of it at the Stratford Jubilee. The form is indegant: the price was large not, however, too large.

The antiquary who has a liking for New World antiquities should, on visiting the Gallery just opened at No. 57, Pall mall, of rarities from Mexico, seek (without pushing) the acquaintance of Mr. Benjamin Nightingale. Our modest friend is well up in Prescott and other authorities on the subject, and wanders from one antiquity to another with the feeling of a man of taste and the skill of an accomplished antiquary.

Attendants at auction-rooms with treacherous memories should make a note under the 15th of February of the sale that day at Messrs. Foster's, in Pall-mall, of the small but choice collection of English pictures formed by Charles Birch, Esq., of Edgbaston, near Birmingham.

An admirer of the Central Schooling of Marlborough-house has written to complain of the remarks we made on the breaking up, under the old *régime*, of the Belfast School of Design. The Belfast School, we are assured, never tried the self-supporting system at all, but refused to have any other system but the old one, of a grant of £600 a year, to spend as it pleased. The result of this system, we are told (and have no reason to doubt), was, that the students, being few in number, cost the country at the rate of £9 a year each. It appears to us that the cost price of a fine work of art is not so much a matter of primary consideration as the production of such work itself. Did Belfast, under its old £600 a year grant, turn out any one or any thing worthy of the public grant? The Elgin marbles are worth thousands a year to the nation. The production of a single Barry at Belfast would sufficiently compensate for an annual grant from the exchequer of the public of £600 a year for the next twenty years. If Belfast will flourish better under Marlborough-house tuition than under its annual grant, all hail to Marlborough-house! We had no other object in making our remarks than a wish to serve the best interests of Ireland, and of the Department of Science and Art at Marlborough-house.

The "Local Schools of Art" in connection with Marlborough-house, Gore-house, and the Board of Trade, are at present (we are writing in January, 1855) forty-four in number. Of these four are in Scotland (Aberdeen, Dumfermline, Glasgow, and Paisley), six in Ireland (Belfast, Clonmel, Cork, Dublin, Limerick, and Waterford), the remaining thirty-four are in England and Wales. To the leading local schools elementary branches are attached. We first heard of Schools of Design in 1841, and between that year and 1852 nineteen local schools were established. This was thought a large number, but between 1852 and the January of the present year as many as twenty-nine schools have been established. Birmingham and Manchester date from 1842, Sheffield and York from 1843, and Coventry and Newcastle-on-Tyne from 1854. These are the earliest in point of time. The Marlborough-house influence had its origin in the Great Exhibition in Hyde-park.

SPRING CIRCUITS OF THE JUDGES FOR 1855.

OXFORD CIRCUIT.—Lord Campbell (Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench) and Mr Baron Martin. Assizes to be at Abingdon, Oxford, Worcester, Stafford, Shrewsbury, Hereford, Leominster, and Gloucester.

NORFOLK CIRCUIT. Sir Frederick Pollock (the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer) and Mr. Justice Wightman. At Aylesbury, Bedford, Huntingdon, Cambridge, Ipswich, Norwich and City.

NORTHERN CIRCUIT.—Mr. Baron Parke and Mr. Justice Cresswell. At Lancaster, Appleby, Carlisle, Newcastle, Durham, York, and Liverpool.

MIDLAND CIRCUIT.—Mr. Baron Alderson and Mr. Justice Colendge. At Northampton, Oakham, Lincoln, Nottingham, Derby, Leicester, Coventry, and Warwick

HOME CIRCUIT —Mr. Justice Maule and Baron Platt. At Hertford, Chelmsford, Maidstone, Lewes, and Guildford

WESTERN CIRCUIT.—Mr. Justice Erle and Mr. Justice Crowder. At Winchester, Devizes, Dorchester, Exeter, Bodmin, Bridgwater, and Bristol city.

SOUTH WALES AND CHESTER CIRCUIT.—Mr. Justice Crompton. At Cardiff, Haverfordwest, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Brecon, Presteigan, and Chester.

NORTH WALES AND CHESTER CIRCUIT. Mr. Justice Williams. At Newtown, Dolgelly, Carnarvon, Beaumaris, Ruthin, Mold, and Chester.

The Right Hon. Sir John Jervis, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, will remain in town.

THE GREAT FRENCH EXHIBITION.—The Secretary of the Imperial Commission of the Universal Exhibition has addressed a circular to the presidents of such departmental committees as have not yet terminated the selection of articles to be exhibited, informing them that the period allowed for receiving articles has expired, and that they must complete their operations without any further delay.

NEWS OF THE NAVVIES.—Captain W. S. Andrews, managing director of the North of Europe Steam Navigation Company, and under whose supervision the arrangements for the dispatch of the Crimean corps of Messrs. Peto, Betts, and Brassey's Navvies had been matured with so much promptitude and completeness, has had advices by the Peninsular and Oriental mail, on Tuesday, that the following vessels of the expedition had arrived at Gibraltar, at the dates annexed, viz.:—*The Mohawk*, Jan 10; *Wildfire*, Jan. 12; *Prince of Wales*, Jan. 15; *Lady A. Lambton*, Jan. 9, *Great Yorkers*, Jan. 12; *Hesperus*, Jan. 16. All these had duly proceeded on their voyage to Balaclava, where their arrival was being looked for with daily-increasing eagerness, owing to the growing severity of the weather, and the corresponding necessity for those facilities of transport between the harbour and the heights which it is the mission of the Navvies to afford. The whole of the men were in excellent health and spirits, and their conduct such as to justify all that had been said respecting them before their departure by those who had most experience of them.

FRENCH CACOLETS CARRYING ENGLISH WOUNDED, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

THE FRENCH AMBULANCE MULES CARRYING THE ENGLISH WOUNDED.

The melancholy scene depicted in the above Sketch is one of very frequent occurrence in the Crimea. The want of ambulances for the sick and wounded in the English Camp—indeed, the want of horses and mules to perform any kind of service whatever—has rendered it necessary for our troops to apply to the French for aid; and we are glad to learn that it has always been given promptly and heartily by our noble-minded allies. A letter from the Camp, of January 4, says:—"The French took down our sick again this morning on their ambulance mules, and General Canrobert has ordered that the transport [illegible] with provisions, to the dépôt at head-quarters." Two days previously we see it stated, in another letter, that 1600 hands were employed in bringing up provisions to the English Camp. The huts had arrived about the beginning of the month; no less than 500 of them were "in store at Balaclava," but there were no means of conveying them to the Camp. There had been some talk of the soldiers carrying the planks from the port to the Camp, a distance of fourteen miles; but that was deemed to be impossible, and the Horse Artillery were to be devoted to that purpose.

THE GREAT CEMETERY AT SCUTARI.

Scutari, the largest of the suburbs of Constantinople, is distinguished by its [illegible] and picturesque cemeteries, which present a sombre contrast to the busy streets of the city.

The Burying-ground is the most extensive, the most beautiful, and the most celebrated of any in the capital of the Ottoman Empire. The soil of Scutari is regarded with great veneration as the consecrated ground of Asia, whence the founder of the Ottoman dynasty sprung, and, spreading his doctrine with the sword, marched towards Europe. On this account these groves of tombs are richer in monuments of illustrious and distinguished men than any of the cemeteries of Constantinople or the adjoining villages. One tomb in the midst of the crowd always attracts the attention of the traveller. A canopy, supported by six columns, marks the resting-place of Sultan Mahmoud's favourite horse. According to Murray's "Handbook for Travellers in the East," if an accurate census of the Turkish population could be obtained, it would probably be found not [illegible] the twentieth part of the [illegible] dead. The [illegible] view of the most picturesque portion of the ground is from the Sketch-book of one of our Artists. It possesses a melancholy interest in association with the sad events of the war in the East.

THE GREAT CEMETERY, AT SCUTARI.

LAUNCH OF HER MAJESTY'S NEW YACHT, "THE VICTORIA AND ALBERT," AT THE ROYAL DOCKYARD, PEMBROKE.

THE launch of a new Steam-Yacht for her Majesty's service, in place of the *Victoria and Albert* which last year was added to the fleet for general purposes, under the name of the *Windsor Castle*, took place on Tuesday, the 16th inst., from the Royal Dockyard of Pembroke, with the usual ceremonies, in the presence of an immense assemblage of spectators. Her building was commenced in May last year, under the name of the *Windsor Castle*; but, in August last, her Majesty desired it should bear the name of the old yacht, the *Victoria and Albert*, and the vessel accordingly changed names. This ship, which is nearly as long as the great *Himalaya* steamer, is built on the diagonal principle, so as to combine lightness and strength, chiefly of mahogany and East India teak. Her decks are laid with Canada fir planks; there are water tight bulkheads near the State cabins, felt is laid between the beams and deck to deaden sound. The whole space from the paddle-boxes aft is devoted to the accommodation of Royalty. On the upper deck is a large dining room, 24 feet by 17 feet, glazed all round, and commanding an uninterrupted view to sea, and over every part of the weather-deck. From the interior of this saloon or luncheon-house a staircase descends to the main-deck, where the Royal apartments are situated.

The state cabin is 21 feet by 17 feet and the Royal bedchamber 19 feet by 14 feet, with a dressing-room at each end. The cabins are thoroughly ventilated, by means of pipes passing up through the ships sides and terminating at the gunwale upon deck. On the orlop-deck beneath is situated the Royal nursery, and other cabins, for the use of her Majesty's suite. The fore-part of the vessel will be devoted to the berths of the officers and crew.

The launch took place about four o'clock in the afternoon, and, in spite of the threatening weather, so much interest was attached to the launch of the beautiful boat that the crowd almost rivalled the one present at the launch of the *Wellington*. It was hoped, when the vessel's keel was laid, that her Majesty would have been present at the launch and that it would have [illegible] the [illegible] year, but the events since May knocked the first impression [illegible] required for laying down the new [illegible] *Hero*, in [illegible] has been prematurely launched in a rather unfinished state.

The building of Mr. [illegible] the [illegible] of Pembroke, as the designer and builder of this vessel, [illegible] well known [illegible] The *Ruby*, *Garland*, *Vard*, *Rosslyn*, *Iron* [illegible] and many other vessels [illegible] distinguished for extraordinary speed, [illegible] and elegant steam-ship which launch we are recording, [illegible] further efforts in launching [illegible] lines we will warrant the opinion that she will be the fastest vessel in the world.

Her dimensions are as follow: Extreme length over all, 176 feet; length between perpendiculars, 300 feet; length of keel for tonnage, 279 feet; breadth, extreme, 40 feet 3 inches; breadth, for tonnage, 35 feet; depth of hold, 24 feet; height [illegible] deck, 7 feet; [illegible] deck, orlop-deck, 6 feet. [illegible]

The weather on the day was not very favourable for the ceremony, but about [illegible] the weather became [illegible] the setting sun illuminating the [illegible] in a most beautiful manner, and the launch took place amid the [illegible] applause.

The vessel was named the *Victoria and Albert* by Lady Milford, who [illegible] the yard at half past three o'clock, accompanied by Captain Robert Smart, R.N., the Superintendent of the Dockyard, and there were also present Sir Baldwin Walker, the Controller of the Navy, Hon. Captain Dunnan, the Commander of the Royal Yacht, Captain Crespin, Lord Cawdor, and many distinguished ladies and gentlemen. The whole of the Dockyard arrangements were perfect.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 90.)

HOUSE OF LORDS. Thursday.

The Lord Chancellor took his seat on the woolsack at five o'clock.

In consequence of the resignation of Lord John Russell there was a very large attendance of the members of the House of Commons in their Lordships' House. The Duke of Newcastle was the only member of the Government present.

CENSURE OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Lord Lyndhurst gave notice of his intention, on Friday, February 2, to move the following resolution:—

That the expedition to the Crimea was undertaken by her Majesty's Ministers with very inadequate means, and without due caution or sufficient inquiry as to the nature and extent of the resistance to be expected; and that their neglect and mismanagement in the conduct of the war have led to the most disastrous results

LORD RAGLAN'S LETTER.

The Lord Chancellor acquainted their Lordships that he had received a letter from Lord Raglan, acknowledging the vote of thanks their Lordships had passed to the army under his command. The letter was read by his Lordship, and was similar to the one read in the House of Commons yesterday.

The letter was ordered to be entered on the journals of the House.

The Earl of Ellenborough said that, as a noble Lord had given notice of his intention of bringing the conduct of the war under the attention of their Lordships prior to the day on which it had been his intention to do so, he should, under these circumstances, withdraw the notice he had given for Monday next.

RESIGNATION OF LORD J. RUSSELL.

The Duke of Newcastle: My Lords, it has already been announced in the other House of Parliament that the noble Lord who is the leader of the Government in that House has tendered to her Majesty his resignation of the office which he held as President of the Council, and her Majesty has been graciously pleased to accept that resignation. Under these circumstances, on the motion of the Government, the House of Commons consented to adjourn until to-morrow. My noble friend the First Lord of the Treasury, in consequence of that resignation, has gone down to Windsor; and I think your Lordships will agree with me that it will be in accordance with precedent, as well as for the convenience of the House, if your Lordships would follow the example of the House of Commons in this instance, although it may not be essentially necessary, and consent to adjourn until to-morrow. I hope, therefore, those noble Lords who have notices on the paper will consent to postpone them accordingly. I move that the House do now adjourn.

The Earl of Winchilsea was understood to decline postponing his motion

The Earl of Derby said it would be to his personal convenience, as well as for the convenience of the Peers generally, if the noble Earl would postpone his motion until another opportunity

The Earl of Winchilsea reluctantly gave way to this appeal.

Earl Fitzwilliam wished to remind their Lordships that they had been informed of the resignation of one of the most important members of the Government—one who held as prominent a position out of doors as in Parliament, and he thought it was at variance with custom, if not with the principles of the constitution, that their Lordships should proceed to act upon the fact without first receiving some explanation of the causes which had led to the resignation.

The Duke of Newcastle: The noble Earl will permit me to interrupt him The noble Lord to whom he is about to refer has not yet made any statement in his place in the House of Commons; but I have every reason to believe he will make a statement to-morrow night of the causes which have led to his resignation. It would not, therefore, be fair to the noble Lord if the noble Earl were to continue his observations now, and I hope he will see the inexpediency of pursuing the subject at present (Hear, hear).

Earl Fitzwilliam would of course give way, but at the same time he felt that an event of this description ought not to be communicated to either House of Parliament without any explanation as to what were the grounds of the resignation. It did appear to him that the course they were taking was at variance with the constitution, as the explanation ought to be made at the same time the fact was communicated (Hear).

The Marquis of Lansdowne (who was scarcely audible in the gallery) appealed to the noble Earl to withhold his comments for the present. The noble Lord who had resigned his office was the best person to give any explanation of causes which had led to his resignation, and he would not have an opportunity of making any statement until to-morrow.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. Thursday.

The Speaker took the chair shortly before four o'clock

Mr. Lushington took the oaths and his seat for Canterbury.

THE ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

Mr. Roebuck postponed until Friday his motion for a Select Committee to inquire into the condition of the army before Sebastopol, and into the conduct of those departments of the Government whose duty it has been to minister to the wants of the army.

THE WAR AND THE COLONIES.

Sir G. Grey brought up some papers, by command of her Majesty, and took the opportunity of stating what the contents of them were. They consisted of addresses and resolutions passed by several colonial legislatures and public bodies in several of her Majesty's colonies with reference to the subject of the war in which we are engaged. The address from Canada, which was brought over by Lord Elgin, was the joint address of the Council and National Assembly of Canada, and said that the Legislature of that colony had voted £20,000 towards the Patriotic Fund. Within the last few days he had received from Sir F. Head, the new Governor of the colony, two drafts for £10,000 each, being the amount which the Legislature had so voted (Cheers)

The papers were ordered to lie on the table.

SAVINGS-BANK AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES BILL.

On the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the order of the day for the second reading of this bill was read for the purpose of being postponed until Friday.

RESIGNATION OF LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

Mr. Hayter said he had been requested by the noble Lord the President of the Council to say that he had thought it consistent with his public duties to resign the office he had held in connection with her Majesty's Government. He had also to add that her Majesty had been graciously pleased to accept of that resignation. He (Mr. Hayter) had now only to inform the House that the noble Lord would take an early opportunity of stating the reasons for adopting the course which he had now taken (Hear, hear, and cheers)

Lord Palmerston: Sir, after the statement which has just been made by my right hon. friend, I trust the House will not think that her Majesty's Government are trespassing too much on their indulgence if I ask the House to adjourn until to-morrow. There are obvious reasons, I think, why I should make that proposal; and I should hope, therefore, those gentlemen who have motions standing for to-night will have the goodness to postpone them until to-morrow, when they will stand in the same position as they do now. I beg to move that this House do now adjourn.

Mr. Drummond and Sir J. Pakington would only consent to the postponement of motions for which they had given notice on condition of facilities for bringing them on being afforded by the Government.

Lord Palmerston said, it was the wish and intention of the Government that the motions should stand to-morrow night in the same order that they stood to-night.

Mr. Roebuck said, unless the House should otherwise determine, his motion could not take precedence of the order of the day to-morrow, and he trusted her Majesty's Government would consent to his motion being taken first to-morrow night.

Lord Palmerston said, the Government could have no possible objection to that, because there were no orders of the day for to-morrow (Hear, hear).

The House then adjourned at twenty-five minutes to five o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS. Friday.

Lord Aberdeen rose to explain the cause of the resignation of the noble Lord the President of the Council, and he thought that his best course would be to read the letter which tendered it. The letter stated that, Mr. Roebuck having given notice of his intention of bringing the general administration of the war under the consideration of the House of Commons, he thought it advisable to tender his resignation, as he did not conceive how that motion could be resisted. Lord Aberdeen proceeded to explain that, so early as September last, Lord J. Russell had expressed his dissatisfaction at the war conducted by the Government, and had regretted the step which his noble friend had thought proper to take, and expressed again and again how sensible he was of the great loss her Majesty's Government had sustained by his resignation. However, he and his colleagues felt bound to await the issue of Mr. Roebuck's motion.

Lord Berners inquired whether the attention of the Government had been called to the procession of Roman Catholic ecclesiastics in their robes in the town of Turin on 15th of August?

The Earl of Aberdeen admitted that the procession referred to was illegal, and said that a statement upon the subject had been made to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, with whom it rested to decide whether any proceedings should be taken against the offending parties by the Government

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.—THE PRESS.

The Earl of Winchilsea called the attention of the House to the course taken by the press with respect to the war in the Crimea, and proceeded to condemn the publication of facts referring to the movements of our army in the Crimea, which publication was calculated to do great injury by affording information to the enemy. The noble Earl asked whether it was true that a free passage had been given by the Government to certain representatives of the press proceeding to the seat of war, and whether any such gentlemen were allowed to share in the rations of our troops in the Crimea?

The Duke of Newcastle said that one gentleman connected with the press had applied for a free passage on board a vessel conveying our troops to Malta; but, as it was found to be contrary to military regulations to grant such permission, the Government sent word down to Southampton that it could not be allowed; and the gentleman in question had found his way out by some other means. It was true that a gentleman of the press had partaken of some of the rations that were distributed to the army in the Crimea; but as that was also found to be contrary to military regulations, the practice was discontinued.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Friday.

The Hon. Mr. Cole took the oaths and his seat for Fermanagh.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S EXPLANATION

Lord J. Russell (who spoke from one of the back benches) said, he had postponed until that day the statement he wished to make in reference to his resignation of the office which he lately had the honour to hold as President of the Council. On Tuesday last, when he was present in that House, the hon. and learned gentleman the member for Sheffield gave a notice of motion for a Select Committee to inquire into the condition of the army before Sebastopol. The power of inquiry was undoubtedly one of the most valuable privileges of that House; for by means of inquiry the House could correct abuses, promote reforms, check mal-administration, and strengthen those establishments which stood in need of improvement. No one could deny the melancholy condition of our army before Sebastopol (Hear, hear). To this statement he must add, that there was something, with all the official knowledge he possessed, which was inexplicable in the condition of our army in the Crimea (Cheers from the Opposition). If he had been told, as a reason against the expedition to the Crimea, last year that the troops would have been seven miles from the sea—seven miles from a secure port which it was then hoped they would possess—that they would be without good clothes and shelter to such a degree that they perished to the extent of 30 to 100 in a day, he should have considered such an argument utterly untenable and unsound (Hear). He wished to state that he was not in a position to give a faint "no" to the proposal, not to express in vague and equivocal terms that the motion might not be carried, or to use any evasion with a view to defeat it. There was the strongest inducement possible to put forward an objection to the Committee of Inquiry which the hon. and learned gentleman intended moving for; but he found, upon reflection, that it was impossible for him to urge with effect that objection consistently with his own conscience and a desire for truth ("Hear, hear," and cheers). The noble Lord then referred to the appointment of the Duke of Newcastle as Minister of War, in which he was a party, and proceeded to say that in the beginning of November it struck him that a better acquaintance of affairs relating to the war was required (Cheers from the Opposition). In order to carry out his views a correspondence took place between him and the noble Lord at the head of the Government. From this correspondence the noble Lord read extracts. The object of the letters was to induce Lord Aberdeen to consent to the appointment of Lord Palmerston to the office of Minister of War—a course, however, to which Lord Aberdeen would not consent. As Lord Aberdeen could not be induced to recommend the proposed change to the Queen, he (Lord J. Russell) felt bound, on Tuesday last, to resign his connection with the Government (Hear, hear). Lord Aberdeen went to Windsor with the resignation, and her Majesty had been pleased to accept it. He was rejoiced to hear that the object he had aimed at was now accomplished, and that the noble Lord was to have the direction of the War Department. He was glad that his retirement should have led to the appointment of his noble friend With respect to the war, the prospects were not in his opinion so gloomy as to justify the feeling of depression that at present existed. It was owing to the efforts made by Austria in conjunction with the Western Powers, that the Emperor of Russia had already shaded a great deal of his pretensions; and the prospect of having that Power—a Power capable of contributing 500,000 men—an active ally, was due to the patience of his noble friend the Earl of Clarendon. As regarded the Emperor of the French, he (Lord J Russell) had no hesitation in saying that he would remain the firm and faithful ally of this country to the end of the war. In fact, if they were to obtain a peace just and honourable to England, just and honourable to France, and safe to Europe, it would depend on the patriotism of the House, the fidelity of the Emperor of the French, and the assistance of Austria. The Whig party had been censured for being exclusive, anxious for office, and jealous of having others participate with them in it; but that was unjust censure, as no party could have behaved with more generosity than the Whig party, which supported Lord Aberdeen's Government, and it should ever be his pride to have belonged to it.

Lord Palmerston, having passed a high eulogium on the character of Lord John Russell, proceeded to say that, with regard to the circumstances to which the noble Lord had referred, it was not for him to say whether his noble friend was right or wrong in agreeing to the appointment of the Duke of Newcastle as Minister of the War Department, or whether he had been right or wrong in proposing in November last that he (Lord Palmerston) should succeed the noble Duke; but he had to say that he had joined in the unanimous request of the Cabinet to the noble Lord to remain as matters at present stood. The other members of the Government would not imitate the conduct of his noble friend, and run away from the motion, but would abide the decision of the House upon it.

WAR ADMINISTRATION.

Mr. Roebuck then rose to move for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the condition of our army before Sebastopol, and into the conduct of those departments of the Government whose duty it has been to minister to the wants of that army. After a few observations, the hon. and learned gentleman was compelled, from physical debility, to resume his seat, which he did amid the warmest demonstrations from all parts of the House

Mr. S. Herbert defended the Government from the charges of neglecting to send out sufficient stores to the army in the Crimea. He stated that there was an abundant supply of everything that was necessary in the harbour of Balaclava; but the cause of the low condition of our army was the difficulty of conveying those stores from Balaclava to the Camp, which, although only a distance of six miles, presented more greater obstacles to means of conveyance than the 3000 miles to be travelled from this country to the shores of the Crimea

A lengthened debate then took place, which resulted in a notice of adjournment to Monday, which was moved by Mr. Stafford.—Adjourned.

We have reason to believe that Sir Henry George Ward, G.C.M.G., now Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, will succeed Sir George Anderson, K.C.B., in the Government of Ceylon.—*Globe.*

The Paris journals mention the death of Mr. William Hope, at his splendid hotel in the Rue St. Dominique.

COUNTRY NEWS.

The Members for Manchester.—A soirée was given to the members for Manchester on Friday se'nnight. Eleven members of Parliament, and about 800 persons in all, assembled in the Corn-exchange.—Mr. George Wilson presiding. The speakers were Mr Gibson, Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, and General Thompson. Mr. Gibson reviewed the proceedings of last session, which he characterised as abortive—the Reform Bill wisely abandoned; the Bribery Bill emasculated; and the Jew Bill mismanaged. Next session he hoped to see the newspaper stamp settled. In treating of the war, Mr. Gibson admitted that war is sometimes necessary. Eastern question should be settled by the doctrine of the balance of power; not doubting the sincerity of Russia, he would settle it upon the Four Points. Mr. Bright attributed the war to the passions of the press, which had been roused by the Government with great bitterness. It had been said that there would have been no war had Lord Palmerston been in power; but he had no confidence in the Minister who attacked Greece, bowed no Hungarian flag at the office of Hungary, and treated the Queen with disrespect. He said a member of Government had spoken of the army of Russia as composed of 800,000 men, and he characterised the Government as stark staring mad who could with that knowledge send such an army as we had to the Crimea. Mr. Cobden expressed an opinion that negotiations for peace were now going on, and said there was a very great misapprehension that the terms of peace were irrevocably passed to Russia and that Russia had accepted them; that those terms implied no loss of territory to Russia; and therefore, of course, not the permanent possession of any part of the Crimea—in fact, that the terms were very moderate. He suspected that the Government, having raised the devil of war, had not the courage to announce to the public the terms which they sought to lay him at rest. These terms were very well known—they must be known, for the diplomatists of Vienna took time enough for the interpretation of their own protocol from the 2nd to the 28th December, but that it must have been fully explained if that were kept back either by the country or France, because orders had been sent out to storm Sebastopol at any cost. If this were done in the interest of a dynasty or a ministry—if blood was to be shed in torrents for the occupation of a town, every street of which was barricaded, and every house converted into a fortress, to be defended by the most determined troops in the world when behind such breastworks—we should hear some day that twenty thousand of the Allies had been put *hors de combat*, whilst Sebastopol was delivered to the licence of the soldiery, and every conceivable outrage committed within it that could make it a hell on earth; and if they found, from a comparison of dates, that the negotiations had been protracted for this, then he hoped no ringing of bells, throwing up caps, or preaching from pulpits would ever for a moment shield a Government that had lent itself for any motives whatever to a deed so dark and indefensible. Major-General Thompson afterwards addressed the meeting

Fatal Snowstorm.—During Monday and the two preceding days the southern coast was visited by a violent gale of wind from the north-north-east, and heavy falls of snow. In the height of the storm on Saturday morning a fine barque called the *Ismet Bajed*, of Glasgow, from Hamburg, was totally lost on the Margate Sands, with every soul on board. Between eight and nine o'clock the attention of the boatmen was called to a bark of about 400 tons burden running in from the North Sea. She had a jack hoisted at her fore a signal for a pilot—but help could not be rendered her at the time. The wind was blowing heavily, with a tremendous sea on, and her situation was at once observed to be most critical. Most of the luggers and hovelling-boats at Margate were aground, the water being low, and before the tide could flow to float them considerable delay ensued. The progress of the ill-fated bark was watched with much anxiety by some hundreds who thronged the pier. She had got a little to the westward of the Tongue Light, when she missed stays and struck upon the north-east spit of the sands In a short time the crew were seen on the afterparts of the ship, preparing for the worst. It was impossible for a boat to leave her, and their only chance seemed to be clinging to pieces of the wreck. The sea broke with tremendous force over her. At length the mizzenmast went over the ship's side, and then the foremast and mainmast, and in little more than a quarter of an hour from her taking the sands not a vestige of her or any of her crew could be seen. On the tide flowing sufficiently, several luggers were floated and manned by some fifty or sixty boatmen, who proceeded to the scene of the catastrophe. The gale continued with unabated force, and the boats, in getting away, were placed in considerable peril, some of them striking with such violence as to threaten their instant destruction. The boatmen, however, kept on through the foaming surf, and, on reaching where the ship had gone adrift, nothing of her or her unhappy hands could be discerned—all had perished and disappeared. On the morning day (Sunday) some of the luggers again went out to the scene of the wreck, and picked up one of the bark's boats; the stern-board was also taken into Margate in the course of the day, which led to the discovery of the name. Some portion of her cargo—cases of vases and glass ornaments, and rolls of India matting—has also been recovered. The crew amounted to about twenty-five

Sunday Drinking in Scotland.—The existence of "shebeens" in Glasgow is proof of the extent of Sunday drinking A glance at some of the multitudinous modes in which this "evil" is carried on, will show what the police have to contend against. In one place, professedly an oyster-shop, a hole has been cut in the roof, through which a bottle of whisky is conveyed for customers, who are refused unless they first police present themselves. A similar plan is adopted at another house, which happens to be immediately above a publican's premises An arrangement has been made with the publican to supply liquor through a trapdoor cut through the floor. Whenever the "shebeen" is drained dry, three importunate knocks are made on the floor, and a fresh supply comes up directly by a cord lowered for the purpose. In a house in Rotten-row, Glasgow, there happens to be a front-door below the level of the street, and a back window on the level of a green. The inmates have adopted the plan of keeping business hours, and at whichever side of the house a policeman or suspicious person is first seen, the customers are immediately out at the opposite side. The parties who come to get their bottles filled usually prefer to make the transaction at the back window, but if they see any signs of danger, go round to the other side, and either get what they want there or wait till a more favourable opportunity. A plan which has been followed with success was that of employing a boy to stand before the door of a house situated at the end of a close in High-street, open at each end. The boy has in his possession a bottle of whisky, sells it at so much per glass; and, if a constable comes in sight, runs out at the other end of the close. He practised this manœuvre with success until a constable was stationed at the one end of the close, his neighbour approached at the other end, and the boy ran into the embrace of the former. In a certain house, known to be a "shebeen," the inmates were baffled for a long time, till one of them lifted a kettle, which was placed on the hob, and found it filled with whisky. In a low hovel off Bridgegate, a woman used to sit with a bottle concealed between her knees. Her chair was placed immediately over a hole near the hearth, and communicating with a soot cellar. Whenever any alarm was given the bottle was rolled over into the hole, which was also lid by a green. Nothing could be found to justify policemen in interference. Several dairies in High-street and Bridgegate are in reality whisky shops in disguise. In one of them, the shopkeeper, an Irishman, after he serves customers with milk, will ask with a peculiar emphasis, whether they do not want some "crams." If the hint is taken, the whisky is immediately forthcoming, and if not, the purchaser has, at the worst, but a glass of milk to pay for. In a house in Bridgegate an enterprising barber gives his customers a shave and a glass of whisky for threepence

Distressing Occurrence.—An affair of a most melancholy kind has thrown two families in Leith into grief. A party had assembled in the house of an eminent Leith merchant on Wednesday, and while amusing themselves in the drawing-room, at a late hour in the evening, two young gentlemen, one of them the son of the house, commenced a fence with a couple of swords, when, either by an awkward thrust, or some accidental slip or push, the short sword used by the latter entered his friend's side, and inflicted a mortal wound. The deceased was the son of a most respectable merchant in Leith.

Wine-duties.—The Cadiz papers give an account of Mr. Oliveira's visit to that city in connection with this subject, and intimate the deep interest which all the great houses at Xeres and Port St. Mary's take in the question. The hon. gentleman, it seems, has made a complete survey of the various establishments, and been most favourably received; added to which the leading commercial houses of Cadiz are beginning to view the principles of Free-trade with some favour, even as regards a reduction of the Spanish tariff. Mr. Oliveira is expected home early in February, when he will bring forward in the House of Commons his motion on the Wine-duties.

Three Hundred stout porters are to be sent from Constantinople to Balaclava, and attached to the British army. They, and 600 more will be to follow, are to assist in transporting the stores from the ships to the Camp.

Another anti-war meeting was held at Manchester on Wednesday evening, the professed object of which was to promote peace and reform. An amendment in favour of the war was carried

At the naval clubs a rumour is very current that, in consequence of the decision of the Admiralty not to continue Sir Charles Napier in command of the Baltic fleet, Rear-Admiral Martin (now Admiral Superintendent of Portsmouth Dockyard) will be selected for that very onerous post, and that he will have under him as second in command, Rear-Admiral Michael Seymour, who so ably and satisfactorily discharged the duties of Captain of the Fleet during the past season in the Baltic. *Morning Chronicle.*

PRUSSIA AND THE ALLIED POWERS.

The diplomatic correspondence between Prussia and the Allied Powers which has been published this week throws considerable light upon the present aspect of the great European question of peace or war. On the 5th inst., Baron Manteuffel, the Prussian Minister, addressed a letter to Count Arnim, the Prussian Envoy at Vienna, explaining the reasons why Prussia refuses to fulfil the military engagements she entered into with Austria, in virtue of the treaty of the 20th of April. In that despatch the Prussian Minister endeavours to show that Austria is mistaken in supposing that Prussia will assume the offensive if she be first attacked. According to him, Russia is sincerely desirous to make peace, and has "unreservedly accepted the four points as they were proposed to her." And now that negotiations are going on, Baron Manteuffel claims, on behalf of Prussia, that it should be allowed to remain neutral. The right to such a privilege "Prussia does not found on her being a sharer in any stipulation connected with the present Eastern complication, but on her quality of a great European Power, and on its well-worn right, has participated in all the treaties that regulate the legal state of things in Europe."

Count Buol, on the part of Austria, replies to these arguments in a despatch of the 14th inst. He denies that Russia has given any guarantee that she will confine herself to the defence of her own territory, and points to the invasion of the Dobrudja the other day as a proof that Russia has not bound herself to any such conditions. The situation of affairs has not lost anything of that threatening character which the Bund has recognised, and therefore the Imperial Minister intends to propose to the Committee that a motion be made in the Diet that at least one-half of the several contingents shall be made *mobile*, unless the opinion should prevail that it would be more advisable to place the whole of the Federal army in readiness for operations.

The despatch of M. Drouyn de Lhuys, in reply to the Prussian Note, is much sharper in its tone than that of Count Buol, as will be seen from the following analysis, which is almost a verbatim copy of it:—

The Cabinet of Paris establishes that Prussia explains her refusal to mobilise her army—1st, because she does not believe in the imminence of an attack upon Austria by Russia. 2ndly, because the support which she would have to give ought to be preceded by an *entente* between the contracting parties upon the feasibility of carrying out the eventual conventions. Prussia adds, moreover, that there can be the less objection to suspend the execution thereof, because, if it was really necessary to place the Prussian army on a war footing, it could be done within the period fixed upon. The Prussian Government, therefore, is resolved not to change the character of its obligations. The additional article may have extended them, but it has not modified their nature; and Prussia only engaged herself towards Austria to a *defensive* alliance. The two powers, German Powers, moreover, ought to unite their efforts to obtain the adhesion of Russia to the four points specified in the notes of the 8th of August; and it would be necessary for the realisation of that community of action that Prussia herself should participate in the definition of these first bases of a future peace.

As regards the acts the object of which would be either to consolidate the balance of power in Europe or to modify existing treaties, and which Prussia had signed, her right to participate therein does not depend upon this or that accidental stipulation; it is due to the rank she holds in the world. King Frederick William, to maintain it, will not be deterred by dangers and sacrifices, which the nation would share with as much devotion and energy as patriotism.

Another despatch from M. de Manteuffel (the above is the analysis of that of the 5th of January) brings out in more prominent relief the principal points where Prussia establishes that, the more she intrenches herself behind the strict interpretation of her engagements by the resistance to the pressure made to extend them against her will, the more, on the contrary, will she be disposed to enlarge them by means of negotiation, provided her position and her dignity as a great Power are respected.

The Cabinet of Paris behalfs in the exposé given in M. de Manteuffle's despatches two distinct orders of ideas—the one special to the relations of the Prussian Government with the Court of Vienna, the other concerning the *ensemble* of its position in Europe.

On the first point France is resolved not to interfere in questions which exclusively concern the German Confederation; on the second the Cabinet of Paris feels itself bound to explain itself.

The Cabinet of Paris does not pretend to contest to Prussia the rank she holds. May more, during the last two years it has only remanded her of the obligations of that high rank of which she is so justly proud. But it thinks it a duty to observe that the quality of great power is permanent—it cannot be cast off when it implies onerous duties, and be resumed when it only offers advantages. Privileges and duties of this importance are absolutely correlative. The one is inseparable from the other. It is not to be supposed that England and Austria take a different view of the case from France. But so much is certain—that France will never allow that a Power which, from its own free will, took no part in the great events which are taking place in the world shall afterwards maintain a claim to regulate the consequences thereof. The advantages arising from the war are only for the belligerent Powers. And the principal of the rights (at (essentially moral advantages) consist in the right of participation, in the interests of Europe, in the regulations of peace. Prussia has not done anything to aid in that object. She has refused to proclaim her neutrality. That resolution does her honour. But, in reality, on what side is she? If hostilities continue, will she be with or against the Allied Powers? This is what no one can tell.

Can Prussia reproach France for her confidence in Austria? The limits of confidence have been so different. By a movement which she declares purely a defensive, Prussia evacuates the Principalities; Prussia deliberately declares herself satisfied; while Austria, on the very morrow of the day upon which that evacuation is communicated to her, exchanges the notes of the 8th of August with France and England. On the 20th of November France concludes an alliance with Austria; the Court to the four points; Prussia congratulates herself on having obtained the object of her efforts; while Austria signs the treaty of alliance of the 2nd of December with the Western Powers. On the 21st of January Russia accepts the interpretation of the four guarantees; Prussia, fancying the success of her policy complete, rejects the appreciation made by Austria of the treaty of the 20th of April, and refuses to call out her contingent; while Austria spontaneously hastens to recognise that the case provided for by Article of the treaty of the 2nd of December is realised, that the re-establishment of a war is at present, and offers to combine her plans of military operations with the Allied Powers.

Is there a wish of maintaining that Austria finds in the alliance of the 2nd of December advantages not shared by Prussia? What are they? The observation of Prussia, doubtless, does not imply an assent; but yet, as a proposition is made to conclude a *Prussian* treaty, beside the *Austrian* treaty, it would be well to explain the exact meaning of the proposition. Was that the object of M. d'Usedom's mission to London? That mission was wrapped up in so much mystery that its real object is not yet known in Paris. But, the more endeavours were made to conceal it, the more were made to discover it. All that has been discovered is that Prussia exerted all her efforts to prevent the Allies from waging the war upon the vulnerable point of the enemy, and to prevent the passage of their troops through Germany. What did the offer as a compensation? To place a *corps d'armée* on the Polish frontier—that is to say, that Prussia with one hand would turn aside the sword of the Allied Powers, and with the other cover Russia as with a shield. Might one not be authorized to suppose that M. d'Usedom had different treaties in his portfolio, and took out by mistake the wrong one at London—that which was to have been produced at St. Petersburg?

The French Government has not the intention, you may be assured, of hurting the feelings of Prussia. It expresses itself thus in a loyal and sincere spirit. [illegible] the exact meaning of the proposition. Was that the object of M. d'Usedom's mission to London? That mission was wrapped up in so much mystery that its real object is not yet known in Paris. But, the more endeavours were made to conceal it, the more were made to discover it. All that has been discovered is that Prussia exerted all her efforts to prevent the Allies from waging the war upon the vulnerable point of the enemy, and to prevent the passage of their troops through Germany. What did the offer as a compensation? To place a *corps d'armée* on the Polish frontier—that is to say, that Prussia with one hand would turn aside the sword of the Allied Powers, and with the other cover Russia as with a shield. Might one not be authorized to suppose that M. d'Usedom had different treaties in his portfolio, and took out by mistake the wrong one at London—that which was to have been produced at St. Petersburg?

The French Government has not the intention, you may be assured, of hurting the feelings of Prussia. It expresses itself thus in a loyal and sincere spirit. [illegible] Prussia, that it [illegible] is in the hope to see Prussia at least give up a position in which, if it had been happy enough to see its efforts crowned with success, she would not have been to-day.

THE BLACK SEA TELEGRAPH. The screw-steamer *Black Sea* left the Wear on Thursday week, with the Balaclava and Varna submarine telegraph cable on board, and Messrs. Newall and Co.'s staff of workpeople, who will be employed to submerge it. She had a fair wind, and has every prospect of a quick run out. She will call at Malta to take up Mr. Liddell, C.E., and Captain Du Cane, of the Royal Engineers, and will then proceed to the Crimea or Varna, as will be most convenient, to submerge the cable. Messrs. Newall and Co.'s managers and workpeople have taken due precaution not to be delayed, as they have taken everything out with them carts, hats, &c.—for their use while laying down the land portion of their work, and have four non-commissioned officers of the Sappers and Miners with them aboard the steamer, who will be able to work the apparatus when completed. The weight of the four hundred miles of cable is 300 tons, and the contract is stated to be £60,000. The system upon which the Black Sea telegraph will be worked is Morse's, but with an important modification by Mr. Carl Frischen, of Hanover, which has been patented by Messrs. Newall and Co. Morse's apparatus prints messages upon long slips of paper as they are received into the office, and thus avoids the slow process of copying by pencil into slips. Mr Frischen's inventing further extends the usefulness of the Morse system, by making it possible for messages to be sent along one wire from both ends at the same instant of time. Thus a clerk telegraphing at Varna can be receiving, by the same wire by which he is sending his communication, and at the same instant, a message from Balaclava. The single wire, by Mr. Frischen's process, conveys several messages from either end at the same moment; and a clerk at the Varna telegraphing at the time that he is receiving, sees both messages. The circumstances under which the Black Sea telegraph is now on board a first-class steam-vessel in its passage out to be submerged are strikingly illustrative of the energy of the English character, when under wise and able direction. Messrs. Newall and Co. only received final instructions from the Government to make the 400 miles of cable on the 15th December. The vessel that now has it on board was on the stocks at Jarrow not half-finished; but by Saturday week she had her coals and stores on board, her crew shipped and ready for sea, had 400 miles of telegraph cable stowed away in her hold, with an infinite number of packages and bales of clothing thrust into every available corner, for the use of the soldiers in the Crimea, and was in trim to be swung for the purpose of having her passes adjusted.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

CHARLES LAMB wrote several charming essays about popular fallacies; more learnedly, and scarcely less agreeably, Sir Thomas Browne battered down a whole Sebastopol of "Vulgar Errors;" but both left untouched that greatest of humbugs, the first article of a political economist's creed, that "the supply of any article is equal to its demand." Read the *Times*, or any other newspaper possessing an "own Correspondent" at the seat of war, and judge whether the demand for beef and blankets, drugs and pickles, is not a good deal greater in the Crimea than the supply of these comfortable articles; inquire about the War-office, and discover if the supply of that article which the *Times* calls "Head"—the meaning whereof is a willingness on the part of Government officials to do anything they are not obliged to do—is at all equal to the want of it; and, above all, ask the lessee of a theatre what chance there is that his demand, however energetically expressed, will get for him in the course of a season two or three good original dramas. There certainly never was a time when men of literary talent were less inclined to write for the stage than at present; indeed there are hardly more than three or four writers going whom an intelligent manager could ask to write for him, having a reasonable conviction that their production would not help him down the broad road that leadeth to Basing-hall-street. Not but that plenty of plays are proposed, and even written and sent into managers. Their tables usually tremble under the weight of manuscript. Five-act, two-act, three-act pieces—pieces in verse and in prose—pieces tragical, comical, historical, pastoral, diabolical—pieces, in short everything except *actable*, are found there in profusion. Some years ago I looked over a bale (about the size of a truss of hay) of manuscript plays which had been sent to a manager of my acquaintance. I did not attempt to read them—far from it—that would have occupied half a lifetime, with moderate or fidgety at its close; but I cast my eye over some two dozen, and I protest that by no means the worse was a five-act tragedy in blank verse, written by a ballet-girl, called "Devereux the Disowned." The spelling was not good, but worse plays have run a fair number of nights at the Victoria. The most curious part of the business is that you never can argue *à priori*, what manner of man is likely to write a good play. Dramatic writing is altogether a *sui generis* affair—the cleverest men break down upon it. Not very long ago a well-known critic, one who had given much attention to theatrical matters, and certainly a man of taste and talent, had two tragedies damned—utterly, irremediably damned, within a fortnight one at the Olympic and the other at the Haymarket. This was really a proud position, and quite subversive of the old saying, "Non bis in idem." What I have written is meant as an explanation and an excuse for the fact that the most intelligent managers of theatres are absolutely compelled to place their chief reliance in translations. Even this melancholy resource now fails them; for Parisian authorship is now by no means as fruitful as it used to be in good plays; or, at least, in plays that can be successfully done into English. The productions, for instance of Emile Augier, or De Musset, or George Sand, however successful in Paris, rarely pay for translation. This being the case, Mr. Kean "tries back" some thirty years, falls upon Casimir Delavigne, poet dear to the Restoration, and brings out, most successfully, an adaptation, by Mr. Bourcicault, of his "Louis Onze."

It is less a play than a part written for Talma, who rehearsed it many times, but, for some reason, never performed it. Ligier made the best part of his fame in it at the Français; but Ligier never made so much of it as Mr. Kean has done. His performance is, from first to last, an exceedingly fine and well-studied piece of acting—quiet and sustained—not full of "points," as some actors would have made it, playing, like porcupines, alternately smooth and bristling. It is true that a hypercritic might say that Mr. Kean is sometimes hardly worn and decrepid enough for the character of the sick old miscreant, but this seems inevitable where energetic words are to be spoken. On the whole, *Louis XI.* is far the best part Mr. Kean has played, but the play itself would have been none the worse if it had been written in prose instead of blank verse, which only courtesy can term poetry.

Revivals in dramatic matters are dangerous things; the world does not stand still, and the habits and manners of one age are so different from those of another that it rarely happens that the applauded play of one century creates the slightest interest in the next. It is all very well to say that wit and passion are eternal; but wit and passion on the stage are not mere mental attributes. Congreve's or Farquhar's *Dorilants* and *Belmours* are as amusing in the library as ever, but the plays in which they are characters would be unendurable on the stage. If, then, the plays of a hundred years ago are unbearable, what chance is there a modern adaptation from the old Greek theatre should be anything better than a solemn humbug? Such a production could only succeed as the means for showing off some wonderful dramatic talent—some Garrick or Kemble; but, however well, as a merely literary work, it may be executed, our present tragic mediocrities can never succeed in making it more than that most hopeless thing, "a respectable performance." Why, if there are two qualities which are notoriously necessary to a play in these days, they are movement and plot just the two qualities which were never thought of on the Athenian stage. Mr. Spicer thinks otherwise, for he has adapted, or rather founded a play upon, the "Alcestis" of Euripides, the Greek Racine. The fault is in the idea, not in the execution; for it would be impossible to bore an audience in better language. *Hercules*, by Mr. Stuart, is a great piece of stage getting up—

The force of *padding* can no farther go;

and is really worth seeing. However, it is real pleasure to hear Gluck's magnificent music in the choruses. Two more facts about theatres, and then I have done with them for the present. The new two-act comedy produced on Monday, at the Olympic, is by Mr. F. Talfourd, and Mr. Thackeray has produced a play to the manager of the same theatre, which will probably be brought out before Easter. This will be something worth seeing; and it is a compliment to Mr. Wigan that his theatre has been chosen by one of the best of our novelists for the production of his first drama.

It is certain that, considering its agreable contents, there is no great influence of visitors, just now, to the Crystal Palace—taking the distance and the temperature into consideration, it would be marvellous if there was; still, as it appears that some eight or nine hundred people do go there daily, it may not be uninteresting to say that there is about to be a great change in the management of the Refreshment department. Mr. Horne (who would persist in charging everybody the same price, whether they contented themselves with the simple sandwich, or more ravenously consumed meat, poultry, lobsters, and pastry) has been dethroned; and Mr. Staples, host of the Albion, in Aldersgate-street (dear to City *gourmands*) rules in his stead. The arrangement, too, of the localities for eating and drinking is to be entirely changed. There are to be distinctions—first, second, and third-class Refreshment-rooms which will be separate apartments, so as not to be in view from the Great Aisle of the building. So, henceforth, specimens of British coarseness will not be the first thing presented to the stranger's eyes as he ascends from the railway: lobster-salad shall not be discovered lurking beneath the claw of the lion; nor shall the instep of the noble savage be besmeared with irreverent pale ale.

Behind the present refreshment counter (which, if not entirely done away with, will support nothing but cakes and buns—such light cates as "delight and hurt not") is to be the second class refreshment-room; at the opposite end of the building, beyond Nineveh and the tropical plants, will be that for the first-class. Here, at least (for the plans are not entirely matured), you will eat *à la carte*;—cold things, of course, chiefly, but much choice of them, and with the power of ordering that and that only which you happen to fancy. Far down in that still unfinished tall of the building which projects Kent-wards, opposite the railway station, there is to be a sumptuous divan—a place for newspapers and magazines, as well as cigars and coffee. It is further promised that the coffee shall not be that abominable white-brown beverage which, during last year, was concocted in tremendous brass retorts. The situation for the third-class refreshment rooms—the most important in every point of view, even as regards profit to the *entrepeneur*—has not yet been quite fixed upon, but will be in some part of the basement story. All this is much as it should be, and gives hopes that there will be some improvement in the management, hitherto so defective, of this fine edifice.

THE COMING PARLIAMENTARY CAMPAIGN.

(From a Correspondent.)

AN impression seems very generally to prevail that the disturbance which the existence of war invariably produces in all the social systems within its influence, is likely to affect our own political atmosphere, and to impose upon it a larger portion of the antagonistic element than has been observable since the great stagnation of party warfare which followed the abolition of the Corn-laws. There is much talk, in political circles, of reconstructed and re-invigorated parties; and it is thought that the present Session will witness some of those Parliamentary conflicts which afford materials to our Macaulays and Martines is for graphic episodes, but whose utility to the nation a philosopher must fail to detect.

We are well aware that calculation and premeditation have far less share in the production of a political crisis than the world, which likes to believe in the wisdom of its notables, is ordinarily disposed to allow. The wonderful sagacity which, when events are over, is shown to have brought them about, and is extolled for its prescient generalship, is a very quality than the writers of histories find it convenient to admit. The artistic effect of the description of the crash of a Ministry, or the carrying a great measure, is so greatly heightened by the concentration of the interest around a pair of hostile champions, riding in their respective whirlwinds and directing their respective storms, that neither writer nor reader likes a more commonplace treatment. Yet, could the true history of such incidents be given, it would be seen that to sudden thought and accidental relations are due very many of the great moves in our political history. With this conviction strong upon us, we are disposed to attach less value to the rumours which assign to the leaders of party a deliberate intention to fight a series of battles with a view to a proposed result. But, at the same time, and while making all allowance for the inevitable restlessness caused by the fact that war is raging almost within telegraphic distance from our coast, we do not think it at all improbable that our Houses of Parliament, and chiefly the House of Commons, will present more scenes of excitement and conflict during the approaching months than have marked recent Sessions.

The Opposition makes no secret of its belief that, though it is not strong enough to rush upon office and hold it against all comers, the present condition of the war, and the general dissatisfaction which prevails in regard to its conduct, would tell in the favour of almost any candidates for office who might promise a change of system. Its leaders consider that, were they now to take office, and unanimously address themselves with vigour to the prosecution of the war, the country would not be inclined to eject them on the ground of their unpopular political theories; and that then any fortunate turn in the war such as may reasonably be expected in the coming spring, would be excellent capital in bidding for the future confidence of the nation. Add to this a fact of which the wiser men of the party are not so anxious to make proclamation—namely, that there are a great number of the second-rate members of the Opposition who are almost rabidly eager for office, and who occasionally embarrass their chiefs by ill-timed clamour to be led to battle; and it will be seen that there are reasons for surmising that the ranks on the Speaker's left may make a demonstration at no distant period.

The conduct of the war and the management of supplies has always been considered a legitimate subject for discussion; and it would, indeed, be most absurd that any tangling conventionalities should prevent the representatives of the nation from demanding the fullest inquiry into the most vitally important questions which can possibly be raised. If the Opposition can succeed in convincing the country that her Majesty's present Ministers are unfit to conduct so vast an affair as a war, and can next persuade it that the Earl of Malmesbury and Sir John Pakington would be fitter guardians of the honour of the nation, they have a constitutional right to do so. But the decision of Parliament ought to be taken on the merits of the question, and not upon any craftily-devised motion for catching votes which do not express opinions. For example, Mr. Bright professes himself ready to vote for any motion which entailed his vote (and in his reckless self-will he would probably give it where it might do most mischief), would simply be a vote-trap, and unworthy of a party which aspires to rule a great nation. We are the more disposed to insist upon this, because the Opposition leader has already shown skill in framing this kind of device, and because we hold that a Ministry could not do its duty manfully or honourably, that succumbed to any sham majority. If one-half of the Opposition charges against Government be just, Opposition itself will act most unjustifiably and unconstitutionally, if it do not bring the question to one of "confidence" at the earliest opportunity. There is ample field for the antagonistism said to be so rampant, and here is a means for the legitimate exercise of party strength.

We have written as bystanders, for our own convictions have already been recorded, and it will, we trust, be remembered how unwilling we have ever been to permit the great interests of a nation to be used as mere counters in the game of parties. So tremendous a fact as a war, in which the blood of thousands is being poured out as water, is too solemn for us to assent to its being discussed except with the gravity it should exact. The Coodles and the Foodles may wrangle for their places, and carry motions of censure and resolutions for papers, and play the rest of the Parliamentary game, when nothing of more consequence than a Coodle or a Foodle is in question. But England is now in mourning for her lost children; and, it may be, in terror for those whom she still calls her own. This is no time for factious squabbles. If the war be mismanaged, prove the fact, and let those who are incapable of duty be thrust from office; but, in the name of a nation's destiny, let us have no mockery of patriotism. Faction is ever contemptible, but faction clamouring and stumbling amid the Crimean graves, would be too outrageous an insult to humanity.

WAR TESTIMONIAL.—It will be remembered by those who read the recent attack on Odessa that Capt. J. B. Dickson, R.N., highly distinguished himself on that occasion, when in command of the gun-boats, for which service he received his promotion to post rank. In addition to this honourable notice, Capt. Dickson has been presented by the crew of his ship, the *Britannia*, with a splendid silver Centre-piece, designed and manufactured by Messrs. E. and E Emanuel, goldsmiths and jewellers to the Queen, of the Hard, Portsea, and Portsmouth. The group of figures at the base of the centre-piece personifies Neptune, seated in a car; Hope, leaning on her anchor; and Britannia, with the shield and spear. An ornamental column, designed after the model of the palm-tree, supports a glass dish for fruits or flowers. The three nautical standards of England, France, and Turkey, modelled in full relief, are attached to the pillar. On the angles of the plinth are groups of naval and military "trophies," between which are representations of H.M.S *Britannia*, in bas-relief, a view of the *Britannia's* rocket-boats firing on Odessa, and an inscription appropriate to the gift. The design is admirably characteristic, and the execution a fine specimen of working in metal.

ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—TESTIMONIAL.—On Monday, at the conclusion of the morning performance, the members and *employés* of the above establishment presented Mr. and Mrs. W. Cooke with an elegant claret-jug and silver, manufactured by Vaughan and Co., of the Strand; and bearing the following inscription:—"This trifling memento was presented by the ladies and gentlemen of Astley's Royal Amphitheatre to Mr. and Mrs. William Cooke, as a token of the high respect and esteem they entertained for them. Jan. 22, 1855."

A PERILOUS SITUATION.—A French aéronaut, named Buislay, made an ascent at Barcelona, last week, which very nearly closed his ballooning career. When the balloon went up, it took a direction inland, but in a short time got into a current of wind completely opposite, and not long after, when at some distance out at sea, it was seen to descend with great rapidity. The captain of a steamer at anchor in the roadstead at once got under way and stood towards the spot. He then sent a boat to the assistance of Mr. Buislay, who, but for this timely aid, would in a few minutes have been drowned. The balloon has been lost.

INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE.—The maximum age of candidates for admission into the civil service of the East India Company has been fixed at twenty-three years instead of twenty-two, as previously announced.

THE TINLINE TESTIMONIAL.

WATERPROOF CLOTHING FOR THE ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

The exposed condition of our gallant army in the Crimea has very naturally prompted a variety of measures to make up for the deficiencies in their original outfit for that inclemente climate. Their sufferings, according to the latest accounts, from exposure to the violent rains and storms which have been rarely paralleled for the period, immediately suggested their supply with waterproof clothing, thoroughly impervious to moisture, so as henceforth to render their position one of comparative comfort. These articles, it is stated, had not hitherto been supplied to troops; although the waterproofing of cloth by means of caoutchouc was one of the earliest of its new applications.

Her Majesty's Government, with this view, ordered of Mr. George Spill, of the Old Farm house, Stepney-green, a vast quantity of this clothing, requiring 340,000 yards of cloth, prepared with indiarubber; and the great demand caused an extraordinary exertion on the part of the manufacturer. The order, which extended to nearly 50,000 waterproof suits, besides several thousand pairs of waterproof sheets, having to be completed within forty days, all hands set to work with energy almost amounting to enthusiasm; the factory at Stepney green was open night and day; and the work was completed within the specified time, without accident to men or machinery.

The clothing thus supplied for the troops consists of (for each man) a large cape, with sleeves attached; a pair of leggings, to be worn over the boot-fronts; a hood to protect the head, and made to draw closely round the face, so that the soldier will be entirely incased in waterproof material, and altogether protected from damp. The material is a warm cotton fabric, used as an inner lining, the exterior being waterproofed with a dressing of caoutchouc, of which goods Mr. Spill is an extensive manufacturer. From examples sent by him to the Board of Ordnance for inspection, the contract was obtained for 45,000 suits, each consisting of a cape, boots, leggings, and cap.

At the works at Stepney-green, cloth was waterproofed each day to extend seven miles, until the whole quantity was prepared. It was then cut up into garments, the making of which gave employment to several thousand hands to make up and complete for wear; and quantities of these garments were forwarded, from day to day, to the Government, to be dispatched to the seat of war.

Several smaller contracts were also promptly disposed of during the same period: one for supplying the "navvies" sent out for the Crimean Railway Expedition, by Messrs Peto, Betts, and Co. They are provided with 500 warm woollen-lined oil-proofed coats, leggings, "sou'-westers," and canvas bags.

The "Old Farm-house," the seat of the works, is a place of some antiquity, popularly said to have been "King John's Palace." The invalided premises extend to six acres, covered with buildings for the various branches of the manufacture. The steam-engine furnace had not been altered to consume its own smoke, according to the requirements of the new Act of Parliament; but, Viscount Palmerston had considerately ordered the police not to take cognizance of this non compliance with the Act, lest the requisite alterations should impede the completion of the important Government contract.

THE TINLINE TESTIMONIAL.

The presentation of this splendid Testimonial to Mr. George Tinline, Acting Manager of the South Australian Banking Company, originated with the merchants, traders and professional men of Adelaide, and other fellow colonists of Mr Tinline, who dined together in the Adelaide Exchange, on the 5th of April, 1853. The fund for the purchase of the valuable gift had been previously subscribed, and was presented by the Chairman, Mr. George Elder. It consisted of a cheque for £[illegible] and a further cheque for £210, which he placed in the hands of Capt Bagot, as the head of the committee, for the purpose of purchasing in England, a Service of Plate. This design has been executed with artistic spirit by Messrs. Hunt and Roskell, and the Service has recently been presented to Mr Tinline.

We have engraved one of the principal pieces of the service, a massive Silver Salver. The border is richly chased, and represents the flowers and fruit of Australia; and, in alternate compartments, in embossed characters, are the Arms of Australia, and the Tinline cipher reversed. In the centre is a gold plate, bearing the following inscription:—

The Service of Plate, with the sum of £2500 sterling, was presented to George Tinline, Esq., Acting Manager of the South Australian Banking Company, by his fellow colonists, on Tuesday, the 5th day of April, 1853, as a grateful memorial of the important services rendered by him during the financial crisis immediately preceding and subsequent to the passing of the Bullion Act; and in testimony of their appreciation of his most considerate, judicious, and successful efforts to maintain unimpaired throughout that period public and private credit.

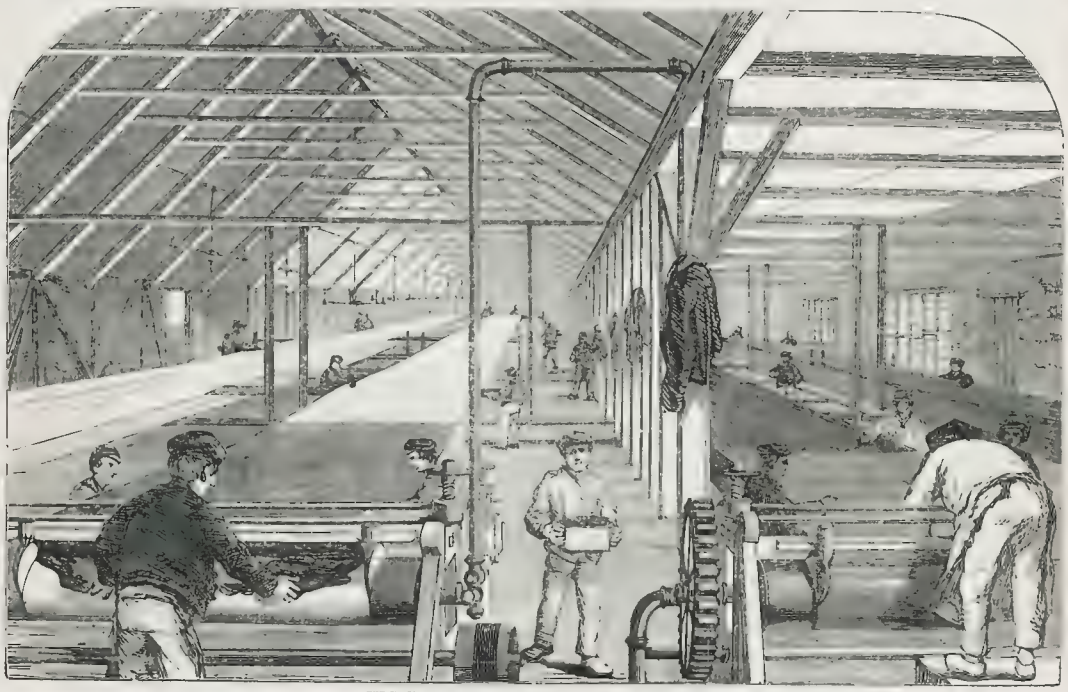
Around this centre are richly engraved groups, separated by the grass palm, illustrating, first, the passing of the Bullion Act, the Governor giving his assent to the enactment of the measure, surrounded by the various members of the Legislature. Next are the colonists in distress; and, thirdly, the colonists in prosperity, the result of the new law.

LOVE'S "LONDON SEASON."

A Portrait of Mr. Love, the Polyphonist, in one of the leading characters of his last new entertainment, called "The London Season," now performed every evening at the Regent Gallery, will interest many readers. Continued acquaintance only confirms the opinion we have already expressed of his merit and originality. In Mr. Love's delineations of certain foibles and eccentricities (which are perhaps rather more apparent during "the London Season" than at any other period), notwithstanding even a superficial observer may detect a little embellishing exaggeration, it is tolerably evident that the artist has depended more upon a close observation of those peculiarities, than upon what the author of the piece has set down; and that his "portraits" are painted from the actual life, not merely from imagination. His *dramatis personæ* are sufficiently natural to show that he has been a frequent and not an unprofitable witness of the oddities, or of something very like them, which he personates with such precision, pleasantry, and effect—take the *Cabman* or *Miss Holdstock* as an example; and in the mechanical department of the entertainment there is an unusual neatness and almost incredible celerity, which greatly heighten the astonishment and gratification of the audience. But, if his visible delineations of character are worthy of eulogistic remark, his brilliant ventriloquy and exquisite vocal imitations are quite as much so: he gives to his numerous invisible and imaginary characters so great an apparent reality that they appear to be unequivocally present. We remember well the celebrated ventriloquist Alexandre; and, while admitting the unquestioned vocal powers and general versatility of the latter, it is now generally considered that Love is superior in both

MR. LOVE AS "MR. TRANQUILIUS CALM," IN "THE LONDON SEASON."—FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY MAYALL.

particulars. Brilliantly quick as were Alexandre's changes of personal appearance to suit the exigencies of the subject, Love is quicker. As a ventriloquist Alexandre was singularly excellent; but Love's artistical management of tone is as wonderfully real as it is rapid and complete in transition. Those whose reminiscences may be on a par with our own, but whose early impressions are not easily obliterated, and who may wish to witness the exquisite perfection to which this art has been brought, should take an opportunity to visit our modern Proteus in his "London Season." It is a wonderfully-managed series of mimicry, acting, transformation, and ventriloquy, and creates the greatest astonishment in the minds of all who are present at its representation.



THE INDIARUBBER WATERPROOF WORKS, OLD FARM-HOUSE, STEPNEY.

SCENE FROM THE NEW PLAY "LOUIS XI." AT THE PRINCESS' THEATRE.

M. CASIMIR DELAVIGNE'S "LOUIS XI," AT THE PRINCESS'.

THERE can be no doubt that, notwithstanding the paucity of its incidents, the authors of "Louis XI." have crowded within its limits a large number of first-rate stage effects. These grow naturally enough out of the individuality of the hero. They are types of the man—startling revelations of character. A part constructed on this principle throws on the actor the responsibility and honour of producing such effects: they must proceed from his intelligence, his manner; they owe nothing to surrounding circumstances. The scene selected by our Artist for illustration is an example in point. It forms portion of a still larger example; and concludes a situation that, in the hands of an ordinary actor, must have perilled the success of the tragedy. A criminal Monarch confessing to his ghostly shriver the catalogue of his sins, and seeking absolution, is an intrusion into the sanctuary which nothing but the highest merit both in the poet and the artist can justify. To win applause in such a crisis is to "snatch a grace beyond the reach of art"—that is, of *recognised* art; for, otherwise, the triumph is achieved by the most consummate art, both in author and actor. Lord Byron, in his "Giaour," made an effective scene out of similar materials; but then he had to do with impulse and passion, and his sinner could plead the force of love and the pressure of social wrong, not as an excuse for his guilt, but its irresistible motives. Louis has nothing but his will and ambition for apologies, and no fervour of soul to make the latter attractive. The poet has managed, however, to create an entirely *moral* interest; and the audience are made to recognise the instructive intention, and submit to the lesson. The conscience is laid bare; fallacies are exposed; righteous indignation is expressed; and judgment is passed. Even such a situation has preceded that which is now presented. While the convicted despot is writhing under the denunciations of a confessor whom he had deemed possessed of supernatural power, the man he had most wronged rushes in upon him, threatening his life; *Nemours*, whose father the King had condemned to the block, while his blood fell upon his children, the enforced witnesses of his execution. Constitutionally a coward, with that love of life which men suffering under long maladies frequently exhibit, *Louis XI.*, with his mind already subdued by superstitious terror, has not a rag of fortitude to oppose to the furious onset of the avenger. Mr. C. Kean at once exhibits an utter prostration of soul and body, he fears the very point of the dagger, and excites compassion by his helplessness. To pierce a wretch so abject is what no truly brave man could do. *Nemours* feels this; but he resolves to wring his heart; and therefore, in answer to his various appeals for mercy, reads from his father's petition to the King the corresponding appeals, which the latter in his pride of power and place had unfeelingly rejected. He has also overheard his confession, and concluded from it that life was a heavier burthen than death to one so guilty and consumed with such remorse. Indignant, therefore, he grants the offender life, to the peril of his own, and quits the prostrate tyrant, who remains apparently insensible from the excess of fear. Such a situation, justified by adequate acting, is necessarily effective. Mr. C. Kean traced it from point to point; not a touch, not a shade was missing. The delineation was composed of minute particulars, which by degrees culminated to a high tragic impression—indeed, all but the highest.

Great exertions are being made that Turkey shall figure well at the Paris Exhibition. Kesmil Bey is working the commission with great energy.

Among the list of articles exported from Switzerland appears the item "snails," of which 925 quintals were sold for foreign consumption during the months of October and November last.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.—(SEE PAGE 88.)

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The weather, as far as field sports are concerned, is in such a dubious state that it almost seems a mockery to mention the coursing and steeplechase fixtures which stand on the list for next week. The latter comprehend Wolverhampton, which furnishes two steeplechases on Monday, for one of which there are eleven acceptances; none of them of a high character, as Star of England with 11st. (and that a "raised weight") is at the head of them. Croydon stands for Wednesday, and has a hurdle-race handicap with fourteen entries to back up its steeplechase. All the jumping cracks are biding their time for Liverpool, Doncaster, &c.; and it is not improbable that the "500 sovs added" by the French sporting club will tempt some of them and their admirers across the Channel on the great Metropolitan day (March 22nd) to run at Croix de Berney, near Paris.

The coursing fixtures have been completely disarranged by the frost; and the only ones that we know of at present for next week are the great "renewed trial between North-Western and South-Western coursers," at Lytham, on Monday, &c.; and a day at Bryn-y-pys, on Tuesday; and two at Hilton, near Yarm, on Thursday and Friday. However, with three months of open weather to this point, neither coursers nor hunters have much to complain of. The Wilts and Berks kennels have been suffering so heavily from distemper, that it is thought that some of the South-Western nominations at Lytham will hardly be taken up. Bedlamite has not run this season; and we doubt not that the match we lately mentioned between him and Cerito will be as lucky as that of Egypt and Mocking-Bird.

The racing men have at last been roused from their comparative winter slumber by the publication of the weights for five great handicaps; in which Messrs Topham and Johnson assign Rataplan 8st 2 lbs. and 4 lbs respectively more than Virago. Mr. Topham has also shown Calamus 8 st., and Wild Huntsman 8 st. 7 lbs., no mercy, and let in Seythian (a very much better horse than the public fancy) at 7st. 4lbs., and that chief of mystery, the Reiver, who is still, we believe, the property of Mr. Stanley, at 7st. 6lbs. Muscovite is in favourably considering his great size and muscular power, both at York and Chester; and the same may be said of a good second-rate three-year-old, Kingston. The countless races which are played off before a handicapper face render the composition of such lists an almost herculean task, but we hear very few complaints on the whole, and anticipate very fair sensations. The Epsom and the Northampton Handicaps bear strong intrinsic evidence of not being by the same hand; and in the two former Admiral Rous's principle, that a handicap should commence at 10st., is fully carried out.

The lists at the different trainers are beginning to muster strong. In addition to those we mentioned last week, Joseph Rogers 31, Stevens 34, and William Day 38. Mr. Parr seems to have not succeeded as yet in effecting any sales, as he still numbers 14; while neither Tros, Grapeshot, nor Tyrtæus appears as yet in G. Abdale's string, which only counts 5. The spring meetings are so near at hand that a good deal of work has been done in the snow, at the imminent peril of foot-balling, and consequent spavins. Bonnie Morn, who is still said only to look like a colt, leads the great, long-striding Greenlus in his gallops. Miss Mowbray, the steeplechase mare, is believed to be under Scott's charge, as her old trainer, Dockeray, is now engaged solely to Messrs Payne and Greville. Phryne has just produced a sister to Rambling Tailor, who is a great dangerous-looking animal to claim a 5 lb. mare's allowance in the Derby; and we may expect to see a Tedlington foal at the foot of Inheritress next year. Chanticleer's subscription is full; while Cinthana, the once favourite horse of Lord George Bentinck, and the sire of Sittingbourn and of Strood (who was sold for 1200 guineas, untried, last October), is said to have changed hands at a London auction last week for 25 lbs. cd.! If we remember rightly, Amurath, who was once Lord Derby's, was sold for something like £9 at Birmingham a melancholy illustration of the "High-mettled Racer" lined.

St. Albert still holds his own in the Derby betting, with a firmness which is most unaccountable in a "dark" horse. His friends laugh at the notion of Oulston being the better of the two, and declare that they will support their horse till the 2000 Guineas day, and that he will be able to support himself after that.

WINTER IN STAMBOUL. The dreary winter has at length set in, and the streets are a mass of snow and mud. From the crowds of strangers who have lately been collected from all parts of the world within the limits of the European quarter, there is an air of animation in the narrow and dirty streets, but an animation without parallel in any more resembling the bustle of some dingy and populous neighbourhood of London. The great street of Pera is a dirty lane, formed by high irregular houses, and down the middle of all passing strangers, who must clamber and slip over the pointed blocks of stone, among horses and asses, porters carrying heavy weights by means of long poles, and crowds of the rabble of the Levant smelling of garlic and meditating knifing. Without large boots or galoshes no one ventures to quit his home, and as rain may be expected at intervals of about two hours, each traveller is armed with an umbrella. When the weather is fine, these are used at the approach of a shower, the collisions are incessant, and the path may almost be choked. The most conspicuous figures are the French officers, who are met at every turn. The British are almost entirely confined to the Asiatic shore of the Bosphorus. Their two hospitals of Scutari and Koulali are most conveniently situated: the transport of wounded sick and wounded from the trenches to the hospital, and medicals far removed from the close and tobacco-laden atmosphere of Pera. But the inconvenience which results from their being placed on the opposite shore of an arm of the sea, liable to sudden squalls at all times, and in winter almost impassable, is more than equivalent to these advantages. The officers who have the management of our hospitals are obliged to have recourse to a peculiar cutter whenever they wish to consult with the authorities on this side of the water, for though a steamer has been established to ply across, it is not suited to the necessities of men who may be detained for an unlimited time, or summoned at a moment's notice to make a journey. The consequence is that the British authorities are accustomed to do as much business as possible in a single visit, and, with the exception of the naval officers and a few belonging to regiments just arrived, very few of our countrymen are to be met with within the limits of the capital. The French, however, are to be found everywhere, and their tasteful uniforms add much to the liveliness of the streets on a fine day, which, in this changeable climate, may be expected occasionally even in the depth of winter.—*Letter from Constantinople, Jan. 5.*

THE CHAOS AT BALACLAVA. A vessel arrived at Balaclava loaded with boots and shoes. Having no bill of lading, and the cargo being merely stated as shoes for the army, the vessel was ordered out of the harbour to wait her turn. A few days afterwards the owner came from Lord Raglan to obtain a vessel to proceed to Constantinople instantly on a most pressing service. This vessel was consequently ordered to proceed to Constantinople with Lord Raglan's agents, without unloading. When she had nearly reached that place one of the agents imparted in confidence to the Captain that he was going to Constantinople to purchase boots and shoes, the army being in a great state of destitution for want of a supply. The Captain replies, "Why, my vessel is filled with boots and shoes." Upon which the ship was put immediately about and returned to Balaclava.—*Letter from the Camp, Jan. 1.*

Accounts from various parts of Spain continue to indicate the approach of a Carlist insurrection.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The business doing in the Consol-market this week has been comparatively small, and prices have given way. The cause which has been product of heaviness are the unfavourable news from the East as respects the probable termination of the war, the late heavy shipments of bullion, and the numerous ideas respecting the contents of the forthcoming Budget of the Chancellor of the Exchequer; added to which, news reached the City late on Thursday to the effect that Lord John Russell had resigned office. On the subject of the expect made of making money by carry on the war a difference of opinion is said to have prevailed in certain quarters. It has, we understand, been proposed to raise a large additional amount by means of increased taxation, without going to the Stock Exchange for a loan. At present, however, great uncertainty prevails on the subject, as further Ministerial resignations are expected.

Sales of stock having for some past exceeded the purchases, the supply in the hands of the jobbers is large. This feature has of course, tended to keep prices in check; but favourable news from the Crimea, and only a moderate loan—if it should be applied for—will, no doubt, have the effect of enhancing the quotations.

Very few purchases were effected in any security on Monday. Altogether, the market was a most inactive state: Bank Stock was 211½. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 91½ up to 92; the Three per Cent Consols, 91½ down to 91½; the New Three per Cents, 91½ to 92½; and Consols for Account, 91½ ⅞; India Stock, 223; Exchequer Bills, 7s. to 4s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 99½. On Tuesday the market was again heavy. The Three per Cents Reduced varied from 91⅞ to ⅝; the Three per Cent Consols, 91⅞ to ⅝; Consols for Account, 91½ ⅞; New Three per Cents, 91½ to 92; New Five per Cents, 117; Long Annuities, 1860, 4 5-16 ⅞; Ditto, 1859, 4 3-16. India Bonds were 14 ⅞; Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 7s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 1859, 99½ ⅞. The following are Wednesday's quotations—taking the highest and lowest range:—Bank Stock, 212 to 210; Ditto, for the Account, 210½; Three per Cents Reduced, 91⅞ ⅞; Consols for Account, 91⅞ ⅞; New Three per Cents, 91⅞ 92; Long Annuities, 1860, 4 5-16; India Stock, 223. India Bonds, 14s.; Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 7s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 1858, 99½; Ditto, 1859, 99⅞. On Thursday Consols were very flat. The Three per Cents marked 91 to 92; 90½ 91 for Transfer; and 91½ ⅞ to 91½ for Account. The new Three per Cents were 91½ ⅞; and the Three per Cents Reduced, 91½. Exchequer Bills were 4s. to 7s.; and India Bonds, 14s. to 15s. prem.

All Foreign Bonds have been dull, yet we have very little change to notice in the quotations. Brazilian Five per Cents have been done at 100; Ditto, New Three per Cents, 99½; Mexican Three per Cents, 21½; Peruvian Bonds, 5 per Cents, 61; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 90; Spanish Three per Cents, 37; Ditto, New Deferred, 17½; Turkish Bonds, 76½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 62; Ditto, New Four per Cents, 84½; Portuguese Four per Cents, 42; Sardinian Five per Cents, 86; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 94; French Three per Cents, 68f. 75c.; Austrian Six per Cents, 70.

The interest on French Treasury Bonds has been reduced one per cent.

The imports of bullion have been liberal, viz., £97,000 from India, £1000 from New York, £139,000 from the West Indies, and £305,000 (including 85,000 sovereigns) from Australia. The exchange upon Paris being favourable, and no portion of the new loan has been taken in this country, scarcely any shipments of gold have been made this week.

There has been a moderate amount of Joint-Stock Bank Shares, the prices of which have continued firm:—Australasia have realised 83½; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 18; London Chartered of Australia, 21½; London and Westminster, 42; Ditto, Joint-Stock, 7; England, 69 ex div.; Ditto, New, 17 ex div.; London and Wales, 37; Oriental, 37½; Union of Australia, 66; Ditto, New, 8; Union of London, 27 ex div. In Miscellaneous Securities very little has been doing. Australian Royal Mail, 100; Ditto, Six per Cents, 102½; Crystal Palace, 5½; Ditto, West India Docks, 119 ex div.; Commercial, 93 ex div.; London, 103; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 54½. Canal Shares have marked the following:—Ashton and Stalybridge, 70½ ex div.; Birmingham, 185; Derby, 84; Grand Junction, 55; Grand Surrey, 48; Leicester, 79; Loughborough, 576; Neath, 150; Oxford, 110; Regent's, 16½ ex div.; Rochdale, 60; Shropshire Union, 25; Southampton, 185; Warwick and Birmingham, 20. Water-works Shares have been very dull:—Berlin, 24; Grand Junction, 70; Kent, 79; Southwark and Vauxhall, 84½; New River Company, 85; West Middlesex, 95 ex div. There has been scarcely any inquiry for Gas-light and Coke Companies' Shares:—British Provincial Leave marked 21; Continental, 64; Equitable, 29; Phœnix, 28½; Rateliff, 70; Imperial, 96 ex div.; Ditto, New, 10½ ex div.; Surrey Consumers', 11; United General, 19½; Westminster Chartered, 40. Insurance Companies' Shares have been:—Alliance, 182; Argus Life, 22; City of London, 24; General, 64; Globe, 47; Imperial Fire, 170; Ditto Life, 11; Law Fire, 4; Ditto, Life, 56; London, 29; Pelican, 48; Provident Life, 8; Sun Life, 57½; Yorkshire, 58. Hunderfield-bridge Shares have marked 12. Vauxhall, 22; Waterloo, 4½; Ditto, Old Annuities of £3, 4; Ditto, New Annuities of £7, 28.

Although the dividends upon some of the leading lines are good, railway shares have been dull and drooping. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 29; Caledonian, 61½; Ditto, for money, 62½; Chester and Holyhead, 18½; East Anglian, 14½; Eastern Counties, 11½; East Lancashire, 7½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 56; Great Northern, 90 ex div.; Ditto, A Stock, 72; Ditto, B Stock, 126; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 70; Great Western, 57; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 74; London and Brighton, 108; London and North Western, 101; Ditto, Eighths, 1½; London and South-Western, 84; Ditto, £50, 84½; Ditto, £40, 27; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 26½; Midland, 69½; Norfolk, 50; North British, 31; North-Eastern, Berwick, 76; Ditto Leeds, 13; Ditto, York, 54; North Staffordshire, 13½; South-Eastern, 58½; Thames Haven Dock and Railway, 6½.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS. Buckinghamshire, 98; London, Tilbury, and Southend, 10½; Midland Bradford, 82½; Preston and Wyre, 43½; Wilts and Berks, 40.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Eastern Counties Extension, No. 1, ⅞ prem; Ditto, ditto, per Cent Scrip, 13; Great Northern Five per Cent, 114; Ditto, Redemption, 10½ per Cent prem, 105½; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 100; Ditto, Scrip, 2½; South-Eastern, 6.

FOREIGN.—Dutch Rhenish, 7½; Grand Trunk of Canada, A issue, 4½; Great Central of France, 11½; Great Luxembourg, 2½; Great Western of Canada, 16½; Western of France, 2.

In Mining Shares very little has been doing. Pentgibland Silver Lead have been 14; United Mexican, 2½, St. John del Rey, 30; Cobre Copper, 4; Linares, 7.

Friday E.

The business doing in the Consol Market to-day has been to a limited, and prices have ruled somewhat lower. The Three per Cents Reduced have marked 91 to 91½; the Three per Cents Consols, 91½; and the New Three per Cents, 91½ ⅞; Exchequer bills, 4s. to 7s. prem. All Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares have ruled very dull.

THE MARKETS

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—Since Monday very moderate supplies of English wheat have come forward, and the trade has been very dull. The stock of samples to day was small, nevertheless the demand was far from active at Monday's advance in the quotations. Upwards of 12,000 sacks of foreign wheat have arrived, and the trade ruled very dull; prices have not the notice in wax. In floating cargoes very few sales were reported.

The supply of barley was moderate—several of barley at late rates. We were well supplied with oats, which sold at with on former terms. Beans, peas, and flour were in short supply, at enhanced prices.

ARRIVALS. English, wheat, 1090; barley, 1950; malt, 1639; oats, 3180; flour 1490. Foreign, wheat 11,959; barley, 30,0; oats, 18,320.

Portland.—Wheat, lower and quiet. Barley, 2d. to 3d. lower. Oats, 1d. to 2d. lower. Suffolk red, 68s. to 72s.; ditto, white, 4s. to 4s.; rye, 44s. to 48s.; grinding barley, 32s. to 33s.; malting, 36s. to 38s.; Lincoln and Norfolk, 34s. to 36s.; lower ditto, 60s. to 62s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 72s.; Cavalier 72s.; Chevalier and Lockie, 72s. to 73s.; Spring, 70s. to 72s.; Kent, 72s. to 74s.; Essex, 70s. to 72s.; ditto, white, 70

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, ROMEO and JULIET, Romeo, Miss Cushman; Juliet, Miss Swanborough, first appearance Tuesday and Saturday, Paul Pry. Thursday the last Juvenile Night of the season, when the Pantomime will commence at half o'Clock. The Last Morning Performance of the Pantomime on Saturday next. The Pantomime of Little Bo-Peep every Evening.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, LOUIS XI.; Wednesday, HAMLET; Saturday, RIVALS. PANTOMIME Every Evening.

MADAME TUSSAUD & SONS' GALLERY, BAZAAR, Baker-street.—The HERO of ALMA and of INKERMAN.—A MODEL of that celebrated soldier, Field-Marshal Lord RAGLAN, in the full costume of his high rank, is now added. Admittance, 1s. Napoleon Rooms, 6d.

POLYPHONY. Go and Hear LOVE, the greatest DRAMATIC VENTRILOQUIST in Europe, in his New Entertainment, called THE LONDON SEASON, at the UPPER HALL, REGENT GALLERY, 69, Quadrant, Regent-street.—Every Evening, at Eight; except Saturday; Saturday, at Three.

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NOW EXHIBITING AT ST. PAUL-HALL, A MUSEUM of MEXICAN ANTIQUITIES, illustrative of the Mythology, the Religious Rites, and the Sepulchres of the Ancient Nations, as shown in figures of their Idols, Vases, Sacrificial and Funerary Vases, Sacrificial and Musical Instruments, &c., &c. Admission, 1s.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA. FRIDAY next, FEB 2nd, Haydn's CREATION. Vocalists: Miss Birch, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Weiss, with Orchestra of (including 16 double-basses) nearly 700 Performers. Tickets, 3s., 5s., and 10s. 6d. each, at the Society's Office, No. 6, in Exeter-hall.

LONDON SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER-HALL.—On WEDNESDAY EVENING, Jan 31st, Haydn's Oratorio, CREATION. Vocalists—Mrs. Sunderland, Mr. Donald King, and Mr. H. Phillips. The Oratorio will be preceded by the Anthem, "In Thid Day," composed and conducted by Dr. Elvey, dedicated by permission to His Royal Highness Prince Albert. Tickets, 3s., 5s., and 10s. 6d. each.—Office, No. 9, Exeter-hall.

EXETER-HALL. Mrs. FANNY KEMBLE. MONDAY EVENING, FEB 5, Mrs. Fanny Kemble will read MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, accompanied by the whole of the Music, composed by Mendelssohn, by a complete Orchestra and Chorus, under the direction of Mr. Benedict. To commence at 8 o'clock.—Tickets and reserved seats to be secured at Mr Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

PATRON H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—Miss Glyn's Dramatic Readings every Thursday Evening, at Eight. Lecture to the Industrial Classes, on Monday Evening, on the Electric Telegraph. Professor Wheatstone's Experiments on the Conduction of Sound illustrated by a Telephonic Concert. Perkins's Steam Gun, discharging 200 Balls per Minute. Splendid Optical Diorama of Sindbad the Sailor. Dissolving Views of the War, &c., &c.

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GEOLOGY. KING'S COLLEGE, London. Professor TENNANT, F.G.S., will commence a course of SIXTEEN LECTURES on DESCRIPTIVE GEOLOGY on FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 26th, at Nine o'clock. The Lectures will be continued on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at the same hour. R. W. JELF, D.D., Principal.

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Prospectuses, and every information, may be obtained on application at the College. J. R. C. THOMSON, Secretary.

THE HON. ARTILLERY COMPANY of LONDON, the most ancient Corps of Volunteers in England, is open for the reception of volunteers, joining in the evening, and on Saturdays, who are willing to give a portion of their time to military service.

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PARIS FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

The New-Year's-day receptions at the Tuileries have not introduced any change in the fashions. The Court mantles, indispensable on that occasion, were, for the most part, made of velvet, with worked borders; many, however, were made of the same material as the robe, which is generally, white; lozenges or squares of lace being placed around the mantle. A house, well known for its laces, has made a Court mantle of black or white lace, mounted upon satin, transparent, to match the colour of the toilette.

We present our fair readers with a description of the Empress's costume at the reception of the 2nd January. Upon the raised bands of her hair shone three rows of diamonds, surmounted by the Imperial crown. The robe and mantelet were of sky-blue velvet. The skirt of the robe was worked in front, with gems, as also was the corsage; the mantle was embroidered with gold and clear pearls. The Princess Mathilde wore a purple robe, with a mantle of the same colour, adorned with pearls and rubies.

Robes are worn fuller than ever. Flounces are somewhat out of favour; but, as if to set this dictum at defiance, we saw the other day flounces on a robe of *moiré antique*, and on another of velvet! Scarcely could either of these eccentricities get through the corridor of the Théâtre des Italiens; still the costumes were elegantly worn, and noticed by every one. We hope they will have but few imitators; but our duty is to note all that is made in the way of novelties.

The *moiré antique* is going somewhat out of fashion, and for a very simple reason: this material owed its fame to its high price, but it has just experienced a great reduction, and may be bought for seven or eight francs a yard. Hence it will only be worn for visiting and walking dresses. It is difficult to say what material is to be substituted for it. The Exhibition will, assuredly, bring us some beautiful and rich novelty, but it must be very dear which will be its first element of success.

Bonnets are as scanty as ever, and particular materials are manufactured for making the upper parts; they are either *velours épingles*, or *gros-de-tours*, sprinkled with black velvet peas upon a ground of rose, blue, green, dark violet, or chestnut. A new material called *velours mousse* is remarkably becoming in this cold weather; it is trouble lost, however, to search for a warm material for bonnets, which leave nearly all the head uncovered, and only shelter that part of it which is naturally protected by the hair. Velvet mantles are in season this severe weather; they are uniformly black. *Mandelets étoile* are also worn of velvet, worked colour upon colour with deep lace, which falls low behind, and raises itself towards the arms.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

No. 1 Bonnet of rose-coloured *velours mousse*, ornamented with white blonde upon the front, and *d'ombelles roses* in the cap. Black velvet mantle, ornamented with marten-fur. Robe of *velour Ottoman pensée*, with two flounces trimmed with squares of black velvet placed upon the borders, and forming a sort of square.

No. 2 Bonnet of *velours épingle marron*, with black lace; and cap of rose-coloured velvet flowers. Mantle of grey *drap foulre*, trimmed with large black velvet braid, placed near the edge. Robe *en brocatelle bleue Louise*, with running velvet patterns upon every flounce, and borders in black.

No. 1 *Coiffure* of flowers *mauve rose*, arranged in a half-crown, and placed beneath the hair; a rose-coloured ribbon of *velours épinglé* under the bands, and passing over the summit of the head.

No. 2 *Coiffure* of *cactus de chine*, beginning at the back hair, and letting fall over the shoulders its white flowers, mingled with leaves.

No. 3 *Coiffure* of velvet plaited with the hair, and letting fall two *barbes* of lace, *en point d'Alençon*, upon the velvet ribbon. The stars of diamonds are disposed to form a diadem on the bands of hair. The shade of the velvet should match the dress; *aux Tuileries* green only is worn.

No. 4 *Coiffure demise*: a wide ribbon begins at the upper part of the head, goes round the comb, and forms two large bows on each side, while the long ends fall upon the shoulders.

No. 5 *Coiffure en perle* one row passes over the head, and loses itself in the rolls of hair; two large Italian pins serve to sustain the hair, and are mounted with large beads of pearl.

MUSIC.

The performance of "Judas Maccabeus" by the Sacred Harmonic Society on Friday (last week) demands notice, not only on account of its general excellence, but specially on account of the first appearance of Madame Rudersdorff as an oratorio singer. This lady, who enjoys a high reputation throughout Germany as a *prima donna* of the first class, on the Italian and German Opera stage, has fully maintained that reputation since her arrival in England at the beginning of last season. She has shown great powers, and has been justly appreciated as a fine actress and an accomplished dramatic singer; but the public were not prepared for her appearance in a totally different character—a singer of the sacred music of Handel. In this branch of their art few foreign performers have succeeded. In the first place, the effect of their singing has generally been more or less marred by their want of command of the English language, and their exotic pronunciation and accent; and, secondly, Handel's music having been composed in and for England, and having been almost exclusively performed in England from his own time to the present—demands a style of performance which has been handed down by tradition through successive generations of English singers, and which is unknown even in Handel's native country, where (to its shame be it spoken) his music, after the lapse of a century, is only now beginning to receive some degree of attention. Mdme. Rudersdorff, however, is a complete mistress of our language, which she speaks and sings with the facility and purity of a native. Her extensive musical attainments, moreover, have long since made her well acquainted with the works of Handel; and we have reason to know that, ever since her arrival in England, she has assiduously laboured to acquire the true Handelian style, having wisely had recourse to the aid of the very best English authorities. The result was shown by her admirable performance in "Judas Maccabeus," when it was apparent to every one that, as a soprano singer of the sacred music of Handel, she is rivalled only by Clara Novello, whose great gifts of nature have likewise received the highest cultivation in every branch of her art. A great beauty of Mdme. Rudersdorff's singing was its facility and smoothness: she never strained her voice beyond its natural powers, and never indulged in forced emphasis or exaggerated expression. She spoke the words with perfect intelligence and propriety, conveying with the utmost clearness the full meaning of the composer. Nor did she disfigure the text (as so many singers do) by redundancy of so-called embellishment. She sang with the utmost plainness and simplicity, admitting only an occasional slight but graceful variation of a closing phrase, and introducing, sparingly but beautifully, that truly Handelian ornament, a fine shake. Her most remarkable songs were, "Pious orgies, pious airs," to which she gave a profound devotional expression; and "From mighty kings he took the spoil," which she sang with a brilliancy of execution and a buoyant joyousness we have scarcely ever heard equalled. Her success was complete; and she will now, unquestionably, take her place, though a foreigner, in the foremost rank of our English Handelian singers.

M. Jullien, pursuing the classical course which he has so happily begun, has followed up his Beethoven and Mendelssohn Festivals by a Mozart Festival, which was given on Tuesday evening, and was the most attractive and successful performance of the season. The vast theatre was crowded to overflowing in every part. The multitude listened with charmed ears to the strains of the most captivating of all composers, strains universal in their influence, and equally enchanting to the learned and the unlearned. M Jullien's selection was made with excellent judgment and taste. It included the unrivalled overture to the "Zauberflöte," which has been called "the despair of composers," the famous symphony in C, to which a great musician (we think it was John Cramer), by way of expressing its pre-eminent grandeur, gave the name of "Jupiter"—a name by which it is now generally designated; the symphony in E flat, so full of sweet and graceful melody; the beautiful and expressive air, "L'Addio," which Miss Dolby sang exquisitely; and the sonata in E flat, for the piano and violin, which Madame Pleyel and Ernst executed in a style of absolute perfection. Nothing could be more striking than the profound silence and earnest attention with which these long, elaborate, and refined instrumental pieces were listened to by a vast promiscuous assemblage, who, a very few years ago, would not have had the patience to give them a hearing.

The directors of the Philharmonic Society have engaged Herr Richard Wagner as conductor of the concerts of the ensuing season. Herr Wagner long held the office of *maestro di cappella* at Dresden. He was obliged to leave Saxony in consequence of having involved himself in the political troubles of that kingdom, and has latterly resided in retirement at Zurich. He is one of the most celebrated musicians of the day; but his character as a composer, like that of Berlioz, is the subject of much controversy. In England his numerous works are almost unknown; and our acquaintance with them is too slight to enable us to form an opinion on their merits. There can be little doubt, however, from the sensation he has created in Germany, that he is a man of a bold and original genius; and it seems by no means improbable that his music, however strange and fantastic it may at first appear, may assume, when better known, a very different aspect. As a musical director and *chef d'orchestre* his abilities are said to be of the highest order. The first concert of the season takes place on the 12th of March.

Prussian Shipwrights in French Dockyards.—The immense naval preparations going on in the French dockyards have so much absorbed the labour of all the available ship-carpenters in the country, but it is under it desirable to obtain further assistance from abroad. Under these circumstances the French Government have turned their attention to the principal ship-building ports in the Baltic, with the view of engaging carpenters and other mechanics serviceable in ship-building. Upwards of sixty men of this description have been engaged at Stettin alone, and a still greater number at Dantzig, Konigsberg, and Memel. The conditions are very liberal: the men get a free passage to Havre, with two francs a day for expenses, and their wages are five francs a day. They are also to be sent back to their respective homes at the expense of the French Government, when their services are no longer required.

The pay of the third-class constables of the metropolitan police is ordered to be raised 2s a-week, and Lord Palmerston has given directions for a new arrangement of night duty, by which the labours of the force will not be so severe as now.

THE THEATRES.

Olympic.—A new piece, entitled "Tit for Tat," was produced on Monday. It is a version of "Les Maris ne font toujours Rire," by MM. Delacour and Jaime *fils*, which we understand has been made by Mr. Tallfourd. The transformation has been cleverly executed; for the piece owes all its success to the dialogue. The story is facile to excess, and the structure entirely exceptional. It is in two acts, and each act is a separate play. In the first Mr. Robson is thrown, as usual, into a fit of jealousy; and in the second revenges himself on his tormentor, Mr. Wigan, by repaying the compliment. Such an arrangement is at least new. But we have so frequently had occasion to describe Mr Robson under the influence of "the green-eyed monster," that we have really nothing to add. Something we might have said to Mr Wigan's portraiture of the same passion, but he has not a fair opportunity afforded in the second act of competing with the hero of the first. He necessarily comes off second best. The story, however, culminates, if the acting does not; and the retorts of the dialogue and the surprises of the situations are rare specimens of stage arrangement. The only drawback to the enjoyment of the action is the eternal intrigue that forms the no-interest of pieces derived from the French. The want of originality in this particular is an alarming symptom of the decay of invention. But the vivacity of the treatment atoned for the defects of the subject, and secured the success of the drama.

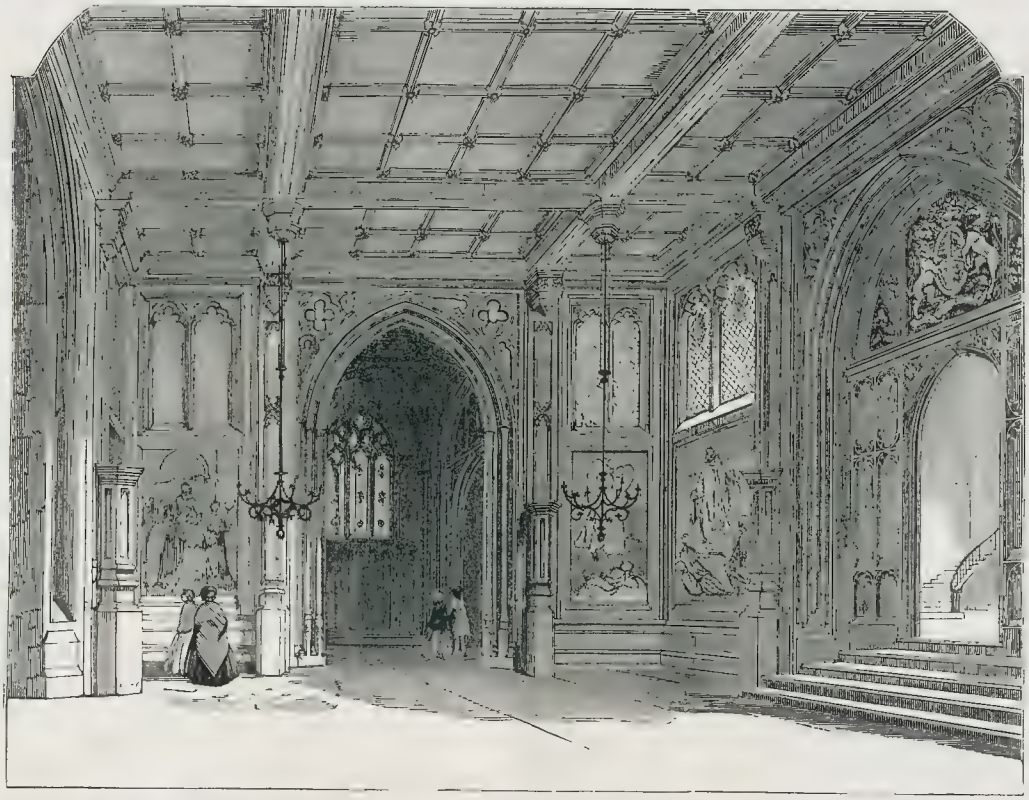
A Russian Stratagem.—A flag of truce came in last night from the enemy, with a request that all similar flags might in future be received at the parallel now constructing in front of the Second Division. This request Lord Raglan instantly refused. His Lordship added that all flags must be received at the broken bridge on the Tchernaya road, and at no other place. To receive flags of truce in front of the Second Division would be entirely to open our Camp to the enemy's view; which, without doubt, was the object of the request.—*Letter from the English Camp, Jan.*

Religious Expenditure at Boston, United States.—It is estimated that the current expenses of the churches in Boston will amount to 240,000 dollars a year. The value of the church estates is about 4,000,000 dollars. The expenses of the different societies vary from 1500 dollars to 5000 dollars a year. The cost for public worship in the churches occupied by the wealthier portion of the citizens will average about 100 dollars a Sunday; the clergyman has a salary of 3000 dollars, the music costs about 1000 dollars, and the miscellaneous expenses will be from 1000 dollars to 1500 dollars a year. The taxes on the pews vary from 8 dollars to 70 dollars a year, according to their value. The Methodist preachers have the smallest average salaries, and Unitarians the largest.

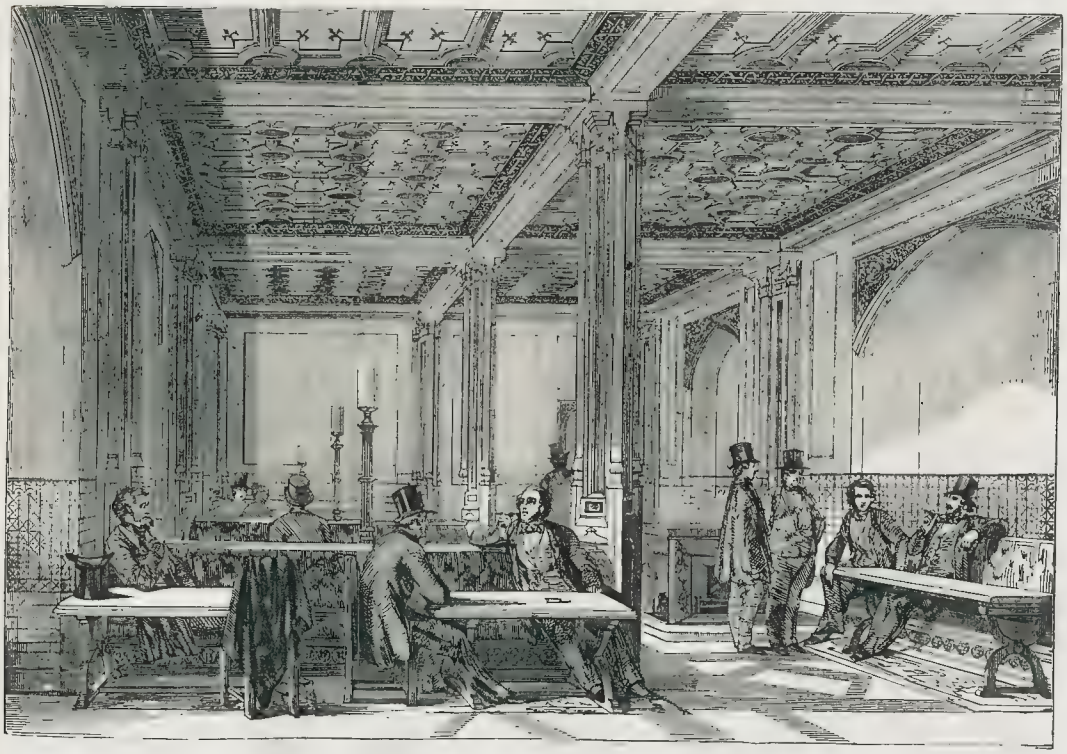
The municipality of Bordeaux, in consequence of the cheapness of wine, has entered into an arrangement with a company for establishing places for the sale of beer at 30c. the quart, and it has reduced the octroi duties on beer to one-third of the former charge.

The Prefect of the Seine has courteously presented to the London Sewers Commission the copy of two records relating to the distribution of the waters of Paris, and also the report of M. Mille on the mode of cleansing the towns of Great Britain.

THE NEW HOUSE OF COMMONS.



THE DIVISION LOBBY.



THE SMOKING-ROOM.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE NEW HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE UPPER WAITING-HALL.

This is a handsome portion of the new Palace, and has a splendid effect, terminating the fine staircase leading to it. Its proportions are nearly square; its ceiling is of oak, divided into compartments, and by four massive beams, at whose intersections are octangular pendants, from which are suspended neat brass branches for gas, of four burners each. The pedestals on each side of the doors and fireplace are to bear a statue in the course of time. When this is done the effect will be complete. Already the walls under the windows are filled up with eight beautiful frescoes—the subjects taken from our celebrated poets. It may not be amiss to mention these, as they strike the eye on entering the hall. The first on the left of the door way, opposite to the stranger, is "King Lear apportioning his kingdom between his daughters," from Shakspeare's play of "King Lear." This is by Herbert. The next on the right is "Satan touched by Ithuriel's spear," from "Paradise Lost," and is painted by Horsley. The next [illegible] "St Cecilia," by Tomkins, and, on the other side of the door [illegible] "Musidora," by Armitage. "The Death of Wolsey," by [illegible], corresponding with it, is "The Death of Lara," by [illegible]; and in the place we have the subject of "Griselda's First Trial of Patience," by Cope; and "The Red Cross Knight Slaying the Dragon," by Watts. These subjects are all well handled by the respective artists, and fully prove how much may be done in wall decoration in this style of art. The windows of the Hall are filled in with small mapo-pattern panes. Near the top of the window, under the tracery, is some stained glass, containing the monogram "V. R." in a small bordur of neat design. Over the fireplace and the opposite doorway, leading to various committee-rooms, is sculptured the Royal Arms.

THE SMOKING-ROOM.

This is a truly handsome room, [illegible] carefully the architect has studied the comfort of the members. It is [illegible] divided into two divisions by piers, upon which [illegible] at the angles, small columns, between which are sunken panels. The ceiling is of oak, paneled; the centre panels being painted, bearing the rose, fleur-de-lis, and portcullis alternately. The walls are painted of a neat light tint, reaching to within about five feet of the ground. They are then lined with encaustic tiles, of pale green and white, in elegant patterns. There are three arched recesses, in which are placed long seats covered with dark green leather, well stuffed. In front of these there is a small oak table. In the centre of the first division, which might be termed an ambulatory, is a square stove, having three openings or grates for fires. It is of iron, nicely ornamented on the cheeks, and topped by a richly-veined marble slab.

The other division, as seen in our Drawing, is occupied by seats and tables, similar to those in the recesses; the floor is laid with encaustic tiles and Castlehill stone, the feet of the visitors are protected from the chill of the tiles by handsome rugs. A more complete room for its purpose is, perhaps, not to be found—there is so little in it that will retain the scent of smoke. Yet there is an air of real comfort about it. The view from the windows is across the Thames, looking over the broad esplanade; to which there is ready access from this room, and of which the members, on a summer's evening, avail themselves, during the intervals of a long debate. There is a bell in the room which communicates from above, and announces to members the approach of a division, and as its shrill notes ring on the ear, hon. gentlemen may be seen hurrying up the stairs to the division lobby to give their vote, long settled in their minds. The approaches to the room are from a door near the corridor of the Commons' Library and from the Refreshment-room, both by the same staircase. Its management is in the hands of Mr. Steers, of the refreshment department.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS, Tuesday.

Parliament met for the first time since the recess

THE VOTE OF THANKS TO THE NAVY.

The LORD CHANCELLOR read the following letter to their Lordships

My Lord,—I have had the honour th a day to receive your letter of the 18th ult, transmitting the resolutions of the House of Lords expressive of the high sense it entertains of the valuable services rendered by myself and by the officers, seamen, and marines of the fleet lately under my command.

Having, on the 31st ult., transferred my command to Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, I have transmitted a copy of you letter to him, and the resolutions of the House of Lords have been made known to the several officers who were serving under me

I have also, in obedience to the order of the House, forwarded to Admiral Hamelin the resolutions thanking that officer and the French navy for their cordial co-operation in the various services in which the combined fleet have been engaged; and, as Admiral Hamelin has also transferred his command, I have sent copies to Vice-Admiral Bruat, for communication to the French navy

It is a high honour and distinction the House of Lords has thus been pleased to confer on myself, the officers, seamen, and marines of the fleet lately under my command, will be received by all with deep gratitude and respect; and I have to beg your Lordship will be pleased to accept my sincere thanks for the generous terms in which you have conveyed to me the resolutions of the House.

I have the honour to be, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

J. W. D. DUNDAS, Vice-Admiral.

On the motion of the Noble and Learned Lord, the above letter was ordered to be entered on the minutes of the House.

THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH gave notice that on Monday, in moving for certain returns, he should make some observations on the general conduct of the war

Earl GREY gave notice of his intention to move on Tuesday, the 6th of February, that an humble address should be presented to her Majesty on the subject of the office of the Minister of War

THE BLACK SEA.

The Marquis of SALISBURY gave notice that he would call the attention of the Government to the statements which had appeared in the public prints relative to the Black Sea.

THE CRIMEAN MEDAL.

In reply to the Duke of Richmond, the Duke of NEWCASTLE stated that her Majesty had been graciously pleased to grant the decoration of a clasp to the officers and men engaged at the battle of Balaclava. Some conversation took place respecting the incidents of that encounter, and the gallantry of the troops who took part in it.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The Earl of WINCHILSEA gave notice that on Thursday he should call the attention of the House to the course Government had pursued with respect to the war in the Crimea, and that he would afford the Duke of Newcastle an opportunity to make explanations of a statement that a reporter of one of the leading journals had gone out under the authority and sanction of her Majesty's Government, and that the whole or a portion of his expenses had been defrayed out of the public purse.

HOUSE OF COMMONS Tuesday.

NEWSPAPER STAMPS.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER: I wish to state, on the part of the Government, that it is my intention, on Monday next, to propose a resolution in Committee of the whole House with the view to the introduction of a measure relating to the law on Newspaper Stamps (Hear, hear). I also intend, upon a very early day, to move for leave to bring in a bill to improve the Act of 1834 in several particulars, commonly called the Superannuation Act, relating to pensions for civil service

THE LIGHT CAVALRY CHARGE AT BALACLAVA.

Mr. C. BERKELEY gave notice of his intention to ask the Secretary-at-War whether the order which had been published in all the newspapers as emanating from Lord Raglan to Lord Lucan for the Light Cavalry to make the disastrous charge at Balaclava was the correct order or not (Hear). It ran thus: "Lord Raglan wishes the cavalry to advance rapidly to the front, follow the enemy, and try to prevent their carrying away the guns The French cavalry is on the left." He hoped the right hon. gentleman would name a day for giving an answer whether that was the correct order or not

Mr. S. HERBERT: If the hon. gentleman will name any day on which he wishes to put those questions, I will be prepared to answer them.

Mr. BERKELEY: Thursday.

EDUCATION IN ENGLAND.

Lord J. RUSSELL: I beg to give notice that on Friday I will move for leave to bring in a bill for the Promotion of Education in England (Hear, hear).

NAVY ESTIMATES.

Lord J. RUSSELL. I may take this opportunity of stating that the Navy Estimates will be on the table of the House in the course of a day or two, and that my right hon. friend the First Lord of the Admiralty will propose to go into Committee on those estimates on Friday so might

LAW OF PARTNERSHIP.

Mr. CARDWELL. On Monday next I shall move for leave to bring in a bill to amend the Law of Partnership (Hear, hear).

THE NEGOTIATIONS AT VIENNA.

Mr. LAYARD asked whether there would be any objection on the part of the Government to lay before the House copies of the correspondence which had taken place with Foreign Powers with regard to the treaty of the 2nd of December, 1854, and especially any document communicated to the Russian Government containing the interpretation placed by the British and French Governments upon the Four Points—not for negotiation, but acceptance?

Lord J. RUSSELL: I cannot at present say whether it will be possible to lay upon the table any of the correspondence to which the hon. gentleman has adverted. With respect to the correspondence generally, I should say that it would be inconvenient to the public service to lay it on the table. But there may be one or two papers, in the shape of reports, which it may be possible to lay before this House; and I will consider this point before I give a final answer. I may state generally what has occurred in respect to the Four Points, and in what state the question stands at present (Hear, hear). At the end of November the Russian Government instructed their Minister at Vienna to declare their acceptance of what are called the Four Points. On the 2nd of December a treaty was signed between France, England, and Austria. On the 28th of December a meeting was held of the Ministers of France, England, and Austria, at Vienna, with Prince Gortschakoff, the Minister of Russia. At that meeting the French Minister read (on the part of France, England, and Austria) the interpretation which the three Powers put upon the Four Points, to be considered as bases of negotiation. I will mention only, with respect to the third point, that it was proposed by that interpretation to put an end to the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea. Prince Gortschakoff stated that he could not adhere to those interpretations; but that he would request further instructions from his Government. He afterwards informed Count Boul that he had received those instructions; and on the 7th or 8th of January another meeting was held, at the office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, at Vienna. At that meeting Prince Gortschakoff read a memorandum which he said he had received, and which contained the views of his Government. It was replied by Count Boul, Lord Westmoreland, and Baron Bourqueney, that they had no authority to receive any such memorandum, and that they must require, as bases of negotiation, the consent of the Russian Plenipotentiary to the interpretation, of which we had also received a note. The Russian Plenipotentiary, Lord Westmoreland states in his despatch, then withdrew the memorandum which he had read, and declared his acceptance, on the part of his Government, of the interpretation as the bases of negotiation. My honourable friend will understand by that that the Russian Minister accepted those interpretations as the bases of negotiation, of course reserving to himself the power, when those bases were laid down into articles, to make any observations on the part of his Government which he might think proper. The Government of her Majesty have declared that they are ready to enter into negotiation on those bases; but hitherto no full power has been given to our Minister at Vienna to negotiate upon them.

Sir H WELLDOGHBY asked if the Government would have any objection to lay before the House a copy of the Protocol signed on the 28th of December by the Three great Powers, explaining the Four Points as contained in the note of the 8th of August, 1854?

Mr. LAYARD: Before the noble Lord answers that question, perhaps he will allow me to ask whether the House is to understand from his statement that the negotiations are actually going on, or are suspended for a time (Hear, hear)?

Lord J. RUSSELL: With respect to the question of the hon. Baronet, I beg to say that that is the point I reserved for consideration. I doubt whether that document can now be properly laid on the table of the House. As to the last question, I beg to say that negotiations are not yet begun upon the bases I have stated.

Mr. BRIGHT: I understood the noble Lord to say that certain terms had been offered to Russia, about which there had been understood to be some difficulty, but that Russia had accepted them. The noble Lord expressed it in this manner, "That Russia had consented to put an end to her preponderance in the Black Sea." The noble Lord, I suppose, will not withdraw from the House the hope that instructions are about to be sent out for the purpose of opening negotiations (Hear, hear). I think the House and the country will be very glad if the noble Lord can state that a difficult proposition having been accepted, as distinctly as it was made, instructions for negotiation will be sent off (Hear, hear).

Lord J. RUSSELL: I have already stated that the Government have expressed their readiness to negotiate on those Four Points

STATE OF THE ARMY, &c.

Mr. H. DRUMMOND gave notice that on Thursday he should move for some returns by means of which he should endeavour to separate some of many complaints and disasters in which our army at present labours from itself, and he was sorry he was not able to do this without certain papers. He should move that there be laid before the House an account of the munitions and stores provided for the army before the troops left this country; also copies of any reports received before the commencement of the war, the nature and strength of the fortifications at Sebastopol, the numbers and force of the garrison there, and the number and distribution of the Russian forces in the surrounding provinces. Also the amount of accommodation for the sick and wounded at Scutari, and the means for transporting them from the Crimea (Hear, hear). Also a copy of the instructions sent from this country to the persons in charge of the medical and other stores; together with returns as to the commissariat service, &c. (Hear, hear)

Mr ROEBUCK gave notice that on Thursday he should move for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the condition of our army before Sebastopol, and into the conduct of those departments of the Government whose duty it was to minister to the wants of that army (Hear).

Mr. ADAIR, on the 6th of February, to move to address her Majesty on the progress and maintenance of the present war;

Mr. RICH, on the 6th of February, to move for a Select Committee to inquire into the efficiency of our military academies and other provisions for preparing officers for regimental and staff appointments;

Mr. COLLIER, on Thursday, to call the attention of the House to the state of our trade with Russia.

BURIAL ACTS.

Mr. A PELLATT gave notice to move (Feb. 6) for a Committee to inquire into the operation of the various Burial Acts, and Proprietary Cemetery Acts, also into the regulations of the Home-office for conducting interments under the Burial Acts.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

Sir B HALL, in asking leave to bring in a bill to alter and amend the Public Health Act, premised that, if he obtained permission to bring in his bill, he designed to refer themeasure, together with the auxiliary bill for amending the Nuisances Removal Act, to a Select Committee, for examination and remission. After describing the various bills and propositions which had been successively laid before Parliament, with the view of improving the sanitary condition of the country, the right hon. Baronet proceeded to explain the provisions of his present bill, by which he proposed to repeal all former Acts, to remodel the constitution of the Board of Health, and simplify the working machinery of surveyors, inspectors, and engineers, through whose agency the decisions of the Board were carried into effect. Entering into somewhat minute details respecting the changes which he purposed to effect in existing arrangements, Sir B. Hall stated that the chief alteration referred to the mode whereby the bill was to be put in operation in any given locality. This was to be done not, as heretofore, upon the invitation of one-tenth of the rate paying inhabitants, but by that of a clear majority of votes recorded at some public meeting, and communicated, if required, by a general poll throughout the district. Compulsory powers were, however, to be given to the Board to interfere for the sanitary improvement of places where the registered mortality exceeded the proportion of 23 per annum to every 1000 of population. Further provisions, he observed, were introduced into the bill for the purpose of obviating the necessity of applying for a special Act on behalf of every town or district whose inhabitants might wish to bring themselves within the jurisdiction of the Board of Health; for regulating the construction of new streets and houses, so as to secure the fulfilment of certain sanitary conditions; and for defining the powers and duties of local boards. He suggested that the bill should continue in force for a period of two years, by which time its character and operation would be sufficiently tested.

After a few words from Mr WILLIAMS, leave was given to bring in the bill.

NUISANCES REMOVAL ACT.

Sir B HALL then moved for leave to introduce a bill for amending the Nuisances Removal Act, passed in 1848. Recapitulating a multitude of facts, showing the necessity of preventing the accumulation of unwholesome materials, the stoppage of drains, and obstruction of ventilation, on one hand, and the benefit which resulted from care bestowed upon those particulars on the other, the right hon. Baronet explained the method by which he proposed to make public provision for that purpose, intimating generally that the system of inspection at present existing in the city of London would form the model of his arrangements for the whole of the metropolis.

After a few words from Mr Wilkinson, Mr Thornely, Sir H. Willoughby, and other members, leave was given to bring in the bill

HOUSE OF COMMONS Wednesday.

The Speaker took the chair at twelve o'clock.

The SPEAKER read the following letter from Lord Raglan, acknowledging the vote of thanks passed to the Army by the House of Commons

Before Sebastopol, Jan. 7, 1855.

Sir,—I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 18th of December, transmitting the resolution of the House of Commons, and requesting me to communicate them to the officers and men of the British army, and General Canrobert, and I beg to acquaint you that I have fulfilled your instructions, and am proud of having been charged with so agreeable a commission. The officers and men of the British army derive the highest gratification from the knowledge that their gallant exertions in the cause in which they are engaged have been honoured by the approval of the Representatives of the British nation, and they accept with feelings of the deepest gratitude the unanimous thanks of the Houses of Commons. I shall lose no time in making known to the House the sentiments entertained by General Canrobert of the public recognition of the brilliant achievements of the French army in the joint co-operation with the troops of her Majesty, by forwarding to you a copy of his Excellency's letter in reply to my communication, and the general order in which he announced to the army under his command the resolutions of the House, and expressed his deep sense of the honour of the thanks they conferred. I trust you will be so good as to acquaint the House that I am deeply sensible of the great distinction it has conferred upon me in noticing my services, and that you will yourself accept my most acknowledgments for the manner in which you have performed the duty of communicating to me its resolutions. I have the honour to be, with the highest respect, your most obedient servant, RAGLAN.

The letter of General Canrobert alluded to by the Speaker was not read.

Colonel NORTH moved for a return of the quantity of coffee, roasted and ground, sent to the army in the Crimea, previous to the 23rd day of December last, specifying the ships in which it was sent, and the date of departure of those ships from this country.—Agreed to.

Mr. J. GREENE moved for a Select Committee to consider the cheapest, most expeditious, and most efficient mode of providing for the printing required for the Houses of Parliament and the public service; to consist of Mr. Mundz, Mr. Hadfield, Mr. L. Vernon, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Hankey, Mr. Crauford, Mr. J. Greene, Lord Seymour, Mr. V. Smith, Mr. Gregson, Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Crossley, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Thornely, and Mr. Walter—with power to send for persons, papers, and records; five to be the quorum.—Agreed to.

The House adjourned at half past twelve.

(*Continued on page 82*)

THE POLES AND THE CONSCRIPTION.—The persecution of the Polish fugitives who have crossed into Prussia with the view of escaping the Russian conscription is being carried on unrelentingly by the authorities of the former State. Count Von Westarp, a provincial judge in the southern part of Upper Silesia, gave directions on the 11th ult to the subordinate officials of his district to arrest thirty nine individuals, advertised as conscript deserters by Russia, and on ascertaining their identity to deliver them up forthwith to the Russian authorities in Poland. That even the poorest classes in Poland continue to dread and loathe the Russian military service is shown by the circumstance that all the thirty-nine individuals in question except two of them, who are Jews, are merely day labourers, poor workmen, and household servants

A SEXAGENARY A CENTURY OLD. There is at present living in Exeter a sergeant, named Thomas Southright, who, in October of the present year, will be 100 years old. He served in the 20th Foot, 26th Foot, and 2nd Garrison Battalion for a period of forty years and two months, and has actually been a pensioner since the 15th of December, 1802, more than 52 years. He served in the army under Lord Cornwallis in the American War of Independence in the year 1783, when the troops were landed to the United States of America and surrendered under General Washington At that time he had been upwards of twenty years in the service, so that he may be said to have almost passed his life in the Army, and it is believed that it is the oldest man at present connected with it. A short time since he was presented by Lieutenant-Colonel Rogers with a medal for the victories in Egypt, a remembrance of his services which he highly prizes

THE FRENCH IN THE RUSSIAN TRENCHES.—The other night, in a deluge of rain, and in complete darkness, some twenty of those intrepid volunteers known in the army as *enfans perdus*—because they risk their lives to devoid themselves of the interpretation—passed over the trenches. Two led the way, one behind the other at the distance of five paces. The rest of the band followed, commanded by an officer called Benoit, formerly of the 7th Regiment of the line. They crept along on their bellies in dead silence. Their chief, an old Zouave, had taught them how. As each man lies down he glides along his rifle to the full stretch of his arm, he then glides himself on his elbows, with not without noise or embarrassment, always ready to bound to his feet should an enemy surprise him. The first in advance acted as a guide; he felt the way; the second communicated the direction to the rest of his band. Every man had his eyes and ears on the alert. The path they took made a circuit. They had to leave on the right the earthwork occupied by Russians. To fall upon it, carry it, or kill its occupants, would not have been a difficult task, but it would have given the alarm. It was necessary to double it and glide between it and the ditch, inspect the enemy's works, and return without letting them be aware of the danger they had incurred. Before entering the narrow strip which separates the fosse from the Russian post, the officer left more than half his men on station. Should his party be discovered, they were to fall upon the fosse. He himself, with five or six determined men, enters the dangerous path, and proceeds alongside the fosse, with his hand he tries the strength of the defences; they are bound firmly together, and are fixed fast in the ground. The fosse is six feet deep and full of rain water It seems possible to scale the fosse; to tear up the defences would require time; it would be better to burn them, the chevaux de frise are connected together by chains. If the one burns the other will remain; it is more advisable to carry them off some twenty yards—once there, they are ours. The night is pitch dark. A few steps a head a man appears. Astonished, he glides towards him. It is one of his own men. If they all go at once they are lost; a breath stops him; he hears the sound of the spade and the pickaxe in the rock; he hears the workmen converse, the guard splash with their feet in the water, the men cough. What does this mean? The sound is hollow; it is a mine. It commences here, and leads there. But the rain continues to pour down. It is bitter cold, and the flash of a gun may lead to their discovery. The officer gives the signal to retreat. They return as they came. Their track on the moist earth guides them. They pass again the Russian outwork. The Russians little suspect a mortal foe is so near to them. The men are close together; they might take them all prisoners, but it would be imprudent. There are other parts of the defences to be examined. The success of the enterprise is more valuable than the death of ten Russian soldiers. Finally, all having been explored, they rejoin the remainder of the band who are waiting for them lying down in the mud. "Anything new, boys?" says the officer. "Nothing." "Then let us return." And these twenty brave fellows, wet to the skin, pass our sentries, who were becoming anxious about them, and return to camp as before. It is said that in the night between the 28th and 29th of December the same men destroyed some works which annoyed our troops, took a prisoner, despite of themselves, and carried off some sacks of rice, which covered a ball in the foot.—*Letter from the French Camp*

THREATENED DUEL BETWEEN MESSRS. W. CONINGHAM, D. URQUHART, AND S. E. ROLLAND. On Saturday morning Mr. Somers Clarke, solicitor, appeared before the Brighton Borough Magistrates, to make an application on behalf of Mr W Coningham, of Kemp Town, late a candidate for the representation of Brighton and of Westminster in Parliament The application, he stated, was rendered necessary by an attempt on the part of Mr David Urquhart and Mr S E Rolland to cause a breach of the peace From Mr Clarke's statements it appeared that in February or March last Mr David Urquhart, Mr Coningham, Mr Rolland, and other gentlemen to join in the formation of an association which was denominated an Association for the Protection of Poland and other Countries from Partition. The society was formed, and Mr Rolland was appointed chairman, Mr. Coningham treasurer, and a Mr. Walpole hon. secretary. Mr Coningham, at some time in April last, lent Mr. Urquhart a sum of £20; and in October he applied for repayment of the loan, which he considered to have been made for Mr. Urquhart's personal use. Mr. Urquhart, however, appears to have considered that the sum (which he has returned to Mr. Coningham) was advanced by that gentleman for the public purposes of the association. The consequence was that an angry correspondence took place between Mr Urquhart, Mr. Rolland, and Mr Coningham, in which the two former gentlemen called on Mr. Coningham to retract the statement that the loan was made for Mr. Urquhart's private use, or to give satisfaction. The magistrates declared their opinion that Mr. Urquhart's and Mr. Rolland's letters, which were read, were intended to cause a breach of the peace; and they granted a warrant for the apprehension of Mr. Urquhart and Mr. Rolland.

PRESENTATION OF A SWORD TO GENERAL SIR DE LACY EVANS, K.C.B

The public recognition of this gallant officer's services on his return to England from the Crimea, took place on Monday at Folkestone, when a congratulatory Address, accompanied by a Sword valued at 150 guineas, was presented to him by a deputation from the inhabitants of the united Parish of Hythe, parliamentary borough of Hythe, Folkestone, and Sandgate. The presentation took place at one o'clock in one of the large saloons of the Pavilion Hotel. The deputation was headed by Mr. Brockman, M.P. for the district, and included about sixty gentlemen, among whom were the Mayor of Hythe (Mr. Money-pay), the Mayor of Folkestone (Mr. Mackie), Colonel Sandilands, Mr. Lacon (Comptroller of Customs at Folkestone), the churchwardens of the several parishes, and the aldermen and councillors of Hythe and Folkestone, &c. The deputation, having been introduced, were received with marked courtesy by the gallant General.

Mr. Brockman (addressing Sir De Lacy Evans) said:—I have been requested, in the name of the inhabitants of the united district of Hythe, Folkestone, and Sandgate, to present a congratulatory address to you upon your return to your native country, after a career in a foreign land, which, although brief, has been brilliant and patriotic. We have been anxious not to lose a moment in doing honour to a gallant and distinguished officer; and we confess ourselves gratified to find that the "Men of Kent" are first in the field, as they certainly yield to none in their admiration of your bravery and patriotism. I have for years been your intimate friend; and it is a subject of high gratification to me that in every company of Englishmen your name is received with expressions of honour and exultation. We venture to ask you to honour us by accepting this sword, in testimony of our admiration of the manner in which you have used its kindred weapons for more than half a century. After apologizing for his want of eloquence in performing the task he had undertaken, Mr. Brockman read the Address as follows:

TO GENERAL SIR DE LACY EVANS, K.C.B., M.P., ETC

Sir, We, the inhabitants of Hythe, Folkestone, Sandgate, and adjacent parishes, forming the Parliamentary borough, take the opportunity your approach among us affords to express our satisfaction that your health is sufficiently restored to allow of your receiving our congratulations on this occasion

We welcome you back with heartfelt pleasure from the seat of war—a war unexcelled in the annals of justice and the independence of nations, accompanied, too, by what has been by disease and privations, but borne with constancy and patience. It is with pride (mingled with deep grief for the noble hearts that have throbbed their last in the gallant sections of Alma, the heights of Tchernaya, and Inkerman) that we have traced the passages of danger and death through which has shone conspicuously your energetic mind, self-abandonment in sickness to attend the call of duty, and generous self-denial in the hour of victory.

We gratefully thank the Almighty dispenser of all good for your safe return to England. Lady Evans, your family and friends, may trust that many years of peace and happiness (crowned as they must be by glorious recollections of difficulties and perils overcome during your long and brilliant career, and the consciousness of having deserved the gratitude of your country and the respect of posterity) may still be in store for you, and may enable that country still further to be indebted to you for the councils which experience so hardly obtained must enable you to furnish in the continued prosecution of her battles

Honourable sir, by accepting this outward token of our esteem, it represents not the measure of your deserts, nor our appreciation of your worth.

Folkestone, Jan. 22, 1855

The Address having been handed to Sir De Lacy Evans,

The gallant General said, he could assure the gentlemen forming the deputation, and the inhabitants of the district generally, that he felt most highly gratified at the compliment which had been paid to him. He believed that all men felt pleasure in visiting their home after an absence in foreign countries, particularly in critical times; and it certainly could not fail to afford him additional satisfaction to receive such a cordial welcome on the very spot where he had landed. He was well assured that the compliment was not intended for himself alone, but that it was also an exemplification of feeling for the gallant army with which he had the honour of serving. He had observed that great complaints were daily made of the management of the war, and it was asserted that the war had made but slow progress. Now he begged to differ with many on that point. He did not consider, under the circumstances, that the progress of the war had been slow, and he was sure that the result would show the correctness of his opinion. No such war as that in which they were now engaged could possibly be finished in so short a time as some were unreasonable enough to expect, particularly where such a country as England, with its small military strength, was not the aggressor. England was not a military power; and the aggressor in the present war was a very important military power, possessed of vast resources (hear)—one who always maintained a very large army, and was always prepared for war, if not, indeed, for aggression. Hence, at the sudden outbreak of the present hostilities, England had not been prepared with a large standing army. It was impossible she could always have a perfect war establishment on a military scale. We had happily enjoyed forty years of peace, and opinions would not admit of the continued maintenance of a large standing army. He would recall to their minds the many military wars in which this country had been engaged, and it would be found that the British forces seldom attained decisive success until at least a third campaign had set in. He might instance the war which immediately followed the breaking out of the French Revolution. England was great and powerful as a commercial nation, and he had no doubt that the present contest would be brought to a termination as decisive in its results as it would be glorious to British arms. The army sent to the Crimea, though young, had vindicated the honour of its country. There was no other army to send. It was young, but it had done its duty. Many mistakes in details had certainly occurred, but they had been the result of inexperience. No want of judgment, in his mind, had been evinced by any officer in that staff in which he had had the honour of holding an humble post. Some battles had been fought in which our army had gathered glory in alliance with the arms of France—an alliance he would pronounce the most devoted and loyal, and which the spirit of this country fully appreciated. He again begged to return them his best thanks, and at the present moment he almost wished he was not a soldier, as he might then have been a better orator. Having returned home, however, he was glad to find that his humble exertions had been considered deserving of acknowledgement, and he thanked them from the bottom of his heart.

Mr. R. Hart, one of the deputation, asked permission to call the attention of the gallant General to the present condition of our army in the East. He was not desirous of drawing forth any expression of opinion which Sir De Lacy Evans, as an officer, might feel desirous of withholding; but the fact could not be disguised, that notwithstanding the great generosity of the people of these kingdoms, the army at present in the Crimea was in a most wretched condition.

Sir De Lacy Evans observed that he had of late read many statements on the condition of the troops. It was not his province, on that occasion, to enter into that question, but he had no objection to say one thing, and that was, that when he left head-quarters the army was not in the condition described in some reports. More he could not say. He would again remind them that at the commencement of a war many mistakes generally took place, and after forty years' peace such mistakes ought not to occasion much surprise. He would take this opportunity of saying that he fully appreciated the kind sympathy now so generously evinced by all classes for the army, and he had no doubt the course of conduct pursued by the people would be the forerunner of great results

The deputation then retired

Sir De Lacy Evans, though much improved since his arrival at the Pavilion, still in very imperfect health

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CHRISTMAS IN THE CRIMEA. Well, and what do you think I was doing when I received your letter on Christmas-eve? Why, mixing batter for pancakes, and Walker was frying them. Of course, when letters were announced, down went spoon, tin, and everything else, and, until I had heard from the dear ones I have left behind We are three in mess together, and, having had so much salt pork and junk lately, we determined to have something extra for Christmas, so we sent our orderly, one of men off to Balaclava, where he purchased 6lbs. of flour for 6s. and 3lbs. of plums for 4s, which is rather dear. So having had our fill of pancakes, the next consideration was how to make a Christmas pudding—and this was a teaser. However, we picked the plums, and got them mixed with the flour. In place of suet, we cut up pieces of salt fat pork very fine, which being also smashed mixed with the other ingredients, our pudding was complete as to making. Now, as to cooking it, we found an old camp kettle, which, having pierced with our bayonets, and filled with charcoal (now allowed at 4s. per cwt), formed our oven. On this we placed another camp kettle with our pudding in, and left it to boil for three hours, when it was pronounced done; so off with it, and on went the frying pan, with some slices of fat pork and fresh meat (the first we have had for six weeks) and some onions, which made a very savoury mess, I assure you. Our dinner being now ready, we were in want of something to wash it down, but having neither sherry, nor porter, nor tea, on went the frying-pan again to roast some green coffee (by-the-by, I have just finished roasting and grinding a bottle full of that same article), which being roasted, one of us gets a large stone which is worked hollow in the centre. Into it the coffee is put, and a 32-pound shot rolled over it until the coffee is sufficiently crushed, when it is put into the mess-tin, with due quantum of sugar, to boil; and so our Christmas dinner is ready, and I can assure you that we were ready also, and enjoyed our dinner as well as the circumstances would allow. While eating my plum dough it made me think of dear old England and the happy Christmas I spent there last year, and where I hope to spend the next.—*Letter from the English Camp, Dec. 25.*

HOW THEY GET ON IN THE FAR WEST.

THE proposed interference of the people, rather than the Government, of the United States, with the affairs of Europe, has increased the interest which the inhabitants of the Old World take in the progress of the New. Little more than seventy years ago they were the British North American Colonies emphatically, "our plantations," containing about 3,500,000 people. In 1790, when the first Census was taken, there were under the Federal Government 3,929,879; in 1850, at the last Census, there were 23,191,074; and now there are probably nearly 26,000,000. The population, therefore, has increased sixfold in less than sixty-four years. It doubles itself in about twenty-four years. In the period between 1790 and 1851 the population of Great Britain increased from about 9,800,000 to 21,000,000, or it increased two and one-seventh fold. The population of the United States, therefore, has increased almost three times as fast as the population of Great Britain, and is now increasing in the same or a still greater ratio. In no other country of Europe has the population increased half as fast as in Great Britain. In many of the countries of Europe population is almost, and in some some completely, stationary. Thus the population of the United States has increased at least six times as fast as any State in Europe except Great Britain. This increase is not, as in Russia, the consequence of conquest. In 1803 the acquisition of Louisiana, by purchase, added some fifteen or twenty thousand to the population; but the other acquisitions of territory such as Texas, California, part of New Mexico—brought with them very few people, except as persons were tempted to settle in these places after they were acquired by the States. The extension of their dominion has been in general over unpeopled lands, and they have not at the same time conquered and incorporated large populations. The increase of people is mainly due to natural fecundity and—but in a much less degree—to immigration. There is no other example in modern times of such a rapid and continuous increase of people, and there is good ground for believing that nothing like it ever before took place in any part of the world. Never before had such skill and knowledge as the Americans carried with them from Europe an opportunity for displaying the power of production on an abundance of fertile unoccupied land, and we may therefore rest assured that never in any age did population increase for the long period of seventy years so rapidly as in the United States. The example of the neighbouring country of Mexico, the example of the Indians who still rove in the fertile valley of the Amazon, and over various parts of America in much the same condition as when that continent was first discovered, demonstrate that plenty of room or of unappropriated land and all the material elements of wealth are not of themselves sufficient to cause or encourage the growth of population. Man is fed and life nourished by labour; and the steady, skilful application of labour, to provide subsistence, and all other things necessary to keep the body in health and vigour, makes all the difference between the Anglo American inhabitants of the States, the Spanish American inhabitants of Mexico, and the Indians scattered over the whole of the new continent. To skilful industry the people of the United States owe all their greatness. In what degree their exertions may have been protected and encouraged by their form of government, is not at present a question; we put aside all political considerations to pay attention to the undoubted fact that the wonderful increase of the people in the States, their prosperity and power, are due to skilful and steady industry.

The total slave population of the Federal Union is now about 3,300,000, scattered over sixteen of the thirty-one States, and over two of the five Territories which constitute it. But in New Jersey there are only a few slave apprentices, on the way to abolition; in Delaware, Utah, Maryland, and Missouri the number is comparatively small, and the bulk of them are in Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi Louisiana, Tennessee, and Kentucky. The plague is mainly confined to nine States, and they are not the most flourishing. The chief source of the national prosperity is not the industry of slaves, but of free men. Even in the States where slavery exists there is a great deal of free labour, and to it especially is due the general progress. For many years no slaves have been imported, and all the immigration has been of free men Nevertheless, the slaves have increased nearly as fast as the free population—a pretty certain sign that at least their material comforts are cared for. In 1790 there were 697,897, and in 1850, 3,204,067 an increase of nearly fivefold; in 1790 the free population was 3,231,975, and in 1850, 19,987,107—an increase of more than sixfold. The free population, however, exists in all the States, and as it increases comparatively slowly in the nine chief slave States, in them the slaves increase the fastest. With the exception of the States of Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, and one or two other slave States, the increase of population is not proportionately so great as the increase of population in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and in other States, where there are no slaves In the slave States the slaves increase most; in other States the increase is all of free men, which makes the contrast stronger. Even if it were otherwise, as the slaves make little or no progress in improvement—the worst feature of slavery—the whole progress in the States may be attributed to the free population. These latter have not only ample room; they not only possess a knowledge of all the useful arts of Europe; they are free to exert themselves in every direction; and individually and collectively, they are undoubtedly the most energetic and steadily industrious people—not even excepting ourselves now on the earth. Hence, their shipping—to which we are indebted for many improvements in our shipping—almost equals ours in tonnage; and next to it is by far the largest mercantile marine in the world. Hence their railroads, though generally laid down with only one pair of rails, and destitute of all the architectural works which have found a place on European rails, much exceed in length those of our country; and hence the telegraph, there communicating with almost every town, is almost as much and as commonly used by the whole people as the post is here. Descending from these general statements, we will set before our readers, as a specimen of the whole, the growth of one town.

On the southern shore of Lake Michigan, which has a water communication to the south with the Mississippi, the West Indies, and the whole southern hemisphere, and to the north-east with the St. Lawrence, all the British North American colonies, and all parts of Europe, there was founded, somewhere about 1830, the town of Chicago. It is not the only town in the neighbourhood, for there are others on the same lake, and one of them, Milwaukie, not more than ninety miles from it, is growing perhaps as fast as Chicago; but of this latter only we shall now speak. In 1840 it had only 4479 inhabitants; in 1850 they numbered 29,963, though no gold mines had been found in the neighbourhood There run from it, connecting it with great trunk lines of rails, twelve railroads, 2416 miles in length; and it has, moreover, sixteen branches of railways and extensions, running 1130 miles. By railroads it is united to Mobile, in the Gulf of Mexico, and with Philadelphia, New York, and all the eastern States. The construction of these rails has added, since 1850, so much to the population, that the number is now supposed to amount to nearly 50,000. In 1851 the value of its imports was 24,416,000 dollars, and of its exports 10,000,000 dollars. In 1853 it received from the country around it, and sent forward to New York and other places, to be distributed in part over Europe, nearly 14,000,000 bushels of grain of all kinds, and flour; besides unknown numbers of barrels of beef, and pork, and lard, and hams—the grain alone being greater in quantity than proceeds, on an average, from any of the great shipping ports of the Old World, including Odessa. From Chicago the quantity exported is increasing year by year. It is only one, though the chief, of several dépôts for the spare agricultural produce of upwards of 1,000,000 people, who within twenty years have planted themselves or have grown up on the fertile lands that lie to the west of Lake Michigan, and now, in the several States of Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Arkansas, Missouri, &c., are increasing at the rate of several hundred thousand per year. Being a kind of commercial metropolis for them, as they multiply and fill the broad lands that stretch to the Pacific, Chicago promises to become one of the largest inland cities of the world, nowhere rivalled, except by such huge cases as London and Paris, and the admirably large towns of China. It is already a great place, formed by the hand of labour in twenty years, having in it all the conveniences of a European town of the first class, abounding in newspapers, speaking by telegraph, and running by rail to every part of the Federal Union.

Now let us go a step lower, and look at the industry in an individual which, when exercised by the multitude, is the means of accomplishing all these wonders. It has been remarked, with some acuteness, in order to console mankind for a present-asserted inferiority to the ancients, that the "Pyramids were built by men like ourselves." In like manner, we may find not merely consolation, but encouragement, and even delight, in noticing that the prairies of the Far West are cultivated; that railroads are made over the whole of North America; that the desert is crowded with towns filled with all the elegances of life—the flourishing abodes of trade, art, and literature, by patient and energetic industry, such as is possessed in common by the multitude in Europe and in America. Nay, the very men who, in the former, rust, waste, and are destroyed, in the latter are roused to exertion; and their labour—cramped, impeded, and fruitless in Europe—in America converts the wilderness into a blooming garden, and the desert into a crowded city. About the year 1806 there was born in Somerset county, State of Pennsylvania, of comparatively poor parents, Jacob Strawn, or Strahan. Like all American children, he received a school education, and felt the desire to get on common to all boys whenever they are free. He married before leaving home, and then took to clearing a piece of ground for a farm. Late in the night did he keep chopping up the timber by fires which his wife made; and early in the morning, allowing himself not above two hours' sleep, was he again at work. He was successful; but soon gave up his first clearing, and removed to another in Ohio. Here he stuck and prospered for eleven years, when he removed further west and fixed himself in Illinois. He bought there three hundred acres of land. From the beginning of life he had a passion for cattle, and he made it his business to buy, sell, feed, and drive them. On his three hundred acres he built a log house: forward he went buying, feeding, and selling cattle; adding acre to acre, herd to herd, till his three hundred acres increased, in two compact farms, to sixteen thousand three hundred acres, all situated in Morgan and Sangamon counties, State of Illinois. He feeds sixteen hundred head of cattle, seven or eight hundred hogs, fifty horses, and from fifty to a hundred mules. His first log hut has given place to a handsome brick house, that should be far more worthy of respect hereafter than the robber castles of the middle ages which we admire. He cultivates nearly three thousand acres with maize, and leaves the bulk of his land in grass. He sells stock yearly to the value of 100,000 dollars. His land is in admirable order, and is generally cultivated by contract, he letting it in portions to other men to till under his direction. In the half-peopled country in which he first settled he had some difficulty in procuring cattle. Then he scoured the whole district, riding by day and by night, on roads or without roads, through storms and through sunshine. In hunting up cattle, and driving them, he passed days and nights on horseback; getting no other sleep than in the saddle. He soon formed connections over a wide extent of country, and had, in different places, pilots, who were necessary, and assistants ready at his summons. No beast was, in his younger days, too wild for him to subdue; and it has been said—but this smells of Kentucky that he could seize a beast by the horn and nose and throw him on the ground. He acquired such accurate knowledge of cattle that he could ride through a drove, count them, calculate the weight of each beast to a few pounds, and their value, and offer a price or buy them on the spot, before another man could well tell their number. He was a great trader before he kept a book, yet he made no mistakes. He knew cattle by sight better than men, and never forgot the beast with which he had once formed an acquaintance. The energies like his, the great provision market of the west become supplied with beef and pork; dairies were formed, and the States came to export annually about 100,000 barrels of beef, 200,000 barrels of pork, 60,000,000 lbs. of ham, 60,000,000 lbs. of lard, 4,000,000 lbs. of cheese, and 14,000,000 lbs. of butter. Mr. Strawn is still a hearty man, with three sons to assist him in his business; but he complains that he has become lazy, and must now sleep four hours, when formerly two were sufficient. He rises, however, with the dawn, and is active through many hours. He abjures alcohol, and delights in milk and apple-pie His great exertions and services have obtained for him the name, as we learn from the *Prairie Farmer*, of the "Napoleon of cattle;" and in the Far West his merits are recognised as a perfect exemplification of how the people there go ahead

It is pleasant to add that at all the new towns of the West there is an abundance of newspapers. In Chicago alone there are five daily papers, six weekly papers, one semi-monthly, and three monthly periodicals. The *Prairie Farmer* is one of the latter; and to it and the *Chicago Democratic Press* we are indebted for much of the curious information we have laid before our readers.

THE SANDPIPER.

To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

I have just read in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of the 20th instant the description given of a Sandpiper which was shot by a gentleman near Cambridge, on the 13th of December last, with an Engraving of the bird. A bird answering to that description in every respect, both as to size, form, and colour of plumage, and of which the Engraving is an exact representation, was shot by me at Bigswear, on the banks of the Wye, in Gloucestershire, on Friday last, the 19th inst. The bird, not being known, was particularly examined, and shown to some gentlemen, who agreed, after reading the account, and seeing the Engraving of the Sandpiper, that it was the same bird It is to be regretted that it was too late to preserve the bird as a specimen, since it appears to be a rare bird in this country

I am your obedient servant, W. S. R

Bigswear, Jan. 23, 1855.

CHAPTER OF THE BATH. Her Majesty, it is said, will, shortly after her arrival in London for the season, hold a chapter of the above distinguished order, of which Prince Albert is Grand Master, for the purpose of investing Lieutenant-General Sir De Lacy Evans (now a Knight Commander) and Major-General the Earl of Cardigan, who distinguished himself by his heroism at Balaclava, with the insignia of the grand cordon of the order.

INTERNATIONAL CIVILITY. The other day a Russian officer presented himself at the point where the trenches end with a flag of truce. The works and firing immediately ceased on that point. The Russian approached, and the officer on duty went out to meet him. He was the bearer of a letter for the Commander-in-Chief. Having made his official communications, the Russian officer, who spoke very good French, inquired how we got on in the cold weather. "We don't mind it," was the reply. "Well," said the Russian, "for our part, we are tired of it." A good deal of courtesy prevails During the truce, the ground in the vicinity of the Redan and Malakoff, at about 10 metres from our trenches, showed themselves to our soldiers and politely saluted them, which politeness was returned by our men. As soon as the Russian had left, and the flag of truce was hauled down, the firing of the rifles was again as lively as ever. No one could have supposed that a few minutes previously there was a suspension of hostilities by the bullets (the *mere boys*, as the men call them) came whistling past the ears of the men at their work. At a given signal, shutters are raised on each side of the sandbag to kill each other. This is military courtesy. The ground in the vicinity of the Camp is strewn with cannon balls and fragments of shells. In some places the balls lie as thick as stones just dug up in a field. Near the town there are not so many cannon balls, but those fragments of shells and grenades. The clay soil is often marked with dark streaks of blood or gunpowder; yet we have very few wounded.—*Letter from the French Camp, Dec. 31.*

MARRIAGE OF SIR H. DE TRAFFORD WITH LADY A. TALBOT

Last week the quiet monotony which usually pervades the town and neighbourhood of Rugby, was agreeably dissipated by an "auspicious event," celebrated in a manner that divested it of the commonplaces usually attending marriages even in high life. The event we refer to was the celebration, on Wednesday, the 17th inst., of the marriage of Sir Humphrey de Trafford, Bart., with the Lady Annette Talbot. Both names, as our readers may be aware, are inseparably connected with some of the most stirring epochs of English history. The de Traffords are a family of high antiquity and great wealth in Lancashire, of which county the present representative of the family, the subject of our notice, is Lord-Lieutenant. The lady is the eldest daughter of the late Colonel Charles Talbot, by Julia, daughter of the late Sir Henry Tichborne, Bart. (subsequently married to Capt. Washington Hibbert). Sheand her brother, the present Earl of Shrewsbury, are the lineal descendants of many "renowned Talbots" of the mighty Earl, among the rest, who upheld so long the English power in France. Both families have ever been numbered among the leading supporters of the Roman Catholic faith; and the knowledge that the marriage ceremony would be invested with many accessories characteristic of a bygone age, in addition to the usual picturesque ceremonial of the Romish Church, created much interest in the Midland and Northern Counties. A great number of the neighbouring gentry had also received invitations to the grand ball which was to be given in the evening, in celebration of the event; and in the hotels of Rugby every bed had been engaged for a considerable period.

At Bilton Grange, the residence of Captain and Mrs Hibbert, a distinguished circle of guests had been for some days assembled, including the Earl of Howth and the Ladies Mary and Emily St. Lawrence, Lord and Lady Dormer and the Hon. Miss Dormer, Viscount St. Lawrence, Mr. and Lady Catherine Wheble, Hon. G. S. Smythe, &c., &c. After breakfasting, the company assembled in the gallery at Bilton Grange, and here the *coup d'œil* was the most charming that can be imagined. The room itself was of great length, paneled with dark oak, and hung with sombre portraits and gorgeous tapestry. Peopled with figures, harmonising so well with the spirit of the place, it was difficult to avoid being carried back in imagination five or six centuries at least. The bridesmaids, twelve in number, were attired in white silk, with a cope or mantle of coloured corded silk, fastened with a brooch of pearl, and falling in long straight mediæval-looking folds from the shoulders. Six of the mantles were red, and six blue, thus equally dividing between them the colours of the Madonna. The head-dresses consisted of blue and red wreaths to match the mantles, with the indispensable white tulle veils falling from the back of the head over the whole person. The ladies who officiated on this occasion were the Lady Gwendeline Talbot, younger sister of the bride; Miss Belinda de Trafford, sister of the bridegroom; the ladies Emily and Mary St Lawrence, cousins of the bride; Miss Tempest, niece of the bridegroom, the Hon. Mary Dormer, cousin of the bride; Miss Hibbert, the Misses Lydia, Margaret, Cecilia, and Emily Hibbert, her half-sisters, and Miss Teresa Townley. The bride's costume—not very dissimilar in character—was of white glacé silk, richly trimmed with Brussels lace. Her Ladyship wore a cope of white watered silk, embroidered with gold and silver flowers, fastened with tassels of the same. A brilliant diamond cross hung round the neck, costly bracelets on the arms, and the prescriptive orange wreath and point veil dependent from the head completed the costume.

Mrs Washington Hibbert, the mother of the bride, was most picturesquely attired. Her dress, also of white silk, was trimmed with ruches of dark-blue ribbon vandyked; and the cope was of dark blue velvet suspended from each shoulder by a *coque de perle*. A head dress of the same material, ornamented with pearls, heightened and completed the effect of the magnificent robe. The marriage was solemnised at the chapel attached to St Mary's College, Rugby. This edifice was built about eight years since, by Captain Hibbert. In it novitiates are educated in the doctrines of the Church of Rome. From the spot where the bridal party were set down to the entrance of the chapel, the path had been covered with crimson cloth, and covered by a canvas roof, gaily ornamented with banners. They were received by the officiating priest, and on the arrival of Dr. Ullathorne (titular Bishop of Birmingham) the ceremony was performed by him. After an admirable and impressive address to the contracting couple by Dr Ullathorne, a grand pontifical high mass was celebrated. This was just before noon briefly interrupted by the retirement of the bride and bridegroom into a side aisle, in order that the registrar of the district should complete the legal form, to comply with the law which requires all marriages not effected by special license to be completed before that hour. Outside the chapel the happy pair were loudly cheered by an immense concourse of persons assembled, whose enthusiastic cheers testified to the popularity which the excellent owner of Bilton Grange has won from all classes and creeds during a long residence in the locality.

The company having returned to the Grange, a superb déjeûner was served in the banqueting-hall—an exquisite apartment with an open arched roof of great beauty. A gallery occupies one end, and the walls are decorated with old portraits in oak frames, in capital keeping with the rest of the apartment. On this occasion a famous bride-cake, decorated with appropriate Scriptural mottoes, was placed on a stand in the centre of the hall, under a magnificent silver corona, designed by Captain Hibbert.

After doing ample justice to the good things provided, the health of the bride and bridegroom was proposed in an appropriate speech by Dr. Ullathorne. Sir Humphrey de Trafford, in a feeling manner, returned thanks. The host and hostess, and finally the bridesmaids, having been similarly honoured, the party rose and retired.

The ball in the evening was attended by a large party of the

THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY, IN ST. MARY'S CHAPEL.

RECEPTION OF THE BRIDAL CORTEGE AT ST. MARY'S CHAPEL.

neighbouring gentry; and the poor in the neighbourhood were also regaled by the liberality of Captain Hibbert.

Bilton Grange, situate within three miles of Rugby, the seat of Captain Washington Hibbert, the present husband of the bride's mother, is, *par excellence*, one of the most unique and perfect Gothic residences in England. What it lacks in antiquity Captain Hibbert has made up by the most lavish expenditure of ornament, controlled only by the exquisite taste which pervades every part of the mansion. The general design of the house was Captain Hibbert's own, and the details were carried out under the personal superintendence of the late lamented Mr. Pugin, who justly considered the interior one of his chefs-d'œuvre. Where unlimited means are placed at the disposal of artists of the highest rank in their profession, the result may easily be anticipated; and Bilton Grange is one of those houses that will stand for ages a monument of the liberality and good taste of its gallant owner. The leading features of the mansion are the great gallery, the banqueting-hall, and the drawing-room. It is impossible to speak too highly of the general effect of all these apartments. The gallery, which is about 100 feet in length, might have been built in the thirteenth century, so completely has the spirit of the old architects been caught in its design and arrangement. The walls were hung with ancient family portraits, interspersed here and there with panels filled with tapestry of the richest hues and most antique manufacture. From the ceiling hung a number of Gothic coronas, by which the gallery is lighted; and the floor is composed of polished oak. The banqueting-hall is a stately apartment, having an open arched roof of great beauty. A minstrel's gallery occupies one end of the apartment, and the walls are hung with old portraits, in perfect keeping with the sombre tone of the general decorations. But the drawing-room bears away the palm. This is an exquisitely-finished saloon of great beauty, with bay-windows looking upon the garden. Over the fireplace, which is of elaborately-carved stone work, is emblazoned the figure of St Hubert, the patron saint of the Hibberts, with labels bearing the family mottoes, "Sit prudentia" and "Pugna pro patria," on either side. The walls are hung with a material of great brilliancy of colour, harmonising charmingly with the fittings of the room—the pattern chiefly consisting of squares, within which the family monogram is shown in every variety of device. Around the cornices are inscribed in Gothic characters a series of mottoes enjoining the practice of the moral virtues. The ceiling is carved and ornamented in gold and colours, and the furniture admirably preserves the true Gothic style of the apartment.

On entering the Chapel, which is situate just on the confines of the borough, and nearly opposite the famous old school from which the place has attained all the celebrity it ever had, the spectator soon finds that it is to the liberality of Captain Hibbert the members of the Roman Catholic religion in this district are indebted for the erection of a very beautiful chapel standing in its own grounds, and annexed to a college of considerable extent, in which noviciates are educated in the doctrines of the Church of Rome. Upon a tablet, immediately upon entering the chapel, there is inscribed as follows:

A FAITHFUL TRANSLATION OF THE GRANT OF POPE PIUS IX., CONCEDED TO THE PRAYER OF THE PETITION MADE TO HIS HOLINESS BY THE CONGREGATION OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, RUGBY.

Most Holy Father,—A church having been erected by the piety of Captain Hibbert, a convert to our holy religion, in the neighbourhood of Rugby, in Warwickshire, dedicated to the great Mother of God, the consecration and solemn opening of the same having taken place on the 8th of September, 1847, the faithful of that place supplicate your Holiness to grant a plenary indulgence on solemn festivals, and on those of Our Ladye, to all of the faithful, who, after confession and holy communion, will visit the aforesaid church, praying according to the intention of your Holiness.

Rome, Nov. 16, 1851.—Granted as requested.

PIUS IX.

Seen by us William Bernard, Bishop of Birmingham

After perusing this document, it can be no matter of surprise that the occasion of an event with which the happiness of a member of Captain Hibbert's family was so intimately associated should have been gladly selected by the members of the Romish Church in this district as a favourable opportunity for testifying their gratitude and respect towards him. This was done in an effective manner on the 17th inst.; and it may be doubted whether on any former occasion within the last two centuries a ceremony appertaining to the Romish Church has been celebrated in this country in a more imposing manner than was the marriage of Sir Humphrey and Lady Annette De Trafford.

The interior of the Chapel had been very elaborately decorated for the occasion. Mr. Hardman, of Birmingham, with his staff of officials, ha been employed for some time past in carrying out plans, the completeness of which were beyond all question. The Chapel itself consists of a nave, which is separated by a handsome carved oak screen from the altar. The Ladye Chapel, on the north side of the altar is approached by an aisle running parallel with the nave, from which it is divided by a series of arches. The interior walls of the chapel were decorated with large emblazonments, displaying the arms of the two families of Talbot and De Trafford; and, on either side of the altar were banners bearing heraldic shields. Upon a label over the chancel arch was emblazoned, in black letters of the sixteenth century, the following text from the Gospel of St. John:—

There was a marriage in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; and Jesus also was invited, and his disciples, to the marriage.

And upon labels under the wall-plates, extending entirely round the edifice, the Douay version of the 128th Psalm was inscribed in corresponding characters. The pillars throughout the sacred edifice were wreathed with bands of shamrock, showing the Irish descent of the family; and natural ivy wreaths, ornamented with bows of white ribbon, lined the soffit of the arches and capitals of all the pillars. The seats in the centre of the nave had been entirely removed, and in front of the altar screen was placed a "prie Dieu," covered with crimson velvet, upon which were embroidered in gold lace the monograms of the betrothed pair. The altar was hung with red and gold tapestry of Gothic pattern, a gift of the bride to the chapel

THE DEJEUNER, IN THE BANQUETING-HALL, AT BILTON GRANGE.

BILTON GRANGE, NEAR RUGBY.

THE LIFE AND WORKS OF W. ETTY. R.A.*

ETTY was an instance—one out of many in the history of modern art, and particularly that of our own country—of a man endowed with a certain amount of natural gifts, achieving a certain and respectable amount of success, but failing of attaining a first rank for want of proper education and direction of his talent. Adopting art, in spite of many difficulties, at an age almost too advanced to submit to the drudgery of instruction, and soon discovering a facility in a special province of art, that of colour, obliged to paint, for a livelihood, ere he had learned to draw; he followed up his *specialité* to the end, to the almost total neglect of every other requirement of excellence.

The son of a very shabby and paupertoid Yorkshire family, William Etty was, at the usual age of putting out to life, apprenticed to a printer at Hull, with whom he served the appointed seven years, doing his duty as a compositor, though much against the grain; his fixed predilection being for painting. At the termination of his apprenticeship, then nearly nineteen years of age, his friends yielded to his importunities, and sent him up to London on a visit to an uncle, who was well to do in the gold-lace trade; a kind hearted man, who resolved upon giving the youth a fair trial in the field of his ambition. Introduced to Opie and Fuseli, and afterwards to Lawrence, he was received as a pupil on the last named for a twelvemonth, on payment of a fee of a hundred guineas; but being left very much to his own resources, saving the occasional copying of a portrait, or parts of one, it is not to be supposed that he learned much in a school so refin d, yet so artificial and conventional in its teaching, as fashionable portrait painter. Meantime, admitted as a pupil in the Royal Academy, he studied and worked unrestrictedly in his own way—unresolved at first what line to adopt. At an earlier period, before entering the Life School, he thought of painting landscape; but "afterwards," to use his own words, "when I found that all great painters of antiquity had become great through painting great actions and the human form, I resolved to paint nothing else;" and, pursuing at a later time the same idea, he go on to say, "Finding God's most glorious work—woman—that all human beauty had been concentrated in her—I resolved to dedicate myself to painting, not drapers' or milliners' work, but God's most glorious work, more finely than ever had been done." Now, if we wanted the clue to the mistake of Etty's aim, and a measure of his misconception of High Art, and of his own capabilities, for it, we have it in these few vain words. The great painters of antiquity painted the human form as the interpreters of great actions or of grand sentiments; Etty merely painted it as a thing of beauty *per se*, without regard to great actions or grand sentiment. As to woman being the "most glorious work" of creation, it is not the fact—being the weaker vessel, and second to man; and insufficient for the realisation of the grandest subjects in the epic of art. The sneer against "drapers' and milliners' work," is an impertinence, exposing ignorance of the grandest works of the greatest painters, both ancient and modern, and a want of appreciation of the diviner attributes of human beauty. In the days of great art, both painting and sculpture, ancient and modern, the rule (to which of course there have been exceptions) has been to drape the figure, particularly the female; and the triumph of the artist has been to show beauty of form and grace of attitude, improved by appropriate and tasteful costume, and giving life and character to the cold marble or the flat canvas, by the development displayed in the head, and the expression of the face, upon which his greatest study and care were bestowed, and which were the test and proof of his inspiration. Etty found himself gifted with the knack of imitating the colour and texture of the human flesh; but he was not so successful in drawing the human figure, whether in action or repose; and had no conception of the diviner part of our nature—the soul, the mind; of which the body is but the vehicle.

We have said Etty was not strong at drawing; and the reason was simply, that, having no natural gifts for what the Germans call *moïse*, of which drawing is the chief exponent, so he did little to supply the technical power by study. According to his biographer, "blind motions towards colour started within him; ineffectually as yet. The attempts of even later date are remembered as 'black and colourless.' But the impulse, the instinct were there;" and then we have the rest in his own telling—"One night in the *Life* Fuseli was visitor. I threw aside the chalk, took up my palette set with oil colours, and began to paint the figure. 'Ah! there,' says Fuseli, 'you seem at home;' and truly so I felt;" and from that time he continued to paint the colour of the model before him, the outline from which he could not trace; only occasionally attempting a copy from the antique. Is it surprising that his first efforts were failures, and that in 1840 (when twenty-three years of age) his six pictures tendered to the Royal Academy for exhibition were rejected? "Deep was the wound," he says, "my vanity and self-conceit had received;" and noble, because generous and candid, was the remark made to him on the occasion by Sir Thomas Lawrence:—"My (former) master told me the truth in no flattering terms. He said, 'I had a very good eye for colour, but that I was lamentably deficient in all other respects almost;'" and Etty, to do him justice, taking the admonition in good part, set himself to work "studying the skeleton, the origin and insertion of the muscles," sketching from Albinus, and from "prints of the antique statues." But it is too late to "get up" the alphabet and spelling-book of Art; and so Etty continued his devotion to the Muses and Graces after his own fashion, one in which millinery and dressmaking, any more than the osseous and muscular development, were to have no part. Still, however, he did not perfect his really taking, and in many respects effective, colouring all at once. He changed his plan frequently before he was satisfied of being in the right way; and then he records the fact in a manner which opens a new and not very agreeable insight into the artist's mind. We know not whether there is any necessary connection between painting and unmalicious religious sentimentality, but it is remarkable that neither Haydon nor Etty could finish a good day's work, nor manage a good commission, without perceiving in it the interposition of a special providence, which they acknowledged in prayers of thanksgiving, which shock us as we read them. For instance, in the case of poor Etty now spoken of, after detailing certain principles of good colouring which he has at length lighted on, he bursts forth in the following strain: "O Father of every good and perfect thing! do Thou be pleased to assist my blindness; and to grant that in this and all other advances to knowledge I may be ever conscious of Thy goodness, and use them to the advantage of society. For Christ's sake. Amen." This was early in life; but even still less excusable, and still more disagreeable to our mind, is what we read of him (in 1839, at the ripe age of fifty-two) when seeing the number of ambitious pictures by Hilton left unsold at the Royal Academy:—"How thankful to God I ought to be," emphatically exclaimed Etty, "that I have not a single picture on my hands!"

The secret of Etty's success was that he painted a few class of subjects, in which very little of mind entered; that he painted everlastingly, always copying in the *Life* in the Academy, or from models in his own studio; but, above all, that he was "contented with very small returns," and was constantly commissioned by the picture-dealers. The truth was Etty, thrifty, not to say penurious in habit, was one of those who could never refuse an offer, if enforced with the clink of gold, or the rustle of notes; and the profits which have been made by those who invested money in his works, must have been enormous. Amongst other passages of a like kind we read:

> Of the numerous (modern picture) dealers who in subsequent years relied so much for their supply on Etty, first in the field was Mr. Colls, who, in his appreciation of Etty, was, as late as 1835, in advance of the rest of the world. His connection with the painter, one fruitful in minor works of fancy, commenced in the spring of that year with the purchase of a beautiful picture—'Wood Nymphs Sleeping; Satyr Bringing Flowers: Morning'—at a price in keeping with those Etty then commanded—£55. After many a subsequent change from hand to hand, in 1851, realised £500. Mr. Colls remembers buying of Etty, during the immediately subsequent period, five other pictures, at about 50 guineas each one, an important work, "containing twenty-one figures"—"Christ Blessing Little Children." All which, as many others of succeeding years, secured originally for an old song, as it would now be thought (£10, £20, £30, and sold at a moderate advance), have been bought by the same dealer again, and sold, bought, and sold over and over, until by successive stages reaching £300 and £400.

The following story is too rich to be omitted:

> October sees him in Manchester, for a day or two, hoping to sell a picture. To his exhibition he had sent the "Delilah;" for which one offer of £100 had been refused, to his present remorse. Failed this year to ill-success, he finds it still unsold; begins to fear it will "stick by him." A call was made and an evening spent with Daniel Grant, "one of the most benevolent men in Manchester," the possessor of "Venus and her Doves" commissioned on the painter's first visit. But "trade is bad" this year, the firm a loser by an odd £100,000 "or so; and manufactures "afraid of pictures." The following day, after attending some neighbouring races, Etty dined with Mr. Grant. Over their wine, the pictures being mentioned, his wealthy host takes it into his head to bid for them: asks "what he will take" for the "Delilah" and the "Sirens" "in the lump," not having seen the latter. On his side, the painter was alarmed for the sale of his pictures, and would fain "turn them into cash." "Thinking," he tells his brother, "by going to the lowest sum, I might tempt him, I said £300 for the two"—the original price, and that a mutilated one, of the "Sirens" alone. £300 the manufacturer had that morning put in his pocket to risk in the betting-ring, and had lost only £25 of it. Willing to save the remainder, and lay it up in a more tangible luxury, he offered £200, "in notes," before the nervous painter, to whom money is money, and was always impatient. But £200 for two such works, the product of the best hours of one year in the maturity of the painter's life, in the maturity of his skill and fame, was not irresistible but even to so bad a man of business as Etty. "Another £50" failing to seduce him, the tempter pocketed his ineffectual notes; and the artist already regrets his own obstinacy—"I may not have such another offer." He remorsefully calls to mind his uncle's aphorism—"Never refuse money, William!"—coined under his hand but hitherto scrupulously to be in mind; and continued to do so, during years when it was hard to apprehend, "A lost occasion gone for ever by!" he fears, this opportunity of securing £350 will prove. On parting from his host late at night, to the latter's abrupt query, "Will you take the money?" Etty, prompted by the habitual surrender by previous chances, responded with [illegible] "Have [illegible] bargain was struck. The pictures [illegible] to his inn with the £200, and the manufacturer to his bed, owner, at that early rate, of pictures whose current claim he was little qualified to apprehend; and of which the mere money value, in 1854, considerably exceeds £2000. The "Sirens" itself is valued at that sum.

Again:—"For 'Venus and her Satellites' (1835), Etty, having refused one offer, was, as usual, afraid of oversetting his market. It was secured by the Rev. E. P. Owen for less than the 300 guineas asked. Sixteen hundred guineas have since (in private) been proffered for it.

At the time of the attempted revival of fresco-painting in this country, under the auspices of Prince Albert, Etty received his Royal Highness's commands to paint one of the compartments in the rustic Summer Temple in Buckingham Palace gardens, a work which he reluctantly commenced, "not expecting to succeed," as he assured the Prince on receiving the commission, "being unacquainted with the practice of fresco." And a sad failure he made of it, amidst much vexation of spirit, often having to cut away portions of the plaster, and sometimes painting over portions when dry; and then, of course, the colour could not be absorbed. One drawback was the having to paint perched up on a scaffold; and he offered to give up his first attempt ("Circe and the Sirens Three"), and make a new one (subject, "Hesperus"), in his own studio. The sketch for the latter was left "on approbation" at the Palace, but was not approved of. "Notwithstanding the verbal compliment of Prince Albert at the Academy dinner, Etty's second fresco was never put up. The sketch, when shown to Royalty, had been accorded a glance, and the request to take it away. "Poor man, he does not know what he wants," are the words reported to have been said on the occasion, and, much as we may sympathise with the artist in his disappointment, we can scarcely wonder that he should have failed in this instance of producing exactly what was required in the way of elegant, classic decoration. It, however, led to four Prince Albert for his labours on the two frescoes, which he sold to Mr Colls (a steady dealer-patron) for double the amount, who afterwards sold them to Mr. Wethered for £400. *Sic res non solita*, &c., as sang the poet of old.

All this while Etty was planning and preparing his "Joan of Arc," one of nine works (three-times-three he considered a lucky number) upon which he wished to base his future fame; and the Royal Commission somewhat interfered with his labours upon it—indeed, demanded him, according to the calculation of his biographer, to the money value of some £300 or £400. At last (1847) the work (in three compartments) was finished "on Easter Sunday; and after it was done he writes:—'By one o'clock on Easter Sunday I felt that I ought to go to the Abbey, and return thanks to Almighty God for having so mercifully dealt with me as to enable me to complete, so far, this colossal effort.'" And "not in the Abbey alone did he render his fervent acknowledgments:—when once asked if he had fulfilled his promise of praise and sacrifice on this score, "Yes," he replied with much unction, "In York Minster I returned thanks from my heart and soul; and *afterwards took the sacrament!*" The three pictures of "Joan of Arc," "are purchased by Messrs. Colls, Wethered, and Wass, jointly, for *£2300 paid down*." "Do you have put the *golden crown upon my head*," Etty joyfully exclaimed to Mr. Colls; and indeed was almost out of his senses with delight, little thinking of the sundry golden opportunities he had lost in his greed after quick and small returns, and the fortunes he had bestowed upon others by picture-manufacturing.

Etty, in spite of asthma, and all the symptoms of premature old age, continued hobbling to the *Life*-room every evening of his life, continued "copying what he saw,"—that is, continued producing Academy studies with scant progress in prismatic colours to the last (so unlike the practice of Michael Angelo, and other great artists, who knew when to copy and when to produce—when, in short, to leave school); and amassed sufficient to enable him to retire to his dear native city, York, where he bought a house, and where he died, in 1849 (at the age of 62), leaving behind him property (including a small pittance to the amount of about £3,000.

Mr Gilchrist, in the production of this memoir, has availed himself with discretion and ability of the various materials placed in his hands for the purpose, and, independently of what necessarily relates to the personal history of his subject, has produced a very agreeable two volumes of art gossip. We could have wished, however, that in reference to one person referred to in his pages, Sir Thomas Lawrence, he had avoided the tone of vulgar sneer, the result of ignorant prejudice which some previous biographers and critics have indulged in. Lawrence was an artist whose talent—not certainly applied in the highest walks—will be more and more admitted as time goes on, and shows the difficulty of adequately supplying his place in a style of portraiture eminently combining the real of every-day life with the ideal dignity of art.

* The "Life of William Etty, R.A.," by Alexander Gilchrist, of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law. Two vols. Bogue.

NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES. Arrangements are in progress for making new offices for the branch of the public business, in place of the inconvenient premises in which the affairs of the Government are at present conducted. For this purpose, it is intended to remove the whole of the houses in the area bounded on the south by Lower Crown street and Upper Crown street, Westminster; on the west, in part by Duke-street and the entrance from Duke-street into St. James's park, and on certain parts of the north and other parts of the west by St. James's park; on other parts of the north and west by her Majesty's Colonial-office; on other parts of the north by the north side of Downing street; and on the east by Whitehall and the west side of King street. In the new building which will be erected on this site all the business of the various departments of the Government will be transacted.

EDUCATION IN THE MIDLAND DISTRICTS.—Mr. Bowyer, Inspector of Schools for the Eastern and Midland Districts, reports generally well of the schools in connection with annexes in this country, but of the school at Bilsedon, he says, under the head of instruction:—"A wretched school. Children extremely ignorant, and destitute of intelligence. To the question, 'What is a graven image?' the least dull of the boys replied, 'Lightning, sir, and everything that is in the air above.' On questioning him, I found that his answer was not a random one, but expressed the real opinion." Under the head of observations we find the following: "At my first visit the school was vacant. At my second I found a new mistress, whose ignorance surpassed anything within my experience. To the question, 'What remarkable event occurred when our Saviour was twelve years old?' she replied, 'I believe he was put in the bulrushes.'" A nearly similar instance is recorded at Grantham. Mr. Bowyer writes, "None of the boys could point out Egypt on the map, or explain what was a graven image. One boy said it 'was going to school.'"

CONTEMPORY PREPAYMENT OF LETTERS FOR THE EAST.—In order to facilitate, as far as possible, the transmission of letters and newspapers addressed to the officers, seamen, and other persons employed on board transport ships engaged in her Majesty's service in Turkey and the Black Sea, special mails will in future be made up at the General Post-office for such correspondence on every Monday and Friday evening, and forwarded via France, and by the French Mediterranean packets, to the Postmaster of Her Majesty's Forces in Turkey. The following are the combined British and French rates of postage which will be chargeable on letters so addressed:—Not exceeding ½ oz., 1s.; exceeding ½ oz., and not exceeding ¾ oz., 2s.; exceeding ¾ oz., and not exceeding 1 oz., 3s.; exceeding 1 oz., and not exceeding 1¼ oz., 4s.; exceeding 1¼ oz., and not exceeding 1½ oz., 5s.; exceeding 1½ oz., and not exceeding 1¾ oz., 6s.; and so on, by adding chargeable with additional quarter of an ounce. The above rates of postage must be paid in advance, or the letters will be opened and returned to the writers. Newspapers will be liable to a postage of 1d. each, which must also be paid in advance.

SURGEONS FOR THE RUSSIAN ARMY. The enlistment of surgeons for the Russian army has been put a stop to in Prussia, mainly by the representations of the British Ambassador in Berlin, supported by his American colleague. An interpretation has been put upon the 15th article of the Act of Confederation, and, as it draws no distinction between combatants and non-combatants, it is admitted that the engagement of military surgeons for any foreign Power is considered illegal, and prohibited for the future.

ARRIVAL OF THE "GREAT BRITAIN."—The *Great Britain* screw steam-ship, Captain Gray, made her appearance at Queenstown on Sunday night for coals, after a passage of eighty-four days from Melbourne, having left that port on the 29th of October. She brought 289 passengers, all of whom were in good health, and 189,000 ounces of gold, valued at £720,000. Her passage was much protracted by easterly gales, especially during the latter portion, when she had to trust to her steaming powers alone. The *Great Britain* was to leave Queenstown on Monday evening for Liverpool. It is thought she will be taken up for the conveyance of troops for the Crimea, by either the English or French Government.

OPINIONS OF THE SILENT MEMBER. (No. I.)

I WENT into the House some years ago with the same intention as many others namely, to talk and have my say on the various subjects brought before Parliament; but I found that when I began to talk others began to cough, or to laugh, or to sleep; or, in fact, to do anything but to listen. As I felt it necessary to assert myself somehow, or somewhere, I used to go home talking to myself, and I have thus acquired a habit, which has grown upon me to such an extent that I generally have something to say—to myself—on every topic of interest.

Though I have had in one sense the talk all to myself, it has not been all on one side; for I have contracted the habit of answering myself, and looking at both sides of a question. Being rather of an argumentative turn, I frequently find myself discussing matters with a good deal of earnestness; but as a man does not easily get out of temper with what he says to himself, however much he might fire up at the same thing if addressed to him by any one else, I have been able to obtain some of the advantages of an argument without any of the inconveniences of a warm and angry discussion.

I fancy that I have profited in some degree by these conversations, such they may be called; and I have often found myself arriving at conclusions which appear to me to be sound, though they are not unfrequently at variance with those which are generally entertained, so that public opinion and my private opinion are sometimes quite opposed to each other. It is a common saying that "public opinion is always right in the long run;" and I believe such to be the fact. But this maxim implies that truth is occasionally a good deal in advance of the public mind, which has to take a very long "run" to reach the point that is ultimately arrived at. The public will no doubt get right at last on every subject; but there is nearly always a good deal of error in the beginning, and it can do no harm to raise a voice on what may be for the moment the unpopular side; for if the voice should be in the wrong it will not prevail, while if in the right the firmness of truth must ultimately triumph over the obstinacy of error. I do not mean to say that I am in the habit of taking the unpopular side of every question; on the contrary, there are many subjects on which the popular mind has come up to the truth, but if I am permitted to go on talking from time to time through these columns, I shall often have something to say which may clash with the popular opinion of the moment. Nevertheless, I have so much confidence in my own convictions, that I am almost bold enough to follow the example of Mr. Cobden, who asks for two years at the outside to test the truth of his very unpopular views, and the soundness of his judgment.

Having said thus much by way of introduction of myself to those who will, I hope, become my listeners, I announce my intention to leave off the practice of talking to myself, and to begin talking to the public at large, by means of the very effective monologue through which I am now speaking. I propose to talk on no particular class of subjects, and in no other style than the colloquial; for I have an objection to what is called "talking big," and I shall try to prevent my talk from being so frivolous as to deserve the appellation of "idle talk;" or so tedious as to degenerate into mere garrulity.

It may be expected that I should begin to talk about that which is in the mouth of everybody—the war; but it seems to me, unhappily, a subject that will not bear talking of. Then was a great deal too much talk and too little work before the war began, and I—as one professing to have more respect for public opinion as it will be than for public opinion as it is—feel that, however loudly people are talking just now on the subject of the war, silence will ultimately be considered the wisest course we can adopt as to the present moment of our history. If it is possible to talk down the system by which the army of England has been sacrificed, there are tongues enough already going to accomplish such a desirable object; and a powerful reinforcement of talkers will be of course brought into play (how different from being brought into work!) by the reassembling of the House of Commons. If we are to lick the Russians it must be with something more effective than our tongues, which have long since done their utmost against the enemy.

Murder is not an agreeable subject of conversation, but it has been lately forced upon us as a topic for talk by the commission of more than one crime of great apparent atrocity. I cannot help thinking that there is too great a tendency not only to talk but to jump to conclusions on the subject of great alleged crimes, before the supposed criminals are tried, and the prestige is in that, instead of being brought to justice, they may be brought to injustice by the prejudice that has been created against them. We boast a great deal about our "trial by jury," and the right of every man to be presumed innocent until a jury shall have found him guilty; but no sooner does a case of homicide arise than we have the newspapers teeming with accounts of "The Murder," or the "Double Murder," and all the alleged "Antecedents of the Murderer." I confess that I felt a little ashamed of the English press and of the English public, to whose taste these things are, no doubt, palatable, when I read in a respectable Sunday newspaper, and subsequently saw copied into the *Morning Chronicle*, an article with reference to the Italian who now lies under an accusation of murder. The writer evidently felt that he was doing wrong, for his remarks begin with an admission that "to comment on a crime *pendente lite* is not generally considered within the province of a public journalist." Notwithstanding this assertion, he goes on to speak of the act of the accused as a premeditated murder, and concludes by calling on the jury to convict; observing that "if, upon any plea of overpowering passion or even of temporary insanity, one or both of which may possibly be set up in his defence, he shall be permitted to escape, then there will be no longer safety for any man who may however involuntarily, offend a bloodthirsty ruffian, or thwart however innocently, the course of an assassin's passions. This practice of condemnation before trial is quite at variance with that spirit of fair play about which we English talk so much, but on which, unless we discourage the sort of language that the press is in the habit of holding, we shall have no reason to pride ourselves. When public opinion goes wrong, the whole nation is likely to go wrong, for public opinion is the best check we can have on the abuse of all authority. I am not sure that the prejudice against Barthélémy has not worked a serious injustice in the case of that unfortunate man, who, from the first moment of his apprehension, was denounced in the newspapers as a "double murderer." I am not his apologist, but I confess I take the same view as that of the "Lawyer" who wrote to the *Times* to point out that Barthélémy had been declared guilty of a felony in killing Mr. Moore, without having been tried for it, and that he was to be hanged in consequence of that act being a felony, though the point had never been submitted to the opinion of a jury. I have seen no satisfactory answer to this objection, and I fancy that none could be given; but as everybody said, "Oh! Barthélémy is a monster, which deserves hanging," nobody seemed to think it worth while to consider any legal point in his favour. I have once or twice said to myself, "Suppose Moore had been the assailant of Barthélémy; suppose the former had made a murderous attack on the latter, who had killed his assailant in self-defence, where would have been the felony, and how would the killing of Collard have been murder?" The suggestion is an improbability, but not an impossibility, and, at all events, a jury should have been called on to decide as to the guilt or innocence of Barthélémy in an affair which was the very essence of the crime he was accused of in the case of Collard. However, the man is hanged, and I may be told "It's useless now to talk about it;" but perhaps by talking now we may help to make people know better another time, should such another event happen.

Talking of criminals naturally sets one thinking about the police—a body with reference to which some strange stories are told,

and some strange facts have obtained publicity. I shall not fall into the error I have imputed to others by prejudging the "detective" King, who is entitled to a fair trial on the charge of incitive juvenile thieves to rob and share their plunder. I am, however, glad to see that the Government has taken one of the means necessary for improving the quality and the character of the police force, by raising the pay of the third class men and diminishing the amount of duty. Nine hours at this season of the year, or at any season, was too long to expect the unwearied attention of a policeman on his beat, and we cannot be surprised that he sometimes accepted the shelter of our kitchens and the hospitality of our larders, upon the invitation of a soft hearted cook or a sentimental housemaid. It would be well if these were the worst errors of the force, against more than one of whom charges have been recently brought and substantiated; though, as a whole, the police may be well deserving of public confidence. At all events, it has become obvious to the authorities that a fit body of men cannot be kept up without a more liberal scale of pay, which has accordingly been ordered by Lord Palmerston.

FINE ARTS.

EXHIBITION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

THE second exhibition of the Photographic Society has just been opened at the Gallery of the Water-Colour Society, Pall-mall East. The collection is a numerous one, consisting of nearly 700 pieces, which cover all the walls and all the screens. Many of the works are very interesting and beautiful and afford ample evidence of the improvements which are daily making in this new process, and the important and it may lead to Art itself. For the truth must also be declared: Photography will never supersede Art;—it will be a slave in the hands of Art to produce in abundance, and with wonderful rapidity, examples and materials for after use; but Art must still exercise its functions to decide their applications—to fashion them to the purpose, to invest them with life, with tone, with feeling; in fact, to render them picturesque

Photography, though a rapid process, is still a process of time; and the slightest change in the position of the object whilst the work is going on will mar the effect; and for a simple outline give a blotch, more or less extensive, more or less intense. Hence perfectly inanimate objects, as architectural subjects, for instance, are best adapted to it; but even in these we find a hardness of outline, a glare of the lights, and a heaviness in the shadows, descending to impenetrable darkness in the deeper shades, which, strange as it may sound to say so, is not true to nature, nature as seen by the eyes of man. Let it be recollected that the plane upon which the sun-picture is cast is immutate steel or paper; whereas the eye of man is endued with life, gifted with a medium, expanding and contracting according to circumstances, and by the power of which the more prominent asperities of an object are subdued to the mind's apprehension, and the more distant and darker portions, after some curious prying, explored; and we shall understand the virtue of that crowning charm of the painter's art—clair obscure—a charm which Photography is incapable of rendering.

The further the object photographed is removed from a condition of stillness the less successful the result The foliage of trees and the ripple of water will not consent to "sit" to the practitioner; and wild and reckless confusion respond to all the attempts to portray these features of "Dame Nature" when seen under the influence of even a breath of air. Man, civilised man, is more tractable. He places himself on a seat, and fixes his every limb and feature as in the stillness of death, until such time as the work of portraiture is accomplished. But, in doing this, is he aware that he fits in the death of nature, which abhors actual repose, as it abhors a vacuum? The "effect" produced is that of torpidity, without its "repose"—of death, without its truth; and when the portraiture is done in duplicate, and presented in "the round" by means of the stereoscope, the aspect is not so true, not so near nature as a wax figure—more ghastly and incongruous than painted stone;—which we are sorry to find Mr. Gibson considers perfection. Again, look at any one of the productions in this room where we have a human figure thrown in amongst inanimate objects; as that sleeping man in a "View in the Highlands;"—how obtrusive is the figure of the descendant of Adam; yet how much less life and truth in his appearance than in that of the shrubs and foliage in which he is embedded Of course in subjects of action, in which an event is supposed to be going forward, the epic of painting, Photography is out of the question. Suspended action is a thing most difficult to depict; one of the nicest achievements of art—for it is a thing impossible in nature. We throw out these suggestions merely as arguments in support of our opinion that, whilst Art has much to gain from the resources, she has nothing to fear from the rivalry, of Sun-painting.

The collection now presented by the Photographic Society is rich in variety. Professionals and amateurs have been actively at work during the summer in all parts of the world, producing reminiscences of objects of beauty and interest Portugal, Turkey, France, Russia, Wales, and all parts of our "light little island," have been explored in search of the picturesque; and most charming *morceaux* have been brought away in many instances Portraiture, also, we have in abundance; and not a few specimens of insect economy, and in other departments of natural history

Amongst the most successful exhibitors we may mention Mr. Robertson (various scenes in and near Constantinople), Mr. Hugh Owen (scenes in Portugal and near Bristol), Mr. J. C. Bourne (Suspension bridge at Kieff, in Russia), Mr. Norman, Mr. H. Cooke, Mr. T. C. Ponting, Mr. H. Tyler (copies from prints), Mr J. G. Tunny (scenes near Edinburgh), Mr. De La Motte (Views of the Interior of the Crystal Palace), Messrs. Bisson Frères (Hôtel de Ville, Paris), and Mr. Mayall, Mr. De Laroche, Mr T. H Henshaw, &c., in portraiture. Decidedly the most interesting and satisfactory part of the Exhibition, however, are the fine copies from drawings by Raphael in the Royal collection at Windsor Castle, executed by Mr. Thurston Thompson for Prince Albert. Here, indeed, the exact and obedient process of photography is well and worthily applied, and with a result gratifying in the highest degree; for here Art, be it remembered, has created the subject, and sun painting has had no accidental or constrained attributing of clumsy humanity to copy, but a picture the work of man, which, though every line of it is flat and motionless, speaks of the fulness, and action, and expression of life. Such reproductions are invaluable to the art-student; and we are glad to hear that it is understood to be the intention of the Prince to distribute copies of these remarkable works to the different museums in the country, and also to obtain for a similar purpose copies of other works of like character which are to be found in other collections throughout the country. The copies after Raphael's drawings, now exhibited, comprise sketches for "The Murder of the Innocents;" for "Is Disputa" (or the "Theology") and the "Poetry," both in the Vatican; two of the "Virgin and Child;" the "Three Graces," and a "Leda."

THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF LANDSCAPE PAINTING IN WATER-COLOURS. By GEORGE BARNARD. W. S. Orr and Co.

This work, the first part of which we noticed with approval some months ago, is now completed, and forms a handsome volume. Mr. Barnard has treated his subject with great ability and fulness, both as regards the theory and practice of the art. The amateur, with this book in his hands, may confidently try his powers in every branch of landscape-painting with a tolerable certainty of acquiring himself respectably, and with daily increasing success. The author, who blinks none of the difficulties of the subject, under the head "Composition," duly impresses upon the learner the necessity of attending to fundamental principles of drawing, including perspective, before attempting anything in the more attractive art of colouring. "Any attempt," he says, "to please by a picture possessing the most harmonious arrangement of charming tints, yet being defective in regard to the choice of objects, in lines misplaced, or faulty in perspective, will be utterly vain and fruitless. Errors like these would undoubtedly offend both the eye and the taste of an intelligent observer; and that, too, in such a degree that any praise he might bestow upon the beauty of the colouring would be accompanied by the regret that his powers capable of so much in one branch of art should yet be so deficient in those on which all truthful representation depends. Colour is subordinate to form, and light and shade; for, although more attractive, it is in the representation of nature the least important of the three." The chapter on Light and Shade (chiaroscuro) is ably written, and illustrated by a great number of charming landscape examples.

There are chapters especially devoted to "The Sky, Atmosphere, Clouds, &c.," "Aerial Perspective," "Trees," "Buildings, Ruins, &c.," "Rocks," "Water," "Rustic Figures," "Pictorial Phenomena of Nature (denominated by artists 'Effects');" "On Method," "Style," "Sketching from Nature," &c.; besides ample explanation, both as incidental to the above subjects, and as a department by itself of the theory of colours, and their contrasts. By the aid of Leighton Brothers' chromatic process, all that relates to colour and its treatment is profusely and effectively illustrated. There are, one and all, upwards of a hundred engravings, executed in various styles but adapted to the particular purpose, neither pains nor expense, apparently, having been spared to render the work both ornamental and practically useful.

CHESS.

R. B.—Blandford. The move of 6. Q to K B 3rd, in the defence of the Muzio Gambit, has been generally, though erroneously, attributed to either Harrwitz or Lewis It seems an author who wrote between forty and fifty years before these gentlemen. The other defence you refer to will be found in a useful little book, the joint production of Messrs. Kling and Horwitz called "Chess Tactics."

C. D. G.—Mate cannot be given in the very ingenious response. See our Solution.

SIGMA.—Yes, we have the Problem in question, but quite shelved in the Diagram.

G. R. W., Louisville.—Philidor was born at Dreux, September, 1726, and died in London, August, 1795. You will find an extremely interesting account of this great master in the Chess Chess magazine, *Le Palamède*, vol. 7

F. M. H., of Hull.—Your chess shall be given next week.

C. L., Gabarrus, North Carolina.—Received and under consideration

DERBYON.—You are perfectly right it should be re-examined

TWICKENHAM.—It is from a clever little Problem by D'Orville. The original is as follows *White*: K at his R sq, Rs at Q R 5th and Q R 6th, Kt at Q B 2nd, Ps at Q Kt 4th and Q R 2nd *Black*: K at Q R 5th, P at Q R 3rd White to play and mate in *three* moves

A. Z. B. Y.—Wanting in point and power

C. M. J.—It can be solved easily in *five* moves

NOVICE. Treat the game as an elegant and intellectual recreation, and as nothing more. The man who pursues his whole time and attention to be absorbed in the pursuit of any game, even Chess—whose talk is only of that move or that match, or the other player—is sure to be looked upon, by rational people as a pitiable jobber

F. D. PRIZES FOR THE BEST CHESS PROBLEMS.—The committee of the great Chess meeting to be held in May or June at Leamington contemplate giving, we understand, among a variety of other prizes, a very handsome one to the inventor of the twelve best original *Chess Problems* of three, four, and five moves

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 569, by Albert, S. S., Vernon, Omega, T. W P, R G, Alpha, December, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 570 by W C., Streatham, Dryeon, Ernest, D D., F. R. of Norwich, J P. W. J. Shaw, Sec. J M. of Sherborne, E B., Peter, Gantab, Pontbolin, Omicron, Lad., J W C., E H., Tab, Cant, G L., Odenso, R. F., O. P. Q., D C L., Mentor, Cumbria, Swansea, Lex. Civis, Delta, Phiz, F. D., Cadix, Miles, H. E. S., J T. W., are correct. All others are wrong

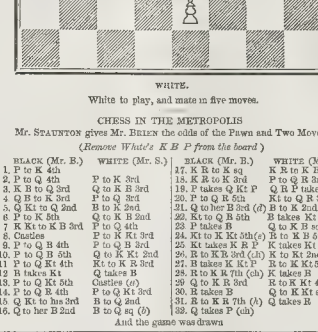
*** Many notices are deferred from want of space.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 570.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B to Q B 4th	P to K R 5th (best)	3. Kt to K Kt 5th	Anything
2. B to K 6th	P moves	4. B or Kt mates.	

PROBLEM No. 571
By Herr CAPRAZ.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS
Mr. STAUNTON gives Mr. BRIEN the odds of the Pawn and Two Moves.

(*Remove White's K B P from the board*)

BLACK (Mr. B.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. B.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	17. K R to K sq	K R to K B 2nd
2. P to Q 4th	P to K 3rd	18. R to K 3rd	P to Q R 3rd (c)
3. K B to Q 3rd	Q to K R 3rd	19. P takes Q Kt P	Q R P takes P
4. Q B to K 3rd	P to Q 3rd	20. P to Q R 5th	Kt to Q R 3rd
5. Q Kt to Q 2nd	B to K 2nd	21. Q to her B 3rd (d)	B to K 2nd
6 P to K 5th	Q to K R 2nd	22. Kt to Q R 5th	B takes Kt
7. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 4th	23 P takes B	Q to K B sq
8. Castles	P to K Kt 3rd	24. Kt to K Kt 5th (e)	R to K B 5th (f)
9. P to Q B 4th	P to Q B 3rd	25. Kt takes K R P	K takes Kt
10. P to Q B 5th	Q to K Kt 2nd	26. R to KB 3rd (ch)	K to Kt 2nd
11 P to Q Kt 4th	Kt to K R 3rd	27. B takes K Kt P	R to K Kt 5th (g)
12 B takes Kt	Q takes B	28. R to K R 7th (ch)	K takes R
13. P to Q Kt 5th	Castles (a)	29 Q to K R 3rd	R to K Kt 4th
14. P to Q R 4th	P to Q Kt 3rd	30. R takes B	Q to K Kt sq
15. Q Kt to his 3rd	B to Q 2nd	31. R to K R 7th (h)	Q takes R
16. Q to her B 2nd	B to Q sq (b)	32. Q takes P (ch)	

And the game was drawn

(a) We cannot understand why White did not take the Q Kt P, and then bring out his Q Kt.

(b) This seems tame, but White has suffered himself to be so hampered with the adversary's Pawns on the queen side that he is compelled to adopt a very sorry-looking course of action It is as well to remark, here, that taking the Kt with his Rook, though very promising in appearance, would have proved an unprofitable venture, for, suppose—

16	R takes Kt	16. K R to Q sq B to K B 5th
17. P takes R	B to K Kt 4th	18. K to Q sq

And Black escapes with the better game.

(c) Very hazardous; but it was certainly necessary for him to release his Queen's Pieces, if possible.

(d) Lost time. He should at once have played Kt to Q B 5th.

(e) The prelude to a series of very ingenious moves

(f) Foreseeing the object Black has in view when he marched forward with his Kt, it is surprising White did not guard against the imminent attack, by playing his Rook to K Kt 2nd

(g) Taking the Q B Pawn with the Queen would probably have been better It would certainly have led to an interesting struggle

(h) The situation is an instructive one, and affords abundant scope for speculation. With Black game we should certainly have been disinclined to put up with a drawn battle, though it must be admitted that the road to victory, if there be one, is not easy to discover

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No 908.—By R. B. WOODALL, Esq., of Oxford.

White: K at K Kt 6th, Rs at K B 6th and Q R 4th, Bs at K Kt 7th and Q Kt 7th; Ps at K Kt 3rd, K B 2nd, and Q 2nd.

Black: K at K 4th, Q at Q Kt 8th, R at K Kt sq, Kt at Q 4th, Ps at K Kt 5th and K 5th.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

No 909.—By Mr F. THOMPSON, of Derby.

White: K at K 5th, Q at K 2nd, R at Q Kt 7th, Bs at K B 8th and Q R 4th, Kts at Q 8th and Q R 3rd

Black: K at Q R 3rd, R at Q 6th, B at Q Kt 3rd, Kt at K 8th; Ps at Q 2nd, Q B 2nd and 3rd, and Q R 4th.

White to play, and mate in four moves

No. 910.—By "CHIRURG. RURIS."

White: K at K Kt sq, Rs at K R 5th and K Kt 6th, B at Q 7th, Kt at Q B 3rd, P at K 6th.

Black: K at K R 6th, R at K Kt 5th, Bs at K R 5th and K B 6th, Kts at K R 8th and Q B 4th; Ps at K R 2nd, K Kt 6th and 7th, Q Kt 6th, and Q R 6th.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

No. 911 By R. B., an AMATEUR of Norwich.

White: K at Q B 2nd, Q at Q 7th, B at Q 8th; Rs at K R 3rd, Q B 2nd, and Q Kt 3rd

Black: K at Q H 4th; Ps at K 2nd, Q 4th, Q B 6th, and Q R 2nd.

White to play, and mate in three moves

THE BURNETT TREATISES.—The decision of the great literary prizes—one of £1800 and another of £600—to the authors of the two best treatises on "The Being and Attributes of God," was announced on Saturday. The successful competitors were found to be—for the first prize, the Rev. Robert Anchor Thomson, A.M., Louth, Lincolnshire; and for the second, the Rev. John Tulloch, manse of Kettins, Cupar Angus, Principal of St. Mary's College, St. Andrews, Scotland. There were 200 treatises lodged. The judges were Professor Baden Powell, Henry Rodgers, and Mr Isaac Taylor They were unanimous in their judgment. The sealed envelopes were opened in the Town-hall, Aberdeen, by Mr John Webster, Advocate, in the presence of the other trustees and a large assemblage of the principal citizens.

THE FRENCH LOAN.—A curious instance of the universal popularity of the loan is given in a French paper. At Tarbes, in the south of France, out of 100,000 francs received as deposits, two-thirds of the payments were made in old French and Spanish coins, which had long disappeared from circulation, and must have been hoarded for many years. A more striking proof of confidence in the Government on the part of the lower classes could not be afforded.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Lord Bloomfield was received by the King of Prussia on Wednesday week, in private audience, for the purpose of delivering to his Majesty a letter in reply to that conveyed by M. d'Usedom to Queen Victoria.

The Austrian Minister at the Court of Hanover, Baron von Kotler, was recalled from thence on the 13th last; whether permanently and on what ground is not known. The Baron has at any rate given up his apartments there

The French Emperor, accompanied by the Empress, drove on Saturday afternoon in the Champs Elysées. They were attended only by one equipage, but had no outriders, nor escort of any kind. The reception their Majesties met with from all classes was enthusiastic

The English and French Consuls at St. Domingo have summoned vessels of war to the port, to resist any aggression on the part of persons from the United States, and five French vessels have already arrived

The health of Lord Cardigan is steadily, though but slowly, improving.

Mr. Mason, the American Minister in Paris, who has been lately indisposed, is now in a fair way of recovery.

Princess Paskiewitsch is expected in Berlin shortly on her return to Warsaw from the south of Germany. France Paskiewitsch reached St. Petersburg on the 4th inst

The application for a new trial in the Montgarret Peerage case, after several days' argument, was decided on Monday in the Dublin Court of Exchequer. The motion was granted, on the grounds of misdirection of the Judge, and the reception of improper evidence. The costs were given

The French Government has just purchased the last picture of M. Ingres, "Joan of Arc before the High Altar at Rheims." After having formed one of the attractions of the Universal Exposition, this fine work will be placed in the gallery of the Luxembourg.

George Montmirail, an *habitué* of the Bourse, has been sentenced by the Court of Correctional Police to six months' imprisonment and 500 francs fine for circulating false news and calumnies against the Emperor

A testimonial to Wilson, the Scotch vocalist, is mentioned by the Scottish papers. It is proposed to erect a portrait statue to his honour in one of the conspicuous niches of the Scott monument.

The German Art-papers speak highly of a grand historical picture by Herr Feuerbach, of Carlsruhe. The subject is the Death of Aretino, the satirist, a famous poet of the sixteenth century, who died at a drunken feast. He is represented crowned with ivy, and the cup is dropping from his freezing hand.

A Mr. Philips, an American citizen, was arrested at Bâle the other day, in consequence of his unfortunate resemblance to M. Mazzini

The Rev. Dr. Beaumont, well known throughout the kingdom as an eminent preacher among the Wesleyans, died, on Sunday morning, while giving out a hymn in a Wesleyan chapel at Hull.

Lord Redcliffe has formed a plan for uniting Wallachia and Moldavia, and placing the province under a Prince whose dignity shall be hereditary.

Recent accounts from St. Petersburg state that MM. de Brunnow, Kisseleff, and Oscroff—previously employed in England, France, and Turkey—are to be attached for the time being to the Imperial Department for Foreign Affairs

M. d'Usedom, after returning to Berlin, to receive anew confidential instructions from the King, will probably return to London as permanent Envoy, in place of Count Bernstorff.

Admiral Dundas arrived at Berlin on the 19th, and intended to remain there some days before returning to England

The official fêtes have commenced in Paris. After a dinner, on Wednesday week, M. de Morny gave an guests a concert, at which Madame Bosio, Madame Borghi, MM. Graviani and Neri Baraldi, assisted.

On Sunday last, the anniversary of the execution of Louis XVI., all the official receptions in Paris were suspended.

The Duke of Cambridge, finding that his health does not improve at Malta, is about to return to England.

Count Boul has received the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, and M Drouyn de Lhuys that of the Order of St. Stephen in Austria.

The French Emperor has conferred a silver medal of honour of the first class on Captain Raw, of the English merchantman *Britannia*, who, in October last, saved the crew of the French sloop *Ulysses*, of Gien.

The Court of the Queen Dowager of Sardinia was celebrated on the 16th, at Turin, with great pomp. The streets were crowded, and the windows hung with mourning drapery. The Court has gone into mourning for 180 days.

The Milan and Turin mail was robbed on the night of the 14th by a band of brigands. The robbers were, however, disappointed in their expectation of a large sum of money, there being scarcely anything either in the possession of the passengers or in the letters.

A Dutch steamer, *De Hollander*, sailing under the Dutch flag, and with a Dutch crew, has been hired by the English Government to take out troops, or provisions for the troops, to the Crimea.

A party of miners has arrived at Panama from New York, to make a scientific exploration of the Isthmus, in search for gold. They were to commence their search along the Gulf of San Miguel.

A piece of ground belonging to the city of Paris, at the corner of the Rue des Lavandières and the Rue de Rivoli, and containing 352 metres, was lately sold for the sum of 176,000f., or more than 50l. the square metre

A new dock is about to be constructed at Havre de Grace, and every ship entering that port since New-Year's-day (the 1st current) is required to contribute 6d. per registered ton towards the expense of making the dock.

Workmen are at present employed in cleaning and restoring the fine dome of the church of the Sorbonne, which was built by the order of Cardinal de Richelieu, and under which is his mausoleum, one of the finest works of the French sculptor Girardon

The French Customs returns for the last year give general satisfaction, as showing that, notwithstanding the war, manufactories have been going on with great activity. The amount of the Customs revenue has increased from 139,000,000 in 1852, and 141,000,000 in 1853, to 149,000,000 in 1854.

America is represented in Spain by a Frenchman, in Portugal by an Irishman, in Italy by an Italian, at the Hague by a German Jew, and at Naples by a Scot

Every satirical work in Paris directed against the Emperor of Russia meets with a sale in magnificent proportion to the severity of the satire.

Cardinal Wiseman and the other prelates of Great Britain now at Rome have supplicated the Pope, and the request has been backed by the Bishops of other nations, that the devotion paid to the Venerable Bede may be extended to the whole Church.

Kiss intends to send the model of his new group, "St. George and the Dragon," a pendant to his "Amazon," to the Paris Exhibition It will be conveyed upon a waggon constructed for the purpose, and entire, if the tunnels are all of sufficient height.

The Historical Institute of France has just renewed its *bureau* for 1855 by electing the Marquis de Brignole, formerly Sardinian Ambassador in Paris, its president; Prince de la Moskowa, honorary president; Count Reinhard and M. Jules Barbier, deputy vice-presidents; and M. Achille Jubinal, secretary

A proposition is afoot for erecting a cathedral in the Isle of Man as a memorial to honour of Bishop Wilson.

On the 16th the Prussian First Chamber passed the bill for admitting English vessels to the Prussian coasting trade

General Archet is chief of the French police at Constantinople, and since his gendarmes have patrolled the streets fewer excesses have been committed.

According to an official return just made, fifty-two brigands were either killed or arrested in Greece last December.

The inhabitants of Edgbaston, near Birmingham, have petitioned the magistrates to increase the police force, and establish a horse patrol.

In consequence of a coalition amongst the millers of the Valley of the Suippe, the price for grinding corn has been raised from 1f. 50c. to nearly 4f. the sack Two of the most active getters-up of the coalition have been arrested.

A considerable sensation was created in Liverpool on Tuesday by the rumoured failure of an extensive shipping house engaged in the Australian and other South Seas trades. The liabilities are stated at about £200,000.

In many of the macadamised streets in Paris, which when paved were almost uninhabitable from the noise, the houses are now worth, in rents, at least ten per cent more than they were, and the economy in the wear and tear of carriages is at least fifty per cent.

The curés of the forty-five churches of Paris have posted up notices recommending to their flocks to send old linen and lint to the mairies for the use of the army in the East.

Three Finlanders who were taken prisoners of war in the Baltic, and were allowed to enter the English merchant service, deserted from their ship in South Australia.

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London: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by WILLIAM LITTLE, 198, Strand, aforesaid.—SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1855.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 726.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

FALL OF THE ABERDEEN ADMINISTRATION.

THE portentous calm amid which the Legislature reassembled on the 23rd of January was dispelled more suddenly than any one anticipated. Acting without advisers or confidants—in secrecy, and on his sole responsibility—Lord John Russell astonished his colleagues, the Parliament, and the country, by resigning office on the 25th. As a necessary consequence, the Administration has fallen to pieces. It could not survive the defection of its leader in the House of Commons,—of a leader so trusted, so honoured, so able, and so influential. Lord John Russell's motives for the act, which is one not utterly unprecedented, are not to be impugned, though it may be questioned whether his late colleagues have not a right to complain of something that looks very like treachery. On the Tuesday he announced, as a member of the Government, that he would introduce within a few days a bill for the promotion of Education in England and Wales, and on the Thursday he ceased, by his own act, to be a Minister of the Crown. And what occurred in this short interval to compel him to adopt a course which must have been highly painful, if not repugnant, to his feelings? Nothing beyond the announcement of a motion by Mr. Roebuck to inquire into the state of the troops before Sebastopol, and, as necessary corollaries, into the conduct of the war, and the general management—or mismanagement—of the Army. But how was it that Lord John Russell had not prescience enough to foretel such a motion, and to calculate upon it as a certainty, or weeks before the Legislature reassembled? Was there no dissatisfaction in the press, and in the public mind—which was sure to find a vent in Parliament, even if Mr. Roebuck had not thought it expedient to raise the question? Or would Lord John Russell have braved all other opposition but that which found its mouthpiece in the member for Sheffield? Could he withstand Disraeli—but not Roebuck? Was a Parliamentary censure of the mismanagement at Balaclava so unlikely to happen that it was not to be taken into account until the ears heard it, and the eyes could read it in the papers of the House? Lord John Russell—and we say it with the most unfeigned respect—should either have resigned at a much earlier period, or he should have held on with his colleagues, and shared their fate, as he had already shared their councils. But on this topic it is needless to dwell. What Lord John Russell might have done has ceased to be of national importance. What he has done is the great fact of the day; and will influence the fortunes of the country and the fate of Europe for generations. His secession, but more especially the reasons he gave for it, left Parliament no choice but to agree to Mr. Roebuck's motion. That the majority on that occasion was so large we take to be a fortunate circumstance. Had the conduct of the war been condemned by a majority of twenty—or a dozen—or even of one member—we do not see how the Ministry could have ventured to retain office. But, with the fact of so startling a majority, the allies as well as the enemies of England will learn another fact, which will give confidence to the one and inflict sore discouragement upon the other. They will learn that, however heterogeneous may be the elements of party in this country—however confused and chaotic the opinions of our statesmen on many important points both of internal and external policy—there is one point on which there is no disagreement. They will learn that the heart of the people is in the war; that the national "blood is up;" that the Parliament, like the people, has but one desire, which is, to carry on hostilities with the utmost vigour, even to the overthrow of the strongest Administration the country has enjoyed for many years.

Immediately after the battle of Inkerman the glory of Great Britain was at its highest. The world held its breath in admiration at the unparalleled bravery of the noble eight thousand who withstood for hours and finally defeated an army five, if not six, times their number. To the silence of that admiration succeeded one unanimous burst of applause from every part of the civilised world—applause which in their secret souls even the Emperor Nicholas and his Generals must have acknowledged to have been nobly earned. But since that day, while the bravery of the army has suffered no diminution, while the enthusiasm of the people at home has experienced no abatement, and while the determination of all classes to stint neither men nor money—to relax in no exertion—to withhold no sacrifice necessary to command success, has been strengthened by cool reason as well as by passion—discredit has been thrown upon our arms and upon our institutions. We have fallen in the opinion of the French who fought by our side. We have lost reputation—our glory has been tarnished—the prestige of our name has been imperilled; and the Czar has been emboldened into obstinacy by the spectacle of our helplessness.

The complaint of Lord John Russell against his late colleagues, and of the whole country against Lord John Russell, as well as against his colleagues, is, that by some defect of management—some blundering in details—some incapacity existing somewhere, or some obstruction, that must be discovered and removed—the noblest army that ever left our shores—an army that has been victorious in every encounter with the foe—that has not only equalled but surpassed all the heroism recorded in British history—has been left to perish of disease and famine, and been shamed in its own eyes, and in those of the world, by no fault of its

SCENE IN THE MILITARY HOSPITAL, AT HASLAR.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

own, and by no causes which it had any right or reason to anticipate. Compared with such facts as these, of what value was any Administration, however well-intentioned and honest as a whole, and however illustrious as regards the personal and public character and position of its component members? Clearly of none. The public welfare and the national honour were at stake, and Parliament rose superior to party. The Coalition Government was defeated by a Coalition greater than itself. Men of all parties forgot their antecedents and connections in the paramount and patriotic determination to make war on such a scale, and with such a purpose, as to conquer a safe, an honourable, and a durable peace.

The change of a Ministry in the midst of a great war is doubtless an evil; but, the evil having come, the British nation, true to its practical character, will turn it to speedy and to profitable account. The Czar will not be allowed to draw any encouragement from the knowledge that Lord Aberdeen has fallen. He will learn our dissensions, but will learn at the same time that we are still the foremost people of the world; and that, if our rulers make blunders, the people have both sagacity and energy to supply their deficiencies. It is not only a change of Ministry but a change of system that will result. Forty years of peace have not demoralised us, as Alma and Inkerman can testify, and as other victories, yet to be won, will prove as abundantly and as gloriously. But these forty years of peace have allowed a bad system to develop and extend itself in the administration of an army, which in peace was not over popular, and which offered few charms to the hard hands of the labouring, and none to the clear heads and aspiring genius of the middle, classes. But with the fall of the Aberdeen Ministry, falls the system which that Ministry was unable, though, perhaps, not unwilling, to reform. The system was so deeply rooted, that it required the shadow of impending calamity and disgrace to arouse all classes—the governing as well as the governed to the stern necessity of abolishing it. The country could not obtain Reform in Parliament until revolution was close at hand. It could not obtain a Repeal of the Corn-laws except under a similar penalty. The Reformation of its military system has to be purchased in the same unpropitious manner. Fortunately the change will come before it be too late. There was little time, but we hope there will be sufficient.

SCENE IN THE MILITARY HOSPITAL AT HASLAR.

Among the melancholy scenes which chequer the incidents of the war, the Military Hospital at Haslar presents some afflicting episodes of suffering. That engraved upon the preceding page (sketched a few days since) portrays a private of the 23rd Regiment. This poor fellow was hit, at the battle of the Alma, by a chain-shot, which, he says, he did not feel. The sufferer lay upon the field until the following afternoon, when his leg was amputated. He was brought to Portsmouth not many days since, and now presents a sad illustration of

the big wars
That make ambition virtue

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN

(From a Supplement to the *London Gazette* of Friday, January 26.)

War Department, January 27, 1855

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle has received a despatch, of which the following is a copy, addressed to his Grace by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, Jan. 13, 1855.

My Lord Duke,—The weather continues very severe, and to-day it blows a gale of wind, with drifting snow

Although I have not received the official report from the officer commanding the Fourth Division, the officer of the Quartermaster-General's department, whose duty it is to visit the advanced posts at daylight, has brought in an account of a sortie made by the Russians in the course of last night upon our right and left attack, the enemy advancing, under protection of a heavy cannonade, along the Woronzow-road and the ravine on our extreme left

The enemy succeeded in driving in the troops in the advanced trench, which was not re-occupied until the reserves were brought forward from the second parallel.

A party in pits on the right of the advanced trench, consisting of 1 sergeant and 13 rank and file, are missing; and 1 officer and 36 privates are stated to be wounded

The time for the despatch of the mail being at hand, I am very sorry that I shall not be able to send your Grace to-day a more accurate statement of this affair.

I enclose a return of casualties between the 8th and the 11th

Great progress is making in disembarking and issuing to the troops vast quantities of warm clothing of all descriptions; and I believe I may assert that every man in this army has received a second blanket, a jersey frock, flannel, drawers, and socks, and some kind of winter coat, in addition to the ordinary great-coat.

The provision of fuel is still a great difficulty.

Every effort is making, and with tolerable success, in landing and putting up the huts; their great weight (2½ tons each) is a serious obstacle to their conveyance to the Camp, with our limited transport. Each hut requires three stripped artillery waggons, with from eight to ten horses each, or 180 men.

Much sickness continues to prevail. I have, &c., RAGLAN.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c., &c., &c.

War-office, Jan. 27, 1855

The Right Hon. the Secretary at War has received from his Grace the Duke of Newcastle the following list of casualties amongst the non-commissioned officers and privates in the forces under the command of Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B., from the 8th to the 11th January, 1855, both days inclusive:

RETURN OF CASUALTIES FROM 8TH TO 11TH JANUARY, 1855

4th Foot: 1 rank and file killed; 2 rank and file wounded.
19th: 1 rank and file wounded
21st: 1 sergeant, 1 rank and file killed; 1 rank and file wounded.
23rd: 1 rank and file killed.
30th: 2 rank and file killed.
39th: 1 rank and file wounded.
41th: 1 rank and file wounded
46th: 1 rank and file killed; 1 rank and file wounded
49th: 1 sergeant killed
55th: 1 rank and file wounded
57th: 1 rank and file wounded
88th: 1 rank and file killed, 1 rank and file wounded
89th: 1 rank and file wounded
97th: 1 rank and file wounded
Total: 2 sergeants, 7 rank and file, killed; 12 rank and file wounded.

J. B. BURKEMALL EFFECT, Adjutant-General

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED FROM 8TH TO 11TH JANUARY, 1855, INCLUSIVE

KILLED

4th Foot: Private John Green
21st: Sergeant William Ryan; private Hugh McNamara.
23rd: Private Josiah Painting.
30th: Privates John Bowles, Patrick Enright
46th: Private Thomas Kelly
49th: Sergeant David Sharman
88th: Corporal John Houlihan.

WOUNDED

4th Foot: Privates James M'Mahon, William Eckards severely
19th: Private Daniel Hawkin, slightly
21st: Private Charles Good, slightly
30th: Private Benjamin Innerson, severely
44th: Private John Burns, slightly
46th: Private Alfred Phillips, slightly
55th: Private William Larrett, slightly
57th: Private Patrick Hynes, severely
88th: Private John Walsh, slightly
89th: Private Michael Nevin, slightly
97th: Private James Duffy, severely

J. B. BURKEMALL EFFECT, Adjutant-General

The Last London Alchemist. The last true believer in alchemy was, according to Mr. Brande, Peter Woulfe, F.R.S., the eminent chemist, who occupied chambers in Barnard's-inn, Holborn, and usually spent the summer in Paris. Woulfe was a tall, thin man; his chambers were on the second floor of No. 2, Barnard's-inn, here he died in 1805, and his last moments were remarkable. By his desire, his laundress shut up his chambers and left him, but returned at midnight, when Woulfe was still alive. Next morning, however, she found him dead; his countenance was calm and serene, and, apparently, he had not moved from the position in which she had last seen him. Among Woulfe's contributions to the "Philosophical Transactions" are "Experiments to show the Nature of Aurum Mosaicum." *Curiosities of London* (just published).

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

Paris, Friday.

There are still reports that a series of grand balls are to be given at the Tuileries in the course of the season, but as yet no particular announcement of the fact has been given out, and it is said by some that the rumour will not be realised, and, unless matters in the East assume a totally different aspect, the Court will confine itself principally to dress receptions and fêtes of a less public character. As, however, the Emperor gives every possible encouragement for these fêtes not only at all the Ministries, but at the Prefectures and Sous-Prefectures in the provinces, it is to be supposed that, for consistency's sake, the Tuileries will follow the course it prescribes to the public functionaries.

It appears that six new *dames d'honneur* are about to be appointed. These are Madame de Lourmel, widow of General de Lourmel, killed before the walls of Sebastopol (her service will not, as may be supposed, commence until the expiration of her mourning); Mesdames de Sauley, de Sancy, de Labédoyère, and her sister (whose name escapes us), and Mdlle. de Renneval.

Apropos of the Court, we may relate a little adventure of the Empress, which puts the *badauds* on the *qui vive* for the recurrence of such an event. Her Majesty, attended by the Comte Tascher de la Pagerie, Grand Master of her Household, and her ladies, went to the *atelier* of M. Winterhalter to give a sitting for a large picture, on which the artist is now engaged, representing the Empress surrounded by her *dames d'honneur*. Having sent away the carriages, with orders to return at a certain hour, the fineness of the weather, notwithstanding the intense cold, tempted her Majesty to walk; and, leaning on the arm of M. Tascher de la Pagerie, and followed at a certain distance by her ladies, so as not to attract attention, she proceeded down the Boulevards from the Rue Basse du Remparts to the Tuileries, without being recognised, extremely amused by the success of her little *escapade*.

A report now asserts that the opening of the Great Industrial Exhibition will be deferred for a few weeks, and that it will then be signalised by the attendance of several of the crowned heads of Europe. Our Queen and the Emperor of Austria are especially cited among those whose presence is hoped for. On his return to Paris, the Prince Napoleon will resume his presidence of the Commission of the Exhibition. With regard to the catalogue of this Institution, the variety of plans proposed, seem to resolve themselves into the following:—a separate volume for each section, comprising in all six or eight; one for the national commercial produce, one for that of foreign countries, for French painting, French sculpture, foreign works of art, agricultural produce, &c.

Few events of a private character have produced so strong and painful a sensation on the public mind, as the death of M. Gérard de Nerval—whose name as a poet, *feuilletoniste*, and dramatic writer, stood high in the list of French authors, and whose peculiar charms of style and conversation, whose warmth of heart, whose unworldliness, whose fine and gentle nature, rendered him an object of sincere regard and interest, even to those who were comparatively but slightly acquainted with him—of earnest affection, to his more intimate friends. Gérard de Nerval possessed not only genius, but opportunities of turning it to an account that would have rendered him more than independent,—his total indifference to money, his inaptitude for anything in the shape of affairs, the impossibility that attended him of following any regular mode of life, any course of occupation, kept him always more or less poor. But his poverty weighed upon him less than riches would have done: his brilliant and sensitive imagination, allowed full scope and never curbed by realities, passed beyond healthy limits, and on more than one occasion produced effects that filled the many friends, who loved him with no common devotion, with alarm and uneasiness. To the result of one of these fits of mental excitement must be attributed the loss literature and society have sustained. At eighteen Gérard de Nerval produced a translation of "Faust," which called forth a letter from Goethe, containing the following phrase:—"I never understood my own work so well as in reading your version of it." Germany and the East were the principal sources of inspiration to this charming writer. After his voyage in the latter, he composed "Les Nuits du Ramadan," "Voyage en Orient," and a variety of short articles, anecdotes of travel, *feuilletons*, &c. "Sylvie," "Lorely," "Les Filles du Feu," "Aurélie"; ou, la Vie et la Rêve," "Les Illuminés," &c.—almost all partaking more or less of the mystic character of his mind—successively appeared, to establish his reputation. The first chapters of the last-named work—one of the most singular combinations of reason and wild imagings in modern literature—appeared in the *Revue de Paris*; the continuation was found in his pocket at his death.

The death of M. Jaques Arago is another serious loss, though of a less painful character and under less distressing circumstances to French literature, to which, notwithstanding his infirmity—blindness—he had for many years large contributed; he leaves inedited a considerable number of MSS of various natures. M. Arago's peculiar ingenuity for plays upon words has often been cited: the following instance was given us by M. Louis Blanc, with whom, accompanied by other friends, M. Arago was crossing one of the bridges of the Seine, from which the view of the river represents it winding in the form of an S. Extending his arm in this direction he turned to his companions, saying "Mephistophiles!" The friends, after much wondering, having "given it up," Arago, finding they were not Sphinxes, condescended to translate Mephistophiles into *Mes-fils c'tte (cette) eau fait l'S!*

Last week saw the appearance of two new journals, *La Revue Historique*, a collection of autographs, and *Paris Bon Vivant*, the name of which sufficiently indicates its character.

A new "Histoire de l'Empire" is about to be published from the pen of M. B. Sarrans, jun. This work, the proofs of which the author is correcting, was commenced some years since, in collaboration with Armand Carrel. It is composed from a variety of curious and interesting documents, and is expected to contain many valuable revelations.

Versailles seems to be the place chiefly chosen by our compatriots for their sojourn in the approaching Exhibition season. Daily lodgings are being engaged there, and it is anticipated that before the arrival of May it will be as full, in proportion, as the capital itself.

The Grand Opera has engaged Mdme Miolan, of the Opéra Comique. Mdme. Miolan's voice and method are almost irreproachable, as far as they go; but how those clear, sweet, bird-like trills, that form the delight of her present audience, are to make themselves heard in the *salle* of the great Opera, puzzles us. We wish her all success, but we fear to anticipate it. Mdme. Deligne-Lauters has a magnificent success at the Lyrique with the new Opera, "Robin des Bois."

Political Coincidence. It is a remarkable coincidence that 305 was the number of each of the majorities in the divisions which drove Lord Derby and Lord Aberdeen respectively from power.

Visitors to Public Places. From a return moved for by Mr. Hume, and recently issued, the following details are taken:—The number of visitors to the Tower of London for the year ending February 1, 1854, was 32,075; and the money paid, £1391 17s. 6d. The expenditure for 1853 was £1431 7s. At Hampton Court the number of visitors in 1853 was 180,733. At Kew Gardens, on week days, 210,741; on Sundays, 130,469: total, 331,210. At Westminster Abbey, £570 9s. was collected in 1853. The visitors in the same year to the British Museum were 681,111; the readers, 67,794. To the National Gallery there were 627,749 visitors; to the Vernon Gallery, 249,992; to the Museum of Practical Geology, 29,713.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

By the *Egyptus*, which left Constantinople on the 22nd, we have advices from the Crimea to the 20th ult., at which date the condition of the troops was improving. The Russian sorties had become more frequent, but the severe frost had rendered a general engagement impracticable. The French troops have taken most of the English right attack, which will relieve our army. A council of Generals was held at Lord Raglan's quarters on the 15th, and the general impression was, that something important has been resolved upon, as soon as the weather permits. The French have for some time been quite ready to open on the town with fifty 10 and 13 inch mortars, and have only been waiting until all the English mortars were in position, and sufficiently supplied with ammunition to support their fire. Pending this happy consummation, and to divert the enemy in the meanwhile, our allies are said to have commenced firing from a distant battery with ten 13-inch mortars upon the town and strongest of the Russian works. Each of these mortars fires fifty rounds a day, and any one who has ever seen the effect produced by the bursting of a "Whistling Dick," of thirteen inches, will know at once that 500 per diem cannot fail into the enemy's lines without doing fearful mischief to all around. All their missiles are certain at four thousand yards, and for destructive purposes can be used at five thousand; consequently, even the defences on the north side of the harbour come under fire. Where they have been thrown in the town, the stately and strong built houses on which they fall are mere ruins; 240 lb weight of iron falling upon the roof of a house, from the height of a mile, penetrates to the very foundation, when the explosion of a well-confined bursting charge of 20 lb. of powder settles everything about the structure, from foundation to roof, for ever. Not many shells have yet been thrown among the houses—perhaps not more than twenty—yet, when they have fallen, buildings which throughout the siege have never shown a mark are now mere piles of rubbish. The French, for the present, are principally directing their efforts to injuring the Garden Battery and redan, and six out of the 500 shells fired each day fall in the centre of these ill starred defences. Already no less than eleven guns have been silenced in these works, and, though generally the cannon is replaced during the night, it still shows that the bombs are telling severely. On the average fifty men are killed and wounded before a gun is injured by the bursting of bombs. The rest of the French mortars (forty), with about forty heavy guns, are kept in reserve until our preparations are completed. When the English commence they will do so with thirty-five mortars and sixty heavy guns, all of which, with the exception of two or three of the latter, are in position, and only waiting for stores of ammunition to open fire. When the bombardment is commenced fifty rounds every twelve hours are to be fired from each piece of ordnance, until all the ammunition is expended. According to this arrangement about 20,000 rounds of shot and shell will be thrown into Sebastopol every twenty-four hours, and the Russians must surely be made of sterner stuff than bronze or granite if they stand fifty or sixty hours of such a cannonade. When the bombardment has done its worst it is said the Allied forces are to storm.

The *Militarische Zeitung* says that two French divisions, under General Pelissier, are to join Omer Pacha; and that Perekop is to be attacked, and, if possible, taken by the combined forces. General Marmora's force will land in the bay of Kaffa, under the protection of the guns of a squadron of the Allied fleet, and will threaten the communications by way of the isthmus of Arabad. This Piedmont detachment will embark for its destination on the 28th of February, and will be reinforced by some Anglo-French troops

THE RUSSIANS CELEBRATING THE NEW YEAR.

The Russians, who had been very active inside the town during the 12th, the last day of the year according to their calendar, and who had lighted great watchfires on the north side of the place, illuminated the heights over the Tchernaya with rows of lights, which shone brilliantly through the darkness of the cold winter's night, and were evidently with all possible pomp and ostentation celebrating the opening of their peculiar new year. Lights shone from the windows of the public buildings, and our lonely sentries in the valleys and ravines, and the *enfans perdus* the French sharpshooters lying in their lairs with watchful eye on every embrasure before them might almost fancy that the inhabitants and garrison of the beleaguered city were tantalizing them with the aspect of their gaiety. At midnight all the chapel bells of the city began ringing, and it was evident that a religious ceremony of extraordinary solemnity was about to take place. On the English side the sentries and pickets were warned to be on the alert, and the advanced posts were strengthened wherever it was practicable. About a quarter past one o'clock in the morning the Russians inside the line of works gave a loud cheer. The French replied by opening fire, and the Russians in return instantly began a fusillade of musquetry, which continued for about ten minutes, but it was not been heard. The earthworks flashed forth uninterrupted floods of flame, which broke through the smokeas lightning through the thunder-cloud, and revealed distinctly the outlines of the buildings in the town, and the lines of defence swarming with men. The roaring of the cannon, the screaming and hissing of heavy shell, and the whistling of carcasses filled up the intervals between the deafening roll of cannon, which was as rapid and unbroken as quick fire-firing. The iron and stones passed over our lines uninterruptedly for more than half an hour; and the French, whose orders to our left are less protected by the ground than ours are, had to shelter themselves closely in the trenches, and could barely reply to the massive volleys which ploughed up the parapets of their works; but their *enfans perdus* never lost an opportunity of sending their balls into the embrasures. In the meantime, while the firing was going on, a strong body of men had been pushed out of the town up the face of the hill towards our works in front and on the flank of the left attack. As it was expected that some attempt of the kind would be made, one of the steadiest sergeants in the service was posted here with twelve men. Every reliance was placed on his vigilance and on his strict attention to his duties, but somehow or the other the enemy crept up on the little party, surprised and took them prisoners, and then advanced on the covering parties with such rapidity and suddenness that the parties of the Sixty—th and of the Twenty—st Regiments, which were on duty in the trenches, were obliged to retire almost without firing a shot. They rallied, however, and fired, and, being supported by the regiments in rear, they advanced, and the Russians were driven back close to the town. In this little affair one officer and nine men were severely wounded, six men were killed, and fourteen men are now missing. The French had to resist a strong sortie nearly at the same time, and for a short time the Russians were within the parapet of one of their batteries, and spiked, it is said, two or three mortars with wooden plugs, but the French soon drove them back with loss, and in the pursuit got inside the lines of the Russians' advanced batteries. The soldiers, indeed, say they could have taken the place then if they had been permitted to do so. At two o'clock in the morning all was silent once more, and the Allied armies had opened their new Russian year on Crimean soil.

RUSSIAN PREPARATIONS FOR THE SPRING CAMPAIGN.

The German papers are full of reports from Russia regarding the preparations which the Czar is making for the spring campaign. According to letters from Revel of the 16th ult. it appears that the future army of the Baltic, the assembling of which was decreed on the 10th December by the Emperor, is to be much more considerable than was supposed when the ukase was issued. General Siewers, commander of the corps of infantry, having also under his orders that of the Baltic, and whose headquarters are established at Mitau, will also have under his command an army of at least 100,000 men, destined to operate, in case of need, in the provinces of Lithuania, Courland, and along the coast of Finland, between Libau and Revel. The correspondent of the *Berlin National* writes as follows from St. Petersburg, under date of the 19th:—

The military administration has received enormous quantities of warlike stores. The arsenals, workshops, and dépôts have received fresh orders, and the Commissariat has been directed to proceed with rigour against all contractors and purveyors who are not punctual. The severity with which some authorities have proceeded against the persons who had under dumpt their spirit of enterprise, and thus raised prices for want of competition. The dockyard administration has made a demand for 50,000 pud of hemp for rigging, and 1000 tons of steel. The arsenal of Brausk had furnished 22,000 pud of artillery stores, and 1,000 pud of gunpowder, respectively from Dubow to Rostoff, on the Don, as the first facilitates the transport. Tula has furnished about 300,000 pud of arms, which have been conveyed to different dépôts. Enormous quantities of hospital stores have been sent to Bejesc-Lutefski, on the B.ig, to Kiyeff, Wilna, Minsk, Grodno, &c. In short, the most restless military activity prevails throughout the whole empire. In proportion as reports are received of military preparations and movements of troops in Asiatic, the more energetic are counter-preparations on this side. Russian journals rival each other in registering details of the movements and dislocation of Austrian troops. Attempts are made to treat the question with indifference; nevertheless the Court journal made the remarkable observation the other day, that "Germany would not be able to avoid going to war with Russia."

The *Kreuz Zeitung* contains long details of the forces on paper at the disposal of the Czar. The Russian organ is, from peculiar circumstances, in a position to obtain correct information—at all events as to the paper amount of the Russian forces, and we may therefore give the summary of its calculations. These, exclusive of the Caucasian corps, and two divisions of the 5th and 6th, but including the detached 5th Asia, amount to 667 battalions, 662 squadrons, and 1719 field-pieces, which on paper represent 637,000 infantry, 95,000 cavalry, and 42,000 artillery. The journal says that not more than ten per cent is to be deducted for non-effectives Now, this is most notoriously incorrect. It is possible that regiments of the Guards and *élite* corps, when in garrison, and in peace time, may not have more than ten per cent ineffective; but it is not less notorious that not a single battalion of the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th corps averages, one with the other, more than 600 rank and file, of 600 present under arms, and that squadrons and batteries offer the same proportion. Thirty and not ten per cent difference between effective and paper strength is the fair allowance to be made. Altogether it is calculated that the total amount of the Russian army may consist of 500,000 effectives.

The reckless consumption of human life in order to gratify the ambition of the Emperor is beginning to tell upon the supply of serfs, as will be seen by the following extract from a recent Russian letter:—

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 24.—In consequence of the difficulty of filling up the ranks of the army, the Emperor has ordered that men shall be liable to the age-duty—even instead of that of to thirty, as heretofore. Those sons of aged or widowed parents hitherto exempted are also now ordered to serve, forming separate corps

AUSTRIA AND THE CONFEDERATION.

The publication of the following despatch from Count de Buol to the States of the German Confederation, which has taken place sorely to the annoyance of the Prussian Government, has caused an immense sensation in Germany. This excitement will become perfectly intelligible on referring to the very pointed demand made in the despatch itself, in which each Prince of Germany is called to say whether, supposing Prussia, supposing a majority of the Confederation to declare for inaction, he will be ready to unite his destinies with those of Austria, and join his armies to those of the empire. The following is the despatch, as given in the *Dusseldorf Gazette*

Confidential

VIENNA, Jan. 14, 1855

We may still consider the adhesion of Prussia to the alliance concluded by the treaty of the 2nd of December as a probable eventuality, and for its part the Imperial Government will always consider it a duty to do everything in its power to put an end (one way or another) to the differences which, to its regret, unhappily now exist between the two great German Powers.

If the hope of seeing Prussia adhere to the alliance should be realized, the complete and sincere concurrence of the two Powers in their quality of German Federal Powers would thereby be assured

Experience, however, bids us extend our provisions to the case that Prussia should attempt longer to persist in her policy of indecision, and should even attempt to act at Frankfort in a manner to thwart our propositions upon the necessity of the Confederation being prepared for war.

In such case, the Imperial Government would only the more resolutely desire to pursue, with the support of the other German Governments, the path traced by the Federal Constitution as regards the manner in which this great question ought to be considered, and it would regard itself as neglecting one of the most sacred duties of its mission in Germany, if it did not endeavour above all things to attain that the Confederation should take constitutional resolutions, and if, for its own part, it was not perfectly ready to take upon itself the consequences of these resolutions.

Therefore, at a moment when our confederates will have to decide upon their participation in events perhaps decisive for the destinies of Germany, we cannot hesitate in putting the question to them, confidentially, as to how they will act in the case of being resolved to go in accordance with us, should a conformable resolution not be obtained in the Federal Assembly

We do not hesitate openly to ask our confederates if, in that case, they will grant sufficient confidence to Austria to join her destinies; and if, in case all our endeavours to obtain a solid and sure peace should fail, Austria should, as may, in the most extreme eventuality, equally count upon their active co-operation.

The Imperial Court would, in such case, give the most solemn assurances to guarantee their territorial possessions and position against every eventuality, and, moreover, to grant them their share of advantage resulting from the war in proportion to the number of troops employed. In exchange, Austria must put the condition that a body of troops, to be determined upon, should be at once made ready for service, and claim that ——[Here comes the name of the Government of the State addressed] shall express to his Majesty the Emperor the confidence of placing, in case of appeal, the direction of their contingent under the superior command of his Imperial Majesty

We count upon a frank and candid reply, and it will give us great satisfaction to find that it responds to our wish, so that will have the effect of throwing light upon our relations with the German Governments, and of consolidating them especially with —— [name of State], providing them with all the guarantees which we have just indicated to our side.

You will please to make a confidential communication of this despatch to —— DE BUOL

Some of the German journals, commenting on this despatch, trace a parallel between the present state of Germany and that which existed in 1806, the epoch of the dissolution of the German Empire. Looking at the remarkable words which occur in Count Buol's despatch, some of these journalists express the apprehension that the map of Central Europe is about to be exposed to the risk of a new modification. It is worth noticing that this is the first time since the establishment of the Confederation that a question of war has been brought before its Diet. The articles of the "Final Act of Vienna," under which Austria proposes to make separate war conventions with the several States, are thus framed:—

Art. 41. Resolutions adopted in restricted council, relative to the reality of the danger of a hostile attack, bind all Federal States to a participation in the defensive measures regarded as necessary by the Diet. In the same manner a declaration of war pronounced in plenary Assembly binds all Federa. States to a direct participation in the common war.

Art. 42. Should the preparatory question of whether danger be at hand be decidedly negatived by a majority, nevertheless, it remains open for such States as are persuaded of the danger to deliberate among themselves upon measures for common defence

On the 22nd ult. Baron Prokesch made a motion in the Diet that half the contingents of the several Federal States be made mobile, and that a Commander-in-Chief be elected; but, as some of the members declared that they were not furnished with the necessary instructions, the questions could not be put to the vote

A telegraphic despatch from Berlin states that, at the sitting of the Committee of the Diet on the 19th, the motion of Austria for the mobilization of the federal contingents was rejected and withdrawn, and that the motion of Prussia on the preparation for war (*Kriegsbereitschaft*) was accepted

THE ATTITUDE OF PRUSSIA

The latest diplomatic production which has issued from Berlin is a despatch from M. Manteuffel, dated January 23rd, and addressed to the Representative of Prussia at Paris and London, presenting the reasons why, after admitting that Prussia cannot join the treaty of December 2nd, the Powers negotiating have not been able to reconcile their common purpose with their particular interests. "Frankly," Prussia avows, that "important changes of *fact* have supervened; the term for adhesion fixed by the treaty has expired; and "the massive tendency of the treaty, eclipsed in some sort before the expiration of the term," now displays in true bearing the engagements which Prussia is invited to contract. Moreover, the Western Powers have had confidential communications with the Representative of Russia, from which Prussia was excluded. In Prince Gortschakoff's memorandum M. Manteuffel's Government "see conciliatory and pacific dispositions;" but not knowing the work by the three Representatives, of which it is the corollary, nor "the ensemble of the motives which have presided over the birth of these documents," that Government cannot form a precise judgment on the eventualities of the engagements involved. These are the reasons why further negotiations would be fruitless until a representative shall be permitted to take his seat at the deliberations in Vienna. King Frederick William "makes this conviction the point of departure for his future attitude" He will not do so, however, without declaring that "he does not permit himself to be guided only by practical exigencies, but by convictions of a higher order." What these conditions have, except that Prussia has "rights as well as duties," we cannot learn from M. Manteuffel's very enigmatical language; although he finishes the passage by saying:

Here, Monsieur le Comte, are principles so simple and natural, that they seem not to require an advocate. If we the kindness to lay them before M. le Minister for Foreign Affairs (the Principal Secretary of State), who, we have the utmost confidence, will not withhold his approval of them; and will, with us, consider the frankness with which we have stated them as likely to facilitate rather than hinder an eventual good understanding between the two Cabinets

It is impossible for anybody to say what these simple principles are. Prussia evidently wants to be off her bargain with Austria. The April treaty, and the additional article thereto of the 26th of November last year, it is now plaided at Berlin, are only of a defensive character, and contain no engagements of an offensive nature against Russia. Seeing, however, that all these "defensive" measures no longer avail in restraining Austria from assuming an openly hostile position against the Muscovite patron of Germany and the brother-in-law of the King of Prussia, the latter has resolved to give Austria a checkmate in the Diet. It is difficult to say what the issue of the contest will be, but all accounts represent the people of Germany as thoroughly disgusted by the conduct of Frederick William. A gentleman who has recently passed through a greater part of Northern and Southern Germany, on his way to and from England, viâ Berlin, Hamburg, Leipsic, Frankfort, Darmstadt, Carlsruhe, and Stuttgart, states that, whereas in former times, since 1848, public feeling at these places was generally unfavourable in its estimation of Austria, now the bold, straightforward, and honest policy of that country forms the most popular theme of every-day conversation.

A telegraphic despatch from Berlin, dated Wednesday, says:—The Government has decreed immediate mobilisation. The Fourth and Ninth Army Corps are ordered to occupy the provinces of Saxony and Silesia. The demand of France, that a portion of the French army be allowed to pass through Prussia, is categorically rejected."

THE VIENNA INTERPRETATION OF THE FOUR POINTS.

The following is said to be the interpretation of the Four Points agreed on by the representatives of the Allied Powers at Vienna:—

For the purpose of fixing the sense which their Governments attach to each of the principles contained in the four articles, but reserving to themselves, as they have always hitherto done, the power subsequently to make such special stipulations as appear to them demanded by the general interests of Europe over and above the four guarantees for the prevention of the return of the late complications, the Plenipotentiaries of Austria, France, and Great Britain declare that—

1. Their Governments are jointly of opinion, that it is necessary to abolish the exclusive protectorate which Russia has exercised over Moldavia, Wallachia, and Servia, and from henceforth to place the privileges accorded by the Sultans to these principalities, which form part of their territories, under the joint guarantee of the Five Powers; and that they (the Governments) have, therefore, considered, and do consider, that none of the stipulations of the old treaties of Russia with the Porte, having reference to the said provinces, etc., at the conclusion of a peace, be put again into force; and that the arrangements which have to be made in reference to them must in future be concluded in such a way as to afford perfect and entire consideration for the rights of the Sovereign Power, those of the three Principalities, and the general interests of Europe.

2. In order to give to the freedom of the navigation of the Danube all the development of which it is susceptible, it would be expedient that the lower portion of the Danube, from that point where it becomes common to the two littoral States, should be withdrawn from the territorial dominion that exists in virtue of Art. 3 of the peace of Adrianople

At any rate the free navigation of the Danube would not be secured if it be not placed under the surveillance of a Syndical Board, that should be invested with the necessary powers for the purpose of getting rid of the obstructions which at present exist at the mouths of this stream, or which may at a future time be formed there

3. The revision of the Treaty of July 13, 1841, shall have for its object to connect the existence of the Ottoman Empire more closely with the balance of power in Europe, and to put an end to that preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea The measures to be taken in reference to this end depend too directly on the contingencies of war for their basis to be laid down as yet.

It is sufficient to indicate the principle that is to guide them.

4. Russia, in renouncing the claim to exercise an official protectorate over the Sultan's Christian subjects who belong to the Oriental *ritus*, naturally renounces the revival of any article of her former treaties, and more particularly of the Treaty of Kustchuk Kainardji, the erroneous interpretation of which has been the main cause of the present war. Whilst they (the Governments) extend each other their mutual co-operation for the purpose of obtaining from the initiative of the Ottoman Government the recognition and observance of the religious privileges of the minor Christian communities without distinction of rite, and whilst they jointly avail themselves, in the interest of the said communities, of the generous intentions proclaimed by his Majesty the Sultan with reference to them, they will take the greatest care to protect the dignity of his Highness and the independence of his crown from every encroachment

To the first, second, and fourth points Prince Gortschakoff gave in his adhesion. The only point on which no joint agreement was arrived at was the 3rd, the revision of the Treaty of 1841. Cognisance was taken of Prince Gortschakoff's declaration that the Emperor sovereignty did not admit of the Powers meddling in the affairs of his Empire. Sebastopol might be taken, the fleet might be destroyed—that would be a *fait accompli*; but they must not demand that Russia should raze that fortress, and submit to a limitation of the number of her ships. To such stipulations Russia would never accede. This reservation obviously implies that Russia is resolved to cede no portion of her territory, be it in the Black Sea or elsewhere. If the Vienna Congress should, after all, commence its projected labours, this will prove a very knotty point, because it involves, more or less, the future existence of Sebastopol as a great Russian arsenal and fortress; for, supposing even that the Allies have no intention of retaining the Crimea, if they should succeed in reducing Sebastopol, and finally conquering that province of the empire, the reservation of Prince Gortschakoff plainly says that the sovereign rights of the Czar on his own territory shall in nowise be restricted by the arrangements which the Porte and her allies may intend to propose in order to do away in future with the preponderance of Russian power in the Euxine. The obvious meaning of this reservation on the part of the Muscovite diplomatist simply is, that the Emperor Nicholas will not cede his right to rebuild the fortress and arsenal of Sebastopol, if they should be reduced, and if he should hereafter think fit to do so.

THE TREATY WITH SARDINIA.

The following are the articles of the Military Convention which the Piedmontese Government has concluded with France and England in consequence of its accession to the treaty of 10th April:—

Art. 1. His Majesty the King of Sardinia will provide for the wants of the war *corps d'armée* of 15,000 men, organised in five brigades, forming two divisions, and one reserve brigade, under the command of a Sardinian General

Art. 2. Immediately after the ratification of the present convention, measures shall be taken for the organisation and administrative regulation of this corps that it may be ready to leave within as short a delay as possible.

Art. 3 In execution of the 1st Article of the present convention, the *corps d'armée* of his Majesty the King of Sardinia will consist of infantry, cavalry, and artillery, in proportion to its effective force.

Art. 4. His Majesty the King of Sardinia engages himself to keep up the number of the expeditionary corps at 15,000 men, by the regular and successive sending out of the necessary reinforcements.

Art 5. The Sardinian Government will provide for the pay and subsistence of its troops. The high contracting parties will concert measures to assure and facilitate the procuring of provisions for its stores

Art. 6. Their Majesties the Emperor of the French and the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland guarantee the integrity of the States of his Majesty the King of Sardinia, and engage themselves to defend them against any attack as long as the present war lasts

Art. 7. The present convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications exchanged at Turin as soon as possible

A supplementary convention has been concluded between Sardinia and Great Britain, by which the latter Power promises to lend the King of Sardinia £1,000,000 at three per cent interest, and to convey the Sardinian troops to the Crimea free of charge. The following are the articles of the supplementary convention

Art. 1. The Queen of Great Britain and Ireland undertakes to recommend her Parliament to enable her to advance to the King of Sardinia, by means of a loan, the sum of one million sterling, of which one-half shall be paid by her Majesty as soon as the Parliament shall have given its consent, and the remainder in six months after the payment of the first sum. Her Britannic Majesty engages further to recommend her Parliament to enable her, should the war not be terminated at the expiration of twelve months after the first payment, to advance to the King of Sardinia, in the same proportions, a sum of one million sterling

Art. 2. The interest to be paid on the said loan by the Sardinian Government shall be 4 per cent per annum; of which 3 per cent shall be on the score of interest, and 1 per cent for a sinking fund. The said interest shall count from the day on which an instalment shall be made of the said loan or loans, and shall be paid each half-year. The first payment is to be paid within a fortnight after the expiration of the six months, reckoning from the payment of the first instalment, and so on continually

Art. 3. The Queen of Great Britain and Ireland will undertake to convey the Sardinian troops free of charge

Art. 4. The present convention shall be ratified and the ratifications exchanged at Turin as promptly as possible. In faith of which the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present convention, and have affixed to it their seals

Done at Turin, the 20th of January, 1855 C CAVOUR
JAMES HUDSON.

The volunteers for the Crimean expedition from the subaltern officers alone have exceeded 600. In the meantime the clerical papers endeavour to represent the alliance of Piedmont and the Western Powers under the worst colours, and the expressions of the leading "Colini" prove that they regard any approximation to France with truly religious horror, and sublimely pity the youthful inexperience of the Emperor of Austria which has allowed him to be entrapped by the traitorous counsels of his Ministers into a French alliance.

AMERICA.

The mail steam-ship *Asia*, which left Boston on the 17th, arrived at Liverpool Tuesday morning, having been detained at Halifax twenty-eight hours by a heavy easterly gale and a dense fog

In the House of Representatives the Know nothing question has excluded all other considerations. Mr. Chandler, from Philadelphia, denied that the head of the Roman Catholic Church claimed the right of interfering with the political affairs of any country; and declared that, if the Bishop of Rome were to possess himself of an army and assail the rights of their country, he would find no more earnest antagonists than the Roman Catholics, and that every Bishop in the United States expressed the same opinion as himself

In other respects the proceedings in the Senate and the House of Representatives have been unimportant. A petition from numerous merchants, asking Congress to provide against the difficulties arising from the abolition of corporal punishment, was presented to the Senate. The special committee on the Pacific Railroad Bill have finally determined to report to the Senate and urge the adoption of Senator Douglas's bill with slight amendments

Seven military companies of Boston and vicinity, composed mainly of Irishmen, have surrendered their charters, and been disbanded by Governor Gardener, the recently-chosen Know nothing Executive. The strong remarks of the Governor in opposition to organisations of foreigners, contained in his inaugural address, led the soldiery to adopt this step. Every attempt on the part of foreigners in that State to enrol themselves permanently in the militia has proved a failure, causing either an outbreak of popular disapprobation or the stringing rebellious of some public functionary.

The *Washington Union* announces that the first portion of the Kinney Expedition (Central American Colonists) would sail from Baltimore on the 25th of January, the second a few days later from Mobile, and the third from Brazos Santiago: 700 men go out in these vessels. Colonel Kinney was to sail the beginning of February from New York or Philadelphia in a first-class steamer

Resolutions were offered at the Southern Convention, at New Orleans, on the 12th inst., declaring the acquisition of Cuba necessary to the protection of the commerce of the south, and urging upon Congress immediate action on the subject. A reciprocal treaty between Spain and Mexico for the repeal of laws supporting the slave trade was also recommended. Both resolutions were referred.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR THE CRIMEA

A letter from the naval dockyard at Bombay, under the superintendence of Rear-Admiral Sir Henry Leeke, R.N., K.H., dated the 2nd inst., informs us of the progress of the equipment of the transports for the conveyance of the 10th Hussars for India to the Crimea. The letter says, "The 10th Hussars sail from this—the first detachment, 350 strong, on the 6th; the second detachment, the same number, on or about the 15th, to Suez, Alexandria, &c., horses and all. Our vessels for this service have been fitted out in an almost incredibly short space of time. The *Punjab* (1800 tons), from being a newly launched hull off the stocks, was perfectly ready, as Sir Henry Leeke promised she should be, on the sixth day after he took her in hand, stalls for 250 horses, mangers, slings for each, headstalls, mats to stand upon, and all complete; it was a hard go, but she was ready."

It is stated to be the intention of Government to increase the strength of the three battalions of Guards in the Crimea by 1000 bayonets—viz., 2nd battalion of Grenadier Guards, 300 men; 1st battalion of Coldstream Guards, 250 men; and Scots Fusilier Guards, 1st battalion, 450 men. The Household Brigade of Infantry is in a position to spare nearly double that number, having obtained large reinforcements of volunteers from the militia, and also been very successful in obtaining recruits; the volunteers, being mostly well drilled, could at once be sent to the seat of war, if required, but it is believed that no further reinforcements will be sent out to the Crimea before the latter part of the next month.

On Saturday two large draughts of volunteers from the Dorsetshire and South Devon Regiments of Militia arrived by the South-Western and Great Western Railways, and were immediately marched from the terminus to the principal recruiting depôt, Delahay-street, Westminster, where having been officially and surgically inspected, they were, without a single exception, finally approved and attested to serve her Majesty in the following regiments, viz., for the Crimea, or about to proceed to the seat of war—viz., the 3rd Buffs, 7th Royal Fusiliers, 18th Royal Irish, 19th Regiment of Foot, 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 33rd (Duke of Wellington's Own), 42nd Highlanders, 68th Durham Light Infantry, 71st Highland Light Infantry, 88th Connaught Rangers, 93rd Highlanders, 94th Regiment of Foot, and 95th Foot. A large body of recruits from the agricultural districts in the midland and northern counties also arrived.

THE BALTIC FLEET.—An order from the Lords of the Admiralty has been received at Portsmouth, and at all the other dockyard, for the whole of the ships now under repair or refit which formed part of the Baltic fleet of 1854 to be expedited in their refitment, as they are required to be ready for service by the end of February, and to assemble in the Downs by the first week in March, where it is deemed probable the fleet will be inspected by the Emperor and Empress of the French, en route from France to England to visit Queen Victoria. Rear-Admiral Martin, Superintendent of Portsmouth Dockyard, is reported to be the intended Commander-in-Chief of this fleet, and Rear-Admiral Michael Seymour second in command.

STOVES FOR THE CRIMEA.—In consequence of representations made to the Government of the great suffering and inconvenience experienced by the troops before Sebastobol from the absence of all conveniences for cooking the rations served out to them, several hundred cooking-stoves, of a novel yet simple construction, were shipped from the Tower-wharf on Monday, for conveyance to Balaclava. The manner of using these stoves can be discovered at a glance: compartments are in each for boiling, baking, and stewing; the upper surface may be used as a hot-plate for frying, &c.; while over the furnace, space is left for broiling. The entire apparatus stands about 2 feet high, and is about 30 inches square; round its sides are hooks whereon to hang coffee and tea boilers; and it is calculated that, with regular order, each stove will cook for forty men

THE first prize-money acquired during the present war was paid at Somerset-house, on Monday, to the officers and crew of her Majesty's steamer *Odin*, in respect to the capture of the Russian vessel *Najsdan*.

NOTICE has been issued at the Horse Guards that, with a view to encourage enlistment in the army, Her Majesty had increased the bounty to recruits in the cavalry to £10, and infantry to £8, and in the Royal Marines recruits will now receive £5, and volunteers from the Militia £5.

THE Lords of the Admiralty gave notice that vessels are required to convey 280 tons of filled shells, cartridges, and rocket tubes, 19 heavy guns, 17 tons' weight of carriages, and 700 tons of naval stores from the river Thames, for Malta.

The *Robert Lowe* steam-transport has arrived at Balaclava with the apparatus for blowing up and destroying the sunken wrecks at the mouth of the harbour of Sebastopol, to clear the way for the entrance of the Allied fleet. The corps of divers have all arrived out well. Twenty-five tons of powder will be used at a time in these submarine explosions, which will take place by electric agency It is calculated that, in addition to destroying the sunken wrecks, these explosions will seriously injure the foundations of Forts Constantine and Alexander, and probably render them untenable. The *Robert Lowe* landed 4,000,000 Minié cartridges for the use of the army

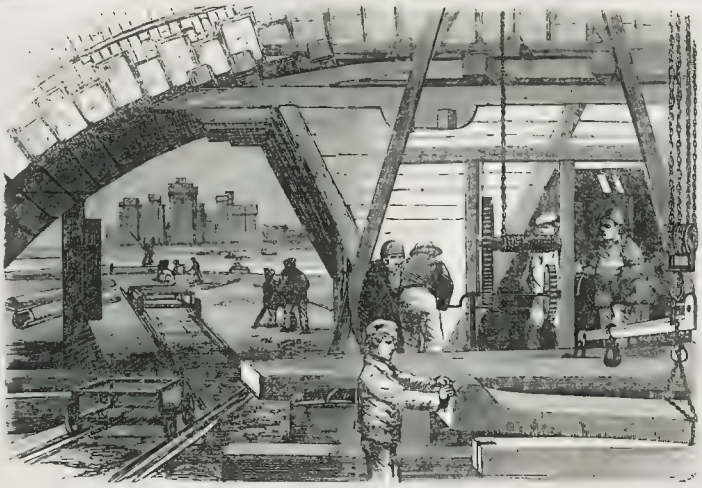
PERMANENT CAMP AT ALDERSHOT.—The Board of Ordnance have just invited tenders to be sent in for the construction of wooden barracks at Aldershot-heath, in Hampshire, for the accommodation of 20,000 men, with the due proportion of officers, stores, &c., the whole to be completed by the 15th of March next. They also invite tenders to be sent in by the 5th of February for the erection of brick buildings at the same place for officers' quarters and soldiers' barracks for cavalry, infantry, and artillery, together with hospital, riding-school, guardhouses, &c The first-named wooden barracks are to be temporary only until the brick, which are permanent, are completed

It is intended to increase the strength of the Royal Artillery at the seat of war by six field batteries, four batteries of the Horse Artillery, a detachment of the Rocket Brigade, and an extra siege-train of guns of very large calibre. Lancasters and mortars are also to be dispatched; and, in order to make all the drilled men available as gunners several of whom are at present acting as drivers of ammunition waggons, tumbrils, and guns—it is in contemplation to compensate the corps of Royal Artillery Drivers, the sole duty of whom will be to drive and attend to the horses, the sub-officers of that corps will, as formerly, be selected from the non-commissioned officers of the Royal Horse and Foot Artillery, and will be entitled to the premium of £150 each, as in cavalry regiments, on receiving their commissions.

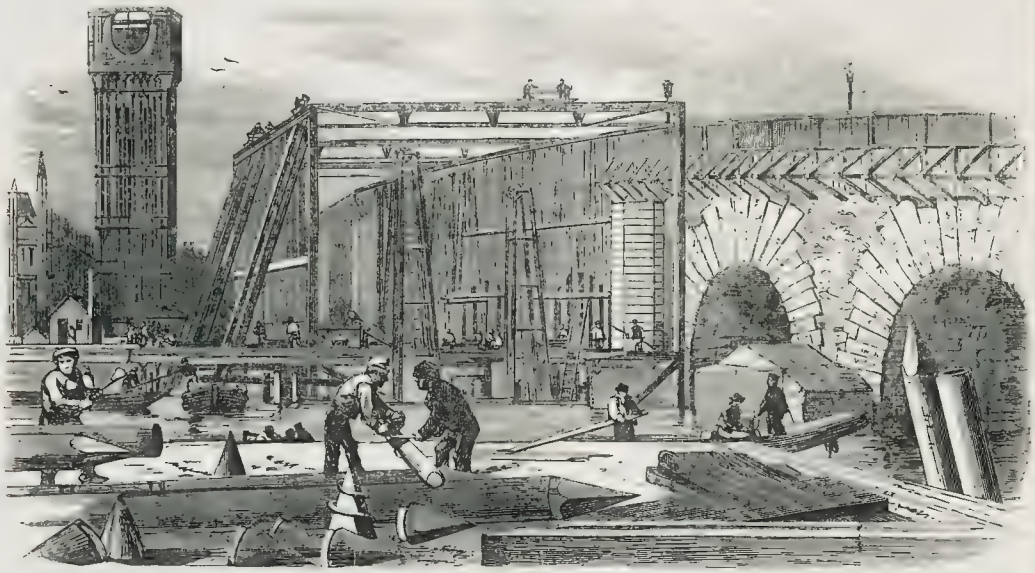
WORKS AT WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE.

Little more than a century has elapsed since the present Westminster-bridge was opened for public use. It was designed by Mr. Labelye, a Swiss architect, and was commenced on the 29th of January, 1739: it occupied eleven years and nine months in its execution, and was opened at midnight on the 17th November, 1750. It consists of thirteen arches, varying in span, from 76 feet to 52 feet, with two small arches at the abutments of 26 feet span. The total water-way of the thirteen arches is 820 feet at the springing line. The money raised for the construction of the Bridge was £389,500—of which the sum of £137,500 was raised by lottery, and £192,000 by Parliamentary grants.

In the popular accounts given of the Bridge at the time of its erection it is described as one of the finest in the world; "that there is not, perhaps, another Bridge in the whole world that can be compared with it; that all the piers were laid at a considerable depth under the bed of the river, in a hard bed of gravel, which never requires piling, whereas the usual method of building stone and brick bridges over large rivers is to build them upon stilts, that is, driving piles in the bed of the river, sawing their heads off at low-water mark, and after, above them, laying some planks to rest the piers upon." The security for passengers walking through the streets of London at night at the time of the opening of this Bridge may be gathered from the following extract from a work written at the period:—



PART OF THE TIMBER PLATFORM FOR DEPOSITING MATERIALS FOR THE NEW BRIDGE.



STAGING AND TRAVELLER ON THE UPPER SIDE OF THE OLD BRIDGE.

DREDGING TRENCH FOR THE CAST-IRON CASING.

A guard, consisting of twelve watchmen, is appointed for the security of the passage over this bridge. They are to be upon duty from the close of day every night till the opening of the next morning. We walk the public streets with so much danger in these hours that this provision was extremely necessary upon a bridge of so great length, which is not to be transformed into a street. The recesses over each pier, which are built in the form of alcoves, and designed as places of shelter in bad weather, of retirement in case of an accidental danger or difficulty in the passage, might have otherwise served for places of ambush for robbers and cut-throats; though, indeed, even these occupations, which thrive so much in our time, could not have been followed here without hazard, as there is no way of escaping but at the two ends of the bridge.

The foundations above referred to, with the omission of the said stilts, proved so defective, that, in 1747, one of the piers sunk 16 inches, which rendered necessary the reconstruction of two of the arches, and considerably delayed the completion of the structure.

The condition of the river when the Bridge was built was governed by the dam formed by the piers and starlings of old London-bridge which impeded the passage of the flood tide, and also prevented the free flow of the ebb, so that, at the low water of spring tides, the difference of level of the Thames above and below London-bridge amounted to more than 5 feet, causing a fall through London-bridge so dangerous to passengers in boats, that, on an average, about fifty people were drowned, annually, in passing under the arches, or, as it was called "shooting the bridge."

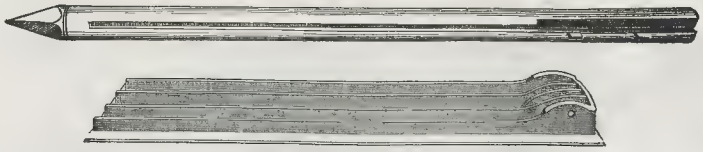
Even before London-bridge was removed the foundations of Westminster-bridge were found to be insecure; but, on the removal of old London-bridge, and the consequent change in the bed of the river by the scour of the ebb tide, the bed of the river at Westminster-bridge was so much lowered that expensive repairs became necessary for maintaining the structure. These repairs, the maintenance of the Bridge, and the works which were undertaken for the widening of the Bridge twelve feet, on an extension of the old piers, caused a total expenditure from 1810 to 1853 of upwards of £200,000.

The main features in Mr. Page's design of the new Bridge have been governed by the character and low level of the Houses of Parliament, and the consideration of accommodating the important land traffic which is carried on over Westminster-bridge; and, that the architectural appearance of the Bridge should not be discordant with the Houses of Parliament, the mouldings and ornamental parts are from sketches given by Sir Charles Barry. To fulfil the requirements of a Bridge in this position, the arches are of moderate span, the centre arch being not more than 120 feet. The summit of the roadway of the new Bridge will thus be obtained at a level ten feet below the level of the present roadway.

The width of the new Bridge will be 85 feet, out of which, there will be two footpaths, each 15 feet in width. The carriage-way will be divided by a kerb in the centre, to confine the traffic to its proper lines, and thus avoid the confusion and delay caused in the thoroughfares by the irregular tracks which each carman, uncontrolled, chooses for himself.

The width of the new Bridge being 85 feet, it will be 40 feet wider than the present Bridge; the line of the northern (or down-stream) parapet will coincide with the north face of the present Bridge, and the additional 40 feet in width will be set off on the south (or up-stream) side, towards the Houses of Parliament; the width of 85 feet will then be continued along Bridge-street, Westminster, and along Bridge-street, Lambeth, as far as Stangate, forming the approaches to the new Bridge. The inclination of the roadway of the Bridge will also be considerably reduced; the steepest gradient of the new Bridge being 1 in 54, instead of 1 in 24, as at present. The new Bridge will consist of seven arches, having a water way of 748 feet, the span and rise of each arch being these—the centre arch is 120 feet span, and 18 feet rise; the two next are 115 feet span, and 17 feet 3 inches rise; the next two are 105 feet span, and 15 feet 7½ inches rise; and the two arches adjoining the abutments are 94 feet 6 inches span, and 14 feet rise. The thickness of the piers of the centre arch at the springing is 10 feet 6 inches, and the other piers are respectively 10 feet 3 inches, and 10 feet thick. The position of the abutments of the Bridge is regulated by the proposed line of embankment of the Thames, but the length of the roadway from the present shore is 1160 feet. Assertions have been made at various times that the bed of the river at the present Bridge was not fitted for the foundations of a new Bridge; in short, that it was a rotten foundation. So far from this being the case the borings made under Mr. Page's direction for the Commissioners of her

THE NEW WESTMINSTER BRIDGE: GENERAL VIEW—THOMAS PAGE, ENGINEER.



CAST-IRON PILE AND PLATE.

Majesty's Works (before the drawings for the Bridge were completed) proved that a good bed of clay lies at depths of from 12 to 14 feet below the low-water line—some of the borings were carried to a depth of 60 feet below the surface of the clay, which was all found to be of a uniform character.

Having described the general features of the Bridge, some account of the mode of forming the foundation may be interesting. Instead of the tilts or bearing-piles being avoided, they are introduced in close proximity to each other, and driven down with a ram weighing a ton, until ten blows with a fall of nine feet move the pile only half an inch. They are of English elm timber, 14 inches square, and on an average 34 feet long. The number in the whole structure 922, besides an additional number of 100 for sheet piling. The total quantity of timber in the piling will be nearly 50,000 cubic feet.

The piers and abutments are cased with strong cast-iron piles and plates: the piles are driven 18 feet, and the plates 16 feet, into the bed of the river. There are around the foundations of each pier forty-four cast-iron piles, and forty-four plates, and they enclose a space 16 feet wide and 109 feet long from point to point of cutwaters. The piles are 26 feet long and 15 inches diameter, and weigh two tons; the plates are 4 feet 3 inches wide, and 15 feet long, and weigh 37 cwts.; they slide in grooves in the piles, and when in place the top flanges of the plates are 6 feet below low water, and they are to be continued above that level to the top of the piles, viz., 2 feet above low water by granite slabs, 18 inches thick, resting on the plates and supported by the piles. The total number of cast-iron piles is 318, and the number of plates is 316; and the total weight of the casing is 1320 tons. The piles are tied together by iron bars four inches deep and one inch thick. The space enclosed by the casing is to be, after the timber-bearing piles have been driven, of which there are eighty-five for each pier, cleared of all loose ground, and filled up solid with concrete to the height of the top of the iron piles. On the floor thus obtained, granite blocks of seven tons weight will be laid, and will form the base for the piers. The piers are to be of brick, faced with stone. The quantity of brickwork in the whole structure will be 7250 cubic yards; and the total quantity of stone, of which there will be three kinds—viz., granite, Bramley-fall, and Portland—will be 180,000 cubic feet; and the total quantity of concrete will be 10,000 cubic yards. The ribs forming the arches are fifteen in number for each arch. The centre portion of them, extending to a length of nearly one-half the span, will be of wrought iron, and the remainder is to be of cast iron. The weight of cast iron in the whole of the ribs will be 1200 tons, and the weight of wrought iron will be 460 tons. The total weight of the iron work above high-water line will be 3600 tons, of which 700 tons will be of wrought iron. The bearers which support the roadway in connection with the wrought iron of the ribs will be likewise of wrought iron, and the remainder are to be of cast iron. These bearers serve to brace and stiffen the ribs as well as to support the roadway. The ribs are further braced with diagonal and cross frames. The bearers are placed at distances of 3 feet, and upon them will be laid a floor of oak planking 4 inches thick, which will be covered with a layer of asphalte ¾ inch thick, and upon which the granite pitching forming the roadway will be laid. The structure will therefore rest on a foundation of bearing piles, as in the case of London, Southwark, and Waterloo Bridges; but the introduction of the iron piles and plates allows the foundation to be made without the expense of cofferdams. A similar mode of forming the foundations was used by the engineer in the Bridges of Windsor and Chelsea. It may also be observed that any arrangement of foundation which would have rendered cofferdams necessary would have precluded the practicability of constructing the new Bridge without resorting to a temporary bridge

The works at present are being proceeded with by the contractor, Mr. Mare, the celebrated shipbuilder of Blackwall, on the up-stream side of the present Bridge, with the object of completing so much of the new Bridge on the south side of the present as will allow the traffic to be diverted from the old Bridge, which can then be removed for the completion of the new structure.

We have reason to believe that in reconciling the conflicting interests of land traffic and water traffic in the engineering arrangements of the new Bridge, and in providing that the structure should accord to a certain extent with the Houses of Parliament, the public are much indebted to the attention and judgment of Sir William Molesworth, Chief Commissioner of her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Feb. 4.—Septuagesima Sunday.
MONDAY, 5.—St. Agatha. Sir Robert Peel born, 1788.
TUESDAY, 6.—Dr. Priestley died, 1804.
WEDNESDAY, 7.—Mary Queen of Scots beheaded at Fotheringay Castle, 1587.
THURSDAY, 8.—Hall-Quarter-day.
FRIDAY, 9.—
SATURDAY, 10.—Queen Victoria married, 1840.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 10.

Sunday		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
3 42	3 56	4 11	4 27	4 43	4 57	5 13	5 27	5 41	5 57	6 21	6 40	7 1	7 22

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*** The Photographs of the Annual Canadian Provincial Show, held in the town of London, Canada West, reached us too late to be available for engraving.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3, 1855.

After the sudden, and we cannot but say the disastrous, collapse of the Aberdeen Administration, her Majesty sent for the Earl of Derby; and his Lordship undertook to form a Ministry, and had lengthened interviews with Lord Palmerston. Lord Derby had a difficult task before him; but he would have met with no factious opposition. On the contrary, he would have received all possible aid and support. It was not by his act, or by that of his followers in either House, that the late Ministry was hurled from power, with an ignominy which, as a body, they little merited. The crisis was not of his making; and if he had been enabled to form a Government which might fairly have claimed the confidence of the nation, that confidence, so far from being withheld, would have been lavished upon him.

The choice of the Queen, so suddenly deprived of councillors, was extremely limited. Her Majesty could not primarily have sent for Lord Palmerston, though ultimately, and contingent upon the failure of Lord Derby, that was the only course left open; for Lord Palmerston shared the condemnation of a Parliamentary majority as much as Lord Aberdeen or the Duke of Newcastle, or any other Minister offered up as a victim to appease a clamorous and offended people. It is true that Lord John Russell might have been sent for; and it is likely that his Lordship, and the ancient Whigs who acknowledge his leadership, might have considered themselves for awhile the masters of the situation. But this delusion, if it ever existed, must have been speedily dispelled by the unmistakable utterances of public opinion—in the Houses of Parliament—in the press—in the Clubs—and at the very street corners. Lord John Russell was Premier for nearly six years, during which period Anility, Nepotism, and slumberous Inefficiency "reigned, rioted, and revelled" in Downing-street and Whitehall. His Administration collapsed amid all but universal contempt—leaving nothing behind it but a bad reputation. The manner, too, in which this doughty and too daring David had slain the Goliath whose servant and friend he had so long been was not such as to inspire confidence in any men beyond the confines of the families of Russell, Elliot, and Grey. His Lordship might have undertaken the task of forming a Ministry; but who, after the resignation of Thursday in last week, and the Parliamentary statements of the following Monday, would have consented to serve under him? A few of the old circle of familiar friends, close relations, and near connections, might have enlisted under his banner, and, looking upon office as their natural inheritance, might have taken possession as a matter of course; but the men of business, of genius, of high standing, and of a truly honourable ambition, would have held aloof, lest their business habits should have been nullified, their genius degraded, their political position endangered, and their high ambition turned to dishonourable uses. Such an Administration could not, it is to be presumed, have included Lord Palmerston—*the* man, above all other men, whom the country desires to see in the position either of Premier, of War Minister, or of Secretary for Foreign Affairs. Such a Ministry, if it had been formed, could not, without Lord Palmerston and some others, have remained in existence for a month; and, at this perilous emergency, a month, or even a week, or a day, is too precious to be wasted in wretched experiments certain to lead to political failure, if not to national calamity and disgrace.

The present crisis of political affairs may well induce the country to ask what becomes of the outcry against COALITION? If there is to be no coalition, no Ministry can stand for an hour. By means of a coalition—and by no other means whatever—can a strong and durable Government be formed. Toryism is as dead as Whiggism; and "Protection" is almost as obsolete as the claim of the Stuarts. The country has but one interest, one business, one thought—which is, to carry on the war to a triumphant issue—to remedy past evils in the management of the army, and to place our public departments, civil and military, in effective working order. This is the task, and a new and powerful Coalition is the means to accomplish it. As the stupid clamour against coalition came from the immediate adherents and friends of Lord Derby, we may suppose that we shall hear no more of it now that Lord Derby has tried to effect a coalition, and failed in the attempt.

What the country demands at this instant—and demands in a voice which is not to be mistaken—is a Ministry of vigorous men, who, rising with the grandest occasion ever presented to a Government, will ruthlessly sacrifice convention, routine, pedantry, family claims, and jobbery in one great holocaust to the Nemesis of the hour; and, nerved with that strength which comes to the aid of those alone who are actuated by intense and united conviction, will concentrate the might of the nation upon the Russian war. This is a great demand, but it is peremptory. Worse evils than the fall of a Ministry will menace a class whose representatives shall dispute one jot or one title of that demand.

The original and capital sin of our present (or we may say, late) system of administration, lies in its being split up into a score of complicated and antagonistic responsibilities. The principle of the new administrative system must be to have as few responsibilities as possible; to consign the general direction of the war to what most nearly approaches to a Dictatorship—that authority being enabled to carry out its designs by the aid of an intelligent, indefatigable, but subservient executive. Fewer councils and more orders should be the rule of the incoming men: and such councils should (*pace* Mr. Disraeli) be Venetian in the small number of their constituents; while the orders should emanate from a single power, to which colleagues have subordinated their own for an especial and patriotic purpose. This condition may be startling; but is it so startling as the sight of a glorious army ruined in strict adherence to the constitution? This abnormal arrangement is the demand of every Englishman at this moment, and is, moreover, the only rational course in a frightful emergency. Precedent must be trampled down in the foul mire of Balaclava. Would that nothing more precious had perished there!

With these convictions we can await with hopeful composure the announcement of a new Coalition and a new Ministry. In the words of Achilles before the Grecian Lords, after his coalition with the Agamemnonites, "All we ask is War."

M. VON MANTEUFFEL, on behalf of the King of Prussia, has endeavoured to reply to the trenchant and able circular of M. Drouyn Lhuys. The Prussian Minister has a bad cause; but, as in duty bound, he has endeavoured to make the best of it. The same undignified see-saw which has characterised all the proceedings of the Prussian Government prior and subsequent to the war pervades the document. The King cannot yet discover the policy he ought to pursue. He balances between his love for the Czar and his fear of the Allies. Were it not that he is jealous of the young Emperor of Austria, and the position he has assumed at the head of the great German people, it is possible that the King would even yet see the line of duty which glitters straight and clear before him; but jealousy, if not imbecility, blinds his eyes, and he can see nothing but Russia, and the supposed necessity of standing between the Czar and the rest of Europe. M. Von Manteuffel's attempt to parry the home-thrust of M. Drouyn de Lhuys—that Prussia ceases to be a great Power when she ceases to act as becomes a State which would maintain that high position—is ineffectual. Prussia is *de facto* a small Power so long as King Frederick William enacts his present part; and, in the estimation of the world, little Sardinia and her gallant Monarch are far greater than Prussia. The King's demand to participate in the Conference at Vienna cannot be allowed, although M. Von Manteuffel pertinaciously insists upon it. As an avowed ally of Russia, or an equally avowed ally of Great Britain and France, the claim would not be refused; but, as a go-between, the King has no footing, and must stand aside until he learn decision and common honesty.

The latest telegraphic news from Berlin would lead to the inference that he is about to declare himself in favour of the Czar. The Diet at Frankfort, acting under Prussian influence, has refused the mobilisation of the German contingent demanded by Austria; but the Prussian Government has ordered the mobilisation of the Prussian army, and decreed the occupation of the provinces of Saxony and Silesia by the armies forming the Fourth and Sixth Military Divisions. The King has also rejected the demand of France that a portion of the French army be allowed to pass through Prussia. Should these despatches prove to be true, the war will be extended; and the King of Prussia will have more than enough on his hands to defend himself against the French on the Rhine, and against his own subjects in Berlin.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

We are informed on good authority that her Majesty commanded the attendance of the Earl of Clarendon at the Buckingham Palace this afternoon. And it was very generally rumoured in the House that that noble Earl had been entrusted with the task of forming an Administration.—*Globe*, Friday (2nd Edition).

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The *Moniteur* contains the following despatches, received by the Minister of Marine from Vice-Admiral Bruat:—

Mouthoelle, Port of Kamiesch, Jan 22

The weather continues exceedingly fine. The *Caravane* and the *Rigère* departed for the Bosphorus on the 20th; the *Lucerne* on the 21st. The *Fulton* arrived yesterday, bringing 200 troops, and towing a vessel of three masts with sixty horses on board. Nothing new at the Camp. The *Jean Bart* will sail this evening for the Bosphorus.

Jan. 23.

The weather to-day is magnificent. The *Constitution* will sail to-morrow. The *Magador* has notified the blockade at Odessa, and the *Herthelet* at Kaffa, Kertch, Anapa, and Soujouk Kalé. At all these places they are unmasking forts and batteries. The Russians have resumed the construction of earthworks at Sebastopol. They are endeavouring to unite the Malakoff bastion with the town. They made another sortie last night, which was vigorously repulsed. For the last two days they have kept up a smart fire on the English batteries.

MORE RUSSIAN TROOPS.

Kiew, Jan 26.

The Russians are sending considerable reinforcements to the Crimea.

Two Grenadier divisions, 1500 Riflemen, and 15 reserved Battalions, occupy Perekop.

Another corps, under General Read, occupies the second line of Bessarabia.

THE GERMAN DIET AND THE WAR.

BRUSSELS, Thursday.—Advices from Berlin and Vienna report that great anxiety is felt to ascertain the manner in which the Austrian Government will receive its recent check in the Diet. It is feared that, after the position taken up by Prussia, Austria cannot act up to its rights as a European Power without breaking up the Confederation. It is believed that no determination will be come to before the new English Ministry has been constituted

FRANKFORT, Thursday.—The United Committees of the Germanic Diet jointly proposed that, instead of a general mobilisation of the Federal army, the principal contingents should be made ready for war. This was the Bavarian proposition; it was supported by Prussia, acceded to by Austria, and carried.

BERLIN, Feb. 1.—It is confidently stated that Austria agrees to the proposal of Bavaria, as to the placing of the Federal army on a war footing, to which Prussia has already adhered

According to the *Augsburg Gazette*, orders were a few days since issued that two corps of the Fourth army, which is in Gallicia, should be prepared to take the field at the very shortest notice. Not long ago another corps—the 12th—received the same order. The reserves of the Gallician army, which were stationed in Northern Hungary, were, about ten days since, sent by way of Kaschau towards the mountain pass at Dukla.

DESPATCH FROM LORD RAGLAN

(From Friday Evening's *Gazette*.)

War Department, Feb. 2.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle has received a Despatch, of which the following is a copy, addressed to his Grace by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, Jan. 15.

My Lord Duke,—The fall of snow has been very great for the last three days, and it is now fully a foot deep; which, I am assured, is a very unusual occurrence in this part of the Crimea.

This circumstance adds materially to our difficulties in obtaining fuel; but detachments of Turks are posted near the coast to bring up wood, which has been cut by parties of our own in the neighbourhood of the Monastery of St. George, to the nearest divisions

I am happy to say that the number of wounded in the sortie of the 8 assins, on the night of the 12th inst., was only six—instead of thirty-six, as I erroneously stated to your Grace in my despatch of the 13th—and that it was altogether a less serious affair than was at first reported.

I enclose the return of casualties between the 12th and 14th, inclusive

Last night the enemy attacked the French advanced trench in considerable force, but were repulsed, after a sharp contest and some loss on both sides.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c., &c.

RETURN OF OFFICERS WOUNDED, FROM 12TH TO 14TH JAN. 1855.

WOUNDED

68th Foot.—Lieutenant H Battiscombe, slightly.

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General.

RETURN OF NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES WOUNDED AND MISSING FROM 12TH TO 14TH JAN., INCLUSIVE

WOUNDED.

21st Foot: Privates James Kain, Uriah Curtis, James Carroll, Francis Gough, slightly.
44th: Privates Festus Kelly, Robert Travers, severely
57th: Private Patrick Mahoney, severely (since dead)
68th Privates John Byrne, Robert Graham, Joseph Hampshire, Paul Hick, slightly; James Mack, Richard Woolfe, severely.

MISSING

68th Foot. Sergeant William Cooper; Lance Corporals John Harwood, Benjamin Binder; Privates John Eve, William Tolley, Edward Mason, William Adams, Thomas Farrell, James Byron, James Menagh, John Baker George Field, John Clarke.

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

A Cabinet Council was held on Tuesday, at the Foreign-office, Downing-street. It was attended by all the Ministers with the exception of Sir James Graham (who was indisposed). The Council sat one hour.

The Earl of Aberdeen left town after the Cabinet Council, for Windsor Castle, to have an audience of the Queen. The noble Earl returned to town soon after six o'clock in the evening

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir William Molesworth, and Mr. Sidney Herbert, had interviews in the morning with the Earl of Aberdeen, and Argyll-house.

Mr. Sidney Herbert had an interview, also, in the morning with the Duke of Newcastle, at the War-office; prior to which the right hon gentleman had a lengthened consultation with Lord Palmerston, at his residence in Carlton-gardens

The Marquis of Lansdowne received Sir George Grey at his residence in Berkeley-square in the morning, and had a lengthened consultation with the right hon. gentleman. Just before Sir George Grey left, Earl Granville was admitted to an interview, and remained with the noble Marquis some time after Sir George Grey's departure. It was very generally anticipated through town that the Marquis of Lansdowne would be sent for by her Majesty

Lord Palmerston received no political visitors on Tuesday morning, with the exception of Mr. Sidney Herbert. His Lordship, having read the papers transmitted to him, proceeded about twelve o'clock to the Home-office for the transaction of business.

Lord J. Russell had no political visitors on Tuesday, and did not leave his house.

Sir James Graham was confined to his bed through indisposition, and consequently unable to take any active part in the settlement of the Ministerial difficulties.

Lord Derby on Tuesday evening received the Queen's commands to attend her Majesty at Buckingham Palace at half-past eleven next morning.

Her Majesty arrived at Buckingham Palace shortly after eleven o'clock. The Queen was accompanied by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, but by no other members of the Royal family.

Within half an hour of her Majesty's arrival in London the Earl of Derby drove up, and was immediately afterwards admitted to an audience of her Majesty, with whom he remained in consultation an hour and a half

The noble Earl, after leaving the Palace, drove to Lord Palmerston's residence in Piccadilly, and had a lengthened interview with his Lordship.

Lord Derby, after an interview with Lord Palmerston, which lasted until two o'clock, returned to St. James's-square.

Several "rumours" were current in the Clubs in the course of the afternoon. One rumour was that Lord Derby had consented to undertake the formation of a Government, provided Lord Palmerston would accept the office of Minister of War. Another was, that the noble Earl had consented to form an alliance with the Peelite portion of the late Cabinet, giving to Mr. Gladstone the Chancellorship of the Exchequer, to Mr Sidney Herbert the Secretaryship of War, with an office to the Duke of Newcastle. In order that this arrangement may be carried into effect, Mr. Maxwell is said to have consented to take the Secretaryship of State for Foreign Affairs.

Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, left Buckingham Palace in two of the Queen's carriages, at eight minutes before three o'clock in the afternoon, for the Paddington terminus of the Great Western Railway, and returned by a special train to Windsor Castle. The Royal suite consisted of the Marchioness of Ely, Colonel the Hon. C B. Phipps, Major-General the Hon. Charles Grey, Colonel Seymour, and the Master of the Household. The Queen and Prince Albert were conducted to their carriage by the Earl Spencer, Lord Steward.

Immediately after her arrival at Windsor her Majesty dispatched a special messenger to Lord Derby. The messenger arrived at the noble Lord's residence in St. James's-square at nine o'clock, and took back a dispatch in return.

The Countess of Derby and Lady Emma Stanley arrived in St. James's-square, from Knowsley, on Thursday.

At ten o'clock on Thursday morning the Earl of Derby left his residence, and called upon Mr. Disraeli at Grosvenor-gate. After conferring with the right hon. gentleman a few minutes, his Lordship proceeded to the Great Western Railway, and thence by special train to Windsor

The noble Lord, having had an audience with her Majesty, returned to London, arriving at Paddington station at half-past two o'clock.

He was now no interviews between the noble Lord and any members of the Whig or Peelite party on Thursday morning.

On Lord Derby's return to town, at twenty minutes past two, he proceeded to the residence of Mr. Disraeli at Grosvenor-gate.

At two o'clock a Queen's messenger arrived at Lansdowne-house, bearing a despatch commanding the attendance of the Marquis of Lansdowne at Windsor Castle

The noble Marquis immediately left London for Windsor, and remained the guest of her Majesty during Thursday night.

Immediately after the return of the Earl of Derby from Windsor yesterday (Thursday) afternoon—on which occasion he declined to undertake the duty of forming a Government—her Majesty commanded the attendance of the Marquis of Lansdowne, who proceeded forthwith to Windsor, where he arrived at seven o'clock last night. His Lordship remained in consultation with her Majesty until ten o'clock, and the meeting the conference was renewed. A few minutes after the arrival of the noble Marquis in town this (Friday) morning, his Lordship sent for the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who came to Berkeley-square a few minutes before eleven o'clock. The right hon gentleman remained in consultation with the noble Marquis until half-past eleven, at which time he proceeded to the residence of Mr. Sidney Herbert in Belgrave-square The Marquis of Lansdowne, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr Herbert remained in consultation until nearly one o'clock, when the noble Marquis proceeded to the residence of Lord John Russell in Chesham-place, with whom he remained until half-past one. On leaving Lord John Russell's house the Marquis of Lansdowne called upon Lord Palmerston, with whom he remained in consultation until two o'clock. On leaving Lord Palmerston, the noble Marquis proceeded to Buckingham Palace, where he had an audience of the Queen, who came up from Windsor this morning, for the special purpose of assisting in the formation of a new Administration.—*Globe, Friday.*

The country is still without a Ministry, as the Earl of Derby announced to the House of Lords last night his inability to form a Cabinet. The cause of this inability is assumed to be the failure of his Lordship's attempt to obtain the co-operation of Lord Palmerston's service [except] on condition of including in the Cabinet to be formed with Lord Palmerston, Earl Grey, Mr. Sidney Herbert, and Mr. Gladstone! Such a condition the Earl of Derby, it is added, summarily and most properly rejected, and thus the negotiation fell to the ground.—*Standard, Friday.*

GENERAL SIR DE LACY EVANS, K.C.B.—On Thursday, at one o'clock, a deputation of electors of the City of Westminster waited upon General Sir De Lacy Evans, by appointment, at his residence in Bryanston-square, for the purpose of presenting that gallant officer with an address, expressive of their admiration of the heroic services he has recently rendered to his country in the Crimea, and of their gratitude at his safe return to his native land. The deputation, which included a very large number of the most influential members of the city, assembled at the residence of John Villiers Shelley, M.P., in Bryanston-square, whence they proceeded in a body to Sir De Lacy Evan's residence in Bryanston-square

CONDUCT OF THE WAR.—Public meetings have been held during last week in Finsbury, Newcastle, and Glasgow, at which resolutions condemnatory of Ministers, and urging the vigorous prosecution of the war, have been passed

IRISH GALLANTRY! Three days ago our regiment was in the trenches: we had one man knocked topieces and two more wounded by grape. The same day a very feeling circumstance took place. Two Russian soldiers were coming down a street: says one of our men, "By the powers, but they have a woman protector!" "Had her, I mean," says another, "If she goes at one side I'll have at them." They would not chance a shot for fear of hitting the woman. But she was not four paces from the house and when they came within a few paces down tumbled one of them; the other started off at a good run. "Faith," said one of my comrades, "if we shot the woman the Roochians would let Old Nick know it, and we would not do it in the papers that we were shooting women; and other countries would say, Sinope again." Now, my dear wife, although we are at bloody work, this little incident will let you see that, while we have no reluctance in shooting or bayoneting a Russian, we have some respect for their women.—*Letter from an Irish Soldier.*

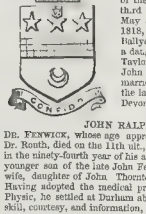
THE BLENHEIM FREE DISPENSARY.—The nineteenth anniversary ball of this excellent institution was held at Willis's Rooms, on Monday evening, under the presidency of the Right Hon. Sir Benjamin Hall, Bart., an office filled for many years by the lamented Lord Dudley Stuart, M.P. The ball was very numerously attended by the friends of this very efficient charity.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

HARRIET, DUCHESS DOWAGER OF ROXBURGHE.

HER GRACE (who died on the 19th ult., at Brighton, aged seventy-seven) was daughter of Benjamin, Duke of Wellington, by Catherine, daughter of the late Duke of Roxburghe 28th July, 1807, and had by him an only child, James Henry, present Duke. Her Grace married, secondly, 14th November, 1826, Lieut-Colonel Walter Frederick O'Reilly, C.B., younger brother of the late William O'Reilly, Esq., of Knock Abbey Castle, county Louth, and was again left a widow in March, 1844

SIR JOHN BOYD, BART.



THE death of this baronet occurred on the 19th ult., at Boulogne. Sir John was born June 8, 1786, the elder son of the second baronet, Sir John Boyd, of Danson-hill, by Margaret, his wife, fifth daughter of the Right Hon. Thomas Harley, son of Edward, third Earl of Oxford. He succeeded to the title May 30th, 1815, and married, September, 22nd, 1818, Harriet, daughter of Hugh Boyd, Esq., of Ballycastle, county Antrim; by whom he leaves a daughter, Henrietta, wife of Lieut.-Colonel Brooke Taylor, and two sons—the elder the present Sir John Augustus Boyd, Bart., born July 26th, 1819, married, in 1850, Honora Mary, third daughter of the late Charles B. Calmady, Esq. of Langdon Hall, Devon, and has issue.

JOHN RALPH FENWICK, ESQ., M.D.

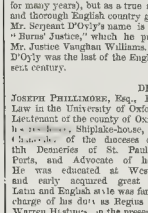
DR. FENWICK, whose age approximated closely to that of the late venerable Dr. Routh, died on the 11th ult., at his residence in the North Baily, Durham, in the ninety-fourth year of his age. He was born November 14, 1761, the younger son of the late John Fenwick, Esq., M.D., of Morpeth, by Mary, his wife, daughter of John Thornton, Esq., of Netherwitton, Northumberland Having adopted the medical profession, and obtained the degree of Doctor of Physic, he settled at Durham about the year 1790, and, distinguished by his skill, courtesy, and information, soon became one of the leading physicians of that city. In 1812, shortly after his marriage with Mary, eldest daughter and coheir of Robert Spearman, Esq., of Old Acres, he retired from practice, and devoted much of his time and attention to politics. He was a Liberal in the most honourable signification of the term, a bold and eloquent advocate of constitutional freedom, a stanch supporter of Reform, and a never-failing enemy of tyranny and oppression wherever he found them to exist. His life embraced a period of momentous events. At the time that he entered the world the Seven Years' War was raging, and Frederick the Great gaining his great victories: Louis XV. was revelling in his "Pare aux Cerfs," and George III. only just ascending the throne. Captain Cook had not set out on his first voyage of discovery, the United States were still a loyal colony of England, and Pitt, and Burke had not yet appeared in the arena of politics. Dr Fenwick was twenty years old when Elliott defended Gibraltar; nearly forty when Bonaparte commenced his brilliant career; and yet he survived to see the restoration of Napoleon's dynasty to the French throne, and the cordial union of England and France.

Dr. Fenwick was, for many years, a magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant of the county of Durham, and formerly commanded, as Lieutenant-Colonel, the Durham Volunteers. As he leaves no issue, his property devolves on his nephew, the present James Thomas Fenwicke, Esq., M.D.

MR SERJEANT D'OYLY.

THOMAS D'OYLY, Serjeant-at-law, died at Rottingdean, on the 14th ult. The family of which the learned Serjeant was the head is one of the oldest in the kingdom, the D'Ouillys, or D'Oylys, of Ouilly le Vicomte, near Lisieux, in Normandy, being historically mentioned as having held high rank among the nobles of their country two hundred years before 1066; in which year, accompanying the Conqueror, they transferred their name and fortunes to the soil of England. Their descendant and representative, Serjeant Thomas D'Oyly, the subject of this notice, was the eldest son of the Venerable Matthew D'Oyly, Rector of Buxted and Archdeacon of Lewes, Sussex, by Mary his wife, one of the two daughters (coheiresses) of George Poughfer, Esq., of Leicester. Thomas D'Oyly was born in London the 6th December 1772 he was educated at Westminster and Christchurch, and was ultimately Fellow of All Souls' Oxford. He was called to the bar the 9th Nov. 1798, and became a Serjeant in 1819, and obtained a patent of precedency. The Serjeant married, in 1820, Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Simons, Rector of Isham, by whom he had one son and two daughters, who are all living. The Serjeant was remarkable for combining a legal attainments with a strong love and ability for those rural pursuits among which he had been brought up. In Sussex he will long be remembered, not only as one of the most eminent Chairmen of Quarter Sessions (a post which he held there for many years), but as a true and kind friend and neighbour, and a worthy and thorough English country gentleman The only literary work with which Mr. Serjeant D'Oyly's name is connected is, we believe, a valuable edition of "Burns' Justice," which he published in 1836, in conjunction with his friend Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams. With but two or three exceptions, Mr. Serjeant D'Oyly was the last of the English barristers called to the bar before the present century.

DR. PHILLIMORE



JOSEPH PHILLIMORE, Esq., D.C.L. and F.R.S., Regius Professor of Civil Law in the University of Oxford, Chancellor of the diocese, and a Deputy-Lieutenant of the county of Oxford, and one of the Bushy trustees, died on the 24th ult., at his residence, Shiplake-house, Reading, on the 24th ult. Dr. Phillimore was Chancellor of the dioceses of Worcester and Bristol, Commissary of the Deaneries of St. Paul's and Westminster, Judge of the Cinque Ports, and Advocate of her Majesty in her office of Admiralty. He was educated at Westminster, became a student of Christ Church, and early acquired great literary and professional distinction. His Latin and English are to be found in his purely and eloquent. In the discharge of his duty as Regius Professor, his speeches on the presentation of Warren Hastings, on the presentation after the peace of the Allied Sovereigns, and on the presentations on the occasion of the Duke of Wellington's installation, caused general admiration. His reputation stood high as a jurist and civilian; and his pamphlet on the nature and extent of the licence trade, written at an early period of his life, was much admired for the felicity of the language and the knowledge which it displayed of history and jurisprudence. In politics Dr. Phillimore belonged to the Grenville party, and sat for many years in Parliament, where he frequently spoke. During the Administration of Lord Liverpool and Mr. Canning he was a Commissioner for the affairs of India, when he refused a Privy-Councillorship, which would have obliged him to abandon the profession. He was afterwards Chief Commissioner of French Claims and Chairman of the Committee for the Registration of Dissenters' Marriages. To his abilities as a Judge Lord Lyndhurst paid the highest tribute in his place in the House of Lords, saying that he had carefully examined the proceedings of the Court at Bristol, and that it was impossible for justice to be better administered than it was in the court where Dr. Phillimore presided. Dr. Phillimore was the son of the Rev. Joseph Phillimore, and brother of Captain Sir John Phillimore, C.B.; of J. L. Jackson, M.A., Dorset, £35,000; J. B. Whitworth (wholesale grocer, London), £25,000; James Weston, Esq., Finham-park, £35,000; Mr. J. Doyle, of Chandos-street, £20,000; Miss Jemima Freeman, of Colchester, £25,000, who has bequeathed £2000 to the Essex and Colchester Hospital; £1500 to the Society for Poor Clergymen and their Widows of Essex; and £1500 to the Society for the Relief of Poor Lying-in Women of Colchester.

WILLS, PERSONALITY, AND BEQUESTS. Sir Roger Martin, Bart., left personality estimated at £14,000; Henry Shephard, Esq., of Clifton, £20,000; T. A. Rumford, Esq., late Registrar in Chancery, £70,000; Rev. J L. Jackson, M A, Dorset, £35,000; J. B. Whitworth (wholesale grocer, London), £25,000; James Weston, Esq., Finham-park, £35,000; Mr. J. Doyle, of Chandos-street, £20,000; Miss Jemima Freeman, of Colchester, £25,000, who has bequeathed £2000 to the Essex and Colchester Hospital; £1500 to the Society for Poor Clergymen and their Widows of Essex; and £1500 to the Society for the Relief of Poor Lying-in Women of Colchester.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—At the ordinary meeting on Jan. 25th, Viscount Mahon, M.P., the president, in the chair, J. Joseph, Esq., banker, of Brecon, South Wales, was admitted a Fellow. The following gentlemen were elected Fellows:—George Roots, Esq., barrister-at-law; R. H. Major, Esq., Secretary of the Hakluyt Society; and Francis Bennoch, Esq.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, FEB. 1

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barom. at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of Day	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	in.	°	°	°	°	°		Inches.
Jan. 26	29.673	35.5	30.2	32.8	— 4.4	92	S W.	0.00
27	29.651	35.8	22.5	29.1	— 8.6	95	Calm	0.00
28	29.621	41.1	26.0	33.5	— 2.5	79	E.	0.00
29	29.509	44.1	24.3	29.7	— 7.7	96	N W & N E	
30	29.584	39.0	22.0	30.2	— 7.3	81	N E	0.30
31	29.481	30.0	26.8	28.4	— 9.1	81	E.	
Feb. 1	29.803	31.2	23.5	28.1	— 9.6	65	N E	0.00

NOTE. The sign — denotes below the average. The numbers in the 7th column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 29.98 inches at the beginning of the week, to 29.91 inches by the afternoon of the 26th; increased to 29.97 inches by the 27th; decreased to 29.64 inches by the 29th; increased to 30.31 inches by the 30th; decreased to 29.40 inches by the 31st; and increased to 29.91 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week was at the height of 32 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.771 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 29.7°, which is 7.3° below the average. The mean daily temperature was below its average on every day of the week. The highest temperature of the week occurred on Friday, and was 44.1°, and the lowest was 20° on Sunday. The general direction of the wind was N.E. The mean temperature of Jan. 26, 27, and 28, in the year 1848, were 29.1°, 29.6°, and 21.0° respectively; of Jan. 29 in 1851 was 29.0°; of Jan. 30 in 1839 was 26.1°; and in 1845 was 30.2°; and of Jan. 31, 1850, was 20.0°; on Feb. 1 in 1830 was 22.0°; and in 1841 was 27.2°. The mean of the seven days ending Feb. 1 in 1816 was 22.2°, and in 1839 was 26.1°. And these are the latest instances of such low temperature as those experienced in the past week.

Snow fell on the 29th, 30th, and 31st. Crystals of snow were abundant on Jan. 26 and 31.

For the month of January the mean reading of the barometer at the level of the sea was 30.188 inches. The highest temperature during the month was 51.8° on the 1st, and the lowest was 13° on the 19th, the range of temperature during the month was therefore 38°. The mean of all the highest temperatures by day was 39.6°, and of all the lowest by night was 25.4°; the mean daily range of temperature during the month was therefore 14.2°. The mean temperature of the air during the month was 31.5°, being 1.8° *below* the average of thirty-eight years. The mean temperature of the earth at a depth of 24 inches during the month was 35.1°. The mean degree of humidity was 86, complete saturation being represented by 100; and the fall of rain during the month was nine-tenths of an inch.

JAMES GLAISHER

Lambeth, February 2, 1855.

HEALTH OF LONDON Within the week ending January 27 the births of 839 boys and 822 girls were registered within the metropolitan districts: in all 1661 children. The average number for the fourth week in the year from the preceding 10 years is 1462. The number of deaths registered within the same time was 1630—a number exceeding the calculated number by no less than 418, showing the effect of the rigorous weather of the last two weeks. Seven hundred and eleven of the deaths occurred at ages less than 20 years; 205 at that age and under 40; 289 aged 40 years and under 60; 347 who were 60 years old and under 80; and 77 at ages exceeding 80 years.

ST. MARYLEBONE BANK FOR SAVINGS.—The twenty-fifth annual general meeting of this institution was held on Thursday, when the several reports stated that the progress of the bank during the past year had been of a satisfactory description, no less than 2284 new deposits having been made in the last year.

THE Committee of the London Fever Hospital are about to place one of the wards of that institution, apart from the fever wards, at the use of the authorities, for invalids returning from the Crimea.

EXHIBITION OF INVENTIONS.—As a substitute for, and in the absence of, a permanent museum of inventions, it has been the custom of the Society of Arts, for some years past, to make annually a collection of specimens, models, drawings, and descriptions of articles invented during the previous twelve months, whether patented, registered, or not. Steps are now being taken to get together the seventh annual collection, which it is proposed to open at the end of April

SNOW IN THE STREETS.—The ill effects of the working of the street-cleansing contracts in the City have been again seen in the late snow-storms. The contractors do not consider snow as street dirt they are bound to remove, and the footpaths they have nothing to do with. It is quite idle to rely upon the antiquated regulation of housekeepers sweeping the footpaths around their houses. The Mansion-house had only one footpath swept, and the Bank of England none. Indeed, before now, the Lord Mayor has been fined for not having his footpaths swept

ROYAL FEVER HOSPITAL, GRAY'S-INN-ROAD.—The annual general court of the governors of this valuable charity was held in the boardroom of the institution, Gray's-inn-road, on Tuesday, for the purpose of receiving the report and upon other business—the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor presided. Mr Fenn, the secretary, read the report, which stated that for the year 1853 36,214 patients were relieved, a larger number than ever relieved in any preceding year; but in 1854 the number amounted to 41,835, being still an increase over 1853 by 5621. The in-patients also much exceeded those of 1853, but it was regretted that, owing to the want of funds, the number was limited. The total number of patients relieved since the foundation of the charity, in 1828, is 481,602. During the prevalence of cholera 5164 were relieved, the hospital being open night and day. The money and clothes given to destitute patients on leaving the hospital—especially unfortunate females—have been the means of restoring many to their homes and friends. In consequence of so large an amount of relief afforded, the expenditure has exceeded the receipts, which is further accounted for by the urgent demands of the Patriotic Fund and other military charitable collections, as well as the high price of provisions. The report, after stating that the medical staff had been greatly increased, concluded by making a strong appeal to the governors, collectively and individually, as well as to the public generally, by their aid to place the hospital free from debt, and in a position of increased efficiency. The Lord Mayor moved the adoption of the report, which was carried by acclamation. Mr. Wakley moved, and Mr. Halswell seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Marsden, the founder of the hospital. Mr. Marsden, in returning thanks, said that notwithstanding the great difficulties the institution had to contend with at its outset, it being the first free hospital in the kingdom, it had surmounted them all, and now claimed its place with the first hospitals in the land. During the past year the medical staff had been largely increased, and he could fairly state that either for skill or number it could not be surpassed by any other establishment of the kind. He trusted that those present would exert themselves to relieve the hospital from the debts incurred in former years, amounting to nearly £5000, which were a great drawback upon the committee. Owing to the want of funds they had been compelled to close three of their wards, and to take in but a limited number of in-patients; and it was most painful, more especially in this cold and desolate weather, to have to refuse, upon an average, thirty applications per day of that class which could not help themselves.

DRURY-LANE THEATRE.—A DIVIDEND.—The annual general meeting of the proprietors of the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, was held in the saloon of the theatre, on Tuesday, for the purpose of receiving the report of the committee, and electing officers for the ensuing year. Benj. Bond Cabbell, Esq. (in the absence of the Earl of Glengall), took the chair, supported by a large body of proprietors. The committee, in their report, stated that Mr. Smith, the present lessee, had entered into a lease for seven years, commencing the 1st of January, 1852, at a rent of £4000 per annum; and they considered it due to that gentleman to acknowledge the punctuality with which he had paid his rent since he had held the theatre. It was upon the full conviction that he would continue to fulfil his obligations thus honourably that the committee met the expectation of having the means to discharge the claims consequent on presenting the public with a nearly new theatre, both internally and externally, at an expense of about £2000. The committee had kept up the quarterly payments to the Duke of Bedford, and the sum of £250 had also been paid to renters' trustees. The income since the last general meeting had been £7076 18s. 10d.; and the expenditure, £7119 14s. 2d. Mr. Arden, in moving the adoption of the report, congratulated the proprietors that it was more favourable than any they had received for the last twenty years. The report was unanimously received.

THE MURDER IN FOLEY-PLACE.—On Tuesday morning the inquiry was resumed before Mr. Wakley, at the Middlesex Hospital, touching the death of Mr. Joseph Latham, otherwise Lambert, who was assassinated by an Italian named Luigi Buranelli, on Sunday, the 7th ult. The court was crowded with persons on the occasion. Buranelli was present. His face was bandaged, from the pistol-shot wound, but he did not appear to suffer much pain. He walked with a slow but firm step, and took a seat at the end of the table, opposite the Coroner After evidence had been heard as to facts with which the public are well acquainted, the Jury proceeded to Foley-place, to take the evidence of Mrs. Lambert. On the Coroner and Jury arriving in Foley-place, Mrs. Lambert was in the front parlour, and, after being seen by the Coroner and her medical attendant, the Jury were admitted. Her evidence did not differ in substance from what had been previously given by other witnesses. The Jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against Luigi Buranelli.

H.M.S. "MAGICIENNE" PASSING EARTHOLM ISLAND, IN THE BALTIC.

H.M. STEAM-FRIGATE "MAGICIENNE."

As the *Magicienne* was the last ship of the British fleet to leave the Baltic, the accompanying Illustration will be interesting to show the kind of weather to be met with in that sea about three weeks since. The Sketch was taken by an obliging Correspondent on the 14th ult., and shows H.M.S. *Magicienne* passing the little isle of Eartholm, when returning from her last solitary cruise in the Balti

This picturesque island lies within sight of the island of Bornholm, and is also under the Danish flag. It is of very small extent, and is valuable chiefly from having a convenient anchorage, and being available as a naval arsenal. The Russians are said to have an eye upon it, for which reason it is strongly fortified.

Several merchant-vessels were lying there, seeking shelter from the severity of the weather, at which time the *Magicienne* was literally covered with ice, caused by the freezing of the spray of the sea during the cruise On her arrival at Copenhagen on the 15th she had forty of her crew placed *hors de combat* by the cold; the thermometer being seldom above 18 deg or 14 deg. below freezing. Our men suffered severely from not having the sheepskin clothing necessary for such a low temperature.

The *Magicienne*, 16, Captain Thomas Fisher, arrived in Plymouth Sound on Saturday, from the Baltic—where she had been employed for upwards of nine months. The *Magicienne* had on board three Russian deserters, who left some line-of-battle ships at Sveaborg One of these is a silver-smith, and has given evidence of his skill since joining; one is a black smith, and the third is a soldier and sailor: he handles a musket with celerity and expertness, and is no way deficient when on duty as a seaman. Since leaving England on the 31st of March she has gone 11,795 miles, burnt 2286 tons of coal, and been at sea 184 days. During her absence, the *Magicienne*, besides assisting disabled ships belonging to the Allied fleet, has been instrumental in saving two vessels.

The wounded soldiers who recently arrived in the *Cambria* at Liverpool, and met with such a kind reception in that town, received equal attention from the ribbon-weavers of Nuneaton, when they arrived there on their way to Coventry and Chatham. As soon as it became known in the town of Nuneaton that a number of wounded soldiers were at the station, gentle and simple hastened to give them a greeting, and as it was a cold, raw day, a subscription was started on the spot to procure some port-wine and biscuits for them. This was done at once; and on the next day, when another train arrived with about 100 more of the wounded, a larger supply of wine awaited them. The soldiers seemed much affected by the kindness they met with; and said that, although every attention was paid them by the authorities of Liverpool, yet that the hearty reception and substantial fare that they met with at Nuneaton made them feel the grateful hearts that beat in the English people. About £10 worth of wine was supplied on the two days to the wounded soldiers.

Notice has been given at the Underwriters'-room, Lloyd's, that several vessels, each of 500 tons burden, are required to convey a number of wooden huts to Heligoland, where her Majesty's Government are about to establish a military camp and dépôt to enrol men for the Foreign Legion.

PORTION OF THE BRITISH ARTILLERY CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

The Illustration below represents a portion of the English Camp during one of these snow-storms which have prevailed so frequently during the last three or four weeks. The view is very dreary, but frost and snow are much easier to deal with than the rain and mud with which our unfortunate army has had to contend. In the French Camp the snow was hailed as an improvement in the outward condition of things. The *Presse d'Orient* speaking of the French army, says "Our soldiers support the cold gaily. Some of them build huts in snow, and others, possessed of more elevated tastes, turn sculptors, and make colossal statues near our camp."

The two mules in the foreground would at once serve to indicate the locality of the annexed Sketch. No one who knows anything of the two camps would ever suppose that such starved-looking animals were under the charge of our allies. Hardly an English letter comes from the Crimea without some expression of regret at the treatment the cattle have received

I noticed one horse in particular (says a visitor to the Camp between Kadikoi and Karani) It was the most pitiful sight I ever beheld Once upon a day he had been a handsome charger, but now he was the veriest caricature of a horse that Edwin Landseer—fosted on the most atrocious nightmare that ever weighed upon Crukshank—could conceive or delineate That horse was grand in its decay, for it beggared description. A skeleton covered with an old hide; no mane, no tail; a pair of deep-set, glazing, ghastly, and almost ferocious eyes, and lips shrunk away from the long,

PORTION OF THE BRITISH ARTILLERY CAMP AND [illegible] BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

SHIPMENT OF WOODEN BARRACKS, ON BOARD "THE WHITE FALCON," AT SOUTHAMPTON, FOR THE FRENCH ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

bare, and hungry teeth You could not tell the colour of the animal; his coat of hair was covered with a thick coat of mud, which was baked on him, and fitted him tight, like a slush-coloured leather jerkin, and there he stood, shivering in the sun, and up to his knees in mire, tied to what had once been a shrub, but was now a bundle of dry, withered, leafless, branchless sticks, rooted to the ground; and these sticks the animal eyed with a hungry glare, and every now and then took a bite of them. Sterne wept fictitious tears over the carcase of an ass that lay by the roadside. He would have wept real tears—as many stronger or better men have done—if his "Sentimental Journey" had brought him to anything like our Cavalry Camp.

SHIPPING WOODEN BARRACKS FOR THE FRENCH ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

In the Illustrated London News for January 6 we detailed the construction of the Wooden Barracks, to the order of the Imperial Government, for the French army in the Crimea. We now illustrate the scene of the shipment of the Barracks in Southampton Docks on board the American ship *White Falcon*, chartered by the French Government. The Houses, or Barracks, which we have already described at some length, were packed in great lengths, clamped with iron hoop. The *White Falcon* has six shrouds to each mast, and she is altogether considered a very smart craft: there are raised cabins on deck and on the poop. The packages of the huts were ranged along the jetty, and taken in through one of the side ports, as shown in our second Illustration—"between-decks" of the *White Falcon*. Here is seated a Dockyard clerk, taking an account of the packages—a French official superintends; while the men are carrying the packages and stowing them away. In the distance are some lanterns The vessel, we understand, had stowed in her hold 2000 barrels of pork The day of the above shipment was Saturday, January 20.

BETWEEN-DECKS OF THE AMERICAN VESSEL "WHITE FALCON," RECEIVING ON BOARD THE WOODEN BARRACKS FOR THE FRENCH ARMY IN THE CRIMEA

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 115.)

HOUSE OF LORDS. THURSDAY.

RESIGNATION OF MINISTERS.

The Earl of ABERDEEN said that, after the vote of the House of Commons on Monday, her Majesty Ministers at once resolved to place their resignations in the hands of the Queen, and her Majesty had been graciously pleased to accept of the same. They therefore only held office until their successors were appointed. Although her Majesty's Ministers had opposed the motion of Mr. Roebuck as being unconstitutional in itself, it was not their desire to oppose any inquiry into their conduct He believed that an impartial inquiry would establish those facts; that no indifference to the wants of our army in the Crimea had ever existed in the minds of her Majesty's Government; and that no exertions had been spared to supply the wants and to maintain the efficiency of our troops in the Crimea. He thought that the Duke of Newcastle had met with great injustice. It was impossible for any Minister to exceed the noble Duke in assiduity and attention to the duties and the interests of his office. He (the noble Earl) did not complain of the feeling that generally prevailed in respect to the management of the war. The public saw that the misfortunes which had occurred were beyond the ordinary calamities of war, and they very naturally turned to the Government as an object of censure, as it was to them they looked for the efficiency and protection of our army. The members of the Government submitted to the natural consequences, and resigned their offices. Although the individual suffering of our army in the Crimea was very great and painful, he saw no cause for discouragement or dismay in looking at the position of our army in reference to the war. On the contrary, he saw every reason to indulge the most sanguine hopes of our ultimate success The noble Earl, in conclusion, expressed a hope that a strong Administration would be formed, that would carry on the war with vigour and effect, and with a view to the only legitimate end of all war namely, to the arrival of a speedy and honourable peace (Hear, hear)

The Duke of NEWCASTLE entered at considerable length into a defence of his proceedings, and strongly complained of the course pursued towards him by Lord John Russell He had over and over again offered to resign his position to any of his colleagues, and to give his services in any other capacity than that of Minister of War. It could not, therefore, be his desire to retain his office that led to the withdrawal of the noble Lord, whose expressions of kindness, while endeavouring to remove him from his position, he could only consider as so much of what the Americans designate *soft soander*. He also said that it was his intention to have given up the office of Minister of War whether the motion of Mr. Roebuck had been successful or otherwise.

The Earl of DERBY, after commenting upon some of the observations of the Duke of Newcastle, stated that he had been sent for by her Majesty, and if he could have seen any hope of success he would have attempted to form an Administration. He thought that in such a crisis every one should sink his personal feelings in order that her Majesty should not be left without a Government; he yet felt that in the state of public parties he could not offer to her Majesty the assurance of being able, satisfactorily, to conduct the affairs of the Government, and consequently he had at that moment no instructions from her Majesty to form a Government.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. THURSDAY.

In reply to a question from Mr. Stafford, Mr. COWPER said that parcels for Balaclava would be received at the dockyards for any officer at the Crimea, and would be forwarded also to parties either at Balaclava or Scutari

Mr HAYTER moved for a new writ for the borough of New Radnor, in the room of Sir T. Frankland Lewis, Bart., deceased.—Agreed to.

RESIGNATION OF MINISTERS.

Lord PALMERSTON said,—I rise, Sir, in a formal manner to make a communication to this House which will probably be anticipated, and which communication would have been made on Tuesday if it had not been for the accidental circumstance of their Lordships in another place having adjourned, namely, to state that, in consequence of what passed in this House on Monday night, her Majesty's Government thought it their duty to tender to her Majesty the resignation of their offices, that that resignation was most graciously accepted, and that they now only held office until their successors are appointed. Under these circumstances the House will naturally feel that it would be highly inconvenient to proceed with the dispatch of any public business, and I therefore propose that this House at its rising do adjourn until to-morrow (Friday). My reason for not moving the adjournment for a longer period, which might have been very naturally expected, is that I have learned from you, Sir, that the hon. and gallant member for Westminster (General Sir de Lacy Evans, Bart.) has intimated to you that he will take his seat in this House to-morrow evening (Loud cheers). I am quite sure that I should be doing violence to the feeling of this House if I proposed by any longer adjournment to deprive honourable members of the earliest opportunity of testifying to that honourable and gallant member their sense of his brilliant and distinguished services (Hear, hear, and cheers). There is also a bill which my right honourable friend the Secretary of State for the Colonies introduced last night, for the purpose of carrying into effect a treaty with the United States, which it is proposed to submit, and if there should be no disposition, on the second reading of that bill, to enter upon a discussion, it will be very advisable to allow that bill to pass through its second reading to-morrow (Hear).

The Speaker put the question, and it was agreed to.

The Fisheries (North America) Bill, and the Passengers Act Amendment Bill were severally read a second time

On the question that the House do now adjourn, Lord EBRINGTON said he could not allow the House to adjourn without expressing his regret that nothing had been said in reference to the Government which was to replace that which had just resigned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. FRIDAY.

VOTE OF THANKS TO SIR DE LACY EVANS.

In consequence of the announcement made by Lord Palmerston on the previous evening that Sir De Lacy Evans had signified his intention of taking his seat this day in order to receive in person the thanks of the House, there was a very large attendance of members, and even the galleries on the right and left of the Speaker were occupied by such as could not find accommodation below. The benches at the end of the House appropriated to Peers were also well filled by members of the Upper Chamber.

At about twenty minutes past four o'clock, General Sir De Lacy Evans entered the House in full uniform. The House was full, and the members immediately rose and received him with enthusiastic cheering. He took his usual seat on the floor, below the gangway

The SPEAKER immediately addressed him, and in glowing language communicated the thanks of the House for his conduct at Alma and the other actions in the Crimea, and particularly in that of Inkerman, where, in addition to his valour as a soldier, he had displayed the most generous behaviour in declining to resume the command of his division when he arrived in the middle of the engagement

Sir DE LACY EVANS said, he felt most deeply impressed with the conviction that if any honour could be conferred on a British subject, it was the thanks thus given by the representatives of his fellow-subjects, and he hoped he should be pardoned if he very imperfectly expressed his sense of that honour. He more particularly wished to express his gratitude to those hon. gentlemen who were opposed to him in political opinions. He felt that this honour was shared with the division he commanded, for he had not the remotest claim to the thanks of the country were it not for the devoted gallantry of that division and of the officers under his command. The gallant General then proceeded to complain that Lord John Russell, in moving the thanks of the House to the army in the Crimea, had not done justice to the Second Division in the statement he had then made, and concluded by again thanking the House for the honour it had conferred upon him.

Lord PALMERSTON then moved that the Speaker's address, and so much of Sir De Lacy Evans's speech as referred to the vote of thanks, be inserted on the journals.

Mr. WALPOLE seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The Fisheries (North American) Bill passed through the Committee, and the House adjourned.

THE COURT.

The non-political incidents of Court life have presented no features of interest beyond the first meeting of her Majesty with the Duke of Cambridge, which took place on Wednesday, at Buckingham Palace, on the occasion of the Princess's first visit to London.

His Highness the Maharajah Duleep Singh, the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, Lord Ernest Bruce, and the Rev. Arthur Penrhyn Stanley have been among the visitors at Windsor Castle during the week

The Marchioness of Ely has succeeded the Duchess of Wellington as the Lady in Waiting. Lord Waterpark and Major-General Berkeley Drummond have succeeded Lord Rivers and Mr. J. R. Grinsby Gore as the Lord and Groom in Waiting

As at present arranged, her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the younger branches of the Royal Family, will take their departure from Windsor Castle on or about the 14th instant, for Buckingham Palace.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duchesses of Cambridge and the Princess Mary and the Duke of Cambridge visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester on Wednesday, at her residence, Gloucester-house, Piccadilly

His Excellency the Ambassador of France and the Countess Walewska entertained a small circle at dinner at Albert-gate House on Saturday, among whom whom were his Excellency the Austrian Minister and the Countess Colloredo, Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston, &c.

His Excellency Baron Von Usedom and the Baroness Von Usedom have left England on their return to Berlin. His Excellency sailed from Dover on Saturday.

LONDON WATER SUPPLY. At the meeting of the Society of Arts on Wednesday last, Mr. Homersham, M. Inst. C.E., read a paper "On the Chalk Strata, considered as a Source for the Supply of Water to the Metropolis." He commenced by stating that in many districts of Great Britain, where the soil rests upon clay, millstone, or other matter impervious to water, it is usual to collect the rainwater flowing off the ground after heavy rains in very large reservoirs, to supply canals and towns. Such a reservoir exists in the valley of the Brent, situated about 5½ miles in a north-westerly direction from Cumberland gate, Hyde-park, and is used to stow the superabundant rain-water flowing off an extensive district of the London clay geological formation; the surface of which is naturally covered with grass. On the other hand, where the soil rests upon chalk as on the Chiltern ridge and on the north downs the heaviest rain, instead of flowing off, sinks into the ground as soon as it falls, giving back little to support vegetation, as is evident when the luxuriant vegetation on the London clay is compared with the scanty vegetation on the chalk downs. The notoriously moist character of the air over a clay district, and the drying character of the air over a chalk district, were instanced as familiar proofs that but little of the rainfall was evaporated from the surface of a chalk country compared with a clay country. The author showed that, while on a clay district, 2000 yards in length of stream and river courses exhaled per square mile, to say nothing of great lengths of drains and ditches, on the chalk there was only 780 yards of stream and river courses, and no drains or ditches. The bridges crossing clay streams were shown from various examples to have from five to ten times as much waterway as bridges crossing chalk streams, notwithstanding the clay bridges were frequently filled with water, while the chalk bridges were never totally full. The author stated that the amount of water flowing down clay streams, fed by a large area of drainage ground, was larger in dry weather than from a chalk stream with a similar area of drainage. As much as 200 square miles of chalk country lying altogether was pointed out to the north of London without a spring, stream, or river upon it. From these well-authenticated facts it followed that the rain sank into the chalk and flowed out through the interstices between the planes of stratification that lead direct to the sea. The water was traced between high and low tide flowing into the sea up through the bench where the chalk was exposed, as at Dover, Deal, Brighton, &c. The proposal of the author was that, before the water reached the sea, it should be intercepted for the supply of the metropolis, for which it is well adapted, from its even and agreeable temperature, its clearness, its aëration, and freedom from organic matter. The only drawback to its quality in this respect consisted in the water holding in invisible solution about 17½ grains of chalk per gallon, as bicarbonate of lime; this chalk, however, could be easily withdrawn from the water by a process invented by Dr. Clark, of Aberdeen, without injuring the other good qualities of the water. The author had lately constructed works that were now supplying the important parishes of Plumstead, Woolwich, and Charlton with water derived from the chalk strata after having the chalk taken out of it by Dr. Clark's process. The water is much liked by the consumers for all purposes—washing, boiling, and drinking Practically an inexhaustible supply of pure soft water is thus within the reach of the metropolis.

PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK.—On Thursday a meeting of the general committee of the Royal National Life-boat (late Shipwreck) Institution was held at its offices, John-street, Adelphi; Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., in the chair. The silver medals of the Institution were voted to John and Wm. Lewis, of Harwich, and £20 between themselves; and the crews of their smacks, *Aurora* and *Royal*, in testimony of their gallant and persevering exertions in saving four men from the brig *Staunton*, of Shields, which was wrecked on the Gunfleet Sand during a heavy gale on the 16th ultimo. The poor men had been forty hours on the foretop, and it was only after repeated during attempts they were last providentially saved from a watery grave by the gallant Lewises and their crews; also £3 more granted to the crew of a steam-tug for the ready assistance in attempting to tow out a paddle-box boat belonging to one of her Majesty's steamers which was unluckily lost while attempting to approach the wreck. Various grants were then made in aid of local life-boats. We were glad to observe that although the meeting decided to sell again a portion of the funded capital of the institution, to meet the heavy and increasing demands made upon its limited funds, the East India Company, Lloyd's, Trinity House, Lloyd's Register of British and Foreign Shipping, Royal Mail Steam packet Company, and the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, had again liberally contributed to the institution. These donations were much appreciated by the committee coming from public bodies so peculiarly competent to judge of the merits of the society.

THE LAW PROFESSORSHIP IN THE GLASGOW UNIVERSITY. Professor Allen A. A. Micconchie, of the Glasgow University, has intimated his intention to resign the Chair of Civil Law in the University of Glasgow. Only one applicant, Mr. Skene, Sheriff-Substitute for the county of Lanark, has been mentioned. The appointment rests with the Town-council of Glasgow and the Rectors of the University, and the probability is that their choice will fall on Mr. Skene.

A HANDSOME TESTIMONIAL.—A silver dessert centre-piece was presented to Mr. F. Ball, by the clerks and managers of the different works of Messrs. Naylor, Vickers, and Co., of Sheffield, at a dinner at Bishop's Royal Hotel, on the 24th ult.

LORD CARDIGAN AND THE UNITED SERVICE CLUB.—The members of this, the oldest military and naval club, intend to invite the noble Lord to become an honorary member, in consequence of his distinguished gallantry at Balaclava on the 25th of October last.

THE TELEGRAPH AT ROME. The line of electric telegraph connecting Rome with the rest of Europe, by the way of Bologna, is now completed, and nothing prevents its being put into full operation from entering into confidential conversation with either of the Emperors of France, Austria, or Russia, except the erection of the intermediate stations, which are actively proceeding so as to enable the Government and the public to make use of the line at the beginning of next month.

THE QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL AND THE NAVVIES.—It is to be lamented that more regularity and system do not exist in the actions and movements of each department. I do not wish to enter on that ground of censure which has proved the subject of so much correspondence lately; moreover, the very attempt to do so would involve me in a labyrinth of critical examination. I might mention, *en passant*, one single case which occurred within the last week, and one which amply exemplifies my remark. It is well known that the navvies are coming to the Crimea for the purpose of laying a tramway from Balaclava to Sebastopol. With this knowledge, it was proposed by certain persons of one of the departments that huts might be erected for the accommodation of the navvies on their arrival; and certainly this proposition betokened the desire to assist the movements of the new-comers. Well, a requisition was made to General Airey, the Quartermaster-General of the English army, for the necessary permission and assistance; but, strange to say, a refusal was received from the above-mentioned quarter, with the remark that "it was none of his business, and the navvies might take care of themselves!" Now, certainly, this is not pulling together with that zeal and energy necessary to the proper fulfilment of the plans of the campaign It is easily seen that if only half a dozen huts had been erected, this cancelled a disposition to assist in a most necessary work—if this had been done, it would confirm the belief of the navvies that every and will be rendered that to Crimea. But in this they will be most grievously disappointed, for I much fear that they will be obliged to do everything for themselves—a very difficult thing for those inexperienced in a Crimean campaign.—*Letter from Balaclava, Jan 12.*

THE MINIE RIFLE.—The Minié rifle is being adopted into the American service upon an improved plan. Instead of a short iron tube inserted in the ball, it is to be made with a cavity, into which a portion of the charge of powder will be forced, and its explosion does the whole work of spreading the ball so as to completely slug or fill the rifled bore of the gun, and driving it on its mission of death. The manufacture of muskets in the United States armouries is to be abandoned, and the troops are to be armed with the improved Minié rifles, with bayonets.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE living links that unite us to the poets of the first half of the present century are fast disappearing from among us. This week has added another to the many that have gone. Dorothy Wordsworth, the only sister of William Wordsworth, died at Rydal Mount, in Westmorland, on the 25th of January, in her eighty-fourth year. She was born on Christmas-day, 1771, and from girlhood (though not from childhood) was the constant and chosen associate of her illustrious brother. Wordsworth was as fond of his sister as Charles Lamb was of his sister, and we know how touchingly Elia has exhibited his fondness for Mary Lamb. Mary Lamb lived single, so did Dorothy Wordsworth. Both had poetic tastes and sensibilities, both were fond of poetry, and both suggested subjects to their respective brothers which have had a beneficial effect upon our literature. The contrast between the temper of Wordsworth and his sister is represented by the poet himself:—

> My sister Emmeline and I
> Together chased the butterfly
> A very hunter did I rush
> Upon the prey * *
> But she, God love her! feared to brush
> The dust from off its wings.

He loved her in earnest truth, and has rejoiced in verse that

> The blessing of his later years
> Was with him when a boy;

while he has characterised the nature of her influence upon him in four remarkable lines:—

> She gave me eyes, she gave me ears,
> And humble cares, and delicate fears,
> A heart, the fountain of sweet tears,
> And love, and thought, and joy

She delighted in Chaucer and in Spenser; caught, on many occasions, the raptured ear and eye of Coleridge with the point and spirit of her poetic criticisms, and was found by Southey to be the cheerful, well-informed companion of many a country walk and winter fireside. In 1836 she became, as Wordsworth himself has told us, "a confirmed invalid;" yet such was the natural strength of her constitution that she survived for eighteen years. Her fine memory she retained, we believe, to the last.

Though Dorothy Wordsworth was not gifted like her brother with what her brother calls "the accomplishment of verse," yet she had all the genius and faculty divine of a true poet, looking on nature with a poet's eye. How exquisitely earnest and truthful is her description of daffodils, as seen in spring. "We saw a few daffodils close to the water-side. As we went along there were more and yet more; and at last, under the boughs of the trees, we saw there was a long belt of them along the shore. I never saw daffodils so beautiful. They grew among the mossy stones about them. Some rested their heads on these stones as on a pillow; the rest tossed, and reeled, and danced, and seemed as if they merrily laughed with the wind, they looked so gay and glancing." What the sister saw and told in prose, Wordsworth saw through his sister's eyes and has told in verse:—

> I wandered lonely as a cloud
> That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
> When all at once I saw a crowd,
> A host of golden daffodils;
> Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
> Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.
>
> Continuous as the stars that shine
> And twinkle on the milky-way,
> They stretched in never-ending line
> Along the margin of a bay;
> Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
> Tossing their heads in sprightly dance
>
> The waves beside them danced; but they
> Outdid the sparkling waves in glee:
> A poet could not but be gay
> In such a jocund company.
> I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
> What wealth the show to me had brought
>
> For oft, when on my couch I lie
> In vacant or in pensive mood,
> *They flash upon that inward eye*
> *Which is the bliss of solitude*:
> And then my heart with pleasure fills,
> And dances with the daffodils

Of this poem Wordsworth himself has told us that the two best lines in it are by his sister. These lines we have printed in italics. Surely there is now a chance of our seeing Miss Wordsworth's Diary entire. If she reported conversations as she described the face of nature, her Diary must be a treat. One of her sayings is well known, "When a child I could not have pulled a strawberry blossom." There is the sense of womanhood in this.

Since this was written we observe that the *only* sister of another poet has just been removed from among us, at an age only one year younger than Miss Wordsworth. On the 25th of last month died, at Brighton, Miss Sarah Rogers, the only sister of the poet of "The Pleasures of Memory," who happily still survives among us. Miss Rogers had all her brother's taste for art and literature. Her house in Hanover-terrace was elegantly filled with choice examples of art from Giotto to Stothard, bought as much by her own good sense as by her brother's example and assistance. Some of her best pictures she is understood to have left to the National Gallery.

Mrs. Milner Gibson is honourably known to all literary men in London of any distinction. She loves their company, and is, by her conversational powers, fit to associate with the most intellectual and refined. What author is there, then, who does not wish her well, who will not rejoice in any accession of fortune to one who uses what she has with equal sense and liberality? One of the choicest properties in Suffolk—Hardwicke House, near Bury St. Edmunds—has just descended somewhat unexpectedly to her. It was her father's, and she was an only child, and yet there was a chance—nay, more than a chance—of the property passing away from her to the second wife of her father. Few believed otherwise. But old Sir Thomas Cullum, whatever he may have hinted he would do, has done what he ought to have done, and that choice Elizabethan mansion, so sweetly situated on a rising knoll among woods, is now the property of Mrs. Milner Gibson, with the attendant advantages—so it is said—of twelve thousand a year. We remember Hardwicke: it is the only house in England—and we have travelled critically the length and breadth of nearly every county, from Land's End to Berwick-upon-Tweed—into which we failed in obtaining admission. We had neglected carrying with us a letter of introduction to Sir Thomas; and one fine day in summer drove from Bury to Hardwicke, to take our chance of seeing an early Italian picture of which we had heard high praises. We rang, and a tall butler replied, Sir Thomas was not at home, and the house was shut up. We told our object in a way which on every other occasion has never failed in procuring admittance when the family were not at home. We offered money, gold and silver together, but no—not the single picture we sought to see would the French butler or valet allow us to see. We spoke of our journey on purpose; mentioned several friends of Sir Thomas to whom we were known; but no! We were obliged to drive away, muttering our wayward fancies on the road about some imaginary relationship between the obdurate French butler and the murderer Courvoisier.

It is our intention whenever any great dearth of literary or artistic news occurs—as is the case at present—to print such *unpublished* materials of moment connected with English authors or English artists as our own collections, aided by the assistance of many friends, will enable us to supply. With this view we print a curious memorandum from Sir James

Thornhill, the painter, which will be found to embody some new materials for his "Life".—

COPY OF MEMORANDUM OF SIR JAMES THORNHILL TO W. CLAYTON, ESQ., &C.

Some Reasons why ye Petitioner Sr James Thornhill should not stand on the wining with all the rest of his late Majestie's Creditors.

Impr: Because his Ancestors, both of Father and Mother's side, have been sufferers in the cause of that Liberty; the fruits of which are now so happily enjoyd by many the subjects of England.

His Grandfather Coll: Thornhill suffer'd in the Parliaments servi.e in ye West, during the late Civil War's.

His Grandfather on the Mother's side, Coll: Wm. Sydenham, One of the Lds Commissioners for the Publick Treasury of England, one of his Highnesses Council of State, and Governr of the Isle of Wight, &c.; had purchasd Carisbrooke Castle and several woods belonging to it for £700, which on the Restauration were taken from him, but his Person pardond; as never intending to hurt ye Person of the King but to oppose the Tyranny in his Administration.

His Grandfathers Brother Coll: Sydenham, Govr of Weymouth was there slain in ye services of the Parliament and country.

Another Brother Majr Sydenham also killd before Sterling Castle in the same cause.

2ndly, Your Petitioner has serv'd faithfully for the Town of Weymouth where he was born, for several years, without any the least expence to ye Crown, and has spent a great deal of Time and Money also, during all that while, as serving the Interest of ye Crown, by many hundreds of good Votes both in the City of London and Westminster.

He may very truly insist on it, that the small debt of £1100 which he now prays, will no way balance his lost time and expences aforesaid

3dly, As he succeeded Sgr Verrio as History Painter to his Late Majesty, by Warrant under his Grace ye Duke of Newcastle, and a fresh Warrant to serve his present Majesty by the Queen's particular Order; entitled to the same advantages as his Predecessors had, wch was £200 pr an: being ye same as ye Kings Fun Painter enjoys &c.

Yet instead of ever receiving one shilling, Has been as it were disgrac'd, and supplanted in his Royall Masters favour and Business too, by the overbearing power of the Late Vice Chamberlain Coke, and from the Earle of Burling—n by obtaining Signs Manual privately to the great detriment of your Petitioner, not only in the Kings business, but in all other business both publick and private

4thly, Towards ye latter pt of ye Late Good Kings reign ye Petitioner finding ye Debt increasing faster than discharg'd, was advis'd by his Friends to endeavour to get in the Debt, wch was then £1500, by surrendring his Patent, for fear of accident by Demise; which he accordingly endeavoured to do: But the good nature, and he dares say the Friendship of Sr Robt Walpole would not permitt, promising he should be made easy &c. & that he would take care: However the thing which he fear'd has fallen upon him; and unless he is payd in such a manner as he presumes may be easily found out, He will remain a Sufferer instead of receiving such benefit as in some degree he might claim in common with his other fellow subjects under a Prince to whose August Family he has long since erected not a mean Obelisk, and to whose Administration no Englishman wishes better

Many more, and strong Reasons might be urged for ye Petitr: but hopes these are sufficient.

What was the success of the memorandum we cannot tell. George II. was not so fond of Weymouth as George III, and he cared little and knew less about Art and Artists

Autograph collectors should make a point of attending a coming sale, at Sotheby and Wilkinson's, of choice English autographs, and of books that have belonged to eminent men. As the original MS. of "Kenilworth" will be sold on the last day, the possessor of the *unpublished* tale of Sir Walter Scott will have a fine opportunity of verifying his MS, by an undoubted example. Collectors will be there in every way well fitted to assist and determine his inquiries.

ORIGIN OF POTATO OATS.—We have to record the death of Mr. Daniel Jackson, of Greenhill, Arkleby, Cumberland, at the advanced age of ninety-four years. Upwards of half a century since this gentleman, who was a considerable landed proprietor in the county, purchased some potatoes for seed which were supposed to come from abroad; when they came up, amongst them were found a few heads of corn resembling the oats then grown in this country, but of larger growth, and differing in appearance, showing a great superiority over the common oats. The seed was carefully preserved again every year; soon a sufficient quantity was produced to offer it for sale to the neighbouring farmers: from the circumstance of having been originally found growing amongst these foreign potatoes, it was called "potato oats."

A WONDERFUL ASSYRIAN OBELISK.—A dealer in curiosities, named Dropsy, of the Quai Malaquais, was on Saturday tried, by default, by the Tribunal of Correctional Police at Paris for an impudent fraud. Knowing that an elderly *savant*, named Barrois, had a great passion for antiquities, and had even written a book on the subject, he proposed to him to purchase an Assyrian obelisk, in a fine state of preservation, which he said had been sent to Paris by an English company, who had discovered it in some excavations at Babylon. M. Barrois eagerly grasped at the proposition, and finding on investigation that the obelisk was covered with cuneiform characters, and bore appearance of antiquity, he paid down "*mon*" for it. But some time after, to his great mortification, he found that it was a perfectly modern production. Having made inquiries, he ascertained that it had been made, by order of Dropsy, by a sculptor named Lebeuf, out of the stone from the quarries of St. Leu; that Dropsy had given him persons 300fr. for the work; and that Lebeuf, in order to make it as perfect as possible, had gone to the Museum to examine Assyrian antiquities; and had even consulted M. Barrois's own book! The tribunal sentenced Dropsy to fifteen months' imprisonment, 500f. fine, to repay M. Barrois his 300f., and besides to pay him 1000f. as damages.

EXPENSES OF THE METROPOLITAN PARKS. A return published, on the motion of Mr Locke, M.P., gives the details of the expenditure of the sums voted for the maintenance of the several metropolitan parks and gardens. The gross total expenditure for the keeping up of St. James's, the Green, and Hyde Parks for the year ending the 31st March, 1854, amounted to £15,711; the expenditure for the maintenance of Kensington Gardens to £2111; that for the maintenance of the Regent's Park to £5601; that for the maintenance of the Victoria Park (Bethnal-green and South Hackney) to £2042; and that for the keeping up of Greenwich Park to £1110. These sums are exclusive of the expense of the rangers' departments. Among the items of expenditure of the three parks first mentioned may be mentioned £154 for the watering of the three parks; £4239 for the repair of roads, including the tools and materials, £694 for keeping in order the enclosure in St. James's Park, the enclosure in Hyde Park, at the back of Hamilton-place, the gardens of St. James's Palace, and other public gardens; £1827 for the salaries of gatekeepers and constables, £107 for liveries, £54 for the food of the aquatic birds, £1192 for lighting, £1000 for the supply of water to the Serpentine, the canal in St James's Park, &c., and £1067 in aid of the parochial assessments, &c. There is also a special charge of £875 for draining Rotten-row and the footpath on the south side of the enclosure in St. James's Park. The receipts of these parks, arising from grazing rents, subscriptions for keys, and sale of timber, amounted to £600. In Kensington Gardens, among other items, £23 was expended on the nourishment of the water-fowl, £781 for keeping the walks in order and clearing the Serpentine and the Basin of weeds, and £119 on facing and paving the banks of the Serpentine. The receipts from the gardens were £67. As regards the expenditure for the Regent and the Victoria Parks, there appears no item particularly worthy of notice. The receipts from these two parks amounted respectively to £272 and £872. The receipts from Greenwich Park amounted to £74.

CARDINAL WISEMAN IN DANGER.—Cardinal Wiseman arrived in Paris on Wednesday week on his way from Rome to London. In his voyage from Civita Vecchia to Marseilles the Cardinal and the whole of his fellow-passengers had a very narrow—indeed, an almost miraculous—escape from being lost. When off the Island of Hyères, the passengers were startled about two in the morning by a fearful crash, of such violence that it appeared as if the ship was at once going to pieces. It was evident that either the ship had run aground or that a collision had taken place. The passengers, who were all in bed, immediately rushed upon deck, when it was discovered that the vessel had come into collision with a large sailing vessel, with which she was still in contact, the anchor of the vessel having got fixed in the bows of the steamer. A short period of painful suspense ensued. The starboard bow of the steamer had been stove in, the whole of the bulwarks and the paddle-box were destroyed, and for a moment it was thought that the vessel was sinking. On trying the pumps, however, it was found that the leakage was not so great that it could not be kept down. The other ship had also suffered, but not so much as the steamer. After getting rid of the wreck, the engineers set about repairing the damage done to the engines, and in four hours were able to set one to work, which brought the vessel into Marseilles in the course of the day. Fortunately, the Cardinal and the whole of our a great loss of life might have been the consequence, for the vessel was in a very crippled state, and the boats would not have contained one-fourth of the passengers. The accident was owing to the carelessness of the Italian officer of the watch, who had neglected to place a watch at the bow of the steamer.

MONEY ORDERS.—The remitter of a money-order will not be required, in future, to state his occupation, nor the payee to furnish any information on that point. Advice are henceforth to be stamped with the dated stamp of the paying-office, instead of being signed as at present.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. TURTON.—Next week, if possible.

A. P., Florence.—The additional MSS. will undoubtedly prove of great interest. We shall be glad to hear from you frequently.

ALEXANDRA INSTITUTE, Saffron Walden. Yes, unless at the moment of touching the Piece you say, "I adjust," or words to that effect.

R. W. M., Lancashire. We hope to be enabled shortly to give a list of the Matches already arranged to be contested at the Leamington Meeting for the Leamington Prize.

CANTAB.—No, no. Altogether wrong.

CLERICUS.—The Solution, you state was destroyed, so we cannot say where the error lay.

A. Z. B. Y.—Thankful if version is more promising. Let us see another attempt.

DELTA.—We appear to be right respecting the Solution of No 570.

W. J. H.—Is not case different?

F. H.—The key move to Enigma No 916 is—1 Kt to K 4th.

G. B. C., Rotherham.—The volume required can be sent, if you will mention the channel (if any) by which you wish it to be transmitted.

P. T. M.—You will find, one of Bagot's "In Statu Quo" chess-boards and Men especially useful when composing Problems. By an ingenious contrivance, he merely touches a lever, and enables you to fix the men firmly in any position, and by pressing another you release them again instantly.

DR. BRUNSWICK.—A more complete communication shall be forwarded.

DR. R., Paris.—We await impatiently the publication of your programme. Until that is known, no effective steps can be taken by the amateurs of this country in furtherance of the end and aim.

W. M. T., Teignmouth. A line in reply to the proposal of exchange will oblige us very much.

J. SMITH. I certainly not. 2. You must not, at any time, Castle when you are in check.

H. C., Dundaff. 1. It shall be examined. 2. The "Chess Player's Handbook" (second edition), published by Lewis, Covent-garden.

E. M. H.—Thanks. Take her production is not, however, by any means, to be compared with some of the earlier contributions.

G. B. FRASER.—The MS shall be returned immediately.

C. L., Cabarrus North Carolina.—It shall have a place among our Chess Enigmas.

T. S., Cheltenham.—The Problem, we presume, will be Mr. Cubitson. You must send us full particulars, with the name of the secretary and a list of the participant members.

A. K., Lambeth.—They exhibit unmistakable marks of improvement—Nos 1 and 2 especially.

J. Stonehouse; W. C. C.—We shall endeavour to find room for them ere long.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No 570, by H. T. W., Paisley, W. G., E. M., W. P. L. T. S., Dublin, T. J. of Hawarth, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 571, by F. R., Norwich, Derwent, Southgate, Philip, Argus, Dreyfus, Dr. H., W. C. C., J., Stonehouse, W. O., Delta, J. M. of Sherburn, J. P. C., Dublin, J. P. of Guernsey, are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS by F. R., Norwich, Derwent, Southgate, Philip, Argus, Dreyfus, C. J., M. P., Villiers, Cant. P. P., Dun, Punjaub, T. W. S., E. H., W. C. C., Lewis, Junior, are correct. All others are wrong.

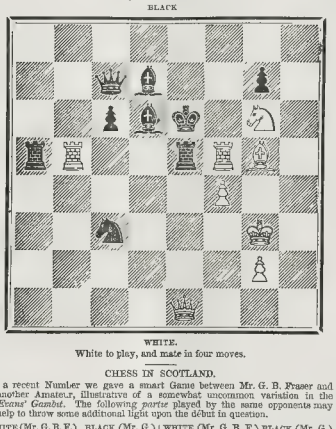
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM, No. 571

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK
1. B to K sq	K to K 4th	4. B to K R 2nd	K to K 4th
2. B to K B 2nd	K to K 4th (best)	5. P to K Kt 4th	
3. B to K Kt sq	K to B 4th	Discovering check and mate	

PROBLEM No. 572.

By Herr Pitschel.

BLACK



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS IN SCOTLAND.

In a recent Number we gave a short Game between Mr. G. B. Fraser and another Amateur, illustrative of a somewhat uncommon variation in the *Evans' Gambit*. The following *partie* played by the same opponents may help to throw some additional light upon the debut in question.

WHITE (Mr. G. B. F.)	BLACK (Mr. G.)	WHITE (Mr. G. B. F.)	BLACK (Mr. G.)
1 P to K 4th	P to K 4th	14. K Kt to K R 3rd	Q to K R 5th
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	15 B takes B	Q takes B
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	16. K to R sq	P to K Kt 4th (*d*)
4 P to Q Kt 4th	K B takes Kt P	17. P to K B 4th	P takes P (*e*)
5. P to Q B 3rd	K B to Q B 4th	18. Kt takes P	Q to K Kt 5th
6. P to Q 4th	P takes P	19. Kt to K 4th (*h*)	K to K 2nd
7. Castles	P to Q 3rd	20 R to K B 4th	Q to K R 4th
8. P takes P	K B to Q Kt 3rd	21. R to K B 5th	Q to K Kt 5th
9. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	Q B to K Kt 5th	22. R takes Kt	P takes R
10. Q to Q R 4th (*a*)	K to B sq (*b*)	23. B to Q R 3rd (*ch*)	K to B 3rd
11. K Kt to Kt 5th (*c*)	Q R to K B 4th	24. R to K B sq (*ch*)	K to Kt 3rd
12 P to Q 5th	Q Kt to K 4th	25. Q to Q 7th,	
13 K B to K 2nd	P to K R 3rd	and Black surrenders.	

(*a*) In effect, it is this, and not the previous move of Kt to Q B 3rd, which constitutes the novelty in *Mr Fraser's* variation and the certainty appears to us to present vast chances in consideration. If, in reply, Black play 10. B takes Kt; or 10 Q to Q 2nd, or 10 P to Q B 3rd, Mr. Fraser has furnished us with a host of variations to prove that White speedily gets the advantage. His best answer appears to be that in the text.

(*b*) The merit of suggesting the present move has been claimed by two or three players, we find; but, in reality, it is no new discovery, for *K to B sq*, is analogous situations, was proposed years ago in the *Chess-Player's Chronicle*—in the first instance, if we mistake not, by Mr. Von Heydebrand, and it has been recently adopted in games between Messrs. Brien and Wayte, and Bern and Green.

(*c*) In a note to this move, Mr. Fraser remarks that subsequent examination has convinced him *P to Q 5th* is a far more effective mode of continuing the attack than playing K Kt to K Kt 5th. We append a few of the variations which he has favoured us, in support of his assertion

In the first place:

11. *P to Q 5th*	Kt to K 4th	15. P to K B 3rd	Q B to K R 4th
12. Kt takes Kt	P takes Kt	16. Q R to Q sq	K to Kt 2nd
13 Q R to Q B 3rd (*ch*)	Kt to K 3rd	17. P to Q 6th	
14 K to R sq	P to K Kt 4th		

With a winning game.

We must take the liberty of saying that the two or three last moves given to Black appear as very far from the best.)

In the second place

11 *P to Q 5th*	Q B takes Kt	13.	P takes Q Kt P
12. P takes Kt	Q B to K Kt 5th		

And White has a capital game.

In the third place:

11 *P to Q 5th*	Kt to Q 5th	13. B to Q Kt 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd
12. Kt takes Kt	K B takes Kt		

(We are not at all satisfied with the move Mr. Fraser proposes for Black here. It strikes us that by playing his Q to K Kt 4th he would obtain at least as good a game as his opponent has.)

14. K B to Q Kt 3rd	B takes Kt	15. B takes B, with a fine game.	

(*d*) Q Kt to K Kt 5th seems preferable on many accounts.

(*e*) At this point also, we should have preferred playing the Q Kt to Kt 5th. Taking the Pawn serves only to release the White Kt from a very bad position.

CHESS IN PARIS.

A sprightly little affair between M. DEVINCK and M. DE RIVIERE

WHITE (M. De R.)	BLACK (M. D.)	WHITE (M. De R.)	BLACK (M. D.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	13. Q to K 2nd	K B to K sq
2. K B to Q B 4th	P to Q B 3rd (*a*)	14 Q B to K 3rd	P to Q B 3rd
3. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd (*b*)	15. B R to Q R 4th	K R to K 2nd
4. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 3rd	16. K R to B 5th	P to Q Kt 4th
5. P takes P	P takes P	17. K B to Q Kt 3rd	Q to Q B 2nd
6. K Kt to K 5th	P to K 5th	18. Kt to Q 5th	Kt takes Kt
7. B to Q Kt 5th (*ch*)	Q B to Q 2nd	19. B takes Kt	B takes P (*ch*)
8. Kt takes B	Q Kt takes Kt	20. K to R sq	Q R to K sq
9. P to Q 4th	P to K 3rd	21. Q R to K B sq	Kt to K B 3rd
10 Castles	B to Q 3rd	22. B takes Kt	P to K 4th
11. P to K B 3rd	Castles	23. Q to K R 4th (*c*)	Q R to K R sq
12. P takes P	P takes P	24. Q B to K 3rd	Q to Q Kt 4th
		25. Q B to K R P (*ch*)	

And Black resigns.

(*a*) This defence is seldom adopted in our days, although it has been thought deserving of considerable attention by Cozio, Fonziana, Pfeifer, and later writers. The main defect in it is that it affords the opening player too much facility in bringing his pieces into play.

(*b*) Philidor comments P to Q 4th at this point, but modern authorities seem to agree in preferring Q to K 2nd. (See the "Chess-players' Handbook," p. 231.)

(*c*) Pretty. If Black take the Rook he is mated in two moves.

On Thursday evening week the Emperor gave a ball at the Tuileries, the last which will take place for some time, owing to the Court mourning about to be ordered for the Sardinian Royal family.

MUSIC.

THE PURCELL CLUB held their anniversary meeting on Tuesday, at the Albion Tavern. This society was founded in 1836, by Mr. Edward Taylor, the Gresham Professor of Music, with the object of doing honour to the memory of the most illustrious of English composers. It is a body of eminent professional musicians and amateurs, who devote themselves especially to the cultivation of vocal music, and who testify their veneration for their great countryman by the study and performance of his works. It is the custom of the club to hold two meetings in the year: the one in winter is of a convivial nature; and the other is in summer, when the members of the club join the choir of Westminster Abbey in performing the cathedral services of the day, which of course are selected from the works of Purcell. Professor Taylor, the founder of the club, is its perpetual president; and to his admirable fulfilment of the duties of his office the great and increasing prosperity of the society is to be mainly ascribed. There was a full attendance of members; the chair being occupied by the distinguished president. The meeting, as usual, was social and cheerful, and the musical portion of the evening's entertainment was even more than usually delightful. The first part of it consisted of sacred compositions, including two of the most beautiful and most celebrated of Purcell's anthems; the one, "Blessed are they that fear the Lord," was composed on the occasion of a public thanksgiving ordered for the supposed pregnancy of the Queen of James the Second; the other, "O give thanks," may probably, from the grandeur of its proportions and the sublimity of its harmonies, be regarded as Purcell's masterpiece in ecclesiastical composition. There was next a selection from the music in "Bonduca," consisting of the grand chorus, "Hear us, great Rugwith," the recitative, "Hear, ye gods of Britain," the duet, "To arms," and the celebrated chorus, "Britons strike home." These pieces, whose warlike character was appropriate to the time, were performed with great fire, and received with enthusiasm. Several miscellaneous songs, duets, and canons, concluded a most interesting evening.

THE HARMONIC UNION have begun their season rather inauspiciously. Their first concert on Wednesday evening suffered from the excessive severity of the weather—intense cold and a snow-storm—in consequence of which there was a very thin attendance. An unexpected occurrence contributed to mar the performance. A handbill was distributed in the room, in which the directors stated "that but a few hours since they received intelligence from several important and leading members of the orchestra that Mr Gye, of the Royal Italian Opera, late last night, refused permission to them to attend the performances of the Harmonic Union this evening, although those gentlemen had unconditionally accepted the engagement offered them by the directors, and had attended the rehearsal on Monday last." It was added, that "this most unprecedented and arbitrary proceeding has compelled the directors to engage other gentlemen, who have kindly consented to play at a moment's notice, although without the advantage of a rehearsal." We presume that, by the terms of the engagements of the Royal Italian Opera band, Mr. Gye had the power to prevent them from performing on this occasion; though it seems strange that he should have exercised this power at a time when their performing elsewhere could not have in the least interfered with the arrangements of his theatre, which is not yet opened.

The Harmonic Union have removed their concerts from Exeter hall to the Hanover-square Rooms; and they have engaged M. Mollique, instead of Mr. Benedict, as their conductor. The performance of Wednesday consisted of "The Creation," and was less effective than it probably would have been under other circumstances. The orchestra was very imperfect; and the defects of this important branch of the performance were necessarily injurious to the whole. The solo parts, however, were very well sung by Miss Stabbach, Mr Lockey, and Mr Weiss

MR. HENRY RUSSELL has been giving his entertainment and several new songs with deserved success in the provinces. He visits Newcastle-on-Tyne next week, and thence proceeds to Edinburgh, Glasgow, and the north of Scotland

The forty Chanteurs Montagne, who have been singing with such success at M. Jullien's Concerts at the Royal Italian Opera, will shortly start upon a provincial tour.

THE THEATRES.

SADLER'S WELLS. "The Winter's Tale" was revived on Saturday; the part of *Hermione* being performed by Miss Atkinson, an improving actress. The statue scene, as usual, was well managed. Mr. Phelps, as *Leontes*, has in it a situation of pathos, to which he gave full effect. But the combined recognition of Perdita and daughter, evidently copied from *Pericles*, is inferior both in power and art to that single picture of paternal emotion which makes the triumph of the older drama. The actor's skill and passion show, perhaps, more distinctly in that; but the *Leontes* also bears marks of careful study, and is executed with those "fine touches" which bespeak the consummate artist.

MARYLEBONE.—Mr. and Mrs. Wallack reappeared, for the first time since Christmas, on Monday, in the delightful play of "As You Like It." The piece was placed on the boards with that taste in costume and scenery peculiar to this house. Mr. Wallack's Jaques is a fine-set play by Mr. Bayle Bernard is underlined, under the title of "Leon, or the Iron Mask."

HAYMARKET.—Miss Cushman reappeared as *Romeo* on Monday, and acted with her usual power. *Juliet* was performed by a *débutante* (Miss Swanborough)—pretty, but feeble and immature, yet not without promise, in less important *rôles*. The appearance of Miss Cushman in the character is always an event on which to congratulate the playgoer. An actress in such a part has an advantage not possessed by its male representative. She may exaggerate the passion without rendering it absurd; whereas masculine violence with the love-sick *Romeo*, however little exhibited, always appears overcharged. This is particularly the case with the scene after the banishment in the cell of the friar; with most actors it is their least efficient situation; it is the best and finest with Miss Cushman. The house was well attended, and applause frequent.

OMNIBUS FARES. At the commencement of the war, when food was plentiful and cheap, and the rise, then anticipated, was small, Londoners unanimously raised their fares from 3d. to 4d., alleging as a reason that horse provender was much more expensive than it had been. Experience, however, has proved the contrary; and an attempt was made during the recent falls of snow to get the fares up to 6d., it was in a very short time abandoned as a losing speculation, and the 4d. fares were again adopted. Within the last week, however, the prices of corn still on the ground, the Hoxton and Old Kent-road omnibuses have recommenced running at the old 3d. fares to or from the Bank to Islington and the Old Kent-road; the deduction has been made in a common sense of the proprietors on that line having come to the conclusion that 4d. was too much to charge for so short a distance. The new Peckham omnibuses have followed the example, and the Greenwich omnibuses, it is expected, will shortly do the same.

USE AND WONT. The following singular ancient usage was observed on Monday in the Dublin Court of Exchequer: Three of the choir boys and one of the clergymen of Christ's Church attended before their Lordships to comply with the terms—which certain lands are held by the Dean and Chapter of Christ's Church Cathedral, namely, that on specified days they shall render homage to her Majesty, in her Court of Exchequer. A hymn having been sung, and certain prayers recited, the ceremony terminated.

RUSSIAN LOSS IN 1854.—A letter from Warsaw, quoted by the *Cologne Gazette*, says that the loss sustained by the Russian active army that is the "Grand Army" under Prince Paskiewitsch during the year 1854 has amounted to 111,132 men; of which 29,204 were killed, 55,304 wounded, 6240 deserters and absent, while 16,136 have died of divers diseases.

BETWEEN the 12th and 20th of January the following vessels of war and transports left Malta with troops and stores for the Crimea:—The *Jura*, with 38 officers and 1090 rank and file; *Transport* (150), with 19 officers and 865 rank and file; the *St. Jean d'Acre*, with troops; and the *Foyle*, the *Poictiers*, the *Clyde*, and the *Lady Eglinton*, with munitions of war, hats, and warm clothing; and the *Trent*, with 260 mules and 54 Spanish muleteers

LOSS OF THE STEAM-SHIP "MERCURY."—The *Mercury* left Bordeaux on the 10th ult., with a cargo of clover-seed, wine, brandy, &c., for London, and at half-past nine the next evening was run into by a large outward-bound barque, apparently French, which struck the vessel amidships, stopped her engines in ten minutes, and caused her to sink within half an hour. The barque kept her course. The crew, twenty-two in two boats, which were kept afloat with great difficulty, continued in the Bay of Biscay twenty hours without water until relieved by the barque *Johanna*, of Hartlepool, which conveyed them to Gibraltar; the master, four men, and the stewardess, took passage in the *Mauritius*, three hands joined her crew, and thirteen were left at Gibraltar.

BRUNSWICK, SUABIAN, AND SAXON PIGEONS, FROM THE PHILOPERISTERON SOCIETY'S SHOW, IN FREEMASONS'-HALL.

THE PHILOPERISTERON SOCIETY'S SHOW.

Although London cannot apparently maintain an annual poultry exhibition, yet she can boast of her Society of Pigeon Fanciers; for finer specimens are rarely seen than were at the Grand Show of Old Birds of the above Society, in the Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday week. Almost every variety of the domestic pigeon was represented. The Pouters of Mr. Bult, the Toys of Mr. Wicking (the President), the Carriers of Messrs. Parkinson and Haynes, the Short-faced Tumblers of Messrs. Pope, Wicking, and Esquilant, attracted and deserved universal admiration. The Foreign Pigeons were collected in a pen by themselves, and comprised varieties of form and colour, some of them being perhaps more curious than beautiful. The Hall was crowded with visitors, some from distant parts of the country, who seemed generally of opinion that this, the eighth annual show, was better than the last; the birds being more numerous and the quality finer, proving the time of the gentlemen amateurs composing this Society has not been lost.

MALE AND FEMALE CHAMOIS, AND ST. BERNARD DOGS, BELONGING TO MR. ALBERT SMITH.

If the movement in aid of the British army now making in Piedmont should cross over to the other side of the Alps, Mr. Albert Smith has only to put himself at the head of his regiment of "Guides," and start off at once from Chamouni to the East; for he knows the way, and they will follow him wherever he chooses to lead them—no less from personal attachment to him than from gratitude for what he has done for them. Not only has he sent so many travellers from London to Mont Blanc, but he has brought Mont Blanc to London; and, not content with that, appears to be gradually collecting around him every animal, vegetable, or mineral peculiarity pertaining to his favourite region that can be imported.

Mr. Albert Smith has favoured us with the following particulars of the interesting Alpine group presented to our readers. The chamois, male and female, were taken last spring, in the vicinity of the Col du Bonhomme, near the pass where the two English tourists, the Rev. Mr Braken and Mr. Campbell, lost their lives in a snow-storm, in September, 1830. They are still young, the horns just budding, and were brought up by a goat, who accompanied them to London, under the care of Jean Tairraz—Mr. Smith's chief guide in the ascent of 1851. The male, "Chap," is the finer of the two; but one of his legs was unfortunately broken at the time of his capture, and, from want of proper attention, a false joint has resulted, so that he walks lame, and it is feared will not entirely recover, although quite free from pain. The female, "Linda," is a very gentle little thing. She lives a little way out of town, in the care of one of Mr. Albert Smith's assistants, Mr. Morley; and sometimes creates a little interest, as she trots, with a little bell hung to her collar, along the somewhat to her strange route of Piccadilly, on her way to the Egyptian Hall, where she, now and then, makes acquaintance with the juvenile visitors.

There are chances against the rearing of these little strangers. Mr. Mitchell, the able secretary to the Zoological Society, courteously furnished Mr. Smith with a few particulars respecting their race in England. He remembered to have seen four, belonging to the late Lord Derby, on their passage through London. They lived at Knowsley for several years, and had a considerable range there in the paddocks, where the large antelopes and the Wapiti deer were kept. The chamois were able to pass through the dividing fences, and were only confined by the outside boundary. They were fed with hay and corn, as well as grass, and, in fact, were treated just as common goats. Mr. Mitchell doubts whether there is a good chance of keeping them alive in this country without a considerable range, and for that reason has properly hesitated to import any for the Society. At the same time he states that there is an instance of one that has lived a considerable time in the Jardin des Plantes, in a somewhat unpromising enclosure.

The greater part of the chamois, chased on the Alps, inhabit the mountains of the Vallée de Sixt, on the glaciers of Mont Buet, contiguous to Chamouni. As many as 150 have been seen together in a herd. Mr. Bagge, the member for East Norfolk, is an indefatigable chamois-hunter, and his name is as good as a passport all about Sixt, Samoens, and Chamouni. The "professional" hunters are but indifferent marksmen, according to Mr. Prior (who lived fifteen years amongst them), and carry heavy antiquated carbines, which miss or hang fire half the time. This he considers very fortunate, as otherwise the race would soon become extinct, as is the Bouquetin, or very nearly. A stuffed specimen of the latter may be seen in the museum attached to the little inn at Servoz, where the *chars-à-banc* stop to bait on the road from Sallenches to Chamouni.

The St. Bernard dogs are male and female. "Lion" is not pure breed; there is a cross of the English mastiff about him; but he is much the finer animal of the two, and very affectionate and gentle, enjoying a romp amazingly. "Diane" is *pur sang*. She was sent to Mr. Albert Smith as a New-year's gift, by the monks, last year (but could not start in January, for the weather), as an acknowledgment of an increased accession of visitors to the Convent, which they were disposed to think he had induced to go there. The following certificate accompanied her:—

Hospice du Grand St. Bernard, le 5 Fevrier, 1854.

Je soussigné déclare que la chienne Diane, conduite par le nommé Pierre François Favret, de Chamonix, est véritablement de la race des chiens de St. Bernard, et qu'elle est conduite à Londres pour M. Albert Smith.

En foi, Meilland, Clavendier.

When Mr. Albert Smith was at the Convent, in October last, M. de l'Eglise, the Prior, expressed to him great anxiety as to the keeping up of the world-renowned breed. The mortality amongst the dogs had been very great. There were then only two at the Convent—one was a fine light-coloured fellow, very richly good-tempered, and the other a female, the sister to Mr Smith's Diane, and bearing the same name. The dogs are named, either in allusion to the classical localities of the pass—as Jupitre, Mars, Castor, &c.; or to Napoleon's memorable passage in 1800—as Drapeau, Marengo, and the like. Fortunately there has been no fatal accident on the mountain since 1831, when the body of a young man was found at the Vacherie, a quarter of a mile below the Convent. The improving state of the roads, and the establishment of canteens, have increased the safety of the route. It is not improbable that, in a few years, there will be a carriage-way completely across the pass. Mr. Charles Taylor, of Hollycomb, brought a very fine dog direct from the Convent, in 1850, which he gave to Mr. Richard Arabin. In the event of a breed from this dog and Diane, Mr. Smith has promised some puppies to the Monks, a somewhat strange return.

Those of our readers who have been to Chamouni, will recollect the trim obliging Bernese girl, who served in the shop for carved wood-work and bâtons, kept by the brothers Kehrli and Auguste Balmat. She accompanied the chamois to London, and is learning English against her return to the Alps. She belongs to the Kehrli family, from which a great proportion of the beautiful carved Swiss wood-work emanates—there are some specimens of their labours in the Crystal Palace—and lives, in the winter and spring, at Meyringen, in the Obe-land, with her relations.

BERNESE GIRL. FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY KILBURN.

The Bernoise, the female chamois, and "Lion," had the honour of being presented to her Majesty, at Windsor Castle, last month. The dog and the chamois had never met before this great event in their lives; and some doubts were entertained as to whether the meeting might not terminate in a somewhat novel variety of coursing over the park; but they instantly became very great friends, and are now never comfortable away from one another. Lion ordinarily carries a *grelot*, or "rumble" of bells round his neck, and as soon as Linda hears these, she makes wonderful leaps on to any projecting ledge that presents itself, and can with difficulty be kept quiet.

MALE AND FEMALE CHAMOIS, AND ST. BERNARD DOGS, BELONGING TO MR. ALBERT SMITH.

"THE EXECUTION OF MONTROSE, AT EDINBURGH, 1650."—PAINTED BY E. M. WARD, A.R.A., FOR THE COMMONS' CORRIDOR, WESTMINSTER PALACE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

EDUCATION IN THE MINING DISTRICTS.

A MUNIFICENT provision for the educational and religious requirements of the numerous persons employed in, and dependent upon, the extensive ironworks of Messrs John Bagnall and Sons, in the neighbourhood of Wednesbury, has just been made by that firm in the erection of a commodious group of buildings, to be employed both as school-rooms and chapel. For a considerable time a clergyman has been engaged to visit the work people at their own homes, and to conduct Divine service on Sundays; but the room hitherto employed for the latter purpose, though spacious, has not afforded adequate accommodation for the congregation. A schoolmaster has also been engaged for the past twelve months, under whose care a flourishing night-school has been formed, numbering about 240 scholars, varying from eight to twenty-two years of age, the entire expense having been borne by Messrs. Bagnall. Anxious to establish a day school on a scale commensurate with the necessities of the district, the present commodious edifice has been erected by those gentlemen, at a cost of £5500. The schools, when thrown open for Divine service, form one large room, 123 feet long, with a depth of 63 feet in centre and 23 feet in the transepts, and 30 feet in height to the point of the roof, which is open. The centre (or, as it may be termed, transept) is divided from the two wings by lofty arches, and is carried backward considerably beyond the line of the building, and the space thus acquired is occupied by a gallery for the Infant School, a small class-room or vestry being placed immediately behind. The Girls' School-room is to the north and the Boys' to the south of the Infants' portion; and large crimson curtains drawn across the arches completely seclude each department from the other. The centre space (or Infant School), where the clergyman will officiate, has been fitted up with a communion-table and rails, a pulpit, and reading-desk, and is ornamented by a large five-light window, filled with stained glass. The building has been adapted for its twofold purpose by the architect with great skill; the officiating minister can see, and be seen by, the entire audience; the desks in the Girls' and Boys' Schools are ranged in three rows, one above the other, and, as the leaves are moveable, are no obstacle on the Sunday. About half of the floor for the whole length of the building is left entirely vacant that space being necessary for the children to be grouped together, and for evolutions. This vacant space, however, is filled with comfortable benches on the Sunday. In school hours 500 children can be accommodated (150 boys, as many girls, and 200 infants), and about 700 worshippers on the Sunday. The building is heated throughout by hot water, and lighted by gas. The style is Gothic, the material is red brick, with stone dressings and copings. At each end of and communicating with the school-room, is a house—one for the master and the other for the mistress. In the rear are large playgrounds. The night schools and lavatory are in progress, and the out-offices.

The building has been erected from the designs of Mr Daukes, of Whitehall-place, London, by Mr. Wood, of Worcester. It is situated within a few hundred yards of Messrs. Bagnall's central office, at the Gold's-hill Works. The day-school will not be in operation for a few weeks.

The Gold's-hill Schools, being licensed for Divine Service, were opened on Sunday morning, the 7th ult. At the conclusion of the services, the Bishop

MINING SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND CHAPEL NEAR WEDNESBURY.

of Lichfield, with much feeling and emotion, expressed his great delight and satisfaction at having witnessed the good work which is being carried on by Messrs. Bagnall for the moral and spiritual welfare of their workmen in this part of Ireland, and an example which his Lordship hoped, would be followed by others similarly situated

THE "EXECUTION OF MONTROSE." PAINTED BY E. M. WARD, A.R.A.

This is the first of a series of eight pictures for the Commons' corridor in the new Houses of Parliament, painted by order of the Royal Commission on Fine Arts—the subjects of the seven others being so selected as to illustrate, in equal number, the heroic conduct of the parties—namely, the Constitutional and the Monarchical engaged in the great Constitutional War, which commenced under the reign of Charles I., and which are intended to hang as pendants in the gallery assigned to them. Thus, the "Execution of Montrose" hangs opposite the "Last Sleep of Argyll"—a fine picture by the same artist, which our readers will recollect was exhibited last year at the Royal Academy, and engraved in this Paper.

In the treatment of both these works the artist has shown he thoroughly appreciates the honour conferred upon him by his selection for the task. He has thrown great fervour of purpose and broadness of treatment into their execution. He has also shown his artistic knowledge of the requirements of the locality in which his works are to be placed. The strongly-marked outline, and the strong contrasts of light and shade, though not pleasing in a gallery picture, are appropriate, not to say necessary, in the peculiar light, as wall decorations, in which the pictures are intended to be seen. With regard to the picture before us, can anything be more dramatic than the whole arrangement? The Marquis of Montrose's house, and not throughout his career the most consistent, was one of the bravest and stanchest champions of the Royal cause; and, when condemned to an ignominious death, after being taken prisoner in battle, he still excited in the part he had taken, and seemed to look with pride upon the fate to which it had conducted him:—

Montrose (writes Lord Mahon, in his "Political Essays"), "as proud of the cause in which he was to suffer, had died him, if in rich attire—'more bonny in a hangerson,' says one of his enemies, 'than a criminal going to the gallows!'" At the foot of the scaffold a further and parting insult was reserved for him: the executioner brought Dr. Wishart's narrative of his exploits, and his own sentence, to hang around his neck; but Montrose himself assisted in binding them, and, smiling at this new token of his enemies' malice, merely said, "I did not feel more honoured when his Majesty sent me the Garter."

The artist has treated the subject in a grand, large style, throwing abundance of action and a great variety of expression into his figures. The features generally are of that strongly-marked order in which Mr. Ward is apt to indulge, and which in this historical picture will be found to be of good effect. He has introduced in the foreground a very touching incident, that of an old woman, a Royalist by his party, who, in spite of the threatening attitude of a pikeman, lifts his bonnet, and utters a parting blessing upon the gallant defender of his King

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The near approach of the racing season has administered a fillip to the steeplechase promoters, and their meetings now stand very thick on paper. Winter has, however, had his icy grasp on field-sports, and many a good programme runs the risk of a damaging postponement, or of not being run off at all. First and foremost, the Carmarthenshire Hunt have a day on Monday, and Esmeralda heads the list both for the Open Handicap and the Hunters' Stakes. Wolverhampton is also re-fixed for the same day. Oundle which still retains that love of the sport which flourished in Northamptonshire so gaily in the days of "The Marquis" and Yellow Dwarf, holds its gala on Tuesday and Wednesday; and British Yeoman (9 st. 12 lb.) and Maron Day (9 st. 7 lb.) have both accepted for the principal race. Bourton (12 st. 8 lb.) heads the Liverpool weights. This hamper is 10 lb. in advance of that with which he won last year, and he has to give Needwood, the champion of the present season, no less than 20 lb. Miss Mowbray and Peter Simple have each 11 st. 6 lb., and Abd el Kader 10 st. 5 lb., but some of the three seem likely to repeat their Aintree victories. The acceptances for the great spring handicaps will enliven the dulness of Tattersall's next week, and the law courts will probably furnish some amusing revelations about Monie Moses in the case of Hitchens v. Daly. Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., is of course retained.

Coursing meetings have fallen so deeply into arrears, and there will be such a sad clashing of fixtures before they make up their frozen leeway, that it is very difficult to give "a true and correct list" for next week. As far as we know, the Ainsdale (Hampton) stakes stands for Monday; Workington for Monday and Tuesday, Shelthorne for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday; Baron Hill for Wednesday and Thursday; and Oswestry (Porkington), for Friday.

John Scott has scratched his horses very briskly in the Chester Cup, and published some pungent strictures on the handicap. The acceptances for it number 120, which is rather fewer than last year, while each of the Epsom Handicaps have 46. Mr. Topham resigns Newton to Mr. Bake; Mr Merry will also strive to put new life into Chesterfield; and the Stockton meeting is to be revived. Mr. Padwick has lost his clever but light-timbered filly Gretna by Surplice, and thus the very good-looking Nettle bids more fair than ever to add a second Oaks triumph to the escutcheon of Newmarket.

The North Riding has just lost one of its oldest and keenest sportsmen in Mr. Richard Hill. His life had been devoted to horse and hound, and his house at Thornton, which was embedded among grouse-moors and trout-streams, was, in the real sense of the word, a sportsman's home, and worthy of the district of the wolf-hunt. His chronicler in the *Life* dwells with tasteful rapture on "the fox chained at the entrance gate; the eagle on his solitary perch casting a longing eye on the gold and silver pheasants through the lattice which bars approach; the large game pike, the monarch of the fish pond, whose predecessor, stuffed and hung up after being for many years called to his feed by the sound of bell or whistle, now bears company with many a giant-eased fox, grouse, or ptarmigan, that years of sporting have supplied." Mr. Hill was in his seventieth year, and his memory will long be green among his brother Yorkshiremen, who have seen their ranks of old sporting worthies sadly thinned of late

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The defeat and resignation of the Ministry have had very little influence upon the value of National Securities. The amount of business doing in them, however, both for Money and Time, has been small, nevertheless, the actual demand for the quotations has not been more than one quarter per cent. It is somewhat satisfactory to know that the supply of Stock in the hands of the leading jobbers is comparively small, and that the purchases on account of the public continue to absorb all surplus supplies.

As the foreign exchanges have been more favourable to this country, scarcely any shipments of bullion have been made to the Continent, and a large portion of the gold received last week has found its way into the Bank of England. This week we have had an arrival of £460,000 from Australia, and £1000 from New York. There has been a plentiful supply on money of offer, and the rates of discount have been unaltered.

On the whole the Consol Market was tolerably firm on Monday, but the business done for Money was small. The Three per Cent Reduced, 91 ¾ ¾; the Three per Cent Consols, 91⅞ to 91⅞; the New Three per Cents, 91⅞ ⅞, and Consols for Account, 91⅞; Long Annuities, 4⅛; India Stock, 226; Exchequer-bills, 4s. to 7s. premium; Exchequer-bonds, 99⅞. On Tuesday considerable flatness prevailed. Bank Stock was 210⅞ to 212; the Three per Cents Reduced were 91⅞ ⅞; the Three per Cent Consols, 91⅞ ⅞; the New Three per Cents, 91⅞ ⅞; Consols for Account, 91⅞ ⅞; Long Annuities, 4 7-16; India-bonds, 1s. to 14s.; Exchequer-bills, 4s. to 7s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 99⅞. The market on Wednesday was very flat. Bank Stock, 211 to 212; Three per Cent Reduced, 91⅞ ⅞; Three per Cent Consols, 91⅞ ⅞; New Three per Cents, 91⅞ ⅞; Consols for Account, 91⅞ ⅞; Long Annuities, 4⅛; Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 7s. prem. Quotations on Thursday were heavy, with a dull market. Consols were 91⅞ for Tuesday and Time; the Three per Cents Reduced were 91⅞ ⅞; and the New Three per Cents, 91⅞ ⅞; Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 7s. prem.; Bank Stock, 210⅞ to 212.

Notwithstanding that the foreign house has been dull, very little change worthy of notice has taken place in the quotations. Chilian Six per Cents have been 102⅞; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 86⅞; Sardinian Five per Cents, 86; Spanish Three per Cents, 36⅞; Ditto, New Deferred, 17⅞; Ditto, Passive, 7⅞; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 63⅞; Brazilian Five per Cents, 100; Cuba Seven per Cents, 93; Ecuador, 4; and Mexican Three per Cents, 21.

The following statement shows the state circulation of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ending on the 23rd of December:—

Bank of England	£19,986,791
Private Banks	1,461,052
Joint-Stock Banks	3,372,798
Scotland	3,310,869
Ireland	2,725,890
Total	30,857,300

Compared with December, 1853, the above return shows a decrease of £1,564,231 in the circulation of notes in England, and a decrease of £1,091,701 in the circulation of the United Kingdom

Joint-Stock Bank Shares have been very firm as to price; but the transactions in those securities have been trifling:—Australasia have marked 81; Commercial of London, 31⅞; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 2⅞ ex.; London Chartered of Australia, 21⅞; Oriental, 37⅞; Union of Australia, 69; Miscellaneous Shares have met a fair market:—Australian Agricultural, 2⅞; Crystal Palace, 3⅞; Canada Six per Cent Bonds, 108; Crystal Palace of France, 6; Electric Telegraph, 17; Peel River Land and Mineral, 2⅞; Royal Mail Steam, 61; South Australian Land, 35; Van Diemen's Land, 5⅞; Prince's Patent Candle Company, 26; East and West India Docks, 119, ex. div.; Victoria, 1⅞ ex. div. Canal Shares have sold heavily:—Ashton and Oldham, 1⅞, ex. div.; Coventry, 209; Derby, 84; Grand Junction, 55; Leicester, 69; Loughborough, 575; Neath, 150; Oxford, 110; Peak Forest, 36; Regent's, 15⅞; Rochdale, 60; Stafford and Worcester, 425; Stourbridge, 235; Warwick and Birmingham, 20. Water-works shares have been fairly supported:—Grand Junction, 70; Kent, 79; Southwark and Vauxhall, 89⅞; New River Company, 55; West Middlesex, 96 ex div. Gas-light and Coke Companies' Shares have been tolerably firm:—Equitable, 30; Great Northern, 113; Phœnix, 28⅞; Imperial, 95 ex div.; Ditto New, 10⅞ ex div.; Surrey Consumers', 11; Westminster Chartered, 89⅞ ex div. Insurance Companies' Shares have realised the following quotations: City of London, 125⅞; Globe, 133⅞ ex div.; Imperial Fire, 327 ex div.; Law Life, 56; London, 29; Pelican, 46; Provident Life, 39; Sun Life, 57⅞; Victoria, 5⅞. Bridge Shares have been dull:—Hungerford, 12; Vauxhall, 23; Waterloo, 4⅞. Ditto, Old Annuities of £5, 3⅞; Ditto, New, of £7, 2⅞.

Railway Shares have been heavy, and prices have shown a tendency to give way. The transactions have been small, amounting to only £262,622, against £1,945,746 in the corresponding month last year. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Caledonian, 61⅞ ex new; Great Western, 50; South-Western, 70; Great Northern, 90⅞; Ditto, A. Stock, 73⅞; Great South-ern and Western (Ireland), 91⅞; Great Western, 66⅞; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 74⅞; London and North-Western, 101 ex div.; London and North-Western, 100⅞; London and South-Western, 85; Midland, 69⅞; North-Eastern—Berwick, 76; Ditto, Extension, 14; Ditto, G.N.E. Purchase, 9⅞; Ditto, York, 63⅞; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 31⅞; South-Eastern, 69⅞; Stockport and Darlington, 8.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 96⅞ ex new; Great Northern Five per Cent, 115; ditto, Stock, 21⅞; Great Western Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 103; ditto, Birmingham Stock, 71; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 19⅞; North-Eastern—Berwick Four per Cent, 91; South-Eastern (Reading), 24⅞.

FOREIGN SHARES.—East Indian, 101⅞; Ditto, Extension, 8⅞; Grand Trunk of Canada, 13 asked, 14⅞; Great Central of France, 12⅞; Great Luxembourg, 2⅞; Rouen and Havre, 29⅞; Scinde, 4 prem.

In Mining Shares so few transactions have taken place that the quotations have been almost nominal.

Friday Evening

The market for Consols has been steady-to-day, and prices have had an upward tendency. The Three per Cents have marked 91⅞ ⅞ to ⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 91⅞ ⅞; and the New Three per Cents, 91⅞ ⅞ ⅞. Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 7s premium. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares have been tolerably firm

THE MARKETS.

Corn Exchange (this day).—Very moderate supplies of English wheat have been received up to our market this week—coastwise and by land carriage, yet there were several of Monday's unsold samples on offer to-day. Very few buyers were in attendance, and the demand for all kinds of wheat of home produce ruled very heavily, at Monday's currency. The week's imports of foreign wheat have exceeded 21,000 quarters. That grain met a very dull sale, at almost nominal currencies. The barley trade was heavy, and the quotations were barely supported. Malt met a dull inquiry, but no actual decline took place in prices. The oat trade was supplied with both Irish and foreign oats, which ruled very dull at late rates. Beans, peas, and flour were unalterred.

Arrivals.—English: wheat, 1870; barley, 3360; malt, 3119; oats, 980; flour, 1156. Irish: oats, 10,630. Foreign: wheat, 22,200; barley, 1150; malt, 19,270; flour, 4300 barrels.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent red, 45s. to 70s.; ditto, white, 74s. to 85s.; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 66s. to 70s.; ditto, white, 74s. to 78s.; Northern ditto, 66s. to 70s.; ditto, white, 73s. to 76s. Linseed, Rye, Malting, and Norfolk malt, 66s. to 70s.; brown ditto, 60s. to 63s.; Scotch, 60s. to 70s. Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, 57s. to 61s.; Chevalier, 63s. to 72s.; potato ditto, 58s. to 60s. Vegetal and Crick, black, 38s. to 42s.; ditto, white, 38s. to 42s.; tick beans, 42s. to 44s.; ditto, 38s. to 40s.; mazagan, 37s. to 38s.; tares, 40s. to 45s. per quarter. Flour, 40s. to 45s. per sack.

Irish.—The business doing in our market is very moderate at the annexed quotations:—Linseed, English, 70s. to 72s.; ditto, crushing, 38s. to 42s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 66s. to 68s.; Baltic, 60s. to 62s.; Calcutta, 72s. to 74s. Rapeed, 42s. per tun; brown mustard seed, 12s. to 14s.; white, 8s. to 10s. tares, 8s. to 12s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £44 to £52 per last; linseed cakes, English, £11 15s.; ditto foreign, £11 10s. to £12; rape cakes, 46 10s. to 46 15s. per ton, canary, 68s. to 69s. per quarter

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 10d. to 11d. of household ditto, 8d. to 9d. per 4 lbs. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 68s. 9d.; barley, 37s. 9d.; oats, 26s. 8d.; rye, 43s. 3d.; beans, 40s. 5d.; peas, 41s. 8d.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 72s 8d.; barley, 33s. 8d.; oats, 27s. 3d.; rye, 45s. 6d.; beans, 40s. 5d.; peas, 41s. 8d.

Imperial Average, Irish.—Wheat, 61s. 2d.; barley, 33s. 2d.; oats, 25s. 2d.; rye, 45s. 8d.; beans, 43s. 6d.; peas, 41s. 8d.

Tea.—Several public sales have been held this week. They have gone off slowly, with very little change in the prices current last quoted.

Sugar.—The demand for most kinds of raw sugar has ruled steady, and the quotations for Barbadoes has changed hands from 28s. to 28s. 6d. Mauritius, 28s. to 29s.; Manilla, 27s. to 28s.; and Madras, 26s. 6d. to 27s. 6d. per cwt. Refined goods have been in good request, at 42s. 6d. to 43s. 6d. per cwt. Up to Saturday last, duty was paid on 65,700 cwts. against 138,404 ditto in 1854.

Coffee.—The transactions have been very moderate, yet prices are supported. Good ordinary has realised 46s. to 48s. 6d. per cwt.

Rice.—Our market is heavy, and the quotations have a downward tendency.

Provisions.—There is a good demand for Irish provisions, and prices have advanced fully 5s. per cwt. In the value of English and foreign very little change has taken place. Pork on mixed terms, 45s. to 47s. 6d. per barrel; prime Mess, 80s. to 82s. 6d. Bacon, prices of provisions only a limited business is doing

Tallow.—The imports being large, our market is heavy, at drooping prices. P.Y.C. on the spot, 56s. 6d. to 56s. 6d.; February to March, 56s. 9d.; March and April, 57s. 3d. per cwt. Hogs, 48s. 3d. to 48s. 6d.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £2 10s. to £4 12s.; clover ditto, £4 to £5 15s.; and straw, £1 15s. to £1 18s. per load.

Wool.—The most public sales, at which about 30,000 bales will be offered, are appointed to commence on the 15th inst. The private market is very dull, and prices are barely supported.

Potatoes.—The supplies are not moderate, yet the demand is limited. The quotations range from 80s. to 130s. per ton.

Hops (Friday).—The week's imports of foreign hops amount to 1020 bales from New York, and 11 from Ostend. The business doing is but moderate, yet we have no change to notice. Mid and East Kent pockets, £11 12s. to £14 14s.; New Weald of Kent, £11 12s. to £14 14s.; Sussex, £11 15s. per cwt.

Oil (Friday).—Gallipoli, 21s. 6d.; Italian, 21s. 6d.; Hillas, 21s.; Palm Maun, 42s. 6d.; Brazil, 41s.; Horn, 42s. 6d.; Stewart's, 42s. 6d.; Cocoa, 39s.; Rough Hay, 22s. 3d. per cwt.

Smithfield (Friday).—Although the supply of beasts on offer to-day was not moderate, all breeds moved off heavily, at barely stationary prices. We were scantily supplied with sheep, which met a dull inquiry, at Monday's currency. The highest figure was 5s. per Stone. The supplies in the market realised full quotations. For pigs the sale was slow, on former terms. The supplies of calves were fair, and the demand for the trade was dull, at late rates.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the offals:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; second ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; prime large oxen, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.; prime Scots, 4s. 4d.; prime cows, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 4d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; prime ewes and wethers, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; prime Southdown ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; large coarse calves, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 4d.; prime small ditto, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 0d.; large pigs, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; small porkers, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; suckling calves, 25s. to 30s.; reed quarter-old store pigs, 21s. to 27s. each. Total supply: beasts, 960; cows, 155; sheep, 3800; calves, 69; pigs, 280. Foreign beasts, 190; sheep, 400; calves, 30.

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—The supplies were seasonably good, and the trade was far from active as follows:

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass:—Inferior beef, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; middle ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; prime large ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; ditto small ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; coarse and inferior mutton, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; middling ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; prime ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; veal, 4s. 4d. to 5s. 4d.; small pork, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 6d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, January 30

ADMIRALTY, JANUARY 29

In consideration of the services performed by the officers of the Navy, in co-operation with the Army, on the trenches before Sebastopol, the following promotions have taken place, dated November 13, 1854:—Commanders W. J. Barnett and H. S. Hilyar to be Captains. Lieuts. W. H. Hoste, J. J. Dowling, J. E. Parsons, J. W. S. Dundas, Hon. F. T. Pelham, Hon. A. Wilbraham, E. G. Hare, G. A. Hamilton, W. M. Dowling, W. Chatfield, H. Holden, W. A. Dundas, W. D. Bedford, Hon. H. Keane, Hon. Dr. J. L. Vernon, J. Ward (3d), Dr. J. Cotton, and J. W. Elliott, to be Surgeons; J. R. G. Browne to be Paymaster. The Board have also directed that the following officers, contingent on their promotion, shall be promoted:—Lieut. Hon. Hugh Dundas, to be Captain; Mr. Chas. W. Moriarty, to be Lieutenant; Mr. Chas. Wilson, to be Surgeon; and Mr. Wm. Ashton Lewis, to be Paymaster.

The Board have also directed that the following promotions, contingent on their promotion, shall be made:—Lieuts. J. F. L. Hancock and A. W. A. Robertson to be Commanders; C. E. Mitchell and L. Bickse to be Lieutenants. The latter promotion shall take place the necessary examination, such as is required by the Queen's regulations.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED

C. BRADLEY, late of Gornal, near Dudley, now of Tipton and Great Bart, Stafford, iron founder and commission agent.

BANKRUPTS.

E. H. SULIVAN, late of Woodford and Bedford, Essex, now of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, shipowner. G. BOYS, Bellina-Villas West, Barnsbury-park, Middlesex, wine merchant. J. DANILL, Bugbrook, Northampton, coal merchant and licensed victualler. W. H. STONOKER, Uxbridge, Middlesex, Bond-street, Covent-garden, tailor. W. and J. RAVEN, Fish-street Hill City, wholesale stationers.—T. MASTERS, Crystal Palace Hotel and Bedford Hotel, Bloomsbury-square, Middlesex, hotel keeper, Tottenham-court-road, as stated in last Friday's *Gazette*. Brighton, Sussex, upholsterer.—W. HUGHES, Swinton, Salford, builder.—J. CIMEN, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stafford, draper and tea dealer.—G. BAILEY, Walsall, Stafford, innkeeper. W. GRAINGER, Dudley, Worcester, builder and licensed victualler.—E. L. OWEN, Albert-house, Tetbury-road, near Wotton-bassett, licensed victualler.—J. Phillips, Drimpton, Dorset, [illegible]. T. RANSHEW and W. B. BAXTER HARRIS, Lower Union-street, Torquay, Devon, grocers.—T. H. HODSON, Electrical near Preston, Chester, cattle and sheep dealer and cow keeper.—W. H. WINTER, COBBINS and W. RANKIN, Liverpool, shipowners.—J. SIDEBOTHAM, Manchester, grocer.—W. and J. H. HARDSON, Great street, Manchester, umbrella manufacturers

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS

J. M'GLASHAN, Union-street, Glasgow, merchant and shipowner. D. M'KAY, LANE, Oban baker.—W. and J. B. LOW, Arbroath, drapers

Friday, February 2

WAR OFFICE, FEB. 2

4th Dragoon Guards, H. T. Richardson, to be Cornet.
7th Ditto, Lieut. Hon. H. Gilmour to be Quartermaster.
9th Ditto, Cornet J. N. Smith to be Lieutenant.
11th Ditto, Wallace to be Cornet, Staff Assist.-Surg. M. U. Marcillo to be Assistant-Surgeon.
17th Ditto, Cornet Webster to be Cornet.
12th Ditto, Major D. O'Hara to be Quartermaster, W. Gavin to be Veterinary Surgeon.
19th Ditto, Lieut. J. Morgan, W. A. Rock, and Cornet Pearce to be Lieutenants; Cornet Hodges to be Ensign. R. Pack to be Ensign.
42nd Lieut. C. C. Dick to be Lieutenant.
46th Lieut. H. Blackburn to be Captain.
48th Capt. J. De Burdon to be Captain.
49th Lieut. W. H. Corbet to be Captain; Ensign B. Gentry to be Ensign. Lieut. S. Field to be Ens.
51st Lieut. W. F. Shaffe to be Adjutant.
54th Lieut. J. P. Plunkett to be Captain.
Lieut. W. H. D. Clarke to be Captain, Ensign A. Sulbrath and C. B. Parker to be Lieutenants; G. Cronyn to be Ensign.
61st Lieut. E. M. Armstrong to be Captain, R. Pumefather to be Ensign.
Capt. J. Maule to be Major, Serg. J. Gandle to be Quartermaster.
69th Lieut. W. H. Dunscombe to be Captain, Lieut. A. Vaughan to be Lieutenant.
70th Lieut. H. Mitchell to be Captain.
72nd Lieut. E. H. Chamberlain, Captain; Lieut. R. P. Armstrong, Lieutenant, Ensign H. Fisher to be Lieutenant.
84th Lieut. C. C. Rolfston to be Captain; Ensign E. Bury to be Lieutenant.
88th Ensign J. H. F. Blyth to be Ensign.
90th Lieut. J. H. Wade to be Captain, Lieut. E. P. Vaughan to be Lieutenant, Ensign W. Tarry to be Lieutenant, H. F. Wilmer to be Ensign.
Capt. J. Dunlop to be Major, Ensign C. Jee to be Ensign.
97th Capt. J. Gaul to be Major.
97th J. C. H. Parke to be Ens.

Rifle Brigade—Ensigns S. S. Davenport H. Eyre, and C. J. Bunbury, to be Ens.
2nd West India Regiment: Ensign J. Savannah to be Lieutenant
3rd Lieut. W. C. Bamford to be Lieutenant.
Cape Mounted Riflemen: J. C. Carbutt to be Ensign
Land Transport Corps: Capt. and Brevet Lieut. Colonel W. M. S. M'Murdo to be Director General.
Ordnance: Major and Brevet Lieut.-Colonels T. Powell and A. H. Horsford to be Lieutenant-Colonels. Lieut.-Colonel Hon. C. Gore to be Major.
Infantry: Capt. H. Lockyer to have the rank of Major, Capt. H. Bayley, Capt. W. B. Nash, Capt. W. Sawbridge to be Colonels in the Army, Captain T. Lester, Capt. T. Maule, Capt. T. Fitzgerald to be Majors in the Army, Brevet Majors J. Umber, T. F. Richardson, to be Lieutenant-Colonels in the Army.
Hospital Staff:—Surgeon A. H. Cowper to be Staff Surgeon of the second class; Acting Assistant-Surgeon J. Blackmore to be Assistant-Surgeon; J. Michie, J. H. Edwards, J. H. Hancock, E. M'Gill, M.D., J. Lander, A. Bowden, H. Herock, T. O. Mitchell, J. Wood, T. H. Burgess, M.D., A. M'Kechnie, R. H. Bakewell, T. J. Orton, G. C. Hyde, F. Kilgour, F. Bell to be Acting Assistant Surgeons.

ADMIRALTY, JAN. 31

The corps of Royal Marines in future is to be designated a "Light Corps," and equipped and instructed as such

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED

R. DERBYSHIRE, Liverpool, merchant

BANKRUPTS

J. WATKEN, Wimbledon, Surrey, baker. W. PERKINS, Birmingham, soda-water maker and coal dealer. J. BEAUMONT the elder and J. BEAUMONT the younger, Commercial place, City-road, coach-makers.—J. BIRT, Abingdon, Gloucestershire, paper manufacturer. W. B. NASH, College-hill, Cannon-street West, wine merchant. S. S. IRELAND, Brighton, Sussex, cabinet maker.—J. CLAPTON, Isle of Exeter, grocer and provision dealer. J. HOLLAND, Fortess, draper.—J. CABLE, Lowell-street, draper and hosier. T. SWANN COLES, hardware and glass dealer. F. H. BAILY, Newman-street, Oxford-street, and Crescent, Camden-road-villas, surgeon and dentist in market. W. H. FITCHETT, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, auctioneer. W. SHIPMAN, Dunnigate, Manchester baker and flour dealer

BIRTHS.

On the 31st ult., at 7, Stockwell-parade, Camberwell, the wife of Mr. R. and Barnes, of a daughter

At Calcutta, on the 5th of November, the lady of William Henry Elliott, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, of a son

On the 25th ult., at the square-square, Hull, Madras, wife of Mr. R. W. H. Carter, of a son

On the 27th ult., at the Royal Asylum, Dartmoor, wife of the Rev. J. Nobbs, of a daughter

On the 29th ult., at the Lawn, Chalfont, Buckinghamshire, the wife of the Rev. W. Sweetland, of a daughter

On the 25th ult., at Edgbaston, Warwick, the wife of the Rev. C. L. Nash, of a son

MARRIAGES

On the 15th November, 1854, at St. Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta, by the father of the bride, the Rev. Thomas Moore, B.A., son of the late Rev. Robert Moore, Rector of Clay, Norfolk, to Dora Dearbey, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Thomas Dearbey, Chaplain of the Free School of Christ's, on the 25th ult., at Charlton Church, Dowanton, Wilts, R. J. Russell, Esq., of Cambridge, Bengal, in the county of Suffolk, eldest surviving son of the late Rev. R. Russell, to Ann Thomas, second Earl Nelson

On the 25th November, 1854, at Moordlepore, Tichoot, A. J. Russell, Esq., R.C.S., to Fanny Caroline, eldest daughter of the Hon. H. Forbes, Judge of that district.

On the 24th ult., at St. John's Church, Cardiff, the Rev. J. Morgan, M.A., Curate of Merthyr and Whitchurch, Glamorgan, to Eliza Jane Mary, eldest daughter of C. Court, Esq., of Cardiff, and co. Brinvel, Gloucestershire

On Wednesday, the 24th ult., at St. Peter's Parkstone, the Rev. C. H. Andrews, to Helen, third daughter of J. Roubilac, Esq., of Parkstone, Dorset

DEATHS

On Saturday, the 20th ult., at Pennoyre, Llanfihangel, Brecknock, Lieut.-Colonel Lloyd V. Vaughan, M.P., Lord Lieutenant of the county, aged 38

On the 22nd ult., at Dublin, William, youngest son of the late Mr. Edmund Chadd, of St. Clement's, Ireland, aged 21 years

On the 24th ult., at Rockford West, Hull, Mary, wife of Mr. Thomas Hall, aged 31

On the 24th ult., at St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw, Lord J. M. H. Kerr, youngest son of the late, and brother of the present, Marquis of Lothian, aged 21

On the 27th ult., at Durham Rectory, Gloucestershire, Sir B. Robinson, Bart., formerly of Jamaica, in China, aged 32

On the 28th ult., at Ashwell, Middlesex, Lady Cooper, relict of Sir W. H. Cooper, Bart., aged 67

On the 29th ult., at Prince, Maria Margaretta, widow of the late Gen. Sir G. Don, G.C.B.

On the 16th ult., at Florence, the Hon. E. C. de Courcy, relict of the Hon. Lieut.-Col. G. de Courcy, of John, 26th Lord Kingsale

On the 26th ult., at Wyke House, Brentford, the Rev. B. Lewis, M.A., Rector of Kilbride, Lanarkshire, and for many years an active Magistrate and Commissioner of Lunacy, Clerk of the Peace, aged 80

On the 29th ult., at North Berwick, Mrs. G. Dalrymple, relict of the late Colonel G. Dalrymple, 80th Regiment, aged 88

On the 27th ult., at Hollington-house, near Hastings, the very Rev. A. H. Kenney, D.D., Rector of St. Mary's, Southwark, late Dean of Achonry and formerly Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin, aged 78

At St. Helier's, Jersey, Frances, daughter of the late Rear-Admiral J. Faulknor, of Studham, Herts, and great-daughter of the late Admiral Sir Thomas Pasley, Bart., aged 18

At Cheltenham, Colonel S. Cappage, unattached, late of H.M. 39th Regiment, aged 69.

On the 26th ult., at Padworth Rectory, near Reading, Caroline Georgina, the wife of the Rev. G. W. Curtis, aged 60

ACCIDENT TO THE "PERSEVERANCE" TROOP-SHIP.

On the afternoon of Saturday, the 26th ult., a scene occurred in Woolwich Dockyard which will not soon be forgotten by those by whom it was witnessed. The *Perseverance*, iron-screw steam troop-ship, Commander W. J. S. Pullen, had just completed her rigging and a great part of her fittings. The vessel was built by Messrs. C. J. Mare and Co., it was said on similar lines to the *Prince*, lost off Balaclava, and purchased by Government with the intention of sending her to Sheerness, to be masted and rigged at that port. A subsequent order was issued that she should be masted and rigged at Woolwich: the masts were, consequently, sent from Sheerness to Woolwich, and, on their being put in under the shears, she was taken into the east dock to be completed for sea. As the rigging progressed, it was noticed that the masts and rigging were more suitable for a frigate than a long, narrow iron screw-steamer, and it was remarked that she would, probably, prove so topheavy as to upset on her entering the water. Unfortunately the surmise proved too true. On letting water into the dock, at the tide rose on Saturday afternoon, for the purpose of taking her out to be placed alongside the coal dépôt-ship, she was scarcely floated, and the shores taken away, when she gave three or four sways from side to side, and turned completely over on her beam ends in the dock, the foremast resting on the roof of the chapel over the saw-mills, knocking down between twenty and thirty feet of the parapet, which, however, assisted to break her fall. The foremast falling on the chapel broke it in; and the mainyard and foreyard were broken in pieces. It was a fortunate circumstance that she turned over in the dock, as there were about 150 persons on board at the time, several of them at work in the cabin: some were thrown into the water, and three injured. The *Perseverance* has had her rigging all stripped, and her foremast cut in pieces, and a number of relays of workmen, and of the crews of the *Fingard* and of the steam-vessels at Woolwich, being at work all next day (Sunday) upon her. She had her engines of 300-horse power on board; and some idea of her position may be formed when it is stated that the funnel is within 12 or 14 degrees of being in a horizontal line. The engines have sustained no injury

We regret that one of the blocks upon which the vessel rested has punctured her side, and the ship is at every tide half full of water. She now lies with her lower mast nearly horizontal; and a spectator standing upon the edge of the dock can see almost down the funnel. During the past week workmen have been engaged night and day, without intermission, constructing a dam across the entrance to the dock. This work will be completed to-day (Saturday), when, from the water being kept out of the dock, the vessel may be repaired so as to float temporarily, prior to her thorough repair upon the injured side

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—On Monday, Wednesday and Friday, ROMEO and JULIET; Romeo, Miss Cushman; Juliet, Miss Swanborough. Tuesday, Paul Pry. Thursday, profit to the Last Juvenile Night Cushman's Masquerade, Mrs Merrifles, Miss Cushman. The Pantomime every Evening.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—In consequence of the production of Novelties, the Pantomime of LITTLE PRETTY THINGS must shortly be withdrawn; but to-morrow (Saturday) Favorite Night on Thursday, when the Pantomime will conclude at Ten. And another Morning Performance of the Pantomime on Saturday next, Feb. 10—being the last. Commence at Two, over by Four.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, LOVE AS I WILL; Wednesday, HAMLET, Saturday, LOVAS. PANOMIME Every Evening.

POLYPHONY. Go and HEAR LOVE, the great Ethiopian MINSTRELSY is to be heard in the New Hall, called THE LONDON SEASON, at the UPPER HALL, HOLBORN GALLERY, 69, Quadrant. Regular street, every Evening, at Eight, except Saturday; Saturday, at Three.

LEICESTER SQUARE.—The AZTECS and Exhibition of Wax Figures of either race ever seen in Europe Exhibition Daily, from Three to Five, and Seven to Half-an-Nine. Lecture at 8 PRECISELY. Vocal and Instrumental Concerts every Evening. Mr Morris, Mr Smith, and Mr. W. J. Morris on the Crystal-Optician. Admission, 1s. 2d. Reserved Seats, 1s.; Gallery, 6d. HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, DAILY, from Twelve to Two. Admission, 2s and 1s.

EXETER-HALL. Mr. FANNY KEMBLE MONDAY EVENING NEXT. Mr. Fanny Kemble will read MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, accompanied by the whole of the Music, composed by Mendelssohn, by a complete Orchestra and Chorus, under the direction of Mr Benedict. To commence at 8 o'clock.

MR. BRINLEY RICHARDS will perform on the GARMARTHEN ASSEMBLY ROOMS, on WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 7, and at the Concert for the benefit of the Crimean Fund, at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Friday Evening, Feb. 23. All letters for Mr Brinley Richards to be addressed to him, at 4, Torrington-street, Russell-square.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENTS-PARK. The collection of Drying Animals Indian and Ethiopian species of Lions, Lions Whelps, Clouded Tigers, Hunting Dogs and other Carnivora, Bhands, Elephants, Rhinoceros, and a pair of Hippopotami, together with an immense number of Birds, Reptiles, Fish, and other Marine Animals. Admission, 1s; on Mondays, 6d.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. Dramatic Readings by Miss GLYN (Duchess of Leeds) and Mr. HOLLE. Lectures on Monday Evening, the 5th inst., by Mr Carpenter, subject, Air and Respiration. Lecture on the New Bonnets, by Dr. Bachhoffner, showing how to Select and Avoid Bonnets. Lecture on Photo-Micrography, Experiments on the Transmission of Sound; by Mr Pepper, Esq. illustrated by the Telephone Concert; New Optical Diorama of Sindbad the Sailor. Views of the War. Lectures as usual.

ROYAL PANOPTICON of SCIENCE and ART, LEICESTER-SQUARE. Mr. Alexander Lee in ALADDIN and the WONDERFUL LAMP, the Legend told by Mr L. Buckingham at 2.40 and 8.45. Dissolving Views of the War in the Crimea, commencing at Two. Monday, at 7.15, with accompaniments on the organ. Illustration of Chemical Music on the Grand Organ by Mr W. Best. Organist to the Institution, at 1 and 7.40. Luminous Fountain, 100 feet high, 4.30 and 7.55. Hydro-Oxygen Apparatus and the Naphtha Jet, high as the roof, at 3.40 and 7.40 and 7. Models of St. Petersburg and Moscow with Portrait of the Emperor. Lectures on Electricity, by Dr Bond on Monday evening, 7.45, by Mr C. Tomlinson, on Mondays at 3.40 and 8.15. Monday evening, Chemical Resources of Modern Warfare, 8. Hydrostatic Weighing Machine, 7. Chemistry, by Mr G. Shaw, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at 7. Dissolving Views on the Pleiads and their Undulations, by Mr Pepper, Monday at 7.20. Oceanic Discovery by Mr. Birt, Thursday at 7. Dissolving Views of Voyages Tuesday and Friday at 7.10, by Mr T. Buckingham. General Demonstrations on Scientific and Mechanical Subjects at intervals day, by Mr. C. F. Partington. Doors open 10 to 5 and 7 to 10. Evening Saturday excepted 7 to 10. Admission 1s.; Schools and Children under ten, 6d. Open.

CRYSTAL PALACE, Sydenham.—The PALACE and GARDENS are OPEN to the PUBLIC DAILY, at 9.0 a.m. on TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and FRIDAYS, at 10 a.m.; on other days the admission is 1s., and on SATURDAYS, at Noon, when the admission is 5s., and close each day at 5 p.m. Tickets of admission, including conveyance to railway, may be obtained at the London-bridge Station, and at the Crystal Palace.

Trains run at 8.5 a.m., at 9.10 a.m., and every half-hour from 10.10 a.m. up to 4.10 p.m.; returning from the Crystal Palace station, up to 6.10 p.m.

BOARD of TRADE DEPARTMENT of SCIENCE and ART.—SCHOOLS for DRAWING, Obtaining EXAMPLES for ART INSTRUCTION.—The Lords of the Committee of Privy Council on Education, having regard to some misunderstandings which have arisen, and the plan adopted by the Committee of Privy Council for Education, and to discontinue the practice of accepting a very limited number of the Department, notice is hereby given, that on and after the 1st of JANUARY, 1855, Examples will not be supplied from the Department of Science and Art, but will be supplied through Agents in London and the Provinces.

Persons desirous of obtaining Examples for art, and further information, may be obtained at the Offices, Marlborough House, Pall-mall, London.

Marlborough House, 20th Nov. 1854.

ART UNION of LONDON (By Royal Charter).—Every Subscriber of One Guinea will have an IMPRESSION of PLATE to J. J. MILLAIS, A.R.A., from the original Picture, Sir Isaac Newton, Bart., A.R.A. Water Colour Drawing, a Quarto Volume (of Thirty Wood Engravings, illustrating Lord Byron's Childe Harold. Each Subscriber will be entitled to select for himself a work of art from one of the public exhibitions.

GEORGE GODWIN, Honorary
AH. SIRAH, LEWIS POCOCK, Secretaries.

RENE FAVARGER begs to state that he has RESUMED his COURSE DE PIANO, 27, Queen-square, Bloomsbury. Address Letters above, or at Cramer, Beale, and Co., 201, Regent-street.

THE NEW GAME—CANNONADE, or CASTLE PARADE. The most amusing round Game yet brought out. Five Objects with Balls, Castles, &c., 21s. 6d.—Sold by most toy-shops throughout the Kingdom. Wholesale, JAQUIN, Brad-street.

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TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—WOOD ENGRAVING.—Mr THOMAS BOLTON HAS A VACANCY for an ARTICLED PUPIL, who must have a taste for drawing, and be desirous of perfecting himself in that particular branch, combined with a knowledge of the Practice, knowledge of Architecture, Landscape Gardening, and the Ornamental Arrangement of Estates (in building operations he receives given to Works in course of erection) and a liberal premium required. Address to A. B., care of Mr. Webster, Esq., Solicitor, 4, Bernard-street, Russell-square, London.

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BURNING OF THE THEATRE OF LA MONNAIE, AT BRUSSELS.

BURNING OF THE BRUSSELS THEATRE.

On Sunday week the splendid theatre of La Monnaie—one of the great attractions of the city of Brussels—in less than two hours was reduced to ashes. The fire is said to have been caused by an escape of gas which took place near a stove. The flames broke out with great intensity; and some men who were employed over the stage among the scenery, preparing for the representation of the "Prophète," which was to take place the same evening (Sunday), had barely time to descend from their perilous position, and make their escape. It is supposed from the statement of these men that the flames burst out in the room appropriated to the *figurantes*, and in which a stove was lighted. The alarm being given, the firemen hastened to the theatre from the Hôtel de Ville and other parts of the city. It was then about nine in the morning; and, although the flames had not been perceived more than half an hour before, it was at once seen that all efforts to extinguish the fire would be fruitless. Just as they arrived, an immense mass of red, green, and yellow flames burst from several parts of the roof, and rose in the air to a height of upwards of a hundred feet. The fire soon after found its way through the principal entrance, and the spectacle then was a terribly grand one. In a few minutes the flames rushed out from all the windows above, and the roof seemed on the point of falling in. The firemen meanwhile had penetrated inside, and by great exertions had contrived to save some articles of furniture and some dresses from the performers' rooms. The money-box and the books of the establishment were also saved; but the scenery, costumes, and all the properties of the theatre were completely destroyed. At one moment it was feared that the fire would spread to the surrounding houses, to prevent which the fire-engines were kept constantly at play. So imminent, indeed, was the danger considered, that the principal articles of furniture in these houses were removed to a place of safety. An immense crowd was collected in the front of the theatre, but the best order prevailed, the ground being occupied by detachments of carbineers and grenadiers. The civil and military authorities were also on the spot, but without being able to afford the slightest assistance. The fire continued burning most fiercely until nearly eleven o'clock, when it began to subside. The grand entrance, owing to a strong arch built over it, will be preserved. Of the rest of the building the walls alone remained standing. The main part of the building was erected in 1818; but the handsome front was only finished last year, on the plans of Mr. Simories, so that this noble edifice, which was worthy of being an ornament to any city, has been destroyed just at the moment when it had been entirely completed.

The accompanying Engraving of the catastrophe is from a sketch by an artist of Brussels.

ACCIDENT TO H.M.S. "PERSEVERANCE," IN WOOLWICH DOCKYARD.—(SEE PAGE 110.)

BAY OF INN IN SMYRNA, FROM A DRAWING BY JAMES ROBERTSON (SEE NEXT PAGE)

KHAN, IN SMYRNA.

The picturesque s[illegible] upon the passing page was sketched by one of our [illegible]. It portrays the usual life of a [illegible]: the camels at rest, the [illegible] still life of [illegible] of the khan of [illegible] building, have [illegible] fine old trees, makes a [illegible].

The [illegible] Turkey [illegible] superior to those of Turkey in Europe: in the former good accommodation may be found for a night or two.

The inns of all countries pr[illegible] illustrations of the manners and customs of the people [illegible] of Turkey were erected by the [illegible] of former Sultans, by the [illegible] of private persons, or from [illegible] guests of devotees, for the accommodation of travellers. The [illegible] buildings surrounding a court, in the centre of which is usually [illegible] or fountain. The rooms are small, generally opening [illegible] a gallery above, or sometimes into an arcade or colonnade. Though khans are chiefly frequented by travelling [illegible], and the rooms are used by them as a dépôt for [illegible] merchandise, still strangers from all parts of the world, of every religion, profession, rank, and quality, may lodge in them gratuitously, and nothing is expected on their departure but a small present to the Khanji, or innkeeper. On the traveller's arrival a key of the bare and unfurnished apartment allotted to his use is delivered to him. The gate [illegible] these khans closes soon after sunset; a traveller, therefore, who intends to pass the night in one of them endeavours to arrive before that period; and it is not always easy to procure admittance when once the gate is shut. Several Khans include stalls for horses, camels, and animals of all descriptions.

THE LOSS OF THE "WILD WAVE."

To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

Balaklava, January 1, 1855.

[illegible] Journal [illegible] a storm of N[illegible] saved the only [illegible] I beg to state [illegible] request, I [illegible] below, [illegible]

[illegible] there were hundreds of spectators on the high [illegible] the ship's [illegible] where she struck. Seeing three people on her decks, Captain Prain, of the *Star of the South*; Mr. Rivers, chief officer of the *Tanning* steamer; a young man whom I did not know (apparently a sailor), and myself, after procuring some ropes, scrambled down the face of the perpendicular rock, and after some difficulty succeeded in getting to a steep crag almost immediately over and within forty feet of the devoted ship. The first that left the ship (a mere youth) was jammed between the wreck and the rocks, and literally cut in two; the next one, more fortunate, succeeded in gaining a lodging on the rocks, and scrambled up out of the reach of the waves, where he remained until, after several trials, we succeeded in throwing a rope to him, when he made it fast around his middle, and we got him up in safety without his receiving a single scratch. I say after several trials, for the wind was blowing with such violence that repeatedly we threw the rope downwards with our whole strength, but instead of reaching below as where the poor fellow was hanging on to the face of an almost perpendicular cliff, it blew back over our heads.

After getting the one up, he told us there was another down below, close to the wreck. We again got the rope down as far as possible, and called out as loud as we could with our united voices, but I am sorry to say without avail, for, after staying three quarters of an hour (after reaching the first) without seeing or hearing anyone below us, we were reluctantly obliged to retrace our steps and regain the summit of the heights. I may add that the whole of the crew, except the three mentioned, got into one of the ship's boats in the early part of the day to row out to the harbour, but she had scarcely left the ship's side when a wave upset her and all perished.

In conclusion, I will say that I have often heard the Captain of the *Wild Wave*, as well as others who were lost on that day, speak of his insecurity and danger of keeping ships in such an exposed place at that time of the year.

Yours, &c., RALPH R. LIDDLE,
Commander *Bride* transport (No. 27).

WASTE OF THE WOOD IN THE CRIMEA. Outside of the harbour still lie the wrecks of the vessels lost in the gale of the 14th of November, and on the beach which fringes the cliffs around is piled a sufficiency of wood to serve the Eastern Army with fuel for at least a month, and there is no means taken to get up this blessing to the Camp. The system is a most shameful and what is the duty of everybody is the duty of none. No department considers it its duty to assist in this particular. The navy will not lend their boats or men to bring in firewood for the army, and, most strange to say, they will not let the transport service do it. Several skippers of transports have already received orders not to bring in the wood, thus lying useless, the play of the waves, and they have been refused, for fear of their using it themselves. One ship sent its boat out, and, without permission, brought in a bundle of wood, and it was immediately seized upon by a certain naval authority, and deposited for safety upon a pier called Vesuvius-pier, belonging to the man-of-war steamer of that name. Another, from the rocks from above comes a Zouave, and quietly collects half a-dozen sticks, then composedly trots up the hill again, whilst vain calls to come back, which are Greek to him, are hurled after him from the quarter-deck of the *Vesuvius*. In ten minutes a half starved Englishman makes his appearance, and stealthily lays his hand on a piece of wood, when somebody calls from the poop of the said ship, and the poor fellow to "Go to the devil, and drop that stick of wood." For what purpose, then, is that pile of wood on Vesuvius-pier? It is of no use to the vessel, and it is of no benefit to the army, destitute as it is of such a necessary article. And why, I ask, do the naval authorities of Balaclava act thus? There is, certainly, nothing to be gained by it, save opprobrium and censure. *Letter from Balaclava, Jan. 12.*

THE SAILORS IN THE FRENCH CAMP.—I yesterday paid a visit to our sailors of the Camp. The joviality and good humour of these gallant fellows are proof against all sorts of misery. Those are the men, who, when wood failed, disinterred the vine stocks, which are very abundant round Sebastopol; but, alas! these vine stocks have been consumed as well as the wood, and in truth I scarcely know where we can get means of warming ourselves if the cold lasts; but what do I say? Is not our admiral, our commander and mechanic in chief? Is not it will supply us with coal? It has supplied us all with everything else. The army yesterday wanted biscuit, flour, tafia, and firewood. Where did we get all? Why, from the fleet to be sure. What answer did our worthy Admiral Bruat give to our application? Why, by ceding to us instantly the entire cargo of the *Licorne* corvette, and which was precisely composed of firewood, tafia, flour, biscuits, &c. The *Licorne* arrived just at the moment we wanted it. I mention that fact because it is the first that occurs to me; but it is one of a kind that occurs very often. The truth of the matter is that Generals and Admirals are like two fingers of the same hand. Speaking of coal, we have been in sore need of it for some days past. Some deserters told us there were mines near Balaclava, which were worked by the Russian Government when we arrived here; and the consequence is that we are scratching and examining the ground in every part where there appears a chance of a vein. Bruat is extremely fond of the sailors; they are a very jovial set, attached to him, and they always call him Admiral. The "Admiral" has a high idea of their services, and, as a proof of it, he has just asked from his colleague Brunet a reinforcement of them. We are therefore to have, in addition, one captain, one lieutenant, four midshipmen, seven volunteers, one commissary, 122 petty officers and sailors, and 26 subofficers and men of the Marine Artillery; and in consequence, nine 24-pound guns and 20 80-pound mortars. In a word, the navy will have at the siege a complement of [illegible] men, which is nearly equal to that of the Zouaves. I was delighted to see the joyful alacrity displayed in the Mediterranean, the Adriatic, the Bosphorus, along the whole line to the Crimea, and on the coast of our lines of attack. Steamers of all sorts and sizes, transports of all dimensions, take their departure or cast anchor, at every moment. I counted yesterday, in Kamiesch Bay, 286 ships of all [illegible] Exclusive of the Marine or War Department, for the service of the army and its squadrons, independent of our numerous men-of-war. In the number are four line steamers, viz., the *Prophète*, the *Edinburgh*, the *Livourne*, and the *Henri IV*. It is impossible to speak too highly of the order and regularity which prevail in the service of the Bay of Kamiesch. There is besides a gaiety, a good humour on every face, which strikes every new-comer on entering this hive of men. Do you want a helping hand?—any work to be got through twenty hands are instantly at your service. Our marine infantry keeps its line well, in trenches and skirmishes and reconnaissances everywhere in fact, so well, but it seems, yesterday has added some rewards to those previously accorded by Bruat to that noble corps.—*A French Letter from Sebastopol, Jan. 12.*

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

LORD LYNDHURST'S MOTION.

Lord Lyndhurst postponed the motion of which he had given notice, regarding the military policy of Government, from Friday to Monday next.

NEW ORDER OF MILITARY MERIT.

The Duke of Newcastle announced that it is the intention of the Government to institute a new order of military merit which shall be attainable by every man, from the highest general to the humblest private. The principle of a jury of soldiers will be adopted in selecting those worthy of decoration.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ARMY.

Earl Grey moved the following resolution:—

That great evils have arisen from the present division of authority and responsibility in the administration of the army, and that the whole of the business connected with this important branch of the public service, which is now distributed among different offices, ought, therefore, to be brought under the direct control of a single and well-organized department.

The Duke of Newcastle, in reply, showed that he had often cast off the trammels of routine where he thought the interests of the country demanded it, and instanced the case of Mr. Nasmyth, as well as the course of conduct he pursued with reference to the loss of the *Prince* steamer. His Grace pointed out that to the transport system was to be traced many of the misfortunes connected with the carrying out of the instructions given at home, and he demonstrated that, with respect to the army, separation was more required than consolidation.

After a few words from Viscount Hardinge with respect to promotion in the army,

The Earl of Ellenborough expressed his regret that the motion had been brought forward, and trusted that the noble Earl would not press it.

Earl Grey then withdrew his motion, and the house adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. MONDAY.

THE PATRIOTIC FUND.

Mr. Sharpe Adair, a member of the finance committee of the Patriotic Fund, stated, in answer to Colonel North, that the question of allowing foreigners to participate in the fund had not yet been decided. With regard to English officers, it was proposed that the widows and orphans of such officers whose pensions exceeded £60 should be allowed one-third of that amount—where the pension was below £60, one-half would be given; but in every case this was to be subservient to the requirements of the private soldiers.

THE LIGHT CAVALRY CHARGE AT BALACLAVA.

Mr Sidney Herbert having declined to give any explanation as to the order for the Light Cavalry charge at Balaclava,

Mr. Henry Berkeley gave notice that he would move for a Select Committee to inquire into the conduct of the Earl of Lucan with respect to that order.

THE "TIMES" CORRESPONDENT.

In answer to Mr. Beresford, Mr. Sidney Herbert said, the permission of the *Times* correspondent to draw rations was given by Sir Charles Trevelyan, but was disallowed when it came before the Audit Board. He also read a letter from Sir Charles Trevelyan, who explained that the permission was only to purchase rations at regulation prices.

THE ADJOURNED DEBATE.

The adjourned debate on Mr. Roebuck's motion was resumed by

Mr. Stafford, who said his only claim to attention was, that he would tell the House what he had himself seen. One radical defect of the hospitals both at Scutari and at Abydos was, the unhealthiness of the sites. That objection applied to all the district between the two seas; and, therefore, he was rejoiced to hear that the Government were about to open a new hospital at Smyrna. Other defects in the hospital at Scutari were pointed out by him. But matters were improved when at the Bulaklava hospital, where the bedclothes had never been washed, and where men sick of one disease had caught another disease by being put into the place where a man had just before died of fever. In one room he found fourteen, in another nine, men lying on the floor; while in the passage between them were excellent bedsteads, which might have been put up on an average of three minutes each. The hon. member went at great length and minuteness into specific cases of neglect, and consequent misery endured by the soldiers, the general effect of which may be summed up in the words addressed by a French officer to himself—"You seem, sir," said he, "to carry on war according to the system of the middle ages; and," he added, "our regret for your backwardness is increased because we see the noble lives you are losing." From the general statement he recounted Miss Nightingale and her nurses, the attachment of the soldiers to their officers, and especially to the Duke of Cambridge, and, most of all, the effect produced upon them by the Queen's letter. He concluded by urging upon the House to appoint a Committee as the only means of saving the army.

Mr. B. Osborne attributed all the evils which had been exposed to the state of the Horse Guards. A mere consolidation of offices would not do; the whole system must be altered at the Horse Guards. He particularly denounced the system of the staff appointments and the purchase of commissions, and it was unfair to blame the Duke of Newcastle for the faults of a system which the House had over and over again sanctioned. He deplored the secession of Lord John Russell, which he admitted had destroyed the Government; but, for his part, he would stand by the crew and the ship.

Mr. Henley said, the question was not whether the system was bad, but whether the present Ministers had made the best of it. He blamed the Admiralty for the defects that had attended the transport service, and supported the motion.

Admiral Berkeley defended the Admiralty from the charge of neglecting the transport service.

Mr. Beresford defended the army against the charges of Mr. Osborne. He also repelled the charge of neglecting his soldiers, brought against Lord Raglan, and asserted that the expedition to the Crimea was undertaken in opposition to the wishes and advice of that Commander.

Mr. Rice opposed, and Mr. Miles supported, the motion.

Sir F. Baring opposed the motion, on the ground that a Committee would only aggravate the evils it professed to cure. He severely censured Lord Aberdeen for not listening to Lord John Russell's suggestions in November, and for allowing private affection to outweigh his regard for the interests of the country, the safety of our noble army, and the honour of our allies. Under these circumstances, his vote must not be taken as expressing confidence either in the past or the future management of the war by the present Government.

Mr. Bentinck objected to the motion that the first part of it was impertinent, and that the second part intimated a doubt which he did not feel—whether there had really been gross incompetence in the conduct of the war. But he would support it, as a vote of no confidence in the present management of the war.

Mr. Rice supported the motion for inquiry.

Sir E. B. Lytton contended that the justification of the motion was to be found in the extremity of the case. The noble Lord the member for London had left his colleagues rather than resist it notwithstanding the pain which such an abandonment must have given to so gallant a mind; and he gave the noble Lord the more credit for his pain because of the more than Spartan fortitude with which he had concealed the fact. The expedition to the Crimea had been undertaken in utter ignorance of the country they were to invade, the forces they were to encounter, and the supplies which they might expect; and it was this ignorance, and not the petty collisions between the Secretary at War had died, to which the disasters had to be attributed. It was said that it was a pity all this ignorance. He thought so, but the ignorance which was excusable in a people was a crime in a Ministry. But the people did not deserve this censure. The people looked to triumphs on the sea rather than on the land; but when nearly the whole Black Sea lay defenceless before them, the fleet contented themselves with an ineffectual bombardment of Odessa, for which in consequence, he was sure, of private instruction the Admiral afterwards made an apology. It was said that the collisions rather than resist it notwithstanding the of inhumanity. Why, Odessa was the feeder of Sebastopol, and spare it was the lowest inhumanity to our soldiers. The whole campaign was mismanaged. Of the whole year, the Government had chosen the two unhealthiest months to encamp the army in Varna; and they had chosen the winter as the time to attack the Gibraltar of the East. He did not blame the Government because the army had been exposed to wind, and rain, and mud; but he did blame them for not taking those precautions against the Crimean winter which any traveller could have told them were necessary. He traced many of the evils to the fact of a coalition Government, in which everybody's principles agreed with nobody's opinions. It was said that the noble Lord the member for Tiverton was likely to be advanced in position as the result of these disputes. He regarded that noble Lord with feelings of the greatest admiration; and he felt that a greater change was arise from the armed neutrality of his unsuccessful advocate and friend, the noble member for London. He referred to one parallel to the present crisis in our history, when a former Duke of Newcastle was in office during a period of war, and when our army was in a state of peril. The remedy adopted then was open to the House now. The people rose as one man—they dismissed the Ministry and they saved the army.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer commenced his speech by thanking Lord John Russell for the eulogium pronounced upon him by the noble Lord on Friday night. At the same time he stated that the noble Lord had not urged his remonstrances from November up to his resignation. Now, in November there were no complaints against the conduct of the War-office; nay, in October he wrote to the noble Duke, stating his belief that he had done in his office all man could do. More than this, the Earl of Aberdeen, being doubtful of the intentions of the President of the Council, asked him, on the 16th of December, whether he still adhered to his intention of pressing changes in the War Department; and the noble Lord stated, in reply, that, on the advice of a friend of his own, he had abandoned the views he pressed in November. Therefore, up to Tuesday night, when the noble Lord sent in his resignation, his colleagues did not know that he was dissatisfied, or that he meant to press his former views as to the reorganisation of the War Department, and it might be thought that, after losing the services of the noble Lord, the Government ought not to have met the House, or, at least, not to have met them without some reorganisation. But he felt it was not for them either to attempt to make terms with the House by a reorganisation, or to shrink from the judgment of the House upon their past acts. If they had shrunk, what sort of epitaph would have been written over their remains? He himself would have written it thus—Here lie the dishonoured ashes of a Ministry which found England at peace and left it in war—which was content to enjoy the emoluments of office, and to wield the sceptre of power so long as no man had the courage to question their competence. They saw the storm gathering over the country, they heard the alarming accounts which were almost daily received of the state of the sick and wounded in the East. These things did not move them. But so soon as the honourable member for Sheffield raised his hand to point the thunderbolt, they became conscience-stricken with a sense of guilt, and, in order to escape punishment, they abandoned duty. With regard to the motion now before the House, he would be himself the first to vote for it if it could be proved that it would benefit the service. He believed it would aggravate, rather than alleviate, the evils complained of. The last accounts represented matters as improving. The whole army was improving—warm clothing had been served out to the whole army—the huts were in course of being set up—the railway would be finished within three weeks of its commencement—and, what was of greater consequence, an arrangement had been effected between the generals, by which 1000 Frenchmen would be permanently in the trenches, relieving to that extent the same number of Englishmen. Further, great exaggerations had been used as to the state of the army. According to the latest returns there were at present 28,000 English troops under arms before Sebastopol, and to these were to be added from 5000 to 6000 seamen and marines; thus bringing up the whole English force now in existence to more than 30,000 men. It could not be said, therefore, that the British army before Sebastopol was extinguished. He insinuated that these were points in which the English military system could bear a favourable comparison with that of the French, though honourable members would see that this was not a matter for public discussion. The honourable Baronet (Sir E. Lytton) condemned the Government for not destroying Odessa. Why, Odessa was an open town, with 100,000 inhabitants, and with an army of 300,000 men within easy reach. Would that have proved comfortable winter quarters for the British army? He admitted that the administration of the War Departments at home was defective, but he did not admit that they were not much improved, or that they were not as defective as to call for censure. As a proof of the improvements that had been effected, he instanced the employment of the Minie rifle, the reconstruction of our field artillery, and the securing of ground for training the army to camp service. But the censure was intended to be cast upon the Duke of Newcastle. If they thought that his noble friend had neglected the duties devolved upon him, they were in a mistaken; and, however they might vote to-night, he was quite sure that a twelvemonth hence, if the real state of the facts should then be known, there would be a reaction among the just and generous people of England in his favour. The complaints as to the state of the hospitals, and of the army before Sebastopol, had only become clamorous since the middle of December. What would the House have had his noble friend do? Was he to recall Lord Raglan? Why, the House had just vote him a vote of thanks to this gallant commander! Was he, then, to recall the subordinate of Lord Raglan? Before doing that, his noble friend had called for a report from Lord Raglan as to his subordinates, and they had received a statement from Lord Raglan, giving hope that these abuses would be remedied. The House was asked to say whether they would censure the Government for trusting to the representations of Lord Raglan. It was admitted that the appointment of this Committee was improper and impracticable, and was avowedly supported by many members on the ground of trusting out the Ministry. The country would not understand this. If the House voted a Committee, the country would expect that that Committee should be appointed, and if it was not, the character of the House itself would be damaged; and he reminded the House that if any charges against the Government were hereafter brought forward, on which the House would have ample opportunity to express its judgment as to the conduct of the Government. If this motion were to be carried, he should ever rejoice that his last words as a member of Lord Aberdeen's Government were an indignant protest against a measure useless to the army, unconstitutional in its nature, and fraught with danger to the honour and the interest of the Commons of England.

Mr. Disraeli said, his first impression, on seeing the honourable member for Sheffield sit down on Friday night, after simply reading his motion, was, that the honourable and learned gentleman, as a consummate rhetorician, had done so as the most effective mode of supporting his motion. He might well, indeed, dispense with a speech in support of his motion, for that had been made for him by the noble Lord, who but a few hours before was the first Minister of the Crown in that House. It was said that this motion implied a vote of want of confidence. He would ask, in what Government did it imply a vote of want of confidence? Was it in the Government of Lord Aberdeen? Two years ago, or was it in the Government as it now existed? Why, they had themselves admitted that they required reconstruction. Or was it want of confidence in the Government as it was to be? The House of Commons had often before voted confidence in Governments whose principles they did not know, but now they were called upon to vote confidence in an administration with whose very persons they were unacquainted. He denied that this motion was directed exclusively against the Duke of Newcastle. His own colleague had described him as defident alike in energy and experience; but the Duke ought not to be made the scapegoat for a policy for which the whole Cabinet was responsible. Neither would he consent to throw the blame upon a system which, whatever might be its faults, when in hands of men had accomplished great ends. It was the Cabinet as a whole that must be held responsible for the evils that existed. Recurring to the explanatory speech of the noble Lord the member for London, he said it reminded him of a page from the "Life of Bubb Dodington," in the unconscious admission it contained of what, in the eighteenth century, would have been deemed an excellent intrigue. These dissensions would prove most injurious to the character of England. Two years ago, England was the leading Power in Europe; would any man say that she now occupied that position? Under these circumstances, he felt that, being called upon to give a vote on this question, he could not refuse to give it against a deplorable Administration.

Lord J. Russell entered into some explanations with respect to the secession of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and said, if the which of which [illegible] Lord John Russell had proposed to Aberdeen were laid before the House, the transaction would have had a different complexion. He would not enter further into that question, however; but he could not so easily pass by the expression of the right hon. gentleman opposite, characterising his conduct as a political intrigue, he had repelled that charge, and, as a precedent for what he had done, he referred to the substitution of Lord Stanley for Lord Goderich as Colonial Secretary, in Lord Grey's Administration. No man would characterise that as a profligate intrigue, and he (Lord J. Russell) had proposed no more than was done there. There was no concealment in the matter. He requested the Earl of Aberdeen to show his letter to the Duke of Newcastle, and that, he was informed by Lord Aberdeen in his next letter, was perfectly satisfied with the course he had taken. He (Lord J. Russell) had, unadvisedly for himself perhaps, not communicated his intention of resigning to any one of his colleagues.

Lord Palmerston accepted the issue of this question as the right Honourable gentleman opposite had put it—as a censure, not upon the Duke of Newcastle, but upon the whole Cabinet. He defended the principle of coalition Governments, as unavoidable in the present state of parties in the country. He condemned the motion, because it would set a precedent, dangerous it were carried out, and disappointing to the country if it were not. If it were only intended to overthrow the Government

there were many other courses which might have been adopted with as inconvenience or injury to the interest of the country. He hoped these unhappy dissensions would be confined to the overthrow of the Government, and that the House would follow the example of the country, which was unanimous in its determination to carry on the war with vigour. Having settled what Government they would support, he hoped the House would not discredit Parliamentary Government in the face of Europe by continuing these dissensions, and showing that a Constitutional Government was not so able to carry on war as Governments framed on other principles.

After some remarks from Mr. Moritz and Mr. Horsman,

Mr. Duncombe asked whether Mr. Rochuck meant to carry out his Committee (hear, hear, laughter)?

Mr Roebuck said he did, and in a few words he replied to the objections which had been urged against his motion.

The House then divided—For the Committee, 305; against it, 148: Majority against Ministers, 157.

The amount of the majority seemed to take all parties by surprise, and instead of the usual cheering there was a murmur of amazement, ending in general laughter.

The other orders of the day were postponed, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY

The Speaker took the chair at four o'clock.

NEW MEMBER.

Captain Pakenham took the oaths and his seat as member for the county Antrim.

ARMY PROMOTION.

Major Reed gave notice, that on Tuesday, the 13th of February, he would move for a Committee to inquire into the system of promotion by purchase in the Army, with the view of substituting a more effective system of promotion by merit and long service.

THE MINISTERIAL INTERREGNUM.

Lord Palmerston, who rose amidst loud cries of "Hear, hear," said: Sir, I am anxious to propose to the House that, in the present state of public affairs, to which I need not more particularly advert, and considering that the House of Lords has adjourned to Thursday, and that no statement can be made in that House by the head of the Government till that day, this House, at its rising, shall adjourn to Thursday next. I therefore hope that those gentlemen who have notices on the paper will have the kindness to postpone them till that day, and that they will not propose anything that may lead to discussion. My right hon friend the Secretary of State for the Colonies has a bill to introduce for carrying into effect a reciprocity treaty between her Majesty and the United States, which, as it is of great and pressing importance to the Colonies, it is desirable that no time should be lost in introducing it.

The motion for the adjournment of the House, at its rising, till Thursday, was then agreed to

(*Continued on page 106.*)

Duration of Ministries.—The following account of the names and the duration of the various Administrations which have governed England since the passing of the Reform Act of 1832 may at the moment be interesting to all parties. The Ministry of the late Earl Grey held office from November, 1830, to August, 1834, and was instrumental in carrying the bill for the reform of the representative system. On the resignation of Earl Grey, in August, 1834, the Whig Ministry was modified, and Viscount Melbourne was raised to the office of First Lord of the Treasury. This Ministry was dissolved by William IV. in November, 1834, when Sir Robert Peel was summoned by the King from Rome to form a new Government on moderate Conservative principles. Sir Robert accepted office, however, was briefly for in the following April [illegible] that honor rable Baronet was defeated on the famous "Appropriation" clause of the Irish Tithe Bill, and Lord Melbourne once more [illegible] Government. Thus, the second Melbourne Ministry [illegible] Apr., 1835, to August, 1841, or upwards of six years, exclusive of a short interregnum in 1839, when Lord Melbourne temporarily [illegible] were reinstated on the resignation of Sir Robert Peel to take office under certain circumstances which need not now be reverted to. In [illegible] the Whigs were defeated in two Parliaments of their own existence, and Sir R. Peel found that, as [illegible] carried the principle of Free-trade, and was [illegible] in 1846 by the secession of its "Protectionist" [illegible] John Russell's Administration, which succeeded, [illegible] 1846, to February, 1852, when a defeat on the [illegible] Militia Bill, [illegible] Ministry [illegible] Earl of Aberdeen succeeded as the head of a Coalition [illegible] This Administration has lasted little more than two years [illegible] It will be seen that the second Ministry of Viscount Melbourne held office for upwards of six years, that of Sir Robert Peel (the second Ministry) nearly five years, and that of Lord John Russell nearly four years. During the period in question—viz., from 1834 to 1854 three appeals were made by existing Ministers to the public upon the question of the national constitutional one, or of a general election; twice Sir Robert Peel dissolved Parliament in Dec., 1834, and the result was [illegible] able, but not adequate [illegible] of Parliamentary support. Lord Melbourne dissolved in 1841, but the country returned a majority of his adherents; and the Earl of Derby appeal to the people in 1852, was [illegible] from the result, similarly, the [illegible] not equally unsuccessful.

Convictism in Australia.—The new bill of Sir Charles Hotham, regarding the punishment of convicts with additional imprisonment in Australia, has excited popular opposition. Sir Charles's plan is to establish agents or commissioners at Launceston, Hobart Town, Perth, Adelaide, and Sydney, who are to inquire into the characters of persons and give passports. Any persons bearing a certificate of good character, signed by magistrates, or others named in the Act, are to be entitled to a passport. Such as land without passports are to be arrested. The colonists wish to carry out the former Convict Prevention Act, to which the home Government refused the Royal assent. Public meetings have been held to express opposition to the new bill. In Van Diemen's Land the people have petitioned for the discontinuance of all "conditional" pardons.

Public Income and Expenditure in 1854.—An account of the net income and expenditure of the country for the year ended the 5th of January, 1855, &c., was issued on Saturday. It hence appears that the gross total income amounted to £56,757,122, and the expenditure to £52,946,212; thus exhibiting an excess of expenditure over income amounting to £3,809,090.

Waste and Wan.—Yesterday being favourable weather, I went through the town or rather village of Balaclava, to a distance of two or three miles inland. My impressions were what must, I think, be the impressions of any person who sees his destiny, that there is great want of management here. Of course there are extenuating circumstances; but when one lands on a hundred bags of bran, placed on the waterside, and in the winter, to form a jetty, when within a hundred yards there are horses straying, and around one are the carcases of horses that have died on the spot, one must come to the conclusion that there is want of thought, humanity, and great forethought and good. Again, within a few yards of the shore are strewn fifty or sixty bed valises, belonging to officers, that would be invaluable in the Camp, but have lain there for three weeks exposed to the rain and snow, and to the mercies of the passers by. As to the clothing of the troops, one comes across a soldier, who has been roughing it for months, on account of his dirty appearance. I have unfeeling and unjust to do so. But it is impossible to avoid comparing the ragged, dirty appearance of our soldiers, and the ill-make and fit of their grey coats, with the neat, smart and snug get up of the French soldiers, who come into Balaclava to carry up shot and shell into the Camp; their blue cloth great-coats fit them like the coats of Sir Joseph footmen, and they all have warm hoods attached to them. Their sheepskin gloves and comfortable boots, large enough to pull down over the ears, excite the envy of our soldiers. I know that those for whom they are fighting would be greatly mortified if they knew how inferior in things comfortable they are to their gallant allies. We are slow in everything. Now that the snow has left off upon the ground, a few wooden huts are beginning to make their appearance; and this very day, through some mismanagement, a small steamer containing these huts has run on the rocks at the entrance of the harbour. However, she is not damaged, and may be got off to-morrow. The force of taking levels for the railway is proceeding, though it is to be hoped that Sebastopol will be taken before that is finished. I heard it said to-day that almost every man would join the French hope rather than remain to run the risk of dying of disease.—*Letter from Balaclava, Jan. 12.*

The Waggon Service.—When, about a year or a year and a half ago, Austria, in order to keep Montenegro in order, thought of sending a corps of 30,000 men into the Herzegovina, the Turkish Albania, it was pointed out to the Austrian Government that, when the time for operations in the open field comes, the army may not be obliged to remain inactive for want of the means of conveying their baggage and supplies.

A New Ally.—The *Freunden Blatt* has learned from Varna that the vast quantity of snow which has fallen at Sebastopol is of advantage to the besiegers, who have shovelled it up into a kind of wall, which so completely conceals their operations that the Russians are obliged to reconnoitre continually. Thanks to this new ally, the English and French have also been able to push forward their trenches.

OPINIONS OF THE SILENT MEMBER. (No. II.)

Monday's division decided not only that the House of Commons had no confidence in the Government, but the debate showed also that the members of the Ministry had no confidence in themselves, or in each other. Each Minister who spoke confessed the insufficiency and pleaded the inexperience of himself and his colleagues. They had all done their best, which they all allowed had been very bad; but then "they had never tried their hands before at the conduct of a war;" and they seemed to think they ought to be excused for sacrificing the army and perilling the honour of England because they were merely amateurs in the business they had undertaken. If they felt their incompetency, they should have come to the country at once, and requested to be released from their engagements, instead of going on drawing their salaries for services they were incapable of rendering. They have been found unequal to the task of conveying stores a distance of six miles; and, with all the resources of the country liberally placed at their disposal, they could not perform a task that Pickford and Co. or Chaplin and Horne would have readily accomplished. They have cared little about their inability to carry the stores and provisions from Balaclava to the Camp, so long as they were enabled to carry their measures in the House of Commons. The plea of inexperience comes with a bad grace from those who, in the absence of original genius, have had no other guide but precedent, and who have literally broken down in the ruts of routine out of which they have not dared to attempt to travel.

The House of Commons could not do otherwise than show its want of confidence in the Ministry, for any other result would have caused the country to have no confidence in the House of Commons. People are asking, "What are we to get by it?" and some blame the majority for passing an honest vote; but, surely, when we find that our servants are bringing us to ruin, we are not to continue them in our employ merely because we may have some trouble in finding others to take their places. We had better have a change of Ministry once a month than permit our public servants to feel that, however incompetent they may be, we shall allow them to keep their places. The "man" is always to be found for the situation; but the situation must be relieved from the presence of the unworthy holder of it before it can be available for the fitting occupant. The official sewers must be flushed; and there can be no objection to begin by adopting the suggestion of Mr. R. Osborne—himself a member of the Government—who proposed that the Serpentine should be turned on to the Horse Guards, for the purpose of clearing its system of its confessed impurities. At all events, if there is nothing to be gained, there is certainly nothing to be lost, by getting rid of the Ministry. If it leads to nothing but the shuffling of the cards, let us hope that the trumps may be brought into immediate contact with the Queen, and that the knaves may be thrown out altogether The great "Pam" seems to be the card on which the country is disposed to rely, and he is, undoubtedly, enough of himself to make a strong hand when the game is to be played with boldness. Whoever may take the lead will do well to avoid trying to win by tricks, and to take all the care he can of his honours.

The Ministerial crisis will, probably, give the deathblow to much that is of more importance than the Ministry itself, and all idea of useful legislation will be put off under one or more of the variety of pretexts that are always available to a new Government. It mostly happens that the Ministry, or any other, cannot be expected to do everything at once; and, if it be not, it is easy to find a pretext for putting off the remainder. Thus, the second Melbourne Ministry [illegible] Apr., 1835, to August, 1841, or upwards of six years, exclusive of a short interregnum in 1839, when Lord Melbourne temporarily [illegible] were reinstated on the resignation of Sir Robert Peel to take office under certain circumstances which need not now be reverted to. In [illegible] the Whigs were defeated in two Parliaments of their own existence, and Sir R. Peel found that, as [illegible] carried the principle of Free-trade, and was [illegible] in 1846 by the secession of its "Protectionist" [illegible] John Russell's Administration, which succeeded, [illegible] 1846, to February, 1852, when a defeat on the [illegible] Militia Bill, [illegible] Ministry [illegible] Earl of Aberdeen succeeded as the head of a Coalition [illegible] This Administration has lasted little more than two years [illegible] It will be seen that the second Ministry of Viscount Melbourne held office for upwards of six years, that of Sir Robert Peel (the second Ministry) nearly five years, and that of Lord John Russell nearly four years. During the period in question—viz., from 1834 to 1854 three appeals were made by existing Ministers to the public upon the question of the national constitutional one, or of a general election; twice Sir Robert Peel dissolved Parliament in Dec., 1834, and the result was [illegible] able, but not adequate [illegible] of Parliamentary support. Lord Melbourne dissolved in 1841, but the country returned a majority of his adherents; and the Earl of Derby appeal to the people in 1852, was [illegible] from the result, similarly, the [illegible] not equally unsuccessful.

Convictism in Australia.—The new bill of Sir Charles Hotham, regarding the punishment of convicts with additional imprisonment in Australia, has excited popular opposition. Sir Charles's plan is to establish agents or commissioners at Launceston, Hobart Town, Perth, Adelaide, and Sydney, who are to inquire into the characters of persons and give passports. Any persons bearing a certificate of good character, signed by magistrates, or others named in the Act, are to be entitled to a passport. Such as land without passports are to be arrested. The colonists wish to carry out the former Convict Prevention Act, to which the home Government refused the Royal assent. Public meetings have been held to express opposition to the new bill. In Van Diemen's Land the people have petitioned for the discontinuance of all "conditional" pardons.

Public Income and Expenditure in 1854.—An account of the net income and expenditure of the country for the year ended the 5th of January, 1855, &c., was issued on Saturday. It hence appears that the gross total income amounted to £56,757,122, and the expenditure to £52,946,212; thus exhibiting an excess of expenditure over income amounting to £3,809,090.

Waste and Wan.—Yesterday being favourable weather, I went through the town or rather village of Balaclava, to a distance of two or three miles inland. My impressions were what must, I think, be the impressions of any person who sees his destiny, that there is great want of management here. Of course there are extenuating circumstances; but when one lands on a hundred bags of bran, placed on the waterside, and in the winter, to form a jetty, when within a hundred yards there are horses straying, and around one are the carcases of horses that have died on the spot, one must come to the conclusion that there is want of thought, humanity, and great forethought and good. Again, within a few yards of the shore are strewn fifty or sixty bed valises, belonging to officers, that would be invaluable in the Camp, but have lain there for three weeks exposed to the rain and snow, and to the mercies of the passers by. As to the clothing of the troops, one comes across a soldier, who has been roughing it for months, on account of his dirty appearance. I have unfeeling and unjust to do so. But it is impossible to avoid comparing the ragged, dirty appearance of our soldiers, and the ill-make and fit of their grey coats, with the neat, smart and snug get up of the French soldiers, who come into Balaclava to carry up shot and shell into the Camp; their blue cloth great-coats fit them like the coats of Sir Joseph footmen, and they all have warm hoods attached to them. Their sheepskin gloves and comfortable boots, large enough to pull down over the ears, excite the envy of our soldiers. I know that those for whom they are fighting would be greatly mortified if they knew how inferior in things comfortable they are to their gallant allies. We are slow in everything. Now that the snow has left off upon the ground, a few wooden huts are beginning to make their appearance; and this very day, through some mismanagement, a small steamer containing these huts has run on the rocks at the entrance of the harbour. However, she is not damaged, and may be got off to-morrow. The force of taking levels for the railway is proceeding, though it is to be hoped that Sebastopol will be taken before that is finished. I heard it said to-day that almost every man would join the French hope rather than remain to run the risk of dying of disease.—*Letter from Balaclava, Jan. 12.*

The Waggon Service.—When, about a year or a year and a half ago, Austria, in order to keep Montenegro in order, thought of sending a corps of 30,000 men into the Herzegovina, the Turkish Albania, it was pointed out to the Austrian Government that, when the time for operations in the open field comes, the army may not be obliged to remain inactive for want of the means of conveying their baggage and supplies.

A New Ally.—The *Freunden Blatt* has learned from Varna that the vast quantity of snow which has fallen at Sebastopol is of advantage to the besiegers, who have shovelled it up into a kind of wall, which so completely conceals their operations that the Russians are obliged to reconnoitre continually. Thanks to this new ally, the English and French have also been able to push forward their trenches.

ARRIVAL OF THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE

On Tuesday his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge disembarked at Dover, from the *Princess Alice* steam-packet, which had been dispatched to Calais expressly to convey the noble and gallant Duke to those shores. A guard of honour of the Staffordshire Militia, under the command of Major Inge, was in attendance. On the arrival of the *Princess Alice* at the place of landing, Captain Herrick, Colonel Streatfield, Colonel Cator, Major Inge, the Mayor, and some of the members of the Corporation, proceeded on board, and shortly afterwards his Royal Highness appeared upon the deck. The interchange of civilities between his Royal Highness and the gentlemen assembled was the signal for a shout from the multitude who had now congregated, and a mute vociferous cheers, the booming of a Royal salute from the Drop Redoubt, and the strains of military music, the gallant and Royal Duke set foot again upon the soil of England

A post-carriage had been provided to convey his Royal Highness to Birmingham's Ship Hotel, but it was not brought into requisition, and his Royal Highness proceeded on foot towards that establishment, accompanied by the Mayor and the other authorities, and followed by a large crowd of persons, who continued cheering till his Royal Highness had arrived at the steps of the hotel.

The Duke of Cambridge was accompanied by the following members of his staff: the Hon Colonel Macdonald and Colonel Tyrwhitt; and Dr. Gibson (his Royal Highness's physician) and suite were also in attendance upon his Royal Highness. The Duke having been ushered into one of the state apartments of the Ship Hotel, the Mayor and Corporation, accompanied by some of the leading residents of the town, proceeded thither for the purpose of offering his Royal Highness an address congratulatory of his return to England. They were very courteously received by the gallant Duke; and the Town Clerk (T. B. Bass, Esq.) then proceeded to read the following address:—

May it please your Royal Highness,—We, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of Dover, hasten to testify our unfeigned gratification at the safe return of your Royal Highness to your native country, after the arduous and dangerous service in which your Royal Highness has so much distinguished yourself in the Crimea. Deeply regretting the cause which has for a time deprived her Majesty of your Royal Highness's presence in the field, we earnestly pray that it may please Almighty God that you may soon be restored to health, so that our beloved Queen and country may again enjoy the advantage of the valuable services of your Royal Highness, and that our soldiers may be stimulated by your brave and glorious example.

The address was followed by loud cheering; at the conclusion of which his Royal Highness replied to the following effect:—

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,—I thank you for the gratification you have rendered me in presenting me with the present address. I assure you that any inconvenience or discomfort which I have experienced in the Crimea has been amply repaid by the bravery of the troops. All in general can do is to lead, and my humble services have been given cheerfully, but it has not been a war of generalship—the campaign has been a soldiers' and nothing but a soldiers' campaign. Led on as they have been by their indomitable courage, these troops have performed prodigies of valour, and I can assure you a finer set of fellows do not exist in the world than the men who are fighting the battles of Britain in the Crimea, and who have done everything in their power to sustain the honour of their country. Mr. Mayor and gentlemen, I again thank you (Loud cheers)

The deputation then withdrew. After partaking of a cold collation, his Royal Highness left for London by the two p.m. train of the South-Eastern Railway His Royal Highness was accompanied to the railway station by the officials who received him on landing Mr. Way, the superintendent of the station, received his Royal Highness and staff with every possible attention, and the train left Dover amid loud cheers.

A Thorough Blockade.—No apprehension need be entertained of Russian ships getting out, or, if out, of their getting into port again until spring According to recent letters from divers places in Russia, the thermometer was those low as 24 degrees Reaumur (or 86 degrees Fahrenheit) under 0, or 47 below freezing-point Fahrenheit). The Russian fleet is therefore fast bound, and will be fast bound if the Allied squadrons return to the Baltic at the end of March.

The Expense of Convicts.—A Parliamentary blue-book has just been published, from which it appears that the cost of convicts in 1853 4 was £7,154, and in 1854-5, £8,359. The high price of provisions was one cause of the increase.

"They Manage these Things Better in France."—In the French army one soldier cooks for twelve, instead of each man, as with us, preparing his own dinner by rotation. Amongst other advantages arising from this arrangement, the French soldier serves for a whole regiment, instead of every man being cumbered with his particular pots and pans. But above all, by its means a more palatable and wholesome dinner for the troops is secured. If a night be with us a fine banquet, nothing can be better than our ration pork when it has been well soaked for two or three hours before being dressed, nor anything more salt, and hence more likely to aggravate the disease in question, than the same pork when cooked without the initiatory process in question. It is, of course, impossible for each of our soldiers, amidst the various call on time to spare every day the time necessary for soaking their pork, but one man in twelve might, I suppose, very easily do so.—*A Month in the Camp*

A Precious Relic.—Sergeant-Major L—, of the Algerine Rifles, having advanced far in front, found himself surrounded by Russians, upon whom he fired and put them to flight, but in the work of a moment. Having thus relieved himself from troublesome company, he was about to advance when the bugle sounded the recall; these well-known notes somewhat calmed him, and as he was looking among the dead and dying, his eye was caught by a large medal which lay shining upon the breast of a dead man; he drew near, and, on examination, found the wearer to be an officer, clad in a private's great-coat. At first he had some compunction as to taking the treasure from the neck, but seeing an inscription upon it his curiosity was excited, he seized the treasure, and returned to his camp, there to examine it at leisure. The medal was an octagon of thick chased silver, worth intrinsically about forty francs. On one side was an inscription in Russian, of which the following is a translation:—"*A mother's blessing upon Stephan Dolien Dobrovolski, 1847, 14th October*" On the other side, in a frame, was a picture of the Virgin Mary holding an infant Jesus, painted upon glass, under the plate of glass was a satin rose-coloured bag, containing a letter with an engraving glued on to the corner of it, upon which were inscribed the following words—"The highest nobility is to serve the Lord" As the letter was written in an angular style and highly perfumed, it was deemed the production of a lady The large medal was suspended on a double silver chain, upon which were the arms of Russia, and, having on one side a figure of the Pope, on the other a St. Nicholas, and beneath could be seen a painting of exquisite beauty, and further, a cross, representing a crucifix, with the words "Christ Jesus" Large sums have been offered for this curious treasure.—*Letter from a French Officer in the Crimea.*

THE BATTLE-FIELD OF INKERMAN.

The scene which our Artist has here depicted is one which he witnessed in crossing the battle-field on the 5th of November, at the time when the Russians were retreating. On horseback or on foot it was impossible to pass along without treading on the wounded or the dead, so thickly was the ground covered with them. A sergeant who had been in the very midst of the deadly struggle thus describes how he felt when he went home to the Camp and found none of his comrades there:—

The worst I felt was, when I came home and found all my comrades missing, and did not know whether they were dead or wounded; but had to go amongst the dead and wounded in the dark to see whom we could find. I was passing, with some more of my comrades, with as many of the wounded as we could gather up, and there was one of our poor fellows, lying on the ground beside some that were dead, with both his thighs shot through, one of which was fractured very much. He did not even utter a groan, but simply said "Sergeant, is there any chance of my being taken?" I said, "We will come back and fetch you;" but the night was so dark that we could not find him, neither did anybody else, so he had to be all the next day; but the poor fellow has since died of his wounds . . . . .

Another soldier gives the following description of the battle-field, a few days afterward:—

I have just been over the ground on which the battle of Inkerman was fought. Many scores of the Russian dead remain, some lying upon their backs, with broken—ramrods—Minié-balls—Russian pouches—belts—old gun-barrels doubled up—fragments of clothing, &c., but, above all, some hundreds of round shot and shells unburst lay about in all directions. The graves of our brave men who fell on that day are also to be seen, their heads marked by pyramids of the deadly missiles by which so many fell. The graves of the enemy are still more conspicuous. From the number left dead on the field, it was found impossible to dig a grave for each; so that their last resting place is known by the dimensions of the earth thrown up—a piece about eight feet wide and as many yards long, containing, perhaps, some twenty or thirty of these poor fellows. Twice has the ground been fought over; twice have the enemy been repulsed; twice have we toiled to bury their dead. Thus

OUR ARTIST ON THE BATTLE-FIELD OF INKERMAN.

I went musing on, until a shell burst in the air some hundred feet over my head. This broke my reverie, and caused me to look around, when I discovered that the shot was intended for a working party at a redoubt, now nearly finished, which overlooks the mouth of the Tchernaya, on its entrance to the harbour. Many minutes had not elapsed before up came others, which, at first, fell harmless, but I afterwards observed some fall among the works. These shots were fired from the mud tower—from the steamer which moves up and down the harbour, and from a three-gun battery on the Inkerman opposite

The Russian wounded and ours are equally taken from the battle-field and conveyed to the hospitals. They have an equal share of attention: and, if the Russians are neglected, so are our own countrymen. The first thing we do with the Russian prisoners, when they are taken to head-quarters, is to feed them, even though they come in the middle of the night; and while in the keeping of Captain Macdonald, the Provost-Marshal, they have a dry floor to lie on, and a roof to protect them from rain, and their rations are better and more abundant than ever they had before

The following extract is from the letter of a servant, whose master, an officer in the British army, was killed at the battle of Inkerman:—

I was with my poor master in all his engagements, attending him as near as possible. We lay down together at night in his tent, and the same blanket covered us. It took me eight hours to peck him out from the dead, and when I found him his rough coat had been stripped off him. He had five bayonet wounds, and his under-coat was riddled with shot. I wrapped him up in his cloak and two blankets, and carried him over the dead to his tent, laid him out, lit a fire outside of his tent, and watched over him all night. The next morning I got a stubborn jibbing mule and a gun-carriage, and laid him thereon, to take him down to Balaclava to his brother, who had arrived out to see him about three days before. With difficulty I got along the road, about eight miles, when I met some blue-jackets—four. I told them what I was doing, and asked their help. "Ay, ay, my lad, we'll help you." They went into a field, got two bullocks and a cart, put the body on it, and most carefully conducted it to Balaclava, and when I offered to reward them not a farthing or a drop would any of them accept. Brave fellows, those blue-jackets! I then went on board one of the ships, had a coffin made, put the body into it, and buried it in the churchyard of Balaclava. Then I raised a headboard and planted his grave with cypress, and whenever after I went there, there I found the younger brother of my late master, Sir R. N——. I sailed with him from Balaclava in the *Medway*, and came overland to England. No tongue can describe the horrors of the battle of Inkerman. I was there waiting for my master, having his telescope slung round me, with a bottle of water, two potatoes in my pocket, a bit of ham and a biscuit, and a small bottle of rum

As a great deal has been said about the way in which the ambulance corps neglected its duty, the following letter from James M'Devitt, of the battalion of enrolled pensioners, who went out as a volunteer to serve in the ambulance corps attached to the army in the Crimea, will show that one member of that corps, at least, did his duty at Inkerman. M'Devitt, writing on the 1st from the Scutari Barracks, where he lay wounded, tells how he volunteered at Varna, sailed to the Crimea, and was present at Alma, and proceeds:—

I was then told off to the Second Division, and joined the same on the heights of Sebastopol. I was present at all the little affairs that happened; I moved out with skirmishers on the 26th October, but did not get hit. I saw that affair over, and nothing happened until the 5th of November, when the enemy appeared in massive columns in the morning at about a quarter to six o'clock. I then moved up to the heights and attached myself to an artillery gun, which I saw was deficient of men, and served ammunition until it was all done. I then descended from the heights, and placed myself on the right of No. 4 company of the 95th Regiment. The officer commanding the company was Mr. Browne. I asked his liberty to fall in, and he said, "Certainly, old fellow." It was a 95th firelock and ammunition that I got from a wounded man in rear of the company. I remained on the right of the company doing duty until I got hit by a musket-ball in the centre of my left arm. I was then compelled to fall to the rear from excessive loss of blood, and was in a fainting state when I reached the hospital, from which I was compelled to retire, for the enemy's shell and shot were surrounding it on all sides. I got my arm bandaged up, and went on board ship at Balaclava along with the wounded for Constantinople. I arrived here on the 9th of the month. I do not know whether I shall have the use of my arm again or not.

DR. BRETT'S HOSPITAL AMBULANCE.

During the past year Dr. Brett, a retired surgeon of the Bengal Medical Staff, was selected for a particular service with the army in Turkey under the command of Lord Raglan; when, by the wish of the Director-General of the Army Medical Department, the Doctor was instructed to organise a native Hospital Corps of Palanquin or Doolie Bearers and attendants on the sick and wounded. The Commander of the Forces did not, however, avail himself of Dr Brett's services; but, on his departure for England, he received Lord Raglan's thanks, as well as the acknowledgment of his "praiseworthy and patriotic exertions" from Mr. Sidney Herbert, Secretary-at-War. The Doctor then laid before the Medical Department—

1st. A report on the climate and diseases of Turkey, and on the means of preserving the health of the soldier in that country; every word of which has been verified by the result.

2nd. Hospital doolies on an improved plan, for the conveyance of the sick and wounded, submitted, with a specimen and drawings.

3rd. A model camel-litter, constructed with improvements on the plan of my camel-litters invented in India for the troopers of the Governor-General's body-guard, to which regiment I belonged

Sick officers (writes Dr. Brett) were daily being brought in from Devna, eighteen miles off, in carts, thus proving how valuable would have been the establishment of an efficient set of doolies and doolie-bearers, as intended to have been formed by the Director-General.

Notwithstanding these acknowledged special services, they were dispensed with, as Dr. Brett complained in a letter to the Duke of Newcastle, in a manner injurious to him professionally amongst his relations and connections. His main proposition was the formation of a Hospital Corps of Turkish subjects. This was, however, rejected; and upon his return to England Dr. Brett published his plan, wherein he states that—

Eight hundred hardy enduring Turks (the ordinary porters of the country) would have done the work well. It was intended that each man should carry a light water-bag (Musauk) and a drinking-cup. The roads of the country of Bulgaria were so very bad, that carts could be with difficulty drawn, and the cattle broke down. Hark to that sigh of exhaustion from a fine young officer the descendant of an illustrious family. He is in the last stage of a Bulgarian fever. But there is still hope. The ambulance arrives and receives his shattered frame; the horses, however, break down on the wretched road, and he is in despair of reaching the transport which is to convey him for change of air to the Bosphorus—by chance a fatigue party arrives—he is lifted out of the ambulance, and carried on their shoulders; but it is now too late—he expires on the shore. The litters, or palanquins, would have saved many lives, much agony to the soldiers, and many a heart-rending pang to their bereaved friends and relatives in England

The ambulance-waggons were well constructed, but they were left behind at Varna. My litters were so light and portable that they would have occupied scarcely any space (inflated indarubber cushions and pillows),* and, I doubt not, would have been of great use at the battle of the Alma

DR. BRETT'S AMBULANCE LITTER.

I have seen (adds Dr. Brett) the advantages of my own doolies and doolie-bearers, of my camel-litters, as well as of the French mule-litters, and I have great pleasure in adding that one of the most distinguished and talented general officers of the present day, Sir Harry Smith, whom I knew in India, and whom I had the pleasure of meeting last week at Downing-street, remarked that the "Director-General's idea of forming a hospital corps of palanquin and doolie bearers was an excellent one, and would have proved a boon indeed to the sick and wounded of any army."

It may not be yet too late for the Medical Department to avail itself of the above plan for the abatement of human suffering.

THE GUARDS CONVEYING A WOUNDED OFFICER FROM INKERMAN.

* Inflatable at pleasure, and the whole apparatus could have been taken to pieces, and several litters carried with ease by one man. It is computed that the transports alone in the Black Sea cost the Government £45,000 a day. An ambulance establishment of 400 hardy Turks, who live upon a loaf of bread stewed beans, and a pipe of tobacco, would cost about £16 per diem.

THE GUARDS PRACTISING AT THE VICTORIA RIFLE-GROUND, KILBURN.

DRILL OF THE GUARDS AT THE VICTORIA RIFLE CORPS GROUND.—NEW DRESS.

A convenient space of ground to the left of the village of Kilburn, on the London and North-Western Railway, has lately been appropriated to the exercise of the Victoria Rifle Corps. Here, also, the Guards have been exercised for some time past; one party practising in the morning, and another in the afternoon. Our Artist's Sketch shows the practice.

NEW DRILL DRESS FOR THE GUARDS.

In another column we have engraved the New Dress to be provided for all the Infantry Regiments in the service before April next, as well as for the recruits who are now admitted. The new dress is a red coat, with white cuffs and brass buttons. The trousers are black cloth for winter; in the summer they will wear white, as usual. When in full dress there will be, in addition to that sketched, one cross-belt and a waist-belt. The men approve of them as being more comfortable than the present dress, and are glad to get rid of the quantity of white and epaulettes which their present coat bears.

We may here add that it is stated to be the intention of Government to increase the strength of the three battalions of Guards in the Crimea by 1000 bayonets—viz., 3rd battalion of Grenadier Guards, 300 men; 1st battalion of Coldstream Guards, 350 men; and Scots Fusilier Guards, 1st battalion, 350 men. The Household Brigade of Infantry is in a position to spare nearly double that number, having obtained large reinforcements of volunteers from the militia, and also been very successful in obtaining recruits; the volunteers, being mostly well disciplined, could at once be sent to the seat of war, if required; but it is believed that no further reinforcements will be sent out to the Crimea before the latter part of the next month.

RUSSIAN MEDAL.

We have been favoured by a Correspondent with the accompanying sketch of a Medal taken by an officer of the 63rd Regiment (just returned to this country) from a Russian, killed by him in the battle of Inkerman, 5th of November, 1854. The Medal is of silver. Over the Russian Arms is the triangle, representing the Deity, with the eye of Providence enclosed, shedding rays of glory on the outspread double-headed eagle. "Hear, O ye heathen, and submit, for God is with us!" is in the old Sclavonic, while the inscription on the reverse is in the modern Russian characters. ("For the Pacification of Hungary and Transylvania, 1849.") The red and black colours of the ribbon represent the Order of Vladimir. In the small shield on the breast of the eagle is St. George killing the dragon.

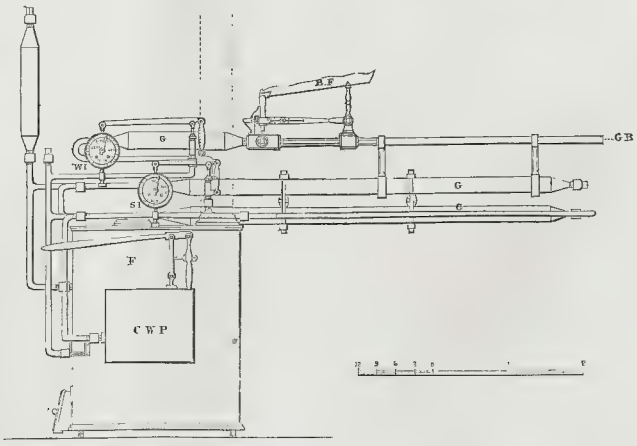
RUSSIAN MEDAL.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

For the last half-year, and since the new management, the rallying cry at this well-established and popular place of amusement and instruction has been "*advancement*;" and, judging from the thousands of the industrial classes who attend the regular courses of lectures, now delivered every Monday evening, the management have cause to congratulate themselves on this extension of the benefits of the Institution. The lecture last Monday evening was by the Rev. B. Power, M.A., Principal of the Diocesan Schools, Norwich, "On Electro-Magnetic Instruments, and their remarkable Applications." This gentleman inaugurated the Monday evening lectures in August last, and was most warmly received by the audience, whom he afterwards delighted with a review of the general facts in Electro-magnetism, taking his hearers gradually to the newest improvements, and ending with many anticipations of the probable advantages of this application of Electricity to the human race.

We cannot altogether pass by the new and beautiful optical Diorama of Sinbad the Sailor, which appears to delight both old and young, and is certainly one of the best dissolving views and phantasmagoria results ever produced by the aid of the oxy-hydrogen light.

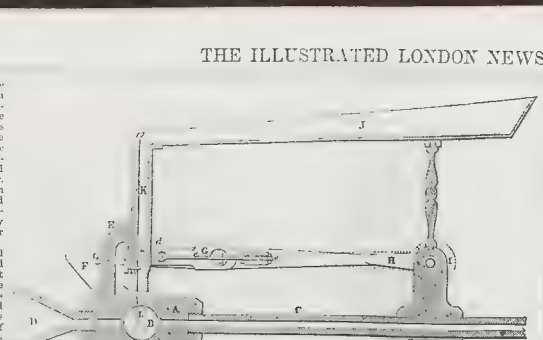
In catering for the peace-loving part of the community, the manage-



G G. Governing apparatus. F. Furnace. C W P. Water pump. W I. Water Indicator. S I. Steam indicator. G B. Gun barrel. B F. Bullet feeder.

THE STEAM-GUN, AT THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

ment has not forgotten the warlike propensities of the other; and in due commemoration of some of England's proudest deeds, projects those aerial harmless images of wars, alarms and horrible deeds; on the passive screen thus depicting the famous Alma, Inkerman, and Sebastopol; and, as if "to drink full deep of horrors," even arms Mr. Johns, the lecturer on Mechanics, with terrible Lancasters, Minie rifles, and the various improvements in firearms. But the great gun is decidedly that which works by steam, viz., our old friend of Adelaide Gallery standing, with a new and most improved countenance; for, whilst the old form of the steam-gun projected but 60 bullets per minute, the new one at the Polytechnic discharges no less than 250 balls in the same period of time. To effect this enormous increase in the vomiting powers of the apparatus certain improvements have been effected by Mr. Perkins, the son of the original inventor, of which we give an engraving. Supposing that the generating apparatus, which produces the steam at a pressure of from 200 to 600 lbs. per square inch, to remain as in the old steam-gun, Mr. Perkins has facilitated the discharge of the bullets by the improved feeding apparatus shown in our sectional drawing.



A Hopper in which the bullets are placed; they fall into tube *k*, and are then support [illegible] feeding plug
D Extension of [illegible] steam escapes
L Point to wh[illegible] the bullets drop by an eccentric, marked *i*, con[illegible] nected by means of a rod *e* producing a reciprocating motion in the plug, *d*, thus permitting the gunner by one given out of the handle *i* drop a bullet in the steam passage *i*, and discharge it almost [illegible] through the [illegible]

SECTION OF THE STEAM-GUN.

The bullets, as discharged against the target at the Polytechnic, are completely reduced to their *ultima*; and if the discharge is made in a darkened room, many of the bullets, as they flatten against the target, emit a light sometimes blue and at others red, thus realising to a certain extent the new theory promulgated by a philosopher in the North, that the light of the sun is produced by the collision of so many miles of asteroids continually against the body of that vast luminary.

Besides the steam-gun, there are the beautiful experiments of Professor Wheatstone, explained by Mr. Pepper, by which four of Erard's harps play [illegible] without visible hands, as the sounds are conducted to them by rods from instruments played upon by performers who are placed several floors beneath the lecture-room. Altogether, such a spirited and really good assemblage of sterling novelties cannot fail to attract the public attention.

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE ORIGIN OF CHESS.

BY DR. DUNCAN FORBES.

CHAPTER VII. ON THE INVENTION OF CHESS IN INDIA, ACCORDING TO THE ARABS AND PERSIANS.

(*Continued from page [illegible]*)

"THE elder brother, being the more humane and intelligent of the two, used every exertion in his power in order to restore peace and reconciliation. He said to the younger, 'Let our mother's kingdom, in the first place, be divided into two equal parts. [illegible] that half which may best please you.'" To this fair and generous proposal, the younger brother would by no means listen; for he attributed the elder's forbearance and moderation solely to his timidity and cowardice. In short, Takhand openly took the field with such forces as he could assemble; and Gur, however peacefully inclined, was compelled to go to war with his own brother in [illegible] the very first engagement Takhand's forces were [illegible] defeated, and he himself, mounted on a superb white elephant, was hurried from the field in the midst of the flight. The victorious [illegible] mounted on swift horses, gave instant pursuit, with strict orders to make [illegible] and prisoner, but not to hurt one hair of his head. At last the victors [illegible] surrounded the young Prince, [illegible] plucking from the white elephant [illegible] The sagacious animal stood motionless as a statue, and as [illegible] at the Prince to alight, they found that his heart had been [illegible] proud spirit had departed. Thus died Takhand, without any wound from his adversaries, but solely because he could not survive the utter ruin of his army, the triumph of his conquerors, and the humiliation he must have undergone in the presence of his brother.

"When the mournful tidings reached the Queen-mother, she became inconsolable for the loss of her younger son. She even upbraided the survivor, Gur, as the cause of his brother's death. In vain did the Prince assert his innocence, and offered to prove, by numberless witnesses, that he was in no ways accountable for the death of his brother. The mother disbelieved them all, and refused to be comforted; nor would she even suffer her surviving son to appear in her sight. On this occasion it was that Sassa, the son of Dahir, modified the ancient game of Chess, as we have already stated in our 'first account.' He brought the board and pieces into the presence of the Queen, both as the means of distracting her sorrow, and with a view to explain to her how the battle had been conducted on both sides. He showed her how the two forces stood on the field, and how at length Takhand, surrounded by his opponents, died of a broken heart, on which occasion those around him exclaimed 'Shah—mát,' or 'Shah-mát,' which signifies 'the Prince is dead,' or the Prince is reduced to the last extremity." The Queen felt a mournful interest in this rare game, which so daily played with Sassa, and at length she became convinced of her surviving son's veracity and innocence."

In concluding this chapter, I may briefly state that Sassa and Dahir were real personages, both having figured in history as Princes of the Brâhman dynasty that reigned in Sind about the commencement of the Muhammadan era. In fact Sassa was the first Indian Prince with whom the Arabs came in contact, when, in order to propagate their newly-adopted religion, they carried their victorious arms towards the banks of the Indus.

Hence, without much examination, they conferred on Sassa the honour of having invented Chess, or (as our anonymous scribe will have it) of having modified the older game. It so happens also (as we know from Indian histories) that Sassa was the elder, and Dâhir the son, or nephew; though this point is of very little importance, as both of them lived nearly a century after Nausheiwan.

The three accounts of the invention of Chess given by our anonymous author are in a examples of the traditions on the subject current among the Arabs and Persians, always excepting the conclusion, which is entirely his own, and not mentioned by any other writer. He repeatedly asserts that Sassa was not the inventor, but merely the improver of an older game of the kind; nor is he very scrupulous on the score of perverting his authorities in order suit his own purpose. For instance, in the first account, which, as he states, he has abridged from the poet Firdausi, he, with the coolest effrontery, falsifies that eminent author's statement. The great poet says not a word about Sassa, nor of the game of the Greeks. He merely states that Gun summoned into his presence all the wise men of his kingdom, and desired them to draw up a plan of the battle, that it might be shown to his mother the Queen. The wise men sat in deliberation for a day and a night, and the result was the invention of the game of Chess. He mentions no name in particular, as he attributes the invention to the collective wisdom of the Indian sages. The story of Sassa is a more recent legend of the Arabs, devised merely to give the invention a sort of "a local habitation and a name."

I believe, however, with the anonymous author, that what the writers of Western Asia considered as the original invention of Chess, really meant the change of the Chaturanga into the Shatranj. The existence of the game of Hermes, the Grecian sage, played by Alexander the Great, his officers and soldiers, is really too absurd to deserve a moment's consideration; as every one conversant with Greek literature and the game of Chess will readily admit. To those nor so qualified to judge, one story is just as good as another; so I make them heartily welcome to their own opinions. At the same time, I think it is not altogether impossible to account for the anonymous author's perversions and falsehoods. He apparently lived at Timur's Court; for [illegible] given eighteen problems or positions that occurred in actual play to Ali-Shatranji—the first player of that period, as I probably one of the best that ever lived. He not only gives the problems, but a great number of moves particular; as every one of them, such as the odds given, the party who was the opponent, and whether Ali played with or without seeing the board—all of which particulars could have been noticed only by one who was present. Well, the great Timur was partial to the "Perfect Chess" (as our author calls it), that is the board of ten squares by eleven—of which more hereafter. Timur detested the Hindûs because they were idolaters, and despised them because they had allowed him to invade their country. Hence our author, in order to gratify his patron's humour, gives out that the great Chess was the original, and patronised by Alexander the Macedonian, who introduced it into India; and that, after all, the Hindûs were "too stupid to comprehend it," till Sassa simplified it so as to make it square with their weak capacities. Such a gross fabrication would easily pass current with Timur, who was more conversant with arms than with books; and the obsequious courtiers would readily confirm such doctrines as appeared to gratify their Sovereign.

CHAPTER VIII.—ACCOUNT OF ORIENTAL MANUSCRIPT WORKS ON CHESS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM, AND IN THE LIBRARY OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

BEFORE we come to discuss the principles of Mediæval Chess, it may be well to give a brief account of the manuscript works which I follow as my authorities. These are three in number; and, fortunately, they are public property, and easily accessible to those able and willing to examine their contents. The first is an Arabic manuscript (No. 7515) in the British Museum. It is a quarto volume of 132 leaves, and averaging 16 lines to each page—that is, where no diagrams occur. It was written, or, more properly speaking, copied, in A.D. 1257; and, consequently, is now nearly 600 years old. The author's name is not given; but, from circumstances to be mentioned, we may safely infer that he lived within a century previous to the above date. The authorship of the volume is absurdly attributed to "Hasan al Basri, [illegible] Mohammadan divines, who died A.D. 728. [illegible] in the preface there is a quotation of a general maxim from "Hasan of Basra," the [illegible] people "who passed [illegible] after the mind has been fatigued with care or much study," which pithy advice will be found to apply as much to leap-frog or to blindman's-buff, as to Chess. On this slender foundation, however, the knavish bookmakers entitled the work "Shatranj al Basri," which they construe into "a treatise on Chess by Hasan of Basra." Yes, further; in order to conceal the trick, they had the precaution to erase from the preface the name of the Prince to whom the book was dedicated. However, we know from the titles employed in the dedication, that the Prince was one of the Ayûbite dynasty, that ruled for a brief period over Egypt and Syria; that is, he was either the renowned Saladin himself, or one of his immediate successors. In the East, as of late among ourselves, the Princes of certain dynasties were addressed by certain titles and epithets which, if they might be known, just as we used to read of "His Most Christian Majesty of France," or "His Most Catholic Majesty of Spain," or their "High Mightinesses of Holland." With regard to the contents of this volume, they may be briefly described, because a large and valuable portion of it is missing. The first seven leaves may be passed over as containing nothing of importance. The eighth leaf commences the main business by enumerating five classes into which Chess-players may be divided; of which very sensible division, more hereafter. Between the 8th and 9th folio there is what the learned call a *hiatus valde deflendus*; [illegible] 9th and 10th treat of the equality of force at the end of a game, together with the relative values of the various pieces; and, from the minuteness and fullness with which the author explains this part of his subject, we may infer that the missing portion contained an account of everything relating to the theory and practice of the game on the same ample scale. The rest of the work consists of some 200 diagrams, containing "openings of chess" (eleven in number), and positions or problems, in which either mate is forced in a certain number of moves, or the weaker player, by skilful play, draws the game. These are accompanied with solutions at full length, and would have sufficed, even if we had no other work on the subject, to give us a fair idea of the manner in which Chess was played 600 years ago.

My next authority is a Persian manuscript (No. 16,356), in the British Museum. It is an octavo volume, containing sixty-three leaves, ten lines to the page. It was copied A.D. 1612, and the author lived in the time of the Emperor Humâyûn, of Delhi, to whom it is dedicated, somewhat more than 300 years ago. It is a translation and abridgement of an older work in the Arabic language, entitled "Mutâhi al ûlim al Shatranj," or the "Chess-player's Monitor." It has been already fully described by my friend N. Bland, Esq., in his essay, entitled "Persian Chess," 8vo. 1850, and since then published in the "Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society." It is divided into twelve chapters, of which the first five are mere preambles. The 6th and 7th treat of the morals and amenities of Chess, together with a few judicious advices to the players; the 8th, on drawn games; the 9th, on the openings; the 10th, on tactics, such as the well-known feat of the Knight in covering the sixty-four squares in so many moves, &c.; the 11th is valuable as it gives an excellent selection of end-games on diagrams, together with their solutions. The 12th contains directions for playing without seeing the board.

My third authority is a Persian manuscript (No. 269), being one in the Library of the Royal Asiatic Society. This MS. has been very fully described by Mr. Bland, in the Essay above mentioned, to which I refer the reader. I may mention, however, in passing, that Mr. Bland and myself differ, *toto cœlo*, on the subject of Oriental Chess—but it is not prevented that "doctors disagree!" The MS. consists of 64 leaves, quarto size, finely written, 16 lines to the page. One-half consists of diagrams of very interesting positions, without any solutions; and the other half of descriptive writing. The work is both imperfect and mismanaged, there being scarcely one leaf placed where it ought to be. On careful perusal, however, I have found that twenty-eight of the leaves, if properly arranged, would form a complete sequence without any break, and the other four are uncertain. The following is the order of the subjects as intended by the author: 1st, a detached leaf, forming part of the preface, the purport of which is to convince the reader of the author's prodigious merits especially in Chess. Then follow 12½ folios on the beneficial effects of Chess; this subject is complete, with the exception of a few lines at the commencement. Then 7½ folios, giving a complete account of the "Perfect Chess," or "Timur's Great Game." This chapter is, fortunately, entire, and it is, probably, the only account we have of that monster game. Then we have 7½ folios on the invention of the common game in India. This chapter also is complete, and the substance of it has been already given in our Chapter VII. Two chapters on the relative value of the pieces, and on the gradations of odds, are also complete as to the subjects, though they do not, apparently, contain all that the author wrote thereon. Lastly, a folio and a half on drawn games, &c., incomplete, and partly illegible.

The diagrams are sixty-four in number, and consist chiefly of end-games and [illegible]. The first two diagrams are illegible; but, fortunately, they are [illegible] contained openings, of which we have abundance in the two preceding MSS. Of the end-games, the most valuable are the eighteen positions of Khûja Ali Shatranji—which, as I have already stated, are from actual play. All the rest are said to have been invented by various eminent players (whose names are given), from the Caliph Al-Mamûn, Bilijî, downwards. It is a curious fact, however, [illegible] that not one of the author's own invention; although in his preface he boasts of having made wonderful improvements in every department of Chess. In truth, the author must have been a singular character, and, had we received his book entire, it would undoubtedly have proved an extraordinary production. In justice to this writer, I shall here give a literal translation of what remains of his own preface, which, it must be confessed, is a very *promising* one. It may also lead to the discovery, in India or Persia, of a complete copy of the work. The author seems to have (in the missing portion) been recommending Chess as an excellent medicine both for the body and mind, and then he proceeds to tell the reader what he has himself done in Chess, and also what he is going to write thereon. There is a quaint vein of godliness that runs throughout the fragment, such as to command our belief in the good man's sincerity, although the style does occasionally approach that of the Baron Munchausen:—

"* * * And many a one has experienced relief from sorrow and affliction in consequence of this magic recreation; and this same fact has been asserted by the celebrated physician 'Muhammad Zakaria Râzi,' in his book entitled, 'The Essences of Things;' and such is likewise the opinion of the physician, 'Ali bin Firdaus,' as I shall notice more fully towards the end of the present work, for the composing of which I am in hope of receiving my reward from God, who is Most High and Glorious.

"I have passed my life since the age of fifteen years among all the masters of Chess living in my time; and since that period till now, when I have arrived at middle age, I have travelled through Irâk Arab and Irâk Ajam, and Khurâsân, and the regions of Mawarâ-un-Nahr (Transoxiana), and I have there encountered many a master in this art, and I have played with all of them; and, through the favour of Him who is Adorable and Most High, I have come off victorious.

"Likewise, in playing without seeing the board, I have overcome most opponents, nor had they the power to cope with me. I, the humble sinner now addressing you, have frequently played with one opponent over the board, and at the same time I have engaged in four different games with as many adversaries without seeing the board, whilst I conversed freely with my friends all along, and through the Divine favour I conquered them all. Also in the great Chess I have invented sundry positions, as well as several openings which no one else ever imagined or thought of.

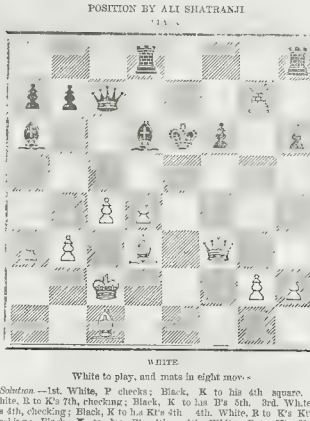
"There are a great number of ingenious positions that have occurred to me in the course of my experience, in the common game, as practised at the present day, and many positions given as won by the older masters I have either proved to be capable of defence, or I have made the necessary corrections in them, so that they now stand what they were originally intended to be. I have also improved and rendered more complete all the rare and cunning stratagems hitherto recorded or invented by the first masters of Chess. In short, I have so far imagined or thought out for the reader, at last I have myself discovered from experience, as well as whatever I found to be rare and excellent in the labours of my predecessors.

"In the first place I will make clear to you that the 'Perfect Chess' is the original; I will then inform you who invented it, and where it was invented, and on what occasion the invention took place. I will also detail to you in full how it found its way into India, and at what period they abridged it there, that all men may know that the people of India are not the inventors of Chess, for they have not in them sufficient knowledge and wisdom to have done so, and they never had. I will also present you with the best modes of opening the game, for therein consists the very root and foundation of good play; and I will instruct you how to conduct your game after it is opened, and I will lay before you a great variety of the most rare and ingenious stratagems, whereby you may be enabled either to win or draw in situations which to the unmitiated might appear desperate. I will also instruct you as to the exact value of the pieces, without knowing which you cannot be a player. I will tell you how, in various grades of odds which people give and receive; and, finally, I will unfold unto you the nature of such situations as lead to a drawn game, which may occur towards the end of a combat."

Here follows one sentence more, of very little importance, about the well-known tour of the Knight round the board; and thus is all that we possess of the author's preface.

Besides the dial chapter with one of the eighteen problems given by the anonymous author as those by Khûja Ali Shatranji. It will be found in fol. 11, b, and as it have occurred to Ali when playing against an opponent to whom he had given the odds of the Queen's Rook. The position is quite simple and natural. Ali had the White, and we see that already he has gained two Pawns of his opponent. There must have been a good deal of manœuvring with the Knights and Rook on the part of Ali so as to have brought the game to this state. It is now White's move, and we see that his Rook can take the Black Queen at once, for the Black Bishop does not command the square she is on—but Checkmate is much better. The reader will bear in mind that in the mediæval game the Queen commanded only the four diagonal squares next to her, and the Bishops, the four diagonals are next to them but one; in short the Bishop was the weakest of the pieces, as there were only eight squares on the board on which he could leap, backwards and forwards, without any change.

POSITION BY ALI SHATRANJI



WHITE

White to play, and mate in eight moves.

Solution.—1st. White, P checks; Black, K to his 4th square. 2nd. White, R to K's 7th, checking; Black, K to his B's 5th. 3rd. White, R to K's 4th, checking; Black, K to his K's 4th. 4th. White, R to K's K's 4th, checking; Black, K to his R's 4th. 5th. White, R to K's K's 7th (*coup de repos*); Black, K's B's Pawn one square (best). 6th. White, B takes the Pawn (being on one of the squares which he commands). If either of the Black Rooks now move to their K's K's square, with a view to exchange or drive away the White Rook then, 7th. White, Queen to K's K's 4th, checking. Black, K to his R's 5th; and 8th. White, K's Pawn mates. If for 5th move, Black K moves to his R's 5th—then 7th. White, Queen to K's K's 4th; and let Black play as he may, the Knight's Pawn gives mate next move.

WORKING OF THE INDIAN RAILWAY. The first train started from Howrah, opposite Calcutta, on the 15th of August last, and we have now the experience of sixteen weeks to assist us in forming some estimate of the prospects of the rail at this Presidency. It was confidently asserted that no return of any importance was to be expected from passengers, that the natives of India, from their poverty and their habits, were so [illegible] that they would not afford this mode of conveyance if it were believed that their habits were so inflexible. That idea, however, induced them to adopt a mode of conveyance unknown to their ancestors, and that the rail must depend for its dividends solely on the transport of goods. The result of the last sixteen weeks' experience has completely demolished all these suppositions. The line for the first twenty-five miles runs along the banks of the Hooghly, lined with villages and towns, and the rail had, therefore to sustain a competition with scores of boats which conveyed passengers that distance every day for 2d. Yet the number of passengers of the third class amounted at first weekly to 2400. Then it was said that this was only a metropolitan traffic, made up of men who lived out of Calcutta, but transacted business in it, and that as soon as the line began to run into the country, apart from the river traffic, the number of passengers would fall in probably a thirty decrease. In the first week of September the line was opened from Hooghly to Pundooah, an insignificant town, without manufactures, or wealth, or population, and at right angles with the river. To the surprise of all, the traffic immediately doubled, and it has steadily increased since that time, and the average number of third-class passengers in the last three weeks has been 6700. No one was [illegible] and for so astounding a result. No one ever dreamt that the middling classes and the upper section of the lower classes would take to the rail with so much animation and delight. The inveterate habits of twenty centuries are now rapidly disappearing under the influence of this great instrument of civilisation. The [illegible] of the Hindoo in his native land is the Hindoo beginning to learn [illegible] to accept the truth that time is money. The rail is the new [illegible] most important national practical. The Railway Company which [illegible] the entire control of the Government, has wisely fixed the charge [illegible] passengers at a piece a mile. To distribute the effect of [illegible] would state that on the Great Western, which is a comparatively cheap line, the charge for a third class passenger from Paddington to Bristol would be, I think, 8s. 6d.; the charge for the same distance on our line is 8s. 5d. It is too early in the progress of the enterprise to calculate returns; we must proceed to a greater distance, and reach some of the great commercial marts which lie in the road to Delhi, before any reliable estimate can be made of the probable profits. *Letter from Calcutta.*

DR COMARMOND, the Conservator of Antiquities in the Museum of Lyons, is taking measures for a general classification of the antiquities at all kinds which it is expected will be found in the proposed excavations about to be made for long [illegible] of canals, and for the underground passage of the Lyons Railway.

LITERATURE.

THE FORMATION AND PROGRESS OF THE TIERS ETAT, OR THIRD ESTATE, OF FRANCE. By AUGUSTINE THIERRY. Translated by the Rev. R. B. WELLS. Two Volumes. Bosworth.

This little book—the summary of long labours on the part of its learned author—has been produced under circumstances as remarkable as unforeseen. Intended as "an introduction to a collection of unpublished records of the history of the Tiers Etat, one of the publications of historical documents ordered under the last reign," M. Thierry, after deep research and mature deliberation, had fully possessed himself of the beauty, unity, and simplicity of his theme; and evaporated as he evolved it, in continuous unbroken order, from the point of departure in the tenth century to the day of writing in the nineteenth. According to this view, the Tiers Etat had always borne an important part, "in a slow but always progressive influence, upon the social life of the country;" or, going only back over the space of six centuries, one circumstance which especially struck the author was that, "from the twelfth to the eighteenth century, the history of the Tiers Etat and that of the Royal power were indissolubly bound together in such a manner that, in the eyes of him who really understands them, one is, to use the expression, the counterpart of the other. From the accession of Louis le Gros to the death of Louis XIV. each decisive epoch in the progress of the different classes of society, relative to liberty, prosperity, enlightenment, and social importance, corresponds, in the series of the reigns, with the name of some great King or of some great Minister." The eighteenth century for the first time saw an interruption of the alliance between the first and the third estates (to the exclusion of the second) on the continuance of which M. Thierry considered the "national development," and the establishment of a system of civil and political liberty, of "a Government at once free and monarchical," depended. There was in 1789-93 a decisive rupture between the Crown and the people; and "the work of the Constituent Assembly of 1791, badly put together, crumbled to pieces almost immediately, and the Monarchy was destroyed."

Not so, however, the faith of M. Thierry in a great principle,—that of "an alliance and all-effacing influence of a Tiers Etat acting in partnership with Royalty. Twenty-two years elapsed, during which "it seemed that every tie was broken between New France and the Royalty of former days." But it only seemed so; the bonds of society were only buried beneath a surface of agitation, not broken. In the words of M. Thierry:—

> But the result of the Constitutional Governments of 1814 and of 1830 was to iron anew the chain of time and of ideas, to resume under fresh forms the attempt of 1789—the alliance of the national traditions and of the principle of liberty. It was at this point of view, presented to me by the very course of events themselves, that I took my position; *fixing my attention on that which seemed to be a dark fragment out for the future, and leaving that I had before my eyes the providential termination of the labour of the centuries which had elapsed since the twelfth.*

In other words, the historian ruminating, and constructing his work under the influence of the *doctrinaires* of Louis Philippe's school—had arrived, in his own mind, at the conclusion that under the reign of the King of the Barricades the great work of national organisation was to be completed; and that henceforward, under the guardianship of a constitutional Crown, in alliance with an enlightened Tiers Etat, liberty and order should reign undisturbed. Here, brief "the delusion, and how perplexing the author's position on awaking from it, shall be told in his own words:—

> Entirely devoted to my task, which I was slowly pursuing as far as my abilities enabled me, I dispassionately approached the much-conversed period of the eighteenth century, when *the catastrophe of February, 1848, burst suddenly upon us.* I have felt the result of it in two ways, both as a citizen and also as an historian. By this new Revolution—fall of the same spirit and the same threatening appearances as the worst times of the first—*the history of France appeared to be thrown into as much disorder as France herself.*

Now we know not what the reader will think of this candid confession, which, apart from the more serious reflections associated with it, deserves to be preserved in some future edition of the "Curiosities of Literature." For our own part, as far as the author is concerned, we think it highly creditable to him, and for the reading public we consider it of value, as an example of the fallacy of human calculations, and a warning against placing too much confidence in that most favourite study of modern times, the "Philosophy of History." We consider it, further, creditable to M. Thierry that, when he found the ground thus suddenly cut from under him, he did not make attempt to bolster up his position, to reconcile difficulties, and to "philosophise" on under altered circumstances, as philosophers of history too generally attempt to do, often at the cost of making the "worse appear the better cause." Neither did he in pique cast his MSS into the fire, and deny the world the advantage of studying the materials and reflections he had accumulated upon a most interesting period of history. No—without altogether abandoning the idea that one day, as the result of future social changes, his cherished theory may yet be realised he, for the present, gave up the task of developing it. "I suspended my work," he says, "from a feeling of despondency easy to be understood; and the history, which I had carried down to the end of the reign of Louis XIV., stops at that point."

Carried down to the period indicated, the History is a most interesting one; the pipe result of deep study, and conveyed in a manner at once perspicuous and striking. In his selection of materials the author, whilst sometimes purposely omitting facts which are already generally known, has drawn attention to many of no mean importance which have been but slightly noticed by other historians.

A passage from the character of that extraordinary despot, Louis XI., may be taken as a fair sample of the author's calm but eloquent style. After stating that the reign of Charles VII. was a period of national impulse, and that the new powers and new system established under it required, "in order to be saved from ruin, to be committed to the hands of an individual," goes on as follows:—

> That individual, that personality, jealous, active, self-willed, was Louis XI. If any personages of history seem marked by the seal of Providence to perform a mission, the son of Charles VII. was one of them: he seemed to have cared for King under a conviction of a duty superior, in his case, to all the duties of humanity—of an object to which he was obliged to advance without interruption, without having had time to choose his way. He who had raised the standard of opposition in concert with the aristocratic interests against his father made himself the guardian and abettor of all that was odious in the aristocracy. He applied all the energies of his existence, all that he had of intellect and passion, of virtue and vice, to this purpose. His reign was a daily struggle for the cause of unity of power, and the cause of social equality—a struggle carried on after the manner of a gamester, with patience and cruelty, without courtesy, and without mercy. Thence arises the mixture of interest and repugnance which is excited in our minds by a character so strangely original. The despot Louis XI does not belong to the class of egotistical tyrants, but to that of merciless innovators; before our revolutions it was impossible to understand him. The condemnation which he deserves, and with which he will remain charged, is the ignominy which the human conscience throws on the memory of those who have thought that all means are justifiable by which they can bend circumstances to the yoke of their own ideas.

This King, who affected to be one of the people by his tone, dress, and manner—[illegible] with all sorts of persons, and wished to know, see, and do everything by himself—has some points of character which are only to be observed in the same degree in democratic dictatorship. The spirit of the commonality appeared in him even in the height of his power: he had a kind of presentiment of our modern civilisation; he divined all its tendences, and aspired towards it without troubling himself about the possibility, without asking himself if the time were come.

The translation has been carefully executed by Mr. Wells, who has avoided those awkward gallicisms too common in bad translations.

MEMOIRS OF ANNE, DUCHESS OF BRITTANY, TWICE QUEEN OF FRANCE. By LOUISA STUART COSTELLO. W. and F. G. Cash.

The part which ladies bear in English literature is very honourable to them; and, indeed, it always seems characteristic of Englishwomen, to be either generous admirers and encouragers of meritorious authorship, or themselves even aspirants to its distinctions. The work before us if written by a lady who disputes even with Miss Strickland for a high place in the estimation of critics; and it is dedicated to the Queen of the land, "by especial permission." It is, moreover, the life of a great lady, remarkable for her qualities, remarkable for her position—the last Sovereign Duchess of an ancient dukedom, and twice a Queen of one of the greatest kingdoms in the world. It is very characteristic of Englishwomen, vivacitiveness the fair sex retaliates upon man the masculine character of ninety nine per cent of books; almost all the books by women being about women. Of course such subjects of biography are also the most suitable to such biographers. The selection is generally excellent: it is what the writers can best treat, best understand; and the result is, a graceful, respectable, and delightful contribution to the intellectual treasury of the public.

In the present historical performance we have the lie of Anne of Brittany. Already the same authoress has given us "Mary of Burgundy," "Memoirs of Eminent Englishwomen," and a host of other productions,—the memories of which, like a cloud of shadowy witnesses, introduce and recommend the new presentment.

Louis the Eleventh, a character so deeply graven in the annals of this country by the sombre and mighty hand of Sir Walter Scott, had just reigned in France. What have we said? We should speak of something more than either a reign or a Government, to borrow the famous distinction of M. Thiers. Louis both governed and reigned, but his place in history is due to something high. He has considered and absorbed the various elements of what Providence intended to be one mighty nation into their first real domestic amalgam. He has been harshly painted by the brush of history, for he had defects peculiarly calculated to arouse the indignation of humanity. But his abilities and his persevered energy were nearly unparalleled; and if he was a bad man, we doubt much whether he was a bad King; if he was a bad man, he was one of those bad men the fruit of whose careers is good. He was thoroughly devoted to his country, and to what he felt was its high end.

He discharged his mission in no slovenly manner. He found France a congregation of petty principalities, and he left it a Power of Europe.

Obviously, to say that such a man as Louis had just lived, is to say that the separate and provincial dignity of dreal Brittany was about to expire. The great sorcerer of centralisation had breathed upon it; and that is all. For an intelligent reader more is not necessary than what Lord Bacon writes in his beautiful essay on "Faction" to comprehend the strange and mixed character of Louis XI., who took advantage of the factions everywhere surrounding his throne:—

> Many have an opinion not wise, that for a Prince to govern his estate, or for a great person to govern his proceedings, according to the respect to factions, is a principle of policy; whereas, contrariwise, the chiefest wisdom is, either in ordering those things that are general, and whereon men of several factions do nevertheless agree, or in dealing with correspondence to particular persons, one by one; but it is ever the continuance of factions is to be neglected. Mean men in their rising must adhere; but great men, that have strength in themselves were better to maintain themselves indifferent and neutral; yet, even in beginners, to adhere so moderately as to be a man of the one faction, which is most possible with the other, commonly giveth best way. The lower weaker faction is the fitter to make a balance, and it is often seen that a few that are stiff drive out a great number that are moderate. When one of the factions is extinguished, the remaining subdivideth; as the faction between Lucilius and the rest of the nobles of the Senate (which they call *Optimates*) held out awhile against the faction of Pompey and Cæsar; but when the Senate's authority was down, Cæsar and Pompey soon after broke. The faction or party of Antonius and Octavius Cæsar against Brutus and Cassius held out likewise for a time; but when Brutus and Cassius were overthrown then soon after Antonius and Octavius broke and subdivided. These examples are of wars, but the same holdeth in private factions; and therefore those that are seconds in factions do many times, when the faction subdivideth, prove principals; but many times also they prove cyphers and are cashiered; for many a man's strength is in opposition, and when that faileth he groweth out of use. It is commonly seen that men once placed, take in with the contrary faction to that by which they enter; thinking, belike, that they have the first sure, and now are ready for a new purchase.

This quotation speaks for itself. From the year 1476 to the year 1514, Louise Stuart Costello gives us, in the life of one illustrious lady, the history of a nation, and, indeed of a continent and a world. She appears to have taken conscientious care in collecting her materials and in authenticating her statements. This is a great merit. As to style, our authoress is not very perfect. But, we beg the pardon of all ladies, no woman writes in a finished manner. There is elegance of expression; there is a certain eloquence even of a detached and fragmentary nature; but there is not good composition; much less is there composition of that highest kind in which no trace of labour can be detected. However, the work is an honourable work to its writer, and will prove agreeable to all who read it.

WILL MY READERS GO TO SPAIN? Brighton: W. F. King.

Such is the quaint title which a lady-author gives her journal, "day after day for two months," in the Peninsula. The answer she implies to the question, judging from the *petits misères*, the discomforts of hotels, and of public vehicles, and the annoyance of the constantly-recurring customhouse, would be in the negative. But then it should be borne in mind that the tour was a hurried one—only two months for scampering over the principal parts of Spain and the period of the year (from the latter part of October till Christmas) unpropitious for travelling. Nevertheless, though the authoress does not treat her subject in inviting colours, her narrative is sometimes amusing, and is interspersed with occasional pointed remarks which relieve the monotony of a tedious and fatiguing journey. Upon her own sex she is not very lenient. She remarks how few of them are ordinarily abroad, and learns that "Spanish ladies never go out if there is the slightest cloud in the sky, or if the weather is the least damp or cold." Inquiring of a French refugee as to their accomplishments and education, the reply is little flattering:—"He says that they are scarcely educated at all in any way, and that they possess no accomplishments whatever." Possibly the authoress is capricious in the amount of attention bestowed upon different places and objects. Whilst Madrid is dismissed very cursorily, a tolerably full note is given of the Alhambra. It appears that the Emperor of Russia has been employing two artists here for twelve months past, making drawings of the old Moorish palace in all its details. The volume is illustrated with two or three views, executed in lithography, from sketches by the authoress

TONGA AND THE FRIENDLY ISLES. By SARAH S. FARMER. Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

This volume contains a sketch of the history of the South Sea Islands, from their first discovery to the present time; and more particularly of the labours of the Missionary Society in respect to them. Upon the whole the report is satisfactory and encouraging. In the island of Tonga, within the last thirty years, idolatry has been abolished; Christianity established in its stead; the Sabbath kept with the strictest observance; the practice of polygamy given up; and schools established, at which parents are obliged to send their children; and amongst the population 8000 can read the Scriptures, and 5000 can write

PARIS RESTAURANTS. Not the least remarkable feature of Paris at this moment is the enormous number of *restaurateurs*. It is a regular nuisance more agreeable than one of Cossacks to be sure, but still one which menaces a formidable revolution in domestic habits. The rage for building—the beautiful structures that have risen on the ruins of gloomy and tottering edifices—and with such rapidity that after an absence of six months you scarcely recognise the quarter you were long familiar with, the large space produced by the sweeping away of filthy lanes and courts, at once the hotbed of disease, the repair of crime, and the centre of insurrection,—but, above all, the coming Exhibition are the causes of this extraordinary movement in the victualling department. You can hardly discover a passage in this "good city of Paris," as the Kings of France loved to call their very troublesome capital—in which there are not two, three, or four *restaurants*, and you may traverse the Boulevard les Italiens and Montmartre without seeing a single house in which the *rez de chaussée* has not been converted into an eating-room. It seems actually the premature advent of the happy days predicted by Fourier, when for the domestic hearth, or rather the domestic dining-room, was to be substituted one general refectory, at whose tables were to partake of equal rations the happy citizens of Harmony. As he passes along about five o'clock on a raw evening, it is as much as a hungry man can do not to grow feverish at the delicious odour from the subterranean kitchens set up three paces from grating. A stranger would suppose that from the establishment of so many eating-houses the domestic hearth was but poorly provided, or that a total change had taken place in the habits of the people. All this, however, is explained by the great hopes founded on the Exhibition, and on the vast number of strangers that will be attracted to Paris by it; and we shall, no doubt, soon feel the effect in the greater activity of commercial affairs. *Letter from Paris.*

THE MARKET AT BALACLAVA.—Only fancy a vagabond buying a cargo of geese and turkeys at Shoque and Sainsoun; the former cost him three 6d. each, and the latter 1s., he charged at Balaclava, on the 20th turkeys 15s., geese 8s.; on the 23rd turkeys 20s., geese 15s.; and on the 24th (all the turkeys being sold), geese 22s. each, skinny fowl 5s. each, and everything in proportion extortionate.

WAGES IN VICTORIA.—The state of the labour-market may be ascertained from the rates of wages quoted and from the number of "Wanteds" which appear in the local papers.—"500 pick and shovel men, 10s. to 12s. per day, tent, tools, wood, and water;" "500 stone-breakers, 6s. to 8s. per yard—tents, &c. Such advertisements appear daily, and, taken in connection with the fact that tolerable workmen can break from two to three yards every day, indicate the attainment of a really comfortable maintenance, and a respectable weekly balance, at even this the least skilled and simplest kind of labour.

DUCK-HUNTING with dogs was a barbarous pastime of the last century in the neighbourhood of London, happily put an end to by the want of ponds of water. St. George's-fields were a notorious locality for this sport: hence the infamous Dog and Duck tavern and tea-gardens, from a noted dog which hunted ducks on a sheet of water there. Hannah More makes it a favourite resort of her "Cheapside Apprentice." The premises were afterward let to the School for the Indigent Blind, and were taken down in 1812, when Bethlem Hospital was built upon the ground. In its front wall is preserved the original sign stone of the tavern—dog with a duck thrown across his back. Ingenious lesson this, of setting up a memorial of profligacy and cruelty upon a site devoted to the restoration of reason.—*Curiosities of London* (just published.)

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

It is the intention of the Emperor of the French to invite most of the Crowned Heads of Europe to the Exhibition. The Emperor of Austria is said to have already accepted.

The Duke and Duchess of Brabant arrived at Trieste on the 1st from Venice, and were received on landing by the Archduke Ferdinand-Maximilian. They were, after a short stay, to proceed on their way to Greece and Corfu, under the incognito of Viscount and Viscountess Ardennes.

Duke George of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, who is married to a Grand Duchess of Russia, and who has several times fulfilled missions to the German States in the interest of Russia, has lately quitted St. Petersburg, and is daily expected at Berlin.

On the 25th ult. the Bishop of Lincoln delivered his fifth of a series of lectures to the working classes of Nottingham on the evidences of Christianity.

M. de Saint Amant, the well-known chess-player, who was governor of the Palace of the Tuileries after the revolution of 1848, and who recently published a very interesting work, entitled "Voyage en Californie et dans l'Orégon," has just been unanimously admitted, in consequence of that work, member of the Société des Gens de Lettres

The Grand Dukes Michael and Nicholas arrived on the 9th at Nicolaïeff, and proceeded for Sebastopol, without stopping at Odessa.

Marshal Radetzki gave the first grand ball of the Carnival in the palace at Verona, on the 18th. It was opened by their Royal Highnesses the Duke de Brabant, and the Princes of Hesse Darmstadt, Wiemar, and Wurtemberg

The Polish General, Count Bystrzonowski, who distinguished himself in the Hungarian war, and who was recently wounded, has arrived in Paris on leave of absence.

The Emperor of the French has promoted Brigadier-General Bizot (Michel Bruce) to the rank of Commander of the Legion of Honour. That officer has seen forty-eight years' service, and has assisted in ten campaigns.

General Count de Renneville is designated by the Emperor of Austria for a military mission to the Emperor of the French.

The *Piedmontese Gazette* announces that the health of the Duke of Genoa is improving.

Mr. Carden's health has been seriously impaired by the imprisonment which he has already undergone for the attempted abduction of Miss Attwood

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe has postponed indefinitely his intended journey to England

The Solicitor-General for Scotland, Mr. Thomas Mackenzie, will succeed to the vacant seat on the Scottish bench, caused by the death of Lord Robertson.

There is no truth whatever in the Parisian report of M. d'Usedom being destined to replace Count Bernstorf, or of the latter being recalled

In the case of the South-Western Railway *v.* the *Times* (legally the Queen *v.* Harrison), the printer of the *Times* was sentenced to £200 fine, or to be imprisoned until the fine was paid. The fine was paid.

The partisans of the Count Montemolin pretend that they have contracted a loan of 44,000,000 of francs with a wealthy Amsterdam firm; of which half is to be paid immediately, and the other half as soon as some fortified town on Spanish territory is got possession of.

The Emperor of Austria's conferring the Grand Cross of the Hungarian Order of St. Stephen on the French Minister for Foreign Affairs makes that gentleman, according to the statutes of the Order, an Austrian Grandee of the first class, with the title of Count

It is announced from Turin that about the 12th or 15th instant a concert will take place in the plains of Marengo, where they will be reviewed by the King of Sardinia

Some excitement has been created in ecclesiastical circles in Paris by the announcement that the Prince de Canino has resolved to take orders, in the expectation of becoming a Cardinal, and perhaps of attaining higher honours.

The French Emperor has ordered that, in compliance with the prayer of the Prefect of the Gironde, a bust in marble of Marshal St. Arnaud shall be executed at the expense of the Ministry of State, and be placed in the hall of the Council-General of that department

The Hon. Pierre Soulé has resigned his office as United States Minister to Spain, and John C. Breckenridge, of Kentucky, has been appointed his successor

A decree, dated Paris, January the 17th, nominates the Swiss General Ochsenbein a French General of Brigade on foreign service

The family of Marshal St. Arnaud is about to publish a volume of his private letters. This collection, certain to be interesting, independent of its literary merits, will commence with La Vendée, and terminate with the war in the Crimea.

The German poet Hauenschild, known by the pseudonym of Max Waldern, died recently in Silesia

Miss Catherine Hayes has been giving concerts in Sydney with great success.

The connection of Derry with Enniskillen by means of the magnetic telegraph has been completed.

A letter from Belgrade states that by the end of this month the electric telegraph between that place and Austria will be completed, when the conveyance of intelligence between Paris and Constantinople will be reduced thirty hours

Genoa was visited by a marine earthquake last week. It set in with a heavy swell (with wind, and consequently without warning) which did a good deal of injury among the shipping, and was popularly supposed to be some extraordinary disturbance of the earth's surface underneath the sea.

Recent advices from the Pacific mention a further discovery of guano on the islands of La Perouse, and on an adjacent group of islets

An American lady, Miss Sarah Pellett, has declared her intention of giving 2,000 respectable New England girls to California

A bill has been introduced into the Legislature of Pennsylvania granting political and civil rights to persons of colour now residing, or who may hereafter reside, in that State.

The Government of Rome is augmenting its military strength, particularly its Swiss regiments and its gendarmerie

It is calculated that 14,000 persons emigrated from the Duchy of Baden in the last year, and that upwards of 80,000 have left within the past eight years. The population of the Duchy is now less than it was in 1848, and only amounts to 1,359,000.

At the sitting of the Glasgow High Court of Justiciary, out of a calendar of eight criminals there were three ticket-of-leave convicts

On the demand of the Mayor of Valenciennes, supported by M. Nieuwerkerke, Director of the Imperial Museums, the French Government has just accorded to the town of Valenciennes a fine block of marble for the statue of Froissart

An attempt was made last week to shoot Mr. Henry Bevan Slator, while standing at his own hall door at Balymalon, in the county of Westmeath. Mr. Slator was the purchaser of some property of late in the Encumbered Estates Court, and found it necessary to eject some of the tenantry

A house, altogether of cast iron, four stories high, is about to be erected in Paris, on the plans of two engineers, one French and the other English

There has been a strike among the dock labourers of New York, who refuse to work at 6s. 3d. per day. Meetings of the unemployed, at which large numbers of persons attended, has been held.

There are living in the small village of Leyton, Essex, four persons of the name of John Swan, not at all related, and all with wooden legs, although not one has been in the Army or Navy

A demonstration of unemployed workmen took place in New York on the 19th ult., and they sent a deputation to the Mayor, who assured them he was unable to grant them any relief.

Some exertions are making for the discovery of a gold field in South Australia, with a reward of £10,000 to the finder, and it is mentioned that three men had been claimed for gold discovered in quartz about fifty-five miles from the city of Adelaide

The total amount paid during the present war for naval stores, their conveyance, prisoners of war, and packet service, up to the 1st of December, has been over three millions and a half—£3,327,[illegible]

The Second Prussian Chamber has adopted a very important resolution, namely, to call on the Government to prepare as promptly as possible a bill for the suppression of the privilege of exemption from the land-tax, which certain property of nobles still enjoys.

The late tempestuous weather has caused serious damage to the shipping on the French coast. A letter from St. Raphael states that on the night of the 20th ult. such a hurricane was experienced there as had not been known for forty year.

A special convention has been entered into between France and Baden for regulating the interchange of telegraphic despatches

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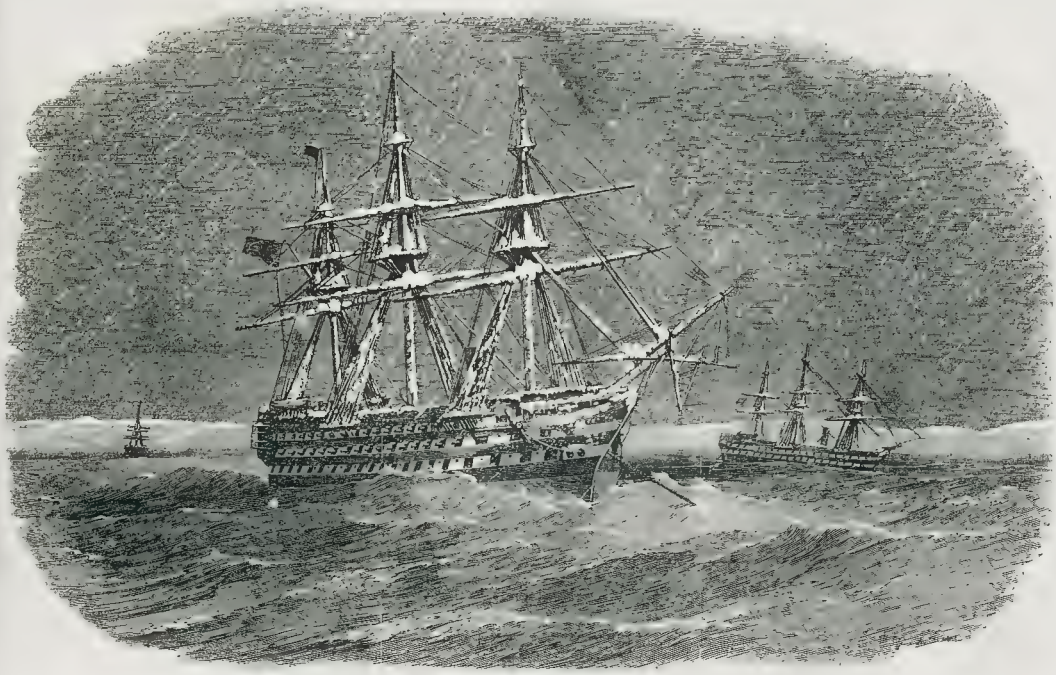
No. 727.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE LORDS AND GENTLEMEN OF THE "DEADLOCK."

It was scarcely to have been anticipated last week that of the three courses left open to her Majesty in the formation of a Government the second could ever be tried. Between Lord Derby, comparatively strong in Parliament, but weak in the country, and Lord Palmerston, strong in Parliament, and supported by the almost unanimous voice of the people, stood Lord John Russell, the self-damaged head of a moribund party, without moral support either in or out of Parliament, or among the former adherents of his policy and participators in his ambition. Yet on the failure of Lord Derby, and with the result, though not with the object, of making the triumph of Lord Palmerston more complete, Lord John Russell, the author of the crisis, and he who expected to galvanise dead Whiggery into life by it, was allowed to try his hand at the formation of a Ministry. The result was an ignominious failure, such as was universally predicted, if by any turn of the wheel it was sought to form a purely Whig Ministry under such auspices. Notwithstanding the urgency of public affairs, the several parties, or tails of parties, which still exist, and all impartial politicians in the country, were satisfied and delighted at the failure; for Lord John Russell's success would have entailed disgrace, if not calamity. Lord Palmerston, the man who commands the confidence of the nation whose name is synonymous all over Europe with the power, the dominion, and the glory of England, and which has been heard and feared in the wilds of Asia and of Africa, where the name of no other European statesman has ever penetrated—whose advent to power rings ominously in the ears of the enemies of liberty and progress in every State, barbarian or semi-barbarian, in Europe—stepped into the position, which was his from the first, and undertook the construction of a Government. On Wednesday the names of the Administration then formed were announced; and will be found in another portion of our journal.

Lord Palmerston will have a difficult task to carry on his Government with the vigour and efficiency demanded of him. The opposition arrayed against him will be of that formidable kind which springs from hostile or envious parties in the Legislature, and of that still more formidable kind which springs from the secret sympathies of many intangible and invisible friends of Russia and the Russian system. In addition to all these sources of difficulty, if not of peril, it must be remembered that he steps into power at a period when the very marrow of our institutions seems to have been dried up, and to have left nothing behind it but a residuum of Parliamentary incongruities and effete pretensions. His Lordship has a great work to do, and a magnificent opportunity, not simply of serving but of saving his country, and of entitling his name to the gratitude of the present and all future generations. But the people must enable him to be bold as well as wise. If he grasp, as we have no doubt he does, the full magnitude and significancy of his task, he must be aided by the people to inaugurate a social change which will involve infinitely more than the safety of our army in the Crimea, essential as that is. It has become his duty and privilege to prove to the world that popular freedom is even more necessary in war than in peace; and that the forces of a constitutional Government can be more wisely and effectively directed than those of a despotism. In addition to this it is his business to conquer the Czar, and restore peace to Europe, by the coercion and punishment of him who broke it.

The question of questions which Lord Palmerston and the country have to decide resolves itself into this—can a reformed Parliament act in war as vigorously as in peace? The question, if not entirely new to modern civilisation, is new to this country. The early heroes of the French Revolution solved a similar question with triumphant success. Hitherto, since the occupation of the Crimea by the Allied armies, such experience as we have had has been rather Governmental than Parliamentary; but our Parliamentary system has shared in the opprobrium of the failure. The liberties of the country have been endangered. The factions who have looked, and still look, upon the right to govern as an inheritance of which they cannot be rightfully or safely deprived seek to throw the blame and the disgrace from their own shoulders to those of the people, and loudly assert that with a free press, with the right of discussion in public meetings, and with a popularly-elected Parliament, it is impossible to carry on so gigantic a war. Let the people look to it in time. Let them not trust even to Lord Palmerston to see them safely through the impending crisis. The Lords and Gentlemen of the "Deadlock" have not lost the power of obstruction. The national fortunes are menaced. There are dangers ahead which the people alone can avert. The present Parliament is too evenly balanced to be depended upon, unless there come a pressure from without to strengthen the hands of an honest and courageous Minister. A dissolution of Parliament would be an evil; but there are evils fifty thousand-fold worse in prospective, if the nation does not demand and compel an efficient and successful prosecution of the business in hand. The business is War—war to the last extremity—war to its legitimate issues, whatever they may be. A series of splendid, if not unparalleled, victories proves that our soldiers can fight; and the enthusiasm of the public shows that, while our soldiers do their duty, the people are ready to do theirs. With men and money, and a good cause, it is impossible that this country can fail, unless from the incapacity or treachery of its rulers. This is the consummation to avert which Lord Palmerston requires support more earnest, continuous, and powerful than ever before was given to a Minister in this country. Without such sup-



H.M.S. "ROYAL ALBERT," IN A SNOW-STORM, BLOCKADING SEBASTOPOL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

port he cannot equal public expectation, or, if he be the man we believe, satisfy his own conscience. Without the people at his back he cannot revolutionise the aristocratic system of the army; he cannot, like Carnot, "organise victory;" he cannot remove the incapable from high places, whomsoever and wheresoever they may be; he cannot wield the mighty physical as well as moral forces of the empire, and maintain us in our proud position in the very front of civilisation, but must fail with the best of intentions and the best of causes.

"The state of the nation" in the bygone days when we were at peace used to be a favourite topic on the platform and in Parliament. There was not a bread riot in a remote district that did not call up some Boanerges of the Tribune, to inquire into the condition of the people, and demand a remedy for countless grievances. A mill shut up, a strike of workmen, the riotous demolition of a tollbar, the imposition of a new tax, a monster meeting of Celts to inveigh against the misgovernment of the Saxon, the cruelty of a Poor-law official, or the attempt of some exclusive and sour religious sect to prevent all education among the children of the people, lest education should be provided on too broad a basis to be consistent with sectarianism:—all these and a thousand other questions stirred the energies of the people, and brought the weight of opinion to bear on the opposition or the inertia of the Legislature and the Government. And is this wholesome state of supervision to be annulled by the first blast of the war-trumpet? Is the public energy as defunct as Whiggism, Toryism, or Cobdenism? Or has the national character been so deteriorated by money-grubbing and commercial gambling that men are calmly to resign themselves to national disgrace, without an effort to wipe it off? The memories of Alma and of Inkerman belie the supposition. The popular approval of a war undertaken in pure defence of right and justice contradicts and disproves it. Then why do the people not move? Are they so bewildered at the unexpected result that they stand open-mouthed and gape at the calamity? Perhaps so. But in this case the moment of their awakening is at hand, and new leaders will be found, in default of the old ones, to organise their opinions, and arouse the country from end to end in support of a truly national and vigorous policy.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "ROYAL ALBERT" BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

We have been favoured with the Sketch engraved upon the preceding page by an officer of the British fleet at the Crimea. It portrays the magnificent ship *Royal Albert* in a snow-storm, while blockading Sebastopol. This is a fearful picture of the severity of a Crimean winter, however the accounts of the climatology of the country may differ.

The snow-storms by land have been distinctively severe. A medical officer writing from the Camp before Sebastopol on Jan. 16 describes "the snow lying two or three feet on the ground, and a bitter north wind blowing that will send many a fine fellow to his last home. Anything to equal our discomfort and wretchedness no language can describe. * * * The cold was so intense in my tent that I could not sleep, or rather was afraid to go to sleep, for fear I should never wake again. One of these nights it snowed heavily; and an unfortunate officer lost his way in the snow in returning to camp from Balaclava, and perished miserably from cold: his body was found by the French next morning. Two men perished in the snow, and the sick are dying fast."

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

Paris, Thursday.

The decision respecting the fêtes at the Tuileries has been taken, and a certain number are to be given before the conclusion of the season. Of these the first takes place to-day (Thursday), the second on the 15th, these, of course, will be all that can be given until after Lent, unless, indeed, the relaxation of the *mi-carême* may allow of another. Paris has rarely been gayer, in the way of Ministerial and official fêtes, than it is at this moment. The Minister of State, the Prince Murat, M. de Cambaceres, the Turkish Ambassador, the Préfet de la Seine, &c., vie with each other in the splendour of their receptions. Those at the British Legation, held on four successive Saturdays, were most numerously and brilliantly attended by both French and English, besides the various members of the *corps diplomatique*, and other foreigners of distinction.

A story, which excites a good deal of curiosity, is going the rounds here, the truth of which we do not pretend to affirm. It is related that at a fancy *fête intéme* given by one of the principal members of the Imperial household a number of masks and dominoes made their appearance together; that among them were recognised two *peculiarly*-distinguished personages, who mingled with the crowd, entered fully into the spirit that the privileges of the incognito afforded to such fêtes, and retired highly amused with the adventure.

The Prince Napoleon's appearance, altered so very materially by his illness, attests its severity; there was a question of his proceeding to the Iles d'Hyères for the recovery of his health, but his wish to return to Paris overruled the advice of his medical attendants. Since his arrival he has had a slight return of the malady which so painfully affected him in the late campaign, but it is hoped when he has recovered from the fatigues of the journey, and that his strength becomes re-established, he will be no longer subject to its recurrence. The Prince has been to visit his sister the Princess Mathilde, and a complete reconciliation of the difference which so long divided the members of this branch of the Imperial family has taken place. It is said that the Prince Pierre Bonaparte is likely to have a command entrusted to him in the Foreign Legion.

Great esteem and sympathy has been expressed here for the Duke of Cambridge, though, as he remained nearly *incognito* during his visit, no opportunity occurred of openly demonstrating the feeling.

The arrival of a magnificent map of the Crimea from London, executed by Major Jervis, from the original Russian chart, with the dedication, "Hommage à l'Armée Française," has been extremely well received here and has entirely fulfilled the intention of gratifying the allies to whose bravery, cordiality, and good-fellowship our troops in the East owe such a debt of goodwill and gratitude.

The intense cold of last week has, we trust, finally given way, and is succeeded by very mild weather, and in consequence a thaw so complete that the ice and snow which abounded in and about Paris, and indeed all over the country, have disappeared with marvellous rapidity, but with the effect, as may be supposed, of nearly flooding town and country. The streets in many parts of Paris are nearly ankle-deep in mud and water, and in some places the gutters have to be traversed with planks, to enable foot-passengers to cross them, despite the constant operations of some hundreds of extra scavengers employed to clear away the snow and ice before they melted.

The new opera at the Italiens, "Gli Arabi nelle Gallia" (the music by Pacini, the libretto drawn from the work of the Vicomte d'Arlincourt), is well received, though the story is much criticised. It is said that the admiration of the Emperor for a duo in the work (which he had heard years ago at Rome, and which he often hummed) gave the idea of bringing out the opera here. The Emperor and Empress were present at the first representation. At the Gaité, "La Masque de Poix;" at the Gymnase, "Ceinture Dorée," at the Porte St. Martin, "Jane Osborn," are the most attractive novelties.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

By the steam-packet *Ganges*, which sailed from Constantinople on the 29th, we have news from the Crimea to the 25th ult., at which date the weather was described as much improved. Every night there was a hard frost, followed next day by a bright sun. This is the description given by a French soldier, who was probably looking only at the bright side of the picture. The letters from the English Camp are chiefly filled with the old complaints of endless disorder, waste, want, and mortality. The general impression in the Camp was that no serious operation can take place for a few weeks. Nothing has transpired as to what the next step will be. The prevailing notion is that the Allies will give battle to the enemy, and, having beaten them, return and take up position on the Belbek, so as to complete the investment of Sebastopol on the north as they do now on the south side. Thus hemmed in on all points, it is the opinion of military men that the city would be utterly unable to hold out for any length of time. This plan is approved of by many professional persons. It would have the advantage of enabling the Allies to make use of their most powerful instrument, the French and English infantry, while with the system of assault the enemy is confessedly more than a match, his artillery being of so much greater calibre.

The letters received from the Crimea by the *Ganges* are dated the 24th of January. They give an unfavourable account of the sanitary condition of the Allied armies. The French were still under tents, except the sick, who have wooden houses. They have suffered much from the inclemency of the season. The officers best qualified to give an opinion on the subject, express fears that the siege will be still protracted, and that an assault is not practicable without a tremendous sacrifice of life. General Canrobert had ordered all the correspondents of the French press to quit the Crimea, even one who had brought a letter of introduction from a Minister holding a high position in the councils of the Emperor Louis Napoleon. He had likewise published an order of the day, commanding the officers who should write to their friends to desire them not to give their letters for publication. The following extract from a private letter, written by a French officer, draws a gloomy picture of the British camp:—

> The English army is no longer an army. It only bears the name. Of the 50,000 men which the British Government sent to the East there remain at this moment not more than 10,000 to 11,000, and even those are not all able to carry arms. I must add that there are, moreover, about 10,000 in the hospitals of Constantinople, and 1000 in the ambulances at Balaclava: the remainder are gone to their long home. A sad result of the two principal vices in the English army—the officers, with few exceptions, have forgotten how to conduct a campaign, and the administration for the supply of provisions is absolutely null. Several transports had been laden at Leghorn and Trieste with planks for constructing wooden huts for the troops. When they arrived at Balaclava the English had no horses to carry them to the camp. The unhappy men in the mud until the snow fell, when the soldiers burned it to warm themselves. The following is the result of the neglected state of the English army. The French have nearly completed their siege works; their trenches have been carried to within a few yards of the walls of Sebastopol. The Russians, on the contrary, are far behind; and a few days ago the French [illegible] Canrobert that his effective force was not sufficient to continue their works. Some days previously the French had been compelled to occupy the batteries erected by the English at their extreme right, which command the mouth of the Tchernaya and the high road to Simpferopol, which they were no longer able to defend. General Canrobert has given orders to the Third Division to continue the English trenches.

Another letter of the 24th ult. says:—

> The Russians make frequent sorties, which are always repulsed, and cost them a number of men. An aide-de-camp of the Emperor Nicholas was killed during a sortie made on the 23rd. That sortie revealed a curious fact. The Russians have become hunters of men. They measure their victims with the lasso. On that occasion they captured a French officer, whom they carried off from among his men.

The following particulars of a sortie, made on the night of the 19th ult., are communicated by a French officer holding a high position on the Staff:—

> The Russians paid us the compliments of the new year after their fashion on the night of the 12th, which corresponds with their New Year's day. Although their cannonade, from its violence, reminded me of the end of the world, it providentially neither killed nor wounded one of our men. The Russian soldiers, however, were assured by their priests that they should find us all dead in the trenches. They had the folly, consequently, to rush out in masses to the number of 300 or 400 men, where they were received to their great astonishment with a fire of musketry and thrown back on the English lines. Our overworked and over-fatigued allies were unfortunately surprised, and with great difficulty repulsed the Russians, but not without a loss of several men.

A telegraphic despatch from Vienna, on Thursday, states that the Grand Duke Michael is lying ill of ague at Cherson, that the Grand Duke Nicholas is at Sebastopol, and that the Russian army is in want of supplies. If the *Times* could persuade Nicholas to allow one of its own correspondents to take up his quarters in Sebastopol and the Russian camp for a week or two he would, no doubt, be able to give us a picture of the sufferings of the Russian army which would match the worst accounts from Balaclava, so far as disease and mortality are concerned. The following passage from a French letter shows that the besieged are heartily tired of the affair. After giving an account of the sortie on the 14th ult., he says:—

> The next morning a flag of truce presented himself with a letter from General Osten-Sacken to General Forey, in which he expressed his deepest regret for the death of "his most distinguished officer," and requested the commander of the besieging corps to give up his body to him. General Forey immediately acquiesced in his desire, and by the same opportunity delivered to the Russians the bodies of twenty-six of their comrades who had not yet been interred. This delivery took place within the buildings of the Quarantine, in the presence of an officer of an eccentric character, who spoke French very fluently, and said to us, "This is a shocking work we are engaged in!" What hinders you from taking the town? All this cannot amuse you. For our part, we are heartily tired of it." What did he mean by putting to us such questions? I cannot tell; I merely repeat his expressions verbatim.

Letters from Eupatoria state that on the 23rd ult. Omer Pacha had landed there with 30,000 or 40,000 Turks. This army is to occupy the road to Simpferopol preparatory to the investment of Sebastopol. Every day parties were sent out to reconnoitre the position of Prince Menschikoff's army, but they generally returned without having met the enemy. The latter, however, must show themselves in order to relieve Sebastopol, when a serious conflict may be anticipated.

PRUSSIA AND THE WESTERN POWERS.

Two diplomatic circulars from M. Drouyn de Lhuys on the Prussian isolation within a week show that the crisis, as far as Frederick William is concerned, rapidly approaches a termination. The French Minister is clear and decisive in his language. In the first despatch he points out the absurdity of the statements made by Prussia regarding the pacific disposition of the Czar:—

> Is it not true that a considerable Russian army is ready to enter on a campaign in Transylvania? Is it not true that a mere incident menaces to place the Austrians and Russians at variance on the banks of the Pruth or of the Lower Danube? Is it not true that the intercourse between the Cabinets of Vienna and of St. Petersburg is of the most delicate nature? Can it be said, in fact, that the opinion of the prompt re-establishment of peace is generally believed in? Is it even certain that the acceptance mentioned by Prince Gortschakoff is such as was at first supposed? To ask these questions is, in fact, to answer them; and, at the same time, to justify all the applications which Austria is sending in to her confederates.

As regards the isolation of Prussia he shows that it is her own act. She cannot demand the privileges of a Great Power without fulfilling the duties of a Great Power. "What is the position of Prussia?" says M. Drouyn de Lhuys. "Has she made a choice between the belligerent parties? Has she entered into an alliance with Russia or with us? Until she has decided for one side or the other she leaves room for every kind of supposition, and closes against herself, by her own conduct, the door of the conferences."

In his second circular the French Minister says:—

> The result of the treaty of the 2nd December is that the three Cabinets which have contracted this alliance have pledged themselves, in the hypothesis of the failure of any future negotiations, to make common cause against Russia. That means that first of all they will use the same language, and afterwards pass on to the same acts. The notes of the 8th of August and the treaty of the 2nd of December are the results of these preliminary deliberations, which were prescribed by the protocols of the Conference, and in which, as has been shown, Prussia refused to take part. In order to be present at the negotiations, it would be necessary for her to place herself on the same line as France, England, and Austria, and that there should not be any uncertainty either as to the intention which she displays in the matter, or as to her interior conduct.

The Cabinet of Berlin cannot suppose that, by its language and its attitude in Germany, it gives to the Allies, in that double aspect, all the guarantees which are desirable; and it must not, consequently, be astonished if, until such time as it has responded to the overtures which have been made, and has accepted, with respect to France, the same position as Austria, the Cabinet of Paris should pursue, in accord with its allies, the settlement of an affair which it does not appear to consider in the same light, but in which, if its co-operation be wanting, the fault does not certainly rest with the Allies.

The whole effect of the French Note is to remind Prussia that if she is sincere in desiring to establish the same relation with the Western Powers that Austria has secured for herself, it is even now not too late. After so distinct a warning, it will be impossible for the Government of King Frederick William to say that it has been precluded from joining in the alliance (which promises to embrace all the principal part of Europe concerned in the question, from Holland to Piedmont), by want of an explicit communication of the views, the engagements, and the proceedings of the Three Powers. In the meanwhile, M. Drouyn de Lhuys distinctly states to the Prussian Government, that, although it is not yet too late to join the alliance, the Powers already allied do not, as they have not heretofore, intend to suspend their own proceedings in order to wait for the slower movements of Prussia. Should that Power protract its delays to too late an hour, the responsibility must lie with itself.

Should diplomatic arguments not prove strong enough for the Prussian Royal intellect, there are unfavourable or sharper logic in the background. The *Augsburg Gazette* repeats the announcement that a French army will traverse Austria, in order to operate against Russia. It says:—

> We learn that in the best-informed circles at Vienna it is positively affirmed that the military convention with the Western Powers, provided for in Article V. of the treaty of December, is now ready for signature. It contains the stipulation that French troops shall be brought up to the Russo-Polish frontier to occupy that position which Prussia has renounced. The French army will march by way of Milan and Laybach, and be thence conveyed by the southern and northern railroads. The French corps will have arrived at the southern extremity of the Austrian railway system about the beginning of March. General Granville, it is believed, carries the convention with him to Paris.

AUSTRIAN MILITARY PREPARATIONS.

Judging from the whole accounts received from Austria, a few weeks only separate us from the active co-operation of the armies of that country. Every preparation has been made by the Cabinet of Vienna to insure success in the coming campaign. The entire forces of the empire, including the reserves, are at present on foot prepared to take the field at a moment's notice. According to the *Augsburger Zeitung*, the military forces of the Austrian empire now on foot amount to 549,000 bayonets, with 686 cannon, exclusive of the reserve, which, in the space of two months, will, including the frontier regiments, exceed 200,000 men. Although for a certain exception, this force, divided into four armies, will be intensely powerful, and, as an offensive element, irresistible. Should the rumour be confirmed, which is current in the political *salons* of Paris, and which we have elsewhere noticed, that a French army, exceeding 100,000 men, will co-operate with the Austrian arms, the war will be speedily decided, and the operations in the Crimea will sink into insignificance compared with the campaign on the Vistula.

A Bucharest version says, that, in consequence of disorders in that city, two companies of Austrian gendarmerie are to be sent thither to maintain order. The Russians still hold the bridge over the Danube at Ismail.

The following despatch has been received from Bucharest, dated Feb. 2:—

> Ismail Pacha arrived at Braila on the 31st ult. Soon after his arrival he held a council, as Commander-in-Chief of the Danubian army, in which it was announced that a great contest would probably take place on the Lower Danube.

Letters from Frankfort say that it is not unlikely that in the course of a month Austria will refer to the Diet her proposition for mobilising the federal contingents, so that the military preparations ordered by the recent resolution will have been completed, and hopes are entertained that the missions of General Wedell and Herr Von Usedom at Paris and London may possibly have restored the harmony between Prussia and the Western Powers, and so have prepared the way for communication between the Courts of Vienna and Berlin. The probability of such an arrangement is not very great. We see that Count Esterhazy, Austrian Ambassador Extraordinary at the Prussian Court, arrived at Vienna on the 2nd from Berlin. The *Vienna Presse* connects the Count's return with the recent rejection of the Austrian proposition at Frankfort, chiefly through Prussian influence, and, from the fact of the Countess accompanying him, thinks the Ambassador will not go back to Vienna.

PACIFIC ARRANGEMENT WITH GREECE.

The latest authentic accounts from Constantinople represent the affairs of Greece as in course of arrangement. It will be remembered that, after the invasion of Thessaly and Macedonia by the Hellenic bands, the Porte demanded an indemnity in two forms: the one was to be a national compensation for the expenses of the war, the other a payment to the inhabitants of the border provinces to make good their losses during the invasion of the Greeks. In the meantime all diplomatic communication was suspended, the Hellenic inhabitants of the Turkish Empire had been expelled, and the commerce of Greece seriously impaired. With the obstinacy of the national character the Greeks refused to pay any indemnity, urging that they had no money. This argument seems to have had its effect on the Western Governments, for the Porte was compelled to desist from its claim. How far any remains of the old Philhellene feeling may have dictated this leniency it is hard to say, but in all these cases the Greeks generally make a stand, through a confidence that the civilised nations of the West will never be too hard on the supposed descendants of the Athenians and Spartans. They are said to have gained their end, and the question is to be arranged in a manner satisfactory to all parties. There was an old commercial treaty negotiated between Greece and the Porte some time after the establishment of Hellenic independence. This treaty Otho rejected, and it has not since been heard of. Now it has been proposed to recur to it, and to give Turkey some advantage in the trade with Greece as a compensation for her pecuniary losses and the insult offered to her territory. A meeting took place lately on the subject between the special Greek Envoy and the Turkish Commissioners, acting under the advice of the Ministers of the Western Powers. The result is, that the matter is concluded, and the Greek flag will once more be seen in the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus. The Greeks are much the gainers in the whole transaction, for, as the commerce of both countries is in their hands, they are as much benefited by concessions from Greece to Turkey as by concessions from Turkey to Greece.

AMERICA.

The steam-ship *Baltic*, which left New York on the 24th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Monday afternoon. The news is not of much interest.

In the Senate a Message had been received from the President urging the adoption of measures to suppress the hostilities of the Indians along the overland route to California, and submitting to the Military Committee, who would report a bill without delay, organising a force of 3000 mounted men. A bill remitting penalties incurred by emigrant ships in certain cases has been passed. The Judicial Reform Bill was postponed until December next. A joint resolution to establish a lighthouse at Cape Race has been passed. A resolution calling upon the State and Treasury departments for information relative to pauper and convict emigration from foreign countries, and the agency those countries had in the matter, and directing an inquiry into what legislation was necessary to prevent such emigration, voluntary or otherwise, was introduced. In the House of Representatives a similar Message to that addressed to the Senate, relative to the depredations of the Indians, had been read, but leave to report a bill for raising an adequate force was objected to. The third reading of the Pacific Railroad Bill was passed by a large majority. An inefficacious effort was made to procure a resolution providing for an expedition to search for Dr. Kane. On the 21st the Pacific Railroad Bill was placed in charge of the Select Committee. The French Spoliation Bill had been reported to the House. The amount claimed was estimated at from 10,000,000 dols. to 40,000,000 dols.

Advices from Washington state that Secretary Guthrie does not design leaving the Cabinet, as reported. No changes are likely to take place in the Cabinet.

The Captain of the *New Era* had been censured by the United States Grand Jury for the loss of that vessel. A disastrous fire had occurred at New York. The boiler of the steam-ship *Great Republic*, loading at Brooklyn, had exploded, and severely injured the engineer and several labourers.

About twenty participators in the last revolutionary intrigues of Mazzini have been arrested in Verona.

Some Kabyle chiefs, having learned that donations would be received for the French army of the East, have forwarded to the Governor-General of Algeria a sum of 5400f. for the relief of the troops there.

PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

Paris, Feb. 6.

The Exhibition mania, with its attendant extravagances, has now fairly seized upon the population of Paris. Everybody is to make a fortune during next summer. The three millions of people who entered the Great Exhibition of 1851 were a mere handful of visitors when compared with the incalculable throngs that in the heat of midsummer will block up the broad thoroughfares of the French capital. We are reminded that Paris is more accessible than London; that there is more to see upon the banks of the Seine than upon the banks of the Thames; and, moreover, that the Paris Universal Exhibition will far surpass the Great Exhibition of Hyde-park in effect and in excellence. Our Exhibition is regarded here simply as an experiment, by which our neighbours intend to profit. "You see," said a Frenchman to me the other day, "the English initiate; but it is the mission of the French to perfect." Against prejudices of this stamp it is in vain to argue. We must be content in the presence of Frenchmen to allow that their Exhibition will almost obliterate the memory of ours, and to reserve criticism for the fireside on our return to England.

In the first place, any candid man who inquires into the method which the Imperial Commissioners have adopted for the conduct of their Exhibition—although he may admire the liberality of some of its provisions—cannot fail to be struck, also, with its general weakness. The operations of the Commissioners are as secret as the most cautious diplomacy; so that in Paris much less is known of the promises of May next than may be learned in London. For instance, it was announced in the early part of last month that on the 15th of the same the Commissioners would have the Palace under their control, and from this date exhibitors were at liberty to send in their contributions. On the first of the present month I visited the Exhibition building. The scaffolding still blocked up the grand entrance, and the principal staircases were impassable. The design over the entrance (a colossal figure of France extending her patronising hands over Art and Industry) has, I believe, retarded the completion of this part of the Palace. I made my way through builders' rubbish into the Great Hall: here I found that not one-third of the flooring was laid, and the few men employed upon the work indicated no very keen anxiety on the part of the Commissioners or the contractors, or the company, that the building should be placed at the disposal of exhibitors at once. Should some unfortunately forward country send its contributions *en masse* at the present moment, it would puzzle the Commissioners how to dispose of them. They would certainly create great confusion in the Palace.

At the two extremities of the Great Hall painted windows are to be placed. The scaffolding is constructed for the insertion of these works of art. At the southern extremity about one-third of the window was fixed, and workmen, as I stood there, were winding themselves up from the ground in swinging platforms, resembling horse-boxes, to resume their labour near the roof. The Hall, spanned by bold, uninterrupted arches, will be the most striking part of the Exhibition; it has but one fault—the greenness of the glass by which it is covered. Of course a triodor flag is now the most prominent object within this vast space. "They must have a flag and a bunch of flowers up when they have finished any part of their work," said an English gentleman connected with the works, when speaking of French workmen. Let me add that he gave these workmen an excellent character. Not a single foreign hand, he declared, had worked upon the Palace; and for the artistic parts of the building he had found Frenchmen unrivalled. At the corners of the building there are chambers, the interior of which is of elaborately carved stone; here, according to my informant, the genius of French workmen had been displayed to the best advantage.

Remarkable also are the broad arched galleries—wide as a transept of the Crystal Place, and floored with solid oak! These galleries are reached, not by little corkscrew staircases, but by steps of solid stone, protected by walls of carved stonework. From the galleries the view of the interior—painted grey throughout—is very fine. This grey is relieved by the painted windows, and by the delicate-coloured scrollwork which borders the galleries. The monotony of the exterior has also been relieved, by painting the iron-work before the windows the colour of chocolate, pointed with gold! Under the windows, cut deep into the stone, are the names of men illustrious as discoverers or manufacturers. They are, however, oddly jumbled together. Papin and Arkwright elbow Reaumur and Oberkampf! The front of the building is, however, disfigured by lozenges, inserted at regular intervals, upon each of which the name of a French manufacturing town is obliquely scrawled! The wonderful gallery that stretches along the bank of the Seine, and is a conspicuously ugly object seen from the Pont de la Concorde, admits of little or no description. Its greatest claim to attention is, that it is said to be the longest gallery in the world. It is wide and lofty, built chiefly of wood and zinc, and glazed only over a wide gap at the top. A narrow gallery is to be erected at each side, to afford more room for exhibitors; this, however, will certainly detract from the effect of the interior. At each extremity will be elaborate plaster designs. The entrance to it, in the corner of the Place de la Concorde, is rapidly approaching completion. The Picture Gallery also is, I believe, advancing rapidly. But still the Imperial Commissioners meet, or have their place of meeting, near the Invalides! Hence to the building is a good walk. Crowds of Exhibition officials will, of course, spring up, to read the *Presse* and talk about business. People complain loudly of the utter want of attention with which applications for instruction are met; and he who writes a letter in the hope of getting an answer is regarded as a rather unreasonable fellow. The vice of all Government offices in France, viz.—an utter disregard of letters—is unfortunately carried, with all its inconveniences, into the *bureaux* of the Exhibition. However, Prince Napoleon, the President of the Imperial Commission, is now in Paris; and he will perhaps infuse a more active spirit through these sleepy offices.

It may interest your readers to learn that the catalogues of the Universal Exhibition have been made over to Emile de Girardin; and that the right of engraving views of the building has been sold to a particular firm. Thus it is pretended that no person save the purchaser of this right has the power to publish a representation of the exterior of the Palace. This is said to be the act of the company to which the Palace belongs, and not of the Imperial Commission. Its absurdity is obvious, since it restricts the publicity upon which the after success of the Palais de l'Industrie must depend. An instance of this occurred lately. A gentleman was preparing an illustrated journal of the Exhibition: he proposed to engrave the front of the Palace as the heading of his paper, but he was stopped by the information that he had no right to make such an engraving!

Still, the people of Paris believe in a summer of wonderful fortune. Hotel-keepers positively refuse to engage with visitors for their apartments, preferring to wait for that rush which will enable them to ask exorbitant prices. Wonderful projects, all pointing to the Exhibition, are on foot. There is the Dîner de l'Exposition, with its waiters in plush and its gaudy salons; there are Hôtels Meublés springing up in every street; there are other Universal, European, Great Parisian, &c., Dinners—all waiting for the rush in May. Let us hope that all this speculation will not be overdone. The experiences of Londoners in 1851 should warn our excitable allies against similar disasters. In April, 1851, London lodging-house keepers dreamt of fabulous prices, and of turn-up beds in their wine-cellars; in August of the same year they were forced to be content with fair prices for their accommodation. The same disappointment probably awaits Parisian speculators, so that it is well to warn them in time.

W. B. J.

HUTS FOR THE CRIMEA.

(To the Editor of the Illustrated London News.)

Sir,—I presume that it may be admitted that the miserable remnant of one of the most gallant and heroic armies that ever left the shores of England, now in the Crimea, must be sacrificed to the grossest incompetence and most culpable negligence of all parties and all departments whose duties it was to have produced a very different result.

This is certainly bad enough; but it would be taking a very limited view of the melancholy case to suppose that the loss of the gallant survivors of Alma, Inkerman, and Balaclava, is the only evil likely to result from the unfortunate mismanagement connected with the whole operations and arrangements of the campaign. The character of the country is at stake. Englishmen will no longer be considered capable of making arrangements on a great scale to meet the commonest emergency.

The excellence of the arrangements of the great civil establishments of the country have been considered as models worthy of imitation by many foreign countries in the formation of similar establishments. But it may now be questioned whether the recent blundering so ably exposed and so extensively circulated by the press will so far damage the national character as to prevent the employment of Englishmen abroad as civil or mechanical engineers, or even as contractors.

Constitutional government may also be considered as having been brought into very great disrepute, its many checks and counterchecks, and the unharmonious if not antagonistic tugging of the several Government departments, having resulted in the merest chaos of confusion, and supplied the advocates of despotic government with arguments in favour of the unity of action which they claim as peculiar to their own cherished system of rule.

It appears that the huts sent out to the Crimea are each two-and-a-half tons in weight, and this, in the absence of an efficient system of transport, will render them useless to the present wants of the army if the railway about to be constructed do not afford timely aid.

It is quite hopeless to suppose that the several departments of the Government will reform themselves, and, consequently, reform must be forced upon them by public opinion, acting through the energetic efforts of the public press.

The introduction of steam, and its almost universal application as a powerful mechanical agent, not only in connection with locomotion by sea and land, but also as affecting almost every application of human labour, has so completely changed the structure of society as a great operative and productive machine, that any one unacquainted with the improvements of the last twenty or thirty years can hardly carry on the ordinary mechanical operation with advantage.

The operations of war cannot with impunity claim an exemption from the onward march of improvement, as it is quite clear that, if the present war is continued for many years, it will, to a very great extent, become a contest of mechanical skill, and may ultimately become too destructive a game to be played at all.

The Government authorities have hitherto succeeded in setting at defiance almost every attempt to improve the efficiency of the military system. Thus, however, will not long be tolerated, as it is quite clear that there is ingenuity enough in the country to devise means and appliances for the equipment of our troops and the preservation of their health to enable our comparatively small armies to defeat the more numerous hosts of our enemies. Our soldiers are said to be fit only to fight, and that they can neither hut themselves nor cook their food. This is a very unjust accusation, when it is well known that the means of doing neither the one nor the other is placed within their reach.

If the Government were to calculate even the money value of a soldier before Sebastopol, they would most assuredly work him less, feed him better, and protect him from the inclemency of the weather. The huts sent out by Government are no doubt substantial and serviceable, but simpler and more expeditious modes of obtaining shelter for the troops under existing circumstances ought to have been adopted, and these modes ought to vary according to circumstances.

The following are a few sketches in section of a simple construction:—

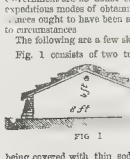


Fig. 1

Fig. 1 consists of two turf parallel side walls, about two feet high, and twelve feet long, the gable ends being built up to four feet high in the centre, and sloping down to the walls, leaving an entrance on one side of the centre of the gable. The roof could be composed of a ridge pole, with hurdles for the sloping sides of the roof, made from brushwood, and watched sufficiently close to admit of being covered with thin sods lapping over each other. It would be necessary to lash the hurdles to the ridge with cords or thongs, which are found of great length and tenacity in some countries. This hut would give ample space for eight men, but would hold sixteen on an emergency; and could be sufficiently completed in one day to afford shelter, and on the following day could be completed, which would always include a thorough drainage.

Fig. 2 is the same as Fig. 1, with the addition of being sunk into the ground from two to three feet; and when the ground is not sufficiently strong to stand upright it must be faced with sods, which ought to be carefully cut from the surface of the area of the hut, and from the drain, so as to preserve the ground around the huts from being broken up.

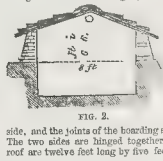


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3 is substantially the same as Fig. 2, with the exception of the roof, which is composed of three-quarter inch boards, firmly lodged on the inside, and the joints of the boarding secured by thin narrow laps on the outside. The two sides are hinged together along the whole ridge. These portions of roof are twelve feet long by five feet six inches broad, and when folded up the outsides would be placed towards each other. There would be no ridge pole necessary, as the eaves, or lower part of the roof, would be built into the upper part of the side walls. This would also be necessary to prevent the light roof from being blown away. This must, however, be done so as not to prevent the water from running freely off the roof, and finding its way into the drain. This roof, if made of white pine, would weigh about three hundred weight. By adding to this hut, when practicable, a raised wooden floor placed sloping, as a guard-bed for the men to sleep upon, it would be tolerably comfortable. Boards one inch thick, well battened, would be sufficiently strong if supported upon dwarf sod wall, not very distant from each other. It would be twelve feet long by six feet broad, and would be conveniently divided into two portions longitudinally, as one portion could then be laid upon the other in the day time. The weight would be nearly two hundred and a half.

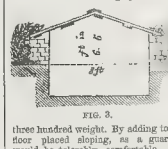


Fig. 3.

Whatever may be the fate of the present campaign, which appears to be disastrous in everything but the mere fighting part of the business, it appears very evident that the pickaxe and spade, however unchivalrous it may sound, must play an important part in all future campaigns; and, if soldiers have too much purely military duties to perform, there must be an auxiliary band of navvies, with a proportion of mechanics, to form intrenched camps, and to perform all the laborious duties not immediately under the fire of the enemy, and which they would perform much more expeditiously, and with greater economy, than the same duties can be performed by soldiers of the line.

A rifle regiment behind a loopholed parapet, which could be constructed by a gang of navvies in ten or twelve hours, armed with the most improved rifles and an ample supply of ammunition for distant firing, and each man supplied with two six-shot revolvers for close quarters previously to having recourse to the bayonet, should that be necessary, would most assuredly do more execution than five or six regiments, standing up to be shot at, without cover, in the ordinary unscientific way. Balaclava and Inkerman are cases where the above suggestion would have been eminently successful, and with comparatively trifling loss.

In the present siege in the Crimea the soldier has as much need to be protected from the inclemency of the weather when on night duty in the trenches as when in camp, and this may be accomplished with equal facility.

Fig. 4 is a sectional sketch of a trench sunk for example as a portion of the first or second parallel, or any portion of the more advanced works. The portions of the trench intended to be thus covered in could be left somewhat higher in the bottom of the excavation than the other portions of the trench, so as to ensure a good drainage. But, under all circumstances, an efficient drainage ought to be considered of vital importance.

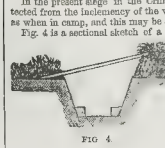


Fig. 4.

These portions of the trenches would be covered in by hurdles and sods, or by battened boarding of convenient-sized portions, as above explained in connection with the huts. The windward end of each portion could be closed so as to prevent draught, and fires could be used without attracting the notice of the enemy.

The whole of the guard of the trenches, with the exception of the sentries who could be relieved every hour, would thus be protected from the inclemency of the weather, and ready at a moment's notice to turn out in a comfortable and effective state, with their arms dry and fit for use.

It is very true that this mode of hutting and taking care of the soldier would be expensive; it would probably cost, even if executed by some rational business man, two or three pounds for every soldier's life that it would save, and the mere money value of a soldier before Sebastopol, taking into account the many millions spent by mismanagement, must be put down at several hundred pounds.

Having trespassed too much upon your valuable columns, and trusting to be permitted to resume the subject next week,

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, A Civil Engineer.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

(From Tuesday Night's extra *Gazette.*)

War Department, Feb. 7.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle received last night a despatch, of which the following is a copy, addressed to his Grace by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, Jan. 21.

My Lord Duke,—Nothing has occurred of importance in our front; but the enemy has occasionally opened a fire upon our left attack, and Mr. Spalding, a fine young man, an acting mate of her Majesty's ship *London*, and in charge of the battery, was unfortunately killed by a round shot the day before yesterday. His loss is deeply deplored.

I enclose the return of casualties to the 21st instant.

The weather has become milder, but the country is still in a dreadful state from melted snow.

The Army is well supplied with warm clothing, and if the Commissariat were adequate to provide with transport, and to land, what it could be at the Brought up, there would be no other cause of suffering than the severity of a Crimean winter, and the duties imposed of carrying on a siege in such a climate at this season of the year. I have, &c., Raglan.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c.

War-office, Feb. 7.

The Right Hon. the Secretary-at-War has received from his Grace the Duke of Newcastle the following list of casualties amongst the non-commissioned officers and privates, in the force under the command of Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B., from the 15th to 21st January, 1855, both days inclusive.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED FROM 15TH TO 21ST JANUARY, 1855, INCLUSIVE.

KILLED.

1st Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private James.
89th Foot: Private Henry Wardlaw.
44th Foot: Private Matthew Clarke.

WOUNDED.

89th Foot: Private William Houston, slightly.
2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private Walter Newman, slightly.
4th Foot: Private Richard Hending, William Rowson, Alexander Moir, severely; Leonard Brooks, slightly.
88th Foot: Private Michael Bird and Cornelius Hunt, severely.

MISSING.

12th Jan.—68th Foot: Private John Lawrence.

By Command of the Right Hon. the Secretary-at-War,
J. B. Burnall Eccuoyt, Adjutant-General.

A RETURN OF CASUALTIES IN THE NAVAL BRIGADE ON THE 21ST JANUARY, 1855.

KILLED.

Mr. J. H. Spalding, acting mate, London.

STEPHEN LUSHINGTON, Captain Commanding Naval Brigade.

(From the *Gazette* of Friday.)

War Department, Feb. 7.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle has received a despatch and its enclosure, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Grace by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, Jan. 16.

My Lord Duke,—I have the honour to lay before your Grace the copy of a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Simmons, which he wrote by desire of Omer Pacha, expressing his Highness' approbation of the services of Major Bent, of the Royal Engineers, and the detachment of Sappers which I lent him in the summer; his regret at the loss of Lieutenant Burke, of the Royal Engineers, and his high sense of the conduct and exertions of Lieutenant Glyn, of the Royal Navy; of his Serene Highness Prince Ernest of Saxe Leuningen; and of the detachment of seamen of her Majesty's fleet employed in the construction of the bridge across the Danube, the success of which he attributes in a great measure to their well-planned dispositions.

Colonel Simmons, your Grace will perceive, has further been desired by Omer Pacha to say, that it would be very gratifying to him if her Majesty should be graciously pleased to reward these officers for the able services they have rendered to the Ottoman army and the common cause.

I think it right to mention that the Hon. Major Gage, of the Royal Horse Artillery, was the officer who conducted these detachments to Roustchouk from Varna. I appointed him to this duty, having previously sent him to examine the armament at the former place, and being satisfied that the employment of his services on the occasion would be advantageous.

I beg your Grace will be so good as to obtain her Majesty's permission for Private Andrew Anderson, of the Royal Sappers and Miners, to accept and wear the decoration of the fourth class of the Order of Medjidie, in consideration of his distinguished gallantry.—I have, &c., Raglan.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c.

(Enclosure.)

Varna, January 8, 1855.

My Lord, His Highness Omer Pacha has requested me to write to your Lordship to return his best thanks for the services rendered to his army by Major Bent, of the Royal Engineers, and the detachment of Sappers under his command.

His Highness desires me to express his regret at the losses which have been sustained by this small detachment, who, under the direction of Major Bent, have well sustained the character of the British army.

His Highness has already expressed to your Lordship his regret at the loss of Lieut. Burke, of the Royal Engineers, who his Highness considers to have been an officer of much merit.

His Highness desires me to inform your Lordship that he has done himself the honour to write to the Turkish Ambassador at the Court of St. James', expressing the desire of his Majesty the Sultan that Private Andrew Anderson, of the Royal Sappers and Miners, may receive and wear the decoration of the 4th class of the order of Medjidie, in commemoration of his gallantry in recovering the body of Lieutenant Burke, after he was killed at the passing of the Danube on the 13th of July last. In the meantime he has presented Private Anderson with the decoration, and trusts your Lordship will allow him to wear it until the commands of her Majesty may be received.

His Highness further desires me to express to your Lordship his entire approbation of the manner in which Major Bent has conducted his duties.

He desires me to inform your Lordship that this officer showed great energy in his endeavours to enter Silistria before the siege was raised, that he subsequently showed great gallantry at the passage of the Danube, when he was the first to land on the left bank, and covered the landing of the Turkish troops with a detachment of riflemen, who maintained their ground under a very heavy fire until the disembarkation of the supports was effected.

Major Bent and his Sappers were subsequently of great service in throwing up the *tete du pont* at Giurgevo, and in the construction of the bridge across the Danube.

His Highness desires to take this opportunity of expressing to your Lordship his high sense of the services rendered by Lieut. Glyn, R.N., and H.S.H. Prince Ernest of Saxe Leuningen, with the detachment of sailors of her Majesty's fleet under their command, in the construction of the bridge across the Danube.

His Highness considers that the success of the construction of this bridge is in great measure attributable to their well-planned dispositions, which, although executed with limited means, proved fully effective to resist the storms and strong currents of the Danube.

He desires me to say that he is fully satisfied with the zeal and indefatigable energy of this detachment of her Majesty's fleet under the able direction of Lieutenant Glyn, whom he considers a very promising officer, and entirely worthy of the confidence of your Lordship.

His Highness desires me to add, that it would be very gratifying to him if her Majesty could in some way reward these officers for the able services they have rendered to the Ottoman army and the common cause.

I am, &c.,
J. L. A. Simmons, Lieut.-Colonel.

Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., &c.

An Artillery camp of 4000 men is to be formed at Scutari.

The Foreign Legion will assemble for drill, &c., at Heligoland, and Lieut. Leuprière, with a detachment of Royal Sappers and Miners, will leave Woolwich for Heligoland in the early part of the present week, to erect huts for their accommodation.

An augmentation of half a battalion of Royal Engineers and 500 Royal Sappers and Miners is ordered to take place immediately, which will give four companies of 120 non-commissioned officers and men in each. The company at Corfu is also to be made up to 120.

WRECK OF H.M. STEAM-SLOOP "HECLA," OFF GIBRALTAR.

LOSS OF HER MAJESTY'S STEAM-SLOOP "HECLA."

We find the following details of this catastrophe in the *Gibraltar Chronicle*, dated Jan. 23:—"The weather during the night and this morning has been very boisterous—the wind blowing hard from the east, with rain. Her Majesty's steam-sloop *Hecla*, Commander Hawker, which was returning from a cruise to the eastward, ran on shore at about half-past four o'clock this morning on the eastern beach, the weather being very bad at the time. The Captain was obliged to cut away the masts in order to save her. At the above date she lay in a very precarious position, and the sea was beating over her. Assistance had been rendered by the Captain of the port."

The *Mauritius*, which arrived at Portsmouth on the 3rd inst., reports that "little hope is entertained of the *Hecla* being got off. A Sardinian emigrant-ship had also been totally wrecked, by mistaking the lights of the *Hecla* for shore lights, and eight or ten emigrants had been drowned."

We are indebted to a Correspondent at Gibraltar for the accompanying Sketch of the wrecked vessel.

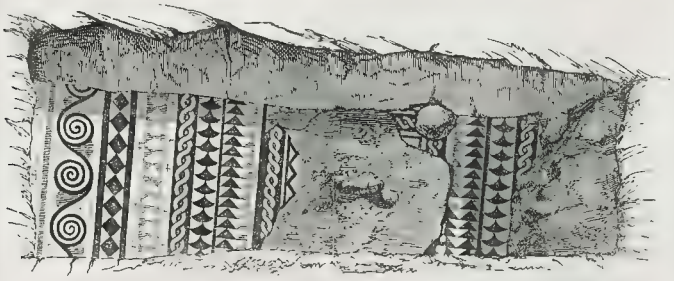
ATTACK ON THE REBEL TOWN OF DANISH ACCRA.

I beg to enclose a Sketch of the attack made by armed natives on the English Fort Christiansbourg, at what was formerly Danish Accra. The attack by the natives commenced at half past seven o'clock on the morning of the 13th September, and was continued vigorously until four p.m., notwithstanding the entire town was in flames, and the well-directed fire of the fort

At five p.m. H M S *Scourge* was signalled to come to the assistance of the fort, which she did in the most efficient manner, the 10-inch and 8-inch shot and shell making awful havoc amongst the enemy, who retired precipitately. The fort, I regret to say, sustained a loss of four killed and twenty-five wounded, including the Commandant, Captain Bird, of the Gold Coast Corps. The garrison consisted of Captain Bird, Lieutenants Brownell and Duke, and Ensign Clarke, of the Gold Coast Corps, with 120 rank and file; also Lieutenant Grubbe, of H.M.S. *Scourge*, who had volunteered to instruct the black soldiery in gunnery previous to the attack. The enemy numbered 4000, and suffered a loss of about 300 in killed and wounded. The number of killed and wounded on our side sufficiently proves the obstinate attack made by the natives, who are by no means to be despised as foes.

By a private letter from Sierra Leone, dated December 15, we learn that six companies of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd West India Regiments, under the command of Captain Rookes, returned on the 26th of November in H.M.S. *Prometheus* from Danish Accra, where they had been employed in operations against the rebellious inhabitants of Christiansbourg and Labadée. On the 2nd of December they re-embarked on board H.M.S. *Britomart*, *Prometheus*, and *Dover*, and proceeded up the Malecourie river to the fortified town of Malegeah, which was taken and occupied; after which a treaty was signed by the Kings and chiefs on the field, acceding to all terms demanded. The thanks of the senior naval officer and Government of Sierra Leone were given to Captain Rookes and the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men under his command, for their services on this occasion.

H.M. STEAMER "SCOURGE" ATTACKING DANISH ACCRA.



TESSELATED ROMAN PAVEMENT, RECENTLY FOUND AT IPSWICH.

ROMAN PAVEMENT FOUND AT IPSWICH.

The discovery of this curious relic of Roman civilisation in Britain has already been noticed in our pages. It consists of a tesselated pavement and foundations of walls, at about fourteen inches deep, in a field not far from the village of Whitton, upon slightly-elevated ground, in digging for erecting a fence round a newly-built farmhouse. The pavement is about ten feet in length by three feet in breadth; the pattern is varied—a line of scrollwork, white upon a black ground; another in cabled form, composed of red, black, and white; a third in black squares placed lozenge-wise on white ground; and a fourth in triangles formed of circular arcs. The tesseræ are about half an inch square, and the centre is filled up with

ROMAN REMAINS, RECENTLY FOUND AT BURGH.

fragments of ancient bricks. The field is called the Castle-hills, and is conjectured to have been the site of the Castle of the Bigods, destroyed in the twelfth century. There have been various concrete foundations discovered in the field, all of Roman work, some seven feet wide. Quantities of Roman bricks have recently been dug out, most of which were used in the foundations of the premises just built. Fragments of Samian ware, and other earthen vessels, have likewise from time to time been discovered in the field. Altogether, this is the finest Roman relic discovered of late years in the eastern counties.

ROMAN RELICS FOUND AT BURGH.

(From a Correspondent.)

The accompanying Sketches (from the pencil of the Rev. J. B. Norman, of Bowness) represent some mutilated Roman remains recently dug up from a gravel-pit in the parish of Burgh-by-Sands—famous as the death place of Edward I. One of the stations of the great Roman wall occupied the centre of the present village and the adjoining gravel-pit. Some bones (which, on being disinterred, speedily mouldered away) and a considerable quantity of broken pottery, handles of urns or vases, seem to warrant the supposition that the cemetery of the Roman town was placed there. Two bronze coins have also been found, but their legends are defaced by rust.

No. 1 is a fragment of a statue in low relief, of poor execution, representing a hand grasping a spear.

No. 2. A block of white freestone, with the numeral VII boldly cut.

No. 3. A circular ornament, with a moulding—of a cippus?

No. 4. A corner piece of a square ornament, with the letter S between two indented lines.

No. 5. A sepulchral slab (?) containing the name, and that not perfect, of the dedicator—"Cives," probably from Cyis. After Trajan conquered the Dacians, some of them took service under the Roman eagles, and formed part of the garrison of this remote district. The head-quarters of the Dacians were at Amboglanum or Birdoswald. In a neighbouring village, a much-mutilated slab contains the word "NOR," sole survivor of a long inscription, whence it would seem that the ancient inhabitants of Austria and Salzburg, as well as of Wallachia and Moldavia, contributed to the defence of the wall.

Roman Remains at Bath.—The workmen engaged in the excavations for the new sewer from Lansdown-road to Walcot Church, Bath, and which passes down Cornel-lane, the track of the old Roman road, "Via Julia," have made numerous discoveries of Roman remains. Among the antiquities found are a coin of Commodus, a fine specimen of the first brass, a portion of a broken fibula, the rim of a vessel of blackish brown colour, and several pieces of Samian pottery of different patterns. One piece appears to have been carefully drilled through, and stopped up with a leaden plug. Vessels of Samian pottery have been often found, mended by rivets, showing that the Romans valued this kind of ware. There have also been found two bottoms of vessels of the same kind of pottery, inscribed with the marks SVOBNLD OF and PECVLIAR. Some stone coffins have also been dug up in Russell-street, and two portions of the bottoms of vessels, inscribed with the marks MARTJ, and QVINTIM. Similar marks may be found mentioned in the list of potters' marks given by Mr. Wright in his work, "The Celt, Roman, and Saxon." It is anticipated that, in the course of the sewerage operations at present going on, traces will be found of villas and other remains of the Roman inhabitants of the "City of the Waters of the Sun."

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The beautiful grounds of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, during the frost of last week, presented a new phase of seasonable enjoyment. The reservoirs and lakes, being completely frozen, were very numerously attended by skaters, and thus presented a novel picture for our Artist's pencil. The Skating Club also obtained permission to appropriate to their especial use a piece of water known as the intermediate reservoir, upon which a number of the members of the Club might be seen daily practising. The scene was altogether very animated, the frostwork lending a new charm to the grounds and the legion of panes in the Crystal Palace.

JOHN TIMBS, F.S.A.,

AUTHOR OF "CURIOSITIES OF LONDON."

We engrave a Portrait of the Author of the above work, a review of which will be found in another part of the present number of our Journal. Mr. Timbs has been for many years honourably associated with the production of cheap and useful illustrated literature. "The Mirror" commenced by John Limbird, some three-and-thirty years since, was edited for eleven years by the subject of this sketch. Its unexceptionable character and marked success called up many imitators; but it outlived them all, and long kept at the head of that useful class of literature of which it was the pioneer.

Soon after the commencement of the Illustrated London News, the Proprietors, fortunately, secured the services of Mr. Timbs as one of the Editors of this Journal, with which he has continued to be associated to the present hour—a period of twelve years. It does not become us here to say more of his labours, as our readers have had frequent opportunities of appreciating his merits. Of his active life we subjoin a few particulars.

JOHN TIMBS, F.S.A., AUTHOR OF "CURIOSITIES OF LONDON."
FROM A PAINTING BY T. J. GULLICK.

John, the second son of John and Deborah Timbs, was born in 1801, in Clerkenwell. Thence his family removed to the High-street, Southwark, where they carried on business as Italian warehousemen, for nearly thirty years, in premises originally the Boar's Head Inn, part of Sir John Fastolff's benefaction to Magdalen College, Oxford, in the reign of Henry VII. The young John Timbs was educated under the Rev. Joseph Hamilton, D.D., and his brother, Mr. Jeremiah Hamilton, at New Marlowe, Hemel Hempstead, where the subject of this sketch for a considerable time issued a manuscript newspaper for the edification of his schoolfellows. At the age of fourteen he was articled to a druggist and printer at Dorking, in Surrey, where, at his master's table, he first met Sir Richard Phillips, who had just completed his "Morning's Walk from London to Kew." The great publisher kindly encouraged the boy-printer to contribute to his *Monthly Magazine*, and the beautiful country of the neighbourhood suggested the youth's first work, "A Picturesque Promenade round Dorking," in 1822; reprinted in the following year with a dedication to Mr. Thomas Hope, the author of "Anastasius." In 1821 John Timbs came to London, and for some years

SKATING IN THE GROUNDS OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM.

served as amanuensis to Sir Richard Phillips, in his publishing establishment in Blackfriars; of this very remarkable man the "Curiosities of London" contains several incidental recollections. About this time Mr. Timbs became acquainted with Mr. Britton, F.S.A., with whom he has maintained an unbroken friendship to this day. In 1825–6 Mr. Timbs published anonymously "Laconics," the result of a course of ethical reading; a selection described by a critic in "The Examiner" to have "been made by a man of nice discernment, who knew where to look for good things, and to make the best of use of them when he had found them." In 1827 Mr. Timbs became Editor of "The Mirror," and so continued until 1838; compiling, also, an annual volume of records of Discoveries in Science and Art. This design he improved as "The Year book of Facts," in 1839, characterised as "a laborious production of patient industry." Besides contributing to periodicals, Mr. Timbs has produced the following works:—

"Promenade round Dorking," 1822. The same, second edition, 1833. "Laconics; or, the Best Words of the Best Authors," three vols., 1826. "Mirror," edited, 1827-1838 (twenty-two vols.). "Curiosities of Science," 1828. "Companion to the Theatres," 1829. "Arcana of Science and Art, 1828-1838 (eleven vols.). "Wine-Grower's Manual," 1830. "Family Manual," 1831. "Knowledge for the People; or the Plain Way and Pleasant Way" (four vols.), 1831-2. "Popular Zoology," 1834. "Domestic Life in England," 1835. "The Institutes," vol. 2 (written for the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge), 1835. "Family Handbook," 1837. "Hints for the Table," 1838. "Literary World" (three vols.), 1839, 1840. "London Anecdotes" (two vols.), 1848. "Illustrated Year-book" (two vols.), 1850, 1851. "Wellingtoniana," 1852. "Year-book of Facts," 1839, 1855 (seventeen vols.).

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Feb. 11.—Sexagesima Sunday.
Monday, 12.—Lady Jane Grey and her husband beheaded, 1554.
Tuesday, 13.—Massacre of Glencoe, 1691.
Wednesday, 14.—St. Valentine. Captain Cook killed, 1779.
Thursday, 15.—National Debt commenced, 1500.
Friday, 16.—
Saturday, 17.—Battle of St. Albans, 1461. Michael Angelo died, 1564.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 17.

Sunday	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday	Friday.	Saturday.
M h m 7 48	A h m 8 19	M h m 8 56	A h m 9 38	M h m 10 11	A h m 11 8	M h m 11 23
A h m Tide	M h m 0 52	A h m 1 3	M h m 1 29	A h m 1 57	M h m 2 21	A h m 2 42

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1855.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

The pernicious interregnum of Ministerial authority is at an end; and Lord Palmerston occupies the place which the public voice had set apart for him long before the dissensions in the late Cabinet had reached their maturity. The changes made have been exceedingly few, and amount to a reconstruction of the old, rather than to the creation of a new, Ministry. The Earl of Aberdeen—whose political character was tainted with the original sin of having too long believed in peace and in the good faith of the Czar—has retired before the storm of public disapproval; and will regain, as an independent member of the Legislature, some portion of the esteem and popularity which he failed to secure in office. Impartial history will do him justice; and even his contemporaries, amid all the heats and animosities of the hour, will confess his honesty and purity of purpose. When the quarter or half a million of bayonets that Austria will ere long bring into the field are employed in support of the cause of Great Britain and France—as they are certain to be, at a period much earlier than many people suspect—the far-seeing sagacity and patient ability of Lord Aberdeen will receive some portion of the credit to which they are entitled, and Europe will admit, even if his own countrymen deny, his claim to wise, prudent, and successful statesmanship. The Duke of Newcastle—damaged in a similar manner, but from dissimilar causes—has also retired from the responsibilities of government, but will yield to the Administration of Lord Palmerston his independent and, we believe, his cordial support. The reputation of the Duke of Newcastle has not suffered by the late Ministerial crisis. It stood lower before the sudden resignation of Lord John Russell than after that event, and a reaction has already commenced in his favour, which, at some future time, will have the effect of again securing his valuable services to the public in some other department than that which he had not the good fortune to reform. Lord John Russell preceded his colleagues in retirement from the public service, and has not been included in the new arrangements. His presence in the late Cabinet was a main source of disunion; and his absence from the present Government will lend it strength—the more especially as his Lordship is not in a position to take his seat alongside of Mr. Disraeli, or to assume the task of leader of another section of the Opposition. In default of his own Premiership, which appears to have been the great desideratum in his Lordship's mind, Lord Palmerston is the statesman whom he himself has most emphatically designated as the fittest to conduct the affairs of the country. So far the advice of Lord John Russell has been taken; and his Lordship, though he may oppose in minor matters, cannot do otherwise than support the general policy of a Government which, to this extent at least, is of his own making. Lord Panmure, another statesman especially designated by Lord John as equal to the all-important duties of War Minister, has been selected by Lord Palmerston to fill that post, so that the section of the Whig party which is out of office, and which may be supposed to yield allegiance to and fight under the banner of the noble Member for London, cannot, without a factiousness of which no one has any present right to accuse it, oppose the Ministry on the ground of the inefficiency of the new War Minister. Mr. Sidney Herbert's late office will merge into that of the War Minister; and the right hon. gentleman, with his Parliamentary standing and high abilities, will continue his services to the Crown and country in the capacity either of Home or Colonial Secretary, as may be hereafter, or as perhaps has been already, arranged. Mr. Layard will be the first occupant of a new office to be created under the Minister of War, and will be Under-Secretary of State for that department. Earl Granville succeeds Lord John Russell as President of the Council; or, in other words, resumes a post which he previously filled with honour to himself and advantage to the country; but from which he retired at a recent period that he might not stand in the way of arrangements which were believed at the time—though, as it now appears, erroneously—to give efficiency and stability to the Aberdeen Ministry. The Earl of Clarendon retains the seals of the Foreign Department; and Mr. Gladstone those of Chancellor of the Exchequer. The country could have ill spared the services of either of these statesmen—especially of Lord Clarendon, whose management of its foreign relations during a most critical period has reflected the highest credit on his skill, sagacity, and patriotism, and been of the most essential benefit to his country. Sir James Graham—whose health has been partially re-established, and which it is to be hoped will soon be sufficiently restored to enable him to return to the fulfilment of the duties which he has hitherto discharged so ably—angry Napier notwithstanding—retains the administration of the Navy. The list of the new Cabinet therefore stands as follows:—

First Lord of the Treasury	Viscount Palmerston
Lord Chancellor	Lord Chancellor
President of the Council	Earl Granville
Privy Seal	Duke of Argyll
Foreign Secretary	Earl of Clarendon
Home Secretary	Right Hon. Sidney Herbert
Colonial Secretary	Sir George Grey
Minister at War	Lord Panmure
Chancellor of the Exchequer	Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone
First Lord of the Admiralty	Sir James Graham
Public Works	Sir William Molesworth
In the Cabinet, but without office	Marquis of Lansdowne
President of the Board of Control	Sir Charles Wood

The Chancellorship of the Duchy of Lancaster and the Chief Secretaryship for Ireland remain vacant, and it is possible that Mr. Sidney Herbert and Sir George Grey may change places.

The only statesman whose name has been brought prominently before the public as likely to lend his aid to the Ministry, and who is not included in the arrangement, is Earl Grey. It is impossible not to respect the reasons which have induced his Lordship to refuse the office of War Minister, for which the decision of his character and the course of his studies appear to have so thoroughly qualified him; but in refusing to be a Minister he will not refuse either the aid of his genius and experience, or of his vote in support of the general principles on which Lord Palmerston's Government is founded. The country has unanimously demanded a strong Government. Lord Palmerston's is the strongest that it was possible to form. If it be not strong enough in itself, it will fall like its predecessor; but if its weakness do not result from any inherent vice in its composition, but from want of due Parliamentary support, Lord Palmerston has the remedy in his hands. An appeal to the country would give him an overwhelming majority. The House of Commons knows this; and will, doubtless, be as patriotic and docile as the new Ministry can desire, or the urgency of public affairs commands.

The Duke of Newcastle's retirement from office has been accomplished with a better grace than usually attends a Ministerial *exit*; and his Grace owes this advantage to one who certainly did not desire to do any kindness to a late colleague. Roused by the ungenerous and uncandid attack of the ex-President of the Council, the Duke addressed himself to his fellow Peers in a tone of manliness and earnestness that at once set him right with everybody—even the Earl of Derby, sore at the failure of his attempt to get together a Cabinet, scarcely managed, in reply, to vent a sarcasm of average point, low as the oratorical standard is fixed in the august assembly in question. But the Duke did more. Having obtained the permission of his Royal Mistress to make certain disclosures connected with the interior life of the Government, he completely convicted his assailant in the Commons of perulance, of precipitancy, and of insincerity; and a few simple touches produced such a portrait of Lord John Russell in the character of a colleague as will, one would imagine, effectually deter any future constructor of a Cabinet from voluntarily including his Lordship in Ministerial arrangements.

A resignation which might otherwise have been a somewhat ignoble retreat has thus been invested with a species of *éclat*. The champion who falls by an unfair thrust avenges himself well if, in falling, he cleaves his enemy with a downright blow. Lord John Russell's manœuvre has ejected two of the Peelites from office, but the ablest of the party remain; while one of the two who retire has, by a single speech, made his Lordship's own return to office all but an impossibility. So that, on counting gain and loss, and especially setting his Lordship's own value upon his Parliamentary character, the balance-sheet will not present a very favourable aspect.

We do not, of course, intend to imply that the Duke of Newcastle offered such a defence of the administration of the War Department as could render it desirable that the sentence which virtually dismissed him from office should be reconsidered. There is no answer to the "heart-rending and horrible case" still receiving frightful additions in field and in hospital. However just it might be to apportion with exactitude the blame which should rest upon each official, and the still more formidable amount with which the system itself must be credited, that course is impracticable. Those who have assumed the perilous honour of representing the system must submit, when it has been tried and found so fatally wanting, to bear no small part of the odium in which it is involved. Nor have they a right to complain on the ground that they had not the power to make the system succumb to the exigencies of the occasion. To lack such power, at a grand crisis, is to stand self-condemned; and, whether skill or courage were wanting for the purpose, the absence of either becomes, under the circumstances, an actual and unpardonable offence. No appeal, therefore, lies from the verdict of the Commons. In the lesson given by that verdict is implied what the country demands of the new War Ministry.

But in vindicating himself from the imputations sought to be fixed upon him by Lord John Russell the Duke was perfectly successful. The impression which Lord John endeavoured to leave upon the mind of the country was, that the Duke of Newcastle was a vain, incapable man, who had clung to office with the tenacity common to incapacity; and, by way of corollary, the ex-President would have led us to regard his own self-sacrificing manœuvre which contributed to the ejection of such an individual from office as a master-deed of patriotism. But Lord John's industrious little attempt in his own favour met with the discomfiture its littleness deserved. The Duke of Newcastle showed upon evidence which would even have been satisfactory in a court of law, and which of course carried instant conviction to the minds of the men of honour around him, that he had not only been at no time tenacious of place, but that he had actually offered to forego any claim to place which his services in peace time might be supposed to give him. Further still, he proved that so completely had he understood the character of his colleague, long before the demonstration which shook the Ministry, that he had pressed upon his chief the warning counsel to do nothing which could give Lord John "an excuse for quitting the Cabinet." This remark the ex-President angrily referred to as a "sneer," and characterised as uncalled for; but, if anything were needed to justify it, such justification would be found in the fact that Lord John Russell, unable to find an "excuse" for quitting, quitted in an inexcusable manner.

It is with much regret that we find ourselves obliged to record and to call attention to circumstances which place the late leader of the House of Commons in a position of humiliation. No friend of liberty or progress will forget the services which have been rendered to both by Lord John Russell. But the affairs of a nation do not admit, when a special question is under consideration, of the introduction of the sentimental element which softens the dealings of social life. A country cannot afford to forgive irrelevant for the shortcomings of this year on the ground of good service years ago. State work is too grave to be regarded except upon its own merits; and were a gentler rule adopted its main chief would be incalculable, because the highest no previous character of an individual, the larger are his powers for injury. If a man like Lord John Russell is to be judged by his antecedents at all, they must be appealed to against himself, and we must demand that he act up to the standard to which he has himself taught us to refer. Therefore, when, towards the termination of an honourable course, we find a statesman of merit stooping to the artifices of faction, and prompted, whether by ambition or mere petulance, to acts of insincerity and unfairness, it is not the recollection of old service that should prevent those who have honoured him from pointing out how unworthy of its general character is the close of his career. In the present case, Lord John Russell has by his own confession of "errors," as well as by irrefragable evidence adduced by the individual he has assailed, added another link to the long chain of proof that selfishness will at times override and vitiate all the most estimable qualities of mankind, while the Duke of Newcastle, although assuredly he has not shown that he was the War Minister required by the crisis, has approved himself a man of honour and of earnestness, and perhaps nothing in his official career has become him like the unexpected and becoming manner in which he has terminated it.

THE COURT.

The "Ministerial interregnum" has had the effect of bringing the Court to London more than once during the past week. After the failure of the Earl of Derby to form an Administration, Lord John Russell was commanded to wait upon the Queen at Buckingham Palace. His Lordship had audiences of her Majesty on Tuesday and Friday last; but, failing in his turn, the Queen sent for Viscount Palmerston, who accepted the arduous task on Saturday last. At the same time, he completed his arrangements, that, at a Privy Council, held on Friday at Windsor Castle on Thursday, the new members of the Cabinet were presented and sworn into office.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, Prince Alfred, and the Duchess of Kent, the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine Service in the private chapel of the Castle. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor performed the service, and administered the Holy communion.

On Monday the Queen and Prince Albert travelled to London by the Great Western Railway, arriving at Buckingham Palace at a few minutes before one o'clock. Shortly after the princes arrival her Majesty gave audience to Viscount Palmerston. Later in the afternoon the noble Viscount had a second audience of the Queen. Her Majesty and the Prince left Buckingham Palace at half-past six o'clock, on their return to Windsor Castle.

On Wednesday her Majesty held a Chapter of the Order of the Garter at Windsor Castle. In the evening the Queen gave a grand banquet in the Waterloo Chamber.

Lord Alfred Paget has succeeded Major General the Hon. Charles Grey as Equerry-in-Waiting to her Majesty.

THE ORDER OF THE GARTER.

The Queen held a Chapter of the Most Noble Order of the Garter at three o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, in Windsor Castle.

The Knights Companions present were—The Marquis of Lansdowne, the Marquis of Exeter, the Duke of Buccleuch, Earl De Grey, Earl of Clarendon, Marquis of Abercorn, Marquis of Salisbury, Duke of Bedford, Earl Spencer, Earl Fitzwilliam.

The Knights Companions having proceeded to an election, the Chancellor presented the suffrages to the Sovereign, who commanded the Chancellor to declare that George William Frederick, Earl of Carlisle, had been duly elected a Knight of the Order. The Earl of Carlisle having been introduced, the ceremony of investiture was proceeded with, at the close of which his Lordship kissed her Majesty's hand, and having received the congratulations of the Knights Companions, retired.

The like forms of election and investiture were then gone through with the Earl of Ellesmere and the Earl of Aberdeen; the latter nobleman returning, by her Majesty's special command, the Order of the Thistle.

The Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, the Princess Alice, and the Princess Helena, witnessed the investiture in the Chapter room.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge waited on the Queen on Saturday, at Buckingham Palace, and was honoured with an interview of some duration by her Majesty. The illustrious Duke has received complimentary visits, at his apartments in St. James's Palace, from nearly all the persons of distinction at present in London. Viscount Palmerston called upon his Royal Highness on Saturday.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

Prayer and Intercession. The following circular has been issued by the Bishop of London:—"London-house, Feb. 5. Rev. and dear Sir,—It appears to me desirable that the clergy should appoint a particular day during the season of Lent on which the minds of their congregations may be more specially directed to the offering up to Almighty God of united prayer and intercession for the safety and success of those brethren now serving in our armies and fleets, and for the restoration of peace. I would suggest the third Sunday in Lent for this purpose. The clergy are not at liberty to depart from the prescribed Order of Common Prayer, but they may, by previous notice, direct the thoughts of their parishioners to this special object. I am, Rev. and dear Sir, your affectionate friend and servant, C. J. London."

Preferments and Appointments.—*Rectories:* The Rev. R. Jarratt to Bourton-on-the-Hill, Gloucestershire; Rev. R. J. Roberts to Yscelfog, Flintshire. *Vicarage:* The Rev. E. L. Lewis to Derbigh. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. W. P. Babington to Manningtree, Essex; Rev. G. Ross to Sheepscomb, Gloucestershire.

Presentation of Plate.—A dinner was given in the common room of Worcester College, Oxford, on Friday, the 2nd instant, at which the Rev. Dr. Cotton, Provost of the College, and Vice-Chancellor, presided, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to the Rev. R. Greswell, B.D., late fellow and tutor of the College, to mark the sense entertained by the society of the rev. gentleman's valuable services during the long period of his tutorship, and its esteem for his private character. It consisted of a very handsome service of silver plate, valued at £250, and was procured by subscription amongst the present and former members of the College, most of whom had been been Mr. Greswell's pupils.

The Lord Bishop of Oxford has appointed Robert Joseph Phillimore, Esq., D.C.L., of Doctors' Commons, Chancellor of the diocese of Chichester and Salisbury, M.P. for Tavistock, to be Chancellor of the diocese of Oxford, in the room of his late father, Dr. Joseph Phillimore.

The total number of merchant-vessels of all classes taken up by the Government for war purposes has been 206, of an aggregate burden of 205,388 tons, their average capacity being almost exactly 1000 tons.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THERE are plenty of subjects that ought to interest the world of England in general and London in particular at present; but during the larger portion of last week they were all utterly absorbed, *hoccé, pull, rikki*, quite annihilated and consumed, in the one great question—who are our rulers? Fancy a man who has defrauded the revenue, and whose conscience, pricking him, cannot be satisfied, because he does not know to what Chancellor of the Exchequer he should pay (to be duly acknowledged in the *Times*) £5 10s. for miscarried Income-tax or suppressed Customs-duties! But all uncertainty on this subject is now at an end;—and Gladstone remains as before the recipient of consumer-money, and the head of the Finance department. Within the last ten days a change has come over the minds of men — of those especially who congregate in the morning rooms at White's, Brookes's, Arthur's, or the Travellers', and the result of this change is the admission that there has been a fearful amount of mismanagement in our War Department, both at home and abroad. It seems difficult to measure out justly the relative amount of blame which is due to the Duke of Newcastle or to Lord Raglan. Just now the former is the larger creditor—in a week hence the latter may be. Probably our system of government (meaning thereby the arrangement of our public offices, the selling commissions, the efficacy of check and counter-check between departments), may be more in fault in either. It is certainly a state of things almost without parallel in the history of representative government that now in the very middle of a great war, when all our enormous resources are not too much for our necessities, we should have allowed ourselves to remain for a fortnight without a Ministry. The peculiarity of the case lies in the fact that from the first there was no doubt as to the main part of the Government that would succeed that of Lord Aberdeen. Every one knew that Lord Palmerston was to be at the helm. The appointment (which *could* have been only temporary) of any one else would have sent down Consols two or three per cent, and that is not to be risked in war time. Lord Grey's objection to accept the office of War Minister is said to be founded upon the peace speeches he made last session. Can he not adopt the advice of *Polonius*?

> Beware
> Of entrance to a quarrel; but, being in,
> Bear 't, that the opposed may beware of thee.

General Evans made a rather unseemly blunder in his speech in acknowledgment of the thanks of the House of Commons. It was all right and proper that he should rectify Lord John's *laches* as to the conduct of his division; but it was not right that he should take that opportunity for making a violent attack upon Lord John. Lord Palmerston administered the rebuke courteous by moving that only so much of the gallant General's speech as expressed his gratitude to the House should be inserted in the minutes.

Sir Charles Napier and Lord Cardigan have been dining at the Mansion-house. The gallant Admiral in his speech (evidently an after-dinner one) has thrown down the gauntlet to the late Ministry, and Sir James Graham in particular, with a vengeance. He says that the Admiralty had neither "plain dealing nor honesty;" that "if Sir James Graham has one single bit of honour about him he will never take his seat again at the Admiralty till the matter is cleared up," &c. So there is evidently to be a very pretty quarrel Napier *v.* Graham. Lord Cardigan spoke calmly and well, and was immensely cheered.

When a woman talks about her virtue, or a man about his courage, it is easy to guess that the existence of those qualities is somewhat doubtful. Now we, the British people, have a way of continually boasting that we are men of business, a practical nation; but it seems just possible that in this we are taking credit for what we do not entirely possess. Certainly the laying out millions upon millions on a transport service over the three thousand miles which separate London from the Crimea, without making the half-dozen miles of road between the coast and the camp, for the want of which all that enormous outlay has been hitherto nearly useless, is not a proof of our being practical; and two or three things which have occurred in the last twelvemonth—as, for instance, what became known only the other day—that one Cole, insolvent in 1848, was able to carry on in 1852 a fraudulent business to the amount of two millions sterling—do not look as if we were the best of men of business. But as regards this quality, there never was such a slap on the face of our self-esteem as what took place at the meeting this week between Sir Benjamin Hall and a deputation of ratepayers from certain parishes in the metropolis. It had transpired that it was the wish of the Chairman of the Board of Health to consolidate the smaller trusts for paving, lighting, &c.; and, of course, the first feeling of the officers of those trusts, when they heard of the plan, was, that thereby a good many comfortable appointments not overworked, would be swept away. Straight they appear before the Minister to remonstrate against this interference with vested interests. But, alas! poor men! they were unlucky enough to stumble on a head of department who had thought it necessary to make himself acquainted with the statistics of his business, and was not content to learn them from deputations. Never did men get such a dressing; and never was clearer proof given that the people of London—those celebrated men of business—have not yet learned how to manage their own affairs. It appeared that the cost of road *management* (*i.e.*, overlooking) in two-and-twenty small metropolitan districts averaged £160 per mile. Some were far above the average—in the placid retreats of Ely-place, for instance, the expenses amount to twice as much. It is not uncommon to hear grumblers complain that the supply of gas in many streets is not too liberal. If they only knew what a deal it costs to *inspect a lamp* they would know better than to ask for more. In one district, and that not a small one, this duty cannot be fulfilled at a less cost than *one pound ten shillings* a year. What, then, are the onerous duties of the well-paid lamp-inspector? No one need any longer remain in ignorance of them, for one of the deputation holding that honourable office very frankly confessed that they were, in his case, "to see, once in three years, that the contract with the Equitable Gas Company was renewed."

Sir B. Hall has begun well, and has shown that he is not to be hoodwinked or put off from his purpose by interested clamours or misrepresentations. Heaven knows there is plenty for him to do! even without going farther than the outward and visible condition of the streets, and the enormous cost of keeping them in *disorder*. What we want is a central, responsible authority, endowed with sufficient power, to whom just complaints can be addressed with a reasonable prospect of speedy redress. Hitherto, no matter how crying an iniquity existed before a man's door or under his dining room windows, it has been almost impossible to get it amended. In civic matters we groan under the joint yet separate, rule of some half-dozen republics, all hating each other, and agreeing in nothing but a determination not to do each other's business. Aggrieved in some way by the streets or the drains, you post off to the Commission of Sewers, who will have nothing to do with you, but send you off to the Vestry; wrong again; you must go to the Paving Board; there you meet with little sympathy, but are told to apply to the Board of Health, who won't have anything to do with you, but refer you back to the Sewers; until, tired of revolving in a vicious circle, you go home in despair, resolved to try to "bear the ills you have." This last week, in which heavy snow has been succeeded by rapid thaw, has given us very strong proofs of what an utter want of management there is in these matters. On Monday the pavement of Fall-mall was literally submerged by the sludge and mud which had accumulated in the gutters. In Paris every one of the larger streets is carefully swept and cleaned out every morning before eight o'clock. Alas! we still on many occasions may say with the author of a "Sentimental Journey," "they manage these things better in France."

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The last accounts from the Crimea, received viâ Vienna, are to the 30th. The weather had very much improved, and a general attack on Sebastopol was considered imminent. [A Paris letter states, on the authority of the Emperor, that the assault would be made on Monday, the 12th.] A considerable amelioration was visible in the health of the English troops, and supplies and every necessary were getting more abundant.

A sortie on the 23rd January, made by the garrison of Sebastopol, had caused the French heavy losses. The Zouaves had mutinied, and demanded a retreat from the Crimea. 400 of the mutineers had arrived at Constantinople in chains, and will be dispatched to Toulon. The railroad from Balaclava to the Camp had been commenced.

The barracks at Smyrna have been converted into hospitals, and will be provided with 2000 beds.

Intelligence from Odessa of the 30th January confirms the report of the illness of the Grand Duke Michael. He is at Cherson, where the Governor-General had gone to visit him. The Grand Duke Nicholas had left Simpheropol for Sebastopol. The Russians were experiencing a want of provisions.

Accounts from Warsaw, under date of yesterday, state that the Russian forces in Poland were concentrating. The troops on the Gallician frontier had been ordered to retire into the interior.

WAR ON THE DANUBE.

The *Moniteur* of Thursday gives the following account of an action fought on the Danube, re-published from the *Journal de Constantinople*:—

"Bucharest, Jan. 20.

"Intelligence has arrived here by Matschin and Ibraila, that a Russian corps in the Dobrutscha, having attempted to pass the Danube, had been repulsed with great loss, after a conflict of several hours, by the reagrand of Yaya Pachn, and that the latter had already crossed the Danube at Toutscha and Ismail. During the last six days the Turkish forces that were at Ibraila under the command of Achmet Pacha have crossed the Danube at Goura Jalcontza."

THE NEW MINISTRY.

It has now been decided that Mr. Sidney Herbert will be the Colonial Secretary, while Sir George Grey takes the Home Department, which he administered with such satisfactory results from 1846 to 1852. No re-election will be necessary in the case of Sir George Grey. He retains the office of one of her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and his transfer from one department to another is merely a matter of arrangement, and not a new appointment involving the loss of his seat in Parliament.

No appointment has yet been made to the Chancellorship of the Duchy of Lancaster; and as regards the office of Chief Secretary for Ireland, we believe that it is not yet actually vacated.

Mr. Edward Francis Maitland, Sheriff of Argyll, will be the new Solicitor-General for Scotland, in succession to Mr. Mackenzie, appointed one of the Lords of Session.

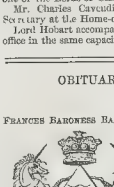
Mr. Charles Cavendish Clifford, who was Lord Palmerston's Private Secretary at the Home-office, continues his Lordship's Private Secretary.

Lord Hobart accompanies Sir G. Grey from the Colonial to the Home-office in the same capacity. *Globe of last evening.*

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

BARONESS BASSET.

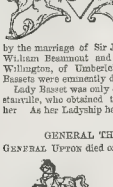
FRANCES BARONESS BASSET (in her own right) died on the 22nd ult., at her seat, Tehidy Park, Cornwall, aged seventy-three. Her Ladyship was the descendant of one of the oldest families in England—the great baronial house of Basset, which arose into power and importance immediately after the Norman Conquest, and gave a Chief Justice to England in the person of Ralph Basset, *temp.* Henry I. About the middle of the twelfth century the Bassets obtained the estate of Tehidy, in Cornwall, by marriage with the heiress of De Dunstanville, and, at the commencement of the sixteenth, the two noble seats of Umberleigh and Heanton Court, Devon, by the marriage of Sir John Basset with Joan Beaumont, descended from Sir William Beaumont and Isabel his wife, daughter and coheir of Sir John Willington, of Umberleigh. In the great Civil War three brothers of the Bassets were eminently distinguished in the Royal cause.



Lady Basset was only daughter and heiress of Francis, late Lord De Dunstanville, who obtained the Barony of Basset of Stratton, with remainder to her. As her Ladyship has died unmarried, the title now becomes extinct.

GENERAL THE HON. ARTHUR PERCY UPTON, C.B.

GENERAL UPTON died on the 22nd ult., at Brighton, in his seventy-eighth year. He was the youngest son of Clotworthy, first Lord Templetown, and grandson of John Upton, Esq., of Castle Upton, co. Antrim, a military officer who distinguished himself at the battle of Almansa, and for his spirited conduct obtained the command of a regiment upon the fall of Colonel Kulligrew.



The Hon. Arthur Upton, whose death we record, entered the Army 26th April, 1793; and, in the following year, joined the Duke of York's forces in Holland, where he went through the ensuing winter campaign. In 1799 he was appointed Aide-de-Camp to Sir Ralph Abercromby, and took part in the operations on the landing near the Helder. He was also in the Walcheren Expedition, and assisted at the siege of Flushing. From 1811 to 1812 he served at Cadiz; and from 1812 to the close of the war in 1814 with the Duke of Wellington's army, on the Quartermaster-General's Staff. In 1815 he was employed as Military Correspondent with the Bavarian army, and was present with it in its various operations. He received the gold medal and one clasp for Vittoria and the Nive, and the silver war medal with one clasp for Nivelle. General Upton was Knight of Maximilian-Joseph of Bavaria, a Companion of the Bath, and Equerry to H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent.

THE REV. SIR THOMAS GERY CULLUM, BART.

THE death of this lamented Baronet occurred on the 26th ult., after a short illness, at his fine old Elizabethan seat, Hardwick-house, near Bury St. Edmunds. Sir Thomas was born 23rd October, 1771, the elder son of Sir Thomas Gery Cullum, 7th Baronet, of Hawstead and Hardwick, F.R.S., F.S.A., by Mary his wife, sister and heiress of Sir Lewis Hansen, Knt., and grandson of Sir John Cullum, 5th Baronet, by Susanna, his second wife, daughter and coheir of Sir Thomas Gery, Knt., one of the Masters in Chancery. The Baronetcy was conferred 18th June, 1660, on Thomas Cullum, Alderman of London, the purchaser of Hawstead and Hardwick, who was himself a stanch cavalier and adherent of Charles I., and who had married Mary Crisp, first cousin of the noted Royalist Sir Nicholas Crisp. Sir Thomas Cullum (whose death we record) would, had he survived his cousin, Lady Harland, have assumed the name and arms of Vernon only, and succeeded to the estates of the late John Vernon, Esq., at Wherstead, park and Great Thurlow-hall, county Suffolk. He married, first, 27th August, 1805, Mary Anne, only child of Henry Eggers, Esq., of Woodford, Essex; and, secondly, 30th April, 1832, Ann Lloyd, of Kingstown, Dublin. By the former, who died 29th January, 1830, he leaves an only child, Arethusa Susannah, who married, in 1832, the Right Hon. Thomas Milner Gibson, M.P. By the second lady (who survives him) he has left no issue. Sir Thomas's only brother, John Palmer Cullum, Bath King of Arms, having died s.p., in 1829, no male heir of the family remains, and the Baronetcy, in consequence, becomes extinct.

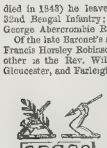
SIR GEORGE BEST ROBINSON, BART.

THIS gentleman died on the 28th ult., at Dyrham, Gloucestershire, at his brother's Rectory. His family has long been connected with the East; and his father, the late Sir George Abercrombie Robinson, of Sutton-house, co. Somerset, M.P. for Honiton, who was Military Auditor-General in Bengal, and afterwards one of the Directors, and several times Chairman, of the East India Company, was created a Baronet the 11th Nov., 1828. Sir George Best Robinson, the second Baronet, the subject of this notice, was himself for some years her Majesty's Chief Superintendent in China, in which office he succeeded Lord Napier, and his administration in that capacity was mentioned with approbation by the leading statesmen in both Houses in the debates on the Opium War in 1840. Sir George was born at the Cape of Good Hope, 14th Nov., 1797; and married, 6th Dec., 1835, Louisa, youngest daughter and coheir of the late Major-General Douglas, of Garlston, N.B., by whom (who died in 1843) he leaves a daughter, Louisa, wife of C. B. G. Douglas, Esq., 22nd Bengal Infantry; and four sons, of whom the eldest, the present Sir George Abercrombie Robinson, third Baronet, is a Captain in the 22nd Regt.

Of the late Baronet's surviving brothers, two are in the Bengal service, viz., Francis Horsley Robinson, Esq., and Edward Innes Robinson, Esq.; and the other is the Rev. William Scott Robinson, M.A., Rector of Dyrham, co. Gloucester, and Farleigh, Hungerford, co. Somerset.

SIR JOHN WILLIAM PITT MUIR MACKENZIE, BART., OF DELVINE, PERTHSHIRE.

SIR JOHN MUIR MACKENZIE died on the 1st inst., in Montagu place, Russell-square. He was the only son of the late Sir Alexander Muir, who assumed the additional surname of Mackenzie on succeeding to the estates of his maternal grand-uncle, John Mackenzie, Esq., of Delvine; and was created a Baronet 8th November, 1805.



Sir John was born in 1806; and married, in 1832, Sophia-Matilda, fifth daughter of the late James Raymond Johnstone, Esq., of Alva, county Clackmannan, by whom he leaves a son and successor, now Sir Alexander Muir Mackenzie, third Baronet, of Delvine, born in 1849.

GENERAL JOHN MILLETT HAMERTON, C.B., COLONEL OF THE 50TH REGIMENT.

THIS highly-distinguished officer died on the 27th ult., at Orchardstown, his country residence in Tipperary, after a short illness. He was a soldier from his youth, and obtained his first commission of Cornet at the early age of fifteen, in 1792. In 1794 he served under the Duke of York; in 1796 embarked for the West Indies; in 1796 assisted at the capture of St. Lucia, and, in 1801, fought with distinction in Egypt. Subsequently he took part in the Peninsular campaigns, in command of the 1st Battalion of the 44th. At Waterloo he bravely led on the 2nd Battalion of the same gallant regiment, and was left for dead on that bloody field, having received several severe wounds in the head and thigh. Owing to the attachment of a faithful non-commissioned officer, Sergeant Ryan, who brought his wounded and insensible commander under the care of skilful medical treatment, he slowly recovered, and with his devoted follower returned home.

A chivalric soldier, an honourable and most amiable gentleman, General Hamerton is deeply lamented by all who came within the influence of his high and endearing qualities.

REAR-ADMIRAL SIR JOHN HILL

THIS gallant Admiral—one of the survivors of the glorious battle of the Nile—died on the 20th ult., at Walmer Lodge, Deal, aged eighty-one.

Sir John entered the Navy in 1781; became Lieutenant 28th July, 1794; and was advanced to the rank of Commander 8th October, 1798, for his conduct as Senior Lieutenant of the *Minotaur*, at the Nile. He attained Post rank 28th October, 1815, and was made Rear-Admiral of the White in 1852. From 1820 to 1836 he was resident Commissioner of the Victualling Board at Deptford; and from 1838 to 1841 acted as Captain-Superintendent of the Dockyard at Sheerness. In the last-named year he returned to Deptford, and officiated there as Captain-Superintendent until 1851, when he finally resigned on promotion. The Admiral leaves (besides daughters) one son—a military officer.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL COTHER.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL COTHER, C.B., died on the 24th ult., at his house in York-buildings, Gloucester. His soldier-like career was one of long and valuable service, and of the highest possible credit. So far back as 1805 he covered the landing of the force under Sir David Baird at the Cape of Good Hope, and was present in the general action of Blue Berg, and in all the operations that took place until the surrender of the colony. He covered the advance of the force under General Beresford at the reduction of the River Plate, and was engaged in every affair at and in the vicinity of Buenos Ayres. On the surrender of that place he was taken prisoner, together with the whole force, and was marched nearly a thousand miles into the interior. In Portugal, in 1808, Cother commanded the light companies of the brigade under General Ferguson at the battles of Rolein and Vimiera; and was afterwards engaged successfully with the 71st Regiment on the great Tagus, at the battle of Corunna. In 1811 he was again in Portugal, and was at Arroyo de Molinos when General Girard was captured. Cother's command of the storming parties at the taking of the Forts of Almarez, on the Tagus, obtained for him the brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel. He led the 71st at the battle of Vittoria, and there received three musket-balls through his clothes and in his saddle, and was wounded by a fourth. He subsequently passed seventeen years in Ceylon, and commanded in the Eastern Provinces in the Kandian country during the rebellion in 1818.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cother was a C.B., and had a silver war-medal, and a gold medal for Vittoria.

WILLS AND CHARITABLE BEQUESTS.—Vice-Admiral Sir John Hill left personality estimated at £80,000.—Mr. John Hunter Morgan, of Stratton-street, Piccadilly, has bequeathed £500 to the National Orphan Asylum, Ham-common; £200 to the National School, Westminster; and other legacies to public schools—in the whole amounting to nearly £2000.

The railway calls for the month of February of the present year amount to 1,769,832, of which £1,567,332 is on account of foreign companies.

Further experiments with the Lancaster gun, ordered to be supplied to the Royal Sappers and Miners, have afforded much gratification to the men, as it is found effective at 1000 yards range, and upwards, when the men become acquainted with it.

The Ordnance have sent down Colonel Burmester, R.E., to inspect the coast of South Wales, and to select the most important and advantageous sites for the erection of batteries or other defences. Among other places, Swansea is to be better protected.

So many erroneous statements regarding the augmentation of the cavalry have appeared that it may be well to mention the arrangements made. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th Dragoon Guards, the 1st Royal Dragoons, Scots Greys, 3rd and 4th Light Dragoons, 6th (Inniskilling) Dragoons, 7th, 8th, and 11th Hussars, 13th Light Dragoons, 15th Hussars, and 16th and 17th Lancers, will be each augmented to eight troops of 75 rank and file each, or, including staff, 640 per regiment. Six of these troops will be dispatched for service in the Crimea, while the remaining two will constitute a dépôt to train recruits and horses, so as to keep up the strength of the six troops on active service.

In consequence of a communication from the Secretary of State to Sir Richard Mayne, the Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, that gentleman has called upon the different superintendents in the force to report to him the recommendations of inspectors, sergeants, and private constables who may feel inclined to volunteer and form a transport corps in the Crimea. The body is to consist of a quartermaster, sergeants or superintendents, drivers, and corporals. The strength of the whole is to be 2000. There are to be 1400 drivers at a pay each of 3s. per day, and 2s. 6d. each for the lowest class, clothing and rations to be given in addition. The officers' emolument is to be £100 for an outfit, but the candidate must in every respect be efficient and fully qualified to hold her Majesty's commission.

THE SMALL GRAND DUKE.—The Herbarium left by the late Mr. Webb is valued at £50,000 sterling, is unique in the world, and contains specimens of every plant known in the present botanical arrangement. The Grand Duke of Tuscany, however, little moved by the value of the gift, or the envy of every other Government, suffers it to lie unclaimed as yet in the empty house of the testator, refusing to be at the expense of its removal to Florence, and haggling to obtain the price of its transportation from the executors, which they, of course, indignantly refuse to pay.

THE VOTE OF THANKS TO SIR DE LACY EVANS.

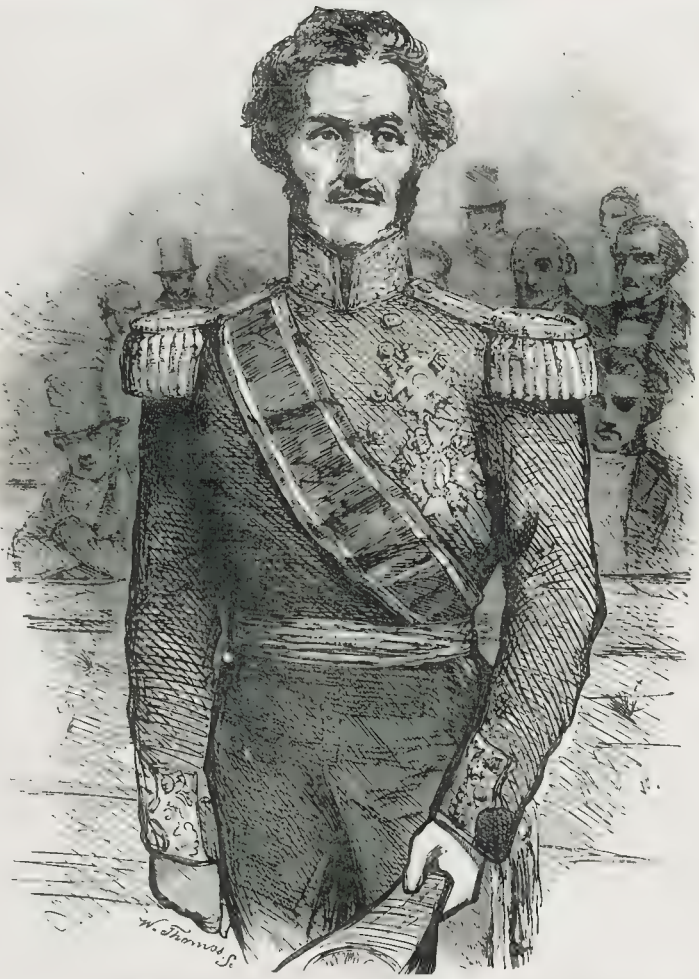
On Friday evening, the 2nd inst., there was a very full attendance of members in the House of Commons, anxious to witness the interesting ceremony—a ceremony which has not occurred, we believe, s the conclusion of the last war—of conveying to Sir De Lacy Evans personally the thanks of the House for his distinguished services in the Crimea. The gallant General entered the House about twenty minutes past four, in full uniform, and with his orders glittering on his breast. He was received with the most expressive marks of honour. The whole of the members present remained standing and cheering him as he walked up the floor. He took the seat he used to occupy before his campaigns, on the front bench below the gangway.

The Speaker then rose and said:

Lieutenant-General Sir De Lacy Evans, I have to inform you that on the 16th of December last the House agreed *nem. con.* to the following resolution:—

"That the thanks of this House be given to Lieutenant-General Sir De Lacy Evans, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and to the several other officers, for their zeal, intrepidity, and distinguished exertions in the several actions in which her Majesty's forces have been engaged with the enemy."

Lieutenant-General Sir De Lacy Evans, it is with feelings of pride and satisfaction that this House welcomes the return amongst them of one who has borne so conspicuous a part in the brilliant achievements which have characterised the present war. At the battle of the Alma you encountered and overcame with admirable coolness and judgment the almost insuperable difficulties which opposed the advance of the gallant Second Division against the Russians. You repulsed the formidable attack of the Russians on the 26th of October, and the energy and valour with which you led the troops on that occasion have been honourably recognised. But it was on the heights of Inkerman that you displayed that undaunted courage (Cheers) and chivalrous generosity which have called forth the admiration of your country (Cheers)—when, rising from a bed of sickness, you hastened to assist with your counsel and experience the gallant officer in temporary command of your division, and refused to withhold from him the honours whilst you shared with him the dangers of the day. Your conduct throughout this memorable campaign has been marked by the same intrepid gallantry which distinguished your early military career, and has justly earned for you the highest honour which it is in the power of this House to confer. It is, therefore, my agreeable duty, in the name and on behalf of the Commons of the United Kingdom, to deliver to you their unanimous thanks for your zeal, intrepidity, and distinguished exertions in the several actions in which her Majesty's forces have been engaged with the enemy (Cheers).



LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR DE LACY EVANS, K.C.B., RECEIVING THE THANKS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Sir De Lacy Evans could assure the Speaker and the House that he felt most deeply the very high honour that had just been conferred on him. He was deeply impressed with the conviction that there was no honour a British subject could look to with more anxiety, or be more proud of when obtained, than the recognition of his services, whatever those services might be, by the representatives of his fellow-subjects. He thanked the Speaker for alluding to his former military career, in which, though his services had not been recognised by the House, yet he had then a more difficult and a more intricate duty to perform. But, having alluded to this circumstance, he must express his gratitude to those gentlemen who did not concur with him in political opinions for the kindness which they had manifested towards him. The gallant General then proceeded to complain of Lord John Russell, that in moving the vote of thanks to the army he suppressed almost all allusion to the services of the Second Division, which he commanded, though in three general engagements—at Alma on the 26th October, and at Inkerman—the Second Division bore the brunt of the battle for hours together. He did not state this on his own account—it was on account of the gallant officers and men whom he commanded; and he felt deeply grateful to the Speaker and to the House for the honour which was now done to them. He should hope to say a few words upon the state of the army, but he felt that this was not the proper time; other opportunities would arise for doing so. He begged once more to express his deep sense of the honour which had been conferred upon him.

Lord Palmerston said there was no duty which could fall to the lot of the Speaker of that House more agreeable than that which the right hon. gentleman had just been engaged in, and there never was a Speaker who had such an opportunity as the present of becoming the organ of the feelings both of the House and the country. These expressions ought to remain on perpetual record; and he therefore moved that the address of the Speaker, together with so much of the hon. and gallant General's reply as related to the expression of his thanks, should be entered on the records of the House. Mr. Walpole seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The unusual incident of the House of Commons communicating its thanks through the Speaker to one of its own members for gallantry in the field of battle may excite sufficient interest to justify some further notice of former testimonials to that gallant member. It is now forty-four years since Sir De Lacy Evans was five times, in as many months, mentioned in

THE MILITARY HOSPITAL, PORTSEA.

SKETCHES IN THE CRIMEA.

SIMPHEROPOL, FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.

despatches published in the *London Gazette* for having specially distinguished himself, not as a favoured member of the staff, but as a working soldier, who had been in ten battles and sieges, numerous skirmishes; had ridden on horseback, without rest, 300 miles on exigent service; had five horses killed under him, been three times wounded, and had led three or four desperate assaults in person, as desperate as any forlorn hope, and was still no more than a subaltern officer, only a friendless Lieutenant.

THE MILITARY HOSPITAL AT PORTSEA.

This scene represents another sad episode of the war, the contemplation of which cannot fail to exercise a humanising influence. The apartment before the reader is tenanted by sufferers from the Crimea, containing seventeen beds: there is no larger room in the Hospital, which is divided into large and small apartments. Here two young surgeons are about to dress the stump of a soldier's arm; while another sufferer in the foreground is anxiously watching the scene. Over each bed is a tin plate inscribed with the name of the occupant. The room is very light.

The French Government intends authorising a grand lottery at the period of the Grand Exhibition. The amount to be raised is, it is said, to be 10,000,000 f.; and it states that there are to be one large prize of 500,000 f., four of 100,000 f., and a great number of smaller amount.

VIEWS IN THE CRIMEA.

We are indebted to the Sketch-book of Mr. Lawrence Oliphant for the accompanying Views. The Sketch of Simferopol is taken from a rising ground to the east of the town, near the road which enters it from Kertsch. The minarets on the left indicate the position of the Tartar quarter, built upon an overhanging cliff. The intervening valley is watered by the Salghir, an inconsiderable stream, crossed by a well-constructed bridge. A steep street leads from this into the European quarter of the town. On the west, high but not precipitous cliffs command the town as well as the road from Bagtcheseral: the fortifications of which we have recently heard as being in the process of construction in all probability now crown these heights. Simpheropol is not generally garrisoned, but the barracks there afford abundant accommodation for troops. It is at present the head-quarters of the Russian army. There is a good road leading to Bagtcheseral, about twenty miles distant.

The second View is taken near the gate of the Old Jewish Fortress of Schonful Kelé, the ruined walls of which are visible upon the precipitous rocks on the right. The narrow valley formed by lofty cliffs leads to the town of Bagtcheseral, the minarets of which, about three miles off, are seen rising above the rich foliage amid which it is concealed. The main road from Sebastopol to Simpheropol does not pass through the town, but leaves it about a mile to the right. General Osten-Sacken, in command of the right wing of the Russian army, has made Bagtcheseral his head-quarters. The Djurouk Sou runs through the town and falls into the Katscha, the embouchure of which is barely discernible about fifteen miles distant. It is twenty-one miles from Sebastopol to Bagtcheseral, by a rough road.

Births and Deaths in Prussia.—According to the tables just published by the Berlin Statistical-office, the total number of births in the kingdom of Prussia, for the ten years 1844 and 1853 inclusive, amounted to 6,434,270, showing an annual average of 643,427 children of both sexes. The greatest number was in the year 1849 (691,562), the smallest (576,937) in the revolutionary year 1848. The number of deaths in the same ten years was on an average 484,112 persons annually, or in the proportion of 1 to 33½ of the population. The mortality appears to be greater in Prussia than in some other countries, for the proportion in England is 1 in 44; in France, 42; in Belgium, 39; and in Bavaria, 35. The annual number of marriages in Prussia amounted during the ten years to 142,510; or in the proportion of 1 to every 113 inhabitants—a result only exceeded in England (111) in the year 1853.

At Bucharest a newspaper called the *Tempul* has been established by some Wallachian citizens to combat the corrupt influence of the Russian party.

FORTRESS OF SCHONFUL-KELE.—SEBASTOPOL IN THE DISTANCE.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from page* 138.)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

Lord LYNDHURST said that, considering the present state of affairs and the difficulties of the new Ministry, he thought it would best serve the interests of the country by not pressing the motion of which he had given notice; and he trusted that all parties in the House would unite heart and soul with the Government in their efforts to retrieve the affairs of the empire

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE, before the withdrawal of the motion, begged to suggest that the Ministry, by a certain date, should be prepared to furnish a statement of the condition of the army in the Crimea; as, by such a course, he believed much important time might be saved.

Earl GRANVILLE, in rising to move the adjournment of the House, said that it was an accident of the office which he held that he should be the mouth-piece of the present Ministry in this House, now that the First Lord of the Treasury had a seat in the House of Commons. The principles of the present Government were precisely identical with those of the late Administration. There was one paramount object which they should keep in view, and that was the active and energetic prosecution of the war. There was no cause for despondency—the resources of this country were unlimited, and the war should be prosecuted with the utmost vigour, until a safe and honourable peace should be procured. He concluded by moving that the House do adjourn until to-morrow week

The Earl of DERBY, in a speech of considerable length, stated the reasons which induced him to decline the honour offered to him by her Majesty—viz., that of forming an Administration. Seeing that the press and the country, during the late Ministerial crisis, pointed to one man whose services should be enlisted as a leading member of the Government, he (the Earl of Derby), with the concurrence of her Majesty, waited upon Lord Palmerston with the view of effecting that object. Although the noble Viscount did not appear to him to be unwilling to aid him (Lord Derby) in the formation of a Government, he nevertheless declined to give him a definitive answer until he had consulted Mr. Gladstone and Mr Sidney Herbert, whom he was also anxious to have as colleagues. Both of those right hon. gentlemen, as well as Viscount Palmerston, having declined to take office under him, he (Lord Derby) respectfully asked her Majesty to relieve him of the task with which he had been honoured. The present crisis was one too serious and too important for any but a strong Government to assume power; and, although he knew he could rely upon the cordial co-operation of a large and influential party in the House of Commons as well as upon that of some of the ablest and most experienced members of their Lordships' House, he, nevertheless, felt that the same combination of parties which had overthrown his last Government might be again employed to destroy any Ministry over which he had the honour to preside. Under such circumstances he thought he would be best discharging his duty to his country by declining office altogether, rather than by taking it to run the risk of plunging our public affairs into another state of embarrassment at a time when it was so necessary that there should be a union amongst all parties to carry on the present war to a speedy and successful result (Cheers).

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE entered into similar explanations as to the position he occupied during the late crisis

After some observations from the Earl of MALMESBURY and other noble Lords, the subject dropped.

The Fisheries (North America) Bill passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

THE ARMY IN THE CRIMEA

Mr. RICH asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he had any objection to lay upon the table the correspondence upon which he had grounded the statement that there were under arms in the Crimea 26,000 men, independent of the Navy Brigade and the Marines, and exclusive of the men in the hospital and at Balaclava?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that the statement was made from information not under his own control, but was supplied by the military authorities; and he should not like to make a statement of a more positive character. He did not say that there were 28,000 men under arms, but 28,000 men engaged in military duty before Sebastopol

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, that he would move that the House at its rising do adjourn until to-morrow, at twelve, to proceed with money bills. He would then move an adjournment until Friday week, on which day the orders of the day would stand as follows:—1. The Navy estimates; 2. the Army estimates; 3. Notice of Committee for Newspaper Stamps.

SUPPLY.

The House then went into a Committee of Supply.

The sum of £1,600,000 was voted on account of the Naval estimates.

The House then resumed

Mr. WILLIAMS denounced the manner in which the war had been conducted, and hoped the in-coming Government would take a better course with regard to its management

EDUCATION.

Lord J. RUSSELL brought in a bill for the promotion of education in England. He was anxious that it should be before the House in order that the country might be made acquainted with the nature of it.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA

Mr. G. BUTT drew the attention of the House to the condition of the army in the Crimea, and said he had read in the newspapers that morning that the effective force of the army in the Crimea was only 13,000, and that it was rapidly perishing

Mr. S WORTLEY believed that the statements which had appeared in the newspapers were greatly exaggerated, and that the publication of those statements had given great encouragement to the enemy.

Lord J. RUSSELL did not wonder that honourable members were surprised that there should be such a difference between the statements popularly put forward on the one hand, and the official statements on the other. He believed the statement that there was a force of 28,000 men before Sebastopol was perfectly correct when the usual reductions were made. He might state that yesterday he saw a gentleman from the Crimea, who informed him that, although there was a good deal of sickness in the Crimea, the men who had good constitutions were ready for their duty. The noble Lord concluded with a high compliment upon Lord Raglan, who, he said, would not be injured by the attacks which had been made upon him by a rabald press.

After some further discussion, the House adjourned, shortly after six o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

The House met at twelve o'clock.

THE LATE SPEECH OF SIR CHARLES NAPIER

In reply to a question from Mr. Crauford as to the authenticity of the speech attributed to Sir Charles Napier at the Mansion-house,

Admiral BERKELEY said he deeply regretted the indiscretion of his gallant friend Sir Charles Napier in making the speech referred to by the hon. gentleman. It became his (Admiral Berkeley's) duty to state the facts of the case. Sir Charles Napier was never consured by the Admiralty; he was never dismissed by the Admiralty; he was never indicted by the Admiralty to attack Bomarsund or any other place; and, in fact, he was left perfectly unfettered in the command of the Baltic fleet. He (Admiral Berkeley) deplored that it became his duty to state, as a Lord of the Admiralty, that Sir Charles Napier, in the course which he had pursued towards his superior in command, had held out a bad example to those placed under his orders

The House having gone into Committee of Supply, some unopposed votes were agreed to.

The House subsequently went into a Committee of Ways and Means, when a sum of £2,000,000 on account was voted.

OUR ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in reference to a question placed on the paper by Mr. Rich (who was not in the House), took the opportunity of stating that, with regard to the documents relating to the number of troops in the Crimea, he found there were great objections to laying on the table any papers relating to the distribution of our forces, either in the Crimea or elsewhere. He quite agreed that it would be very objectionable to do so; but if the hon. gentleman, or any other hon. member, were desirous of satisfying himself as to the number of the army now in the Crimea, he should have every facility of access to the documents in the proper office.

On the motion of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, the House then adjourned to Friday, the 16th inst

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The statement that Lord John Russell has become the possessor of Lithlow Hall, near Christchurch, Hants, is incorrect: his Lordship has been in treaty for the property, but has declined the purchase.

MUSIC.

THE AMATEUR MUSICAL SOCIETY, which, in the course of nine years, has gradually risen to much distinction among the artistic societies of London, had its first concert at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Monday evening. Its members belong, for the most part, to the aristocracy. Nobles and honourables stand as rank and file in the muster roll of the band, and handle their arms under the command of a general, himself an amateur, who, belonging to the middle class of society, holds his musical rank by the tenure of acknowledged talent. Though a young man, Mr. Henry Leslie has already gained an eminent position; and, having ample means to cultivate the art to which he is devoted, his genius, energy, and industry promise to achieve for him a world-wide reputation. Till this season the musical director of the Amateur Society has always been a professional musician. It is only now that the Amateurs have placed an amateur at their head, and he has already shown himself worthy to wield the baton of command. In the first part of the orchestra, too, the proportion of professional performers is much diminished. It is eighty strong; and among these there are only fifteen professors, chiefly wind instruments; the stringed instruments being almost entirely amateurs. This change, for a time, may be disadvantageous; for professional players, generally speaking, have greater precision and neatness of execution, and are more amenable to orchestral discipline, than amateurs. But there is no reason why an amateur, if he is hearty in the cause, may not acquire all that is necessary; and the members of this society seem well disposed to do so.

The concert of Monday evening included several great orchestral pieces: Weber's overture to the "Freyschütz," Mendelssohn's "Italian Symphony" in A major, Mozart's pianoforte concerto in D minor, and Auber's overture to "Les Diamans de la Couronne." In their performance, the defects of want of precision and *ensemble*, and of imperfect execution, especially on the part of the violins, in rapid and difficult passages, were apparent; but, on the other hand, there was a fine, an animation which made up for many mechanical deficiencies. This is often the case with amateur playing and singing, which is unjustly slighted. Persons who play or sing for love do so *con amore*; and, if they acquit themselves with tolerable skill, they communicate their own feelings to their listeners, and thus make a greater impression than could be made by much better executants not animated by the same spirit. Mozart's most delicious pianoforte concerto was performed by Miss Poland, a pupil of Herr Pauer. She played charmingly—with grace and feeling, a clear, liquid touch, and brilliant execution. The vocal portion of the concert consisted of several German part-songs of Mendelssohn, Reissiger, and Lachner, sung by the members of a society of German amateurs in the City, who practise under the direction of Herr Pauer. They sang without any instrumental accompaniment, and with a precision, accuracy of tune, and beauty of effect which reminded us of the famous Cologne chorus-singers, whose performances made such a sensation in our musical circles. The room was full of fashionable company, among whom were the Duke of Wellington (who appears to inherit his father's love of music), and a number of persons of distinction.

MRS. FANNY KEMBLE, after a long interval, has reappeared in public. She read "The Midsummer Night's Dream," at Exeter-hall, on Monday evening, to an overflowing audience; and the attraction of the entertainment was heightened by the performance of Mendelssohn's beautiful music, introduced in the same manner as if the play had been performed on the stage. We have always admired Mrs. Fanny Kemble as a reader, still more than as an actress. To read an entire play of Shakspeare demands a higher order of intellect than to perform any single part in it. It requires a profound study of the work, and a thorough comprehension not only of the design and scope of the whole, but of the idiosyncrasies and peculiarities of every individual character. It demands a force of imagination capable of conceiving, and a power of expression able to give form and substance to every creation of the poet's fancy, however sublime, however delicate, however grotesque, however monstrous—from the Royal Dane to the *Greecdiger*, from the *Fairy Queen* to *Bottom the Weaver*. This comprehensive intellect has been an especial attribute of the Kemble family, and the last scion of that family is largely gifted with it. Her reading of "The Midsummer's Night's Dream" was an entertainment such as she alone, at the present time, is capable of giving. It was, by turns, ethereal in its refinement, genial in its humanity, rich and even exuberant in its comic humour. No wonder that it was applauded with an enthusiasm which we believe would not be exalted by any theatrical performance of the play which could be given.

On this occasion Mendelssohn's exquisite music was heard to full advantage for the first time in this country. It is as dramatic as it is beautiful. It was intended to accompany the performance of the play, and, unless heard in conjunction with it, half of its beauties are lost. Till now it has been confined to our concerts; or, if some attempts have been made to perform it along with the play, it has always been marred by poverty of means and lameness of execution. On this occasion it was performed by a splendid orchestra, and a powerful and well-trained chorus, under the able direction of Mr. Benedict. The public are already familiar with the various pieces of which this music consists—the fanciful overture, the charming fairy chorus, "Ye spotted snakes with double tongue," the gay *scherzo*; the delicously-tender *notturno*; and the brilliant and festive Wedding March. Their musical beauties have always been appreciated, but it was now that the audience fully perceived the source of Mendelssohn's inspiration, and felt that his strains breathed the very spirit of Shakspeare.

LOYSELL'S HYDROSTATIC PERCOLATOR.—M. Loysell has written to correction of some remarks in our "Notes of the Week" on the coffee made by his invention. He has forwarded to us testimonials from Robert Warington, Esq., of Apothecaries' Hall; his Excellency Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War; and Mr. Grove, of the Crystal Palace, all highly commendatory of the Hydrostatic Percolator; and we are willing, therefore, to believe that the coffee of which our Correspondent complains must have been made by some other process than that invented by M. Loysell.

INTERNATIONAL LAW.—The Society of Arts has proposed that the subject of International Law shall be taken up at a congress composed of representatives from the various European nations meeting at the approaching Great Exhibition in Paris; and an interesting paper, containing remarks and suggestions as to the proposed congress, was read by Mr. Leone Levi at a special meeting of the society last week.

THE CAMP RAILWAY. If the railway were terminated all would soon be distributed and set up in forty eight hours. Unfortunately, the railway meets with unexpected obstacles. Between 600 and 700 Croatians were engaged to work at it. Every needful measure was taken—they had their passports *en règle*, and had even received advances of money, but on the day fixed for the departure no one appeared himself. It is impossible to conjecture the secret motive of this desertion *en masse*.

Letter from Constantinople, Jan. 22

A WARNING TO JESUIT AGITATORS.—The General of the Jesuits has addressed a circular, dated Rome, January 10, to the provincials of the Order, in which he instructs them how to act with respect to the different forms of political government. The company of the Jesuits being, he says, solely a religious order, and devoted exclusively to the salvation of men's souls, the various members of it are everywhere to act as faithful subjects of the Government under which they live, and in no case to interfere in political matters. In this instance, at least, the circular declares, conform to the principles on which the Order is founded.

A SHABBY CONGREGATION. The Dean of St. Patrick expresses his sorrow at the "miserable smallness" of the Sunday-evening collections in the Cathedral (Dublin), which are devoted to the purpose of the repairs; and remarks that many of the wealthy people who attend the service are "too proud to give pence, and too sordid to give silver"

COOKERY FOR THE SICK.—M. Soyer, of high culinary celebrity, has offered his services gratuitously, and will proceed direct to Scutari for a short time, at his own personal expense, to regulate the culinary department, if the Government will honour him with their confidence, and grant him the full power of acting according to his own knowledge and experience in such matters.

THE raising and organisation of the new corps of drivers for service in the East is to be confided to officers of cavalry, a major of which is to be the chief of the corps, and an adjutant, who will be divided into twelve troops of 100 non commissioned officers and drivers, each officered by a captain, two lieutenants, and one sub-lieutenant, who will be taken, as far as practicable, from cavalry regiments. It is understood that each troop will have a commissioned quartermaster and inspector. The last-named officers, with two paymasters, troop-sergeant-major, sergeants, corporals, and drivers, will be taken from the metropolitan and city police in the first instance; and, to complete the required number, young and active men, accustomed to horses, and of good character, will be enlisted. The adjutant and sergeant-major will, of course, have served in the cavalry. The dress of the waggoners will be a plain tunic, or frock coat, overalls, boots, and a shako. Each man will be armed with a pair of holster-pistols and a sabre; but when on service the waggons will always be accompanied by an escort. A portion of the corps is to be placed under the orders of the Quartermaster-General, and the remainder under those of the Commissary-General, for the conveyance of provisions, &c

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

WHO is to be the new Royal Academician? is the chief subject of conversation in artistic circles. Mr. John J. Chalon everybody admits was a very indifferent artist, and it is now particularly incumbent on the Academy that his vacancy should be filled up by a really able artist. If we look through the list of Associates we shall see that the Academy has some most excellent men to choose from. Painters are of course the most numerous. The twenty Associates include one architect (Mr. Sydney Smirke), two sculptors (Messrs. Foley and Weekes), and seventeen painters, of whom the oldest in point of election is Mr. Danby, and youngest Mr. Millais. Upon whom is the election likely to fall—on a sculptor, on an architect, or on a painter? Will they choose Mr. Danby or Mr. Patten, Mr. Hollins or Mr. Elmore, Mr. Sydney Cooper or Mr. E. M. Ward, Mr. Frost or Mr. Poole, Mr. Pickersgill or Mr. Thorburn, Mr. Egg or Mr. Hook, Mr. Boxall or Mr. E. W. Cooke, Mr. Frank Stone or Mr. Goodall; or will they elect the youngest on the list, and do homage to pre-Raphaelitism in the person of Mr. Millais? Shall we have an historical painter or a miniature painter, a painter of landscape or a painter of history? We will reply by a rumour now rife, that the new Royal Academician will not be any one of the twenty we have named; that the Academy is about to render tardy justice to the noble art of engraving; and that Mr. Samuel Cousins, the distinguished mezzotinto engraver, will succeed Mr. Chalon, and be the first English engraver admitted to the full honours of the Academy. We shall, indeed, rejoice if the rumour is confirmed.

Our notice last week of the sister of William Wordsworth has afforded us an opportunity of hearing from the lips of a true poet an account of a visit which he made to Wordsworth. His story is in every way characteristic of the great author of "The Excursion;" and we have our friend's permission to tell it, but are not at liberty to mention his name:—

In the summer of 1846, when on a visit to the Lake District, I called upon Mr Wordsworth, to convey a message from his daughter, then in London. He received me with a kindly shake of the hand. "I am told," said he, "that you write poetry; but I never read a line of your compositions, and I don't intend." I suppose I must have looked surprised, for he added, before I could find time to reply, "You must not think me rude in this, for I never read anybody's poetry but my own, and haven't done so for five-and-twenty years." Doubtless I smiled. "You may think this is vanity, but it is not; for I only read my own poetry to correct its faults, and make it as good as I can." I endeavoured to change the subject by some general remarks on the beauty of the scenery, visible from his garden in which our interview had taken place. "What is the name of that mountain?" I inquired. "God bless me!" he said: "Have you not read my poems! Why, that's Nab-Scar. There are frequent allusions to it in my writings. Don't you remember the lines?" and he repeated in a clear, distinct voice a well-known passage from "The Excursion." The name of Southey having been accidentally mentioned, I inquired as a matter of literary history whether, as was commonly believed, he had impaired his health and his intellect by too much mental exertion, and thus brought on that comparative darkness of mind which clouded the last months of his life. "By no means," said Wordsworth; "Southey was a most methodical worker. He systematised his time. He was never confused or in a hurry, and got through a deal of labour with an amount of ease and comfort which your hurry-scurry kind of people can neither accomplish nor understand. The truth is—at least I think so—that his mind was thrown off its balance by the death of his first wife, and never afterwards wholly recovered itself" I remarked him at this point that the late Mr. Laman Blanchard, whose sad story was then fresh in the recollection of the public, had been reduced to a state of insanity by a similar bereavement. From that moment my name seemed to fade away from Mr. Wordsworth's recollection, and he always addressed me during the remainder of our interview as Mr. Laman Blanchard. His sister, Miss Wordsworth, was wheeled into the garden in a little garden-carriage, or chair, impelled by Mrs. Wordsworth. I wore on my head a Glengarry travelling-cap, with a sprig of heather; and Miss Wordsworth no sooner caught sight of me than she exclaimed in a shrill voice, "Who's that man, brother?" "Oh! nobody, dear," he replied. "It's only Mr. Laman Blanchard." I gently hinted my right name. "It's all the same to her, poor thing!" he rejoined He would possibly have added more; but the unfortunate lady interrupted him by commencing to sing the well-known Scotch song:—

A Highland lad my love was born,
The Lowland laws he held in scorn.

She sang one verse with much correctness, and was commencing another when Mr. Wordsworth led me away "This is a painful scene, Mr. Blanchard," he said; "let us go into my room, and I will read you some more passages from my poems about Nab-Scar."

Mr Wordsworth's impression of the primary cause of Southey's insanity is now, we believe, admitted by all who knew him intimately.

We have received from the proprietor of the alleged unpublished novel by Sir Walter Scott the following reply to certain remarks which we thought proper to make on the subject of his discovery. We print his letter in full, that he may tell his own story

Reply of M. E. de Saint Maurice Cabany, Proprietor of "Moredun," to the Attacks of the British Press.

On the 25th November, 1854, I published an account of the extraordinary manner in which the manuscript of a tale or romance, in three volumes, entitled "Moredun, a Tale of the 1810," came into my hands, accompanied by a letter of most singular interest. That manuscript and that letter I placed in my bureau, and I invited *all* whom the discovery interested to come and inspect them, and to judge for themselves of the grounds on which I founded the opinion, which I still entertain more strongly than ever, that Sir Walter Scott alone could have been the author of that romance

One of the most eminent critics in France, and a personal friend of Sir Walter Scott, M. Philarète Chastes, was the first distinguished writer of my own country who examined the evidence, *and he concurred in my opinion*, after having studied the original in English of the letter signed "W. S." to the discussion and examination of which he devoted *five* columns of the *Journal des Débats* of the 27th December last

Other literary gentlemen, among whom were several English critics, examined the documents, and expressed themselves unanimously and decidedly of the same opinion with M. Philarète Chastes and myself, some of them even pointing out minuter corroborative circumstances which had escaped our observation; although *now*—frightened, apparently, by the storm of insults with which, I understand, I have been assailed in England—they advise me to go to London or Edinburgh, there to have the authenticity of the letter determined

By whom? By those who have *prejudged* the question, and who, without examining the evidence, have treated with contempt the opinion of the first literary critic in France, and received with contempt the testimony of the Society of Archivists of that country! This is *trop fort!*

But more than this. What—as M. Chastes and others have said what has the question of whether the letter be in Scott's own handwriting, or a copy by the other W. S., anterior of it, to give to the German whilst he kept the original? —what has this to do with the authorship of the work! Nothing whatever. Those who have read the work, or portions of it (as a select party of distinguished English residents in the Faubourg Saint Honoré did the other evening), and have been convinced *by itself* that it was written by Sir Walter Scott, would *their* conviction of this be swayed in the smallest degree by such a circumstance? Not in the least. That letter is written on notepaper bearing the water-mark of the *first* Empire, having the bust of Napoleon I., surrounded by his titles. It is clear from that and other circumstances which have been examined by the Society of Archivists that it is either the original letter, or a copy taken of it *at the time*. I think it the former, so do the others who have examined it; it may be asserted to be the latter, without the authenticity of the work being in the smallest degree affected by such a circumstance.

But even in this view of the case, as either is an object of considerable interest, I am now having three copies of the letter most carefully traced; of these, I shall send one to the British Museum, one to the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, and the third I shall lodge with my London publishers, so soon as I find any bold enough to give to the world a work of fiction full of interest, rich in humour, rapid and brilliant in its descriptions of scenery and of character, but which the critical press of England is determined *shall not* have

been written by Sir Walter Scott. I shall accompany the copy sent to such publishers with some papers *of most singular interest* in themselves, but which are doubly so from being found in the same box with the MS. of "Moredun."

They are *forty-three* in number, and relate entirely to the period of the *Hundred Days* and the *Restoration* (1814, 1815, 1816) These papers would have been of such immense value to the author of the "Life of Napoleon," that I think all enemies there will go along with me in considering them a collection or the commencement of a collection, intended for presentation as an expression of thanks to the author of "Moredun." My attention was so entirely engrossed by that work that I did not at first give them the examination they were entitled to

In the course of that examination, too, some pages of MS. in English were found which supply several *lacunæ* in "Moredun," which had greatly puzzled those who were translating it for me into French. Among them is the Preface, without heading or title, evidently intended as an introduction to the work:—

"I have somewhere met with the remark that 'Dante's only object is to interest.' Such has been my aim in this to which I have on that account given the name of a tale rather than claim for it the title of a romance: and if, as has been said of his poetry, it can be said of this tale that the interest never flags, my main object, besides that of turning to it as a recreation, will have been gained. If any apology be necessary for devoting so much of time and place in such a miscellany, I can quote the authority of Dr. Johnson, who justifies the want of them in much higher productions. I may likewise quote the same illustrious writer for a justification of many departures from the rules of criticism, and say with him 'that there is always an appeal open from criticism to nature.'"

The paper seems to be of English manufacture, and bears in the water-mark the name of "Horne," with the date "1817."

All the facts relative to the MS. of "Moredun," known to myself, are now before the world. I do not intend to take any special notice of the articles—I cannot call them criticisms—of the English press, having seen only but a small portion of them—few of their authors or publishers having had the fairness or politeness to send me a copy of the journals in which they appeared, although the literary treaty lately signed between the two countries would have led one naturally to expect some little *courtesy*. If not justice, on the part of the English journalists towards the director of a literary society in France who gave his name and address along with his statements, but whilst one doubter says that Scott wrote all and another that he always employed an amanuensis, a third thinks it a fabrication and a name fail. of L's, and a fourth that they were not L's but G's, I may safely leave them to demolish each other. The latter *fiction*, however, I must not pass unnoticed. It is therein alleged, as a suspicious circumstance, that the discovery of "Moredun" was not made known until *after* the death of Mr. Lockhart. I reply my notice of the discovery was lodged with the Minister of the Interior, in Paris, on the 24th November, and was published here and in London, in the *Sun* newspaper, on the 29th *—the day on which Mr. Lockhart died in Scotland* The telegraph does wonders, but it could scarcely have told in Paris on the 24th what happened at Abotsford on the 29th. *Ab uno disce omnes*

Le Directeur-Général de la Société des Archivistes de France.

This letter we have shown to the former amanuensis and librarian of Sir W. Scott, who observes in reply:—

The name "full of L's" was, I suppose, *William Laidlaw* or *John Ballantyne*; the G's must refer to "*your humble servant*," in whose name there are certainly three—one more than in that of "MM. *Grandon* de Genouillac, Secretaire Perpetuel" of the Société des Archivistes. It is curious enough that a Gordon should be connected with "Moredun." I say a *Gordon*, for it is well known that my clan originated in a branch of the Gordons who came over with the Conqueror, and emigrated to the south of Scotland. I am, sorry that M. Cabaty does not intend sending us a facsimile of that which we are so desirous of seeing—not the letter signed "W. S.," which may or may not be a copy, but a page of *the tale itself*, which must be the *original* MS., if we are to believe M. Cabaty's account of the purpose it was intended to serve. And I consider myself quite competent to determine the authenticity of the MS., having transcribed from Scott's autograph thirty-two volumes of the novels and [illegible] "The Life of Napoleon," the necessity for the [illegible] unnecessary after the second volume by Scott's avowal of the author-h[illegible]

GEO. HUNTLY GORDON.

I have omitted to observe how extremely improbable it is that Scott composed a story in three volumes which we never heard of before, *during or after* "1817" (the date of the *paper*); as he produced more works from that year till 1827 than in any ten preceding years of his life It is quite incredible that he should have had time for "three volumes" more! Nor can I believe that he wrote a note to Wm Spencer on paper "bearing the water-mark of the first Empire, having the name of Napoleon I., surrounded by his titles" [illegible] Paris, in 1826, when the name of Napoleon was proscribed, and it was considered a sort of high treason to be in possession of his effigy

Will M. Cabaty comply with Mr. Gordon's very proper request?

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8.

Month and Day.	Corrected Barometer at 32° Fah.	Thermometer. Highest.	Thermometer. Lowest.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure from the Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°	°		Inches.
Feb. 2	30.013	32.2	29.6	27.0	— 17.6	78	E.	0.00
" 3	29.504	37.5	27.2	32.0	— 5.8	95	E.	0.14
" 4	29.355	36.8	30.0	33.8	— 4.1	98	Calm	0.00
" 5	29.536	40.7	33.2	36.6	— 1.4	96	Calm	0.06
" 6	29.370	36.2	32.7	33.9	— 4.2	98	N.E.	0.02
" 7	29.748	34.6	31.1	32.8	— 5.4	97	E.	0.06
" 8	29.779	32.0	27.7	29.0	— 8.2	95	N.E.	0.18

NOTE. The sign — denotes below the average. The numbers in the 7th column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.02 in. at the beginning of the week to 29.26 in. by the afternoon of the 4th; increased to 29.78 in. by the 7th, and decreased to 29.68 in. by the end of the week The mean for the week, at the height of 62 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.66 inches.

The weather has been severe all the week, the sky has been overcast; the temperature has been below its average on every day, snow has fallen frequently, and crystals have been abundant. J. GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The births of 1648 children were registered in the week ending February 3: of these, 845 were boys and 803 were girls. The average numbers in the fifth week of the year, from the preceding ten years, were 765 and 724. The number of deaths registered were 1187; and thus the continuance of the rigorous weather causes an increase of about 300 deaths weekly.

THE daily delivery of water to London during the last few months has been little short of £100,000,000 gallons.

THE Directors of the Bank of England, on Thursday week, passed a resolution to give each clerk in their establishment an immediate bonus of ten per cent upon his salary, as compensation for the double Income-tax.

THE SOUTH-SEA HOUSE.—This well-known edifice in Threadneedle-street (an Engraving of which was given in our Journal of Jan. 20), with its Doric portico, its quadrangle with Tuscan colonnade and fountain, and extensive vaulted cellars, is to be brought to the hammer, the Conservators and Society having been already in the field to negotiate for the purchase by private contract, in which mode, it appears, the directors are not empowered to sell. The South Sea Company was originally by Harley, Earl of Oxford, in 1711, for the discharge of nearly ten millions of public debt; and in 1853-4 the South Sea Stock was converted or paid off. The building occupies more than half an acre of ground, and its value for building purposes is of course enormous.

ST. PAUL AND ST. BARNABAS, KNIGHTSBRIDGE.—Some days since Mr. Charles Westerton, the churchwarden of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, proceeded in the Consistory Court against the Hon. and Rev. Robert Liddell, the Incumbent of St. Paul and St. Barnabas, Knightsbridge, for the purpose of restraining him from certain Tractarian observances in those churches. The allegations were, that a "high altar" had been set up, that candlesticks and crosses were placed thereupon, and that a marble credentia, or preparatory altar, had been erected. The Episcopal monition directs that all these articles shall be forthwith removed, and that there shall be substituted in lieu and stead thereof a decent communion-table for the administration of the Lord's Supper, or that Mr. Liddell shall show cause to the contrary in the Consistory Court.

THE inquiry into the cause of the death of Mrs. Catherine Bacon, of Ordnance-terrace, Chatham, terminated on Tuesday in a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against Elizabeth Laws, the servant girl, who has been committed to prison.

THE claims for compensation in respect of the unsightly block of buildings which obstructs Threadneedle-street have been settled. The thoroughfare is to be widened forthwith from the Exchange to Bishopsgate. The parties interested claimed £35,276; they have got £28,711.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS

MELROSE.—To comprehend the ingenuity of the Problem by Ali Shatranji, given by Professor Forbes in our last number, it is necessary to have a clear idea of the difference in value of the various powers of the pieces in the Oriental game, and of the peculiar powers in our game. In Oriental Chess, the King, the Rook, the Knight, and the Pawn moved and captured precisely as they do with us. The Bishop was then that in the East there was no castling, and a Pawn could never make but one step forward With these four pieces, then, there is no difficulty Now, clear your chessboard and place the White Queen, say, on her 4th square, and you will understand the immense disparity between her powers in the ancient and the modern game. With us, as you know, in this position she can pretty well sweep the whole board but, in the old game, her powers took for moving and for capturing an enemy, was limited to one square diagonally, in each direction from the square on which she stood. In other words, she could, in this situation, command only the King's, the Queen's and her Bishop's first and 4th squares; so that she could neither leap over any other piece, nor be played to any other squares, next to her, or away from her, without danger. Next place a Bishop on the same square With us our game, a Bishop so placed commands the whole rank of squares, in a diagonal course, from the Q's Rook's square to the King's Rook's 8th, and from the King's Kt sq to the Q Rook's End. In the ancient game, he commanded only the *third* square diagonally in each direction, that is to say, he could now move to or capture a piece on his K B 2nd, K R 3rd, Q Kt 2nd, and Q R 3rd and, to reach either of these squares, he leapt over any piece intervening. For example, if the adverse King stood at his 4th, he would not be in order of your Bishop, and to reach the K B 5th you would leap your Bishop over him. Practise the moves of the Queen and Bishop here described, first with a board devoted of other pieces, and have with a number of pieces on it, for an hour, and you will be able to appreciate some of the beauties in the Chess tactics of the East.

A. B. Bristol.—Your solution of the clever Problem by D'Orville given in our notices to Correspondents is quite correct; and, strange to say, this is the only one we received

ARIEL.—B, of Bridport. A. F They are now undergoing examination.

TYRO, KEI.—One solution of No. 571 is quite right, and yours all wrong If Black take the Bishop, as you suggest, White has merely to move his King to Q B 4th, and mate next move with the K Pawn.

J. M., of Sherburn.—1 The position of the moves in Enigma 569 is correct 2 Begin by playing B to Q 6th

VON H D. L., Brussels.—Too was the writer meant. We do not remember to have seen the move to any earlier author.

A. B. P. Stockport.—If this is true, the Bishop so much the worse for him. He will then be counted a scapegoat.

F. W. Wakefield.—Your letter to hand, the Problem by a problem this week

*** We are obliged by offers of Problems, our Notices to Correspondents on Chess.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No 571 by Lavendale, Beatrice, S. A, Falmouth, Barry, J A M, Fakenham Medicus, V [illegible] correct

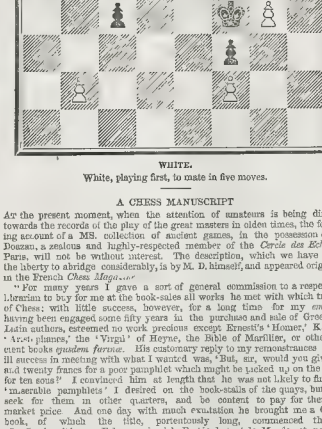
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 572 by Cheddleigh, J J L, Islington, P P, Derby, J F, Hanworth, J [illegible] Hoole, A. Z, J. A. M, Fakenham, F. J Newell, E H, Dorset, W [illegible] are correct

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS by J. M. of Sherburn, J. Stonehouse, J. A M, Fakenham, R P Monro, Arden, Roberto, W. F, Omer Lucha, Mrs. Cassile, Devizon, are correct. All others are wrong.

PROBLEM No. 573.

By Mr. HENRY TURTON.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White, playing first, to mate in five moves.

A CHESS MANUSCRIPT

AT the present moment, when the attention of amateurs is being directed towards the records of the play of the great masters in olden times, the following account of a MS. collection of ancient games, in the possession of M. Bouzan, a zealous and highly-respected member of the *Cercle des Echecs* in Paris, will not be without interest. The description, which we have taken the liberty to abridge considerably, is by M. D, himself, and appeared originally in the French *Chess Magazine*

"For many years I gave a sort of general commission to a respectable librarian to buy for me at the book-sales all works he met with which treated of Chess: with little success, however, for a long time for my *employé*, having been engaged some fifty years in the purchase and sale of Greek and Latin authors, esteemed no work precious except Ernestii's 'Homer,' Kuster's 'Aristophanes,' the 'Virgil' of Heyne, the Bible of Mariller, or other ancient books *quidem Farme*. His customary reply to my remonstrances at his ill success in meeting with what I wanted was, 'But, sir, would you give five and twenty francs for a poor pamphlet which might be picked up on the quays for ten sous?' I convinced him at length that he was not likely to find the 'ensemble pamphlets' I desired on the book-stalls of the quays, but must seek for them in other quarters, and be content to pay for them at the market price And one day with much exultation he brought me a Chess-book, of which the title, portentously long, commenced thus:—'La Supériorité aux Echecs, mise à la Portée de tout le Monde, et particulièrement des Dames qui, &c.' If the good man had taken time to read this formidable title to the end, he would have found these words:—'Avec un volume de Planches pour l'explication des Coups, &c.' This volume of plates, without which the first portion of the treatise is valueless, my bookseller had not obtained. I refrained, however, from reproaching him; on the contrary, I thanked him for his attention, and encouraged him to further researches. The result was that in a few days he again appeared before me, and on this occasion with a purchase, the quality of which I was delighted with, and shall now describe It was an Italian MS. of the end of the sixteenth or beginning of the seventeenth century, containing a collection of games, or openings of games, by the most skilful players of the sixteenth century, arranged by some amateur, who evidently intended to obtain a complete series.

"The following are the contents:—Fifty-six Games or Openings, by Giulio Cesare Polerio; Nineteen of Giovanni Domenico; Thirty-five by Giovanni Leonardo: Four of Avalos; Two of Bassanio; Two of Scovera; One of Don Antonio; Three Ends of Games, Anonymous; Three Ditto, from Damiano. The work is in Five Divisions:—The First comprises the King's Bishop's and King's Knight's Opening; the Second, Games of Defence against the Move; the Third, King's Gambits Accepted and Refused.

"In the foregoing list it will be observed that there is no mention of the Queen's Gambit, which doubtless had not at that period been invented. Greco, who lived long afterwards, gives in his work three games of the Queen's Gambit, with variations. Whether the honour of this invention is, as his French translator affirms, due to him, I cannot say.* If this opening were unknown to the contemporaries of Leonardo and Paoli Boi, of Syracuse, we must admit that its discovery evinces a marked progress in the theory of the game. We conclude from already of this it is evident that the games between La Bourdonnais and McDonnell, where the Queen's Gambit rank among the most beautiful of the *parties*. The Fourth Division presents us with forty-two games of attack and defence, all connected with our ordinary openings of the present day. In the Fifth we meet only with set end games The book is a compilation; but a compilation not without value if it have preserved for us some precious fragments of masters whose works and traditions are long passed away, and whose names even for the most part seem to be forgotten.

"The compiler of the present MS., unfortunately, employed a very incorrect transcriber, for the work abounds with errors, not only of orthography, which are unimportant, but with gross faults, which destroy the sense, and render several passages quite unintelligible. For example, at the end of a paragraph we meet with these words:—'The game was played in Spain, by Il Cierico and Giovanni Leonardo, very skilful players.' Now, the game to which they refer is incomprehensible, through some blunders, which as deeply to be regretted, since it is not certain that the Chess magnates of that epoch have ever been surpassed. The combinations of our admirable game have subsequently been infinitely multiplied, and we have acquired more science, but perhaps without any increase of genius.

"The players of the sixteenth century printed very few books upon Chess, but they attached too much importance to their combats and their studies not to preserve them. I am convinced, therefore, that a careful search in the monastic libraries of Spain and Italy would be rewarded by the discovery of many priceless treatises on the science

"Of the present MS. the Second Division is, perhaps, the most curious It contains a number of openings, by the celebrated Leonardo, in which the defence is shown how to regain the move.

"From these we take the following, which affords one or two interesting positions:—

BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	8. P to Q 3rd (b)	P takes Kt
2. P to Kt to K B 3rd	P to K B 4th	9. Q takes R	Kt takes K B P (ch)
3. Kt takes K P	Q to K 2nd	10. K to Q 2nd	Q to K Kt 5th
4. Q to K R 5th (ch)	P to K Kt 3rd	11. Q to K 4th (ch)	K to K B 2nd
5. P takes K P	Q takes K P (ch)	12. K B to K 2nd	Q to K Kt 4th (ch)
6. K to Q sq (a)	K Kt to K B 3rd*	13. K to Q B 3rd	Q to K R 5th
7. Q to K R 4th	Kt to K Kt 5th		

"White now menaces mate with the Queen at her Kt 5th, and to win the adverse Queen by playing K B to K Kt 2nd. Black must, therefore, at least lose his K Rook.

(*Notes by the Editor.*)

(a) This is not the best move. Black should interpose his Bishop at King's 2nd, in which case the game proceeds as follows:—

6. K B to 2nd	K Kt to K B 3rd	8. P to Q 3rd	Q to Q B 3rd
7. Q to K R 3rd	K Kt to K R sq	9. Kt takes K B	Kt takes Kt
	Ans. Black has the better game		

(b) In his notes to this opening M. St. Amant recommends P to K B 3rd as preferable We doubt, however, very much whether this would alter the result much. For suppose—

8. P to K B 3rd	P takes Kt	9. Q to K Kt 3rd	B to Q 3rd

"Leaving for a moment Leonardo (to whom we shall soon return), we wish to speak of a celebrated Spanish player called Scovara, whose favourite opening is shown in the next game:

BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	8. Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q 4th
2. K Kt to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	9. K B to Q 3rd	Q to K 2nd
3. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	10. P to K R 3rd	K to K B 3rd
4. P to Q B 3rd	Q to K 2nd	11. K to nis Kt sq (d)	K R to K B sq
5. P to Q 4th	P takes P (c)	12. P to K Kt 4th	K to his Kt sq
6. P takes P	Q takes P (ch)	13. K R to B 2nd	
7. Q B to K 3rd	B to Q Kt 5th (ch)		

"From this position Scovara, notwithstanding his having a Pawn less than his adversary, won all the games."

(*Notes by the Editor.*)

(c) It is now pretty generally admitted that the best move for the second player here is to retreat the Bishop to Q Kt 3rd

(d) This was the ancient sap of the K side, which he was privileged to make once in the game, and by means of which, and the subsequently bringing his Rook over the King, a player effected the operation of what we call Castling, which, in former times, required two moves instead of one. See Black's 11th and 12th moves in the present game, and observe that a player might, at his choice, play either King or Rook first.

(*To be continued.*)

THE WEATHER IN THE EAST.—The French before Sebastopol have tales of suffering which will unite with ours, which it has been our duty to publish from the English Camp. The *Siècle* publishes the following:—"Up to the 16th the troops before Sebastopol had been twelve days in tents with cold at 10 deg. below zero (14 deg Fah.) About forty men had been frozen to death whilst sleeping in the midst of their comrades, and about 400 had had their feet frozen, and it is to be feared that several of them will die. The tent appears decidedly to be an insufficient shelter with such a temperature."

THE Prime Wardens of the Watermen's Company have made a return of the number of free watermen and their apprentices who are fit for the naval service, with a view to the ballot, should they be called on to furnish their quota of men to the Royal Navy—the company being bound by its charter to furnish 1500 men to man her Majesty's ships in case of war.

THE RAW-COFFEE QUESTION.—We are astounded, on reading our papers, to find that our authorities in London, on the 22nd of December, that the coffee issued to the men in our wars was roasted before it was given out! Who has boasted them so cruelly? Around every tent there is even yet a fair sprinkling of green berries trampled into the mud, which the men could not roast. There is, however, some attempt made *out here* to roast coffee at last. Mr. Murdoch, chief engineer of the *Sanspareil*, has mounted some iron oil casks, and adapted them very ingeniously for roasting coffee; and they have just come into play at Balaclava. I do not believe that, at the time the statement referred to was made, one ounce of roasted coffee had ever been issued from any commissariat store to any soldier in the Crimea.—*Letter from the Camp, January.*

THE THEATRES.

MARYLEBONE.—The five-act drama of "Leon; or, the Iron Mask," by Mr. Bayle Bernard, though not entirely original, is a work of very great merit. It is well rendered and arranged, and placed upon the boards with great elegance and taste. "The Man in the Iron Mask" remains to this moment an historical mystery; and the dramatist has therefore selected his own solution. The twin-brother of the King, and resembling him in person, *Leon*, is brought up in ignorance of his birth, and while he remains in that condition is safe from conspiracy; but time and circumstances reveal to him the truth; and lead to his confinement in the Bastile, where "The Iron Mask," by obliterating his features, precludes suspicion. The dramatist has received this incident to the last acts of his play, and drawn from it much pathetic and expressive lamentation. The situation is indeed exceedingly touching, and received from Mr. Wallack a sympathetic interpretation which reached the hearts of his audience, who were profoundly penetrated with the situation. Mrs. Wallack, as the devoted *Hortense*, a lady of the court and deeply beloved by *Leon*, played it intuitably, and with a power over the emotions seldom attained. The entire play was meritoriously acted; and the scene-setting was in irreproachable taste, very picturesque, and especially appropriate. The performance was received with applause, and at the conclusion the house was unanimously demonstrative in its favour. The production amply fulfils the pledge given by the management.

"JANET PRIDE," AT THE ADELPHI THEATRE.

THE above new piece, by Mr. Dion Boucicault, professes to be in three acts, but as it has two prologues, after the manner of the French stage, it is really in five; or, in other words, is a trilogy, like the Greek dramas, or Shakspeare's "Winter's Tale" and "Pericles." The drama is also intensely original, and no doubt is so as a whole. but, in its parts, it is much indebted to "Marie Jeanne," the "Somnambula," the "Maid and the Magpie," &c. In fact, the evident aim of the author has been to combine the most effective situations of many dramas, and thus to gain a novel force of a composite kind, instead of contenting himself with a more pure work of a single incident. This coalition of poities has been managed with undoubted cleverness; and a piece of accumulated interest, thoroughly elaborated, has been produced. Mr. Webster was the hero, and a truly difficult *role* had he to support—a man inebriate through five acts; and the different phases of the state constituted the variety which he had to throw into the part. For an actor so consummate this variety was sufficient; and the artistic manner in which the different *phases* and *nuances* were suggested or realised (as, at Mr Webster in a very high historic rank indeed. The action of the piece altogether occupies twenty years. It opens in Paris in 1834, when *Richard Pride* (Mr. Webster) is only twenty-eight years of age, and who, with his wife *Jane Pride* (Mdme. Celeste), resides in a garret in Paris, a refuge from English justice, still sacrificing all things to the love of brandy, though not without a heart, and somewhat good humoured withal. His destitute wife is ultimately compelled to entrust her dying daughter to the Enfans Trouvés; an illustration of which scene accompanies this article. The poor child is accordingly saved; but the fraudulent mother perishes amidst the winter's snow in the street, at the time that her drunken husband and his companions are passing. By them she is found dead; at the same moment *Pride* is arrested for forgery. Thus ends the first part.

Nineteen years afterwards the second part presents the victim of drink in Australia with *Black Jack* (Mr. Paul Bedford). Sparks of superior culture yet distinguish *Pride* from the baser character of his associate, who murders a returning soldier, *Sergeant Grey* (Mr. R. Romer), in the bush, for the sake of his money. *Pride* immediately avenges the man's death; but takes possession of his cash and accoutrements, in order to pass under his name, enjoy his pension, and thus effect his own escape. Thus armed, we find him in London in Greek-street, Soho, years afterwards, the family of *M. Bernard*, a French watchmaker, formerly the friend of *Jane Pride*, and who has taken charge of her infant, *Janet Pride* (Mdme. Celeste), when discharged from the Foundling Hospital. The Frenchman loves her as his own child, and makes her the companion of *Sergeant Grey's* daughter *Minnie* (Miss Keeley). *Pride* intrudes into this happy domestic circle as *Minnie's* supposed father She has also a lover, in the French watchmaker's apprentice, *Dicky Trotter* (Mr. Keeley). *Minnie* likewise has attracted the attention of *George Heriot* (Mr. G. Lee), the son of a goldsmith, and the very

* The Queen's Gambit was known at least a century before the time of Greco It is found both in Damiano and Lopez [illegible]

SCENE FROM "ROMEO AND JULIET," AT THE HAYMARKET THEATRE.

man whom *Pride* had defrauded. *Mr. Heriot* entrusts a gold watch, set with diamonds, to *Bernard's* care, concerning which *Janet*, suspicious of the supposed *Sergeant Grey's* honesty, is exceedingly anxious. Being a somnambulist, this anxiety haunts her slumbers; and, in her sleep-walking, she attempts to transfer the watch from a table-drawer to a safer cabinet. But the criminal of the drama is on the spot, and abstracts the watch from the case during the attempted transfer, so that, when the former is missed, *Janet's* possession of the latter becomes evidence against her. The poor girl is tried and convicted at the Old Bailey; when *Pride*, discovering that she is his own daughter, shoots himself, and, by his dying confession, clears the prisoner. Mr. Keeley has an amusing part in *Dicky Trotter*, whose colloquy with the numerous kitchen clocks, which he has marred rather than mended—with his calculations about the mean time, and their different characteristics—suffices to send him into a profound sleep at the moment of the robbery. His behaviour in court as a witness, because he was asleep in the apartment all the while, provoked many a laugh. That a production so various in interest, and so lifelike in character, should be successful was natural, and, acted with so much talent, indeed inevitable. Mr. Webster has, moreover, earned our most unequivocal testimony to his extraordinary histrionic genius, in his successful assumption of the peculiar attributes that distinguish the hero of this new dramatic romance.

"ROMEO AND JULIET" AT THE HAYMARKET THEATRE

The performance of *Romeo* by Miss Cushman is one that possesses peculiar characteristics, and in them corresponding advantages. For force and passion it exceeds that of any male performer, and yet avoids exaggeration; because the utmost vehemence of action that an actress of taste can throw into the situations is necessarily less robust than that of an actor. The latter must modify and suppress: Miss Cushman is enabled to expand and display the signs of emotion. One of the most affecting scenes in this, the greatest love-play in the world, is the parting one between the lovers. The necessity of the step overcomes all scruples; but that necessity is better made out in Arthur Brooke's poem than in Shakspeare's tragedy. This scene, which has been more than once pictorially illustrated, derives new interest from the successful *début* of a new *Juliet*. Miss Swanborough, though deficient in physical force, has much feeling and grace; and when she becomes more fully acquainted with the requirements of the stage in general, and of this highly-impassioned character in particular, she will doubtless make a good actress. It has been justly said by histrionic professors that no actress, however talented, can know how *Juliet* should be performed until she is too old to impersonate the part. We should recollect and make allowance for the difficulty that this authority implies, in judging of the claims of a new actress in Shakspeare's great love-heroine.

SCENE FROM THE NEW DRAMA, "JANET PRIDE," AT THE ADELPHI THEATRE.

HUNTING IN THE HOLIDAYS.—DRAWN BY JOHN LEECH.—(SEE NEXT NO.)

HUNTING IN THE HOLYDAYS.

MOODY THE HUNTSMAN *loquitur*.

"Hold 'ard, gentlemen, hold 'ard!" Darn me, but it's enough to drive a fellow crazy!

That chap in a wide-awake has nigh rid over MERRY LASS and DAISY!

I wish there warn't no holidays for boys, leastways in the hunting season.

'Cos they're always a larking and spolling the sport, and that's a very good and sufficient reason.

That cock-sparrow there on Mr. Thingumy's mare h ended the fox, and, on course, the hounds chopp'd him.

Had I been his highly respectable parient I'd a cried 'Ware Fox!' and jolly well whopp'd him.

I'm very fond of boys, and would forgive 'em shirking school, or breaking windows, or playing peg-top on a mahogany table;

But when one's out here, in one's natural element, as one may say, and they gets in the way, darn me, if I'm able!

It's quite right to enter 'em to hounds, 'cos 'the Noble Sport' 's the pride of the British nation,

But cub-hunting, which is Hunting Made Easy, ought to be the time when boys has their vacation.

"Hark to Ann-dromacky!" (*Bluecoat boy*: "Hark to An"——) "Stop your gab, sir! What do you mean by hollaring on the hounds?

"Ware, old Dido! You young yellowhammer, you're not worth so many pence as she is worth pounds."

There! the hounds have thrown up! And who's to make a cast, I should like to know, with this tall of boys

A riding about like wild Ingans or March hares, a shouting and making a deuce of a noise?

And the Master takes it as cool as a cowcumber; and, when I grumble, he says—

'O never mind, Moody; it's only at holiday time, and they'll all know better one of these days.'

"Hark to Dido!" There goes Pug, pointing to Charnwood Gorse—a good ten-mile burst at least!

"Hark for'ard! Too! too!" There'll be bellows to mend with the ponies, but good entertainment for man and beast!

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE frost seemed so completely set in last week that trainers began to despair of ever getting their horses ready for their spring engagements; and one lot was removed to the sea-side with a view to being "prepared" on the sands. Towards the close of the week the gloomy forebodings seemed likely to prove ill-founded. The "sheeted regiments" were once more begining to appear on their favourite parades, and the slipper and the huntsman at their posts; but a second edition of winter set in on Wednesday last, and blighted all their hopes. Hence the prospects of the 1855 racing season, which opens next week, are the reverse of promising Dutch has a steeplechase-day on Tuesday. Its Selling Chase has five entries, and its Selling Hurdle Race seven acceptances out of eleven; while sixteen out of twenty-six have accepted in its principal steeplechase. Peter Simple (13st., heats the list, and Maria Day, 9st. 3lbs., is sixth on it. The *L'Zingari* of the turf will travel from thence to Lincoln, which has a mixed programme of steeple chasing and flat racing for them on Wednesday and Thursday. Benham's, whose clam was once a great favourite in those parts, is the principal name in the Trial Stakes. Forty out of fifty four have accepted to the Liverpool Steeplechase, among whom Bourton, with 12st. 5lbs., has boldly said "Content," and certainly he seemed, under Tasker's magnificent handling, to win with quite 10lbs. to spare last year. Miss Mowbury, 11st. 6lbs., also stays in, and John Scott is preparing her as carefully as a St. Leger crack.

The Coursing meetings are sown broadcast throughout the week. Newmarket, open, is fixed for Monday, &c.; Aston (Cheshire), Newport (Salop), and Lee Bridge (Salop), for Tuesday; Biggar Champion for Tuesday, &c.; Limerick and Baldock Chalk for Wednesday and Thursday, and Ampthill and Bryn-y-pys for Friday. The celebrated dog Torrobas is said to have a purchaser, at a pretty strong price.

None of the great mares, except Phryne and Alice Hawthorne, have as yet had foals, but the Dupper (the dam of Gracchus Essexley) has just had a colt to Chantelcier, who is still at the Rawcliffe paddocks along with Flying Dutchman, whose first batch of two-year-olds will appear this season. Burgundy has been purchased by a Mr. Daykin; and Pelion, one of the most promising young horses Lord Clifton ever had, has left the turf, on which l is legs failed him early, and gone to join Surplice at Doncaster, where three seasons since he ran such a terrific and victorious race with Longbow. Epirus has quitted the stud; but he leaves a splendid representative in his son Pyrrhus the First, who carries all the stoutness of Defence with the speed of Langar, and has communicated them both, in no ordinary degree, to his daughter Virago. Arnold is in future to train Mr. Saxon's horses instead of Abraham; and Dockeray has arrived at Newmarket and taken the charge of Messrs. Payne and Greville's lots from Nat, who has looked after them at the Palace Stables since the Houghton Meeting.

Sporting literature is not very rife, but "Scrutator's" work on horses and hounds has quite the call at present. A Mr. Goodwin has also published some remarks on the strange running of Acrobat, a painful subject, which hardly needed reviving at this distance of time. The *Sporting Magazine* has a very characteristic likeness of Virago, from a sketch by Mr. Harry Hall, who has done the illustrious "reach-back" most ample justice One of the articles contains an amusing account of "Crutch Robinson's" political colloquy with Lord Derby, as well as some recollections of the nonagenarian Yorkshireman, Michael Bruntoin, who was so fond of betting that during his three Richmond Mayoralties he always clenched a legal dispute by offering to bet his brother magistrates "*six tafpow*" he was right. The "Sam Chifney Recollections" are also continued through the fourth chapter, which is entirely devoted to the racing career of George IV., and contains a great number of anecdotes and traits which go to have been dug up for the first time. Of his money habits the writer observes—" He was most liberal with money, *so long as he did not see it*. He would sign away cheques to any amount, but if he had a fifty-pound note in his pocket it was a bitter pang to him to spend five pounds of it."

A strong attempt is about to be made to introduce salmon into the Australian rivers, and a gentleman has offered to give half of a £1000 prize, if the Australian Government will give the other half to any one who will successfully rear them there. In the Dee great pains is at present taken with salmon spawn, and it is thought that about 107,000 young fish will be reared this spring.

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT (ENGLAND AND BELGIUM).—The copy of a convention between Her Majesty and the King of the Belgians for the establishment of International copyright, signed in London on the 17th day of August, 1854, and ratified on the 24th January, has been published.

THE SPANISH MINISTRY AND THE CHURCH.—M. Madoz, the new Spanish Finance Minister, has proposed to alienate the property of the Church held in mortmain. The Spanish Bishops are furious, and the Bishop of Cadiz has just addressed an energetic protest against the measure to the Cortes. His episcopal brother of Barcelona, a Catalan and an ardent Carlist, has just published in his journal a fiery article, in which he stigmatises the present Government of Spain as a band of robbers—the breakers of all laws, human and divine. The Government has ordered him off to a little town in Andalusia, which has been appointed as his residence. The Bishop has refused to go, and cannot be found.

HOW THEY MANAGE IN THE TRENCHES.—When we are in the trenches, if it be our turn to be in the first parallel, *i.e.*, farthest from the enemy, we walk about as much as possible to keep ourselves warm, and if a shot comes, we often let the cook, bob our heads to let the rascal pass over us. In the second parallel we walk about as in the first, but [illegible] the third, if you so much as show your little finger above the parapet, you had twenty balls whizzing about it immediately. We take some salt pork and biscuit and a bottle of water with us, and, if we are in the first parallel, our servants bring us some hot coffee about eight o'clock.—*Letter from the Camp.*

A TIMELY WARNING FOR LORD PAMMURE. This is about the time when new tents and suitable clothing for summer should be provided. We may look for a summer-like opening early in April. Our men suffer enough from cold and wind—there is no reason why they should contend, unprotected and overclad, against the blaze of a Crimean summer sun.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Notwithstanding the Ministerial interregnum, and the unfavourable reports which have come to hand from the manufacturing districts on the subject of trade, the value of nearly all National Securities has not been depressed to any extent. The supply of stock in the hands of the jobbers is by no means large, and any increase in it is more than expected whilst the public continue to purchase so freely as of late. Much surprise has been expressed in the present high range in Consols; but it must not be forgotten that, as yet, no sums have been withdrawn from the Bank of Exchequer in the shape of loans on English account; the Government balance in the Bank of England is still good, and the revenue is flourishing. In addition to all this, money for commercial purposes is abundant, and not likely to become dearer.

Some rather extensive movements have taken place in bullion. The imports have exceeded £200,000, chiefly from the West Indies and Mexico, including £16,000 from New York. The resumption of specie imports from America is a most favourable feature; but some time will elapse before the money drawn will be sufficiently large to have much influence upon the supply in the Bank of England. The total exports have been nearly £300,000, mostly to India.

The Consol Market on Monday was tolerably firm, and prices had an upward tendency. The Three per Cents, for transfer, marked 91¾ ⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 91⅞ ⅞; the New Three per Cents, 92⅛ ⅜; and Bank Stock, 211 ½. On Tuesday, the Three per Cents Stock was 211 to 212½; India Stock, 222; Long Annuities, 4 5-16; India Bonds, 12s to 15s; Exchequer-bills, 5s. to 8s. prem.; Exchequer-bonds, 99⅞ ⅞. On Tuesday great inactivity prevailed in the market, and the quotations were a shade lower. The Three per Cents Reduced were 91⅞ ⅞; the Three per Cent Consols, 91⅞ ⅞; the New Three per Cents, 92⅛ 91⅞ 92; the New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 72 ⅞ 73; Consols for Account, 91 ⅞ ⅞; Long Annuities, 1859, 4⅛. India Bonds were 15s. Exchequer-bills, 9s. prem.; Exchequer-bonds, 99⅞; Bank Stock, 211 to 212½. The transactions on the following day were very trifling; yet prices were steady, and rather in favour. The Three per Cents Reduced were 91⅞ ⅞; the Three per Cent Consols, 91⅞ ⅞; the New Three per Cents, 91⅞ ⅞ to 92⅛; Long Annuities, 4 5-16. India Stock, 225 to 224; Bank Stock, 212; India Bonds, 12s to 15s; Exchequer-bills, 6s. to 8s prem.; Ditto Bonds, 99⅞ ⅞. Funds were flatter on Thursday, owing to the settlement of the account. The "Contango" was about ¼ per cent. Consols were 91⅞ ⅞ to 92; 91; the Three per Cents Reduced, 91⅞ ⅞; and the New Three per Cents, 91⅞ to 92; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 8s.; and India Bonds, 12s prem.

The market for foreign bonds has been dull, yet very little change has taken place in prices. Greek Deferred have marked 5¾; Mexican Bonds, per Cents, 21; Russian Five per Cents, 100 to 109; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 89¾; Spanish Three per Cents, 37; Ditto, Passive, 4; Ditto, New Deferred, 17¾; Turkish Six per Cents, 76¾; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 92; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 62¾; Ditto, Four per Cents, 98¾; Ecuador, 4.

Joint-stock Bank Shares have been tolerably firm, at full prices. Australasia have marked 61; Chartered of Asia, 4⅞; London Chartered of Australia, 2½; Ditto, New, 8¼; London and Westminster, 40; Oriental, 38¾. Miscellaneous securities have ruled inactive, yet we have very little change to notice in the quotations. Australian Agricultural, 32 ex div.; Australian Royal Mail Steam, 4⅞; Canada, 120; Ditto, Government Six per Cent Bonds, 103; Crystal Palace, 8⅞; London Dock, 102; Victoria, 4⅞; North British Australasian, 14; Peel River Land and Mineral, 2½; Royal Mail Steam, 1; South Australian Land, 8⅞. Canal Shares have been dull, as follows: Ashton and Oldham, 137½ ex div.; Coventry, 290; Derby, 34; Grand Surrey, 48; Leicester, 59; Loughborough, 575; Neath, 130; Oxford, 115; Rochdale, 60; Stafford and Worcester, 425; Scarborough, 285; Worcester and Birmingham, 25 to 24. In Water-works Shares very few transactions have been reported: Berlin, 2⅞; Grand Junction, 70; Kent, 79; Southwark and Vauxhall, 89½; New River, 85; West Middlesex, 94½ to 95¾ ex div. Gas-light and Coke Companies' Shares have ruled full quotations—Continental, 65¾ ex div.; Equitable, 20; Great Central, 11; Imperial, 49½ to 48 ex div.; Imperial, New, 13 ex div.; Ratcliff, 70; Surrey Consumers', 11; Westminster Chartered, 39½ ex div. Insurance Companies' Shares have met with little market: Globe, 125 ex div.; Guardian, 55; Imperial Fire, 327 ex div.; Law, 148; Law Life, 56; Pelican, 46 to 45; Provident Life, 39; Rock Life, 7⅞; Sun Life, 57½; Victoria, 5⅞. Bridge Shares have been quoted:—Hungerford, 12; Vauxhall, 23; Waterloo, 4½; Waterloo Purchase, £5⅞; Ditto, New, £2 ⅞ premium.

In Railway Shares only a limited business has been transacted, and the quotations almost generally have not been supported. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston Junction, 4⅞; Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Stour Valley, 58; Bristol and Exeter, 64; Eastern Counties, 14⅞; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 52; Great North ern, 89½; Ditto, C Stock, 66½; Ditto, B, 128⅞; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 91; Great Western, 56½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 74½; London and Blackwall, 8⅞; Ditto, Quarter-Shares, 2 ⅞; London and North-Western, 100⅞; London and South-Western, 86; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincoln re, 25½; Midland, 69½; Norfolk, 51½; North British, 29½; North-Eastern, Berwick, 8⅞; Ditto, York, 54½; North Staffordshire, 13 ex div.; South-Eastern, 58⅞.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTAL.—East Lincolnshire Six per Cent, 134; London and Green wich, 20; Ditto, Quarter-Shares, 6 ⅞; Ditto, Half-Shares, 10⅞.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 97 ex new; [illegible] Dundee, Four per Cent, [illegible]; Ditto, New, Four-and-a-Half, [illegible]; Chester Eight per Cents, 18; Ditto Five per Cent, 10; [illegible] Stock, 71.

FOREIGN.—Arrivals and Rotterdam, 6¾; Eastern of France, 89¾; East Indian Extension, 6⅞; Great Luxembourg Shares, 3⅞; Great Western of Canada Shares, 17⅞.

Mines have been very dull. On Thursday, Agua Fria were ⅞; St. Allen Del Rey, 20½; General, 1⅞; Santiago di Cuba, ⅞; Tin Croft, 2; West Margosa, ⅞.

Friday Evening.

Scarcely any change has taken place in the value of National Stocks to-day. The business doing is very moderate. The Three per Cents are 91⅞ ⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 91⅞; and the New Three per Cents, 92. India Bonds, 12s.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 9s. prem. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares are dull.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday). Since Monday the arrivals of English wheat up to our market, coastwise and by land carriage, have been on a very limited scale, and the show of samples to-day was trifling. For most kinds we had only a moderate inquiry. In late quotations scarcely any change took place from Monday. Foreign wheat was mostly held for more money, but the business doing in that grain was limited, at about stationary prices. Floating cargoes were steady, but very little doing. Barley was in fair request, at full prices; but grain and malting sorts met a slow sale. In the value of malt we have no change to report. There was a fair inquiry for the improved in the end trade, and good sound ones was rather dearer. Beans, peas, and flour are last advised.

ARRIVALS. English wheat, 1720; barley, 2230; malt, 3410; oats, 360; flour, 670. Irish: oats, 40. Foreign: wheat, 5590; oats 190; flour, 490 sacks.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 65s. to 70s.; ditto, white, 72s. to 80s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 65s. to 70s.; ditto, white, 74s. to 78s.; rye, 44s. to 46s.; grinding barley, 36s. to 38s. Distilling ditto, 38s. to 39s.; malting ditto, 38s. to 39s.; Lincoln and Norfolk oats, 25s. to 26s.; Scotch ditto, 26s. to 28s.; Kingston and Ware, 28s. to 29s.; Chevalier, 27s. to 29s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 26s. to 28s.; potato ditto, 29s. to 30s.; brown beans, 38s. to 40s.; ditto, white, 40s. to 42s.; tick beans, 38s. to 40s.; grey peas, 38s. to 40s. maple, 42s. to 44s.; white, 42s. to 45s.; kidney, 48s. to 50s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 45s. to 47s.; Suffolk, 42s. to 44s.; Stockton and York, 38s. 42s. to 46s. per 280 lbs.

Irish. There is a fair inquiry for linseed. Cakes are held at full quotations, but the business doing in them is limited. Clover seed is steady. In the value of other articles no change has taken place.

Linseed, English, selling 7s. to 7s.; Baltic, crushing, 58s. to 60s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 56s. to 58s.; hempseed, 54s. to 56s per quarter. Coriander, 17s. to 18s. per cwt. Brown mustard seed, 16s. to 14s.; white, 10s. to 10s.; tares, 10s. to 11s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £23 5s. to £25 5s. per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £12 5s. to £13 15s.; ditto, foreign, £11 5s. to £12 5s.; Rape cakes, £6 15s. to £7 15s. per ton. Canary, 52s. to 58s. per quarter.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 10d. to 11d. the household ditto, 8d. to 9d. per four-pound loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 70s. 11d.; barley, 39s. 2d.; oats, 26s. 9d.; rye, 45s. 9d.; beans, 40s. 9d.; peas, 43s. 6d.

The Six Weeks' Average.—Wheat, 72s. 5d.; barley, 38s. 5d.; oats, 27s. 3d.; rye, 45s. 4d.; beans, 40s. 10d.; peas, 43s. 8d.

Duties. Wheat, 1s.; barley, 1s.; oats, 1s.; rye, 1s.; beans, 1s.; peas, 1s.

England Grain Sold and Bought.—Wheat, 83,000 quarters; barley, 16,607; rye, 65; beans, 3750; peas, 1811 quarters.

Tea.—The business done in our market is very moderate, yet prices are mostly supported. Common sound congou, 9½d. to 10d per lb. The supply on offer is good.

Sugar. Our market has ruled very dull, and prices have declined [illegible] Mauritius, 48s. 6d. to 50s.; Bengal, 48s. 6d. to 49s. 6d.; Manila, 48s. to 49s. 6d. per cwt. Foreign sugars offer command full quotations. Refined goods are in fair request, at from 49s. 6d. to 50s. 6d. per cwt. The total clearances to the 3rd inst. were 64,000 cwt., against 68,898 ditto in 1854.

Coffee.—There has been rather more business doing in this article, and, in some instances, prices have ruled a shade higher. Good ordinary native has realised 46s. to 46s. 6d. per cwt.

Rice.—The demand is very limited, yet we have no sellers on lower terms.

Provisions.—There has been a much dearer demand for mild kinds of Irish butter at full prices. Foreign butter has changed hands on former terms. Bacon is very dull, and the last weekly Dorset is quoted at 58s. to 60s. per cwt. Bacon in demand, and very firm, at our terms. In the value of other kinds of provisions we have no change to report.

Hops.—The demand for the best kinds of foreign hops continues to come from Ostend. Our market is but is moderately supplied, and a steady business is doing, at full prices. West and East Kent pockets, 4 to 6 ⅞; Mid and East Sussex, 4 to 6 ⅞; New Wealds, 4 to 6 ⅞; Sussex, £14 to £15 15s. per cwt.

Cattle Market.—Monday, March 5.—Mr. Wall's Primrose, 1st, Mr. [illegible] 29s. 2d.; Bradgill, 2s. 6d (Whitworth, 20s. per ton.

Smithfield, Friday). A very moderate supply of beasts was on offer in to-day's market, yet the demand for all kinds of stock ruled very dull, and we have to quote a decline of 2d. per sheep were on sale. The station trade, however, was heavy, on former terms. The foreign arrivals in the market from Holland, 1,000 head, and from Denmark, 200 head, show no change to notice in those value. Mich cows were extreme [illegible] Inferior beasts sold at 4d. per [illegible]

[illegible] 3s. 6d. to 4s. 4d.; ditto, second quality, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 2d.; prime large oxen, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; large cows, 3s. 4s. to 4s.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; prime ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; prime Southdowns, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 0d.; large calves, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 0d.; prime small ditto, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 0d.; large hogs, 3s. 8s. to 4s.; store pigs, 9s. to 20s. each. Total supply—beasts, 372; cows; 120, sheep, 3203; calves, 86, pigs, 320. Foreign beasts, 210; sheep, 75; calves, 26.

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—The demand for each kind of meat was in a sluggish state, as follows:—

Per 8lbs. by the carcase:—Inferior beef, 3s 2s to 3s. 4d; middling ditto, 3s 6d. to 3s 8d; prime large ditto, 3s 10d to 4s 0d; ditto, small ditto, 4s. 2s to 4s 4d. large pork, 3s. 8d. to 3s 8d.; inferior mutton, 3s. 8d. to 3s 6d; middling ditto, 4s 8d. to 3s. 10s; prime ditto, 4s 0d. to 4s 2d., veal, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d., small pork, 4s 8s to 4s 0d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6.

WAR-OFFICE, FEB 6.

To be COLONELS, without purchase.

4th Dragoon Guards—Regiment. Sergeant-Major G. Price.

[illegible] Regimental Sergeant-Major H. Fitzgerald.

[illegible] Regimental Sergeant-Major [illegible]

[illegible] Sergeant [illegible]

[illegible] Regiment. Sergeant-Major J. Hodgson.

[illegible] Sergeant-Major T. Young.

[illegible] Sergeant-Major J. Lakey.

[illegible] Sergeant-Major [illegible]

[illegible] Sergeant-Major [illegible]

[illegible] Sergeant-Major [illegible]

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Monday and Friday, Miss Cushman as Romeo, Juliet, Mrs Sterndale; Saturday Night, being the last Night but Two of Miss CUSHMAN'S JULIET. Tuesday, The Knights of the Round Table, Tom Tiddler, Mr Buckstone. Wednesday and Saturday, Gay Deceivers; Hog Hunting, Mrs Stirling. Thursday, Pre-ported at Court. The Pantomime of Little Bo-Peep every Evening, being its Last Week but One.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—Every Thursday and Friday, Lodgings to Let; Wednesday, BASILE; Saturday, I'M THE PRINCE. Every Evening.

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ROYAL PANOPTICON of SCIENCE and ART, Leicester-Square.—New attractions [illegible] DAILY and the WONDERFUL LAMP, the Legend told by Mr. G. Buckingham, at 3.40 and 8.45; and Diorama Views of the War in the Crimea, at 3.30 and 7.55, M. Mayer's Celebrated Quadrille on the Organ. Performances of classical Music on the Grand Organ by Mr W. T Best, Organist to the Institution, at 4.25 and 9.20. Illuminated Fountain, 100 feet high, 4.50 and 9.50. Helaka Dioramic Apparatus and the Subaqueous Light in the Crystal Cistern, 10 and 7. Concerts of St Petersburg and Moscow, with Portrait of Czar Nicholas. Lectures on Electricity by Dr. Noad, on Monday Evening, 7.45; by Mr. C. F. Partington, Daily at 3.10 and 8.15, except on Monday. On the Resources of Modern Warfare, by Dr Southern Wednesday evening, 7.45. Chemistry, by Mr. G. P. Atwell, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, at 1.40. On Fluids and Light (illustrated), by Mr. W. H. Bird, Tuesday and Saturday, at 1.40. Oceanic Discovery, Thursday, at 7.45. Franklin's Arctic Voyages, Tuesday and Friday, at 7.45, by Mr L. Buckingham. General Demonstrations on Scientific and Mechanical Subjects at Intervals Daily, by Mr G. Buckingham. Gardens, St. John Street-Road, Regent's-park; by members of the Committee, and at the Office, Hospital-street, Clerkenwell. J. W. GOODEY, Clerk to the Committee. 1 January 8th, 1855.

TAXES on KNOWLEDGE (Association for promoting the Repeal of).—The ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING will take place at EXETER-HALL, on WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21st. The Meeting will be addressed by John Bright, M.P., Richard Cobden, M.P.; George Dawson, M.A.; T. Y. Gibson, M.P. [illegible] Association, 19, Angelon-place, Grey's-inn-road.

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Ships.	Tons.	Commanders.	Destination.	Docks.	To Sail.
[illegible]					
Foliloot	498	Wm. M'Guire	Calcutta	London	Feb. 15
Matilda					
Wanderer	1300	J. Clare	Calcutta	London	Mar. 25
St. Abba	569	G. Rosse	Bombay	London	Feb. 10
Assyria	630	G. Stoddart	Sydney	West India	Feb. 15
Essa	477	W. Cameron	H.Kng&Queen	London	Feb. 10
Australian	1000	J. Jameson	Sydney	London	Feb. 25
Cyclops	865	J. Hossack	Sydney	London	Mar. 8
Hilarus	1100	Hy. Jones	Melbourne	London	Feb. 15
Sunmanag	568	W. M'Donald	Melbourne	St. Kath	Feb. 10
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Bishopsgate Station, January, 1855.

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WILLIAM I. (1066).

MATILDA, QUEEN OF WM. I. (1066).

WILLIAM II. (1087).

HENRY I. (1100.)

STEPHEN (1120).

MATILDA, WIFE OF STEPHEN (1120).

RICHARD I. (1189).

ELEANOR, WIFE OF RICHARD I. (1189).

EDWARD II. (1307).

MARGARET, WIFE OF EDWARD II. (1307).

RICHARD II. (1377).

HENRY VI. (1422).

ELIZABETH, QUEEN OF EDWARD IV. (1478)

HENRY VIII. (1509).

EDWARD VI. (1547).

QUEEN ELIZABETH. (1558).

JAMES I. (1603).

ANNE OF DENMARK, QUEEN OF JAMES I. (1603).

HENRIETTA, QUEEN OF CHAS. I. (1625).

CROMWELL (1649).

CHARLES II. (1660).

WILLIAM III. (1688).

QUEEN OF WILLIAM III. (1688).

QUEEN ANNE (1702.)

STATUES IN THE NEW PALACE AT WESTMINSTER.

WE now complete our series of the Statues which fill the niches in the Central Hall and St. Stephen's Hall in the New Palace at Westminster They do not follow in strict chronological order, as at the date of our former Illustration many of the Statues were not finished. The entire series is now placed, and gives a richness and finish to the entrances by which they stand, one above the other. All are designed by, and executed under the supervision of, Mr. John Thomas, and reflect much credit upon his ability; there being much difficulty in varying the attitudes of so great a number of figures.

GIBSON'S MARBLE GROUP FOR THE PRINCE'S ROOM IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS

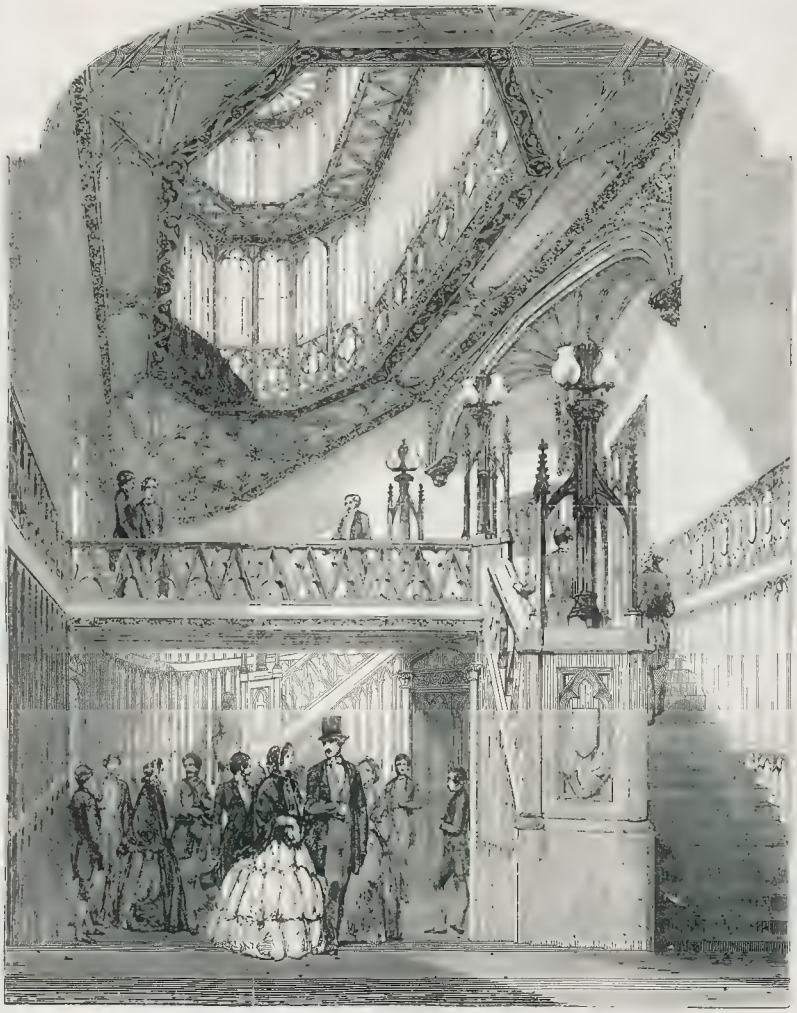
(From our own Correspondent.)

THE most interesting and attractive work of sculpture now being executed in the studio of Mr. Gibson at Rome is a colossal statue of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, on either side of which will be placed two figures representing Justice and Clemency. The group is intended for the Prince's Room in the House of Lords. Workmen are at this moment employed in executing in marble Mr Gibson's admirable design. The head of her Majesty is complete, and I am enabled to send you a Photograph of the same, by Macpherson. The other portions of the statue are only dawning into form, under the chisel of the workman; but the plaster cast of course conveys the sculptor's conception. The Queen is seated in a coronation-chair, which chair rests on a pedestal adorned with emblems of Science and Art. The footstool is to be enriched with mosaic emblems; and the whole will be coloured and gilded. The likeness of our beloved Queen is excellent, yet its familiar portrait character does not detract from the dignity. The idea of colouring and gilding statuary is now occupying much attention in Rome. The present group is an experiment; and it remains to be seen what opinion the mass of the public will pronounce on a new mode (as far as the moderns are concerned) of treating sculpture.

MARBLE BUST OF HER MAJESTY, BY J. GIBSON, R.A.

THE QUEEN'S STAIRCASE, WINDSOR CASTLE.

THIS staircase is situated at the south-east angle of the Great Quadrangle in Windsor Castle, and leads directly to the Royal apartments. It is exclusively the Royal staircase, and is entered from the Quadrangle through a porch which forms an important feature in the building. In plan the staircase is very peculiar, being placed at an angle of the building; it is, therefore, three-sided instead of square, and the ceiling is divided into triangular shaped compartments to suit the quaint plan There are two lantern lights in the roof, one over the other, each enriched with trefoil mouldings and foliage, and having trefoil headed windows. The staircase itself winds to the right and left, meeting on a landing in the centre, the balustrade being ornamented with a range of trefoils of somewhat large design. On the landing are two doors leading to the Queen's apartments, and opposite to them a door to the vestibule. The walls of the staircase are paneled, with trefoil-headed arches, for some height, and an air of richness pervades the whole, from the crimson velvet pile carpets, and the numerous lamps which are placed on the balustrades Coloured and stained glass, however, are wanted to add their luxurious tints to the scene.



WINDSOR CASTLE.—THE PRIVATE STAIRCASE.

CABINET PICTURES AT SYDENHAM.—The various objects of art in the Palace at Sydenham can now be seen and studied at leisure, and many of the smaller treasures will be noticed which in more crowded times would not have been observed. Amongst these latter may be mentioned the beautiful collection of cabinet pictures in water-colours, the work of Mr West, and painted by that gentleman to the order of the Crystal Palace Directors. They are one hundred and thirty or forty in number, and are the fruits of a tour through all the great Continental galleries. They comprise copies of all the great Raphaels, Titians, Rubens, &c., in Europe; and in every case a very successful attempt is made to communicate a satisfactory idea of the style, drawing, and colouring of the master. To those who only know the great galleries by the descriptions of the Handbooks, a careful inspection of this elegant little collection will be invaluable, while the more travelled visitor cannot fail to acknowledge their great artistic merit and fidelity.

PRINCE MENSCHIKOFF'S GALLANTRY.—An English officer, now a prisoner in Sebastopol, had a letter sent him from a young lady in England, to the effect that she "hoped, when he took Menschikoff prisoner, that he would send her a button from his coat, for her to keep as a relic." The letter was forwarded by flag of truce into Sebastopol, with other letters for prisoners now in the enemy's hands. This lettter fell into Menschikoff's own hands, of course, to be read ere delivered. On coming to the above passage, he immediately cut a button from his coat, and sent it out under flag of truce, to be conveyed to the lady, with a remark to the following effect:—"That he had no idea yet of being taken prisoner; but, rather than disappoint a young lady of so simple a request, he would fulfil her wish himself before that time arrived."

AMONGST the numerous suite of persons who have accompanied the Duke and Duchess of Brabant to Egypt are the Canon Miesiin, who has written a remarkable work on the Holy Land and Syria; Dr. Wimmer, the Duke's medical adviser, and a painter named Fader, whom the Royal Highness has taken with him for the purpose of making drawings of all the remarkable spots visited by the Royal party.

OLD LONDON MAKING WAY FOR THE NEW.

A SKETCH IN THREADNEEDLE-STREET.

(See the Engraving at page 144.)

SINCE the time of the Great Fire of 1666, London has not been so greatly changed as it has been during the last quarter of a century; and it is gratifying to note that these changes distinctly show the onward progress of the nation, both in taste and wealth. It is curious to compare in an architectural point the places of business such as banks, counting-houses, shops, taverns, &c., of the times to which we refer, and the structures intended for similar uses at the present day. The new squares, streets, and warehouses look like palaces by the contrast. This beneficial change has been most visible during the late City improvements, which, although not by any means all that we could wish, will, undoubtedly, be attended with much good. Our Sketch shows the progress of a beneficial alteration in the thronged centre of our commerce, which when carried out will render the well-known street worthy of its important position. In viewing the grim old building—part of which is represented in our engraving—many recollections of former changes come to memory.

It is curious to think of this now bustling neighbourhood as shown in Agas's old plan of London, of about the date of the beginning of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. At this time the Royal Exchange was not built. Aldgate and the City wall and ditch are shown in perfect condition, outside the wall a large field runs to Hogge lane, in which persons are busily engaged in drying linen, &c. The scaffold is on Tower-hill, and the only names of streets and churches near Threadneedle street mentioned, are—Harte str., S. Caterin Colemana, Blanck Cheaston, Blanck lane, Fan Church, Lime st., S. Denys, Leaden hall, Bishop gate street, Broad st., Gracious st., St. Clement's lane, Aldchurch lane, and the other lanes leading towards the Thames—Eschcap, Lombard st., and Burgen lane.

In the plan of London executed by order of the Corporation, Threadneedle-street commences at the west end of the Gresham's Royal Exchange, which was near the present Mansion-house; all except a few houses at the east end, where the South Sea House stands, was destroyed by the Great Fire: a few houses of the old date are now in course of demolition.

It is deeply to be regretted that, after the fire had done its fearful work, the plan of Sir Christopher Wren for building the new city was not carried into effect. The great architect wished to continue Leadenhall-street in a straight line past St. Paul's to Temple-bar, and to form two other straight lines of streets nearer to the river, with smaller streets at right and other angles. The Royal Exchange in this plan is placed in the centre of a large area, and surrounded by the Post-office, Excise-office, Goldsmiths' (at that time bankers also), and insurance offices.

After the fire in spite of Wren's suggestion, the streets were built very nearly on the old plan but of substantial brickwork, instead of wood and plaster; however much this might aid the stability of the City, it certainly did not add to its picturesque or elegant appearance. Over the large space swept by the fire the houses were nearly destitute of ornament, and similar in shape.

The next great change in this neighbourhood was the erection of the Bank of England, in 1734. Previous to this time the business of the Bank had been carried on since its foundation, in 1694, in the hall of the Grocers' Company. The building was enlarged by Sir Robert Taylor, between the years 1766—86; and, says Mr. Cunningham, "Sir John Soane subsequently receiving the appointment of architect to the Bank, and the business of the Governor and Company increasing, much of Sampson's first building, and of the wings erected by Sir R. Taylor, were either altered or taken down, and the (one-storied) Bank, as we now see it, covering an irregular area of four acres, altogether completed by the same architect." Threadneedle-street, which runs from Bishopsgate-street to the Bank, is called by Stow *Threeneedle-street*.

Cunningham says: "The grandfather and father of Sir Philip Sydney lived in this street, in a tenement called Lady Tate's House, on the site of a part of the House and Hospital of St. Anthony, annexed by Edward IV to the Collegiate Church of St. George, in Windsor. The Dean and Canons of Windsor demised this house to Sir Henry Sydney by an indenture dated May 26th, 1563, for the further term of sixty years, at the yearly rent of £6 13s. 4d." The alteration of the value of land on this spot since that time is extraordinary: for a narrow frontage near the Merchant Taylors' Hall the Company receives a ground rent of £3 per foot per annum. This great increase should serve as a lesson that we should not delay necessary improvements, for undoubtedly the value of land in the heart of London will increase in a compound ratio.

THE GREEN MAN, BARNET.—This celebrated inn and posting-house, which has existed for nearly a century, is now entirely closed, and the furniture, horses, and farming stock of the late proprietor Mr James Buckell were sold by auction, by Messrs. Pope and Cameron, on the 17th and 18th ult. The Grand Stand used at the annual races held here formed a prominent feature in the sale. The house must be well known to all persons who formerly travelled northwards from London, as it stands at the angle formed by the junction of the new road to St. Albans and the great North or Holyhead road. Some idea of the business formerly done at the Green Man will be conceived when we state that on three successive days in 1836 nearly £160 was taken for stabling and at the yard, and on a given day in 1838 [illegible] horses left the stables, upwards of 100 coaches at that time ran through Barnet, and it is computed that quite a third of them changed horses at this house.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Monday.

CONVOCATION.

In answer to a question from the Earl of Shaftesbury,

The Archbishop of Canterbury observed that he did not think it would be necessary either to prorogue or adjourn Convocation further, because it was not intended to initiate any new business, but simply to proceed with what had been commenced, and to consider the reports of Committees which had already been appointed.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

The Earl of Aberdeen, in moving the adjournment of the House, said that he thought it right to inform their Lordships that his noble friend the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Lord Palmerston) was commissioned by her Majesty to form an Administration; and, as his noble friend was then engaged in that work, he would only propose to adjourn to the next day.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday.

BALACLAVA HARBOUR

In answer to Mr. Deedes, Admiral Berkeley read extracts from a letter of Sir Edmund Lyons, and from the reports of thirty-six masters of transport-vessels, denying that any confusion had ever existed in the harbour of Balaclava.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS

The Chancellor of the Exchequer postponed, on the part of the Home Secretary, the orders of the day, with the exception of the Fisheries (North America) Bill; and he was desired by his noble friend to state that all the reasons which induced the House to waive the discussion of public business on Friday last existed still in their full force

Lord Ebrington wished to know whether that statement was intended to imply that no progress had been made in the formation of a Government?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said he had received no communication from his noble friend on that subject.

The American Fisheries Bill was then read a third time and passed.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S EXPLANATION

On the question that the House do now adjourn, Lord J. Russell rose to reply to some portions of the speech of the Duke of Newcastle last week. He might state at the outset that that speech attempted to place the matter rather in the shape of a personal quarrel upon a much broad ground on which he attempted to place it. It appeared to him, at the close of last session, that the composition of the Government was not such as to inspire any great party enthusiasm, and frequent defeats of the Government took place in consequence This would have induced him to resign at that period but for the war. At the same time he felt that the conduct of the war was likely to be much affected by the personal character of the War Minister The Duke of Newcastle complained that he (Lord J. Russell) represented him as anxious to retain the War-office last year. He made that statement not on general rumour merely, but on the authority of a letter from Lord Aberdeen. As to his taking the office himself, he would have taken it if Lord Aberdeen had offered it to him; but he considered the office wholly alien to all his experience and habits of business. At the same time he did not think that a Prime Minister of the character and habits of Lord Aberdeen, and a War Minister of the character and habits of the Duke of Newcastle, were fitted to carry on the war with energy and efficiency. A more important statement was that he had abandoned his opinions on the 16th of December. But it was to be remembered that he had from the first divested the proposition into two heads—the one was with respect to the consolidation of the offices, the other as to the person of the Minister. Now, in regard to the consolidation of the offices, he had changed his views, chiefly on the opinion of Lord Aberdeen; but on the second question he had never changed his opinion, though after what had passed with Lord Aberdeen he had not thought it right before the Cabinet. It was very likely he was in error on that point; that he ought to have brought the matter before the Cabinet, and, if he were overruled, then and there to resign There were other points, too, in the conduct of the war with which he was not satisfied, but he still continued a member of the Cabinet. He admitted he ought to have brought the question sooner before the Cabinet. He admitted that that was an error; but it would have been a still graver error—it would have been an error in morality, and without sound morality there could be no sound politics—if he had stood up and told the House to be satisfied with a state of things which did not satisfy himself. He went on to say that he was totally ignorant of the statement since made by the Duke of Newcastle, that that nobleman had some days before the meeting of Parliament placed his resignation in Lord Aberdeen's hands. That announcement was new to him, and he thought, as his resignation was based on the inefficiency of the Duke, that the Earl of Aberdeen need not have been so hasty in accepting his resignation, but might have acquainted him with the Duke's resignation, and consulted with him whether that might not alter the state of affairs. However, his resignation was accepted; and now, in answer to all the slanders that had lately been directed against him, he had only to say, that, if his past life did not refute them, he had no other answer to give. He must say, however, in reply to the sneer of the Duke of Newcastle, implied in his letter to the Earl of Aberdeen, "do not give any pretext to Lord John Russell for introducing his name," that that sneer might have been spared. Instead of attributing his (Lord J. Russell's) dissatisfaction to selfishness, it might have occurred to him that it was just possible it might arise from his own inefficiency. Having finished this statement, he had now to state to the House that Her Majesty called upon him on Friday night last to undertake the formation of a Government. There were two reasons to induce him to attempt the task. One was, that he had been partly instrumental in bringing up the last—the other, that he was charged with shrinking from the consequences. He did undertake the task, therefore, but he found insuperable obstacles in his way, and twenty-four hours after receiving her Majesty's commands he resigned the honour back into her hands. He hoped that whoever might be successful in this onerous task would receive all the support of the House. He then adverted to the attack made upon him on Friday night in the speech of Sir De Lacy Evans, and reminded the House that he stated at the outset he did not intend to enter into the details of these battles. He trusted, however, the time would come when the House would find some mode of acknowledging, not only the gallantry of the army, but, what was a more rare quality, its patient endurance of every privation to which men could be subject.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer defended Lord John Russell from the attack of Sir De Lacy Evans on Friday night, but deprecated the practice of referring to negotiations now going on so long, as there was no responsible Government. With regard to the composition of the late Cabinet, he stated that the appointment of the Duke of Newcastle to the War Department took place with the full concurrence of the whole Cabinet. The noble Lord said that when he changed his mind in December it was not to the offices, not as to the Minister. But the House must know that the Queen and Prince Albert, and especially the Prime Minister, did not understand that the noble Lord made such a distinction; there was nothing in his language towards his colleagues to induce them to believe that he still retained any portion of his former dissatisfaction. He suggested no change—he proposed no plans—he uttered no censure. He defended Lord Aberdeen from the charge of concealment of the resignation of the Duke of Newcastle, on the ground that the Duke had not resigned he had only intimated to the Premier his intention to resign; and he concluded by strongly repudiating the charges of selfishness and treachery which had been directed against his noble friend.

Viscount Ebrington rose, but was nearly inaudible, on account of the rush of members from the House and Galleries, which had, up to this moment, been densely crowded. His Lordship was understood to deplore the effect which the present state of affairs with respect to the formation of a Government would have on the army and the country at large. He expressed the hope that such a Government would soon be formed that would bring the war, which now constitutes almost his only politics, to a speedy and successful issue.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS

The Earl of Aberdeen: My Lords, in moving the adjournment of the House, I think it necessary to express my confident hope that, before the next meeting of the House on Thursday, the present state of uncertainty and [illegible] have been brought to a happy termination

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Tuesday.

[illegible] the Speaker

tary of State for the Home Department to state to the House that, in pursuance of her Majesty's commands, he has undertaken the task of forming a Government. I had, therefore, intended to move that the House, at its rising, should adjourn to Thursday; but, since I came in, I have been informed that there is some business which it will be necessary to transact to-morrow. The adjournment, however, will be a very short one. I, therefore, move that the House at its rising adjourn till to-morrow.

PROMOTIONS IN THE ARMY.

Lord Goderich gave notice that on Tuesday, the 20th instant, he would move the following resolution:—"That, in the opinion of the House, the present system of promotion in the army, under which a non-commissioned officer seldom attains the rank of officer, and never that of field officer, is injurious to the public service, and unfair to the non-commissioned officers"

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS

On the question that the House do adjourn,

Mr Bentinck rose to call the attention of the House to the present anomalous and disastrous state of public affairs. It was now more than a week since the late Government had resigned. Since then it was rumoured that Lord Derby attempted to form a Government, in which he was first supported by the noble Lord the Home Secretary, but who very shortly afterwards withdrew his support—conduct which, if correctly reported, savoured of vacillation (Much laughter, arising from the honourable gentleman pronouncing the word "vacillation"). After that Lord John Russell attempted to form a Government and failed. Now it was rumoured that the noble Lord the Home Secretary, who was entrusted with the same task, had met with difficulties, in consequence of certain public men attempting to obtain a preponderance in the Cabinet. He thought this was a discreditable state of things, and he was induced to notice it in the hope that the House would use its influence to put an end to it.

Sir C. Wood deprecated such a discussion at the present time. When the Government was formed then would be the proper time for such remarks, but not when the Government was in the course of formation.

Mr. Whiteside defended the course which Mr. Bentinck had taken

Mr. Scott also insisted upon the propriety of the House expressing an opinion at the present time. The feeling of the House and the country was that the head of the late Government was a *caput mortuum*, and unfit to be at the head of the Government; and yet it was now rumoured that that individual was to have a place in the new Cabinet. He hoped the country would not tolerate such an outrage upon its opinion.

Mr. Labouchere thought the character of the House would not be raised, or public business promoted, by desultory conversations of this kind. It might be necessary that the House should have to interpose by an address to the Crown on the present anomalous state of affairs; but, that its interposition might be effectual, it was most desirable that they should not enter into discussion now.

Mr. Malins also complained of the want of a Government, and asked if it were true that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was the cause of the delay? He urged that the House should at once proceed to nominate the Committee of Inquiry agreed to on Monday week. If the Ministry were not formed by Thursday next, he hoped some honourable member would, without further delay, move an address to the Crown on this subject

Mr. S. Wortley, on public grounds, deprecated the continuance of this discussion. All must regret the want of a Government at the present time when every hour was of importance to our armies in the East But public opinion had already pointed to one member of this House as most competent to undertake the formation of a Government, and they had that night been informed that that member had been entrusted by her Majesty with the task of forming a Government. This conversation could only tend to embarrass his plans, and he therefore hoped it would now cease

Mr Roebuck rose to explain to the House why he had not moved the appointment of his committee. He was anxious that the Committee should consist of the leading members of this House, but, as he did not know who might be members of the Government, he could not be sure that in naming a member he might not be naming a member of the Administration. As to the formation of a Government, he would say one word. Rumour said that the noble Lord the Home Secretary was with difficulties in forming a Government. The noble Lord might make himself easy. The country had called him, and upon the country he might rely. If any one attempted to cross his path, he might say to them, "Stand aside! I will appoint those who, if they have not the confidence of this House, will, through me, obtain the confidence of the country."

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Wednesday.

A number of bills were read a second time and committed

NEW WRITS.

Mr. Hayter moved for a new writ for the borough of Tiverton, in the room of Lord Palmerston, who has accepted the office of First Lord of the Treasury; and one for the Southern Division of Wiltshire, in the room of Mr. Sidney Herbert, who has accepted the office of one of her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State

SUPPLY.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved that the House should go into a Committee of Supply, in order to take a vote on the Ordinary estimates. He proposed to enter upon the estimates on Friday week, beginning with the Navy estimates. He did not think the First Lord of the Admiralty would be able to lay them before the House that day. It was necessary not only that the money should be raised and assigned by Parliament, but it was necessary that a bill of Ways and Means should be passed to enable that money to be issued. If the House agreed to the vote he intended to ask for, it might be reported to-morrow, and he would then move the adjournment of the House for a week

Sir H. Willoughby and Mr. Muntz complained of the irregularity of the proceeding, the first intimation of it which hon. members had being in the paper of that morning.

Sir C. Wood observed that no one would be committed by the vote on account which the Chancellor of the Exchequer had asked for. In reference to a remark by Sir H. Willoughby, that the House had been taken by surprise, the right hon. Baronet reminded him that the estimates had been on the table for a week.

Mr. Walpole said that the Navy estimates were not yet laid upon the table

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said the Navy estimates would be laid upon the table to-morrow.

Mr. Stafford said he had that morning received a letter from Scutari, stating that the condition of the hospital was becoming worse rather than better, and that there were more than forty deaths there every day.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that there were two courses which the honourable member might have taken with discretion—first, to have laid his statements before the Government; and, secondly, to call the members of the Government in the House to account if they neglected those statements; but the hon gentleman had made no communication to the Government, and had made his statements in the absence of those who had the management of the War Department. From his knowledge of the case, he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) was able to say that the late Secretary at War had not been backward in his duty in making provision for the increased demands upon the hospital. That right honourable gentleman had organised a civil military establishment, which would be sent out at the earliest possible period, for the purpose of superintending the hospital at Scutari (Cheers).

Mr. Whiteside said that while the gravest disasters were occurring in the Crimea, which it would take a Defoe adequately to describe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer had his feelings under control, and could speak with tranquillity of a perishing army. He saw no reason why any member who had complaints to make should go mincingly to the Secretary at War, upon whom the House had passed a formal censure, and who by a shuffle of the political cards had succeeded to a higher office.

Col. Knox had just received a letter from the Crimea, from which he ascertained that 1000 men were dying there every week, that the whole force of the British army was 11,000 men, and that everything was mismanaged by the authorities there.

Col. Dunne was prepared to state, that instead of there being 30,000 men in the Crimea, as asserted a few evenings since by the Secretary at War, there were not 11,000, and that not 2000 of these were able to take up arms. The Government had destroyed half the army; and, if the Ministry stood which was now about to resume office, the other half would soon be destroyed. Sebastopol might be taken, no doubt would, but it would be by the French army.

Sir W. Molesworth denied the statement that the deaths amounted to 1000 a week. He believed the statement made by the Secretary at War was strictly true, according to the last returns

The Speaker then left the chair, and the House went into a Committee of Supply

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved for a vote of £1,300,000 on account of Ordinance supplementary estimate

The vote was agreed to after some discussion, and the House resumed at twenty-five minutes to two

(*Continued on page 150.*)

OPINIONS OF THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. III.)

I suppose it will be called conceit on my part, but I really think that I should stand a chance of getting better men at the head of affairs if some of the Silent Members were occasionally invited to take a share of the Government. The difficulty just experienced in forming an Administration has arisen not so much from there being a limited choice of fit men, but from there being a limited choice of men with "Parliamentary reputations"—that is to say, men who have the talent for speech-making which is acknowledged to be the greatest of all impediments to the transaction of public business. Talking is the great vice of Parliament and the chief bar to useful legislation; yet it is thought necessary to select the principal talkers in the land to conduct the affairs of the nation. Second-so is admitted to be a most able man of business, but if he cannot make an effective speech he is put aside as of no use in the Government. The initiated are familiar with the rumour that a certain Attorney-General obtained his high office, not because he was the ablest lawyer whose services the country could command, but because he was the best speaker—with any pretensions to professional reputation—on the side of the Government. If a Ministry requires an advocate, and must have an eloquent orator to plead for acts which do not speak satisfactorily for themselves, the choice of the best speaker instead of the best lawyer to fill the post of Attorney-General is easily understood; but though the Cabinet may gain a prop the public interest is sacrificed. Considering, also, that the law officers of the Crown are almost, as a matter of course, entitled to the highest judicial posts that fall vacant, we are exposed to the risk of not to the certainty of having our Chief Justiceships filled by politicians partisans

Everybody thought that Parliament was summoned at an earlier period than usual because there was urgent business to be done; but when we ask ourselves how far we are advanced in the real work of the session on this 10th of February, about a week after the ordinary commencement of the legislative year, the answer is far from satisfactory. We are, in fact, rather later than we should have been under ordinary circumstances if Parliament had just met, for we have some new writs to be issued and elections to be decided before we shall be able to begin the actual business of the nation. The Noodle-ism and Doodle-ism of the past week has been carried to an extent that, but for the serious interests involved would have been intensely ludicrous. The running about of Lords and Honourables to and fro between each other's residences, the sulkiness of right honourables who have not been "called upon" or "sent for" by any of the chiefs successively employed in attempting to form a Cabinet and the communications that have been passing from one to the other, have occupied the public mind at a time when every minute has been too precious to be wasted on these miserable frivolities. Day after day has the House of Commons been adjourned because, as the Chancellor of the Exchequer said, "the reasons for the postponement of general business remained still in full force"—or, in other words, the parties relied upon to get together a Government remained in full feebleness. Let us hope that at all events we shall have no more time consumed in "explanations;" for we may generally be pretty sure that whenever public men begin systematically to "explain," the state of public affairs has become hopelessly confused and inexplicably intricate.

During what was termed the Ministerial Interregnum a petition was presented which may perhaps be considered no infringement of the understanding that no business was to be brought forward, because, as the petition prayed for "the total and immediate abolition of the sale of all intoxicating drinks," it may have been introduced by way of joke—a supposition to which the "laugh" with which the petition was received gives some countenance. Nevertheless there is a great deal to be said on both sides of the question, which bids fair to become one of the most important questions of the day—the propriety of restricting temperate enjoyment for the sake of preventing drunkenness. Admitting that intoxication is the cause of much crime, it would seem that we must have degenerated into a nation of little better than brutes, if we require a restriction law debarring us altogether from the use of that which is liable to be abused by some amongst us. To prohibit the sale of all drinks that will produce intoxication if taken to excess seems little wiser than prohibiting the sale of all razors because razors are sometimes employed in the crimes of murder and suicide. Am I to be prevented from shaving because my neighbour may cut his own or somebody else's throat if we are not both prevented from purchasing what is to me a very useful, and, from habit, an almost indispensable, instrument? The sale of every article might be prohibited on the same ground, for there is nothing that may not be, and hardly anything that is not, occasionally applied to an evil as well as to a good or reasonable purpose. It is true that drunkenness, when it leads to crime, is an abuse that is dangerous to society But there is no abuse that has not the same effect in a smaller or greater degree, and, if the principle sought to be applied in this case were to be applied in others, we should have to banish from use nearly everything from which we derive benefit. Let intemperance be as prolific as it may of crime, it cannot prevent temperance from being a virtue—and a virtue that it would be impossible to practise if we were to prohibit the use of that of which the abuse only is criminal. Tested by the application of sound principles, the cause of what is called the Maine liquor law must fall to the ground as completely, if not so ignobly, as the most drunken of its opponents. No one denies the desirableness of the end which the abstainers or prohibitionists have in view, but the doctrine that the end will justify the means has no place in the science of sound morality. Let drunkenness be punished as a crime, if society requires that it should be so; but let not temperate enjoyment be forbidden to all because there are some who, by the abuse of a good, turn it into an occasional evil.

I am sorry to see that the prospects of the Crystal Palace are not so encouraging as every lover of harmless recreation and popular instruction could desire. The Crystal Palace has come into my mind in connection with the temperance question, because I think there is more sound and wholesome support for the temperance cause to be met with in the morale of the Crystal Palace than in all the teetotal lectures and discussions that were ever uttered or written. The best antidote to the gin palace will be the Crystal Palace; and not half so much good will be done by shutting the doors of the former as by keeping the doors of the latter open. The allurements of the gin palace will seem the more to be desired the more they are rendered difficult of access; but in the Crystal Palace attractions are contained that, if they are acceptable, must and will supersede the pleasures of mere sensual excitement. There would have been little pretext for closing the public-houses in London on Sunday if the Crystal Palace at Sydenham had on that day been permitted to remain open. At all events we are not justified in resorting to the prohibitory system until we have given the free principle a fair trial, and this we cannot be said to have done. Until we have made harmless Sunday recreations as easy of access as we have hitherto permitted to be the case with more dangerous allurements, it is not fair to say that "people will get drunk on Sunday, if we do not restrain the sale of all intoxicating drinks." until we have placed within their reach some alternative that will enable them to choose a good in preference to an evil.

The German papers speak of a new sect, of whose opinions no account is given; but we are told that the members "meet at night in the open fields, wearing high caps adorned with horses' [illegible] and holding in their hands high staves surmounted with [illegible]." We are not informed whether these wonderers represent a new religion or a new party in politics, but whichever may be the case it [illegible] it be as well, if the costume is intended

mathematical, that the horses tails should be superseded by those of animal. The "authorities" have taken the usual course and ...ed the parties; "as if taking them up were the last way of putting down; and we shall now, no doubt, hear of them as martyrs, though ... probably never have been spoken of again had they been themselves as mountebanks.

...ities of law are sometimes as remarkable, if not as ... the curiosities of literature; and judicial acts which ... startling at first sight are occasionally rendered more so by reasons. The other day a young man pleaded "Guilty" at the ...lex Sessions to a charge of having obtained by false pretences a watch and three gold chains, value £26, and three sets of studs ...mself, as it was his professional duty to do, having been paid ...contended that "it was not a case for full punishment, for the ...r had given one of the gold chains to a young woman, and had ... into the 17th Lancers, in which regiment he would ...ently employed in the service of his country in ...imea than undergoing punishment in a prison here." Of ... this will be considered all very legitimate in the mouth ...d advocate. If it had been a clerk, who had robbed a bank ... another place before he was apprehended, his counsel might, if he ...ave argued that "his client would be much more efficiently employed as a cashier in his new situation, handling the gold under his ...than in turning a crank at Wandsworth gaol, or walking up an ...mable flight of steps without arriving at any satisfactory conclusion." ...ight be the "legitimate" course for a barrister to pursue, in con... with the practice and morality of the bar, but we should hardly ...he Judge to acquiesce in the proposition. Perhaps, however, we might ...ing in our supposition, for who would have imagined that, in the case ...ing in the Assistant-Judge would so far have acquiesced in the ... the prisoner's counsel as to say, "The Court regarded it as a case ...h some lenity could be shown, but still there was a rule from ... would not do to depart"? It is rather difficult for a non-judicial ... see any grounds for special lenity, unless it is an extenuation of ...ce to give a portion of the proceeds to a young woman, and then ... a cavalry regiment. It is not very complimentary to ...y to imply that a criminal has shown such a knowledge of his proper position by joining it that the Judge feels ...upon to almost apologise for passing any sentence at all, and ...in vindication of the course he is taking, that "still there is a ...um which *it did not do to depart*," and he accordingly inflicts a term ...isonment. Every one will agree with the learned Judge that, as ...appens to be a law against obtaining jewellery under false pretences, ... *it do* to treat it as if it did not exist; but many will wonder why ...essary to urge this plain proposition as a reason for passing sen... a criminal whose case had no other mitigating circumstances than ...ing Landed over part of the proceeds of his crime to a female, and ...attempted to evade the hands of justice by enlisting as a soldier.

ANESTHESIA BY COLD IN SURGICAL OPERATIONS.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

...his experience of the last few weeks has proved to my complete satisfaction that local anæsthesia can be obtained by the benumbing influence of ...without resorting to the administration of chloroform, which by its ...power renders insensible the system generally, and occasionally proves ...ous fatal effect to which almost every surgeon can bear testimony. I ...ed the ice in several cases, in both hospital and early practice, and in ...ry instance the success was evident, the patient when blindfolded ...ignorant of the use of the knife. It affords me great pleasure to confirm ...evidence of Dr. Arnott upon this interesting subject, and to draw the ...attention of surgeons, both at home and abroad, to this agent, whereby ...can be freed from the pain which attends many every-day operations ...called upon to treat with the knife, and reserve chloroform for those ...cases where either the duration of the operation or the depth of ...s requires the employment of that potent agency.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, THOMAS WAKLEY, F.R.C.S.

...gton-street, Feb., 1855.

THE CAMP OF THE HIGHLANDERS.—There was a wind that would ...lly deprive, if wind could do it, any number of rats of their ...-day. Anxious to see what things were like up on the heights ...Balaclava, I started, with my gun on my shoulder, through the ...across the hill, knee-deep in snow, and after a futile shot or two at ...-necked vultures, made my way cautiously and some more fortunate ...t "blue rocks," scraping the snow off the points of the cliffs. I ...in the camp of the Highlanders, several hundred feet below the ...of position of the Fusiliers, high enough to infuse into me ...hearty invitation to stop to dinner, and rest for the night. Oh! Caledonienis," "Pictus," "Memor antiquæ virtutis," or any of ...spirited Celtic gentlemen who are fighting about lions rampant ...tish rights, and the garb of that respectable person, Auld Gard, ...for one moment what their countrymen are like as they face this ...winter, "how thanked they would be" of their kilt and philibeg ...cking declamation! All such things are clean gone, and the ...liant Highlanders ever wear the kilt now *'tis for punishment!* ...-low-lived breeks and blanket-gaiters, and any kind of ...s over them, are the wear of our Scottish Zouaves, though, in ...oth, they are no more like Zouaves, except in popular modern ...y, than they are like Dutchmen *à la* Rip Van Winkle. The fact ...in the weather the folds of the kilt over the loins are oppressively ...distressing—in cold weather, as long as a man is taking active ...the kilt is bearable, because it keeps the stomach, and thighs, ...warm, and the small space between the fall of the kilt and ...of the stocking is protected by the vigorous circulation; but if a ...kilt throwaside on a hillside of a cold night he would be an ...or the Humane Society next morning. Over the waste of snow, ...down from the heights towards the valley of the Tchernaya, I ...those indefatigable Cossacks riding about through the snow over ...ricket-ground, and a few waggons were stealing along from ...rie's Farm towards the heights of Inkerman. A vidette or two ...ting up and down along a ridge, keeping a bright look-out on ...vements, and through the glass we could see them dropping their ...under their armpits, as London cabmen do of a cold night, when ...for a fare. Towards Baidar pickets of the same active but cow...entry were moving along to keep themselves warm. Well ...lary posts advanced against them. Why not? Because we ...s send any out conveniently. Those rugged ruffians, in ...in coats and fur caps, mounted on ragged ponies, with long ...and coarse iron tips, are able to hold ground in drifting snow and ...winds which our cavalry, such as they are, could not face.—*Letter ...laclava. Jan. 19*

WE HAVE RUINED BALACLAVA. Look at Balaclava, that ...lic and idyllic village, with its ruined castle and inapprecicable ...—at Balaclava, which was all order and cleanliness when we ...from the Russian barbarians, and which, with its neat cottages, ...shs covered with creeping plants and studded with flower-pots, ...tall popular-trees and luscious orchards, presented so enchanting ...ne that people in England pitied at the description of it and thought ...so much tranquil beauty, because the pictures were confined ...ged. Look at Balaclava now, after three months' occupation by ...lish army, and that army, too, the most refined, orderly, and well-...ted that ever went forth to fight our country's battles on foreign ...ever since we came we have done all to destroy, nothing to rebuild, ...t, and organize. We have turned the streets into quagmires and ...made them as nearly as possible impassable, we have crowded our ...by barricading them with huge blocks of stone, which those in com... with a sense of place and of placing things in their proper ...nt. The Turks of Gallipoli and the scum and refuse of the Levant ...tation at Pera bestow more care on their abominable streets than ...in those of her Majesty's town of Balaclava. After the pretty well-...ion the harbour is a cesspool, and the beach a bottomless pit full of ...bominations—a putrid sea of black fetid mire, exhaling a poisonous ...t, and organic

[illegible] FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

"THE MOTHER."—PAINTED BY D. W. DEANE.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

OPENING OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

There seems to be but one opinion about the Exhibition of Pictures by Living English Artists opened to the public on Monday last, at the British Institution: that it is one of only very average merit. It is true that artists and connoisseurs did not expect much, nor has expectation been disappointed.

Of the forty Royal Academicians only four have condescended to send pictures: Mr Lee, Mr Creswick, Mr A Cooper, and Mr Jones. Mr Jones's small landscape (No 34), "A View on the River Awe," will not sustain his reputation. Mr Creswick's single unassisted picture (No. 2), "An English Cottage Home," has many of his characteristic excellences; and his landscape, in which he has wrought most happily with Mr Ansdell, has every charming quality of his pencil. Of Mr Cooper and Mr. Jones it is not necessary to say anything.

Of the twenty Associates of the Royal Academy, five are exhibitors, viz.—Mr. E. W. Cooke, Mr. Sidney Cooper, Mr. F. Goodall, Mr. Frost, and one sculptor, Mr. Weekes. Mr. Cooke gives us a taste of Venice and Holland, each on a small scale; Mr. Cooper reproduces his favourite cows; Mr. Goodall contributes a "Cottage Interior;" Mr. Frost, a "Sea Nymph" (a little gem in its way); and Mr. Weekes, a statue in plaster, called "The Young Naturalist."

If the works are not particularly excellent this year, the prices certainly are moderate. In a catalogue of more than five hundred pictures, only sixteen are priced at more than £100. The highest price is £262 10s., modestly asked by Mr. T. M. Joy, for one of the very few historical pictures in the rooms. There is merit beyond Mr. Joy's usual pitch in this picture (No. 138)—"The Death-bed Interview between Queen Elizabeth and the Countess of Nottingham." The story is well told, and the accessories carefully arranged and painted.

Some notion of the general appearance of the exhibition may be formed from the places of honour assigned to certain pictures. Over the fireplace in the north room (long dedicated to choice cabinet pictures), Mr Sidney Cooper is seen, supported on one side by Mr Creswick, and on the other by Mr Lee. In the centre of the same room, on the east side, a large and clever landscape by Mr. Hering hangs with a female head by Mr Sant on one side, and a female rustic by Mr. Inskipp on the other. Opposite, on the west side, is a noble landscape by Mr. T Danby, "The Trophies of Youth" (engraved in our present Number), with a scene from "Gil Blas," by Mr. Selous, on its left, and a large Fruit piece, with a Peacock, by Mr. Lance, on its right.

Stepping into the middle room, over the fireplace is the long and clever landscape with deer the joint production of Mr Creswick and Mr. Ansdell, and facing it, and deservedly in the place of honour, is the interior of an artist's Studio, by Mr. Wingfield, one of the best pictures from his pencil that we remember to have seen.

"ON THE GRAND CANAL."—PAINTED BY J. HOLLAND.

In the south room, and over the fireplace, is the sweetly-conceived and sweetly painted picture by Mr D. W. Deane, No. 470, "The Mother," engraved in our present Number. Another picture by the same artist, and of the same touching stamp, is called "The Angel's Whisper," from Mr. Lover's well known song. We look upon Mr. Deane as an artist fast rising to distinction in a walk of art peculiarly English.

Landscapes of course abound, and among the best are those contributed by Mr. T. Danby, Mr Henry Jutsum, and Mr. J. Middleton. Mr. Danby makes his appearance once more, and Mr Copley Fielding exhibits a sea in Sussex, with much of the charm of foreground and distance which he gives to his best water-colour drawings.

Another unexpected contributor is Mr George Cruikshank, who, in No 190, "A Railway Knock," has told a common incident with all his usual merriment and humour.

We have often had occasion to remark that no one understands Venice better than Mr. Holland. Mr Ruskin does not treat it more poetically. He catches its architecture with a masterly hand, and gives us its climate with a glowing pencil. His "View on the Grand Canal" (No 147), engraved in our present Number, is a capital example of his art.

Among the most distinguished exhibitors we must mention Mr. G. Smith (who paints most ably in the manner of Mulready), Mr. Hemsley, Mr. Sant, Mr. Glass, Mr. Gale, Mr. Burchett, and Mr. Underhill. We shall have something to say about them all when next week we shall continue our pictorial illustrations.

In the Sculpture there is nothing better than Mr. Munro's clever group called "Child Play."

EXHIBITION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

[SECOND NOTICE.]

We this week engrave the sketch of "Genevra," which affords evidence of the application of Photography to purposes of high art. There are five specimens sent by Mr Lake Price, which are fine pictures made up by the artist to illustrate varied subjects. The one which we have selected illustrates the story of "Genevra," as told by Rogers in his "Italy":

> As in a chest half-buried in the worms,
> Hundreds long dead, lovely as Death, and cold
> Lorenzo had so oft seen her grave
> Within that chest had she concealed herself,
> Fluttering with joy, the happiest of the happy,
> Meaning to surprise him. He lay in ambush there
> Fashioning for himself the story.

Hitherto it has been more with the business of the engraver that Photography has appeared to be in rivalry—here, however, the domain of the artist is threatened. The great commercial principle of "unrestricted competition," it would appear, is to be applied to art. We rejoice to witness results at once so pleasing and so promising, and we feel confident, from the success of this first essay, that at Kensington exhibition of the Society we shall have to award our praise to still finer and more artistic productions of the photographic artist.

"THE TROPHIES OF YOUTH."—PAINTED BY T. DANDY.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Sir James Graham is suffering from a painful disease, which has rendered a surgical operation necessary. The operation was successfully performed by Sir Benjamin Brodie, and it is hoped that the right hon. Baronet will soon be convalescent.

The French Court has gone into mourning for three weeks on account of the deaths of the Queen Dowager and the reigning Queen of Sardinia.

The Queen of Naples was safely delivered of a Princess on the 21st ult.

The Queen of Spain has conferred upon Mr. George Mould, railway contractor, the Order of Charles III., as a recognition of his enterprise in planting the railway system in that country.

The Court Almanack of St. Petersburg for 1855 includes for the first time since 1834 Queen Isabella amongst the reigning Sovereigns of Europe.

Lord Westmoreland had an audience of the Emperor of Austria on the 25th ult., to deliver an autograph letter of the Queen.

The Count and Countess de Chambord, now in Venice, have opened their magnificent saloons; but they have fewer French Legitimists at their receptions than in former years.

The Austrian General Count de Crenneville, who is charged by the Emperor of Austria with a military mission to the French Government, has arrived in Paris, and has had an audience of the Emperor.

The Northampton Town Council have unanimously voted an address of congratulation to the Earl of Cardigan. Lord Cardigan's tenantry are also getting up an address to the noble and gallant soldier.

The Duke of Modena has returned to his duchy, after having passed some days with his sister, the Countess de Chambord.

The Right Hon. the Speaker of the House of Commons gave his first Parliamentary dinner on Saturday evening, at his mansion in Eaton-square. The guests on this occasion consisted of the Ministerial members of the House of Commons.

The Grand Duke of Saxe Weimar has invested the Marquis de Ferrière le Vayer, recently appointed French Minister at Stuttgart, with the grand cross of his order; and the Duke of Saxe Coburg Gotha also presented that diplomatist with the grand cordon of his order.

General La Marmora, who will command the Piedmontese army destined for the Crimea, is expected in Paris, to organise his plans in common with other Military Commissioners of the Allies.

Count Riverol, who is to assist in the organisation of the services of the Piedmontese army, arrived at Constantinople on the 28th ult.

The late Commander-in-Chief in the Black Sea, Vice-Admiral Dean Dundas, C.B., left Paris on Monday morning, and arrived at Dover in the new French and English mail steam-packet *Queen* in one hour and a half.

Changes in the Spanish Ministry are still looked for. M. Olozaga is spoken of as likely to be the new Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Count Pralormo, the Piedmontese Envoy at Rome, has received letters of recall.

A public banquet in honour of the Marquis of Westminster, and in celebration of the erection of the new Market-house, Shaftesbury, which has been erected entirely at his Lordship's expense, took place last week in the building referred to.

The Princess Gortschakoff, wife of the Russian General of the Army of the South, has left Warsaw for the head-quarters of the army in Bessarabia.

A Swiss paper states that the English Government has offered to the Federal Colonel Bontems the rank of Lieutenant-General of the Foreign Legion, and that he has accepted the appointment.

M. Auguste Portalis, who was Procureur-General at Paris after the revolution of 1848, and Vice-President of the Constituent Assembly, died three days ago at Plombières (Cote d'Or), after a brief malady.

Charles Robert Scott Murray, Esq., of Danesfield, Berks, has been made by the Pope a *Commendatore*, or Knight Commander of the Order of Pope Saint Gregory the Great.

M. Sauvage, of Havre, whom the French represent as the inventor of the screw propeller, has become insane.

A statue of Charlemagne in white marble by M. Léveil is to be erected in the open space in front of the College of France.

Miss Harriet Martineau has lately been giving a series of lectures in the Lake districts, illustrative of what she considers dangerous to the peace and well-being of the world.

M. Foyatier, the sculptor, whose fine statue of Spartacus in the garden of the Tuileries has been always so much admired, has finished an equestrian statue of Joan of Arc, ordered for the city of Orleans.

The Department of Science and Art of the Board of Trade have formed a small museum of ornamental art, which is intended to be sent in succession to the different local schools in connection with that department.

Miss Catherine Hayes reaped a rich harvest in Sydney ere she left that city for Melbourne—some £7000 from nine concerts, besides presents of plate and jewels.

A personage belonging to one of the highest families in Portugal, who desires to preserve a strict incognito, has placed 10,000 bottles of port wine at the disposal of the French Government for the Army in the Crimea.

The *Sheffield Iris* (the name of the paper once edited by James Montgomery) has been revived as a weekly paper.

The diligence which plies between Alost and Brussels has been placed on a sledge, and has performed its journey with great celerity.

The Austrian Government is at present employing 12,000 men under the direction of military engineers, in executing a railway from Dembica to Bochnia, to join the Warsaw line.

The Leeds subscriptions to the Patriotic Fund now amount to £12,800.

By the last advices, about £4000 had been subscribed at Melbourne for the Patriotic Fund.

A new process has been invented in Birmingham which makes bricks nearly as hard as stones. One of the new bricks sustains a weight of 2625 lbs.; a common hand-made brick breaks at 640 lbs.

There is great suffering in India from the high price of rice. At Madras it has led to rioting, and quelled rather tumultuously, but considerable damage had been done. In Ceylon mothers have sold their infants to obtain the means of buying food.

The Panama Railroad, connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, which is hitherto attracted but little notice in England, is now completed, and at this date the trains are probably running through from sea to sea.

In Lower Canada the farmers are complaining of the want of snow, the covering being thought insufficient to keep the autumn-sown grain in a proper state for germination.

In the Assembly at Albany a bill has been introduced for the suppression of gambling, particularly policy-playing.

A great stimulus has been given to building in Wolverhampton by the Freehold land societies. It is calculated that £150,000 has been already expended for this purpose.

To the paper-money mania that there are now in Canada two parties—the Anti and Pro.

LITERATURE.

Curiosities of London: Exhibiting the Most Rare and Remarkable Objects of Interest in the Metropolis; with nearly Fifty Years' Personal Recollections. By John Timbs. Bogue.

Here is a clever book on a subject that is always interesting and always new; here is a well-filled volume on a topic that is inexhaustible, here is a happy title happily carried out: in a few words, a volume on London that will live

From the time when the "Curiosities of London" was first announced we have looked forward to its publication with very great interest. This was due to its author; for Mr. Timbs, by his "Year-books of Facts" and other works of a like nature, has earned for himself a well merited name for that skill in gathering, and painstaking accuracy in recording, facts which are so essential to the success of a work like the one before us. Mr. Timbs lays claim to nothing more than diligence; but more may be safely accorded to him. He has exhibited great tact in grouping his materials; though we are at times inclined to think that he has been too much in love with little matters, and occasionally overburdened his pages with minor materials, but still, we must add, with facts

In a brief and appropriate preface Mr. Timbs informs us that this work has been twenty-seven years in hand. By this he does not mean that it had been so continuously, and to the exclusion of other labours, but that his "pleasing theme" has been constantly before him, and that he has seldom allowed a day to pass without adding something of moment to his materials.—

Twenty-seven years since (in 1826) I wrote in the parlour of the house No. 3, Crane-court (then a publisher's), the title and plan of a volume to be called "Curiosities of London;" and the work here submitted to the public is the realisation of that design. I then proposed to note the most memorable points in the annals of the metropolis; and to describe its most remarkable objects of interest, from the earliest period to my own time—for the Present has its "Curiosities" as well as the Past. Since the commencement of this design in 1826—precisely midway in my Lifetime—I have scarcely for a day or hour lost sight of the subject; but, through a long course of literary activity, have endeavoured to profit by every fair opportunity to increase my stock of materials; and, by constant comparison, "not to take for granted, but to weigh and consider," in turning such materials to account. In this labour I have been greatly aided by the communications of obliging friends, as well as by my own recollection of nearly Fifty Years' Changes in the aspects of "enlarged and still increasing London."

The plan of the work is in the main alphabetical, with a sub-alphabet; thus Piccadilly is treated entire with the streets and turnings from it, such as Berkeley-street on one side, and Duke-street on the other, in the strict order of the Alphabet; while to the whole work is added a really useful Index, so essential to a work that deals in facts, and facts alone

It is not as a library companion alone that Mr. Timbs's "Curiosities of London" will be found of real value, but as a strict guide to the foreigner and to the Londoner as well, both of whom will find at every turn the very information they require, with much that they will be glad to know on points connected immediately and even remotely with their inquiries. Mr. Timbs has a surprising and happy knack of bringing points of important interest from remote corners into broad daylight. Here is an example from the very first page of the book of condensed and useful information:—

ADELPHI, THE.

A series of streets in the rear of the houses on the south side of the Strand, reaching east and west from Adam-street to Buckingham-street, and facing the Thames on the south—a grand commencement of the architectural embankment of the river in 1768. It is named Adelphi (ἀδελφοὶ, *brother*) from its architects, the four brothers Adam, who built vast arches over the courtyard of Old Durham-house, and upon these erected, level with the Strand, *Adam*-street, leading to *John*, *Robert*, *James*, and *William* streets; the noble line of houses fronting the Thames being the Adelphi terrace. The view from this spot is almost unrivalled in the metropolis for variety and architectural beauty: from Waterloo-bridge on the east, with the majestic dome and picturesque *campanile* of St. Paul's, to Westminster-bridge on the west, above which rise the towers of Lambeth Palace and Westminster Abbey, and the pinnacles and hurtling roofs of the new Houses of Parliament

At No. 5, the centre house of the terrace, David Garrick died, Jan. 20, 1779; and here his remains lay in state, previous to their interment in Westminster Abbey, Feb. 1. Garrick's widow also died here in 1822. At No 1, Adam-street, lived Dr Knox, the "British Essayist. At Osborne's Hotel, John-street, in 1824, sojourned Kamehameha II., King of the Sandwich Islands, and his sister the Queen, with their suites; the Queen died here of measles, July 8; and the King died of the same disease, at the Caledonian Hotel, on the 14th, their remains lay in native pomp at Osborne's, and were then deposited in the vaults of St. Martin's Church, prior to their being conveyed in the *Blonde* frigate to the Sandwich Islands for interment. The poor King and Queen were wantonly charged with gluttony and drunkenness while here; but they lived chiefly on fish, poultry, and fruit; and their favourite drink was some cider, presented to them by Mr. Canning

In John-street, also, is the house built for the Society of Arts by the Adams. In the second floor chambers at No. 2, James-street, lived, for nearly thirty years, Mr. Thomas Hill, the "Hull" of Theodore Hook's "Gilbert Gurney." He died here December 20, 1841, in his eighty-first year; and left a large collection of curiosities, including a cup and a small vase formed from the mulberry-tree planted by Shakspeare at Stratford-upon-Avon. Neither of these, however, is the Shakspeare Cup presented to Garrick by the Mayor and Corporation of Stratford at the time of the Jubilee This celebrated relic was bought on May 3, 1825, for 121 guineas, by Mr. J. Johnson; and by him sold, July 4, 1846, for £40 8s. 6d., to Mr. Isaacs, of Upper Gower-street.

The Adelphi vaults, occupied as cellars and coal-wharfs, in their grim vastness, resembled one of the Etruscan Cloacæ of old Rome. Beneath the "dry arches" the most abandoned characters have often passed the night, nestling upon foul straw; and many a street thief escaped from his pursuers in these subterranean haunts before the introduction of gas-light and a vigilant police

In a work containing what Mr. Timbs's old acquaintance, Sir Richard Phillips, would have called "a million of facts," some slight errors must from fatal necessity be found. But these are so few in number, and of so little real consequence when weighed against the undoubted facts to be found throughout a volume of eight hundred closely and clearly printed pages, that they will be readily pardoned as inevitable to any great design. He is indeed a narrow-minded critic who pounces on a few errors, condemns a whole work thereupon, and does not give its author credit for the real merits of his book. Mr. Timbs's errors in this way are where he has copied others, and has not relied on his own usually happy diligence in sifting truth and adjusting the order of minute events

Prefixed is a portrait of the author from a capital miniature, to which we called attention in our notice of the Royal Academy Exhibition of last year. As readers are always curious to know what any author who has entertained them is like, we have transferred Mr. Timbs to our present number. (*See the Engraving at page* 125.) He is in a thoughtful mood, and is evidently thinking of old Stryre, or older Stow.

Summer Tours in Central Europe. 1853-54. By John Barrow, Esq. Dalton.

Mr. Barrow left England on the 11th of June, 1853; and, between that time and the 2nd of September, made a very agreeable tour from Calais to Cologne by railway, thence by Stuttgardt and Munich to the Tyrol; crossed the Alps to Padua; and returned by Turin, Genoa, Mont Cenis, and Lyons, to London—"that focus of fog and fashion, thankful to have breathed so much fresh air, and to have been through

many a pleasant place;
Though sluggards deem it but an idle chase,
And wonder men should quit their *easy* chair.
The toilsome way and long long league to trace.
Oh! there is pleasure in the mountain air,
And health which bloated ease can never hope to share."

Mr Barrow industriously kept up his diary, day by day, and has now published it, with every appearance of being a *bonâ fide* transcript of running impressions. From his route it will be seen that he lost no time. His motto, "le Coler Eundo," and he has carried it out in his good-humoured progress. His little book (which would have been more prosperous at a shilling than eighteen pence, in spite of what "his publisher is obliged to charge") is an excellent guide, not in any way intended to encroach upon the great "Murray." It contains an account of the route that a man who can allow himself the time, and a pound a day for his expenses, would wish to make. Mr. Barrow makes several judicious "notes" beyond these merely pertaining to hotels and routes. Thus, at a review at Lille, he says:—

The 17th Regiment of the Line, like all other French infantry, did not seem to care about marching as our soldiers do, and when advancing [illegible] were certainly much *out* of line (and step too). They make no attempt even to march with precision. The [illegible] are in the rear [illegible] and peking if they had a little more of curl [illegible], some of which we [illegible] spare, and we had [illegible] their nature case, both [illegible] ld be the [illegible] for the [illegible] As it is, the English soldier [illegible] *comme il faut*. [illegible] Frenchman would be in possession of the fortress *coute que coute*

This, written nearly two years ago, might have been lately illustrated; and, in addition, after a review at Lyons, in which he says the French cavalry charged superbly, but failed in halting, he bears tribute to the heroes of Balaclava, as follows:—

The most splendid charge I have ever seen for speed, precision, and sudden halt, was in a review of Lord Cardigan's regiment. I shall never forget an impression I witnessed of the 11th Hussars on Wimbledon Common, as I considered it as the *ne plus ultra* of light cavalry movements, and certainly not to be equalled by any regiment in Europe, and consequently in the world.

And again anticipated a military reform at Coblentz:—

After church saw two Prussian regiments on parade. They look remarkably well, the short frock-coat and handsome helmet having a smart soldier-like appearance about it, or with any body of troops. The helmet cannot be judged of easily, as it gives the notion of being too large and cumbersome, just as a [illegible] gives [illegible] of every passer-by; in fact, it [illegible] "[illegible]" being an uncommonly good-looking youth and the [illegible] and fit like a glove, and fit for anything.

The following truth, speaking of Genoa, is sadly subversive of conventional travelling enthusiasm:—

The noose and bustle of this place is very lively that day at Wapping. I grieve to compare Genoa and Wapping! but so it is. Genoa "la superba" is a seaport town, and all the hotels are on the quay, and miserably situated. If any spirited man were to build an hotel near the lighthouse, he might make his fortune; for no one would go to Wapping when he had the choice at Blackwall.

An appendix contains two skeleton tours in Switzerland, which will be found useful to intending pedestrians

The English Government Beaten Again.—The English Government make a great effort to show the necessity of embodying a Foreign Legion. Parliament was called together at an unusual season to sanction the measure, and all the authority had been obtained little more was heard of it. Foreigners who are in consequence desirous to enter the English service can obtain no information. All is left in doubt and darkness. Not so with the French. They, too, resolve to form a second Foreign Legion. They make no noise about it, but they let all that are interested know how and where they can join it. They publish in the Paris and other Continental journals an Imperial decree, in which they slowly and explicitly declare both what is wanted and what is offered in exchange. Nothing is shrouded in mystery. Their officers are all to be foreigners; they are to receive the same pay as the French infantry of the line, and those who by their gallantry or good conduct deserve it will at the close of their services receive grants of land in Algeria or other French colonies. General Oehsenbein is charged with the enrolment of the volunteers, and it is announced that they will be under his command as soon as they are ready for service. This is all done in the right way, and the numbers required will soon be complete, while Lord Cardigan will learn, perhaps when too late, that France has been the successful competitor with her for the bone and sinew of Switzerland and Germany. *Letter from Kiel*

The Czar's New Issue of Paper Money.—In addition to the emissions of paper money that have already been successively decreed within the space of two years, and again in addition to the very recent issue of twelve millions in lieu, as alleged, of older notes, the Emperor has thought to authorise new creations of paper currency by the treasury. In his last ukase on this subject he says:—"Notwithstanding our continued and hearty desire to put an end to the war into which Russia has been drawn, in defence of the rights and her territory, it may last still longer, and occasion unusual expenses out of all proportion to the ordinary resources of the treasury. Wherefore we have thought fit, for enabling the treasury to meet all its present engagements, without imposing new taxes, or increasing those already in existence, and in approval of the Finance Minister's proposal accepted by the Council of State, to grant permission to the treasury to cover the enabling extraordinary expenses by the temporary emission of national promissory notes (assignats)." Then comes the ukase, containing the forms prescribed for this new paper issue, each emission of which is to bring into currency a six times larger amount of paper money than that sum, in specie, that is to be added as its equivalent, to the credit fund—that is to say, if twelve millions in paper roubles are issued, only two millions of silver roubles are to be made over to the exchange fund.—*Letter from St. Petersburg.*

EXHIBITION OF MEXICAN ANTIQUITIES.

An extensive and interesting collection of Mexican Antiquities has recently been imported to this country, and is at present on view at No. 57, Pall-mall. The circumstances under which these curious relics came to light are singular, and strikingly illustrative of the vicissitudes of States. When, in 1846, the army of the United States approached the city of Mexico, and threatened its destruction, trenches and fosses, some twenty feet deep, were dug around the capital, in order to prolong its defence; and, in the course of making these excavations, the workmen lighted upon others of a more ancient date—namely, of about the period of the Spanish conquest—wherein were deposited numerous objects in terra cotta, which were, no doubt, the sacred vessels and idols of the ancient Mexicans. Many of these holes were carefully covered over with stones, showing that every precaution had been taken to preserve the sacred deposits within them from desecration. It was already well known that the ancient Mexicans had resorted very generally to this mode of preserving the objects of their worship on the approach of the conquerors, particularly in the neighbourhood of the great square of the city, which may be regarded as the Aztec forum. Prescott, in his "Conquest of Mexico," mentions that depositories of ancient sculpture were spread all over the capital, so that "a new cellar could hardly be dug, or foundation laid, without turning up some of the relics of barbaric art." Numerous, however, as have been the discoveries of this kind made from time to time, we believe that none have previously been made equal in importance, for the number and interest of the objects brought to light, to that of which the present Collection is the result. Mr. Charles Bedford Young, the proprietor of the Collection, was on the spot at the time the excavations already mentioned were being made, and obtained the various objects from the hands of the finders as they were brought to light. The antiquaries of the city, and particularly the directors of the Mexican Museum, were very loth to see these antiquities carried away; and it required a special order from the Minister of the Interior to enable the proprietor to remove them

This Collection which consists of 526 lots, many lots comprising numerous specimens—is supposed to represent the art of three distinct eras; the stone objects being probably the most ancient, and referable to the Toltec period; whilst some of the terra-cotta images and vases are long prior to, some contemporaneous with, the Spanish Conquest; and some few are subsequent to that period.

Doubtless, when they have been sufficiently examined, and the hieroglyphic and other devices upon them materially studied, they will serve to throw much light upon the mythology and habits of an extraordinary people, whose public works show that they had arrived at a high state of power and civilisation, but of whom so little is as yet known to the modern world. That this singular people believed in one Supreme Being there is little doubt, as that they attributed to him all good and benevolent works. Their inferior gods, or idols, whom they propitiated by human sacrifices, was probably by way of averting the wrath of evil spirits, who, they fancied, had power to do them ill, and whom, or their attributes, they represented, as in these remains before us, in a variety of forms, chiefly animals, and of the lower class, as the serpent, the bull-frog and toad, the armadillo, the lizard, the turtle or tortoise, the alligator, &c. In one specimen that supposed to represent the presiding Divinity or Spirit of the Lakes—we find the figure entirely covered with fish; and in another, probably the body of a tree bearing of first fruits, the ornaments are of the vegetable world. The serpent devices are very curious, and almost endless in variety. Some are coiled up, with the head erect, and upon some of these sit priestesses in the act of feeding

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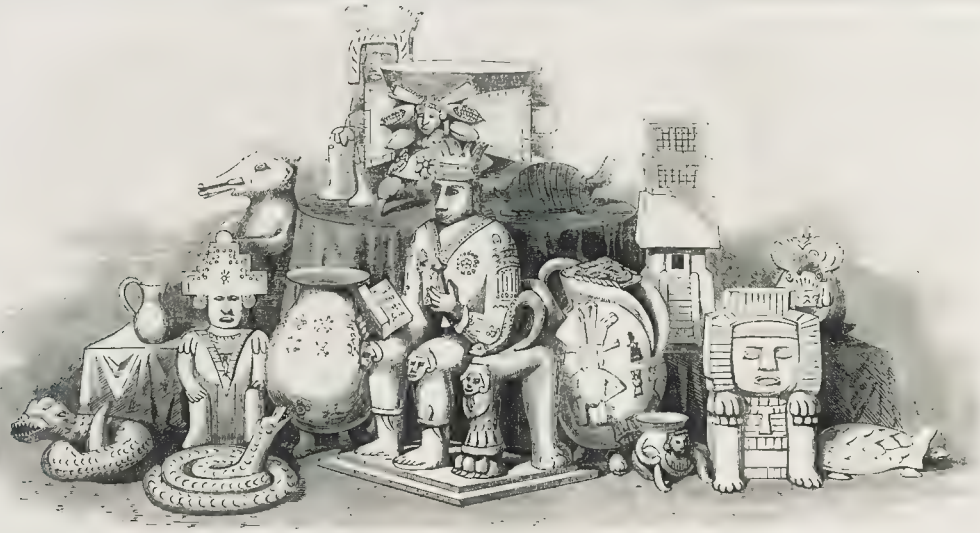


GROUP FROM THE MEXICAN ANTIQUITIES, NOW EXHIBITING IN PALL-MALL.

(*Continued from page* 142.)

contorted human figure, wrapped in the skin of a base animal. This is probably accounted for by what is recorded by some writers on Mexican Antiquities, that at the festivals of some of their idols—that of Quetzalcoatl, the God of Air, for instance—the people used to dress themselves up disguised as beasts and reptiles, and perform all sorts of antics in honour of the idol. In fearful contrast to these mummeries is a group representing a priest in the act of slaying a human victim. The latter is kneeling with his back to the priest, and the lower part of his body covered with the superficial veil. The priest has drawn his victim's head and shoulders backward, so as to rest on his lap, and grasps a knife, with which he has just made an incision in the breast, exposing the heart; which on such occasions is taken out palpitating and offered to the idol in whose honour the sacrifice is made. Another object of dread import is the idol supposed to be the Messenger of Death. He sits, in a kneeling position, upon a large skull; his lower limbs appear as if they had been flayed, showing only the muscles, and on his breast are cross-bones. There are two faces—one like a mask, the other a real face, with the lower jaw removed, exposing large lion-like teeth.

The scientific world of Class X. of the Great Exhibition (that comprising Chronology and Music) will find many objects to interest them in the present collection; amongst the most important of which is a circular tablet, or disc, representing in relief the *Tonal poualli*, or solar reckoning of the ancient Mexicans; and another similar disc-calendar, representing only the seasons and months. The Mexican year consisted of eighteen months of twenty days each. They reckoned by cycles of 52 years, and subdivided the months into four periods of five days each. The musical instruments are very funny, comprising pipes, in terra cotta, of the very shape and make of the penny trumpets sold at fairs at this day; rattles exactly of the shape of the "bells" now used in horses' head-gear, and producing the same sound; whistles in the forms of various animals, and, curiously enough, emitting sounds appropriate to the particular animal represented as the owl-whistle, screeching like an owl; and the dove-whistle, cooing like a very turtle. There is also a pipe of shrill sound, like a modern railway-whistle; and—talking of pipes, though not one for musical purposes—amongst the lot is a veritable tobacco-pipe, of most "knowing" form, and of good colouring clay, witness the dye successfully imparted to it by some lover of the weed, and follower—no! predecessor—of the immortal Raleigh.

Having now given a general idea of the features of this interesting collection of Antiquities, we now proceed to give some particular account of the objects selected by us for representation in the engraved group accompanying this article. Following them in the order in which they stand, and distinguishing them by the numbers in the catalogue:—281, is a Snake with a singularly-formed head, and a tail terminating in a whistle;—376, a jug;—131, the God of Silence, personified by a grotesque squatting figure, with a long snout, and a bar or muzzle between the jaws;—125, a seated figure, with a turreted head-dress;—289, a coiled Snake;—152, a large red idol, in a sitting posture, with hands pressed upon the breast; head surmounted by what appears to be a double plume of feathers;—367, a large Vase, standing on four claws or feet. It is remarkable of the indented ornaments upon this vase that they strongly resemble the paintings still to be seen on the rocks in various parts of the American continent, and spoken of in the late work by Squier; and which are supposed to have reference to the worship of the Sun. 396, a Two-handled Vase, supported on three eagles' heads for feet; the face is surrounded by representations, in bold and high relief, of fruits, ears of corn, and cakes, which lead to the belief that this vase served for presenting first-fruit offerings;—522, a Figure, seated on an elevated chair of state, resting on four legs, the two in front being Indians, the two behind animals upright; two snakes form the arms of the chair. The figure has on its head a royal crown; in one hand it holds a truncheon or baton, in the other an open book, in which is written in Spanish, "Yo soy soy Safurtysty Gobernardo de Santyago Tlaltelolco, 1552." The figure is clothed in rich vestments, and an order is suspended round the neck. The policy of the victorious Spaniards led them, in order to conciliate the feelings of the conquered, to invest the native princes with power and authority, and this there can be little doubt is a portrait of one of the first to whom such dignity was entrusted. The figure is of unmistakable Aztec physiognomy. 311, a Black-banded Tortoise;—404, a Tall Vase, with the figure of an Idol on it, and the mouth something like the beak of a large bird, probably used in propitiating sacrifices;—236, a Model of a Teocalli (*i.e.* House of God) or Mexican Temple, consisting of three stories above the basement; the door is reached by a flight of ten steps: the wide platform on the summit was the place where human victims are sacrificed. [illegible], a Small Vase of grotesque design, the chief feature of which is a sitting Human Figure without the head, which is represented in relief in the front;—247, an Idol, which has a remarkable resemblance to the stone sculptures of Egypt; the heavy square-formed head-dress being of a similar type to that of various Deities at Thebes and Memphis, an Owl-faced Divinity riding on a Turtle;—368, a Tortoise.

OLD AND NEW BUILDINGS IN THREADNEEDLE-STREET.—(SEE PAGE 137.)

London: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by WILLIAM LITTLE, 198, Strand, aforesaid.—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1855.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 728.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE PEOPLE AND THE WAR.

CAN we do nothing but make railroads and cotton goods? Are we indeed a nation of miserable bunglers? Are we so demoralised by a long peace so soaked and soddened in the fat of commercial speculation that we have lost the robust and manly virtues of our ancestors? Are we so weak and craven-hearted that the slightest reverse is sufficient to repress our few remaining energies, and to transform us into a rabble of grumblers? Or are we so impatient, so ignorant, and so perverse, that we expect impossibilities, and, being disappointed, find no resource but to vent our useless and malicious spleen against our servants and instruments, demanding a victim somewhere and somehow we do not care whether innocent or guilty—and offering him up without remorse as a sacrifice to our wounded vanity and unreasoning vindictiveness? And, last of all, have we, in the gigantic struggle against Russian aggression, been foiled and beaten, and reduced to a pitiable, if not to a dishonourable, extremity? Surely there is not one of these questions that can be answered in the affirmative. Yet, if a stranger to our habits and idiosyncrasies were to take his opinion of us from the tone of some of the most influential of the newspapers which are supposed to represent public opinion, or from the debates consequent upon Mr. Roebuck's motion, he might be pardoned for coming to the opposite conclusion, and for believing that the day of our glory had departed—that England was no longer the polar star of the nations; that we had neither sagacity in council, nor courage in the field; that we had no allies in the struggle in which we are engaged; and that we, and civilisation along with us, were fast sinking under the blood-stained hoofs of that northern barbarian whom, in an evil hour, we had resolved to restrain and punish.

Our imaginary stranger, however, upon looking a little deeper into the matter, would speedily discover that these gloomy views of our condition had no foundation in truth. He would find that we not only had a splendid cause, but that we had, in every respect the best of it. He would see that we had the firm alliance of France—the only Power that can rank with ourselves in the very front of the world; that we had secured the alliance of Austria an empire which, in case of need, can arm and feed from half to three-quarters of a million of effective soldiers; that our patient diplomacy had checkmated the King of Prussia, whose subjects are already, and always have been, on our side; and that the smaller Potentates of Germany had been reduced to the position of uniting with the armies of Austria, or of being dethroned by their own people; that the secondary States of Europe were gradually making common cause with us; that Sardinia had joined the Allies with a welcome reinforcement; that Portugal was preparing to do the same; that Denmark and Sweden—though slow to move—were moving at last; and that in the early summer, if not in the spring, Russia, on her whole European frontier, and in her most vulnerable points, would be exposed to the simultaneous attacks of numerous, well-disciplined, and energetic foes. He would also learn that we had rendered the naval force of Russia perfectly innocuous—that we had effectually shut up her navies in their only European outlets; that in every battle, even against overwhelming odds, our soldiers had been magnificently triumphant; and that the people at home, whenever they found or made an opportunity to speak their sentiments, were enthusiastic in their approbation of the policy of the war, and demanded nothing of their rulers but to carry it on with the utmost vigour, so as to restrain the aggressor, and secure a durable peace.

Whence then, the stranger might ask, comes the croaking of the press and of the Parliament? And for what class of the people do those politicians write or speak who seek to discourage the war? Not for the lower classes, for their hearts are sound; and from their ranks have emerged the heroes of the Alma and of Inkerman. Not from the upper classes, for they have been prodigal of their blood in the cause, and have exalted by their bravery the name and fame of the aristocracy of England. Is it, then, the middle classes that act the craven, that hate the war, that love nothing but their money-bags, and that raise maudlin, if not treacherous, cries of peace, where there is no peace;—that "would buy a minute's mirth to wail a week," and that would sacrifice the national honour for the sake of a miserable percentage on a running transaction? Such a supposition would be a libel against the brave and generous British nation. Such men unluckily exist among us, as Manchester can bear witness, but they are to be numbered by units, and are repudiated by the great bulk of their countrymen, or tolerated, as the Mormons are—(not without some displeasure, or perhaps disgust)—on the broad principle of religious liberty, that invests the promulgation of the opinions of a Joseph Sturge and a John Bright with as much security as law and opinion allow to those of a Joseph Smith and a Brigham Young.

Yet there has been, it cannot be denied, gross mismanagement in the Crimea. Disease has taken a hundred victims from the ranks of our heroes where the shell and the bayonet of the Russians have but taken one; and a fine army has been decimated by the incapacity of our own officials. But we do not believe that irreparable mischief has been done, or that there is the slightest ground for the discouraging tone which a portion of the press has adopted upon this question. The miseries of the British Army have been exposed to the whole world; but who knows what the Russians have suffered, with all their boasted superiority of management? Nay, who knows what our gallant allies the French have endured? Perhaps, if the whole truth were known, the sufferings of the British soldier have been equalled in the French and surpassed in the Russian camp. However this may be, it is unworthy, to say the least, that despondency should be allowed to enter into the councils or the heart of this nation We have a man at the head of affairs whose name is synonymous—all over the civilised, and many parts of the barbaric, world—with British pre-eminence and power, and who has been called to his present high position by the almost unanimous voice of the

CURLING MATCH AT MONTREAL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

people because of that great name, and because of the universal belief that he will resolutely and triumphantly pursue the policy which made it great. We have victories to boast of where our enemies have none; we have inexhaustible resources; we have incomparable allies; we have a noble cause; we have an invincible determination to win it; and we have the indomitable courage and pluck of our great and noble common people as well as of our aristocracy. What then fails us? Nothing but a better organisation of our Army and Commissariat departments, and the opening up of the higher honours of the military career to the merit and bravery of the humblest soldier. These are the only requisites, and the want of these has been the only subject of the growls of the growlers, and the lamentations and denunciations of our diurnal Habakkuks. They are great tasks, no doubt; and, unless in the presence of danger, it is likely enough that they might never have been attempted.

But, in undertaking this great and urgent reform, let the country take care not to lose sight of the real evil. There is at present a cry against the aristocratic system. That system we shall not attempt to defend. Its doom is pronounced, and it must fall unlamented. But who fostered the aristocratic system? Was it the aristocracy or the people? We say that, however much the aristocracy may have been to blame, the people meaning by the word the men who possess and exercise the right of voting in the election of members of the lower House of Parliament—are not innocent. If the people prefer to send aristocrats to Parliament—and our popular Constitution compels the Minister of the day to choose his colleagues from the members of the Legislature—is it not the people who are primarily the cause of the evil? And is it not a melancholy fact that our small boroughs are venal, and sell their privilege for a mess of pottage; that voters make a traffic of their votes—not for money always—but for money's worth; and that their importunities for places say in the Post-office or the Customs for their worthless and inefficient sons, brothers, and cousins—are daily and nightly inflictions upon the time and temper of the men whom they send to Parliament? These things cannot be denied; and while they exist it is in vain to expect that mere law can lessen the undue preponderance of the aristocratic element in our system of government. Parliament is the fountain-head of our system, and the Parliament can only be what the people choose to make it. And perhaps it will be found that the bunglers in our Commissariat department, or the little "jacks in office," who allow no jurisdiction to compete with theirs, and other officials and sub-officials who have brought our army into peril, and our name into disgrace, are not aristocrats, but the creatures of that corrupt system which foists off poor relations upon the public service, and considers their salaries and emoluments as equivalents for votes at contested elections. Among other reforms, this, which is perhaps the most essential of all, ought to be carefully looked to. It is not only the military and naval but the civil service of the State that requires the strong hand and mind of a man of genius to set them right. No partial reform will suffice. The one depends upon the other, and the country looks to Lord Palmerston and his colleagues to perform the task. When it is accomplished, or in the fair way of accomplishment, our Government will perhaps be able to "organise victory." In the meantime victory lags—and the national fame is sullied.

CURLING MATCH, MONTREAL.

Curling is a favourite sport in Canada; and one of the great fields of ice on which it is played is the river St. Lawrence. The winter cold is often very intense; when the frozen surface presents a very animated picture of curlers, skaters, and spectators. Towards the middle of last month a grand Curling Match, or "Bon Spiel," as it is called, was played on the St. Lawrence opposite Montreal; when Mr Duncan, the clever artist of that city, made a spirited Sketch of the wintry sport. The day on which the match was played was intensely cold, the thermometer being about 20 degrees below zero. There were, notwithstanding, at one time, about 500 players and spectators. The ice was good, and the various games were keenly contested.

Independently of the Illustration upon the preceding page affording a vivid picture of the sport, it presents a good view of the Lower Town, along the river, and the principal trading quarter; and we obtain a glimpse of some of the fine buildings of the Upper Town. Montreal, like the capital of the mother country, has its Nelson memorial—a colossal statue of the great hero, placed upon a Doric column. It is shown upon the right of the Illustration. The twin-towered Gothic edifice, rising from the city upon the left is the Cathedral.

The Canadas have recently remitted to England a noble contribution to our Patriotic Fund; and by the last mail we learn that a concert has been given at Montreal in aid of the Fund; the great City Hall was crowded to excess; about 6000 persons were present, and the amount received was about £800. This indicates a healthful sympathy with the mother country which it is highly gratifying to have to record.

General February.—Since I wrote last the weather has been delightful: breezy, sunny days, and nights of astounding mildness at this season of the year, have done much to reconcile the troops to the winter campaign. It is said that, if General February is as harmless as General January, the Czar will see small results from the efforts of his great commanders. Whatever General February may be like, certain it is he will find our troops in a better condition to cope with him. Balaclava is inundated with warm clothing, from public and private sources, and the men that have any warmth left in them are not likely to lose it in a hurry. Wooden houses, too, are rising up in every direction, even in the divisions in front, whither the component parts of each house are dragged, tied, in the fashion of Pers, to the sides of a horse, or carried up on the backs of soldiers sent down for that special service. The late arrivals of bat horses, and mules too, hold out a hope of full and regular rations to the troops in front. The men, properly fed, clothed, and housed, must soon pick up; and disease, in so far as it is caused by want and exposure, will claim a lesser number of victims than has hitherto been the case. But there is one point which cannot too strongly be pressed upon the attention of authorities at home and in camp. Unless energetic measures are taken to cleanse Balaclava and the intrenched camp from the abominations which have been allowed to accumulate during an occupation of four months, early spring, with its fever season, will do quicker and deadlier work among our troops than has been done by all the rigour of winter. We should be free of fresh graves, old filths, and the rotting carcases of thousands of horses before the advent of that trying season. Oh for Tom Taylor and a detachment of Board of Health men to superintend the sanitary police of the camp! Col. Harding, the new Commandant of Balaclava, has up to the present done little or nothing to cleanse this town of muck and mire. It is asserted, though it is hardly to be believed, that he finds difficulties in the way of procuring fatigue parties for the work to be done.—*Letter from Balaclava, Jan. 29.*

Russian Wheat.—The quantity of wheat exported from ports in the Sea of Azoff—viz., Taganrog, Mariopol, and Berdiansk—was, in 1853, 1,868,879 qrs., and in 1854, 1,399,366 qrs.—an excess in 1853 over 1852 of 561,473 qrs. The total quantity of wheat exported from European Russia in 1852 was 3,173,597 qrs.

It is a curious fact that the Peace party in the Camp—if ever that expression can apply to soldiers—consisted chiefly of men who had just come out, while those who have gone through the whole of the campaign could not reconcile their minds to so abrupt and unsatisfactory a termination of their dangers and privations.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Thursday.

A return of the intense cold, accompanied by a heavy fall of snow, makes us all sufficiently miserable. Despite every attempt to clear the streets, the mixture of half-frozen snow and mud renders them in a deplorable state, which can only be made worse by the arrival of the thaw.

There is much illness in Paris, partly resulting from the state of the weather, which produces inflammation of the chest, influenza, and every variety of malady that has its origin in cold. People, nevertheless, dance, dine, and amuse themselves as they are wont to do ere Carême closes Carnival.

If the present temperature continues, the gaieties of the Mardi Gras are likely to prove a dance of death to many of the hapless masques who, at this period, regardless of the warnings of the thermometer, appear in the procession of the Bœuf Gras and elsewhere in costume not fit for midsummer. Conceive the Cœur, the Cupids, &c., who, when the thermometer is but little above zero, and that honest people can't succeed in keeping themselves warm within any given number of cloaks and paletots, perambulating the streets "from morn to *snowy* eve," bare-armed, bare-necked, and bare-headed, fortifying themselves against the cold by profuse libations; the result of which system has, on many occasions, produced raging inflammation, which has carried off the victims within the twenty-four hours, to say nothing of the maladies which then contracted have destroyed their constitutions, and sooner or later proved fatal.

The ball at the Tuileries went off very brilliantly. The Corps Diplomatique were not received separately, nor were there any presentations before the commencement of the ball—two innovations on the usual routine. The Pope's Nuncio alone was honoured with a special reception. The ball opened with a quadrille, in which the Empress accorded her hand to the Prince Napoleon, who, extremely thinned by his recent illness, and ornamented (?) with a vast beard, was so singularly altered that his identity has since been the subject of various warm discussions in the *salons* of the Faubourg St. Honoré. The Princess Mathilde danced with Lord Cowley, Lady Cowley with the Prince de Chimay, the eldest daughter of the Queen Christina (on whose approaching marriage the Emperor took this occasion of personally congratulating her mother) with the Maréchal Magnan, the Princesse d'Essling with the Duc de Riançarès, &c.

The Emperor did not dance during the evening, nor did the Empress take part in anything but the official *contre dance*. For the edification of the *belle moitié* of our readers we give a description of her Majesty's toilet. A gown of white embroidered tulle, with a number of narrow flounces; in the hair a white aigrette, the bandeaux turned up at each side with a rose and foliage in diamonds: ornaments of emeralds and brilliants. At twelve the Emperor conducted the Queen Christina to supper, the Prince Jérôme giving his arm to the Empress; and at half-past one their Majesties retired.

Considerable regret is felt in Paris at the recall of Vely-Pacha, who is very popular here. His farewell ball, which took place on Saturday, was very magnificent, but the pleasure of the guests was much impaired by the enormous number of persons invited, which made the crowd so intense, that some got no further than the antechamber, and then retired, deeming it almost hopeless to wait till the space should be sufficiently cleared to reach the *salons*.

Another grand ball is to take place on Saturday at the Hôtel de Ville. So numerous have been the applications for invitations—they have exceeded fifteen thousand that the Préfet de la Seine has been obliged to notify that he has already been compelled to refuse the applications of some of the guests he should have had the greatest desire to receive; and that, in consequence, it is impossible to grant further invitations on any pretext whatsoever.

Mdlle. Rahel again quits the stage definitively, and is about commencing a new series of positively last appearances previous to going to fulfil her engagement in the United States, which is to last nine months; after this the great tragedian bids us an eternal adieu. *Consolons nous*—we have heard the same story too often to break our hearts about it.

AMERICA.

The steam-ship *Canada*, which left Boston on the 31st ult., arrived at Liverpool on Monday night.

The Senate and House of Representatives had adopted a joint resolution authorising the President to give notice for terminating reciprocity treaties of commerce and navigation, in cases where the terms stipulated for their continuance have expired, with such Powers and States as in his opinion manifest illiberality to the United States. The French Spoliation Bill had been discussed and passed. Authority had been given to dispatch a naval force to the relief of the Grinnell Arctic Expedition.

The New York authorities had notified to the Sardinian Vice Consul that they would not permit the landing of some convicts who were said to be on board a frigate of that nation from Genoa.

The *George Law* had arrived at New York from California, with the mails of January 1. There had been a revolt at the California state prison, which, after a serious fight between the prisoners and the keepers, resulted in upwards of twenty of the former making their escape.

San Francisco had been visited by a violent rain storm, and a large amount of property was damaged. The mines were suffering from want of rain.

Letters from Cuba, to the 23rd ult., state that important municipal reforms had been effected, and it had been proposed to revive the old system of representation to the Spanish Cortes.

The Mexican journals inform us that several successful attacks on the insurgents had been made by the Government troops, and that the revolution was said to be crushed in Oaxaca.

Brighter Prospects.—The weather has of late taken a favourable turn for our troops. It is moderately cold at night. The days are clear and sunny. The wind is low, and incoming vessels report fair average passages. Among the late arrivals was the 14th Regiment, and the *Jason*, with a fresh load of bat horses from Constantinople. Mules, too, the finest that were ever seen with the army, have arrived from Gibraltar, and were landed yesterday, accompanied by Spanish drivers, who, it is to be hoped, will know how to take care of these invaluable animals. This opportune accession to our transport cannot fail to make the service more efficient, and as good will is certainly not wanting in the commissariat, though method may be, there is every reason to believe that all our troops in front will, from this date, receive full rations regularly. In this respect our prospects are certainly brightening. For the mildness of the weather, the warm clothing, issued in abundance to our troops—in such abundance, indeed, that it seems the quantity must make up for the delay—and the full rations which may henceforth be expected, must tend to lessen the amount of mortality, which of late became rather alarming. It remains to be seen whether the new arrivals of mules and horses will enable us to take up the wooden houses; not an easy task, considering the heaviness of the materials and the state of the roads.—*Letter from the Camp, Jan. 28.*

Pleasures Trip to Sebastopol.—A prospectus has been in circulation in Paris for some days for a pleasure trip to Sebastopol at the commencement of the spring season. The travellers are to start from Paris and proceed to Marseilles, thence to Constantinople, next to the Crimea, afterwards to Egypt, and, finally, home by Algeria. The vessel fixed on for the tour to the East is the *Isabelle*, steam pleasure-yacht, under the neutral colours of Tuscany. The charge for each person is to be 1200f. (£48). The trip is to last three months, and only ten passengers are to be taken.

The Gas Companies of Paris.—The Municipal Corporation of Paris not having consented to accept, on account of their insufficiency, the offers made by the united gas companies to lower their prices on having their contract prolonged by the city to 1863, the Emperor has ordered experiments to be made at Sèvres, at works established for that purpose on grounds belonging to the civil list, in order to ascertain the exact cost at which gas can be supplied. The experiments are carried on under the direction of an eminent member of the Institute.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

Intelligence from Sebastopol, through Russian channels, has been received up to the 6th inst. At that date the brief report was, "nothing of importance had occurred." This disposes of the Bourse rumour regarding a Russian victory, and the taking of Eupatoria. Our own telegraphic despatches, viâ Marseilles, are to the 3rd inst. from the Crimea, and to the 5th from Constantinople. The Russians had made sorties on the 1st and 2nd February, but are said to have been driven back with great loss by "young French volunteers." The 9th French Division, under General Brunet, was to sail from Constantinople for the Crimea on the 6th inst. With this addition, and the 8th Division, which had landed at Kamiesch a short time before, it is estimated that the French will now muster 75,000 bayonets.

The statements regarding the strength of the British army now before Sebastopol vary so widely that it is difficult to give even an approximate return. Mr. Gladstone affirms that there are not less than 30,000 effective English troops there. Other accounts say that there are not more than half that number. A letter has been received in Paris from one of the French officers attached to the staff of Lord Raglan, which states that "the destruction of the English troops has been vastly exaggerated, and that upwards of 20,000 good men can yet be paraded in the field." Such a statement from one of General Canrobert's staff would be more worthy of credit. Some of the French papers estimate the total effective force of the Allies at from 60,000 to 80,000. That of the Russian army of observation in the neighbourhood of Sebastopol is not much greater, if we are to rely upon the following estimate contained in a letter from Constantinople of the 29th ult.:—

The Russian army in the Crimea has just received large reinforcements. It now consists of the garrison of Sebastopol, supposed to be 30,000 strong; of the army of observation, which occupies very strong positions to the north and east of the camp of the Allies, and which communicates with Sebastopol, though with difficulty, of detached divisions in the environs of Baghchesrai and Simpheropol, which may be concentrated in a few hours, so as to oppose to the besiegers a mass of 100,000 men; of a corps of from 25,000 to 30,000 men fortified in the positions of the Alma, in order to close the road to Sebastopol against Omer Pacha, and to cut off all communication by land with the Allied army; and lastly, of about 50,000 men who are encamped at the entrance of the Isthmus to protect Perekop, observe Eupatoria, keep up the communications of Prince Menschikoff with Russia, and be ready to go wherever they may be required.

The *Military Gazette* of Vienna states that,—

From the 25th to the 26th Jan., the fire opened upon Sebastopol had been very brisk, especially from the six batteries erected by Admiral Bruat near the Bay of Chersonesus, which are armed with fifty pieces of the largest calibre. The defensive barracks of the Russians, on which the fire was especially directed, had to be evacuated. Since then the French have constructed some earthworks on the heights which overlook the cemetery, and shells thrown from that point upon the town cause much damage to the Russians. In general, the cross fire of the batteries of Cape Chersonesus, and of the trenches opposite the southern fort, is daily gaining in strength. The Russians cannot any longer operate with much effect on that side with their heavy artillery because the French works are most advantageously situated.

Meanwhile the Russians in Sebastopol are busily preparing for the threatened assault. "It is impossible," says one correspondent, "to speak too highly of the apparent solidity, workmanship, and finish of the lines of formidable earthworks, armed with about eighty heavy guns, which the Russians have thrown up to enfilade our attack and to defend this position (to the rear of the round tower of Malakoff), which is, indeed, the key of their works in front of us."

Letters from General Niel, dated "Camp before Sebastopol," have been received in Paris. They state that the condition of the French army is satisfactory, and that he had found the English army in a better state than he had expected.

Omer Pacha was to leave Varna on the 6th of February for the Crimea, accompanied by Colonels Dieu and Simmons.

THE TURKISH EXPEDITION TO THE CRIMEA

When this expedition was first announced, it was said that the whole of the Turkish troops—some 30,000 or 40,000 altogether—would be landed in the Crimea by the middle of last month. But the transportation of so large a number of men, with the requisite stores and ammunition, across the Black Sea, at this inclement season, is not so easy a task. By letters from Varna of the 28th ult., we learn that not more than half the number had sailed at that time, and, at the rate the embarkation was proceeding, it was thought that the whole force would not have sailed in less than a fortnight from that time. One correspondent gives the following satisfactory account of the Turkish army:—

The men, when they embark, take a month's provisions with them, so as to be on their arrival at least independent of the commissariat. But the illusions about abundance of provisions in the Crimea—at any rate, in the small part occupied by the Allies—have been too dearly paid for already not to make Omer Pacha, who is by nature rather prudent, anxious about the commissariat department. Accordingly, stores have been erected both at Balischik and Varna, to which large quantities of wheat, flour, butter, "kaurma" (a kind of preserved meat), and other articles of provisions are sent from all parts. Besides this, so large a supply of wood and charcoal has been collected, chiefly at Bourgas, that part of it has been put at the disposal of the English and French armies in the Crimea. The steam-mill at Varna is in full activity, so are the shambles. The possession of the Danubian Principalities is of great importance on this occasion, for a great part of the meat and the butter (which for a Turk is nearly indispensable) come thence.

Besides provisions, means for transporting them on land in case of a march have likewise to be provided from here, for Eupatoria can no longer furnish them, and the surrounding country has been nearly cleared by the Cossacks. Buffaloes are chiefly taken over for this purpose, which are very extensively employed for carting in Bulgaria. The question is only how they will bear the Crimean climate; for, as there are nobuffaloes kept there, it may be that experience has proved that they are not suited for the country, and it seems always dangerous to try experiments in a winter campaign.

A great part of the troops have fur-lined coats, but it did not strike me that all were provided with them, although, with the little uniformity in the costume of the Turkish soldiers, it would be difficult to say so positively. They have, however, one article which every one of them will find of the greatest use in the piercing east winds of the Crimea, and that is the hood, which is quite detached from the coat, and bound round by bands. They have had already one winter campaign, so it may be fairly expected that they have learnt how to go through it, although there must always be a great difference between war in a friendly and in an enemy's country.

The army will consist of three infantry and one cavalry division. The first infantry division, which is already in the Crimea, is commanded by Mehmed Pacha (Ferik), and Teofik and Behram (General Cannon) Pachas as Brigadiers. The second, which is likewise partly gone, will be under Ferik Ismail Pacha, not to be mistaken for Mushir Ismail Pacha, who distinguished himself at Kalafat, and who remains as commander in Bulgaria. Saly Pacha is spoken of as commander of the third division, and Halim Pacha as commander of the cavalry.

The whole are, with little exception, old troops; from the cavalry the best men, as well as the strongest horses, have been selected; 400 Bashi bazouks, the *crème*, are also to form part of the expedition. The men seem very healthy, and in excellent spirits; they look also more soldierlike than their countrymen at Balaclava, so that a year's campaigning has not been without its effects on them. But still much remains to be wished for.

THE SARDINIAN CONTINGENT.

The treaty of military convention between Sardinia, France, and England, has been adopted by the Piedmontese Chambers, after a good deal of discussion, by a majority of 101 votes against 60. M. Correnti, one of the speakers, described the war as one of civilisation against barbarism.

The Sardinian contingent will not embark for the seat of war before the middle or perhaps end of next month; but General La Marmora, who is to command it, will proceed to Paris and London immediately after the convention is ratified, to take counsel with the military authorities as to the measures most advisable with regard to its destination, the amount of particular arms, and other minor details. According to the terms of the convention, it will amount to 15,000 men. No positive distribution of this force has yet been made, nor can it be, until the peculiar circumstances of where and with what troops it is to act have been definitively arranged; but it may be supposed there will be 10,000 or 12,000 infantry, from 1000 to 2000 cavalry, about 600 artillerymen, a company or two of Sappers and Miners, if required, and a strong force of waggon train and ambulance corps, which they possess in a very efficient state. Profiting by their own and our experience with regard to the latter departments, there is not likely to be any

lack of carriage for the wounded, provisions, or forage. A recent invention has been adopted in packing cooked provisions, by which means a cart attached to each battalion carries rations for 800 men for three days, an invaluable accessory in cases of protracted reconnaissances The Minié rifle is now being introduced throughout the service, both land and marine. Hitherto the War Department has been so closely economised it was impossible to make the improvements in small arms as fast as was carried out in richer and larger countries, and the Minister of War was forced to content himself with placing his fortifications in the most perfect state of defence, an object in which he has succeeded to a degree that would surprise those who have not watched the gradual and steady development of his plans. To the discipline and instruction of the army General La Marmora has devoted himself more particularly since the peace of 1849; and in this also he has been so successful that the justice of his reforms is admitted on all hands, though he unavoidably risked much popularity with the aristocratic classes in so doing. The result, however, is, that every department has been wonderfully improved since the last war; and the Sardinian contingent is by no means likely to suffer from comparison as to discipline or intelligence with those troops they are about to join.

PREPARATIONS FOR A EUROPEAN WAR.

A letter from Hamburg of the 10th inst. states that of all the German Governments, that of Hanover displays the greatest activity at the present moment in completing its army to a war establishment. Every material is being renewed, and the whole will soon be perfectly ready for mobilisation. A commission chosen from the superior officers, under the presidency of General Jacopi, Chef d'Etat Major, and formerly Minister of War, has been named by the King for this object. Several of the members have been sent into the provinces where the regiments are cantoned, to examine in detail their arms and equipments. All the State arsenals are actively engaged in the manufacturing of various warlike necessaries. The soldiers have had their furloughs recalled, and have been ordered to join their regiments immediately. The Government has directed the purchase of 3000 horses for the artillery and other carriages of war. Two guns are to be added to each field-battery. The Hanoverian cavalry, reputed one of the best in Europe, is likewise on the full war establishment. Like several other German Governments, that of Hanover is about to forbid the exportation of horses, which has been allowed up to this time. In short, if we may judge by what has been ordered, and what has already been done, the Hanoverian contingent will, of all the German Confederation, be the first completely organised in readiness for active and serious service.

According to the *Post-Amipt Gazette*, the Prussian Government has been informed that Austria has not renounced her proposition for mobilisation; and, in order to counteract the wishes of Austria, she is actively negotiating with the secondary States. The mission of General Willisen to Carlsruhe, of Colonel Tann to Schwerin, the arrival of M. Otterstedt at Berlin, and the active correspondence carried on between Dresden and the Prussian capital, are all connected with this object.

"The majority of the States of the Germanic Confederation," says the *Patrie*, "are making arrangements for putting their contingents on a war footing. Their number of horses is nearly everywhere completed."

The *Gazette de Silesie* and the *Gazette d'Augsbourg* assert positively that Naples is about to accede to the Western alliance. The *Gazette de Verona* considers the news very probable. Portugal, it also says, is about to join the alliance: it could furnish 12,000 men. The *Kreuz Zeitung* states, on the contrary, that Portugal has positively declined active participation in the alliance. We believe that, at present, all that can be positively affirmed is that the Allies are seeking to unite all the secondary States of the Continent in a general European coalition against Russia, and that the work is making steady progress

The Swedish Government is continuing its military preparations. The Hereditary Prince displays the greatest activity in everything connected with improvements to be introduced into the army.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The most important news contained in the letters and papers received from India by the Overland Mail is the despatch by the overland route of our first reinforcements from India to the army in the Crimea. The first division of her Majesty's 10th Hussars left Bombay on the 10th of January, on board the *Punjaub* and *Sultana*, towed by the *Victoria* and *Auckland*. The *Punjaub* took 230 horses and the same number of men; the *Sultana*, 84; and each of the steamers a smaller number. The remainder of the regiment was to sail in ten days. Altogether they will muster 650 sabres. Her Majesty's 14th Dragoons, equally strong, were also on their way to Bombay to embark for the Crimea *viâ* Suez. It is said that several infantry regiments are to follow, and that the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamers *Norma*, *Pekin*, and *Precursor* have been taken up to convey troops from Bombay to Suez. If it was required, India, it was thought, could well spare a contingent of 20,000 or 25,000 excellent troops as long as Lord Dalhousie remains at the helm.

The Burmese Embassy, from which so much was expected, has ended in disappointment. Till their final interview the Ambassadors had demanded nothing, and the sole object of the Embassy had appeared to be the cultivation of friendly relations and the establishment of free commerce and diplomatic intercourse between the Burmese and the British, but at the farewell reception a scene took place which is described in the Calcutta papers as follows:—

After a little of the usual complimentary language had passed that is stereotyped for State interviews, the Burmese Envoy proclaimed, that he had "come, by command of the King of Ava, to seek restitution of the whole of the captured provinces in Burmah!"

We are informed that, despite this unforeseen explosion, the Governor-General stood calm and collected, and at once desired Major Phayre to make the following reply, or words to this effect: —"Tell them that as long as the sun shines in the heavens the British flag shall wave over those possessions." The Envoy, it is said, scarcely expected any other answer; but, having been entrusted with the mission, he was of course compelled to perform it to the very letter.

The progress of the war in Europe excites intense interest in India. The subscription to the Patriotic Fund has been headed by Lord Dalhousie with £300, and will probably reach from all India £20,000. There is a strong feeling among military men that India might send aid to the forces in the Crimea. It cannot spare Europeans, and the idea of sending Mussulmans is said to be a mistake. The Sikhs, however, would go willingly, and 10,000 irregular Sikh horse would be equal to at least 20,000 Cossacks. They mess altogether, drink rum, will eat anything except beef, and would be proud in the extreme of such a proof of confidence. The only difficulty would be in transport, and that is, in India, simply a question of money.

There have been meetings in all three presidencies in aid of the Patriotic Fund. By the latest accounts the subscriptions to the fund amounted in the city of Calcutta to 70,000r., in the city of Madras to 30,000r., and in the city of Bombay to 65,000r. These figures represent pretty fairly the comparative intelligence, wealth, and influence of the three presidential cities.

The latest accounts from China states that the presence at Canton of a strong naval force, British and American, had apparently checked any active demonstration that might have been contemplated by the insurgents against the city, and the two parties remain relatively in the same position as when the previous mail left. Some desultory fighting had been going on on the river and in the neighbourhood of the city.

His Excellency Admiral Sir James Stirling left Hong-Kong for Canton on the 12th ult. in the *Winchester*, accompanied by the steamer *Skyx*, and his Excellency Sir John Bowring followed in the steamer *Rattler* the next day.

A meeting of the British and American authorities had taken place in Canton to consider the peculiar state of matters, but nothing whatever had transpired His Excellency Sir James Stirling had inspected the neighbourhood of the foreign residences, with a view of being prepared, in case of emergency, to render the most efficient assistance.

There are various reports of communications made to her Majesty's Plenipotentiary by the Imperial authorities and the rebel chief, but no details are given. It is generally believed his Excellency Sir John Bowring will avail himself of the present opportunity to endeavour to gain admission into the city.

A PROPER REGULATION.—An order issued by the Commissioners of Police was on Saturday promulgated, and read over to the summoning officers at the various police-offices, to the effect that they are not on any account to recommend solicitors to the persons whom they may have in custody, or any body else.

THE RHINE FROZEN OVER.—At Metz, on the 1st instant, the Rhine was completely frozen over to a considerable thickness. To commemorate the event the coopers of the town constructed a huge cask on the ice, and afterwards paraded it through the town in a car drawn by six horses, preceded by a band of music, and followed by the whole corporation of coopers carrying their banner. Two restaurants were established in the middle of the river, and it was proposed to set up a dancing saloon.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH called the attention of their Lordships and of the new Minister of War to the promises of the late Ministry with respect to clasps to be granted for the charge at Balaclava, and also to the rewards to be granted to the seamen engaged at the siege of Sebastopol. He trusted that the present Government would not neglect to carry out without delay the pledge that had been given

Lord PANMURE assured the noble Earl that no time should be lost in conferring the distinctions to which he had called attention. The noble Lord then introduced a bill to enable her Majesty to enlist men for any period of time they may please under ten years, such men to be between the ages of 24 and 32 years. The object of the measure was to obtain a better and more experienced class of men than were usually enlisted as raw recruits.

The bill was read a first time.

After some observations from the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Earl of Harrowby, and the Earl of Ellenborough, in approval of the proposed arrangements of the Government, the subject dropped.

The Purchasers' Protection against Judgments Bill was read a second time

The Fisheries (North America) Bill was read a third time and passed

HOUSE OF COMMONS FRIDAY.

Lord Palmerston took the oaths and his seat for Tiverton; Mr. S. Herbert, for South Wiltshire; Mr. S Ricardo, for New Windsor.

A new writ for the borough of Cardigan, in the room of Mr Pryse Loveden, deceased, was ordered.

Letters from Sir E. Lyons and Admiral Bruyères were read by the Speaker, acknowledging the vote of thanks awarded by the House of Commons.

Mr ROEBUCK gave notice that on Thursday next he would move the names of the committee granted recently by the House on the subject of the conduct of the war. He would put the names on the votes to-night.

Mr. FRENCH asked the Government if there were any reasons why Sergeant Sullivan, who carried the colours of the 30th at the Alma, and had the singular honour of being specially reported by the General in command of his division to Lord Raglan, had not been promoted?

Lord PALMERSTON said power was given to Lord Raglan to promote one non-commissioned officer in each regiment; and Lord Raglan recommended the Sergeant-Major, so that no one else could be promoted. In reply to Mr Lygard, his Lordship thought there could be no objection to laying on the table of the House the despatch of General Evans in which Sergeant Sullivan's name was mentioned.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.

On the motion for going into a Committee of Supply,

Lord PALMERSTON said it would be expected that he should state what had led to his assuming the office he then held. It had been stated by the Earl of Derby that when her Majesty called upon him to form a Government he called upon him to join, and added that he wished him also to communicate with the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr. S. Herbert. He told the noble Lord that he would gladly join him in a public emergency, but that he could give him no answer until he had communicated with his colleagues, but this he could state, that he could not join any Administration that did not continue the control of foreign affairs in the hands of Lord Clarendon. He immediately afterwards communicated with the Marquis of Lansdowne, and soon afterwards he informed Lord Derby that he did not think his connection with Lis Government would add any material strength to it. Her Majesty was then pleased to call upon Lord John Russell, and charged him with the duty of forming an Administration. Lord J. Russell called upon him to assist in that: and he said that, feeling the importance of the crisis, he would render the noble Lord any assistance in his power; and if he had succeeded in forming an Administration he would have assisted him with the greatest possible alacrity. That attempt failed, and her Majesty then called upon him (Lord Palmerston) on Saturday, and on Tuesday he was able to report to her Majesty that he had succeeded in forming a Government which he thought would be enabled to carry on public affairs. He trusted that that Government contained sufficient administrative ability, sufficient political sagacity, sufficient liberal principles, sufficient patriotism and determination to justify him in appealing to the House and country for support in the present critical state of our national affairs (Loud cheers). He would sketch out, though not in detail, what it was the intention of the Government to do. It would be seen that he had not thought it his duty to appoint a Secretary at War, because he thought the offices might be amalgamated, and that the civil departments of the Ordnance might be placed under the control of the Secretary for War (Hear, hear). The Secretary of the Admiralty had established a board to superintend the transport service at sea. We were engaged in warlike operations with France as an ally, but we had not the means of sending so many men into the field as France, and it was but fair that we should make some return to France in the shape of additional naval arrangements (Cheers). He was convinced that the establishment of that board would lead to increased economy and efficiency in that department. Well-grounded complaints having been made as to the condition of our war hospitals, it was intended to send out three civilians for the purpose of making good sanitary arrangements for the hospitals, camps, and ships, and from their scientific labours he anticipated the greatest advantages. No means would be omitted to reinforce the army in due time. Charged as the Government was with the interests of a great nation, they had to look not only to the means of carrying on the war with great vigour, but it was their duty to take all measures in their power to put an end to it. They had been informed that certain arrangements agreed to between England and France had been submitted to Austria, and adopted by Russia as the basis of negotiation. In order that these negotiations might be most solemnly conducted, they proposed to Lord John Russell to undertake the duty, being convinced that when they were placed in the hands of a man so generally respected at home, and so well known throughout Europe, if their efforts should fail they would stand acquitted from blame. Lord John Russell at once undertook the duty, and no one ever did himself more honour than did the noble Lord in taking upon himself duties of such importance. The noble Lord would first proceed to Paris, thence to Berlin, where he would be in communication with the King of Prussia, and, although some time might elapse before his arrival in Vienna, the time he spent in those two capitals would not be thrown away.

Mr. DISRAELI, in reference to Mr. Roebuck's motion, protested against the House of Commons stultifying itself by departing from the position which, but a few nights ago, it so triumphantly occupied. He was determined to maintain the decision of the House, and the wholesome opinion of the country, that there should be a Parliamentary inquiry into the condition of the army before Sebastopol, and of those branches of the Government which should have prevented the present lamentable condition of our troops

Mr. ROEBUCK said that, after the solemn decision of the House in respect to his motion, he hoped that it would not stultify itself by taking an opposite course, particularly when it was considered that the Ministry was comprised of nearly the same members as had formed the late Government. He should certainly persevere with his motion on Thursday.

After some discussion the subject dropped.

NAVY ESTIMATES.

The House then went into committee upon the Navy Estimates.

Sir J. GRAHAM made a statement in which after reviewing all that had been done during the past year by the Admiralty, proceeded to state that the Government intended as fast as circumstances would admit, to substitute steam-vessels for those now in use. He had much pleasure in informing the house that Government would be in a position to send out to the Black Sea six new screw steamers, and that the fleet intended for the Baltic would reach the extraordinary number of 100 vessels. The Navy Estimates for the present year as prepared, would exceed those of last year by £2,000,000, and the number of men proposed to be employed in this branch of the public service would reach 70,000

After some discussion the votes were agreed to.

THE LETTER upon "Anæsthesia by Cold in Surgical Operations," from Mr. T. Wakley, in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of last week, was accidentally stated to have been addressed to our Journal, whereas it was extracted from the *Lancet* of the current week.

COST OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.—It is shown by a Parliamentary paper recently issued that the cost of the funded and unfunded public debt, as interest and management (exclusive of £16,186 16s. 2d., the interest on donation and bequests), amounted in the year ended the 5th January to £27,736,268 14s.

FATAL SHIPWRECK.—During a severe snowstorm at Dublin on Friday the steamer *Will-o'-the-Wisp*, of 400 tons, trading between Maryport and Dublin, went on shore at Lambey, and all hands were lost. In addition to the crew, several passengers were on board.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

HER Majesty, by her royal sign-manual warrant of the 31st of last month, has been pleased to grant a Civil-list pension of £100 a year to Mr. Thomas Keightley, "in consideration," so the warrant runs, "of his services to historical literature, and of the straitened circumstances to which he is reduced." As this is the last literary pension which Lord Aberdeen will have to recommend her Majesty to grant, we hope it will be the last time that "straitened circumstances" will ever be introduced into a Royal warrant, coupled with services to historical literature, and so small an amount of pension. Mr. Keightley has published some well-written and useful works in history in general, and is the author, as well, of a book on "Fairy Mythology," which all who have read it will remember with pleasure and profit, and both of a high kind.

This grant to Mr. Keightley reminds us that, by a warrant of a like date, a pension of £150 a year has been granted to the widow of the late Mr. E. T. Crafer, of the Treasury. The pension is given "in consideration of her husband's long and faithful services, and the distressed situation in which she is left with a large family at his decease." Mr. Crafer's widow well deserved a pension from the public of this amount; but we must protest against its being granted from the petty twelve hundred pounds a year assigned by Parliament for literary, scientific, and artistic services. Mr. Crafer *fell* in the service of his country. He was assiduous, he was useful, and his public career had been long and faithful. Surely, out of the Superannuation Fund of the Civil Service of the public means might have been found to have given Mr. Crafer's widow this well-merited but small annuity? But Mr. Gladstone is to take up the whole case of the civil servants of the Crown; and we recommend Mrs. Crafer and this pension to his particular notice.

Poets are improving in worldly condition. When Goldsmith died £3000 pounds in debt, Johnson exclaimed (naturally enough), "Was ever poet so treated before?" Scottish's property was at least worth £7000, and Wordsworth's worth as much. Campbell, it is true, died poor, "living on the life to come," that has hitherto made so important a part in every poet's creed. But here is James Montgomery, of Sheffield, whose will was made in 1827, and who died in 1854, has left property in Sheffield and its neighbourhood that has just been sworn under £9000! This was money honourably won and well deserved. It will soon no longer be allowed us to couple poets and imprudence together. What has Butler told us?—

> It is not poetry that makes man poor,
> Nor few do write that more not so before,
> But, being fit for all other trades unfit,
> Only t' avoid being idle set up wit.

But few take to poetry now; with a very few exceptions it has become a barren and, in bookselling language, an unprofitable art.

M. Cabany's letter on his acquisition of an alleged unpublished novel by Sir Walter Scott, and the remarks of Mr. Huntly Gordon, Sir Walter's amanuensis, thereon, have led us into a longer correspondence than we wish to encourage. Mr. Gordon has, however, sent us a further letter on the subject which merits publication. His letter, it will be seen, is bringing the point of genuineness still nearer to a satisfactory conclusion:—

Since the publication of the last number of your paper, a respectable and well-known London bookseller brought me facsimiles just received from M. Cabany of the letter to Mr. Spencer, which *appears* to have accompanied the MS. of "Moredun," and of the notice referred to by M. Cabany in his letter to the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, last week, and which he (M. C.) believes to have been intended as an introduction to the tale. The note to Spencer is such a dextrous imitation of Scott's handwriting that I should say "Moredun" must be well worth reading, if the style and sentiments have as striking an air of *resemblance* as the letter. Yet it will not bear a close examination I cannot swallow the improbability of Scott addressing Mr. Spencer—a man whom he seldom met, though he had a great regard for him—as "My dear W. S." His address even to his *familiars*—the Ballantynes—was always "My dear John," or "Jamie," or "Dear Jamie," or "W. S." in contradistinction to *printing*, which I don't believe Sir Walter ever tried after he left school! Nor did I ever observe an instance of his signing his *initials* to a letter. I have a brief one, written from a sick-bed; but still it bears the signature "W. Scott."

With respect to the handwriting—many of the letters are too tall; and I noticed the final *t* formed about double the length of Scott's, and without *turning* up the bottom, which I never knew him to omit. But I was chiefly struck with the letter *h*, which is fashioned with an open top or loop; and on carefully referring to many letters, &c. (one of them a slip of a few extra pages), I could not find *a single instance* where this letter was so formed. I therefore unhesitatingly pronounce W. S.'s note to be an imitation, though a very clever one; and have no doubt that M. Cabany has been imposed on. If that gentleman will consult any "*expert*" in Paris, I am pretty confident he will be to find that it would be considered fatal to the authenticity of any document should even one letter be fashioned, several times, in a manner in which the presumed writer *never* formed it before. I need say nothing of the scrap commencing with an allusion to Dante, as that would strike one even little versed in Scott's handwriting as a very poor imitation indeed. But I stick to the *h*. Luke John Kemble, I cannot give up my *ut-ches!*

I take this opportunity of explaining that part of my communication which you printed on Saturday, as I find it has been misunderstood. Neither Wm. Laidlaw nor John Ballantyne ever acted as Scott's "amanuensis," except during the composition of "Ivanhoe" and the "Bride of Lammermoor" And it is one of the most remarkable facts in the literary history of my illustrious friend, that the two works which many consider his best romances ("Ivanhoe" was, and I think still is, the most popular on this side of the Tweed) should have been composed when the author was too ill to hold a pen; and, stranger still, that "Ivanhoe" should be, in style, perhaps the most perfect of his prose writings. And yet he never tried dictation till he began "Ivanhoe." Nearly the whole of that splendid tale, and the entire "Bride," were dictated; but Mr. Lockhart was mistaken when he included the "Legend of Montrose" in the same category, every word of it having been transcribed by me.

I said that "the name of Napoleon was proscribed," &c., merely as a strong mode of expressing my disbelief that a fashionable stationer, in the neighbourhood of the Tuileries—(to whom Scott would probably send for writing-paper if his travelling stock was exhausted)—would have sold paper with the "water-mark of the first Empire" during the reign of Charles X. and the Restoration of the King of Rome! Believe me, &c.,

13th February, 1855. G. HUNTLY GORDON.

If M. Cabany's acquisition is a genuine production of the great novelist he cannot give it too great a publicity. He should court inquiry everywhere; and what is more, publish the work forthwith.

Artists and amateurs (in spite of the frost) have been making their way to Messrs. Foster's auction rooms, in Pall-mall, to view a small but choice collection of fifty pictures of the English school, the property of Mr. Birch, of Edgbaston, near Birmingham, and of another gentleman, name unknown. We have examined the collection with care, and shall have something to say next week about the works themselves, and the prices they obtained. The bulk of them were well-known faces. Of the new pictures we saw nothing better than Mr. Herbert's "Nimrod," a picture of the year 1853, and in Mr. Herbert's best manner.

TIVERTON ELECTION.—The nomination of a candidate to represent the borough of Tiverton in the House of Commons, in consequence of the vacancy caused by Lord Palmerston's acceptance of the office of First Lord of the Treasury, took place on Monday, at twelve o'clock, in the Town-hall. The committee for ensuring the noble Lord's return had, in consideration of the present state of public affairs, passed a resolution to the effect that they would undertake to re-elect Lord Palmerston in his absence. His Lordship, therefore, was not present. After the usual preliminaries, Mr. J. H. Amory, in proposing Viscount Palmerston as a fit and proper person to represent the borough in Parliament, observed, that in asking the meeting to elect the noble Lord he was asking them to elect a man whom the every shade of political party could honestly and fairly support. Lord Palmerston, now Prime Minister of England, was the man to whom they all looked at the present moment to bring the war in which this country was engaged to a successful conclusion. Mr. W Hole (a magistrate of the borough) seconded the nomination. The Mayor inquired if there was any other candidate, and, no one responding in the affirmative, he declared the noble Lord re-elected. Three cheers were then given right heartily for the Queen, for Lord Palmerston, Mr. Amory, and Mr. Hole; for the Emperor of France and the gallant French army; and for the press of England. The meeting, having then given three decided groans for the Czar, separated with a vote of thanks to the Mayor.

WRECK OF THE "DIANA," OFF PENZANCE.

WRECK OFF PENZANCE.

We regret to record the wreck of the collier-brig the *Diana*, of Swansea, which was driven on the Pier Rocks in endeavouring to reach the harbour of Penzance during the storm of Friday, the 9th inst. When she struck all was confusion and excitement: ropes were thrown from the pier-wall to the poor fellows on board; and they bore up manfully under such awful circumstances. Eight out of nine were saved, but several were severely injured, the Captain having three of his ribs broken. One poor sailor was killed: he had fastened a rope round his waist, and was being hauled up, when a heavy sea lifted the vessel against the wall, and cut the unfortunate man in pieces. The brig struck about nine o'clock, and by three in the afternoon it was the most confirmed wreck that has occurred on this part of the coast for many years. In appearance it was a chaos of matchwood; scarcely any portion of the ill-fated brig remained that could be distinguished. A few hours later, another brig (coal-laden) was driven on shore between Penzance and Marazion. Fortunately, it cleared the rocks, and was secured high on the beach.

The accompanying Illustration of the catastrophe is from a sketch by Mr. George W. Petitt.

LANDING OF THE REMAINS OF LORD FREDERICK FITZCLARENCE AT THE DOCKYARD BANDER.

The scene represented by the Sketch we have given under this head took place on the 14th of November last. The Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay army died at Poorundhur, of gout in the stomach, on the 30th of October. Judging from the tone of the newspaper press in the Presidency, his death has been felt as a great loss by the Indian. He was always devoted to his profession, and zealous for the welfare of the troops under his command. The *Bombay Times* gives the following laudatory notice of his career:—

He assumed office on the 24th of November, 1852, being then only fifty-two (the bulk of our Commanders-in-Chief having for a long while past been between sixty and seventy), bringing with him a high reputation as a man of ability and an enthusiast in his profession. The highest expectations had been formed of him; these, unfortunately, were destined to disappointment. In reviewing his short career, and giving him the fullest credit for perfect integrity, great kind-heartedness, and an earnest desire to do what he deemed right, and never to spare himself or those around him, his military administration, perfectly free as it is of the stains of nepotism and indifference which have characterised those of many of his predecessors, is admitted to have been a failure. The mechanical details of drill and discipline seem to have exhausted his conceptions of the management of an army 70,000 strong. He seems to have assumed that unbounded folly had reigned supreme in all departments until his arrival, and that his first duty was to have everything changed, and, had some of the measures latterly proposed by him been carried out, universal mutiny would have been the consequence. He inspected in person every regiment, visited their barrack-rooms and quarters, and partook of the soldiers' fare, in order to ascertain that the provisions with which they were served were wholesome and nutritious. Such conduct endeared him to both officers and men, and, if he had only refrained from ordering incessant drills and parades, his memory would have been worshipped by the army at large. Unfortunately, however, in consequence of not having seen service in the East in his youth, his ideas of

LANDING, AT THE DOCKYARD BANDER, OF THE REMAINS OF LORD FREDERICK FITZCLARENCE, AT BOMBAY.

the daily routine of garrison life were purely English, and he endeavoured to introduce into military life in the tropics a system of tactics totally antagonistic to the climate and the general routine of duty to which the army had been accustomed. The error would no doubt have been rectified in time.

The arrangements for his funeral were in the most magnificent style The funeral car is described as "a masterpiece of chaste art and skill it was all black velvet and gold lace armorial bearings, and with the coronet of the deceased; the followers of the funeral train were ushered into the state-room, where a red glare of light showed several peons, half in shadow half in shade, bearing glittering swords, as if they were the 'guardian genii' of the place." The ceiling of the hall was hung with colours and black drapery; "the walls literally covered with glittering arms of the most unique description;" "the platform on which the bier rested was a masterpiece of skill, which reflected the highest credit on the designer."

The following order was issued by the Indian Government on the melancholy occasion of his Lordship's death:

With sentiments of the deepest regret, the Right Hon. the Governor in Council announces to the army the demise of his Excellency Lieutenant-General the Right Honourable Lord Frederick Fitzclarence, G.C.H., Commander-in-Chief at this Presidency, which event took place at the Hill Fort of Poorundhur, at half-past two o'clock on the morning of the 30th October. On this melancholy occasion the flag of the Castle will be hoisted half-mast high, and continue so until sunset; and seventeen minute-guns, corresponding with the rank of the late Commander-in-Chief, will be fired at each of the principal military stations under this Government. The Governor in Council further directs that the officers of her Majesty's and the Honourable Company's army will wear mourning for a fortnight from this date.

SKETCHES IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

"THE City of the Sultan" and its environs abound in picturesque sites, two of which we this week engrave, from sketches by Mr James Robertson, of Constantinople.

TOPHANA (OR TOP-HANEH) is one of the suburbs of Constantinople, and a continuation of Galata, the principal seat of commerce. The name is derived from the cannon-foundry existing here. The accompanying Engraving represents a street in the Tophana quarter, descending from the "Russian" Palace, and affords a very accurate idea, not only of the architectural structure of the place, but of the company one encounters in making one's way to the place of embarkation for Scutari. There is not much to see in the quarter except a very beautiful fountain of white marble in the market-place, but it is in the general character of an Oriental city, rather than in individual objects of attraction, that a curious fascination is found for an unaccustomed eye. Must it be added that with familiarity grows contempt? and that after one has had a few days of such places of the ladies yellow boots and tantalising veils—of the picturesque porters, the grinning slaves, the pompous eunuchs, and the noisy *gamins de Stamboul*—the eye begins to be much less pleased; while the ear and the nose acquire proportionate readiness to detect the dissonant noises and the unsavoury odours of streets which you first people from the "Arabian Nights" and then you wish peopled with scavengers? This remark applies in full force to the suburb here depicted

VIEW IN TOPHANA.—FROM A SKETCH BY JAMES ROBERTSON, OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE OAK OF GODFREY OF BOUILLON.

One of the most celebrated historic relics of Constantinople is the noble Oak beneath which Godfrey of Bouillon and Raymond, Count of Toulouse, are stated to have encamped in the first Crusade:—

"Four other chiefs of the Royal blood of Europe also assumed the cross, and led each his army to the Holy Land; Hugh Count of Vermandois, brother of the King of France; Robert Duke of Normandy, the elder brother of William Rufus; Robert Count of Flanders, and Bohemund Prince of Tarentum, eldest son of the celebrated Robert Guiscard. These men were all singular with the fanaticism of the age, but none of them acted entirely from religious motives They were neither utterly reckless like Gautier sans Avoir, crazy like Peter the Hermit, nor brutal like Gottschalk the Monk: but possessed each of these qualities in a milder form; their valour being tempered by caution, their religious zeal by worldly views, and their ferocity by the spirit of chivalry. They saw whither led the torrent of the public will; and it being neither their wish nor their interest to stem it, they allowed themselves to be carried with it, in the hope that it would lead them at last to a haven of aggrandisement. Around them congregated many minor chiefs, the flower of the nobility of France and Italy, with some few from Germany, England, and Spain It was wisely conjectured that armies so numerous would find a difficulty in procuring provisions if they all journeyed by the same road. They therefore resolved to separate; Godfrey de Bouillon proceeding through Hungary and Bulgaria, the Count of Toulouse through Lombardy and Dalmatia, and the other leaders through Apulia to Constantinople, where the several divisions were to reunite The forces under these leaders have been variously estimated. The Princess Anna Comnena talks of them as having been as numerous as the sands on the sea-shore, or the stars in the firmament. Fulcher of Chartres is more satisfactory, and exaggerates less magnificently, when he states, that all the divisions, when they had sat down before Nice in Bithynia, amounted to 100,000 horsemen and 600,000 men on foot, exclusive of the priests, women, and children. Gibbon is of opinion that this amount is exaggerated; but thinks the actual numbers did not fall very far short of the calculation The Princess Anna afterwards gives the number of those under Godfrey of Bouillon as 80,000 foot and horse; and supposing that each of the other chiefs led an army as numerous, the total would be nearly half a million. This must be over rather than under the mark, as the army of Godfrey of Bouillon was

THE OAK OF GODFREY OF BOUILLON.—FROM A SKETCH BY JAMES ROBERTSON, OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

confessedly the largest when it stout, and suffered less by the way than any other.—*Mackay's Popular Delusions, Vol. 2.*

We quote this vivid picture from the second volume of Mackay's work on "Popular Delusions." The area beneath the majestic oak was not long since covered by British troops; when it was remarked that not before had Christians encamped beneath the wide-spreading tree since the days of Godfrey of Bouillon.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

Sunday, Feb. 18.—Quinquagesima or Shrove Sunday. Martin Luther d., 1546.
Monday, 19.—Galileo born, 1564.
Tuesday, 20.—Shrove Tuesday. Voltaire born, 1694.
Wednesday, 21.—Ash Wednesday. Archbishop Cranmer burnt, 1556.
Thursday, 22.—Sir Joshua Reynolds died, 1792.
Friday, 23.—
Saturday, 24.—St. Matthias.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEB. 24.

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
3 11	3 33	3 54	4 14	4 36	4 56	5 18	5 38	6 0	6 20	6 38	7 1	7 18	7 38

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1855.

The failure to assault and take Sebastopol immediately after the brilliant victory of the Alma has been the cause of the singular ill-temper and impatience of the British people during the last three months. A *coup de main* at that time might have been successful—at least such is the opinion of many competent judges in the British and French armies. The Russians themselves admit as much; and there is every reason to believe that the loss of life which would have ensued would have been far less than that which has since occurred from disease and exposure in the trenches. After the famous hoax of the "Tartar," which was solemnly affirmed to be true by the best-informed journal in Europe, the public mind, which had for a few days dwelt with complacency upon easy and brilliant victories, experienced a gloomy reaction. Not even the battles of Balaclava and Inkerman though reflecting the highest glory on the prowess of our army—were sufficient to restore the people to good humour. A sullen discontent grew up, which nothing but the capture of Sebastopol was sufficient to allay. In the fourteen weeks that have been passed in comparative inaction since the splendid day of Inkerman, sad havoc has been played at home with many reputations—both political and military which before that time stood at the highest point. Though our army suffered no reverse, though the enemy had been deterred from fresh attacks, though large reinforcements continued to reach the camps both of Lord Raglan and General Canrobert, though Sardinia offered us 14,000 men, though the Turks under Omar Pacha made good a position at Eupatoria, though that place was fortified in such a manner as to render its capture by the Russians imperative before they could again risk an onslaught upon us such as that so signally foiled at Inkerman, though the Powers of the Continent—Prussia alone excepted—were gradually drawn into our alliance, and though the mismanagement of the Commissariat and other departments was remedied to a considerable extent; all these and a thousand other favourable circumstances were held as nought. Sebastopol remained unconquered; and the British public not only remained unsatisfied, but highly displeased. Against Lord Aberdeen the first vial of wrath was discharged. The other members of the Ministry shared his obloquy, till, there being nothing new to be said in their dispraise, Lord Raglan became the object of the popular ill-will, although shortly after the battle of the Alma, and the flank march to Balaclava, no eulogium seemed energetic enough to satisfy the admiration which his brilliant generalship had excited. At the present moment the tide of opinion has found a new obstacle, and is dashing itself against "Aristocracy." How long this state of mind will last it is impossible to say; but it may be safely predicted that the quadruped which represents the power of the British people will continue to roll its fierce eyes, to shake its mane, to extend its tail, and to growl ominously, until it be gratified by the capture of the fortress on which it has set its mind. We do not think, as some do, that the noble animal is in reality discouraged; but it is evident that he is vexed and angry. A similar feeling exists in France, although it has not the same means as in this country for making itself manifest; and is shared to so large an extent by the head of the State, that the Emperor has, within the last few days, been with difficulty deterred from proceeding to the Crimea in person. But a variety of circumstances combine to show that the time is fast approaching when the Allied armies will resume the offensive; and when a new and vigorous attack, both by sea and land, will be directed against the stronghold of the Russians. The French have been ready for some weeks; and frost—a more rapid engineer than Mr. Peto—has hardened the muddy road between Balaclava and the British camp to such a degree as to render the getting up of our guns to their positions no longer a matter of impossibility, or even of great difficulty. Both armies are eager for the opportunity of renewed attack, either by the ordinary operations of a siege, or by the more brilliant, and perhaps less costly, alternative of a general assault.

The sufferings which both armies—and especially the British—have endured are favourable to the success of any movement which depends on desperate valour. Better to perish nobly in a gallant onslaught than to linger miserably in the cold of the trenches, or to be shipped off from Balaclava to die on the road to Scutari. The very best feeling pervades the soldiers of both nations; and hundreds of officers who, in the forced and painful inaction of their present duties, find nothing to do but to grumble at the war and those who have the command of it, will resume their proper character of brave men in the moment of danger, and will fight more lustily than they complain. That Sebastopol will be taken we cannot bring ourselves to doubt. The task may be difficult, and perhaps tedious, but it will be accomplished. Yet we can scarcely imagine that the British people will wholly recover their good humour in the interval. They have confidence in Lord Palmerston's energy, and in the prestige of his name; but even his great reputation may be "used up" if the siege last a few months longer. By the 1st of March the sword of Austria will be drawn; and the mighty struggle will convulse all Europe. Sebastopol will then cease to be the sole point of interest; and victories over Russia in other portions of her vulnerable frontiers may show the Czar that his ultimate triumph is impossible.

The new Premier has displayed something more than adroit management in selecting Lord John Russell as the negotiator to be accredited on the part of England to the Viennese Congress. For the adroitness—which is the first merit a great number of people will discover in the arrangement—let Lord Palmerston have due credit. The Derbyites—in whose ranks we are by no means disposed to include the Earl of Derby—are at this moment exceedingly incensed with the Premier because he declined to form what it is believed Lord Derby was never in earnest in asking him to form, namely—a new Coalition. The bewildering prospect of office induced a numerous band of exceedingly respectable and moderately-talented gentlemen to forget that, since the destruction of Lord Derby's Ministry by the very Parliament he had called together, they had never ceased to vituperate the union of men of different shades of principle, simply because it was such a union. The word Coalition was used by the Opposition writers as a synonym for all that was unprincipled and humiliating. Yet no sooner is office just possible than Lord Derby is thrust forward by his followers to propose a far more singular combination of statesmen—one in which strong political opinions would not be merely held in suspense, but must inevitably clash; and because Lord Derby is supposed to have been lukewarm in his effort to produce such a union, he is severely taken to task by the organs of his party; while the nobleman who avowedly declined to be a partner in such an arrangement is assailed with a bitterness for which disappointment is scarcely an extenuation:

But we must give the losers leave to chide.

The irritation of the unlucky candidates for office has by no means subsided; and they threaten that the new Administration shall commence its labours amid stormy weather. The presence of the man who acted as the wedge to split up the late Government, who has been galled by the mode in which his secession from office has been received by the country, and by the inculpatory criticisms offered by some of his colleagues upon his own vindications, would have acted as a species of conductor for the element with which the atmosphere of the House is charged. Appeals to "the noble Lord lately the President of the Council" would have come fast and furious, more ill blood must have been generated, and even the patriotism of the noble Lord himself might not have been sufficient to prevent his interest in the discussions from taking an inconvenient turn. For this, and for sundry cognate reasons, Lord Palmerston has done a clever thing in procuring Lord John Russell's temporary absence. It will throw out many calculations made on the Speaker's left. *Promptus ad artem suam*, as usual, Viscount Palmerston has shown himself

But these are considerations of small importance compared to the question of the real value of the appointment. Viewed with regard to the national honour and interests, the choice of Lord John Russell as our representative at Vienna seems a very desirable one. Unless these negotiations lead up to the great object of the war, the dismantling of Sebastopol, and the destruction of Russian ascendancy in the Black Sea, they are mere mockery, and will not be tolerated by nations already wearied and sickened by the solemn foleries of diplomacy. In fact, unless the mode of effecting this (with, perhaps, the least loss of dignity to Russia) be the question for discussion, neither Lord John Russell nor the representative of France has any business at the Congress at all. At this moment there is much reason to believe that, despite diplomatic protestations, and authorised articles by Russian organs, the Emperor Nicholas will not permit his envoy to discuss the "points" in the only sense in which England and France can permit their discussion; and in that case Lord John Russell will merely have to withdraw from the Conference altogether, and devote his leisure to refreshing his recollections of St. Stephen's and the Karnther Strasse; and we are inclined to think that, practically, this is about what his Lordship's errand will come to. Certainly, recent events can hardly be said to have offered to Nicholas any special reasons for an early surrender of his stronghold.

Nevertheless, it must come down. And if the Emperor of Russia should have arrived at the conviction that, though armies waste away, and all the untold horrors of war be found in fearful aggregation in our camps, England and France have vowed a hate to Sebastopol, like that of Juno and Pallas to Troy, a hate to be quenched only with the last flame of the tyrant's fortress, and that such vow will be kept, he may be in earnest in his negotiations. Startled at the attitude of Europe, leagued against him, and preparing for a dread rush upon his legions, Nicholas may be disposed to submit, rather than have his fortress and fleets destroyed by the enemy. If he be sincere in his dealings, the selection of our representative at the Congress is a very fortunate one; for it is certain that every wile which the chancery of St. Petersburg—rich in tricky treaties can devise will be put forth to obtain as much as possible from the forbearance of the Allies; to yield nothing that can be saved; and to confuse the terms of treaty, in order to raise questions and baffle remedies hereafter. The treaty by which the navigation of the "mouths" of the Danube was to be secured, and by which Russia cheated the other Powers by the most impudent devices, is a warning.

Now, Lord John Russell has not been trained to diplomacy; and as a man who cannot fence at all has far more chance against a skilful swordsman than one who knows the rules, but is a bad fencer, he may succeed better by refusing to enter into any phrase-mongery than any of our regular diplomatic hands, who are proverbially inferior to those of the despotic Powers. There are several reasons why Lord John may be expected to acquit himself well; and the chief one is, that his heart must be in the business. Any one who was present in the House of Commons on the memorable evening when he made the declaration that nothing but the depriving Russia of her great stronghold in the Black Sea could make Constantinople safe will remember the sensation those words produced, and the tone they gave to the subsequent debate. That Lord John was obliged, later in the evening, and at the instance of his chief, to qualify those expressions, to the manifest discontent of his auditors, was regretted, but it was felt that the first spirited declaration was that of his own feelings. Next, he has justified the step which has recently occasioned so much animadversion, simply and solely upon the ground that the war was not carried on in the vigorous way which was desirable, and with a view to the prescribed object. Thirdly, he has to vindicate by acts the course he has taken, having been by no means successful in doing so by words; and it will certainly not answer his purpose, as a statesman who values reputation, to show in negotiation any of that faltering and shortcoming which he has charged upon his late colleagues at home. He goes out armed at all points, a War Envoy, and his business is to do at Vienna that which hitherto Lord Raglan's cannon have not effected in the Crimea. If he do this, Sydney Smith's oft-quoted sneer at his courage will henceforth fall harmless, and his Lordship will show himself a great "commander." If—which, sincerely speaking, we do not anticipate—his aim prove to have been short of this, the name of Lord John Russell will not shine so brightly as it might have done in the page of his country's history.

THE COURT.

The Queen and the Prince Consort, with the youthful members of the Royal family, and the ladies and gentlemen of the Royal household, arrived at Buckingham Palace from Windsor Castle on Thursday afternoon. The Court will now remain in London until the week before Easter.

The Queen has entertained a distinguished circle of visitors at Windsor Castle during the week just closed. On Saturday morning, being the anniversary of her Majesty's marriage, the band of the Royal Horse Guards played several select pieces of music on the South Terrace. On the previous day his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Her Royal Highness the Princess Augustus of Saxe Coburg, and the Marquis of Abercorn arrived on a visit.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince, the four elder of the Royal family, the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the Private Chapel of the Castle. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated. The Duchess of Kent and the Duke of Cambridge were also at the service. The Princess Augustus of Saxe-Coburg went to the Catholic chapel at Clewer

On Monday morning the Queen and Prince, accompanied by the Princess Augustus of Saxe-Coburg, and attended by the Marchioness of Ely and the Hon. Matilda Paget and the Equeries in Waiting, drove out in two sledges. The Princess Augustus subsequently took leave of her Majesty, and returned to Claremont In the evening the Royal dinner party included her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Lady Fanny Howard, Baroness de Speth, Lieut.-Colonel Hon. J. Macdonald, Lieut.-Colonel Tyrwhitt, and Major Clifton

On Tuesday morning his Royal Highness Prince Albert, with Prince Alfred, skated in the Home Park. Her Majesty, attended by the Marchioness of Ely, was present. The Gentlemen in Waiting skated with his Royal Highness The Duke of Cambridge took leave of her Majesty, and returned to London. After dinner her Majesty and his Royal Highness the Prince, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, went to an evening party given by her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, at Frogmore-house

On Wednesday morning his Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by the Gentlemen in Waiting, skated in the Home Park. Several officers of the garrison had the honour of skating with his Royal Highness. Her Majesty, attended by the Hon. Mary Seymour and the Hon. Matilda Paget, witnessed the scene. Lord John Russell arrived at the Castle, and had an audience of her Majesty

The Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, the Princesses Alice, Helena, and Louise, Prince Arthur, and Prince Leopold, left Windsor Castle at three o'clock on Thursday afternoon, travelled by a special train to the private station at Nine Elms, and proceeded in eight carriages, escorted by a detachment of Carabineers, to Buckingham Palace, where the Royal party arrived at ten minutes past four o'clock.

The Countess of Desart has succeeded the Marchioness of Ely as Lady in Waiting to the Queen.

Lord de Tabley and Mr. Frederick Cavendish have succeeded Lord Waterpark and Major-General Berkeley Drummond as the Lord and Groom in Waiting.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and Princess Mary have arrived at St. James's Palace, from Cambridge cottage, Kew, for the season.

Viscount Palmerston gave a dinner to the Cabinet Ministers on Wednesday evening, at his residence in Piccadilly.

Lord John Russell is expected to leave town almost immediately for Vienna The noble Lord and family are at present staying at Richmond-lodge.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

Preferments and Appointments.—*Rectories:* Rev. W. Collins Collins to Harswell, near Market Weighton, Yorkshire; Rev. J. P. Lucas to Rhoselly, Glamorganshire; Rev. G. M Sykes to East Hatley, with the Vicarage of Tadlow, now united, Cambridgeshire. Rev J G. Dobree to Holton St. Mary, Suffolk; Rev. C. Parker to Ormesby *Vicarages:* Rev. R. James to Atheston near Yoxford, Suffolk, Rev W Nixon to Sutton, Suffolk: Rev. H. H. Swinny to Wargrave, Berkshire; Rev. H. H. Hardy to Preston, Gloucestershire; Rev. R. Hancock to Bathford, with Bathampton annexed; Rev. G. L. Faugier to West Haddon, Northamptonshire; Rev. H. Wybrow to Stratton-upon Dunsmore, near Coventry; Rev. W. Speke to Skenpeth, Herefordshire. *Incumbencies.* Rev. T. H. Dixon to Upleatham, near Redcar; Rev. C G Coombe to St Thomas's, Crookes, Sheffield; Rev J Hoye to Knowle, Warwickshire; Rev J. P. Jones to Ivington, near Leominster. The Rev. H Christmas, minister of Vernham Chapel, Lambeth, and lecturer of St. Peter's, Cornhill, has been appointed Professor of British History and Archæology, in connection with the Royal Society of Literature.

Testimonials.—We record with pleasure the recent presentation of a handsome set of robes to the Rev. R. Bilrooe, B.A., curate and evening lecturer of St. Luke's, Old-street, by a number of the ladies who form part of the congregation of the church under his excellent and exemplary guidance.——The Rev. John Thomas Bright Baker, on leaving the vicarage of Botley, Hants, was presented by the parishioners with a splendid set of robes, as a testimonial of the high sense they entertained of his exemplary manner of performing his duties during ten years.

Mr. Samson Ricardo was returned for the borough of Windsor on Wednesday, without opposition.

The Army Estimates.—The Army Estimates for the financial year ending the 31st of March, 1855, amount to no less than £13,721,158; being an increase of £9,593,672 upon the estimate for the present year. There being a decrease of £35,000 in non-effective services, the increase under the head of effective is £9,559,001. The effective services will cost £11,764,231; of which £7,316,000 is for the maintenance of the Army (deducting the troops in India), £88,000 for Volunteer Corps, and £3,813,000 for the Militia.

The 10th Hussars arrived on the 6th inst. at Alexandria. Between Bombay and Aden they lost seven horses; five died from natural causes, and two were shot, having been attacked by the glanders

The large barracks at Smyrna is to be converted into a hospital for English troops. Lieutenant-Colonel Powell, 57th Regiment, has reached that city to take possession. The Ottoman troops are to be posted in other barracks. Other English officers are expected daily at Smyrna.

The Bombay Command.—A Court of Directors was held at the East India-house on the 7th instant, when Major-General Sir Henry Somerset, K.C.B., was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the East India Company's forces on the Bombay Establishment, and Second Member of Council at that presidency.

Sir C. Napier and Admiral Berkeley. Sir C. Napier sends to the *Times* the following letter, which he has addressed to Mr. Crawford, M.P.:—"Merchistoun-hall, Horndean, February 11.—Sir,—I have been very much surprised at Admiral Berkeley's reply to your question I do not intend to bandy words with the gallant Admiral, but I beg to tell you, when the papers—which I hope will be asked for—are produced, it will be seen that I was goaded to act contrary to my own judgment; that I was censured; and, finally, dismissed my command. I have the honour to remain, Sir, your obedient servant, Charles Napier."

The Vienna Conferences. The *Indépendance Belge* states, as from high authority, that the Conferences were to open on the 15th inst. Diplomatic gossip in Paris goes not anticipate a pacific result from them. A diplomatist lately said, "The Conferences will end by the 1st of March, and then each party will draw the sword."

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

PROPOSED AUSTRIAN LOAN.

The Earl of Westmoreland has had lately several conferences with Count Buol. It is confidently stated that they had for object to settle the conditions of a loan of fifteen millions sterling which the Austrian Government wishes to contract under the guarantee of England. The loan is to be brought out in London.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The mail steamer from Constantinople of the 5th inst., arrived at Trieste on Thursday. Everything was prepared in the Crimea for an approaching assault. Favourable weather was anxiously expected. The French had extended their position to the extreme right. The British troops and the Imperial Guard were to form the reserve corps, and were also to be charged with the defence of Balaclava.

An answer was expected on the 6th at Constantinople, from Greece, to the propositions made by Redschid Pacha. The intelligence from Persia is unfavourable Russian influence at Teheran predominates. The English Ambassador and M Bourrée were about to present an ultimatum to the Shah, demanding an auxiliary corps of 30,000 men

By the fire which broke out in the arsenal near the Golden Horn, a severe loss of stores was sustained by the French.

The *Danube* announces that 1500 Turkish prisoners who were being conducted under escort from Tiflis into the interior of Russia, have been rescued by Schamyl; and that Hussein Pacha has replaced General Guyon as Chief of the Staff of the Turkish army of Asia. It was reported in Paris on Thursday, and to a considerable extent believed, that the Empe ror intended to proceed to the Crimea, there to take the chief command of the French army. The rumour was generally discredited.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

Sir Francis Baring has been appointed to the Chancellorship of the Duchy of Lancaster, in succession to Lord Grenville. The Secretaryship to the Board of Control is not yet filled up, Lord Goderich having declined the office. The Right Hon. Henry Fitzroy resigns the office of Under Secretary for the Home Department, the duties of which he has so creditably discharged during the last two years. No appointment in his place has been yet made, nor has any successor been named to Mr. Peel as Colonial Under Secretary. We understand that the changes about to take place in the War Department will have the effect of bringing considerable alterations in the Ordnance, involving the abolition of some of the higher offices. Pending this arrangement, it is not probable that the Clerkship of the Ordnance, vacated by Mr. Monsell, will be filled up.—*Globe* of Friday.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

The professional character and standing of the Hon. Richard Saunders Dundas, C.B., who has just been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Baltic fleet, affords ground for the happiest anticipations of the result. He is about the youngest admiral on the list, being in his 54th year, and consequently could not have participated in any of the actions of the last great European war; but in the operations in which he has been engaged in China he exhibited an amount of daring and judgment that called forth the warmest eulogy from his commanders. He subsequently had charge of a squadron in the Mediterranean, and we believe on all occasions kept up the best feeling with those serving under his command. Rear-Admiral Michael Seymour, the second in command, was flag-captain to Sir Charles Napier, and his last year's experience in the Baltic will not be his least qualification for the office. Rear-Admiral Robert L. Baynes will be the third in command, and Captain Pelham is likely to be Captain of the Fleet. *Ibid.*

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S MISSION TO VIENNA.—We have reason to believe that Lord John Russell has accepted the duties of British Plenipotentiary in the conferences and negotiations about to open at Vienna, and that his Lordship will proceed in a very few days to that destination.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL, who was to have left town for Vienna to-morrow, is, we regret to hear, suffering from severe indisposition, by which his departure will be delayed for some days. At the earliest moment that his health permits the noble Lord will proceed upon his mission, accompanied by Mr. Hammond, and other gentlemen from the Foreign Office.—*Globe* of Friday.

DESTRUCTION OF THE "MAURITIUS" STEAM-SHIP.—A fire broke out in the *Mauritius* steam-ship, in the Southampton graving-dock, on Friday (yesterday) morning, and, although there was plenty of water at hand, she was completely destroyed. There were 400lbs. of powder on board, which exploded at ten o'clock, but without doing the slightest damage. It is reported that the fire was the act of an incendiary, in consequence of the recent mutiny on board, and from expressions which have fallen from some of the crew. The value of the *Mauritius* is stated at £80,000

MEETING OF LICENSED VICTUALLERS.—A meeting of delegates from the Victuallers' Defence Association throughout the country, was held yesterday at Cogers-hall, Bride lane, Fleet-street, to consider the best mode of obtaining a repeal of Wilson Patten's measure passed last session. The draft of a bill for repealing the obnoxious enactment was read and approved.

A SLEIGH MASQUERADE.—Potsdam was enlivened by an animated spectacle on Saturday evening. The officers of the garrison got up a masquerade, or rather *en costume* representation partly in sledges, and partly on horseback—wherewith they traversed the crowded streets, to the great delight, but not much to the historical edification, of the spectators. The masque represented an episode in the history of the Teutonic order during the year 1377. Its outline runs somewhat thus: The Grand Master Winrich, of Kniperode, having by his side the young Duke Albert III. of Austria, who had come to gain his Knight's spurs, determined to march with a chosen force of Knights and men-at-arms into the then Pagan Lithuania, and there to attack and chastise the notorious "the Wild," Prince of that country. The expedition perfectly succeeded. The Knights were victorious in all their engagements, and the wild Kynstutt was so far dumpted that he sued for peace, and, as a guarantee of amity, proceeded to the Grand Master's quarters, with a train of richly ornamented sledges, to invite him and Duke Albert to a grand banquet. The invitation was accepted, and the German guests proceeded in Kynstutt's sledges to attend the fête, during which Duke Albert received the honours of knighthood, with the device of "Better sought in service." The Potsdam chronicle humorously observes that the spectators were mightily pleased at the brilliant display, but, not being sufficiently versed in Teutonic history, were utterly at a loss to make head or tail of the pageant There is another sledge episode in Teutonic history of much more recent date, which would have been well adapted to the season and to general comprehension, and quite as appropriate on other grounds. This was the wonderful expedition undertaken during the severe winter of 1708, from Stettin, by the great Elector Placing his infantry and field-pieces in sledges, and accompanied by a sufficient body of that renowned horse which had routed the Swedes at Fehrbellin, that truly great Prince advanced in almost a direct line, over frozen rivers and hills, to Courland Then, after reviewing his infantry as they stood up to their knees in snow, advanced, overtook the Muscovites, formed his order of battle, attacked, defeated, and completely cleared East Prussia and the adjacent parts of those unwelcome and already-grasping enemies. Those were great deeds, glorious for the illustrious House of Hohenzollern, and worthy of being represented, as they were undertaken, by gallant officers who may select episodes of national history for the edification and heart-warming of the public during frozen carnivals. But times are changed. If the dominant party had full sway, the Brandenburg bulwark of St. John would be more ready to receive a friendly but commanding visit from the orthodox legions of the present Lord of Lithuania, than to send forth its chivalry to imitate the daring exploits of Winrich of Kniperode, or those of the great Elector's glorious days.—*Letter from Berlin, Feb. 6.*

WHO'S TO BLAME?—Those who pretend to be behind the scenes say that Lord Raglan considers Mr. Filder has deceived him, and has at various times misrepresented the nature and magnitude of the means at his disposal, otherwise steps would have been taken to place our transport service on a better footing. Mr. Filder can, however, it is said, point to some important letters, written both before and after the 14th November to Lord Raglan, on the subject of transport, and of the roads, in which he is understood to have declared he could not be responsible for the evils and misfortunes which might befal the army if the important matters to which he called attention were neglected.

ON Saturday the Comptroller for Transport Service forwarded a notice to Lloyd's intimating an augmentation of the fleet of transports, furnishing the "number" of the additional vessels hired by the Government, by which we find that almost every steam-ship in the merchant service has been taken up for the purposes of the war. The transport fleet now muster no fewer than 200 ships of the largest class, upwards of a third of which are propelled by steam.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE DUKE OF GENOA

DEATH, asserts the poet, "æquo pulsat pede pauperum tabernas regumque turres." This was barely be admitted with regard to the Royal house of Sardinia. Death has of late been so fatally active in the family of the Sardinian Monarch, Victor Emanuel II. that his Majesty and his infant children have now scarcely one grown relative left. First died the present King's gallant father, Charles Albert, whose sword was so strongly but so unfortunately drawn in the cause of freedom; then died Charles Albert's mother, the Duchess of Savoy and Princess Montléart, and just recently the deaths of Charles Albert's widowed Queen, and of the present King's beloved and excellent consort, have followed in rapidly awful succession. News still more recent announces the demise of King Victor Emanuel's only brother, the accomplished Duke of Genoa, who will be remembered in this country as an agreeable and popular visitor to our shores but a short time ago. This Prince, Ferdinand Maria Albert, Duke of Genoa, was the younger of the two sons of the late Charles Albert, King of Sardinia, Victor Emanuel II., the present Sovereign being the elder. The Duke was born the 15th Nov., 1822, and married, the 22nd April, 1850, the Princess Elizabeth, eldest daughter of John present King of Saxony, by whom (now his widow, in her twenty-sixth year) he leaves an infant daughter, Margarita, born the 20th Nov., 1851. The Duke of Genoa was a General in his brother's service, and Commander-in-Chief of the Sardinian artillery. He died at Turin on the 10th instant. A Portrait of the Duke appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, No. 627.

VISCOUNT O'NEIL.

JOHN BRUCE RICHARD O'NEILL, Viscount O'Neil, of Shane's Castle, in the co. of Antrim, in the Peerage of Ireland, and one of the Irish Representative Peers, was the younger son of John O'Neill, the first Viscount, by his wife, Henrietta, only child of Charles Boyle, Lord Dungarvon. He was born the 20th December, 1780, and succeeded in the Viscounty of O'Neil on the 25th March, 1841, his brother Charles Henry St. John, the second Viscount, who was created Earl O'Neil in 1800; but whose Earldom became extinct on his dying without issue. The third Viscount (the subject of this notice) never married, and, consequently, the Viscounty now ends also with his demise The Viscount died on the 12th inst., at his ancestral seat, Shane's Castle. His Lordship was a General in the British service, and held the offices of Constable of Dublin Castle and Vice-Admiral of Ulster.

The Viscount's family, of Milesian origin, is one of the oldest in the sister kingdom, proving a clear descent from Niall, Monarch of Ireland in the beginning of the tenth century.

MARY ANN, VISCOUNTESS ST. VINCENT.

THE death of Lady St. Vincent took place at Meaford, county Stafford, on the 31st ult. Her Ladyship was second daughter of the late Thomas Parker, Esq., of Park-hall; and second wife of Edward Jervis, present Viscount St. Vincent. Her Ladyship leaves one surviving son—the Hon. Edward Swynfen Jervis, and one daughter, Mary Anne, widow of David Ochterlony D. Sombre, Esq

BARONESS ROLLO

AGNES, Dowager Lady Rollo, widow of John, eighth Lord Rollo, died on the 3rd inst., at 1, Stanhope-street, Hyde-park-gardens. Her Ladyship, who was daughter of William Greig, Esq., of Gayfield-place, married June 12th, 1806, the eighth Lord Rollo, and became his widow December 24, 1846. Her Ladyship's issue consisted of three sons (of whom the eldest, William, was the late Lord Rollo), and two daughters, Mary-Wills of Captain Robert Knox Trotter, of Halliedean, and Martha, of Lieut.-Colonel Richardson Robertson, of Tullieelton.

CLEMENT WINSTANLEY, ESQ., OF BRAUNSTON, COUNTY LEICESTER,

THIS respected country gentleman died on the 25th ult., at his residence Brookfield, near Teignmouth. He was a Magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant for Leicestershire, served as High Sheriff in 1815, and was for some years Lieutenant-Colonel of the county Militia. At the period of his death he was in his eightieth year

The family of Winstanley, one of remote antiquity in the county of Lancaster, was first established in Leicestershire, by James Winstanley, Esq., of Gray's-inn, who purchased, in 1650, the manor of Braunston from the Hastings, and was appointed, in 1653, Recorder of Leicester. Colonel Winstanley, the subject of this notice, was eldest son of Clement Winstanley, Esq., of Braunston, who served the office of High Sheriff for Leicestershire in 1774, when the gentlemen of the county, to evince their respect for him, arrayed themselves in blue coats with crimson collars, and attended Mr. Winstanley from his seat at Braunston in something like military order. Maternally, Colonel Winstanley was nephew of the first Lord Ranclifte, and, through his grandmother, Mary Prideaux, was a coreprescentative of the baronetical family of Prideaux.

GENERAL THE HON. SIR PATRICK STUART, G.C.M.G., COLONEL OF THE 44TH REGIMENT

THE death of this officer occurred on the 7th inst. at his seat, Eaglesearme, county Haddington, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. Sir Patrick was the second son of Alexander, tenth Lord Blantyre, by Katherine, his wife, daughter and heress of Patrick Lindsay, Esq., of Eaglescairnie. He was born in 1777, and married, in 1810, Catherine Henrietta, daughter of the Hon John Rodney, by whom he leaves a large family He entered the Army in 1793, and attained the rank of full General in 1851. From 1837 to 1843 he was Colonel of the 60th Rifles, but since the latter year he held the Colonelcy of the 44th Regiment. In 1843 he became Governor of Malta, and was made a Knight Grand Cross of St. Michael and St. George. He was a Deputy-Lieutenant for East Lothian, a Director of the Royal Academy of Scotland, and a Director Extraordinary of the Bank of Scotland.

LIEUT.-GENERAL THE HON. THOMAS EDWARD CAPEL

THIS venerable General died on the 3rd inst. at his residence, Charles-street, Berkeley-square, aged eighty-five. He was second son of William Anne, fourth Earl of Essex, by Harriet, his second wife, daughter of Colonel Bladen, and granddaughter of William, third Earl of Essex, by Elizabeth, his second wife, daughter of Wriothesley, Duke of Bedford. General Capel, who entered the Army April 10, 1793, served the campaign in Flanders under the Duke of York, and was subsequently in the Peninsula, where he was employed as Assistant Adjutant-General at Cadiz in 1811. He received the Silver War Medal with one clasp for Corunna. His commission of Colonel bears date Jan. 1, 1812, and that of General Nov. 9, 1846.

JOHN O'BRIEN, ESQ.

JOHN O'BRIEN, Esq., of Elmvale, county of Clare, died suddenly on the 8th inst. at his residence in Stephen's-green, Dublin. Mr O'Brien was for many years a prominent and active member of the Liberal party in Ireland, and during the struggle for Catholic Emancipation he distinguished himself as an able and consistent supporter of O'Connell. The honourable gentleman for several years represented the city of Limerick in Parliament. In private life his character was that of an amiable, generous, and high-minded Irish gentleman. He was brother to Mr. Serjeant O'Brien, M.P.

J. H. VIVIAN, ESQ., M.P

JOHN HENRY VIVIAN, Esq., M.P. for Swansea, died at his residence, Singleton, near Swansea, on the evening of Saturday last, in his 72nd year. He was the second son of John Vivian, Esq., of Truro, Vice-Warden of the Stannaries, and the brother of Sir Richard Hussey Vivian, first Lord Vivian; the present Lord Vivian is his nephew. Mr. John Henry Vivian represented Swansea and its contributory boroughs, Neath, Aberavon, Kenog, and Loughor, since their enfranchisement under the Reform Bill in 1832. So popular was Mr. Vivian among the electors, that he was always returned without a contest. He was the head of the firm of Vivian and Sons, the extensive copper-smelters. In politics Mr. Vivian was a moderate Liberal. When the Whigs were in office he generally voted with the Ministry, but went further than they did, in supporting the ballot and one or two other measures.

Mr. Vivian was ever held in high esteem for his private virtues, even by those who differed from him in politics. His munificence in favour of all the local charities and other eleemosynary establishments was proverbial throughout the county of Glamorgan.

Mr. Vivian married, the 30th October, 1816, Sarah, eldest daughter of Arthur Jones, Esq., of the Priory, Reigate, Surrey, and leaves issue four sons and five daughters. The eldest son, Henry Hussey Vivian, Esq., is present M.P. for Truro; the elder daughter is the wife of Sir W. Gibson Craig, Bart., and the third daughter the wife of William Jones Lloyd, Esq

PRYSE LOVEDEN, ESQ., M.P.

MR. PRYSE LOVEDEN, of Gogerddan, in Cardiganshire, and Buscot-park, in Berkshire, died in London on the 31st ult. He was the eldest son of Pryse Pryse, Esq, by his second wife, Jane, daughter of Peter Cavalier, Esq., of Glaborrindy, Cleveland, and was born the 1st June, 1815. He represented in Parliament the Cardiganshire boroughs for a period of six years, having been elected in 1849, on the death of his father, the late Pryse Pryse, Esq., who had represented those boroughs for thirty years. Mr. Loveden, like his father, was an ardent Reformer; and in two severely-contested elections succeeded in upholding his political views in his native county. His many virtues and kindness of heart so endeared him to his friends and neighbours, that three thousand of them attended his funeral. He was interred on Wednesday, the 7th inst., in the old parish church of Llanbadarn-Fawr, in Cardiganshire. Mr. Pryse Loveden married Margaretta-Jane, third daughter of the late Major Rece, of Llwynybiaran, Carmarthenshire, and leaves three children—two daughters. Mr. Pryse Loveden was the representative of the two very ancient and honourable families of Pryse of Gogerddan or Gogerthan, and Loveden of Buscot. His father assumed the surname and arms of Pryse on succeeding to the Welsh estates of his maternal ancestors in 1798

THE RIGHT REV. DAVID LOW, D.D., BISHOP OF ROSS, MORAY, AND ARGYLL

THE death of this venerable prelate is just announced. He had entered on his eighty-eighth year, and although younger than the marvellous old man of Magdalen College—the late Dr. Routh—he had been longer in holy orders, having been ordained a Deacon so far back as 1787. He was born near Brechin in 1768, educated at the University of Aberdeen, and afterwards under Bishop Gleig at Stirling, and settled as pastor at Fittenweem in 1790, since which period, for more than half a century, he fulfilled the duties there He was consecrated Bishop of the united dioceses of Ross, Moray, Argyll, and the Isles in 1819 A few years ago he effected the separation of the latter, and its erection into a separate see, by his own endowment; and, finally, he resigned his episcopal jurisdiction in 1850, when he was succeeded by Bishop Eden. The Bishop took a deep interest, and a frequent and active share, in promoting the great movements affecting the Episcopal Church of Scotland. Personally, the Bishop was one of the most interesting relics of the elder days of Scottish character and manners. His appearance was most striking—thin, attenuated, but active—his eye sparkling with intelligence—his whole appearance that of a venerable Peer of the old regime. His mind was eminently buoyant and youthful, and his memory was a fount of the most interesting historical information, especially in connexion with the Jacobite and Cavalier party, to which he belonged by early association and strong political and religious predilection. Born and bred in a district pre-eminently (at that time) devoted to the cause of the Stuarts, almost under the shadow of Edzell Castle, the ancient stronghold of the Lindsays in Forfarshire, and having lived from time to time, in his early years, in the Western Highlands, among the Stuarts of Balschulish and Appin, he had enjoyed familiar intercourse with the veterans of 1715 and 1745, and detailed the minutest events and adventures of those times with a freshness and a graphic force which afforded infinite delight to his younger generation. Nor was his traditional knowledge limited to the last century—it extended to the wars of Claverhouse and Montrose, to Bothwell Brig and Inverloche; of anecdotes of old Scottish manners he possessed a most abundant and curious store

THE RIGHT REV. OWEN EMERIC VIDAL, D.D., BISHOP OF SIERRA LEONE

THIS most estimable and accomplished prelate expired at sea, forty-eight hours before reaching Sierra Leone (to which colony he was returning), on or about the 23rd December, having been out visiting the churches in Yoruba. He was buried at Frentown on the 27th, and thousands of all classes attended his funeral. Dr. Vidal was born at Ruchampstead, Berks, in 1819, the eldest son of Emeric Essex Vidal, Esq., R.N., of Graham Lodge, Hailsham, Essex, and the grandson, maternally, of the Rev. James Capper, Vicar of Wilmington He received his education at St. Paul's School, Southsea, and at St. John's College, Cambridge, where he obtained a Lady Margaret's Scholarship, and was Senior Optime, and Second Class in Classics, in 1842. In the following year he was appointed Incumbent of Trinity Church, Dicker Common, Arlington, Sussex, and in 1852 was consecrated the first Bishop of Sierra Leone. He married, in 1852, Miss Hoare, fourth daughter of the Rev. Henry Hoare, Vicar of Framfield, Sussex.

LIEUT. HENRY CLARKE, R.N., son of Captain Clarke, R.N., formerly of Hyde-hall, Cheshire, died at Brynhyfryd, Llangollen, on the 4th inst. Lieut. Clarke entered the Navy in 1830, and went through much service in North America, the West Indies, and New Zealand. The fatigues he endured shattered his constitution, and caused his lamented death in his 39th year.

MISS MARY FRANCES FITZGERALD, a lady well known for her high mental accomplishments, and for her patronage of literature and the fine arts (her house being the favourite resort of writers, dramatists, and painters), died at her residence in the Royal Crescent, Brighton, on the 30th ult., in her 76th year. Mrs. Fitzgerald was a scion of the ancient house of Kildare; being a lineal descendant from the second son of the first Duke of Kildare. Mrs. Fitzgerald's family held property in Waterford. She herself possessed large estates in Lancashire, as well as owning the historic manor of Naseby, in Northamptonshire, and the lands of Bolnge, in Sussex.

RICHARD PLUNKETT, Esq., the very last of the famous "Irish Volunteers" of '82, who in that year achieved Hibernian independence, died recently, at the patriarchal age of one hundred and seven, at the residence of his son, M. R. Plunkett, Esq., R.M., Nenagh, co. Tipperary

THE REV. VILLIERS PLANTAGENET HENRY SOMERSET, twenty-eight years Rector of Honiton, whose death has just occurred, was the third son of General Lord Charles Somerset, Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, who was son of the fifth and brother of the sixth Duke of Beaufort. The rev. gentleman, who was born in 1803, married, in 1844, Frances, daughter of John Ley, Esq., Clerk of the House of Commons, and leaves issue. The rev. gentleman's only surviving brother is Lieut.-Gen. Sir Henry Somerset, K.C.B., the Commander-in-Chief at Bombay

WILLS AND PERSONALTY.—The Most Noble John Marquis of Ormonde, of Kilkenny Castle, left personality in England estimated at £6000. The Hon. Lieut.-General Sir George Calcraft, C.B., £5000. Rear-Admiral Sir Richard O'Connor, C.B., £2000. General James Hussason, £30,000. The Rev. R. W. Wardford, D.C.L., £140,000. The Rev. M. J Routh, D.D., President of Magdalen College, Oxford, died intestate, leaving personality amounting to £60,000.

CHARITABLE BEQUESTS.—Miss Charlotte Rebecca Howard, of York place, Marylebone, has left to charities a sum exceeding £12,000, as under:—The Clergy Orphan Asylum, St. John's-wood, £2000; Queen Charlotte's Lying-in Hospital, New-road, £1000; Royal Free Hospital, Gray's-inn-road, £1500; City Truss Society, Cheapside, £1000; Blind School, St George's-circus, £1000; Seamen's Hospital, *Greenwich*, £1000; Destitute for All Classes, Haverstock-hill, £1000, Free Cancer Hospital, Chenson-row, Parliament-street, £1000; Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals, £1000, Hanwell Lunatic Asylum, £500; For Giving Nightly Shelter Houseless Poor, £500; and other sums to be invested and laid out in blankets and clothing, and other benevolent uses.

LORD PANMURE,

THE NEW MINISTER OF WAR.

When Lord John Russell, some few months since, first began to be dissatisfied with the management of the War Departments, the person whom he consulted as to the best mode of reorganising them was Lord Panmure, who had filled the office of Secretary at War during the six years of his (Lord John Russell's) Administration. When, also, Lord Palmerston became charged with the commands of her Majesty to form a Government, in place of being made War Minister, he, too, applied to Lord Panmure to fill that important office. In commenting on that appointment the noble Lord, who might be said to have originated it, paid a high compliment to the talents of Lord Panmure, and asserted his fitness for the post Speaking of the new War Minister, he said, that he was a perfect master of all the principles which regulate an army, and of all the details. He would, he had no doubt, turn his attention to every improvement relative to the supply of the army, and would not be induced to adopt, under the name of improvements, innovations which might be destructive of the army, but would adopt those improvements which the science of the present day would enable him to carry out. Lord John Russell also expressed his conviction that Lord Panmure would be ready to act in a manner which would increase the efficiency of our army, which had suffered, not from the want of discipline or the want of military organisation, but from the failure of the civil department. These are high praises and strong promises; but the past career of Lord Panmure leads to the opinion that they are not exaggerated or hazardous, but that they will be borne out by his subsequent proceedings.

It is as Mr Fox Maule that Lord Panmure is better known in the political and Parliamentary history of his country. During some twenty years he has filled, while his party have been in power, positions more or less important in the Government, and has invariably acquitted himself to the satisfaction of his superiors and of the public. He is one of those scions of the aristocracy whose whole life and conduct discredit the clamours which are now being raised against our existing institutions. He has those abilities, those qualities of mind and heart, those hard-working instincts, and those popular manners, which would have enabled him to rise in the State, had he entered Parliament only with the ordinary advantages, and trusted to his own powers to make his way. He is descended from the same family as the Earl of Dalhousie. His father was the youngest son of the eighth Earl of Dalhousie (the present Marquis is the tenth); but he changed his name from Ramsay to Maule on succeeding, through his grandmother, to the estates of the old Earls of Panmure. When he was raised to the peerage in the year 1831 (we speak still of the father of the subject of this notice) he took the title of Panmure, thus perpetuating indirectly the extinct honours of his family. It might be supposed that it was to the influence derived from these family associations that Mr. Fox Maule owed his selection and advancement in political life. So far from this being the case, it is generally understood that he derived no advantage whatsoever from the wealth and position of his father, for reasons into which it is needless here to enter.

Mr. Fox Maule, then, entered public life with scarcely any more advantages than those of any other public gentleman seeking advancement in the State Born in 1801, he early obtained a commission in the 79th Highlanders, in which regiment he served for twelve years It was not until the age of thirty-four that he entered the civil service of the country. On the accession to power of Lord Melbourne, in April, 1835, that nobleman offered to Mr. Fox Maule the post of Under Secretary of State for the Home Department; and he continued to discharge its duties until the month of June, 1841. He was early noticed as a collected and sufficiently fluent speaker, a good man of business, remarkable for *bonhomie*, and yet always commanding the respect of the House by his quiet dignity and self-possession. The excellent manner in which he had discharged the duties of this subordinate post led to his being nominated Vice-President of the Board of Trade in the month of June, 1841

THE NEW MINISTER OF WAR, THE RIGHT HON. LORD PANMURE.

He had scarcely found an opportunity of showing his capacity for his new duties, and of defending the commercial policy of the Government against the assaults of Sir Robert Peel and his then Protectionist followers, when the success of the Conservative Opposition led to the dissolution of Parliament, and the return of the immense Conservative majority which finally overthrew Lord Melbourne's Government. During the foregoing period Mr. Fox Maule had sat for Perthshire, from 1835 to 1837, and for the Elgin districts of burghs from 1838 to 1841. At the general election of the latter year he did not resume his connection with his former constituencies, but stood successfully for Perth city, which he continued to represent during the next eleven years

In the opposition, if such it can be called, which was maintained by Lord John Russell and the Liberal party against Sir Robert Peel, Mr. Fox Maule took a distinguished, and sometimes even a leading, part; and on more than one occasion he developed striking debating powers. On the rupture between Sir Robert Peel and his party, which was the consequence of his repeal of the Corn-laws, Mr. Fox Maule came into office with Lord John Russell. It was now that he first became connected with the War Department, for which his military experience as well as his general temperament, fitted him. In discharge of his duties as Secretary at War, from the accession of the Russell Ministry in July, 1846, to certain changes which preceded its downfall in February, 1852, he commanded the confidence of his colleagues, and generally satisfied his critics in the Army. How he performed those duties may be inferred from the spontaneous tribute of praise on the part of Lord John Russell to which we have already alluded. Lord Palmerston, as the Foreign Minister of that Government, also enjoyed constant opportunities of appreciating the services of the right hon. gentleman, and to this date we must refer the formation of the opinion which has now led to Lord Panmure's appointment to the most onerous and responsible office in the Ministry at the present crisis. Mr. Fox Maule's official career was once more varied by a change of office, ere he temporarily retired from political life. After yielding up the War-office at the commencement of February, 1852, he became President of the Board of Control, and continued to hold that post until the resignation of Lord John Russell's Administration Lord Panmure—for by the death of his father he had now succeeded to the title—took no part in the arrangements which led to the formation of the Coalition Government; but the reputation he had made led to his almost immediate selection for the office of War Minister, as soon as it became clear that Earl Grey could not accept the post. Considering that we are actually at war, and that a time of war is not the best for organic changes, however necessary in the abstract, it is perhaps preferable that we should have at the head of the War Department, and invested, as it is to be hoped he is, with plenary powers, a man of the character, experience, and temperament of Lord Panmure, who will not needlessly outrage military prejudices, yet will not yield to the spirit of routine; who is courageous enough to resolve on any changes, however great, yet practical enough and (so to speak) soldier enough not to insist on reforms for mere theory's sake; and whose general bearing, whether in Parliament or in his department, is such as to command respect, while conciliating the confidence even of the most susceptible of military men.

Lord Panmure is the second Baron—the eldest son of the first Baron, by his first wife, who was daughter of Gilbert Gordon, Esq., of Halleaths. The late Lord Panmure married a second time, in March, 1822, Elizabeth, daughter of Barton, Esq., who still survives. The present Lord Panmure was born at Brecon Castle, in Forfarshire, in 1801; so that he is still in the full vigour and maturity of his powers; and he married, in 1831, the eldest daughter of the first Lord Abercromby, who died in 1853. In November, 1843, while still Mr. Fox Maule, Lord Panmure was elected Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow. In June, 1849, he was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Forfarshire, and in May, 1853, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal of Scotland. Lord Panmure has no children, and his heir presumptive is his brother.

The accompanying Portrait has been engraved, by permission of Messrs. Graves and Co., of Pall-mall from a fine print, just published by that firm.

SITE FOR A BRITISH HOSPITAL, AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

A short time since it was stated in the *Journal de Constantinople*, the site of the old Palace of Galata Serai, which was burnt down about six years since, had been placed at the disposal of the British Government, for the erection of an Hospital. One of the Artists attached to the Illustrated London News, who was at the time waiting at Constantinople for his passage to the Crimea, sketched the picturesque locality, a pleasant spot on the south side of the Rue de Pera, within fifty yards of the British Embassy. It commands a beautiful view of the entrance to the harbour of the Golden Horn, Seraglio Point, Princes' Islands, and the Sea of Marmora, with Mount Olympus in the distance.

CONSTANTINOPLE. PROPOSED SITE FOR AN ENGLISH HOSPITAL.

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

LANDING THE WOUNDED FROM H.M.S. "RETRIBUTION," AT PORTSMOUTH—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE WAR.—LANDING OF THE WOUNDED AT PORTSMOUTH

The large Illustration engraved upon the preceding page was sketched by our Artist at Portsmouth, on the afternoon of the 24th ult.; and shows the landing of the wounded and invalid soldiers from the *Retribution* steam frigate. The vessel presented a singular appearance from having lost her mainmast, and bearing other marks of having seen hard service. Two or three stretchers were put in requisition for severe cases; and the body of a soldier who had died on the previous day was landed.

The reception was an interesting scene. Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane was present on the jetty when the *Retribution* came alongside. The military authorities were also promptly on the alert. Nothing could exceed the attention paid by them to the careful landing of those men who were so helpless as to require stretchers. The Admiral Superintendent's Flag Lieutenant, Mr. Goldsmith, was present at the disembarkation, which commenced immediately the vessel got moored. All were out of the ship by a quarter-past twelve; and the body of the deceased John Thompson, of the 19th, was removed from the ship in a shell, covered with the union-jack. The men urged strongly their wishes to be taken to the garrison hospital, and the rest were berthed in the new auxiliary hospital adjacent to the Millbank; all receiving the utmost attention of the medical staff.

The invalids, about fifty in number, walked ashore—some carrying their county kits or little bundles; some assisted in their short walk to the omnibus close by with the broad shoulder of a hearty blue-jacket. They were mostly wrapped up in their regimental dark grey great-coat. No great uniformity of dress prevailed: here one of the 11th Hussars with his red trousers and little forage-cap; there one of the heavy cavalry with his uncut whiskers and beard, and his complexion yellow and bearing the stamp of long sickness, and perhaps of a hospital atmosphere. A few omnibuses were ready to convey them to the railway station and hospitals.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES FROM THE CRIMEA.

(From a *Supplement* to the *London Gazette.*)

War Department, Feb. 12, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:

Before Sebastopol, Jan. 27, 1855.

My Lord Duke,—I have the satisfaction to acquaint your Grace that the weather continues fine. There are severe frosts at night; but the sun shines brightly through the day, and there is an absence of wind, which, whilst it continued, added considerably to the sufferings of the troops.

Every exertion is making, by public transport and individually, in getting huts up; but this is a most difficult operation, and the ground is still so rotten that it is a most arduous labour to pass along it.

The extremely confined space of Balaclava, and the vast accumulation of stores, has obliged me to erect huts at some distance outside the town for their reception.

I enclose the list of casualties to the 25th instant inclusive.

I have, &c., RAGLAN

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES WOUNDED, FROM 3RD TO 9TH JAN., INCLUSIVE.

Scots Fusilier Guards.—Privates James Abbs, George Smith, severely.
1st Battalion Rifle Brigade.—Privates Henry Ralph, Edmund Byer, slightly.
1st Foot.—Private William Lawler, severely (since dead).
17th.—Private Thomas Loftus, severely.
3d.—Privates John Rogers, slightly, Richard M'Cauley, Patrick Hogan, severely.
30th.—Private William Birb, severely.
38th.—Privates James Sheerman, Edwin Dale, severely; Austin Fitzgibbon, slightly.
44th.—Private A. Mason, slightly.

Admiralty, Feb. 13, 1855.

A despatch has been received from Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, of which the following is an extract:

Agamemnon, off Sebastopol, Jan. 27, 1855.

Sir,—I have the honour to report, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that since my last general letter of the 23rd inst. the weather has been particularly fine. The health of the army has been much benefited by the change. A good deal of progress has been made in hutting the troops and distributing the clothing which has been so liberally sent out from England—so that the men express themselves as being comfortable.

2. The health of the fleet and of the naval brigade is excellent. The men are well supplied with fresh meat and vegetables, and also with oranges, sent from Malta by Rear-Admiral Stewart.

3. The fire from the batteries of the Allies has increased during the last week, and that of the enemy has not slackened. New guns have been mounted in our batteries during the last four days.

4. On the 24th instant I passed the day at Balaclava to superintend the service going on there, and to make inquiries and examine into matters connected with the duties of the port and the transport service. I met Lord Raglan there by appointment, and we made some arrangements which will, I trust, have a beneficial effect.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. C. LYONS,
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

To the Secretary of the Admiralty.

AUGMENTATION OF THE ARMY.

The Army for the ensuing year, exclusive of artillery, engineers, and of the troops in India, will consist of 6947 officers, 13,643 non-commissioned officers, trumpeters, and drummers, and 173,005 rank and file—making 193,595 individuals of all ranks. Of these 118,645 will be British troops; and as the number this year amounts to 142,776, it will be seen that the Army will be increased by 35,869 men. In the cavalry no augmentation will take place in the three regiments of Household Cavalry, in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 6th, and 7th Dragoon Guards, the 3rd Light Dragoons, 7th Hussars, 9th Lancers, 10th Hussars, 12th Lancers, 14th Light Dragoons, 16th Hussars, and 16th Lancers. The 4th and 5th Dragoon Guards, 1st Royal Dragoons, Scots Greys, Inniskilling Dragoons, 4th Light Dragoons, 8th and 11th Hussars, 13th Light Dragoons, and 17th Lancers will each be raised from the present establishment of six troops (27 officers, 32 non-commissioned officers, 328 men, and 271 horses per regiment) to eight troops of 76 men. The strength of these regiments will then be 34 officers, 55 non-commissioned officers and trumpeters, 639 rank and file, and 520 horses each. Of this strength six troops will be in the Crimea, amounting in round numbers to about 250 men, and the remainder will form a depôt at home. Our force of cavalry in the Crimea under the new arrangement should therefore ever 5000

The following infantry regiments will be raised to the strength of 68 officers (4 field-officers, 16 captains, 40 subalterns, and 8 staff), 149 non-commissioned officers, drummers, &c., and 2000 rank and file, making 2217 of all ranks, of which it is intended that 1400 should be always on active service:—1st Royal, Regiment (1st Battalion), 3rd Buffs, 4th King's Own, 7th Fusiliers, 9th Regiment, 14th, 17th, 18th Royal Irish, 23rd Fusiliers, 24th Regiment, 26th Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 28th, 30th, 33rd, 34th, 38th, 39th, 41st, 42nd Highlanders, 44th, 46th, 47th, 49th, 50th, 51st Light Infantry, 55th, 57th, 62nd, 63rd, 88th Light Infantry, 71st Highland Light Infantry, 77th, 79th Highlanders, 80th, 88th Connaught Rangers, 89th, 90th Light Infantry, 93rd Highlanders, 94th, 95th, and 97th.

No additions will be made to the Foot Guards, the Grenadiers remaining on their present establishment of three battalions (3549 of all ranks), and the Coldstream and Scots Fusilier Guards of two battalions (2439 of all ranks). It is not true, as stated, that a third battalion is to be added to the 1st Royal Regiment. The 60th Rifles and the Rifle Brigade will, however, each have a third battalion of 68 officers, 149 sergeants and drummers, and 2000 rank and file

An order is daily expected at Sheerness for several steam-vessels of light draught of water (principally gun-boats) to proceed to Copenhagen at the earliest opportunity on the breaking up of the ice, as a squadron of observation, to cut off communication and traffic with Russian ports in the Baltic

All the commissioned appointments, civil and military, in the "Land Transport Corps" now forming for the Crimea are filled up. Direct appointments to the non-commissioned ranks of superintendent and sub-superintendent can only be given to men who are, or have been, non-commissioned officers in the Army, or who hold a corresponding rank in the police forces of Great Britain and Ireland. All other candidates must, in the first instance, enlist as second-class drivers.

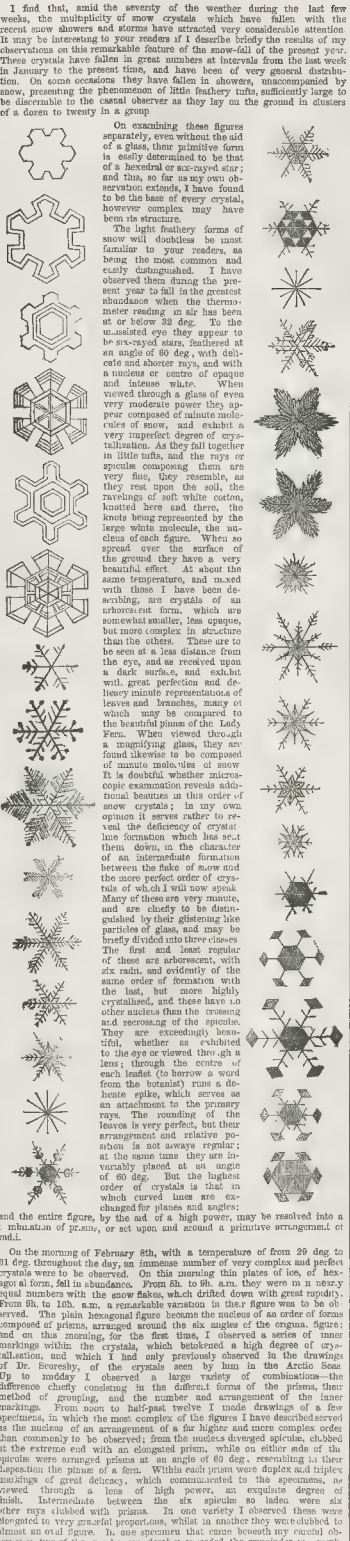
The 63rd Regiment—or rather the remains of it—marched on the 31st ult. to Balaclava, there to embark either for Scutari or Malta. It left 30 strong, every officer, regimental staff, and all hands included (scarcely a sufficient escort for the colours), after landing in the Crimea about 970 strong, and having since received a draft of 30 men. There was one sergeant only to represent the grenadier company, numbering, out of 120. The returns show 400 men in hospital at Scutari

The 22nd and 68th Regiments being about to leave the Bengal Presidency, on their return to England, the Commander-in-Chief has issued a general order to be issued previous to their departure, specially addressing these regiments upon their conduct while in India, and wishing them success and distinction on whatever service it may be their fortune to be engaged.

SNOW CRYSTALS.

To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

I find that, amid the severity of the weather during the last few weeks, the multiplicity of snow crystals which have fallen with the heavy snow showers have attracted very considerable attention. It may be interesting to your readers if I describe briefly the results of my observations on this remarkable feature of the snow-fall of the present year. These crystals have fallen in great numbers at intervals from the last week in January to the present time, and a high been of very general distribution. On some occasions they have fallen in showers, unaccompanied by snow, presenting the phenomenon of little feathery tufts, sufficiently large to be discernible to the casual observer as they lay on the ground in clusters of a dozen to twenty in a group.



On examining these figures separately, even without the aid of a lens, their primitive form is easily determined to be that of a hexedral or six-rayed star; and this, so far as my own observation extends, I have found to be the base of every crystal, however complex may have been its structure.

The light feathery forms of snow will doubtless be most familiar to your readers, as being the most common and easily distinguished. I have observed them forming the present year to fall in the greatest abundance when the thermometer reading in air has been at or below 32 deg. To the unassisted eye they appear to be six-rayed stars, feathered at an angle of 60 deg., with delicate and shorter rays, and with a nucleus or centre of opaque and intense white. When viewed through a glass of even very moderate power they appear composed of minute molecules of snow, and exhibit a very imperfect kind of crystallization. As they fall together in little tufts, and the rays or spicules composing them are very fine, they accumulate, as they rest upon the soil, the ravelings of soft white cotton, knotted here and there, the knots being represented by the large white molecule, the nucleus of each figure. When so spread over the surface of the ground they have a very beautiful effect. At about the same temperature, and mixed with those I have been describing, are crystals of an arborescent form, which are somewhat smaller, less opaque, but more complex in structure than the others. These are to be seen at a less distance from the eye, and as received upon a dark surface, and exhibit well, great perfection and delicacy minute representations of leaves and branches, many of which may be compared to the beautiful plume of the Lady Fern. When viewed through a magnifying glass, they are found likewise to be composed of minute molecules of snow. It is doubtful whether microscopic examination will reveal additional beauties in this order of snow crystals; in my own opinion it serves rather to reveal the deficiency of crystalline formation which has sent them down, and in the character of an intermediate formation between the flake of snow and the more perfect order of crystals of which I will now speak. Many of these are very minute, and are chiefly to be distinguished by their glistening like particles of glass, and may be briefly divided into three classes. The first and least regular of these are arborescent, with six rails, and evidently of the same order of formation with the last, but more highly crystallized, and these have no other nucleus than the crossing and recessing of the spicules. They are exceedingly beautiful, whether as exhibited to the eye or viewed through a lens; through the centre of each leaflet (to borrow a word from the botanist) runs a dense spike, which serves as an attachment to the primary rays. The rounding of the leaves is very perfect, but their arrangement is the different relative position is not always regular; at the same time they are invariably placed at an angle of 60 deg. But the second order of crystals is that in which curved lines are exchanged for planes and angles; and the entire figure, by the aid of a high power, may be resolved into a combination of planes, or set upon and around a primitive arrangement of rails.

On the morning of February 8th, with a temperature of from 29 deg. to 31 deg. throughout the day, an immense number of very complex and perfect crystals were to be observed. On this morning thin plates of ice, of hexagonal form, fell in abundance. From 8h. to 9h. a.m. they were in a nearly equal numbers with the snow flakes, which drifted down with great rapidity. From 9h. to 10h. a.m. a remarkable variation in their figure was to be observed. The plain hexagonal figure became the nucleus of an order of forms composed of prisms, arranged around the six angles of the original figure; and on this morning, for the first time, I observed a series of inner markings within the crystals, which betokened a high degree of crystallisation, and which I had only previously observed in the drawings of Dr. Scoresby, of the crystals seen by him in the Arctic Seas. Up to midday I observed a large variety of combinations—the difference chiefly consisting in the different relative position of the prisms, their method of grouping, and the number and arrangement of the inner markings. From noon to half-past twelve I made drawings of a few specimens, in which the most complex of the figures I have described served as the nucleus of an arrangement of a far higher and more complex order than commonly to be observed; from the nucleus diverged spicules, clubbed at the extreme end with an elongated prism, while on either side of the spicule were arranged prisms at an angle of 60 deg., resembling in their disposition the pinna of a fern. Within each prism were duplex and triplex markings of great delicacy, which communicated to the specimens, as viewed through a lens of high power, an exquisite degree of finish. Intermediate between the six spicules so laden were six other rays clubbed with prisms. In one variety I observed these were elongated to very graceful proportions, whilst in another they were clubbed to almost an oval figure. In one specimen that came beneath my careful observation two of the spicules considerably exceeded the remainder in length, and remains an exception to my experience. From 12h. till towards 4h. p.m. the number of crystals much diminished; but the snow during the interval fell faster and more thickly; at 4h. it was drifting in all directions, and was a storm. About this time the crystals commenced falling in greater numbers, but their character was altered; the six-sided figures of the morning had almost disappeared, and were exchanged for those of arborescent form, highly crystallized; by candle-light they glistened in the snow as the grains of mica in a piece of granite

The last of the three classes I have grouped together as belonging to the higher stages of crystallisation are those which combine a nucleus of prisms with an arborescent and prismatic arrangement of rays. This is an extremely beautiful order, and on this day (Feb. 13), while I am writing, is drifting in large numbers, accompanied by the other two orders. In the greater number of these specimens that I have examined, the nucleus exhibits a very regular and complex arrangement of prisms. The primary figure, composed of six rays, is studded with prisms for half or a third of the way up, when the more crystalline formation gives way to the arborescent (or, as I am led to imagine, less perfect stage of crystallisation), and the ray is completed with a crown of leaves, which, composed of granulated portions of snow, are distinguished by an opaque and intense white. They are of considerable size, and falling in numbers both singly and together, with a temperature of from 26 deg. to 29 deg.; interspersed here and there with them are a few of very complete structure.

Thus far I have endeavoured, for the sake of brevity, to classify into a few distinct orders the almost numberless species of crystals; but in each class there are so many individual varieties, that I despair of conveying to your readers any adequate idea of the infinity of changes wrought in these figures in virtue of the conditions operating upon their formation, of which we know so little.

For the information of those who would carefully observe snow crystals, I may remark that my own plan of procedure is to expose a thick surface of plate-glass on the outer side of the window, resting on the ledge. Seated within the room, at the open window, I am enabled, with comparative comfort, and at my leisure, to make my drawings and record my observations, the accuracy of which I am able to verify to my satisfaction, as the crystal received upon the cold surface of the glass, itself several degrees below freezing, remains a sufficient length of time for the requirements of the observer. In many cases it becomes frozen to the glass, and is thus secured from the influence of the wind, which not unfrequently snatches away some most intricate form from the desiring eye of the observer.

It is worthy of recording, that in two instances I have observed a change in the figure of the crystal on being deposited on the receiving surface of the glass. On both these occasions I had previously blown away the accumulation of snow, and my breath had warmed the glass, and at the same time left a deposit of moisture. I observed a crystal change the form in which it had descended instantaneously for another on touching the glass, with the same movement and rapidity with which the figures in the kaleidoscope are seen to change. In both cases the crystals were quickly dissolved upon the warm glass, and I lost the opportunity of ascertaining the nature of the change which had been effected in the original figure. I forbear at present to put forward any theory respecting their formation and variety, at the same time it is doubtless attributable to the different strata of the atmosphere, and the differing intensities of cold. The annexed Drawings are magnified copies of a few I have observed, drawn by Mrs. Glaisher.

I am, sir, &c., JAMES GLAISHER.

Lewisham, Feb. 13, 1855

Miss Martineau is so dangerously ill as to leave no hope for her recovery. Her disease is enlargement of the heart.

Prussian Commerce.—From the official tables just published of the state of the Prussian mercantile navy, it appears that the total number of their ships amounts only to 829, of an aggregate tonnage of 133,500 lasts, equal to 267,000 tons. The greatest shipping port is Stettin, with 157 vessels; Stralsund owns 108; Dantzic, 106; Barth, 84; and Memel, 76. The rest are distributed among twenty-one other ports. The average size of the vessels about 320 tons.

Prussian Neutrality.—According to mercantile reports large quantities of lead are being imported into Dantzic. This lead thence finds, or will find, its way into Russia, there to be converted into balls to be fired at the Allied troops. It is high time that the Board of Trade, for some other board, should look to those matters. Indeed, it is high time that every article susceptible of being converted into warlike purposes should be forbidden to be exported to any ports or places east of Dunkirk. This would be an act of defence, not of aggression; and some such measures must be adopted if we sincerely intend to prevent supplying Russia, through Prussian agency, not only with raw materials for her factories, but with contraband of war to be employed against ourselves.

Increase of Insanity.—In the city of London without any increase of population—the number of lunatic poor has doubled within the memory of some of the guardians; and the cause has baffled their inquiries. Some are inclined to attribute this dreadful visitation to excess of eagerness and strife in commercial pursuits, or in mental exertions; others to diet, and some partially to the effects of railway travelling.

A Discovery in Time. It appears that, according to "official routine," the commission for the appointment of the Irish Solicitor-General as a going Judge of Assize at the ensuing Circuit was actually drawn up in the "proper quarter," when a discovery was made, the effect of which was the immediate cancelling of the hon. and learned gentleman's temporary promotion to the judicial bench. At the eleventh hour it was ascertained that no Member of the House of Commons was competent to discharge the duties of a going Judge of Assize without having first taken the disagreeable preliminary step of resigning his seat, as the *sine qua non*, for his acceptance of the office.

A Worthy Veteran.—Previous to the departure of the 48th Regiment from the Citadel Station, Carlisle, last week, a poor woman, the wife of one of the men, and mother of six children, made a most touching appeal for the release of her husband from foreign service. If a volunteer could be procured, she was informed, he might remain. On hearing this a veteran, "without incumbrance," whose period of service had nearly expired, stepped forward and offered to take the place of the husband and father. His offer was accepted, and the overjoyed father was at once restored to his family. On taking his place in the ranks the noble fellow was loudly cheered.

Trade with Russia.—The Court of the Russia Company had an interview with Lord Clarendon on Monday, upon the subject of the Government policy regarding trade with Russia. We understand that Lord Clarendon stated to the deputation that the blockade of the Danube would be immediately raised; and the blockade of the Russian ports in the Baltic and in the Black Sea, and White Sea, would be rigidly enforced during the ensuing campaign; and that with regard to the overland trade through Prussia the Government had as yet come to no decision

Divorces in San Francisco. Divorce cases form an important branch of legal practice here. Of these interesting cases we have had thirty-eight in the course of this year in San Francisco, all carried to a successful issue. This in a population of 40,000, where the proportion of married persons is very small, would indicate a "free and easy" sort of disposition. The oddest thing is that the divorced persons come together again. I have known them to be remarried. Divorce cases are falling off, however, or they are becoming exhausted.—*Letter from San Francisco.*

Sebastopol Handkerchiefs.—The *Gazette de Lyon* states that, when the news arrived here of the fall of Sebastopol, orders were instantly sent to Lyons by firms of Paris to manufacture at once a large quantity of pocket-handkerchiefs, giving a "View of the Capture of Sebastopol." Although the looms were worked night and day, the handkerchiefs could not be completed before the news turned out to be false. Since then they have remained on hand. Now, however, says the *Gazette*, the travellers of the Paris firms are proposing the pocket handkerchiefs for sale to provincial dealers, in order that they may be able to offer them to their customers the moment the news of the capture of the town shall have arrived.

Provisioning our Army in the Crimea.—A firm of the highest respectability in the provisioning trade are prepared to bind themselves in the heaviest penalties which the jealousy of Government can impose to supply to the British army in the present position, or anywhere within 200 miles of the coast, food consisting of three meals a day, to be cooked and delivered at the head quarters of each battalion. The breakfast is to consist of tea, coffee, or cocoa, according to choice, and of fresh-baked bread; the dinner of bread, meat, and potatoes, with a quart of malt liquor, and the ordinary allowance of rum. They undertake to give fresh meat twice a week, and vegetables besides potatoes. To this is to be added a substantial evening meal. They are willing to bind themselves under the heaviest penalties, not merely for the performance of the contract in general, but for the punctual delivery of every mess to each soldier. They ask no assistance whatever from the Government for performing this task, except their forbearance and non-interference. They want neither our ships, our horses, our carts, nor our men. They are contented to make the roads as they find them, and to relieve the British soldier from any care or thought for his own maintenance. And this service they are ready to perform at the rate of 3s. 3d. a-head per diem, expressly on the very condition that they shall gain at least 9d. a-head by the contract! Observing, also, the miseries suffered by our men from defective tents, they are willing to undertake, for another 3d. a-head, to provide our soldiers with excellent tents, to be approved by the commanding officer, and to be replaced whenever disallowed. Thus, for 6s. 6d. a-head per diem is a firm of the most undoubted respectability and solvency willing to undertake, under the most ruinous penalties, to provide our troops with competent food and shelter. A rough calculation will show that, at this rate, an army of 30,000 men might be fed and sheltered for about £1,825,000 per annum.—*Times.*

MUSIC.

THE NEW PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY had their first concert of this season on Wednesday evening, at Exeter-hall, instead of St. Martin's hall, where their concerts were given last year. The reason for this change is not apparent, for it is generally thought that, for performances of this kind, St. Martin's-hall is the more desirable locality of the two For sacred choral concerts on a very large scale, like those of the Sacred Harmonic Society, which demand a vast space for the diffusion of a great mass of sound, and also for the proper accommodation of an immense audience, such a place is demanded; but the case is different with the secular and miscellaneous music of the concert-room; and besides, Exeter-hall is too large for any audience which the New Philharmonic Concerts have hitherto obtained, or have any prospect of obtaining. The society seek this year to establish an additional claim upon the public by announcing that the profits of their concerts shall be wholly devoted to the cause of charity. Each concert is to be in aid of one of the charitable institutions of the metropolis—the first being for the benefit of the Asylum for Idiots. It is always praiseworthy to enlist the arts in the service of beneficence; and we give the society credit for the goodness of their motives; but we doubt whether they will be able to effect much in this way. The success of the concerts will depend, as it has done before, on their intrinsic attractions. Hitherto they have produced no profit; indeed the society expressly admit a pecuniary loss to a great amount on every previous season. To turn the balance the other way it is not enough that the concerts are to be charity concerts; it will be necessary to increase their value in an artistic point of view; and, if we are to take the first concert as a sample of the series, we cannot say this is done. That concert, though entitled to praise in various respects, did not achieve the average merit of the performances of the three past seasons; indeed, it rather fell beneath it. It did not in the slightest degree make good the professedly distinctive object of the New Philharmonic Society, that of bringing forward new works by modern and native composers. There was not a note by a native composer; nor, with one exception, was there a piece that was not quite familiar to the musical public; and, as to the exception, it belonged to a foreign composer who has been dead nearly twenty years. The programme will enable our readers to judge for themselves:—

PART I.

Overture (Egmont)	.. .. ..	Beethoven.
Grand Choral Work in C (first time of performance in this country), the solo parts by Miss Birch, Miss Dianelli, Miss Murral, Miss Dyer, Mr. Augustus Braham, Mr. Herberte, Mr. Smythson, Mr. Hamilton Braham		Cherubini.
Symphony in A		Beethoven.

PART II.

Overture (Ré Pastore)		Mendelssohn
Aria, "Parto; ma ti, ben mio" (La Clemenza di Tito),		Miss Mozart
Birch; clarinet obbligato, Mr. Lazarus		
Solo, Violin, Fantasia on "Il Pirata," Herr Ernst ..		Ernst
Part-song (chorus), "O hills, O vales"		Mendelssohn.
Overture (Eurynanthe)		Weber.

The conductor was Dr. Wylde; who, we observe, is to direct the first four concerts, and the last two are to be directed by M. Hector Berlioz.

The single novelty—a novelty to the general public, but not to amateurs—was the fourth mass—ridiculously designated in the programme as the "Grand choral work in C"—of Cherubini. This mass was well worth giving; for, though it cannot be performed to advantage in a concert-hall, its meaning and effect depending upon its union with the Catholic ecclesiastical service, of which it forms a part, yet, as we cannot hear it in this way in England, it is better to hear it, however imperfectly, at a concert, than not to hear it at all; the more especially as the music of Cherubini is not sufficiently known in this country. It is, indeed, a grand and beautiful work, combining the pure, graceful, and expressive melody of the Italian school, with the richest harmony and the most profound counterpoint. The performance on the whole was very interesting; but it demands more study and rehearsal than it evidently has as yet received. The solo singers and the instrumental band acquitted themselves well; but the chorus was very deficient in steadiness, smoothness, and delicacy.

As all the rest of the concert consisted of things which are familiarly known, it calls for little remark. Beethoven's symphony, and the three overtures, were played in a manner which did great honour to the orchestra and their conductor. Miss Birch sang Mozart's fine air very beautifully, and was well accompanied on the clarinet by Mr. Lazarus. Ernst ought to have shown his charming talents in something of more consequence than a slight fantasia on an opera air. Mendelssohn's part-song is often sung at our chamber concerts. It requires to be nicely sung by a small number of well-trained voices; its grace and delicacy being completely lost in the mouths of a great miscellaneous chorus.

AUBER's ballet-opera, "Le Dieu et la Bayadère," has been produced at the ADELPHI with success, under the title of the "Unknown and the Bayadere." It was popular in Paris some five-and-twenty years ago, but has been long forgotten. As a musical work it is of the slightest possible description; and the subject is a mere vehicle for dancing and spectacle. The Adelphi is not a musical theatre; but Auber's light, pretty tunes are performed pleasantly enough: while the dancing and spectacle are admirable. The two principal dancers, Mdlle. Marquita and Mdlle. Benoni, might hold a high rank in any theatre in Europe.

THE THEATRES.

OLYMPIC.—This fortunate theatre progresses without effort in the public opinion, the constant presence of good acting being a sufficient stimulus to patronage. Both Mr. Robson and Mr. Wigan are possessed of special aptitudes, and popular judgment readily recognises the genius implied when once judicially directed to its appreciation. They have, indeed, created a taste for themselves, and will now long benefit by its results On Monday "The Lucky Friday," originally performed at the Princess', was produced. This little drama, if we recollect rightly, is an adaptation by Mr. Wigan himself, whose picture of the confidential clerk, weak in his superstition, but strong in his honesty, is one of his best and truest impersonations. The dramas of "Tit for Tat" and "The Yellow Dwarf" still continue to attract

DRURY-LANE.—The manager has been lately reviving some of Mr. D. Jerrold's pieces with effect, such as "The Wedding Gown" and "The Bride of Ludgate," which latter was acted on Monday. After the revival a new farce was produced, entitled "The Waiting on the Shutters," the subject being *apropos* of a betting-office, whose conductors are thus announced as "Gone to the diggins' for the money." Such is the conclusion of a little piece of intrigue, in which Mr. Wild performs the part of a blundering jack in office, named *Jack Corker*, who is employed in the pursuit of a runaway cough, and mistakes an affirmative *Captain Lovidack* for the eloping bride in disguise, and accordingly has him borne away into a bed-room. The *Captain* is the chief of a betting party, whose efforts are directed to the cheating the villagers, and playing off the dropped letter dodge on them; but the writing on the shutters removes every illusion, and ultimately causes a reconciliation between all parties. The farce was successful.

CITY OF LONDON.—A new drama, by the late John Wilkins, the author of "Civilisation," was produced at this theatre on Monday. It is in three acts, and entitled "Money and Misery." The catastrophe combines the situations of the "Corsican Brothers" and "Faust and Marguerite"—there being two ghost scenes and an assumption—both effectively managed. But the real merit of the piece lies in its well-written dialogue and pathetic incidents, both of which commanded the sympathies of a numerous and admiring audience. Messrs Lee and Johnstone are fortunate in having secured so good and prolific a playwright to their establishment They have, we understand, other posthumous works of his in their possession.

THE LATE MR. O. SMITH.—On Thursday, 1st instant, died the once celebrated O. Smith, called so from his admirable performance of *Obi* in "Three-fingered Jack. This prefix, it is stated, was applied by himself, in order to distinguish his success in the character. His proper Christian name was Richard. He made his first appearance at the Surrey Theatre in 1810, being then twenty-four years old, having spent his previous years in a lawyer's office. His great triumphs, however, were achieved at the Adelphi, in such pieces as "Victorine," "Wreck Ashore," "Isabelle," "Henriette the Forsaken," "Agnes de Vere;" and in the melodramatic heroes of such productions he far distanced all competitors. To excellent bits, in his peculiar way, was impossible; to equal him scarcely within the pale of possibility. It is said that Mr. Smith was also an intellectual man, addicted to antiquarian research, and a great authority in matters of costume. In business he was indefatigable, never absent at the rehearsal of a new piece, or indeed at any other, except when severely indisposed. His laugh was peculiar, what Gilbert Abbott called "an inward double knock." The *Weekly Chronicle*, from which we have quoted some of the foregoing particulars, justly says that "Mr. O. Smith was almost the last left on the stage of that celebrated company which five-and-twenty years ago delighted the audiences of the Adelphi Nearly all are now gone: Fred. Yates, John Reeve, Hemming, Mrs. Fitzwilliam, Mrs Daly, with the subject of this brief memoir—all dead!" The complexion of theatricals is indeed altogether much changed, and there are many signs of our being about to enter a new era of dramatic effort

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

BRUNSWICK.—You will find Kling's Chess Rooms, 454, New Oxford-street, though small and in a lane, a very good tuition school for the game

H. M. C.—1. We have not yet studied out your analysis of the variations you speak of to give a decided opinion upon which is the best play for White at the 4th move. 2. If Black 2 ... Q Kt 3 (Q Kt 4th, White retreats the Bishop to K 2nd, and seems to get the better game in a few more moves

W. C. C., F. T. Derby, Chirurg Barin, P. H. Norwich, A. K., J. G. C. They shall be reported in next week

M. P., Springfield.—New set is taken

J. A. M.—Your best course will be to buy or borrow Alexandre's or Staunton's collection of Chess Problems, two thousand in number, called "Beauties of Chess" This work contains the whole of the Problems in question

W. (Cork).—Your solution of Problem 570 is a clever Problem is correct

L. B., New York.—Safely received. If the match games turn out well, we shall be glad to have a few of the best. The blank diagrams you have sent is neat, but is quite eclipsed by those now sold by Mr. Paterson, where the squares in which are large and unshaded, and small of the pieces being clearly drawn

O. P. Q.—No It is only one of the innumerable translations Fair enough

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 572, by Sinbad, M. F., W. T. P. Carphilly Postman, F. T., Beta, Ellen, Dublin, O. P., Phylax, Omega, B. A., Castalo, Rex, A. F. L., Minerva, J. S. D., Ignoramus, are correct

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 573 by Sinbad, Miles, N. B., M. P., D. P., R. of Norwich, T. A. M., Ignoramus, Inverness, W. W., Phaeton, R. D., S. S., R. R., C. H. Cowdroy, R. Alpha, A. F. L., M. S. W., Blatud, Lex, P. Governess, J. S. Blackburn, Dorset; M. F., of C. T. M., of Sherborne, are correct All others are wrong

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 571.

WHITE	BLACK	WHITE	BLACK
1. Q takes R (ch)	B takes Q	3 K to B 3rd	Anything
2. Kt to B 8th (ch)	K takes R	4 P to K Kt 4th.—Mate	

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 572.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 Kt to Kt 6th (ch)	K take Kt	4. R to K 2nd	P takes R
2 R to Q R 2nd	P to Q B 6th	5. P to K B 4th—Mate.	
3 P takes P	P to Q B 5th		

PROBLEM No. 574

By J. B., of Bridport.

BLACK.

WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

A CHESS MANUSCRIPT.

(Continued from our last Number.)

"In the noble science of Chess, as with all which the human mind delights to honour, the men who have rendered themselves most distinguished have appeared only at those privileged epochs when nature produces extraordinary men in every class The great players of the Italian and Spanish schools sprung up in the sixteenth century—the era of Leo X., of Michael Angelo, of Raphael, of Ariosto, of Tasso, of Leonardo da Vinci, of Titian and Correggio—that of Charles V. and of Philip II. when Italy and Spain established her dominion in the new world, carry her riches and glory to the highest pitch, and become the rival of Italy in the cultivation of the arts. This age, so prolific in great characters, was the also of Ruy Lopez, of Leonardo, and of Paoli Boi, the Syracusan. Unfortunately, from the imperfect fragments which have reached us we can form but a very inadequate judgment of those fine geniuses Collected and disfigured by unskilful hands, how can they give us a true idea of that golden age of Chess!

"Much later, in the middle of the eighteenth century, an intense fermentation agitated all minds throughout Europe This fertile epoch brought forth all the great chess of the Republic, of the Crescent, and the Empire. At this period, for every great chess player there appeared a Philidor, who for so many years wielded the sceptre of chess Philidor, Deschappelles, and La Bourdonnais have elevated themselves to a height which will never accumulate, perhaps be attained by any other people. Well, what remains even of the last, with whom we lived? Some games collected by his adversaries! Beautiful indeed, and instructive; but will they ever shed an idea of the Deep-Doll, so rapid, yet so true of that profound sagacity which never forsook him? of that mechanistic intuition which enabled him to discover resources so marvellous and unexpected? In a word, of those sudden inspirations which electrified the lookers on, and transported them into raptures of admiration? Alas! these brilliant qualities are in the tomb with him, and the world, though preserving his name, will do honour to his memory without really knowing his genius. For our parts, even, as time flies, does not the talent of La Bourdonnais become less estimated? Do we not day by day ourselves lose something of the just appreciation of those qualities which constituted his superiority? Such is the inevitable march of things. Posterity beholds the luminous track which great men leave behind, but the source itself is lost in the darkness which obscures the past

"If it is thus with one who quitted us so lately, how much more, then, must it be with the masters who are separated from us by a period of three centuries!

"Let us then, examine carefully, respectfully, but without the judge of them by the miserable fragments from which I have taken, without discernment, such games and openings as chance first brought to hand.

"I have said before that the second division of my MS. was, perhaps, the most curious. The accompanying opening is found in it among those which Leonardo adopted to recover the move:—

(Giuoco Sotto Mano di Gioc. Leonardo.)

BLACK	WHITE	BLACK.	WHITE
1 P to K 4th	P to K 4th	7 Q to K R 3rd	P takes K P
2. K B to Q B 4th	P to K B 4th (a)	8. Q takes Q B 3rd	Q to K B 4th
3 B takes K Kt	R takes B	9. Q to K 3rd	K R to K B 2nd
4. Q to K B 5th (ch)	P to K Kt 3rd	10. Q Kt takes P	P to Q 4th
5. Q takes K R P	K R to K Kt 2nd	11 Q R to Kt Kt 3rd	Q takes Q B P
6. Q to K R 6th	Q to K Kt 4th	And White has a good position	

(a) This is now called "Le Gambit du Roi" and it has by some writers been attributed to Allgaier But in fact Greco gives all the play of the 4th Chapter of his second Book; and he himself has copied it, as he has almost all his work, from collections of more ancient games.

FIRST VARIATION.

BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.
11 Q Kt to K Kt 5th	K R to K R 3rd	16. Q to her B 3rd	Q Kt takes P
12 P to K R 4th	Q takes Q B P	17. Q takes Q	Kt to Q 6th (double ch)
13 P to K B 4th	K R to K 2nd	18 K moves	R takes
14 P takes K P	P to Q 5th		
15. Q takes Q P	Q Kt to Q B 3rd		

SECOND VARIATION.

BLACK.	WHITE	BLACK.	WHITE
13. K to Q 2nd	P takes P	17. Q takes B	Kt to K B 6th (ch)
14. P to K 5th	Q B to K 3rd	18. P takes Kt	Q takes Q P
15. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	Q R to Q sq		
16. K R to K sq	K B to K R 3rd		

This opening, I agree, has been studied by Allgaier. I admit even that he has penetrated farther into it than his predecessors, always supposing (which, however, is not very probable) that the only game recorded by the Italian compiler contains *all* that Leonardo knew on this subject. As Greco only presents one single game without variation, Allgaier may have made some new discoveries. But even had his work been complete, if he had even exhausted the subject, he would not be justified in giving his name to this Gambit. M. St. Amand, Calvi, and Kieseritzky, who have profoundly analysed so many openings previously unknown, have never thought of attaching their names to them; they have always respected the *ex* gnator.

* The preceding game, as far as the eleventh move, will be found in Greco; but, as the Gambit was an unscrupulous borrower, he probably derived it from some earlier writer.—EDITOR.

(To be continued.)

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, FEB. 15.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading	Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°	°		
Feb. 9	29.308	29·5	22·4	26·5	— 11·8	90	E.N.E	0.18
„ 10	29.870	31·2	16·5	23·2	— 13·2	83	N.E.	0.00
„ 11	29.630	35·5	7·0	21·2	— 17·3	86	N W	0.00
„ 12	29.470	36·2	16·0	27·6	— 11·0	77	E.N.E.	0.02
„ 13	29.420	36·9	24·2	36·8	— 1·9	86	E.N.E.	0.00
„ 14	29.299	32·9	18.1	22·8	— 16·0	90	N.N.E.	0.00
„ 15	29.703	32·0	23·2	27·2	11·6	60	N	0.01

Note.—The sign denotes below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 29·81 inches, at the beginning of the week, to 28.30 inches by the 14th; and increased to 29.80 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of eighty-two feet above the level of the sea, was 29.603 inches

The temperature during the week has been very low. On Sunday morning it was as low as 7°; on February 12, 1845, it was 1° below zero, and therefore was 8° lower on that day than on the 11th inst. The mean temperature of this day was 17°, depressed below the average, and that of the 14th as much as 16° below its average. The mean temperature of the week was 27.0°, being 13.5° below its average. The weather, notwithstanding its rigour, has been fine; snow has fallen in small quantities frequently, and snow crystals have been abundant.

Lewisham, February 16, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON. Within the week ending Feb. 10 the births of 934 boys and of 888 girls (in all 1832 children) were registered. The number of deaths in the week was 1546—a number greater by 332 than the average number, increased in the proportion of increase of population. thus, the temperature having been from 10° to 12° below its average in the last four weeks, the deaths of more than 300 weekly, and has increased the mortality by this amount above that which would have been in an ordinary season.

THE WEATHER AND THE PARKS.

The various Parks have this week presented the appearance of fairs. The thermometer at the Royal Humane Society's receiving house in Hyde-park, during the night of Monday, fell as low again as 22 deg., being 6 deg. below freezing-point. On Tuesday morning the quicksilver rose to 25 deg.; and even at noon it rose no higher than 27 deg., being then 5 deg. below freezing-point. Towards seven o'clock in the evening the mercury commenced to fall rapidly, indicating a continuance of the present severe weather. That night was the coldest experienced in the metropolis during the present winter. The thermometer at the Royal Humane Society's receiving-house in Hyde-park fell to 19 deg., being 19 below freezing-point

The intense frost has frozen up the Thames above bridge, and produced almost an entire stoppage of the navigation; the steam-boats have ceased running for the last two or three days. Below bridge great quantities of ice float up and down with the tide. Many of the piers between the Lambeth house and the Pool are set fast; also many vessels lying close in shore. The masses of floating ice increase in thickness every tide; and, although no apparent mischief has yet been done, it is apprehended that, in the event of a continuance of the intensity of the frost, much havoc to the shipping will inevitably occur. The Greenwich and Woolwich steamers have also been compelled to lay up. The Gravesend steamers had not ceased running on Thursday, but they had great difficulty in making way through the ice. All the vessels and barges lying in Regent's Canal Docks are frozen in; and the basins of the East and West India Docks, as also the docks on the opposite side of the river, are covered with thick ice, and several of the ships therein are fast. The locks are kept free, but the navigation generally on the river is brought almost to a stand-still

In St. James's-park a very novel scene took place in the enclosure between two and three o'clock on Tuesday: a performance termed the "Express Train" came off. This consisted of 500 or 600 men, who extended back to front nearly 100 yards. Having seized each other's coats, they started at a given signal, some whistling the railway overture, and others making a noise resembling the blowing off of the steam of a locomotive. This large body of men, who were at certain distances joined by some of the Foot Guards, glided over the ice at the rate of three-quarters of a mile per minute. Owing to the exertions of Deputy-Superintendent Parsoles and the icemen under him, the performance went off without any of those engaged in the affair meeting with any serious accident. Owing to the crowding of the spectators, about thirty persons were either knocked down or fell upon the ice, by which they sustained serious cuts on the head and other injuries. They were taken to the society's house, where their wounds were dressed; but several others, by falling upon the ice, had arms and legs broken.

The ice on the Serpentine was six inches thick on Wednesday, and during the afternoon Captain Wheatley, of the Coldstream, drove a horse and sledge over the ice at a rapid rate, in the midst of many thousands of spectators. The scene in St. James's-park was almost without precedent, not fewer than 20,000 persons being variegated upon the ice. On the Serpentine there were said to be about 12,000 persons.

Several skating matches took place on the Serpentine on Wednesday: it is said some dragoons and a number of civilians. Two Dutchmen, who could not speak a word of English, also skated for a heavy sum, but it would be difficult to say who was the winner, as they were declared to have come in at the winning-post together. Fortunately, notwithstanding the great excitement on the ice, no accident took place during the day. Several members of the Skating Club, and a number of elegantly-dressed ladies, greatly amused the spectators by their graceful evolutions, in forming quadrilles on the ice, and cutting out figures of different descriptions

THE SOCIETY FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE INSANE A meeting of the members of the above society took place on Wednesday night (the 7th inst.) at the residence of the treasurer, Sir Alexander Morison, when the following awards for meritorious conduct were made to applicants:—To Matthew King, 25 years of service, three guineas; Roderick M'Lennan, of Elgin Lunatic Asylum, 20 years of service, two guineas; Mrs. M'Lennan, of the same institution, for a service of 26 years, three guineas; and Hannah Middleton, of Witham Lunatic Asylum, 13 years, an award of two guineas. There were nine male applicants and six female, whose certificates were of the most satisfactory character.

FALL OF A HOUSE AND LOSS OF SIX LIVES.—On Thursday night, a few minutes after nine o'clock, the inhabitants of the Lower-road Islington, were alarmed at hearing an unusual noise and loud cries for help, and at the same time they perceived what appeared to be a dense column of smoke issuing from the premises numbered 2 in that thoroughfare The smoke having been perceived and the cries heard by Douglas, the conductor of the Royal Society's fire-escape stationed on Islington green, he proceeded to the spot, when he found a man, his wife, and two children at the second floor front window, whose escape had been cut off by the falling of the staircase and centre of the building. He instantly ascended the fire-escape, and brought down in safety the whole of the four persons whose lives were so much jeopardised. As other portions of the building kept falling, Douglas removed his machine, when the whole of the front fell with a fearful crash into the road, burying six persons in the ruins, including a police constable, named Francis Stoker, who lost his life in attempting to save some of the unfortunate inmates.

NEW CHAPEL OF EASE, STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

Of late years hundreds of churches have been raised in various parts of the country, especially in districts the inhabitants of which are of the

NEW CHAPEL OF EASE OF ST. JAMES THE GREAT, STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

poorer classes; the funds being supplied for the most part by voluntary contributions, freely bestowed by those who enjoy the luxury of doing good. The town of Stratford-on-Avon has not been weary in well doing. Within the last some years the population has considerably increased, with which has come the want of church accommodation; a large proportion of the occupants of houses in the New Town being situated about one mile from the parish church—an inconvenient distance to many, and to the aged and invalid an insuperable obstacle to their regular attendance at worship. To combat these difficulties, a meeting was convened in 1851, at which the idea of erecting an additional Church in the populous district of the New Town was proposed, and met with the most cordial approval and pecuniary support. From time to time subscriptions have been added; up to this moment a very handsome sum has been received, but not quite sufficient to carry out the original intentions in their full integrity. The first stone of the Chapel was laid in August, 1853; and in sixteen months the edifice has been completed for all necessary purposes.

The new Chapel, which is dedicated to St. James the Great, was consecrated on the 23rd ult. by the Lord Bishop of Worcester. It is one of the most beautiful ecclesiastical structures in the diocese; and, for the accommodation afforded (viz., for 315 persons), the least costly of any recently erected, the expense of the Church, including warming and lighting, not exceeding £1900. The edifice will cost, complete with tower and spire, £2300. The style adopted by the architect (Mr. James Murray, of Coventry) is the Early Decorated Gothic, the detail of which in this instance has been treated with considerable taste and pleasing variety. The interior dimensions are about 90 feet long and 45 feet wide. The plan is composed of nave, south aisle, aisle, north and south transepts, chancel, and south chancel aisle, in which the organ will be placed. The vestry is on the north side of the chancel. The Church is fitted up with open benches, the chancel with stalls. The roofs are of open timber framing, which, together with other woodwork, is stained and varnished. The walls are built of Wilmcote limestone, with dressings and window tracery of Bath stone; the roofs are covered with tiles. The tower and spire, through want of funds, yet remain to be built. The whole of the works has been creditably executed by Mr. Joseph Mills, of Stratford-on-Avon.

The Illustration shows the design completed—a consummation devoutly to be wished.

MEMORIAL TO LIEUTENANT BELLOT.

In the Illustrated London News for July 29th, 1854, we engraved the Tablet sent out in the *Phœnix* to be erected at Beechey Island in memory of Lieutenant Bellot, the ill-fated Arctic explorer. We now illustrate the Monument which has been raised in the Lieutenant's native country. This Tablet is from a design by Captain Courtney Boyle, and executed by Nicolas Guillemin, sculptor, of Paris. It is cast in bronze—8 feet 2 inches high, 8 feet 9 inches broad. It is to be placed—by the permission of the Count de Niewerkerke, Director-General of the Imperial Museums—in the Naval Museum of the Louvre at Paris.

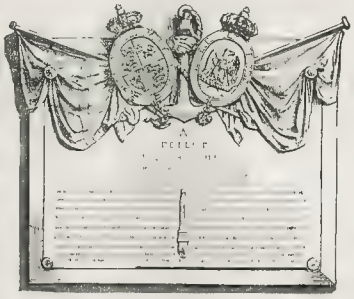
A
BELLOT
JOSEPH RENE,
Lieut. de vaisseau de la Marine Impériale,
Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur:
Né à Paris le 18 Mars, 1826,

Who twice served as a volunteer in the expeditions sent from England to the Arctic Regions, in search of Sir John Franklin, and who, when under the command of Captain N. Inglefield, of H. M.'s ship *Phœnix*, unhappily perished amongst the ice on the 18th August, 1853,	Qui deux fois prit part comme volontaire à des expeditions envoyées d'Angleterre dans les Régions Arctiques à la recherche de Sir John Franklin, et qui, placé sous le commandement du Capitaine N. Inglefield, du bâtiment de sa Majesté Britannique le *Phœnix*, perit malheureusement au milieu des glaces, le 18 Août, 1853,

Cette tablette a été élevée à sa memoire par les Anglais résidents en France.

Nicolas Guillemin, Sculptor.

The subscriptions for this memorial from British residents in France amounted to 12,209f. 20c. (£488); a portion of which (the expenses being

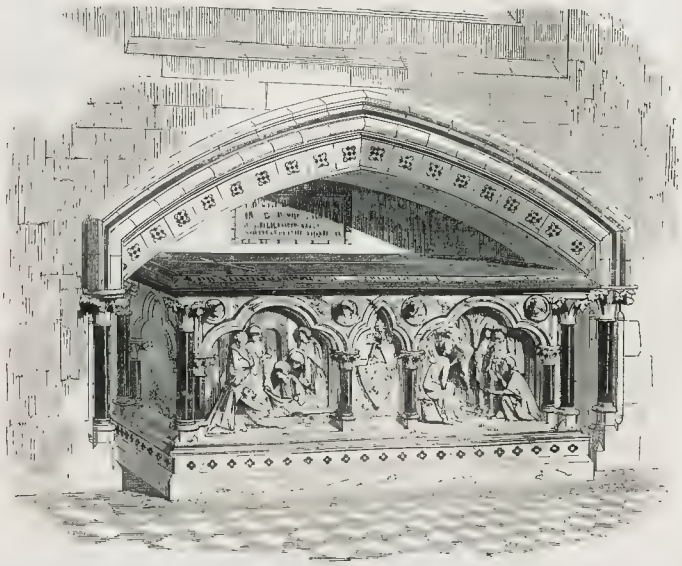


TABLET TO THE MEMORY OF LIEUTENANT BELLOT, AT PARIS.

paid) is to be placed in the Funds for the benefit of Lieutenant Bellot's brother, on his coming of age.

Dividends on Property in Chancery.—A document has been recently published, by order of the Lord Chancellor, on the subject of unclaimed dividends upon certain stocks belonging to estates now in litigation in the Court of Chancery, which discloses the somewhat curious fact that in no less than between 500 and 600 suits some of the parties now entitled to receive dividends have, either through ignorance of their claims or a disinclination to interfere in Chancery law, not made any claim to the same for the long period of fifteen years. The document is headed as follows:—"The Lord Chancellor has directed public notice to be given of the following causes, matters, and accounts, in which it appears that the dividends upon certain stocks standing to the credit of such causes, matters, and accounts have not been dealt with for upwards of fifteen years. In any petition which may be made respecting such dividends, the act of such period having elapsed without any dealing therewith must be stated on the face of the petition." Here follows a closely-printed list of the causes in question, amounting in number to upwards of 500.

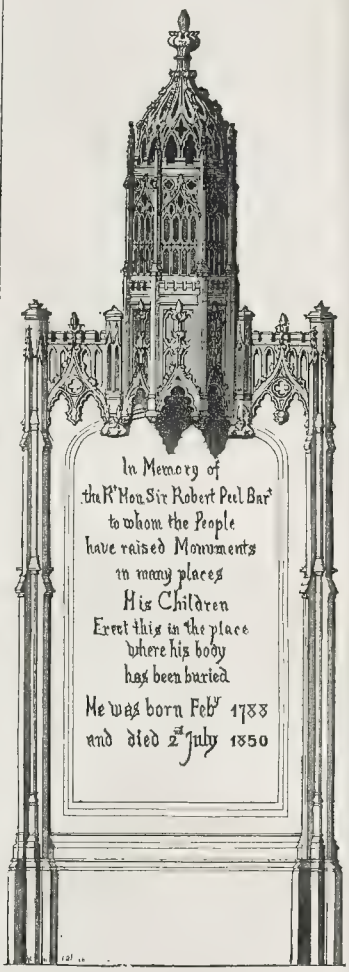
Burnett Treatises.—Among the competitors for the late theological premiums were the following distinguished writers:—Rev. Dr. Croly, Rev. Dr. Harris, Rev. Dr. R. W. Hamilton, Rev. Dr. M'Neil, Rev. Dr. Dick, Rev. Dr. Crichton (since deceased); Revs R. Montgomery, F. D. Maurice, R. C. Trench, J. A. James, Hugh Stowell, and T. Binney; Rev. Dr. Cumming, and Mr. E. Miall, M.P.



MONUMENT TO THE LATE EARL SOMERS, AT EASTNOR.

MEMORIAL OF SIR ROBERT PEEL, BART.

A handsome monumental tablet has recently been erected by the sons of the late Sir Robert Peel, in the parish church of Drayton, Staffordshire



MONUMENT TO THE LATE SIR R. PEEL, JUST ERECTED IN DRAYTON CHURCH.

It is of statuary marble and Roche Abbey stone, elaborately carved in the Tudor style, by Mr. White, of the Vauxhall-bridge-road, from the design of Mr. Sidney Smirke, A.R.A. The height of the Monument, from the floor of the church to the apex of the finial of the canopy is 19 feet 6 inches; and the extreme width of the base is 6 feet 4 inches. It has an inscription table of statuary marble; and the letters are incised and gilt.

MONUMENT TO THE LATE EARL SOMERS.

This beautiful work of monumental art has just been completed from the designs of Mr. George Gilbert Scott, architect, by Mr. J. B. Philip, sculptor, and is to be erected on the north side of the mortuary chapel of the Somers family, in the church at Eastnor, Herefordshire, to the memory of the late Earl Somers. In style the design is a free rendering of that which prevailed in the architecture of France and England at the dawn of the fourteenth century. As an example of monumental sculpture this work evinces skill and delicacy of treatment, both in design and execution, such as are rarely seen in modern works of the kind. In a deeply-recessed arch of Caen stone, spanning about 11 feet, is enshrined the principal portion of the work. This is wrought in the choicest alabaster, the effect of which has been materially heightened by polishing throughout. On the frontal are sculptured alti-rellevi representing the "Entombment of Our Lord" and the "Holy Women at the Sepulchre. In various other parts, foliated ornament, small busts of saints, and heraldic bearings are dextrously carved. The slab forming the top of the tomb is of the serpentine marble of Cornwall, and for the numerous columns this rich material and a fine green marble from Ireland have been used. The inscription, enamelled on brass, is inlaid in the cornice; and the general effect is still further enhanced by the introduction of mosaic pattern-work, formed of Brazilian cornelians and other highly-coloured stones a means of enrichment which has likewise been adopted in the arch mouldings with good effect.

By such a work as this memorial honour to the dead is worthily expressed, and by the same means is a Christian temple truly and fitly embellished, as churches once were when, at the hands of men like Pisano and Lucca della Robbia, Art gave to them her fervent and most devoted efforts. Of this high character the usual monumental work of the present day rarely partakes.

Imperial Preparations. The widow of the late General Welden has been selected by the Emperor of Austria as the principal nurse for the Imperial infant whose arrival may be expected in a short time. Meyerbeer is now engaged in composing a new cradle song (*Wiegenlied*) to be dedicated to the Empress Elizabeth on the auspicious occasion. Preparations have been made for announcing the joyous event to the inhabitants of Vienna by the roar of artillery from a bastion on the Danube side of the city. A hundred guns will be discharged if it is a Prince, and twenty if a Princess. It is, however, settled that if the event takes place in the night the firing will be deferred till the morning.

NEW BARRACKS AT IPSWICH.

The new Artillery Militia Barracks erected at Ipswich are, we believe, the first that have been erected upon a regularly fortified plan. They occupy the crest of a hill on the north side of the town; and the Orwell river, which flows in from the German Ocean, and is navigable for 600-ton vessels to Ipswich, forms a prominent object from the parade-ground. The extent of the site is two acres and a half, which is entirely surrounded by high walls, loopholed for musketry every few feet. Along the north side of the ground is thrown up a banquette, five steps in height.

The main building is on plan in the form of an ell, having bastions built out on each of its sides, loopholed at every story. The windows have wrought-iron bullet-proof shutters, also loopholed; and the whole of these openings are so arranged that no body of men could approach the building, even if they succeeded in forcing the outworks, without being subjected to a sharp and continued fire. A powder-magazine, capable of holding from twenty to thirty tons of powder and shot, is placed in the interior of the building, under ground. This is approached by two copper doors, and ventilated with copper chambers carried up to the roof.

The main building is surrounded by a fosse or dyke, formed in bricks, with the counterscarp turfed; the entrance being by a drawbridge affixed to the front bastion.

The wings, extending right and left, contain the guard-rooms, cells, black-hole, surgery, scullery, gun-stores, and gun-sheds. At present these last are occupied by four 6-pounders and two 9-pound howitzers. The walls of the main building are of considerable thickness; the stone is the very hardest Anstone, similar to that used for the river embankment at the Houses of Parliament. The whole has been executed from the designs and under the superintendence of Mr. R. M. Phipson, architect, the plans having been first submitted and approved of by the authorities at Woolwich.

Our View shows the main building and wings from the parade-ground, which latter is again surrounded by outworks, as before described.

Divisions of the Suffolk Artillery are at present quartered at Languard Fort, Tilbury Fort, and Hull; Ipswich still remaining head-quarters. The above regiment, which has been pronounced by military men of high standing who have inspected it the finest and most efficient corps of militia, is commanded by Colonel R. A. S. Adair, M.P., who, during the encampment of the regiment at Languard Fort, in 1853 and 1854, had the men well drilled and exercised in every department of artillery practice, which accounts for their present high state of discipline.

NEW ARTILLERY MILITIA BARRACKS, IPSWICH.

THE HOWDEN TESTIMONIAL.

The Spanish bondholders have testified their high sense of the exertions of Gen. the Right Hon. Lord Howden, K.C.H., K.C.B., in their behalf by

THE SPANISH BONDHOLDERS' TESTIMONIAL TO GENERAL LORD HOWDEN, K.C.B., K.H.

presenting his Lordship with a superb Centre-piece of Plate, which has been executed by Messrs. Hunt and Roskell in their best manner. It consists of a seven-light Candelabrum, in silver, with circular base, upon which are arranged figures illustrative of an episode from the Spanish legend of "The Cid." The Cid is in the act of taking leave of Ximena, and is fully accoutred for war, his horse and page waiting his movements at a distance. The shaft and branches are decorated in the Louis-Quatorze style. The inscription on panel is as follows:—

To his Excellency the Right Hon. Lord Howden, K.C.B., K.C.H. A token of gratitude and respect from the Spanish bondholders for great services rendered to them.—London, June, 1852.

Although the presentation was formally made at the above date, the Plate has but just been completed, and was forwarded last week, at his Lordship's request, to Spain.

Preparations for Pestilence. It would astonish a stranger riding out from Balaclava to the front to see the multitudes of dead horses all along the road. In every gully there are piles of the remains of these wretched animals, torn to pieces by wild dogs and vultures. On a lone hillside I beheld the remnants of the gallant grey on which Mr. Maxse rode to the mouth of the Katscha, in company with Major Nasmyth, on the eve of the flank march to Balaclava, and many of the equine survivors of the desperate charge at Balaclava now lie rotting away by the side of the cavalry camp. The attitudes of some of the skeletons are curious. Some have dropped dead, and are frozen stiff as they fell; others are struggling, as it were, to rise from their miry graves. Nearly all of the carcasses have been skinned by the Turks and French, who use the hides to cover their huts, and many suspicious-looking gaps, too, suggestive of horse steak, have been cut out in their flanks. For about six miles the country is dotted all over with these carcasses, in every stage of decay. Worst of spring or summer time, if Cheronnese would be one great pesthouse, and I tremble to think of Balaclava and its hillside, full of festering trunks, should there be an army there when the hot weather comes.—*Letter from the Camp, Jan. 27.*

WHALE CAUGHT AT THE GRUNE-POINT, CUMBERLAND.

In the Illustrated London News of the 6th January we gave an Illustration of some of the Cetacea captured on the coast of Cumberland from the remarkable shoal of these gigantic creatures lately stranded in the Solway Firth.

It has given rise to some speculation, what could have brought so vast a multitude of these strange visitors to those shores, when in our seas even a solitary one is but very rarely seen.

From the limited opportunities for observation very little is known of the habits of the species to which they belonged; but the rows of prehensile teeth with which their jaws are provided show them to be predatory animals, and that they must be terrible foes to the larger fishes. It is believed that they attack and devour even whales—that is, the Edentate, or Toothless Whales; a species which, though of equal size to themselves, must fall an easy prey to such formidable pursuers.

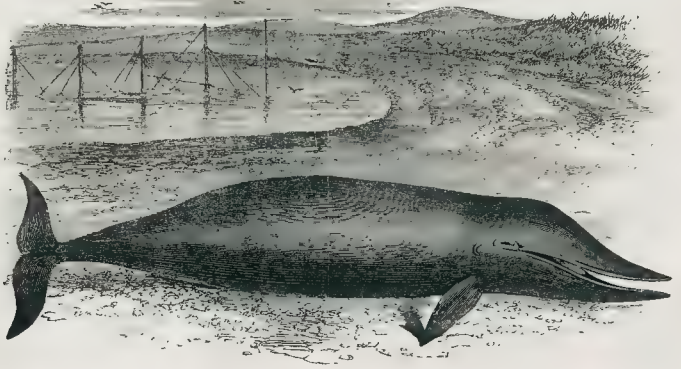
A very interesting fact in natural history—and one confirmatory of that belief—occurred a few days after the appearance of the shoal referred to, in the capture of a Whale of that species in the flat waters of the Solway, whither it had doubtless fled to escape the legion of many hundreds of voracious carnivora in pursuit of it. There its pursuers followed it to their cost; and many a cottager along that coast has reason to be glad that they did so, as their lamps are provided with oil for many a winter in consequence.

The Whale of which we give an Illustration was wounded in several places; and after having escaped from its pursuers it became a prey to no less formidable foes. It was seen floundering about in the Firth by two men armed with a fowling-piece, who quickly dispatched and brought it to shore on the Grune-point. It proved a valuable prize to its captors, in yielding a great quantity of excellent oil. It was about 25 feet in length, and about 16 in circumference; and was of the genus commonly known as the Bottle-head or Beaked Whale.

This Whale was captured a few days after the vast shoal was stranded in the Solway Firth, as noticed on the 6th ult., in the Illustrated London News, No. 722. It is of a totally different species from those whales, and it was, doubtless, the prey of which they were in pursuit when they got so far out of their depth. The capture of this latter specimen (*Hyperoodon*) at the same time is an occurrence of singular interest to the naturalist, in connection with the appearance of the remarkable shoal of Cetacea.

Russian Account of Inkerman.—Duke George of Strelitz, who is at present in Berlin, has communicated some interesting details to military men relative to the disaster of Inkerman. According to his statement, the plan of attack, long discussed and minutely prearranged, was so admirable, that the Anglo-French army was regarded as foredoomed, had it not been for utter misconstruction, amounting to disobedience of orders. Thus, false or reserved attacks were inopportunely converted into foremost action, and foremost assaults retarded or carried out in wrong directions. The brunt was to have been directed upon the extreme French right, so as to separate it from the English, in lieu, as matters turned out, of the former being enabled to throw themselves on the assailants' flank, cut them off from the fortress, and force them back on the Tchernaya. Liprandi, also, with his twenty-one battalions and twenty-four squadrons, might have converted his demonstration into a vigorous assault as a diversion at the moment of crisis. In a word, the whole plan was deranged, and executed with great confusion and negligence, or a perversion of preconcerted orders. The Emperor was irritated beyond expression. The plan was deemed infallible. The Allied army was already regarded as no more. Prince Menschikoff almost answered for its total destruction—upon his head. The conviction of success was so complete at St Petersburg that the Emperor would not give credit to the first telegraphic despatch, cautiously announcing that the Imperial hopes had been blighted—not blighted by the dauntless and even superhuman valour of a few thousand British and French heroes, but by some of those fatalities which strategists and tacticians class under the head of "frictions of war." The Czar at first blamed Prince Menschikoff, who, as commander-in-chief, ought to have been responsible. But he cleared himself by copies of written orders and notes of precise verbal instructions to commanders of columns. He was denied powers of ubiquity; he could not lead each column himself; he was at hand to direct the whole; and, therefore, discharged the blame upon Dannenberg. The latter endeavoured to shelter himself by attributing the fault to the impetuosity and wilfulness of Soimonoff, and the error of Pauloff. The latter cleared himself by pleading insuperable difficulties of ground and other contractions. Soimonoff had died the death of a gallant soldier, and luckily for him, perhaps, as the Czar's wrath would have fallen upon his head, and he would have been brought to a court-martial for disobedience or mal-execution of orders, and thereby causing the disastrous failure. Had he lived he would probably have been degraded. But a scapegoat was necessary; so the Imperial choler was concentrated upon Dannenberg, who, it is understood, reached St. Petersburg to answer for the faults and failure of all.

The Mint and the Coinage. The annual account of the moneys coined at the Mint during the past year (1854) has been laid before the House of Commons in a printed form. It states the total value of the gold coinage to have been £4,152,183, including 921,830·470 oz. weight, and 3,589,611 pieces, of sovereigns; and 144,486·840 oz. weight, and 1,125,144 pieces, of half-sovereigns: the value of which latter was, of course, one-half, or £562,572. No "double sovereigns" were coined. The total value of the silver coinage amounted to £140,480, including 350,413 florin-pieces, of 200,150·200 oz. in weight and £35,041 in value; 852,414 shilling-pieces, of 100,439·000 oz. weight and £27,620 in value; 840,116 sixpenny pieces, of 76,374·200 oz. weight and £21,092 in value; 1,096,613 groats, of 66,461·450 oz. in weight and £18,276 in value; 4138 fourpenny-pieces, of 252·000 oz. in weight and £89 6s. in value; 1,471,734 threepenny pieces, of 66,897·000 oz. in weight and £18,296 in value; 4752 twopenny-pieces, of 144·000 oz. weight and £39 12s. in value; and 7,920 silver penny-pieces, of 120·000 oz. in weight and £33 in value. The total value of the copper coinage was £61,538, including 8,877,920 pennies, of 127 tons in weight and £28,448 in value; 12,461,568 half-pennies, of 115 tons in weight and £25,961 in value; 6,504,960 farthings, of 30 tons in weight and £6776 in value; and 677,376 half-farthings, of 1 ton 11 cwt. 2 qrs. in weight and £352 16s. in value. It is worthy of mention that no crowns or half-crowns were coined in 1854. The gross total value of the gold, silver, and copper coinage of 1854 amounted to £4,354,201.



WHALE CAPTURED AT THE GRUNE-POINT, CUMBERLAND.

GENERAL SIR DE LACY EVANS

Pursuant to a resolution of the vestry of Marylebone, the leading members of that body attended by appointment at the residence of General Sir De Lacy Evans, in Bryanston-square, on Wednesday, for the purpose of presenting a congratulatory address to the gallant General on his safe return to England. J. A. Nicholay, Esq., having formally introduced the various gentlemen, prefaced the reading of the address with a few remarks eulogistic of the recent distinguished services and admirable bravery of the gallant General, who, he said, that the vestry would yet receive the reward to which his services to his country long ago entitled him. The address having been read by Mr. Greenwell,

General Sir De Lacy Evans, after expressing how much he felt honoured at the reception of so kind an expression of the feelings and opinions of the representative of what might be called a great city, said they had very properly alluded to the events of the war. He looked upon the present contest as one of a more momentous character even than the great war in which England was engaged after the French Revolution. There never was so serious a conflict between the nations of Europe as at present. He had himself for many years anticipated the event, and now they had arrived at the crisis. There could be no doubt upon one point, namely, the earnest and united desire of the people of Western Europe to see this great and important contest carried out properly and energetically (Hear). He (Sir De Lacy Evans) did not desire to touch upon political questions, but at the same time he must say he had lamented to see a man as Prime Minister who, although he bore a most characteristic character in other respects, was so cold and coldly unqualified to perform the duties of that office so as to ensure a proper and energetic conduct of the war (Hear, hear). It was, therefore, with no small amount of gratification that he found a change of Government had taken place. He was not one of those who thought that any very great advantage would be obtained by the removal of the War Minister. He thought amongst his class there was to be found very far better men than the Duke of Newcastle, who had, in his (the General's) opinion, been somewhat victimised. They had, however, now at the head of the Government one whose energy was known, and one to whom he thought it would be the duty of the Parliament and the public to give their most cordial support (Hear, hear). He spoke in warm terms of the cordial alliance between the French and English people. With regard to the French army, he must say that he never witnessed anything in his life which exhibited so great an amount of generous feeling, cordial kindness and, he might add, brotherly affection, as was exhibited on the part of the French army towards their British allies, from the officers of the highest rank down to the private soldiers of every class and grade. It was quite extraordinary to find so much kindness of feeling from those with whom we had been for so many years in deadly conflict (Hear, hear). Our brave army had certainly incurred very severe losses, and losses, perhaps, which might have been avoided; but it was to be hoped that, with the return of more genial weather, and the addition of necessary comforts to the soldiers of this country—it was to be hoped that our army would be rescued from many of the sufferings they had endured. With the reinforcements the French army were receiving, and those which the small military resources of this country could yield, he hoped and trusted that our army would be on a better footing, and that the anxieties of the public would speedily be relieved as to their safety and success. He (Sir De Lacy Evans) did hope, and he had no doubt, from the feelings which had been so strongly indicated, that the people of England and France would see, that no unsatisfactory peace was patched up, which might in a few years again lead to a still more severe contest.

Address to Sir De Lacy Evans.—On Saturday evening a meeting of soldiers who had fought under Sir De Lacy Evans was held at the Ship Tavern, Wardour-street, Soho, to adopt an address to the gallant officer in honour of his services to the country. Mr. Cuffe, a sergeant of the Legion, was called to the chair, and proposed an address congratulating Sir De Lacy upon the services he had rendered the country. The address was seconded by Private John Cranney; and, after some observations from Sergeant Owen, carried amidst applause.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The present ice and snow have converted sportsmen into one vast Deadlock family; and many of them—while they look at their hunters and greyhounds eating their heads off, and their spirits becoming louder and louder in straw beds instead of taking their sweats for the spring handicaps—indulge in moody fears that the frost will not break up before we are well into March. The weather has been so unusually severe that a brace of fine fellows left their cards lately and stayed their coming a week in some pleasure-grounds near Rotherham, advancing boldly on to the lawn, and refusing to be frightened away by all the view-hollas and chases with which the children and the servants indulged them. In another instance the harvest was so unseasonably robbed that a hard yellowmane was summoned to council, and he arrested two foxes (male and female) in a tunnel close by, which they had temporarily converted into a larder and winter residence.

All steeplechase meetings are at an end for the present, and it seems probable that many of them will, in despair, be given up altogether. The Carmarthen ones will, we believe, if possible, come off on Monday, and those at Derby and King's Lynn on Thursday; while Westbury looks to Tuesday for the realisation of its hopes. Unable may, perhaps, come off on the last two days of the week, and Lincoln on Tuesday and Wednesday, seeing that Nottingham has put off its meeting till the week after Liverpool. Liverpool also contemplates the dreadful idea of an adjournment, which we trust may not be necessary. Hence at present everything is a complete Balaclava chaos, and the old-fashioned turffite who consider that the season should commence punctually on Easter Monday, with the Craven, are rather chuckling over the woes of the managers of the early race-meetings.

The courses are in an equally hopeless way, although they contrived to hold a few meetings last week, in one of which the blood of War Eagle was successful with a very promising young dog, Jupiter. The Newmarket Champion is, we believe, on the list for Monday, &c.; Coquelade (open) and Newport (Salop) stand for Tuesday; Middleton (Westmoreland) and Workington for Tuesday and Wednesday; North Union and Laurencekirk for Wednesday and Thursday; Everley for Wednesday, &c.; Sandoree (Salop), Malton, and Nitshill (Galway) for Thursday; and North Berwick and Dirleton for Thursday and Friday.

The acceptances for the Spring Handicaps at Newmarket, Northampton, Chester, and Epsom number about 288 against 344 last year, and 237 the year before. Mr. Topham has about 120 of them, which is his usual share; but Mr. Johnson, as he is quite as successful, as he secures 60 "contents," and had only half as many horses as Mr. Topham to handicap. The Yorkshiremen are not a little disappointed about having only half as many entries for their Handicap as they had in 1854, seeing that since they (let their money over Newmarket, and Chester was established) by the bad starting at Chester, they had fondly hoped to establish a great race over Knavesmire which should throw the Chester Cup into the shade. Vandal, a good-looking son of Van Tromp, who has exchanged his groom-trainer for John Scott, is the favourite for the Derby at present for their race, and some few anticipate that he will be *the* Derby horse of the Malton stable. De Clare is quite out of favour, and Bonnie Morn is not in any force. This little grey was a late foal, and did not see the light till May 7th, 1852, the very morning that his little half-brother, Daniel O'Rourke, won the Derby. None of the Venisons have ever won the three great races, but his son Cruiser, another of the small sort, wears a very healthy look, and it seems quite on the cards that the Derby will go to Danebury with him, or to Fulham with Oulston. The latter's stable companion, Sit Hubert, we do not expect to see long in his present pride of place, either for the 2000 Guineas or the Derby. Reports about the latter are not favourable, and so far confirm the opinion we formed of him when we saw him as a yearling. It is hardly likely that Andover, at 12 lb. less, will ever start for the Chester Cup, and we hear that he was never tried farther than one mile and a half last year. His two-year-old brother, Anton, is a very beautiful animal, and, if anything, too finished and perfect in his make; and we hear that The Dauphin, who was also bred by Mr. Etwall, is something quite out of the common, and the very finest colt that was ever trained at Danebury. In order to make up for the badness of the three-year-olds, it is said that this season will produce some of the finest two-year-olds we have had yet; and as for 1853 and 1854, which came to the hammer last year averaged 137 guineas a piece, we have a right to expect great things.

Chatham, whose rumoured sale for a five-pound note is incorrect, still figures among the high-priced sires; and the Mayor of Doncaster will ever the absence of a prize for blood and coaching sires in the Royal Society's programme, at their coming festival in July, has offered a £40 prize in the one class, and a £30 one in the other. Miss Mowbray is said to be "no use" for the Liverpool Steeplechase; and The Trout, who has 26 lbs. less on his back than Bourton, is at present the favourite for that event.

A clever picture of Virago, after Barratt, has just been published. The mare is in the Epsom Paddock, with Muscovite and Jonathan Martin saddling in the distance for the Great Metropolitan. Walls is "up," and old John Day stands at the mare's head talking to him. The likenesses of both are very good; and John Day especially, with his stiff white neckcloth, is a most characteristic study.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Notwithstanding that the amount of business transacted in the Consol-market this week has been trifling, and that much anxiety has been shown to ascertain the contents of the next Budget of the Chancellor of the Exchequer—in other words, whether we are to have a loan or additional taxation to meet the expenses of the war—the changes in the value of the most national security have been trifling. It is true that at one time Consols have been done at 90¾, being a fall of nearly one per cent; but the decline has not given rise to any unfavourable impression. It is somewhat remarkable that the quantity of stock at this time in the hands of the jobbers is small—that very few *bonâ fide* sales have been made—and that the public continue to be steady purchasers.

The Consol-market, on Monday, was rather dull, yet prices were tolerably firm. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 91⅛ ⅜; the Three per Cent Consols, 91⅛ to 90⅞; Consols for Account, 91⅛ ⅜ ⅝; the New Three per Cents, 91⅛ ⅜; Long Annuities, 1860, 4 16; Ditto, 4⅝. India Stock was done at 223; India Bills, 15s.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 8s. premium. On Tuesday the Market was steady. The Three per Cents Reduced were 91⅛ ⅜; the Three per Cent Consols, 91⅛, 90⅞, 91⅛; New Three per Cents, 91⅛ ⅜ ⅝; Long Annuities, 4 5-16; India Bonds, 15s.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 9s. premium.

On Wednesday the business transacted was very limited. The Three per Cent Consols fell from 91⅛ to 90⅞; the New Three per Cents, 91⅛ to 90⅞; Long Annuities, 1860, 4 5-16; India Bonds, 15s. to 18s.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 9s. premium. Bank Stock, 213, 214, and 212; India Bonds, 12s. to 15s.; Exchequer-bills, 6s. to 8s. premium. It is somewhat remarkable that the value of the latter security has not varied during the week. The Three per Cents Reduced, 91⅛ ⅜; Ditto, New, 91⅛ ⅜; Long Annuities, 4 5-16; India Stock, 221 to 223; India Bonds, 15s. to 18s.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 9s. premium.

On Thursday the Consols market was very dull, and prices lower. The Three per Cents Reduced were marked 90⅞ ⅝; the Three per Cents Consols, 90⅞ ⅝; the New Three per Cents, 90⅞ ⅝; Long Annuities, 4 5-16; India Stock, 221; India Bonds, 15s. to 18s.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 9s. premium.

On Friday the Consols market was very dull, and prices lower. The Three per Cents Reduced were marked 90⅞ ⅝; the Three per Cents Consols, 90⅞ ⅝; the New Three per Cents, 90⅞ ⅝; Long Annuities, 4 5-16; India Stock, 220; India Bonds, 15s. to 18s.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 9s. premium.

The following are the quotations for British Funds, Dutch Securities, Foreign Stocks, Railway Shares, &c., on the last day of each market:—

British Funds.—Consols, 90⅞ ⅝; Ditto, for Account, 90⅞ ⅝; Three per Cent Reduced, 90⅞ ⅝; New Three per Cents, 90⅞ ⅝; Long Annuities, 4 5-16; India Stock, 220; India Bonds, 15s. to 18s.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 9s. premium.

Dutch Securities.—Dutch Bonds, 2½ ⅝; Ditto, 5 ⅝; Ditto, 1822, 19⅞; Ditto, 1824, 19⅞; Ditto, 1826, 19⅞; Ditto, 1832, 19⅞; Ditto, 1834, 19⅞; Ditto, 1837, 19⅞; Ditto, 1839, 19⅞; Ditto, 1840, 19⅞; Ditto, 1841, 19⅞; Ditto, 1842, 19⅞; Ditto, 1844, 19⅞; Ditto, 1845, 19⅞; Ditto, 1846, 19⅞; Ditto, 1847, 19⅞; Ditto, 1848, 19⅞; Ditto, 1849, 19⅞; Ditto, 1850, 19⅞; Ditto, 1851, 19⅞; Ditto, 1852, 19⅞; Ditto, 1853, 19⅞; Ditto, 1854, 19⅞; Ditto, 1855, 19⅞; Ditto, 1856, 19⅞; Ditto,

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Last week of Miss Cushman's Engagement. Monday and Thursday ROMEO and JULIET. Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday, GUY MANNERING. Romeo and Meg Merrilies, Miss Cushman. Last Five nights of LITTLE BO-PEEP. No performance on Ash-Wednesday.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, LOUIS XI: Ash-Wednesday, no Performance, Saturday, LAUCIES Pantomime Every Evening.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER-HALL. Conductor, Mr COSTA.—FRIDAY next, FEBRUARY 23rd, Mendelssohn's ST PAUL. Vocalists: Mdlle Clotilde Nordini, Mrs Lockey, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr Weiss. Tickets, 3s., 5s., and 10s. 6d., at the Society's Office, No. 6, in Exeter-hall.

GREAT AND HAVE LOVE, the greatest DRAMATIC MAGIC VENTRILOQUIST in Europe, at the UPPER ROYAL EGYPTIAN GALLERY, 69, Quadrant, Regent-street.—Every Evening, at Eight, (except Saturday) Saturday, at Three. On Ash-Wednesday, and Thursday, Friday, a LECTURE on the VOICE, followed by Two Lectures.

LEICESTER-SQUARE. The AZTECS and the EARTHMEN.—The first of either range ever seen in Europe. Exhibition DAILY, from Three to Five, and Seven to Half-past Nine. Lecture at Four and Eight. Vocal and Instrumental Concerts every Evening, by Miss L. Wallworth, Mr H. Smith, and Mr W. J. Morris, on the Crystal-Cylinder. Admission: Stalls, 3s.; Reserved Seats, 2s.; Gallery, 6d. HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, DAILY, from Twelve to Two. Admission, 3s. and 2s.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.—The collection of living Animals includes a magnificent series of Lions, Lion Whelps, Clouded Tigers, Hunting Dogs and other Carnivora, Camels, Dromedaries, Antelopes, Deer, Zebras, Hippopotami; together with an immense number of Birds, Reptiles, Fish, and other Marine Animals. Admission, 6d.; on Mondays, 6d.

CRYSTAL PALACE, Sydenham.—The PALACE and PARKS are OPEN to the Public on MONDAYS, at 9 o'clock, on TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and FRIDAYS, at 10 o'clock, on which days the admission is 1s.; and on SATURDAYS, when the admission is 5s., and close each day at 6 o'clock. Admission, including Conveyance by railway, may be had at the Company's Metropolitan Terminus, and at the several Agencies. Trains leave at 9.40 a.m. and every half hour after, up to 10 p.m. Returning from the Crystal Palace Station up to 6.10 p.m.

PATRON HER PRINCE ALBERT.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. DURING LENT, on Wednesday and Friday Evenings, at Eight, Lectures on Astronomy, by Dr Buckleofner, illustrated by a Splendid Dissolving Orrery, commencing on Wednesday Evening, the 21st inst. with Appropriate Music from Haydn's Oratorio of the "Creation," by a Band and Chorus of Fifty Performers, under the Direction of Mr W. Wood, of the Royal Italian Opera. Principal Vocal Performers: Miss Blanche, Mr. Musgrave, and Mr. Haines. Thursday Evening, February 22, at Eight, Dramatic Reading by Miss Glyn, Miss and Miss Poole. Monday Evening, the 19th inst., Lecture to Industrial Classes: On the Chemistry of Death, by Dr Letheby. The Steam Gun, Dissolving Views of the War, Diorama of Sinbad the Sailor, Gymnasia. The Concert by Juvenile Performers, and all the Lectures, as usual.

DISSOLVING VIEWS.—Amusement and Instruction by means of CARPENTER and WESTLEY's improved PHANTASMAGORIA LANTERNS, with the Chromatropic and Dissolving Views, and every possible variety of Sliders, inclu ding Nature, History, Comic, Lever, Microscopic, and Fairy, Astronomical Views in the Holy Land, Scriptural Portraits, &c. No. 1, Lantern, Gridiron, Oil Gas Jet, Bude Light, Gas Jet, Oxygen, Lime Light, with Argand Lamp in a box, £3 17s. 6d. No. 2, Ditto, of a larger size £4 14s. 6d. No. 3, Ditto, of a larger size, with Dissolving View Lanterns, No. 2, with Apparatus, £11 15s. The above are supplied with a Lucernal Microscope and Screw Sliders, at 20s. 6d. extra. The price of the Lanterns is without slides.

Lists of the Sliders and Prices upon application to the Manufacturers, Messrs. Carpenter and Westley, Opticians, 24, Regent-street, Waterloo-place, London.

PRIZE GLEE. ARDWICK GENTLEMEN'S GLEE CLUB.—The Committee of this Club hereby OFFER a PREMIUM of FIVE GUINEAS for the BEST ORIGINAL SACRED GLEE, for Four Male Voices, such Glee to be written for the occasion, and sent in on or before the 10th MARCH next, addressed to the Secretaries, at the Club-room, George and Dragon Inn, Ardwick-green, Manchester. Each composition is to be distinguished by a motto, and accompanied by a sealed envelope containing the name and address of the composer, the glee and letter being endorsed on the outside with a corresponding motto. The manuscripts will be retained by the Club, but the copyright will not be interfered with. The name of the successful competitor will be announced to each candidate immediately after the decision is given

S. WOOD,
JOHN PARKS, Hon. Secretaries.

Ardwick-green, Feb. 5th, 1855.

FUR COAT. For Sale a Bargain—a very Large, Warm, Fur-lined Coat, well adapted for the Crimea or India. Apply at 53, Charing-cross.

TO BE SOLD for £19 19s. cost £37—a flat GOLD LEVER WATCH, by Barraud and Lund, with enamel dial, elegantly engraved case, and fine jewelled movement. It is nearly new, and will be sold under the guarantee.—Apply to Messrs. WALES and MCCULLOCH'S, 22, Ludgate-street (opposite Lovington's).

TO OUTLEN-DRAPERS, TAILORS, &c.—TO BE DISPOSED OF, an old-established and first-class BUSINESS, in one of the best and most prominent situations at the West End of Lond on. Capital required for Stock and Lease. Principals only, or their Solicitors, will be treated with. Apply to Messrs. Edmonds and Hoskin, 4 and 5 Graham-street West, City.

BRANDY.—Dr. URE and Dr. LETHEBY, having analysed our EAU-DE-VIE, course in preference to the spirit of undoubted purity, peculiarly free from acidity, perfectly wholesome, and decidedly preferable to direct importation from Cognac." Imperial gallon, 16s. In French bottles, 34s. per dozen bottles included.
HENRY BRETT and CO.,
Co-Partnership Distillery, Holborn.

SILBERBERG'S celebrated BREMEN PAGARS (4s. per lb.) Smoking Mixture, 6s. per lb.; the finest imported Havannah Cigars, from 14s. to 24s. per lb., at LOUIS SILBERBERG'S, 194, Fleet-street, and 19, St. Martin's-le-Grand. The trade supplied on liberal terms. Goods sent to all parts on receipt of Post-office order.

THE HON. ARTILLERY COMPANY OF LONDON, the most ancient Corps of Volunteers in England, is open for the admission of Gentlemen who are willing to give a portion of their time to military services.

The Corps is empowered by Royal Patents and Warrants from her present most gracious Majesty, and her Majesty's Royal predecessors, to train persons to the use of arms and to the practice of military evolutions and exercises.

The Corps possesses a Parade-ground of several acres, a Rifle gallery 230 feet long, an armory-house, arms, and every facility for efficient military training.

The Officers are selected from the Corps, and held her Majesty's commission.

Gentlemen under twenty-one years of age are admitted as Cadets, but must produce the consent of their parents or guardians.

Members have to provide themselves with the uniform of the Corps.

The expenses of the Band, Arms, Ammunition, &c., are defrayed out of the funds of the Company.

All efficient members are exempt from the militia.

Gentlemen on whom Lords Lieutenant further information on application, by letter, to W. H. White, Esq., Armory-house, Finsbury.

ROYAL BANK BUILDINGS, LIVERPOOL, February 14, 1855.

The great fluctuations in the price of Tea during the last two years have caused much confusion among Retail Dealers, whilst many have been local complaints by families of the inferiority of the quality. These complaints too frequently have their origin in the unfavorable manner in which the article is displayed to the selection—and, in addition to this, there is a tendency to the contrary may be witnessed in our business, which exhibits a large increase in the number of families supplied, as well as in the quantity dispensed, also being greatly in excess of any similar period during the last fifteen years.

The support which has been so liberally accorded to us affords the most conclusive proof of the importance and value of confidence in the selection of suitable qualities—with an especial view to the satisfaction of consumers.

Our inflexible regard to quality has been the gradual means of opening to us a new feature of Trade—foreign orders—from English residents abroad. Shippers of Sea Teas will find our Stock to consist of suitable packages (8 lbs.) for export, and the prices fixed upon a principle calculated to give continued satisfaction, and with every possible security—as to the quality.

Notwithstanding the continuance of the rebellion in some districts of the Chinese Empire, there is no sound apprehension of a short supply of Tea. The imports this year will probably at least equal to those of the last year—the present estimate being upwards of 96,000,000 lbs.—a tolerable scope will therefore be afforded for a consistant and personal attention in the selection of proper qualities.

Having already obtained—by many years' experience, a large amount of distinguished patronage. Families may rest assured of our continued candour in recommending only such descriptions as we place

Your obliged and faithful Servants,
ROBERT ROBERTS and COMPANY,
Tea and Coffee balesmen,
LIVERPOOL.

N.B.—Other remarks and the present List of Prices may be had on application.

MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE.
Office, 37, Soho-square.

PRESIDENT—The Right Hon. the Earl Mulgrave.

TRUSTEES.

Jno. T. A. Wilson.
Dr. R. Lee, F.R.S.
William Ferguson, Esq., F.R.S.
John Bacot, Esq.
Benjamin Phillips, Esq., F.R.S.

TREASURER—John Prippet, Esq., 6, New Cavendish-street.

The Council of the Medical Benevolent College have the satisfaction of announcing to the friends of the Institution that the THIRD ANNUAL FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD AT THE ANGLO-SAXON TAVERN, Bishopsgate-street, on WEDNESDAY, the 28th of FEBRUARY next; under the Presidency of the Right Hon. the Earl of CARLISLE, K.G.

The Council trust that, as great exertions are being made to open the College in June next, the Festival will be numerously and genuinely attended, and that the support given to the cause on the occasion will be such as will enable the Committee to describe the

The following noblemen and gentlemen have kindly consented to act as

STEWARDS:

Lord, the Right Hon. the Earl Grainger, Richard, D., Esq.
Dysart, the Right Hon. Lord, Green, Richard, Esq., Blackwall
Ebrington, the Right Hon. Lord, Hall, Dr. Marshall, Fitzroy-square
Calthorpe, the Right Hon. Lord, Guthrie, George Keymes, Esq., President of the Royal College of Surgeons
Eastnor, Lord
Taverton, the Hon. W. H. Whitbread, M.P.
Ranelagh, the Hon. G. F. Hamilton, Hanbury, Robert, Esq., Brickland Abbey
Beauregard Castle, Durham Hargrave, George, M.D., Chertsey
Hayes, the Rev. Sir John Warren, Bart. Harris, Charles, Esq., Fenchurch-street
Hilton, John, Esq., New Broad-street
Jackson, William, Esq., Russell-square
Jackson, William, Esq., South Lambeth
Jones, Bence, M.D., Brighton
Johnson, Henry Charles, Esq., Savile-row
Johnson, J. G., Esq., Norwich
Kennedy, Mr. Alderman, Kensington-lodge, Notting-hill
Kingsford, Edward, Esq., Sunbury
Kirby, Edmund A., Esq., M.D., Lower Hampstead-hill
Locock, Charles, M.D., Hertford-street, Mayfair
Lawrence, John, Esq., Brighton
Lever, John C. W., Wellington-street, Southwark
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Newnham, Richard, Esq., Brighton
Norman, George, Esq., Bath
Oldfield, David, Esq., Beaverbrook-street
Palmer, George, Esq., Nazing-park, Waltham-cross
Pennington, William, Esq., Fern Bank, Streatham
Poynder, William Henry, Esq., Wimpole-street
Ramsbotham, Francis Henry, M.D., Portman-square
Reynolds, Samuel, M.D., Bedford-square
Rigby, Edward, M.D., Berkeley-square
Rodd, Sadlow, Esq., Kingston-on-Thames
Sauer, James, Esq., Finsbury-square
Sewell, Chas., Esq., Blackheath
Sharpey, Professor, M.D., Gloucester-crescent, Regent's-park
Shepherd, Sir Benjamin, M.D., F.R.C.S., Mansfield-street
Stewart, William, Esq., Weymouth-street, Portland-place
Smyth, George, M.D., Sackville-street
Stilwell, George, Esq., Epsom
Sutherland, Alexander John, Esq., Richmond-hill, Surrey
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Tamplin, Richard H., Esq., Old Burlington-street
Todd, Richard B., M.D., Brookstreet, Grosvenor-square
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Wilson, Thomas, Esq., Lower Clapton
Turner, Thomas, Esq., Manchester
Walker, John B., Esq., Hamilton-place, St John's-wood
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Weiss, Martin, Esq., Russell-square
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Winn, J. M., M.D., Finsbury-square
Winslow, Forbes, M.D., Hanover-square
Wise, Robert S., M.D., Banbury
Wood, J. C., Esq., Victoria-street, Westminster
Woollaston, Robert, Esq., Gloucester-street, Hyde-park

Tickets, one guinea each, may be had at the London Tavern; and at the office of the College, 37, Soho square.

Gentlemen who intend attending the dinner are requested to communicate their names to the Secretary

EDWARD HENRY SIEVEKING, M.D., Hon. Sec.
HERBERT WILLIAMS, Assistant Sec

Office, 37, Soho-square, Feb. 14, 1855.

The Fourteenth List of contributors will be published on the 15th of March

TAXES on KNOWLEDGE (Association for Promoting the Repeal of). The ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING will take place at EXETER-HALL, on WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21st, when the chair will be occupied by John Bright, M.P.; Richard Cobden, M.P.; George Dawson, M.A.; T. M. Gibson, M.P.; Apsley Pellatt, F.R.S.; Dr Watts, &c. Doors open at 6 o'clock. Chair taken at Eight. Tickets for the Platform may be had of Novello, Dean-street, and St. Martin's-lane; Cash, Bishopsgate at Exeter-hall; and Office of the Association, 10, Adelphi-place, Gray's-inn-road.

TWENTY-FIFTH PUBLIC DRAWING.—ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY RIGHTS OF CHOICE. THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.—AT THE SOCIETY'S OFFICE, on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14th, at three o'clock, at the TENTH QUARTERLY MEETING, Viscount Ranelagh in the chair, the Twenty-fifth Public Drawing for Rights of Choice on the Society's Estates will take place. One hundred numbers will be drawn from the unsuccessful ballots, and fifty numbers will be taken from the Seniority List and added to the Record of Rights. The 150 Rights thus added to the Register may be exercised either on the unsold plots of the available Estates already allotted, or on the new Estates preparing for allotment in various counties. Rights of choice can also be applied to acquire advances for Building, each right satisfying the holder, if he prefers it, to a loan of £20. The first payment on a single share is 12s. 6d., and the subsequent payments 5s. per month per share, with an additional 1s. every three months for expenses, and no more expenses. Five shares is the amount allowed, payable half-yearly, on completed Shares and on uncompleted Shares on which two years' subscription and upwards has been paid in advance. The profits of the Society, after providing for the Reserve Fund, are placed at the end of every financial year to the credit of holders of unadvanced Shares. The Bonus for that was 8s. per Share, and for 1854 forty per Cent. The taking of land is quite optional. No partnership liability. The prompt withdrawal of subscriptions is accepted whenever a member wishes to draw out his investment. A completed Share, which is at once entered on the record of rights, costs £12 6s. 6d. Share paid a year in advance costs £3 3s. 6d. For Prospectuses, Plans, and Estates, mode of obtaining advances, building records, rules of exhausted and unexhausted rights, with a list of the promissory notes issued, apply to

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Offices, No. 23, Norfolk-street, Strand.

The names of investors are not confined to the metropolis; share are numbered in every part of England and Wales, as the most distant Gallopine, and on the Continent; the interests of shareholders being as carefully attended to by correspondence as if they resided in London.

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Before leaving Sheerness she was inspected by Vice-Admiral the Hon. W. Gordon, the commander of the port, and leaves with one of the choicest crews of officers and men that has ever left this country. The ship was very popular, and could have been manned several times over. The greatest care and attention has been paid to her equipment. She was designed and built by Mr. O. W. Lang, the present master-shipwright at Pembroke; and her model proportions, lofty masts, gigantic spars, and powerful armament, render her the most perfect sailing-ship of her class in the world. She carries on her main-deck sixteen 68 and twelve long 32 pounders; and on her upper-deck four 68 and eighteen long 32 pounders. All these guns are of the greatest length made for their calibre. Her height and accommodation between decks is of the most perfect description, and every attention has been paid to the comforts of the ship's company, which numbers 500 men, exclusive of officers, &c., and 100 Marines. Her principal dimensions are—Length, 185 feet; beam, 50 feet 10 inches. Burden, 2050 tons. A View of this vessel, building in the slip, appeared in our Journal of March 16, 1850.

THE VICTORIA RIFLE CORPS, AT KILBURN.—(SEE PAGE 166.)

EXTERIOR OF A COURT-HOUSE IN THE BACKWOODS OF CANADA.

A JURY IN THE BACKWOODS OF CANADA RETIRING TO DELIBERATE.

SKETCHES IN A COURT-HOUSE, UPPER CANADA.

(From a Correspondent.)

THE Division or County Courts in Upper Canada were established some few years ago, for the trial of civil causes in which the amounts at issue do not exceed the sum of £25. They are presided over by a Barrister, who is also Chairman of the Quarter Sessions, and generally termed Judge; and who makes the circuit of the different townships, in which the Courts are held about once in every two months. These Courts have been found very successful in preventing the ill effects of litigation among the poorer settlers, as the cases are decided in a manner truly patriarchal: the Judge hears the evidence on both sides of the question, and gives his judgment accordingly; and as this decision is guided more by justice than by the strict letter of the law, and the cost is very trifling, the parties generally return to their homes perfectly satisfied.

A short time ago I accompanied a young barrister who was about to plead a cause before one of these Courts, in one of the remotest parts of the county of Simcoe. We set off one fine afternoon in a one-horse vehicle, technically termed a "buggy," and reached that evening a small hotel in the flourishing village of Keemansville, about five-and-twenty miles from the shores of Lake Simcoe, which said village consisted of a saw-mill, two log houses, a tavern, and a store. Our host, a comical Irishman, who prided himself on being the founder of the village, after supplying us with a capital supper, provided us with beds, evidently intended for short people, causing us to coil up in a manner by no means agreeable. Next morning we set off, through a beautiful and tolerably well-cleared country, for the Court—a distance of about nine miles, over a road quite rough enough to sharpen our appetites sufficiently to enable us to enjoy a second breakfast with the Judge, who had slept the night before at the house of the Clerk of the Court, Mr. M'Manus, who rejoices in the possession of a capital farm and a portly and most hospitable wife. He had shortly before moved from the log shanty (shown in the sketch) in which the Court was held, and in which he had lived since he first located himself in the woods with his axe some five-and-twenty years ago, to a substantial brick house, the pride of Mrs. M'Manus's heart. After breakfast we adjourned to the Court house, which was already filled with a crowd of plaintiffs, defendants, witnesses, and spectators. The apartment in which the Court was held had been the principal room in the old house, and had been divided along one side by a strong wooden bar to keep the crowd at a respectful distance from the Judge and the bar. After several small cases had been satisfactorily disposed of, the one in which my learned friend had been retained came on, and, as the amount at stake was considerable, the Judge availed himself of a power which he possesses of summoning a jury of five to take the responsibility of the decision off his shoulders.

INTERIOR OF A COURT-HOUSE IN THE BACKWOODS OF CANADA.

The jury having stowed themselves in a corner of the room, the plaintiff, an artful fellow, commenced pleading his own cause; and after cross-examination of witnesses and a little perjury, my friend replied in a most powerful speech, demolishing his adversary in a manner which established his fame in that region, as a lawyer and orator, for ages to come. When the case was closed, a difficulty presented itself in the fact of there being no room to which the jury could retire to consult upon their verdict. The Judge, however, soon arranged this by telling the jury to betake themselves to some quiet spot out of doors, and charging them on their honour not to speak to any one until their return. The jury accordingly went out; and, after looking about them, they with one consent and with wonderful foresight and sagacity betook themselves to the orchard, and squatted down under an apple-tree to combine mastication with argument. In about the time required to eat half a dozen apples a piece, and to cram their pockets, they returned, and, as was fully expected, gave a verdict for the defendant; the crest-fallen plaintiff applying for a new trial, and vowing that next time he would not be beaten for want of a lawyer.

FORT MATANZA, EAST FLORIDA.—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.

MATANZA FORT, EAST FLORIDA.

IN January, 1854, the author of the subjoined stanzas travelled from St. Augustine to the south end of the Peninsula of Florida, a distance of more than 200 miles. The journey was performed in row-boats through a series of creeks or arms of the sea skirting the entire eastern coast

After leaving St. Augustine, the most ancient, the most dilapidated and stagnating town in the United States, the traveller takes leave—with a few solitary exceptions—of all evidences of civilisation. His journey is cheered by no picturesque scenery, for the whole country is raised a few feet only above high tides, and consequently it is for the most part composed of marsh, and swamp, and swale. These creeks are bounded on the west by continuous forests of pine-trees, with intermediate strips of sedgy marsh, which vary from one to five miles in breadth. On the eastern or ocean side are sand-reefs covered by the "saw or scrub" palmetto, which grows wherever the belt of sand is of sufficient breadth to be out of the reach of the breaking surf

During the monotony and tediousness of travelling through such uninteresting scenery, the dull regular stroke of the oarsmen contrasts most strongly with the deep brooding solemnity of the surrounding uncultivated and uninhabited wilds; but when the old fortress of Matanza first looms on the sight, then the blood-stained history of the early conquest of the Seminole Indians by the Spaniards fills the mind with the drama of the past.

Matanza means in Spanish the place of murderous strife.

In solemn, brooding silence the old Fort stands;
But lo! no mortal watch there now is kept;
Since foes no longer haunt those sedge-girt sands,
Where once the stealthy savage prowling crept.

Its ruined walls, time-stained by mottled moss,
With mute significance tell forth their tale:
We see no ditch, nor line, nor intrenched fosse.
Save shelter from the wary warder's hail.

But plain and solid walls rear up on high,
Without an opening in their beveled base;
No door nor gateway has been left to try
The strength or weakness of that fortress-place.

From thence the sentinels, with searching eye
The smallest speck could see for miles afar,
And, pausing oft, endeavour to descry,
The Seminoles' stratagem of war.

* * * * *

Those warlike times are past, yet firm remains
This massive monument of blood-stained strife;
And echoes, too, have ceased from bugle strains
Which roused each soldier to defend his life. GEO. HARVEY

EDUCATION IN THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES OF INDIA.

THE Civil Engineers' College at Roorkee was instituted in 1847, by the Hon. James Thomason, Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces of India, for the purpose of educating young men, natives as well as

ANNUAL GOLD MEDAL PRIZE OF THE COLLEGE OF CIVIL ENGINEERS ROORKEE.

Europeans, in different branches of civil engineering, surveying, architecture, &c. The original scheme embraced three classes of students: the first for young men who, from sub-assistant civil engineers, might rise to the highest grade of their profession, and whose education extended to the higher branches of mathematics; the second class for soldiers—whether sergeants, corporals, or privates, who might ultimately become overseers and assistant-overseers in the Department of Public Works; the third class for youths who were to learn surveying, levelling, plan-drawing, &c., and to receive the education necessary to fit them for subordinate employment on district duties, where simple surveys of boundaries, roads, &c., or the simple construction of works, would be required. The above is an outline of the idea on which the College was founded but the plan has been extended and improved since 1847

Mr Thomason died in 1853, and the Court of Directors of the East India Company, on that event being communicated to them, resolved to mark their sense of his services in promoting education in India by designating the Roorkee College "The Thomason College of Civil Engineers."

Mr Thomason fixed upon Roorkee as the site of the College in consequence of that place being contiguous to all the main works which were then in progress on the Ganges Canal, to the Solani Aqueduct, to the extensive works in the Jumnee, Putra, and Raojooee Valleys, and to the dam and regulating works erected with the main stream of the Ganges at Hurdwar. Roorkee, moreover, had for the use of the above mentioned works extensive workshops, made-rooms, library, &c., in its neighbourhood.

Lieut.-Colonel (now Sir Proby Thomas) Cautley, the projector and designer of these works, who naturally took much interest in the objects to which Mr Thomason's thoughts were directed, and whose experience had led him to appreciate mathematical acquirements most highly when applied to practical purposes, requested Mr Thomason to allow him to found an Annual Gold Medal Prize, open to the competition of all students of the College, and to be presented to that student "who made the best application of mathematics to a design for a work or works of practical utility." The offer was accepted by Mr. Thomason, who affectionately did not live to realise the hope that he had long looked forward to—namely, of himself presenting the first medal.

The medal, which we have represented, has been executed by Mr. G. G. Adams, of Eldon-street, Chelsea, to whom its founder is indebted for the design on the obverse. The reverse is a representation of one of the lions on the pedestals which adorn the flumes and approaches of the great aqueduct of the Ganges Canal, over the Solani Valley. The pedestal on the medal bears the following inscription:—

Thomason C. E. College, Roorkee, January 3 1, 1854

IMPROVEMENTS IN PROPELLING VESSELS.

Mr B. Waldeck has patented certain Improvements in Screw Propulsion, calculated to remedy an acknowledged defect in the screw as at present used. It is well ascertained that a considerable amount of power is lost by the water being thrown off from the faces of propellers of the screw kind, partly by the impact of the blades spreading out the water laterally, and partly by centrifugal force. This defect appears to be effectually remedied by Mr. Waldeck's invention, which consists in making the faces of propellers grooved or fluted, by which the water is prevented from escaping from the blades until it has done its work. Some novel forms of blades are shown in the drawings referred to in the specification. In two of the propellers shown, the grooves are arranged

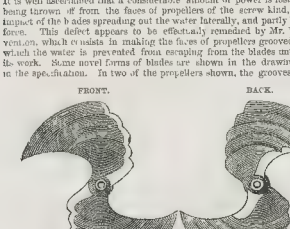

FIG. 1.

FIG. 2

WALDECK'S PATENT SCREW PROPELLERS

in a series of curved steps, rising one above the other, which give the propeller a firm hold on the water, and prevent its escape until it passes off at the back edge of the blades. We have seen a working model, and checked its operation with the existing blades, and with the patentee's improved blades; and, although working in a circular tank in which the vessel could not get up its speed, the improved blades passed quickly through the water without the slightest appreciable connection, with a decided gain in speed of upwards of 10 per cent over the old form of blades, which created both noise and commotion in the water. The two kinds of propellers compared were of the same size and pitch. We understand that experiments on a large scale will shortly be tried, and we shall look with interest to the result.

LIST OF EXPERIMENTS

Description of Screw.	Time.		Number of Revolutions round the tank.
Lowes blades - -	7min. 7secs.	- -	14
Waldeck's blades (Fig. 1)	5min. 35secs.	- -	12 1-6th
Do conical form (Fig. 2)	6min.. 30secs.	- -	13½

New Zealand.—In the Illustrated London News for Feb. 9, 1850, appeared an interesting illustration and account of a banquet given by Dr. Fitzgerald, the Colonial Surgeon of Wellington, to the Native chiefs, on the occasion of the presentation by Earl Grey of a beautiful engraving of the Queen, for the Colonial Hospital under Dr. Fitzgerald's charge. This gentleman has just returned from the colony, after an absence of sixteen years, in consequence of ill-health and family affliction. On leaving, he was invited to a public meeting of the principal European inhabitants, on which occasion he was presented with a purse of 200 guineas; and an address, expressive of the high esteem and regard which they entertained for him personally, as well as of their high appreciation of the exemplary manner in which he had acquitted himself of the arduous duties of his public appointment as medical officer of the Colonial Hospital, whereby he not only secured to himself the affections of the natives, but rendered his skill a powerful incentive to the restoration of harmony between the two races. The Chairman, Mr. A. Hort, J.P., stated that it would be a lasting memorial of the appreciation by his fellow settlers of his services, particularly of his unremitting exertions on behalf of the natives, which had greatly contributed to increase their confidence in the Europeans. Addresses were presented to Dr. Fitzgerald from the native inhabitants expressive of their deep affection and gratitude for his kind and unremitting attention. These addresses abound with affectionate allusions to Governor Grey, and their appeals to her Majesty to send back Dr. Fitzgerald, who has, we understand, considered it his duty to lay them before her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Nineveh Relics.—The French Minister of State has caused a three-masted vessel, the *Manuel*, of Bordeaux, to be hired to bring to France the objects discovered by M. Victor Place, Consul at Mosul, in his excavations at Nineveh, and she has just sailed from Nantes for the Persian Gulf. Among the objects she will bring back is one of the monumental gates of the city, four gigantic bulls, several bas-reliefs, a great number of utensils of earthenware, copper, and iron, and a number of statues of greater antiquity than any yet discovered. They are to be conveyed down the Tigris on large rafts, supported by bladders, according to the custom of the country, to Bussorah, and there to be shipped. The descent of the Tigris, a distance of 300 leagues, will be attended with considerable difficulties and dangers. But M. Place will, no doubt, be able to surmount them. He has already accomplished the more difficult operation of conveying the objects, some of which are of enormous weight, from Khorsabad to the banks of the Tigris, a distance of many leagues, and across a country which is not only without roads, but traversed by torrents, over which it was necessary to throw bridges; and all this he has done without any other means than imported by Europeans. It is expected that the *Manuel* will have returned to France in sufficient time to enable her precious cargo to be deposited in the Assyrian Museum of the Louvre before the opening of the Exhibition.

The Foxes and the Badgers.—During the whole of the week before last two fine foxes visited the [illegible] grounds of Benjamin Badger, Esq., at Eastwood-house, near [illegible]. Although many a "view halloo" and chase took place in front of the mansion by Mr. Badger's hounds, still these [illegible] did not leave the grounds. It is [illegible] weather was so [illegible] their being driven so near the town.

OPINIONS OF THE SILENT MEMBER (No. IV.)

"There is nothing new under the sun" is a saying which may certainly be applied with perfect truth to the new Ministry. If the old Government fabric has tumbled to pieces, we must hope the fall was owing to some fault in the construction, and not to the worthlessness of the materials. It is true we have got rid of the "dry rot," and retained most of the "old bricks;" but the new structure has been built chiefly out of the ruins of the old, with some rather unimportant additions. I quite agree with every one else in wishing to give it a fair trial; but we must not deceive ourselves with the idea that we have got a new Government, for we have got nothing but the old "men," from whom we must hope for new "measures." We have not changed the Ministry, but we expect the Ministers to change themselves; and we must content ourselves with anticipating that the result will be such as it is in a Christmas-piece, for it is not till after the change of the characters that we have the "business" of the pantomime. We have had much solemn burlesque up to the present point; but activity may be looked for at last, and much may be expected from the change of Lord Palmerston into the principal character. A Premier has often been compared to a theatrical manager; and, adopting the comparison, I would ask our new Ministerial manager whether it is wise to have so many old men in his company? In addition to the drawback of age, there are some who are labouring under infirmity; and, in fact, there has been so much talk about the "ill health" of some members of the Cabinet that the idea of a Government "with its feet in hot water" has more than once occurred to me. For some time there was a question whether Sir George Grey's health would be strong enough to allow him to remain at the Colonial-office, and the presumption is, that, feeling himself too weak for the Colonies, he has been sent for change of air to the Home-office. Lord Panmure is said to be very well calculated for a Minister of War, but it is feared that the periodical attacks of gout to which he is subject may confine him occasionally to his room when his colleagues may require his company. Considering what his Lordship will have on his hands, it will be rather awkward if the gout should from time to time deprive him of the use of his fingers.

One would almost imagine that appointments in our public service are made occasionally on the principle of furnishing an asylum to age and infirmity, instead of affording a field to capacity and vigour. The command in Ireland has been conferred on Lord Seaton, who is said to be eighty years old, and the command of a division in the present war has been given to Lord Rokeby, who is "as deaf as a post," if we are to believe the newspapers. These appointments will, of course, be officially justified in some way or other; and it may probably be urged that, as the Commander-in-Chief will have "nothing" to do just now in Ireland, a nobleman of eighty was just the person likely to do it. As to Lord Rokeby, it will be said that, though deaf, he is not dumb; and, as his duty will be to command, his task will rather be to talk than to listen. Besides, deafness in high quarters is rather a fashionable failing; and, as it is customary among the official chiefs to turn a deaf ear to the voice of censure or complaint, it will be a double advantage to have two deaf ears to turn to troublesome criticism or impertinent curiosity.

I have been much amused by a newspaper paragraph intended to show the especial fitness of Lord Panmure for his new office; though when I read it I could not help thinking that, as "good wine needs no bush," so a good War Minister should need no puffing. We are told that his Lordship was "for ten years an officer of the 79th Highlanders," in which capacity he was never at the taking of anything except the taking of the colds and his seat in the House of Commons. But, "though never on active service, he was deeply imbued with the military spirit," which must have been a most troublesome spirit to one who could find no vent for its workings. The paragraph adds, that Lord Panmure "would doubtless have proved himself a thorough soldier had he ever had an opportunity of facing an enemy on the battle-field." I do not doubt the fact; but I am hardly disposed to concur in giving his Lordship a high military reputation on the strength of what he might, could, would, or should have done, if he had ever faced an enemy. I do not mention this matter in disparagement of Lord Panmure, but only to express my opinion of the folly of his friends in trying to get up the reputation of a military hero for one who has never been engaged in any field more formidable than the field of politics.

If Lord Raglan's despatches should be reduced into a volume, many of them will wear the aspect of a weather table, and his history of the war will carry out the irreverent idea by which history was likened to an old almanack. One of Lord Raglan's latest despatches, dated January 27, 1855, is almost exclusively occupied in talking about "the weather," which is the favourite topic with Englishmen when they don't exactly know what to say—a pretticament in which the Commander at the Crimea very naturally finds himself. The following is the eloquent opening of Lord Raglan's despatch:—"My Lord Duke,—I have the satisfaction to acquaint your Grace that the weather continues fine." The letter than proceeds, in language no less roundabout, to intimate the simple facts that "the nights are frosty," that the "sun shines" by day, and that there is an "absence of wind;" so that some three or four paragraphs are taken up by an amplification of the announcement that the troops have got fine weather. The latter portion of the despatch is not so satisfactory, for it tells us that there is difficulty in getting huts up for the troops, because "the ground is rotten"—a truth which applies to the whole management of the war up to the present period.

The men are without shelter. The stores are better off; for these have so vastly accumulated at Balaclava—where they are not wanted—that, as they cannot be carried to the Camp—where they are wanted Lord Raglan "has been obliged to erect huts outside the town for their reception." This comfortable housing of the stores, contrasted with the houselessness of the troops for whom the stores were intended, reminds one of Dickens's idea of the wrapping up of the muffins in warm blankets contrasted with the exposed condition of the half-naked muffin-boys.

I have read with satisfaction the announcement that Mr. Peto—the builder, or contractor, or engineer, or whatever else he may be called—is about to be made a Baronet. On consideration, I am not quite so sure whether the subject is one of congratulation after all; for, by conferring a piece of aristocracy on talent, the inference is that the former constitutes the superior distinction. When an hereditary title is given to a man of genius, it often happens that his descendants not only think more of the title than of its source, but that they seek to bury the latter in oblivion, and, while feeling an ignoble pride in the title, have a sort of disgraceful shame at the recollection of its origin. It would be eventually more honourable to the family, and certainly more useful to the country, that there should be a race of illustrious engineers than a long line of useless baronets. I do not make these remarks as bearing particularly on the case of Mr. Peto, who well deserves any honour that may be conferred on him, but I mean to enter a general protest against treating aristocratic distinction as the *summum bonum* towards which all genius should be directed. The late George Stephenson is understood to have refused a title, and his name will not be the less illustrious for want of a handle. If the distinction conferred were to be personal instead of hereditary, the practice of giving titles to distinguished men would be more reasonable; but how many a title there is which, though illustrious in connection with one great man by whom it was originally won, is almost ludicrous in connection with the small man to whom it has descended? Fortunately for the fame of some great men who have been nominally ennobled on account of their real nobility they have no descendants to make their names ridiculous. By this accident of fortune we are prevented from imagining the existence of a stupid Brougham some hundred years hence, though it is not so difficult to conceive the possibility of an inferior Duke of Wellington. There is a hero of the present day who might be raised to any honour the country deems him worthy of without the risk of an illustrious name descending to those in whose persons it might become disembodied, or rather degraded. Sir De Lacy Evans is without hears male, and his promotion to the peerage would be only a proper tribute to his distinguished merits. He has rejected the offer of a lucrative but not very exalted post, for he looks to honour, and not to money, as the reward of his glorious services. The House of Commons having conferred on him the highest distinction it is able to bestow, it would be an appropriate close to his brilliant career if the opportunity were afforded him of conferring distinction on the House of Lords by taking his place among its members.

WHAT IS A NEWSPAPER?

The Attorney-General at home has been puzzled to define a newspaper; and Mr. Gladstone's proposal to reform and regulate the Stamp duties on newspapers is the consequence. A similar difficulty has arisen in the Colonies, as will be seen from the following petition, with reference to our own Journal, which has just been presented to the Legislative Council of New South Wales. We are happy to learn that the Colonial Government acceded to the prayer of the petitioners, and that the Illustrated London News circulates freely through the whole district in question.

On the debate that ensued in the Chamber, Mr. Parkes, one of the members, stated that the petition contained arguments well worthy their consideration. When they were told that 600 copies of the Illustrated London News were regularly circulated throughout the colony, it appeared to him that they were not only bound to remove the impediments at present affecting its circulation, but that they ought to show every desire, if possible, to increase that circulation. This was the more desirable, seeing that the information disseminated through this Journal was of a very high character, and such as could not fail to have a beneficial effect on the moral and social condition of the community. From what he had seen and heard of this matter, he had not the slightest doubt in his own mind that the Illustrated London News had a very large circulation in the colony; so much so that he believed that it went to nearly every respectable family in the interior.

Mr. Cowper presented the following petition from Messrs. W. R. Piddington, James Waugh, and Joseph Cox:

To the Honourable the Legislative Council of New South Wales, in Council assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned, sheweth,—

That for nearly seven years your petitioners have transmitted through the New South Wales Post-office the English Stamped Newspaper entitled the Illustrated London News, in parts, at the rate of one penny for each newspaper.

That the practice of treating the Illustrated London News, published in parts, as a newspaper, and charging one penny postage upon each number, was invariably followed in the Sydney Post-office during the period when the late Mr. Raymond, and also Mr Meerewether, held the office of Postmaster-General, and for a short time since the appointment of Major Christie to that office.

That about twelve months since your petitioners received a letter from the present Postmaster-General, containing an intimation that the practice of treating the Illustrated London News, when stitched together in parts, as a newspaper, would not be continued after the 1st of November, 1854.

That since that period your petitioners have been constrained to pay the enormous charge of ten pence postage upon a part of the Illustrated London News, containing four numbers only, being at the rate of two pence halfpenny postage upon each English stamped newspaper. This charge, your petitioners humbly submit, is in direct opposition to the New South Wales Postage Act, 16th Victoria, cap. 12, section 10. That your petitioners respectfully submit that the circumstance, or accident, that four or five weekly numbers of the Illustrated London News being stitched together with a cover does not destroy their character as a packet of English stamped newspapers, the so-called monthly part of the Illustrated London News cannot be called a "monthly newspaper," because it is composed of four or five *original* weekly publications issued at intervals of seven days only from each other, and because the said Illustrated London News comes strictly within the definition of a newspaper contained in the Act of Council of New South Wales, 16th Victoria, No. 35, section 6, as well as the more perfect definition in the Act of the Imperial Parliament, 6 and 7 of William IV., cap. 76.

That the distinction between a monthly part of the Illustrated London News and a periodical may be seen by dividing the part or packet into the respective weekly numbers composing it. No one would insist that the separate numbers could be legally charged with more than one penny per number postage, under the Postage Act of New South Wales, and it is equally unquestionable that if an individual periodical, for instance, a monthly part of *Blackwood's Magazine*—were divided into sheets in a similar manner, each sheet would be legally liable to the charge of twopence, although it might not weigh one quarter of the weight of a single number of the Illustrated London News.

That your petitioners respectfully represent that it is inconsistent with sound policy to impose the heavy tax of twopence halfpenny upon each number of the Illustrated London News, when stitched together, as so onerous a charge must tend to impede the circulation of a publication of the highest character, calculated to promote a taste for the fine arts, as well as contributing to gratify the anxious desire of many residents in the distant interior for an unexceptionable English newspaper.

Your petitioners unhesitatingly assert that they have heard no argument in favour of the exaction they complain of, except what might be as fairly urged against the transmission of any other newspaper through the post, whether published in the colony or otherwise.

That your petitioners represent nearly 600 country residents, who are impressed with the conviction of the injustice they suffer from the impediments thrown in the way of the circulation of a newspaper which contains intelligence of the most interesting nature, and the feeling of injustice is aggravated by the reflection that the local circumstances of the colony afford no reason for the exaction.

Your petitioners pray that your honourable House will take their petition into your favourable consideration, and cause to be introduced into the bill now before your honourable Council, for the amendment of the Postage Act, certain clauses enabling your petitioners to transmit the Illustrated London News through the Post-office, either in numbers or in parts, upon payment of one penny postage upon each number of the said newspaper.

Your petitioners are aware that it is the rule to number each issue of every newspaper, and that to prevent all doubts arising as to what shall be deemed a newspaper, for the purpose of postage, your petitioners further pray your honourable Council to adopt the principle that the penny rate of postage shall be levied on every numbered issue of the newspaper.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Signed by) W. R. Piddington, Sydney.
Waugh and Cox, Sydney.

The Sandwich Islands.—His Majesty King Kamehameha, alarmed at rumours of filibuster invasions, issued a proclamation on the 8th of December proclaiming that he accepted the proffered aid of the United States, Great Britain, and France in support of his sovereignty. The United States sloop of war *Portsmouth* sailed from Honolulu on the 3rd for the United States via Tahiti.

Liberty of the Press in Prussia.—In consequence of the liberal sentiments contained in the leading article of the third number of the "Preussian Aera, on the question "Is Russia to be considered as a State of Europe?" in which the question was answered in the negative, and proofs brought forward to show that in nature and in all things it is more Asiatic than European, the Russian Legation denounced it by the telegraph to the Czar's Envoy at Berlin, who complained to the Minister of the Interior, and effected the total suppression of the paper.

Russian Trade. According to letters from Russia, material interests are beginning to feel the effect of war more and more. Raw produce must be got rid of, at first hand, at the lowest prices, on account of the cost of transport from the interior, in order to [illegible] with purchasers abroad. Many Russian factories are also at a standstill in consequence of a want of raw material and [illegible] supplies conveyed to them by wheel are insufficient, and the price of [illegible] enormously increased by those of [illegible] exports of tallow from St [illegible] point of concentration [illegible] the convoys generally [illegible] the escort of twelve men [illegible] at Konigsberg.

RUSSIA, SWEDEN, DENMARK, AND NORWAY.

The population of Russia, according to some statistical tables relative to foreign countries, recently published by the Government, which contain the latest and most accurate information collected, amounted in 1849 (exclusive of Poland and Finland) to 52,197,150 persons, of whom 26,282,777 were males and 25,914,373 females; the latter being to the males about 101½ to 100. In 1846 Poland is stated, in Mr. McCulloch's "Geography," to have contained 4,957,700, and Finland 1,401,415; which would make the total population 57,556,865, within a few thousands of the total population as officially published in 1852, 59,135,568. Though Mr. McCulloch puts down the total population in 1846 at 66,008,315, we are inclined to suppose his statement is erroneous; and, as the official account now published must be presumed to be correct, confirmed as it is by agreeing with the official accounts published in 1849, we conclude that within its own territories the Russian population increases very slowly, and hence its uneasiness, and the trouble it gives to other nations. People well off at home are quiet and contented. Amongst the population, 1,736,757 are nomad, or without fixed habitation. The total town population is 2,897,815—not more than the inhabitants of London and Liverpool. The only really great towns in Russia are St. Petersburg, 487,482 persons; Moscow, 364,582; Odessa, 78,131; Riga, 65,891; Kazan, 61,024; Tula, 61,522; Kief, 48,741; Astrachan, 46,699; Viatka, 45,767; Kostroma, 45,765; and Kromoi, 40,621. The half of our population lives in towns; in Russia the town population is not much more than one-twentieth of the whole.

The revenue of Russia, from which we may infer the relative productive power of our 28,000,000 and the 53,000,000 of Russians (excluding Poland and Finland, as they are also excluded from the revenue accounts), was, in 1849, £24,784,737, which we paid to the State, say £20,000,000. The revenue of Russia was derived from direct taxes, £1,277,488; brandy monopoly, £7,734,167; indirect taxes, £7,745,110—including the customs duties, £1,140,000; making a total of £24,784,765. Our population of 28,000,000, therefore, raised for the ordinary expenses of the Government in peace, 2½ times as much as 53,000,000 Russians.

The national debt of Russia is £66,155,308; or little more than one-thirteenth of our debt (nearly £800,000,000); still, with her stinted revenue, the debt is onerous. More than half our taxes, before the war began (£27,700,000), went to pay the interest on our debt, which would speedily ruin us were we not our own creditors, only a small portion of our debt being held by foreigners.

The trade of Russia compares with our trade as follows, in 1852:—

RUSSIA			
No. of Ships.	Tonnage.	No. of Ships.	Tonnage.
8,025	1,580,600	[illegible]	[illegible]
ENGLAND			
[illegible]	6,759,169	1,747	[illegible]

If we add the tonnage of the ships that came and went together, we shall have 3,118,400 as the amount of tonnage employed in the trade of Russia, and 13,518,338 in the trade of Great Britain—or the trade and shipping of Russia is not one-tenth of our trade and shipping. It must be remarked also that not above one-eighth of the tonnage carrying on the Russian trade is native, one-third of the whole being actually English; while, of the tonnage carrying on our trade, more than four-sevenths are native. The Russian coasting trade appears to have employed, in 1852, about 5422 vessels, many of them very small; while the coasting trade of Great Britain employed 2,700,000 vessels, and the tonnage which came and went amounted to 25,800,000. In 1852 the total imports of Russia, exclusive of Poland and Finland, and exclusive of bullion, amounted to £16,160,808; the bullion imported was £1,988,800—making the total imports £18,149,708; the total exports, exclusive of bullion, amounted to £17,982,056; the bullion, £1,056,372—together, £19,038,428. Of the value of our imports we can give no account, for none is kept; but the value of our exports, exclusive of bullion, of which also no official account is kept, in 1852 was £18,076,854, or four times as much as the exports of Russia, exclusive of bullion. The principal articles of import are—raw cotton, in 1852, 66,058,596 lbs.; cotton twist, 4,184,964 lbs.; raw silk, 408,456 lbs.; sheeps' wool, 2,922,012 lbs.; coffee, 81,287 cwts.; sugar, 605,323 cwts.; machinery value, £316,218; wines and spirits, £1,441,523. Manufactures—cotton, £719,051; silk, £749,438; linen, £156,844; woollen, £261,054; dye-stuffs and fruit together make £1,640,000. The principal articles exported from Russia, including Poland, were, in 1852, hemp, 43,823 tons; flax, 62,555 tons; tallow, 752,630 cwts; potash, 252,741 cwts.; sheeps' wool, 29,111,184 lbs.; bristles, 23,882 cwts.; linseed and hempseed, 876,784 qrs.; timber and deals to the value of £641,194; undressed hides, £108,496; red Russia leather, £179,122; and bread-stuffs, £907,426.

The total quantity of wheat, we may remark, as this is a subject now of an interesting controversy, exported from Russia in 1852, to all other countries, was 3,175,507 qrs. The quantity imported into this country from Russia in that year was 733,734 qrs. The largest quantity ever exported from Russia, as far as the official accounts hitherto extend, was, in 1847, 4,279,682 qrs., of which we obtained 650,586 qrs. The large exports of 1847 were the stores of several years, and the very high price in the other parts of Europe caused Russia then to be swept clean. Since 1849 the export trade has been regular and free, and there is no reason to suppose that Russia can have more wheat to export in 1854 than in 1852. Instead, therefore, of having 6,000,000 qrs. to export, as Mr. Bright has most unadvisedly and erroneously stated, she has, probably, not above 3,000,000 qrs.; and, instead of 6,000,000 qrs. coming hither to save us from eating each other (as he also asserted the other day at Manchester), there is not the slightest probability that as much as 2,000,000 qrs. would find their way hither had the two countries remained at peace. In spite of the war, too, we have received in 1854 more than the half of our usual supplies from Russia; and it must astonish every reasonable person to find a well-accredited member of the House of Commons making such extraordinary, inflammatory, and exaggerated statements as those made by Mr. Bright. We will now compile a table of the total value of the imports and exports of the principal ports of European Russia in 1852:—

	Imports.	Exports.
Archangel	£50,154	£862,264
St. Petersburg	7,776,085	5,116,887
Narva	31,456	5,341
Riga	875,528	2,617,745
Revel	31,972	51,877
Windau	6,691	48,753
Libau	21,900	142,054
Ismail	14,045	291,155
Odessa	1,126,455	3,069,714
Taganrog	208,689	554,914

The number of acres in the Russian empire is 1,688,905,251, or about twenty-two times as many as are contained in Great Britain and Ireland. Of these acres 23,804,743 are domains attached to private residences; 218,687,516 are arable; 107,971,138 are meadow; 241,205,861 are woods belonging to the Crown; 112 853,310 are woods belonging to individuals, and 39,138,242 are woods belonging to municipalities; and 932,052,138 are waste, of which even the quality of more than 600,000 acres is not ascertained. The total crops of bread corn—wheat and rye—was, in 1849, 67,410,156 quarters; and of other kinds of corn, 97,873,272 quarters; with 12,752,573 quarters of potatoes. The number of horses was said to be, in 1849, 17,456,593; of horned cattle, 21,228,240; of sheep—superior, 7,147,717; ordinary, 28,187,946; of swine, 8,862,410, goats, 1,055,122. Russia has latterly produced much gold: in 1847 the quantity was valued at £3,715,016; in 1852, £3,462,154. The average produce of iron is about 311,657 tons; our produce is about 2,800,000 tons. Russia possesses 337 manufactories of beet-root sugar, and produces about 300,000 cwt. As some extravagant statements are [illegible] at Odessa (14s. per quarter) would, we [illegible] down at 40s.; [illegible] account of the highest price of wheat in 1853 at [illegible] and the average of the year was 58s. 4½d. The extreme prices which are put forth by a party, in order to exaggerate the losses and sufferings caused by the war, are imaginary, and, were peace to be declared to-morrow, would be found to have no existence.

The population of Sweden, according to the same authentic official tables, was, in 1850, 3,482,541, whereof 1,687,248 were males, and 1,795,293 females; or nearly 107 of the latter to 100 of the former. The number of the town population was 162,107 males, and 188,971 females; together 351,078, or about one-tenth of the whole, and double the proportion of the town population in Russia. In Sweden some attention is paid to education: the number of children of an age to attend school is 464,678, and of those only 14,252 are unprovided with education all the year round at school. The Sound dues were, in 1852, £441,257; the total shipping entered and cleared were 14,052, of an aggregate tonnage of 1,932,672. The total value of the imports in 1852 was £2,420,590; and of the exports, £2,304,863. About one-third of the exports are sent to Great Britain, and about one-seventh of the imports go from Great Britain. The principal exports to us are iron, timber, and corn; and the principal imports from us are cottons and woollens, dye-stuffs, coal, coke, and machinery.

Norway, though politically united with Sweden, is commercially and statistically distinct. Its population is not mentioned in the official tables; from another source we state its amount at about 1,400,000. They had, in 1851, 395,484 tonnage of shipping engaged in the carrying trade of foreign countries. In 18.2 the total tonnage entered inwards and cleared outwards was 1,622,626, of which 782,726 tons were in ballast—a number of ships going to Norway for timber, which find no corresponding heavy cargoes to carry thither. After the Norwegian vessels, Danish vessels and Hamburg vessels have the largest share in the trade of Norway. The principal articles imported are cotton, wool, and manufactures of those materials, earthenware, corn, colonial wares, spices, &c. The exports are timber, fish, skins, horses, iron, copper, &c. Suffering like the greater part of Europe from a short supply of corn, the price of wheat was, at the close of 1853, between 74s. 7d. and 80s. 3d. per quarter—being dearer in Norway than here.

The population of Denmark was 1,414,757 in 1845, [illegible] 1,470,757 in 1850; the males at the latter period were [illegible] under 715,807, or in the ratio of 100 to 103. Almost the smallest proportion of these people live to be above 100, 001 in 1000. Denmark, like some other States, expends, even in times of peace, more than its revenue: in 1854 she expended £2,196,215, and her revenue was £1,952,076; but, as she increased her marine considerably in this year, the war even put her to an additional cost. In this year, too, she increased the interest of her debt from 4,340,286 to 7,434,700 rix bank dollars, the value of each being 2s. 3d.; and the whole increase of her expenditure from £1,481,678 in 1853 to £2,196,215 in 1854 was remarkable. Denmark owns in all 1701 vessels, of 100,595 lasts, equivalent to 201,190 tons, and of these vessels thirty four are steam-vessels of 2193-horse power. The total tonnage employed in her trade, in 1852, was 2,943,384, and the number of vessels was 16,000, exclusive of coasting and canal trade; the exports were estimated at £5,265,165, and the exports at £3,871,650. Also a one-sixth of the import trade and one-third of her export trade is with Great Britain. The former consists of spices, cotton (raw and manufactured), woollens, earthenware, coals, and all kinds of colonial produce transhipped from hence. The latter consists in bread-stuffs, cattle, wool, provisions, bones, &c.

The total population of the three Northern States, and that of Russia, with their shipping and trade, may now be stated in contrast:—

	Population	Value of Imports.	Value of Exports.	Aggregate Trade.
Russia, including Poland and Finland	59,137,159	£16,160,808	£18,076,854	£34,237,662
Sweden, Denmark, and Norway	6,296,288	£3,662,[illegible]	£[illegible]	£[illegible]

Thus, these three civilised and Protestant countries have little more than a ninth of the population of the barbarous Colossus of the North, but they employ twice as much shipping, and the value of their trade is more than one-third of that of Russia. Such are specimens only of the superiority of our Scandinavian relatives over their Sclavish neighbours—our enemy, and their oppressors.

SLAVERY IN JAVA.—Last Wednesday we were witness to a touching scene. In the market place of Grisse a slave family, consisting of father, mother, and eight children, from three to fourteen years of age, were to be publicly and unreservedly sold by auction. They had been the property of a deceased Dutch widow lady, who had always treated them with the greatest kindness; thus they were deeply grieved at being obliged to pass into the hands of a new master, and they gave expression to their great affliction by tears and sobs. The public crier put them up at 6000 florins. Though a crowd of people had assembled, they kept a profound silence. The crier gradually lowered his price to 4,000 florins, but none would buy. Then the father of this slave family, availing himself of the privilege granted by law to slaves put up to sale at a public auction, offered himself five florins, and at the same time, throwing himself on his knees, he brought the spectators not to make a higher bid. Not a word was spoken; a silence of a few moments ensued, and the entire family was adjudged to have been unreservedly sold to itself. It would be difficult to describe the joy experienced by these slaves on hearing the fall of the hammer which thus gave them their liberty, and this joy was further augmented by the presents given them by numbers of the spectators, in order that they might be able to obtain a subsistence until such time as they could procure employment. These are the acts of a noble generosity that deserve to be remembered, and which at the same time testify that the inhabitants of Java begin to abhor the crying injustice of slavery, and are willing to countenance measures for its abolition.—*Letter from Sourabaya.*

POLITENESS AT SEBASTOPOL.—The Crimean correspondent of the *Journal de Constantinople* states that, since the Allies and the Russians are prevented by the season from meeting each other in battle array, they contend who shall overcome the other in courtesy and politeness; and he gives some anecdotes of this contest:—"The Allied troops are strictly forbidden to possess themselves of the money and jewellery of the killed or wounded. The latter and the prisoners retain everything they may have about them. Whatever is found on the persons of the officers among the killed is sent to the Russian head-quarters, with the name of the late possessor, whenever it can be discovered. If an officer is missing at the evening roll-call, a flag of truce is sent into the enemy's camp to inquire if he has been made prisoner, and if the reply is in the affirmative, his money and effects are forwarded to him. A Colonel of Russian Hussars, having had his horse killed, and falling under the animal, at the battle of Inkerman, lost his sabre. After the action he sent to the French head-quarters to beg that it might be returned to him, on account of the value he attached to it as the gift of his grandfather. Every possible search was made for it. A French officer who accompanied one of the flags of truce after that battle said—'Yes, gentlemen, you won a brilliant victory at the Alma, and for it you may thank your numbers of attack, which we did not understand. Our soldiers are some what slow to learn; but only give them time, and you will see that the game will be a little more difficult to play.' In fact, it was remarked that at Inkerman the Russians attempted to attack *en tirailleurs*."

GREAT BANK ROBBERY AT MELBOURNE.—The Metropolitan and City police have received intelligence by the Overland Mail, from the chief of the police at Melbourne, of a great bank robbery of £34,000 at Ballarat, and the probable flight of the thieves to England. From the information sent it appears that the robbery was committed on the Branch Victoria Bank, on the 2nd November last, by four of "those out-and-out villains" who committed such fearful atrocities at the diggings. With their faces concealed by black crape, and each armed with a revolver, they boldly entered the bank in broad daylight, seized Mr. Buckley, the manager, and Mr Marshall, the chief clerk, the only two who were in the bank at the time, and, having bound them with cords, then rifled the establishment of all it contained, and decamped, previously threatening the lives of those above named if they dared to move. The *Police Gazette* of Sydney furnishes a full description of the thieves, with a partial list of the bank-notes and bags of gold stolen. The value of the notes stolen is nearly £17,000. Several bags of gold, in the whole amounting to £17,000, were among the plunder. The Colonial Government have offered £1000 for the apprehension of the offenders.

EPITOME OF NEWS FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

On the nomination of his Royal Highness Prince Albert, Lord Dufferin has been elected a Bonet, Knight of the Garter, in the Chapter of the Trinity-house.

The *Hamburg Courier* [illegible] says, the Emperor Francis Joseph intends to place himself [illegible] army in the event of war breaking out with Russia, and [illegible] be will [illegible] ed by Field Marshal de Hess.

By a decree dated the 22nd January, the Emperor Nicholas conferred the Order of the White Eagle on Vice-Admiral Nachimoff, commanding the Fifth Division of the fleet.

The Duke and Duchess of Wellington will remove from Belgrave-street towards the close of next month, and take up their residence permanently at Apsley-house, which noble mansion has undergone a complete re-timed state.

By direct orders of the Emperor Nicholas, Prince Paskiewitsch has forbidden the export of brandy and other spirituous liquors to Austria.

It is said in Paris that Prince Napoleon is about to be married to one of the Princesses of the Royal family of Wurtemberg.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe has given a farewell dinner to Baron Brunk, who leaves Constantinople for Vienna.

Preparations are being made at the Palais Royal, the residence of Prince Jerome, who is the members of all the branches of the Napoleon family will assemble.

The *Parma Gazette* states that the Duchess de Berri arrived there on the 3rd, on a visit to her daughter, the Princess of Lucca Duchess.

Sir George Anderson, ex-Governor of Ceylon, arrived at Suez by the *Bengal* on the [illegible] and is to remain at Cairo for some time to recruit his health.

The Foreign European Legion is to be placed under the command of Colonel F. K. Cursiney, of the Royal Artillery. A Turkish Legion is to be formed at Constantinople, and officered by the Britons, who are to receive pay from their own Government.

Letters from Berlin affirm that the Duke of Coburg has refused the mission proposed to him by France and England in the interest of Prussia.

A marriage is in contemplation between the second son of Prince Czartoriski and the eldest daughter of Queen Maria Christina and the Duke de Rianzares. The youthful couple will reside at Paris.

Mr. W. S. Lindsay, M.P., passed through Paris on Saturday, en route to Malta, with the object of [illegible] a regular service of steamers for the sick direct to Marseilles, and [illegible] hospitals along the coast.

M. Varnavas Pangalos, the oldest of the patriots who struggled for the independence of Greece, and one of those who sacrificed a large fortune to the cause, has just died at Athens, at the age of one hundred [illegible].

The new statue in bronze of Joan of Arc, and the newly-repaired Hôtel de Ville at Orleans, are to be inaugurated on the 8th of May next.

M. Soulé sailed from Cowes on Wednesday, in the *St. Louis*, for the United States.

An aide-de-camp of General de Marmora and several other Piedmontese officers arrived two days ago at Lyons from Turin, and embarked on board the steamers of the Rhône, en route to the Crimea.

Mr. Hume is so seriously indisposed as to be unable to leave his seat in Norfolk.

Khalil Bey, son of Cherif Pacha, one of the most influential personages in Egypt, is preparing to leave Alexandria for Paris on a mission from the Viceroy. He carries with him various specimens of Egyptian production for the Universal Exhibition.

Sir Edward Blakeney has been appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Chelsea Hospital.

Count Abel Hugo expired on Thursday week, after a few days' illness, at his residence in the Rue de Moulins. He was the elder brother of M. Victor Hugo, the poet.

A subscription has been commenced at Hanover for the erection of a statue in commemoration of the late King Ernest.

The King of the Belgians was present at the opening on Sunday, at Brussels, of the Exposition of Works of Ancient Art, organised by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

On Saturday Mr. Charles Proctor, a gentleman of independent property, entered a shooting-gallery and blew out his brains with a pistol.

The *Rotterdamsche Courant* states that a letter has been received from Madame Goldsmid, née Jenny Lind, in which that lady communicates her intention to visit Holland in the course of the present month.

The well-known antiquarian and linguist, Professor Lepsius, at the instigation of the Chevalier Bunsen, has completed an alphabet containing the sounds and letters of all the languages in the world.

The Crystal Palace at Munich, built for the late Exhibition, is ordered to be entirely emptied, and converted into an extensive ground for drilling and parading the troops.

The Board of Trade has hired the extensive and eligible house at No. 14, Rue du Cirque, at Paris, for the offices of the British section of the Universal Exhibition.

The market price of lions at Natal appears to be £7 10s.; at least three "beautiful" and healthy forest kings were sold recently in the market for £22 10s.

A new manifesto of the Emperor Nicholas, published at St Petersburg on the 11th inst., orders a general arming of the people throughout the whole extent of the Russian Empire.

The railway between Alexandria and Cairo, a distance of 130 miles, is now complete, with the exception of the three bridges on the two branches of the Nile and the Delta Canal.

A new loan from the house of Rothschild is said to have been contracted by the Roman Government for that apparently unattainable object, the withdrawing of the paper currency.

Amongst the cargo on board the *Solent*, which left Southampton, on Sunday with the Brazilian and Lisbon mails, was one of the old mail-coaches. This coach is sent to Lisbon as a model for the mail-coaches about to be introduced into Portugal.

The Volga is to be made navigable from Astrakan to the Caspian Sea, [illegible] a company to be called the "Golden Fleece" is authorised to work the fisheries and [illegible].

California has been visited by one of its periodical droughts, which has continued so long as to be called a "water famine."

The Association for the Vindication of Scottish Rights has very prudently resolved not to press the claims of Scotland on the Legislature at the present time.

The Spanish Minister of Grace and Justice has announced that the newspaper the *Catolico* should be prosecuted for having published the Pope's Bull on the Immaculate Conception before it had received the sanction of the Government.

Two eclipses of the moon will be visible in this country this year—the first on the 2nd of May, when the moon will rise quite obscured; the second on the 26th October, when the moon will set nearly eclipsed.

The Viceroy of Egypt has abolished Customs duties except at Suez.

At a meeting of the Crystal Palace Company on Tuesday, the Directors were authorised to raise £150,000 by preferential shares; and an amendment for raising the dividend from 4s. to 5s. per share was carried unanimously.

Several able divers from London and Paris have just passed through Malta on their way to the Crimea. They were there joined by one of the most experienced divers of that city.

The winter in Palestine is of unusual severity: snow covers the mountains to a depth of nearly four feet.

The wife of a farmer, residing at Haywood, near Askern, recently purchased the fifth as an old-fashioned chest of drawers, in a secret drawer of which she subsequently discovered twenty "spade-ace" guineas.

Our Government is represented to have concluded contracts with various houses in Danzig for the delivery of large quantities of salt meat on terms very favourable to the Dantzigers.

The French authorities intend erecting in Constantinople steam-mills, and a baking establishment, with twenty ovens, which will be able to supply 36,000 rations of bread a day.

The number of depositors in saving banks in Switzerland is in the proportion of 1 to every 13 of the population; whilst in Saxony it is 1 in 16, in England 1 in 22, in Hanover 1 in 27, Austria 1 in 40, Prussia 1 in 47, France 1 in 68, and Belgium 1 in 78.

"Forty families," says a Hesse Cassel journal, "belonging to Neustadt, a little town of the Electorate, have gone over from the Catholic to the Protestant Evangelical Faith. The Cassel Consistory immediately sent a clergyman to provide for their spiritual wants."

A penal law against the circulation of foreign paper money has been passed in the Prussian Second Chamber.

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION

[SECOND NOTICE.]

Our Illustrations of last week afforded very fair samples of what young English artists fast rising into distinction have produced during the past year. Mr. Deane enabled us to supply a clever picture from English domestic life; Mr. Holland wafted us to Venice, and awakened poetic and pictorial associations in our minds; and Mr. T. Danby reconciled us to the snow and cold winds of February by recalling an English season, "atween May and June," amid the mountains and waters of North Wales.

This week our Illustrations are of a somewhat different kind. In "The Park" (No. 245) Mr. Creswick and Mr. Ansdell have worked together with a kindred emulation. Very seldom has Mr. Creswick painted a sweeter landscape; rarely has Mr. Ansdell been truer to Nature and Sir Edwin Landseer. In spirit, execution, and in shape, this is intensely an English picture. It is true to English scenery and animal life. What a charming fireside companion would this picture make! We envy its owner the pleasure he will derive from possession. In one's easy chair we may sit before it, and, while feeling the comforts of a crackling wood fire, breathe the fresh air and partake of the life which animates and pervades the whole composition. This, in a few words, is a picture such as we should wish to carry about with us from country to town, from town to country, just as Sir George Beaumont carried the little Claude that is now in our National Gallery!

From the scenery of an English park, with pleasant peeps into a distant landscape, Mr. Wingfield (No. 316) carries the spectator to the "Artist's Studio," the interior, if we mistake not, of a room in Clipstone-street, familiarly known to many of our London artists. Here the air is evidently not quite so salubrious; and the room itself, it is quite evident, seldom passes more than once a year under the charwoman's scrubbing-brush and the housemaid's duster. That sitter has sat for many parts—for *Miranda* in the "Tempest," and *Olivia* in the "Vicar of Wakefield;" for *Rebecca* in "Ivanhoe," for Queen Elizabeth and for Nell Gwyn. She has sat to Etty and to all the pre-Raphaelites. Those casts have done duty in other studios, and have even figured for a time at more than one sale at Christie and Manson's of the remaining works of an eminent British artist deceased. That black velvet coat, of which the painter has given us the back most elaborately painted, was not designed without a thought to Raphael, and its quality and texture have been minutely copied into the small-clothes of Lord Leicester and the inky garments of Hamlet the Dane. Very carefully indeed is this picture painted. It was sent in unsold—the price £80. Its merits were soon seen, and more than one collector of name competed for its purchase. It was so at the private view, and is the best work that we have yet seen from Mr. Wingfield's pencil.

Of a very different stamp from the solitude of Messrs. Creswick and Ansdell's "Park" and the repose of Mr. Wingfield's "Artist's Studio" is the bustling scene which Mr. George Cruikshank has enabled us to copy and enjoy. He calls it "The Runaway Knock," and very heartily has he entered into the excitement which such an event is apt to occasion in quiet families. As Fielding said of Hogarth's "Enraged Musician," that it made one deaf to look at it, so we may say that Cruikshank's "Runaway Knock" makes the spectator enraged at looking at it. The picture is one whole scene of excitement. The very poodles on the doorstep have an irritated and disappointed look. The runaway knock had the knock and counterfeit sound of the dog's-meat man: the dogs were, therefore, disappointed; the knock had the well-known rat-a-tat of a long-expected friend—all the household are, therefore, disappointed. Delight and disappointment are exhibited in every expressive shape that the fertile pencil of Cruikshank could design.

"A RUNAWAY KNOCK." PAINTED BY GEORGE CRUIKSHANK.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS.

[THIRD NOTICE.]

This Exhibition is valuable, not merely on account of its intrinsic excellence, but as marking the rapid progress towards perfection of one of the most fascinating arts of the present day. Hitherto the artists of this country have too much undervalued the assistance which they might derive from the exertions of the photographer; and not a few have looked upon the rapid growth of the art with something like feelings of hostility or jealousy. This prejudice is now, however, rapidly passing away, and we know of nothing better calculated to remove the last lingering remnants of such feelings than a visit to the Photographic Exhibition. Even the most superficial glance will suffice to show the great assistance that artists may derive from the use of Photography, while the specimens of Mr. Lake Price (one of which we have engraved), and some other artists, show that the photographer will very soon be able to form a new school of art to which it would be desirable to see many of our artists lending their assistance and support. Turner, had he been living, would not have been slow to bear his cheerful testimony to the beauty of the atmospheric tints which are be found in some of the best specimens of Mr. Roger Fenton; the value of Mr. Sherlock's studies of clouds will be readily appreciated by every landscape artist; and every person who has the slightest pretension to a taste in art must perceive the beauty and novelty, and rejoice at the extent to which the artistic application of

(*Continued on page 166.*)

THE RUNAWAY KNOCK.

(JOHN THOMAS, Hall Porter, *loquitur.*)

It's a quarter to five, as I am alive! and that knocker's at rest for a wonder;
It's been going all day, as a body may say, like werry good minatur thunder.
I'm used to that now; knockers will make a row; it's their natur, and that there's no helping;
But with every rāt tāt tāt-tāt-ā-tāt-tāt, all Missus's dogs begin yelping!
There's that Hile-o'-Skye all 'air and no heye, like a muff upon legs—as sits up and begs, and turns up his nose at biled chicken;
And that fat wheezy span'nel wot they wraps up in flannel, I'd warm his hold 'ide with a kickin'.
I don't henvy my berth—it's the 'ardest on earth, and it's long since I made the diskivery,
Twenty-five pounds a year, no washing, No Beer! one 'at and but two suits of livery.
My powder is found—(that's to say I've a pound, which I puts profit side of my ledger,
'Cos I'm in the good books *always* of the cooks, and they flours my 'ead with the dredger)
All day in this chair, not a mossel of hair, 'cept when in the square I takes all the dogs out a hairin',
And the little boys chaff and sings out "Wot a calf!" their imperance really's past bearin'.
"Rat-a-tat-tat-a-tat," I wonder who's that? "Rat-a-tat," I'm coming as fast as I can, sir,
What's this! Why, good 'gracious!! Some one—how howdacious!! Why, there isn't not no one to answer!!! (*Closes the door with a bang*).
Has the world come to that! "Rat-tat-a-tat-tat;" there's all them precious dogs set a-barking
Who was that, ma'am? Why, ma'am, I can't keep myself calm! With our knocker some wagabone's larking!
"*Run* and fetch the police!" "I can't do it, ma'am, please. Natur never intended I *should* run
By the door, ma'am, I'll stand, with a stick in my hand, and I'll give the next scoundrel a good one!"
Rat-a-tat—Yow-how-how!—"Mercy! what's happened now?" "Why I've just been and trod on *dear* Shock, ma'am.
Why, there's no one! We've miss'd 'em. They'll ruin my system. I shall die of a runaway knock, ma'am!"

"THE PARK." PAINTED BY T. CRESWICK R.A., AND T. ANSDELL.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

"VALLEY OF THE WHARFE" [illegible] BY ROGER FENTON.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

"THE PAINTER'S STUDY."—PAINTED BY J. D. WINGFIELD.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

Photographic, as shown in the works of Mr. Lake Price, may be carried forward, to present with the first exhibition of the society, the greatest advance will be found to have been made in a more careful and artistic selection of subjects by the photographer, and at the same time a much greater command and control over the lights and shades of the picture; resulting, no doubt, from a more intimate acquaintance with the action of the various chemicals employed. Photography, however, would have been doomed to a long and inglorious career, even if it had survived its first gaudy and endeavorous productions, and the glare of the polished silver surface of its first plates, had it not been for the discovery of the collodion and paper processes. Between the photographic productions of the present day and the portraits produced by the sun at the bidding of Daguerre and the earliest professors of the art there exists scarcely a point of comparison, and even the very name of Photography appears too shadowy to give place to the more scientifically correct and euphonious one of "Heliography" or "Sun-drawing."

The specimen which we have engraved ("Valley of the Wharfe") illustrates the chief features of the Exhibition. This charming landscape view of Mr. Roger Fenton is the type of a very large number of specimens of the same kind, which bear striking evidence to the value of the collodion process. In this and some other specimens the educated eye of the artist has combined charming effect with the skillful manipulation of the photographer. There is a soft and mellow tone about this picture of Mr. Fenton's, and a richness of atmospheric colour, which has never been surpassed, if equalled, by the previous attempts of any photographer There are many other works by Mr. Fenton in which an almost equal amount of success has been obtained. We may instance some fine views of Rivaulx Abbey (228), Fountains Abbey (267), and Bolton Abbey (641). Mr. Fenton is, we believe, now on his way to the Crimea, and the public may expect in a few months to receive some accounts from the seat of war in respect to the accuracy of which there can exist no doubt or uncertainty. A better selection could not have been made than that of a gentleman so fully conversant with the practical working of all the details of this pleasing and useful art as Mr. Fenton; and we look forward with pleasure to the results of his labours in the East, feeling convinced that his portfolio will be filled with many specimens worthy of his taste and ability. Mr. Fenton is, we believe, no stranger to the scenes which he is about to depict, he having some years since made a very lengthy artistic tour through the principal Russian provinces. Some landscape views by Mr. Cundall are also remarkably successful, more especially a charming rural scene, "Stepping-stones over the Wharfe," Bolton Abbey (410); and some specimens by Mr. Hugh Owen are also deserving of high commendation: we may particularise some charming views from Leigh Woods, near Bristol (39). In landscape scenery, too, M. P. Delamotte has one or two exquisite little gems—"Evening," a view in South Wales (316), and a Pantagene, South Wales (334). There are few more pleasing views in the collection than the charming rural and farm scenes by Mr. H. Taylor—the "Cottage at Dinting," (462), "Unstead Farm" (458), "A View from Gosden" (566), and several others. In nearly the whole of the landscape pieces shown there is evidence of a most decided advance in the accurate and picturesque delineation of trees and foliage—the result of the refined and more rapid processes applied to the art

In the large class of architectural specimens to be found in the collection, there is much to interest and astonish the visitor. Perhaps the finest specimens yet produced are the "Hôtel de Ville, Paris" (134 and 142), and the fine old "Church of St. Germain l'Auxerrois, Paris" (152), by Bisson Frères, shown by Sir Hugh Campbell, Bt.: These are, too, some fine views of convents and old buildings in Oporto, by Mr. Hugh Owen, including the "Kitchen of the Convent of the Serra," "Cloisters of the Convent of San Jeronimo, Belem" (22), and others. The striking contrast of light and shade in these views is remarkable, the light entering through the open cloisters, and the dark masses of shadow beneath the rich groining of the roof are most effectively and distinctly rendered. Two large views of the Interior of the Crystal Palace (324 and 362), by Mr. P. Delamotte, show, as the following, in his unfinished as well as finished state, are wonderful for their distinctness of outline and minuteness of detail, and each picture of the multitudinous panes of glass which compose the acres of its crystal roof and sides may be seen and traced. Views such as these suggest the advantages we enjoy which might be made of Photography in large engineering works, such as those which were carried on at Sydenham, as views taken daily or weekly would afford to the conductors the means of ascertaining with accuracy the progress made in every part of the undertaking. Some views of the Renaissance and Alhambra Courts of the Crystal Palace (319 and 329) show with marvellous fidelity all the beautiful details of these interesting and instructive portions of the labours of Mr Digby Wyatt and Mr. Owen Jones. A variety of Talbotype views of the work in progress for the great suspension-bridge over the Kie..., in Russia, will serve to convey some idea of the magnitude and extent of this gigantic engineering work.

A VALENTINE FROM THE CRIMEA.

THE SOLDIER TO HIS COUNTRY.

Out, favoured wind! oh, happy wind, that bloweth to the West:
Go, take my sigh, and waft it high above the billow's crest,
And say from me, though slaves may flee, I'll perish ere I part
With the colours fair she bade me bear—the mistress of my heart!

Say, 'tis her name I pledge to Fame, on love's triumphant day
I care not, I, for flashing eye, nor breath that mocks the May;
The accent meek, the lily hung cheek—these boast no chains for me,
While gazing round on hostile ground, I stand amidst the free.

Love of my youth! a patriot's truth I cast before thy shrine:
O England, precious England, to my death-day count me thine!
No sound of cheer can greet my ear like to thy trumpet call,
And I look to thee to rescue me, or weep me when I fall

This sword I lift—it was her gift, she robed me for the fray,
And the parting smile of my glorious isle still lights me on my way.
Fair is her word in council heard, but fairer still her deed:
Though worth a throne, she'd give her own for her poor soldier's need.

I see thee stand, O, sacred land! down bending to the sea,
With regal mien, in robe of green, gemmed as a Queen should be;
Down-bending low to meet the flow of that maternal wave
Whose circling bound hath clasped thee round, to guard thee and to save.

God keep me true, while here I rue the wild war's raging hell;
God bid it cease, and give her peace, who loveth peace so well:
Who loveth best the sword at rest; and, better than red gold,
The busy mill, the hamlet still, the flocks upon the wold.

Land of free toil! the unfettered soil that never brooked a chain—
O, England, flower of Europe's bower, the rose of all the main!
More blest is he than princes be, who for thy sake shall dare:
To England's home who dares to come through ranks of slavery?

If England yield, 'tis in the field where noble souls contend;
And dearer far than brothers are, the foe she makes her friend:
Fair in her sight the cause of right, sacred the heart's brave cry—
"Better than life with fetters rife is death with liberty!"

Take, take from me—I give it thee—this strong right hand and true;
Come weal, come woe, 'twill front the foe, nor claim its guerdon due:
A serf is he who bends the knee, imploring sight of grace
Beyond the gift, instanted to lift his eyes upon thy face!

There may be cross, there may be loss—fall, failure, or defeat;
But hearts that rise where glory dies can still with honour beat.
Should victory dawn when life is gone, write this above my dust—
"He saw no free; he died for me; nor wronged a nation's trust."

Come wounds, come death, my latest breath shall be a prayer for thee,
The one true goal of freedom's soul—the sunless sea
When closed my task, I would but ask grave upon thy breast,
As the dying sun, his day's work done, sinks proud in the West:

E. L. Blanchard.

The affairs of Mr. J. Atwood, late M.P. for Harwich, turn out to be very much worse than [illegible] the assets, less than £120,000.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The Palmerston Ministry has got its foot in the stirrup; it may be said to have got into the saddle on the meeting of Parliament on Friday It now remains to be seen if it will be able to maintain itself there, or whether the skittish jade, public opinion, will kick it off at once or allow it to remain for a time, clinging on, John Gilpin like, to mane and tail, until it is finally deposited in the dust of some political Edmonton or Ware. Certainly the future seems doubtful; for the increase of public confidence which was looked for on the coming into power of the ex-Home Secretary has not been realised; Funds have not improved, but rather the contrary; and people seem inclined to doubt if the energy necessary to a successful carrying on of the war is likely to be found in a Ministry the head of which is seventy one, and whose most important member, the Secretary for War, enjoys the two misfortunes (in his position) of gout and good-nature It certainly will be strange if, with all the outcry that is now going on for young Generals and Admirals, we should rest content that Ministers who have, on the whole, quite as hard work as either should be practically considered unfit for their places till they are over sixty. Mr. Layard was promised as Under-Secretary for War, which did, to some extent, gratify the wishes for new blood. But this is not to be: either, according to the club-like principle on which our Governments are formed, he was held to be not on sufficiently amicable terms with those who would have been his colleagues, or he gave himself credit for a higher power of being disagreeable than ought to be contented with a subordinate position. Mr. F. Peel (popularly known as "the red tapist") is to have the place. As regards the war itself we have no news. The *St. Petersburg Gazette* tells us from time to time that "nothing of importance has occurred since our last, excepting a sortie from the town, when seven French soldiers and a drummer-boy were taken prisoners;" while Lord Raglan sends weekly a cart despatch announcing that the weather, though bad, is better than it has been, and giving a list of casualties which have happened to three rank and file; quite passing over the two or three hundred who have died in hospital during the same period. There has been a pretty general rumour during the past week that both Lord Raglan and Quartermaster General Airey are to come home; the latter half of the story, at least, appears probable. On the whole, the sufferings of our troops, though still too enough, seem to have diminished. The *Times* this week has made itself the mouthpiece of a curious proposition, which really seems to deserve an attention in high quarters, which it doubtless won't get. It is stated that a very wealthy mercantile firm are willing to contract with Government, under very heavy penalties, to provision the whole of our army in the East, either before Sebastopol, or anywhere else within 200 miles of the sea-coast. When that copy of the *Times* reaches the Crimea the list of delicacies which these enterprising people are willing to provide to our starving soldiers, all for the moderate price of 3s. 3d. a head daily, will read like a fairy tale to them. Fancy the unlucky private now compelled to satisfy nature as best he can on raw salt pork and green coffee, being asked whether, with his cutlet and hot rolls, he would prefer coffee, tea, or cocoa for his breakfast! Fancy fresh beef promised *at least* twice a week, with unlimited vegetables! and every day "a warm and nourishing supper meal"! Yet men of business and capital are willing to engage, under ruinous penalties, to furnish all this, and those best acquainted with the subject (not Government officials) feel assured that it can be done, and so as to leave a large margin of profit.

Whatever else is done, it seems clear that not only a great alteration in the system, but that also a clean sweep of some of the higher officers of the Army Medical Board, must be made. It is a sure for plain speaking, so it may be said plainly that Doctor Andrew Smith, Commander-in-Chief of Army medical men, must *go*. It is certain that all the blunders and shortcomings in this department are not to be laid on his shoulders; yet there remains enough for which he is clearly answerable to show that in these times he is unfit for his position. What a position it is second only to that of the actual General in chief! Doctor Smith is the very incarnation of *routine*. Nothing new—no proposition that has not gone through a dozen different offices, waiting half a year *in transitu* finds favour in his sight. *Le mieux gratis!* Seven or eight months ago it was proposed by an eminent waterproofing house to supply the army with waterproof sheets. Dr. Smith of course to them on the ground of expense and weight. Now, as the price was four and sixpence each, and the weight little more than a pound, this did not appear to the makers to be a valid objection, and they consequently submitted their proposal to the Duke of Cambridge and General Wetherall. They liked the sheets, did not think them dear or heavy, and wrote to Dr. Smith to say so. What does the Doctor? He puts himself into a passion, tears up the letter, and refuses to have anything to do with the sheets, *not* because he disapproved of them, but because he "would not endure foreign interference with his department"!

"Sweet are the uses of adversity." Lord Cardigan, before he left England, was certainly by no means the most popular man in it; but his cool, but since his return almost promises to make him so. It has consolidated the popular opinion which his proved gallantry had won for him. At the Mansion-house his modest and soldier-like speech was a pleasing contrast to poor Sir Charles Napier's absurd outbreak, and more recently, by his speech at Northampton, he has earned deserved and unanimous applause. Every one feels that Lord Cardigan is to be believed, and no one who read or heard what he said about the splendid, but fatal, cavalry charge at Balaclava can doubt that it was caused by a positive but ill-judged order.

The late appointment of Lord Rokeby to a command in the Crimea has been received at the Clubs and in society with almost unanimous disapprobation Lord Rokeby is much liked, but he is as deaf as a post; and it is well known that at Chobham this infirmity led to some curious mistakes in the management of the battalion he commanded there.

This week we have not heard much of Sir Benjamin Hall. He has retired to his tent, like Achilles, satisfied for the present with the castigation administered to the Paring and Lighting Boards. We must have him out though, for there is work for him in store. For instance, the other day a house fell down at Islington, killing *eight* persons. Insecure—*illegally* insecure construction was the cause of the accident. The district surveyor—that gentleman who is sure to be down upon you if you put up a dog-kennel without a metal or tile roof to it—where was he? Then, again, there is the state of the streets: there is, or used to be, a regulation that snow should be removed from the pavement before inhabited houses by the occupiers thereof. How far this is carried into effect in the out-of-the-way streets every one who walks much can judge. Then there are the bridges—Blackfriars for instance, the ascent to which is a perfect *Montagne Russe* of ice and hardened snow; while London-bridge (being flat, and therefore hardly wanting it) has been carefully and continually gravelled.

An American Snow-storm.—A great storm of snow and wind raged over the region of the Mississippi on the 25th ult. The train on the Chicago and Mississippi Railroad, with a large number of passengers and several members of the Legislature, was frozen up on the prairie in snow some eight feet deep. The passengers burned the cars, and by the consumption of a consignment of oysters preserved themselves from starvation Relief was sent to them on the 26th.

Two new regiments of militia are to be raised in Lancashire, to be called the 5th and 7th Royal Lancashire Militia; the first of which, commanded by Colonel the Hon. E. B. Wilbraham, is to be raised in Salford, and the other is to be raised in Manchester. Colonel Wilbraham and Adjutant and Captain Hartshorn have already advertised for volunteers, offering a bounty of £6 for men between eighteen and thirty, but men who have served in the army, if well recommend d, are to be received up to forty-five years of age. The Earl of Derby is to be colonel of the corps are to be each 1200 strong.

LITERATURE.

Mountains and Molehills; or, Recollections of a Burnt Journal. By Frank Marryat.

The title of this book has the peculiarity of not giving the slightest idea of what the book is about; and what is stranger still, the preface leaves the reader equally in the dark. It is necessary to explain, therefore, that the volume contains the author's experiences during a two-years' residence in California.

This "Eldorado" has lost much of the intense interest it excited in this country before the discoveries of the gold fields of Australia came more home to the business and bosoms of the British public. Some few years ago every youth at a loss how to make his way in the world, every broken-down adventurer in every trade, profession, and occupation, sought to begin the battle of life, or to fight it over again after having lost it, by going to California. Nowadays California is almost forgotten; and, Melbourne, not San Francisco, is the great object of attraction for our sanguine adventurers. Still, however, California, though we think less of it than we did, has lost none of its real interest for growing magnitude and importance. As the nucleus of a great country, whose golden produce is working a gradual change in the condition of the whole world, it keeps pace with our own Australian colonies, and its present rapid progress is a not less striking subject of contemplation. The theme, too, has more freshness, because we are less familiar with it. Mr. Marryat's Californian pictures, therefore, will have for the generality of his readers, the attraction of novelty which cannot now be given to the views, now daily placed before us, of life in Australia

Of Mr Marryat's antecedents we know little or nothing from his book; but we know, *en passant*, that he is the son of the distinguished novelist, Captain Marryat; and our knowledge, even of his proceedings in California, is rather gleaned from passing intimations than obtained from any coherent personal narrative We gather that he was bred a sailor; that he is a gentleman of ample means; that he went to California with the view of employing his resources in speculations for bettering his fortune. We gather also that he is a person of sanguine temperament and active habits, ready to plunge into schemes and experiments, and totally unfitted to abandon them when they look unpromising; that he is intelligent, acute, and fertile in expedients; but with a love of amusement and a lack of perseverance which sadly disqualified him from running the race of competition with the "go-ahead" adventurers of California. He has written, however, a book which is not only entertaining but instructive. He appears to have indulging spirits; failure and disappointment have weighed but lightly on his elastic temper He is always gay and animated, while his lively sketches of Californian life and manners are mingled with much solid information and acute remark, profitable not only to those who emigrate, but to those who stay at home

The slight notices of Mr. Marryat's adventures scattered through his book afford amusing illustrations of what we may call his odd disposition. Arriving at San Francisco some time in 1850 (he is not particular about dates), he first repaired to a district in the interior abounding in game; "my object for the present being to encamp myself in some snug place in the mountains, and there live upon my gun, in all the enjoyment of a free life and the pleasures of the chase." Coming to a pretty valley, full of game, he determined to *squat* there, with his followers; and, as the land belonged to the United States, he took possession of it with sufficiently simple formalities. Delighted with its capabilities, he determined to enclose it, and make it a farm. To procure the necessary articles he returned to San Francisco, where, as his time hung heavy on his hands, he joined a company of actors! "For about a month, under an assumed name, I nightly 'used up' and 'Jeremy Diddlered' my Californian audiences, who, never having fortunately seen Charles Mathews, did not stone me to death for my presumptuous attempts to personate that unrivalled actor's characters. I became at last so used to seeing my 'last up, earnest but one' displayed in the lamentating posters, that I began to associate myself with the profession altogether, and to believe that my name was Warren; and, what with the excitement of acting in leading parts, and the pleasant parties and picnics with our troupe, I forgot all about Russian River Farm, and became a very indifferent actor." Coming to a pretty valley, however, and returned to his farm, but soon got sick of it. Settlers were beginning to invade his dominions, the game was getting scarce, and his *onions were a failure*. So he gave the farm as it stood to one of the backwoodsmen he had known for some time

His next scheme was gold-digging. He started from San Francisco with a party of followers, and settled at a place called Tuttle Town, with the view of testing the value of the quartz vein there. Having collected a considerable quantity of ore, he went back to San Francisco to procure steam power and machinery. He returned with a newly-invented machine which had not been tried but looked promising, and which he transported at great expense. "Its arrival created great sensation, and the town increased in size and importance on the strength of it. A French baker and a butcher established themselves in our main street; and at the first general election a justice of peace and constable were legally elected." The machinery was set up, but broke down irremediably; and Mr. Marryat set off for San Francisco in quest of something better. Another machine was set up, but it, too, turned out a signal failure; "whereupon," says Mr. Marryat, "I resolved to abandon my *third* profitless speculation" We should have mentioned that, besides the farm, he had invested money in building an hotel which had likewise turned out a failure He sold his machinery and effects for what they would bring, and returned to England.

But this was not the end of his adventures. In the winter of 1852 we find him at the island of St. Thomas, "on my way back to the scrofulous pigs, the carpenter judge, and constable Rowe." But he arrived at Tuttle Town. Yellow fever broke out in the vessel in which he and his wife (who now accompanied him) embarked at St. Thomas; he himself was attacked; all their fellow-passengers died but one; and Mr. Marryat alone, of those attacked, recovered. His wife was next attacked, and, after horrible sufferings by sea and land, they at length arrived at San Francisco. Now he seems to have finally abandoned Californian speculation; for he thus concludes his book:—

Again I am leaving San Francisco on a bright Sunday morning. As we glide past the hills, the sound of bells from twenty churches is borne to us over the calm bay; we can see artisans strolling in groups with their families, and schools of children on their way to church, who merrily wave us an adieu.

Soon the bells are heard no more, and now, having passed the Heads, we meet the fat fog which the sun has turned out of the bay

As we plunge boldly into this, we say farewell to California.

Mr. Marryat sometimes moralises on his own failures. The following reflections are characteristic of the man:

Agriculturally, architecturally, and numerologically, I had been sported with by fate; and the plough in the north, the steam-engine in the south, and the hotel in the middle, had each been accompanied by pecuniary loss. Yet the days I had passed had been very happy, and Philosophy said: "You have had health, and contentment, and warm friendship; and, if these were purchasable, many would buy them of you for twenty times what you have lost in money!" To which I replied, "Very true; oh, Philosophy! but stay! I taken my steam-engine to Russian River, and there applied its power to sawing red-woods, and had it with my plough turned up the fertile hills and valleys at Valley, and further, had I erected my hotel at Sonora, where it was much wanted, I might have still had the unpurchasable articles you allude to, and the money too." Upon which Philosophy, seeing me thus unreasonable, retired from the contest.

The author thus speaks of the present magnitude and future growth of gold-mining in California:—

The number of those who are now actually collecting gold by mining in California may be computed at about 140,000 men.

The obstacles that are alike presented by the extremes of the wet and dry seasons will not admit, probably, of these miners working more than 200 days in the year, and the average daily sum amassed by each man may be fairly quoted at three-and-a-half dollars, or fifteen shillings.

This will give an annual yield of twenty-one millions sterling from California, and I see no reason to doubt that this sum is obtained, although it does not (for many reasons) appear in the reported exports of specie from the country.

Now, if this sum can be annually realised by the exertions of comparatively so small a body of men, who have even at the latest dates no better plan of securing the gold than by a rude system of washing, what may we expect when machinery is employed, and labour concentrated!

A Quicksilver Mine. Large quantities of quicksilver are now obtained from the mine of New Almaden, situated about sixty miles [illegible] San Francisco. The shipments last year were [illegible] flasks, containing in gross 1 [illegible] 139,000 lbs., being an increase of 39,000 lbs. over the export of 18[illegible]. The quantity used in California for the amalgamation of gold is very great, and, as the quartz-miners come to learn their business better, they will use less quicksilver than they do now. This mine is capable of yielding sufficient quicksilver for the consumption of the whole world; but, from its locality, and the competition with the Spanish article, which is better known, its use has hitherto been almost entirely confined to Mexico, Peru, and Chili, for amalgamating silver ore [illegible] considerable quantity for various purposes.

BOARD OF TRADE DEPARTMENT [illegible] AND ART.—AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF ADMIRABLE EXAMPLES FOR ART INSTRUCTION.—The Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade having resolved to furnish Examples to such schools in accordance with the plan adopted by the Committee of Privy Council [illegible] notice is hereby given, that on and after the 1st of JANUARY, 1855, Examples will be supplied directly from the Department of Science and Art, as at present, [illegible] through Agents in London and the Provinces.

Forms of application for aid, and further information, may be obtained at the Offices, Marlborough House, Pall-mall, London.

Marlborough House, 30th Nov., 1854.

THE GRESHAM FREEHOLD LAND [illegible] SOCIETY.—A PUBLIC MEETING will be held at [illegible] Bridge-street, Blackfriars, on MONDAY, FEB. 26th, 1855, [illegible] the Principles of the 36th Section of Bailey's Rights to Advances. Sir Alderman WIRE, a Trustee of the Society, will take the chair at eight o'clock precisely.

Subscriptions 1s. per Week per Share. Payments suspended in periods of sickness or adversity, even after receiving advances. One Share, if drawn, will entitle the Member to an advance for the purchase or erection of a house in any locality. All persons paying three months' subscription will be eligible for the Ballot.

[illegible]-street. FRED DAVIES, Managing Director.

LECTURES TO WORKING MEN.—The following COURSES of LECTURES will be delivered on the EVENINGS, during the present season in the THEATRE of the MUSEUM of PRACTICAL GEOLOGY, Jermyn-street.

1. On GEOLOGY, by A. C. RAMSAY, F.R.S.
2. On MECHANISM, by R. WILLIS, M.A., F.R.S.
3. On NATURAL HISTORY, by P. H. GOSSE, F.R.S.

The First Course of Six Lectures on the Geology of the British Islands, on the Arts and Manufactures commenced at Eight o'Clock on MONDAY the 29th of JANUARY, and will be continued on each Monday and Friday Evening at the same hour.

The second Series, on Mechanism, by Professor Willis, will be commenced after the conclusion of the first.

Tickets are obtainable, by working men only, upon payment of a [illegible] fee at 5s. for the course of Six Lectures; and the notice [illegible] given of the day on which they are issued.

TRENHAM REEKS, Registrar.

SOLDIERS' WIDOWS' CAMBRIDGE [illegible] Kingston-on-Thames, by Voluntary Contributions [illegible] LEATHER Hare Pub ASYLUM—the only existing Asylum for [illegible] Widows—and take place at the LONDON TAVERN, [illegible] BATH-HOUSE, 26th FEBRUARY instant.

[illegible] Subscriptions (duly advertised) [illegible] by the Committee, Messrs. Coutts the Collector, Mr Charles [illegible] 3 Champ-place South, Park-lane; and [illegible]

EDWARD FULDBRICK LEAKES, Hon. Sec.

[illegible] Secretary.

NOTICE.

SECURITY MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, 3, Charles-street, St. James's-square, London. [illegible]

[illegible] Assurances.

HENRY SALTER, Managing Director.

JAMES PALSFORD, Secretary.

AGENCIES. The Directors will be glad to communicate with Gentlemen who wish to be connected with an office that they can thoroughly recommend, to their connections, and, feeling that they are with energy. The Society spares no pains to assist its agents, and requires corresponding vigour. Good commercial references required.

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL CHARING-CROSS

The assistance of the above Hospital is strongly entreated in support of its hospital, which is open to all indigent persons suffering from diseases of the Eye, the funds of which are wholly inadequate to meet the ever increasing demands for relief. 6000 poor persons are annually relieved; there are thirty beds for in-patients; and it is deeply to be regretted that the munificence of means for their accommodation [illegible] half last number.

Contributions are thankfully received by Messrs Coutts and Co., Messrs. Drummond, and by the Secretary, Mr. G. C. Parvant, at the Hospital.

UNIVERSAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, 1, King William-street, City, London. Established [illegible] Empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 9th March [illegible] Patron, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN. Chairman, JOHN [illegible] Deputy Chairman, [illegible] Actuary, [illegible] Secretary, [illegible] Report and Balance-sheet for the past year, with [illegible] information may be had at the Office. [illegible] of any of the Agents.

The following statement of [illegible] during the last five years [illegible]

[illegible]				£77,146
[illegible]	1851	[illegible]	855	74,879
[illegible]	1852	[illegible]	462	88,350
[illegible]	1853	[illegible]	491	96,325
[illegible]	1854	[illegible]	562	101,821

The total amount of [illegible] which is issued to the present time is £875,000.

[illegible] DEPARTMENT.

An additional number of Assistants will be elected in May next, and [illegible] Medical Examiner, the Popular Actuary, Clerks, and Income Tax clerk of election will be entitled to vote.

By order of the Board, WILLIAM THOMAS LINFORD, Sec.

15, Moorgate-street, June 30, 1854.

THE WESTMINSTER SOUP SOCIETY are [illegible] supplying a large quantity of soup, and affording [illegible] great number of the poor, [illegible] work, but, in consequence of the severity of the weather, and the numerous applicants whom they are obliged to refuse, the Society have determined upon opening their Kitchen three times instead of twice a week, which will [illegible] a considerable additional expense. The public are, therefore, earnestly solicited to assist by their subscriptions in the good work.

Donations will be thankfully received by the Treasurers; and for each subscription a corresponding [illegible] will be supplied.

G. T. WOOD, Victoria-road.

W. FREEMAN, Millbank.

T. J. MILLER, Millbank, Westminster.

N.B. The Soup-kitchen in Lewisham-street will be open on Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday mornings at Nine o'clock.

Established 1841.

MEDICAL, INVALID, and GENERAL LIFE OFFICE, 25 Pall-mall.

At the THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING, held on the 30th November, 1854, it was shown that there had been issued no less than [illegible] Policies, [illegible] of £1,227,895, and [illegible] Annual Premiums amounting to £30,149.

[illegible] Report of the Income of the Office for the year 1853 was [illegible] £25,98[illegible]

The Number of Policies now in force is	[illegible]
The Amount Insured is	£2,240,0[illegible]
The Income from Premiums is	£[illegible]

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 729.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

REFORM OF THE CIVIL AND MILITARY SERVICE.

So great have been the expectations raised by the appointment of Lord Palmerston to the Premiership, that his reputation bids fair to be endangered. It is in the nature of the public mind, at times of peril or anxiety, to expect too much from its favourites Revolutions make short work both of men and character; and War—which is the arch-anarch, the very fountain-head and parent of all other revolutions—consumes many things besides the precious gold and the more precious life-blood of nations. It sets up the new, and knocks down the old. It strips off false pretences, and, being the rudest and most primitive of powers, it appeals to the rudest and most primitive of virtues, and admits of no merits but those of Strength and Success. It tarnishes reputations that seemed as if they would endure in perennial brightness as long as history. It exalts the humble and abases the mighty of the earth. It eats up the bone and sinew of the people, and "uses up" the character of their leaders. It plays for great results, and looks for no other, and thereby confounds the jog-trot calculations of the easy men who would guide it as they would a business, or work at it as regularly as a problem. And among no people does it operate so strongly as among a people accustomed to self-government, proud of their freedom, and familiar with victory. Such a people are the English. Thus, before we have been a year at war; before we have suffered a single defeat; and while we are in the very height of diplomatic as well as of military and naval success; the public, disgusted with delay, and with the loss of a noble force from disease, neglect, and inaction, and unsatisfied with all that has been done—though much of it has been done well—seems as if it would offer up as victims to its anger and impatience not only the good name of its tried and approved servants, but the principles upon which its government is conducted, and a portion of its own liberties. Nothing will stop its craving but brilliant and immediate success. The capture and destruction of Sebastopol, and such other humiliation as will compel the Czar to sue for peace, and consent to the diminution of his power and his territory; —nothing less will stop the complaints of the nation, or allow us to relapse into that comfortable prosperity from which war has so rudely shaken us.

Lord Palmerston's Administration, in succeeding to power at a time like this, assumes responsibilities of no ordinary magnitude. It is next to impossible that he can satisfy the public wishes by any measures which he may personally adopt. He must be aided by fortune, or by the fruition of the seed sown by his predecessors, or he will be just as likely as they were to disappoint the expectations of the multitude. If our arms be successful in the Crimea, he will, without any particular merit of his own, share largely in the glory. But if we fail, or if the Russians gain any signal, although it may be only a temporary, advantage, he will, though he may have done all that man can do to avert the catastrophe, share in the discredit, and forfeit the splendid reputation which it has cost him half a century to erect. If the siege last for three months longer he will cease to be the idol of the people, though he may be quite as worthy to be so as he is at present. It will be discovered that he is too old, too deeply imbued with the habits and notions of a bygone period, too inactive, and in every respect too inefficient for the post of responsibility and danger. Nothing will remain for him but to retire to make room for others, who will suffer in the same way from the same causes, until victory shall atone for all that is past, and restore the people to good humour and to common reason.

The measures recommended and adopted by Lord Palmerston and Lord Panmure, to extricate us from the physical and moral slough of Balaclava, seem well adapted for the end in view. But there is a disposition to treat them as of no avail, though it would be hard to say what more can be done, unless the public liberty be put in abeyance, and a Dictatorship instituted, to lead us through the war. The public, however, is not likely to run its head into that noose. Even Dictators cannot do all they please; or who could withstand Czar Nicholas, whose armies die of disease and starvation just as rapidly as those of a free people? Those who do not cry out for a Dictator insist upon a much larger army. But the malcontents do not ask themselves where it is to come from? They forget that we have no conscription, and that the country would revolt at the bare proposal of such a violent innovation upon our old habits if it were seriously made or entertained by a Minister of the Crown. Enlistment is voluntary in England. Even were our shores in danger of invasion, there would be no need of a conscription; for every Englishman would, in such a case, cheerfully become a soldier, and fight with spade and axe, in default of guns, against the invader; and every Englishwoman would urge him to the duty and cheer him in its fulfilment. They also forget that a large standing army is alien to the character and ideas of our people, and to the letter as well as to the spirit of our free Constitution; and that, consequently, when war breaks out, it must always find us more unprepared than it finds those States of the Continent where large standing armies are maintained by despotic Sovereigns as necessary appendages of their dignity and supporters of their authority. The cry against the Aristocratic system, to which Mr. Layard has lent himself, may be all very well; but misfortune will befall us as a nation if we trust entirely to a reform of that system as a remedy for the present state of things in the Crimea. If it could be abolished in a day by a stroke of Lord Palmerston's pen, the reform thus commenced would not aid us in the taking of Sebastopol

THE FROST.—THE THAMES AT BILLINGSGATE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

The doors of advancement may be opened to merit both in the civil and the military career; but the merit will not work its way upward in a day, or a week, or a twelvemonth. If, from the year 1815, and during the forty years of peace which we have enjoyed since the then settlement of the affairs of Europe, we had endeavoured to make the army a democratic institution, it is possible, though not certain, that we might have had abler Generals than we at present possess; but we very much doubt whether we should have had braver and better men. There is not a word of condemnation against the sale of commissions that is not richly deserved. The old system cannot outlast the war, and when it falls it can never be restored. But should it be superseded to-morrow, the public should be on their guard against expecting too much from the change. Whatever may be the quality of the officers and soldiers who may emerge into daylight and into honour under a new system, we are not likely to have better men under any system, however perfect theoretically, than the noble eight thousand who gained the day of Inkerman against seven times their number; or than Sir Colin Campbell and Lord Cardigan, who did not rise by merit alone. With all our administrative defects, we have yet an army to be justly proud of. Our firm belief is that that army—or the remnant of it—will yet achieve a splendid victory and plant the flag of Great Britain on the walls and forts of Sebastopol. Let us hope that after that day of glory the public will remember its present cry for a reform in the administration of our civil and military services. For forty years the cry has been a feeble one. It only gained strength in the hour of peril and perplexity. Without passion and without prejudice let the people adhere to it after the danger shall have passed away; and the next time we are at war—a time which may Heaven in its mercy long avert from this and succeeding generations the British nation will have something like security that it can command the best services of its best citizens. But it must look to itself, and not to its Government, to make the desired change. And further than this, it must sow good seed in days of peace and prosperity, if it expect to reap good fruit in days of war and danger.

THE FROST.—THE THAMES AT BILLINGSGATE.

The severity of the weather is nowhere more strikingly seen than upon the Thames, which presents many picturesque scenes for the artist. One of these points is pictured upon the preceding page; and the large illustration at page 177 shows the river with its floating masses of ice at the same time with the conflagration upon its bank.

The Thames is now rendered entirely unnavigable from Richmond to below London-bridge. The river has not been so completely blocked up since the memorable winter of 1814; and there can be no doubt that if the channel of the river were now, as then, impeded by the narrow arches of old London-bridge, the whole surface would have been frozen over some time since. The shores on either side the river present a very curious and picturesque appearance, from the accumulation of large masses of frozen snow and ice, in many places from 10 to 12 feet high, and having the fantastical forms of small icebergs. At certain periods of the tide, below Westminster-bridge the whole width of the river is covered with ice

The writer of a letter in the *Morning Post* of Thursday has called attention to the peculiar character of the masses of ice which nearly cover the surface of the river, and are carried backward and forward by the ebbing and flowing of the tide. They are not smooth, solid, and transparent, like the ice which forms on the Serpentine, or any other standing water, but have rather the appearance of sullied snow; and if closely examined they will be found to consist of spongy masses of crystals, as different in texture as in appearance from ordinary ice. This is caused by the great bulk of the ice on the Thames having been formed, not on the surface, but *at the bottom*, of the river. It is one of those curious phenomena of congelation known to a few careful observers of the operations of nature. Thus, during the commencement of severe frost, at a few miles up the river, where it runs with a moderately swift but smooth current, on the surface of the stream may be seen, floating down it, a number of masses of ice, of a rounded form, and varying in size from that of an orange to that of a moderately-large turnip; in outward appearance a mass of crystals adhering loosely together, and presenting an appearance somewhat similar to that of a sponge. Adhering to the under side of at least one of these masses will be found a stone from the bottom of the river: it is broken from time time by the rising of similar masses from the bottom, where, if the water were as clear as in most of the streams of the north of England, he would see scores of them adhering to stones, until, as they increase in size, their buoyancy either overcomes their adhesion, or carries the stones with them to the surface.

These spongy masses of ice, floating down with the current, and coming in contact with each other, adhere together, and gradually form larger and larger masses, such as those which now float backward and forward under the bridges of the metropolis; and, if the frost should continue sufficiently long and sufficiently intense, they will eventually become too large to pass beneath the arches, and the river will become frozen over, as it was in the memorable frost of 1814. It is in this way, and from the same causes, that the Elbe, the Scheldt, and other large tidal rivers, are frozen over; though, so far as the writer knows, very little notice has been taken of the fact.

The cause of this seeming anomaly in the laws of congelation has not been very satisfactorily settled; though it may with great probability be referred to the fact discovered by Dalton, that water in a state of rest may be cooled considerably below the ordinary freezing temperature of 32 deg. without congealing, and then, if suddenly agitated, it forms a spongy mass of crystals like those which are now floating in the Thames.

The "Royal Albert" Before Sebastopol.—The following letter is from Mr. William Griffith, of Port Madoc, Carnarvonshire, now on board the *Royal Albert*:—"H.M.S. *Royal Albert*, off Sebastopol, Jan. 30.—My dear Cousin,—Ever since we arrived here the weather has been anything but cheering, heavy falls of snow, with awful squalls from the N.E. occurring for the last three days, but this magnificent ship behaves like a yacht, although she had a twist of the rudder from very heavy pitching one night. That was fortunately very shortly put to rights. We are now moored, blockading the entrance to Sebastopol, about three miles distant—that is, within range of our pivot guns, of the same calibre as those we worked from the *Edinburgh's* quarter at Bomarsund. How soon we may have the pleasure of testing our metal here is kept profoundly secret. Something, however, oozed out lately that Admiral Lyons (charming fellow he is, I like him uncommonly) had, after a late consultation with the generals, hinted when all was ready at * * and his complement of screw-ships had arrived * * * he would * * * We are moored opposite their largest three-decker, the *Nicholas Apostles*. You would be amused at the calculation made by our lads as to what she is worth as a prize, for we are at a sad loss to have a tug with her. No doubt that will come sooner or later. Thank God I am happy to say I enjoy excellent health as usual; but, from what I hear and see through my glass occasionally of the country around, my dear kinsmen on shore must be suffering beyond precedent. I have nothing further in the shape of news, but thank you for the letter of Dec. 3, and the papers. My next letter will bring you, I suppose, the tidings of a sea-leg or a gold chain.—Your affectionate cousin, Wm. Griffith, O.G., H.M.S. *Royal Albert*." [In our last Number we gave an illustration of that vessel.]

Official Appointments.—The Lord Chancellor has appointed Mr. J. J. Lonsdale, Secretary to the Criminal Law Commissioners, to the vacant County Court judgeship. Mr. J. Mellor, Q.C., of the Midland Circuit, will succeed the late Mr. Hildyard as Recorder of Leicester. The private secretaries of Lord Palmerston in Downing-street are—Mr. C. C. Clifford, who was with his Lordship at the Home-office, and Mr. W. Law, of the Treasury (late private secretary to Mr Wilson, M.P.), who was one of Lord John Russell's private secretaries when he was Prime Minister. Mr. George Russell, of the Treasury, succeeds Mr. Law as private secretary to Mr Wilson. Mr. D. Balfour Ramsay (of the War-office) is appointed private secretary to Lord Panmure. Mr. Robert Ellice is private secretary to Sir George Grey, in the place of Lord Hobart, who resumes his old place at the Board of Trade, with Lord Stanley of Alderley.

The Murderer of the Wounded.—I am not sure whether I told you before that the Russian Major who was taken prisoner at Inkerman, and convicted of murdering our wounded men, died the other day at Scutari, apparently conscience-stricken. His own brother officers petitioned to be removed from his society, as they would not associate with him, and he pined away and died without any apparent disease.—*Letter from Constantinople.*

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

Paris, Thursday.

The report of the intended departure of the Emperor for the Crimea gains so much ground, and the denials of such a project become so faint, that there seems but very little doubt of the veracity of the statement, more especially as so many circumstances exist of a nature to confirm it. The *Reine Hortense*—the favourite vessel of the Emperor, and the one always employed in his maritime excursions—has been ordered to Toulon, M. Merle, Préfet du Palais, has gone to Marseilles, it is said, with instructions to take the lodgings necessary for the Imperial traveller and his suite; a large number of horses have been purchased; a Commission is named—and is, it appears, engaged in the exercise of its functions to arrange on what footing are to be established the military equipments of the Emperor; and it is further asserted that the Manifesto which is to announce the fact of the departure and the wishes and intentions of his Majesty is already written. Altogether, making due allowance for the exaggerations, the false reports and the *canards* that never fail to circulate round the plan of every measure of importance there seems really sufficient grounds to treat the statement as a serious one.

The system of pleasure-trips which has become so general through all the civilis ed parts of Europe is beginning to extend itself beyond these limits, and arrangements are being made to establish a communication of this sort with the Crimea, under a neutral flag; that of Tuscany, we believe, is the one selected. By the same undertaking, voyages are made to Egypt, Syria, and some of the Turkish provinces. The expense of the trip will be 12,000 francs for each person, for three months. It is said that a distinguished French writer is about to join this expedition, and has already made terms with his publisher for the production of a book relating the incidents of his voyage.

The Carnival is over, and people are commencing the austerities of Lent with due strictness. The dreadfully severe weather that for the last fortnight has never for a day relaxed has had little effect on either the out or in door gaieties of the season. The procession of the Bœuf Gras was particularly effective, especially on the Sunday, when the decorations were fresh, and the weather, though intensely cold, fine. On Tuesday a fall of snow and snow crystals a good deal diminished the ardour of actors and spectators.

The ball at the Hôtel de Ville on Saturday went off most brilliantly. On the same night Lady Cowley gave the last of her series of weekly receptions: it was remarkably well attended, and displayed some magnificent toilets—many of the principal English and foreign visitors and residents in Paris appearing there before going to the ball of the Préfet de la Seine

A magnificent dinner was given at the Palais Royal by the Prince Jérôme, at which were present all the members of the Imperial family, with a single exception. The Ministers, the Maréchaux, and nearly all the chief dignitaries of State, were invited either to the dinner or in the course of the evening. After the repast a long and most interesting conversation on the subject of the events of the day took place between the Prince Napoléon and the Minister of War.

On the following day the Princesse Mathilde gave a dinner of adieu to Vely Pacha, who ceases not to lament openly his departure from Paris. The dinner was splendid and extremely gay.

The enrolment and organisation of the Foreign Legion, which is to be composed principally of Swiss troops, is being carried on with vigour Upwards of 1200 young men of the Swiss Militia have already taken the preliminary steps to join this body: the Bernese Jura will, it seems, furnish a very large contingent.

A certain number of arrests have been made here in consequence of reports on the subject of secret societies, but little importance seems to be attached to the facts elicited.

The rumours respecting the revolt of the Zouaves have been ridiculously exaggerated. A certain number were sent back to France in consequence of jealousies displayed by them at the arrival of the Imperial Guard coming, as they considered, at the last moment to reap the laurels for which they had, through the whole campaign, so laboriously toiled: this is, we are assured, the extent of the affair, which has been cited with innumerable enlargements and additions.

On Sunday took place, by order of the Archbishop of Paris, a splendid fête in all the churches of the metropolis in honour of the proclamation of the Immaculate Conception. The Pontiff himself officiated at Notre Dame on the Saturday preceding; and the great bell, or *bourdon*, of the cathedral was rung in honour of the occasion. On the other hand, certain of the principal functionaries and heads of administrations in the departments have received Government *avertissemens* for having mixed themselves up too officially in the demonstrations that have been made on the subject of the proclamation of this dogma.

On Saturday are to appear the last two volumes of the Mémoires of M. Véron: they are looked for with much curiosity. But a work of great and singular interest, as relates to the events of the last half-century, is about to appear from the American press—the contents rendering its publication in France, or even in any of the adjacent nations, impossible. This is the Memoires of M. de Maubreuil, who played so strange a part at the fall of the Emperor Napoleon, and who publicly struck M. de Talleyrand for having disowned him. These volumes are, it is said, to contain an undisguised statement of all the events of the time—events in most of which the author took a part, and all of which he witnessed. M. de Maubreuil, who has long since changed his name, is, we are told, about to proceed to the United States for the purpose of bringing out there the work in question.

The piece of Alex. Dumas (*fils*), entitled "Le Demi-Monde" (originally written for the Gymnase, but demanded by the Minister of State for the Français), has, in consequence of another arrangement, returned to its original destination, and is shortly to be represented at the former theatre.

Bread Riots at Whitechapel.—During the whole of Wednesday evening and Thursday morning the inhabitants of the east end of London were in a state of great excitement and alarm, in consequence of the riotous conduct of a number of unemployed Irish labourers, who not only perambulated the principal thoroughfares for several hours in large numbers, but caused the greatest consternation among the shopkeepers, into whose premises they forcibly entered, and savagely ransacked the contents. In many instances tradesmen were brutally ill-treated and thrown into the street, while their premises were cleared of their contents and carried away by the mob On Thursday morning, at ten o'clock, orders were sent for an additional force of constables to the vicinity of the workhouse, and accordingly Inspectors Marsh and Smith were in attendance in the neighbourhood. At eleven o'clock there were no fewer than 1200 dock labourers at the doors of the workhouse, waiting for relief; and it required a great number of officers to prevent accidents among the starving applicants. Mr. Freeman and Mr. French, the overseers, were present during the morning rendering the necessary relief. Each man had a quartern loaf given to him, and was told to call again next day.

Bread Riots in Liverpool.—The great distress among the poor in Liverpool has induced some public disturbances, but as yet nothing serious has occurred. On Monday several bakers' and provision-dealers' shops were entered by gangs of Irishmen, who stripped their contents; but only a very few of the really necessitous poor appeared to have been seduced into these acts of plunder and aggression. In the course of the day the police succeeded in apprehending about a dozen of the ringleaders in the various attempted shop-sackings

Notwithstanding the severity of the winter, the new works for strengthening the citadel of Warsaw are carried on with spirit, although the thermometer is at 20 deg. Réaumur below the freezing-point; and as of course everything is frozen, the mortar is made with boiling water, the inhabitants having to furnish a cauldron from each house every day.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

(*From our Special Correspondent.*)

Before Sebastopol, February 3rd, 1855.

Notwithstanding eight or nine successive days of a milder temperature and more open sky than our troops have felt and seen for some time past, the army is still labouring under its usual amount of fatigue and sickness. Experience having proved the danger of exposing newly-arrived troops to the inclemency of winter immediately on their arrival in the Crimea, the latest draughts which have come out have been sheltered at night on board the vessels in the harbour, whilst by day they have participated in the labours of road-making and biscuit-carrying. The heat of the sun, although sufficient to melt the greater part of the snow, is not powerful enough to dry up the deeply-trodden roads. Our men having to plod wearily through the mire, whether on fatigue parties or to labour at the trenches, continue to suffer severely. Those who have the good fortune of being kept on board ship do not suffer so much from cold, perhaps; but the impure air of Balaclava, the foul miasmata inhaled in making the roads through the village, are of themselves a cause of fever and disease; and it is difficult to pronounce which is most fatal the cold and damp of life in camp, or the foul atmosphere which stagnates in Balaclava. It is said, nevertheless, by the medical officers that the few days of fine weather which we have enjoyed have reduced the average of mortality and disease amongst the troops; but to the eye the number of unfortunate beings carried down to the sick pier by the French hospital drivers is not in the least decreased, and the woeful aspect of the greater part tells the suffering which they have been forced to endure before their turn came for discharge to the general hospital. In the ghastly countenances and skeleton appearance of most of them one reads a world of suffering; whilst by the stiffened lineaments of a few, one perceives that the last breath has expired in the transit from the camp to the beach. The wretched survivors have of late found bountenous relief on their entrance to Balaclava in the newly-erected store raised by the care of the officers of the *Caradoc*. There Dr. Skead presides over the distribution of cups of tea and spirituous stimulants to the unfortunates who want them, and gives them strength to bear the transfer from the back of a mule to the boats, and from these to the transports in the harbour.

It may be easily conceived that the reduction of our force by disease and exposure has kept back and paralysed, to a very great extent, every species of labour. The guns have been slow in their transit to the trenches; their weight being too great, and the mud in which they had become imbedded too deep, to permit of their speedy carriage by our weakened force and enfeebled men. But if the want of hands has been severely felt here, how much more so has it not been visible in the transport of provisions and stores of every kind, and in the daily labour required in the harbour of Balaclava. Disease has had its fling in our camp. Our soldiers have perished in some regiments faster than in others; future inquiry may serve to ascertain the causes of this mortality and place the responsibility on the right shoulders; but is it not deplorable to think that the longer the evil is suffered to exist, the smaller becomes the chance of the survivors? In the harbour of Balaclava the greatest evils result from the want of necessary hands The Commissariat, the Ordnance, almost all the departments suffer from the same want. Might they not have had the foresight to obtain labour from more military sources long since, when they became aware of the difficulties which were entailed on our engineers and generals by the daily decreasing force available for the purely military departments? Was it not already sufficiently distressing to see the trenches and *places d'armes* insufficiently manned and guarded, without adding to that distress by putting soldiers to the fatigue of providing their own food by marching to and fro fourteen or sixteen miles to get it? Was it to be expected that the army, which was insufficient for its own immediate duties on the ground which it occupied, would be capable of carrying up stoves and houses and erect them for themselves? Labourers were required, but no attempt was made to obtain them. A few wretched Tartars from Eupatoria were to be seen now and then moving through the streets, and carrying loads; but what was required men of vigorous frame, for purposes of carriage, carpenters, smiths, working men in fact—of these there were none at hand. The cold weather to which the commissariat cattle were exposed, was from the first moment of its outbreak fatal to animals impoverished by lack of food and over abundance of labour. The pack ponies from Varna, the mules from Barcelona, the camels of the Crimea, and the bullocks of Bulgaria and Roumelia, which might have lived had they been housed, all perished, and a fresh supply became necessary. Ships were sent out to all parts, and cattle of all kinds have been arriving lately from Spain and the coasts of the Black Sea, the Sea of Marmora, and the Archipelago. It was at the very latest moment only that it was thought necessary to house the most tender of the drought animals, namely, the mules from Alicant, Barcelona, and Malta; and the *Trent*, which brought them lay six days in harbour waiting for the necessary cover to be completed before she could land her living freight. But mismanagement in this department of our service went still further; and after the poor beasts were housed, they were taken out to work so early in the morning and returned so late at night, that they must inevitably perish shortly from positive want of properly distributed food and water. As for the wretched Turkish ponies, which are picketed in the open air, their fate cannot long be doubtful; and then the consequence will again be fatigue parties of soldiers for rations whose pluck for fighting must inevitably be taken out of them by the necessity to labour hard for daily sustenance.

The ships in harbour naturally feel also the disadvantages of want of labour. No sooner does a transport arrive than it receives orders to put out boats and load them with the freight consigned to them. The sailors belonging to the ships perform their portion of the task. The boats are laden and taken to the shore; but, once there, the chances are many against their being unladen within a week. The consequence is that the shore is encumbered with ships' boats laden with all kinds of goods—stoves, platforms, wooden planks, parcels, and perishable stuff of all kinds. Ultimately the ships to which the boats belong being ordered away by the transport agent, there is a sudden rush to empty them: the contents are cast out on the shore—in the mud, anywhere, and there they lie. The result generally in these cases is delay of a valuable ship in harbour for days longer than she ought to remain, and a certain damage to the goods or stores.

It is consoling in the midst of all this to notice that the wretched hospital marquee has disappeared entirely from Balaclava; and that the sick, whose cases are not considered sufficiently bad to require transport to Scutari, are warmly housed in some of the wooden huts which lie in such numbers along the beach.

With regard to the positions of the armies there is nothing up to this date to note. The French are ready in their trenches, with their guns in position, and waiting for us. Our engineers have nothing left to do but to put their guns in position; and if the frost, of which there is a good depth to-day, continues to hold, there is no doubt that a renewal of the bombardment may be instantly expected. There are doubts, however, as to whether we shall not be forestalled in our offensive projects by the Russians, whose forces are noticed by our spies to be on their advance in considerable force. Our force at Balaclava has been on the alert in consequence of this intelligence, and the fears which it has occasioned lest a surprise might be attempted.

A new variation in costume is now noticed in the motley crowds which gather upon the shores of Balaclava. The smock-frock and red woollen comforter of the British "navvy" are conspicuous amid the far-clad and

top-booted soldiers, the flat-faced small-eyed Tartar, and the dirty and ragged Greeks and Maltese, who ply their various small trades about the place. The navvies have commenced work in clearing a space for their rails and sleepers. They are ruddy with health, and astonish every body by the labour which they are enabled to get through; but there is great discontent among them on account of the lack to them of an indispensable element of existence. The "navvies" want their beer. Beer, however, there is none, and each fresh complaint has been therefore met by an additional supply of rum. At this moment they receive no less than four rations of rum per day, and this, so far from satisfying the men, appears to have led to some very mutinous proceedings on board the ships. The Provost-marshal, Captain Johnson, has had to deal with some of the culprits, and probably the distribution of a few dozen will compensate for the effects of the rum; but it may be suggested, I think, with propriety, that the complaints of the navvies should not be met by any further supply of ardent spirits. Our soldiers only receive one ration of rum; the navvies, therefore, receive three times more than the soldiers, which ought to satisfy them.

The arrival of reinforcements, both French and English, continues. The drain on our camp from continued sickness does not make these new arrivals swell the numbers of our available force. As regards the French it would be a mistake to suppose that they do not suffer. Their sick are, in proportion to their force distressingly numerous. It is only because our army is so small that we feel the loss severely. I mention this because I find comparisons made between our forces and those of the French, which, if they were true, would tend to show that Englishmen are less fit for work, and of less vigorous constitutions, than the French. This is a mistake. Again, as regards Cavalry, it is perfectly correct that the French Chasseurs d'Afrique have kept their beasts in condition, whilst the chargers of our regiments have all perished. The horses of the Chasseurs d'Afrique are Arabs accustomed from the time they were foaled to the open air, and the vicissitudes of a hot and cold climate, like that of Northern Africa. They have rarely if ever enjoyed the luxury of a stable; but it is by no means the same case as regards the Hussar regiments and the Artillery of France. The horses of the latter are taken care of as are ours, and the result has been the same in the army of General Canrobert as in that of Lord Raglan. Almost all the cattle of those arms in both services have perished.

No great battle had taken place before Sebastopol up to the latest date, nor had any attempt been made to assault the formidable town. Our telegraphic accounts from Balaclava, which come down as far as February 12, repeat the stereotyped phrase that "the siege works are pushed forward with great activity;" and add further, that "the railway from Balaclava to the English Camp is far advanced;" which cannot be correct, as the construction of seven miles of railway, even in the most favourable weather, is not so very easy an affair.

By the steamer *Euphrates*, which left Constantinople on the 12th inst., we learn that the approach of a Russian army of 35,000 men, from the Belbec towards Balaclava, took place on the 7th; that the Allied forces were under arms on the 8th and 9th, in apprehension of an attack; but that the Russians did not risk a conflict. They had, however, taken up a threatening position on the 9th, and were throwing up works on the heights near Kamara. The French had bombarded the town on the night of the 10th, but nothing is said as to what the result had been. The Russians still continued to make sorties every evening.

Omer Pacha, instead of going to Eupatoria from Varna, as was reported, had gone to Balaclava, where he arrived on the 9th, on which day a Council of War was held.

Letters from the Camp, of the 5th inst., state that an additional mortar battery was about to be erected on the Inkerman heights—a proceeding which the Russians did not seem to approve. A small steamer of theirs, called the *Spitfire*, and mounting five or six heavy guns, was, therefore, sent from under the shelter of the land every two or three minutes, which gave the working party the whole benefit of the well-directed broadside, and then returned direct to Sebastopol instead as she had fired. As it is no part of the plan of the Allies to show the enemy the strength and position of their works, the steamer was enabled to do this with almost perfect impunity. In the Careening Creek, which is immediately under the intended battery, the enemy have also constructed two large rafts of solid timber, and mounted each with two 15-inch mortars. These are in turn rapidly hauled round into the centre of the creek by means of warps, and throw their shells with terrible accuracy upon the Inkerman heights. As yet they were said to have done little mischief beyond rendering the progress of the work slower, by compelling the men to throw themselves on their face the instant the shell falls near. Both the shot and shell practice of the enemy in this direction is described as beautiful, and as quite equalling the best of the kind at Woolwich.

All this time the Russians continue daily to strengthen their defences by all the arts known to modern warfare. Most of the batteries now bristle with stockades and abattis, and are all protected in front with wide and deep ditches. What their resources are inside their lines can only be guessed at, but if they at all resemble the exteriors in any manner the storming of the place will be no easy task.

The bombardment of the town was to begin as soon as all the guns were placed and the ammunition ready. It is said that the English lines alone will fire away 420 tons of shot in twelve hours, and the French lines nearly 800 tons; so that any one may calculate the amount required for an incessant bombardment of fifty or sixty hours. The English have already about 1400 tons of shot and shell at Camp, and when about 600 tons more are added to that it was expected that they would commence firing.

The latest accounts represent the position of the English army as much improved. Huttung, warm clothing, and provisions were in abundance; and the arrival of a number of mules, which will soon be followed by more, enabled the men to obtain supplies from Balaclava more easily.

Nothing of importance had taken place at Eupatoria. It was said that General Osten-Sacken, at the head of 40,000 men, was about to make an assault; but no fear was entertained for the result, should he venture to do so. The place was defended by nearly 30,000 men, and the earth-works are now sufficient for defence against almost any force which the Russians can bring against the town.

The French journals publish, with expressions of satisfaction, reports of the improving condition of the English army. The *Débats* gives insertion to a letter dated Balaclava, Feb. 2, in which the following passage occurs:

Our allies are now in full restoration, as they phrase it. Provisions abound, the soldier has already forgotten that he was ever upon half rations, the winter clothing is distributed, and barracks are beginning to cover the quay of Balaclava. Many of the men are dressed in Hungarian fur coats, and wear immense waterproof boots. The improved state of the weather has greatly contributed to these ameliorations. The lately impassable gorge of Balaclava may now be traversed with little difficulty. The land transport service, moreover, is now executed with considerable rapidity, thanks to the reinforcement of 240 mules brought by the steamer *Trent*, magnificent animals from Alicante, under the control of 46 Spanish and Maltese muleteers. I met a file of them yesterday carrying up the materials of the wooden houses.

RUSSIAN PREPARATIONS.

In addition to the different spots on the Russian Baltic coasts that have been strengthened against an attack from the seaside, the two fortresses Narva and Jamburg have during the past year been very considerably fortified, for the purpose of protecting Peterhof and St. Petersburg from the consequences of a landing on the south coast or an inroad from the Prussian frontier. This has been the work of General Von Berg, to whom the Governorship of Revel was entrusted last year; and it is to him who has been most conspicuous in organising the force called the Baltic Corps. Now that he has finished his task on the southern coast to the Emperor's perfect satisfaction, he has been removed to Finland, to perform the same on the north coast.

The following extract of a letter from Helsingfors, after stating that the six battalions of Finland Rifles are rapidly advancing in their organisation, and are expected to be ready by March, says: "All the men are crack shots; there is scarcely one that cannot hit the head of the popinjay with their small rifle-balls." The ardour for battle of these "Freischützen," it is added, is admirable. True or not, there can be no doubt that these battalions are in process of organisation; that they will be armed with the most approved weapons that the Government can procure from Liège or elsewhere; and that their number will amount to about 4000 effectives. In case, therefore, of our fleets being sent to the Baltic, it will be doubly requisite to arm marines and picked sailors exclusively with the Minié muskets and rifles, and to practise the men constantly therewith.

The *Cologne Gazette*, in its correspondence from Constantinople, mentions the circulation at Pera and at Galata of Russian proclamations, in which an appeal is made to Sclavonic sentiments. It is Servia which Russia seems to have in view, and it is very evident that she has cause the same part to be played by Servia as was lately done by Greece. These anonymous documents point out Austria as being the most dangerous enemy of the Sclavonians.

The *Hamburg Börsenhalle* and other journals confirm a recent telegraphic announcement of a forced loan and heavy requisitions just imposed by the Czar for the purposes of the war. The enactment of extraordinary measures fully confirms our recent accounts of the desperate condition of Russian finances, and must seriously aggravate the previously onerous burdens of the impoverished taxpayer.

The following manifesto, which has been issued by the Emperor, will show that he does not place very much reliance upon the Vienna negotiations:—

We, by the grace of God, Nicholas I., Emperor and Autocrat of all the Russias, &c., make known:—

Our faithful and beloved subjects know how much we desire to obtain, without recourse to the force of arms, without a greater effusion of blood, the object which we have had constantly in view—that of defending the rights of our co-religionists, and in general of all the Christians in the East. That desire is also known to all those who have followed with attention and impartiality the march of events as well as the invariable tendency of our acts. We have been, and will still remain, strangers to any other misnspring of action—to any other view in matter of faith or conscience. Even now, true to those principles which we have adopted, we have announced our consent to the opening of negotiations with the Western Powers, who, with the Ottoman Porte, have formed a hostile alliance against us. We think that we are entitled to the same sincerity on their part—to the same disinterestedness of intentions; and we do not lose the hope of obtaining the re-establishment of peace—so much desired, and so precious for the whole of Christianity. Nevertheless, in the presence of the forces which they array against us, and of the other preparations which they are making to contend with us—preparations which, despite the measures taken for the opening of the negotiations, are not discontinued; but, on the contrary, daily assume larger dimensions—we are constrained, on our side, to think of measures to increase the means which God has given us to defend our country, to oppose a firm and powerful barrier to all attempts hostile to Russia—to all projects that menace its safety and its greatness.

This, the first of our duties, we accomplish; and invoking the support of the Most High, with entire faith in His grace, with full confidence in the love of our subjects (animated like ourselves with the same sentiment of devotion for our faith, for the orthodox Church, and for our beloved country), we address this new appeal to all classes of our subjects, ordaining—

The formation of a General Militia of the Empire.

The measures relative to the formation and organisation of this militia have been examined and confirmed by us, and are embodied in detail in special regulations; they will be everywhere carried out with punctuality and zeal.

More than once Russia has been menaced, and has undergone sad and cruel trials; but she always found her salvation in her humble faith in Providence, and in the close and indissoluble bonds which unite the Monarch with his subjects, his devoted children. Let it be so again to-day. May the Almighty, who reads every heart, who blesses pure intentions, grant us His assistance!

Given at St. Petersburg, the 29th of January, of the year of Grace 1855, and in the 30th year of our reign. (Signed) NICHOLAS.

AUSTRIAN MILITARY PREPARATIONS.

According to an order which received the sanction of the Emperor on the 14th inst., the Austrian army corps are to be in their new position by the 15th of March. The dislocations consequent on the order are to commence on the 1st of March, by which day the baggage-waggons are to be in readiness with each division of the troops. The artillery is being increased and improved continually. Every week the iron foundries at Axar deliver a large number of cannon, which are mounted on their carriages in the ordnance department at Vienna, where by imperial command a new and formidable park of artillery is to be collected. The works at Vienna are superintended by the Archduke William, who has bestowed great attention on artillery. All the gun factories are fully employed in the manufacture of the new rifles, with which all the regiments of infantry are to be supplied by March 1. A large convoy of munition was sent off from Vienna to Cracow on the 10th inst., and another was to follow on the 19th, by the Northern Railway. Large quantities of munition are also sent to the Principalities and a convoy left Vienna on the 15th for Bucharest.

DECLARATION OF BELGIAN NEUTRALITY.

In the Belgian Chamber of Representatives, on the 15th inst., M. Orts desired to be informed what course the Belgian Cabinet would pursue if invited to join the Western Alliance against Russia. M. Henri de Brouckère, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, replied that no invitation had been made to Belgium by the Western Powers to join their alliance. The articles of the treaties of 1831 and of 1839, which constituted the kingdom of Belgium, imposes on that Power a perpetual and obligatory neutrality. That condition is the very essence of its independence and nationality. The Five great Powers, in imposing on Belgium that obligation, engaged in return to protect her from all attack, at the same time that the treaties in question permitted her to defend herself. From these considerations it was evident that there could not be any idea of Belgium intervening in the armed contests of Europe, as on the day on which she would so act, she would cease to be an independent State, and would behold her existence come to a close.

REVOLUTION IN PERU.

The mail just delivered by the West India steamer brings intelligence from Panama of the final overthrow of the Government party in Peru, and the consequent success of Castila. Particulars are given of the last battle between the two armies, and the entrance of the conqueror into Lima. During the action two entire battalions of the Government forces went over to the Revolutionists, and very shortly after Echenique's army was routed completely, and fled precipitately from the field. Several of the superior officers on both sides were killed or wounded. Upon the entry of the successful party into Callao, it was expected that the castle would make an obstinate resistance, as extensive preparations had been made for defence; but a few moments sufficed to settle all preliminaries, as the castle surrendered without firing a shot, and the utmost quietness and good order immediately prevailed, and universal expressions of admiration of the happy consummation were heard on every side. These events have renewed public confidence greatly, and it is expected that much good will grow out of them.

OUR GENERALS DURING LAST WAR.—Lord Raglan stated before the military committee which sat last year that, with the exception of Lord Lyndoch and Sir Thomas Picton, we had no general officer in command in the late war above 40 years of age. The Duke of Wellington was a Major-General at 32, the Marquis of Anglesey at 34, Lord Dalhousie at 38, Lord Strafford at 34, Lord Hill at 33, Lord Beresford at 39, Sir George Murray at 40, Lord Combermere at 31, Lord Londonderry at 32.

WILLS AND PERSONALTY.—John Garden, Esq., of Redisham-hall, Suffolk, left personalty estimated at £140,000. Henry Miller, Esq., formerly merchant, Fenchurch-street, and of Newington-place, Surrey, £120,000. Vicesimus Knox, Esq., Stratford-place, and Writtle Lodge, Chelmsford, £60,000. J. A. Berry, Esq., Record and Writ Office, £50,000. Lieut.-General Thomas Dalmer, £10,000. Frederick Wilmot Horton, Esq., Commander R.N., died intestate, £7,000.

CHARITABLE BEQUESTS. William Thorowgood, Esq., who died worth £35,000, among other bequests, has left £1000 to the Infant Orphan Asylum, Wanstead. Mr. Alexander Brand, of Nassau-street, has left £500 to the Benevolent Institution for the Relief of Aged and Infirm Journeymen Tailors. Mrs. Mary Russell Mitford, of Swallowfield, Berks (the poetess), has left the residue of her personalty (sworn under £3000) to her faithful and attached female servant.

A GOOD EXAMPLE TO OUR MEN.—The French and Ottoman soldiers, both of whom are remarkably clean in their personal attire, do not appear to wear woollen under-clothing, but cotton. They may be seen along the side of every stream, especially the Zouaves, at all hours, scrubbing and rubbing away, with their arms up to the elbows in soapsuds. They take down their washing utensils, light a fire on the spot, boil water, and set to work in an artistic manner, and really do not only clean, but bleach, the articles on which they devote their soap and exertion. It was at one time proposed to set apart one or two houses in Balaclava for the purpose of washing and drying such things as could not be properly done by the soldiers in camp, and that the soldiers' wives, many of whom have been brought of late from Varna and elsewhere to the Crimea, should be employed in this useful occupation. But the suggestion has never been carried into effect.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

(From the *London Gazette* of Tuesday night.)

Before Sebastopol, Feb. 6, 1855.

My Lord Duke,—I mentioned to your Grace on Saturday that the weather had broken. The frost was very severe on that night, and the thermometer down at 19°, and the wind was very high and piercingly cold.

Sunday was rather milder, and yesterday was fine. To-day the glass has fallen, and there is every appearance of rain.

I am happy to state that the medical officers consider that the general condition of the men has improved, although apparently there is no diminution in the number of the sick.

The enemy has made no movement of importance, but great convoys of waggons have been observed to go into Sebastopol, laden either with ammunition or provisions.

I enclose the casualties to the 4th inst.

Lieutenant-Colonel Collingwood Dickson, of the Royal Artillery, an excellent officer, whom I have before had occasion to bring to your notice, was slightly wounded on the 4th instant, when making a reconnaissance in company with some French officers.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

NOMINAL RETURN OF OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED, FROM JAN. 28TH TO FEB. 4TH, INCLUSIVE.

KILLED.

30th Foot: Lance-Corporal Chas. Douglas. 34th: Private Thomas Greenfield.

WOUNDED.

Royal Artillery: Capt. and Lieut.-Col. Dickson, slightly. 2nd: Private Owen Morrison, slightly.
1st Royals: Private Bryan Silk, and Peter M'Sweeny, severely. 57th: Private John Mahaly, slightly.
7th Foot: Private Thomas Kelly, severely. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Sergeant Long, Voke, severely.

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General.

(From the *London Gazette* of Friday night.)

Before Sebastopol, Feb. 10, 1855.

My Lord Duke,—I have nothing material or important to report to your Grace since I addressed you on the 6th.

There was rain yesterday and the day before, and in the course of last night there was a considerable fall of snow, which remains on the ground; but it does not freeze, and the country is again saturated with wet.

It is reported from the front that great activity prevails in the town and harbour of Sebastopol.

Large convoys of apparently sick men were observed to be moving out of the place, and numerous carts, with one horse, to be coming in.

The enemy appear to be breaking up hulks in the Arsenal Creek, and to be using the material for platforms and *chevaux de frise* at the battery "Du Mat."

We are proceeding with the armament of the works on the right.

The health of the troops continues to improve in some slight degree. They are amply supplied with warm clothing and with provisions.

Forage is our only want, and this arises chiefly from the Commissary-General not receiving from England the supplies of hay upon which he has reckoned.

I inclose the return of casualties to the 5th instant.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES WOUNDED FROM 5TH TO 8TH FEBRUARY, INCLUSIVE.

18th Foot: Private William Brown, slightly. 33rd: Private William Smith, slightly.
19th: Private John Kearney, severely. 90th: Private Thomas Tonge, slightly.

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General.

It is not intended to send any more regiments from the Mediterranean to the Crimea. It is usual to have five battalions at Gibraltar, five at Malta, and five at the Ionian Islands. There are now but four (the 17th, 44th, 68th, and 92nd) at Gibraltar; two (the 72nd and 91st) at Malta; and three (31st, 48th, and 82nd) at Corfu. These regiments are not numerically strong, and they will be aided in their garrison duties by several regiments of militia.

THE North Lincolnshire Militia are under orders for Aldershott, Hampshire, where a permanent camp of 10,000 men is to be formed. The greater part of the South Lincolnshire Militia have volunteered for foreign service, and are expecting orders for the Mediterranean. It is said they will go to Corfu.

HER MAJESTY having accepted the services of the Militia for duty in the Colonies, the following regiments have received orders to hold themselves in readiness for immediate embarkation, viz.:—The Royal Malta, Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Methuen, twenty-four officers and 686 men, and the Royal Lancashire, Lieutenant-Colonel Clayton, seventeen officers and 620 men. Both these regiments form part of the garrison of Portsmouth; they are destined for the Ionian Islands—in all probability, Corfu. The former will, it is expected, embark in her Majesty's ship *Neptune*, if not both regiments, as soon as she is ready for them.

THE East Kent Militia, which has been doing garrison duty at Woolwich since the 4th of August last, on Friday and Saturday last opened volunteering for service in the Mediterranean. On those two days 257 men took the oath, and each man received £2. It is anticipated that more than the number will come forward, and make the required amount, 589.

THE four old contractors in Birmingham for military small-arms supplied 10,000 Minié rifles to the Board of Ordnance from December 1 last to the 17th of the present month. These numbers are independent of the supplies rendered by the new contractors during the same period.

A TRIAL of a newly-invented self breech-loading and priming carbine has been made in the school of Musketry at Hythe. Sixty shots can be fired from this weapon in seven minutes; out of that number, at a range of 100 yards, 47 struck the bull's eye. Total immersion in water of the carbine, loaded, did not affect its explosive power, the fuses being readily discharged. The rapidity of the firing did not produce the slightest derangement, the piece neither requiring oiling nor cleaning.

IT is rumoured that the command of the large encampment preparing at Aldershott will be entrusted to Sir De Lacy Evans.

THE Reserve Dépôts at Malta are to consist of five battalions, and to be commanded by a Colonel. Two officers have already been selected for this duty.

THE medical department is to be removed from St. James's-place to the house now occupied by the Board of Clothing, at Whitehall.

ON Monday Major-General Sir Frederick Smith traced out the lines of huts at Aldershott for the encampment of 20,000 men, which are expected to be up and serviceable in the course of the ensuing month.—[We shall engrave a View of the Site, with a Plan.]

THE Victoria Rifle Corps will muster for drill every Thursday evening during the next two months at Allen's Riding-school, Seymour-place, Bryanston-square.

IT being in contemplation to station the Royal Sussex Artillery Militia at Eastbourne, preparation has been made in a portion of the martello towers for the reception of the Royal Artillery, who will vacate the Circular Redoubt, to render available the requisite accommodation for the militia. The remainder of the martello towers are understood to be in course of repair, and will soon be ready to receive the number of men necessary to render them effective. As yet the actual means of defence are limited to but few guns; probably as the spring advances each tower will be provided with its full complement. Various other batteries are to be proceeded with as the spring becomes more advanced.

THE INSURGENTS AT NANKING.

THE accompanying View represents the town of Nanking as it appeared in the month of July last, at which time H.M.S. *Rattler* lay for some days close to it. The approaches of the town, as will be perceived, are defended by stockades, the whole river front being lined with masked batteries, well manned, while a large number of stakes and bamboo points are driven into the ground, so as to prevent any body of men from advancing in line. The masked batteries on both sides of the creek leading to the city gate, called Tlung, are shown in the Sketch, together with the look-out towers, which command a view of the surrounding country.

A Correspondent who has recently returned from China describes the appearance of the insurgents as exceedingly grotesque, on account of their allowing the hair to grow, contrary to the prevailing custom in the Celestial Empire. The most faithful sketches of many of the Chinese soldiers would be taken for gross caricatures in this country. The great chiefs wear a red pasteboard helmet, surmounted by the figure of a lion, or a dragon, with a tassel. The head-dress of the minor leaders is a yellow cap, which droops behind in rather a picturesque manner. Their arms consist of halberds, short swords, and matchlocks, and are all so wretchedly bad that the returns of killed and wounded amount to a very small figure, notwithstanding all their engagements.

The strange and interesting correspondence which took place last year between the English, the leader of the insurgents, the Eastern King, and the *sot-disant* Holy Ghost, was sent home by her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, but has not yet been made public. Whatever may have been the feeling of the insurgents generally, the leaders did not show the slightest disposition to court the advances of Europeans. The Eastern King is said to have all the hauteur and offensive manner of a Canton Chinese. The general belief that his success would lead to a more cor-

YOUNG NANKING REBEL.

WOO, GOVERNOR OF CHINKIANG-FOO AND KWACHOU.

REBEL OF THE KWANGSI PROVINCE.

INSURGENT CHIEF NOMINALLY COMMANDING 15,000 MEN.

NANKING INSURGENT SOLDIER.

dial commercial intercourse does not, therefore, seem to be well founded. All accounts, however, agree in representing the insurgent King as a very able man Though called an impostor, as all such adventurers are till they have made their position good, he is certainly a very clever one, as is plainly evinced by the wonderful manner in which he contrives to rule his followers

The latest news relating to the Rebels is that the Imperialists, led on by Manchoo officers, had defeated them in Kiang si, Hunan, and Hu-pak, in many encounters, and retaken several important cities on the Yang-tse kiang There is now so large a naval force, British and American, near Canton, that the city is safe from attack, but it is said that trade is at a stand, without a prospect of being resumed until its avenues are cleared of the banditti who infest them. A conclave, consisting of Sir John Bowring, Sir James Stirling, Captain Abbot, Dr Parker, and Mr Consul Robertson was held recently at the Admiral's residence Fighting by the Triad bands against the associated villagers on shore, and against the war junks on the river, still continued, to the utter destruction of commerce.

The appearance of Admiral Stirling's squadron in the river of Canton had caused the rebel chiefs to entertain fears lest they might find our arms turned against them, and has had the effect of temporarily checking their advance Sir James Stirling is very busy surveying the rear of the factories; it being his intention to mark off a certain part of the western suburbs, which shall be considered neutral ground.

THE SUBURBS OF NANKING, AND THE CITY WALL, WITH THE STOCKADES CONSTRUCTED BY THE INSURGENTS.

ARRIVAL OF THE BIRMESE ENVOY AT CALCUTTA, WITH THE LETTER OF THE KING OF AVA.

EMBASSY FROM AVA TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.

ACCORDING to letters lately received from Calcutta, the topic of the day was the Embassy from Ava:—"The present King of Ava, previous to the revolution which seated him on the throne, bore the title of Prince of Mengdoon. Mengdoon is the name of a little district on the extreme northern frontier of Pegu. At the annexation it was included in the British boundary, and the King feels as William of Nassau felt when Orange was dismantled. His personal vanity is wounded, and he has condescended at last to treat with the Power which has defeated him. He has sent an Envoy to Rangoon, with instructions to proceed to Calcutta, and there obtain from the Governor-General the restitution of Mengdoon. The price offered, it is said, is a treaty recognising the conquest of Tyeu, and perhaps some advantages in the way of trade. This is the popular belief, but information direct from the province ascribes to the King a second and somewhat nobler object. He is anxious for the restitution of Bassein, the south-west division of Pegu—a district as large as Suffolk, and comprising the best river and harbour in the province. A glance at a recent map will show that the annexation has completely shut out Birmah Proper from the sea. The deprivation is severely felt by the people, whose pride it wounds, and by the Monarch, whose profits as sole trader in his own dominions are materially diminished. The last request, of course, will never be conceded. It is not merely that in Asia concession is equivalent to weakness—the gift would derange the administration of the province. No duties could be collected while a foreign Power placed its own imposts on the best harbour in the kingdom; and no crime could be repressed while the criminal remained within an hour's journey of immunity."

At the time the above was written the Ambassador was anxiously expected at Calcutta; and, by aid of an obliging Correspondent in that city, we are enabled to illustrate the Envoy's reception. He is an official who was known in the war as the Dalla Woon, or ruler of Dalla—a place which is to Rangoon what Southwark is to London. In that position he showed himself friendly to the British, and more attentive to his word than the majority of his countrymen.

Our own Correspondent states:—"The interview took place in the Marble hall of Government House at Calcutta, on the 13th December, before a crowded assembly of spectators who had been invited to attend. The Envoys were seated on the right of the Governor-General, with Major Phayre, who acted as interpreter during the interview. They were dressed in long dark red velvet chogahs, edged with yellow satin; and curious conical-shaped hats, ornamented with gold. The first introduction being over, a letter from the King of Ava was presented to the Governor-General. It was cased in red velvet, and carried in a gold cup. Presents from the King of Ava were then brought in and placed in front of the Governor-General. They consisted of silks of many patterns, gold cups, rubies of considerable value, ornamental swords, carved ivory and papier-mâché boxes, elephants' tusks, &c. The Governor-General, having presented each of the Envoys with a diamond ring and other articles of value, retired. I send you a Sketch showing the etiquette displayed in conveying the King's letter from place to place. It is under the exclusive charge of one of the Envoys, who, apparently, never lets it out of his hands. He considers it necessary to have a carriage entirely to himself, and can only be moved under the shade of eight umbrellas—the Birmese emblem of Royalty."

CYCLONE AT BOMBAY.

ON the 1st ult. Bombay was visited by a cyclone, or hurricane, which commenced about midnight by a gale from the S.E. by E.; the force of the wind on the square foot, as ascertained at the Observatory, being 10 lb. At one it had veered round to the S.E., and the pressure had increased to 15 lb.; at two it was S.E., and the pressure 21 lb., at three it was S.E. by E., and the pressure [illegible] at six to 21 lb., and the wind had got round to W.N.W. [illegible] the pressure had fallen to 7 lb. on the f[illegible] It [illegible] to realise, until having experienced it, the effect of a wind pressure of 35 lb. on the foot, but it is apparent that nothing living could stand up on open ground against it. A man weighing 13 stone, or 182 lb., presents a surface of about eight square feet, the pressure on which with a wind force of 35 lb. to the foot will be 280 lb. more than a third greater than his weight; so over he must go.

The night will never be forgotten by those who experienced such a visitation for the first time. The vortex of the cyclone did not pass over the Observatory, and the force of the wind there must have been considerably exceeded on the range of hills forming the western coast of the island, and covered with the country houses of the richer inhabitants. Next morning the gardens appeared as if a heavy roller had passed over them from the south-west; and the various directions in which the tall Palmyra palms had fallen afforded a palpable indication of the revolving character of the storm.

The following is from the *Telegraph and Courier*:—

At five o'clock in the morning the scene at the Apollo Bunder was frightful. Underneath the saluting battery the *dêbris* of the wrecks was heaped. Pieces of bunder-boats, ropes, spars, and all the *matériel* of the harbour boats were strewed all over the bay. Hundreds and hundreds of cotton bales were floating about, uncared for and unlooked after. The view from the Custom-House Bunder was most terrific. The steamer *Phlox*, sunk beneath the Castle walls, had only her paddle-boxes visible above water; while the pontoons of the steamers *Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy*, *Sir George Russel Clark*, and *Snake* (Government steamer), were only known by their funnels appearing above water. The new Government steamer *Assaye* parted her moorings during the night, and struck the hard ground near the dockyard, and has been much injured. The *Hastings* went on shore early in the morning. The *Margaret* cutter is smashed all to pieces. The *Mandarin* small cutter has also become a total wreck, and four pilot-boats have been entirely lost. The Governor's barge and that of Sir Henry Leeke have totally disappeared. Five large merchantmen are on shore—some masts gone; and about 100 bungalows are lost. The *Nerbuddah* cutter has become a total wreck, and the brig *Palinurus* is much disabled. The fort on the morning of the storm presented a curious appearance. The streets were literally strewed with tiles. Trees which one would have thought could have withstood the tempests of ages were either uprooted or broken in twain like twigs. The crosses of the west side of the Cathedral were blown off, and the police-office was so dismantled that the Court of Petty Sessions had to be held in the magistrate's private room. The theatres and the Supreme Court-house have been more or less injured, and the flag-staff has been entirely blown down.

THE EFFECT OF A CYCLONE, AT THE APOLLO BUNDER, BOMBAY.

THE CADELL TESTIMONIAL.

THIS superb gift is a well-merited tribute to the exploratory enterprise in Australia. It consists of a solid centre ornament, executed in gold, with silver figures of the emu, kangaroo, and sheep, surrounding the base; the upper portion of the design consisting of an oak-tree, its branches being fitted for glass dishes or wax lights. The base bears the following Inscription:—

Presented by some of the Settlers of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia, to FRANCIS CADELL, Esq., in commemoration of his having first opened the Steam Navigation and Commerce of the River Murray. 1853.

This characteristic piece of plate has been ably executed by Messrs. Smith, Nicholson, and Co., of Duke-street, Lincoln's-Inn-fields.

GOLD CANDELABRUM PRESENTED TO MR. FRANCIS CADELL, THE AUSTRALIAN EXPLORER.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Feb. 25.—1st Sunday in Lent. Sir Christopher Wren died, 1723.
MONDAY, 26.—Napoleon I. embarked from Elba, 1815.
TUESDAY, 27.—Dr. Arbuthnot died, 1735
WEDNESDAY, 28.—Ember Week. Montaigne born, 1533.
THURSDAY, March 1.—St. David.
FRIDAY, 2.—John Wesley died, 1791.
SATURDAY, 3.—Boileau died, 1711. Otway born, 1651

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 3, 1855.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
8 19	8 38	8 58	9 28	10 13	10 59	11 42	No Tide	0 23	0 52	1 17	1 38	1 58	2 15	2 33

SKETCHES OF THE WAR.

Next Week we shall Engrave several

SKETCHES IN THE CRIMEA,

Just received from our Artists, Messrs. GOODALL and GUYS.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1855.

A SINGULAR fate has attended Mr. Roebuck's Committee of Inquiry into the State of the Army before Sebastopol. It drove Lord John Russell from the Cabinet, broke up the Aberdeen Ministry, placed Lord Palmerston in power, and launched Lord John into the new career of diplomacy, where he is very likely to distinguish himself, and be of essential service to his country. But the doings of Mr. Roebuck's Committee, or rather of the mere proposal to institute it, have not ended with these achievements, considerable as they are. We now learn that it has "dislocated" the Palmerston Administration, and deprived it of the services of three of its most prominent, if not its most able, members. Lord Palmerston, with a tact and good sense which are characteristic of his whole public career, was too wise to resist the appointment of a Committee on which it is evident that the country, no less than the House of Commons, had set its mind. He interfered with Mr. Roebuck's independence no further than to stipulate, as the price of his acquiescence, that the Committee should include the names only of such gentlemen as would inspire the public with confidence that the inquiry would be ably as well as honestly and impartially conducted. In other words, he objected to the persons originally designated by Mr. Roebuck, and suggested another list;—to which Mr. Roebuck acceded. But Sir James Graham, Mr. Sidney Herbert, and Mr. Gladstone, disapproved of the appointment of the Committee in any form or shape whatever; a political mistake on their parts, from the effects of which it will take them long to recover. Hereupon issue was joined; and, Lord Palmerston remaining firm to his purpose of consenting to the inquiry, these three gentlemen have ceased to form a part of the Ministry. We shall not seek to depreciate the talents or the services of public men of such high standing and character, or join in the silly outcry against two of them as "Peelites." We acknowledge, and have often acknowledged, the ability and industry of each and of all of them; but we cannot bring ourselves to look upon their secession from the Cabinet as a calamity, or as a circumstance in any way to be deplored. Sir James Graham is thoroughly a man of business. He was an acquisition to the Government, and inspired confidence in all who had transactions with him in his official capacity. But his loss can be easily supplied, and public opinion can designate half-a-dozen or a dozen members of the Lower House who can undertake and perform the duties of Naval Minister at the present time. Mr. Gladstone's secession will not excite much regret. He was respected more than liked; and the people had a suspicion, which may or may not have been well founded, that the war would lag as long as he remained Chancellor of the Exchequer; not from any want of zeal on his part, but from his "crotchet," that in war as well as in peace it is the duty of a great nation to avoid loans, and to pay its expenses from year to year, as they are incurred. Mr. Gladstone was suspected of holding such doctrine, and of endeavouring to act upon it—even at the present moment, when it is necessary for the nation to put forth its whole energies, and to spend within the year twenty, fifty, or even a hundred or two hundred millions of money, to ensure the humiliation and defeat of the enemy. The next Chancellor of the Exchequer will have only to avoid committing himself to a similar heresy to enlist on his behalf the good will of the people; and if Lord Palmerston will select a new man for the office, and avoid encumbering himself in that capacity with Sir Charles Wood or others who have failed in it, there is little fear that his Administration will suffer either in credit or in strength from the loss of Mr. Gladstone. The secession of Mr. Sidney Herbert is still less important. He gave no strength to the Ministry of Lord Aberdeen; and his acceptance of office under Lord Palmerston was the most unfavourable circumstance connected with the new Ministry. In losing the services of Mr. Herbert, Lord Palmerston loses a colleague whose reputation was damaged. We are not of opinion that Mr. Herbert and the Duke of Newcastle deserved all, or any part of, the odium thrown upon them for the mismanagement of the war; but they filled the post of responsibility, and were unsuccessful. For this reason they must be content—even though morally innocent—to bear the blame that always attaches itself to failure. If they have been wronged, they will find an opportunity to right themselves; and Time, the great redresser of injuries and healer of animosities, will do them all the justice they deserve. If in the interval their own consciences absolve them, they can bear the brunt of temporary unpopularity, and be none the worse for it.

At the time at which we go to press we have heard, on no certain authority, the names of the gentlemen selected by the Premier to fill up the three vacancies thus unexpectedly created, but shall publish in later editions such statements as may appear worthy of credence, or as may be officially announced. Upon the whole we see nothing to regret, but much to rejoice at, in the secession. The Parliament, like the country, is thoroughly in earnest. Both demand inquiry as to past mismanagement and present inefficiency; and both are willing to vote all the means, both in men and in money, that are necessary to carry on the war with spirit and success. Lord Palmerston, if equally in earnest—as there can be no reason to doubt—will find strength on every side of him, only awaiting his summons to enter the public service.

THE aspect of affairs is ominous of impending calamity on the cause of the Czar. Notwithstanding all the ravages which disease and mismanagement have made in the gallant army of Great Britain, there remain 10,000 or 12,000 men fit for any enterprise; while the French and the Turks have each a force sufficient to defy the hosts of Menschikoff and Liprandi. From the daily reports that reach us from the Crimea, and from the improvement in the condition of the weather, as well as in the state of the Allied armies, no less than from the movement perceptible in the armies of the Czar, it is evident that a great battle is impending, and that important news may be hourly expected. Whether that battle be fought before Eupatoria against the Turks, or before Sebastopol against the British and French, or whether the assault, so ardently desired by the soldiers of the Allied armies, shall be undertaken, we entertain no doubt that the result will be glorious to our arms, and advantageous to our cause. The Emperor of the French, who in one of those bursts of enthusiasm which on rare and great occasions illuminate the dark and silent but not cold atmosphere of his inner life, had determined to proceed in person to the Crimea, and lead his troops to victory, has foregone his intention; possibly on account of the consternation which the idea excited in France, but more probably because, on cool reflection, he deemed it not unlikely that the great battle might have been fought before his arrival, and that he might lose dignity, as well as incur risk at home, by being, in common parlance, "a day after the fair." Whatever be the cause of the Emperor's change of mind, it is a matter of rejoicing to his best friends that he has not obeyed the impulse that beset him. If his Majesty must place himself at the head of an army—if he must lead his brave soldiers to victory and plant the eagles of France on the towers and towns of an enemy—there is a chance before him which may yield him greater honour and glory than even a campaign, or part of a campaign, in the Crimea. Prussia has not yet joined the Western Alliance. The King still hesitates, and at the last moment he may decide to cast in his fortunes with those of the Czar. In that case the Emperor Napoleon might well leave the Crimea to the armies and the generals already in possession of it, and take his place as Generalissimo of the French Army of the Rhine. The post would be one of danger and of glory; but with the humiliation of both Prussia and Russia, and the re-establishment of the kingdom of Poland in the perspective, it would be one in which his presence and example, and the enthusiasm excited by his name, would be of more benefit to the common cause than anything which he could accomplish in the Crimea.

In the meantime, the mission of Lord John Russell to Paris, Berlin, and Vienna has filled the friends of Russia with perplexity and discouragement. The Austrian alliance, in case of the refusal of Russia to yield to certain conditions—acceptance of which would amount to a moral as well as physical defeat—will become an alliance, not of documents and protocols, but of swords and guns, and half a million of hands ready, and eager to wield them. The Austrian people as well as the Court go heartily with the Western Powers; and Frenchmen are as popular in Vienna, as Englishmen are in Paris. The old jealousy between France and Austria has never existed during the reign of the Emperor Francis-Joseph; and the jealousy which the events of Hungary and Lombardy, in 1848 and 1849, created in the Austrian mind against Englishmen, and especially against Lord Palmerston has been happily removed, and the ancient friendship thoroughly restored. And this good understanding, while it will yield us excellent armies in support of the anti-Russian cause, may perhaps operate to bring the Czar to reason without the necessity of prolonging the contest. The King of Prussia already begins to waver; and if he, backed as such a policy would be by the whole Prussian people, should finally resolve to unite with the Allies, and leave the Czar to his fate, it is scarcely possible to believe that Nicholas would resolve to fight single-handed against all Europe. His last proclamation to his people betrays his sense of impending danger. It is warlike in tone, but conciliatory in spirit; and takes care to impress upon the world that his military preparations are defensive, and not offensive, and have been forced upon him by the hostile attitude assumed towards "Holy Russia" by all Europe. So be it. The Vienna Conference is a reality this time, and not a sham; and the Czar knows it.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS. Nothing has yet been positively decided as to the Ministerial arrangements rendered necessary by the secession of Sir James Graham, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Sidney Herbert, and Mr. Cardwell—whose resignation has to be added to those of his political friends.

THE VIENNA MISSION. Lord John Russell left his residence in Chesham-place on Tuesday morning, shortly after seven o'clock, for the purpose of proceeding on his diplomatic mission to Vienna. His Lordship was accompanied by Lady John Russell and his two daughters. At eight o'clock his Lordship arrived at the South-Eastern Railway station, where he was received by Mr. Wetherett, the station-master, and conducted to the express-train, in which, accompanied by one of his daughters, he proceeded, at ten minutes past eight, direct to Dover. Lady John Russell and his Lordship's other daughter returned immediately afterwards to Chesham-place. His Lordship first visits Paris, where he will have an interview with the Emperor of the French, after which it is understood that he will go direct to Berlin, so that his arrival at Vienna must necessarily be delayed for a few days.

THE COMMITTEE ON THE ARMY.—The following, we have reason to believe, is the list of the Committee as finally agreed upon for nomination on Mr Roebuck's motion:—Mr. Roebuck, Mr. Drummond, Sir John Pakington, Mr. Layard, Colonel Lindsay, Mr. Ellice (senr.), Lord Seymour, Sir George Cornewall Lewis, General Peel, Mr. John Ball, Mr. Bramston.

MEETING OF CONSERVATIVE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT. A very numerous meeting, comprising a large body of peers, and nearly 200 members of the House of Commons, was held at Lord Eglinton's house, in St. James's-square, on Tuesday. Lord Derby addressed the meeting at length. He alluded to the line of conduct pursued by him during the late political crisis, and stated his views and opinions generally upon the position and prospects of the Conservative party. His Lordship's speech was received most enthusiastically; and a vote expressing the entire and continued confidence of the Conservative party in their leader is moved by the Earl of Strathdrie, seconded by Mr. R. Palmer, M.P. for Berkshire, and carried unanimously.

MEETING IN FAVOUR OF MR. ROEBUCK'S MOTION. A large meeting of the inhabitants of Marylebone was held at the Literary Institution, Edward-street, Portman-square, on Wednesday evening, for the purpose of "protesting against Mr. Roebuck's Committee being burked." The meeting was addressed by Mr. Mowatt, M.P., Mr. Lewis, Mr. Nicholay, Mr Bell (the late candidate for the borough), and other gentlemen, all of whom spoke strongly in condemnation of the way in which the war has been mismanaged, and urged the necessity of inquiry. To talk of a Government Commission was to stifle inquiry. Resolutions were passed in favour of the appointment of "a fair and impartial Committee," and urging Ministers to prosecute the war with unflinching energy and vigour

CHARLES MACKAY'S SONGS.—The lyrical works of this gentleman—whose success as a writer of songs, patriotic, social, and descriptive, has scarcely been equalled in our time—are at length collected, and will speedily be published in a single volume, which is about to issue from the press of Messrs. Bradbury and Evans. It will be welcomed to every English household.—*Weekly Chronicle*

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from page 157.*)

HOUSE OF LORDS. THURSDAY.

DAY OF PRAYER AND HUMILIATION.

The Earl of RODEN urged upon the Government the propriety of advising her Majesty to order a particular day to be set apart for general humiliation and prayer, to implore the Divine protection for our army in the Crimea

The Earl of ABERDEEN said that when he was in office he was asked by a noble Duke whether he was prepared to recommend the introduction into the Liturgy of a special prayer for ordinary purposes? He stated in reply that he had every objection to such a proceeding; but, so far from having any objection to the appointment of a special day for prayer and humiliation, he was quite in favour of it.

Earl GRANVILLE said that the present Government had already advised her Majesty to order a day to be set apart during the present Lent as one of national humiliation and prayer. He was happy to inform their Lordships that recent accounts from the Crimea led them to suppose that the condition of our army was considerably improved.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. THURSDAY.

Mr. DRUMMOND asked whether it was the intention of the Government to make the army of India a Royal army?

Lord PALMERSTON. No such decision has been come to.

In reply to a question from Mr. Warner, Lord PALMERSTON said that the Commission which was to go out to the East would have the power to rectify, as well as to inquire into, any abuses that might be found existing.

ANOTHER MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

Lord PALMERSTON said he had to state to the House that which he believed they were already aware of—that three members of the Government, all of whom were members of that House, had resigned their offices, and now only held them until their successors were appointed. Those were the first Lord of the Admiralty (Sir J. Graham), the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Gladstone), and the Secretary for the Colonies (Mr. S. Herbert). He hoped the House would not think he was asking too much in requesting that all public business appointed for that evening be postponed; and that the House would adjourn until to-morrow, when the three right honourable gentlemen referred to would be in their places for the purpose of stating their reasons for the course they had pursued (Hear, hear).

Mr. DISRAELI said that they were in anticipation of a very strong Government, and although the chief obstacle to the formation of such a one appeared to be removed, he yet found at the end of the ten days that it had fallen to pieces. He must say that upon his side of the House the announcement of the noble Lord must be felt with deep regret and some consternation.

Mr. WILSON, on the part of the Government, fixed the nomination of Mr. Roebuck's Committee the first order for to-morrow.

HOUSE OF LORDS. FRIDAY.

Lord PANMURE, in reply to Lord Lyndhurst, said that he was fully aware of the importance of providing summer clothing for our army in the Crimea, and that measures had been taken by the Government to have an adequate supply upon the spot by the month of April next.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

Major REID gave notice that, unless prevented by another Ministerial crisis, he would on an early day move for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the system of promotions in the Army by the purchase of commissions.

Mr. F. PEEL, in reply to Sir F. Baring, stated that the letters from Lord Raglan to the Duke of Newcastle on the subject of newspaper correspondents in the East being of a confidential nature, he (Mr Peel) had no authority for providing their production. This objection would not, however, apply to the letters sent to the editors, which he thought might be produced.

Mr. LAYARD hoped the replies of the editors would be furnished at the same time.

Mr. F. PEEL was not sure whether that would be expedient.

THE NEW MINISTERIAL CRISIS.

Sir J. GRAHAM then rose to explain the reasons which induced him to resign the position he had hitherto had the honour to hold in her Majesty's Government. The Committee moved for by Mr. Roebuck was opposed by the late Administration, but had since been allowed by the present Government, after the Lon. and learned member for Bath had amended his list of names to be placed on such Committee. He (Sir J Graham), however, objected to the appointment of a Select Committee upon such a subject at all. If the Committee be a secret one, the characters of various persons might be attacked without any opportunity being afforded them for defence. If, on the contrary, it were to be open, its proceedings would be published from day to day, and by this means mis-statements would go forth which might be highly prejudicial to the interests of the public service. Consequently, under any circumstances he was opposed to the Committee; nor was he aware of any precedent for such an inquiry. He was not in favour of such an inquiry taking place before the bar of that House than before a Select Committee—but, according to all former precedents, not until the war was over. He did not, however, mean to contest the power of the House of Commons to make such an inquiry, even in the absence of precedent. He had himself laboured from his youth to increase its democratic power, and he knew no limit to its functions, except when, in an ill-advised moment, it attempted to trench upon the Constitution. Having stated to Lord Palmerston when his noble friend was about to form his Administration whether any changes were contemplated in the foreign policy, and any in the terms upon which negotiations were to be conducted at Vienna, and the noble Lord having satisfied him upon those points, he consented to join the noble Lord. His friends on the Treasury bench having opposed the motion, had since spiked their guns and abandoned their position. In the painful circumstances then, of what he conceived to be his duty, he now appeared before the House. It appeared to him there were indications that the Administration he had left did not possess more confidence than the last. At the same time he felt it his duty to give the noble Lord's Government his humble support, of whatever elements that Government might be composed

Mr. BRIGHT expressed his regret at the retirement of the several right hon. gentlemen from the Government, because he had no desire to see the Administration of Lord Palmerston overthrown. For a month there had been nothing but chaos in the Administration. It therefore became the House of Commons to deliver the country from the embarrassments which surrounded it. Terms of agreement for peace had been offered to Russia, and it was the duty of the House to see that they were adhered to in frankness and good will. He appealed to the noble Lord to stop this wasteful outpouring of blood, and to win to himself a fame purer and greater than any he had as yet been able to secure

Mr. S. HERBERT gave similar reasons for his secession from the noble Lord's Government as those which had been given by Sir J. Graham.

Mr M'GASKELL strongly insisted upon the necessity for inquiry

Mr. DRUMMOND said that, while our military skill was the laughing-stock of all Europe, and our army was perishing, the late head of the Government, whose mismanagement had produced all the mischief, had been decorated by the Queen with the highest mark of distinction that a subject could receive. This was done in mockery of that House, and in contempt of public opinion (Hear, hear).

DEATH FROM THE COLD AT BEACHY-HEAD. On Friday week two gentlemen proceeded from Southbourne to Beachy-head for the purpose of shooting wild fowl—Mr. Bethell, from Cornfield-terrace, and Mr. Cobb, from the Grand Parade. As night advanced they became much benumbed with cold Mr. Bethell more particularly so. His friend, finding that he was becoming quite overpowered by the severity of the weather, and the tide fast advancing, used the most strenuous exertions to get him away from the vicinity of the water, and succeeded in dragging him a considerable distance, but, from cold and exhaustion, was obliged to abandon his exertions. Mr. Cobb succeeded in obtaining a position in the cliff removed from the water, where he was discovered by a coast-guardsman early on Saturday morning entirely insensible. Assistance being procured he was removed to his residence, where means were immediately applied to restore animation, and on Sunday he became able to articulate, and strong hopes are entertained of his recovery, although he is at present, it is said, quite blind. The body of Mr. Bethell was not recovered till Sunday morning, when it was found at Beachy-head.

MONUMENT TO PROFESSOR WILSON. A meeting of the general committee was held last week, at which it was resolved that the monument to the late Professor Wilson, should be a colossal statue of bronze, to be placed on a pedestal in the open air in some public situation in Edinburgh; and a sub-committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements. It was stated by Mr Robert Chambers, the honorary secretary, that the subscriptions already received exceeded £1100, and that the sum required would be about £1500.

An interesting inscription was recently discovered in the excavations around Chesham, referring to the corporation of tavern-keepers instituted in Rome during the reign of Arcadius and Honorius, when Lampadius was Prefect of the city, A.D. 366.

MAZZINI ON THE PIEDMONTESE TREATY.—The *Italia e Popolo*, of Genoa, publishes a long letter from Joseph Mazzini, addressed to Count Camillo Cavour, in which he says that the conclusion of the treaty between Piedmont and the Western Powers has caused the doubts which created a division in the Italian party to disappear, and accordingly congratulates the Minister on his success in effecting it

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE far-famed Bernal collection, over which the hammer of Mr. Christies is suspended, for final settlement on the 5th of March, is valued at £50,000, and the Society of Arts has properly petitioned the House of Commons for that sum to secure so choice a collection for the people. This country has made great mistakes in suffering unique collections of real importance to be dispersed. The Lawrence collection of drawings of the ancient masters is a case in point, the whole collection having been offered to the public for scarce a third of what it afterwards produced—for scarce a fourth of what it would now sell for. We trust that, even in these war times, the new Chancellor of the Exchequer will listen to such a proposition as that now made with a favourable ear. Once scattered, it is impossible to bring it together again. Mr. Christie's hammer will divide and waft it no one knows where.

Even in these dull times for literature, a publisher has been found to venture his capital in giving the questionable MS. "Moredun" an appearance in print. Mr. Sampson Low—the London agent for Barnum's Life—is the Quixote of publishers on this occasion; we shall therefore soon be enabled to see what it is like in point of merit; if it is more akin to Ireland's "Vortigern" than Sir Walter's "Waverley." The facsimile that is shown continues to be condemned by those most conversant with Scott's handwriting. Scott always wrote for the press on the largest size uncut post, so as to get three or four of his printed pages into one of manuscript. The MS. of "Moredun" is on paper much smaller than Sir Walter was accustomed to use. Here our comments on "Moredun" must cease till it comes before us with Mr. Sampson Low's "imprimatur."

Lord Brougham is about to print in the edition of his works now in course of publication the whole of the correspondence of George III. with his Minister (Lord North) on the subject of the American War. The original letters were lent by Lord Glenbervie to George IV., and never returned. The belief is, that "the first gentleman in Europe" destroyed them. Lord Brougham will print them from copies made from the originals by Sir James Mackintosh.

A curious dispute between the Earl of Ellesmere and the trustees of the British Museum has just been concluded, and the trustees (very much against their will) compelled to relinquish their hold upon some manuscripts belonging to Lord Ellesmere of which they had improperly possessed themselves. The wonder is, not so much that the trustees should have bought stolen goods, but that, when they found that they were stolen, they should have persisted in retaining them. Another singularity in the affair is that several of the manuscripts have been long in print, as from the originals in the collection of Lord Ellesmere; so that the trustees, or those who purchased for them, ought to have been aware that what was privately offered for sale could not be the property of the pretended owner. Still, in the face of this evidence, and in defiance of the positive identification of the documents by the gentleman who printed them some years ago in a volume of which many hundred copies were circulated, the trustees insisted upon keeping them, and thereby really incurred the peril of being treated as the receivers of stolen goods, actually knowing them to be stolen. We have heard the name of the guilty party, but we refrain from publishing it, because it could do no good, and the matter has been sufficiently exposed to prevent his being entrusted in future with any other manuscripts. Lord Ellesmere only sought to re-obtain what beyond dispute was his own property; but the trustees, having done a serious wrong in the first instance, were obstinate in defending it, and it was not until the Law Officers of the Crown (themselves trustees) had given their decided opinion that the authorities of the British Museum had not a leg to stand upon that Lord Ellesmere had his own manuscripts restored more put into his own hands. Whoever may have advised the trustees in the commencement, he has in the end caused a good deal of laughter at their expense.

Mr. Samuel Cousins, the distinguished engraver, has been elected (as we hinted he would be, some fortnight ago) a full Royal Academician. He is the first engraver who has been admitted to such an honour; for Bartolozzi was elected, not as an engraver, but as designer. This was capriciously done by the Academy to annoy Sir Robert Strange. There is a talk of admitting another engraver a full Royal Academician, making the number of Academicians forty-two, instead of forty; but certain schoolboy conditions will, it is said, have to be complied with, which the most eminent engravers are unwilling to fulfil. The Academy should not stand on antiquated formalities, but elect into its ranks at once Mr. J. H. Robinson, Mr. Doo, or Mr. Burnet. They have now as a member the most eminent mezzotinto engraver in England; they should, therefore, admit the most eminent line engraver in England. The art of line engraving in its perfection is fast dying out amongst us. Mr. Robinson, Mr. Doo, and Mr. Burnet are not likely to have any fitting successors. It is more than time, therefore, to render full honour to those who are still among us.

It says something for the growing taste for art in this country that the picture which brought the largest price at the recent sale at Messrs. Foster's should have been the best work in the collection; and that, ten years ago, the picture in question would not have sold for a third of the sum it now realised. The picture to which we allude was "The Lock," by Constable. The sum it sold for was 860 guineas. Mr. Leslie, who has done so much to make the merits of Constable known, must rejoice at the tardy justice rendered to his favourite landscape-painter. "The Lock" is, indeed, a very fine picture—every year is mellowing it into harmony and adding to its beauties.

Artists are laughing at a critic in the *Spectator*, who learnedly refers "The Lock," by Turner (sold at the same sale for 600 guineas), to a period in Turner's art dating some *twenty* years ago—that is, to the year 1832 or 1833. Now, the picture has no one token about it of Turner's particular characteristics at that period. It is a picture rather of forty than of twenty years ago—in fact, it is a *liber studiorum* picture, ranging between 1808 and 1812.

Mr. S. A. Hart, the newly-elected Professor of Painting in the Royal Academy, has commenced a series of lectures. He succeeds Mr. Leslie, and will give another turn to the mind of the student. He is no wild admirer of the pre-Raphaelites, but is absorbed in well-grounded and well-considered admiration of the great painters of the Italian school. His predecessor, Mr Leslie, has never had the advantage of being in Italy; and, though his pictures have not suffered by his home-keeping propensities, his lectures would, we think, have gained by a greater intimacy with the best works of the best masters. Mr. Hart has been trained to artistic criticism in the public prints, and his hand is now seriously missed by those who can detect and appreciate.

INLAND BOOK POST.—GENERAL POST-OFFICE, FEB. 1855. On and from the 1st March next the following alterations will be made in the regulations of the Inland Book Post:—If a book packet be found to contain any enclosure which is sealed, or otherwise closed against inspection, or any letter whether sealed or not, the letter or other enclosure will be taken out and forwarded to the address on the packet, charged with full postage as an unpaid letter, together with an additional rate of 6d.; the remainder of the packet, if duly prepaid, being forwarded as heretofore. If a packet be not sufficiently prepaid according to its weight, but nevertheless bear stamps of the value of 6d., it will not, as heretofore, become liable to the letter rate of postage, but will be forwarded charged with the deficient book postage and an addition of 6d.—ROWLAND HILL, Secretary.

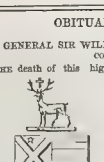
The Government of Holland is preparing to send an extraordinary Embassy to the Emperor of Japan, in order to take advantage of his friendly dispositions towards Europeans. The Dutch Government hopes to obtain a treaty of commerce more advantageous than any it has hitherto had.

The English authorities have engaged at Constantinople 800 labourers—Greeks or Mussulmans, all subjects of the Sublime Porte—to work on the construction of the railroad at Balaclava. Each man is to receive three shillings a day, and ration of biscuit.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM CORNWALLIS EUSTACE, C.B., K.C.H., COLONEL OF 60TH ROYAL RIFLES

THE death of this highly-distinguished officer took place at his seat, Stampford Hall, Essex, on the 9th instant, in the seventy-second year of his age. Sir William was the third son of the late General Eustace, Commander of the Forces in Ireland, and brother of the Rev. Charles Eustace, of Robertstown, county Kildare, who has been recognised by the law officers of the Crown as heir and representative of the Viscounts of Baltinglass, and entitled to that peerage if the attainder were removed. An ancestor of this ancient family accompanied William the Conqueror to this country, and enrolled his name in the celebrated list at Battle Abbey. His descendants crossed over to Ireland temp. Henry II., and were early conspicuous for military prowess, and there established several branches under different titles.



Sir William married, first, in 1809, Catherine Frances, daughter of Lord Talbot de Malahide; by whom (who died in 1816) he leaves issue—Alexander Talbot (who assumed the surname and arms of his maternal grandmother on succeeding to the Malpas estates); and a daughter, Catherine Frances, married to the Rev. S. W. Lloyd, of Vine House, near Sevenoaks: secondly, Caroline, daughter of the late John King, Esq., of Greenplace; by whom (who died 1827) he leaves John Thomas, Captain West Essex Militia; and Robert, Rector of Sampford: and thirdly, Emma, daughter and coheiress of the late Admiral Sir Eliab Harvey, G.C.H., M.P., who survives him, and by whom he leaves a daughter, Emma, married to Myles Lonsdale Formby, Esq., late 6th Carabineers, grandson of Richard Formby, Esq., of Formby Hall, county Lancaster.

Sir William Eustace, whose death we record, entered the Army in the year 1783, being gazetted to a Lieutenancy on the day of his birth, as a compliment to his father's valuable services. Sir William was placed on his father's staff at the early age of fourteen, and was present at the battles of Ross and Vinegar-hill, and at Wexford, and all through the Irish Rebellion in 1798; he then accompanied Sir James Craig to Naples, from thence to Sicily and Calabria, and was present at the action on landing in St. Euphemia Bay, the battle of Maida, and siege of Scylla. He was on board the *Lion* frigate when she captured the *Grenemede*; commanded the Chasseurs Britanniques at the battle of Fuentes d'Onor, the siege of Christoval, battle of Salamanca, capture of Madrid, defence of Olmos in front of Burgos, various engagements on the retreat from thence, actions in the Pyrenees (severely wounded 31st August), and various other engagements, in one of which he was again wounded, and in another he had a horse killed under him. Sir William received the gold medal and one clasp for Fuentes d'Onor and Salamanca, and the silver war medal and two clasps for Maida and the Pyrenees, and was created a Companion of the Bath, and a Knight-Commander of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order.

JOSEPH HUME, ESQ., M.P.

JOSEPH HUME—one, if not of the most brilliant, certainly of the most sterling men of his age and country—is no more. He dies leaving behind him a name for ever memorable in our Parliamentary annals; and there are few, be their party, their principles, or their prejudices what they may, who will not regret the loss of this great genius of public economy.

The career of Joseph Hume has been, from beginning to end, a course of unceasing industry, perseverance, and utility: he was at work from his youth to his death. His long life of labour, all real and unromantic as it was, may be briefly told. Joseph Hume was born at Montrose, in Scotland, in 1777: he was a younger son of a master of a trading vessel, who had a large family, and who died while Hume was yet an infant. Like most men of remarkable intellect, Hume had in his mother a lady of superior education and intelligence. She secured his being well taught from his earliest years, and when still very young he was apprenticed to a Dr. Bate, a provincial physician of considerable celebrity. Having served his time with him, he finished his regular course of physical and anatomical knowledge in the University of Edinburgh. He then made several voyages to India in the Company's service, and was, in 1799, appointed Assistant-Surgeon to the Indian army, and joined the forces commanded by Lord Lake. Amid the arduous duties of his profession, he contrived to find time to master the Persic language, and thus laid to his fortune and his fame. Colonel Achunty, at that time the military interpreter, died, and the only one that could be found to fill his place was the obscure assistant-surgeon, Joseph Hume, who was appointed Achunty's successor: and to the task of interpreting, as, indeed, to every toil he undertook, Hume devoted himself with such wonderful assiduity, that the commanding officer of the district, finding that he could do almost anything, and was never tired, gave him other appointments of importance and profit. A service of eight years made Hume a rich man, and he returned to England in August, 1808, bearing with him the highest recommendations from the Commander-in-Chief, and, what was still more valuable, his own faculties rendered ripe, and fit for business beyond those of most men. Shortly after coming back he set out, for the improvement of his impaired health, upon a lengthened tour on the Continent, where he, like Ulysses,

Wand'ring from clime to clime, observant strayed,
Their manners marked, and their states survey'd.

In 1811 he came again to England, and his long Parliamentary career began by his entering the House in 1812, as member for Melcombe Regis. He did not, however, then remain long a senator, and he was out of Parliament till 1818. During this interval he laboured diligently, as a proprietor of East India Stock, to correct the errors and reform the abuses of the Indian system. He was elected member for Montrose in 1818, and continued to represent the Montrose burghs until his election for Middlesex in 1830, from which time (with the exception of one session, when he represented Kilkenny) he sat for Middlesex till 1842. In 1842, and from thence to the time of his demise, he represented his native burgh of Montrose. Of what Joseph Hume has done in Parliament it is needless here to give any detail, for it is known far and wide to all. It may, indeed, without fear of contradiction, be asserted that no member of the House of Parliament has done the country more essential service than Mr. Hume, in carefully watching over the national expenditure, and in pointing out the most effectual modes of reducing taxation. He was always in his place, incessantly—night after night, from session to session—grappling with Herculean force the most difficult calculations, and impressing his measures of economy on his hearers in language, though not eloquent, impressive and invincible from its very truth and earnestness. His struggles and his success in his great task form part of the history of this country. Mr. Hume was a public man of that stamp which has proved so beneficial in establishing the fortunes of the United States of America; he was a man of the class and of the utility of Penn, and Franklin, and Washington—men to be respected for ever for their sagacity and sense.

In private life Mr. Hume, to all who knew him, endeared himself from his sound worth, his unswerving integrity, his amiability, and his benevolence. Joseph Hume breathed his last at his seat, Burnley-hall, Norfolk, on the 20th inst. He was married, and leaves a family.

W. E. CAMPBELL, ESQ.

THE death has just occurred in Normandy of Walter Frederick Campbell, Esq., of Islay, and Woodhall, N.B., who represented for many years Argyleshire in Parliament. He was the elder son of the late Colonel John Campbell, by his wife, Lady Charlotte Campbell, youngest daughter of James, fifth Duke of Argyll, since better known as Lady Charlotte Bury. Mr. Walter Frederick Campbell's sisters were Lady Cumming, the late Countess of Uxbridge, the late Countess of Charleville, Mrs. William Russell, Lady Arthur Lennox, and Mrs. Brooke, of Mere-hall, Cheshire. His mother, who survives him, is the distinguished authoress, Lady Charlotte Bury; having, after the death of Colonel Campbell, married secondly, in 1816, the Rev. Edward S. Bury. Mr. Walter Frederick Campbell, the subject of this notice, was Deputy-Lieutenant of the counties of Argyll and Lanark. He married first, in 1820, Lady Ellinor Charteris, eldest daughter of Francis Earl of Wemyss and March, by whom (who died in 1832) he leaves issue a son and a daughter. By his second wife, whom he married in 1837, and who survives him, Catherine, daughter of Stephen Thomas Cole, by his wife, Lady Elizabeth Stanley, he has had no issue. Mr. Campbell was, in 1816, the successor of his grandfather, Walter Campbell of Shawfield.

LADY COLBORNE, widow of the late Lord Colborne, whom she has survived but a few months, died on the 17th instant, at her house in Hill-street, Berkeley-square. Lady Colborne was the eldest daughter of the late Right Hon. Thomas Steele, and was married, in 1816, to Nicholas, first Lord Colborne, brother of Sir Matthew White Ridley, Bart. Her Ladyship leaves issue four married daughters, viz., Mrs. Gordon, of Letton; Lady Nugent; Mrs. Heathcote, of Conington Castle; and Mrs. Turquhar.

CAPTAIN ARTHUR LOWTHER, second son of Colonel the Hon. Henry Cecil Lowther, M.P., by his wife the late Lady Eleanor Lowther, and nephew of the present Earl of Lonsdale, died on the 14th inst., at his father's residence in Bruton-street, Berkeley-square, in his thirty-fifth year.

The *Panama Star* states it as tolerably positive that the railroad would be opened through to Panama by the end of last month.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

REPORTED RESIGNATION OF LORD RAGLAN.

A telegraphic despatch from Constantinople of the 15th inst., brings the following items:—

It is reported that Lord Raglan has tendered his resignation. On the 12th General Pelissier sent a message to Paris stating that no successful attempt could be made on Sebastopol for a month to come. The inclination of Persia in favour of Russia becomes daily more evident. Turkey and Greece have not yet come to an understanding.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

From St. Petersburgh we learn that, under date of the 12th inst., Prince Menschikoff had sent the following despatch to his Government:—

On the 30th we succeeded in discovering subterraneous works of the French leading towards the fortifications. With the aid of artillery we destroyed, on the 2d, a portion of the enemy's gallery. On the 4th the French, by firing the mine, attempted our counterwork. The attempt turned to their own disadvantage. On the 8th the play of a new mine enabled us still more to destroy the enemy's works. Meantime our artillery successfully replied to the fire of the besiegers. At night detachments of volunteers continually harass the enemy in their trenches, and, by obliging them to beat to arms, compel them to suspend their works.

THE FRENCH EMPEROR'S VISIT TO THE CRIMEA.

On Wednesday it was generally believed in Paris that if his Majesty ever contemplated such a journey it had been postponed to some distant day, if not entirely relinquished; but on Thursday the rumour was again current that the Emperor was determined to take his departure for the East, and to witness the storming of Sebastopol with his own eyes, which was to be accomplished by a very powerful body of troops equipped in armour, manufactured on a new principle, light in construction, and bullet-proof, expressly for the purpose. The Paris correspondent of the *Globe*, writing on Thursday evening, says:—

That it is his determination to make the journey I am as firmly convinced as ever; all that remains to be fixed is the day, and that will be known to no one until the very last moment. Every arrangement has been completed, even to the most minute detail; the Guides have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness to start at a moment's notice; a brigade of the Imperial Guard, under the command of St. Jean d'Angely, has received similar orders; the Cent Gardes have had a change made in their dress and equipments; the Ladies of Honour who are to accompany the Empress to Constantinople are fixed on, and a complete printing apparatus has been fitted up, to be conveyed in a military baggage waggon, so that despatches and decrees may be printed and issued just the same as if his Majesty were in Paris. All these arrangements would look as if something real were intended, and, as I said before, nothing remains but to have the day fixed. It is said that a Commissary of Police, specially appointed to attend on their Majesties, has already left for the south.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories:* The Rev. F. Salter to Hethe, Oxfordshire; Rev. P. Lucas to Rhossily, Glamorgan; Rev. R. Jarrett to Bourton-on-the-Hill; Rev. A. Williams to Prior's Portion, Tiverton; Rev. C. S. F. Fanshawe to Upham, near Bishop's Waltham; Rev. H. Carey to All Saints', Southampton; Rev. J. Yolland to Timberland, near Sleaford, Lincolnshire. *Vicarage:* The Rev. T. Scard to Durley. *Incumbency:* The Rev. G. H. Newman to Tentonhall, near Yeovil, Somerset.

TESTIMONIAL.—The Rev. Robert Morewood, M.A., Vicar of Burton, Westmoreland, has been recently presented by his congregation with an elegant silver tea-kettle, as a testimonial of their respect and affection, and the high sense they entertain of the exemplary performance of his duties during a period of twelve years.

A SCENE ON THE SERPENTINE.—On Thursday, after the Royal Humane Society's men had finished the duty of the day, music was heard, and a splendid brass band went upon the ice, attended by upwards of a thousand persons, each holding a lighted flambeau. In the course of a few minutes there were stretched upon the ice, immense cole fires were made, barrels of tar and other creature comforts were publicly exposed for sale, which gave the appearance of a great fair. Several hundred gentlemen, with lamps buckled in front of their coats, led the way, apparently for the purpose of examining the ice, surrounded by the torch-bearers, and the band at the same time playing "Cheer, boys, cheer." After passing from the railings to the Kensington-gardens-bridge, the persons turned round, when, almost simultaneously, the whole of the Park became brilliantly illuminated, as hundreds of rockets, serpents, roman-lights, squibs, catherine-wheels, and other descriptions of fireworks were ignited.

INDEPENDENCE OF POLAND.—A public meeting was held in the Town-hall of Birmingham on Wednesday, to consider the question of the restoration of Polish independence. Resolutions in favour of the object of the meeting, and recommending the formation of a Polish Legion for service in the present war, were adopted. Upwards of 4000 persons were present, and much enthusiasm in the Polish cause was manifested.

TRADE AND NAVIGATION RETURNS.—The Trade and Navigation returns just published show that the enumerated articles of British produce exported during the month ending the 5th of January, amounted in value to £6,428,000. The amount for the corresponding month of 1854 was £5,572,000, and for that of 1853, £6,418,414. For the year ending the 5th of January last, our exports of native produce were estimated at £97,062,008, being a falling off of more than a million and three-quarters from the previous year.

MISS NIGHTINGALE.

ALTHOUGH the public have been presented with several portrait-sketches of the lady who has so generously left this country to attend to the sufferings of the sick and wounded at Constantinople, we have assurance that these pictures are "singularly and painfully unlike." We have, therefore, from the most direct means of obtaining a Sketch of this excellent lady, in the dress she now wears, in one of "the corridors of the sick," in the Hospital at Scutari. A recent letter in the *Times* bears the following testimony to the humane services of Miss Nightingale:

Wherever there is disease in its most dangerous form, and the hand of the spoiler distressingly nigh, there is that incomparable woman sure to be seen; her benignant presence is an influence for good comfort even amid the struggles of expiring nature. She is a "ministering angel" without any exaggeration every poor fellow's face softens with gratitude at the sight of her. When all the medical officers have retired for the night, and silence and darkness have settled down upon those miles of prostrate sick, she may be observed alone, with a little lamp in her hand, making her solitary rounds. The popular instinct was not mistaken which, when she set out from England on her mission of mercy, hailed her as a heroine; I trust that she may not earn her title to a higher though sadder appellation. No one who has observed her fragile figure and delicate health can avoid misgivings lest these should fail. With the heart of a true woman, and the manners of a lady, accomplished and refined beyond most of her sex, she combines a surprising promptness of judgment and promptitude and decision of character. I have hesitated to speak of her hitherto as she deserves, because I well knew that no praise of mine could do justice to her merits, while it might have tended to embarrass the frankness with which she has always accepted the aid furnished her through the Fund. As that source of supply is now nearly exhausted, and my mission approaches its close, I can express myself with more freedom on this subject; and I confidently assert, that but for Miss Nightingale the people of England would scarcely, with all their solicitude, have been spared the additional pang of knowing, which they must have done sooner or later, that their soldiers, even in hospital, had found scanty refuge and relief from the unparalleled miseries with which this war has hitherto been attended.

DESTRUCTION OF THE STEAM-SHIP "MAURITIUS."

ONE of the most fearful conflagrations which has ever been known at Southampton occurred at the Docks on Friday morning week, causing the total destruction of the fine steam-ship *Mauritius*, belonging to the General Screw Steam Shipping Company. She was of 1800 tons burden, and 400-horse power, and cost about £100,000. On the return of the *Mauritius* from the Crimea she arrived at Southampton, and had during the last few days been lying in the new graving-dock undergoing some necessary repairs previous to her return to the duties of the transport service. About five o'clock several persons connected with the docks were aroused by the alarm of "Fire!" and Mr. Hedger, superintendent to the Dock Company, and Mr. Levy, together with other officials, were immediately upon the spot, in conjunction with several officers connected with the Royal Mail and Peninsular and Oriental Companies' service, and also a strong body of men, under the charge of the second officer of the United States mail steam-ship *Hermann*, at Southampton, who had been ordered to render

MISS NIGHTINGALE, IN THE HOSPITAL, AT SCUTARI.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

assistance by Capt. Higgins, commander of that vessel. Shortly after the alarm had been made known a strong detachment of Sappers and Miners from the barracks, with their engines, were on the spot; but the fearful rapidity with which the flames extended defeated the hopes of all in the possibility of saving the vessel. No sooner had the fire become visible, than it burst out into one immense mass, almost instantly extending itself over three parts of the vessel. However, every exertion was made by those in attendance, but unfortunately with no beneficial result, for the *Mauritius* now lies in the new graving-dock totally destroyed, and, beyond the iron with which she was built—the whole of which has been twisted into a thousand different shapes—and her bowsprit, jib-boom, and outwater, not a vestige of this once noble ship remains. It is stated, that a considerable quantity of gunpowder remained on board, and this rendered the danger of assistance imminent to many persons who were otherwise willing to have volunteered their services. But had such not been the case, with such rapidity did the flames travel throughout the vessel, that hardly any time was left after the arrival of a sufficient number of persons to save anything of material value. It is fortunate that, although a large quantity of the officers' kit, together with the plate, &c., of the ship, has been totally destroyed, the ship's papers were removed on shore the day before, and thereby saved. For about three hours the fire raged furiously, and a strong breeze springing up from the eastward considerably assisted the progress of the flames. About eight o'clock the mizen and main masts fell over the port side with a tremendous crash, and were shortly afterwards followed by the foremast, the whole forming a tangled and burning heap of spars and cordage. Fortunately, no damage either to the docks or the mass of people assembled occurred. For some considerable time great fear was exhibited in reference to the powder magazine, and many persons left the docks or retired to some distant part

The water had reached a sufficient height to lead many to presume that the portion of the ship containing the ammunition was entirely inundated, and that any danger from the explosion of gunpowder was rendered thereby utterly futile; but about half-past ten o'clock a terrific explosion took place, and large fragments of the burning wreck were scattered in all directions—fortunately, without doing any injury. Some fear existed in consequence of there being several pieces of loose timber and a large quantity of shavings lying on the dock quay, some of which took fire.

A very strong opinion exists among many persons that the fire was more the result of design than accident. This opinion has justly been excited from many circumstances. At the commencement of the week a charge was preferred by the company against several seamen connected with the ship for having broken faith with the company, by the non-fulfilment of the articles they had signed previously to her departure for the Black Sea, by deserting on her arrival at Portsmouth. This, it is presumed, has greatly incensed the men against the company, and we have been told that one of the crew was heard to express his intention of putting the "— ship in flames."

Independently of the severe loss occasioned to the General Screw Company by the destruction of this splendid ship, the inconvenience to the Government will be considerable, as the *Mauritius* was to have been ready in eight or ten days to embark 1200 men for the seat of war in the East. In the present posture of affairs the services of such a ship can ill be spared by the country.

BURNING OF THE "MAURITIUS," AT SOUTHAMPTON.

THE GREAT FIRE AT BANKSIDE, ON FRIDAY NIGHT, FEBRUARY 16, 1855, SKETCHED FROM THE NORTH BANK OF THE THAMES. (See next page.)

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN SOUTHWARK.

On Friday night (last week), between ten and eleven o'clock, a fire, attended with the destruction of property valued at several thousand pounds sterling, and by which Mr. Thomas Jackson, stepson of Mr. Braidwood, superintendent of the London fire-engine establishment, lost his life, occurred in the extensive premises belonging to Messrs. Routledge, the steam saw-mill proprietors, situate in Holland street, Black-friars-road. Adjoining these premises were others considerably larger, belonging to Sir John Rennie, the engineer, and also the bottle-warehouses belonging to Messrs. Rickman. The whole of these premises formed a portion of the Albion-wharf, and they extended to within 100 yards of the edge of the river. The timber-yard of Messrs. Routledge extended from Holland-street almost to the water side, the granaries of Messrs Water and Steel, flour-factors, almost abutting on them, and forming the wharf. In addition to the many hundreds of loads of timber piled in stacks to a considerable height, there were spacious steam saw-mills, engine and boiler house, with workshops and other buildings. The steam mills are understood to have been at work on Friday, and the workpeople assert that when they left off work at eight o'clock at night the place was apparently safe. No one appears to have had charge of it after the doors were locked, and the keys given over to a party in the neighbourhood. Nothing happened to excite alarm until about twenty minutes after ten o'clock, when the wife of one of the labouring men in the employment of Messrs. Water and Steel saw a glimmering light in the timber-yard, soon after which the whole yard appeared to burst into flames. The arrival of the brigade force and other engines was most prompt; but the engineers were unable to get their engines into play for a long time after they were on the spot. The plugs of the water mains were frozen up, and even when thawed the supply of water was so scanty that not a third of the engines present could be put in motion. The large steam floating engine of the brigade was brought up the river, and got into immediate play; but in the meantime the flames had gained the mastery over the whole of the property in the vicinity of the Albion-wharf, including the warehouses and granaries of Messrs. Water and Steel; those of Messrs Rosher and Co., lime-merchants, and their dwelling-house; the warehouses of Messrs. Rickman and Co., bottle-merchants; of Messrs. Radley and Co., and the main building of the extensive engineering works of Sir J. Rennie. For hours after it raged tremendously. In the timber-yard and steam saw-mills of Messrs Routledge huge stacks of timber were burning, and pile after pile of timber, in a thorough state of ignition, kept falling. The first stack which fell buried Mr. Thomas Jackson, who was assisting in extinguishing the flames; and up to two o'clock on Sunday morning, so great was the intensity of the heat, it was impossible to make the least search for the body. It was the largest waterside fire that has occurred in the metropolis for several years. The whole metropolis was vividly illuminated: for some hours St. Paul's and every tower and steeple in London were brought out in brilliant relief; while the appearance of the Thames from far below London-bridge to above Westminster, and the reflection of the flames on the floating ice which covered the surface, added to the remarkable character of the scene. The frost was intense, upwards of 16 deg. below the freezing point. Many of the firemen were actually coated in ice from head to foot, with icicles hanging from their uniform and helmets. At times the engines were "set," in consequence of the severity of the frost, and had to be thawed ere they could be again put into requisition. It was nearly four o'clock in the morning before the fire was arrested. It continued, however, to rage the whole of Saturday, and was still burning on Sunday night—more than forty-eight hours after it broke out, but no further mischief was apprehended. The total loss of property is computed at not less than £150,000.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, FEB. 22

Month and Day.	Corrected Readings of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind	Rain in Inches.
	Inches	°	°	°	°			Inches
Feb. 16	29.927	33.8	18.1	24.9	— 14.0	79	N.E.	0.00
" 17	29.878	33.3	22.0	26.8	— 12.4	80	N.E.	0.00
" 18	30.007	32.3	19.0	20.6	— 12.5	82	E.	0.00
" 19	29.988	34.8	8.0	21.4	— 17.3	74	N.E.	0.00
" 20	29.718	36.0	20.9	27.2	— 12.1	72	N.E.	0.00
" 21	29.484	36.2	20.2	29.0	— 12.3	70	E.	0.00
" 22	29.29	31.9	16.3	25.8	— 14.0	75	—	0.00

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average

The reading of the barometer decreased from 29.93 in. at the beginning of the week, to 29.84 in. by the afternoon of the 16th; increased to 30.01 in. by the 18th; decreased to 29.07 in. by the 20th; and increased to 29.95 in. by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.90 inches.

The weather throughout the week has been as rigorous as in previous weeks. The mean temperature of the week was 24.9°, which is 14.0° below the average. The mean daily temperature was 18.9° below the average on the 18th, and was 17.8° below on the 19th; the least depression was 12.1° below on the 20th.

The reading of the thermometer in air on the 19th, in the morning, was as low as 8°.

There has been no week ending Feb. 22 of so low a temperature on record as that of the past week.

The Thames is now almost entirely unnavigable at Greenwich: at high water the river is completely covered by ice.

Lewisham, Feb. 23, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

Health of London. The births of 903 boys and 912 girls were registered within the metropolitan districts within the week ending Feb. 17. In all 1815 children. The deaths of 741 males, and of 734 females, were registered within the same time: in all 1475 persons—a number exceeding the calculated amount by 280, and which has been caused by the long continuance of severe weather.

Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge. The annual meeting of the Association for Promoting the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge was held on Wednesday night in the large room, Exeter-hall. The apartment was densely crowded, there being about 3000 persons present. The chair was taken at eight o'clock by Mr. Milner Gibson, M.P. Amongst the gentlemen on the platform were Mr. Cobden, M.P., Mr. Bright, M.P., Mr. A. Fuller, M.P., &c. The Chairman, after alluding to what had already been effected by the association, said he had now to congratulate them on the important fact that the Government had agreed to abolish the newspaper stamp. The bill had just been printed and circulated; but, having had an opportunity of seeing the manuscript, he stated what the provisions of the measure were. The bill was introduced by Mr. Gladstone, the Chancellor of the Exchequer—he was afraid he must now say the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, for it was reported that he had resigned his office from difference and dissensions in the Cabinet. The bill proposed, in the first place, to abolish the compulsory stamp altogether, and to repeal the tax on news. It proposed that all printed matter, up to the weight of four ounces, should be capable of being transmitted through the Post-office at a charge of 1d. for each transmission. The bill abolished the security system, and repealed those disgraceful statutes enacted by Lord Castlereagh in times gone by, and known by the name of the Six Acts. These propositions might be considered to be the leading features of the measure, but there were also clauses in the bill of a character which were evidently introduced out of regard to what might be called the vested interests of the established press. It had been contended that the right of retransmission without an additional charge was a privilege highly valued by the established press. The bill offered, in consequence of that claim, to the established press, that if they chose to print a portion of their impression upon stamped paper, that portion of the impression shall be transmitted and retransmitted without any additional charge for a period of seven days. As it was considered that there were some large papers—he believed there was one in that metropolis well known to them all which exceeded four ounces in weight—there was a clause that papers of a certain size of superficial square inches, even though they exceed the weight of four ounces, should have the privilege of retransmission during seven days without any additional charge. That latter provision was to be in operation for a period of ten years. After expressing his opinion that the proposed measure would be a great boon to the people, he went on to say that the association would not be satisfied until the Paper-duty was repealed also. That was the natural result of the repeal of the Newspaper Stamp-duty; and he had great hopes that they would eventually succeed in repealing the remaining tax on knowledge. Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, Dr. Watts, and Mr. George Dawson, afterwards addressed the meeting in favour of resolutions for the abolition of the duty on paper, and expressing satisfaction at the determination of Government to abolish the newspaper stamp.

The Rev. Mr. Chichester, who succeeds to the vast estates of the last Lord O'Neil (valued at £40,000 per annum, and wholly free from incumbrances), is at present incumbent of St. Michin's, one of the poorest parishes in Dublin, and to which he was but recently promoted from the still poorer incumbency of St. Michael's.

CHANGES IN THE WAR EXECUTIVE.

Lord Palmerston, with a not very felicitous illustration of the position of Government in regard to the House of Commons, described the Cabinet as the King Richard who would take the head of the "rebels," if the Wat Tyler were stricken down. He did not precisely apportion the part of Tyler, but the insurgent may be supposed to be represented by Mr. Roebuck's committee. The Sir William Walworth, who is to deal the *coup de grâce*, has, while we write, yet to be discovered, but assuredly the character will not be claimed by Mr. Layard. On the whole, we have heard better historical parallels, and have been a little reminded of Perrault's hint to avoid "comparisons with a long tail." But the "rebels" themselves took no special umbrage; and, as the nomenclature was for them and not for the public, the latter is not called upon for protest.

Proceeding to detail the arrangements by the proffer of which Lord Palmerston proposed to induce the House to forego the Roebuck Committee, he stated that the Government and Parliament had a common object, namely, the effecting such administrative improvements as would restore vigour to our military system. The first step he designed was the reunion of the two divisions of the War Department, recently severed upon the same plea of improved efficiency. The experiment having failed, and two heads not being better than one, the office of Secretary at War, abandoned by Mr. Sidney Herbert, is to be amalgamated with that of the Secretary for War. There is, therefore, one War Minister, Lord Panmure, under whose control the civil branches of the Artillery and Ordnance services are placed. But the military discipline of those services is to be transferred to the Commander-in-Chief—an arrangement so rational and obvious that every one wonders why it had to be made in the middle of a great war. Then came another change, which, had it been made a few years ago, might have worked signal improvement. The scandals of our Transport System are to be borne no longer, and Sir James Graham's successor is charged with the establishment of a special board to organise and superintend the transport service. If this board does but work with the ordinary practical method demanded by a railway company of one of its departments, there is hope that when we obtain some more soldiers, and some more horses, they will be forwarded to their destination with reasonable care and precaution.

The next great scandal, the Commissariat system, of which Lord Palmerston stated that complaints had been made—"not," he was good enough to fear, "without reason"—is to be dealt with by commission. Sir J. M'Neill—from whose long and strong anti-Russian efforts the best auguries are deduced for his zealous action—is to be the head of this Commission. But we do not gather from Lord Palmerston's speech, or from that of Lord Panmure, that Sir J. M'Neil is to be invested with powers of reforming and controlling, but that he is merely to investigate, and to suggest to the Government. Surely, if this be so, the proposal is mere trifling. Sir J. M'Neil is a man to be trusted. Why are not powers conferred upon him which shall enable him not only to recommend, but to make, the improvements for which there is really no time to wait? Then, Lord Palmerston stated that, in order to relieve the Commander-in-Chief from the necessity of attending to details which divert his mind from the larger duties of his situation, a new officer is to be created, to be called the Chief of the Staff. The necessity of this appointment has long been too notorious, and its character is perfectly well understood. Perhaps, in itself, the arrangement has its advantages; and, upon the whole, this mode of dealing with a difficulty which has acquired almost a proverbial importance is as straightforward as could have been expected from friends of the Commander-in-Chief.

Another set of inquirers is to be sent to the Crimea, in order to examine into the sanatory condition of the ships, the hospitals, the barracks, and the Camp generally. This is sensible enough; but what a satire it is upon our system that officials charged with those duties have not for years been permanently attached to the Army, and expected to proceed to work as regularly as any other portion of the service? Well, this is an age of discoveries; and we discover, in 1855, that 50,000 men, thrown into a camp in a strange country, require some sanatory attention. It is almost as gratifying to see that Lord Raglan has ordered up an army of scavengers from Constantinople; and, if the officials at Balaclava will permit the innovation, it is probable that the efforts of these allies will enable the sanatory commissioners to report more favourably than they could have done before the discovery in question. A hospital at Smyrna and improvements in the military hospitals at home are also promised. The "Crown of Ionia" is a delicious place for a convalescent, and even an official could hardly select a bad site for an hospital there. Moreover, there is one of the largest of leech-nurseries within a short distance of the place; a piece of information which we are happy to tender to the authorities it would be too much to suppose it already in their possession.

So much for investigation and reform; there was one other announcement made by Lord Palmerston, namely, that a bill was to be introduced for the enlistment of men more advanced in age than recruits under the present system may be, and also for enlisting them for a shorter term than at present. This, of course, indicates the difficulty of procuring soldiers; and we may remark while upon the subject that Lord Palmerston apprised the House on Monday that the Foreign Enlistment Act had proved inoperative. The reason he assigned was manifestly an insufficient one, namely, that the lower classes on the Continent had felt so insulted by the tone of English newspapers and English senators in reference to mercenaries, that they had refused to sell their swords to so uncivil a nation; but the fact that we are not to have a foreign legion remains the same, and hence an increased necessity for home reinforcement.

In all that Lord Palmerston has proposed there is good, and in some of the propositions immediate and large advantage, and the bargain he offered to the House deserved full consideration. But the people of England are too reasonable not to bear in mind that few or none of these reforms can have any effect upon the present state of affairs in the Crimea. Lord Palmerston has come into office as the popular War Minister, and his name and character are a guarantee against retrogression; but it would be absurd and unjust to expect that Sebastopol should fall one hour the sooner because he is Premier. If it fall it will be despite the old system; and Lord Palmerston will have had nothing to do with the exploit, and if it stand he must not be charged with disappointing the nation's desire. He appears to be going to work in thorough earnest, and deserves all support within and without the House; but these reforms of his may tell upon our next war, assuredly they will produce a scarcely appreciable effect upon the conduct of that we are now waging. Nothing is fairer or more desirable than to know exactly what we have a right to expect from a man, as in that case we are just judges of his merits and shortcomings. It will be no merit of Lord Palmerston if the English flag wave beside that of France on the Cathedral of Sebastopol and on the Star Port, but he will not deserve to lose a jot of his popularity should the state of our army have compelled us—*absit omen*—to relinquish the task to our gallant allies.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Three Irish Peerages being now extinct, Lord Palmerston has the power of conferring one. Mr. Henry Herbert, of Muckruss, is spoken of as likely to be the person selected for the honour.

The Emperor of Austria at the present moment is dedicating his time almost exclusively to the army. The greatest activity prevails in all the departments of the War-office, to which the Emperor gives his personal attention. Francis Joseph has signified his intention to head his army in case of a general European war.

Mr. W. F. Campbell, of Islay, who represented for many years Argyllshire in the House of Commons, and who lately resided in Normandy, died last week.

The King of Prussia has conferred the star of the Red Eagle, second class, with oak leaves, on M. de Hinckeldey, General Police Director of Berlin.

His Excellency Baron Von Usedom, on a mission from the Court of Berlin, and Madame Von Usedom, have arrived in London, after a detention at Brussels arising from the indisposition of his Excellency.

The pay of General Ochsenbein in the French service is to be 20,000 f. a year; and in case of his being killed in battle a pension of 10,000 f. a year is to be ensured to his widow.

Riza Pacha, who is to take part in the approaching conferences at Vienna, landed at Trieste on Thursday week.

The Earl and Countess Delawarr gave a luncheon upon the frozen lake in Buckhurst-park, last week, to a large party of the neighbouring gentry; and afterwards about 150 school children were regaled with a hot dinner on the ice by the liberality of the noble Earl and Countess.

The King of Bavaria has conferred the Grand Cross of the Order of Merit of St. Michael on General Count de Schramm, Senator and President of the Commission of Infantry.

Colonel Chevalier Lanati, the president of the permanent court-martial at Parma, was stabbed on the night of the 11th inst., while returning home, a few steps from his own door. He received five wounds, none of which are mortal.

Sir Moses Montefiore has left Paris for Jerusalem, with the object of founding a hospital in that city. He has obtained funds from the Jews of London and the Jews of Australia.

There is a report in Vienna that the body of the Duke of Reichstadt is to be removed from thence to Paris. A functionary is to be sent from Paris to the Duke.

A monument is about to be erected in the parish church of Mount Shannon to the memory of the late Lord Fitzgibbon, of the 8th Hussars, who fell at the battle of Alma.

The Prefect of the Seine gave a magnificent ball at the Hôtel de Ville on Saturday evening. There were upwards of 6000 guests present, including Queen Christina of Spain and her family, the Ministers, and great public functionaries, &c.

Mr. Hadfield, late Secretary to the South American Liverpool Company, has left London, *viâ* Marseilles, for Constantinople, to take charge there of the fleet of steamers of his company chartered by the Government.

Catherine Hayes is in Calcutta, having sailed thither after great success in California and Australia. She will give a few concerts in our Indian metropolis, where great expectation is raised to hear her, and then return home—having encircled the globe on a singing mission.

In consequence of the great success obtained at Dresden by the "Etoile du Nord," M. Meyerbeer was, on the 9th inst., called to the Royal box, and received the cross of Commander of the Order of Albert.

Amongst the English Catholics who bore tapers before his Holiness at St. Peters on Candlemas-day were Lord Lovat, Sir James Fitzgerald, and Mr. Stourton. Sir James's sister took the veil at the Convent of the Sacre Coeur the same morning.

On Monday evening Mrs. Fanny Kemble gave a reading of Shakspeare's play of "Henry V." in the Town-hall at Oxford, to a large and brilliant assemblage.

Hallé, the eminent pianist, has been compelled to renounce engagements in Manchester and London, owing to an accident, which has injured one of his fingers.

The Earl of Cardigan, having been elected an honorary member of the Senior United Service Club a few days since, was entertained at dinner on Tuesday evening at the Club-house, by a select circle of the leading members.

For three days in the first week in June there will be a grand meeting of chess-players at Leamington, at which Lord Tyrconnel is to act as president. Many matches between players of celebrity and between London and provincial clubs will come off.

Prince Ghika, Hospodar of Moldavia, has been compelled to borrow 2,400,000 piastres, at 10 per cent interest, to make head against the difficulties caused by the Russian occupation. A banker at Vienna lends the money.

Early in the spring a large camp will be formed in the Phœnix-park, Dublin, under the command of Lord Seaton.

A strong shock of an earthquake was felt at Callao on the 6th ult., which, however, did very little damage.

Several valuable beds of excellent coal have recently been discovered on the estates of the Earl of Wilton, at Heaton, near Manchester.

The *New York Churchman* states that, taking the whole United States together, much more money is expended in the single article of cigars than upon all the common schools in the Union.

A schism has occurred among the members of the far-famed Cologne Choral Society, which has on two or three occasions visited England. The unpleasantness, it is said, threatens to break up the society.

The Committee who conducted the Patriotic Fund Ball at Guildhall have published their accounts, which show a balance of £503 9s. in aid of the Fund, after the payment of all expenses.

A letter from Berne says that the English Government has given an order in that town for ten thousand military uniforms.

Since April, 1853, there has been paid to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners the sum of £20,103 1s. 6d. on account of suspended stalls in cathedral and collegiate churches.

An open iron bridge is to be constructed on the Rhine. The site appointed for the bridge lies between the square known as the Frankenplatz, in Cologne, and the present wharf close to the railroad terminus at Deutz. The height of the arches will more than admit of the steamers passing.

A large quantity of wires for the telegraph with the Crimea has been landed at Varna, so that we may now soon expect to have a direct communication established between the seat of war and France and England.

The Pope's bull inaugurating the immaculate conception as a dogma of the Roman Catholic faith was read on Sunday, with all the appliances of ecclesiastical pomp, at St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool.

A fine swan was found on Tuesday week in the Plain of St. Denis, alive, but much exhausted. It had round its neck a silver collar, with an inscription engraved on it, stating that the bird belonged to the domain of Prince Hohenlohe, in Germany.

Between 30,000 and 40,000 tons of guano are said to be now on the way to this country from American shippers.

A fatal collision took place on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway, last week, a pilot-engine having dashed against a passenger train. One person was killed.

The Corporation of Hull have agreed to a resolution authorising the formation of Reformatory Schools, and have appointed a committee to carry out the same.

Twelve thousand cuirasses, intended for the Sappers who are to lead the French assault on Sebastopol, have been forwarded to the Crimea.

In some parts of Ireland the people cannot procure food even for money, in consequence of the roads being blocked up with snow; in some parts as much as from twelve to twenty feet of it lies on the ground.

The following is the copy of a bill posted on the walls of a village in the vicinity of Cupar:—"A lecture on total abstinence will be delivered in the *open air*, and a collection will be made at the *door* to defray the expenses."

A company has undertaken to convey the mails from Calais to Dover, and from Dover to Calais, every day for fifteen years, commencing on the first of next month, for 190,000f. a year.

The *Perseverance*, iron screw troop-ship, which turned over in the East India Docks at Woolwich, on Saturday, Jan. 20, was raised to nearly a perpendicular position on Saturday last.

In Tuscany seventy Mazzinists have been apprehended. In the Pontifical States several political arrests have likewise been made.

Khosrew Pacha, who died on the 2nd inst., was the oldest servant of the Turkish empire. He had served under five Sultans, and had filled in succession all the first posts in the State. He was very vain of having been born in the same year as Napoleon the Great, Chateaubriand, the Duke of Wellington, Marshal Soult, Mehemet Ali, and other remarkable men.

Upwards of 200 joiners are out on strike in Glasgow this week; the difference arising from an alteration in the number of daily hours of work.

THE PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE distribution of space will hardly please English exhibitors. England has not the place of honour: this prominence is given to the United States. On entering the building by the grand entrance the visitor at once advances into the American part of the Exhibition; to the right is that devoted to Great Britain; opposite Great Britain lies the French space, with the Great Hall between. In the Fine Art department discontent is certain to be felt, and, I fear, justly felt. Certain masters who pretend to the leadership of modern art have already made extravagant demands. The dignity of some of these gentlemen requires a distinct and separate room. Against such demands the humbler artists clamour loudly, and bewail the degenerate days of art, handed over to the tyranny of men high in place. Wonderful are the contrasts drawn between the number of pictures inscribed and the number admissible within the limited space. Still all the young artists of Paris are at work vigorously: models never had a more prosperous time, I should think. Yet even the excitement among artists is not equalled by that which reigns in the restaurants and hotels. Already the Dîner de l'Exposition is open for the suppers of the opera-maskers; already the Palais de l'Industrie is open upon the Boulevards, in the shape of a conspicuous tailoring establishment. All commercial enterprises point to the 1st of May next. People of a prudent turn have been lately trying to engage apartments beforehand; but they have found lodging-house keepers most extravagant in their ideas, and generally disinclined to pledge themselves. A shower of gold is to fall upon the Parisian capital during the approaching summer. Meanwhile it cannot be said that the Imperial Commissioners are very active. To endeavour to obtain information from them is a Quixotic expedition which people will rapidly abandon. In the building itself there appears to be no representative of the authorities at all. There is the old *concierge* still in his little sentry-box, and there are the little, low offices of the Company; but there is no appearance of business about the place; and the Commissioners meet—or ought to meet—in their offices near the Invalides! Let the earnest inquirer, who is not satisfied with the information he may obtain in the Exhibition building, direct his energetic steps towards the Rue Grenelle St. Germain; and the end of his journey will probably be complete disappointment. The Secretary will be absent, and, in his absence, Monsieur will perhaps have the kindness to call again. People will be seen to enter the office; wait half an hour; gossip with the *parons de bureau*; and, finally, give up all idea of meeting the gentleman who alone can satisfy their inquiries. While I was waiting, on one occasion, with two or three impatient people, an official amused our circle with an account of a workman from the *banlieue*, who had been to the office with a saucepan. He had neither applied for space nor passed through committees; but, having just heard that an Exhibition would be held, had started off with his newly-invented saucepan, as his contribution. His simplicity amused the officials exceedingly. It must have appeared almost madness to gentlemen accustomed to arrive at a result after having made their way through the mazes of infinite *bureaux*; but it is not clear that the workman had not a very sound idea of the manner in which public business might be managed. At any rate, the indirect ways by which the employés of a public department arrive at the simplest result are as notorious as they are detrimental to the vigorous conduct of business.

Paragraphs are beginning to promise the early arrival of goods from all parts of the world. I am certain that it will be in the interests of all foreign exhibitors to ensure the proper treatment of their goods by the appointment of watchful guardians over them. Unless some vigorous head be set to work here without loss of time, I am persuaded that the arrival of contributions will be marked by the utmost disorder. The scene that will take place, on the 15th of next month, at the doors of the art-galleries will be beyond all anticipation. There is hardly an artist in Paris who will not leave his paintings in his *atelier* until the 15th proximo, that he may have the opportunity of finally touching them. Imagine some thousands of excited artists, making a procession of cabs, loaded with pictures, across the Place de la Concorde! Some, however, must have caravans! There is the excited gentleman, for instance, who is engaged upon the colossal representation of the battle of Alma; and there are others equally great in the extent of surface they cover. It is believed that this Exhibition will do English art great good, raising it in the esteem of Continental nations. Our landscape paintings, particularly, will surprise the French, who are only now beginning to rival us in this department of art. The coast-scenes of Jeanron, with their wonderful atmospherical effects, and the charms of Rosa Bonheur's pencil, tend at the present moment to free French art from the classic fetters in which its Academy has endeavoured to array it. In a department which is rather scientific than artistic, but which requires for its perfect application the artist's eye and power—I allude to photography—the French will exhibit, I believe some wonderful productions. Of these, the Louvre photographs by Dolfus will be perhaps the most remarkable specimens.

There are vague reports about also of wonderful inventions to be included in the Exhibition Catalogue, but it would be dangerous to rely upon the unsupported promises of enthusiasts. I may, however, remark that the Company, in whose hands the Palace of Industry will remain, have aroused the hostility of the Parisian tradesmen, by assuming a right to sell the exclusive power of publishing drawings of their building. This right is about to be disputed by some eminent tradesmen, in consequence of prosecutions instituted by the Company. The importance of the question involved can hardly be overrated. If the right claimed by the Company be allowed, there is an end to illustration in France. No artist could make a drawing of a street without having obtained the permission of every proprietor owning property in the said street; views of Paris would become the property of the municipal authorities; and the artist's hand might be paralysed by the heavy claims of avaricious men upon its fruit. The question involved in the claim therefore justifies Susse and others in combining to bring it to a final issue. Should the legal verdict favour the Committee, the Imperial Government will, probably, in the obvious interest of art, rescind any statute which enables commercial men to oppress the painter. I may add here that, not frightened by the combination of Susse and others, the Company have lately announced that they have appointed their photographers. Seeing this spirit in the administration of an organisation specially designed to foster art and industry, foreigners will be wary in their approaches. They will be surprised and disappointed, moreover, to find such a spirit existing in the midst of a nation so generous as the French in all matters relating to art, science, or literature.

In my next communication, I shall fully describe the condition of the Exhibition building; and give the relative quantity of space allotted to each competing nation. W. B. J.

NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY.—At the fifth annual meeting of the members of the National Freehold Land Society, held at the London Tavern last week, it was reported that the receipts during the past year amounted to £311,707 1s. 6d.—an income considerably larger than that of any former year, and more by £20,000 than was received during the first three years of the society's existence. There were 21,888 shares taken up during the year, and the sales of land amount to £56,193 11s. 7d.

ILLUSTRATIONS FROM THE HISTORY OF THE MAID OF ORLEANS. (Dean and Son, Ludgate-hill.)—This is a series of *tableaux* from the wonderful story of "Joan of Arc," designed and etched by Miss Cecelia Maccoral, a daughter of Colonel Maccoral, well known in the world of invention and letters. The illustrations are twelve in number, ranging from the childhood of the Maid of Orleans to her death upon the pyre. The composition of the several groups is surprising for the age of the artist—we are assured not exceeding fourteen years. Altogether, this is a most interesting indication of early performance, as well as promise, in illustrative art.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. GROVE, Birmingham.—The title of the *brochure* with which you have favoured us is a misnomer. Instead of "Chess Made Easy," it would be more appropriate to call it "Chess Made Difficult," for he must indeed be a bonny boy or lass who could work the game from the meagre yet confused description of Mr "Lord." As a sample of the author's mode of rendering Chess "easy," we give his concluding remarks on the Pawns:—"When advanced across the board into any of the squares occupied at the commencement of the game by the enemy's King or Queen, or their Castles, Knights, and Bishops, they (the Pawns) may be replaced *by any of the Pieces previously lost*—which is called Queening."

EWANFIELD.—In the position you give, where the white have pieces and Pawns the first move low does not apply. Black may win as he can, and having two pieces superiority he ought to do it easily.

VOX H. DE L.—Many thanks. Our letters crossed.

J. A. M.—We will think of it, for the next indeed he is known very well.

J. Stonehouse, R. B., M. F. of C., F. T. Barry. They shall be examined.

R. B., Bennington. No one of the works mentioned has been translated into English, except a portion of "Cubit's Elementary Lessons."

ANDY.—They are neat, but very defective in point and strategy.

Mr. F. L., Bedlington.—You may procure the Rules for Double Chess at Leuchars's in Piccadilly.

LEGIOS.—We have no doubt the proposed revision of the Laws of Chess will form a prominent topic of conversation at the forthcoming meeting at Leamington.

ONE OF THE ALLIES.—The proposed match by telegraph between Paris and London was unavoidably postponed, the Telegraph Company being unable to spare the means of communication.

F. H.—They shall be submitted to the authors of the Encyclopædia in question.

DELTA, Durham.—We shall be glad to hear something more of the Durham University Chess-club.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 573, by Ellen, Tarleton, Omicron, R. B., W. G., D. D., T. J., of Hanworth; J. Stonehouse; K. Lambert, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 574, by T. J., Sigma, L. L. D., Rugby-boy, J. A. M., W. G., Fersaldo, F. R. S., Medicus, T. W. P., Omega; M. F., of G.; E. H., Norwich; J. Stonehouse, Deerwen, F. R., of Norwich, J. P. M., A. J., True Blue, Ernest, Nevile, L. L. D., B. A., Cambridge, Alex. Pedagogue, Derwent, Adnifer, S. S. L., Spectator, Harvold Odin Beddan, Strickland, Mrs Pulleczky, L. M., W. C. C., Zeta, are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 574

WHITE.	BLACK.
1 R takes Kt	What he will.
2. R to Q 8th	
3 B mates.	

PROBLEM No. 575.

By Mr. J. G. C.

BLACK.

WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

A CHESS MANUSCRIPT.

(Continued from page 156.)

"In the sixteenth century they often played an opening still doubtless well known, but now neglected, and of which the name is even forgotten—I allude to the Giuoco *Pegatello*. The *solfatta* of this game consisted of the sacrifice of the K Kt, which they first played to his 5th, and then took the adverse K B Pawn. The King, after taking this Kt, found himself, after some moves, in a dangerous position. This opening may be found in Greco, but without the many ingenious variations which occur in the present MS. I take at hazard the following from among the many examples which the MS. contains. It will be seen that the chief variation is in the way Black plays his Q Kt at the 8th move. The old Italian and Spanish players, instead of retreating it to the King's 2nd sq, frequently marched it to his 5th, and endeavoured to establish a counter-attack.

(Pegatello da G.ov. Domenico.)*

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P to K 4th	P to K 4th	8 Q Kt to Q B 3rd	Q Kt to his 5th, menacing the double check of King and Rook
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	9. P to Q R 3rd	Kt takes Q B P (ch)
3 K B to Q B 4th	K Kt to K B 3rd	10 K to his B sq	Kt takes R
4. Kt to K Kt 5th	P to Q 4th	11. B takes Kt (ch)	K to Q 3rd
5 P takes P	K Kt takes P (a)	12. Kt to K 4th (ch)	K takes B
6. Kt takes K B P	K takes Kt	13. Q to her 3rd (ch)	
7. Q to K B 3rd (ch)	K to his 3rd		

White wins the Queen.

At the eleventh move Black may move his King to his 2nd or to Q 2nd. If the first, White plays Q to K B 7th (ch), and mates next move with the Kt. If the 2nd White checks with his Queen at K B 5th and wins in a few moves.

(Notes by the Editor.)

(a) The favourite defence now is—

6.	Q Kt to Q R 4th	5	Or.
6. B to Q Kt 5th (ch)	Q B to Q 2nd	6. B to Q Kt 5th (ch)	Q Kt to Q R 4th
7. Q to K 2nd	K B to Q 3rd	7. P takes P	P to Q B 3rd
&c., &c.		8. Q to K B 3rd	P takes P
			Q to K 2nd
			&c., &c.

(Another Pegatello of Guilio Cesare Polerio.)

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1 P to K 4th	P to K 4th	12. Castles (on Q's side)	K R to K B sq
2 K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	13 Q to K 4th	K R tks K P(b)
3 K B to Q B 4th	K Kt to K B 3rd	14 P takes K P	K B checks
4 Kt to K Kt 5th	P to Q 4th	15 K to Q Kt sq	K R to Q 7th
5 P takes P	K Kt takes P	16 P to Q Kt sq	K takes R (ch)
6. Kt takes K B P	K takes Kt	17. K takes R	B takes K P
7. Q to K B 3rd (ch)	K to his 3rd	18 Kt takes K P	P takes Kt
8 Q Kt to Q B 3rd	Q Kt to K 2nd	19 R takes P	Q to K Kt 4th
9. P to Q 4th	P to Q B 3rd (a)	20. R to Q 6th (double ch)	K to his 2nd
10. Q B to K Kt 5th	P to K R 3rd	21. R to K Kt 6th	
11. Q B takes Kt	K B takes B		

White must win.

Notes by the Editor

(a) In a note to this move, in the French magazine, it is observed that Black should now have played P to K R 3rd, and that his not playing so is the fault of the *partie*. In Chess, as in greater things, doctors differ. The author of the English "Handbook" seems to think the one move as good or as bad as the other; and presents the following "variation," as the result of P to K R 3rd:—

9.	P to K R 3rd	13. B takes Kt	Kt takes B
10. Castles	P to Q B 3rd	14 Kt takes Kt	P takes Kt
11 K R to K sq	P to K Kt 4th	15. R takes P (ch)	B to Q 3rd
12. R takes P (ch)	K to Q 3rd (best)	16 P to Q B 4th	

He dismisses the game at this point as in White's favour. But in the German "Handbook," which gives the same variation, Black is now said to have the advantage. We certainly should take White's advice for choice. He has three pawns for his piece; and his adversary will find it extremely difficult to escape from his present exigency without further loss.

(b) Q to her 3rd, though laudable and to save the game, is better play than taking the Pawn.

"Unfortunately, I have neither sufficient skill nor patience to select judiciously from the games contained in the MS. I hope, however, that those I have cited may possess sufficient interest to induce our leading players to analyse and modify this opening.

"For the sake of variety I shall now give an End-Game, which is taken from the last division, and forms, I think, a very neat and instructive Problem:—

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
K at his 4th	K at his 8th	R at K B 2nd	P at K B 6th

White is to Mate *without taking the Pawn*; for, in former times, a player was not allowed to deprive the adverse King of every man, and in the present case this interdiction augments the difficulty considerably, because the Pawn is near 'Queening.' White has the first move."

* This is the opening known by us as the "Two Knights' Game."—EDITOR

† *The word* PEGATELLO, *though it presents an image somewhat vulgar, is not wanting in vigour and appropriateness. It signifies literally a piece of liver enveloped in a greasy skin; and the Italian poets have employed the expression figuratively, as applicable to a warrior surrounded by his enemies.*

THE COURT.

The Queen and the Prince Consort, with the Royal children, continue the enjoyment of excellent health. Her Majesty has given dinner parties thrice during the week, and on several occasions, taking advantage of the severity of the weather, has enjoyed driving exercise in a sledge.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Alice, the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated.

On Monday the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Princess Alice, drove out in a sledge. Lord Alfred Paget, with the Maids of Honour, followed in a second sledge. The Prince Consort, in the course of the day, visited the Wellington Barracks, for the purpose of seeing some of the wounded men of the Grenadier Guards (of which regiment his Royal Highness is Colonel) lately returned from the Crimea. In the evening the Queen had a dinner party, the company at which included his Serene Highness Prince Nicholas of Nassau, the Portuguese Minister (the Count de Lavradio), Earl Grey, Viscount and Viscountess Canning, Lord and Lady Westchouse, and Lord Seaton.

On Tuesday Prince Albert presided at a meeting of the Council for the Management of the Duchy of Cornwall, held at the office in St. James's-square. In the evening the Queen and his Royal Highness honoured the Olympic Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday the Queen and the Prince drove out in a sledge. The Princess Royal, Prince Arthur, with the Hon. Mary Seymour and the Equerry in Waiting, were out in a second sledge during the afternoon. In the evening the Royal dinner party included Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston, Lord Panmure, Lady Alfred Paget, Lady Elizabeth De Ros, and the Right Hon. the Speaker.

A party of invalids, twenty six in number, of the Coldstream Regiment of Guards, wounded at Alma, Inkerman, and during the siege operations before Sebastopol were inspected by the Queen on Thursday afternoon, in Buckingham Palace. The Queen was accompanied by the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, and also by the elder Princes of the Royal Family. The Princesses, with the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, also witnessed the inspection. The men were afterwards provided with an excellent dinner at the Palace, and then conveyed back to the hospital highly gratified at the interest evinced by her Majesty. His Royal Highness Prince Albert skated in the garden of Buckingham Palace during the day, attended by the Gentlemen in Waiting. In the evening her Majesty and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Princess Royal and Prince Alfred, honoured the Haymarket Theatre with their presence.

Last evening (Friday) the Queen gave a grand dinner to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, General Sir De Lacy Evans, the Earl of Cardigan, and a distinguished party.

The Countess Colloredo had an afternoon reception at Chandos-house on Thursday.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

ALTHOUGH some of the more sanguine of the sporting world try to persuade themselves that the frost is beginning to "give" a little, the skaters and the skeighers quite expect that their delicious carnival will last for another week. Her Majesty has been foremost in the ranks of the latter, and her three sleighs, with their grey ponies, cause no small interest as they slip merrily on their tinkling way through the Parks and down the quiet cross roads between Fulham and Kensington.

In Lincolnshire, perhaps, more than any other county, skating is entered into with real enthusiasm. The combatants in the great matches are drawn against each other, grey hound fashion; and such is the excitement among them, that, even with a thermometer ten degrees below freezing-point, very little raiment is left on the last few couples as they near the goal. The sight is so unique and exhilarating on a great prize day, that, if the Londoners had the slightest idea of it, a Great Northern train, running special to the scene of action, would never lack a freight.

While hound and horn have been silent the gunners have had no small amount of sport. A bittern has fallen before one of them; and an eagle, measuring eight feet from tip to tip of his wings, before another. The latter was a "prize bird" in more senses than one, as he had been seen in the neighbourhood of Balcombe, Sussex, for some weeks, and hodad such dire evils to the lambs that a spirited prize was set on his head. The Solent is said to be alive with wild-fowl; and a flock of at least 5000 wild geese were observed by the men of Kent "sailing with supreme dominion through the azure fields of air," far out of the reach of any minié.

The steeplechase and race-meeting fixtures for the ensuing week are so huddled together that it is almost hopeless to reduce them to anything like order. Wolverhampton and Carisarthen Hunt claim Monday, and Bishop Stortford Tuesday. The Grand National at Liverpool, with four flat races to boot, stands for Wednesday; and, we believe, Lincoln Meeting for Thursday and Friday. Westbury and Derby are not yet refixed, to our knowledge. Harrow is fixed for Friday; and Oundle for Friday and Saturday. The Croix de Berny Steeplechase has thirty-four nominations, among whom are British Yeoman, Miss Moubray, and Peter Simple; and thirty-three have accepted in the Doncaster cup.

Of Coursing we must also speak with the same uncertainty. The Southern (Cork) and Southminster are at present on the cards for Tuesday; The Waterloo, for Tuesday and Thursday; Hordley (Salop), for Thursday; Huggate, for Friday; and the Border Meeting, for Friday and Saturday. The Newmarket Champion was originally adjourned till Monday and the following days.

SALVATOR ROSA.

SALVATOR ROSA was a man of original and versatile genius—painter, musician, poet, and humorist, he carved out his own road to eminence, and has left behind him a name entitled to classic fame. He was the son of a surveyor residing near Naples, and was originally intended for the law; but, showing a fixed bent for the Arts, was suffered to adopt them as a profession.

Salvator had a versatile pencil—painting History, Genre, Landscape, and Portrait, in turn. History was his ambition, but in Landscape and Portraiture lay his chief strength. Not that he was unsuccessful in the higher walks, in which the large picture in the Church Della Morte, at Viterbo, and that of "The Conspiracy of Catiline" are fair examples. In the latter he displays considerable dramatic effect, "with figures taken immediately from the excitable Neapolitan life, dressed in old Roman costume," and his expression is strikingly remarkable. His portraits are highly characteristic, and his landscapes are entirely his own—except in rare instances after his visit to Florence, where he appears, slightly however, to betray the influence of Claude. Where he was most at home was in the wild mountain pass, the bold sea-coast, the forest's inmost gloom, and the lonely, inhospitable defile; the suggestive terrors of which he heightened by the introduction of representations of robber life, and battles, with strange groupings of brigands, ferocious-looking soldiers, and now and then a hermit. Salvator is said in early life to have spent some time amongst the brigands of Calabria; and hence his predilection for these subjects. The truthfulness of their conception, and the vigour of treatment thrown into them, are unmistakable, and not easily to be rivalled. The artist's colouring, also, though sometimes purposely cold, is never monotonous nor inharmonious; his skies are remarkable for aerial truth.

Fuseli, in his lectures, is very hard upon Salvator; harder, we think, than the truth warranted. But Fuseli could not understand nor tolerate anything out of the Grand Michaelangeolesque line; and Salvator was of the *naturalisti* class; and moreover, in his satires he had the audacity to criticise "the nudities of Michael Angelo and the anachronisms of Raphael." Whatever may be said of the contrast between "the classic regularity of Poussin," and the "wildness of Salvator," and wherever we might be inclined to give our preference, Fuseli's onslaught against the Neapolitan artist, in his own studio, is a little too strong:

Terrific and grand in his conception of inanimate nature, he was reduced to attempt of him who delineated the human form, his inability of exhibiting her impassioned, or in the dignity of character; his line is vulgar; his magic visions, less founded on principles of terror than on mythologic trash and caprice, are to the probable combinations of nature what the paroxysms of a fever are to the flights of a vigorous fancy. Though so much extolled, and so assiduously imitated, his bandits are a medley made up of starveling models, shreds and bits of armour from his lumber-room, brushed into notice by a daring pencil.

Fuseli, we think, should have been the last man to talk of the paroxysms of a feverish imagination, "brushed into notice by a daring pencil"—but let that pass. Though not an artist of the highest walk, Salvator Rosa was an original artist of undoubted power, and will always command attention and admiration.

The picture which we engrave is one of two very admirable specimens in the Bridgewater Gallery. It is of small dimensions, 3 ft. 6 in. wide, by 3 ft. high, and remarkable as being one of the most highly-finished and brilliantly-painted works of the artist. It was purchased by the late Duke of Bridgewater from the Prasin Collection,

F I N E A R T S.

"A LANDSCAPE."—BY SALVATOR ROSA.—IN THE BRIDGEWATER GALLERY.

where it was known under the name "Les Augures," or the "Soothsayers." The scene is on the bold rocky coast in Calabria, a small arm of the sea stretching across the picture; in the middle distance is a small fishing town, where a group of men are seen busily employed tarring a boat. Another group of spirited figures, two of whom have the bearing of men in authority, enriches the foreground

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

(THIRD NOTICE.)

Among the contributors to the Institution whose pictures are hung not altogether according to the real merits of the works they have sent, we would mention Mr. F. Underhill, the painter of two pictures called "Free Sittings," and "The Wheatsheaf." The former is of that class of composition which has grown somewhat into fashion of late among painters, the latter (engraved in our present Number) has long been a favourite subject with them, and will continue to be so long as Nature is looked to with a reverential eye by students anxious to transfer her beauties to their canvas.

If we turn over the Catalogues of our Exhibitions of Pictures from the first London Exhibition to the present time—a period now nearly approaching to a century—we shall see how fruitful a subject the wheatsheaf has been to English artists. We could reckon up some sixty pictures on the subject of Boaz and Ruth; and a still greater number on the subject of Palemon and Lavinia; but none that we can call to mind that have taken a place among the best engravings, or among pictures of known reputation. Nor is Mr. Underhill's "Wheatsheaf," with its many merits, likely to take rank among pictures destined to live. He has not been ambitious. He has sought to render a frequent incident in English autumnal life, and has given us a wheat-field peopled with children, gracefully playing among its newly-cut corn. We are not altogether pleased with the colouring which Mr Underhill has adopted, but he has, at any rate, given us a picture which few will look on without pleasure.

Mr. G. Smith who contributes two small pictures of merit, and, better still, of promise—is a young artist of whom we wish to speak well. Mr. Sheepshanks, the great collector, was, it is said, the first person attracted by his merits, and the first, we believe, who gave him a commission. Mr Sheepshanks has evidently advised him to give his nights and days to the study of Mulready; and Mr. Smith has followed his patron's advice with so much fidelity that we can trace Mulready's care and finish, and some of his peculiarities, in the two pictures he has sent to the British Institution. Having caught many of the characteristic excellences of one great painter, Mr. Smith will now, we hope, desert his first love and take on with a new. We would recommend the early works of Wilkie to his attention, as a change for the better—above all, we would suggest the careful study of Teniers as a part of an artist's education which Mr. Smith would do wrong to neglect Wilkie painted whenever he could with a Teniers by his side, and caught inspiration from the crisp touches and pearly tints of the illustrious Dutchman. Mr. Smith, in imitation of Webster, Goodall, and others, is too apt to smooth over his flesh, and to be content with an appearance of enamel; Teniers, in his best pictures, leaves the sharp but harmonious touches of a master's brush.

THE WHEATSHEAF."—PAINTED BY F. UNDERHILL.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

SIR SAMUEL BIGNOLD, M.P. FOR NORWICH.—FROM A DUST BY G. G. ADAMS.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Every interval between Session and Session sees changes in the representation of the kind to furnish fresh occupation to the indefatigable Mr. Dod. Out of nearly 700 members of the House of Commons, death and the ordinary chances of human life take annual tribute. At the present epoch, when so many of the flower of our aristocracy are in active service, and when the benches of either House of Parliament are shadowed with the sorrow of those who have lost relatives in battle, it was to be expected that the vacancies would be more numerous, and that there would be a more than ordinary substitution of new for old members. Nor is the list of new elections complete even while we write; so that we profess only to give a notice (and that a very brief one) of some of the gentlemen who have been returned to Parliament since the close of the last Session of Parliament.

The most important of these, whether as regards the constituency represented, or the personal merit of the representative, is Lord Ebrington; of whom we have so recently given a memoir that it is unnecessary to repeat here the incidents of his life.

An honourable gentleman, who will figure on the list of "useful" members, is Sir Samuel Bignold, the newly-elected member for Norwich. A native of that city, where the greater part of his life has been spent, he has acquired the respect, the confidence, and even the affection of his fellow citizens, in spite of the strong political feelings by which they are agitated. Sir Samuel Bignold was born in 1791, third and youngest son of Thomas Bignold, Esq., founder of two of the largest and most prosperous insurance-offices in the country. Sir Samuel succeeded his father in his appointments, and has presided over the Fire-office since the year 1814, and over the Life-office since 1818. The former society now ensures upwards of 63 millions of property, and the latter between 5 and 6 millions on lives. Sir Samuel is likewise an active supporter of most of the public institutions in the eastern district of the kingdom. He is also an active member of the Corporation; having served the office of Sheriff in 1830, and of Mayor in 1833, 1843, and 1853. Sir Samuel received the honour of knighthood on the occasion of presenting an address to her Majesty on the 3rd of May, 1853, on the subject of the Russian War. When the exigencies of the British army in the Crimea led the Government to effect the railway contract with Mr. Peto, which obliged that gentleman to resign his seat, Sir Samuel Bignold was put forward as a candidate likely to unite the sentiments of the moderate Liberals with those of the Conservatives. He is himself a Conservative, but of a very moderate and Liberal cast; and he is a general favourite with his fellow-citizens, from the probity of his conduct and the amenity of his manners. His competitor had not a chance. His long experience as a man of affairs, and the clear good sense by which he is characterised, will give him much weight in the House as a practical man on practical questions. The accompanying Portrait is from a bust by Mr G. G. Adams, of Sloane-street.

Mr. John Henry Gurney, the new member for King's Lynn, is also a Norwich man, where he is a banker. He married the daughter of Richard Hanbury Gurney, of Thickthorn, who was for so many years member for Norwich. He is a magistrate for the city and county, and exactly one of those men who, under a healthy operation of the representative system, would be elected for the locality in which they are known, to the exclusion of mere strangers, speculating upon political excitement and the lower order of electioneering arts. It is creditable to these two Norfolk towns—Norwich and King's Lynn—that they should have selected such men as Mr Gurney and Sir Samuel Bignold.* Mr. Gurney is the son of the late Joseph John Gurney, of Earlham Hall, Norwich, by a daughter of John Birkbeck, Esq., of King's Lynn. He is a Liberal, of the moderate school; favourable to Parliamentary Reform, but not to the Ballot; opposed to Maynooth, but ready to admit the Jews to Parliament: he also objects to unnecessary Government interference with the education of the people. Mr Gurney was born in 1819.

MR. J. H. GURNEY, M.P. FOR KING'S LYNN.

CURIOSITIES FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE LATE MR. T. WINDUS, F.S.A.

THE WINDUS COLLECTION.

Such of our readers as are familiar with the pleasant suburban locality of Stamford-hill may recollect that on the east side is a building in the Tudor style. Mr. Paterson, "the Murray" of other days, records the edifice as "Gothic Hall"—a designation sufficiently exact for popular identification among the villas of Stamford-hill. This building was the Museum of the late Mr. Thomas Windus, one of the oldest Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries; and here he assembled a large collection of "Curiosities," principally of Mediæval art; which, in consequence of the recent death of the proprietor, are to be dispersed by auction next week, by Messrs. Christie and Manson, the sale commencing on the 27th inst.

As the Collection comprised several articles of historic interest, and may hereafter be lost sight of, we have illustrated a few specimens. It is very rich in rare gems, intaglios, fine ivory and other carvings, bronzes, chasings, extremely rare illuminated missals (among which is the celebrated Blandford Missal), coins and medals. Etruscan pottery, and other miscellaneous antiquities. There are also some fine drawings by old masters.

Foremost in the Collection, as well as in the group of objects we have engraved, stands the renowned Shakspearean relic of the Boar's Head. It is carved in boxwood, and set in a frame formed of two tusks, mounted in silver. An inscription is pricked at the back, which reads thus: "Wm. Broke: Landlord of the Bore's Hedde Estchepe A.D. 1566." This interesting work was found in removing a mound in Whitechapel formed from the rubbish of the Great Fire.

Next in point of rarity and value must be ranked the very celebrated bust of Augustus, sculptured by Dioscorides, the head and neck of which are formed of one magnificent opal; the drapery of silver, beautifully chased; the Imperial toga, fastened with a head of Jupiter, of emerald sculptured in cameo. This has been generally considered one of the finest and most unique gems in Europe, and originally came from the Jennings Collection. A representation of it will be found in our Engraving. The small Ring in our Illustration is set with an extremely fine Greek cameo of a head of Aspasia, as Minerva, in a helmet ornamented with masks of Pericles, Socrates, and Alcibiades, onyx of four strata. The other ring represented is a massive Papal one of brass gilt, chased with the arms of Pope Pius II., of the Piccolomini family, with Papal tiara, set with a large white topaz, and the emblems of the Evangelists.

REVERSE OF THE SHAKSPEAREAN "BORE'S HEAD" RELIC.

In the centre of the Group is a very beautiful oval Ivory Casket, carved in high relief, with a frieze of Tritons and Sea Nymphs, and surmounted with a Cupid on a Dolphin, the whole mounted and lined with silver gilt. It was presented to Lord Hawke, on his victory in 1759, and purchased at the sale of his effects. There is also an extremely fine carved Ivory Tankard, of extraordinary size, by Fiamingo, which our space would not allow us to engrave.

In the background of our Engraving will be seen a fine Ivory Tankard carved with a combat of marine deities, &c., and on the bottom of which is engraved the arms of Matthias Corvinus, King of Hungary, anno 1460. There is also represented a highly-interesting relic, consisting of an oval box made from the wood of the Boscobel oak, with a chasing of Charles in the Oak on the lid, and an inscription round the sides. It is mounted and lined with silver.

Turkish Patriotism.—The example of our ladies at home has borne fruit in the harems of Pera and Stamboul. The prison hours of these sacred recesses are plying every nerve and needle in making up *kharkas* (warm jackets) for the Turkish troops in the Crimea. Patriotism has all at once become fashionable and rose-water dynasties, who never before knew severer toil than the thrumming of a guitar or the patting of a pacha's cheek, are now working "over-time" at all the drudgeries of slop-work. A public subscription, also on the model of our English one, though of course comparatively trifling in the amount of its proceeds, has procured the funds for the purchase of the materials which are being thus rapidly made up by the paris of the capital, and in a short time the soldiers of the Sultan will be fortified against the Crimean climate as well as the best of their infidel fellow warriors. After this, who will say that there is not hope of the Turks—when the influence of Western example penetrates within even the jealously-guarded and conservative recesses of the harem, and bears fruit in such praiseworthy and womanly results?—*Letter from Constantinople, Feb. 1.*

MUSIC.

Mr. Ella has begun his admirable chamber concerts, which he calls "Musical Winter Evenings." The first took place at Willis's Rooms on Thursday week, and (notwithstanding the severe weather) attracted a very fashionable and musical audience, who enjoyed one of the most classical and refined entertainments that can be imagined. The programme included Mozart's quartet in B flat; a new quintet by Fauer, for the pianoforte and wind instruments; Mendelssohn's quartet in E flat; and Stephen Heller's "Pensées Fugitives," for the piano and violin. The performers were, first and second violins, Ernst and Goffrie, viola, Hill; violoncello, Piatti; oboe, Barret; clarinet, Lazarus; bassoon, Snelling; and pianoforte, Fauer. The new quintet by the eminent pianist was admirably played by himself and the above named wind-instrument performers, and did great honour to his talents as a composer.

Our young countrywoman, Miss Arabella Goddard, is making quite a "triumphal progress" throughout Germany. She has already appeared in most of the principal cities of that musical land, and everywhere she has received with (if possible) even greater favour than in England; the highest musical celebrities joining in the general enthusiasm. Two young Englishwomen, too, are gaining distinction as vocalists in Italy. They are sisters, named Alexander, and are singing under the names of Signora Adele, and Signora Enrichetta Alessandri. At Padua in particular, where the public is exceedingly critical, they have achieved immense success; and have also gathered laurels at Milan, Turin, and other places in the north of Italy. One sister is a soprano, the other a contralto.

Mr. Allcroft, as is his wont, availing himself of the closing of the theatres on Ash-Wednesday, gave his annual "monster concert" on that evening at the Lyceum. It was of the usual dimensions, consisting of an immense melange, sung and played by a host of performers. There was no novelty of any interest—there never is on such occasions. Mr. John Reeves (who was the great object of attraction), Madame Anna Thillon, Miss Rebecca Isaacs, Madame F. Lablache, Miss Poole, Miss Stabbach, and other vocalists, sang their most favourite and popular songs and ballads; and sides equally well known were played by Ernst, Lazarus, Richardson, the Distins, and other eminent instrumentalists. The theatre, notwithstanding the weather, was a bumper; and, the audience not being fastidious, every thing went off to the satisfaction of everybody.

The Welsh and other provincial papers speak highly of the musical genius of Miss E. L. Williams (a native of the principality), who is about to make her appearance before a London audience. It is that street of vocalists—a true English song and ballad singer. To a voice of great compass, clearness, and sweetness Miss Williams adds much force of expression, tenderness, and taste. In her gayer songs she displays considerable dramatic humour and point; she articulates clearly, so that the listener has the advantage of hearing words as well as sounds. Some philosopher asserted that "the use of language was to disguise the thoughts;" and, from the inarticulate utterance of many of our popular vocalists, one might be led to conjecture that the use of singing was to stifle the words—

Though music be
Almost a passion of my being, still
The verse, like to a silver sear, should be
Upon the stream of melody; and clear
Its graceful pressure should be borne along,
Defined and perfect in its loveliness
Note following note, like wave succeeding wave,
Should lift its theme still higher than itself;
Not drown it in the tide of harmony,
Lose it in billows of ambitious sounds,
As thou dost now.

Trespassing sweet I own;
But there were *words as sweet*, the which I lost,
And should be glad to hear

Miss Williams adds the charm of verbal distinctness to her other eminent qualifications; and we trust that her merit in this, and in other respects, may be warmly appreciated and encouraged by lovers of music and the public generally.

THE THEATRES.

St. James's. The management of Mrs. Seymour continues, and the theatre reopened on Saturday last. Neither the pieces nor performers, however, are of great pretensions, and we must accept both as composing an humble endeavour, intended perhaps to serve as prologue to higher efforts. "Clarisse," a drama in two acts, relates to the heroine and a foster-sister exchanging names, by which one obtains a long-lost father, and the other a scapegrace husband. The interest was of the slightest, and the acting merely *amateur-ish*; in two words, utterly inadequate. Mr. C. Reade has also contributed another version of "The Tragedy Queen," under the title of "Art." The celebrated *Mrs. Oldfield*, personated by Mrs. Seymour herself, is the heroine. This lively actress most laudably emulates the merit of Miss Helen Faucit and Mrs. Stirling in the part, and performs it with infinite spirit and vivacity; nor is she wanting either in the requisite grace and dignity which pertain to the more tragic *dénouement* of the brief but peculiar and strongly interesting action. The house was numerously attended.

Adelphi.—The drama of "Janet Pride" amply merits the success which it appears to be achieving. The first prologue is, in particular, highly exciting, and brings out some of the finest points of the acting of Madame Celeste. The patient forbearance of the suffering wife with an habitually drunken husband is, in the earliest scenes, unostentatiously but effectively portrayed: the interest grows when we find her voluntarily dying of starvation, in order to save up the means of procuring safety for her child. The agony of the mother at the prospect of parting with her infant could not be more powerfully delineated; and when, at length, she finds herself compelled to surrender her little daughter to the mysterious custody of the Foundling Hospital, her pain, distress, and hesitation, her sorrow, her despair, and madness, were successively depicted with a potency and a passion in which the whole resources of the acting art were exhausted. Nature succumbs to the labor, the heart breaks, and Mrs. Stirling in the part, and performs it with infinite spirit and vivacity; nor is she wanting either in the requisite grace and dignity which pertain to the more tragic *dénouement* of the brief but peculiar and strongly interesting action. The house was numerously attended.

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Royal Panoptikon, Leicester-square. The directors of the Panoptikon—anxious to procure for their undertaking the stamp of literary and scientific approbation, as a recommendation to the general public—issued cards for a conversazione on Saturday evening, at which the various features of the exhibition were to be submitted to the criticism of the leading members of the various learned societies, and the more prominent representatives of the literary world. Notwithstanding the almost unparalleled severity of the weather, the invitation was very generally responded to, and the beautiful saloons were crowded filled at an early hour with a fashionable and discriminating company. During the evening some very interesting experiments were given by Dr. Nodd with the great electrical machine, one of the finest in England, a series of dissolving views of the events in the Crimea were exhibited; and the powers of the oxy-hydrogen microscope were brought to bear on a series of entomological objects. The wonderful structure of which, when magnified and illuminated, elicited the greatest wonder and applause. A selection of music was performed by Mr. Best on the grand organ, and the evening's entertainments concluded with the play of the famous Cremorne Fountain—a feature in the exhibition which must be seen to be duly appreciated. (We engraved the fountain in No. 711 of our Journal.) The extraordinary force of the jet, rising to the very roof of the lofty building, and the brilliant effect of the prismatic colours, render this fountain one of the most attractive sights in London, and are in themselves sufficient to attract crowded audiences; but when to this hydraulic wonder is added the magnificent organ play of Mr. Best, the admirable arrangement of the complete and scientific apparatus, the optical and astronomical lectures, and, lastly, the unique beauty of the building itself, it is hardly too much to augur for the Panoptikon a long and prosperous career. The features set forth in the exhibition of Saturday evening expressed their entire satisfaction with everything that had been provided for their entertainment. The programme of the conversazione is, we understand, to form the staple of the Easter entertainments, and will, no doubt, prove attractive to that large section of the public who disapprove of the lighter and more trivial class of public amusements at that particular season.

Testimonial to Mr. Lillwall, the Hon. Secretary of the Metropolitan Early Closing Association.—The services which Mr. Lillwall has rendered to the Early Closing Association are so well known as to require comment. To his zealous and indefatigable exertions, aided by the advocacy of the press, the pulpit, and public sympathy, is to be ascribed the success of this philanthropic cause. A deserved tribute was paid to this gentleman last week by the presentation of a handsome silver tea-service, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to J. Lillwall, Esq., Hon. Secretary to the Early Closing Association, by the Warehousemen of the city of London, as a mark of their esteem and grateful recognition of his successful efforts in the abridgment of the hours of business generally; and especially for his having so essentially contributed to the closing of wholesale drapery warehouses on Saturday afternoon."

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

As has been the case for many weeks past, the Consol Market, since we last wrote, has been in a very inactive—though not to say unsatisfactory—state. The inactivity in prices has been unusual; but they have resulted more from a few speculative purchases and sales than from actual money business. The principal feature in favour of prices being supported is the extremely small supplies of stock in the market. The bankers of London and Westminster have not been entered into, very few fears are entertained as to the next settlement. Against an improved price, has been the resignation of a portion of the Ministry, and the rumour generally received impression that Mr. Gladstone's successor—whoever he may be—will deem it necessary to apply to the Stock Exchange for a loan. The abundance of money, and the extreme difficulty in finding profitable employment for it, are certainly in favour of a loan upon easy terms. From the state of the Government Exchequer, and from the necessity that exists of devising some means to meet the heavy expenses of the war, some efforts in the direction of a loan appear most probable, and we need scarcely say that it would be met with much favour in the City.

On Monday there was some firmness in Consols, and prices were well supported. The Three per Cents were done at 91¾, 90¾, to 91¾; the Three per Cents Reduced, 91¾ ⅞; the New Three per Cents, 91¾ ⅞ ¾; Consols for Account, 90⅞ to 91¼; Long Annuities, 1860, 4 5-16; Ditto, 1859, 4½; Bills, 3s. Stock, 220; India Bonds, 1859, 1s. to 2s.; Ditto, 1853, 1s. to 2s.; Ditto, Small, 8s. to 9s.; Ditto, Advertised, 4s. to 5s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 99⅞; Very little business took place in the quotations on Tuesday. The Three per Cents Reduced were 91¾; the Three per Cents Reduced, 91¾ to 90⅞; the New Three per Cents, 91¾ to 91⅞; and the New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 76⅞; Long Annuities, 1860, 4 5-16; Ditto, 1859, 4 3-16; Bank Stock, 214; India Stock, 262; India Bonds, 12s. 4s. to 15s.; Ditto, 1853, 1s. to 2s.; Ditto Advertised, 4s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 1859, 99⅞. There were very few transactions reported on Wednesday, yet very little change took place in the quotations. The Three per Cents Reduced were 91¾ ⅞; the Three per Cent Consols, 91¾ to 90⅞; the New Three per Cents, 91¾ ⅞ ¾; Consols for Account, 90⅞ to 91⅛; Long Annuities 4 5-16; India Bonds, 12s.; Exchequer Bills, 8s.; Ditto, advertised, 7s. to 4s. prem. On Thursday the Consol Market was steady. The Three per Cents were 90⅞ up to 91¼; the Three per Cents Reduced, 90⅞ to 91⅛; and the New Three per Cents, 91¾ ⅞. Long Annuities, 4 5-16. India Bonds, 12s.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 9s. prem.

We have scarcely any imports of bullion to notice, and the shipments have been limited. The Stock in the Bank of England is now about £12,600,000. Money for commercial purposes has been quiet, at the quotations on for good bills.

In the Foreign House no change of moment has taken place.—Brazilian Five per Cents have been done at 100¼; Ditto, New Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 1852, 90¼; Ditto, Six per Cents, 1853; Ditto, Three per Cents, 71. Russian Five per Cents, 99; Turkish Bonds, 76; French Three per Cents, 66f. 60c.; French Scrip, Three per Cent, 2f. 20c.; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 61⅞; Dutch Four per Cents, 93; Mexican Three per Cents, 20¼; Spanish New Deferred, 17⅞; Spanish Committee Certificate for Coupon, not funded, 4¾ per cent; Danish Three per Cents, 82; Peruvian Three per Cents, 49; Sardinian Five per Cents, 86; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 91.

Joint Stock Bank Shares have been very firm, and prices have ruled steady.

Australians have marked 82; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 1⅞; London Chartered of Australia, 20; London and Westminster, 40¼; Ottoman, 12; Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation, 90; Union of Australia, 64.

Miscellaneous Securities have been flat, yet we have very little change to notice in their value: Canada Six per Cent Bonds have realized 107⅞; Crystal Palace, 2¾ ex div.; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 16; East and West India Docks, 118¾; Netherlands Land, ⅞; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 54; Royal Mail Steam, 62. In Land Shares, scarcely any sales have taken place:—Ashton and Oldham, 137¾, ex div.; Birmingham, 94¼, ex div.; Coventry, 209, Derby, 84; Grand Junction, 48; Leicester, 59; Lenghborough, 57½; Neath, 150; Oxford, 110; Regent's, 1¼, ex div.; Rochdale, 56; Sheffield and Worcester, 43; Shrewsbury, 203; Worcester and Birmingham, 25. Waterworks Shares have been dull: Berlin, ⅞; Grand Junction, 66 to 68, ex div.; Ditto, New, 21, ex div.; Kent, 74½; Southwark and Vauxhall, 88¼; New River Company, 55; West Middlesex, 95, ex div. Gaslight and Coke Companies Shares have sold as follows: British Provincial, 20; Continental, 5⅞, ex div.; Equitable, 20¼; European, 12; Great Central, 11¼; Imperial, 106 ex div.; Ditto, New, 15 ex div.; Independent, 50; Phœnix, 27. Railway Shares have been quiet: Hatchett, 70; United General, 19¼; Westminster Chartered. Foreign Railway Companies Shares have been very moderate request: Ghent, 12⅞ ex div.; Guastalla, 5¾; Imperial Ottoman, 27; Sambre, 3⅞; Ditto, Preferred, 5; Piedmont, 4¾; Ditto, Preferred, 3⅞; Ditto, Deferred, 1⅞

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET. The SPANISH DANCERS. Signora Pepita Rosa, who has been lately from Madrid with a New Company of Dancers, being their first visit to this country, will appear in new Bolasts every Evening, commencing on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (when will be MARRIED LIFE: on Thursday and Friday, A CURE FOR LOVE, in wheel. Mr. Buckstone will appear. Reappearance of Miss Reynolds in the BALANCE OF COMFORT

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, LOUIS XI. Wednesday HAMLET. Friday (a favorite night), FIGHT VILLAGE TOWN; the PANTOMIME, and DEAF AS A POST. Pantomime every evening

GO and hear LOVE, the greatest DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT in Europe, at the UPPER HALL, BURNS' GALLERY, 66, Quadrant, Regent-street. Every Evening at Eight, except Saturday; Saturday, at Three. On Wednesday and Friday, a LECTURE on the VOICE, followed by TWO Parts of the

MUSICAL WINTER EVENINGS.—THURSDAY, MARCH 1st.—Ernst, Goffrie, Hill, Platts, and Pinsuti will perform. Halle, not sufficiently recovered from his late accident at Manchester, will be engaged at a subsequent Concert. Subscriptions for the remaining Three Evenings, one guinea; single tickets, half-a-guinea; at CHAMER'S, Chappell's, and Oliver's.

J. ELLA, Director.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—WEDNESDAY NEXT Mendelssohn's St. Paul. Conductor, Mr. JOHN BULLEN. Mrs. Sims Reeves, Miss Palmer, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Thomas. Tickets, 1s., 2s 6d., 3s. Commence at Half-past Seven

MR. ALFRED MELLON respectfully announces that a series of grand ORCHESTRAL UNION CONCERTS, under his direction, will take place during the season at ST MARTIN'S HALL. The first on MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 2nd, 1855. Subscribers' names received by Messrs. Cramer and Beale, 201, Regent-street

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK. The collection of living Animals includes a magnificent series of Lions, Lion Whelps, Clouded Tigers, Hunting Dogs, and other Carnivora, Elands, Elephants, Rhinoceros, and a pair of Hippopotami; together with an immense number of Birds, Reptiles, Fish, and other Entire Animals. Admission, 1s., on Mondays, 6d.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—DURING LENT, on Wednesday and Friday Evenings, at Eight, LECTURES on ASTRONOMY, by Dr Bardsholar, illustrated by a splendid DISSOLVING ORRERY, and on Wednesday Evenings only with a selection from the CREATION, by a Band and Chorus of 50 Performers. Mam GLATZER'S Two Last Dramatic Pieces.—KING JOHN on the 1st of March, ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA on the 8th. MONDAY EVENING, the 26th inst., Lecture by Mr. Carpenter on Physiology, as connected with Health. Dioramas of Sindbad the Sailor. Dissolving Views of the War. Steam Gun Lectures, &c.

EVENING LECTURES. Government School of Mines and of Science applied to the Arts.—Mr. T. H. HENRY, F.L.S., will commence a course of TWELVE LECTURES on the NATURAL HISTORY of MAN, on THURSDAY, 1st March, at Eight o'clock p.m., to be continued on subsequent Thursday and Friday evenings. Half-guinea the Course. Tickets, at the Museum, etc. Admission, may be obtained of the Museum of Practical Geology, Jermyn-street. Special Tickets for Schoolmasters of Public Schools, at 2s. 6d. each, may be had there; and at the Department of Science and Art, Marlborough-house.

TRUMAN BURGESS, Registrar

SHAKSPEARE. The admirers of the Immortal Bard will be pleased to learn that W. S. KERR, BINNS, and Co., have obtained permission from Mrs Fletcher, of Gloucester, to publish, in facsimile, the celebrated and curious JUG proved to have been used by the Poet. An interesting Pamphlet given with each. The Jug may be obtained of most respectable dealers, or at the Manufactory, Royal Porcelain Works, Worcester. Price 7s. 6d. each; or, covered, 12s. 6d., by enclosing a Post-office Order.

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MUSICAL BOX DEPOT, 54, Cornhill, London, for the sale of SWISS MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, made by the celebrated Messrs NICOLE FRÈRES, Geneva, playing airs, four, four airs, 14 in. long, £4 4s.; six, 16 in. long, £6 6s.; eight airs, 20 in. long, £8; and 12 airs, 22 in. long, £12 12s.; containing every modern and classical composition, including Sacred Music, Quadrilles, and operatic airs, together with hymns, and other sacred music. Also a variety of beautiful small boxes, playing two tunes, 15s. 6d. and 18s.; three tunes, 20s.; and four tunes, 25s. each. Printed lists of tunes, &c., may be had gratis and post free on application.

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Ships.	Tons.	Commanders.	Destination.	Decks.	To Sail.
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Matilda Watson	1300	J. Clare	Calcutta	London	April 10
St. Abbs	32	G. Rouse	Bombay	London	Mar. 1
Ann Mary	636	G. Tweedie	Sydney	West India	Mar. 15
Spirit of the Age	878	G. Heaton	Shanghae	London	April 1
Rosa	477	W. Cameron	H Kong & Canton	London	Mar 1
American	1,000	J. Hamilton	Sydney	London	Feb 25
Cyclone	965	J Hossack	Sydney	London	Mar 1
Ballarat	1100	Hy Jones	Melbourne	London	Mar 1
Sunsrange	582	W. M'Donald	Melbourne	St Kath.	Feb 27
Yelooly	500	W. Teal	Adelaide	London	Feb 27
Anna Mary	302	D. Stephen	Cape G. Hope	London	Mar 1

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ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY. Ninety-two Persons immersed while Skating and Sliding in Kensington-gardens, Hyde-park, Regent's-park, Serpentine, &c. The Duke of WELLINGTON, K.G. and V.P., will preside at the 81st ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL of the Institution, to be held at FREEMASONS-HALL, on FRIDAY, MARCH 30th

Subscriptions and Donations earnestly solicited and thankfully received by the Committee, B. Hawes, Esq., Treasurer, Ormond house Ormond-quay, Messrs. Dundas and Co., Cornhill, Drummond and Co., Charing-cross, bankers, and at the Office of the Society, 14, Trafalgar-square.

JOSEPH CHARLESS, Secretary.
20th Feb., 1855.

CITY of LONDON HOSPITAL for DISEASES of the CHEST
Under the Patronage of
Her Majesty the QUEEN, and
HER MAJESTY DOWAGER QUEEN ADELAIDE.
President—The Right Hon. the Earl of Carlisle, K.G.
Chairman—Sir Edmond Gurney, Esq.

It has pleased God, notwithstanding the loss of heavy liabilities incurred for the completion and furnishing of the building, to open the new hospital at the Victoria-park on the 20th March, the 6th of the charity and the benevolent public are earnestly entreated to aid the Committee in the accomplishment of this object with their kind and liberal support.

This decision has been come to under a deep conviction of the urgent necessity which exists for the immediate relief of the sufferers, and that the Hospital, therefore, in their opinion ought to open the wards at the very period, to be sustained by the combined efforts of the operation of the public.

The number of Out-patients relieved at the Institution is very large and, as the means at the disposal of the Committee are quite inadequate to the extended relief now afforded, they are constrained of urgently to appeal for further assistance

Out-patients relieved during the last week, 585

The Committee have the pleasure to announce that a PUBLIC FESTIVAL to Commemorate the Opening of the New Hospital will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, on WEDNESDAY, the 7th of MARCH next, and that the Right Hon the Earl of CARLISLE, K.G., President of the Institution, has kindly consented to take the chair

Donations and subscriptions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, H. E. Gurney, Esq., at 65, Lombard-street; the Bankers, Messrs Barclay and Co; Messrs. Coutts and Co; and Messrs. Ransom and Co.; by the Hon. Secretary, 51, Old Broad-street; and by the Secretary, at the office, 6, Liverpool-street, Finsbury.

H. SEWELL, Hon. Sec.
RICHARD P. SLATER, Sec

SOUTH SEA HOUSE ESTATE, THREADNEEDLE STREET.

MESSRS. BEADEL and SONS are favoured with instructions to DEBOUT to PUBLIC COMPETITION, on TUESDAY, FEB. 27, at Twelve, the above valuable PROPERTY, having extensive frontage to Threadneedle-street, contiguous adjoining with Old Broad street, and covering a superficial area of nearly one quarter of an acre. This very eligible property is, with a small exception, freehold, and is all land tax redeemed. It comprises the present South Sea House, a most substantially erected fabric, three stories and attics, and has a frontage of 50 feet to Threadneedle-street. South Sea House, the whole of which will be offered in one lot, and a small building now occupied with the South Sea House, adjoining, will be sold separately. The property presents a rare opportunity for the acquisition of a compact freehold Estate in the neighbourhood of the Bank of England, and, in its present state, will realise a handsome rental. But it evidently surrounding will approximate to a very increased income in ground rents, and the materials will find a ready sale in the various trades.—Particulars, with lithographic plans attached, are now ready, and may be had on application to Messrs Worthington, Greenland, and Blake, solicitors, South Sea House, Threadneedle-street; at the Mart; and of Messrs. Beadel and Sons, 22, Cornhill-street

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Dr Thomas has pleasure in stating that he has invariably used in private and Hospital practice for some months past, having found it the medicine, which he has apparently greater than the Brown Cod Liver Oil, that it creates less nausea, and that it is by no means inferior in quality.

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Physician to the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Consulting Physician to the Reading Dispensary, Translator of "Louis on Pulmonary Consumption" &c.

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The material now sold varies in almost every establishment where it is purchased, and a tendency to prefer a colourless and tasteless oil, if not discovered, would very improbably be the reputation of an unquestionably valuable addition to the Materia Medica. Dr. Cowan wishes Dr. de Jongh every success in his uncommon undertaking.

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Half-pints (12 ounces), 8s. 6d.; Pints (20 ounces), 6s. 6d., Quarts (40 ounces), 9s. Imperial measure.

GAS LIGHT and FROST. THOMAS GLOVER, Gas Meter Manufacturer, Suffolk-street, Cockspur-street, London. The present very severe frost suggests to him the propriety of calling the attention of Gas Companies and Gas Consumers to the advantages of his PATENT DRY GAS METER, and the disadvantages of Wet Gas Meters, including Boilers, as stated below.

ADVANTAGES OF HIS PATENT DRY GAS METER.	THE DISADVANTAGES OF THE WET OR WATER GAS METER.
1st. Cannot become fixed by frost, however severe, thus saving the Gas Company and Gas Consumers much trouble, expense, and annoyance in consequence.	1st Does become fixed by frost, and then the Gas Company and Gas Consumer suffer, causing great trouble and expense, both to Gas Companies and Consumers frequently producing the Meter useless
2nd Step by lights are secured, there being no evaporation from the Meter, and consequently no condensation in the fittings all which is a great convenience and gas-fitters' charges are saved, which is a subject worthy of consideration.	2nd. Unsteady lights are caused when there is too much water, or the Meter stands, in the Meter, in the first case the consumer is paying too much, and in the next case the Gas Company is losing.—
3rd The advertisers Patent Dry Gas Meter is a good measurer, and consequently [illegible]	3rd. The Wet or Water Gas Meter is like a measure with a shifting bottom, the quantity of water put into it may measure too much, or too little against or for the consumer.

Homes Glover's Patent Dry Gas Meters are [illegible] Gas Companies and Gas Consumers, for the only Gas Meters that do not vary in measure. [illegible] has manufactured and made of the Patent Dry Gas Meters, and would have great pleasure in exhibiting to any one the numerous Testimonials he has received in the favour the numerous [illegible] element; therefore will content himself by giving an extract from a letter he received last mail—

(Extract) "Charlottetown, 19th January, 1855.

Prince Edward's Island

"I have had great pleasure with your Meter, and so do we. I up to this date I have had no trouble with them whatever; and no wish for the extraordinary [illegible] of which I have had to repair with your Patent Dry Meters; and although your Dry Gas Meters are placed in exposed stores and sheds, they are quite safe, notwithstanding the rigour of our climate.

(Signed) "ALEX MCAVSLAND, Manager"

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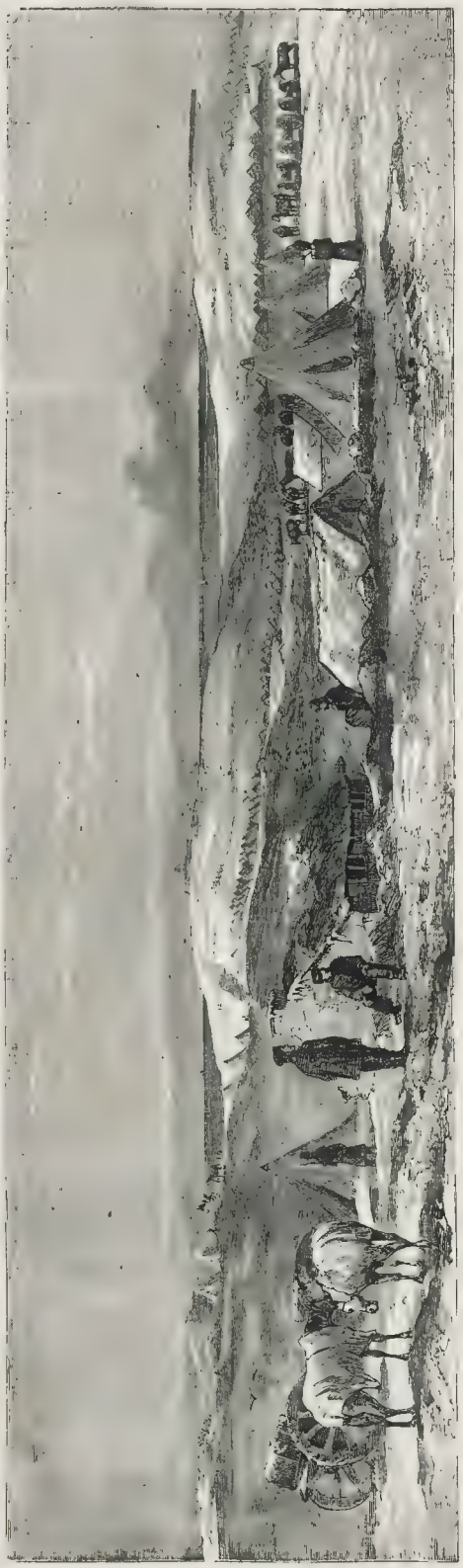
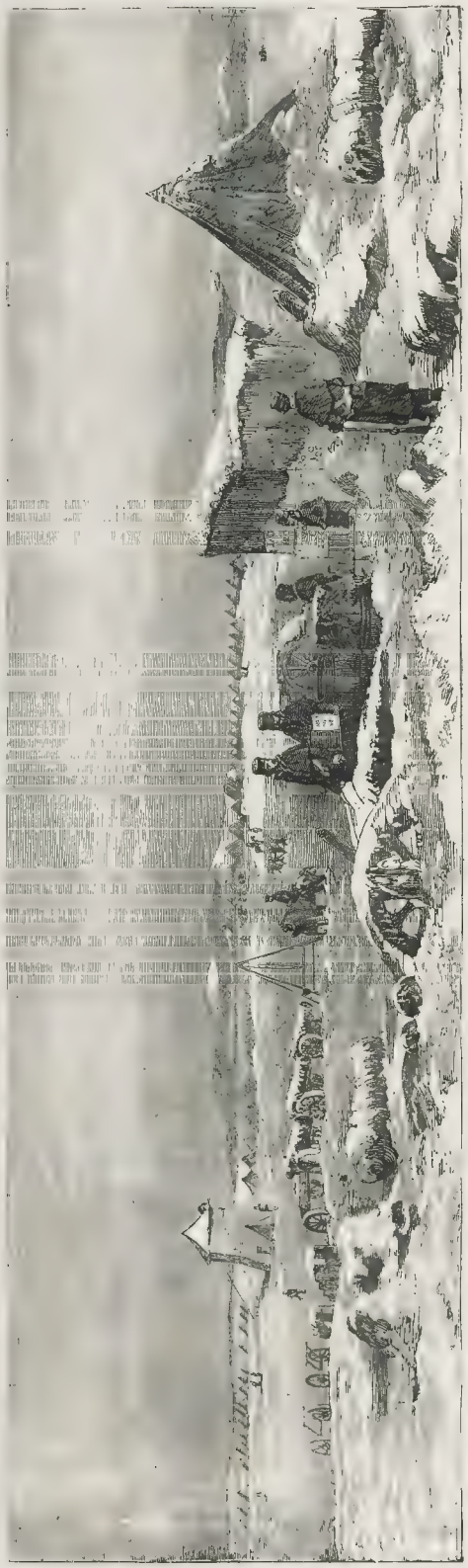
Of Farnival Distillery, Holborn

PUBLIC APOLOGY.—I, JOHN MANN NICHOLSON, of No. 1, William-street, Knightsbridge, Bookseller, do hereby apologise to Mr. GEORGE TODD, of Stanley House Milner-street, Brompton, for having unanimously published a libellous Pamphlet, entitled "Chelsea Tragedy Secrets Inquired." And I hereby express sorrow and deep regret for so doing.

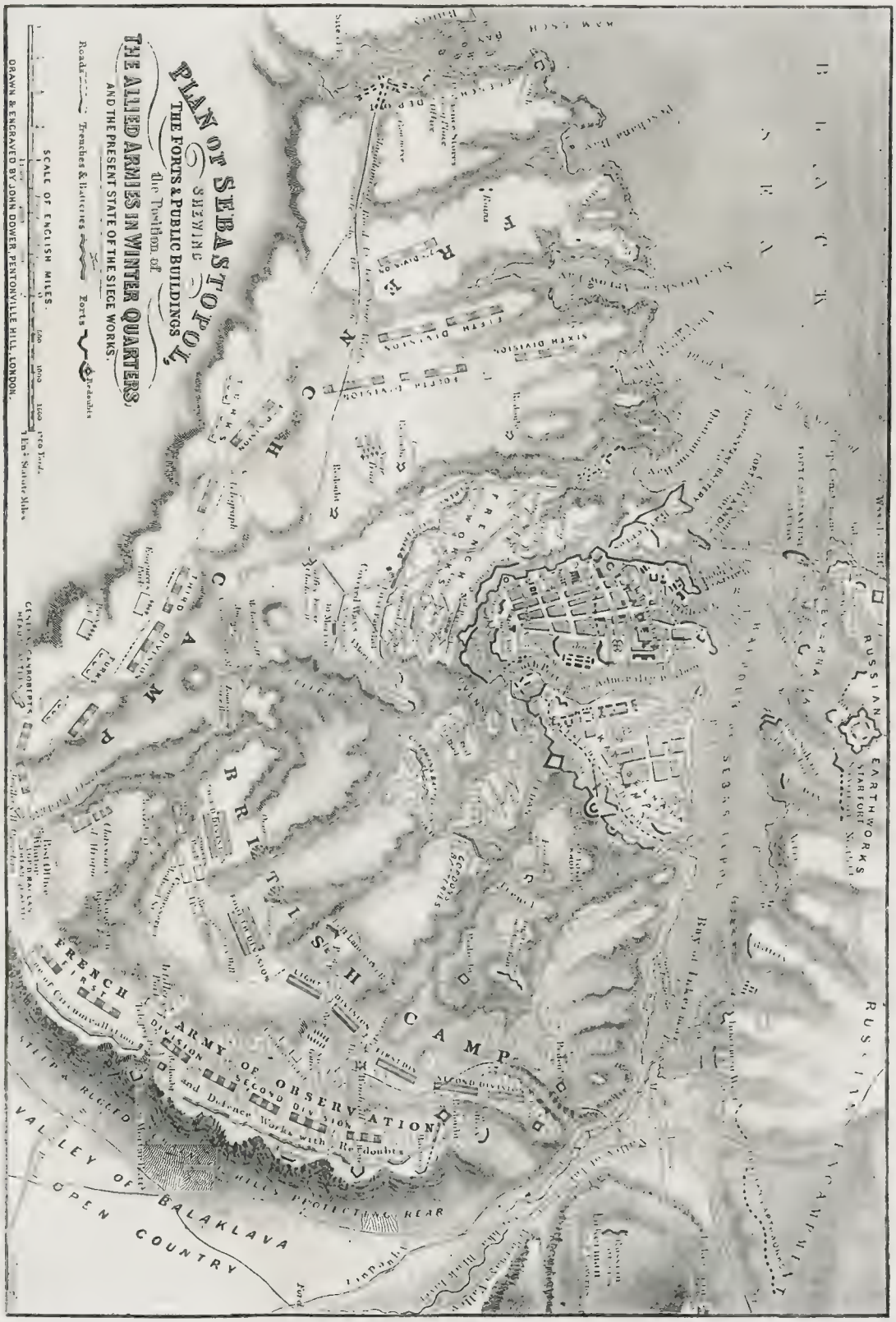
SKETCHES BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—(SEE PAGE 170.)



MAJOR CHARLES MORRIS'S BATTERY, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.



LEFOL O THE RIGHT ATTACK SIEGE-TRAIN, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.


PLAN OF SEBASTOPOL
SHEWING
THE FORTS & PUBLIC BUILDINGS
the Position of
THE ALLIED ARMIES IN WINTER QUARTERS,
AND THE PRESENT STATE OF THE SIEGE WORKS.
Roads
Trenches & Batteries
Forts
Redoubts
SCALE OF ENGLISH MILES.
DRAWN & ENGRAVED BY JOHN DOWER, PENTONVILLE HILL, LONDON.
BALAKLAVA
FRENCH CAMP
BRITISH CAMP
FRENCH ARMY OF OBSERVATION
SECOND DIVISION
and Defence Works with Redoubts
VALLEY OF BALAKLAVA
OPEN COUNTRY
RUSSIAN EARTHWORKS
STAR FORT
SEBASTOPOL
BAY OF SEBASTOPOL
SEVERNAYA
FRENCH
SIXTH DIVISION
SEVENTH DIVISION
EIGHTH DIVISION
FRENCH HEADQUARTERS
Admiralty
Telegraph
Battery
Fort
Redoubt
Redoubts
Light Division
Second Division
Bay of Laspi
Bay of Kamiesch
Kamiesch
Cape Chersonesus
Cape Fanar
Cape Tarkhan
Cape Aya
Cape Sarych
Cape Fiolent
Cape Ai Todor
Cape Ai Petri
Cape Ai Nikolai
Cape Ai Ilia
Cape Ai Ilia
Cape Ai Ilia

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

[illegible], and the high ground which overlooks it on the southern [illegible], present a series of such abrupt and sinuous undulations, that it is [illegible] even with a perfect glass and a commanding position to gain a [illegible] idea of them. Hitherto we have had no plan which faithfully [illegible] ordered the peculiar features of the place, and there was much consequent difficulty for those interested in the operations of the Allies in finding the correct positions of divisions, regiments, roads, batteries, and works. The Plan which appears in our present Number will be found to represent with the utmost accuracy the "lie" of the ground on the plateau, or elevated plain which forms the strength of the Allied positions, and the precipitous vales which intersect it in a south-westerly direction, carrying to the bay or harbour the various streamlets that rise in their higher part.

The perfect nature of the British encampment may be judged by a glance at the steep and rugged precipices which arrest the progress of an enemy advancing from the plain of the Tchernaya; the French army of observation alone, without the numerous redoubts and works which line the brow of these precipices, would, it is believed, have sufficed to check any attempt in that quarter. The Russians knew this and have never ventured even within long gunshot of that portion of the ground, but in the northern extremity of the chain, the precipices were interrupted by ravines, through which the Russians, at the battle of Inkerman, were enabled to penetrate without being seen, and with the aid of that thick fog which proved so fatal to our pickets. Notwithstanding the remonstrances of Sir De Lacy Evans, the two which jut out into the vale of the Tchernaya on each side of the Ravine des Zouaves had been left unprotected, which permitted the enemy to train his guns against us on the very spot where now stands the great redoubt on the right of the Second Division; and the carelessness of the picket in the Light Division or Five-gun Battery, in not reporting the noise of carts which they heard in the night, gave the Russians time to place a powerful battery which, firing from the high ground north of the Second Division, placed our troops as they came into action under the murderous cross fire of a cross fire, which ceased but once for half an hour during the whole day.

The position of the several divisions to the southward of Inkerman explains how it happened that the Third and Fourth took less part in the action than others. The Sailors' Camp, which should some months was pitched at the top of the ravine leading down to Gordon's Battery, was moved lately, and will be found close to the Artillery Park behind the Third Division. It was at the quarry, in front of the same division, that Lord Raglan had his field head quarters, his permanent residence being a comfortable house at Khutor. There were not wanting invidious comparisons, even at this early period of the attack, between the warmth and pleasantness of Lord Raglan's residence and the tents at no great distance, which were the head quarters of General Canrobert. But Canrobert is young and can bear hard weather better than our old leader

The position of Chapman's, Gordon's, and the Lancaster Batteries shows how distant we were from the town at the commencement of the fire on the 17th of October. Yet, though distant, they were effective works, by their strength, their height, and breadth. Had the works of the French been as well constructed at the first moment, we might possibly have a different aspect of affairs from that which meets the eye at this time. The failure of our attacks, however, rendered fresh works necessary, and the plan before us gives an idea of the zig-zag lines made with so much labour by our men to approach the enemy's position. The French, it will be seen by the forwardness of their third parallel, are within 300 yards of the walls, and within 150 of the salient angle of one of the works

Formidable as the outer system of the Russian defence appears, it is evident that they anticipate being forced in it. It has been impossible to ascertain the form of the works which make up the *ensemble* of the second line of defence, but it has not been difficult to trace the general "lie" of those works, which are likely to be remarkably strong and formidable on the side of the French attack. It is, believed, however, that the co-operation of our fleet, whose blockading positions we have marked, will counterbalance these difficulties.

The southern side of Sebastopol being once taken from the enemy, it will be observed that the Allies will have some considerable labour still on hand to reduce the northern, of which the batteries are heavily armed, whilst the approach to them is rendered additionally hazardous by the earthen lines which the Russians have made to the north of the road leading to Mackenzie's Farm. The difficulty of getting up to these positions, as well as to those which are occupied by the batteries of Inkerman rules, is almost as great for us as would be the attack by the Russians of the steep chain opposite to it, which the French corps, under General Bosquet, defends

The superiority of the French in organisation and numbers has enabled them to make a macadamised road from Kamiesch to the siege works. On the English side no such road is visible, and our carts and draughty beasts follow a track, and nothing else. The navvies, however, are at work, and we may have to add shortly a line of railway to our plan of Sebastopol.

A PICKET ADVENTURE.—As I was riding out towards the Camp this afternoon, with an officer of the Scots Fusilier Guards, I witnessed a refreshing instance of the vigilance of our men. We rode out along the road towards the Woronzoff road, and kept a little too much to our right, so that, happening to look towards the top of a mound about 500 yards distant, the first thing that struck us was the head of a Cossack as he crouched down to escape observation, in the hope that with the aid of his picket he could make us prisoners. It was just as well, a bullet had not struck either of us, but, as a rule, it is keeping towards the mound on our right, was an English soldier; behind him at the top of his voice, with his frock at the present. The first man kept walking rapidly on. The other halted and fired, and the ball knocked the earth up close to him. Still the fellow kept on, and we were riding up to see what he was, when a Heavy Dragoon started at a gallop from the cavalry picket-house, and rode between the man and the hill. The foot soldier turned back at once with the Dragoon, who marched him to the picket-house, and then went up to the other man. We found this poor fellow was a sentry twice other the other man, whom he had seen edging up towards the Russian lines along the plain. He returned at once to his post, and in a quarter of an hour more he was on his bleak beat, pacing up and down, with his eye fixed on the enemy. It was amusing to watch the Cossack all the time. Nothing could be seen of him for the time but his little bullet head over the bank. He evidently imagined that by lying close he might get one of us; but he was disappointed, for the Dragoon requested us to go more to the left, and thus debarred us the use of a path which many of the men of the regiments of the right of the Camp had been in the habit of taking for a long time past. It is now utbooed, however, as the Cossacks seem to have polished their valetes somewhat closer than they have been for some weeks past. *Letter from the Camp, Feb. 5.*

RED TAPE IN THE CRIMEA.—A friend who came down yesterday from Balaclava gives me sad accounts of the continued hardships of our troops. The weather had to some degree lessened the intensity of the cold, and hardships had been made light of by the soldiers and used as firewood. There was almost none. Many of the wooden huts which are, and have been, for some time, lying on the beach at Balaclava for want of means to transport them to the Camp, are being broken up by the soldiers and used as firewood—a better use than that they should continue to lie there doing good to nobody. This, however, only reminds me of another instance of commissariat neglect, which is even more to be wondered at and less excused than many others with which the public are already familiar. From the mouth of the Bosphorus, round along the southern shores of the Black Sea, to Trebizond and Batoum—a distance of some 600 miles—there are forests down to the very shore, offering facilities for the procurement of any amount of firewood which the Allied armies could require. The sailing distance is not much above a week or ten days thence to the Crimea; and why, with hundreds of transports at our disposal, we have not drawn supplies of fuel from these vast woods so amazingly at hand, I profess myself unable to understand. This source of supply was suggested to the Commissary General many weeks ago, but without any result following from the furnace hint with any amount of gain I might require, his reply was, "There is no regular market." No regular market. Why all the world knows that a demand would create a market; and were it not so, our Consuls and Consular Agents at Sinope, Samsoun, and Trebizond, could secure the requisite supplies of 20,000 or more cords of wood within a fortnight. Official wisdom, however, *from Constantinople, Feb. 5.*

THE FRENCH GREAT EXHIBITION.—Flowers and horticultural produce are to be [illegible] in connection with the Great Exhibition of 1855, the French Government having given permission to the Imperial Horticultural Society of Paris to [illegible] a permanent exhibition of such products from the 1st of May to [illegible] day. In consequence, the society has published a notice, calling [illegible] prizes, French and foreign, a vast garden, with conservatories and hot-houses, is to be prepared in the Champs Elysées, and all articles connected with horticulture which will be received there, and prizes awarded for such objects as are deemed most remarkable. Horticulturists are called on to send in as promptly as possible a statement of the objects which they intend [illegible] and at which they will probably send them [illegible] as which may appear to the society to be of importance

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH moved for the production of the papers relating to the constitution of the Land Transport Corps. After a short discussion, the motion was agreed to. Some other business was then dispatched, and their Lordships adjourned at an early hour.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

LONDON DOCK BILLS.

A debate of some length arose upon the three London Dock Bills which stood for a second reading, but which were thrown out on a division by a very large majority.

BEER ACT.

In answer to Mr. H. Berkeley, Sir G. GREY said, it was not his intention to propose the repeal of the Act passed last session for the regulation of the sale of beer on the Sabbath

LORD LUCAN

In reply to Mr. C. Berkeley, Lord PALMERSTON said, it was true that Lord Lucan was recalled some time ago from the Crimea, in consequence of differences between him and the Commander-in-Chief—differences which rendered it quite impossible for them to act together

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION

On the motion that the Speaker leave the chair upon the order of the day for going into Committee on the Army Estimates,

Mr. LAYARD rose to call attention to the present state of affairs, and to the actual condition of the country, which was supposed, he said, to be standing almost upon the brink of ruin. He had to call attention to the composition of the Government, to which was to be confided the conduct of one of the greatest wars ever entrusted to any Administration. That Government was almost identical with that in office when Parliament therefore to consider what the late Government had done, and how far those members who remained were worthy of its confidence. After glancing at the shortcomings of the late Administration in regard to their diplomacy, the blockade of the Russian ports, and the Foreign Enlistment Act, he observed that what was proposed by the present Ministry was not to propose Parliamentary inquiry, but to send out a series of commissions; what the country wanted, however, was not commissions, but men, or a man, fit for the emergency. Among the preparatory measures enumerated by Lord Palmerston nothing was said about the Horse Guards; yet, unless the Government were determined to remodel that branch of the military administration, and to do away with the system of favoritism, the country would not be satisfied. After referring to the great victories which our Indian army had achieved, Mr. Layard proceeded to condemn the system which neglected to employ the Generals who had gained those victories:—

Through a mean and paltry jealousy you do not employ men who have saved your Colonies, who have maintained the dignity of the country, and who have safely extricated armies from situations of great peril. And why not? Because they are not in the service of the Crown, but take pay from the East India Company. And for that reason you pass by men who have led their troops to glory, who have seen great campaigns, and you send out men of seventy years of age, who have never seen war, and who cannot know how to put a regiment through its evolutions, but who happen to possess Parliamentary influence or family connection (Hear, hear). Such a state of things in the present age is monstrous—it is intolerable. I am told that by taking this course I am pulling down the aristocracy. That is not the case. I want to save the aristocracy. What did one of the ablest men in this country write three months ago? He wrote, "If this army perishes, depend upon it it will be the greatest blow ever struck at the aristocracy of this country." This country is coming to the opinion that you have sacrificed yourselves because you will not allow men of talent to come between you and your nobility, and you have raised a voice that will take more trouble to allay than you may think. It is said by some that the *Times* is raising this cry, as if there was magic in Printing-house-square. Perhaps Charles I said that the revolution which he thought was ruining the country was the result of the Puritan preachers, not seeing that it was the revolution which made the Puritan preachers. It was not Rousseau or Voltaire who made the general feeling of the French people, but it was the general feeling of the French people that made them; and so now, it is not the *Times* which is causing the public indignation of the people of this country, but it is the public indignation of the people of this country that forced the *Times* to adopt the course it has adopted. No, Sir, it is not the *Times* which has caused this indignation, it is the misgovernment and mismanagement which have taken place (Cheers). Do you think that the *Times* would do what it is if it met your views—if it deceived the country as you deceive the country? If you want to have the position the *Times* has—if you want to be backed by the people of this country—do as the *Times* has done. Come forward boldly, and tell us what you yourselves think of the present state of affairs, not what you want others to think (Cheers). There are many other points upon which people wish to hear opinion of the Government. We are told—and I believe the statement to be well founded—that a noble Lord the leader of the late Government in this House is going on a mission to Vienna; that he is to take a seat filled by Lord Castlereagh, but is he going upon the same principles as Lord Castlereagh? Are the "four points" to be the basis of negotiations? Do the Government now take the same views they took a few weeks ago, when we were told that the Cabinet was under the influence of the supporters of the head of the late Government? The noble Lord might have told us whether he was willing to accept peace on any terms—whether the country was going to engage in prolonged hostilities—whether it was proposed to engage on our behalf oppressed nationalities—whether the Circassians would be assisted by us or not—he might, in short, have conveyed some notion to the House of his foreign policy. This question is of such immense importance that we have a right to ask for plain and distinct information upon these points

After a few remarks on the French Alliance, and the importance of acting in such a way as to secure the continued co-operation of the French people, he referred to Lord Palmerston's highly responsible position as Premier.—

I hope the noble Lord will not consider me impertinent if I refer to his present position. No man had more general sympathy throughout England, or throughout Europe, than the noble Lord. As I have previously told him, I have heard his name repeated in every variety of form throughout Europe, that name was a magic name, as the representative of the great principles of liberty. That reputation was so bright that even the betrayed Sicilians of 1848 could not tarnish it; it had passed through every storm in this House unbenumbed, and the whole of this House was ready to support the noble Lord when he took office, because it was felt that in a moment of national difficulty he had undertaken a national task. Will the people of England now be satisfied with what has been done? It is the nature of the English people to be patient and long suffering; but the time comes when public feeling, with the force of a torrent, causes itself to be heard. It was so in the case of Roman Catholic Emancipation, of the Reform Bill, and of Free Trade. [illegible] and the laws in all, but [illegible] arise, and, unless [illegible] have to be one which [illegible] and pain by those who sit in this House (Hear). The country is not satisfied (Hear). The country, irrespective of men's qualifications at this moment, I believe, want to see what the Government is prepared to do with regard to ("Hear," and a laugh). They don't wish to see the same parties in power over and over again (Hear, hear). I have no doubt that a Cavendish in the Cabinet is a very important thing, but I do not think more of 20,000 lives than I do of a Cavendish. (Cheers) It will not do. The people of England want thorough and complete reform; and, if the noble Lord had thought of the wishes of Englishmen, we should have had a Cabinet at command which would have appealed to the House of Commons with some confidence for its support. I entreat the noble Lord to reflect once more, for his own sake and for the sake of the people of this country. By continuing in the present course he will lose all confidence and all support. By turning from it he will save his own reputation and save this great nation (Loud cheers).

Lord Palmerston and General Peel rose together to address the House, but his Lordship, in compliance with some calls for the gallant officer, gave way.

General PEEL said, he had voted against Mr. Roebuck's motion, not because he denied the evils in question, but because he treated the motion as a vote of non-confidence in the Government, but because he had no confidence in the tribunal, believing a Committee of that House to be the worst tribunal for trying such a question. He admitted that the evils which had befallen our army were so evident that no committee was required to discover them. The war had been entered upon with inadequate means; with such means men had been attempted than any army could accomplish.

Lord PALMERSTON said, he said it [illegible] to find fault with any man who had done his duty in question, adhering to them, he protested against the language of Lord Lord Mr Layard, who had indulged in the grandeur of his epithets; and of his becoming the laughing-stock of Europe. He lamented the sufferings of the army, and he admitted that those sufferings had been aggravated by want of management on the part of those who had the administration of the details. But these mistakes had not been confined to the British troops, he had pretty good ground for asserting that the sick and wounded in the camp of the Russians amounted to 200,000 men, who were suffering from physical causes in the power of no man to control. After a brief reply in some parts to Mr Layard's speech, Lord Palmerston added that he was satisfied that the people of this country looked more deeply into these things than that gentleman supposed, and that when they saw a Government established in consequence of the failure of two attempts, they would feel that men who undertook the conduct of affairs in such circumstances from a sense of public duty, and from honourable motives, were entitled to the credit of being actuated by a desire to perform a public duty, and that they would give their support to such men, not forcing themselves upon the country, but coming forward at an emergency. The Government stood by themselves upon the generosity of Parliament and the country, and he was convinced that, with their support, in spite of trifling reverses, they would carry the contest to a successful issue, and would secure by an honourable peace now, or by force of arms hereafter, place the country upon a proud footing of security.

THE ARMY ESTIMATES.

After some remarks by Mr. J. Phillimore, Mr. Warner, and Major Reid, the House went into Committee of Supply upon the Army Estimates.

Mr. F. PEEL prefaced the details of the Estimates by remarking that they differed from the Estimates of the current year—first, in the increased number of men—namely, 178,648 (exclusive of the troops employed by the foreign corps, and the embodied militia) which exceeded the vote of last year by 46,869 men; secondly, in the large augmentation of many of the services heretofore included in the Estimates, and in the creation of new departments, such as the Land Transport Corps. He then stated the manner in which the increase was distributed over the entire Army, and explained the various items. The charge for the effective land forces was £7,353,000—an excess over the charge of last year of £2,640,000. The charge for the embodied militia was £3,813,000. The total amount for effective and non-effective services was £13,721,000. The total strength of the Army for the coming year, exclusive of artillery, engineers, and the troops in India, was 193,305 of all ranks, of which number 15,950 would consist of foreigners; and this formed the first vote submitted to the Committee; the discussion of which, embracing various matters connected with the prosecution of the war, occupied the rest of the evening.

Lord PALMERSTON, in the course of a general reply to objections, vindicated the policy of the Government in the conduct of hostilities; their main object being, he observed, to cripple the Russian power in the Black Sea, where alone an effectual blow could be struck, leaving the land frontier of Turkey to the protection of Austria. He stated, likewise, as the reason why the Government had not hitherto succeeded in putting the Foreign Enlistment Act in operation, that the language used in the debates in Parliament had created such a feeling of indignation throughout the Continent, that persons who had been prepared to take letters of service in Germany had thrown them up, declaring that they were unable to raise a man. With respect to the deficiencies of the army, he added, they arose not from want of supplies, but from want of arrangements for conveying to the men and horses the things sent out for them; those deficiencies would be remedied by the Government.

Mr. WILSON gave explanations respecting the coffee sent to the Crimea, in reply to some severe remarks by Colonel North.

The votes, and the next, for the sum of £7,353,804, having been agreed to, the Chairman was ordered to report progress.

NEWSPAPER-STAMP RESOLUTIONS.

The House then went into Committee on the Newspaper, &c., Postage and Stamp-duties, when

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved the following resolutions:—"That it is expedient to repeal the exemption of newspapers from postage-duty, and to charge on newspapers and printed books and papers transmitted by post, the rates of postage not exceeding 1d for every four ounces in weight, and for any fractional part of four ounces; and "That it is expedient to alter and amend the laws relating to the stamp-duties on newspapers, the printing and publishing of newspapers, and registration, and giving securities in connection therewith, and the regulation of the duties of postage on printed papers," which were agreed to.

The report of the Committee of Supply was brought up and agreed to. The Consolidated Fund Bill was read a second time

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

ARMY SERVICE ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

On the motion that the Army Service Act Amendment Bill should be read a second time, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH entered into an elaborate criticism on the required amount of recruits, which he estimated at 60,000 men. He argued that an efficient army could only be maintained upon the basis of a complete and full militia, and he recommended the exercise of courage to secure the confidence of the people. The noble Earl then referred to the war in Asia, and gave it as his opinion that, as the interests and safety of India were at stake, the Government of that country should send an army to act on the frontier of Tiflis and Georgia.

The Earl of HARROWBY, while concurring in the views put down by the noble Earl, wished to inquire whether the Government were or were not prepared to appeal to the national feeling of the country.

Lord PANMURE reviewed the criticism of the noble Earl, and expressed his belief that the Government would be able to obtain the requisite number of recruits. As to the suggestion of an appeal to the people, he could not give a pledge upon that subject until he had communicated with the Governor-General of India.

The Earl of MALMESBURY and Earl GREY drew attention to the ill effects of having enrolled the militia under one Act of Parliament and embodying them under another. A prejudice had thereby been done to the service, and the measure which had been unfairly dealt with.

After some conversation the bill was read a second and then a third time, and was passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

TENANT RIGHT.

Mr. Serjeant SHEE brought forward his annual measure on the subject of tenant right in Ireland, which, he said, was similar to the one introduced by Lord Naas and Lord Palmerston last year, but which they had not persisted in passing through the House. The bill provides compensation for improving tenants, and to consolidate and amend the laws relating to leasing powers in Ireland

Sir J. YOUNG commended the forbearance and moderation of the hon. and learned member in bringing forward a measure differing in so few particulars from the bills he had introduced last session. Under these circumstances, he should certainly offer no opposition to the introduction of the measure.

Leave was given accordingly to introduce the bill.

Mr. DUNLOP obtained leave to bring in a Bill to Facilitate the Erection of Dwelling-houses for the Working Classes in Scotland.

Mr. J. G. HUTCHESON obtained leave to bring a Bill for the Appointment of Public Prosecutors.

PROMOTIONS IN THE ARMY.

At the request of Lord Palmerston, Lord Goderich postponed his motion on this subject till the 1st of March.

TRADE WITH RUSSIA.

Mr. COLLIER called attention to the prohibition of the trade formerly and still carried on between this country and Russia. The staple commerce of that empire consisted chiefly of raw produce, and when the war was commenced, it was believed that it would inflict a heavier injury upon our enemy by stopping his trade even than by our efforts in the field. The result had disappointed our hopes in both directions. As far as the commercial attack on Russia was concerned, we had failed altogether. Ten millions of British money had been paid in gold within the last twelve months for Russian produce; and the double, that pulse of Russian commerce, which had been stopped for the first outbreak of war, had since run to par. The fact was that no effectual blockade had ever been established, nor could now be said to exist over the Russian ports in the Black Sea. Documents, which the hon. member cited at some length, proved that the exports from Russia had increased, instead of diminished since the beginning of the war. For the omission to establish a blockade in the Black Sea he considered the Government accountable, and challenged an explanation of their neglect. In the Baltic, a blockade had indeed been maintained by sea; but its effect was evaded by a system of land carriage, carried on through Prussia. This state of things, he contended, was disgraceful. We should either render our blockade effectual or abandon it altogether. Recommending the former alternative, he urged the necessity of stopping the transit trade through the Prussian territory, and argued on the question of international law, that this trade was of a character which belligerent nations were entitled to require, of necessity, from neutral powers to abandon, declaring that a practical stoppage of his trade would seriously cripple the resources of the Czar, and was worth the efforts and sacrifices which might be expected to accomplish it. Mr. Collier pointed out some of the means whereby that result would be brought about. The damage to our own trade and manufactures by the loss of Russian commodities would, he believed, be insignificant. He concluded by moving for a return of the Russian exports from Archangel to this country during 1854.

Mr MITCHELL adduced a multitude of facts and details corroborating the conclusions adumbrated by Mr. Collier.

Mr. CARDWELL said, the Government had no objection to give the papers moved for With regard to the general question, the Government had refrained to adopt a policy which would have inflicted injury upon British commerce without imperceptibly injuring the trade of Russia. That would have been the case if the blockade had been vigorously enforced at the commencement of the war, for the produce then in the Russian ports was the property of British merchants, and had disappointed the blockade in the Black Sea, he admitted that it had been ineffectual, for the fleet had been usefully employed in covering the expedition to the Crimea. But, in spite of these defects in the blockade, the Russian mercantile navy had been annihilated. Her manufactures had materially suffered from inability to obtain supplies of the raw material. Of her exportations the decrease on 1854 as compared with 1853 was 52 per cent; on hemp the decrease was 58 per cent, last year as compared with 1853. Other circumstances as well as these indicated that the blockade had produced a considerable pressure upon the trade of Russia. The next question was, could the Government have taken other steps to injure Russia? His hon. friend recommended the prohibition of Russian produce into England. The Government preferred the mode of throwing obstacles in the way of getting the produce out of Russia. In that way the maximum of pressure fell upon Russia, and the minimum of pressure upon us. An opposite course would reverse this process. At present the advantage of the British over the German linen manufacturers was small; the course recommended would destroy it altogether, and it was to be remembered that the linen trade

of this country was equal to the whole external commerce of Russia. It intimated that France would not have concurred with us in this attempt to prohibit Russian produce, and he ridiculed the mode suggested by the honourable gentleman to ascertain the Russian origin of the produce. He hoped he had satisfied the House that the Government did wish vigorously to prosecute the war; and that if they had declined to adopt the course recommended by his honourable friends, it was because they believed that such a course would inflict a blow upon British commerce out of all proportion heavier than that inflicted upon the trade of Russia.

Mr. Ricardo agreed in the view so ably stated by the Right Honourable President of the Board of Trade, but which he said ought to have led the right honourable gentleman to the only tenable position on this subject—that of abandoning the blockade altogether. The profit upon the whole Russian trade would not amount to a million sterling, and it was absurd in the extreme to suppose that the loss of that sum would induce Russia to sue for peace. The Emperor of Russia, in fact, would be far more to be pity upon the trade of England by his prohibition of the exportation of corn from his dominions at a time when the dearness of bread had already led to riots in this country.

Lord Duncan read letters to show the distress endured in Russia by the system of blockade. At the same time the county of Forfar endured no small amount of suffering from the impediment thrown in the way of the Russian trade; but he was glad to find that the Government refused to prohibit the importation of Russian produce altogether.

Mr. Watson, in the name of his constituents at Hull, complained of the non-enforcement of the blockade; and Mr. Headlam made a similar complaint on behalf of his constituents at Newcastle.

Sir J. Graham explained the proceedings with regard to the blockade of the Black Sea. The orders for that blockade were given in May. The French and English Admirals consulted as to the best mode of giving effect to that blockade, and they decided on blockading the mouth of the Bosphorus. That mode of blockade was found to be illegal, but three months were lost in these discussions. Then came the invasion of the Crimea, when every vessel of the fleet was employed to cover the transport. Since then circumstances which it was not convenient to mention had interfered with the blockade, but orders had now been sent out to blockade every port in the Black Sea except the mouths of the Danube, the blockade of which had been raised because the military reasons which led to its institution had now ceased to exist. Every port in the Baltic and the White Sea would also be blockaded at the earliest possible period.

Mr Duncan, in the name of his constituents of Dundee, thanked the First Lord of the Admiralty for the protection he had afforded to British trade with Russia.

Mr Collier replied, and the returns were ordered.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. Wednesday.

Sir S. Bignold presented a petition from Norwich, praying that no further grants be made to the College of Maynooth.

NUISANCES REMOVAL AND DISEASES PREVENTION ACTS CONSOLIDATION AND AMENDMENT BILL.

Sir B. Hall moved the second reading of this bill

Lord Seymour thought that two other bills which Sir B. Hall intended to introduce should all be taken together.

After observations from several members, the bill was read a second time and ordered to be committed

PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

Sir B. Hall, in moving the second reading of this bill, said he would afford the fullest opportunity to all persons interested in it, as well as in the bill which preceded it, to offer opinions and suggestions to the Select Committee to whom the measures would be referred.

The bill was read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a Select Committee.

The Common Law Procedure Act Amendment (Ireland) Bill went into Committee. The clauses having been agreed to, the House resumed.

SUPPLY.

Mr. Wilson moved that a sum not exceeding £17,182,000 be granted to her Majesty to pay off and discharge Exchequer bills charged on the aids of 1855, unprovided for in Committee of Supply.—Agreed to.

WAYS AND MEANS.

On the motion of Mr. Wilson, the following resolutions were agreed to, and were ordered to be reported to the House:—

That, towards making good the supply granted to her Majesty, the sum of £20,000,000 be granted out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

That, towards making good the supply granted to her Majesty, for the deficiency in the grant for the service of the year ending the 31st day of March, 1855, the sum of £1,300,000 be granted out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

The House then resumed.

ARMY SERVICE ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Peel moved the second reading of this bill, the object of which was to enable the Government to accept the services of soldiers for a less period, and at an age when they were better able to withstand the changes of climate.

The bill was read a second time, and committed.

The Marine Mutiny Bill and the Mutiny Bill were read a second time, and ordered to be committed.

COURT OF CHANCERY (IRELAND)

Mr. Whiteside moved for leave to bring in bills to abolish the Master's office in the Court of Chancery, to amend the proceedings of the Court, to regulate the practice in relation to the appointment of receivers, to facilitate the sale of estates, to remove the causes of delay, expense, and other obstacles incidental to appeals, and to render the public charges payable by suitors conformable to the proposed modifications

Leave was given to bring in the bills, which were read a first time.

The Foreign Levies. A notification has been issued from the War Department, that military officers who have offered themselves, and have been noted for service with the Turkish army, or with irregular levies attached to the British army during the present war, are requested to communicate their present addresses to that department without delay. The Government of Great Britain have entered into a Convention with the Sultan, empowering them to raise a military force not exceeding 20,000 men from amongst the subjects of the Ottoman Porte, to be employed in conjunction with the Allied armies in the East. Steps have already been taken, and officers dispatched to the Turkish provinces to raise 15,000 men. This force is to be levied, armed, clothed, fed, and paid by England, and to be entirely under her command. It will consist of two divisions of Infantry and a corresponding force of Cavalry and Artillery, and will probably be employed in Asia in the opening of the campaign. It is not intended to interfere with the peculiar discipline of so many of this contingent as shall happen to be Mussulmans, who will probably be under the command of regimental officers of their own faith and country. The chief direction will be entrusted to British or foreign officers of experience. Government are desirous to obtain for this service experienced officers, who are not otherwise employed. It is understood that arrangements are in progress by which officers who have served in the East India Company's service will be enabled to join this corps on better conditions than they have hitherto been enabled to obtain. The Sardinian contingent of 15,000 men will be under the immediate command of the British Commander-in-Chief. They are nearly ready for embarkation in British ships, and will prove a most useful addition to our force in the Crimea. It is said that a Spanish and a Portuguese Legion will be embodied under our command. The Northern Legion will be mustered and drilled in our own island of Heligoland, where every preparation is now making for their reception.

The French Civil Service.—When I was Minister, I used constantly to find my orders forgotten, or neglected, or misinterpreted. As I have often said to you, men are naturally idle, false, timid (*menteurs, lâches, paresseux*). Whenever I found an *exception* supposed that, because an order had been given, it had been executed, or that, because he had been told a thing, it was true—I gave him up as an imbecile. Sometimes I nearly lost the battle of Marengo by supposing that the Austrians had no bridge over the Bormida. Three Generals assured him that they had carefully examined the river, and that there was none. It turned out that there were two, and our army was surprised. When I was preparing for war in 1840, I sat every day for eight hours with the Ministers of War, of Marine, and of the Interior. I always began by ascertaining the state of the execution of our previous determinations. I never trusted to any assurances, if better evidence could be procured. If I was told that letters had been dispatched, I required a certificate from the clerk who had posted them or delivered them to the courier. I answer had been received, I required their production. I punished inexorably every negligence, and even every delay. I kept my colleagues and my bureaux at work all day, and almost all night. We were all of the hard-labour. Such a tension of mind wearies more than the hardest bodily work. At night my servants undressed me, took me by the feet and shoulders, and placed me in bed, and I lay there like a corpse till morning. Even my dreams, when I dreamt, were administrative. To do all this a man must have an iron will and iron body, and, what is rarer than either, indifference to the likes and dislikes of those about him, for he is sure to be hated. There is only one ex ception, and that is in the case of a general. A good military administrator is the idol of his troops, because they feel that their comfort, and even their safety, is the result of his care and of his energy he is their providence But the labours of the civilian are unknown to those who profit by them. The sailors at Toulon did not know that it was owing to me that their ships were well stored and victualled. My subordinates respected me, perhaps admired me; but they looked on me as a severe taskmaster, whose exigencies no exertions could satisfy.

Thiers.

Putting in a Good Word for an Old Friend.—The *Journal de St. Petersbourg* of the 8th inst. publishes a number of opinions collated from notorious reactionary newspapers respecting Lord John Russell's secession from the Aberdeen Ministry. The noble Lord is found to have covered himself with disgrace; while the conduct of Lord Aberdeen is dignified, loyal, and firm.

FOOT-MARKS ON THE SNOW, IN DEVON.

(From a Correspondent.)

Amongst many of your readers have perused, I have no doubt, with much interest, the paragraph which appeared in several of the papers of last week, relative to the mysterious foot-marks left upon the snow during the night of Thursday, the 8th, in the parishes of Exmouth, Lympstone, and Woodbury, as also in Dawlish, Teignmouth, Torquay, Torbay, and other places on the other side of the estuary of the Exe, in the county of Devon, extending over a tract of country of thirty or forty miles, or probably more: and as the paragraph alluded to does not fully detail the mysterious affair, it may probably be interesting to many to have a more particular account—which I think this unusual occurrence well deserves.

The marks which appeared on the snow (which lay very thinly on the ground at the time), and which were seen on the Friday morning, to all appearance were the perfect impression of a donkey's hoof the length 4 inches by 2½ inches; but, instead of progressing as that animal would have done (or indeed as any other would have done), feet right and left, it appeared that he had followed foot, in a *single line*; the distance from each track being eight inches, or rather more—the foot-marks in every parish being exactly the same size, and the steps the same length. This mysterious visitor generally only passed *once* down or across each garden or courtyard, and did so in nearly all the houses in many parts of the several towns above mentioned, as also in the farms scattered about; this regular track passing in some instances over the roofs of houses, and haystacks, and twenty high walls (one fourteen feet), without displacing the snow on either side or altering the distance between the feet, and passing on as if the wall had not been any impediment. The gardens with high fences or walls, and gates locked, were equally visited as those open and unprotected. Now, when we consider the distance that must have been gone over to have left these marks—I may say in almost every garden, on door-steps, through the extensive woods of Lympstone, upon commons, in enclosures and farms—the actual progress must have exceeded a hundred miles It is very easy for people to laugh at these appearances, and account for them in an idle way. At present no satisfactory solution has been given. No known animal could have traversed this extent of country in one night, besides having to cross an estuary of the sea two miles broad. Neither does any known animal walk in a *line* of single footsteps, not even man.

Birds could not have left these marks, as no bird's foot leaves the impression of a hoof, or, even were there a bird capable of doing so, could it proceed in the direct manner above stated—nor would birds, even had they donkeys' feet, confine themselves to one direct line, but hop here and there; but the nature of the mark at once sets aside its being the track of a bird. The effect of the atmosphere upon these marks is given by many as a solution; but how could it be possible for the atmosphere to affect one impression and not another? On the morning that the above was observed the snow bore the fresh marks of cats, dogs, rabbits, birds, and men clearly defined Why, then, should a continuous track, far more clearly defined—so clearly, even, that the raising in the centre of the frog of the foot could be plainly seen—why then should this particular mark be the only one which was affected by the atmosphere, and all the others left as they were! Besides, the most singular circumstance connected with it was, that this particular mark rendered the snow, wherever it appeared, clear, as if cut with a diamond or branded with a hot iron;—of course I am not alluding to its appearance after having been trampled on, or meddled with by the curious in and about the thoroughfares of the towns. In one instance this track entered a covered shed, and passed through it out of a broken part of the wall at the other end, where the atmosphere could not affect it.

The writer of the above has passed a five months' winter in the backwoods of Canada, and has had much experience in tracking wild animals and birds upon the snow, and can safely say, he has never seen anything of thirty-defined track, or one that appeared to be less altered by the atmosphere than the one in question. Marks left upon than snow especially may after a time blur a little, but never lose their distinctive character, as every one will know who has been accustomed to follow the track of the American partridge.

Should you think the above likely to interest your readers, or draw from any of them a better solution of this most singular occurrence than has at present been given, perhaps you will allow it a place in your most interesting journal. I send you a copy of the foot, taken from the snow, and also a succession of the steps, to show you the manner of progressing. South Devon

Our Energetic Allies.—If the Turks are active, what shall be said of the French? Activity is no word for the ceaseless and all-pervading energy with which they are providing for all present and possible demands for animate and inanimate supplies. To enumerate the countless agencies they have here at work, to remove the consequences that the necessities of the war may give rise to, would in itself fill a column of your space; while not one letter—nor ten—would be sufficient to describe in detail the admirable completeness and efficiency of every one of their departments. Public exposure has lashed our own hospital management at Scutari into comparative excellence; but even yet it lacks the clock-work beauty and regularity which pervade even the smallest of the French establishments. Our energetic Allies have had hands on a very large proportion of the public buildings on this side of the Golden Horn, and have agencies at work which are in themselves nearly sufficient to supply every current want of their German army. The leaden weights of routine clogs none of their official movements: what they want they take, and what they take they make the most of. Their latest appropriation has been the splendid palace of the Russian Embassy, which they are about to devote to the reception of their wounded Russian prisoners; a medical staff has been already organised for it, and before another week has elapsed, the once magnificent saloons of Prince Menschikoff will be peopled with his countrymen now scattered throughout the other eight or nine French hospitals in Pera. Our own Commissariat has at length tardily concluded a contract for 1500 mules, to be ready for delivery at any of the three Black Sea ports of Scutari, Samsoun, or Trebizond, on or before the 15th March. By that time the worst of the winter will have gone by, and the warm clothing and wooden huts now lying in lumbering confusion along the shore at Balaclava will at length find means of transit to the Camp, when the grave shall have closed over yet other thousands of our suffering and neglected troops

Letter from Constantinople, Feb. 5.

Alpine Avalanches.—Avalanches are rather frequent at present in the Alpine districts. The mail which left Bellino for Longarone, about ten days back, was overwhelmed under one mass of 100 yards in length and a width of about 26, with stones of all sizes and with earth to a depth of more than 10 feet.

FROST FAIR ON THE THAMES, IN THE REIGN OF CHARLES THE SECOND.

In years gone by, when there was no Illustrated London News, or other journals which, by the use of wood-engraving, have added so much to the popularity of the knowledge, it was customary for publishers to speculate in the production of large and expensive plates of those events which were so striking as to meet with general attention from the public. Most of these prints will be found in the King's Collection and in the Pinelandian Museum (both in the British Museum). Amongst the most curious of these engravings is that of which we this week give a copy. There are, in addition to the "lively picture," several other delineations of the Great Frost of Charles II.'s reign, one showing Old London-bridge completely blocked up with huge masses of ice; another looking along a "Temple-street," as the row of tents facing the Temple was called. In this view an ox is being roasted whole, and many other sports going forward; the frost of 1789, when the Thames was frozen over at London; and that of 1814, when the same remarkable circumstance took place.

Besides the three great Frosts, there are, in the collections to which we refer, engravings of displays of fireworks on the river and in the parks; Royal processions of different dates; coronations, fêtes, &c.; most of which have been faithfully rendered, and are not only curious as pictures of historical events, but also as examples of the state of art at various times. It is not without feelings of pleasure that we refer to these attempts at the illustration of matters happening three or four times in course of a century, and compare them with the numerous "lively pictures" which we given week after week, in the course of our illustrations, &c., not costing so much as one of these old prints.

Many and meanwhile have been the pictures upon the River, as will be seen by the following seasonable extracts from the "Chronicles of London and Frost fairs upon the Thames," in Timbs' "Curiosities of London," just published:—

"1142. "From this Christmas till the Purification of Our Lady, there was such a frost as did snow as no man living could remember the like, where through, for a season, London-bridge, and all Rochester-bridge, were broken down and carried away by the stream; and the like happened to many bridges in England. And, not long after, men passed over the Thames, between Westminster and Lambeth, dry-shod."—*Stow*, edited by Howes, 1631.

1410. "Thys yere was the grete frost and ice and the most sharpest weather that ever man sawe, and it duryd fourteen wekes, so that men myght go over places both goe and ryde over the Temse."—*Chronicle of the Grey Friars of London.*

1434-5. The Thames frozen from below London-bridge to Gravesend, from Dec. 25 to Feb. 15, when "the merchandise which came to the Thames mouth was carried to London by land."—*Stow.*

1506 "Such a snow and a frost that men myght goe with carttes over the Temse and horses, and it lastyd tylle Candelmas."—*Chronicle of the Grey Friars of London*

1513 The Thames frozen, when carriages passed over the ice from Lambeth to Westminster.

1564, Dec. 21 Stow and Holinshed state that on New-Year's-Eve—"People went over and alongst the Thames on the ice from London-bridge to Westminster. Some played at the foot-ball on boldly there, and it had become on the dryland; diverse of the Court being then at Westminster, shot dialts at pricks set upon the Thames; and the people, both men and women, went on the Thames in greater number than in any street of the City of London. On the third day of January at night, it began to thaw, and on the fifth there was no ice to be seene between London-bridge and Lambeth, which sudden thaw caused great floods and high waters, that bare downe bridges and houses, and drowned many people in England."

1608 Great frost described in Howes's continuation of Stow:—"The 8th of December began a hard frost, and continued until the 18th of the same, and then thawed; and the 22nd of December it began againe to freeze vehemently, so as divers persons went halfe way over the Thames upon the ice; and the 30th of December, at every ebbe, many people went quite over the Thames in divers places, and so continued from that day until the 3rd of January." From Jan 10th to 15th, the ice became firm, and men, women, and children went boldly upon it; some danced at prickes, others bowled and danced, and many "set up booths and standing upon the ice, as fruiterlers, victuallers, that sold beere and wine, shoomakers, and a barber's tent;" the ice lasting until Feb. 2. There is a very rare tract, describing this frost, mentioned by Gough, in his "British Topography," vol. i., p. 781, which has a woodcut representation, of it, with London-bridge in the distance; it is entitled "Cold Doings in London, except it be at the Lottery," &c., 4to, 1608

1609. Great frost commenced in October, and lasted four months The Thames frozen, and heavy carriages driven over it

(*The next Great Frost is the subject of the illustration upon the next page*

1683-4. From the beginning of December until the 5th of February, frost so congealed the river Thames to that degree, that another city, as it were, was erected thereon; where, by the great number of streets and shops, with their rich furniture, it represented a great fair, with a variety of carriages, and diversions of all sorts; and near Whitehall a sod cut was roasted on the ice." (Maitland.) Evelyn, who was an eye-witness of the scene, thus describes it. Jan. 24, 1684:—"The frost continuing more and more severe, the Thames before London was still planted with booths in formal streetes, all sorts of trades and shops furnished, and all full of commodities, even to a printing-presse, where the people and ladies tooke a fancy to have their names printed on the Thames; this humour tooke so universally, that 'twas estimated the printer gain'd £5 a day for printing a line onely, at sixpence a name, besides what he got by ballads, &c. Coaches plied from Westminster to the Temple, and from several other stayres, to and fro, as in the streetes; sleds, sliding with skeetes, and bull-baiting, horse and coach races, puppet-plays and interludes, cookes, tipling, and other lewd places; so that it seemed to be a bacchanalian triumph, or carnival on the water." King Charles II. visited these diversions, and even had his name printed on the ice, with those of several other personages of the Royal family Mr Upcott possessed a specimen—a quarter of a sheet of coarse Dutch paper; within a type border were the names of

Charles, King.	Katherine, Queen.
James, Duke.	Mary, Duchess.
George, Prince.	Anne, Princess.
Henry de Kilder	

London. Printed by G Croom, on the Ice, on the River of Thames, January 31, 1684

February 6, the day after the break-up of this great frost, Charles II. died In some curious verses, entitled Thames's Advice to the Painter, from her frigid zone," &c., "printed by G. Croom, on the river of Thames," occurs

To the *Printed-house* go.
Where *Men* the *Art of Printing* soon do know.
Where, for a *Trester*, you may have your *Name*
Printed, hereafter to show the *Year* and *Time*
And sure, in *former Ages*, we's was found
A *Press to print*, where men as all were dround!

The principal scene of the "Blanket-Fair" was upon the Temple-stairs, as we see in a pencil and Indian-ink sketch, supposed by Thomas Wyatt, dated "Munday, February the 4th, 1683-4:" in front are various groups of figures, and a row of tents "Temple-street" stretches across the Thames. This drawing, with some prints, &c., illustrative of this frost, is in the Crowle Pennant, in the British Museum.—(See Thomson's "Chronicles of London bridge"

1683-5. Great frost, Dec. 6 to Feb. 5: pools frozen eighteen inches thick, and the Thames ice covered with streets of shops, bull-baiting, shows, and tricks; hackney-coaches plied in the ice-roads, and a coach and six horses was driven from Whitehall almost to London-bridge; yet in two days all the ice disappeared

1709 The Thames again frozen over, and some persons crossed it on the ice: in the Crowle Pennant (Brit. Mus.) is a coarse bill, within a woodcut border of rural subjects, containing, "Mr John Heaton, Printed on the Thames at Westminster, Jan. the 7th, 1709."

1715. Severe frost, from the end of November until Feb. 9 following, when the sports of 1683 were all renewed: in the Crowle Pennant is a copperplate view, with a line of tents from Temple-stairs, and another marked "Thames-street;" "Printed on the Thames 1715-16;" and above it, "Frost Fair on the River Thames"

1739-40. Dec. 25, another severe frost: the Thames floated with rocks and shoals of ice; and when they fixed represented a snowy field, everywhere piling in masses and hills of ice and snow. Several artists made sketches; tents and printing-presses were set up, and a complete Frost Fair was again held upon the river, over which multitudes walked, though some fell victims to their rashness. It was in this fair that Doll, the pippin-woman, lost her life:

Doll every day had walk'd these treacherous roads;
Her neck grew warp'd beneath substantial loads
Of various fruits: she now a basket bore:
That head, alas! shall basket bear no more.
Smooth the treacherous surface, in quest of pelts,
And bore with pleasure beard her thrilling strains.
Ah, Doll! all mortals must resign their breath
And industry itself submit to death!"

The crackling of the ice, at one place, was thought by her friend, shoemaker, to be a sign of danger. Her friend, shoemaker, to be a sign of danger. Her friend, shoemaker, to be a sign of danger.

FROST FAIR UPON THE THAMES, IN THE REIGN OF CHARLES II.—FROM A PRINT OF THE TIME.

An exact and lively Mapp or Representation of Booths and all the varieties of Shaves and Humours upon the ICE on the River of Thames, by London, during that Memorable Frost in the 35th year of the reign of his Sacred Majesty King Charles the 2d, anno Domini MDCLXXXIII. *With an Alphabetical Explanation of the most remarkable Figures. Printed for and sold by William Warren, Stationer, at the signe o the Talbott, under the Mitre Tavern, in Fleet-street, London*

A. Temple stairs with people going upon the ice to Temple-street
B. Duke of York's Coffeehouse
C. Bear Booth.
D. Booth with a Phœnix on it, and insured as long as the foundation stands.
E. Roast Beef Booth. F. Half-way House.
G. Bear Garden—Booth
H. Music Booth. I. Printing Booth.
K. Lottery Booth. L. House Tavern Booth.
M. Temple Gardens, with crowds of people looking over the walls
N. Boat drawn with a Hors. O. Drawn Boat.
P. Boat drawn on Wheels. Q. Bull Baiting.
R. Chair-sliding in the Ring.
S. Boys Sliding
T. Nineple Playing.
V. Sliding upon skates.
W. Sledge Drawing Coals from the other side of the Thames.
X. Boys Climbing up the Tree [illegible] return to see the Bull bai[illegible]
Y. Toy Shops
Z. London Bridge

THE ROYAL SLEDGE-DRIVE IN HYDE-PARK.

sheep was roasted whole before sixpenny spectators, and the "Lapland mutton" sold at a shilling a slice! Printing-presses were set up, and among other records was printed the following:—

FROST FAIR.
Amidst the Arts which on the THAMES appear,
To tell the wonders of this icy year,
PRINTING claims prior place, which at one view
Erects a monument of THAT and YOU
Printed on the River Thames, February 4, in the 34th year of the reign of King George III. Anno Domini 1814.

One of the invitations ran thus:—

You that walk here, and do design to tell
Your children a children a what this year befell,
Come, say this print, and then it will be seen
That such a year as this hath seldom been

In the Fair were swings, book-stalls, dancing in a large, suitling-booths, playing at skittles, frying sausages, &c. The ice and snow, in upheaved masses, as a foreground to St. Paul's and the City, had a striking effect, and the scene, by moonlight, was singularly picturesque. On Feb. 5 the ice cracked, and floated away with booths, printing-presses, &c., the last document printed being a *prospectus* to Madame Tussaud's "Thaw." Among the minor details is a duodecimo volume, pp. 124, now before us. It is entitled "*Frostonia, or, a History of the River Thames in a frozen state, with an Account of the late Severe Frost, &c., to which is added the Art of Skating.* London: Printed and published on the Ice on the River *Thames, February* 5, 1814, by G. Davis;" the title-page was worked upon a large ice-island between Blackfriars and Westminster Bridges. In the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, No. 198, is an engraving of the Frost Fair of 1814, sketched near London Bridge, by Luke Clennell

"THE STREETS AND THE WEATHER."

THE FROST, THE WEATHER AND THE PARKS.

On Saturday a number of sleighs were driven on the ice, but, on account of the vast number of persons there, and the fear of the masses congregating to one spot, it was considered dangerous, and was prohibited. In St. James's-park the number of sliders and skaters was very great; during the day, upwards of forty persons met with accidents from falls—principally cut eyes and contusions. On the Long Water and Round Pond thousands of persons amused themselves on the ice, many of the gentlemen belonging to the Royal Skating Club being present, but no accident of a serious nature occurred. In the Regent's park an enormous number of sliders and skaters availed themselves of the solidity of the ice. The Regent's-canal and Surrey-canal, and other open waters, now ice-bound, round the metropolis, all had their quota.

On Sunday, owing to the extraordinary fineness of the weather, an enormous number of persons congregated on the Serpentine, in St. James's-park, and in Kensington-gardens. Numerous accidents took place during the day: no less than six persons fractured their limbs, and upwards of thirty received severe contusions and bruises on the face and head. They received prompt attendance at the Receiving-house of the Royal Humane Society

On Monday morning much excitement was produced in Hyde park by the appearance of the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Princess Alice, in a sledge. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness were followed by the Hon. Mary Seymour, the Hon. Matilda Paget, and Lord Alfred Paget, in a second sledge Captain the Hon. de Ros attended on horseback.

Since the year 1811, when the Thames was frozen over for many miles below the bridges, so severe a winter as the present has not been known. The frost in London, including the suburbs, has been as much as from 15 deg. to 27 deg., the thermometer having ranged from 17 deg. to 5 deg.; whilst in some parts of the country it has been as low as 6 deg. below zero, or 38 deg. below freezing-point. The Parks have presented all the appearance of a fair, the crowd consisting generally of a large proportion of the nobility and gentry

The Thames may be said to be nearly frozen over; from the immense quantity of ice above bridge and in many places below bridge, all steam traffic, and, in fact, all navigation is suspended from Greenwich to London-bridge, and thence to Richmond. So large a quantity of thick ice has not been seen on the river for many years. During the whole of Saturday crowds of persons assembled on London-bridge and the various wharfs opposite Billingsgate-market to view the extraordinary spectacle of persons skating on the Thames near Pickle-herring-stairs. For some days previously the crews of the various vessels in the Pool had been enabled to walk across the ice to the shore; but on Saturday the men belonging to a Dutch brig, after carefully sweeping a large area of ice, commenced skating, much to the astonishment of the spectators.

The destruction of floating property on the river has been very great. On Tuesday morning, at half-past three o'clock, two coal brigs, laden with coals, and moored off Mr. Wohlgemuth's coal-wharf, in Wapping, broke adrift from their moorings in consequence of the pressure of the ice, and carried away piles, boats, mooring chains, and everything with which they came in contact. Proceeding upwards with a strong flood-tide, the two ships came in contact with Messrs. Thompson's, the coal merchants, Barge-road, sweeping the craft laden with coals before them, sinking some and crushing others, and tearing away part of Messrs. Thompson's premises. The sides of many coal-lighters were torn out by the ice and the pressure of the ships upon them. The brigs next came in collision with the Aberdeen steam-ship *Royal Victoria*, of 800 tons burden, and moored off the Thames police-station. The steamer was soon carried away from her moorings—chains, anchor, and gear snapping to pieces. The piles which sustain the floating pier, and the huge floating pier and its massive timbers at the Aberdeen Wharf, were carried away. The whole was sunk below the ice, and in a few hours not a vestige of the pier was to be seen. The steamer and brigs, after overcoming the impediment, drifted towards the Newcastle Wharf, and the floating pier and piles were in an instant destroyed. The steamer and ships were carried by the tide as far as the Union-stairs tier, about half a mile from Wohlgemuth's Wharf, where they were stopped about five o'clock, when it was nearly high water. On the ebbing of the tide the three vessels floated down the river, and, having cleared all obstacles in their way up, were driven on shore at Execution Dock.

Quantities of ice are reported to be drifting in the Channel, more particularly in the Downs—a circumstance which the pilots seldom remember to have witnessed. It is computed that the frost has thrown as many as 10,000 dock labourers out of employment. For the last fortnight or more, a large fleet of homeward-bound ships have been locked out in the chops of the Channel by the easterly wind, while the frozen state of the river prevents the coasters coming up to discharge at the wharfs. There is the same dearth in the arrival of colliers from the north. The wind has prevented them leaving the Tyne, Wear, Tees, &c., and in the meanwhile they have been frozen in. During the week scarcely half-a-dozen ships have entered the docks to discharge, and the trade alongside the river is almost at a standstill

The accounts from the country announce the complete stoppage of the canal traffic by reason of twelve to fifteen inches of firm, unbroken ice; and the rivers are in much the same state

The Downs are partially covered with large fields of floating hummocky ice, about a foot thick, upon which several parties have been walking, presenting such an appearance as has not been seen for the last sixty years or more.

In Liverpool the number of corn-porters out of work is about 2600, and there are about double that number of cotton-porters and dock labourers partially unemployed, while it is estimated that the number of labourers of all kinds, in the town, who are unwillingly eating the bread

THE [illegible] THAMES FROZEN—SKETCHED NEAR SHAD THAMES

TORCHLIGHT SKATING IN HYDE-PARK.

of idleness, is not less than 15,000 or 20,000. When the frost disappears, however, every branch of trade will be resumed with unwonted activity. As an illustration of the extent to which the weather has interfered with the ordinary trade of the port, it is said that in place of the usual Customs receipt of from £500 to £2000, for duties on goods from the ship, the amount received from this source in one day recently did not reach £50

In the docks at Southampton, where ships have been lying for some time without being disturbed, they have become completely frozen in. In the inner dock there has been a great accumulation of fish, consisting principally of the grey mullet. Owing to the severity of the weather, these fish have become completely benumbed by the cold, rendered entirely powerless, and by the strength of the tide have been wasted into the dock, where they have become an easy prey.

The scene represented in the cut entitled "Skating by Torchlight," took place at a late hour on Thursday night week. A great number of gentlemen, not wishing to mingle with the crowd, proceeded in a body to the Serpentine after the regular skating hours had finished, and, each with a lighted torch in hand and a policeman's lamp buckled in front, amused themselves on the ice until nearly midnight. Mr. Superintendent Williams, on being informed of what was going on on the river, proceeded to the spot, and fortunately no accident took place.

THE STREETS AND THE WEATHER.

WHAT MR. JOHN RATTLER (BADGE NO. 5---9) THINKS OF THE MATTER.

These here lines come hopping that you're not as cold as I am, which is werry sewere.
Hoats is at nobody knows what price, and coals and other wedgetables is equally dear.
The streets is downright hawful, that they is, all snowy and icy,
Without no signs of a change, but, on the con-tra-ry, quite *werra zeice*.
As to keeping a hanimal up to his work, I'm whipped if you can this sliddery weather,
He's up and down like a rocking hoss, and never on four legs together!
Driving's hard enough, but my whiskers! aint it the North Pole on the rack:
Yet a hungrateful public pulled up Tom Smith to-day for only axing three- and six from Charing X to the Bank!
Why, there's Conky Joe—him with the Wellington nose—went to sleep on his box, and nobody saw him.
When we lifted him off he was like a harm-chair, and it took eighteen glasses of hot rum-and-water to thaw him.
Wot's to come of us all I don't know! Our best riders all walking! It's killing!
I should starve if my hanimals warn't so cold that I *can't* never give nobody change for a sixpenny.
"What's my charge, Ma'am, for you and them five leetle dears to Parklane? Why, the roads is so bad,
And the weather's so aggravatingly cold, a sober driver, Ma'am, 's scarce to be had;
So we'll just say five shillin'. Not more than two mile! Werry true, in ordinary weather;
But now, with slipping up, and slipping down, and sliding back, it's a matter of five mile altog-ther:
But as you seem to have got a lot of 'em, Ma'am, and they're all on 'em so remarkable pretty,
I'll take the old biling for four-and-six; and if that isn't cheap, it's a pity.
I'll be careful, on course! Mind, Ma'am, you don't slip: the straw's dry, though it has been a-snowing.
Sam Wiggins, just lift up my hoss's forelegs and give him a shove, and set us a-going!"

ESCAPE OF THREE CONVICTS FROM NEWGATE. On Saturday an event, which occasioned considerable excitement in the neighbourhood of Newgate, and led to give rise to a searching inquiry into the nature of the practice and discipline of that prison, took place. The day-yard appropriated to male felons was being white-washed, and on Saturday morning, immediately upon leaving the sleeping cell, three prisoners—John Bury, under sentence of fourteen years' transportation for passing forged £5 notes; Spears, the bank-clerk, who was sentenced to fifteen years' transportation, for committing a forgery on Spooner and Attwood's bank; and Brown, under sentence of four years' penal servitude, for committing a burglary in Skinner-street, Bishopsgate, were sent into the yard to complete the whitewashing, accompanied by a turnkey, whose duty it was to remain on the spot. After the men had been at work about half an hour, the turnkey left the yard, and when he returned shortly afterwards looked in vain for the prisoners, not one of them being visible. It appears that the prisoners had become possessed of some rope, and, when they found themselves left alone in the yard, threw it over the parapet of the prison wall, and, having climbed to the top by its assistance, drew it up, and then descended to the roof of an unoccupied building formerly a coffee-house, Warwick-square, into which they obtained an entrance by the attic-window, and, thus making their way into the street, were soon lost to view. Several persons saw them descend, but did not give any alarm, as having white Guernsey frocks over the prison dress, and being much splashed by whitening, they resembled bricklayer's labourers. It is supposed that the prisoners kept back a part of the oakum given them to pick, and had manufactured it into a sort of rough rope, sufficiently strong for their purpose.

"FROZEN-OUT BARGEMEN."

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Much canvassing of the Ministry and its prospects this week at the clubs, in the streets, at dinner tables—the result of which appears to be the opinion that unless some piece of luck befalls them they will not be able to go on as they are. Most of the new appointments seem to have been made on the old system that of believing that he man is fit for a post, where activity of body and mind are imperatively demanded, till he has passed the climacteric. There is, for instance, Sir John Macneil, allowed to be a man of great talent, but elderly and sickly to such an extent that he has on several occasions been compelled to refuse appointments at home, where little besides desk work was required. Sent to the Crimea, charged with the duty of reorganising the Commissariat, it is not likely that he will have the physical strength to visit personally, as his duty requires him, all the pestiferous holes and corners of Balaclava and the Camp. Of course he must see entirely through the eyes of younger and stronger men, and there will begin again the old system of reports and references, which never ends in anything but a Blue-book. In place of Admiral Dundas, appointed to command the Baltic fleet (an appointment which seems popular among naval men), Henry Eden, late Commodore at Woolwich, has been named as Second Naval Lord of the Admiralty. The best friends of this most amiable gentleman are the most astonished at his nomination. The Secretaryship for Ireland is still vacant. Mr. Lowe was spoken of for this post; but the Irish members rose *en masse*, and threatened mutiny if the honourable member for Kidderminster (whose tone and manner of speaking do not make him very popular in the House) was appointed. One thing is certain; the public are not satisfied with the restricted orbit within which offices are distributed and appointments made; and above all, they do not like the system existent of shifting about responsibility till no man can tell on what shoulders it should repose. Moreover—speaking more particularly on the unfortunate Crimean question—people think that what is wanted to set matters straight is not Commissions to find out faults and then write home for instructions, but honest, clear headed men, invested with full powers to set right at once that which their own sense tells them is wrong. There seems to be little doubt that the advantages of a special education have been in many cases painfully exaggerated. Mr. Macdonald, sent to the East for the purpose of managing the *Times'* subscription Fund, has, *consensu omnium*, done his very complicated work most admirably. What training had he to fit him for his post?—a reporter and writer for newspapers; a man of the pen and the study? What preliminary knowledge of tea and arrowroot, blankets and hospital management, had he? The *Times* sent him on no better recommendation than the knowledge that he was an active, sensible man, who was sure to do the best possible with the funds entrusted to him; and he has done it. Does any one suppose that if Mr. Macdonald had held Mr. Filder's place, our Commissariat would have been *worse* managed? Verily there are many supposed Eleusinian mysteries which, when the light of day is allowed to fall upon them, turn out to be simple matters enough. Lord Lucan and Sir John Burgoyne are recalled, having disagreed with the Commander-in-Chief; and it is understood that Lord Cardigan is to take the command of the cavalry as soon as we have one.

The long frost, which makes the Serpentine and the Regent's park so gay, saddens Islington and Seven-dials. In the country, the agricultural labourer—in the town, all connected with the water trade, the canals the barges, the river—are out of work. There is starvation in our streets and it is melancholy to reflect that, just when plentiful food and fuel are most wanted by the poor man, to enable him to resist the effects of the temperature, is the time when the means to procure them fail him most completely. It is to be regretted that in the great parish of St. Pancras the directors of the poor seem not to have thought it necessary to make the smallest preparation against a calamity which in the winter weather ought never to be an unexpected one. One is horrified to read in the report of the inspector that on the 24th of January (that is before the very severe weather had set in) there were found in one moderate-sized room—21 by 22 feet, and 10 feet high—forty-six men and boys. Here, on straw beds, sheetless, swarming with vermin, averaging three to each miserable couch, the sick and the whole, the sound and the infected, slept and lived. We are told further that in the so-called "day-room for casuals" as many as fifteen men slept without bedding of any kind. In addition to this it appears that there was not the slightest attempt at classification; in one common room the virtuous and the vicious, the clean and the dirty, the tramp and the streetwalker, with the respectable but reduced ratepayer, were indiscriminately herded together. It was no wonder that with such a state of things the Poor-law Board thought it necessary to interfere; but how did the directors receive the interference, conveyed courteously enough, in a letter from Lord Courtenay to the board? Why, by pouring out the vials of their wrath upon the heads of the Poor-law Board who dared to interfere with them. Little enough was said of the suffering, the misery, the contamination, resulting from their own defective and negligent management, but much of those who were impertinent enough to offend, even by advice, the dignity of Bumbledom. Two sensible men, indeed, were found to propose and second a motion that Lord Courtenay's communication should be referred to the House Committee; but up gets the model vestryman, the pet of the parish, raging like the Telamonian Ajax, and declares "that he looked upon the document just read as nothing less than a peremptory order and piece of dictation on the part of the Poor-law Board, which, if the resolution were carried, they, as a board, would be at once yielding to. He moved, therefore, that they should merely acknowledge the receipt of the letter." Of course Ajax carried his point by a large majority. All this is rather too bad, and proves that State interference with the autocracy of local governing bodies must go farther than Sir Benjamin Hall's onslaught on the paving and lighting boards

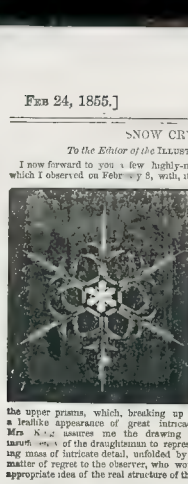
Lent has arrived, the season at which, in ordinary times, we look for the opening of the Opera-house as surely as for pantomimes at Christmas, or partridge shooting in September. But these are not ordinary times: war, disease, and taxation press hardly upon speculators in public amusements. The before Easter season, too, has always been unprofitable, so this year Mr. Gye has wisely determined not to open Covent-garden till the end of April. There will be a strong company—on the whole, quite as strong as last year. Mario and Grisi have returned from America, after a trip which cannot be said to have been altogether successful, in consequence of their lessee having failed to complete the money part of his agreement. The former has accepted a positive engagement at Covent-garden; and it is probable that the latter, notwithstanding the leave-taking of last year, may be induced to favour us with six or twelve nights more, "positively the last time." Then there is Bosio, indubitably now the first of prima donnas; and Mdlle. Nye, or some such name, from Dresden, of whom report speaks highly. Formes, too, sick of his Drury-lane, and other indelicities, has come back, partly moved thereto by M. Meyerbeer's refusal to entrust the basso part in "L'Etoile du Nord" to any one else; and Cerito is to take the lead in the incidental ballet

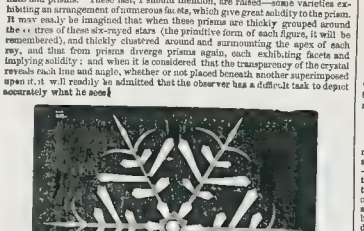
The trial of King, the detective, who had organised a regular body of thieves, that he might profit by their peculations, is to come on at the next session of the Central Criminal Court. In the preliminary examination before Mr. Hall, one or two facts with regard to the conduct of the police have come out which deserve comment. It can hardly be denied that the London "Blues" are not now so efficient or respectable a body as they were ten years ago. It appears that the same spirit of favouritism which has been the bane of our army is doing mischief in Scotland-yard. There is no difference in the choice of the A division from that of the rest; but that division having the superintendence of the Houses of Parliament, the Ministers, &c.—what may be called the home circuit of the force—are, of course, more constantly under the eyes of their superiors; and it is asserted that, upon the average four out of five of the superior appointments are given to this favoured division. Here is a new case, where "something must be done;" but, if it be true, as is reported, that there exist at the head office grave dissensions between the Commissioners, it is not from them, but from the superior authority of the Home Office that we must look for an improvement.

SNOW CRYSTALS.

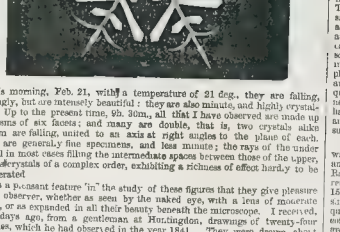
To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

I now forward to you a few highly-magnified drawings of Snow Crystals which I observed on February 8, with, it will be remembered, a temperature of from 29 deg. to 31 deg. By those of your readers who have perused my former communication on the subject, it will be perceived that the comparatively simple figures which are there exhibited have in the present instance become the nucleus of a far more complicated arrangement. The engraved figure, consisting of a group of eight prisms on each ray, surmounted with a crown of leaves, was seen by Mrs. King, of Greenwich, under a microscope. This lady, whose accuracy of observation is to be relied on, described it as exhibiting the utmost grace and beauty of structure to which the drawing by no means does justice. The crown of leaves I imagine to be the gradual dissolving of the upper prisms, which, breaking up whilst under observation, presented a leafike appearance of great intricacy, purely crystalline, and which Mrs King assures me the drawing but imperfectly represents. The instrument of the draughtsman to represent with his pencil the overwhelming mass of intricate detail, unfolded by the aid of a good lens, is no little matter of regret to the observer, who would record for the general benefit an appropriate idea of the real structure of these beautiful formations.



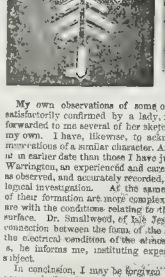


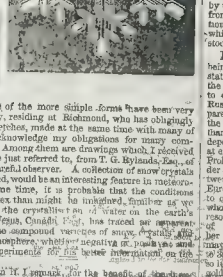
My own observations have been made for the most part with the aid of a good Coddington lens, which disclosed as much of the crystalline formation of these bodies as is commensurate with my power of representing accurately. I have been much struck with the complicated arrangement of the nuclei, composed as they are of an almost endless combination of simple lines and prisms. These last, I should mention, are raised—some varieties exhibiting an arrangement of numerous facets, which give great solidity to the plant. It may easily be imagined that when these prisms are thickly grouped around the centres of these six-rayed stars (the primitive form of each figure, it will be remembered), and thickly clustered around and surmounting the apex of each ray, and that from prisms diverge prisms again, each exhibiting facets and implying solidity; and when it is considered that the transparency of the crystal reveals each line and angle, whether or not placed beneath another superimposed upon it, it will readily be admitted that the observer has a difficult task to depict accurately what he sees!



This morning, Feb. 21, with a temperature of 21 deg., they are falling, sparingly, but are intensely beautiful: they are also minute, and highly crystalline. Up to the present time, 9h. 30m., all that I have observed are made up of prisms of six facets; and many are double, that is, two crystals alike in form are falling, united to an axis at right angles to the plane of each. There are generally fine specimens, and less minute; the rays of the under crystal in most cases filling the intermediate spaces between those of the upper, and, as crystals of a complex order, exhibiting a richness of effect hardly to be exaggerated.

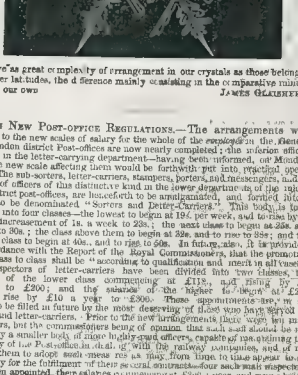
It is a pleasant feature in the study of these figures that they give pleasure to the observer, whether as seen by the naked eye, with a lens of moderate power, or as expanded in all their beauty beneath the microscope. I received, a few days ago, from a gentleman at Huntingdon, drawings of twenty-four varieties, which he had observed in the year 1841. They were drawn about their natural size, with a fine pen; and, if less wonderful in detail, were scarcely less beautiful than any I had seen with my highest-power lens.





My own observations of some of the more simple forms have been very satisfactorily confirmed by a lady, residing at Richmond, who obligingly forwarded to me several of her sketches, made at the same time with many of my own. I have, likewise, to acknowledge my obligations for many communications of a similar character. Among them are drawings which I received in an earlier date than those I have just referred to, from T. G. Rylands, Esq., of Warrington, an experienced and careful observer. A collection of snow crystals as observed, and accurately recorded, would be an interesting feature in meteorological investigation. At the same time, it is probable that the conditions of their formation are more complex than might be imagined, familiar as we are with the conditions relating to the crystallization of water on the earth's surface. Dr. Smallwood, of Isle Jesus, Canada, Prof. Ba[illegible] has suggested a connection between the form of the compound varieties of snow crystals and the electrical condition of the atmosphere, whether negative or positive, and, as he informs me, instituting experiments for his better information on the subject.

In conclusion, I may be forgiven if I suggest, for the benefit of shortsighted persons, that the crystals, exposed to the warm influence of the proximity of the observer, not unfrequently alter in form before it sensibly begins to melt. I have myself more than once drawn a specimen on its first descent, verified it to my satisfaction, and passed on to others: after the lapse of perhaps a quarter of an hour or more, I have been surprised by witnessing, as I imagined, a new specimen occupying the precise spot of the former. In each case, however, careful observation proved to me that it was no other than the crystal I had already drawn, and that the dissimilarity arose from a general simplification of the figure caused by the subsidence of the groups of prisms surmounting the apex of the rays, the rounding of the edges of those prisms which remained, the subsiding of two or more prisms into one, and the elongation of spicules which formerly served as the axes of prisms. Drawings of crystals in this state are only partially satisfactory. Sir Edward Belcher, in a letter I received from him lately on the subject of snow crystals, remarks that many of these seen by him in the Arctic Seas had radii of *one inch* and more in length, but it was difficult to obtain one perfect. I am inclined to think that



we have as great complexity of arrangement in our crystals as those belonging to colder latitudes, the difference mainly consisting in the comparative minuteness of our own.

JAMES GLAISHER.

The New Post-office Regulations.—The arrangements with respect to the new scales of salary for the whole of the establishments in the General and London district Post-offices are now nearly completed; the interior officers—those in the letter-carrying department—having been informed, on Monday, that the new scale affecting them would be forthwith put into practical operation. The sub-sorters, letter-carriers, stampers, porters, and messengers, and all classes of officers of this distinctive kind in the lower departments of the inland and district post-offices, are henceforth to be amalgamated, and formed into a body, to be denominated "Sorters and Letter-Carriers." This body is to be divided into four classes—the lowest to begin at 19s. per week, and to rise by an annual increasement of 1s. a week to 23s.; the next class to begin at 25s. and to rise to 30s.; the class above them to begin at 32s. and to rise to 38s.; and the highest class to begin at 40s., and to rise to 50s. In future, also, it is provided, in accordance with the Report of the Royal Commissioners, that the promotion from class to class shall be "according to qualification and merit in all cases." The inspectors of letter-carriers have been divided into two classes, the salaries of the lower class commencing at £118, and rising by £5 a year to £200; and the salaries of the higher [illegible] at £210 and to rise by £10 a year to £300. These appointments are, in all cases, to be filled in future by the most deserving of those who have served as sorters and letter-carriers. Prior to the new arrangement there were but few inspectors, but the commissioners being of opinion that such staff should be replaced by a smaller body of more highly-paid officers, capable of undertaking the authority of the Post-office in dealing with the railway companies, and of acquiring them to adopt such measures as may from time to time appear to be necessary for the fulfilment of their several contracts—four such main inspectors have been appointed, their salaries commencing at £400 a year, and rising by an annual increase of £20 to £500, in addition to which they are to be allowed the sum of 15s. per day for travelling expenses.

Coffee for the Crimea.—On Saturday a Parliamentary paper was published, containing the correspondence upon the subject of the roasting and grinding of coffee, as also the letters between the Public Department, Lord Raglan, and the War Department. The document is of some importance, with respect to the supply of coffee to the troops in the East. It appears that from the 15th March, 1854, to the 13th February instant, the quantity of unroasted coffee supplied by the naval department for the army in the East, according to the requisitions made by the Commissariat Department, was 200,914 lbs. Of roasted coffee, 211,230 lbs., whole, was shipped; and of ground coffee, 30,059 lbs. No ground coffee was sent until the 18th ult. Complaints have been made that the troops were supplied with unground coffee; and there is a notice on the order book of the House of Commons on the subject. The first communication in the paper is dated the 24th February, 1854, and the last on the 5th of the present month. The last letter is to the Secretary of the Admiralty from the War Department, requesting that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty were to be moved to give directions for the shipment during the present month (February), consigned to the Senior Commissariat Officer in the Crimea, of 40,000 lbs. of ground coffee, carefully packed in tin canisters, and a similar quantity in the course of next month. "These quantities to be considered as an addition to all former requisitions for supplies of this article."

The Price of Russian Five per Cents.—A Royal Proclamation, dated the 8th instant, and which appeared in our columns of the day after, was directed against "interfering in, assisting, aiding, or abetting the Queen's enemies" by certain acts specified, "or otherwise." We submit the question whether the comprehensive clause "or otherwise" might not be considered to include a method of "abetting the Queen's enemies" which we are now about to mention. It has for some time passed the unlimited bet of ground for the daily quotations of the Russian Five per Cents in our Stock-market as nearly at par. There are surely no buyers for these securities? Yes, there is one, and that solves the mystery. A certain firm in London is commissioned by the Russian Government to buy a few thousands of Russian Five per Cents from time to time in our market. A fancy price for the commodity no objection! And these Imperial purchasers "coolly furnish fresh" the Quotations, which figure so respectably, from day to day, amongst the prices of foreign stocks.—*Globe*

Russia and her Trade.—The probability of the overland traffic being at length prohibited suggests to us the propriety of submitting to you a few statistics in connection with the trade of Russia. We think you will see that the consideration is calculated to inspire the hope that the Czar will not be able to continue an active struggle for any considerable period. The revenue of Russia is twenty-five millions per annum. Small as is this amount when compared with her population of sixty millions, still it is large when compared with the condition of the people. Neither the condition of the people nor the revenue [illegible] than it is, and her revenue must decline almost to zero, when she and her people are dependent on the trade and produce of the country. Her exports may be stated at eighteen millions sterling per annum, and her imports at seventeen millions. Prohibit her trade, and you cut off five millions of Cossack revenue. Let her order the people incapable of paying the remaining twenty millions. But this twenty-five millions is required in times of peace, and [illegible] great European war it would not be unreasonable to doubt that [illegible] to obtain it! Not by a loan, for those are [illegible] who will furnish Russia with money [illegible] resort must be to the issue of paper money [illegible] of the war. To this she has already [illegible] her trade is unchecked and her exchange [illegible] may be able to do this. It is twenty per trade, and the exchange sinks to [illegible] to 30d. and to 24d., and the equivalent of twenty millions sterling [illegible] so iterative is the phrase, "[illegible] millions sterling," [illegible] gold being [illegible] 24d. [illegible] million left [illegible] monument that the transit "commerce of Russia" is to be stopped—planted, her, as it speedily will do, in the position of a certain nation of old, and [illegible] having "to make bricks without straw;" and seeing, as we do, that it is [illegible] that then, to a cry for mercy.—*St[illegible]*

OPINIONS OF THE SILENT MEMBER. (No. V.)

I never look at a long list of Notices of Motion without regarding them as so many notices of obstruction to all rapid motion in the business of Parliament. Every member who has a hobby of his own is naturally anxious to ride it; but how much better it would be if there were a sort of riding-school attached to the Houses of Parliament, in which these hobbies might be exercised. A great deal of time is lost by the capering and plunging about of the "gentlemen riders," in a species of Parliamentary equestrianism, the chief talent of which seems to consist in so managing the hobby as to bestow a kick on the Ministry. A list of Parliamentary notices generally includes a variety of questions, some of which are only asked because it is known that they cannot be answered, or because, if answered at all, the replies would be calculated to throw the public business into confusion by embarrassing the Government. Sometimes a notice of motion is given, which lays down a proposition so obviously true, that we are perfectly sure nobody will dispute it, though we are equally convinced that a whole night will be consumed in talking about it. The subject, however, is selected with a view to causing some embarrassment; and if this object be effected, the proposer is satisfied, though he takes nothing by his motion. Sometimes the notice of motion includes a proposal for the supply of certain returns, which, if granted, will never be looked at, and which, though often supplied at a very considerable expense to the country, are turned into a still further source of extravagance by their being employed as pegs on which to hang a long string of words that have no other effect than to waste the time of Parliament and so impede the business of the nation. The Legislature would do well to check the "fatal facility" with which some of these motions for returns are allowed to prevail; for, it often happens that the very largest returns produce the very smallest profits.

I often admire Colonel Sibthorp's anxiety to reduce Public Expenditure; but I wish he were as great an economist of the public time as he is of the public money. It is true that his speeches are not very long, but they are very frequent; and I would therefore suggest that, if the idea of the riding-school for the exercise of legislative hobbies should be carried out, Colonel Sibthorp ought to be requested to join the company as Clown to the ring, or in any other suitable capacity. One of the gallant Colonel's latest "little bits" of the facetiæ with which he intersperses the duller portions of a night in the House of Commons, was an inquiry as to how much salary Lord John Russell would receive for his services on a special mission to Vienna? The answer of Lord Palmerston was that his noble friend is "to receive no salary, and that his expenses only will be paid." On this Colonel Sibthorp expressed a hope that they will not be heavy—a remark that indices one to ask the gallant Colonel whether he would wish our special Envoy to travel second-class, or proceed in any other way to cut down the expenses of his journey. In the present day Lord John, with all his faults, has the right to be regarded as a first-class man; and it must be hoped that, whatever may be the style in which he travels, he will outstrip the old Parliamentary or Government train that has hitherto met with so many delays and experienced so many accidents. I am no advocate for the gratuitous system, and always feel that "the labourer is worthy of his hire;" but there can be no objection to Lord John's going to Vienna without pay, unless the event should prove that he, in every sense, goes for nothing. If the performance should be crowned with success, a very minute portion of the profits would be represented by the salary of the chief actor; and if the affair should be a failure, there would be very small satisfaction in the reflection that if a good part has been spoiled, the unskilful performer got no more than he merited.

When some people fall out, some other people are said to get their due; but the troops in the Crimea do not seem, as yet, to have got that proper treatment which is, fairly their due, notwithstanding the fact that Lord Raglan and Lord Lucan have quarrelled. Lord Palmerston explained that the latter had been recalled because there were differences between himself and the Commander-in-Chief; but it may be premised that, instead of differences, there is, perhaps, a strong resemblance—for their Lordships will probably be a good deal alike if Lord Lucan is recalled on the ground of unfitness for his position.

Whenever a man of high position happens to be suffering the penalty of imprisonment for some offence he has been found guilty of, the chances are that the public will soon be informed of his failing health, in consideration of which we are soon afterwards told "Sir So-and-so has been set at liberty." It is natural that the coarse fare and the absence of luxuries incidental to prison life may be repugnant to aristocratic or even gentlemanly taste; but we ought not to lose sight of the convict in the so-called gentleman. If a man is too particular to cut prison food, he should be sufficiently fastidious to avoid criminal habits. I have been led into these reflections by having seen the announcement in the papers that Mr. John Carden, who is a prisoner in an Irish gaol for a serious offence, has been visited by the Surgeon-General (Sir Philip Crampton), who finds that confinement in gaol is deleterious to the health of the prisoner. It is probable that if John Stokes, who assaulted Policeman—X, could afford to receive such distinguished visitors as a Surgeon-General, it would be ascertained that Stokes's health is by no means so made out satisfactory when his exercise is limited within four walls, as when he is in the full enjoyment of his liberty. If a gentleman, by birth and position, violates the law and gets into prison, his incarceration is not intended to "do him good" in a medical but in a moral sense; and he has no more right than John Stokes would have to complain at finding himself "not quite so well" when deprived of his customary supply of air and exercise.

Nobody looks for a very high standard of morality in the practice of the law, or if he does look for it, he seldom finds it; but everybody expects that there will be an approach at least to sound views on the question of right and wrong among those invested with high judicial authority. Sharing this expectation, I have been rather startled by the following passage in the judgment delivered by the Lords Justices of Appeal on a case in dispute between the provisional committee and allottees of a defunct railway company. The judgment contains the following passage, which I quote verbatim that I may be accurate. Their Lordships decided—

That representations had been made by the managing committee, or some of them, that one gentleman of station and influence was one of their body, while, in point of fact, the truth was otherwise; that as to two other gentlemen there was a similar misrepresentation; that, at the time these misrepresentations were made they were known to be untrue, although their Lordships did not attribute any intention of dishonesty.

The code of Equity has, no doubt, been correctly followed in this judgment; but I do not quite understand the code of morality according to which the Lords Justices find that though there has been falsehood, and misrepresentation which were known to be untrue, "their Lordships did not attribute any intention of dishonesty." How falsehood can exist without dishonesty would puzzle the mere man of common sense; and it is, perhaps, one of those mysteries requiring all the acuteness of a Chancery Judge to penetrate.

Lord Penmure is inaugurating his career as "War Minister with a [illegible] of energy, which proves that the good has not yet shut him up in the room for a period of three weeks, as it is said sometimes to do, when nobody is unhappy enough to speak to his Lordship. Though "the Silent Member" [illegible] taken the liberty recently of leaving a few words with him. The circumstance arises to the "hospitals, including the Assistantship of professional men, proposes to employ physicians at two guineas a day [illegible] who have a daily average of one or two patients. Pleurisy that [illegible] Pathologists so very conscientious as to feel that the infection of Scutari is [illegible] a tour of the Mediterranean, and [illegible] almost court-sy to withdraw for Lord Penmure. Thus it is that the question in question will not remain [illegible] ment the difficulty of the old [illegible] only hope that the infection will [illegible] Lordship's polite hint, [illegible] from a scene where it [illegible] desired.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 730.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE RECONSTITUTED MINISTRY.

THE bombshell thrown by Mr. Roebuck into the councils of the nation is still fizzing. Lord John Russell, who was the first to get out of its way, determined not to share the peril in company with Lord Aberdeen and the Duke of Newcastle, speedily lost his dread of it when these were removed. And now that it has scared away Sir James Graham, Mr. Sidney Herbert, Mr. Gladstone, and a few minor members of the Peel party, he has so far recovered his self-possession as to face it, not perhaps without repugnance, but with the hope, or the certainty, that Lord Palmerston will throw cold water over it; soak its powder in wet; —neutralise its powers of ignition, combustion, and explosion; — and thus prevent it from scattering confusion and dismay on every side of it. Whether it will be allowed to do any execution at all remains to be seen; and if it should happen, in its portentous course, to dash against nothing more formidable or more valuable than the Peelites as a party, it will have done no irreparable, if any, harm. But whether it shall work to any good end depends not so much upon the Committee itself, or the Government, as upon the people. It is for them to decide whether the inquiry shall mean and do business, or whether it shall be a make-believe and a delusion. It is clear, however, that if no reform be introduced into the administration of the War until the Committee shall have given in its report, it might as well be non-existent for all the good it can effect in the state of the army before Sebastopol. Whatever reforms may be desirable to effect in that quarter must be operated by a more rapid agency. The Government must, on its own responsibility, conceive and execute the proper remedies for the gross mismanagement which seems to have pervaded every branch of the military, and no small portion of the civil, service, or, in spite of Mr. Roebuck and his Committee, the nation will continue to be disgraced in the eyes of Europe, and weakened in the estimation of its allies. It is for Lord Palmerston and his colleagues to rescue the country from this evil plight. The question remains—Has the Administration the sagacity, the will, and the power to do what is expected of it?

It can scarcely be said that the Government excites any great admiration for the genius of its chiefs or subordinates. No Minister is considered "heaven-born" until he have done his work. Contemporary praise or prejudice rarely allows the highest order of merit in any one. A Wellington and a Napoleon may snatch the verdict of applause and approval in their life-time; but men smaller than these giants by no more than a hair's-breadth must trust to posterity, rather than to their contemporaries, for the justice which they may deserve. It is, therefore, too soon to judge the present Ministry either in whole or in part. All that the wise can do is to bespeak it a fair hearing. Lord Palmerston is freed from the clog of the Peelites. He is not at the head of a Coalition—a thing, or the name of a thing, which excites mistrust and ill-will in the minds of many respectable persons who scarcely know what it means, but who feel that they dislike it. The Ministry is as purely a Whig Ministry as it is possible to form, and includes names that command the respect, if not the enthusiasm, of the country. But if it is to stand the wear and tear of the war, Lord Palmerston must justify by his acts in power the splendid reputation which he has so honourably won in subordinate spheres. It is on his shoulders chiefly that the burden will rest; and it is around his head if, as we hope, he shall prove successful that the glory of success will gather. With colleagues such as Lord John Russell and Lord Clarendon, his Government will be respected abroad, whatever may be its character at home; and, with a homogeneous band of working colleagues in the principal as well as minor departments of Office, he may surmount the unpopularity that at present attaches to the somewhat too aristocratic and exclusive composition of his Cabinet. The country having reason to suppose that the recent secessions have rendered Lord Palmerston's Administration as good and compact as it is possible to make it, he will have a fair but not a protracted trial. Much is expected at his hands; and what he has to do must be done speedily and successfully. The best intentions in the world will not save the present from falling, like the last Government, and being consigned to the limbo of all departed vanities and vexations, and vanishing, as Mr. Carlyle would phrase it, into "infinite space" and darkness.

The country is in a peculiar temper; and looks for VICTORY. Until that be achieved it will be difficult for any statesman, or set of statesmen, however great their genius, or pure their characters, to conduct its affairs with much profit or satisfaction. Sebastopol must be taken, or discontent will grow into danger; and many things more precious than the existence of a Ministry or of a Parliament will be called into question. The nation hungers and thirsts for Sebastopol. Its capture may atone for the mistakes which have been committed both by the Government and by the people; but, if that be not sufficient to allay the

SENTRY OF THE 4TH CHASSEURS D'AFRIQUE BEFORE SEBASTOPOL. (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

evil spirit that has been raised, we shall yet have a dreary and a dangerous crisis to travel through. The great and original mistake is now sufficiently obvious. The expedition started too late in the year for any enterprise—except for a *coup-de-main*. As that was not attempted—though its success might, in the opinion of competent judges, have been easy—it became necessary to winter in the enemy's territory. For such a result no person whatsoever, in or out of power, was prepared. Marshal St. Arnaud expected it no more than Marshal Raglan; and the sagacious and far-seeing Emperor of the French counted upon it as little as the Earl of Aberdeen. Hence the scandalous breakdown of our administrative system, the loss of more than one-half of the bravest and noblest army that ever fought in the service of this or any other nation, and the discredit of our name and Government in every part of Europe. Our Allies the French—whose armies are organised on a far superior system, and the whole functionaryism of whose Government is one vast coherent, cohesive, and central autocracy—suffered from the same blunder. They may have suffered less; and their shortcomings and calamities, whatever may have been their actual amount, may have been concealed by the judicious determination of the French General to admit no newspaper correspondents into the Camp; but the fact is notorious that British mismanagement has not been the only source of evil in the Crimea. The Russians, who are on their own ground, defending their own stronghold, and whose military system has absolute power at its summit, and a nation of serfs as its foundation and material, have suffered even more greatly than the French and British. We do not underrate what our own brave men have endured from causes which good statesmanship, no less than good generalship, might have prevented; but where, in the doleful record of the months that followed the glorious day of Inkerman, is to be found a calamity like that which has overtaken a Russian army 35,000 strong—more than 20,000 of whom have perished, and been utterly lost and consumed, in the snows of the dreary and barren steppes between Simpheropol and Perekop? The calamity will not much trouble the Emperor Nicholas; but, if a disaster half as serious had befallen a British army, what would have become of the British Constitution? and what would have been the character of the Revolution that might have been attempted by our outraged and offended people?

The nation, having opened its eyes to the real source of the evils it has had to lament, will cordially support any honest Ministers who shall efficiently and zealously commence the work of reform. The discouragement lately prevalent—and which has not merely surprised but annoyed the gallant remnant of our army in the East—will pass away. The immediate success of the Allies against Sebastopol is by no means improbable. Their ultimate success no one who knows anything of the matter has ever ventured to doubt. But, immediate or remote, Lord Palmerston must so work as to ensure it, or his Ministry will be wrecked amid a storm of discontent without parallel in our history. Those, however, who look beyond the Ministry to the Army itself and its brave allies at the post of danger and glory—may find abundant justification for the hope that the possession of Sebastopol by France and Great Britain will soon cease to be matter of speculation. Victory on that spot will clear away a whole wilderness of difficulties. Such a victory we confidently believe we shall not have long to wait for.

A SENTRY OF THE FOURTH CHASSEURS D'AFRIQUE.

This specimen of Crimean costume is not very elegant, perhaps, but it seems admirably adapted for the purpose of keeping the poor sentries warm. The *capote*, with cape and collar; the shepskin gaiters reaching above the knee, and well strapped to the leg, and the sturdy wooden shoes, impervious to damp, must make the men feel tolerably comfortable, even amidst snow, especially after such a hearty meal of warm nourishing soup as the French generally have once a day.

The horses are tied up to the rope behind, by the right hind leg, and are protected in front by an earthen mound, with a ditch behind it, which keeps the place dry. The 4th Regiment of Chasseurs d'Afrique numbers 800 sabres, and has lost only three horses since October last.

DAY OF HUMILIATION.

A Supplement to the *London Gazette* of Tuesday, contains the following order for a day of fasting and prayer:—

BY THE QUEEN—A PROCLAMATION

FOR A DAY OF SOLEMN FAST, HUMILIATION, AND PRAYER.

Victoria Regina,—We, taking into our most serious consideration the last and necessary war in which we are engaged, and putting our trust in Almighty God that he will graciously bless our armies both by sea and land, have resolved, and do, by and with the advice of our Privy-council, hereby command that a public day of solemn fast, humiliation, and prayer, be observed throughout those parts of our United Kingdom called England and Ireland, on Wednesday, the 21st day of March next, that so both we and our people may humble ourselves before Almighty God, in order to obtain pardon of our sins, and in the most devout and solemn manner send up our prayers and supplications to the Divine Majesty, for imploring His blessing and assistance on our arms, for the restoration of peace to us and our dominions. And we do strictly charge and command that the said day be reverently and devoutly observed by all our loving subjects in England and Ireland, as they tender the favour of Almighty God, and would avoid his wrath and indignation. And, for the better and more orderly solemnising the same, we have given directions to the most reverend the Archbishops and the right reverend the Bishops of England and Ireland to compose a form of prayer suitable to this occasion, to be used in all churches, chapels, and places of public worship, and to take care the same be timely dispersed throughout their respective dioceses.

Given at our Court at Buckingham Palace, this 28th day of February, in the year of our Lord 1855, and in the eighteenth year of our reign.

God Save the Queen.

The proclamation for Scotland is the same as the one for England, except as regards the mode of proclamation, which is as follows:

Our will is, therefore, and we charge that, this our proclamation seen, ye forthwith proceed to the Market Cross of Edinburgh, and all other places needful, and there, in our name and authority, make publication thereof, that none pretend ignorance. And our will and pleasure is, that our solicitor do cause printed copies hereof to be sent to the Sheriffs of the several shires, stewarts of stewartries, and bailiffs of regalities, and their clerks, whom we ordain to see the same published; and we do appoint them to send copies hereof to the several parish churches within their bounds, that, upon the Lord's Day immediately preceding the day above mentioned, the same may be published and read from the pulpits immediately after Divine service.

Sale of the South-Sea House. The sale by auction of this important property took place at the Auction Mart, on Tuesday, and attracted an extremely crowded attendance. The buildings commenced at £28,000, and after a spirited competition the hammer fell at £55,750. The purchaser was Mr. Marsh Nelson, the architect, but whether on his own behalf, or for a society, did not transpire.

The *Agra Citizen* publishes a curious case of a man named James Massey, who had formerly enlisted for the 98th Regiment and deserted, being claimed by an East India Company's serjeant—sentenced to India—discovered not to be the real Simon Pure after all, and is now thrown adrift on the world to find his way home, without a penny in his pocket, the best way he can.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

Paris, Thursday.

The reports relative to the expedition of the Emperor vary so continually that it is impossible to form any positive opinion on the subject of his departure. That the plan is seriously contemplated, and every preparation made, there is, of course, no doubt; but *reste a savoir* if circumstances will not so modify these arrangements as to defer, or even entirely prevent, their execution. It is now said that if the expedition take place: it will probably start, *at latest*, within the first fortnight of March. The number of the Garde Impériale destined to accompany his Majesty is augmented from 3500 to 7000 men: they are to be commanded by the General St. Jean d'Angely. The Cent Gardes, who are also to form a part of the expedition, have had a new cuirass provided, to replace that worn on home service; and a portable printing-press, attended by compositors, &c., selected from the best workmen of the Imprimerie Impériale, has been fitted up for the occasion. It is reported that M. Piétri, Préfet de Police, is to be admitted to the Council during the absence of the Emperor, and that the Baron Larondière Lenoury, a naval officer of considerable merit and distinction, and who took and brought back the Prince Napoléon in the late expedition, will probably be the officer appointed to command the vessel which is to convey the Emperor to the Crimea. It appears certain that if the voyage takes place the Empress will join it. Mesdames de Pierres and Montebello are the Ladies of Honour named as likely to attend her Majesty; and Dr. Rayer, one of the most skilful of the medical faculty, and the physician to the Emperor, is to accompany her to Constantinople. M. Hervoix, the Commissaire de Police, charged especially to watch over the personal security of the Empress, has started for the south to prepare his mission.

A letter written from Vienna states that the mortal remains of the Duc de Reichstadt are to be almost immediately transported thence to Paris, and that instructions have already been given to the Administration of the Austrian railroads to take such measures as may be necessary for the facilitation of the transfer. The immediate accordance of the Emperor of Austria with the demand of the French Sovereign is looked upon here with much satisfaction.

M. Thiers has met with an accident which has caused him much suffering, and his friends no less uneasiness. Returning home through the Place St. George, close to his residence, the celebrated historian slipped on the ice, which, a few days since, rendered the circulation both dangerous and difficult, and, falling, broke his arm in two places; the fever however, having been kept down, it is hoped that no very serious consequences will result from the accident.

The sudden thaw, following on the severe frost and snow, is, we regret to state, productive of most disastrous consequences in many parts. The bursting of the ice, the inundations, and the evil effects of the alternate frost and thaw on the plantations and fruit-trees, which, in many places, have lost quantities of their branches, have been most deplorable, and it is feared the ensuing season will, in various respects, suffer from the results of these most unfortunate accidents. In several of the provincial towns it was impossible, during some days, to supply the markets; and in Paris the price of certain provisions—poultry and vegetables more especially—has risen to a most embarrassing extent. A quantity of wild-fowl, swans, teal, wild ducks, &c., have been shot, and sold in the markets.

A great sensation has been created by the entrance and discourse of M. Berryer, at the Academy; the latter was most successful, and the orator was, on several occasions, obliged to pause, in consequence of the bursts of applause which greeted him. The reply of M. de Salvandy was far from being equally well received; it was found to be long, tedious, and nearly a repetition of a discourse made by him on a previous occasion of a similar nature—that, if we mistake not, of the reception of M. Dupanloup, Bishop of Orleans. The Princess Mathilde assisted at the audience.

It appears that, on his return from Paris, Vely Pacha is to go to Vienna as Minister Plenipotentiary—a post for which his talents, tact, education, and intelligence render him peculiarly fitted in the present delicate position of affairs; and that Riza-Bey, who was recently named to take a part, as Counsellor of the Embassy at the Conference at Vienna, is to come to Paris in the same capacity.

The new volumes of the "Mémoires d'un Bourgeois de Paris" (V. and VI), forming the conclusion of the series) exceed in interest any of the preceding numbers. They relate principally to the events of the reign of Louis Philippe, and to those that have succeeded it. Nothing can be more interesting, more graphic, or more intimate than the details of this most exciting phase of French history. One of the striking points in the narration before us is the collection of letters, notes, reports, and revelations, true and false, respecting plots, real and pretended, against the life and government of the Citizen King. Hardly a day, hardly a night passed, that General Athalin, whose personal devotion to Louis Philippe and his family, was extreme, and into whose functions entered that of supreme director of the private police, did not receive announcements of some freshly-devised conspiracy, many of these coupled with the names of some of the most eminent and best-known men in France. Love letters from obscure adorers to the Princesses abound among these curious documents; and some of the most interesting private letters from various members of the house of Orléans, addressed to their personal friends, and to each other, enrich the collection: those of the ill-fated Duc d'Orléans to the Duc de Nemours, give a particularly exalted opinion of the head and heart of the Prince; and one in especial, written on the subject of the latter's marriage, is a *chef-d'œuvre* of feeling, morality, and delicacy. "Marriage," he says in conclusion, "is all or nothing. There is no possible division of affection or intimate intercourse. When a breach in this is made, however small it be, it is like an air-cushion pierced by a pin—all oozes out by this invisible opening; the burden alone remains, and all that rendered it light and easy is withdrawn for ever." Various documents and letters of the Duchess d'Orleans—many of them relative to the education of her sons, and all displaying this Princess in the highest and noblest point of view—exist in the collection; with some most curious anecdotes and appreciations of the character and career of M. de Talleyrand; and a variety of hitherto unknown details respecting the events of the 2nd of December. Altogether this work forms perhaps the most singular and interesting collection of *memoires à servir* for the history of France within a certain period that can possibly exist.

HAYTI.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

By the arrival of the United States mail steam-ship *Union* we have dates from Hayti to the 30th January. The question as to who is to be the successor of Emperor Soulouque has been the subject of conversation, and General Count de Dal Marie has been proposed, but rejected by the north and south part of the island, and it is supposed that he will not have any better success in the west.

The Chancellor is not of opinion that peace should be made with the Dominicans, and he will leave the country in April or May next for Paris, where a very handsome residence has been purchased for his reception. Unfettered by this influence, it is fully expected that Emperor Soulouque will yield to the recommendations of the English and French Consuls, and sign the treaty of peace with the Spanish part of the island, and thereby remove the only impediment to the prosperity of the country.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The most recent letters from the Camp before Sebastopol bring very little definite intelligence relating to the projected operations of the Allies, Lord Raglan having ordered the utmost secrecy to be observed on the matter. Artillery and Engineer officers are forbidden to give information respecting the works to any one but officers entitled to demand it, and Infantry officers are not allowed to get any details concerning the works and armaments. These orders are so stringent that no officer, unless he be known to the sentries, is allowed to go through the English lines to Balaklava; and the restriction applies even to naval officers, and to all officers of regiments not actually stationed on the spot.

It is gratifying, however, to know that the condition of the troops had very much improved, and that the ground was likely to be dry enough before long to admit of military operations on a large scale. Even so early as the 6th ult. the only traces of winter remaining were patches of snow on the hillsides and in the ravines. The thermometer was at that date up to 52 in the day time, and since then it has sometimes risen above 70. There have been, indeed, several rainy days, but to all appearance the worst of the season is now fairly over, so that we may soon expect to hear of something important having been done.

It is said that General Niel, in his report to the French Emperor, recommends a change in the mode of attack. Hitherto the principal points of attack by the besiegers have been the south-eastern portion of the exterior line of defence of Sebastopol, the Quarantine Fort, and the Flagstaff bastion. It has been resolved that the direction of the attack shall be changed. The principal point of attack chosen by General Niel is Fort Malakoff. Four batteries are to be erected at the distance of 600 metres from that bastion, which will completely unite the French and English works, and enable them to concentrate an overwhelming force against the place, and render it untenable. It is calculated that these works will be completed about the 10th of March, or, in allowing for accidents of weather and unforeseen delays, at all events by the 20th. By that time the Allied forces will be prepared to open a fire, which it is to be hoped will be decisive, with no less than 600 heavy guns.

As to the French Emperor's journey, and the part he is to take in the operations of the siege, the following is the calculation:—In leaving Paris on the 7th, and proceeding direct to Toulon, it is supposed he will be able to reach Constantinople on the 14th or 15th, and Kamiesch by the 17th, or at all events by the 18th. By that time the works will be ready, or nearly so, and it is consequently believed that the formidable and irresistible attack which is in preparation will be made in his presence.

As regards the amount of the Allied forces before Sebastopol, it is difficult to obtain precise information. The following official return, however, shows the English army to be in a better condition than is commonly supposed:—

The grand total of our army in the East on February 6, was 44,948 men, thus composed		
Officers	1,242	
Sergeants	2,535	
Drummers	735	
Rank and File	40,436	
Grand Total		44,948
Of these, there were in hospital in Camp	5,778	
And sick at Scutari	12,344	
Making a total of sick	18,122	
There were missing as prisoners of war	134	
There were on command	2,498	
Deduct		20,754
And there were present as an effective force 24,194 men, thus composed		
Officers	1,343	
Sergeants	1,655	
Drummers	535	
Rank and file	20,762	
Total effective force		24,194

And this was exclusive of the naval brigade. Our effective force before Sebastopol was, therefore, on the 6th of February, in round numbers, twenty-six thousand men. Of the 18,000 sick, a large number will, it is said, be fit for service when the weather becomes milder.

RUSSIAN PREPARATIONS FOR A GREAT WAR.

Prince Gortschakoff continues to affirm that his Imperial master entertains the most peaceful intentions, but still all the news received from Russia bears a warlike character. Telegraphic intelligence reached Vienna this week that 40,000 men are to occupy Revel and the neighbourhood. Troops coming from the interior of Russia will be concentrated along the coast from Riga, in order to prevent a landing on the part of the Allies.

Immense works of defence are being likewise erected all along the military road leading from Helsingfors to St. Petersburg, and which crosses on several points marshy grounds of a certain depth, impassable even during summer. An invading army may thus be continually stopped in its march through the country. Since last year Sveaborg has been considerably fortified on the land side. Between the fortress and Helsingfors there are, independently of an intrenched camp occupied by a division of Grenadiers, two parallel lines of fortifications, to which a regular siege must be laid before an Allied army can venture into the country.

The Grand Duke Constantine has lately paid several visits to Cronstadt, where military works are in course of execution, and several new batteries are being constructed. The Czar himself has also made several excursions there, in order to satisfy himself that the armament of the forts in and around St. Petersburg is being proceeded with. Nothing has been neglected on the Austrian side, between Volhynia and Galicia, in order to complete the necessary preparations. Among other works going on is the arming of the fortress of Michaelograd, and the ground which will probably serve as the the theatre of war has been carefully surveyed and fortified with earthworks. For this purpose, all the militia between Mohilew and Witepsk has been provided with shovels and pickaxes, and set to work, the ground in those districts being clear and open. For the future, the naval force of Russia is not to be increased by the sailing-vessels, but by steamers only. The Czar has ordered the organisation of two new corps of sailors, constituted in a military manner, although they are to be composed of civil engineers and workmen intended for service with steam-engines. The effective strength of these corps is not yet fixed, as that will be regulated according to the number of steam-vessels; but their formation, as well as their organisation, has been already approved by the Czar. One is to be stationed in the Black Sea and the other in the Baltic; and the whole will be under the orders of the Minister of Marine, the Grand Duke Constantine.

Recent advices from Warsaw are filled with accounts of the immense delivery of provisions at the Polish fortresses. Vast magazines are formed at Ostrolenka. The writers mention, with undisguised admiration, the great quantities of spirituous liquors which the care of the Czar has provided for his soldiery, and which are daily conveyed to the central dépôts. From this it is inferred that Poland is expected to become the theatre of a great war. General Dekn, Inspector of Fortresses, reports that the three lines of defence, extending from Cronstadt to the Vistula, are in a complete and effective state.

The *Deutsche Russe* publishes the regulation prepared by the Directing Senate, and ratified by the Czar, for the organisation of the "Imperial Mobile Militia," as the new corps decreed in the recent manifesto is to be called. The first clause of the document declares that the corps is raised for temporary service, in defence of the faith, the throne, and the fatherland. It is enacted that exemptions from military service hitherto permitted shall not apply in the present case, but that whoever is liable to the capitation tax, or its equivalent, shall be liable to be called upon to serve in this corps. Merchants, Jews, and foreign colonists, who have been encouraged to settle in Russia, and received grants of land from the Crown, are excepted. To meet the expenses of the new corps, special "voluntary" subscriptions are to be made, for which the committees will open lists, and to which all persons are summoned to contribute. The subjects of the Emperor are abjured by their love of their country to make sacrifices corresponding to the occasion, and it is announced that the names and subscriptions of all persons will be published. The nobles, as soon as they have deliberated according to the directions foregoing, are to repair to their several localities, and exert themselves in forwarding the enrolment. The soldiers must not be younger than twenty, nor older than forty-five years of age. In the formation of companies, inhabitants of the same village are to be kept together as far as possible. Those who have no fire-arms of their own are to be furnished with a musket and bayonet. The employment of the militia is to be at the pleasure of the Czar, and upon the termination of the war all persons serving in the corps will be allowed to go back to their homes. Should any fall in battle, their families will receive a certificate absolving them from obligation to furnish a recruit at the next levy.

THE TURKISH VICTORY AT EUPATORIA.

The defeat of the Russians at Eupatoria, of which we gave a telegraphic notice in part of last Saturday's Impression, is confirmed by a despatch of Prince Menschikoff, who admits that the General in command had found it prudent to "withdraw out of range, which was effected in the best order." This is the vague and modest style in which most of the Russian repulses at Silistria were chronicled by the General who found himself worsted there by the despised Turks.

Lord Raglan's telegraphic despatch gives the following brief account of the affair:

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, Feb. 18, 1855.

A force, said to be 40,000, of Russians, with a large number of guns, attacked Eupatoria at daylight on the 17th, and was repulsed with loss by Omer Pacha. The Turkish loss is said to be inconsiderable, but Selim Pacha, commanding Egyptian Brigade, was killed. The British men of war, under the Hon. Captain Hastings, covered both flanks with great effect. The action terminated at ten a.m., when the Russians retired a few miles.

Let this be compared with Prince Menschikoff's bulletin, and there will be no doubt as to the fact of the Russians having been soundly beaten. The Russian Commander writes from Sebastopol on the 19th:—

On the 17th the troops cantoned in the vicinity of Eupatoria were employed in a reconnaissance against the town, at a distance of 250 toises. They opened a cross fire, and the artillery in a very short time dismounted some of the enemy's guns, and also blew up five chests of ammunition

General Chruleff, who commanded, knowing that Eupatoria had a garrison of 40,000 men and 100 guns, ordered his detachment to withdraw out of range, which was effected in the best order.

The *Moniteur* of Thursday gives the following account of the affair, which differs somewhat from Lord Raglan's despatch:—

The Russians had eighty pieces of artillery, six regiments of cavalry, and twelve regiments of infantry. The combat lasted five hours and a half. The loss of the Russians was 600 killed, with wounded in proportion. The Turks had eighty-eight killed and 250 wounded; they lost seventy horses. Selim Pacha and Rusten Bey were killed. The attack has not been renewed. The town is in a good state of defence. On the night following the Russians bivouacked without fires or tents during intense cold. On the following morning they withdrew towards Simpheropol. Four vessels of war took part in the action.

The position of Eupatoria has, from the commencement of the campaign in the Crimea, been justly regarded as a point of extreme importance if hostilities extended to the northern districts of the peninsula. It was occupied without difficulty by the Allies on the 14th of September; for some time the garrison thrown into it consisted only of a few seamen and marines, who looked to the guns of their ships as their most effectual protection. Gradually, however, by the energy of the officers in command, the place was made to assume the aspect of an intrenched town. A regular line of defence and field-works was traced round it, and when the Turkish army of Omer Pacha was conveyed there in detachments from Varna it found a complete system of fortification, rudely executed, but skilfully planned, and not easily to be wrested from the troops which had defended Kalafat and Silistria. This Ottoman army now amounts to 30,000, or even by some accounts to 40,000 men; and, as its operations have of course been concerted with the Allied Generals before Sebastopol, the presence of such an army on the right flank of the Russians must be a source of great embarrassment to Prince Menschikoff and his coadjutors. The attempt to force the lines of Eupatoria on the 18th has, however, signally failed, though it is said to have been undertaken by a large division of Russian troops and 70 guns. Should the operations of this corps be continued, it may not be unreasonable to expect that General Canrobert and Sir Colin Campbell will seize the opportunity to act against the advanced posts of the Russian army, which are once more thrown forward and intrenched in our rear at the village of Kamara. If the statements last received from the seat of war are correct, the Russian forces are divided into three distinct corps—the garrison at Sebastopol, the army which is watching our rear from the valley of Baidar to Inkerman, and the corps which has just attacked the Turks at Eupatoria. If it be correct that there are 35,000 Russian soldiers in the hospitals, there can be no doubt that the enemy has suffered very severely, and that their effective force is as much reduced as that of the Allies. Indeed, were it otherwise, the Russians would doubtless long ago have renewed the attack on Balaclava. It is, moreover, reported that several thousands of Russian troops, on their way to reinforce the army, have recently perished in the snow which covers the vast steppes in the north of the Crimea. If these circumstances are correctly stated, the Allies will no doubt take the earliest opportunity of availing themselves of this diminution of the Russian forces, and of beating them in detail.

One of the gravest errors committed by the Russian commander is that he attached no importance to the repossession of Eupatoria whilst merely defended by a handful of men. If he had exhibited the haste to rush to the battle of Inkerman, Dannenberg's corps, coming from Perekop, might have arrived and probably carried the place at the end of October, and put an end to further consolidation there. Nothing, most probably, would have been required for that purpose but to have placed a strong detachment of this corps a short distance out of the direct route. The Russian army must, so long as Eupatoria is not retaken, be much lamed, and kept in check. Nor is it a little discouraging for that army that the campaign should be reopened, as the campaign against the Turks opened and closed, by the defeat of the Russian troops before a Turkish intrenched camp. If Liprandi, instead of Osten-Sacken, had commanded the assailing corps, not only nearly all the same troops, but the same commanders, would have been opposed to each other, as was the case last year at Kalafat. Omer Pacha embarked from Varna on the 7th instant for Eupatoria, and therefore commanded in person.

RUSSIAN DECLARATION OF WAR AGAINST SARDINIA.

The following circular has been addressed by the Russian Government to its foreign agents, in reference to the entrance of Sardinia into the Eastern alliance:—

The Court of —— will no doubt share in the opinion of the Emperor as to the policy of his Majesty the King of Sardinia, on learning that this Sovereign, without any avowed motive or legitimate grievance, without the appearance even of the least injury to the direct interests of his country, has placed a corps d'armée of 15,000 men at the service of England for the invasion of the Crimea.

In coming to this determination, the Sardinian Government appears to have lost to the public prints the task of informing us of an aggression which it has not undertaken to justify by a declaration of war

We understand the motive of this silence

The Court of Turin, we admit, would have found it difficult to reconcile its policy with the national feeling of its country. It would have found an equal difficulty in placing its present conduct in accordance with the old reminiscences of the House of Savoy

By consulting the annals of its history, it might cite an instance of a Russian army passing the Alps; but, it is true, for the defence of Piedmont, and not to invade it

In the councils of the Cabinets of Europe, under the reign of the Emperor Alexander of glorious memory, Russia still lent her faithful support to the independence of Sardinia, at the re-establishment of the House of Savoy on the throne of its ancestors.

Must we add, also, that if Genoa was at the same epoch reunited to the kingdom of Sardinia, it was because the Imperial Cabinet recognised the necessity of ensuring at once the greatness and the commercial prosperity of a country which the arms of Russia had contributed to liberate from a foreign yoke?

At the present moment, forgetting the lessons of the past, the Court of Turin going to direct against us, from this very port of Genoa, an enterprise of hostility that Russia is conscious of not having provoked.

The attitude thus taken by the Sardinian Government, without, as we have said, a formal declaration of war, would leave us even in doubt as to the aid to be given to an auxiliary force destined for the invasion of our frontiers, for the flag of a country with which we have hitherto continued to live in peace.

However, if the Court of Turin loses sight of the principles and usages consecrated by the law of nations as the immutable standard of the international relations of States, the Emperor, for his part, holds himself bound to observe them.

With this purpose, his Imperial Majesty feels he must declare peace to have been broken in law and fact by this act of flagrant hostility, the aim of which falls on the Sardinian Government.

We leave it to bear the responsibility before the opinion of its own country, the whole of Europe.

Moreover, it is for the Allied Powers to appreciate the conduct of the Court of Sardinia, seeing that it has deemed it proper and honest to take arms against us at the very moment that the Imperial Cabinet was entering, at home, on deliberations destined to open a path to the re-establishment of peace.

The sentiments that tend to the accomplishment of this work of pacification would appear to have been strangely misconceived by the Cabinet of Turin. In fact, whilst the Governments of Central Europe wisely interposed their legitimate authority to hinder one of the belligerent Powers from recruiting its legions in the bosom of States that desired to have their neutrality and entire independence respected, the Sardinian Government, less sparing of the blood of Italy, consents to shed it in a cause foreign to the political and religious interests of its nation. For, most certainly, it will not be pretended that the House of Savoy holds it honourable to serve the cause of Christianity, when it displays its banner by the side of that of the Crescent. Neither can it be said that she has at heart the defence of the weak against the strong, when she unites her armies to those of France and England.

This latter Power it is, if our information is correct, that takes the Sardinian troops under its command; we say not into its pay, for we abstain from wounding the national feeling of a country with which we regret to find ourselves at war

Notwithstanding this necessity, the Emperor will still know how to protect the private interests of Sardinian subjects maintaining with Russia old commercial connections. The fault of their Government shall not be visited on them. Their property shall be respected; they shall be free to remain in the empire, in full security, under the protection of our laws, as long as they conform to them. But the Sardinian flag will henceforth cease to enjoy the prerogatives that exclusively belong to the mercantile marine of neutral Powers.

A term will be fixed for the departure of such Sardinian vessels as may at present be lying in the ports of the empire. The *exequatur* is immediately withdrawn from the Consuls of Sardinia in Russia.

The Russian agents resident at Genoa and Nice in like manner receive orders to suspend the exercise of their functions; the peace between the two countries having been broken by the Court of Sardinia from the moment she acceded to the treaty of alliance concluded on the 10th April, 1854, between England and France

The Emperor has deigned to charge me with the communication of these determinations to all friendly Powers

NESSELRODE.

AMERICA.

By the arrival of the steam-ship *Africa* at Liverpool on Tuesday, we have news from Boston to the 14th ult

A statement which required confirmation had been published to the effect that a portion of an expedition against Cuba had left New Orleans and other southern ports. The total enlistment in this enterprise, it was said, amounted to 3500 men.

Letters from Havannah, of the 1st ult, state that the Captain-General was on the *qui vive*, after having heard that an expedition of invasion was about to sail from the United States. Two British men-of-war, one bearing an Admiral's flag, were seen steering into Havannah.

The House of Representatives has passed the Texas Debt Bill, with an amendment, reducing the indemnity to the creditors to 6,350,000 dollars, being the principal, accrued interest, and present market worth of the 5,000,000 Public Stock reserved for this object under the compromise measures of 1850. Mr. Houston, of the Ways and Means Committee, succeeded in getting a test vote to go into Committee of the whole House on his proposed amendment of the tariff—yeas 104, nays 57. But, on going into Committee, the House decided by another close vote to take up a different bill, which virtually negatived the previous proposition.

Mr. Breckinridge has stated in the Senate that he had declined the appointment of Minister to Spain.

The Government of Washington has remitted the order made by Judge Ingersoll to condemn to the United States the British steam-ship *Alps* for smuggling. The penalty to which Captain Nye, of the steam-ship *Pacific*, was rendered liable in consequence of his steward being convicted of smuggling watches, has also been remitted.

Proceedings have been commenced against the Spanish Consul in New York—damages laid at 10,000 dols., for an assault and battery on the young Cuban, Hernandez, in the late attempt to remove him from America to Cuba. Carnobell, the agent who acted in the affair, has been arrested for the same offence, and held to bail in the sum of 2000 dols.

The Chicago and Mississippi Railroad was to be opened on the 9th ult. The Illinois Central Railroad would also, probably, be opened the same day.

The United States' mail steam-ship *North Star* arrived at New York on the 8th ult., with one week's later news from California, and specie value 1,259,209 dols. The Panama Railroad is at length completed. On the 28th of January a train passed over the Isthmus, from Aspinwall to Panama, for the first time. Its arrival caused a great excitement at Panama.

It was reported by the *North Star* that a part of Santa Anna's army, 2000 in number, had deserted and gone over to Alvarez. A portion of them, with some of the officers, reached Acapulco on the 23rd of January.

DISTURBANCES IN AUSTRALIA.

Accounts from Melbourne to the 2nd of December state that serious disturbances had taken place at Ballarat, and that things still wore a threatening aspect at the departure of these advices. The riots sprang out of an attempt to arrest a digger for the non-payment of his licence. Rumours of disturbances had reached Melbourne as early as the 27th of November, and before any actual overt act; and it would appear that the Governor and Council had taken precautionary measures by moving down small parties of the 12th and 40th Regiments, under the command of Captains Atkinson and Wise. On the 30th November, however, the diggers still persisted in refusing to pay their licences, on Mr. Commissioner Rede attempting to collect them, supported by a body of foot and mounted police, and the small amount of military before mentioned. Ultimately a collision took place, but without loss of life. Some of the diggers were made prisoners; and it was feared that an attempt would be made at a forcible rescue by their companions. The *Melbourne Argus* of the 2nd says:—

The Government is thoroughly aroused, and is concentrating the whole military and police force of the colony at Ballarat. All the available men of the 40th and 12th Regiments have left town for that locality. A body of 300 rank and file of the former regiment, with their band, were marched out yesterday afternoon, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Valliant and the whole of the officers of the regiment. They took with them four field-pieces, and two 6 and two 12-pounders. All the officers and men of the 12th Regiment, with the exception of Captain Vercker, and the necessary guard, have left for the same place. They number about 300. Twenty-four men-of-war's-men and about twenty marines from her Majesty's ship *Electra* have also been sent off. Fifty horse and about the same number of foot police were to be dispatched yesterday afternoon. A large number of baggage and ammunition waggons were sent with the military. We also hear that Sir Robert Sickle, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces, and Colonel M'Cartney, Adjutant-General, intended to start for Ballarat at three o'clock this morning. The amount of the force, military and police, to be assembled at those diggings will be little short of 1000 men.

INDIA AND CHINA

The steamer *Calcutta* arrived at Trieste on Tuesday morning, at six o'clock. An expedition was about to proceed from Peshawur into the Mecranzaie valley, a long narrow deep defile parallel to the Kohat valley, and through which the principal trade to Cabul used to be conducted. Nominally a portion of the Punjaub, it became British territory in 1849, but the inhabitants of it in reality never owned a master, and have lived the lives of robbers and freebooters. Now that our hands are at leisure, it has been resolved to bring them into subjection. The 10th Hussars, with their horses, nearly 400 strong, had quitted the presidency for Suez, and it is thought will be at the scene of action by April. Large detachments of infantry and cavalry were to follow. There are at present 27,000 Queen's troops in India, or 7000 more than the Act of Parliament allows; with peace so universal as it is at present, and prospects of tranquillity so favourable, 10,000 or 12,000 might be spared with a inconvenience.

In China the civil war rages as fiercely as ever. Trade at Canton is almost stopped.

MR. ROEBUCK'S COMMITTEE.—This committee, consisting of Mr. Roebuck, Mr. Drummond, Sir John Paddington, Colonel Lindsay, Mr. Layard, Mr. Ellice, Lord Seymour, Sir George Cornewall Lewis, General Peel, Mr. Brannston, and Mr. John Bell, met on Monday, at half-past three, for the first time, for the purpose of choosing a chairman, and considering what course they should adopt in prosecuting this important inquiry.

THE election for the Cardigan burghs has terminated in the return of Mr. Lloyd Davies, who polled 298 votes, against Mr. Evans's 216.

WEST RIDING REPRESENTATION.—We are informed that there is not the smallest authority for announcing that Mr. John Parker, the late member for Sheffield, would be proposed for the West Riding in case of a vacancy on an election, and that such a thing is altogether improbable.—*Leeds Mercury*

THE TURKISH CONTINGENT.—Major-General Vivian, of the Madras army, who was for many years Adjutant-General of that Presidency, has been appointed by Lord Panmure to command the Turkish contingent. The officers will be selected principally from the Indian army. Lieut. E. B. Ramsay, of the Madras army, has been appointed Aide-de-Camp. General Vivian will leave London next week. These are the only appointments which have been yet made. The contingent will consist of 20,000 men of all arms, the full number authorised by the convention between Great Britain and the Ottoman Porte.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, Feb. 27, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, Feb. 13, 1855.

My Lord Duke,—I mentioned to your Grace, in my despatch of the 10th inst., that there had been a return of bad weather, and that the country was again saturated with wet.

On Sunday it rained or snowed from morning till night, and the wind was very high; and though it was fine yesterday, still the ground was in a worse state than I had seen it for some time.

The enemy has made no movement.

Major-General Jones, Royal Engineers, arrived a few days ago, and is busily engaged in making himself acquainted with the position occupied by both armies.

Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown has also returned, and I have great satisfaction in adding, in excellent health. His wound is healed, and, with the exception of not having entirely regained the full use of his elbow, he no longer suffers any inconvenience from it. He will resume the command of his division without loss of time.

I enclose the return of the casualties to the 11th instant.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED, FROM 9TH TO 11TH FEBRUARY, 1855, INCLUSIVE

KILLED

47th Foot: Sergeant Joseph Godfray.

WOUNDED.

88th Foot: Private Dan. McMahon, severely.
54th Foot: Lance Corporal Jos. Bliss, slightly.

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General.

War Department, March 2.

Lord Panmure yesterday received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, Feb. 17.

My Lord Duke,—I have the satisfaction to acquaint your Grace that the weather has improved since I last addressed you, and the country is becoming drier.

Two days ago the thermometer was up at 60. It was somewhat lower yesterday, and early this morning it was down below freezing point, and at his moment it is snowing.

I mention these particulars in order to show your Grace how variable this climate is.

No movement has been made upon the part of the enemy. The garrison of Sebastopol is engaged in deepening the ditches, and improving the defences of the south front, and in constructing works on the north side of the harbour.

I have received information that the Russian army, in the neighbourhood of Bagtchesera and Simpheropol is suffering much from the want of provisions, and from privations of all kinds.

I am happy to be able to say that the railway is making considerable progress, and that every hope is entertained that in the course of a very short time it will be available for transit as far as Kadikoi, which will accelerate the conveyance of stores up to the Camp.

I enclose the return of casualties up to the 16th inst.

I have great pleasure in stating that Colonel Bell of the Royal Regiment, who received a slight wound in the side from a musket-ball, when commanding in the last trenches, on the night of the 14th inst., experiences very little inconvenience from it, and has felt well enough to continue to discharge his duty with his accustomed zeal.

I have, &c. RAGLAN.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c.

NOMINAL LIST OF OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND PRIVATES WHO HAVE BEEN WOUNDED FROM THE 9TH TO THE 15TH OF FEB., 1855

1st Lieut. Colonel George Bell, slightly
19th Foot: Private Maurice Bunnett, severely
24th Sergeant Isaac M'Lucy, slightly.
47th Private John White, slightly.
77th Private Thomas Hughes and Daniel Barden, dangerously
88th: Private William Murray, severely.
90th. Private James Hobbs, severely

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

As far as can be ascertained at present, the fleet about to be despatched to the Baltic will thus be composed:—

Commander-in-Chief—Rear-Admiral of the Blue, the Hon. R. S. Dundas, C.B.

Second in Command—Rear-Admiral of the Blue Mr. Seymour.

Third in Command—Rear-Admiral of the Blue, R. L. Baynes, C.B.

Captain of the Fleet—The Hon. F. T. Pelham.

Duke of Wellington (flag), 131 guns, 700 horse-power.

	Guns.	H.-power.		Guns.	H.-power.		Guns.	H.-power.
Royal George	103	400	Hastings	60	200	Lightning	3	100
Exmouth	91	400	Impregnable	51	360	Vulture	3	679
James Watt	91	500	Euryalus	51	400	Desperate	8	400
Princess	91	400	Arrogant	47	360	Cuckoo	6	400
Caesar	91	400	Amphion	34	360	Cruiser	14	60
Nile	91	500	Horatio	34	360	Harrier	14	160
Majestic	81	400	Cossack	31	350	Ariel	9	60
Cressy	81	400	Pylades	31	350	Falcon	17	106
Colossus	81	400	Esk	31	350	Starlight	6	400
Sanspareil	70	350	Tartar	31	350	Rosamond	6	280
Blenheim	60	450	Archer	17	350	Driver	6	280
Hogue	60	450	Retribution	28	400	Jason	6	280
Ajax	60	450	Magicienne	16	400	Locust	3	120
Edinburgh	60	450	Odin	16	500	Otter	3	120
Russell	60	300	Samson	6	500	Porcupine	3	120
Hawke	60	250	Dragon	6	560	Zephyr	3	100
Cornwallis	60	200	Rolling	6	560	Recruit	4	160
Pembroke	60	200	Penelope	18	650	Weser	6	120

FLOATING BATTERIES.

	Guns.	H.-power.		Guns.	H.-power.		Guns.	H.-power.
Ætna	16		Meteor	10		Trusty	14	
Glutton	16		Thunder	10				

MORTAR VESSELS.

	Guns.	H.-power.		Guns.	H.-power.		Guns.	H.-power.
Blazer	1		Hecate	1		Porcupine	1	
Firm	1		Manly	1		Surly	1	
Hardy	1		Mastiff	1				

STEAM GUNBOATS.

	Guns.	H.-power.		Guns.	H.-power.		Guns.	H.-power.
Cleaner	3		Cracker	2		Redwing	2	
Peiter	3		Dapper	2		Skylark	2	
Plumber	3		Fancy	2		Snap	2	
Ruby	3		Grinder	2		Sterling	2	
Teaser	3		Bird	2		Stork	2	
Badger	3		Jackdaw	2		Swinger	2	
Snapper	3		Jager	2		Thistle	2	
Bloor	2		Jack	2		Wasp	2	
Boxer	2		Magpie	2		Pigmy	2	
Clinker	2							

The *Belleisle*, 24, Commander Hosken, hospital ship.

The *Æglos*, 42 ammunition magazine.

The *Perseverance*, storeship.

The *Volcano*, floating engineers' factory, Master Commander Dyer.

Rear-Admiral Seymour has hoisted his flag (*pro tem.*) as second in command of the Baltic Fleet on board the *Nile*, at Plymouth.

THE Oxfordshire Militia, having obtained the required number of volunteers, are to proceed immediately on foreign service.

THE Government has entered into an extensive contract for the supply of Minié rifles for the use of the Rifle Brigade and 60th Royal Rifle Regiment, and rifled carbines for two cavalry regiments, which will be designated "Mounted Riflemen." This latter branch of the service was found to be most efficient in the campaign on the Rhine in the years 1793 and 1794. A large contract for cavalry sabres, holster pistols, and lances has also been agreed to, in order to place the cavalry arm of the service on the most efficient footing. A quantity of musquetoons, pistols, cutlasses, boarding-pikes and tomahawks, have also been ordered for the Navy, the greater portion of which are to be delivered into store at the Tower by the middle of this month

RECRUITING FOR THE ARMY.—"HORSE GUARDS.—At the instance of the General Commanding-in-Chief, the Secretary-at-War has concurred to an arrangement by which soldiers who have purchased their discharge, or obtained a free discharge by medical reason, and who subsequently re-enlist within two years after their discharge, shall be allowed to carry their former service towards pension; which indulgence, however, is only to apply to men who have re-enlisted, or may re-enlist, after the 31st December, 1854. Directions have been given for altering the Royal warrant accordingly. By command of the General Commanding-in-Chief.—G. A. WETHERALL, A.G."

THE *Great Britain* screw-steamer is now complete for troops. She is victualled for ten weeks for 1500 men and 56 officers. She has 1000 berths; 162 berths; total, below and under cover, 1221. She is also complete with the usual medical requirements. The *Adon* (also a screw) is completely fitted in the first style of comfort for 200 cavalry horses. She stows twenty days' water for them, and, taken altogether, is a most desirable vessel for horses. She will also carry out 200 men, and has superior accommodation for about fifty officers. The new screw-steamer *Indian* is also fitting at Liverpool, for 120 horses. The *Cambria*, recently returned from the Crimea, is having a thorough overhaul, and being fitted up for the conveyance to the seat of war of 100 horses.

ON Saturday a number of the medical officers attached to the Government Civil Hospital at Smyrna, left the Levant-bridge station to proceed to their destination, at Paris for Bracelin. They were accompanied by a body of forty orderlies. It is expected that the nurses will be sent out immediately by the same route

THE LATE MR. HUME.

In our last Number we gave a memoir of the late member for the Montrose burghs, and we have this week given a Portrait of him from [illegible] type by Mayall. In the House of Commons last Monday evening Lord Palmerston paid a high tribute to the memory of the deceased politician. After moving that the Speaker do issue his warrant to the Clerk of the Crown for a new writ for the election of a member to fill the vacancy, he went on to say:—

Sir, I cannot simply confine myself to the bare motion that I have just put into your hands (Cheers). I should not be doing justice to the feelings of the House if I were not to express the feelings of regret that are shared, I am sure, by all who hear me (Loud Cheers), and the feelings of respect that we entertain for the memory of the colleague—the member—whose loss we have now to replace. Sir, it has been said of an eminent man of former times that he "gave up to party what was meant for mankind." Sir, the reverse of that may be said of our late colleague, Mr. Hume (Cheers), for the party to which he devoted the labours of his life was his country, and, beyond his country, the general interests of mankind at large (Cheers). Sir, many men have obtained an eminent position in this House by placing themselves at the head of a faithful band of friends whose object has been to acquire political power to enable them to govern the country. Mr. Hume was a remarkable instance of a man who gained an eminent position in this House and the country, who established himself a name which, I may say, was not only known throughout Europe, but whose reputation passed beyond those limits, by exertions that were wholly disinterested, as far as he himself was concerned, and totally separate from any attempt to acquire, by his own exertions or those of his friends, political power in the country (Cheers). He was a man of whom it may be said that he took the lead in almost every measure of improvement which has of late years been carried into practical application. He had industry that nothing could tire or overcome. His acquirements spread over the whole range of those matters which concern the interests of the country and the general interests of the community at large (Cheers). He had perseverance that was baffled by no obstacle; and it is due to him to say that, although during the whole course of his proceedings and of his attempts to carry out his own opinions he had frequently many opposed to him, and was frequently exposed to those rough conflicts which are the necessary consequences to a man seeking to enforce his opinions in this House, yet nothing that ever passed between him and those most opposed to him ever left one trace of resentment, one particle of bitterness on his mind (Cheers). And while I remember to have heard it said of one person who held a high position in this House that whatever acrimony might have been created by party conflicts never went with him beyond the doors of this House, I may say that no feelings excited by party conflict ever went with Mr. Hume to the doors of this House (Hear, hear). A man with greater industry, a man who devoted his whole life with greater consistency to the good and service of his country, has never sat within these walls (Cheers). I am persuaded that those who differed from him in opinion upon the matters which he felt it his duty to bring before this House, and to recommend for the adoption of Parliament must do him the justice to say that he acted from the purest motives of a sincere desire for the welfare of the country. Those who differ from him must do justice to the integrity of his character, and we must all say—those who agree with him, as well as those who differ from him—that the death of a man possessing his abilities, his industry, and his disinterested character must at all times be a great loss to this House. He was a man peculiarly belonging to the age in which he lived. He had party feelings—that is, he was associated with those who agreed with him in the objects he sought to accomplish; but his party feelings were totally independent of the attempt to acquire political ascendancy (Cheers). He endeavoured to do what he thought his duty to the country. Where he succeeded he was proud of his achievements; where he failed he did not relax his efforts, and still continued his career of public usefulness (Hear, hear). Sir, I am sure we all look back to his loss with regret, and no man feels more sincerely than I do the regret with which every person must have proposed the motion which I now move (Cheers).

Sir J. Walmsley, having enjoyed the confidence and friendship of Mr. Hume, wished to add one sentence to the well-merited tribute just paid to his memory (Hear). Mr. Hume's public labours were only exceeded by his private worth. He never made an enemy or lost a friend; and he trusted that a grateful people would not let the opportunity pass without some fitting memorial worthy of himself and the country (Hear, hear).

Mr. Brotherton wished to be permitted to pay a humble tribute of respect to the memory of Mr. Hume. He had been for twenty-one years a witness of his labours, and he never saw a man less actuated by feelings of party than Mr. Hume, or who had more claims to the respect and veneration of the country. If ever there were an honest member of Parliament, Mr Hume was one (Cheers).

THE LATE MR. JOSEPH HUME, M.P.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAYALL.

Men Wanted in Russia. Letters from the Polish frontiers mention as a fact that the Customs and other authorities have received orders to let in all emigrants applying for admission into Poland, whether they left the kingdom from political or any other motives. What sort of reception awaits those who may be induced to return deponent saveth not. At the same time orders have been given to the frontier custom-houses to give to every German surgeon who arrives and reports himself as willing to enter the Russian military service the sum of 20 silver roubles to defray his traveling expenses as far as Warsaw. The authorities at the frontier stations of Lieibtsch and Szuszwo have, however, not yet had an opportunity of obeying these orders; and, after it has become known how German surgeons are treated in Russia, it is [illegible] that the custom-house people will be much inconvenienced and overrun by German army surgeons requiring the 20 roubles to carry them to Warsaw. If the order were reversed there can be no doubt that many would avail themselves of it.

DAMAGE TO THE SOUTH DEVON RAILWAY, NEAR DAWLISH.

Early on Friday morning the 16th ult., considerable damage occurred to the line near Dawlish, owing to the violence of the sea, when more than thirty yards of the wall adjoining the line was destroyed, the waves tearing up also a considerable portion of the embankment under the romantic cliffs, forming a sort of chasm, and destroying the line. The train has been consequently impeded, and the passengers obliged to alight and carry their luggage some distance, crossing a temporary platform, to the carriages waiting their arrival. The scene, although a melancholy one, has a picturesque appearance, especially at night time, as many workmen are employed, and work by fire-light, while the raging sea is threatening them with destruction. Amidst the waves, near the cliffs, is a very curious mass of rock called "the Parson," which has withstood the storms for ages, though another mass, called "the Clerk," has long since disappeared. The cliffs at this part of the coast are highly picturesque, and the distant ones are visible for many miles; and, with the addition of vessels, the prospect is perhaps, not to be surpassed for pictorial effect. For the sketch we are indebted to Mr. F. W. L. Stockdale.

ACCIDENT TO THE SOUTH DEVON RAILWAY, AT DAWLISH.

TOMB OF THE EARL OF BEAUCHAMP, JUST ERECTED IN THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARYLEBONE, NEW ROAD.

This very interesting memorial has lately been placed in the parish church of St. Marylebone, to the memory of the late Earl of Beauchamp, by his widow, Catherine, Countess of Beauchamp. The tablet consists of a bas-relief, which has been executed in Italy, and is a fine work of art. The urn bears in Greek, "He is not dead, but sleepeth" Above are the arms of the Earl and Countess (his second wife), in their proper colours; the whole surmounted by a white marble cross. The following is the inscription:—

Sacred to the memory of JOHN REGINALD PINDAR, third Earl of Beauchamp of Madresfield, Viscount Elmley and Baron of Powyke, county of Worcester, where he was beloved and respected for thirty years as a landlord and [illegible] as well as a consistent politician. He was endowed with rare common sense, and superior abilities for business. He attained great knowledge in agriculture, in the pursuits of which he took pleasure. He was remarkable for the constancy of his attachment to the friends of his youth, and he never forgot a kindness. He bequeathed £60,000 for the erection and endowment of almshouses at Newland, Worcestershire, for the benefit of the agricultural poor. The last act of his life was to rebuild, at his sole expense, the church at Madresfield. He died January 2nd, 1853, aged sixty-nine years, after a long illness, borne with exemplary resignation, placidity, and gentleness. His widow Catherine, Countess of Beauchamp (third daughter of the Baroness Braye), received his last sigh and mourned his loss. She erects this monument as a tribute of affection to his memory.—Jesu Mercy!

"I am the resurrection and the life. He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet he shall live." St. John, c. ii., v. 25

SKATING IN THE REGENT'S CANAL TUNNEL.

SKATING UNDERGROUND.

This Illustration is another remarkable scene consequent upon the intense frost. During the whole of last week, the canal from Regent's-park Basin to Paddington, presented a scene of much animation and bustle, from the number of skaters and sliders upon it. The Illustration is taken from the Regent's-park end of the tunnel, through which the canal runs under Aberdeen-place and Maida-hill (about a quarter of a mile long) which throughout each day was traversed by hundreds of skaters, who went through and through, in imitation of express trains, with appropriate noises and whistlings, as of engines letting off the steam, &c.; the ice being considered good from there having been no snow upon it, and the bargemen being unable to draw the ice-barge through to break it, at the commencement of the frost. The icicles from the roof gave a very picturesque appearance to the scene. On Sunday the 18th ult., there was such a concourse of people at one time going through, it was considered dangerous; so that a number of policemen were very properly stationed at each end to stop them, as it was feared they might accumulate in the middle, and cause the ice to give way. Next day, the police were withdrawn, and "the trains" were allowed to run as usual.

THE THAMES FROZEN OVER AT RICHMOND.

Among the memorabilia of the recent frost was the freezing of the entire width of the river Thames at Richmond, which had not occurred for seventeen years. Many persons crossed the ice by two paths—one from opposite the villa of the Duke of Buccleuch, and the other just above the bridge, where the ice was much rougher; both paths were strewed with sand, for the safety of the passengers. Some of the Richmond skaters took advantage of this rare state of the river; but the greater number, including a few ladies, preferred the smoother ice of the large ponds in Richmond-park

Our Artist has sketched the frozen Thames as seen through one of the arches of Paine's Bridge, which forms a constituent feature in many beautiful views from surrounding points—

To where the silver Thames first rural grows

We miss the luxuriance of the pendent woods and deep masses of shade which are the poetical characteristics of the resplendent river scenery; but we enjoy in their stead the beautiful forms of the bare bough trees to delight the student of nature, and the sports on the ice to break the silence of the wintry landscape.

THE THAMES FROZEN OVER AT RICHMOND

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

Sunday, March 4.—2nd Sunday in Lent.
Monday, 5.—Battle of Barossa, 1811. Dr. Parr died, 1825.
Tuesday, 6.—Michael Angelo born, 1475.
Wednesday, 7.—St. Perpetua.
Thursday, 8.—Raphael born, 1483. William III. died, 1702.
Friday, 9.—David Rizzio assassinated, 1566.
Saturday, 10.—Sir Hugh Myddelton died, 1589.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 10, 1855.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday	
M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
2 48	3 4	3 18	3 32	3 45	4 0	4 15	4 30	4 44	5 1	5 16	5 32	5 50	6 9

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** We have received a sheet of rubbish from New York, called an *American cheap Newspaper*, purporting to give the personal history of the Press of London. To our own knowledge this newspaper is full of inaccuracies and grossly personal impertinence; and with regard to what is said about the commencement of the Illustrated London News, we give the flatest contradiction to its statements. If any alteration in the stamp of newspapers were to produce such journals in England as this American specimen, no calamity we have of late experienced, would equal the nuisance. We are bound in justice to state that many of these offensive journals are not conducted by Americans, but by expatriated Irishmen, and the effusions of the London press, who for legal and other reasons dare not show their faces in Great Britain. Still, we regret that the people of the United States should encourage such publications.

Clericus, Liverpool, asks when was the first payment of Income-tax on incomes of £100 a year due? Ans. The autumn quarter of 1853. 2. When was the amount raised from 5d. in the pound to 10d.—Ans. In March, 1854. 3. Is not the interest of money borrowed for the purpose of carrying on trade legally exempt from Income-tax? Ans. No.

Philippe 102.—The passage in question is from Shakspeare's "As You Like it."
A Subscriber, Hackney, should apply to Messrs. Reeve, Natural History publishers, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden.
O. H., Rochdale.—The Earl of Derby's son, Lord Stanley, sits in Parliament for King's Lynn.
T. H. S. is thanked. We have not room for his letter.
Volunteer.—A History of the Hon Artillery Company, 4to, has been published.
J. B. D. B., Lowestoft, had better send his letter, under cover, to the French Ambassador.
A Soldier's Daughter. We regret that we have not room for the lines.
C. G. and P.—The lines are inadmissible.
M. C. Guernsey.—Declined.
F. A. Donegal.—Address: Kensington.
Income-tax, Newport, is liable.
R. P., Balaclava, is thanked.
W. B., Cork.—Received.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1855.

There is no doubt a peace party in Russia—if that can be called a party which has no organisation, or means of intercommunion. We may suppose that the Russian lovers of peace, whom the Czar will not allow to speak, are composed not only of the widows and orphans of those who have fallen under the fire of the British and French legions, or who have miserably perished in the snows of the Crimea, but of the lordly owners of the serfs who supply the human nutriment for the grim and bloody Moloch of war, and who, in the absence of a great and thriving middle class, pay the whole cost of the present struggle. No doubt they are lovers of peace; and would, if they had an opportunity, make their wishes heard in the Imperial presence. But, whatever be their strength or weakness, no voice from them reaches outer Europe. In like manner there is doubtless a party in France which hates war for its derangement of commerce and industry, and for the countless national as well as private evils which it produces; but Europe hears little of its sentiments, for France is dumb, except for approval. The Turks, too, may have a peace party amongst them, which would rather yield to the Czar than be at the trouble of fighting against him; though we doubt whether there is one such man in the Turkish dominions who is not a Greek by birth and religion. It thus happens that a portion of the English are the only peace-mongers who can manage to make their opinions heard in the world. But we must not overrate their importance on that account. Strictly speaking, the British Government, and the large bulk of the sound-hearted British people, are friends of peace—peace at all price—peace even at the heavy price of war. It is for peace that we are fighting;—peace so solid, and so well secured by victory, that not even Nicholas and his hordes shall dare, or be able, to break it.

But we have another peace party which is in reality the party of war—the party of submission to wrong, because it is inconvenient and troublesome to enforce the right; the party which would yield to the strong ruffian's demands, rather than put on an attitude of manliness, and defy him; the party which would invite war by the very means which it foolishly employs to prevent it; the party of silly sheep that bleat with virtuous unconcern when the wolf has seized the youngling of the flock, and is devouring it before their eyes. As long as this party avoids argument and sticks to its dogma, that war is, under all circumstances, a crime, and that it is just as wicked to resist evil as to commit it, the only feeling that honest and sensible men can entertain towards its members is one of pity that amiable sentiment and misjudging philanthropy should lead estimable citizens so far astray. But it appears that we have an offshoot from this party—not composed of members of the Society of Friends alone—who make Manchester their head-quarters, and are determined to keep up an agitation in favour of immediate peace. We gather from their speeches that any kind of peace would suit them—even a dishonourable one. So intensely do they hate—or pretend to hate—war, that they would barter everything for peace, except their money. When they endeavour to act upon public opinion by mis-statements of fact, they cease to be harmless enthusiasts, like the Sturges and the Brights, and become mischievous agitators who but ill conceal the cunning of the serpent under the guise of the meekness of the dove. At a meeting of ex-members of the Anti-Corn-Law League, held at Newall's-buildings, on Tuesday evening last, and under the presidency of Mr. George Wilson, the well-known ex-chairman of that defunct Association, it was stated in effect, if not in express terms, that this country cannot afford to go to war in support of any principle or of any cause whatever. If the various gentlemen who urged these views spoke the truth, there would speedily be an end of the British empire, and with it of that commercial prosperity which they one and all seem to consider the only earthly object for which states or individuals ought to strive. Mr. George Wilson said that if "we looked around us we should see provisions at a high price—the bankrupt list increased—shopkeepers complaining of the absence of customers—very many more empty houses than could be found a few years ago—a reduction of wages and men working short time—men discharged and becoming competitors for work with those still employed, by which means the value of labour was brought down—and an amount of general suffering almost unparalleled staring us in the face for many years to come, if the war should continue." Mr. Hyde Gregg was equally lugubrious. The interruption of our trade with Russia—though Moldavia and Wallachia are far better customers for our manufactures, and consume twice or thrice as much of them—was held by this gentleman to be absolutely fatal to our national existence. "In a commercial country like England," said this gentleman, "the wheat weshut out raised the price at home; the flax and hemp not arriving, the mills of Belfast, Dundee, and Leeds were stopped: the people were left without food, and perhaps there were tumults in consequence. As to hemp, with our Royal and commercial marine, we could not do without it. In such countries as Russia or Spain there might be civil war or invasion, and yet all ordinary occupations might proceed—everybody might be fed and clothed. But our working classes were improvident; they were distressed if they did not receive their wages at the end of a week they began to be tumultuous at the end of a fortnight—and in less than a month, with civil war or foreign invasion, everything would be in a state of confusion, and all would be going to ruin." Mr. Thomasson, of Bolton, said, "It was, no doubt, an excellent thing to adjust the balance of power in Europe, and to civilise Turkey; but were we prepared to do it at the cost of the civilisation of our countrymen? That was the practical question before us. Upon full consideration, he thought it premature to say more of the condition of the population in his own district (Bolton) than that he regarded the immediate future with the utmost alarm and almost with dismay." All the speeches were to the same tune; and Mr. Wilson, without calling for a vote, wound up the proceedings by the expression of his belief that, if Lord John Russell did not succeed in making peace at Vienna, "fearful consequences would result to this country." In our opinion, consequences infinitely more fearful would result if the condition of this great country was really such as Mr. Wilson and his friends represent it to be. Let them take heart of grace. War is a bad thing, as every one knew before they arose to teach it; and so are fevers, and many other things which humanity must endure, and profit by. There is wisdom out of Manchester as well as in it; and there are at least one or two, if not a dozen, things better than money; and among them, justice, and honour, and self-respect. But the ex-chairman and ex-members of the League, though once in advance of their countrymen on the question of Free-trade, are on other subjects lamentably in arrear with the world's intelligence. They lag behind the common sense of the people; and no more represent the truth of contemporary history, or the sentiments of the masses, than the Mormons of Manchester and Liverpool represent the religious feeling and conviction of the British nation. Their policy, if adopted—which we trust it never will be—would sacrifice honour for peace, and everything for money. As a necessary consequence it would secure neither peace nor money. We should lose our place in the world; become a prey to the ambition of our neighbours, and owe our existence to other States, as Turkey owes hers to us. And then, with more rapidity than would suit the comfort of Manchester and Manchester men, down would crumble that fine fabric of commercial prosperity which these gentlemen so much love, and for the sake of which they would make such large but unavailing sacrifice of national honour.

Parliament grudges no money for the war. It votes with alacrity all that is asked. But the debates on the Estimates form an entirely distinct feature in Parliamentary discussion. Debates, indeed, they are hardly entitled, or let us say hardly deserve, to be called, for, instead of the regular parallels and batteries of set oratory, they assume the more practical form of independent conversational firing. Much more of good sense and real fact is brought up in the course of three or four hours of a Committee on the Estimates than in a week of adjourned debating on a second reading. The public knows comparatively little of these discussions, for it is impossible to report them fully, or at least the conductors of the London press have not yet deemed it needful to adopt the custom of their provincial contemporaries, who jot down every syllable of twaddle or flippancy uttered by town councillors and such-like celebrities, until, on taking up a country journal, one's marvel is divided between the absurdity of the reporter and of the reported. Hitherto the Parliamentary gallery has abstained from more than a condensed summary of Committee work, though, no doubt, a large portion of the speakers would be better pleased were every "aside" noted; every explanation, mistake, and retractation recorded, every "Yes, I did," and "No, you didn't," "O, I dare say," and "Ah, it's all very well," registered after the fashion of the provinces.

In Committee few "speeches" are made. Anybody may speak as often as he pleases, and therefore everybody usually speaks to the matter in hand at the time, without deeming it necessary to take large theoretical or party views. Now and then, however, a prepared address is introduced, but it is usually of a practical character, and is heard with advantage as where the history of a certain abuse, connected with a particular item in the Estimates, precedes a motion that such item be passed over, or where a particular reform is urged in regard to the employment of the special sum at which the Committee has arrived. On these occasions the speech is more elaborated, and is fully reported; at other times the stenographer skilfully packs a speaker's chief point into three or four lines, and omits all his apologies for speaking, his *facetiæ*, and the conversational portion of his observations. Many members rise in Committee whose names seldom or never occur in the reports of the regular debate—generally quiet, sensible men, who "happen to know" something about the one item, either personally, or through their constituents; who watch, sometimes a little nervously, until the Chairman of Committees begins to put it, and then, with a hurried "Mr. Bouverie, Sir," make their complaint. A Minister usually attends respectfully to a man of this kind, and listens with a manner in strong contrast to that with which he waits until any hack caviller, any professional grumbler, has done, in order to rise and give the stereotyped taunt and answer.

During the discussion of Army Estimates there are usually three or four exchanges of something like personalities. There are a few civilians in the House who have a particular dislike for the fashionable part of the Army, and seldom lose an opportunity of taking a fling at the Guards. The "service" is, however, quite adequately represented, and the missile has not long been flung when some honourable and gallant member rises to reply, and he is sometimes a chivalrous "heavy," sometimes a highly-ornamental Guardsman, sometimes a nobleman who "has served," for *esprit de corps* calls up any volunteer who may be within hearing. In such case, according to the nature of the man, you either hear the civilian indignantly assailed or loftily rebuked, occasionally the intimation that he is "utt'rly ignorant of what he is talkin' 'bout," conveyed in a rich imitation of the dialogue supplied by Mr. Leech to his "swells," and with that contempt of expletives which is taught by first-rate claret.

Two or three topics of importance were brought up during the Estimate discussions in the earlier part of the week. Mr. Lindsay, a shrewd man of business, contrasted, in a practical way, the different working of our military administration and that of France, with which he had, in some measure, acquainted himself, and he dwelt upon the importance of simple system. It may be remembered that, some short time ago, it was announced in the House of Lords that three officers had been sent over to Paris to examine into the system which has worked so much better than ours; and it is to be hoped that Parliament will insist upon some report of the result being given to the public: mere communications to the authorities will not be satisfactory. Then Mr. Layard (who, by the way, has been addressing his constituents, and explaining that he is out of office because he refused to take any office in which he did not believe his specialities would be useful) commented upon the course adopted in the Crimea in regard to forage. Horses were starving, and the officials sent to England for forage, when, said the member for Nineveh (speaking from knowledge of the countries), any quantity could have been obtained at three days' sailing distance. The advantage of the Committee discussions—which enable an informed man to pitch a single hard, damaging fact into the midst of a discussion in routine, and thus to show the ignorance of officialism—is self evident.

Colonel Knox also addressed himself to the question of the proposed Order of Merit for the private soldier. Although it was clear that the gallant Colonel spoke the sentiments of that section of the Army, which has a refined horror of any large infusion of officers who have risen from the ranks; and, although no doubt, this class regard the order of merit as rather an ingenious device for parrying the popular demand upon the subject, he talked rationally enough as to the mockery of making the distinction a mere honour. Our soldiers are not so well paid and cared for that we can afford to tie a piece of tinselled ribbon upon their coat, in full of all demands upon our gratitude for extraordinary exertions. If the position of a soldier were what it should be, the mere honour might suffice, but under existing arrangements the prize ought to be something tangible. Double pay and double pension was Colonel Knox's not unreasonable suggestion as accompaniments of the Order of Merit, and, if it be desired that the soldier shall habitually aspire to the decoration, the poor fellow ought to know that it is weighted, and that in his old age he shall have something else to keep him warm than the faint reflex of the fires of glory which is seen in a red ribbon.

It was also satisfactory to hear, from all sides of the Committee, the most unsparing denunciations of routine. The Conservatives vied with the Liberals in denouncing it; and, if this newly-awakened and most laudable hatred can be kept alive, there is some hope that our *next* war may be conducted upon a system affording reasonable hope of vigorous action.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

The following is the composition of the new Ministry, so far as it had been arranged up to the latest accounts:—

Lord Palmerston	First Lord of the Treasury.
Lord Cranworth	Lord Chancellor.
Lord Clarendon	Secretary for Foreign Affairs.
Lord Panmure	Secretary for the War Department.
Sir G. Grey	Secretary for the Home Department.
Lord John Russell	Secretary for the Colonies
Sir G. C. Lewis	Chancellor of the Exchequer.
Sir C. Wood	First Lord of the Admiralty
Sir W Molesworth	Chief Commissioner of Woods and Works.
Lord Granville	President of the Council.
Lord Canning	Postmaster General.
Duke of Argyll	Lord Privy Seal.
Lord Carlisle	Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.
Mr Horsman	Chief Secretary for Ireland
Lord Duncan	Lord of the Treasury, in the room of Lord Echo.
Lord Stanley of Alderley ..	President of the Board of Trade.
Mr. Vernon Smith.	President of the Board of Control.
Mr. Denby Seymour ..	Secretary to the Board of Control.

Mr. Villiers, who was offered the Vice-Presidency of the Board of Trade, declines that office, and retains his present post of Judge-Advocate-General. Mr. W. Cowper succeeds Mr. Fitzroy as Under-Secretary of State for the Home Department; and Sir Robert Peel will, it is said, go to the Colonial-office as Under-Secretary. Mr. Monckton Milnes has declined the Secretaryship of the Treasury—rendered vacant by the resignation of Lord Alfred Hervey. In filling the Secretaryship of the Ordnance, Lord Palmerston was anxious to avail himself of the business experience of Mr. Laing, but the extent of that gentleman's undertakings obliged him to decline the office. The Secretaryship of the Ordnance, as well as the office of Vice-President of the Board of Trade, a Lordship of the Treasury, and a Lordship of the Admiralty, remain vacant.

The Attorney-General for Ireland, Mr. Brewster, has tendered his resignation, and it has been accepted. The Solicitor-General, Mr. Keogh, will succeed Mr. Brewster as Attorney-General. Mr. John David Fitzgerald, Q.C., has been appointed Solicitor-General, in succession to Mr. Keogh.

Address of Lord John Russell.—Lord John Russell has issued the following address to the electors of London:—

Paris, Friday.

Gentlemen,—Her Majesty having been pleased to confide to me a mission of the highest importance, involving the interests of Europe, and affording hopes of an honourable termination of the present war, I felt it my duty to withdraw for a time from my service to you in Parliament. Whilst in this capital, intelligence has reached me of the resignation of three of the principal Ministers of the Crown, and Lord Palmerston has asked for my assistance in carrying on the Government. In the difficult circumstances in which the country is placed, I have not thought myself justified in withholding from the Queen any aid which it might be in my power to afford. I have, therefore, accepted office; and, on my return from Vienna, shall be prepared to assume its duties and responsibilities. In these circumstances I humbly place myself in your hands as a candidate for the renewal of your confidence.—I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your obedient servant, (Signed) J. Russell.

Lord John Russell left Paris on Sunday morning for Berlin, where he would be met with the latest documents of the Foreign office relating to the subject of his mission, and where he would probably make a short stay en route for Vienna

THE COURT.

On Saturday the Prince Consort and the two young Princes skated on the ice within Buckingham Palace gardens, while the Queen and the Royal Princesses promenaded on the banks of the lake. Afterwards her Majesty received a visit from the Duke and Duchess de Nemours. In the evening the Queen had a dinner party; the company at which included their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge, the Princess Mary, and the Duke of Cambridge, the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewska, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl and Countess of Derby, the Earl of Carlisle, Viscount and Viscountess Melton, the Bishop of London and Mrs. Blomfield, and Vice-Admiral Deans Dundas.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Alice, attended Divine service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace.

On Monday the Queen and Prince Albert, attended by Lord Alfred Paget and Captain the Hon Dudley De Ros, visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, at her residence, Gloucester-house. Her Majesty had a dinner-party. During the evening the "Allied Army March," composed by Miss A. M. Cooper for the benefit of the Patriotic Fund, was performed by the band of the Coldstream Guards.

On Tuesday the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge, and attended by the Viscountess Canning, the Hon. Mrs. Seymour, and Capt. the Hon. D. De Ros, inspected the Model of Sebastopol, and also the Great Globe, in Leicester-square. In the evening her Majesty honoured the Haymarket Theatre with her presence.

On Wednesday, after the Court, the Queen gave a dinner party, the company at which included the Duke of Argyll, the Duke and Duchess of Wellington, the Turkish Minister and Madame Musurus, the Prussian Minister and Countess Bernstorff, Lord and Lady Seymour, Lord and Lady Ernest Bruce, the Right Hon. Sir George Grey, the Right Hon. Sir John and Lady Young, Rear-Admiral Chads, and Major-General Catlor.

Earl Somers and Colonel the Hon. A. N. Hood have relieved Lord De Tabley and Mr. F. Cavendish as the Lord and Groom in Waiting to her Majesty. Viscountess Canning has succeeded the Countess of Desart as the Lady in Waiting to the Queen.

Her Majesty will hold Levees at St. James's Palace on the following days, at two o'clock:—Wednesday, the 7th of March next; Wednesday, the 14th of March next.

The Countess Walewska held an assembly on Tuesday evening, at the residence of the French Embassy, Albert-gate House. Her Serene Highness the Prince of Nassau honoured the reunion with his presence as did also General de la Marmora, Commander-in-Chief of the Sardinian Contingent.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MARCH 1.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Melted Snow in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Feb. 22	29.869	38.2	22.6	29.7	— 9.3	96	CALM	0.00
„ 24	29.702	41.5	27.4	33.5	— 6.1	87	S.W.	0.00
„ 25	29.321	49.5	30.0	43.5	+ 3.8	96	W.	0.14
„ 26	29.460	49.2	34.8	37.8	— 2.0	93	E.	0.08
„ 27	29.796	39.0	32.0	35.0	— 4.9	98	S.E.	0.00
„ 28	29.735	48.3	33.5	40.3	+ 0.4	93	S.W.	0.05
Mar. 1	29.540	54.0	35.1	42.2	+ 2.2	93	W.	0.14

Note.—The sign + denotes below the average, and the sign + above the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 29.87 inches at the beginning of the week to 29.32 inches by the 25th; increased to 29.80 inches by the 27th; and decreased to 29.53 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week was 29.548 inches

The mean daily temperature has varied from 10° below to 4° above their average values. They were below the averages on every day from Jan. 14 to Feb. 24, varying from 0.3° to 18.9° in defect; the mean defect for the whole period being 9.6° daily.

The *mean temperature of the week* was 37.4°, being 2.3° below the average of the corresponding week during thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 30.4°.

Weather.—On the first day of this week snow fell till 11 a.m.; there was nearly snow crystals, and for a short time the temperature was above 32°. On Saturday the morning was gloomy and dull till 11 a.m., the sun then shone brightly, and a rapid thaw set in, and on Sunday the temperature was in excess above the average, being the first day since January 13. On Tuesday the temperature again fell to 32, and snow in the form of crystals fell. After this day the thaw continued uninterruptedly till the end of the week.

For the month of February the mean reading of the barometer at the level of the sea was 29.770 inches. The highest temperature during the month was 49.2° on the 28th, and the lowest 7° on the 11th; the range of temperature during the month was therefore 42.2°. The mean of all the highest temperatures by day was 35.6°, and of all the lowest by night was 23.0°; the mean daily range of temperature during the month was therefore 12.6°. The mean temperature of the air during the month was 29.3°, being 0.5° below the average of the corresponding month during thirty-eight years, and the coldest at present recorded, the register extending back to the year 1814; the nearest approach was in the corresponding month of 1814, when the mean temperature was 32.0°. The mean temperature of evaporation for the month was 28.4°. The mean temperature of the dew point was 26.3°. The mean degree of humidity was 87 (complete saturation being represented by 100), and the fall of rain during the month was one inch nearly.

Lewisham, March 2, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending February 24, the births of 916 boys, and of 871 girls, were registered in the metropolitan districts—in all, 1,787 children. Within the same interval of time the deaths of 791 males, and of 813 females, were registered—in all, 1604 persons; exceeding the calculated number for the week by 337 The late rigorous weather showed only slight signs of mitigation till Saturday last, when a rapid thaw set in, and the season of extreme cold passed over. Its effects are shown in the preceding six weeks in the number of deaths reaching 9468, a number exceeding the average by 1705, which for the most part were the indirect results of the low temperature. The deaths weekly were nearly 100 in excess above the average for every degree the weekly temperature was below 32°.

MANSION HOUSE. This evening (Saturday) the Lord Mayor will entertain at dinner the Garrick Club, of which his Lordship is a member

ALTERATION OF THE CITY POLICE DUTY. On Monday morning an alteration took place with regard to the duty of the London police. In future the men will be placed on day duty for four hours, be relieved for four hours, and then commence their second four hours; thus affording them more relief than by the old system, that of having every other day a long duty of nine hours. The night officers will be placed on duty for eight and not nine hours, as heretofore, much to the comfort of those placed on the "bridge" or "market" duty.

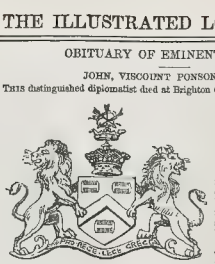
BREAKING UP OF THE FROST.—The River Thames, which, up to last Saturday, was blocked up by immense fields of floating ice, is now completely free. From the surveys that have already been made, £200,000, at the least, will be required to repair the damage done to sailing craft, small wherries, and the various steam-boat piers—even Blackfriars bridge pier had to be held together with heavy iron chains Westminster-pier has had most of the ponderous timber piles snapped asunder by the accumulated masses of ice floating against them. Well was the force of the ice running against the timbers that piles of wood as thick as a man's body were broken in twain as easily as any one could separate a mere match.

THE ROYAL MEDICAL COLLEGE. The third annual festival of the "Medical Benevolent College" (hence forward to be styled, in accordance with the gracious permission of her Majesty, the "Royal Medical College") was celebrated, on Wednesday evening, at the London Tavern. The Right Hon. the Earl of Carlisle presided. The noble Earl was supported by Viscount Ebrington, M.P., the Rev. Dr. Croly, Rev. Sir J. Shaw, Bart., Mr. J. Lloyd Davies, M.P., Major Palmer, Sir C. Stanton, Mr. J. Phillips, M.P., Dr. Wilson, Dr. Babington, &c. After the usual loyal toasts, the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Royal Medical College," was proposed by the noble Chairman in a most eloquent and feeling speech, in which his Lordship ably advocated the claims of the institution to a liberal share of public support and sympathy, and forcibly dwelt on the great commemoration of medical colleges under the Tudor Kings. The Rev. Dr. Croly, the Founder, Mr. Propert, then rose and gave a very interesting account of the institution, which is to be opened in the course of the ensuing summer, for the reception of 100 pupils, the sons of medical men, and a certain number of deceased medical men or their widows and orphans. The list of subscriptions announced by Mr. Propert in the course of the evening amounted to upwards of £2100. The Rev Dr. Croly afterwards delivered an eloquent speech in favour of the medical profession, in which he urged the expediency of blending medical with theological education, especially for missionaries. The health of the noble Chairman was proposed by Lord Ebrington, under the style and title of "The new Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland. This toast was enthusiastically received; and the noble Earl, in returning thanks, acknowledged the high honour of the office. After this toast, the festivities of the evening were prolonged to a late hour. The musical arrangements were made under the direction of Mr. Benson, and Mr. Harker was a most efficient toastmaster.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

JOHN, VISCOUNT PONSONBY, G.C.B.

THIS distinguished diplomatist died at Brighton on the 21st ult., aged eighty-four. His Lordship—a scion of the noble house of Bessborough—was son and heir of William Brabazon, first Baron Ponsonby, of Imokilly, and grandson of the Right Hon. John Ponsonby, Speaker of the Irish House of Commons, who was second son of the first Earl of Bessborough. He succeeded his father 5th November, 1806, and obtained the Viscounty, by creation, in 1839.

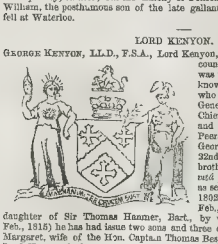


In 1826 Lord Ponsonby was appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Buenos Ayres; and in 1828 to Rio Janeiro. In 1830 he proceeded on a special mission to Belgium. In 1832 he became Envoy at Naples; and at the close of the same year was constituted Ambassador to the Sublime Porte, in which important station he continued until October, 1841. From 1846 to 1851 his Lordship was Ambassador to the Court of Austria. For his eminent services he was given the Grand Cross of the Bath in 1834; and in 1839 raised to the degree of Viscount.

He married, 13th January, 1803, Lady Frances Villiers, daughter of George Bussey, fourth Earl of Jersey, but had no issue. His Viscounty becomes, consequently, extinct; but the Barony of Ponsonby devolves on his nephew, William, the posthumous son of the late gallant Sir William Ponsonby, who fell at Waterloo.

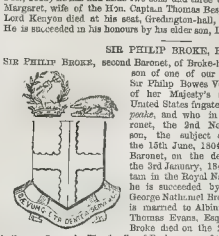
LORD KENYON.

GEORGE KENYON, LL.D., F.S.A., Lord Kenyon, Baron of Gredington, in the county of Flint, and a Baronet, was the second son of the well-known lawyer, Sir Lloyd Kenyon, who was successively Attorney-General, Master of the Rolls, and Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and who was elevated to the Peerage the 9th June, 1788. George Kenyon was born the 22nd July, 1776; and (his elder brother having died unmarried *vitâ patris*) succeeded his father as second Baron on the 4th April, 1802. He married, on the 1st Feb., 1803, Margaret Emma, only daughter of Sir Thomas Hanmer, Bart., by whom (who died the 24th Feb., 1815) he has had issue two sons and three daughters. Of the daughters, Margaret, wife of the Hon. Captain Thomas Bess, alone survives her father. Lord Kenyon died at his seat, Gredington-hall, Flintshire, on the 28th ult. He is succeeded in his honours by his elder son, Lloyd, now the third Baron.



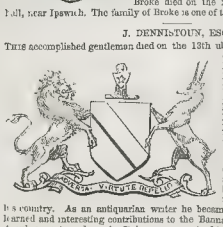
SIR PHILIP BROKE, BART.

SIR PHILIP BROKE, second Baronet, of Broke-hall, Suffolk, was the eldest son of one of our naval heroes, Rear-Admiral Sir Philip Bowes Vere Broke, who, as Captain of her Majesty's ship *Shannon*, defeated the United States frigate of superior force, the *Chesapeake*, and who in reward was created a Baronet, the 3rd November, 1813. His eldest son, the subject of this notice, was born the 15th June, 1804, and succeeded, as second Baronet, on the decease of his gallant father, the 3rd January, 1841. He was himself a Captain in the Royal Navy. Having never married, he is succeeded by his next brother, now Sir George Nathaniel Broke, born a Captain R.N., who is married to Albina Maria, second daughter of Thomas Evans, Esq., of Lymnaster. Sir Philip Broke died on the 24th ult., at his seat, Broke-hall, near Ipswich. The family of Broke is one of the most ancient in the realm.



J. DENNISTOUN, ESQ.

THIS accomplished gentleman died on the 13th ult. James Dennistoun, Esq., of Dennistoun and Colgrain, N.B., a magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant, and a member of the Faculty of Advocates, was born in 1803; he was descended from the knightly, noble, and kingly house of Dunzeleoun, of Dunzeleoun, in Renfrewshire



Mr Dennistoun was educated for the legal profession, and passed advocate in 1824; but his favourite beat was not the law, but the antiquities of his country. As an antiquarian writer he became early distinguished by his learned and interesting contributions to the Bannantyne and Maitland Clubs. A subsequent residence in Italy gave rise to his able papers on the Stuarts, published in the *Quarterly Review* of December, 1846, and also to his more commendable work, the "Memoirs of the Dukes of Urbino," published in three volumes, in 1852. The latter production met with merited success as an able exposition of a somewhat perplexed and obscure period of the annals of Italy Mr. Dennistoun's last books, which he lived to complete, if not to publish, were two volumes of the "Memoirs of Sir Robert Strange," engraver, illustrating his artistic life; and the "Memoirs of Strange's brother-in-law, Andrew Lumsden," private secretary to the Stuart Princes. Mr. Dennistoun's wife (whom he married in 1835), Isabella Katharine, eldest daughter of the Hon. James Wolfe Murray, Lord Cringeltie, an eminent Scottish Judge, was granddaughter of this famous Jacobite engraver, Sir Robert Strange, the subject of her husband's biographical labours.

MR. DOD

CHARLES R. DOD, Esq., a gentleman of high and merited reputation in journalism and literature, died on the 21st ultimo, at his residence at Brixton. Mr Dod was the only son of the Rev. Roger Dod, who was Vicar of Drumlease, in the county of Leitrim, and he represented a junior branch of the family of Dod, of Cloverly, the head of which is the present John Whitehall Dod, Esq., M.P. for North Shropshire. Inheriting a small patrimony, of which actual possession was only acquired after a Chancery suit, Mr. Dod turned his early attention to the bar as a profession, and with that view entered at the King's-inns, Dublin. He, however, soon relinquished his legal studies, and devoted to literature an undivided attention. After having been part proprietor and editor of a provincial journal, he eventually settled in London, where for thirty-seven years his pen has been unceasingly employed (twenty-three of those years he has been engaged on the *Times*. Mr. D. J was nominally superintendent of the corps of gentlemen who report the debates for that paper. Mr. Dod also contributed to the *Times* for many years those well-known and interesting memoirs of distinguished persons as their deaths occurred. Mr Dod is further creditably known to the public as the author of those useful and meritorious publications, the "Parliamentary Companion," and the "Peerage, Baronetage, and Knightage." Latterly his literary duties in connection with the *Times* prevented his actual execution of any portion of those books. They have for more than twelve years been in the hands of his son, under whose able editorship they of course remain. Mr. Dod died deeply and deservedly lamented. "He passed," observes the *Times*, "a life crowded with crimes or virtues, and leaves a name of unspotted integrity."

WILLS AND PERSONALTY. Lieut.-Col. the Hon. John Brown, [illegible] £100,000 Major-General H. R. Miller, £18,000 Admiral David Price, £16,000 The Rev. F. J. Lutton, B.C.L., Prebendary of Lincoln and Rector of Bishops Hatfield, £35,000 Joseph Cox, merchant, Portsmouth, £25,000. Joseph Oliver, ironmonger, Shoreditch, £160,000. James Cockle, the surgeon, £30,000.

CHARITABLE BEQUESTS.—Mr. Henry Holland, of Montague-square, who died worth £35,000, has bequeathed £500 to St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington. Miss Martha Ann Weale, of Milton-street, Dorset-square, has left to the London Missionary Society £200; British and Foreign Bible Society, £200; Home Missionary, £100; and legacies to other charities.

THE LATE ESCAPE FROM NEWGATE.—John Brown, one of the three convicts who escaped from Newgate under extraordinary circumstances a few days ago, was captured on Wednesday morning, in Petticoat-lane, and taken back to Newgate. On Thursday, John Berry, another of the trio, was retaken and again lodged in Newgate.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

DEATH OF THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

The Emperor Nicholas is dead. Information of the fact was received by our Foreign-office yesterday (Friday) afternoon. The event took place, we believe, at St. Petersburg the same day about noon. The Emperor died under an attack of pulmonary apoplexy.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

EUPATORIA, Feb. 21

Since the 17th no new attempt has been made against Eupatoria. To-day we have seen Russian infantry columns and trains of waggons moving away in the direction of Simpheropol. Several villages in the neighbourhood are now burning. Three heavy guns have been landed, and new works of fortification are in course of construction.

VIENNA, Friday, March 2

Intelligence has been received from Constantinople up to the 22nd of February. The last sortie of the Russians had been victoriously repulsed. The Russians had demolished the Malakoff tower. Information has been received by General Bosquet of an intended attack on Balaclava. Preparations had been accordingly made to receive the enemy. Baron Koller had been honoured with an audience by the Sultan. The raising of the blockade of the Danube has been officially notified. The exportation of corn from the Turkish provinces will, it is expected, be prohibited. The following telegraphic despatch has been received by way of Trieste:—

ATHENS, Feb. 24.

M. de Brauck has left, after having had an audience of the King. Baron Mercier, the new Ambassador from France, has been presented to his Majesty. The French Artillery has left the Piræus, and embarked for the Crimea. A battalion of Marine Infantry is all we have left here. The English troops are preparing to take their departure for the Crimea.

BOULOGNE, Thursday, 5 o'Clock.

The Emperor of the French has this moment arrived at the Imperial Pavilion Hotel from the Camp at St. Omer.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE chief topic of conversation in literary circles during the week has been the appointment of the editor of the *Edinburgh Review* to the important office of Chancellor of the Exchequer. The Right Honourable Sir George Cornewall Lewis has the keys and seal of the Exchequer in his hands; the editor of the *Edinburgh Review* has now to settle "ways and means" for imposing new taxes that will yield large sums, and yet not press heavily on the people. The successor of Jeffrey has now to divide his time between buff-and-blue articles for his forthcoming number, and tariffs and taxes for his forthcoming Budget. Sir George Cornewall Lewis is an able man: he is not a brilliant speaker, but he is a matter-of-fact narrator of what he has to tell; he is not a sparkling writer, but he has proved an excellent editor. His training for his Chancellorship has been first-rate: he was long, and in stirring times, the best financial Secretary that the Treasury has had for many a day. Able editors of reviews and papers are becoming, we are glad to think, candidates for serving in high offices out of the fourth estate. Gifford—the well-known editor of the *Quarterly*—held no higher public office than that of Paymaster of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners; and Mr. Lockhart, his successor, was thought to be well rewarded with the office of Auditor of the Duchy of Lancaster. Two editors of the *Quarterly* barely divided five hundred a year between them, their State influence being confined to a few gentlemen in livery, and to a portion of the incomes of a youth under age: here we have the editor of the *Edinburgh* with five thousand a year, and his hand in the pockets of every person in Great Britain and Ireland.

Another, and even more pleasing, subject of conversation is the steady rise to political distinction which Mr. Layard is making from day to day. The country is more than feeling an interest in his career in the Commons. He is naturally able; has had great advantages both from books and men; has seen the world with observing eyes; is a clear reasoner, a fearless speaker; detects omissions at a glance, and has the activity of mind to supply their deficiencies. Few people, it is said, are enabled at once to secure the ear of the House. This Mr. Layard has done. And why? Because he never speaks but when he has something to say that is new, and of moment, on a subject about which the House wishes to be informed. Distinguished now and hereafter for the inestimable value of his Scriptural and archæological discoveries, as well as for the spirit with which he narrates travels and adventures, he has now another and more useful course before him. Let him act as he is now acting, and the highest honours of the State will be his, and while he is yet young.

The Boar's Head relic, engraved in our last number, was bought, we are glad to think, by Mr. Halliwell, whose collection of curiosities connected with Shakspeare and his works is becoming every day more important. The price at which Mr Halliwell obtained it was £25 4s

The original MS. of Sir Walter Scott's "Kenilworth" was sold on Monday last for £41, and has been most properly secured for the British Museum. The sum its last possessor gave for it was only £16.

The first publication of the Philobiblon Society (and a very interesting and handsome one it is) has just been issued to the subscribers. As our readers may not have heard of this society, we shall tell them what we know about it. It is a club of thirty-five members, with Prince Albert as patron, Lord Gosford as President, and M. Van de Weyer and Mr. Monckton Milnes as Honorary Secretaries. Among the members we may mention the names of his Royal Highness the Duc d'Aumale, the Earl of Ellesmere, Mr. Labouchere, the Dean of St. Paul's, the Provost of Eton; Mr. Ford, author of the well-known book about Spain; Mr. Stirling, M.P., author of an excellent volume on the last days of Charles V.; Mr. Curzon, author of a not less readable volume on the Monasteries of the Levant; Mr. Peter Cunningham; Sir Charles Eastlake, P. R. A.; and the two publishers, Mr. Murray and Mr. Longman. In the first volume the Dean of St. Paul's contributes some curious particulars about Sir Michael Scott, the wizard. By Mr. Curzon we have a most valuable paper on the MSS. in the public libraries of Italy; and Mr. Milnes supplies some unpublished letters of importance written by the great Lord Strafford to his third wife. In short, we have seldom seen a more readable Miscellany; while in point of paper and print a more exquisite volume has never appeared. The printer is Whittingham, of Chiswick.

Death has taken from among us Mr. C. R. Dod, author of "The Parliamentary Companion," and of many clever biographies in the *Times* on many whose breath was but newly extinct in their bodies. Mr. Dod's mind was stored with biographical matter about his distinguished contemporaries. He was a kind of Herald in his way for genealogies, and was a species of parish clerk for his knowledge of births, baptisms, and deaths. It was almost impossible to mention a man of any mark but what Mr. Dodcould tell you at once all about him.

To whom related or by whom begot.

Of course, in addition to his matter-of-fact knowledge, he had many family secrets, and a fair share of scandal. Much curious information has died with poor Mr. Dod. On the press he was known, from his living on the dead, as *Raven* Dod. The *Times* knew his value, and he has paid a well-merited compliment to its old assistant. The undertaker himself requires at last a hearse—the tomb-maker a monument—and the biographer of the dead a biography for himself.

How little we see what is before us—a young author of five-and-thirty years of age had prepared two years ago an elaborate memoir of Mr. Rogers the poet, and was only waiting for the poet's death to give it to the public the next day in the columns of a widely spread journal. Mr. Rogers is still, happily, alive. The youth who had prepared his life, in expectation of his friend's death, has been nearly a year in his grave.

The best-laid schemes of mice and men
Gang aft agley.

HUTS AND TENTS OF THE RIFLES AND ROYAL MARINES, ON THE HEIGHTS OF BALACLAVA.—(SEE PAGE 242)

THE BAND PLAYING IN THE FRENCH CAMP.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from page 211.*)

HOUSE OF LORDS. Thursday.

The Lunacy Regulation Act (1853) Amendment Bill, the Consolidated Fund (£8,500,000) Bill, the Consolidated Fund (£20,000,000), Bill, and the Common Law Procedure Act Amendment (Ireland) Bill, were severally read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. Thursday.

THE NEW MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. Hayter moved for the issue of new writs for the respective constituencies lately represented by Mr. Horsman, Mr. Keogh, and Mr. J. D. Fitzgerald—the first having accepted the office of Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; the second having been appointed Attorney-General for Ireland; and the third having accepted the office of Solicitor-General for Ireland.

THE SEBASTOPOL COMMITTEE.

Mr. Roebuck moved that the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the state of the army before Sebastopol have leave to make reports to the House.—Agreed to.

Mr Roebuck then having laid the report upon the table, the Speaker read from it the following resolution viz., "Resolved, that, in the opinion of this Committee, the objects for which they have been appointed will be best attained, danger and injustice to individuals best prevented, and the public interest best protected if the Committee be a Committee of Secrecy."

Mr. F. Peel, in reply to Mr. Otway, said that an agreement had been entered into between her Majesty's Government and the Sublime Porte by which the English Government would provide food and forage for the Turkish cavalry in the Crimea.

ARMY PROMOTION

Lord Goderich then rose to move that an Address be presented to her Majesty, praying her Majesty to take into consideration the present unjust system of Army promotion. The noble Lord said that the system of buying and selling commissions was, in his opinion, inconsistent with those sound principles of administration which ought to guide the Government of this country, and which therefore called for the interposition of the House of Commons. He contended that merit should be the test of promotion; but, instead of such being the test, promotion in the Army became a matter of money, and was confined, he would not say to the aristocracy, but to the wealthy classes of the community. In illustration of the cruelty and injustice of such a system, he referred to the case of Sergeant Sullivan, who had so distinguished himself in the Crimea, yet who was, notwithstanding, sacrificed to a puerile sense of etiquette, and who had had the mortification of seeing twelve gentlemen placed over him in his own regiment without purchase. He did not propose by his motion that the Army should be officered exclusively, or even mainly, by men raised from the ranks, but he strongly impressed upon the House the necessity of allowing the present disproportion between those who were promoted for merit and those who obtained commissions by influence or by purchase.

A discussion then took place, in the course of which Lord Lovaine, Colonel Sibthorpe, Sir John Walsh, Lord Seymour, and Lord Elcho, spoke against the motion; and Mr. Otway, Mr. Warner, Captain Scobell, and Mr. J. Ball, addressed the House in favor of the motion.

Sir De Lacy Evans (who was loudly cheered) said he had come down to the House for the especial purpose of supporting the motion, and of denouncing the system of purchase in the Army, as being fraught with the grossest injustice, most detrimental to our interests, and tending to discourage the exertions of our brave soldiers in times of battle and of difficulty.

Mr. S. Herbert argued in favour of the existing system; but said that all due encouragement should be given to promotion from the ranks whenever great merit was distinguishable.

Sir E. Perry supported the motion.

Lord Palmerston admitted the evils of the present system, but thought it unwise to commit the House to a resolution which would compel them at once to change a system that had been established for such a long period of time in the country.

The House having divided, the numbers were—

For the motion	.. ..	114
Against it	.. ..	158
Majority against the motion	.. .. ..	44

HOUSE OF LORDS. Friday.

DEATH OF THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

The Earl of Clarendon rose and said,—My Lords, I think it my duty to communicate to your Lordships the contents of a telegraphic despatch I received half an hour ago from her Majesty's Minister at the Hague—"The Emperor of Russia died this morning between the hours of twelve and one a.m., of apoplexy, after an attack of influenza." I have also received a despatch from her Majesty's Minister at Berlin also stating that the Emperor of Russia had died about the time already mentioned. And one hour before the arrival of these despatches I received an account from Lord J. Russell, who is in Berlin, stating that the Emperor of Russia was at the point of death, and had taken leave of his family.

Lord Lyndhurst, under the circumstances, postponed his motion in reference to our relations with Prussia.

The Earl of Lucan, who had just arrived from the Crimea, then asked the indulgence of the House while he read the correspondence that had taken place between Lord Raglan, the Home authorities and himself in reference to the order for the Cavalry charge at Balaclava. The noble Earl stated that immediately upon his arrival in London he communicated with the Commander in Chief, and asked his Lordship to have his conduct investigated by court martial. So long as he entertained a hope that such an inquiry would be granted, he should maintain silence in that House. He then read the correspondence referred to, with a view of showing that he had not misconstrued the order of Lord Raglan; and had no discretion in the matter

Earl Granville said that he would not at that time enter into the subject.

The following Bills were then read a third time and passed, viz, the Lunacy Regulation Act, 1853, Amendment Bill, the Consolidated Fund £8,500,000 Bill, the Consolidated Fund £20,000,000 Bill, and the Common Law Procedure Act Amendment (Ireland) Bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Friday.

The report of the Barnstaple Election Committee stated that Mr. Guinness had been duly elected, and that the election was void so far as Mr Laurie was concerned

Mr. F. Peel, in reply to Mr. Maguire, said that it had been decided by the authorities to supply our forces with a breech-loading musket

DEATH OF THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

Lord Palmerston, in reply to a question from Mr. F. French, said, I have to say that two telegraphic despatches have been received by her Majesty's Government, one from the Hague, and the other from Berlin to the effect that the Emperor of Russia expired in the course of the last hour. (great sensation in the House).

Lord R. Cecil asked whether it was the intention of her Majesty's Government to adopt Lord J. Russell's Education Bill for England and Wales; and, if so, was it their intention to postpone the measure

Sir G. Grey said that the measure would be postponed until after Easter.

SEBASTOPOL INQUIRY COMMITTEE

Mr. Roebuck moved that the Committee of Inquiry into the management of the war be a close one. Inasmuch as it was most desirable that nothing should be done to affect our present alliance with France, he thought that the daily proceedings of that Committee should not be made public

Lord Seymour opposed the motion, as one of the members of the Committee, who dissented from the course proposed in the report. Free access ought to be allowed to the members of that House, although it might be desirable to exclude the public. A Secret Committee would excite suspicion and create inconvenience

Sir J. Parington said, that the Committee were unanimous in thinking that the public should be excluded; but the majority thought that members of Parliament should be also excluded. He prayed the House to support the Committee in their decision

Sir J. Graham said that, as the Committee had been appointed, his belief was that the public interest would be best promoted by the Committee conducting its operations in public. If the House sanctioned the proposition to make this a secret tribunal, it would loose all power over its proceedings. He entreated the House to weigh well the consequences of a conflict with the Crown. In such a conflict they would not succeed unless backed by public opinion, and public opinion would not support a secret inquiry. He stigmatised the secrecy asked as an inquisition, and the members of the Committee as inquisitors, and he demanded that if the country required more sacrifices those sacrifices should be made in the light of day

Mr. Layard supported the recommendation of the Committee.

Sir B Hall said, although he had voted against the appointment of the Committee, yet as the House granted it, he was of opinion that these proceedings should be conducted in the face of the public.

After some further discussion, in the course of which Lord Palmerston and Mr. Disraeli severally expressed an opinion in favour of the Committee being open, and Mr. H. Drummond in support of the Committee being secret,

Mr Roebuck said, that seeing the preponderance of feeling against his motion, he would ask leave to withdraw it.

The motion was then withdrawn

The remainder of the night was occupied by a consideration of the Army Estimates.

THE REORGANISATION OF THE CIVIL SERVICE.

A thick Parliamentary volume has recently been published, called "Papers relating to the Reorganisation of the Civil Service," which contains a collection of the opinions of nearly forty distinguished persons on the plan and the report of Sir Stafford Northcote and Sir C. Trevelyan for the reorganisation of this service. To this collection Mr. Chadwick has contributed the most elaborate paper in the volume, especially intended to show "the results already obtained by competitive examinations for appointments, and the necessity of further securities to insure promotion for merit in the public service," which has been issued in a separate form. These publications induce us to advert to the subject. It has for a considerable time occupied the attention of official men; and, as many of the sufferings in the Crimea are attributed to the inefficient co-operation of the Civil Service, its reorganisation is now, or as speedily as the more urgent affairs of the war will permit, likely to be proceeded forward.

In society at large there is a natural principle of growth. One generation is more numerous than its predecessor, and has all the advantages of its predecessor's experience. It is older, though born of the other, and wiser. As men increase in numbers and in knowledge, division of labour continually extends, individuals become more and more dependent on one another, competition shumps the faculties of all, and all are mutually improved. If one tradesman is uncivil, sells his goods dear, and keeps a dirty shop, he loses his business. In every street the shopkeepers vie with each other who shall serve his customers best and be most obliging. A similar process pervades every class of industrious men. Labourers compete with one another who shall do their work best and get most money. Manufacturers compete in the making of clothing, engineers in constructing railways, and authors in writing books, and all striving to do the best they can, there is from natural causes continual and general improvement in society. There is nothing similar in Governments. They are not the sources of social progress. They have in them no inherent principle of improvement, and never compete against each other for the obedience and respect of the people.

In modern times there has been a contest of opinions as to which of several forms of Government is the best; but the Emperor of the French, the Czar of Russia, the Parliament of England, or the Congress of the United States has never certainly been to supply the article government on the cheapest and best terms to a world just now very desirous of being well and properly governed. So in the different departments of our Government and every other Government, there is no competition as to which of them shall do its duty towards the people and get the greatest rewards. The Horse Guards does not offer a cheaper and better article than the Treasury, nor the Treasury a cheaper and better article then the Home-office, but each and all work together, without much or any regard to their customers, the people whom they serve. They are organised for a particular purpose, and have their duty regulated by one office or power—the Treasury or the Ministry, which is again nominally responsible to Parliament. As things are now managed, however, the Ministry being in the main the organ of Parliament, for purposes of responsibility these two bodies are nearly identical. The heads of different departments may intrigue against each other, and sometimes bid for popular support, but obviously the public departments are wholly deficient of that principle of competition in relation to the public, which in society at large is the source of general improvement. Duke Sir Stafford Northcote and Sir C. Trevelyan, in their report on the Organisation of the Permanent Civil Service, describe the absence of competition as "one of the *natural* difficulties under which the Civil Service labours" in contradistinction from all the professions and all the businesses of life, and which makes the Civil Service at all times, in comparison with them, slothful, apathetic, negligent, and behind general society. No means are, or perhaps can be, provided to keep watchers awake to take care of those who should take care of others. *Quis custodet ipsos custodes.* They slumber at their posts, utterly full to see shoals and rocks ahead, squalls brewing, and hurricanes that beset the path of the nation, and often when danger (as now) arises, they must be disregarded or put aside by the public to ensure its safety.

The two gentlemen just referred to officially and solemnly declare that the entrance into the Civil Service is chiefly sought after by the unambitious, the indolent, or the inexpert. "Those who cannot succeed elsewhere are placed on the Civil Service," which is burdened with persons below the average of society in industry and ability. Sir James Stephen, for a long period Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, says "The majority of the members of the Colonial Department, in my time, possessed only in a low degree—and some of them in a degree almost incredibly low—either the talents or the habits of men of business, or the industry, the zeal, or the knowledge required for the effective performance of their appropriate functions." Mr. Chadwick, who quotes the passage, confirms it by the testimony of Sir Robert Peel, and concludes "that the inefficiency of the Civil Service, as compared with *rude* private service, constitutes an argument for amendment." He shows, too, that a similar kind of inefficiency pervades the Civil Service of the United States, and has pervaded or still pervades several branches of the Civil Service in Germany and France; though he infers the possibility, by dint of regulations and a superior organisation, to make the Civil Service, of which competition never can be throughout the living principle, though it may be partially and locally acted on, superior to what he calls "rude private service." An examination, however, of his elaborate paper, and of all that has been written on the subject, shows that the principle which he and all the others rely on for improvement is the principle of competition as it exists in general society; and that neither he nor any other person has found out or imagined motives for diligence and care other than or superior to those motives which ensure success in private life, and which involve every man's fortune and fame. If they can only produce "rude" service, no regulations can produce any better, for all regulations must in their effects fall short of the motives which in the competition of general society continually spur men on to excellence.

Every person who has investigated the subject agrees in the opinion that the Civil Service is essentially defective. In considering the means of improvement, we must remember that the bulk of the improvements already from time to time introduced into it sprang from men whose minds had been formed outside of it. Even Sir Charles Trevelyan was educated in the East India Company's service, which was never wholly shut out, like the service of Government, from competition. It had, in fact, always to compete with Government for its existence; and all its members shared to some extent in the advantages of the principle. The other great reformers of the Civil Service—Mr. Porter, at the Board of Trade, whose influence was felt through all the statistics of the empire; Mr. Finlayson, who introduced reform into the Annuity department of the finances; Mr. Pearse, the chief author of all the details of the system of registration; Mr. Rowland Hill, to whom the public is indebted for Post-office improvement; Mr. Wilson, the present Secretary of the Treasury, who has simplified and improved the Revenue accounts; and even Mr. Chadwick himself, the author of many improvements in the Civil Service, were all formed by the competition of general society. The first was a wine-merchant, the second an actuary of an insurance office, the third a private medical practitioner, the fourth a schoolmaster, the fifth a hatter, and the sixth a diligent contributor to the press, or what is called a penny-a-liner, and a public writer for any person who would employ his pen. By far the most valuable improvements which have latterly, or at any time, been made in the Civil Service, have originated with men who have not been formed in it and by it, but outside of it, in that general society which has in it a principle of growth and improvement; and not in the Civil Service, which, of itself, is naturally and thoroughly conservative, stationary, torpid, and stagnant.

It is now proposed to improve it by competitive examinations, to be made the bases of all future appointments; but these can be at best only poor substitutes for the actual active competition which, in general society, begins at school, follows the youth into the counting-house, the workshop, or the surgery, and builds up the man through life, till he transcends all other men, or sinks into a bankrupt and forgotten grave. It is impossible that the utmost skill of all the Chadwicks and Trevelyans can by their regulations make the Civil Service of the Crown superior to the general society; and they might think themselves but too successful could they approximate it even to that which Mr. Chadwick has very strangely called "rude private service."

One of the great means relied on to improve the Civil Service is examination by boards of examiners. There must be a special examination for every office, so that examinations and forgotten lessons become a large onerous and costly branch of the Civil Service. How inefficient this would be, however carefully devised, is shown by Mr. Chadwick. He objects to the academic examination recommended by the two official Baronets, that it would have excluded from the public service more than one recent Lord Chancellor and Chief Justice, who began life as young clerks in attorneys' offices. We have a thorough conviction, too, that it would have excluded from the Civil Service every one of the reformers, including Mr. Chadwick himself, we have above referred to. It would have excluded (he says) the late Duke of Wellington from the Army, and Nelson from the Navy. It would have placed, according to him, at the top of all competitors, a late superintendent of machinery at Woolwich, who from his mathematical education, declared that if a locomotive were made to drag without cogs, he would undertake to eat the engine, and the rails into the bargain. It would have bestowed honours on those who decided that the screw propeller was impossible, on the principle that action and reaction are equal and contrary, and have excluded from the Government service, those who have made it the great instrument of modern navigation. It would have received with acclamation the Astronomer Royal, who proved mathematically that the Crystal Palace could not stand; and would have turned away Sir Joseph Paxton, who made it the monument of the land and introduced by it great structural improvements. Thus Mr. Chadwick demolishes the artificial examinations he recommends, and leaves us without any rational hope of ever any great improvement in a service founded on a principle thoroughly in opposition to competition. Destitute of this principle, as it must essentially remain, the Civil Service, however much it may be momentarily improved, will for ever lag behind general society, except in cases—as in Germany and France—where the Civil Service becomes so vast and multifarious, and is so cunningly organised, as to embrace the whole nation, and suppress every improvement but that which springs from itself. Then, however, it runs counter to nature; and the more admirable and complete it is, the more certain and speedily does it lead to revolution. We differ, with regret and with much diffidence, from the great authorities we have before us; but, while we take them as unexceptionable witnesses to the present imperfect state of our national contrivances, we are compelled to conclude against them that the remedies they propose, though not to be rejected, would be temporary, partial, and incomplete. They aim at making the Civil Service permanently superior to general society, or what they call "rude private service," which they can only accomplish by rooting out from this the great natural spring of improvement. To no man nor men is the power given to accomplish this except by extirpating the human race. The Civil Service must remain inferior to general society.

THE BAND PLAYING IN THE FRENCH CAMP.

The French have shown their superiority to the English in the attention they have paid to the maintenance of their military bands, as in everything else. While the English Camp has been for weeks, if not months, without any attempt to cheer the hearts of the men with inspiriting martial airs, our more mercurial neighbours have kept up the regular practice of the bands, which has had an excellent effect upon the soldiers.

The Quartier which our Artillery has given to the French Camp has a much more cheerful air than that of any portion of our Cantonments. In the foreground, towards the left, General Canrobert is returning from a ride, followed by an aide-de-camp and two *hussards*. The huts are intermixed with tents, and the place altogether has much the appearance of a Bulgarian village. The English soldiers on their way from the lines pass through this encampment, and generally make a halt there on their way to and from Balaclava, especially when the band is playing. Occasionally the English visitors crowd round the musicians, and frequently some one pulls a bottle of brandy out of his pocket, and insists on the Frenchmen taking a glass, to keep the cold out of their stomachs. Sometimes a couple of Irish soldiers dance a jig, to the great amusement of the bystanders. When the band has finished playing, off go a number of the men with their English visitors arm-in-arm to the canteen (which may be seen on the left, with a cart and several barrels near it), where they will no doubt do their best to counteract the evil effects of cold in the trenches.

MR. LAYARD AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.

On Wednesday, pursuant to invitation, the County-hall at Aylesbury was densely filled with the electors of the borough and hundred, to hear from Mr. Layard an account of his Parliamentary conduct since his election, and his opinion on the state of affairs in the East. On the platform were several of the more influential Liberals of the borough, and the chair was taken by Mr. Acton Tindall, the Clerk of the Peace. Mr. Layard and his friends entered the hall at half past three o'clock; immediately after our journal went to press which the Chronicle publishes the proceedings:

Mr Layard, in the opening of his speech, was at some pains to defend himself from the charge of having betrayed confidence in publishing an attack upon Admiral Dundas. In doing so he denied that he had reported to The Times, or that he had any quarrel any with that journal. As regards the offers which had been made to him by Government, he said:—

Lord Palmerston offered to appoint me Clerk of the Ordnance; but I felt, then, that only two days before that no confidence ought to be placed in the late Government. I could not consistently take office in another composed chiefly of the same materials ("Hear," and cheers). Secondly, I recollected that I had stated it to be the duty of Government to place the right men in the right places, and I was in no way connected with the Ordnance. I felt, therefore, that I should betray my own principle if I accepted an office in which I could not serve the public. The consequence was that I refused office, and made a speech for which you are aware. In the new Government disagreed, three of its most important members retired, and Lord Palmerston attempted to form a new Government. On Friday last his Lordship sent for me, and offered me the office of Under-Secretary at War. Now, although not anxious for office, and having expressed my opinion, I felt that I should not be doing my duty to the public did I shrink from accepting such office when offered. It would look as if I feared to incur the criticism of which I had been so unsparing. Therefore, when Lord Palmerston offered me the office, I simply made some conditions as to being allowed to act independently on my own judgment. But on the following day Lord Palmerston sent for me again, and said that for certain important reasons he was obliged to withdraw his offer, but that at Lord John Russell's request I could have the office of Under-Secretary for the Colonies. I now felt that I was in the same position as I had been a few days before I was not acquainted with the Colonies, and although, in time of peace, I might have had time for learning, I felt that, at a moment of great national emergency, public men, when called on to act, would betray themselves if they attempted to do that for which they had had no previous preparation. I, therefore, declined the office, at the same time informing Lord Palmerston, that if he succeeded in forming a Government worthy of the public confidence, and of my confidence, he should have my independent support.

Mr. Layard then proceeded to criticise the conduct of Ministers from the commencement of the Russian aggression, condemning in strong terms the indecision of the Aberdeen Cabinet. If we had exhibited a bold front at the beginning there would have been no war. It was our timid policy, the natural result of a divided Cabinet, which led the Emperor of Russia to persist in his aggression. The opinion of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe in the summer of 1853, that we were "drifting into war," showed how much Ministers had been to blame. That was not a word for a statesman appointed to guard the destinies of a country. A ship drifted into danger only when she had no one at the helm. After glancing at the various blunders committed by Government since the war began, he said he disapproved of the appointment of a Committee of Inquiry. He had voted for it merely as a vote of censure against the Government. He thought that its inquiries prosecuted strictly may be productive of good to the country, and what was more, might have been prevented (Hear, hear). If Lord Palmerston had come forward with a vigorous programme of reform, and asked the House to release him from this committee, they would have done so; but now it was too late, and it would be impossible to do so without it. After one or two further observations, the hon. member concluded by calling on all who heard him to sign the petition in favour of Lord Goderich's motion.

Resolutions were passed approving of Mr. Layard's Parliamentary conduct, and in favour of Lord Goderich's motion.

Society of Antiquaries.—On Thursday week Mr. R. N. Philipps, LL.B, of the Inner Temple, was elected a Fellow.

The Royal Institute of British Architects, on Monday last, paid a graceful and well-deserved compliment to the French school, by unanimously recommending that her Majesty should be pleased to confer the Royal Gold Medal of the Institute upon Monsieur Lefuel, Architect of Paris, Member of the French Institut, and Honorary and Corresponding Member of the British Institute. The many fine buildings erected by that gentleman at Paris, and his numerous published works upon the art, recently entitled M Hittorff to the testimony thus gracefully borne to his merits by his English professional brethren.

M. Soyer has left London for Scutari, viâ Marseilles, where he intends to "be enabled to render some service to our poor suffering brethren, and, with the cordial co-operation of the authorities there, to place the cuisine in such a perfect state that will supply all future wants with comfort, economy, and excellence."

Commercial Embarrassment in Russia.—A letter from Moscow states that trade is completely dead there. Four great failures took place in a single day, and other disasters of a similar kind have taken place in other parts of the Russian empire.

M. Lecomte's "Arabian Night" concerning Mdlle. Rachel's American engagement has been denounced as a fabrication by M Raphael Félix, brother to the lady, and manager of her tours M. Raphael Félix has addressed to the journals a letter declaring that the contract, the embarking, and all the other incidents of "the wondrous tale," are only so many falsehoods.

MUSIC.

"THE STAR OF THE NORH," AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

Mr. Smith, of Drury Lane, has forestalled Mr. Gye in the production of Meyerbeer's comic opera, "L'Etoile du Nord"—the latest work of that renowned musician, beyond comparison the greatest dramatic composer now living. It was Mr. Gye's intention, could he have accomplished it, to bring out this opera at Covent Garden last season, immediately after its original production at Paris; and there seems no doubt that he will do so during the season about to begin. In using the word "forestalled," we do not impute any blame to the manager of Drury Lane. He has done what he doubtless had a good right to do The opera has already been performed at many theatres, in France, Belgium, and Germany; the right of representing it is public property, and a correct version of the piece can be obtained without recourse to any surreptitious means. But, certainly, Mr. Smith has taken from the work something of its bloom, and given, to those to whom it was new, an impression of it differing considerably from what would have been produced by witnessing its first representation with all the "appliances and means to boot" of the Royal Italian Opera. But, on the other hand, he has made it known to many who do not visit that high-priced theatre, and who are satisfied with a lower standard of excellence. On the whole, indeed, he may be said to have done wonders, having contrived to get up the opera with a completeness and splendour, which, considering his limited means, we could scarcely have believed possible. When he undertook to bring it out, he had to create a whole establishment for that express purpose. He had to form an entire company of vocal performers; to provide an instrumental orchestra, and a chorus; together with the numberless items required for a musical theatre; and all this he had to do in such a way as to give his speculation a reasonable prospect of success, and not of certain and ruinous loss. He has succeeded; and, we think, has deserved to succeed.

It would be tedious and useless to detail the subject of this drama. The *Star of the North* is the Empress Catherine, the wife of Peter the Great, who (according to M. Scribe's version of her history) gained the Emperor's affections while he was working as a journeyman carpenter in a Finland dockyard, and she was one of the confidantes who supplied the workmen with brandy and provisions. She afterwards discovers and saves him from a dangerous conspiracy among his officers, and nearly sacrifices her life in his cause, undergoing sufferings which for a time deprive her of reason. Recovering her senses through the attentions of her Royal lover, she finds herself at last raised by him to the Imperial throne. These incidents are developed in a manner well calculated for dramatic and musical effect. There are strong situations and passionate scenes; but the general tone of the piece is gay and lively; *Peter* himself being decidedly a comic character,—blunt, homely, and familiar,—with the Russian propensity to get drunk. There are some capital sketches of camp-life, in which Meyerbeer has made use of the music originally written for his much-talked of little known opera, the "Camp of Silesia."

The music, like that of "Robert le Diable," the "Huguenots," and the "Prophète," must be familiarised to the ear by repeated hearing before it can be thoroughly understood and appreciated. Indeed, it is more strongly marked with his peculiarities than any of his previous works. It departs even more from recognised and conventional forms. It appears to be less melodious (but is not really so), because the melodies, from their novelty of rhythm and style, are more difficult to be caught by the ear; but, when once caught, make a deeper and more enduring impression than more familiar strains. In this work, as in the "Prophète," Meyerbeer affords no facilities to the singers; he expects them to take the most chromatic and unvocal intervals with the certainty of an instrument. His concerted music is full of unusual combinations and transitions, which appear harsh and rugged because they are unusual; for when once we are used to them their harshness disappears. The taste, in short, for music of this kind is not like the taste for a national tune, which (like the taste for honey) the child possesses as well as the artist; it is the *acquired taste* of four years ago, not to the sense alone, but to the mind and the heart. But its difficulty is in proportion to its power. To produce its full effect it demands a perfection of execution which is rarely obtained, while it generally happens that the music bears the blame due to the performance

The performance of Monday evening was necessarily and unavoidably full of imperfections, but yet (as has been said) much more satisfactory than could have been expected. It was a great advantage that the part of the *Emperor* was sustained by Mr. Henri Drayton, a sound musician and an excellent performer. Mdlle. Jenny Baur, a singer newly arrived from Germany, who appeared in the character of *Catherine*, showed a considerable degree of vocal power and fluency of execution; but she forced her voice too much, and sang out of tune. If she would sing with less effort she would sing better. The second female part—an interesting country girl was well acted, and sung by Mrs Drayton; and, in the principal tenor part, Mr. Miranda acquitted himself respectably. In the concerted music, the choruses, and the orchestral parts, there was great room for improvement. They were confused, incorrect, and often intolerably noisy. But these faults, it may be hoped, will diminish with repetition. The spectacle, and general *mise en scène*, left nothing to be desired. It was not only gorgeous and magnificent, but in excellent taste. The house was crowded from the floor to the ceiling, and the performance was received with enthusiastic applause. It was impossible that a great miscellaneous audience could fully appreciate the beauties of such a work, through the medium of an imperfect performance; but, with every drawback, it had a general effect of beauty and power sufficient to account for the impression it made.

We shall Engrave a scene next week.

HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS. Mendelssohn's "Lobgesang," and ROSSINI'S "Stabat Mater," are to be performed at the next concert of the Musical Union, which is fixed for Wednesday evening. The latter work is new to our great London Choral Society, the equalization of Existential preparing its performance in that building. Mrs. Sims Reeves, Miss Lascelles, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Weiss, are announced as the principal vocalists, the conductor being Herr Molique.

THE THEATRES.

SADLER'S WELLS. "Macbeth" was revived on Saturday and was well received by a very numerous audience. The cast was considerably varied Mr. Robinson, a performer who has been gradually improving in his profession, was advanced to the *role of Macduff*, and performed it with elegance and spirit Miss Atkinson, also, was tried in *Lady Macduff*. With many qualities of natural force, this young lady has yet to acquire steadiness and weight. It cannot be said that she has yet formed a decided conception of character, or fixed the exact reading of the part. Much is yet accidental, or tentative; hard private study and considerable practice are both sternly requisite, in order to the cultivation of taste and to enable her to vary as well as to facilitate the execution of the tragic high class of abstract histrionic impersonations; nevertheless, under proper direction, there is hope for the future in the energy at present developed. Mr Phelps paid especial attention to the psychological scene in the third act, in which, while conscious of having secured the assassination of *Banquo*, the new-made monarch, mystifies his Queen, having now recovered his marital supremacy, and assumes that independent direction of affairs, without counsel or aid from his wife, whom he would wish henceforward to be ignorant of the crimes that destiny and his position may compel him to commit. The triumph and finesse, with the suspicions behindhand and disguise, the well imagined and the secret hypocrisy—all these elements were carefully embodied. This performance of the tragedy (into which Lock's music and the melodramatic crowd of witches are not admitted) powerfully affects the imagination with a sense of reality, and intensifies the passions of pity and terror which it was the poet's purpose to awaken.

HAYMARKET.—Senora Perea Nena, with an entirely new group of attendants, reappeared on Monday at this theatre. The management has signalised her return by improved stage decorations; and the impression made by the Senora's dancing is likely to increase, for the brilliant and now displayed in her *pas* even exceeds that of former seasons Two new ballets have been introduced, of indescribable plots, but full of interest, motion, novelty, and dashing effect: particularly a Gallician *pas de deux* with Senor Marcos Diaz, which was wonderful.

LYCEUM.—This theatre closed on Saturday, but reopened on Monday, when we witnessed the performance of the new piece entitled "Too Much of a Good Thing." The fabric of the drama is slight, and the development merely technical, aiming at no probability, and satisfied with any small effect, anyhow obtained. A dummy performs an important part in it; first, occupying the bed of a pretended invalid husband, during his nocturnal absences at Cremorne; and next that of his too-loving wife, after the trick has been discovered. *Captain Hector Montgomery* (Mr. Roxby) had resorted to the ruse in order to get some time to himself from the excessive attentions of his over-affectionate spouse; but the expedient has a tendency to lead to inebriety and dissipation. The cure is effected by the lady affecting indifference, and the husband's jealousy being excited by the presence of his own lay figure in her chamber. Mr. Roxby acted with his usual animation; and Miss Hughes, as his wife, *Isabel*, displayed much retiring grace which was well enough contrasted by the dashing conduct of *Mrs. Diana Brandysnap* (Mrs. F. Matthews), the friendly medium for effecting the required change in the situation of the married couple. The attraction of trifles like this, however well acted, is evidently on the wane; for the house, we regret to to say, was indifferently attended. The spirit of the times is in favour of starner realities; and Mr. C. Mathews would, we think, do well to provide a weightier and more elaborate kind of drama, in stricter accordance with the prevailing mood of the public mind

MRS. HOWARD PAUL (late Miss Featherstone) gave a musical entertainment at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, on Monday evening, which was fashionably attended. At the request of Lieut.-Colonel Ellison and the officers of the North Lincoln Militia (who bestowed their patronage) a vaudeville was also enacted, in which Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul performed with much satisfaction.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS

I H A, Liverpool. 1. The tablet of the two pieces, the top of which forms the regal British crown, is to represent the King. 2. Your solution is altogether wrong

LILLWATI.—In such a position the King cannot take the Bishop.

CHESTER.—Solution.—It shall have attention

HALTWHISTLE.—No; it is quite correct.

A K.—For both A Y B B shall be duly expunged

H F.—1 P B, R.B. All very much below our standard

YOR H, BURSE.—We are, indeed, very greatly obliged by the offer, and in return shall have sincere pleasure in placing the works mentioned at your disposal

E. H C, New Jersey.—The question whether a player is *compelled* to take an adverse Pawn is a question, where he has no other move at command, still remains a most point, and will continue so until the whole code of Chess laws undergoes authoritative revision Your view is the popular and plausible one, and is supported by considerable ingenuity but we still adhere to the persuasion that, when a player has once advanced the Pawn to the 4th square, it is optional with his opponent to take that Pawn *en passant* or not

M DE R, Paris.—Your act has been replied to by letter.

VIOLA.—Yes sir, find some account of the chief metropolitan chess-clubs, divans, &c., in Mr. John Timbs's recently-published "Curiosities of London" a work, we must take leave to say, which, for the extent and accuracy of its research, and the encyclopedic variety of its information, is entitled to rank among the most remarkable of the many interesting books, from the times of Stephen and Snow to those of Knight and Cunningham, which have treated of that inexhaustible theme.—the Modern Babylon

J R. CROM, Avon. The "Chess-Player's Handbook," published by Bohn. Price 5s.

T R C We have nothing of the game

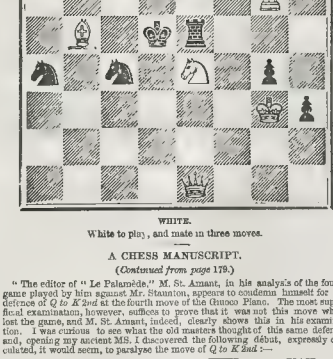
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 574 by Rex, P. T. P., Temple, J. M, F. T., Derby; Short, R. F., Royal Artillery, Argus, Tubb, Clement, Farrer, P. C., S. S., Wynstay, Clerkens, M.P., Bull, Stanley, are correct. All others are wrong

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No 575 by W C Streatham, E. H., F. T., Derby; P. R., Norwich, Perseus, Rex, Shamrock Phillip Medicus, R. H. A. Z., Admirer, S. P. Q. R., Deverell, R. F., Royal Artillery, Argus, Tubb, Clement, Farrer, P. C., S. S., Wynstay, Clerkens, M.P., Bull, Stanley, are correct. All others are wrong

PROBLEM No. 576.

By J. B., of Bridport.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

A CHESS MANUSCRIPT.

(Continued from page 179.)

"The editor of "Le Palamède," M. St. Amant, in his analysis of the fourth game played by him against Mr. Staunton, appears to condemn himself for the defence of *Q to K 2nd* at the fourth move of the Guioco Piano. The most superficial examination, however, suffices to prove that it was not this move which lost the game, and M. St. Amant, indeed, clearly shows this in his examination. I was curious to see what the old masters thought of this same defence, and, opening my ancient MS. I discovered the following début, expressly calculated, it would seem, to paralyse the move of *Q to K 2nd*:—

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE	BLACK
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	5. Q to K 2nd	What he will (*a*)
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	6. P to Q Kt 4th	K B to Q Kt 3rd
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	7. P to Q R 4th	What he will
4. P to Q B 3rd	K B to Q 3rd	8. Q B to Q R 3rd	

(a) *Sic* in original

"The position of White is certainly very fine. Amateurs should examine whether Black at the 7th move could not do something to enfeeble it. We here see that Leonardo, to oppose advantageously the defence of Q to K 2nd, thinks proper to reply with the same move.

"The following is another opening of Leonardo, in which he himself adopts the defence of Q to K 2nd, successfully; but in this case the first player moves the P to Q B 3rd, before bringing out his K Kt.

BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	6. Q B to K 3rd	B takes K B P (ch)
2. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	7. K takes B	Kt to K 4th (ch)
3. P to Q B 3rd	Q to K 2nd		(ch)
4. K Kt to K 2nd	K Kt to K B 3rd	8. K retires	Q takes B
5. P to Q 3rd	P to Q 3rd		

White had *attempted* Black and gained a Pawn.

"The next is a Game of G. Cesare Polerio, which would seem to prove that Q to K 2nd on the 4th move, is a bad defence; but I doubt whether the play, especially on Black's part, is altogether irreproachable. However, if Black's defence is feeble, the attack of White appears to me sufficiently vigorous, and the game may probably on that account prove not without interest.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE	BLACK.
1 P to K 4th	P to K 4th	12. K Kt to Kt 5th	K Kt to K R 3rd
2 K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	13. Q Kt to Q 5th	P takes P
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	14. P takes P	Q takes P
4 P to Q B 3rd	Q to K 2nd	15. Q B to K B 4th	Q to her B 4th
5 Castles	K Kt to K B 3rd (c)	16 Kt takes B	Q takes Kt
6. P to Q 4th*	P takes P (b)	17 R to K sq (ch)	K to Q sq
7. P takes P	K B to Q Kt 3rd	18 B takes K B P	K P to K B sq
8. P to K 5th	K Kt to his sq	19. Kt to K 6th (ch)	K to his 2nd
9 P to Q 6th	Q Kt to his sq	20. Q to her 6th (ch)	K takes B
10. P to Q 6th	Q to K B sq	21. Q takes K B (ch)	K to Kt 3rd
11. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	22. Q takes Kt P (ch)	And White wins.

(*Notes by the Editor*)

(a) Better to play P to Q 3rd.

(b) The second player should rather have retreated his Bishop to Q Kt 3rd

* In the game referred to, Mr. Staunton played P to Q 4th at the fifth move, which makes every difference. The moves then proceeded as follows:—

6. P to Q 4th	P takes P	13. P to K B 5th	Q to K B 3rd
6. Castles	Q Kt to K 4th	14. P to K 5th	Q to K R 5th
7 Kt takes Kt	Q takes Kt	15. Q B takes Kt	Q takes B
8 P to K B 4th	P takes Q B P (dis ch)	16. Kt to K 4th	B to Q 5th
9 K to R sq	Q to her 5th	17. Kt to Q 6th	Q to K 4th
10 Q to her Kt 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd	18. B takes K B P (ch)	B takes B
11. Q Kt takes P	Castles	19 P to K 4th—	
12 P to K R 3rd	P to Q B 3rd	And White won easily.	

(To be Continued.)

THE AUSTRIAN "SCHACHZEITUNG."

For the following game, and the instructive comments accompanying it, we have much pleasure in acknowledging our obligation to M. von Heydebrand. The *partie* itself is extracted from a new Chess magazine, under the direction of an eminent Austrian player, Mr Falkbeer, that has just made its appearance in Vienna, and of which we shall take occasion to speak more at large when the opening numbers reach us.

Between Herr SCHLEMIN and another Viennese Amateur.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	14 Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q B 3rd
2. P to K B 4th	P takes P	15. B takes K B P (ch)	K to Q B 2nd
3. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to K Kt 4th	16. P to Q 5th (ch)	P to Q Kt 3rd
4. P to K R 4th	P to K Kt 5th	17. B to Q 3rd (ch)	P to Q B 4th
5. K Kt to Kt 5th (*a*)	P to K R 3rd	18. P takes P (in passing) (*b*)	K takes P
6. P takes K B P	K takes Kt	19. Castles (on Q's side)	Q to K B 3rd
7. K B to Q B 4th (ch) (*b*)	P to Q 4th	20. Q to Q 5th (ch)	K to Q B 2nd
8. B takes Q P (ch)	K to Kt 2nd (*c*)	21. Q to Q B 4th (ch)	K to Q B 3rd
9. B takes Q Kt P	B takes B	22. Q to K B 7th (ch)	K Kt to K 2nd
10. Q takes K Kt P	K to B 2nd	23. Kt to Q 5th (ch)	K to Q B sq
11. Q to K R 5th (ch)	K to his 3rd	24. Kt to Q Kt 6th (ch)	K to Q B 2nd
12. Q to K B 5th (ch)	K to Q 3rd	25. Q to K B 4th (ch)	Q to Q 3rd
13. P to Q 4th	Q to K 2nd	26. Q takes Q—Checkmate.	

(*Notes by Von H d. L.*)

(*a*) This gambit, though called the "Allgaier Gambit," was not Allgaier's invention. It was by Salvio, who first analysed it; and he remarked that he had not discovered any satisfactory and invariably winning defence against this attack, but that he felt convinced such a defence was possible, and might be found

(*b*) Allgaier makes no mention of this check, he played

7. Q takes K P | K to Q B 3rd | 8. Q takes K B P

But Mr Horny's reply of

8 | K R to Q 3rd

having some late vogue against that mode of play, Mr Bolo Vito introduced the above check in his edition of Allgaier's treatise (p. 824, p. 20)

(*c*) If the second player intend to win the game, he should now play the King back to his own square. See "Bilguer's Handbook (second edition), p. 16, where it is observed that the consequence of Black's playing K to Kt 2nd will be

9. B takes Q Kt P | B takes B | 10 Q takes K Kt P (ch, &c.)

The Vienna game is continued in this way: but Mr Falkbeer remarks that it would be better play for Black not to take the Bishop, but to try

9 | 11 P takes P | K B to K Kt 4th (ch)

10. B takes Q R | P to K B 4th | 12. K to B sq

And Mr Falkbeer thinks he decidedly the better game, though he have lost the exchanges and some Pawns I must confess I doubt this assertion, and think Black has the disadvantage

RAILWAY MEETINGS.

EASTERN COUNTIES The half-yearly meeting of this company was held at the London Tavern on Tuesday—Mr. DAVID Waddington, M P, in the chair The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and statement of accounts, said he would take the opportunity of congratulating the shareholders upon the fact that, upon the second half-year of the first working of the Eastern Counties and the Eastern Union, the directors were enabled to place before them a balance sheet, showing an increase in the receipts, upon the half year, of £77,342; whilst the increase in the expenditure was only £8772; the increase in the dividend being from ¾ 6d. to 7s. per share. Looking at the high rate they had been paying for materials and labour, by which their expenditure had been much increased, he did not think this at all an unsatisfactory result. A long discussion ensued, principally in reference to the propriety of further extensions, and whether the company did not lose by low excursion fares; which having been briefly answered by the chairman, an amendment was put on the report, that the dividend should be paid free of Income-tax, but negatived by an overpowering majority. The report was then adopted; the retiring directors and auditors re-elected; and a vote of thanks given to the chairman.

EAST LANCASHIRE.—The proprietors at the ordinary meeting, on Friday (last week), declared a dividend at the rate of 4 per cent per annum for the half-year; and authorised the directors to raise £100,000 by the issue of 4 per cent £5 preference shares to that amount, and also to borrow £20,000 on debenture

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.—The report of the directors submitted to the proprietors on Saturday last stated that the chief disbursements on capital account amounted to £56,893, for carrying stock for the new Wolverhampton and the Dudley station. The contracts for the Norton and Cannock branches were let. A dividend at the rate of four per cent, less Income-tax, was declared.

SOUTH WALES.—The half-yearly meeting was held on Tuesday, at the Great Western Hotel, Paddington; Mr. C. R M Talbot, M P, was in the chair. From the report of the directors it appeared that the revenue receipts of the past half year continued to indicate a steady increase in the traffic. The earnings during that period amount to £581 per mile as compared with £510 per mile during the corresponding period of 1853. After making allowance for all the charges in respect of rolling stock which remained unadjusted at the period of the last half-yearly meeting, a dividend at the rate of three per cent per annum was declared, which leaves a balance of £832 6s 9d. to be carried forward to the credit of the revenue account for the current half-year. The report having been adopted, a resolution was passed authorising the directors to create preference shares or stock to the amount of £320,000. This capital is required to meet the expenditure on the line between Haverfordwest and Milford Haven, and on the extended sidings and other works of accommodation in course of construction at various parts of the line.

CITY OF LONDON ELECTION. A meeting of the Liberal Registration Association was held at the London Tavern on Tuesday afternoon, in reference to the election for the City, which takes place today. After some discussion, in which Baron Rothschild, Mr. Williams, M P, Mr. Wilkinson, M.P, Mr. S. Morley, Mr. P. A. Taylor, and other gentlemen took part, the following resolution was passed amid much applause:—"That it is the opinion of this meeting that Lord Palmerston, in undertaking the responsibility of forming an administration and conferring on the Government in the present circumstances of the country, is entitled to the confidence of the nation, and this meeting pledges itself to support the return of Lord John Russell, a member of his Cabinet, as representative for the city of London, and to use its best exertions for that purpose. In so doing it expresses the hope that his Lordship's return to office may be regarded as a guarantee that such arrangements will be made as will effectually prevent a recurrence of the lamentable disasters which have disgraced the late campaign; and further, this meeting considers it to be its duty not to allow the re-election of Lord John Russell to pass without declaring its continued interest in that civil and religious progress which in times past has secured to him the support of the citizens of London."

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR. JOSEPH HUME.—On Thursday morning the remains of this gentleman were removed from his town house, Bryanston square, Marylebone, to Kensal-green Cemetery, Harrow road, according to the wish of the deceased. The funeral arrangements were of the most unostentatious character.

FRENCH AND ENGLISH COOKERY.—In cooking I need not say our neighbours beat us hollow. I partook of a sumptuous banquet in the tent of an officer of the Guards the other night, the staple of which was a goose, purchased for a golden egg in Balaclava; but which assumed so many forms, and was so good and strange in all—now coming upon you as a *pièce de resistance*, again assuming the shape of a *gibelotte* that would do credit to Philippe, and again turning up as a delicate little *pâté* with the flavor of woodcocks—that the name of the author was at once demanded He was a grisly-headed Zouave, who stood at the door of the tent, prouder of the compliments which were paid to him than of the few francs he was to get for his services. "Ah!" as he was, by the Captain of the company for the day. A few days after—these were Christmas times, or were meant to be so—there was a dinner in another friendly tent. A Samaritan sea captain had presented a mess with a *Cloc* of English mutton, a case of preserved turkey, and a wild duck. Hungry as hunters, the little party assembled at the appointed hour, full of anticipated pleasure and good fare from the fatherland. "Banaes, bring in dinner," said the host proudly to his *chef de cuisine*. The guests were seated—the cover was placed on the table—it was removed with enthusiasm—and lo! there lay the duck burnt black, and dry as charcoal, in the centre of a mound of turnips. "I trust rowls wor always fare vurst," was the polite offer of the wretched criminal as he removed the scarcities for the time. Then he brought in the soup, which was excellent, especially the brilli; but we could not eat soup all night, especially when the mutton was wanting. "Vow, then, Banaes, bring in the leg of mutton." "The wa'at, sur?" "The leg of mutton: and look sharp, do you hear? I hope you've not spoiled *that*, too." "Wey, sur, these been 'atin ov'n!" The miserable being had actually *boiled* down the leg of mutton in the soup, having cut it large slices off it to make it fit the pot! *Letter from the Camp, Feb. 12*

PEACE MEETING AT MANCHESTER.—A meeting, convened by private circular, was held the offices of the Peace Society, Newall's-buildings, Manchester, at seven o'clock on Tuesday evening, "to consider the general policy and the commercial and social effects of the present war." The circular bore the signatures of Messrs. George Wilson, R. H. Gregg, Thos. Thomasson, Wm. Rawson, Edmund Ashworth, W. B. Watkins, Wm. Harvey, Wm. Bickham, and Sir Elkanah Armitage; and, in addition to these gentlemen, about seventy to eighty others were present. No resolutions were proposed, the chairman explaining the object of the meeting to be "to prepare the public mind for the conclusion of the negotiations." The speakers, besides the chairman, were Mr. R. H Gregg, who argued that Russia could not give a material guarantee, and that the fall of Sebastopol would be a hindrance to peace; Mr. Thomas Thomasson, of Bolton; and Mr. E. Ashworth, of Turton. The latter gentleman expressed a fervent hope that "we should be satisfied with the war successes already gained."

A number of trees near the principal entrance of the Palais de l'Industrie, in the Champs Elysées, are being cut down, in order to afford a better view of the edifice, and at other parts of the building trees are to be cut down for the same purpose. Some of the trees are very large, and date from 1770, when the plantation of the Champs Elysées, which was commenced by Catherine de Medicis in 1616, and completed in 1670, was renewed

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

(FOURTH NOTICE.)

We resume this week our illustrations and our comments. Our Engravings are taken from the contributions of two young artists, whose works [illegible] abundant proofs that at least they are on some miles in the high road to future distinction. Mr. Hemsley supplies us with one of the two pictures he has sent—a scene from rustic life, which tells its own story, but which the Catalogue conceals in the general title of "Expectation." It would be easy to give it a name far more applicable, and doubtless [illegible] at a glance, soon [illegible] much more appropriate. A [illegible] paper might be written on what pictures are like from the titles given them in catalogues. We doubt if any imaginative, or even matter-of-fact critic would, from "Expectation," guess at [illegible] Mr. Hemsley has [illegible] painted, and so [illegible]. Let us add that Mr. Hemsley is a conscientious painter; he does not shirk his work; and though his canvas is small, he knows how much excellence a few inches of panel may be made to contain.

The [illegible] of this week is Mr. [illegible] "Dream of the Shepherd's Dog" (No. 464) is by far the best work that we have seen from his hand. Here is a healthy Highland boy asleep in his roughly-made wooden cradle, watched by a collie with which he has evidently gambolled till he fell asleep. Almost his last thoughts turned upon this dog, and the artist has poetically shown what the boy's thoughts are as he sleeps soundly in his cradle. He is dreaming of future years, when, with his faithful collie by his side, he shall be a lad and able to watch his sheep on the sides of his native mountains. The present and the future of childhood and *lathood* (if we may be allowed the expression) have seldom been more suggestively indicated. Here is a sweet picture of the Pleasures and not of the sorrows of Hope (Campbell rather than Coleridge), built, no doubt, [illegible] of Landseer's Hi[illegible] and in some [illegible] "Soldiers [illegible] Mr. Goodall, but in no way [illegible] to detract from the fa[illegible] of the idea. With such a subject Landseer would have added some touches of truth to the coat of the dog, but he would not have told the future so poetically, if, indeed, he ever sees further than the scenes actually and unmistakeably before him. Mr. Earl's other works in the Exhibition are by no means so good as this. After the picture we have engraved of his, we would prefer to possess "Interior of a Cottage near Stratford-upon-Avon" (No. 130), of which the general effect is excellent, though the details are too general.

In renewing our acquaintance with the Exhibition we wish to repair two slight omissions on our part. Mr. Carmichael's "View of the Great Harbour of Malta from the Corradino" (No. 154), painted from a sketch by Captain Hotham, merits to be named for the skilful manner in which the artist has embodied the rude outlines of an amateur, and [illegible] that, but for the [illegible] the crews of all Her Majesty's ships that ever touched at Malta would declare at once was painted on the spot. Our other omission is one of the same character, and relates to Mr. Glass's picture, "A Border Spear"—a picture that would have delighted the heart of Sir Walter Scott, so true is it to times of border warfare, when at all seasons of the year, the Hewards and Musgraves on the English side, and the Scotts and Armstrongs on the Scottish side, made bold and bloody forays one upon the other. Mr. Glass has given us what we could almost call the famous ride in "The Lay of the Last Minstrel."

"EXPECTATION."—PAINTED BY W. HEMSLEY.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

Hayter's Picture of "Wellington Contemplating the Napoleon Relics." Engraved by James [illegible] and Co.—Sir George Hayter's historical picture of "The Duke of Wellington Contemplating the Napoleon Relics," at Madame Tussaud's, has been engraved in the finest style of art by Mr. James Scott. The subject is extremely striking and suggestive, [illegible] hero surveying with a feeling of sympathy and sadness the humble remains of his defeated rival, whose effigy lies before him in all the calmness of sleep. The various details of costume, furniture, arms, &c., are also historically interesting. Mr. Scott has done ample justice to these varied materials.

Art Collection in Birmingham. The collection of objects in metal, glass, china, &c., selected from the museum at Marlborough House, was opened in Birmingham on Saturday, when upwards of 500 of the inhabitants of the town visited the rooms of the Society of Artists, where the collection is to be exhibited. Many of the leading manufacturers were present during the day, and all the visitors expressed themselves delighted with the collection. The exhibition has been supplemented by contributions from gentlemen of the town and district.

Rewards for Distinguished Services.—Sergeant-Major Thomas, of the Grenadier Guards, has received an annuity of £20, with 2s. per diem, in reward for his distinguished services at Inkerman, where, in conjunction with Private Lee, he saved the regimental colours. The latter has been advanced to the rank of sergeant, with a similar pecuniary reward.

"THE DREAM OF THE SHEPHERD'S DOG."—PAINTED BY T. EARL.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR MARCH.

At the approach of the London season we cannot do better than speak of ball dresses and toilets. We have had four brilliant *réunions* this winter; the war, and the mourning into which numbers of families have been thrown, having prevented many *salons* from being opened, or fêtes given. England is, unhappily, in the same condition.

Rose is the favourite colour for balls in the coming season. The ball of the Préfect of the Seine has presented us with an example, although it is not cited as one at which the ladies displayed their freshest toilets; for few persons in so numerous and crowded a *réunion* care to wear a dress that has not lost its gloss: we know ladies who remained prisoners until eight o'clock in the morning waiting for their pelisses in the robing-room. The Emperor loudly expressed his displeasure at this want of foresight in his Préfect.

Ball dresses are nearly all double-skirted, with two lace flounces; but a graceful novelty, worthy of notice, was a skirt made with bands of rose velvet, *épinglé*, five inches wide, and separated by a band of the same width, puffed up with rose tulle, and so on; the whole skirt was made in this manner, the corsage being alternated in the same way with trimmings of white blonde for the berthe and around the sleeves. A charming toilet at one of the recent balls was a velvet robe *épinglé*, yellow, with three flounces, covered with white English lace; the upper part of the flounces bore a raised plait of black lace one inch high: on each side of the skirt, and forming a sort of apron, was, on the upper part of each flounce, a black velvet bow, the ends of which hung down to the next flounce; the corsage was made to match these three shades—the lace, the black velvet, and the *épinglé* velvet of the robe. Another charming toilet was composed of bands of white moire and bands of rose velvet. The bands of velvet were attached to those of moire by a garland of pinks worked in silk, half white, half rose; the white part upon the rose ground, and the rose part upon the white ground. Taffetas is always in fashion, and mostly covered with lace. Such are the most remarkable toilets, and their adoption remains with London.

There is nothing new in walking dresses, unless it be that the Scotch plaid has given place to bands of alternating shades, and even materials. Thus, we see dresses of bands of velvet, reps, satin, and *gros de tours* in the same fabric. The success in this material of weaving will figure at the approaching Exhibition. The bands are of different widths, according to the figure. This pattern is advantageous for the skirts; but the large stripe does not become the corsage.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR MARCH.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

White Robe of India Muslin, with two skirts joined to a large surlet at the bottom, of the same material, or of gold or silver. The trimmings of the corsage is of Mechlin lace, forming a berthe.

Head-dress of White Azaleas. Upon the front of the head is a low diadem, with diamonds placed upon a circle, which loses itself in the bands of the hair.

Toilette of Rose Taffetas, with a skirt of two *volants d'Angleterre*, with a berthe at the corsage of the same. Bouquet of natural flowers—roses and white camellias. Head dress of similar flowers, placed very low at the back of the hair, disappearing on each side in a bandeau of puffings.

Robe en Moiré Antique en Bleu Celadon, covered with two lace ounces; corsage with berthe of Mechlin. Head-dress *en folle avoine*, or *en herbes d'eau vive*, with the ends hanging on the shoulders.

The Girl's Dress is a Taffetas Skirt, white ground, with two stripes *a la Pompadour*; the first skirt ending in a *ruche a la vieille*, made of the same stuff, the second skirt of plain white taffetas, and hanging about two inches below the first skirt, and showing the scollops of a petticoat *en percale*, worked *à l'Anglaise*. A rose ribbon passes over the head, and loses itself in the bandeau behind, and comes, after having made a large bow, over the comb, to fall in long ends upon the shoulders.

THE IMPERIAL PALACE, A PRAGUE.

By a telegraphic despatch received from Vienna on the 20th ult., we learn that since an early hour in the morning of that day, the Imperial Palace on the Hradschin, at Prague, had been burning. It was the residence of the ex-Emperor and Empress Maria-Anna, who, the account adds, were in safety. The reigning Emperor, on the news of the conflagration being received at Vienna, immediately sent Prince Charles Lichtenstein, the Lord High Steward, to their Majesties.

The Palace, situated in the fourth quarter, called the Hradschin (pronounced Radshin), is built on the Schlossberg, or Palace Hill. The Artist who has favoured us with the accompanying View of the fine old Place from a recent sketch, describes the Hradschin, the capital of Prague, the Kremlin of Bohemia, as a singular agglomeration of buildings of different dates and styles of architecture. Within its precincts it contains a cathedral, a religious establishment, and vast Palaces belonging to the Emperor and to other noble families; besides a treasure-house stored with far-sought relics, prisons, dungeons, torture-chambers; and a pious foundation somewhat akin to that of the Military Knights of Windsor, but with this difference, that its objects are not Knights, but Dames, generally reduced members of the nobility. A lower ward contains some ordinary dwelling houses and barracks for the garrison.

That side of the citadel which faces the old town, and contains the

THE HRADSCHIN PALACE, AT PRAGUE.—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.

Imperial Palace, is very unattractive;—the whitewashed walls, and total want of architectural embellishment, destroy all the advantages of its lofty position, and are extremely disappointing to an artist's eye. But when, after winding round its base, and rising towards the fortified lines which defend the north-east side of the town, he loses sight of these modern excrescences, and sees nothing less picturesque than the unsymmetrical roofs, towers, and spires of the lower ward; he may carry his imagination to the time when blind old Zizka, the Bohemian General, encamped his forces on that distant hill, where the eye can still trace his crenelated wall, and ultimately defeated the Imperial army. The beleaguered city lies in the intervening valley between the Hradschin and the Zizkaberg, still pointing upwards many Hussite and papists and many-pointed towers, which survived those religious feuds, and cast their quaint mediæval outlines over the waters of the Moldau The grand, deserted Palace of Wallenstein, sheltered almost under the shadow of the Hradschin, recalls another period of Bohemian glory. Each pinnacle and spire tells some tale of departed grandeur. Even that leaden spire of the cathedral only replaces a more ancient spire, which, previous to its destruction by fire in 1541, surpassed in height that of Strasburg itself. Besieged and held in turn by Hussites and Catholics, Swedes, Poles, Prussians, French, Bavarians, and Austrians, its greatest wonder may perhaps be that it should still exhibit any part of the original fortress. In our days it has afforded a retreat to Charles X. of France, and to the Count de Chambord; more recently it has been the residence of the Emperor Ferdinand since his abdication. The recent fire, which brings this palace more especially under our notice at the present moment, is stated in the latest news to have originated in that part of the castle inhabited by the Imperial and Royal family, and has totally destroyed the apartments of the ex-Empress.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

After a dreary Lapland-like existence, which even skates and sleighs could do very little towards sweetening, the steeple and flat-race jockeys are again commencing to "take silk," and the huntsman's cheery shout is heard in the cover-ride. Notwithstanding a series of postponements, in which even Liverpool had to participate, the road seems at last pretty clear for the spring and steeplechase meetings. Wolverhampton closing "the first favourable Monday," and Coventry and Chipping-Norton, both with good lists, are settled for Tuesday. Nottingham spring stands for Wednesday and Thursday; Moreton-in-the-Marsh, for Thursday; and Waltham Abbey, for Friday. Westbury is not fixed, to our knowledge, and Lincoln seems to be lost sight of for the present The amateur handicapping there gave great offence to the sporting world, but confidence has been restored by the announcement that Mr. Richard Johnson's invaluable services are once more to be secured. The Craven handicap at Coventry will be the great steeplechase of the week: Bourton, 12 st. 5lbs., heads the list, and out of twenty-one subscribers only one has declared: This is a good handicap omen for Mr. Merry.

Coursing secretaries have hardly had time to refix their meetings; but, as at present arranged, Sundorne (Salop) has one on Tuesday and Wednesday; Border (Roxburghshire) and Spiddal (Meath), on Wednesday and Thursday; Ridgway, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday; Charley (open), on Thursday; Baldock (Club), on Wednesday and Friday; and Hewell (Worcestershire) and Ashton (Cheshire), on Friday. The Biggar meeting will come off on March 20th, &c., and the Great Champion Cup will be contested between thirty-two Scotch and thirty two English or Irish dogs, the winner to receive £300, the runner up £100, and so on.

Wild-fowl shooters have been remarkably successful, and one of them lately bagged forty-two wild geese at a shot on the shores of the Solent, and forty-seven widgeon at another. The birds are generally at so convenient a distance, on alighting after their long flight, that the disciples of Peter Hawker can stalk up to them, and make fearful slaughter with the first two or three shots. An enormous swan has also formed part of the unusually rich booty, besides bean goose, elder duck, &c., and almost every other kind of wading bird, which invariably migrate southward in a severe winter. *Apropos* of shooting, we may mention that Manchester claims to have the pigeon-shooting as well as the billiard champion, seeing that one of their townsmen, Mr. E. Wood, has challenged the whole world to shoot at pigeons for anything between £100 and £500 a side, the gun to be held below the elbow or in any way most convenient. The number of birds and the weight of shot is not yet agreed upon, and it is equally uncertain who will take up the gauntlet.

The Tattersall lounger has not had much to gladden his eyes in the way of sales this year. St. Hilary, Hatbox, Cervus, and several other steeplechasers and hunters, are to be sold on Monday; and on that day fortnight Count Batthany's racing stud of four, and the late Sir H. Beach's kennel of fifteen puppies, two setters, and four retrievers, will come to the hammer. Three packs of foxhounds and one of beagles, besides two naplings by Bedlamite (who is producing his owner between £200 and £300 annually), as well as Ephesus and Guy Mannering, are also in the market

Only nine Newmarket matches have as yet been made for the ensuing racing season, and ten for 1856-57—in nearly all of which the Earl of Glasgow takes part. Doncaster has put forth a goodly stake autumn broadsheet, which comprises 28 events and £1775 of added money. The principal feature in this amended list is the Portland Handicap Plate of 200 sovs., for all ages; but the new conditions of the Cup are not yet fixed on. The town give in all about £2215 of added money to its flat races, besides £125 to steeplechases; whereas seven years ago it only gave £1000. Nothing but a potent fear of York could have effected so great a change.

CONDUCT OF THE WAR.—A public meeting of the working classes of Nottingham was held on Tuesday evening, in the Assembly Rooms, Nottingham. Resolutions urging the Government to pursue an inquiry into the cause of the disastrous state of the army, &c., were adopted.—A crowded meeting was held at Preston, on Tuesday evening, for the purpose of denouncing the gross mismanagement which has been displayed in connection with the war, and demanding a searching revision of our military system, and an inquiry into the causes of the declination of one of the finest armies that ever left England." The chair was taken by Mr. W. Livesey. The speeches and resolutions were of a vigorous character, and a petition to Parliament was adopted praying for an effective prosecution of the war, and a complete reform in our military system.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

We have again to report a very limited business in the Market for all Nations Securities. In prices, however, there has been some firmness, but it may be almost wholly traced to the unusually small quantity of stock on offer. For many weeks past the jobbers have had little, or nothing, to do, and they are extremely anxious to ascertain whether the new Chancellor of the Exchequer is likely to apply to the City for a loan. Amongst numerous parties it would be favourably received, and we need scarcely say that almost any amount might be raised in the present state of the market, and without causing a serious fall in the value of present stocks

The Money Market is somewhat tighter, from the fact that heavy demands have been made upon it to meet bills due on the 6th current. Bankers have discounted liberally, and with a good profit. At present the discount quotations for first-class bills are 5 to 5½ for short dates, and 6½ per cent for long dates. The rate of interest allowed for deposits of money on call is 4 to 4½ per cent. As remittances are now rapidly arriving from most quarters, the present pressure will be of very short duration.

The imports of the precious metals this week have exceeded one million sterling: £800,000 being from Australia, and £300,000 from other quarters, chiefly from New York. The exports have been under £100,000; and, from the fact that foreign exchanges have become somewhat favourable to this country, it is supposed that nearly the whole of the next arrivals will be forwarded to the Bank of England.

The Consol Market was flat on Monday; but its inactivity did not lead to any material change in price. The Three per Cents Reduced were done at 91⅞ ⅞. the Three per Cent Consols, 91½ to 91; Consols for Account, 91⅝ ⅞; the New Three per Cents, 91⅞ ⅞; Long Annuities, 4 7-16; Bank Stock, 215; Exchequer-bills, 6s. to 8s.; Ditto, Advertised, 5s. to 4s premium; Exchequer-bonds, 99½; On Tuesday the Market was again flat. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 91½ to 91⅛; the Three per Cent Consols, 91⅝ ⅞; the New Three per Cents, 91⅞ ⅞; Long Annuities, 4⅛; Bank Stock, 215 to 213½; India Bonds, 1½ to 1½; Exchequer-bills, 9s. to 8s. prem; Exchequer-bonds, 99⅞ ⅞. A very limited business was transacted on Wednesday. Bank Stock, 213 to 213½. The Three per Cents Reduced were 91⅞ ⅞; the Three per Cent Consols, 91½ to 91½; Consols for Account, 91½ 91; New Three per Cents, 91⅞ ⅞; Long Annuities, 4 3-16; India Stock, 225. Exchequer-bills, 6s. to 9s. premium; Exchequer-bonds, 99⅞ ⅞ There was more doing in Consols on Thursday, and prices were on the advance. The Three per Cents were 91⅞ ⅞; the New Three per Cents, 91½ to 92, and the Reduced, 91½ ⅞. Excequer-bills, 6s. to 9s.; and India Bonds, 1½ to 1½ prem

The dealings in the Foreign House have been extremely restricted, yet we have scarcely any change to notice in the quotations. Brazilian Four-and-a-Half per Cents have redized 94½; Ecuador Bonds, ⅞, Grenada One-and-a-Half per Cents, 18½; Mexican Three per Cents, 20½; Peruvian Four-and-a Half per Cents, 73, Ditto, Three per Cents, 50; Russian Five per Cents, 9½; Ditto, Small, 8⅞; Sardinian Five per Cents; 85; Spanish Three per Cents, 36; Ditto, New Deferred, 17⅞, Turkish Six per Cents, 75⅞, Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 90⅞, Dutch Two-and-a Half per Cents, 61⅞, Dutch Four per Cents, 94⅞, Swedish Four per Cents, 82⅞, Portuguese Four per Cents, 41⅞

There has been a fair amount of business transacted in Joint-Stock Banks. The prices of which have kept tolerably firm —Australasia have realised 84, Chartered of Asia, 4 dis, English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 15⅞, London Chartered of Australia, 1⅞, Ditto, New, 4⅞, London and Westminster, 5⅞, London Chartered of Australia, 6⅞, Union of Australia, 64⅞, Union of London, 26, Minerals have sold at 1 dis, Ditto, Australian Royal, Mas., 4, Canada Bonds, 119⅞, Ditto, Government Six per Cents, 104⅞, Crystal Palace, 2⅞; Ditto, Preference, 3⅞; East and West India Docks, 113⅞ to 6⅞; Ditto, Victoria, 15⅞, Peel River Land and Mineral, 2⅞, Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 58⅞, Royal Mail Steam, 85; South Australian Investment, New, 4⅞, Van Diemen's Land, 12⅞ Canal Shares have all been dull, but at very little alteration in the quotations—Ashton and Oldham, 14⅞ ex div, Birmingham, 81⅞ per share, Coventry, 209, Derby, 84, Grand Junction, 55, Grand Surrey, 48, Leeds, 79, Loughborough, 27⅞, Neath, 18⅞, Oxford, 110, Rochdale, 60, Stafford and Worcester, 425, Stourbridge, 285, Wilts and Berks, 23 to 24 Water-works Shares have ruled the following rates—Brent, 2⅞, Grand Junction, 96 to 6⅞ ex div, Ditto New, 21 ex div; Kent, 78⅞; Southwark and Vauxhall, 86, New River Ditto, 21 ex div; West Middlesex, 84⅞ to 85 ex div. In Gas Light and Coke Companies' Securities very few transactions have taken place—British Provincial, 20; Brighton, 14; Continental, 65⅞ ex div; Equitable, 29⅞; Imperial, 99⅞ to 1; Ditto, New, 15 ex div; Phœnix, 27⅞ ex div; Ratcliff, 70; Surrey Consumers, 11; United General, 19⅞; Westminster Chartered, 39, Insurance Companies Shares have ruled steady:—City of London, 2⅞; General, 6⅞; Globe, 125⅞; Hand-in-Hand, 5⅞; Imperial Fire, 327 ex div; Ditto, Life, 18; Law Fire, 4⅞; Ditto, Life, 56; Pelican, 46 to 45; Rock Life, 7⅞; Sun Life, 57⅞; United Kingdom, 4⅞ ex div. Bridge Shares have ruled:—Hungerford at 12, Vauxhall, 5⅞; Waterloo, 4⅞; Ditto, Old Annuities of £8, 31; Ditto, New, of £7, 28.

The Account day in the Share Market has passed off tolerably well. The money business has been trifling. For the present month the "calls" are only £280,673, against £719,860 for the corresponding month in 1854. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Caledonian, 62⅞; Eastern Counties, 11 ex div.; Eastern Union, A Stock, 30; Great Northern, 90; Ditto, A Stock, 71⅞; Ditto, B Stock, 120⅞; Great Southern and Western (Ireland) 58 ex div.; Great Western, 63⅞ ex div.; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 74⅞; London and Blackwall, 7⅞ ex div.; London and Brighton, 97⅞; London and North-Western, 97⅞ ex div.; Ditto, Fifths, 12⅞ ex div.; Ditto, £10 shares, M and B C, 5⅞ ex div.; London and South-Western, 84 ex div.; Ditto, £50, 84⅞ ex div.; Midland, 67⅞ ex div.; Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford, 11⅞; North British, 29⅞; North-Eastern (Berwick), 72⅞; Ditto, Leeds, 12⅞ ex div.; North Staffordshire, 12⅞; South Devon, 13; South-Eastern, 6⅞.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—London and Greenwich, 12⅞.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Eastern Counties New Six per Cent Stock, 12⅞ ex div.; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, Preferential Ten per Cent, 8⅞; Ditto, Five per Cent, 118⅞; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 103; North Staffordshire, 22; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Six per Cent, 109⅞ ex div

FOREIGN.—Eastern of France, 33⅞; Grand Luxembourg, Five per Cent, 21⅞; Grand Luxembourg, 2⅞; Ditto, Obligations, 2⅞; Great Western of Canada Shares, 17; Namur and Liege, ex int., 5.

Mining Shares have been dull. On Thursday, Agua Fria were done at ⅞, Copiapo, 18; Fortuna, ⅞; Pontgibaud Silver Lead, 15⅞; Weller, ⅞.

Friday Evening.

News having come to hand to the effect that the Emperor of Russia is disposed to accept the terms of the Allies, the Funds have had an upward tendency. The Three per Cents have marked 91⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 91⅞; and the New Three per Cents, 91⅞ 92. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares without material alteration

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday) The present week's arrival of English wheat up to our market countries, has been only 800 quarters Fresh up to-day the receipts by land carriage from numerous, and only a moderate supply of samples was trifling. The attendance of millers was about Monday's, and only a moderate business was transacted in home-grown wheat at decl, n on other samples rather held at extreme rates, but there was very little disposition shown to purchase. Prices were therefore unaltered. We had a very dull sale for barley and malt, at nearly stationary prices. Oats moved off slowly on former terms. Beans and peas and flour were much neglected The top price of town-made flour is now 70s. per 280 lbs.

ARRIVALS.—English wheat, 800 quarters, barley, 800 malt, 2,200 oats, 1,200 Irish; oats, 8860 Foreign: wheat, 1760; flour, 3580 sacks, 1300 cwts.

English. Wheat, Essex and Kent, 48s. to 54s., fine ditto, 56s., ordinary ditto, 45s. to 46s., Suffolk red, 46s. to 54s. ditto, white, 52s. to 58s.; Rye, 40s. to 44s., Norfolk and Suffolk, dis, dis, dis, 32s. to 35s.; Grinding Barley, 26s. to 28s.; malting ditto, 29s. to 32s.; brown ditto, 24s. to 26s.; Kingston and Ware, 30s. to 32s.; London and Norfolk malt, 60s to 65s.; Ales and Brown ditto, 70s. to 75s.; Pale ditto, 75s. to 80s.; potato, 32s. to 34s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 28s. to 29s.; ditto, white, 27s. to 30s.; ditto, seed, 30s. to 32s.; Sligo, 28s. to 32s.; Waterford, 27s. to 31s.; Scotch, 32s. to 34s.; boilers, 45s. to 46s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 65s. to 70s. Suffolk, 56s. to 60s. Stockton and Yorkshire, 55s. to 60s. per 280lbs. American 35s. to 41s. per barrel

Foreign. The demand for all kinds of seed is in a very inactive state. In prices no change has taken place.

Linseed English, [illegible] 72s.; Baltic, crushing, —s. to —s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, [illegible] per bushel, 50s to 56s. per quarter. Coriander, 17s. to 18s. per cwt. Rapeseed, English, 42s. to 43s. per tun; Ditto, Foreign, 42s. to 43s. per tun. Tares, 1s. to 1½s. per bushel English rapeseed, £34 to £35 per last of ten quarters. Linseed Cakes, English, £12 to £13, Foreign, £10 10s. to £11 10s. per ton; rape cakes, £6 5s. to £6 10s. per ton. Canary, 44s. to 54s per quarter

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 9½d. to 10½d; of household ditto 8d to 9d per 4lb loaf

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 69s. 1d.; barley, 35s. 5d.; oats, 25s. 6d.; rye, 41s. 1d.; beans, 40s. 8d.; peas, 41s. 5d.

The Six Weeks Averages Wheat 70s 0d, barley, 35s 3d, oats 26s 3d, rye, 43s 1d, beans, 41s 1d; peas, 41s. 5d

The Average of a Week Last Year Wheat, 51s 6d barley 31s 7d, oats, 26s 1d rye, 41s, beans, 40s; peas, 41s 1d

Tea.—Our market continues very dull, yet we have no actual decline to notice in prices. Business second Congou, 12½ to 13½d.

Sugar.—A very inactive demand has been experienced for all kinds of raw sugar this week, and former prices have been with difficulty maintained Barbadoes, Jamaica, St. Vincent, Mauritius, &c. to 38s., Bengal, 32s 6d to 33s. Fine ditto, 34s 6d to 35s. Dutch, 32s 6d to 36s per cwt. [illegible] Refined goods are rather easier. P.N.C. on the spot, 55s. 3d to 5s. 6d., March and April, 5s 4d; and May, 5s 3d. per cwt. Town Lumps, 6s. net cash Rough fat, 3s per 8lbs

Oils Linseed oil is steady, at 32s 6d. per cwt. on the spot. Pale rape is dull, at 51s 6d; brown ditto, 50s to 52s. 6d Other oils, as well as turpentine, are a slow inquiry

Coffee.—There is still little doing, and most kinds may be purchased on easier terms Proof Leewards 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; East India, 3s 8d. to 3s. 9d. per gallon Brandy is dull and sheaper. Malt spirit, 10s. 6d. per gallon.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £2 15s. to £4 15s.; clover ditto, £3 to £6; and straw, £1 4s. to £1 10s. per load

Wool.—The public sales are going off steadily, though at a decline, compared with the previous series, of from 2d. to 1d per lb. The private market is excessively dull.

Potatoes.—The supplies are but moderate, but fully equal to the demand. Prices rule from 80s. to 110s. per ton

Coals (Friday) Lanfield Moor, 17s. 6d: Haswell, 22s. 6d.; Hilton, 22s. 6d.; Hough Hall, 21s.; South Kelo 21s. per ton.

Hops.—We have no change to notice in the value of any kind of hops. The market generally is in a sluggish state. This week's imports are 7 bales from Holland, and 290 from New York. Mid and East Kents, 90s. and 14 cwts to 126s. and 14 cwts; Yeld 14 to £6, Sussex, £14 to £16, Yearlings, £9 to £11; American (in bond), £7 to £9

Smithfield. Notwithstanding the very moderate supplies of all kinds of fresh meats, both as to number and quality. For all breeds we had a very inactive demand, yet Monday's advance in the quotations was maintained The numbers of sheep were limited, yet the mutton trade was heavy, at barely stationary prices. The few calves offered sold heavily, at Monday's terms, the top price being very little over 5s. per 8 lbs. Pigs were very dull, on former terms. Milch cows sold slowly, at from £14 to £18 per head, and upwards.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the offals.—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; prime ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.; prime oxen, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; coarse inferior sheep, 3s. 4d to 3s 8d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d., prime ditto, 4s. 4d to 4s 6d., prime Southdown ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s; large calves 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 8d to 5s 0d; large hogs, 3s. 0d. to 4s. 8d.; neat small porkers, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d Stocking ewes, 32s. to 38s; and quarter old store pigs, 18s to 28s. each. Total supply, beasts, 900, cows, 120; sheep, 3250, calves, 86; pigs 320

Newgate and Leadenhall, Friday.—We had a very dull sale for all kinds of meat, as follows—

Per 8 lbs., by the carcass:—Inferior beef, 3s 0d. to 3s 2d.; middling ditto, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d prime large ditto, 3s 8d. to 3s 10d.; large small ditto, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; large pork, 3s. 0d. to 3s. 8d.; inferior veal, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s 0d.; prime ditto, 3s. 10d to 4s. 2d.; small pork, 3s 10d. to 4s. 4d

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27

WAR-OFFICE, FEB 27

Colonel W. F. Forster to be Deputy-Adjutant-General to the Forces from Colonel H. B Wood, C.B., to be Deputy-Adjutant-General to the Forces

CHURCH The Rev J. E. Sabin to be a commissioned Chaplain to the Forces

BANKRUPTS.

H BYNE (otherwise BISH), Park-street, Bloomsbury, Bedstead, bedsteads—J SPEIPE, Wapping High-street, Middlesex, sail-maker and ship-chandler—H HEWES, Aldermanbury, Factor—T LAWFORD and E. MAITLAND, George-yard, Lombard-street, City, wine merchants—A BARNETT, Pimlico Tavern, Pimlico-road, Middlesex, licensed victualler, Middlesex, hotel and shop keeper—H. J BETJEMANN, New Oxford-street, Middlesex, chief bedstead manufacturer—W. J. FREEMAN, Leicester-square, Middlesex, Ironmonger—G. SELBY, Ironmonger-lane, City, iron ironmaster and manufacturer—W JAMES, Aldgate, City, draper—W KEATES, Dunchurch, Bedford, Ironmonger—M HUMES and Sounds, as stated in the *Gazette* of last Friday, Bourn, Lincoln, coach builder and wheelwright—T FEFF, Nottingham, grocer, baker, and provision dealer—T SON, Church Fenton, Yorkshire, chicory merchant—J WHITAKER, Oldham, publican—J HASON, Manchester, sailor, silk dyer

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS

J K SON, Glasgow, bookseller, stationer, and auctioneer—T W WINLAY, Edinburgh, printer and publisher.—J HARE and CO., Calquitted, Renfrew, bleachers.—A WOODS, Tweedside-place, Carmichael, Lanark, farmer and cattle dealer—HURST and CO., New Cumnock Iron Company, New Cumnock, Paisley, and Glasgow, manufacturers of iron and ironfounders.—J. LAWSON and CO, Paisley, calico printers, and silk printers

FRIDAY, MARCH 2.

WAR-OFFICE, MARCH 2

2nd Life Guards, Lieut F Marshall to be Lieutenant

1st Regiment of Guards, Lieut. F. Sherwen to be Lieutenant

5th Dragoon Guards, Cornet J Hayes to be Cornet and Adjutant

4th Light Dragoons, Cornet E L. Puxley to be Lieutenant

28th Foot—Surgeon-Major J W Crealer to be Quartermaster

Coldstream Guards, Sergeant-Major E. Collins to be Quartermaster.

[illegible] Grenadier R. V. Stephenson to be Ensign and Lieutenant; Lieut. and Capt. H. Oppe to be Adjutant

1st Foot—Brevet-Major the Hon. C. D. Plunkett to be Major

4th Ditto, F. F. Hamilton to be Captain

7th Ditto, G. H. Powell to be Captain

9th Ditto, H Gostling to be Captain

11th Ditto, F Smythe to be Captain, Ensign F G Armstrong to be Lieutenant

R. F Maugh to be Ensign

20th The Hon. A Vereker to be Ensign

24 Ensign P H Delamere to be Lieutenant

27th Ditto, C. G. Birch to be Ensign.

31st Capt. R. F. W. Cumberland to be Captain

Lieut H. St V. Marsh to be Adjutant

33rd Ensign F J. Hooper to be Lieutenant; Ensign Hon. F. Vigors to be Ensign

39th Ditto, G. Palmer to be Ensign; Sergt Maj G S King, M D, to be Assistant Surgeon

45 Ensign R H Stewart to be Ensign

47 Capt. F. E. Holmes to be Captain

[illegible] W A Wood to be Adjutant

[illegible] W. Cross to be Ensign

49th Lieut. G. B Coleman, Ensign J Mackay, to be Lieutenants

50th Lieut. W. Humphreys to be Lieutenant

50th Ensigns J. H. Sharpe, J Scott, to be Lieutenants

57th Ensign T Grace to be Lieutenant; Ensign to be Ensign

[illegible] Hallett to be Lieutenant, Ensign T Fergusson to be Paymaster

63rd Lieut. T. Milbourn to be Adjutant

63rd Ensign W S. Marson, S. H. Bruce, to be Lieutenants.

68th Ensign J. P. Cox to be Lieutenant.

77th Lieuts. W. J. Garden, A. Lemprière, to be Captains

79th T R Howkins, R Ewart, and H Adcock, to be Lieutenants

84th Capt. Sir Du Vernet to be Captain

92th Ensign E. M Hendon to be Lieutenant

93rd Lieuts. A. Watson, H. Barton, W Birch to be Lieutenants

[illegible] Quartermaster-Serg J Barrett to be Ensign

[illegible] Capt A. G Dunbony to be Adjutant

[illegible] Lieut D Bertram to be Adjutant

[illegible] Ensign E Wood C W Leake, to be Lieutenants

[illegible] Ensign to be Ensigns

[illegible] Captain St. George M Marant to be Captain

97th Ensign A. B. N [illegible] to be Lieutenant

Rifle Brigade Lieut. S. S. Windham to be Lieutenant; Sergeant J S Knox, Sergeant J Adams to be Ensigns, Lieut. C. W. Craig, to be Ensign; Assistant-Surgeon J. R. C. Reade to be Assistant-Surgeon

2nd West India Regiment Ensigns M. Burleigh, J. Kavanagh, J. K. Maunsell, to be Lieutenants

Capt Mounted Infantry Lieut. C. H. Bell to be Captain; Ensign A. R. Fowler to be Lieutenant

Land Transport Corps. Capt G. Larkins to be Captain of a Division. Sergeant G. H. Cox, Sergeant-Major T. Jones, Sergeant-Major J. Jones, Corporal A. M Lean, Troop Corporal P Cox, to be Quartermasters

Depot Battalion.—Brevet-Lieut. Col. H D O'Halloran to be Major; Capt. C. Good to be Assistant Adjutant

Lieut. W Parsons and H [illegible] B Wilson to have the honorary rank of Major.

Medical Staff Acting Assist-Surgs T. E. Hale and J. Macartney to be Assistant-Surgeons

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED

W. L. TIZ ARD, Aldgate High-street, merchant and engineer

BANKRUPTS.

J W BROWNE, Shame-street, upholsterer.—H. POPKISS, R. G. POPKISS, and G MELLE, Hum-street Brentford, timber merchants and timber merchants.—H A GOODMAN, Starch-yard Hanse-yards, varnish maker and colour merchant.—J RUMBEY, Coventry, Hosiery wholesale.—J HARDY and J. HARDY, Westbury, Wiltshire, woolen manufacturers.—J. SMITH and J. HOLMES, Denholme, Bradford, Yorkshire, C. FOX, Stafford-place, Pimlico, licensed victualler—M. B SCOTT, Harley-place, Marylebone, West India merchant. J. N WEEKS, East Cowes Isle of Wight, hotel-keeper—O. ELSTON, Devon, cattle salesman and cattle-dealer—H MILLS, Great Portland, near Petersfield, and Steep, Hants, licensed victualler—M. BOOTH, Depot Battalion, Brevet-Lieut. Col. H D O'Halloran to be Major; Capt. C. Good to be Assistant Adjutant

Lieut W Parsons and H [illegible] B Wilson to have the honorary rank of Major.

Medical Staff Acting Assist-Surgs T. E. Hale and J. Macartney to be Assistant-Surgeons

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BIRTHS

On the 23rd ult., at Exeter, the wife of Captain W G. Hamley, Royal Engineers, of a son.

On the 23rd ult., at the Rectory, Slaughton, Sussex, the wife of the Rev. W. Burgiass, a daughter

On the 22nd ult., at Freshford, near Bath, the wife of the Rev. H. Beaumont, M.A., Rector of Freshford, of a daughter

On the 23rd ult., at Great-hill, Sydenham, the wife of Dr. G. Grayling, of a son.

On the 26th ult., at Thurlow-park, Norwood, the wife of A. G. Marcetti, Esq., of a son

MARRIAGES

On Saturday, the 10th ult., at the parish church of Cheltenham, by the Rev. R Hinchliffe, Rector of Muckleston, Thomas Tapling, Esq., of Hereford, to Mary Anne, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Kasy, Oakley park, in the county of Salford.

On the 20th ult., by the Rev W. Killing, the Rev W. Lee, M.A., of Great Charlemont-place, Dublin, to Margaret Catherine, eldest daughter of Lieut General A. Thomson, K.H., Colonel of the 2nd Regiment

On the 24th ult., at St. George's Church, W. C Nangle, Esq., Lieutenant Royal Artillery, youngest son of Nangle, Esq., of Kilbally, county Meath, to Mary, eldest daughter of the late Hon A. Annesley

At St Giles's-in-the-Fields, Cornwall, G A. Bassett, Esq., of Dromveach, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Lieut.-Colonel Stewart.

DEATHS.

On the 23rd ult., at Fellowscross, George Hirch, Esq., of Clare-park, Hants, late Lieut.-Col. Horse 21, aged 71

On the 5th ult., at Messina, Major Richard R. Drew, formerly of the Royal Artillery.

On the 12th ult., at Smyrna, Mary, relict of the late William Malleson, Esq., of Balham-hill, Surrey, aged 4

On the 26th ult., aged 27, Susannah, the beloved wife of Edward Hamilton Hoskins, Esq., of Tonbridge-wells, the Rev. E. B Webster, M.A., late incumbent of Bassenthwaite, Cumberland, universally loved and respected, aged 29.

On the 26th ult., at Hadley, Salop, Thomas Brown, Esq., of 36, Mecklenburgh-square, London, M.P. for Dudley, aged 57

On the 26th ult., at Knockbeon, Lieut.-Colonel C. C. Archer, son of the late Major-General Archer, of the Guards

On the 26th ult., at Whilton Rectory, the Rev. H. Rose, Rector of Brington and Wilton, in the county of Northampton, aged 64.

On the 22nd ult., at the Grange, Haverstock-hill, near Hampstead, W. A Beckett, Esq., aged 78.

On the 23rd ult., the Rev. J. Pears, A.M., Perpetual Curate of Lane-end, Bucks, aged 84.

ROYAL COMMISSION OF THE PATRIOTIC FUND.

The meetings of this "generous band," associated for the purpose of mitigating the sufferings from the present war, are held in one of the apartments of the New Palace at Westminster. The room selected is the Grand chamber; and the Illustration at page 208 was sketched during a meeting of the Royal Commission, held on Monday week—the Prince Albert presiding.

His Royal Highness, attended by his Equerry in Waiting, arrived at three o'clock. The other Commissioners present were Earl Grey, the Earl of Clarendon, the Duke of Buccleuch, Lord Seymour, Lord Colchester, Lord Seaton, Lord St. Leonards, the Right Hon. H. Lowry Corry, the Right Hon. R. Vernon Smith, the Right Hon. Sir J. Pakington, Sir Hew D. Ross, Mr. J. Ball, M.P.; Mr. T. Baring, M.P.; Mr. Hubbard, Mr. Boyle Roche. Captain E G. Fishbourne, R.N., and Captain J. H. Lefroy; R.A., secretaries, attended. The meeting broke up at twenty minutes before six o'clock.

The offices of the Commission are at 16A, Great George-street, Westminster—the Commission, a recently issued, it is stated that the distribution of the fund is expressly limited to "the succouring, educating, and relieving those who, by the loss of their husbands and parents in battle, or by death on active service in the present war, are unable to maintain or support themselves."

The following suggestions and resolutions are addressed to the Chairmen and Members of Local Committees:—

1. By examining from time to time into the circumstances of every individual now receiving, or who shall hereafter receive, an allowance in your several localities, whether every widow or orphan in future applying for relief, lists of whom will be furnished to you from time to time, the Executive Committee will be able to prevent any persons from being relieved out of the national bounty who are able to support or maintain themselves, or from receiving greater aid than with their own income and earnings will be sufficient for their support or maintenance.

2. By encouraging and giving necessary facilities to the poor to continue or to enter upon a life of independent industry, and generally to keep a watchful eye over the widows; for the Royal Commissioners have determined that if any widow, or any orphan of the children of the Executive and Finance Committee, by profligate conduct dishonour the memory of her husband, her allowance shall wholly cease.

3. By placing the orphans residing in your district until they leave their mothers or other guardians, in some place of some institution by the Executive and Finance Committee, in your National Schools, and kindly watching over their conduct and progress whilst there

The Executive Committee deem it of much importance that the orphans should be carefully educated; they will therefore be prepared to pay the ordinary school-fees quarterly, on your recommendation, for every orphan placed by you in a National School, in addition to the allowances mentioned in the general scale: these fees will, of course, not exceed the usual allowance of one, two, or three pence per week each, as the case may be

The Executive and Finance Committee will, in all proper cases, be prepared to place children in asylums or industrial schools, and to pay moderate apprentice fees, and local committees will render valuable assistance to the Committee by proposing suitable trades and proper persons to be entrusted with apprentices

The total sum received up to this time by the Commissioners of the Patriotic Fund exceeds three-quarters of a million sterling.

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET. The SPANISH DANCERS (Signora Pepa Rosa and Marcos Dasi) with New Ballets and Company, Every Evening.—Monday and Tuesday, Gomedys Wednesday, a New Comedy, called THE SHIRT AGAIN. Also, Every Evening, THE BALANCE OF COMFORT.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, LOUIS XI: Wednesday, CORSICAN BROTHERS and (last time) the PANTOMIME, Saturday, LANCERS, and other entertainments.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch. Proprietor, Mr JOHN DOUGLASS. This magnificent theatre unrivalled in splendour, is open every evening. Engagement of Miss GLEN, the popular Shakspere actress, who will appear in CLEOPATRA, on SATURDAY, MARCH 3rd. Antony, by Mr Henry Marston, of Sadler's Wells Theatre. Doors open at Six; begin at Half-past Six. Boxes, 3s. 6d. 2s. 1s. 6d., and 1s

GO and hear LOVE, the greatest DRAMATIC VENTRILOQUIST in Europe, at the UPPER HALL, BEDFORD ASSEMBLY, 66, Quadrant, Regent-street. Every Evening, at Eight, except Saturday; Saturday, at Three. Pianoforte, Miss Julia Warman

J. L. TOOLE (late of St. James's Theatre) will present his SKETCHES of LIFE and TOUR HERE at the THEATRE—Panoramic, Comprehensive, Instructive, Instructive, Dramatic, Instrumental and Vocal—in aid of the Funds of the Walworth Library Institution, in the Lecture-hall, Carter-street, Walworth, on MONDAY, at Light. Tickets 1s., 2s., and 3s., at Bates' Royal Library, the London Tavern; at the Institution.

NOLDWITH, Hon Sec.

MR. ALFRED MELLON respectfully announces that a series of grand ORCHESTRAL UNION CONCERTS, under his direction, will take place during the season at St. MARTIN'S HALL. The first on MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 2nd. 1855. Subscribers' names received by Messrs. Cramer and Beale, 201, Regent-street.

ANNUAL BENEFIT BALL, (Dean-street, Soho.—Mr. CALDWELL has the honour to announce that his FIFTEENTH ANNUAL BENEFIT BALL will take place on TUESDAY, MARCH 6th, on which occasion he confines himself to the rendering of the most pleasant and dancing of the season. Tickets 5s., including Supper, 5s. each. Commence at Half-past Seven Evening, from Eight till Twelve. Six Private Lessons, at any hour, £1 1s

NOTICE

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. Important LECTURE on SHEEP OPERATIONS in connection with SEBASTOPOL, by R. JEKYLL, Esq. (late Captain, Coldstream Guards), illustrated by Models and Diagrams of Portifications, Cannon, &c. On Monday Evening the 5th and Tuesday Evening the 6th inst. at Eight o Clock

CRYSTAL PALACE, Sydenham.—The PALACE and PARK are OPEN to the Public on MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and FRIDAYS, at 10 a.m: on which days the admission is 1 s: and on SATURDAYS, at Noon, when the admission is 5s, and also each day at 5½ p.m. Tickets of admission, including conveyance by railway, may be obtained at the London Bridge Terminus, and at the several Agents' in London. Trains run at 8.5 a.m., at 9.10 a.m., and every half-hour from 10 10 a.m. up to 4.10 p.m.; returning from the Crystal Palace Station up to 6.10 p m.

ART UNION of LONDON.—By ROYAL CHARTER. Prizeholders select for themselves from the public Exhibitions. Every Subscriber of One Guinea will have, besides the Chance of a prize, an impression of a plate of "A Water Party," by J. T. Willmore, R.A., after J. J. Chalon, R.A., and a quarto volume of thirty illustrations of Byron's "Childe Harold." The Prizes are ready for delivery, and the volume may be seen at the office. Subscriptions, Guinea Not instant

10, Waterloo-place, GEORGE GODWIN, } Honorary
March 1st, 1855 LEWIS PUCKLE, } Secretaries

INSTRUCTION in ART GENERAL and SPECIAL, as afforded at the Central School of the Department of Science and Art Marlborough House, Pall-mall, is free to all resident Students No. 37, Gower-street, and the Metropolitan Schools in connection with the Department. The Spring Session will commence on the 1st March

For Information and prospectuses, apply at Marlborough House, Pall-mall

LECTURES to WORKING MEN. The following COURSES of LECTURES will be delivered in the EVENINGS during the present Session at the THEATRE of the MUSEUM of PRACTICAL GEOLOGY, Jermyn-street:
1. On GEOLOGY, by A. C. RAMSAY, F.R.S.
2. On MECHANISM by R. WILLIS, M.A., F.R.S
3. On NATURAL HISTORY, by T. H. HUXLEY, F.R.S

The First Course of Six Lectures on the Geology of the British Rocks used in the Arts and Manufactures commenced at Eight o Clock on MONDAY, the 26th of JANUARY, and will be continued on each succeeding Monday Evening at the same hour

The Second Course, on Mechanism, by Professor Willis, will be commenced after the conclusion of the first

Tickets are Sellable, by working men only, upon payment of a registration fee of 6d. for the course of Six Lectures; and due notice will be given of the day on which they are issued

HENRAM REEKS, Registrar.

SUFFOLK.—To LET, within a few miles of Bury St. Edmunds, a compact FAMILY RESIDENCE, in good repair, with nine acres of garden and land. Rent moderate.—Address, post paid, M S., care of Mr George Thompson, Bury St. Edmunds

A CAMBRIDGE UNDERGRADUATE is open to an engagement as travelling TUTOR in a Nobleman's or Gentleman's family, during the months of June, July, August and September. Address W J. S., care of Hodgkin, Bell, and Co., Booksellers, Trinity-street, Cambridge.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS. Wanted a respectable Youth, Fifteen Years of Age, as an APPRENTICE to the Coal-and-Corn BUSINESS; he must be treated as one of the family. A premium is expected. Apply to Wm Pilcher's Manufactory, 23, Upper Belgrave-place, Pimlico, London.—Established thirty years.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—There is an OPPORTUNITY of placing a well educated Youth as an ARTICLED PUPIL (not due) in the estate business of a firm of extensive practice, consisting of Surveying on the Land and Tenant Side, Architects, Surveyors, Valuers, Land and Estate Agents. Premium required. Apply to Messrs Maskell and Hillier, Architects and Surveyors, 12a, Regent-square, or, 19, Birchin-lane, Cornhill.

HOME EDUCATION. A Clergyman and his Wife, residing in a healthy part of Berkshire, and fully competent to the care and management of children, wish to receive into their family TWO or THREE LITTLE GIRLS, who will be treated as their own and thoroughly instructed in the usual branches of a sound English Education, with Music, French, and Drawing, at the Lady's and Governess's Table. Terms on application to the Rev. H. Moore Hope, Twyford, Wokingham, Berks. The highest references given and required

NAVIGATION.—Mrs. JANET TAYLOR'S NAUTICAL ACADEMY, 161, Minories, offers superior advantages to Gentlemen's Sons intended for the Sea. References can be given to all the large Steam Companies and all the leading Shipowners in London. Terms moderate, and forwarded on application.

THE LONDON SCHOOL of PHOTOGRAPHY, 78, Strand, Opposite Exeter Hall. The Art of Taking Portraits from Life, Instructions in Photography, and all necessary Apparatus purchased for £1. No charge is made for the Instruction. Specimen Portraits from 5s to £5 5s. Stereoscopes from 1s. to £1 1s. Number 78

DIATONIC FLUTE. By Royal Letters Patent. This Instrument is played by Mr. Richardson, Baritone to her Majesty, and other eminent Professors. Full particulars forwarded free.—Manufactory, 135, Fleet-street. A. SICIAMA, Patentee.

THE only PRIZE FLUTES. These beautiful toned Instruments may be seen and heard daily from twelve till two at the Patentees and Manufacturers, RUDALL, ROSE, CARTE, and CO.'s, 100, New Bond-street, where Mr. Carte will be in attendance to explain their peculiar excellences. Every stand of Flute upon the new and old systems. Carte a Sketch, price 1s., by post 1s. 6d.; gives a full description.—Manufactory, 26, Charing-cross.

PIANOFORTES, Twenty-five Guineas each. — DALMAINE and CO'S Unique Royal Pianofortes, in Rosewood and Mahogany (compass 6½ octaves). Distinguished by purity and volume of tone, perfection of construction, excellence of material, elasticity of touch, and elegance of appearance, recommended and adopted by the most eminent musicians, and suited for home use and exportation. Every Instrument warranted. D'ALMAINE and Co., 26, Pentonville-hill.

TOLKIEN'S 25-GUINEA ROYAL MINUTO PIANOFORTES.—H. T., the original maker of a 25-Guinea Pianoforte, Manufactory, 27, Sussex-street, Pimlico, London. For his instruments, unequalled in durability and delicacy of touch, he has received the Patronage of our royalty. In elegant walnut, rosewood, and mahogany. Cases proof for abroad for 3l 10s extra. H. Tolkien's Manufactory, 27, 28, and 29, King William-street, London-bridge.

THE BANK OF LONDON.
Capital, £500,000
(With power of extension to £2,000,000)
In 6000 Shares of £100 each. £50 payable per Share,
Viz., £10 upon allotment, and the remainder before or upon Incorporation (Subject to the Provisions of the Statute for Regulating Joint Stock Banks

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIRMAN
Sir JOHN VILLIERS SHELLEY, Bart., M.P., 25, Park-lane, and Mar. 11, 1855 Mansion-house

VICE CHAIRMAN
(To be appointed by and from the Directors)
John Edmund Gibson, Esq., 10, Devonshire-terrace, Hyde-park.
Thomas Gooch, Esq (Gooch and Co.), Cornhill, and Brixton-rise
Jacob Bunsen, Esq. (Bunsen, Bradbury, Grissell, and Co., Abchurch-lane), Spring-hill House, Upper Clapton
Alexander Constantine Ionides, Esq., Consul-General of Greece (firm of Charles Ionides and Co.), 17, Gracechurch-street
Charles Joyce, Esq. (firm of Charles Joyce and Co., Moorgate-street), 19, Leicester-gardens, Hyde-park.
Henry Morris, Esq., late of the Madras Civil Service, 2a, Markham-sq
Barry Reggridge, Esq., Alderman and Sheriff of London, St. Andrew's-hill, City, and Streatham common, Surrey
Alfred Wilson, Esq. (Venables, Wilson, and Tyler, Queenhithe), Rye Grove, Wyndham, Surrey.

(With power to add to their number, until the first General Meeting.)

BANKERS
(The Bank Manager will not be appointed until the Directors shall have had the amplest opportunity of selecting for that important position a gentleman of first-class qualifications.)
PRINCIPAL AND PROVISIONAL MANAGER, Benjamin Scott, Esq.
SECRETARY, Mesers. Tyrrell, Paine, and Layton, Guildhall-street.

BANKERS
Messrs J W and S. H. Rutland, 75, Old Broad-street
Messrs Cope and Co., 7, Lombard-street

SOLICITORS
(To be selected by and from the body of Proprietors.)
Offices (temporary)—61, Moorgate-street, City

The Bank of London has been projected for the purpose of affording increased facilities for banking in London and the Provinces, upon the joint-stock principle

Its promoters do not contemplate the introduction of new moral modes of business. It will rather be their aim to follow in the steps of those soundly conducted and well-regulated establishments whose management has contributed to place Joint-Stock Banks amongst the most popular and flourishing of metropolitan institutions. Every branch of legitimate banking business will be comprehended within the scope of its operations

Accounts, both current and on deposit, will be received, and interest allowed

Dividends, annuities, pay of officers (military, naval, and civil), and other sources of income, will be received on commission; bills, cheques, sales, and transfers in the public funds and other stocks, will be effected, and annuities and coupons of credit issued. The safe custody of title-deeds and securities belonging to customers, with convenient access, will form a prominent feature in the arrangements of the Bank.

The grounds upon which justify the establishment of this Bank must be sufficiently obvious. The soundness of the Joint-stock principle: its adaptation to modern modes of business, the accommodation it affords, and the security which it presents, have commended the system to the judgment of the great middle class of society, whose aggregate deposits form the bulk of the floating capital lodged in the hands of the banking interest, the increasing patronage which has been consequently extended to Joint-Stock Banks has led to an unprecedented augmentation of business in many of those establishments urgently demanding further banking accommodation.

No period selected for this step is particularly opportune. Trade, commerce being diverted from many ordinary channels by the unfavourable state of our political relations, capital naturally seeks for investment where it will be free from that depression and those fluctuations to which it is liable at such a period. The Joint-Stock Banks have been rendered, accordingly, available for the safe deposit of unemployed capital, and will probably, for some time to come, continue to reap considerable advantages from this state of things, which, about peace happily be secured, the activity resulting from release of capital and commercial enterprise, will afford a legitimate and profitable exercise for the operations of banking.

The following statement of the present market price of the leading Joint-Stock Bank Shares, and the Dividends upon each respectively affords the most conclusive evidence that ample room exists for the profitable employment of capital in this branch of Business:—

NAME OF BANK.	Amount paid up per Share.	Present Market Value per Share (ex div.)	Increase in Value per cent.	Rate per Cent of Annual Dividend.
London and Westminster	£20	£40	£100	14
London Joint-Stock ..	10	22½	125	20½
London Joint-Stock ..	10	27	170	12
London and County ..	30	38	26	12
Commercial Bank of Britain ..	20	31	55	10

Showing an average dividend of £14 14s. per cent per annum, after payment of income-tax, and accumulation of large reserve funds, and an improved value upon the capital paid up of £12 per share.

As it will be to the interest of the Bank to have a numerous proprietary, applications for small allotments will be favourably considered by the Directors

A pleasing form of Application, addressed to the Secretary, at the office of the Company, or to the Brokers, will be received up to and including the 1st of March, 1855

Mr. Moorgate-street, City Feb. 13th, 1855

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES
To the Directors of the Bank of London

Gentlemen,—I request you will allot me Shares of £20 each in the Bank of London. And I hereby undertake to pay the deposit of any smaller number which you may allot to me, and to pay the deposit of £10 per share thereon, and execute the Deed of Settlement of the Company in respect thereof, at such times and in such manner as you may require

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,
Name
Address
Profession or Business
Date

N.B.—Every application for shares must (in the case of persons not known to the Directors or Officers of the Company) be accompanied by a good banking, commercial, or professional reference

METROPOLITAN RAILWAY (Paddington to the Post-office). Capital, £1,000,000, in 100,000 Shares of £10 each. Deposit £1 per Share. Preliminary deposit to accompany application for Shares, 5s. per share.

DIRECTORS
William Mabon Esq., Montagu-square, Chairman
Arthur Aylmer, Esq. (Crafton-house, Bond-street, Deputy Chairman
Anthony Allington Baker Esq., Chelsenham, Director of the Great Western Railway Company
Samuel Baker, Esq. Thorngrove, Worcestershire, Director of the Great Western Railway Company
Thomas Bidder Esq., Clewerhedge, Windsor, Director of the Great Western Railway Company
Thomas Edward Dicey, Esq., Prince's-terrace, Hyde-park
Charles Wilson Fisher, Esq., Doncaster, Director of the Great Northern Railway Company
Bonamy Price, Esq., Professor, Hyde-park
Sir Thomas Phillipps, Bart., Sawley Oaks, Enfield, Director of the Eastern Counties Railway Company.
Thomas Williams Esq., Mount Ararat-road, St. John's-wood, Director of the Great Western Railway Company.

The work reserved under arrangement with the London and North-Western Railway Company, to be filled by Directors of that Company

AUDITORS
Benjamin John Armstrong, Esq., Upper Wimpole-street
Sampson Copestake, Esq. (Messrs Copestake and Co., Chesapside

BANKERS
Messrs Heywood, Kennard, and Co., South-Sea House
Messrs Heywood, Parr, Wood, Sons, and Co., Liverpool
Messrs Heywood, Kennard, and Co., Manchester

SOLICITOR—John Fowler, Esq
ASSISTANT ENGINEER IN AMERICA—J. Hargrave Stephens, Esq
SOLICITOR—Wm. Harchell, Esq., 47, Parliament-street
SECRETARY—John Hoadsman, Esq
Offices of the Company—No 27, Great George-street, Westminster
BROKERS—Messrs Edward Ellis and Co., 3, Royal Exchange-buildings

This Company was incorporated by an Act of Parliament passed last session, and has been formed by parties unbeneficed. It was deemed expedient to defer the public allotment of shares until the arrangement of the Company were in a state of ripening for action.

The Company is constituted for the purpose of making a Railway four miles and a half in length, to connect the West End of London and its North-Western suburbs with the centre of the City. It will pass from Bishop's Road, Paddington, through Bayswater, running along the New-road to Euston-square, King's-cross, and thence through Gresham-street to its terminus at the General Post-office, in St Martin's-le-Grand

For a full description of the nature of the undertaking see the advertisement in the morning papers of the 31st of January, and the Prospectus which may be had at the Company's Offices; or at the Brokers' or Bankers'.

Estimated net profits, as shown in the Prospectus, 12½ per cent

Application for shares of £10 each to be made in the printed form, addressed to the Secretary, or to Messrs. Edward Ellis and Co., 3, Royal Exchange-buildings, Brokers to the Company, and, in order to ensure the applications being bona fide from responsible persons, they must be accompanied by the payment, of, or by the receipt of the Company's bankers for, the sum of 5s per share, to be retained on account of the deposit of £1 per share, if any of the shares applied for be allotted, or, if otherwise, to be returned by the bankers to the applicant

Printed forms of application for shares may be obtained of the Bankers, the Brokers, or the Secretary of the Company

COALS.—Eastern Counties Railway.—The following are this day's PRICES of COALS brought to London by the Railway From the country of Durham:—Stewart's Wallsend, 27s. per ton. From the Yorkshire and Derbyshire Coal Fields, best quality Silkstone Main, double screened, 22s per ton; Southwell Hill, 22s. per ton; Barnsley, 22s. per ton; second Silkstone Main, 18s. per ton. These coals will be delivered at the undermentioned prices in cellars from the Mile-end or Bishopsgate Stations, beyond two miles under five miles, 1s. per ton extra, beyond five miles, 2s per ton per mile, extra.

Orders may be addressed to Mr. ALFRED S PRIOR, Mile-end or Bishopsgate Stations. Cash to be paid on or before delivery.

By order, J. B. Orr, Secretary

Bishopsgate Station, March, 1855.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.—ORDERS from ABROAD should be forwarded to the Agents, WILLIAM THOMAS and CO., 10 to 21, Catherine-street, Strand.

INDIA, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, and CAPE of GOOD HOPE.—W. O. YOUNG will dispatch the following fast-sailing A 1 Clipper SHIPS at the dates named as under:—

Ships.	Tons.	Commanders.	Destination.	Docks.	To Sail.
Mary Ann Pollock	408	Wm. M'Guire	Calcutta	London ..	Mar. 5
Matilda Watson	1300	J. Clare	Calcutta	London ..	April 10
St Abbs ..	502	G. House	Bombay	London ..	Mar. 1
Assyrian ..	520	C. Wood	Shanghae	Wst India	Mar. 1
Spirit of the age	878	G. H. Heaton	Shanghae	London ..	April 3
Hesa ..	477	W Cameron	H Kong & Canton	London ..	Mar. 4
Franciska	600	J. Jamieson	Sydney	London ..	Feb 25
Yrkona	665	J. Hussack	Sydney	London ..	Mar 1
Ballarat ..	1120	Hy. Jones	Melbourne	London ..	Mar 1
Seaman	562	W. M'Donald	Melbourne	St. Kath.	Feb 27
Velocity ..	602	W. Paul	Adelaide	London ..	Feb. 27
Anna Mary	322	D Stephen	Cape O. Hope	London ..	Mar. 5

These Ships have been selected specially for their high-class and fast-sailing qualities, and will be found well worth the attention of Shippers and Passengers W. O. YOUNG, 34, Cornhill, Merchant, 1st, Dale-street, Liverpool; and Sun-court, Cornhill, London.

THE WAR.—SOLDIERS' ORPHAN ASYLUM, for the Destitute Orphan Children of Soldiers not being Commissioned Officers of the Army. Patron, HER MAJESTY.

Subscriptions and donations are earnestly solicited in behalf of this Institution, which has just been established to supply a want which must be especially felt at this time, when there are scores 300 of children who have been rendered orphans by the disastrous effect of the war

A donation of £5, or an annual subscription of 10s. constitutes a Governor, and gives the privilege of nomination of one child at every election of children; an additional vote being obtained for every similar subscription or donation

Donors of £200 will be entitled to one presentation for life

Any representation of Subscribers, Donors, or Governors, gives to the same privilege as governors of the same amount, the commanding officer being the Governor

The Rules and Prospectuses may be obtained on application to the secretary, 25, Lincoln's-inn-fields Office hours 10 to 4 P.M.

SOLDIERS' ORPHAN ASYLUM.—The friends of the soldiers' destitute orphan, desiring to NOMINATE them to CADETSHIPS, are requested to send the necessary forms at the Society's offices, 25, Lincoln-inn-fields

SOLDIERS' ORPHAN ASYLUM.—CANVASSING AGENTS are REQUIRED in all the principal towns of the kingdom, where the Society may be desirous of representation and other particulars to the Secretary, 25, Lincoln-inn-fields

SOLDIERS' ORPHAN ASYLUM. —The Committee are anxious to find a large HOUSE, with good grounds, near London, for Temporary Asylum. Parties having such to LET are requested to send full particulars, addressed to the Secretary, 25, Lincoln-inn-fields

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.—Notice is hereby given that the ANNIVERSARY DINNER in aid of the Funds of this Hospital, will take place in the latter end of April, or the beginning of May next. Gentlemen desirous of becoming stewards are requested to intimate their intention to the Secretary, at the office, 10, Norfolk-street, Strand, on or before the 1st of February, 1855.

ROBT. J. NEWMAN

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, CHARING CROSS.

The assistance of the benevolent is earnestly entreated in support of this Hospital, which is open to all indigent persons suffering from Diseases of the Eye, the funds of which are wholly inadequate to meet the increasing demands for relief. 6000 poor patients annually admitted; there are thirty beds for in-patients; and it is deeply to be deplored that the insufficiency of means for their support prevents the admission of only half that number

Contributions are received by Messrs Coutts and Co., Messrs. Drummonds, and by the Secretary, Mr. G. C. Parsons, at the Hospital.

LAW, PROPERTY, and LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—Professional Men, Clerks, and others, secured a Provision in the event of Permanent Sickness or Disability from following their Ordinary Occupation, by payment of a trifling Annual Premium. Every description of Life Assurance Business transacted

EDWD. S. BARNES, Secretary

30, Essex-street, Strand, London

Established 1841.

MEDICAL, INVALID, and GENERAL LIFE OFFICE, 25, Pall-mall

At the THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING held on the 30th November, 1854, it was shown that there had been issued no less than 3137 Policies, bearing Assurances to the amount of £1,027,300, and yielding Annual Premiums amounting to £50,119

By the Annual Report, it appears that the number of Policies then in force was 24,194, insuring £1,297,530, and yielding an income of £56,767

The Number of Policies now in force is	2948
The Amount Insured is	£2,296,027 8s. 2d.
The Income from Premiums is	£100,319 4s. 4d

Two Bonuses have been declared (in 1848 and 1853), adding nearly two per cent to the Income. And it appears that the average of the whole a Policy of £1000 issued in 1842 on a healthy life is now increased to £1280

Profits divided every five years.

Assurances are issued without a home or abroad on either healthy or diseased lives, at a moderate rates as the most recent data will allow

Policies issued free of stamp duty, and every charge but the premium

Agents wanted for vacant places.

Prospectuses, Forms of Proposal, and every other information, may be obtained of the Secretary at the Chief Office, or on application to any of the Society's Agents in the country

F. G. P. NEISON, Actuary
C. DOUGLAS STONE, Secretary.

CITY of LONDON HOSPITAL for DISEASES of the CHEST.
Under the Patronage of
Her Majesty the QUEEN, and
His Royal Highness PRINCE ALBERT, K.G
PRESIDENT—The Right Hon the Earl of Carlisle, K.G.
TREASURER—H. Schmond Gurney, Esq.

It having been determined, notwithstanding the heavy liabilities incurred for the completion and furnishing of the building, to open the new Hospital at the Vacation, on the 7th March, the friends of the charity and the benevolent public are earnestly solicited to aid the Committee in the accomplishment of this object with their kind and liberal support.

The decision has been come to under a deep conviction of the urgent necessity which exists for the immediate reception of in-patients, and the Committee trust, therefore, in their endeavour to open the wards at this early period, to be sustained by the generous and active co-operation of the public

The number of Out-patients relieved at the Institution is very large, and, as the means at the disposal of the Committee are quite inadequate to the general relief now afforded, they are constrained urgently appeal for further assistance.

Out-patients are received during the last week, 26

The Committee have the pleasure to announce that a PUBLIC FESTIVAL to Commemorate the Opening of the New Hospital will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, on WEDNESDAY, the 7th of MARCH next, and that the Right Hon. the Earl of CARLISLE, K.G., the President of the Institution, has kindly consented to take the chair on the occasion

Donations and subscriptions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, H. Schmond Gurney, Esq., at 63, Lombard-street; the Bankers, Messrs Barclay and Co., Messrs Coutts and Co.; and Messrs. Beaumont and Co.; by the Hon. Secretary, Sir. Oil Broad-street; and by the Secretary, at the office, 6, Liverpool-street, Finsbury

H. SWELL, Hon Sec
RICHARD P. SPIERS, Sec.

THE MINIE TESTIMONIAL FUND.—This Fund has been originated by a Committee of Officers who desire to mark the national sense of services performed by Commander Minie, of Vincennes, near Paris, France, by the free gift of the improvements in the rifle to the world. The inventor of the original Minie rifle and the Minie cartridge are too well known to need description. Another was patented by the inventor; both were presented by him to his country. It is now proposed to RAISE a SUM of MONEY which will enable England to present to so unselfish a benefactor a substantial TESTIMONIAL of the national gratitude. The names of the Gentlemen who form the Committee, together with the Bankers, are also the first list of Subscribers, will be advertised in a few days, as the morning papers of the 31st of January, and the Offices of Messrs Cox and Co., Pall-mall, 13, Charing-cross, Lombard-street, where every information can be obtained.

S. W. SILVER and CO., OUTFITTERS, CLOTHIERS, CONTRACTORS, and MANUFACTURERS of Outfitting requirements WATERPROOF CLOTHING, and the various HABILIMENTS, EQUIPAGES, CABIN PASSENGERS' Outfitting Branch .. 56 and 57, Cornhill.

SECOND-CLASS and EMIGRANTS' Outfitting Branch .. 3 and 4, Bishopsgate-street, opposite the London Tavern; also at Liverpool.

SHIRT FACTORIES, .. Portsea and Ramsey, Hants
CABIN FURNITURE DEPT. .. 3 and 4, Bishopsgate-st.

WATERPROOF CLOTHING DEPT. North Woolwich, opposite H.M.'s Dockyard, Woolwich.

These passengers and purchasers generally may be supplied at a GREAT SAVING of COST, and embrace the HOME quality at SHIPPING PRICES

SHAKSPERE.—The admirers of the Immortal Bard will be pleased to learn that W. H. KERR, BINNS, and CO., have obtained permission from Mrs. Fletcher, of Gloucester, to publish, in facsimile, the celebrated and curious JUG proved to have been used by the Poet. An interesting Pamphlet given with each. The Jug may be obtained of most respectable dealers, or at the Manufactory (late Chamberlain's), Royal Porcelain Works, Worcester. Price 7s. 6d. each; or, carriage, 12s. 6d., by enclosing a Post-office Order.

NEW BOOKS, &c.

Just published, price 6d.,
THE BATTLE of the ALMA: a Poem. By the Honourable . . . . . an Eyewitness.
London: BELL and DALDY. Oxford Slatter and Rose

Just published, in demy 8vo, price 15s., cloth,
THE MILITARY FORCES and INSTITUTIONS of GREAT BRITAIN: their Administration and Government, Military and Civil. By H. BYERLEY THOMSON, Esq., of the Temple, Author of "The Laws of War affecting Commerce and Shipping."
Lond s SMITH, ELDER, and Co., 65, Cornhill

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THE MOSLEM and the CHRISTIAN; or, Adventures in the East. By SADIK PASHA. Revised, with Original Notes, by Col. SEYMOUR
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SAM SLICK'S NEW WORK, NATURE and HUMAN NATURE:
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Just published, in One Volume, small post 8vo, price 6s., cloth,
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London: SMITH, ELDER, and Co., 65, Cornhill.

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PLEASANT PAGES for YOUNG PEOPLE.—The 19th Thousand of Vol. I. is now ready, price 5s. 6d.—London: HOULSTON and CO., and all Booksellers.

DE FIVAS' FRENCH GRAMMAR. Messrs SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, and CO. have received a Large Supply of this Popular FRENCH GRAMMAR. Last Edition, price 3s. 6d., strongly and elegantly bound

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London SMITH ELDER and Co., 65, Cornhill.

THE SECOND REFORMATION.
CHURCHMEN.—Order the COURIER and CHURCH REFORM GAZETTE of the 8th of March, and read the article on "The Present State and Future Prospects of the Church of England." Price Sixpence stamped.
London: HOPE and CO., 16, Great Marlborough-street.

FOLLOW JESUS: a Sequel to "Come to COME TO JESUS. 505th Thousand. 3d. and 1s. In large type, 1s. and 2s. J. NISBET; Seeley; London; and all Booksellers. At half-price for gratuitous distribution, on application to the Cannon Street Press, 19, Cambridge-terrace, Camden Town, or Mr Long, Bookseller, Hull.

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WORTH NOTICE.—THE DICTIONARY APPENDIX, just published, price 4s., with upwards of 7000 words not found in the Dictionary, comprising the Participles of the Verbs, which perplex all writers. No person that writes a letter should be without this work.—SELKIRK and Co., 54, Fleet-street.

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BRANDY.—Dr. URE and Dr. LETHEBY, having analysed our BAL-DE-VIE, pronounce it to be "a spirit of undoubted purity, peculiarly free from acidity, perfectly wholesome, and decidedly preferable to direct importations from Cognac." Imperial gallon, 16s. Per French bottles, 34s. per dozen, bottles included. HENRY BREWS and CO.
Old Furnival Distillery, Holborn.

QUEEN'S HOTEL, near the Crystal Palace, Upper Norwood. Wedding breakfasts provided. Public and private coffee-rooms, or furnished apartments. Bed, 1s. per night. Breakfast, 1s. 6d. Dinner, 2s. 6d. Tea, 1s. 6d. Supper, with board, 7s per day. Observe—First-class stabling.—G. C. COOKE

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—Messrs ANSELL, HARFORD, and CO., Dr. de Jongh's Sole Agents, respectfully caution the public and the medical profession, by whom this pure, unadulterated, and specifically curative remedy is now generally prescribed, against the disreputable and injurious practice of substituting other kinds of oil where this is recommended. Dr. de Jongh's stamp and signature are attached to every bottle, without which no one can be genuine. Wholesale and Retail Depôt, 77, Strand, London; and may be obtained in the country from respectable Chemists and Druggists

WASHING, WRINGING, and MANGLING MACHINES combined.—This important invention is calculated to effect a saving of more than fifty per cent. Prices and description, with testimonials, free, on application to W M. DIAY and CO., Manufacturers, Swan-lane, London-bridge

MEETING OF THE ROYAL COMMISSIONERS FOR THE PATRIOTIC FUND, IN THE GUARD-CHAMBER OF THE NEW PALACE, WESTMINSTER.—(SEE PAGE 206.)

RUSSIAN ARMS, &c.

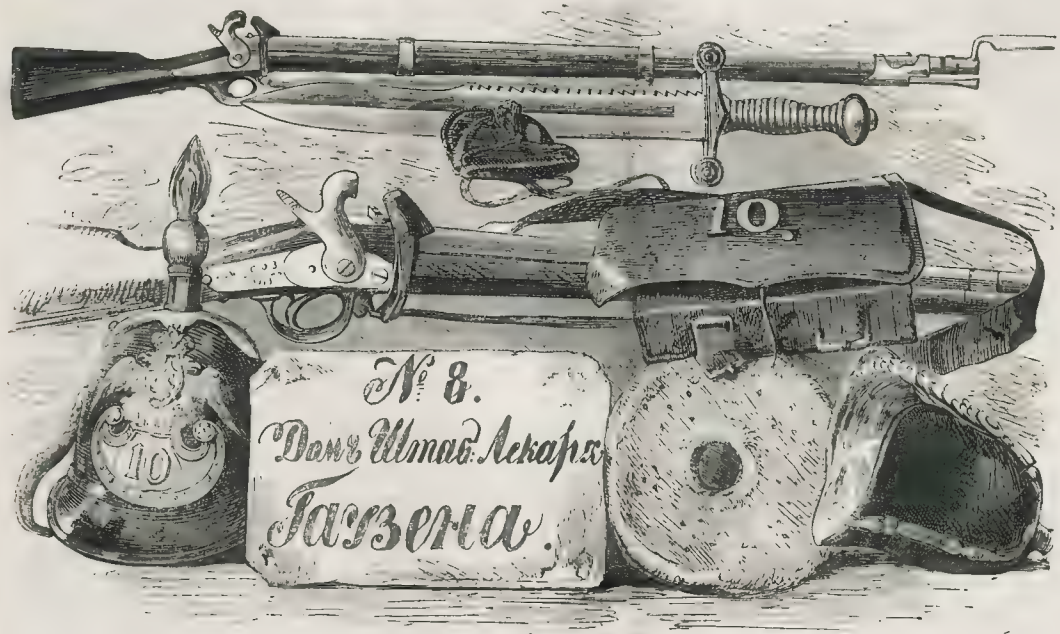
During a recent visit of one of our Artists to Portsmouth, he sketched the accompanying group of memorials of the War, which have been brought from the battle fields of the Alma and Inkerman.

First we have a Russian musket, with its leather covering, to keep the percussion-cap dry—a contrivance which has been, we believe, adopted in our own army. On the right is a specimen of the bread provided for the Russian soldiers: through the holes were passed the strap by which the bread was fastened to the knapsack. The small tablet was taken from over the door of a village in Bomarsund; the inscription in English is, "No. 8. This house belongs to Dr. Gauzen."

We have to thank Mr. Galt, of the High-street, Portsmouth, for permission to sketch the above objects, which are in his possession.

It may be interesting to add that the Armouries of the Tower of London received, some time since, the first spoils of the Russian war, in 2000 stands of arms, from Bomarsund.

Paris papers announce that a literary trophy from Bomarsund has just been added to the Bibliothèque Impériale in that city. It is a collection of the offices of the Saints' Days of the Greek Church for every day in the year, and is divided into twelve volumes, one for each month. As a specimen of typographical art it does no credit to Russia, though it was produced so recently as 1841. It is preceded by a permission to print, given "in the name of the Most Holy Trinity, by the "most pious" Emperor Alexander, and his "most pious" wife, and the "most orthodox" Princes of the Imperial family and their "most orthodox" wives



RUSSIAN ARMS, ETC., FROM THE ALMA AND INKERMAN, AND BOMARSUND.

TURKISH SOLDIERS AND TARTAR CHILDREN. PHOTOGRAPHED AT EUPATORIA.

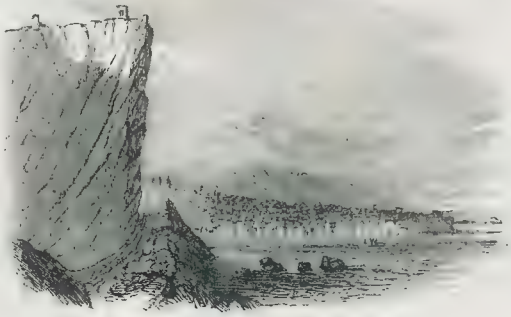
TARTAR CHILDREN.—PHOTOGRAPHED AT EUPATORIA.

TURKISH SOLDIERS AND TARTAR CHILDREN, AT EUPATORIA.

WE have to thank a Correspondent at Eupatoria for the accompanying groups, photographed at Eupatoria during the month of January. The man in the lower smaller group wears a Tartar sheepskin dress. Of the characteristics of the Tartars in the Crimea, we find the following very interesting picture in Dr. Koch's "Journal of his Tour in the Crimea and Odessa," just published:—

The Tartars or Noghais here have retained much of the original stamp in their physiognomy and in the structure of their bodies. Their figures, without exception, are short and stumpy; they have round, full faces, straight black hair without any gloss, and but little beard. Their eyes are slit, and the pupil is scarcely distinguishable from the dark iris—both which circumstances form a disagreeable contrast with the yellowish-white of the rest of the eye. The short stunted nose, somewhat pouting lips, and the scarcely projecting chin, contribute as little to the embellishment of their persons (which average little more than five feet high) as their short necks and puffy limbs. Nevertheless

RUINS OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF ST. SOPHIA, TREBIZOND.



THE [illegible] A PASS ON THE ROAD TO ERZEROUM. (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

FROZEN-OUT DOCK LABOURERS, AT THE LONDON DOCKS.

especially among the girls between the ages of seventeen and twenty, though they in general differ little from their countrymen, we find some who not alone have pretensions to beauty, but who even actually merit the title. As the usual yellow colour of the skin assumes in them a delicate tint, with a slight tinge of [illegible] they do not strike one as by any means so disagreeable as other women [illegible] life; so that even, when once accustomed to the slit eyes, their mild expression is sufficient to gain the heart of one of the Indo-European race. But, when a young and beautiful woman has had one or two children, she not only loses her charms rapidly, but also exhibits an extreme of ugliness such as we scarcely ever meet with among ourselves. The women of the age of thirty look as if they were matrons who had undergone many hardships. It is a curious fact that the Tartars here do not speak the same dialect as their countrymen upon the Caucasus, but have a pronunciation which differs but little from that spoken in Constantinople.

The mode of life pursued by the Tartars formed the greatest contrast with that of the vulgar Russian. The means which they earned was brought home to their families, with whom their leisure hours were spent; not a copek was consumed out of the house. The domestic life of the Crim Tartar is said to be quite unexceptionable. I have spoken with several people who had passed considerable time in the Tartar villages, especially on the southern coast, and who had had opportunities of becoming acquainted with them, and they could not say enough to me of the harmony prevailing among the members of families, the love of order and activity of the women, and the industry of the men. Mr. von Hilmer stated to me that one Tartar works on an average as much as two Russians. A Tartar village on the southern coast strikes one immediately on entering it, by the cleanliness of the streets and houses. No naked or ragged children are running about, as we see in Asia, among those belonging to the Christians and Mahometans. The women on the coast also have not the same anxiety to conceal themselves from the gaze of strangers: they are treated better by the men—not, as in Asia among their countrymen and fellow-believers, as if they were mere goods.

TREBIZOND

(From a Correspondent.)

Among the many events of the present stirring period worthy of note may be observed the proclamation from the Turkish Government of the Firman abolishing the slave traffic, the arrival of two Circassian slave-dealers, and the detention of the slaves at the port of Trebizond, through the instrumentality of H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul, Mr. F. Stevens, due support being given to Mr. Stevens by the presence of H.M.S. frigate *Fulton*.

It has often been my lot to visit the interesting port of Trebizond, and sufficient importance has not been paid to the valuable supplies which might have been drawn from this place for the use of the Allied army at Varna and in the Crimea. Xenophon, in his history of the retreat of the 10,000 Greeks, gives due credit to the inhabitants for a valuable market provided in the Greek camp, and for presents of oxen, barley meal, and wine. The only misadventure which the Greeks met with here was eating honey, possessing intoxicating properties of temporary duration, which is described by Moore in his "Lalla Rookh." The honey of the country to this day retains the same qualities, derived, it was supposed by Pliny, from the flowers of the "rhododendros," abounding in the vicinity. Indeed, a Turkish law at the present day prohibits the use of honey from that country. Having mentioned Xenophon's remarkable history of the retreat of the 10,000, may we not justly refer Generals of our day to the sagacity displayed in that ever-memorable retreat, performed through an enemy's country, and partly during the depth of winter, in a severe climate?

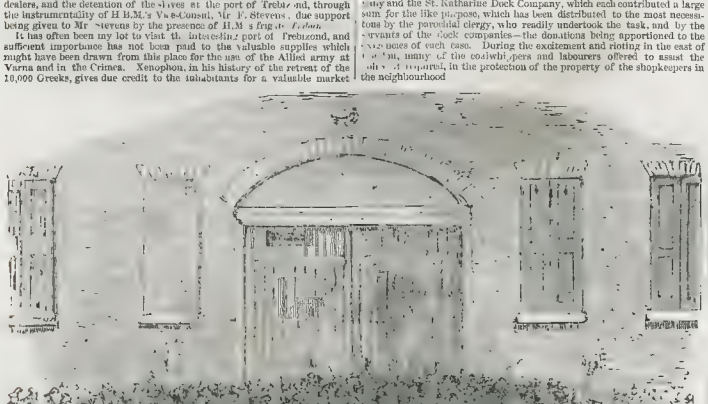
In conclusion, may we not look forward to better things arising out of the present calamitous war than an awful destruction of human life and its other attendant evils, and hope that the proclamation of the abolition of traffic in human beings in that eastern port of the Turkish territory may be the forerunner of other advantages to the human race?

THE FROZEN-OUTS. DOCK LABOURERS.

The sudden departure of frost at the end of last week happened most seasonably for the poorer classes, and especially for those who are employed on the Thames. The long suspension of business in the waterside premises, docks, and shipping had reduced thousands of the men and their families to starvation; and in spite of all that was done for them at Whitechapel and other workhouses, where outdoor relief was administered, the amount of suffering must have been very great.

The relief granted by the parochial authorities has been aided by liberal donations from benevolent individuals. On Friday and Saturday £400 was raised at the Stock Exchange and immediately transmitted, in sums of £25 and upwards, to clergymen in various parts of London, especially the poorer localities, with a request that it should be laid out in the purchase of food for the necessitous.

In addition to £1000, which the the Coal, Corn, and Finance Committee of the London Corporation distributed last week among the destitute population, Mr. Julius H. Thompson, shipbroker, of Billiter-street, City, raised a sum of £300 upwards from his friends and the waterside community in aid of the distressed dock labourers. The amount (£300) he paid over to the London Dock Company and the St. Katharine Dock Company, which each contributed a large sum for the like purpose, which has been distributed to the most necessitous by the parochial clergy, who readily undertook the task, and by the servants of the dock companies—the donations being apportioned to the exigencies of each case. During the excitement and rioting in the east of London, many of the coalwhippers and labourers offered to assist the police in preserving, in the protection of the property of the shopkeepers in the neighbourhood



EXTERIOR OF WHITE [illegible]

OCCASIONS OF THE SILENT MEMBER. No. VI.

[illegible] going out. A whole night was occupied in the House of Commons with harangues from two or three seceders whom the public would have been quite satisfied to get rid of without any apology on the part of the individuals who had resolved on resigning their offices into, let us hope, better hands. It would be far more satisfactory if those who are about quitting the public service would "stand not upon the reasons for their going, but go at once." There is not yet any difficulty in finding men to fill the vacant places; and we ought not to call on a public servant to apologise for his retirement until we find we have no one else fitted to do the work. One would think, however, that the country must be rather hard put to it for a Colonial Minister, or else that the Colonial-office has the valuable quality of self-management, when a nobleman who has just started for Vienna is selected as the head of the department. How the Colonies will like the arrangement remains to be seen. Perhaps, as there has been a great deal of grumbling on the part of the colonists against the Home Government, it is thought that they may find pleasure in variety; and if novelty is indeed delightful, they ought to be delighted at having had four Colonial Ministers within the last twelve months. If three statesmen in succession have failed to give satisfaction, it is possible that a fourth may be more fortunate; and, at all events, he can scarcely run the risk of giving offence, for he is away on his travels; and if he could do no good in Downing-street, he is not there to do any harm. It was suggested that it would be as well for a Colonial Minister to be at his post; but it was said, in reply, that somebody or other had guaranteed that the public should not be put to any inconvenience, and with this vague assurance, the House of Commons, if not the Colonies, would seem to have been content. The Premier, when questioned on the subject, reminded his questioner that there is a permanent Under Secretary, who would do all that is necessary; but nobody asked Why, if there is a lower officer at a lower salary, who is sufficient for the object required, a higher officer at a higher salary need be appointed at all? Mr. Roebuck mentioned the case of a gentleman from Newfoundland, who had already related his case to four Colonial Ministers, and who will, probably have the pleasure of repeating the "old, old story" to a fifth, on the return of Lord John Russell from his duties abroad

I may be accused of wishing to check the flow of public benevolence; but I am satisfied that the practice of sending money to the metropolitan police-courts is very much overdone. It is neither practicable nor proper that the magistrates should be interrupted in their ordinary duties, to perform the task of relieving-officers, for which they have neither the time nor the machinery at their disposal. If they give indiscriminately they do much more harm than good, and it is impossible that they can inquire personally, or by the help of the police, into the cases of the thousands of applicants that are found besieging the police-courts from a knowledge that the magistrates have money to give away. The possibility of relief being afforded at a police-court to a casual applicant may also have the effect of making relieving-officers neglectful of their duty, and thus the legal provision made for poverty is sometimes rendered inoperative; and the sense of responsibility is weakened among those with whom responsibility ought to rest. The only legitimate cases for the interference of magistrates are those arising out of the business before them, and these are so rare that a very moderate amount of contribution to the poor-box would amply suffice for every proper object. If special cases should arise a special appeal might easily be made, and would always be successful; but, under the present system of lavish contribution to the poor-boxes, there must be the utmost difficulty in knowing how to deal with the funds, unless the police-courts are to be opened as relieving establishments to all applicants. One of the magistrates (Mr. Yardley) has, according to report, found it necessary to appeal to the public to refrain from sending more money; and his colleague (Mr. Ingham) is stated in the papers to have been compelled to leave his court by a private door to avoid the danger of being mobbed by a large crowd of persons demanding relief, which the parish authorities are, in all cases of real necessity, legally bound to bestow. If the public wish to make provision for the poor, beyond that which the law renders imperative, it would be easy to entrust their contributions to some of the clergy of every denomination, without regard to differences of creed or sect, or to some of those visiting and relief societies which abound in every district of the metropolis. In the quarters here indicated poverty is the subject of constant watchfulness, and imposition would be generally avoided, as the societies alluded to are composed of individuals who visit their poorer neighbours, and know where assistance would be well applied. This course is far better than conducting inquiries into the private circumstances of the poor through the means of the police—a mode which must be as distasteful to the honest needy as it is inquisitorial and likely to be abused. Enough of odium has already been brought on the police by the practice of withdrawing them in some instances from their legitimate duties, and it is not advisable to run the risk of any further demoralisation by engaging them in the delicate task of assisting in the dispensation of the funds sent for the relief of distress. I hope these observations will be well weighed by all who read them, and tend to check a practice which is growing into a very serious evil, of which all the bad results are not yet foreseen. Already have courts of justice been converted into scenes of confusion by demands which ought to be complied with; and it is said that the well-meant, but ill judged, distribution of relief at the Liverpool Exchange was the cause of those bread riots in that town, which furnished the example for those lawless acts that were commenced, but promptly suppressed, in the metropolis.

If any further reasons were needed for not employing the police in what may be called extra-official duties, it is supplied in the fact that the force has already quite as much as it can do, and that its hours of labour have recently been curtailed. The practice of allowing men to remain on their beats for nine hours in succession is to be discontinued, and not without good reason, for it was almost impossible that the energies could, during so long a period, be sustained at that point of vigilance which is essential to the proper performance of a policeman's duty.

Though the Government has found it difficult to win the confidence of the Legislature, M. Soyer has had the good fortune to obtain what he terms "the confidence of the Government," and is going out—or has probably gone already—to Scutari as *chef de cuisine*. His *batterie* will, it is to be hoped, prove a source of strength to our army, and he will in all probability be welcomed as a great gun. His abilities must not be displayed in adding to the variety of the side-dishes at the tables of the staff officers, but in providing for the humbler necessities of the men. Happily, though he possesses a genius which can cope with all the difficulties of the most elaborate *entrée*, he can condescend to the simplest cookery, or give attractiveness to the very coarsest fare.

Every one who offers his services to the Government is not so lucky as M. Soyer in getting them accepted, though there are men who aspire to something loftier than cookery, and who are found advertising their capacity for statesmanship, and their readiness to accept employment in that line. As it is not yet the practice for politicians to solicit employment in so many words in the advertising columns of a newspaper, it is the fashion among candidates for office to call their constituents together and make long speeches, which are, in fact, prospectuses or circulars addressed to those entrusted with the office of Government, and who have places to give away. I will not be so invidious as to mention [illegible] that this practice is altogether to be condemned [illegible] in fact, [illegible] more, for a desire to serve one's coun[illegible] within the [illegible] of an honest ambition. There may be [illegible] in the mode adopted for making one's pretensions known [illegible] in these days of competition, and taking [illegible] the loud demand of the nation to be served by the ablest men, it may be excusable to resort to the advertising medium in the political as well as in any other business in which [illegible] may be engaged.

PARLIAMENTARY

HOUSE OF LORDS, Monday.

[illegible] the second reading of the Criminal Justice Bill and the Speedy Trial of Offenders Bill elicited some discussion relative to the working of the existing law in cases of felony, in which the Lord Chancellor, Lord Brougham, Lord Campbell, and the Earl of Desart took part. The bills were read a second time

The Registration of Judgments Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Monday.

MINISTERIAL CHANGE.

On the motion of Mr. Hayter, new writs were ordered for the city of London, the county of Forfar, and the boroughs of Radnor and Halifax, to supply the vacancies caused by the acceptance of office by the late representatives.—Lord J. Russell having been appointed Colonial Secretary; Lord Duncan, Lord of the Treasury; Sir G. C. Lewis, Chancellor of the Exchequer; and Sir C. Wood, First Lord of the Admiralty.

Replying to Sir J. Pakington, Lord Palmerston stated that, in the absence of Lord J. Russell, the necessary business of the Colonial Department would be provided for by his right hon. friend (Sir G. Grey), who was recently Secretary for the Colonies. He hoped, however, there would be no apprehend that the noble Lord would be long detained from his official duties.

ARMY MANAGEMENT

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply,

Mr. F. French called attention to the gallantry displayed by Sergeant Sullivan in successive engagements in the Crimea, and inquired why the deserts of that brave soldier had not been recognised by the award of a commission?

Lord Palmerston remarked that a certain number of commissions had been placed at the disposal of Lord Raglan, for the reward of distinguished merit among the non-commissioned officers, but that the Government had no intention of interfering with his selection of the persons who were to be so recompensed.

Mr. Lindsay commented upon the extravagance and mismanagement displayed in military departments of the British military establishments, and especially in the transport service. The hon. member illustrated his criticisms by drawing comparisons between the British and the French administrations in this branch of the service

A discussion of a very miscellaneous character followed, in which a multitude of questions and details relating to the Army and its organisation, formed the subjects for censure or vindication by many hon. members

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and proceeded to discuss and pass the remaining votes of the series for the Army expenditure.

In Committee of Ways and Means a resolution was afterwards passed, authorising a sum of £17,183,000 to be raised by Exchequer Bills towards the service of the ensuing year

The Militia (Ireland) Bill and the Commons Inclosure Bill were respectively read a second time.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday.

MAJOR-GENERAL VIVIAN.

The Earl of Ellenborough inquired whether the reported appointment of Major-General Vivian to command the Turkish contingent under Omer Pasha was actually completed, expressing some doubts of that gallant officer's experience for so delicate a service?

Lord Panmure stated that Major-General Vivian had occupied very similar positions in India, and had received the highest testimonials from the authorities in that country. His appointment to the Turkish command had been determined on upon the evidences of capacity, and the Secretary of War considered that his services were likely to prove highly useful in the post to which he had been nominated.

After a few words from Lord Vivian, the subject dropped.

The Criminal Justice Bill and the Speedy Trial of Offenders Bill respectively passed through committee.

THE TRANSPORT SERVICE.

The Earl of Hardwicke, in moving for certain returns respecting transports, took occasion to comment upon the manner in which the transport service had been performed during the past campaign

Lord Panmure gave some explanation touching certain points remarked upon by the noble Earl, and, after some observations from the Earls of Derby and Ellenborough, the returns were ordered to be produced.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Tuesday.

A new writ was issued for the borough of Northampton, in the room of Mr. Vernon Smith, who has accepted the office of President of the Board of Control.

ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS.

In answer to Mr. Hadfield, the Solicitor-General stated that a bill for the entire abolition of the jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Courts was in preparation, but he could not say when it would be laid before the House. He had hoped, however, that a bill for removing the testamentary jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Courts to another tribunal would soon be laid on the table. His own opinion was, that probate in one court ought to be available in all parts of her Majesty's dominions.

MR. KENNEDY'S DISMISSAL

In answer to Mr Bland, Mr. J. Wilson explained that, though Mr Kennedy had been removed from his Commonership of the Woods and Forests, yet, as his successor had not been appointed, he was entitled to and had received his salary up to last quarter-day

Sir J. Shelley moved for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the grounds on which Mr. Kennedy was removed from his office as a Commissioner of the Woods and Forests He entered into a lengthened narrative of the circumstances connected with the case, the substance of which was that Mr. Kennedy, having been appointed to the office of the Woods and Forests, had employed a Mr. Brown under him without the sanction of the Lords of the Treasury. Other causes of difference ensued, but that out of which arose Mr. Kennedy's dismissal was a difference on a matter of fee between Mr Brown and Mr. Higinbotham, the Deputy-Surveyor, on the management of the Alice Holt Forest, in which Mr. Kennedy took part with Mr. Brown, and made certain grave reflections on the integrity of the Deputy-Surveyor This gave rise to a long series of correspondence and investigations, which ended in the removal of Mr Brown first and afterwards of Mr. Kennedy. As the honorable member felt that this was harsh and unjust treatment, he moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the whole circumstances of the case

Mr. Gladstone, in commencing his reply, adverted to words used by the hon. member, that the ostensible reason for Mr. Kennedy's dismissal was not the real reason, but because he was too zealous and too active for certain members of the Government. If the hon. member would reduce that charge to writing, and undertake to make it good, he would withdraw all further opposition, and consent to the Committee at once. Would the hon. member accept that challenge?

Sir J. Shelley fell back upon some conversation which he understood Mr Kennedy had with Mr. Wilson, the Secretary to the Treasury, which led him to form that opinion.

Mr Gladstone said this was virtually refusing to stand by his words; and he must, therefore, go on to state certain circumstances which would enable the House to form its own judgment on the motion, though he himself would not vote on the question. The whole charge against him resolved into this—that he had committed an error in judgment. Now, if the House of Commons was determined to appoint committees to inquire into every case of alleged error of Ministerial judgment—if they were to tell Ministers whom they should appoint and whom they should dismiss from appointments—they would effectually put an end to Ministerial responsibility. He would not rest, however, upon these general principles; he would enter at once into the merits of the case, and he would state that he removed Mr Kennedy because it was impossible to carry on the public business with him, and because he (Mr. Gladstone) considered himself the protector of the character of the inferior officers as well as of Mr Kennedy. The grounds on which Mr Kennedy was removed were chiefly two—those affecting Mr. Brown, and those affecting Mr. Higinbotham. It was unnecessary to enter into all the causes of his dissatisfaction as respected Mr. Brown. As respected Mr. Higinbotham, he contended that Mr. Kennedy had made a deliberate charge of falsehood against Mr. Higinbotham, on account of which he intimated his intention to dismiss him. That this charge against Mr. Higinbotham was totally unfounded he contended from the evidence of disinterested parties called in to report upon the facts. But, as Mr. Kennedy refused to retract his charge, it became necessary to remove either Mr. Kennedy or Mr. Higinbotham. He chose the former.

Lord Stanley contended that the system of governing the civil service which the right hon. gentleman had put forth was more despotic than that which prevailed either in the military or the naval services. In these professions no officer could be dismissed without a trial; but the right hon. gentleman claimed the right of dismissing a civil servant without trial and without appeal. Even upon the showing of the right honourable gentleman, Mr Kennedy's offence amounted to a mere error of judgment. That, according to the right hon. gentleman, was a very venial offence in a Cabinet Minister; but it amounted, in his eyes, to a very serious crime when it appeared in a subordinate officer. His impression was that Mr. Kennedy had not had a fair trial, and, thinking so, he was in favour of the Committee.

Mr. Disraeli objected to the motion because it usurped the powers of the Executive, and because it introduced personal matters into the debates of this House. He praised the conduct and management of the Woods under Mr. Higinbotham; and, though he admitted the zeal of Mr Kennedy, he must hold that that gentleman was unfit to have the control of men as good as himself.

Mr. Malins complained of Mr Gladstone having dismissed Mr. Kennedy without consulting Lord John Russell, who had appointed him, or any other member of the Cabinet. That was a degree of despotism which he trusted that House would not sanction.

Lord Seymour objected to the appointment of that Committee, which would lower the action of the Government in future in the [illegible] with the civil servants of the public

[illegible] of the Committee as the only means of remo[illegible] [illegible] ation of Mr Kennedy's honour and veracity

Mr Wilson denied that any charge on Mr. Kennedy's honour or veracity was either implied. He justified the course pursued by the Government towards Mr. Kennedy, and declared that the only feeling in the Treasury entertained throughout the whole transaction was one of tenderness towards Mr. Kennedy

After a few words from Mr. Whiteside in favour of the Committee, Lord Palmerston urged the friends of Mr. Kennedy to be satisfied with the result of this discussion, where all imputations on Mr. Kennedy's character, if any such were ever cast upon him, had now been altogether repudiated. He pointed out the inconvenience of appointing a Committee, as subversive of all discipline among the civil servants of the Crown.

Sir J Shelley asked that the passages in the Treasury minute which Mr. Kennedy considered to cast imputations on his honour and veracity should be rescinded

Lord Palmerston had no objection to this, and the motion was then withdrawn.

Mr R. Phillimore obtained leave to bring in a bill to abolish the jurisdiction of the Ecclesiastical Courts in suits for defamation of character.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—Wednesday.

SECOND READINGS.

The following bills were read a second time.—Executor and Trustee Society Bill; Great Northern Railway (Church and Schools at Doncaster) Bill; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway (Improvements and Branches) Bill; Westminster Land Company Bill; and Westminster Improvements Bill

EPISCOPAL AND CAPITULAR ESTATES BILL.

The Marquis of Blandford moved the second reading of this bill, which proposes, among other arrangements, to vest in the "Church Estates Commissioners, appointed under the Act 13th and 14th Vic., cap. 94, all the profits, emoluments, and revenues of episcopal and capitular estates in respects any one in which no avoidance has happened since the 1st of Jan., 1848, and the Bishop whereof does not already receive a fixed income, from and after the first avoidance of such see, and as respects all other ecclesiastical corporations from the commencement of this Act, with a proviso that this investiture is solely for the purposes of this Act." The noble Lord contended that the House was bound to promote the efficiency of the Church of England, which was a solemn trust committed to us from generation to generation. It was highly necessary that the Church should be extended by the formation of new parishes, and the erection of new buildings, and this could only be effected by a judicious distribution of ecclesiastical property.

Mr. H. G. Liddell moved as an amendment that the bill be read a second time that day six months, on the ground that it was opposed to the whole tenor of our cathedral statutes, and that its principle would be dangerous to the ultimate integrity of those institutions

Mr Headlam said it would not be for the credit of the House to assent to the second reading of the bill without any serious intention of going on with it, as had been the case on former occasions. He should feel it his duty to vote for the amendment.

Mr. Ingham supported the amendment.

Mr. H. T. Liddell moved the adjournment of the debate until it might be convenient for some members of her Majesty's Government to attend.

Mr. H. S. Herbert said that was a most unreasonable complaint. The members of the Government were, no doubt, occupied in the consideration of matters of grave importance

Sir B Hall said he had been instructed by the Secretary of State for the Home Department to say that he was anxious that the second reading of the bill should pass, upon the understanding that the Committee should be postponed until the commission now sitting presented its report.

After a short discussion the bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on the 23rd of May

The Commons Inclosure Bill was read a third time and passed.

A Mazzinian Conspiracy.—About five or six weeks ago the police at Milan noticed the presence of some suspicious characters, who were arrested, and the authorities were thus put on the trace of a vast Mazzinian conspiracy, of which ample proofs were soon discovered. In the short space of about fifteen days there were arrested quietly in Milan and the neighbourhood about 5-70 persons, some of whom belonged to the upper classes of society. They were all conveyed to Mantua, where the tribunal charged to take cognizance of acts of high treason holds its sittings. The ramifications of the Mazzinian plot do not appear to extend over the Venetian territory, but only to the Duchies and in the States of the Church. The late attempts at Parma, Carrara, Faenza, Forlì, and Bologna had a certain connection with the great blow which the ex-triumvir wished to strike in Italy at the commencement of this month.—*Trieste Gazette*

Cookery for the Sick. Miss Nightingale and her assistants, ten days after their arrival, got up a sort of impromptu kitchen. In a case like this, where but one person is entertained of its utility, does it not appear extraordinary that the commanding officer, engineer, quartermaster, and what not, forsooth, [illegible] concern, should, with unlimited means, have taken three months to do three times the work these ladies did in ten days? The Commandant said, "It was a very good thing, indeed, but it could not be expected to be an engineer," and look after it. The engineer passed it on to some one else, and that some one else did not think it was in his department. In short, it was nobody's business, and how there has been nearly good ready, and will be so this week, is quite wonderful. When I see and hear these things I often think if her Majesty's service would suffer, or what would be the shock to the military discipline of the British army, if the commanding officer were to make over the responsibility to some one of having a useful thing like this finished off in a reasonable length of time. From the one hastily-constructed kitchen eight hundred men are daily supplied with a greater or less quantity of well-cooked food. Of the amount of beef-tea served out no account is kept. Those who are acquainted with the plan of cookery pursued in barracks, where all a company's meat and vegetables are boiled in one copper, the portions belonging to messes being kept in separate nets, will know how that food is likely to suit the delicate appetite of a fevered patient; but the means for doing even as well as these are wanting here No blame is to be attached to the cook, who, of course, is picked at random from any number of men available; and in this case, and to supply this want, the nurses and Miss Sellon's Sisters of Charity (this, as well as in otherwise attending to the wants of the unfortunate sick. They step into a berth absolutely vacant, and assist the surgeons, not only by seeing that the food ordered is well prepared, but by personal attendance A sick man's appetite is fickle, and a hospital orderly, having many duties to perform, cannot give that immediate attention which the case may require. At the best of times such delay occurs that when the food is brought the appetite is gone. As it now is, the orderly has only to tell one of the nurses, and immediate attention is paid.—*Letter from Constantinople, Feb. 14.*

The War of the Three Emperors.—If the Conference of Vienna should fail, at last, in its efforts to re-establish a general peace, everything will be ready, in England, in France, and in Sardinia, for the campaign of the spring, a campaign so important that it will embrace, in all probability, three great theatres, and in which will be engaged at once against Russia, as allies of Turkey, three great nations. If we can place confidence in the revelations of the foreign press, France and England will act in the Baltic, not only with their fleets, but with their armies. Austria and France will be found combating side by side, on the upper part of the Vistula, in a common struggle, which may prolong itself to the frontiers of Poland, as well as to the banks of the Danube. In fine, France and England will be together in the Crimea, supported by Turkey and Sardinia, all gloriously united under the banners of civilisation and European independence. We do not wish to go before events, which may change with the necessity of the moment, nor to hazard conjectures which the future may destroy, as it may realise. Nevertheless, we cannot remain altogether strangers, nor even indifferent to the universal anticipations of the public. We can no more confirm than we can deny the rumours which attribute equality to the two Sovereigns—France and Austria the honour of taking the command of their respective armies. But already, in anticipation of this great event, which would be only conformable to the noblest traditions of the reigning families of Europe, the people, whose instincts are rarely at fault, has characterised, in its own picturesque language, the forthcoming spring campaign in calling it the War of the Three Emperors. In this war, which will give to Europe a durable and solid peace, beneath the shadow of which she shall thenceforward march in the ways of progress and the paths of civilisation, and with a new impulse, France shall be seen everywhere with her fleets and her armies. She shall be seen in the Baltic, in the Crimea, on the Vistula. What an immense ascendant does not this glorious *rôle* which she has taken in the Eastern question guarantee to her future position in the world!—*From a semi-official article in the Constitutionnel.*

Consumption of Spirits in New South Wales. The quantity of imported spirits upon which duty was paid in New South Wales, in the quarter ending September 1854, comprised 202,106 gallons; to which adding the quantity of colonial spirits, 83,962 gallons, we have an aggregate for the quarter's consumption of 256,068 gallons, or between four and five gallons per head per annum of the whole population. Comparing the amount of duty paid in the quarter on ardent spirits, malt liquors, and wine, with the amount paid on coffee, we find the former had increased about £1500 over the corresponding quarter of 1853, and the latter had decreased by nearly £4000

A Russian Spy. The police in Paris are said to be in search of a person who has passed some time in the East, and particularly at Constantinople, where he became closely intimate with more than one high functionary. He has been for some few months in Paris, where he made himself remarked by his large expenditure, though possessing no ostensible means of livelihood. It is added that he was formerly in the pay of the French police, and the reason of his being now sought after is his alleged connection with the Russian police, several of whose secret agents are still in Paris.

[illegible] has been [illegible] is the erection of a girls' [illegible] and upper class of ladies [illegible]

[illegible] Kingdom of Portugal intends to honour the Paris Exhibition [illegible]

M. Martin Van Buren, formerly President of the United States, has arrived in Paris, from Italy

The Queen and Prince Albert have forwarded to the Bishop of London £200 as a joint contribution to the Association for Promoting the Relief of Destitution in the Metropolis.

M. Merle, orderly officer of the French Emperor, embarked at Marseilles a few days since, on board the *Gange* steamer, for the Crimea; and several other officers are on the point of departing to prepare the way for a new arrival

It is said that Lord John Russell would arrive at Vienna on the 24th (yesterday), and that the sittings of the Congress would begin three or four days afterwards.

Letters from Paris speak of the likelihood of the French Emperor first paying a visit to Vienna, and embarking at Trieste for the seat of war. The Empress, it is said, will not accompany the Emperor, but remain in Paris, on the urgent representations of her medical advisers.

The King of the Belgians went to Brussels from the Palace of Laeken on Sunday morning, and gave a private audience to Lord J. Russell, who had just arrived, in company with Lord Dufferin, Mr. Eliot, and Mr. Byng. The interview between the King and Lord J. Russell lasted a considerable time, after which his Majesty returned to Laeken.

The Emperor of Austria, as a mark of his admiration for Lieut. J. Gerard, the celebrated lion-killer, has just sent him (through the Austrian Embassy at Paris) a very handsome double-barrelled rifle carabine and superb hunting-knife

Lord Haddo, at the date of the last letters received at the Earl of Aberdeen's, was still at Cairo, in Upper Egypt. His Lordship had derived much benefit by the change of climate, and intends to prolong his residence in the Upper Country until the spring.

M Porro, formerly a superior officer of engineers in the Sardinian army, had, a few days ago, the honour of presenting to the French Emperor a military spy-glass invented by him. The Emperor, considering the glass likely to be exceedingly useful for military purposes, has authorised M Porro to call it "the spy-glass of Napoleon III."

The Right Rev. Bishop of London proposes to hold his confirmation in Paris on Friday in the Easter week.

The news of the approaching marriage of the Countess de Vista Alegre, eldest daughter of Queen Christina and the Duke de Riansares, with Prince Ladislas Czartoryski, is confirmed

The Earl of Portarlington has been elected a Representative Peer of Ireland, in the room of the late Viscount Lorton.

The New York papers deny that Colonel Colt has been losing money by his invention It was shown by the Commissioner of Patents that he had already made a million dollars by it.

The newly-appointed Governor of South Australia has received the honour of Knighthood from her Majesty. Sir Richard M'Donald has been Governor of the British possessions on the west coast of Africa, of St. Lucia, and of St. Vincent.

Admiral Nachimoff has received from the Czar the Order of the White Eagle, as a reward for his services at Sebastopol.

The Americans residing in Paris gave a grand ball on the evening of the 22nd ult., in Herz's great room, in honour of Washington's birthday. Amongst the personages of distinction present were the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Madame Drouyn de Lhuys, Lord and Lady Cowley, several Ministers, and most of the Corps Diplomatique.

Lord Lucan arrived at Marseilles from the Crimea on Tuesday, and left that morning by a special train for London. He will demand a court-martial

General Mansuroff, who not long since made his appearance in Brussels, in the bearer of a treaty by which Russia cedes to the United States, for the sum of 500,000 roubles, or 20,000,000 of dollars, her possessions in North America, some American statesmen are to meet the Russian General at Brussels.

Commodore Perry's account of his expedition to Japan is to be published by Congress. The documents, maps, scientific reports, plates, &c., will fill three quarto volumes

Kamehameha III., King of the Sandwich Islands, has died, at the age of forty-one years and nine months. He is succeeded by Prince Alexander Liholiho, his nephew, a young and very accomplished gentleman of some education, who assumes the title of Kamehameha IV

Mr. Macready gave a reading from the English poets last week, for the benefit of the infirmary, at Bradford.

The *Siècle* has been ordered not to go on with M. Eugene Sue's *Feuillton*, the "Diable Médecin;" and the *Presse*, which is now publishing Madame George Sand's memoirs, is supposed to omit all that relates to 1812, and the retreat from Moscow.

Mrs. Fanny Kemble has been giving readings from Shakspeare in Cheltenham, but the local papers say there was little to show that the reading possessed sufficient interest to induce the fashionables to abandon for an hour their habitual pursuits.

At the late reception of M. Berryer at the French Academy, it was remarked that M. Thiers and Count Molé were absent. M. Thiers has had his arm broken in two places by a fall, and Count Molé has for some days been confined to his house by indisposition.

It is expected that Mr. Layard will be the new Lord Rector of Marischal College, Aberdeen He has intimated that he will be able to visit Aberdeen to be inaugurated into office.

Alexander Smith, the author of the poem entitled "A Life Drama," is about to make his appearance in the character of a lecturer, at the Darwin Mechanics' Institution, taking for his subject "The Life and Poetry of Burns"

The French Minister of War, having remarked that, in consequence of the dearness of provisions at Toulon, the allowance of food to the Russian prisoners was not sufficient, has given orders to have an augmentation of rations for them put up to public application.

Companies of firemen are to be sent off immediately to Constantinople to prevent accidents, as it is said that Russian agents are employed to burn the arsenals, &c., of the Allies

The great Highland road, as well as the road from Huntly to Inverness, has been so blocked up with the snow that the ordinary mail coaches have stopped for the last two days, and have conveyed no bags or passengers.

The treaty for the settlement of the disputed frontier line between Switzerland and Baden has been ratified. The dispute dated from 1823.

Seventeen Austrian merchant vessels are frozen up in the Sea of Azof. The Commander of the Allied blockading squadron has received instructions to render them any assistance they may require, when they can manage to get through the Straits of Yenikale.

The colliers and labourers employed at several large collieries in the neighbourhood of Wigan have been reduced to three days' work a week.

The Florence, Pisa, and Leghorn Railroad received considerable damage in two places on the 16th ult., by the inundation caused by the Arno, in consequence of which the trains have ceased to run.

An attempt is being made by the workmen engaged at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, to establish for their own use a free library. Lord Carlisle has sent the projectors £5; and a repeat house has offered its books to the workmen at the trade price—that is, at a discount of thirty per cent.

The Plenipotentiary of the Sublime Porte appointed to represent Turkey at the approaching Conferences is instructed to demand an indemnification for war expenses of 500,000,000 piastres.

Colonel Daniell, of the second battalion of the Coldstream Guards, has presented the regimental library with upwards of 400 volumes He has also procured for his men free admissions for the leading exhibitions of the metropolis.

The *Ericsson* has had the caloric engines taken out of her, and she is at New York taking in engines of the present construction The caloric principle may, therefore, be said to have failed for the present.

The Maine Liquor Law has passed the Senate of Indiana by a majority of ten. A prohibitory liquor law has passed both branches of the Illinois Legislature.

At a wedding in the neighbourhood of Garstang, on Shrove Tuesday, the bridegroom was presented with a pancake garnished with a white silk purse containing a thousand sovereigns.

Lieutenant-Colonel Beamish, the historiographer of the Hanoverian German Legion, is now engaged in compiling a new work on the same subject. He has issued an address to the still surviving officers of that distinguished corps who may be in possession of papers and original documents having reference to the Legion, and has authority published, to communicate them to him, either in the original manuscript or by duly attested copies.

H.M. STEAMER "SNAKE" DEFENDING HERSELF FROM THE FIRE OF THE RUSSIAN BATTERY AT KERTCH.

SHARP FIRE BETWEEN H.M. STEAM-SHIP "SNAKE" AND A RUSSIAN BATTERY

This spirited affair took place on February 2nd, when the *Snake*, in reconnoitring the shipping lying under the batteries of Kertch, got on shore on the edge of the spit of the town, about 3000 yards from the battery, remained nearly two hours exposed to a sharp fire from the Russians, who, thinking to capture the steam-ship, manned their large boats and pushed off; but were speedily saluted with a shower of shot and shell, which at once compelled them to retreat. The ship was got off without having sustained any damage, the ground being soft sand, and the water smooth at the time.

We have to thank an obliging Correspondent for the accompanying Sketch of the above affair

Kertch is the eastern peninsula of the Crimea. The town is a mixture of the Italian and Russian; but presents a more pleasing aspect than most Little Russian towns afford. It is said to contain 10,000 inhabitants; but it does not promise to be a place of much importance until the provinces about the Don enjoy higher civilisation. Thus, Kertch is even now the medium of communication between the provinces and the south; but the products of the Don lands are still insignificant. The Don Cossacks, who occupy the most important lower portion of the territory of the Don, only cultivate as much corn as they require for their own maintenance. They live, besides, simply; and the common people, at least, have few or no wants. The material for their clothing is chiefly made by themselves, or they obtain it from Russian factories. Thus, the chief traffic is confined to the products of the immediate neighbourhood, fish and salt, both of which are exchanged, in places north of the Sea of Azof, for corn. There is a good deal of traffic, especially with Taganrog, a town which, above twenty years ago, promised to become of some consequence, but since Kertch has risen, has lost its importance. The salt is obtained from small lakes, which occur to the south of Kertch Much fish is dried, and salted like herrings; several thousand tons of these are exported annually to the south of Russia. Caviar is also prepared.

The town stands on the eastern extremity of the small peninsula where, several hundred years before the Christian era, flourished Panticapæum, the Royal metropolis of the Bosphoranic sovereigns. The importance of this Grecian colony has only been recognised of late, and the opinion will gain ground the more we turn our attention to the remains still extant, a multitude of proofs from the earliest times having been recently discovered

We abridge these interesting details from Dr. Koch's "Journal of a Tour in the Crimea and Southern Russia," a translation of which has been published within the past week.

SKETCHES AT BALACLAVA.

(*From our own Artist.*)

I send two Sketches. 1. The Interior of an Officer's Hut on the Heights of Balaclava, occupied by five officers of the 1st battalion of Royal Marines. This hut was constructed by Mr. Elliot, one of the occupants, assisted by four privates of the same corps. The whole of the woodwork of the roof was picked up on the rocks, from the wrecks of the English transports lost at Balaclava on the 14th November, 1854. The iron of the fireplace was also from the same wrecks; and the canvas used as the roof was an old sail belonging to the *Lady Talbot*, an English transport lost in the same storm. The hut was commenced soon after the gale of the 14th November, and was finished and taken possession of on the 5th December.

The second Sketch (see page 206) shows the Exterior of the Huts, Tents, &c., of the Rifles and 1st Royal Marines, encamped on the heights of Balaclava; and the battery with a fatigue party of French soldiers of the line crossing the hills with wood for the manufacture of gabions, fascines, &c., &c. In the ravine is a French encampment near the plains of Balaclava. In the foreground is one of the Rifles, in a long sheepskin coat with the wool inside, a cap with the wool outside, waterproof leggings, &c.; the other is one of the Royal Marines, in his grey great-coat, fraternising with a French soldier of the line. In the extreme distance, on the horizon, may be seen a few of the topmasts of our fleet off Cape Chersonese. The Russians are ascending again in great force towards the valley of the Inkerman, throwing out videttes, &c.; and Balaclava is momentarily expected to be attacked, the war vessels in the harbour are drawn across in order to protect our shipping. We are endeavouring to procure horses, without which we can do very little, as the roads are in a dreadful state and it is impossible to go up to the Camp without being on horseback.

INTERIOR OF AN OFFICER'S HUT AT BALACLAVA.

CARRYING THE WOUNDED TO BALACLAVA.

CARRYING THE SICK AND FROST-BITTEN TO BALACLAVA.

One Sketch represents the melancholy procession of a band of frost-bitten patients from the heights to Balaclava; the other a party of soldiers harnessed to a car, in which are four sick men, whom their comrades are dragging painfully along to the hospital. In the latter Sketch a long file of men may be seen in the distance struggling up the hill with planks on their shoulders. Such was the state of affairs, as seen by our Artist, on the 7th of February. Since that time matters are said to have improved, but there are still great complaints of want of management. One correspondent, writing from Balaclava, on the 10th ult., says:

I regret to state that sickness does not diminish in the Camp. Scurvy and low fever extend their action every day. Now, scurvy is mainly caused among debilitated men by the use of salt meat and the want of vegetables. Even fresh meat alone will develop it among men worn out by excessive labour, should they have no leguminous diet. I believe there has been only one cargo exclusively of vegetables ever sent up here, and that came in the *Harbinger*, which lay in Balaclava for weeks, till her load of potatoes and onions began to rot and become putrid, so that much of it was unfit for use and had to be thrown away. Whoever had an order got a sack of potatoes; but who could carry a sack of potatoes to the front? Meantime, ships chartered by Government for the use of the service come in day after day to Balaclava with quantities of vegetables *for sale*, and with stores of provisions to be sold for the private profit of the stewards and adventurers at great prices, though the charterparty of these vessels expressly forbids any such use to be made of any ship, or any private property to be conveyed in her, while she is in the employment of the Government. The commissariat ought to avail themselves of the supplies brought in by these means, and should purchase them at a reasonable rate—a proposition the owners cannot object to, seeing that the articles they have imported in this way are all liable, if I am rightly informed, to instant seizure.

It is, however, so far encouraging that there is a diminution in the rate of mortality at Scutari. On the 8th of February there were fifty-two burials; on the 9th, forty-nine; on the 10th, forty-eight; on the 11th, fifty-three; on the 12th, forty-two; on the 13th, thirty-two; and on the 14th, thirty-nine—making in seven days a total of 316, of whom two were military surgeons. On the morning of the 14th there were in hospital 5328 non-commissioned officers and privates, and eighty-seven officers. There had arrived from the Crimea on the 7th the *Robert Lowe*, with 174 invalids, of whom five died. On the 8th the *Adelaide* and the *Emu*: the forming carrying 154, of whom one died; and the latter 147, of whom none died. On the 11th the *Melbourne*, with 150, of whom two died; and the *Brandon*, with 118, of whom one died. Most of these steamers have taken their sick to Smyrna, and a detachment of orderlies, recently organised in England, was conveyed there from Scutari on the 11th, to assist in establishing the new hospital. On the 9th the *Malacca* sailed for England with forty invalids, and on the 15th the *Arabia* took her departure with 200.

The great increase of fever in the hospitals at Scutari has been the chief point of remark lately. For weeks it has been gaining strength, and now rages with a destructive vigour which is in the highest degree alarming. Some of the medical men give it one name and some another, but all are agreed as to its malignant character, and in a greater or less degree, as to its origin and progress. On the former point no more decisive evidence can be given than the fact, that in less than a month it has swept away no less than seven surgeons, while eight more were, according to the last accounts, prostrate under its influence. Struthers, Newton, Watson, Langham, Macartney, Aibert, and Marshall, had died of it, after very short illnesses, and M'Ilree, Johnson, Muirhead, Hooper, Guy, Summers, Graham, and Price were more or less seriously ill. Others have been affected, but have struggled through their duties notwithstanding, and it is to be hoped may suffer no bad consequences from their imprudent zeal. Three of the nurses had been attacked, and fears were entertained for the recovery of one of them. On board the transport ships and in the hospitals the mortality among the orderlies was very great, while the nurses and surgeons were still comparatively exempt. As, however, the numbers of sick increased, the infectious and malignant character of the fever had become more marked and decided. The Barrack Hospital and Kululee have both been overcrowded, and there, as might be expected, it was committing the greatest ravages. The General Hospital has been more fortunate or better managed in this respect, and in consequence had suffered less.

Although fever was on the increase in the hospitals, and their overcrowded state and the want of surgeons had led to the derangement of some plans from which good results were expected to flow, other improvements are described as being in progress which promise to yield beneficial fruits. Dr. Cumming is in the full exercise of authority as Inspector-General, and will, it is thought, rectify many things that should have been put straight long ago. Under his sanction extra diet kitchens are being provided at convenient points, the orderlies enabled to sleep and eat out of the wards; and it is said that he is likely to approve of an arrangement by which some of the medical officers may be relieved from constant residence in the poisonous atmosphere of the hospitals. What, however, may be considered as the most satisfactory news regarding the hospitals at Scutari, is the reported arrival, in the *Eagle*, and in another steamer, of large stocks of things indispensable to a well-ordered hospital establishment, and which, it was thought, would afford an opportunity of something being done to make each ward and bed complete in its own furniture and equipment.

CARRYING THE FROST-BITTEN TO BALACLAVA.

S OF THE WEEK.

The frost is gone at last, after five weeks' persistence. London has come back to its usual winter state of fog, mud, and slop. Carnival has ceased to be held on the Sw[illegible]tine, and the *employés* of the Humane Society are congratulating themselves on the arrival of the blissful season when they have nothing to do but smoke their pipes and eat their meals—when there is no ice for skating, and it is too cold to bathe, except for such hardened philaleutics as the late Sir Lancelot Shadwell, who used to jump into the nearest river every day in the year, even when it was necessary to break the ice with a pole, as a preliminary to the immersion. But, on the whole, the balance of profit strongly inclines on the side of the sloppy thaw, against the crisp, bracing frost which made the parks so gay, and the pulse of the active pedestrian tingle in every vein; for now the docks will be free from the ice which, like an aneurism in the human frame, has for several weeks impeded their commercial circulation; the winter-bound ships will now get clear from their moorings, lighters and barges can now go on their accustomed journeys; even *Citizen A* and *Waterman 7* will soon recommence their interrupted plying between Chelsea and Greenwich; oysters will again become eatable, and codfish cease to be woolly; the navvy will be able to get his pick into the softened earth, and the costermonger will rejoice to find that it is no longer too cold for people to eat oranges. A dozen degrees of higher temperature, a few hours of drizzling rain, mean bread for tens of thousands. It was high time—ten days ago that bread was beginning to be terribly wanted. For weeks whole regiments of working men—navvies, dock-labourers, bargemen, gardeners—had been unemployed. Luckily, the great prosperity which the labouring class have enjoyed, in general, during the last two years, had given to most some funds which they could draw upon; but, with the present high price of provisions, these did not last long; and when they were exhausted starvation came on. It does not seem as if the "constituted authorities"—that is, the vestries, the directors of the poor, &c.—were altogether as active or as foreseeing as they should have been, and perhaps even that marvellous flood of English private charity ran shallower this year (just at first, at least,) than it is wont to do; but, somehow, starvation there was, even among those who, from their ability in ordinary times to earn good wages, were unused to it; and, consequently, bread riots. They broke out first at Liverpool, then in a very few other towns in the north and west, and finally at the east end of London. Perhaps I rate the check of morality too low, but it has occurred to me that it is wonderful that hungry men should, in the streets of a city, allow themselves to hunger, when bread is to be had for the taking, and the only result of detection would be the removal to a place where food and warmth are sure to be obtained. Perhaps the reason is that the very poor, those in whose minds the craving for nourishment might be supposed to overpower all other feelings, have been brought down to this pass by slow degrees, so that when the loaf in the baker's shop is most tempting, they actually want the energy to take it; but, with strong men, accustomed to good feeding, brought by a dispensation of Providence, almost suddenly, to the verge of starvation, the case is very different. Cleaning, as the Lancashire folk call it, is not so unbearable when you are used to it; but, when you are not, the chances are that you do as the poor dock labourers and gardeners did at Whitechapel last week—you break into a baker's shop and take the bread which you can't buy, and have not the courage to want. It was robbery, of course, yet surely of the most venial kind. On the whole, too, the robbers (though, of course, there were some samps among them, with whom hunger was only a pretext) behaved remarkably well, taking from the shops little besides food, and committing hardly any personal injury or unnecessary violence. It is all over now; almost with the first drip from the housetops the bakers, butchers, cheesemongers, and buttermen, raised their state of siege, and that large exposition of doubtful eatables which usually graces the Whitechapel-road is now as showy and odoriferous as ever.

In several of the great towns, and in the borough of Marylebone, "war-meetings" have been held. Strong speeches, reading like *Times* leading articles put into bad English, have been made; and, setting aside all faults of grammar and style, and making due allowances for that unfortunate disease of speech-making under which so large a number of her Majesty's subjects are known to suffer, and which prompts them to welcome a grievance and make the most of it, as of a positive blessing, there can be little doubt that the conviction of these meetings has been the Truth that our administration of military affairs has been notoriously and scandalously defective; and that it may be presumed that the vice of mal-administration is not confined to the War Department and the Admiralty. Of course our unlucky Commissariat has been the chief object of attack; but it is odd that one of the strongest arguments as to the inefficiency of its constitution has not been hit upon by any of the speakers—that which may be drawn from the superior condition of our Artillery force to that of the rest of the Army. "We are all nearly starved here," writes an officer of the Guards, "excepting the fellows in the Artillery, who are as fat as pigs." And this is true, taken *cum grano*—that is, the "fellows in the Artillery, though they would not be good models for bacon, have not really suffered more than troops under canvas in a winter campaign might expect to do. And why? Because the Artillery enjoy the advantages of a special organisation, have their own staff—who are not necessarily the General's nephews and cousins, and to a certain extent (so far at least as the means of transport are concerned) their own commissariat. The question of promotion by purchase, too, is getting to be very generally agitated. Now this is just one of the subjects upon which it is most easy to sophisticise a man's reason. The first view any one would take of it is, that, as you certainly would like to promote the best soldier, it is unwise to put it out of your power to do so unless he has got money. Thinking a little longer, and, as you fancy, a little deeper, on the subject, it occurs to you that, as few ensigns or lieutenants are likely (especially in peace time) to have the occasion to distinguish themselves so particularly that the expediency of their promotion out of their turn would become self-evident, it follows that, doing away with purchase, you will have to fall back upon the system of seniority, and that grey-haired captains and gouty majors would become unpleasantly plentiful in the ranks of the Army. You don't want to be perpetually promoting the good boy of the regiment, who never gets into scrapes, and stands well with the Colonel and the Divisional General, because you have an idea that that estimable character, like the first-class man at Oxford is apt to be something of a "muff" when it comes to real hard work; in short, you see a difficulty—you see, too, that in common justice you can't change the system without paying the price of their commissions to the present holders, which would cost a vast sum of money, so you begin to think that the present system may not be so bad after all; and you content yourself with it on the plea, not that it is the best possible, but the best that can be thought of (that is, that you can think of) "under the circumstances." A little deeper thought—a little more consideration of what might be done by a different administration of the Army would lead you back to the first superficial view of the question, and verify Talleyrand's maxim, "Qu'il faut se defier du premier mouvement, attendu que c'est presque toujours le bon." How often has it been said that the superior efficiency of the French Army to ours is to be attributed to their constant state of warfare in Algiers, which has hardened and instructed men and subalterns in the arts and sciences of campaigning, and educated a succession of officers, still youthful, in whom both soldiers and Government know by experience they can trust. Have we, then, no India, where we are always at war with somebody or another? Here is a practical training-ground for military experience far more complete than the plains of the Metidja or the defiles of the Atlas. Note, too, that our wars in India are nearly always successful, unless when, as in the Cabul expedition, the Home Government interferes too directly with their management; and note, too, that the East India Company, though a good deal hampered by rather stringent rules of seniority, do manage to promote comparatively young men who show they have "the stuff in them"—witness Outram, and Mayne, and Edwardes.

There is manna in the wilderness—one bright spot in the desert of uncertain politics and unpleasant despatches. The "great Kennedy case" (who that has read "Redgauntlet" but remembers the great case of "Peebles *v* Plainstanes," and who that does but must be struck with the resemblance between the tedious pleadings of poor Peter and the tedious speech of Sir John Shelley, and the more tedious answer of Mr. Gladstone?)—the great Kennedy case is disposed of. Long suffering, indeed, is the House of Commons which did not allow itself to be counted out. Sir John Shelley, thinking Mr. Kennedy ill-used, was quite right to bring his case before the House; yet surely he might have done it in a shorter form; and Mr. Gladstone might with advantage have imitated the good example. The whole matter might have been settled (in fact after all nothing was done) in half an hour, and it was allowed to occupy the entire evening.

PROFESSOR OWEN ON THE FOOT-MARKS IN THE SNOW IN DEVON.

(*To the Editor of the* Illustrated London News.)

An esteemed zoological friend has submitted to me a carefully-executed drawing of one of the more perfect impressions left in the snow at Luscombe, South Devon, on or about the 8th of last month. It was of the hind-foot of a Badger. This is almost the only plantigrade quadruped we have in this island, and leaves a foot-print larger than would be supposed from its size. The Sketch, of which you have given a Cut in p. 187 (Feb 24th), gives some more ideal idea of the shape and proportions of these foot-prints, but without the indications of the pads on the sole, and the five small claws, which the drawing sent to me exhibited. Such perfect foot-prints were rare, because those of the fore and hind-foot are commonly more or less blended together, producing the appearance of a line of single footsteps; which appearance, if a bear had been abroad in the five winter months spent by your Correspondent in Canada, would have shown him was not peculiar to the footsteps of man, but characteristic of other plantigrade mammalia, though they may be quadrupedal. The badger sleeps a good deal in his winter retreat, but does not hibernate so regularly and completely as the bear does in the severer climate of Canada. The badger is nocturnal, and comes abroad occasionally in the late winter, when hard-pressed by cold and hunger: it is a stealthy prowler, and most active and endurING in its quest of food.

That one and the same animal should have gone over 100 miles of a most devious and irregular route in one night is as improbable as that one badger only should have been awake and hungry out of the number concealed in the 100 miles of rocky and bosky Devonshire which has been startled by the impressions revealed by the rarely-spread carpet of snow in that beautiful county.

The onus of the proof that one creature made them in one night rests with the assertor, who ought to have gone over the same ground, with a power of acute and unbiassed observation, which seems not to have been exercised by him who failed to distinguish the truly single from the blended foot-prints in question.

Nothing seems more difficult than to see a thing as it really is, unless it be the right interpretation of observed phenomena. Richard Owen.

We have likewise received communications upon the above subject from A. B. P., Ipswich; A Constant Reader, Burgh; A. A.; I. S., Jersey; K. L. M., Clifton. W. W., Somerset, will perhaps state the authority for the statement of the strayed swan. The following are ingenious attempts to explain this remarkable appearance:—

I have read with great interest the paragraph in your last publication giving an account of the most extraordinary prints in the snow, which have occasioned such excitement and fomented so melancholy a mass of superstitious folly in the villages lying southward of Exeter, on either side of the river Exe. Permit me, however, to state that the outline accompanying your intelligent Correspondent's recital of the circumstances hardly conveys a correct idea of the prints in question. As an amateur accustomed to make most accurate drawings from nature, I set to work soon after these marks appeared and completed the accompanying exact fac-simile of those that were visible on the lawn of our clergyman's garden in this parish. He and I traced them through a low privet hedge, by a circular opening of one foot diameter. On applying a rule, the interval between each impression was found to be undeviatingly eight inches and a half. On the same day a mutual acquaintance, familiar with natural history, and not long since returned from the Pacific Ocean, measured the intervals between similar prints in his garden, above a mile and a half distant from the Rectory, and found it to be exactly eight inches and a half. This, in my opinion, is one of the most remarkable and confounding circumstances we have to deal with. In the course of a few days a report was circulated that a couple of kangaroos had got loose from a private menagerie (Mr. Fachs's, I believe) at Sidmouth. Few of us had had opportunities of seeing the impression made on sand or loam by the hinder feet, or hocks rather, on which this animal sits: and we were not unwilling to give credence to the suggestion that the exotic quadruped (walking, when it does walk, as a biped; but bounding over vast lengths of space more like a chamois) might have been loose and vagrant in the neighbourhood, and left the strange impress here referred to. Still, it was quite inexplicable that the animal, considering the scale of the foot, should leave, in single file, one print only, and, as has been already observed, with intervals as exactly preserved as if the prints had been made by a drill, or any other mechanical frame. A scientific acquaintance informed me of his having traced the same prints across a field up to a hay-stack. The surface of the stack was wholly free from marks of any kind, but on the opposite side of the stack, in a direction exactly corresponding with the track thus traced, the prints began again! The same fact has been ascertained in respect of a wall intervening.

No animal with cushion paw, such as the feline tribe—diminutive or large (cat or tiger)—exhibit, could have made these marks; for the feet of most quadrupeds tread in parallel lines, some widely distinct, others approximating very closely. The ass, especially, among the animals daily seen, approaches the single line. The fox leaves round dots in a single line; the stoat two and one alternately. Moreover, the feline tribe leave concave prints, whereas, in each of these mystic prints, the space enclosed by the bounding line was convex, as in the pits of a patten.

Early in the week we were informed that two crases had been shot at Otterton, below Budleigh Salterton, and that these were the mystical printers; but the well-informed in zoology at once rejected this official explanation. Within the last four-and-twenty hours, a very shrewd and intellectual neighbour of mine, about six miles distant, wrote me word that a gentleman in the parish adjoining his own had traced these peculiar prints through his garden-walks into a six-inch gutter, and there he saw the marks of *claws*. This has induced some to suppose them to be the track of a catamountain. Two other gentlemen, resident in the same parish, pursued a line of prints during three hours and a half, marking their progress under gooseberry-bushes and espalier fruit-trees; and then, missing them, regained sight of the impression on the roofs of some houses to which their march of investigation brought them. These gentlemen "swear to claws." Upon which my correspondent (a member of the Society of Antiquaries) observes, "We incline to believe they must be otters, driven out in quest of food. Our friend felt toe-marks at the contracted part of the print, though they were not discernible by the eye."

Some "chief among" the congregation where I was discoursing three Sundays since had evidently been "taking notes, and, faith! he pented them" (as Burns would say); and though, without incurring the charge of the slightest approach to irreverence, I find a very apt opportunity to mention the name of kangaroo, in allusion to the report then current. I certainly did not pin my faith to that version of the mystery, nor call upon others to receive it *ex cathedrâ*; but the state of the public mind of the villagers, the labourers, their wives and children, and old crones, and trembling old men, dreading to stir out after sunset, or to go out half a mile into lanes or byways, on a call or message, under the conviction that this was the Devil's walk, and none other, and that it was wicked to trifle with such a manifest proof of the Great Enemy's immediate presence, rendered it very desirable that a turn should be given to such degrading and vitiated notion of a superintending Divine Providence; and I was thankful that a kangaroo was "in the wind," as we should say, and serving to disperse ideas so derogatory to a christian sod, but assuredly most unenlightened community. I was reminded, nevertheless, by one pernacious recusant, that it is written that Satan should be unchained for a thousand years, and that the latter days are at hand. Still, mum was a word in due season, and did good.

The generality of such of us as can reason dispassionately on view of a phenomenon which seems, as yet, to be without precedent or parallel, include the belief that it must be a bird of some unfamiliar tribe, wandering and hopping over this region; but all inquiry continues to be fruitless. I have addressed communications to the British Museum, to the Zoological Society, to the keepers of birds and beasts in the Regent's-park menagerie; and the more further we pry in, they are utterly unable to form any conjecture on the subject, however correctly the impressions had been copied.

I am emboldened to address you with more than the ordinary confidence of a correspondent "well up in his facts," inasmuch as I am living in the centre of the district where the alarm, so to speak, was first given. Sir L. Newman's Park, at Mamhead, is exactly opposite to my own residence. Starcross Tower is an object of the picturesque, and beautiful to gaze upon from my study window; and Powderham Castle gleams in the sunshine, half a mile further up. These are on the other side (west) of the river Exe, two miles in its breadth; and the marks were as abundant throughout the places just specified, and their neighbourhood—Kenton, Dawlish, Newton, &c.—as here at Exmouth, Withycombe Raleigh, Lympstone, Woodbury, Topsham, and the vicinity of Bicton, and Budleigh. There are many "travelled men," and deep-thinkers, too, among us, far from being

Credulous to false prints

(as *Isabella* says to *Angelo*); but—eager as we are to ascertain the exact point of knowledge in natural history at which the elucidation of this unprecedented mystery might commence—our anxiety as zoologists, or as students or connoisseurs in any one of the Αρχαι (or sciences), is a feeling of apathetic indifference in comparison with our regret for the prevalence and evil-working of that gross and incredible superstition which is raging like endemic disease among the lowest class in every direction; and I shall have every cause to rejoice, if, on view of what has now been laid before you by pen and pencil, any one of your numerous readers and other contributors should succeed in solving the difficulty, and remove thereby a dangerous, degrading, and false impression.

Withycombe, near Exmouth. G. M. M.

As much interest has been excited by these extraordinary foot-tracks, I beg to offer you a few remarks in explanation of what I have observed in the neighbourhood (Topsham). Myself and another medical friend bestowed considerable time in endeavouring to discover the peculiarities of this most singular impression. The outline, certainly, in all cases resembles that of a hoof, which has given rise to the idea of its supernatural origin among the ignorant; but, on more minute examination of the tracks, we could distinctly see the impressions of the toes and pad of the foot of an animal; a rough draft of which I showed to a friend of mine in Exeter, and, without any comment on my part, he recognised it as that of the otter, being well acquainted with that animal and its habits.

I have enclosed you a rough Diagram of the impressions which we observed within the hoof-like tracks; the outside toes were larger than the rest. I am not acquainted with the otter myself; but of this I am fully convinced, that the animal, be it what it may, is of low stature, from the tracks having shown it to have passed uninterruptedly under the branches of shrubs, &c., not more than eight or nine inches from the ground; and in a neighbouring village it went through a six-inch pipe drain. It must be borne in mind that most rivers have been frozen over for some weeks, and therefore the otters have thus been prevented from obtaining their usual food—namely fish; and when such is the case, they ramble many miles in search of other food.

The otter is not a rare animal in this neighbourhood, and frequents the streams near Exmouth, Lympstone, Woodbury, Budleigh, Topsham, Clyst, the river Exe (in all which parishes tracks have been seen), as well as Dawlish, Torquay, Totnes, &c. The tracks in this parish we observed going in contrary directions; we did not notice any in a direct line, but in alternate steps, forming two parallel lines of steps. We also saw tracks on a low wall, and over the tiles of a linhay, and in several instances it had visited the summer-house and tool-houses of gardens; in all of which portions of the same characteristics were more or less traceable, the ball or pad in the centre being more frequent than the others. Its visits have been repeated in some localities of this town.

Topsham, Feb. 26th, 1855.

Let your Correspondent, "South Devon," who furnished the accounts of footmarks published in your Number of Feb 24th inst. know that if he, on any future occasion, should see such footmarks, he may, on accurate examination, discover a heelmark and three toemarks—made probably by the foot of the Great Bustard (*Otis tarda*). The two ends of the asinine shoeprints in your Number of last week are probably those of the two outer toes; and the upper rounded end, the confounded junction of the toes at the heel end. I saw marks of this sort on Saturday, the 24th inst, after the commencement of the thaw on the Friday, and do not doubt of their being such as I have named. What I saw had evidently (although the thaw had partially obliterated them) a central third linear impression. Ornithen.

Russian Intrigue.—Brussels has been selected by the Czar as a focus for intrigues, carried on by a well-organised party of both sexes entitled to leading positions in society. Orleanists and Republicans, Legitimists and Mazzinists, Orangeists and Catholics, are all made use of in their turn. Ready pens and ready dollars are employed for getting up pamphlets, which are either sent back to Germany for distribution and translation, or are smuggled into France for perusal in the original. Brussels was a sort of quiescent English colony, which never troubled itself with political questions. It is now converted into a sort of little Rome, where the Czar's subjects are located for no other purpose than political machinations. Each, whether male or female, has his or her part to play, with the full knowledge and sanction of the St. Petersburg police and Foreign-office, and under special instructions and for special purposes. The grand objects committed to their furtherance are to vilify and ridicule the French Emperor; to cast discredit upon his Government; to misrepresent and distort all acts and intentions of the British Cabinet and nation, after the principle of the Pan-Russian Berlin party; to spread rumours of Russian successes and Allied disasters, even to extremisms; to exhibit the Czar as a model of peaceful disinterestedness, the archkey of Christendom, the sole barrier against demagogy, and the sole guardian of property and possession; to assert that Russia is impregnable and her finances inexhaustible; and to affirm that her sixty-four millions of serf population is as a giant to a pigmy, when compared with sixty-three millions of united French and English. Thus it is that the ramifications of Russian intrigues are extended throughout the whole so-called "neutral" line, from the Meuse to the Rhine, and thence to the Scheldt and Sambre. Nor is money spared. The sum devoted by Russian secret service purposes is only equal to that expended annually on her diplomatic agency.—*Letter from Berlin.*

Why must the Army Eat Salt Pork?—We have had great fun with the recipes for cooking rations which appear in the papers. M. Soyer's were good and simple, but every one of them had been found out by experiment months ago, and were familiar, however little successful, to every camp cook. The recipes which teach the men how to make rations palatable by the help of a "sliced turkey," nutmegs, butter, flour, spices, and suet, are cruel mockeries. Can any one tell us why the army must eat salt pork? Why is this the only meat except beef that is served out? The lean is always very hard and tough, and requires great care and trouble in cooking to make it masticable—the fat is ever in undue proportion to the lean, and is far too "rich" for a debilitated stomach. Are "pigs" a national institution, to be maintained at any cost? Is the flesh of the brill a part of the Constitution? A soldier is a very dear animal. A crop of them is most difficult to raise, and, once they have been fully grown, and have become ripe soldiers, they are beyond all price. Have we not got abundance of meats in our warehouses, of vegetables, of all kinds of nutritious preparations to bestow on those who are left to us, and who are really "veterans," for in the rude truths of Sir Thomas Carlyle, "Hunger is the spur that prick'd the heavy, the dull, the cowards, and the triumphs of war?" The ration, with its accessories of sugar, tea or coffee, tobacco, and rice, was sufficient as long as it was unfailing, and while the army was in good health; but it is not sufficient, or, rather, it is not suitable, when the men are debilitated from excessive weakness.—*Letter from the Camp, Feb. 12.*

Coal in the Crimea.—The British Government have contracted with that of Turkey to render available for the supply of the English steamers and transports of Boskli or Heraclea, which is said to be worked by the English. A considerable reinforcement of miners was shortly expected from England to strengthen the hands of the staff now on the spot, who, with their present means, have been able to deliver coals of excellent quality at a cost under 15s. per ton for actual working expenses. In the meantime it is satisfactory to know that our fleet will experience no difficulty in obtaining fuel for some time to come, the southerly breeze which has lately prevailed having brought into Constantinople several score of coal-laden vessels which had been impeded by contrary winds in the Mediterranean.

Consumption of Cotton in 1854. Notwithstanding the strikes and turn-outs of the past year, it appears that a larger consumption of cotton has taken place in Great Britain than at any previous period, the quantity in 1854 being 350,000,000 of lbs. weight; in 1853, 337,000,000; in 1852, 745,000,000; in 1853, 734,000,000; and in 1854, 780,000,000. The increase upon last year's deliveries to the trade of Great Britain, Messrs Du Fay and Co. observe, is 6 2-5ths per cent; to Russia, Germany, Holland, and Belgium, an increase of 3½ per cent; to France of 3½ per cent; to Spain of 3 per cent; and a decrease to the trade of the United States of America of 8 per cent. The increase of consumption in this country, in the face of strikes and bad trade, is accounted for by the fact that manufacturers have been much more generally engaged on heavy fabrics—fabrics in which more raw material and less labour are employed

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M. MINIE.

It is strange that the career of a man whose inventions have revolutionised warfare should have remained, up to the present time, an untold story. Circumstances have afforded the writer an opportunity of communicating to the public an outline of the picture that, at a future time, must show to the world the claims which M. Minié has upon its gratitude. His weapon has borne his name into every quarter of the globe. At this moment it protects the besiegers of Sebastopol; at this moment it is being copied for the use of the American army; at this moment a ship is on her voyage to the Crimea, with 4,000,000 Minié cartridges. No impediment has been placed in the way of the general adoption of an invention calculated to serve the Allied armies. With unerring aim the French *tirailleurs* drive the Russians from their guns—thanks to the Minié rifle.

We may turn from the Crimean battle field to the fortress of Vincennes. Passing under the heavy gateways guarded by the celebrated Chasseurs (named after the building) we enter the citadel. Without pausing long to notice the pyramids of cannon-balls, to examine the hundreds of thousands of muskets in the arsenal, to remark the marble France weeping over the bones of the Duke d'Enghien, we turn to a long line of plain buildings on the right, where the *chef du tir* resides. Here, quietly doing his work, unnoticed, teaching literally "the young idea how to shoot," and in his leisure time shut up in his little workshop, lives the *chef d'escadron*, Minié. For fourteen years he has been at Vincennes; and under his eye those terrible regiments which are now the glory of the French army have been drilled. He began life as a private soldier, having volunteered at an early age. By degrees, under the frown of power often, he has passed the various grades which lie between the private and the *chef d'escadron*. His inventions have, however, brought him his share of mockery, but not half his proper share of honours. Under Louis Philippe, when the tricolor bade fair to become a pudding-cloth or at best a pocket handkerchief for the convenience of an *agent de change*, and when the sentimental felt a strong inclination to turn bayonets into ploughshares, Minié could not hope to find encouragement in high quarters. He began his career by learning, with a passionate love of his one idea, all that had been done before him in the matter of arms. He made many, many failures before he achieved a single success. He had to bear up against an Artillery Committee composed of Generals who hated changes and probably enjoyed a nation that it was contrary to the Articles of War for a subaltern to exhibit a genius above that of his superior officer. His war with the lovers of routine grew hot; at last, it reached a climax, and the inventor of the Minié rifle heard that his dismissal from the service of his country had been actually signed. At this critical period of his history M. Minié enjoyed the protection of a man now cast from power, but who was then a Prince of the reigning house, and, I believe, resident at Vincennes. I allude to the Duke of Montpensier. To the influence of this Prince M. Minié owed the withdrawal of his degradation; and at the present time it becomes a duty doubly onerous to acknowledge heartily such a service. This incident does infinite honour to Louis Philippe's youngest son.

Assured of his position, M. Minié now resumed his studies. Established in the fortress of Vincennes, he gave up his time to the shooting gallery and the experiments he loved to make in arms. It was not, however, till the year 1848 that he disclosed improvements of an important nature. From that time up to the present, the improvements he had then effected in rifles, the conical ball, the Minié cartridge, &c., have successively engaged the attention of all inquiring military men. The value of his practical ingenuity was soon appreciated abroad. Offers, some of them very tempting, reached the commandant at Vincennes. Speculators were ready to assure him fortune; agents were willing to give him tempting terms. He declined every offer. Among the tempters were Russian agents, who offered him the rank of Lieut.-Colonel, an establishment, &c., to live in, and a good salary, if he would proceed to St. Petersburg. This offer was made to him two years successively; and to the honour of M. Minié it should be added that he firmly declined the bargain on both occasions. He declared that he was a soldier and a Frenchman; that he was not a commercial man who followed out his experiments for the sole purpose of realising so much money, but that it was his intention to offer any improvements he might make in arms to his Sovereign. It was his belief that his inventions belonged, by right, to the head of the State.

M. MINIE, INVENTOR OF "THE MINIE RIFLE."

The Portrait which accompanies this sketch was taken a few days ago in M. Minié's atelier, where he was surrounded by all kinds of unfinished arms, heaps of bullets and bullet-moulds, tools of all kinds, &c. Of the engines of war likely to issue shortly from this atelier, I am, of course, not permitted to speak at length. If his adopted rifle be regarded, however, as a wonderful arm, what will be said of the terrible instrument he is about to present to the Emperor? Holding it in his hand, he pointed to its mechanism, and assured me that he had fired twenty rounds of ball-cartridge with it, in the course of a single minute. He also showed me the wonderful series of balls he had tried; they are of every form and weight—conical, circular, with grooves, &c. The ball with which the Imperial Guard is provided is about the size, and closely resembles the form, of a filbert. He proved the excellence of another (not yet made known), calculated to offer the least possible resistance to the air. The force of the breath through a tube sufficed to lodge it in the wall of the room.

It is just to add that France has treated Minié as France treats every man who serves her. The inventor carried one of his rifles to the Emperor; the Emperor's verdict on the weapon was expressed by a twenty-thousand franc note. There was a discussion on the arming of the Imperial Guard; the Emperor sent for the man whose studies best enabled him to give sound advice. Minié went to the Tuileries. He gave his reasons for the adoption of his own arm. These reasons were found to be good; whereupon the order for his rifles was at once issued. There was no filtering of powers through endless offices; no delays of artillery committees. The accompanying Portrait will show that the inventor of the rifle now in course of adoption in the armies of Europe has been included in the Legion of Honour. The great Stephenson went to his grave an unrecognised man. Minié lives to enjoy the reward of his services—a reward which his country is proud to give him.

B. J.

The Cost of the Guards. What has been the cost to the country of the men of the brigade of Guards who died in their tents or in hospital of exhaustion, overwork, and deficient or improper nutriment? The brigade musters now very little over 400 men fit for duty. It would have been *cheap* to have fed those men who are gone on turtle and venison, if it could have kept them alive—and not only those, but the poor fellows whom the battle spared, but whom disease has taken from us out of every regiment in the expedition. It is the *men* who are to be pitied—the officers can take care of themselves; they have their bat-horses to go over to Kamiesch and to Balaclava for luxuries; their servants to send for poultry, vegetables, wines, preserved meats, sheep, and all the luxuries of the sutlers' shops; they have abundance of money, for the pay of the subaltern is ample when he is in the field. An artillery officer the other day told me he was quite disgusted with the grumbling of some men, and the spirit of discontent which existed. "I dine as well every day," said he, "as I could dine in the Palais Royal. I send my servant over to Kamiesch, where things are far cheaper than at Balaclava. I get excellent wine, meat, game, and vegetables there, and my servant, who is a Frenchman, is a first-rate cook." No wonder *he* could see no reason for grumbling. A few days with Bombardier Smith might have taught him that all did not fare as luxuriously as himself. He expended a man and horse per diem in maintaining his belly in a comfortable state, and of course he looked at everything through the medium of a good dinner and easy digestion, especially as he belonged to a corps which has been fortunate in being able to use the public horses to get up their huts and to provide themselves with food and forage. Generally the officers, at some expense, cater very well, and what is the result? How many deaths do we see among the officers from "gelatic, diarrhœa, scurvy, dysentery," and all the horrid army of diseases which attack and destroy the common soldier! Take them *pro ratâ*, and the difference is seen at once; and yet the officer undergoes the inclemency of the weather the same as his men. Many of them do not waste all their substance on themselves. Many a generous fellow lays out his last shilling to buy some little comfort for his company, or to soothe the sufferings of his sick men in hospital. As may be expected, considering their presumed wealth and command of money, the officers of the Guards have been distinguished for their kindness to their men, and for the care they have taken of them. The consciousness of all these good men will reward them, and they would blush to see their names blazoned to the world. It is strange to see the pride which the best of our aristocracy and autocracy take in catering. They have an ostentatious pleasure in surrounding themselves with strings of onions and cantering off to the Camp with a live sheep tied round their waists, and a couple of plaintive turkeys or sulky geese pendent from their saddle-bows, and holsters filled with pistols of cognac, and their energy in "boarding" vessels as they arrive is startling. However, it is for their messmates and their friends they take all this trouble, and no man ever goes hungry or thirsty away from the tent of a British officer. *Letter from the Camp, Feb. 10.*

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

THE NAVAL BRIGADE DRAWING SIEGE-GUNS.

In the several accounts of the siege operations from time to time we read of the Naval Brigade drawing siege-guns down into the trenches; for the accompanying Sketch we have to thank a Correspondent from "the heights above Sebastopol." This arduous duty is thus described: "Every morning the sailors drag down about three or four 24 and 32 pounders, and leave them behind a hill about half-way down, and at dusk they take them the remaining half under cover of the night. It generally requires about sixty men for each gun."

THE NAVAL BRIGADE DRAGGING A HEAVY SIEGE-GUN TO THE GREEN-HILL (CHAPMAN'S) BATTERY.

[illegible] by William Little 194, Strand, [illegible] Saturday [illegible]

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

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DEATH OF THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS.

THE Czar Nicholas has gone to his account. The disturber of the nations is at rest. The absolute lord and master of sixty millions of human beings—the inheritor of the largest empire on the globe—the man whose will was law; upon whose lips hung the issues of destiny; who, but yesterday, convulsed Europe, and troubled Asia, and brought into collision the forces of Barbarism and Civilisation;—the scourge of the world the pest of humanity—the most selfish, the most cunning, the most majestic of despots, has been suddenly stricken down, in the plenitude of his power and splendour. He whose vast ambition threw a shadow of portentous darkness over the globe has been removed, and there is sunshine among the nations within the whole circle of his influence. The world feels that an evil thing has been taken out of its way, and hopes that his like may never again arise to trouble and perplex it. Few, indeed, imagined that this great Potentate would so soon have followed to the grave the countless victims of his ambition; and that the murdered Turks of Sinope the brave British and French soldiers who fell resisting his oppression, and his own 20,000 miserable serfs who perished but yesterday in the snows of Simpheropol, would so speedily find a companion in that insatiable tomb which spares neither the high nor the lowly, and stand on an equality with their destroyer before the judgment-seat of God. On an equality? Perhaps not. The greater the power, the more condign the punishment of him who abuses it. But on such a point we forbear to dwell. The curtain of the grave is between the Czar Nicholas and all living men, and it is not for them to mete out his punishment. His memory alone remains for their verdict. Pity for the sake of one so mighty but now so small and mean, must not blind their eyes to the wickedness he committed. The moralist must condemn his conduct while he deplores his fate; and must judge the actions of the dead for the sake of the living, and for the example and the warning of posterity. There has been too much of false sympathy for the dead and of spurious philosophy in the judgment of their actions. Why should the living forego their just indignation because he who deserved it is in the grave? If Nicholas was a curse to the world while he moved and breathed upon it, it is neither unjust nor ungenerous to remember the fact while the results of his wickedness are still active and fruitful. He has been the cause of more misery and evil than any man of his day; and woe betide the world if it forget such actions as he committed, or cease to disapprove of such sanguinary and remorseless ambition as that of which he was guilty.

It is not easy to describe the awe, not unmingled with a feeling of satisfaction and relief, which pervaded all ranks and classes of society when the authentic intelligence was first received in London. A sensation as profound was created in every other capital in Europe; in every household, and in every haunt and assemblage of men. The proudest and the meanest humbled themselves in spirit before the Great Disposer of Events; and many thousands, if not millions of people, regarded the catastrophe as a direct interposition of Heaven to rescue the nations from the oppression and wrong which the continued life of the despot seemed but too likely to inflict upon them. The impression will not be soon effaced. Even in the extraordinary times in which the lot of this generation has been cast, when great events succeed each other with such marvellous rapidity, and in such unexpected combinations—the downfal of Nicholas will long stand pre-eminent in the imagination of the people. The awful lesson goes direct to the heart of the multitude. Not even a visible sign and portent in the sky, or an audible voice from the heavens, proclaiming the vanity and littleness of all earthly things—if such revelations of the Divine will were vouchsafed in our day—could have spoken more solemnly to the reason and the conscience of mankind. As a moral lesson, this age has seen nothing which can equal it. Belshazzar has gone, and none but the sons and daughters of Belshazzar have a tear for his fate, or would recall him from the tomb, where the wicked cease from troubling; and where he—both weary and wicked—lies at rest.

The first impression on almost every mind was that the Czar had been poisoned or strangled. Such catastrophes are familiar things in Russian history, and they are the natural results of an ultra-despotism. If the tyrant had not the spectral fear of assassination present in his thoughts by day and in his dreams by night, the great law of compensation would cease to be universal. There would be nothing to temper his evil passions no check upon his caprice—no limit to his self-indulgence—no inevitable Nemesis to avenge the wrongs he might commit, and teach him that he, too, was but flesh and blood, and frail as the meanest and most abject of his victims. So probable did such a termination of the Czar's career appear to his own household, that it is known to have embittered the life of the Empress, and has been openly predicted hundreds of times within the last twelvemonth as certain to follow the first great discomfiture of his arms. Yet circumstances would seem to show that the death was natural, and that it was mainly produced by mental agony consequent upon baffled hopes and defeated projects. But in this case "the balances of Heaven are just." The Avenging Angel treads in the footsteps of guilt. The misdeed carries its punishment in its own bosom. No man, not even a King, can fly from him-

THE LATE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.—(SEE SUPPLEMENT, PAGE

self, and avoid the consequences of his transgressions. It is neither physically safe nor mentally wholesome to possess unlimited power. To be the uncontrolled master of the lives of millions—to be the foremost man of all the earth—to hold in one's hand the destiny of the present, and, perhaps, of a future generation to rank as a god or a demi-god in the estimation of myriads of obsequious slaves and superstitious barbarians—to be surrounded with sycophants and flatterers, with panders and with parasites, is perilous to the soul and the body of the strongest and the wisest of men. The fine mechanism of the nerves and brain cannot endure such stress and strain. By jealousy, and suspicion, by daily and hourly caution, by coat of mail, by armed guards, by tasters of his meat and of his drink, by a life of misery and anxiety, the tyrant may foil the assassin; but the very fierceness of the combat evokes a new and more insidious enemy. In the heart and in the brain lurks the demon of disease or madness—slowly and imperceptibly at work on those delicate tissues which guard the reason and the life. We may imagine the pangs which that proud spirit endured during the last six months, when his character, long before damaged to the outer world, was imperilled among his own people; when his armies were defeated, not only by the bravery of two great and powerful allies, but by the Turks, whom he despised; when his territory was desecrated by invasion, his fleets rende red useless, his maritime commerce annihilated, his dependants shaken in their allegiance, his friends converted into foes, and his foes rendered strong by combination and enthusiasm. It is not wonderful that nature should give way in so unequal a struggle.

The question is asked in every resort of men—what are the consequences which are likely to flow from this unexpected catastrophe? The new Czar, Alexander II., who has succeeded peacefully to his father's throne, is believed to be a man of moderate views and enlightened character. But his proclamation on assuming power is warlike in the extreme. He asserts Poland and Finland to be inseparably united with Russia; thereby defying the Allies to restore the independe nce of the one, or re-establish the connection of the other with the Power to which it rightfully belongs. He also declares his policy to be that of Peter, of Catherine, of Alexander, and of Nich olas; in other words, the policy of war, of aggression, and of conquest. The Grand Duke Alexander may have been wise and just; but the Czar is the Czar. As such he is the representative of a system, the heir of a policy as well as of a principle, the custodian of a nation's prejudices, passions, ambitions, and hopes; and part of a grand machine with which he must work, or be crushed beneath its wheels. It is natural that the Emperors and people of Russia should strive to extend their frontiers to the sea; it is quite as natural and more just that the other States of Europe should strive to prevent the realisation of the project. Between Russia and the rest of Europe there is necessary and inevitable hostility. Russia will never lose sight of her object. She pursues it in peace no less vigorously, and perhaps more successfully, than in war. Patient, perfidious, and persevering, the great object is never absent from the mind and councils of her Czars;—and Europe has not, and cannot have, any real security against their aggression, other than the security which can be exacted at the cannon's mouth. Had the proclamation of the new Czar been more pacific, the policy of the Allies ought to have been exactly the same as it must now be, when he has sounded the war-trumpet, and defied the world by hurling in its face the significant names of such Sovereigns as Peter and Catherine the Great. Europe thus knows what it has to expect. To the fears, and not to the sense of justice, of the Czars must the appeal be made. Treaties do not bind them; considerations of honour and humanity have no place in their councils. Whenever the moment arrives, when a portion of Turkish or any other territory can be stolen or conquered they are prepared to strike. We believe, for many reasons, that the death of the late Czar is a calamity; and that the unwise politicians and Sovereigns of Germany—aided, perhaps, by the timid, the ignorant, and the selfish nearer home—may endeavour, in consequence to bring the present war to a premature conclusion, by patching up a precarious and dishonourable peace. But even Manchester itself, as well as Vienna and Berlin, may be assured that a peace hastily made, without a "material guarantee"—without the capture of Sebastopol and without the payment by Russia of the whole expenses of the present war, would be a peace that would not last a moment beyond the time when it might suit the whim or the policy of Russia to break it. So far from believing "that nothing is changed," by the death of Nicholas, we believe that the position of Europe has been rendered still more perilous by that event. There is only one contingency that would improve it, and that is the absolute and unconditional surrender of the new Emperor. Unless—and until—that event happens, the policy of the Allies should be War with redoubled energy; War in the Baltic and in the Black Sea—War on every side of the Russian dominions.

Copies of Pictures.—An application of a novel nature was made by Mr. Darvill, solicitor, at Marlborough-street Police-court on Monday. In 1851 Mr. Ward, the well-known artist, painted a picture known as "James the Second Receiving the Intelligence of the Landing of the France of Orange." The painting was purchased by Mr. Jacob Bell, of Langham-place, who gave Mr. Ward the usual permission to make an artist's copy. This copy was subsequently sold to Messrs. Melton and Clarke, picture-dealers, who again sold it to a person named Paskall, residing near Preston. Some short time ago, Mr. Ward was informed that a picture was in the market which he was asserted to have painted. Mr. Ward made inquiry, and ascertained that the picture was a copy of the artist's copy of the "James the Second" painting sold to Messrs. Melton and Clarke. A copy, therefore, of the artist's copy had been made by an inferior artist, and an attempt was made to palm it off as an original, whereby an injury was inflicted on Mr. Ward's artistic reputation, and a fraud committed on the purchaser. Now, as Mr. Ward was unable to tell how far this manufacture had proceeded, and how many spurious works were in existence, he had instructed his (Mr. Darvill) to come to that Court, and to detail the facts, in the hope that some way would be pointed out by which Mr. Ward would be protected from this kind of injury and injustice. The public, also, ought to be put on their guard against this system of spurious copies, as, if he was correctly instructed, many other cases of spurious paintings foisted on the public as original were likely to come to light. He was not sure that it would not be necessary, owing to the defective state of the law, to seek the aid of Parliament for an enactment that should provide means to check and punish fraud; possibly that end might be attained by declaring that original paintings should be taken to some public body—the Society of Arts, for instance—and be then stamped and authenticated in such a way as to give force and validity to the genuineness of the painting. Mr. Hardwick admitted that, as the law stood, it was a serious matter to artists. An inferior copy sold as an original was certainly calculated to damage the reputation of the most eminent artist. Mr. Darvill thanked the magistrate for his attention. He hoped, however, that an exposure of the frauds on artists by the public press would put the public on its guard, and at the same time afford some protection to artists.

Statistical returns prove that Paris is the place where the greatest number of imprisonments for debt take place; there are as many in the capital alone as throughout the whole of France

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Thursday.

Every particle of public attention is, of course, so engrossed by the intelligence of the death of the Emperor Nicholas, and the speculations that arise therefrom—the results, probable and possible—the influences and the interests connected with, and likely to be acted upon by, the new state of things—that there is little or nothing else attended to, or considered worthy of interest. The prevalent idea that unfair means had been resorted to to produce this result seems entirely to have given way before the details published of the last hours of the Autocrat. The presumptions—leaning partly on the present changed position of affairs, partly on the more tranquil, reasonable, and pacific character of the new Emperor—are here all for peace; but of course everything must, as yet, be mere speculation.

The projected expedition of the Emperor and Empress remains wholly in abeyance, until further particulars of the progress of events ar known; much to the regret of the latter, who has all along earnestly desired the voyage, and has been with much interest engaged in superintending the arrangement of her wardrobe and other preparations—including a variety of purchases destined for presents—for the journey. It appears that the ladies designed to accompany her Majesty were directed to include in their travelling baggage a certain number of ball-dresses. What an astonishment for the natives of Constantinople! what an occasion for enlarging the views of the harem on the subject of feminine attire!

The absurd rumour which attributed to M. Emile de Girardin the authorship of the *brochure* lately published in Belgium on the subject of the conduct of the War in the East, and the Crimea, and signed "Un Officier Général," had gained such force—notwithstanding its evident falsity that for nearly a week the door of the eminent *publiciste* was besieged by persons crowding to inquire as to the truth of the report which resulted from it—whether he had not exchanged his domicile in the Champs Elysées for a less commodious one within the walls of a State prison. In consequence of the importance attached to both rumours, M. de Girardin found it necessary to publish in the *Presse* a formal denial of a statement which, at its first circulation, he considered as unworthy of attention.

The ranks of the Legitimist party have just lost one of their oldest, and personally firmest adherents, the Duc de Grammont, who, after an illness of many years' standing, expired almost suddenly and without a struggle, at his residence in the Rue de la Ville l'Evêque, on Saturday night. The Duc de Grammont was one of the best specimens of a class now nearly extinct in France as a personal type. Possessed of one of the proudest names that belonged to the list of the *ancienne noblesse*, great beauty, singular grace and distinction of manner, and instinct with the most chivalric ideas of right and honour, he sacrificed fortune, condition, ease—all that most men prize so highly—to follow, with his family, into exile a Sovereign who felt or, at all events, showed little sense of the extent of the devotion. The Duc de Grammont—who, in consequence of the well-known and constantly-avowed principle of his family, found in his early youth no honourable opening of a career in his native country was principally educated in England; to which country his sympathies were so warmly bound, that he entered the British Army, attained the grade of Captain in the 7th or 10th Hussars, and served with distinction through all the Peninsular War. At the downfal of the Bourbons, the Duc de Grammont entirely retired from all participation in the events or politics of the day. Upwards of ten years since, he was seized with the distressing and complicated malady which gave him neither rest nor respite during its continuance, weekly threatened to terminate his existence, and finally brought him to the grave. The Duc de Grammont married the beautiful and only sister of the Comte d'Orsay, then but sixteen, and leaves three sons—the present Duc, now Minister at Turin; and two daughters—the elder married to the Marquis du Prat, the representative of another of the ancient noble families of France.

Last week took place, at the Malmaison, the marriage of young Prince Czartorisky with the eldest daughter of the Queen Christina—the same who, last year, was on the point of a union with the Duc de Casigliano, whose untimely death interrupted the realisation of the project. The bridal ceremony took place, with considerable éclat, in the Chapel of the Malmaison, and was performed by the Cardinal Doanel. On the following day was given a splendid reception at the residence of the Prince Czartorisky, at which were present the bride and bridegroom the former blazing with diamonds.

Madame George Sand, whose declining health requires a complete change of air and scene, is about to make a voyage into Italy, it is reported with the intention of finding materials for a new work; but, whatever may be her ultimate design in this respect, the restoration of her health is the present object of the expedition.

A recent book sale of considerable interest has attracted much attention from the reading public: this is the collection of Pierre Didot, the celebrated *typographe*; among which were found a number of the most valuable and curious books which have been out of print for years, and unattainable in the trade. A copy of the "Roman de la Rose" sold for 2448 francs; the finest edition existing of Racine, for 15,778 francs; a Virgil and Horace, for 8628 francs; and a variety of other books at proportional prices. The sale altogether brought nearly 70,000 francs.

Great complaints are made by the Paris merchants of the insufficiency of the extent of the Palais d'Industrie, which, in order to give due hospitality to the foreign exhibitors, leaves so little space for the home produce, that some branches of French commerce find themselves wholly excluded. Upwards of 6000 demands from persons wishing to exhibit have, perforce, been refused by the Commission; and it is said some of the excluded propose to address a petition to the Emperor in hopes that some means may be found to remedy this state of things.

The theatres give little of interest. At the Français appeared on Tuesday the first representation of a pretty and *spirituelle* one-act piece by Méry, "L'Essai du Mariage." The plot is slight and impossible; but the writing, like everything of its author, sparkling with wit, brilliancy, and finesse, and the *rôle* of the heroine is gracefully and intelligently performed by Mdlle. Denain. Concerts, of all degrees of excellence and mediocrity, abound, as they are wont, at this season. Nadaud has just composed a charming opéra-comique, words and music, called "La Voilère:" it has been performed in private only.

MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN BELGIUM.

At the commencement of the sitting of the Belgian Chamber of Representatives on Friday, the 2nd inst., M. de Brouckère, Minister of Foreign Affairs, rose and said:—"Several recent votes of this House have decided the Minister of the Interior to withdraw from the Cabinet. Another Minister at the same time declared that his personal situation would not permit him to continue longer in the Government, and he also tendered his resignation. In presence of this double withdrawal, the other members of the Cabinet, not wishing to separate from their two colleagues, who possess all their confidence and sympathy, considered it their duty to place their resignation in the King's hands." After some conversation as to whether the Chamber should continue its sitting or not, the question was decided in the negative, and the Chamber adjourned indefinitely in the midst of considerable agitation. The principal reason of the resignation is that the Chamber voted against the Administration of the Interior on various questions, and especially on that relative to the University Jury. The *Indépendance* of Brussels of Wednesday says:—"We are assured that M. Delfosse, President of the Chamber of Representatives, who is at present at Liège, has been summoned to Brussels, and is to be received this day by the King."

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

Another reverse in the weather—just about the time that people at home were suffering from extreme cold—had rather hindered active operations before Sebastopol; so that the latest authentic intelligence, which comes down to the 24th ult., brings no information of much importance. The accounts, however, still continue highly encouraging. The troops were in excellent spirits, and sickness was decreasing. Fresh reinforcements were pouring in daily, and the physical necessities of the army were duly supplied. That the Allied Generals are impressed with the necessity of pushing the campaign with vigour, is proved by the embarkation of every available man at Constantinople, by the assault in question, and by the activity displayed along the British lines at Balaclava.

During the night of the 23rd of February the second corps of the French army assumed the works of counter-approach in course of construction by the enemy, and carried them, but not without sustaining a serious loss. This auspicious commencement will, no doubt, encourage fresh nocturnal attacks, which may even be directed with success against the Russian redoubts. The advantage possessed by a cool and determined assailant in similar assaults is immense, as was demonstrated even in the weak and ill-directed sorties of the Russian garrison of Sebastopol on the Allied lines.

A despatch from Vice-Admiral Bruat, dated Kamiesch, Feb. 24th, gives the following account of the affair:—

In the night of the 22nd the garrisons of Sebastopol established important works of counter-approach in front of our works, on the slope of the plateau which descends towards the small careening bay. General Canrobert caused these works to be carried on the night of the 23th, by the troops of the second corps. This affair has done the greatest credit to our army, and if possible augmented the ascendancy which it has never ceased to hold over the enemy. Our loss is and to amount to 100 wounded.

The works referred to in this despatch are in another described as having been constructed near the Mamelon. Prince Menschikoff, in reporting on the French attack, says that it was mainly directed against a redoubt which his troops had built, and that the assailants were repulsed with a loss of 600 men

A reconnaissance, attempted by Sir Colin Campbell, on the morning of the 19th ult., proved unsuccessful on account of a severe snow storm.

The troops which turned out on our side consisted of nearly all the available men of the Cavalry Division, under General Scarlett, the remains of the Heavy Brigade numbering about 350, and consisting of Royals, Scots Greys, Inniskillings, 4th Dragoon Guards, and 5th Dragoon Guards; of the Light Cavalry Brigade, under Colonel Doherty, mustering just sixty-eight men, being the fragments of the 4th Light Dragoons, the 8th Royal Irish Hussars, the 11th Hussars, the 13th Light Dragoons, and the 17th Lancers, one troop Royal Horse Artillery, and one nine-pounder battery of the Royal Marines over the heights; a portion of the 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade, under Major Macdonnell; and of the 42nd, 79th, 71st, and 93rd Highlanders. They were also accompanied by the Zouaves on the heights. These troops were under arms soon after midnight, and ere four o'clock they were moved down towards the plain, and proceeded towards Kamara and Tchorguna through the snow-storm, which increased in violence and severity as the morning dawned, and protracted the darkness of night. The Rifles preceded the advance, with the Highland Light Infantry, in skirmishing order. Strict orders were given that there was to be no firing in case the troops came upon the enemy, and it was hoped that we might surprise them, but the density of the falling snow prevented our men from seeing before them more than a few yards, and after daylight it was impossible to make out an object six feet in advance. However, the skirmishers managed to get hold of three Russian sentries, belonging probably to the picket at Kamara, and their comrades gave the alarm, for as our troops advanced the Cossacks and infantry videttes fell back, firing their carbines and muskets into the darkness. The drums of the enemy were heard beating, and they had time to turn out while we were making our way towards them. Through rifts in the veil of snow their columns could be observed slowly moving back towards the heights over the Tchernaya, and it was quite impossible to form a notion of their strength or position, but it is thought they mustered about 5000 men. By this movement, it seemed as if they had strong reserves on their rear. By this time our men had began to suffer greatly from the cold, to which they had been exposed for several hours. Their fingers were so cold that they could not "fix bayonets" when the word was given, and could scarcely keep their rifles in their hands. The cavalry horses had almost refused to face the snow—frostbites began to occur, and men's ears, noses, and fingers gave symptoms of being attacked. The Highlanders, who had been ordered to take off their comfortable fur caps, and to put on their becoming but less suitable Scotch bonnets, suffered especially, and some of them were severely frost-bitten in the ears—indeed, there was not a regiment out in which cases of gelatio, chiefly of the ears and fingers, did not occur. Scarcely had the enemy appeared in sight before the snow fell more heavily than ever, and hid them from our view. The French were not visible—one company could not see its neighbour—each regiment was hidden from the other. The men were becoming momentarily less able to advance. There were no reserves to fall back on in case of a check. The space between Tchorgroun and our lines was considerable, and the strength of the enemy was unknown. Under these circumstances it would have been exceedingly unwise to proceed with the reconnaissance. The attempt had been defeated by the weather, it was a *coup manqué*, and the best thing that could be done was to retire as soon as possible. Sir Colin very unwillingly gave the order to return, and the men arrived at their quarters at eleven o'clock a.m. very much fatigued and exhausted by the cold, with no other result than the capture of three prisoners and the exchange of some random volleys, in which no mischief to us was occasioned by the Russians, or in all probability to them by us. The enemy were, however, put on the alert, and must have spent a very unpleasant day and night afterwards. Had the movement succeeded the greater part of their force might have fallen into our hands.

The defence of Eupatoria in the affair of the 18th has restored the Turks to something of their former reputation. It seems to have been a more gallant affair, and the Ottoman troops deserve great credit for the coolness with which they received the assault, and the energy with which they repulsed it. From a letter written on the spot it appears that the Russian force was 30,000 strong, with from 70 to 100 guns, and five regiments of cavalry. The army appears to have been that of Liprandi, and thus the Turks have created a diversion, which has delivered Balaclava from the danger by which it has been so long threatened. The storming force of the Russians consisted of two fine regiments, who came up with great spirit. The Turks lay down until the enemy were quite close, and then jumped up and poured in a murderous volley, which threw the Russians into confusion. The gun-boats assisted most actively, the long Lancasters throwing balls to a distance of nearly two miles into the enemy's columns

The loss of the Russians is much greater than was at first stated; no less than 453 bodies were found on the field, and many are said to have been removed. The Turks are to be joined by an adequate French force, which they will march southward and march themselves on the north of Sebastopol, so as to prevent the introduction of those supplies, the failure of which gives the best hope of a speedy surrender of the fortress. Even should they remain inactive they will render much service in employing a large force to watch them. Eupatoria is not far distant from the great road along which all the troops and supplies of the enemy must be brought. It will be necessary for the Russian Generals always to keep a large body of men in that neighbourhood, in order that their communications may not be intercepted. The recent attack on the place shows how greatly the enemy feels the danger of such a force in the rear, and it is singular that the Muscovite Generals should have allowed the Ottoman troops to establish themselves in such force before striking a blow.

The blockade of the Russian ports in the Black Sea has been notified by the Admirals. Odessa is blockaded by the French steamer *Mogador* and the British frigate *Gladiator*; Anapa, Soujouk Kalé, Kertsch, and Kaffa are watched by the *Leopard* and *Berthollet*.

THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS.

The negotiations have begun at last. Lord John Russell arrived at Vienna on Sunday evening, and the first conference of the Ambassadors took place on Tuesday. The subject discussed is said to have been the precise meaning of "the third of the guarantee points." As regards the result of their discussion the telegraph is silent. The discussions and the resolutions which may now be taken will determine whether we are to regard the young Emperor of Russia as the antagonist of Europe, the assailant of the Ottoman Empire, and the disturber of the public peace, isolated from almost every other State, and unsupported by a single declared ally; or whether the Cabinet of St. Petersburg will seize this opportunity to bury its hostilities in the tomb which is not yet closed, and to renew on equitable terms those pacific relations with the rest of Europe without which no empire can be prosperous or secure

The *German Journal of Frankfort* has a letter from Vienna, which states that Lord John Russell and M. de Bourqueney have agreed upon an identic memorandum to be submitted to the Vienna Conference on the part of England and France. The interpretation of the third point is indicated as distinctly including the transformation of Sebastopol into a simple commercial port—the fortresses thereof being destroyed. The proceedings of the conference are to be circumscribed within fifteen days; within which period the Russian Envoy must give in his reply to the proposition of the Allies.

ILLNESS AND DEATH OF THE CZAR.

Although the death of the Emperor of Russia has taken the public by surprise, it is now said that his own family were quite aware of his health having been in a critical state for some time. Letters from St. Petersburg of the 19th ult. state that the Emperor then kept his bed by order of his first physician, M. Mandt. The Empress was also ill, and confined to her bed; and, as the apartments occupied by the Emperor and Empress are situated one on the ground floor and the other on the first floor of the Palace, they had no direct communication, and did not see each other. The Emperor, however, must have called the Empress to him, as it appears from one of the bulletins that before his death he had assembled round him all the members of his family present at St. Petersburg, in order to give them his blessing. It is said that the illness of the Emperor was owing to a cold. Notwithstanding the severity of the weather, he continued his usual occupations, he was desirous to see everything for himself, and in the most minute details. He visited the soldiers in their barracks; he passed long and frequent reviews, forgetting the precautions which his age required in such a climate and in such a severe season. To all the observations made to him by his children and by his most devoted servants he replied that he had something else to do besides taking care of his health. He had, however, attended to it for more than a year past, and at times felt some uneasiness. He said that he had reached, and even exceeded, the number of years which God had allowed to others of his race, and that his end was not far distant. He had treated himself according to his own ideas; he had insisted on his physician putting him on a regimen which would prevent his getting corpulent, of which he had a singular dread.

On the 27th ult., the Imperial physician in attendance, seeing that his Majesty was suffering severely from influenza, earnestly begged him not to expose himself to the cold air on parade, with the thermometer at 12 deg. below zero. To which the Emperor replied: "My dear doctor, you have done your duty; now I will do mine;" and then, calling for his cloak, he proceeded to parade, and remained above an hour.

A bulletin, dated shortly after the catastrophe, announced that the Emperor Nicholas I expired, after a short struggle, at ten minutes after midday, March 2. A short time before his death he desired the Empress to announce to his first brother-in-law of Prussia that he (the Emperor) "bequeathed to his friendly solicitude his family and the Russian people, and bade him not forget their late father's will." This message, received by telegraph at Berlin, was instantly replied to, it is added, by assurances in the same sense.

Immediately after the receipt of the news at Berlin of the Emperor's death the King commissioned the Prince of Prussia to set off at once to St. Petersburg, to express the condolence of the Royal Family with the Empress, and to be present at the Emperor's funeral. The Prince's travelling equipages were accordingly immediately got ready, but his physician advised so strongly against the journey in the Prince's present state of health, that the King found it better to commission Prince Charles to go instead. He accordingly set off on Sunday morning, accompanied by his sister, the Grand Duchess Alexandrine of Mecklenburg Schwerin. The Crown Prince of Wurtemburg and the Grand Duchess Olga arrived at Berlin on Saturday afternoon, and were met by their Majesties, and conducted to the Russian Legation, whence they continued their route to St. Petersburg that night. Duke George of Strelitz and the Grand Duchess Catherina proceeded direct from New Strelitz, viâ Stettin. It is understood that the Grand Dukes Nicholas and Michael were ordered back to St. Petersburg as soon as their father's malady assumed a serious aspect.

THE NEW EMPEROR, ALEXANDER II.

On Friday afternoon, a few hours after the death of his father, the Czarowitch proclaimed his assumption of the throne under the name of Alexander II. Nicolaiewitch, and received the homage of the dignitaries of the realm. The whole garrison was to perform the same ceremony on the 3rd. On the 2nd, Count Panin, the Minister of Justice, put seals upon the private cabinet of the late Emperor, in presence of the heir. The Empress, though much affected by the death of her husband, is said to have been better than might have been expected after the shock she had received.

A despatch from Königsberg, dated the 7th inst., gives the following summary of the manifesto of the new Emperor of Russia:

The manifesto of Alexander II. has arrived. After announcing the sudden and severe illness of the Emperor Nicholas, which terminated in his death, it says that, as the deceased devoted himself incessantly for the welfare of his subjects, "so do we also, on ascending the throne of Russia, and of Poland and Finland, inseparable from it, take a solemn oath before God to regard the welfare of our Empire as our only object. May Providence, which has selected us for so high a calling, be our guide and protector, that we may maintain Russia on the highest standard of power and glory, and in our person accomplish the incessant wishes and views of Peter, of Catherine, of Alexander, and of our father. May the zeal of our subjects assist us therein. We invoke and command the oath of allegiance to us and to the heir to the throne, our son Nicholas Alexandrowitsch.

The accession of a new Czar being in Russia almost always accompanied by some political commotion, fears are entertained that, in the present state of excitement in Russia, the sanguinary scenes which took place when the Emperor Nicholas ascended the Throne may possibly be renewed. The Grand Duke Constantine is likely to become the chief of the party of resistance, represented by the old Muscovite party, against the party of moderation, of which the new Czar has always been considered as the centre of gravitation. The Russian Ambassador at Vienna affirms that there are no grounds for any such fear. According to him the late Emperor was quite aware of the opposite directions to which the Hereditary Grand Duke and Grand Duke Constantine tended. Foreseeing that this might produce some conflict, he took, at a period, long before, the resolution to make the Grand Duke Constantine take in his presence on the Holy Gospels, an oath of fidelity and obedience to the heir of the Throne. The oath is said to have been taken on the occasion of the birth of the first son of the Hereditary Grand Duke by his marriage with the Princess Mary of Hesse. It is added that when the Czar saw that his end was approaching, he called the two Princes to his bedside, and before giving them his blessing, made the Grand Duke Constantine, in presence of his august mother, renew the oath of fidelity to his elder brother; and he obtained from both of them a solemn promise to remain for ever closely united, in order to save the country, which is threatened by the European coalition.

So far as can be ascertained the young Czar is very popular in Russia, and the general expectation is that he will not exercise the great authority of his father, as he does not inherit either his hauteur or his inflexibility. He will rather please, it is said by those who know him, as the Emperor Alexander I. did, by his mildness and his affability, and between the uncle and the nephew there is a very great similarity of character in numerous ways.

The reigning Empress of Russia, Maria Alexandrowna, daughter of the deceased Grand Duke Lewis II., of Hesse-Darmstadt, was born in 1824, is said to be a woman of strong sense and character, of amiable qualities, and possessing much influence over her consort. They have five children—four sons and one daughter. The present Czarewitch and eldest son, Nicholas Alexandrowitch, was born in 1843.

AMERICA.

By the steamer *Atlantic*, which arrived at Liverpool on Sunday, we have advices from New York to the 21st ult.

The Senate has passed the bill for a railroad from the Mississippi to the Pacific by a vote of 24 to 21.

The President had vetoed the French Spoliation Bill.

The Navy Department had issued orders to New York, New Orleans, and Boston, to keep in a state of readiness certain steam-vessels chartered by Government for demand; it was understood they were to be against a Filibustering expedition to Cuba.

THE FRENCH EMPEROR AT BOULOGNE.

On Friday last the general and superior officers of the troops encamped in the neighbourhood of Boulogne, had the honour of dining with the Emperor, and in the evening his Majesty announced to his guests the death of the Emperor of Russia, which had reached him in two successive despatches—the one forwarded from Stuttgard and the other from the Hague. Shortly afterwards a despatch was received from London, stating that Lord Clarendon would leave on Saturday morning for Boulogne, to have an interview with the Emperor. The orders issued for the visit of his Majesty to the camps of Ambleteuse, Wimereux, and Honvault, were accordingly countermanded. At one o'clock on Saturday an Ostend mail-steamer, placed at the disposal of Lord Clarendon, have in sight of Boulogne, and the Emperor immediately dispatched one of his Aides-de-Camp to receive the English Minister at the entrance of the harbour. Lord Clarendon got into the carriage with the Aide-de-Camp, and alighted at the Hôtel du Pavillon, where the Emperor awaited him. Lord Cowley and M. Drouyn de Lhuys arrived in the afternoon. A long conference took place between the Emperor and Lord Clarendon. The former, accompanied by Lord Cowley and M. Drouyn de Lhuys, left Boulogne on Sunday afternoon, and arrived in Paris at half-past six. The Empress went to the Boulogne railway-station, in the Place Lafayette, to meet his Majesty, and threw herself into his arms as he alighted from the train. Their Majesties then proceeded, without any escort, to the Tuileries, where they arrived about seven o'clock.

DANGEROUS CONSPIRACY IN CUBA.

By the arrival of the steam-ship *Atrato* at Southampton, on Monday, we have intelligence from Cuba of a conspiracy against the Government. On the 7th ult., several persons had been arrested at Havannah, charged with the intention of assassinating the Governor-General. Among those taken into custody were—Dr. Ramon Pinto, Dr. Jose Echeverria, Administrator of the Havannah Railroad; and M. Cadalzo, Administrator of the Court of Penalva. At a meeting of the conspirators, it was proposed to establish the constitution of Spain with the cry of "Long live the Queen," when Pinto objected, and said that "the tree of liberty, to become fruitful, must be watered with blood, and that he would strike the first blow by assassinating the Captain-General in his box at the Opera. On the evening of the arrest of Pinto, he had only a short time before paid a visit to General Concha, by whom he was then, as always, received as an intimate friend. Pinto, it is said, could have had no reason to complain of the Spanish Government, and much less of Concha, as he had always been well treated and assisted, particularly by the latter. Information was given to General Concha from the United States by one of the conspirators who was dissatisfied. It was not believed at first, but soon afterwards the General received information to the same effect from a planter in the island, also one of the party, but who repented having joined it. Information was given that three expeditions would sail from the United States, and arrive on the coasts of Cuba simultaneously with the assassination of General Concha. It was said at Havannah that one part of the American expedition had left Baltimore. Numerous Spanish men-of-war were cruising on and off the coasts for the purpose of intercepting them; and, should they effect a landing, certain death awaits them, as the Government were well prepared to give them a warm reception. Besides the large army and numerous ships of war at Cuba, the Government could count on at least 70,000 or 80,000 men—old Spaniards—the greater part of whom have carried arms in the civil war of Spain, and who, in Cuba, have something to lose, and would fight to the last man.

By the steam-ship *Black Warrior*, which had arrived at New Orleans, when the last American steamer sailed for England, we have Havannah dates to the 15th of February. Great excitement prevailed, and new militia companies were being formed. The whole island had been declared in a state of siege, and a proclamation had been issued ordering the enlistment of all volunteers between the ages of eighteen and fifty who were capable of bearing arms. A military commission had been created for the eastern part of the island. It was reported that General Concha had sent to Porto Rico for more troops; that the British ship of the line *Boscawen* had left Havannah, and that she and the steamer *Medea* were engaged in conveying troops.

The British Rear-Admiral received the troops with General Concha on the 12th ult. A decree was being enforced prohibiting the sale of firearms and ammunition. Her Majesty's ships *Espiegle* and *Fatal* were in port. The *Colossus* had left. The British Admiral had been received with great honour.

RIOTS IN AUSTRALIA.

The disturbances of the Ballarat gold diggings, of which we gave a brief notice last week, had not terminated when the last mail left Australia. On Sunday morning (December 3) about four o'clock, the military surrounded the camp formed by the armed diggers at Eureka, in which there were about 200 men. A body of cavalry fired over the heads of the diggers, which had no effect. The troops then poured in repeated volleys, which were returned by the diggers. After firing for about ten minutes the insurgents pulled down their banner—the Southern Cross—and surrendered. The troops immediately ceased firing, and took several of the leaders prisoners. Altogether 123 prisoners were taken, and about twenty-six killed. A large number of tents in the vicinity of the battle-field were burned. The casualties on the part of the soldiers were:—one private of the 12th, two ditto of the 40th, killed; Captain Wise, dangerously wounded; Lieutenant Paul, severely ditto; about thirty rank and file wounded.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

IT having been ascertained from the returns that the 10th Hussars, now *en route* for the Crimea from Bombay, can scarcely muster 600 efficient men, including those at the dépôt in Maidstone, orders have been issued to complete the strength to 800 sabres.

GOVERNMENT having agreed to take into service for the East such officers in the United Kingdom of the Company's service as are willing to act in command of the Turkish Contingent, the applications have been very numerous—something about 300. The number required for the present—about 120—have been selected from the most intelligent. It is stated that each officer will be allowed fifty-one days' pay in advance.

ACTIVE MEASURES are about being taken in reference to the formation of a camp at the Curragh of Kildare. Announcements have been made to the effect that the Commanding Royal Engineer in Ireland will receive proposals for the construction and erection of 430 wooden buildings, to accommodate two battalions of infantry, with ten others for staff purposes, and ten for officers' stables, at the Curragh of Kildare, in the Dublin district. The whole of the buildings are to be completed within 60 days after the acceptance of the tender. It is expected that the work will be completed by the end of May or beginning of June.

Two Lieutenant-Colonels of Royal Marines will, it is expected, be embarked this year for service in the Baltic fleet—one from the Artillery, and one from the Light Infantry branch; with two Captains to attend to the duties of the first-named branch when disembarked for shore operations.

THE fleet now assembling at Portsmouth is daily becoming of more interest and importance. There appears likely to be a Channel squadron as well as a Baltic fleet. A report has prevailed that Sundry ships have been ordered to refit "for Channel service." Two more rivals (the *Nile*, 91, and *Barfleur*, 51, from Plymouth) have augmented the force at Spithead, which will now be hourly swelling towards its fully-intended proportions of "one hundred pennants." The *Impérieuse*, 51, also joined the gathering on Saturday. The utmost activity pervades every department of the dockyard. The ships still in hand are the *James Watt*, 91, Captain Elliott; the *Blenheim*, 60, Captain Hall, which will leave the basin this day; the *Hogue*, 60, Captain Ramsay; the *Pembroke*, 60, Captain G. H. Seymour; the *Hastings*, 60, Captain Caffin; the *Edinburgh*, 60, Captain Hewlett; the *Retribution*, 28, Captain Fisher; the *Penelope*, 18, Captain Sir W. Wiseman; the *Centaur*, 6, Captain Clifford; and the *Scaniak*, 6, Commander the Hon. F. Egerton. The *Arrogant*, 46, Captain Yelverton, is ready for Spithead.

COLONEL R. G. WILSON having retired from the service on promotion, Lieut.-Colonel Mitchell has been appointed to command the Royal Artillery at Shoeburyness, which command Colonel Wilson held since his return from a West India station.

LIEUT.-COLONEL DUNLOP is to proceed to China by the next mail, to relieve Colonel Griffin, in command of Hong-Kong.

THE preparations for the encampment at Aldershott-heath, are now being pushed forward vigorously; several hundred labourers are daily employed in forming concrete roads and footways, and forming the foundation of the temporary wooden buildings. The ground is to be ready for the troops about the 20th inst.

RESTORATION OF POLAND.—A very crowded meeting was held at the Manchester Town-hall on Monday evening, to consider the importance of the kingdom of Poland as an independent State in her relations to Europe. Mr. William Martin presided. Mr. J. Aspinall Turner briefly moved a resolution expressive of sympathy with the Polish nation, and the desire of the meeting that it should be reconstituted as an independent State. Mr. Absalom Watkin seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. The Rev. Dr. Vaughan moved the adoption of a petition to Parliament in favour of the reconstitution of Poland. The rev. gentleman concluded an eloquent speech by moving the adoption of a petition praying that as much favour might be shown for Poland as for Turkey.

MR. HORSMAN, who has been appointed Secretary for Ireland, was re-elected for the borough of Stroud, on Tuesday, without opposition. In his speech to the electors, he dilated on the blundering management of the war at some length, and of the glorious deeds achieved by our army in spite of this blundering.

THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. VII.)

IT is creditable to the good taste and the good feeling of England that there has been little sign of exultation over the fall of the Emperor Nicholas. Even in the mixed and excitable throng of a theatrical audience, the announcement from the stage of the death of the great enemy of England was received without any expression of feeling beyond a profound sensation. There has been nothing in the shape of triumph in the tone of the public or the press; but the awfully sudden event has been received with a consciousness of a Divine interposition which, it is humbly hoped, is designed to restore, at an early period, the peace of the European world, and give a fresh impetus to the advance of civilisation, by removing the most powerful opponent of its progress.

Though one topic has absorbed the public mind, there are other subjects that should not be lost sight of, and there are many matters that must not be smuggled out of reach of the public ear during the buzz of general conversation on the one great event that all are now speaking of. The Committee of Inquiry into the Mismanagement of the War is, after all, to be an open one, and the nation is not to be guilty of the folly of affecting to keep secret the details of those gross errors which are already notorious. The verdict of "mismanagement" has already been pronounced on the faith of newspaper reports, which are being verified every day that the Committee sits, and the effect of the inquiry will be to substantiate the verdict by giving a formal shape to the evidence. I would, however, warn the witnesses against a too frequent use of the words "I heard," or "I was given to understand," or "I was told;" for whatever has been talked about has probably been seen, and the proof of the alleged fact must in strictness proceed from an eye-witness. Mr. Stafford gave some valuable information to the Committee of facts within his own knowledge, but he gave a great deal that was not so valuable, because it was founded on mere hearsay. I would caution the Committee against receiving, and the public against forming a judgment upon any evidence, but that which relates to facts within the knowledge of the witnesses. Sir De Lacy Evans spoke with an admirable regard to the truth as it had come under his own observation, and refused to be drawn into statements founded on rumours that had reached him, however generally they might have been circulated and credited.

Literature—or at all events part literature—has received a compliment in the appointment of the editor of the *Edinburgh Review* to the Chancellorship of the Exchequer. It is rather strange that the two literary men who have recently been admitted to high office should both have been entrusted with the Chancellorship of the Exchequer. The selection has perhaps been made on the perverse principle of putting right men in the wrong places; for the literary mind, having generally a leaning to the imaginative and the unreal, would seem to be adapted for anything better than the realities of facts and figures. Sir G. C. Lewis is not, however, a writer of fiction like his predecessor the popular novelist; and, indeed, his productions hitherto have had all the dryness that the hardest matter of fact can require. It is said that he resigns the editorship of the *Edinburgh*, not out of regard to his official position, which would be strengthened rather than weakened by his control of a powerful review; but it is felt due to the impartiality of literature that he should not exercise the high office he has held in its republic while fettered by official trammels.

Talking of "official trammels," reminds one of the unpopularity which almost always falls upon a popular man directly he accepts a place in the Government. This arises from the general belief that the Government must be always opposed to the popular interest; and, indeed, it is always likely to be, if no man who has devoted himself to the public cause is permitted, without incurring odium and abuse, to enter the public service. Mr. Vernon Smith was hooted the other day, on his re-election, because he had become President of the Board of Control, as if his duties as a member of Parliament and a public servant were incompatible. Liberal constituencies are always complaining that we are not governed by the right men; but, if one who has been chosen by one of these Liberal constituencies to represent themselves, should accept the offer of a place in the Government, he is generally assailed by his own constituents, and charged with every motive but a pure and honest one for the course he has taken. Either there is something in the sphere of office that corrupts everything within it, or great injustice has been done to nearly every popular politician who has ever accepted office. An unpopular man frequently becomes popular by becoming a Minister—as in the instance of Sir Robert Peel, and of many others; but there is scarcely an instance in which a popular man has not, by entering office, lost his popularity.

The moral sense of the judicial bench is a topic which every now and then presents itself to the attention in a rather disagreeable manner. Professional morality, which, unfortunately, does not stand very high, will stand even lower than it did before in the estimation of every one who reads thoughtfully a report of the trial of a clergyman at the recent assizes, for forging the entry of a marriage in the parish register. The offence was proved, and the unfortunate offender urged in mitigation the fact that "he had entered the Church, a vocation for which he was wholly unfit, in obedience to the wishes of his father." This was only admitting that he had been a hypocrite from his youth, and had undertaken a most sacred office with a weak and unworthy motive. In further extenuation he took occasion to insult literature, by saying that "a devotion to its pursuits had rendered him unfit for the common affairs of life"; or, in other words, that his being a literary man is in some measure an excuse for his having committed a crime, and outraged the laws of honour and morality. Lord Campbell should have been the last person to throw a slur on that profession to which he owes the foundation of the position he now enjoys, but I cannot see how there is anything short of an insult to literature in the following passage from the sentence pronounced by his Lordship. He said, "The prisoner had flagrantly violated the law of the land, had violated truth in his letters, and had called on his female servant to state what he knew to be false." But he (Lord Campbell), nevertheless, went on to express a hope that the prisoner would yet "become an ornament to the literary world:" as if the literary world could possibly derive any embellishment from one who had been imprisoned for an offence, in which falsehood was a principal ingredient. If the culprit had been a barrister, would Lord Campbell, in committing him to prison, have expressed a hope that the convict would some day "do honour to the Bench," which he the judge at that moment occupied? What right, then, has he to presume that a condemned criminal may one day be accepted by the literary profession any more than such an adjunct would be hailed by the Bench or the Bar as one of its ornaments? It is possible that the respectable delinquent may not remain sufficiently long for contamination within a prison walls; for, if he follows the example of Mr. Carden, he will soon send for his physician, and, as confinement will very probably be prejudicial to his health, he may get a certificate to that effect; and, perhaps, like his respectable fellow-culprit, he may obtain a curtailment of his punishment. There may be no objection to this course; but surely the whole of the inmates of a gaol have an equal right to medical advice; and if there are any humbler culprits whose health may be equally prejudiced by incarceration, they surely have as much right as their betters—if those can be called their betters who are as bad as themselves—to be set at liberty. It is our boast that we have equal laws; but the source of congratulation is not complete, unless they are equally carried out. Equal justice is an excellent thing, but equal mercy is no less to be desired.

MM. Masquelier and Dupré of Saint-Maur, to whom a premium of 20,000f. was lately awarded as an encouragement for their exertions in the cultivation of cotton in Algeria, have offered half that sum towards building a church in the commune of Saint-Denis du Sig, near Oran, where their plantations are situated.

PRINCIPAL SQUARE OF AREQUIPA, IN PERU.

THE REVOLUTION IN PERU.

(From a Correspondent.)

The Republic of Peru has now been involved in a civil war for a whole year, and one of the most sanguinary scenes since its commencement has just been enacted in Arequipa, the second city of importance in the Republic. This city has generally taken a leading part in the many revolutions which periodically infest the country, and its occupation by the troops of either of the contending parties ensures the whole of the southern portion of the Republic.

The troops of the party opposed to the Government having been defeated at a city called Moquegua by the Government force, under General Moran, fell back upon Arequipa, and there intrenched themselves. The city, although not fortified, being built in regular squares of solid masonry can, by barricading the streets at the entrances, be turned into a pretty strong place of defence, as has just been seen. The Government forces, following up their advantage at Moquegua, attacked the city of Arequipa on the night of the 30th of November; and, after a severe struggle, which lasted until the following morning at eight o'clock, were repulsed. General Moran was made prisoner, and shot in the public square of the city within three hours of the victory.

Arequipa is situated among the Andes at the foot of a volcano, seventy-five English miles from the coast, in lat. 16.25 S., and long. 71.35 W., at the height of 7240 feet above the level of the sea, and contains, including some villages in its vicinity, 40,000 inhabitants. No wheeled vehicle exists in the town, all carriage being by beasts of burden, among which the llama is conspicuous. The accompanying Sketch is of the principal square of the city.

The port of Islay is interesting, as being the only port in the world from which is exported the far-famed Alpaca wool; although a few bales annually may find their way to some of the other ports of the Republic for export. The alpaca is a semi-domesticated animal, only existing among the Andes; large flocks of which are owned by Indians, who shear the wool annually, and sell it. By a law of the Republic, no live alpaca is allowed to be exported from the country, so that no competition may arise in the article of wool; and, as the animal is never seen near the coast, it is almost impossible to evade the law. Several vessels have come over from Australia to Peru, for the purpose of obtaining alpacas but have not succeeded in procuring a single animal

There were a few specimens in the collection of the late Earl of Derby, which were purchased by Titus Salt, Esq., of Crow-nest, near Bradford the gentleman who introduced the wool as an article of manufacture), and which are now living in his park, and appear to be quite naturalised to this climate.

M. Duvernoy, member of the French Academy of Sciences and Professor at the Museum of Natural History, has just died, having nearly attained the age of eighty. He was the friend and *collaborateur* of Cuvier, and was particularly distinguished for his co-operation in the great work of that celebrated man on "Comparative Anatomy," and at M. Cuvier's death succeeded to his chair at the Museum.

THE PORT OF ISLAY, IN PERU.

MAJOR-GENERAL WILLIAM HENRY ADAMS, C.B.

This distinguished officer died at Scutari, on the 19th December, 1854, in his fiftieth year, from wounds received at the battle of Inkerman. His constitution had been greatly impaired from his previous campaigns in China, where he commanded the 18th or Royal Irish, at Canton and elsewhere. He served in the Crimea as one of the Brigadier-Generals of the Second Division, commanded by Sir De Lacy Evans. He was the representative of an ancient

THE LATE MAJOR-GENERAL W. H. ADAMS, C.B.—FROM A FAMILY PORTRAIT.

family in Warwickshire, and his remains have been brought to England, and interred at Ansty, the family residence. He was the nephew of Mr. Serjeant Adams. He married his cousin Catharine Adams, who survives him; but leaving no issue, his estates devolve on his next brother, George Adams, Capt. R.N.

DESTRUCTION OF KELHAM-BRIDGE.

Among the devastations occasioned by the late frost, we have to record the destruction, last week, of Kelham-bridge, erected over the river Trent, about three miles from Newark, at a cost of £3000. The Bridge was constructed of wood, and supported by wrought-iron screw piles and girders, with stone abutments. The river at Kelham is very wide and deep, and the current exceedingly rapid. It appears that on the morning of the accident, fears were entertained respecting the safety of the Bridge, and, by desire of the deputy clerk of the peace, a surveyor and a staff of men went down to the river, and proceeded to break the ice around the Bridge, and clear it away. When they had succeeded in removing a greater part of it, an immense sheet of ice, several tons weight, was seen floating rapidly down the Trent; the men found it impossible to withstand the force, and in a short time it came in violent collision with the piles which supported the end of the Bridge near Kelham. Four of the piles were instantly snapped asunder, and half the Bridge fell into the river. Fortunately, no persons were injured, although several men had just crossed it. On Wednesday the remaining portion was knocked down by a large piece of ice driven against the piles, which instantly snapped them; so that the whole will have to be rebuilt.

The two sons of Burns have been promoted. William Nichol Burns is now a Colonel, and James Glencairn Burns a Lieutenant-Colonel

LARCH IN THE GROUNDS OF KILLYMOON CASTLE, COUNTY TYRONE.

This estate has been for many generations the property and residence of the Stewarts of Killymoon, whose estate in the county of Tyrone at one time almost extended to a principality. They were amongst the first and most important of those adventurous families, who, driven from their native hills and islands of Scotland, by political feuds and animosities, crossed the stormy Channel, and formed a powerful Protestant confederacy in the north of Ireland. Colonel Stewart, the last proprietor, and almost the last representative of this distinguished family, died just at the time when it was decreed that the castle, demesne, and the last portion of the estate must pass through the melancholy ordeal of the Encumbered Estates Court. The castle was built by Nash, under his personal superintendence; and some idea may be formed of the lavish expense at which it was erected, when it is stated that the stone was imported for the purpose from Portland. It stands upon a slight eminence, just above the confluence of two rapid, sparkling rivers, such as anglers love, famed for the enormous trout which run up from Lough Neagh, and which are not unfrequently taken from ten to fifteen pounds each. The demesne containing, amongst other objects of interest, old Danish and Roman forts, and the ruins of the first Presbyterian church erected in Ireland, is justly the pride and pleasure of the North. The hanging banks are planted with hundreds of acres of laurels,

LARCH IN THE GROUNDS OF KILLYMOON CASTLE.

interspersed with the finest timber in the country. The drives and walks through the woods are many miles in extent, and are the daily resort in summer of most of the pleasure-seekers within the circuit of the adjoining counties—all classes of whom are liberally admitted by the present proprietor, J. Douglas Cooper, Esq.

The Larch in the accompanying Sketch, which stands upon the west lawn, and whose trunk is about 16 feet in circumference, is interesting from the circumstance that it was brought by the father of the late Colonel Stewart, in a small flower-pot, from Italy, and is said to be the first Larch introduced into Ireland, the soil of which is so favourable to the growth of all the Conifera, as attested by the enormous stems of pines occasionally exhumed from the deep bogs, and which are of almost fabulous dimensions.

THE LATE REV. G. FLETCHER.

The death of this venerable centenarian, in his 108th year, took place on the 2nd ult. His protracted length of days is marked by many

THE LATE REV. G. FLETCHER, AGED 104.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY BEARD.

noteworthy circumstances. Mr. Fletcher was born on Feb. 2, 1747, at Clarborough, in Nottinghamshire. From six years of age he had been brought up in the tenets of Wesley, and remained a member of that body till his death. He spent eighty-three years of his life in active pursuits. He was twenty-one years a farmer, twenty-six years he served his Sovereign in the Army—was at the battle of Bunker's-hill, and followed Abercrombie into Egypt, where he gained the respect and esteem of his officers. He then entered the West India Dock Company's service, where he continued thirty-six years, when he retired on their bounty, still preserving, up to within six months of his decease, that astonishing activity of mind and body for which he was so remarkable: often travelling great distances by rail, and pursuing his holy calling, preaching two or three times a day, regardless of personal inconvenience, for the objects of charity and benevolence.

The accompanying Portrait of Mr. Fletcher was taken on his 104th birthday, four years since. He walked for this purpose from Poplar to Messrs. Beard's Photographic establishment, in King William-street, City; and after the sitting he walked back to Poplar—refusing to ride, although a conveyance was placed at his service.

Paper from Shavings.—Before us lies a copy of the *Albany Evening Journal* printed on paper made from basswood shavings. It is also of good substance—perhaps, if anything, a little too heavy, which can no doubt be easily remedied—and it is tougher than the great bulk of news paper made from rags.—*New York Tribune.*

Cost of Convicts.—The expense of keeping our convicts is increasing. Comparing 1854-5 with 1853-4, the victualling charge was £8 19s. per head, as compared with £7 1s. 10d. for 1853-4; clothing is estimated at £2 19s. 5d., as against £2 13s. 10d. for each prisoner; and clothing and travelling expenses of prisoners "on liberation," 18s. 3d. against 4s. 2d.

KELHAM BRIDGE, NEAR NEWARK, DESTROYED BY THE ICE.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, March 11—3rd Sunday in Lent. Benjamin West died, 1820.
Monday, 12—St. Gregory. Chelsea Hospital founded, 1682.
Tuesday, 13—Earl Grey born, 1764. Dr. Priestley born, 1738
Wednesday, 14—Kingstock died, 1803.
Thursday, 15—New London Bridge commenced, 1824.
Friday, 16—Battle of Culloden, 1746.
Saturday, 17—St. Patrick

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 17

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday		Thursday.		Friday		Saturday.	
M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	No	h m	h m	h m
6 29	6 52	7 17	7 42	8 38	9 16	10 5	10 57	11 44	Tide	0 22	0 53	1 20	1 46

Newspaper Stamps.

From a Return just presented to Parliament of Penny Stamps issued to the various Newspapers during the year 1854, it appears that the

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

made use of

5,627,866,

being an average of upwards of One Hundred and Eight Thousand Copies each publication.

The *Times* is returned as using 15,975,739 for the same period, or Fifty-One Thousand each publication being a circulation less than *one-half* of that of the Illustrated London News.

Since the commencement of the year 1855 the weekly sale of the Illustrated London News has been upwards of One Hundred and Thirty Thousand Copies.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1855.

A portion of the press and a very large portion of the public seem to be agreed that the system of promotion by purchase in the Army should be abolished; and that in the military, as in other professions, merit alone should be the road to success and to distinction. There can be no doubt that the principle is just. The theory is perfect, and defies all hostile attempt to propound or construct a better. But is the British public prepared to carry it out? Has it fully considered the subject in all its ramifications? and would the system, if established, conduce to the satisfaction of the people, or to the welfare of the country? Before we are led away by theory—however noble and unexceptionable it seem—it is well to look at existing facts. Certainly merit ought to be rewarded. Certainly the common soldier ought to have it in his power to carve his way to the highest ranks of the Army. Such illustrious soldiers as Bernadotte and Murat began at the very beginning, and reached the ultimate goal—a throne; but is this the prize to be offered up to the ambition of the common soldier in peaceful times and in a peaceful country? In war which is an exceptional time—it is right as well as expedient to elicit the best services of the best men in the military career; but how would the system of promotion by merit work in times of peace? That is in reality the question for the British public to answer before they consent to republicanise the military service. The Continental nations have large standing armies. Great Britain has not; and we think it would be a most unfortunate thing for this country, if it were ever compelled to tolerate the infliction of such armed legions as are maintained by the military States of the Continent for the defence of their territory. Our frontiers have other and better guardians. The seas that mark our boundaries prescribe the nature of our defences. Our sailors and ships perform the duties which fall to the lot of the standing armies of such countries as France, Austria, and Prussia. In peace or in war, our naval force ought to be maintained at the highest point of efficiency; and so essential has it been found to our security, that no one has ever dreamed of introducing into that service the system of promotion by purchase. But in the Army the case is different. We do not on ordinary occasions need a large army. We trust we never shall. We are a brave people but we are not a military nation in the sense in which the term is generally understood. We are strictly and essentially a naval power. The sea is our element. It is the source of our wealth and of our greatness; and the military service—noble as it is, and all important as it may sometimes become—is for the most part but secondary to our maritime force. And if inducement is to be held out to the democracy of Great Britain—not only to the artizan and to the brave peasant, but to the far-seeing, enterprising, pushing, vigorous youth of the middle classes—to enter the military profession and aspire to its highest prizes, we must make the prizes of some value. If a brave soldier is promoted from the ranks, he requires more money than his pay, if he would mingle on fair terms with his new companions. Is the country prepared to double or treble the pay of the subaltern and superior officers of the Army? And if prepared in time of war to do so, will it be equally ready and willing in times of peace? And if equally ready and willing, would such a policy be wise? And would it not, as an inevitable consequence, lead to the establishment of that which England has always hated and protested against—a large standing army?

We do not pretend to answer these questions. We only throw them out as suggestions for those who are captivated by a fine, compact, and apparently unexceptionable theory. If the pay of a Cardigan, a De Lacy Evans, or a Colin Campbell were thrice or ten times as great as it is, we think it impossible that these truly noble men would have proved in the slightest degree more chivalrous and heroic; or if every soldier who fought at the Alma or at Inkerman had had a chance of becoming a Field Marshal, we believe he would have fought a whit more gallantly and self-lonely than he did on those ever-memorable days. The British Army has often earned the eternal gratitude of the British people, great officers who have bought their commissions, and soldiers who have had no greater prize in view than promotion to the rank of Sergeant-Major, or a home in Chelsea Hospital, have fought as well as Bernadotte or Murat. With all our admiration for the Army, and its gallant deeds, we must confess that we should not like it to become in times of peace a profession and an institution sufficiently lucrative to tempt men from the professions of law, literature, medicine, or commerce. Such an army would, we think, be dangerous to the public liberty. At all events the subject is one that requires earnest and careful consideration, or we may run ourselves into Republicanism, and emerge from it into a Military Despotism, before we know what we are about.

Mr. Roebuck's Committee on the state of the Army before Sebastopol is now sitting *de die in diem*. The Committee itself will have an historical fame, entirely apart from any of the good which sanguine people expect it to produce. It will be remembered as the tribunal whose establishment cost two Governments. As some Oriental nations had a custom, before planting a throne for their King, to throw sacrifices into the hole dug for the foundation, Mr. Roebuck has immolated two sets of Ministers as a foundation for the chairs of his Committee of Public Safety. We hope—doubtingly, however—that the results may be worthy of the preliminaries.

The Committee sustained a defeat in its attempt to make the inquiry private and confidential. Its appeal to the House for authority to sit in secret was unceremoniously rejected. Sir James Graham—who, for reasons of his own, seems to have a wholesome dread of the interference of the press—fairly told the House that secrecy would be impossible, and that the journals *would* have reports, and he hinted that a collision between the Third and Fourth Estates of the realm was a thing not to be risked unnecessarily. Now this was one way of putting the matter. There is not the least doubt that the leading journals would have obtained reports, and would have risked Parliamentary wrath by publishing them. But the leading journals would have done so in no spirit of arrogant independence, or vulgar desire to fly in the face of constitutional authority, but because the nation which demanded the inquiry would not have borne to be mocked by that inquiry being secret. The press does but represent the national feeling, as the House of Commons affects to do; and the decision of the latter upon this very question shows that the House understood the popular wish as well as the press did. Sir James Graham, therefore, might as well have said that the people *would* have reports. However, it comes much to the same thing.

While we are speaking of the House of Commons as a representative of the feelings of the people, we will just allude to an observation which dropped from Mr. Gladstone, when reasserting his conviction that the Committee was a mistake. He said that he believed, if the votes of the House could be taken by ballot, that the Committee would have been "thrown over," after the motion had disposed of the preceding Government. The great admiration in which Mr. Gladstone's talents and character are held gives to an observation of this kind no ordinary significance. He certainly uttered what, at the mildest, was a stinging satire. Did he mean to say that the Commons of England merely voted for the inquiry out of fear of their constituents; and would have voted the other way, could they have done so in the safety of secrecy? The accomplished member for Oxford has more than once rebuked young senators for giving utterance to that conventional depreciation of the value of Parliamentary discussions which is learned "out of doors," but which a member decorously forgets after his maiden speech. But no flippant or self-complacent ornament of a debating society ever said anything so severe of the House of Commons as was said upon this occasion by the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Committee has already examined Sir De Lacy Evans, Mr. G. Dundas, General Bentinck, Captain Wrottesley, and Mr. Owen (the only surviving officer of the wrecked *Resolute*), and other gentlemen. Its managers have not begun in Ciceronian order—"Primum mihi videtur de genere Belli, deinde de magnitudine, tum de imperatore deligendo esse dicendum;" though that Manilian text might furnish some of our orators of the Phillimore school with an excellent theme. It has plunged at once into questions of littered hay, scattered boards, bad drainage, cumbrous medicine chests, ruined horses, green coffee, and incapable harbour-masters. Mr. Layard is bringing to bear upon the witnesses the knowledge which he acquired when with the army; and his previous acquaintance with the habits and resources of the East enables him to direct his examinations to the points upon which he especially desires to accumulate damaging testimony. But so far as we have yet seen, the witnesses tell no more than our own Correspondents and those of the other journals have told us. We hear now, as we have previously read, of sufferings and privations, of want of organisation and order, of officials either helplessly or actively in the way; and we have one pervading impression of a peaceful nation suddenly set to make war, and decidedly making it badly. Those who expected startling details will be disappointed; the details are mournful rather than startling, but they are not novel. Those who expect any immediate benefit from the inquiry will be equally disappointed; but, inasmuch as the record and publication of truth must always produce good, sooner or later, advantage may arise, both from special details elicited by the Committee, and from certain general considerations and results which thinking men will deduce from a digest of the whole mass. The work of improvement before Sebastopol will be entirely distinct from anything that is done No. 17 Committee-room, and the conviction that this will be so is he less disconcerting, seeing that such improvement is already going on. We learn, from the latest letters, that the trenches are dry, the men get all they want, provisions are plentiful, hay has arrived, fresh vegetables have been sent to the front, the railway is progressing rapidly, and Balaclava has been cleansed and rendered wholesome. This sounds more cheerfully than anything which has been connected with the name of the Crimea for many and many a day. We trust such reports may continue to arrive and balance those from No. 17.

Halifax Election.—The vacancy created in the representation of the borough of Halifax, in consequence of Sir Charles Wood's acceptance of the post of First Lord of the Admiralty in the reconstructed Government, was duly filled up on Saturday last by the re-election of the right hon. Baronet without opposition. There had indeed been some talk, when the intelligence first arrived that the vacancy had arisen, of Major Edwards, who figured so formidable at previous elections for the borough, being again started to contest the seat with Sir Charles, but subsequently the friends of the gallant Major met and resolved that it was inexpedient for him, in the present critical aspect of affairs, to press his claims on the suffrages of the constituency; and all idea of offering opposition to the right hon. Baronet's return was therefore abandoned.

ETIQUETTE OF COURT MOURNING.

The sudden death of the Emperor of Russia, the intelligence of which was so rapidly conveyed by the telegraph recently established, has not yet been officially notified in the ordinary manner to the Western Courts; and we have heard in some quarters doubts expressed whether, under the circumstances—those Courts being at war with Russia—any intimation of the kind will be sent to them; and, as a consequence, whether any official notice will be taken by them of the event. Referring to past precedents, we think we are justified in anticipating that this important event will be notified by the Court of Russia to those of Great Britain and France, in the same way as if no war existed, and that the usual complimentary mourning will be ordered to be worn at the latter Courts.

The principle of international law is, that all the crowned heads of Christian Europe constitute amongst themselves one family; and this theory is further strengthened in fact by numberless marriages and intermarriages between the Royal houses, which scarcely leave it possible for one to lose a member without all losing a kinsman or close connection. Another principle of public law, sanctioning and sanctifying what is due to the natural ties of relationship, is that Kings are never supposed to be personally at enmity. The amicable relations between them are never interrupted; the fairest motives are attributed to them, personally, in all their actions; and the courtesies incidental to such relative conditions subsist, as occasion requires, under all circumstances. War itself only affects States, without in the slightest degree affecting the sentiments of personal regard between Sovereigns

Amongst the civilities *en règle* in the family of Sovereigns is the custom of notifying to one another the events of importance, whether sorrowful or agreeable, which occur to themselves or their respective families; such as deaths, marriages, and births, and even the probability of such approaching addition to the family. These notifications are made in writing by a Minister either ordinary or extraordinary, and the Court to which they are delivered returns a complimentary message in the same manner; and, in the case of death, testifies its sympathy in the event by putting on mourning. Amongst the instances of these courtesies being continued, even in a time of war, Martens ("Esprit du Droit des Gens") refers to the following:—"At the moment of the rupture of the negotiations for peace which had been commenced between England and France, the English King (George III.) caused his marriage to be notified to the King of France, and the latter, in reply, expressed his lively congratulation upon the auspicious occurrence. On the same principle, Louis XIV. put on mourning for the Emperor Leopold and for Joseph I., who died in the midst of the war between the two States; and Charles VI., being still at war with the French Monarch, held solemn obsequies in his memory at his decease."

THE COURT.

The Queen commenced the courtly receptions of the present season with a Levee on Wednesday last. Her Majesty, who was remarked to be looking exceedingly well, went through the fatigues inseparable from the ceremonial with her accustomed grace and dignity.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Alice, with the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated

On Monday the Earl of Clarendon had an audience of the Queen on his return from Boulogne, where the noble Earl had been on a mission to the Emperor Louis Napoleon. The Prince Consort and Prince Ernest of Leiningen visited the Crystal Palace in the course of the morning.

On Tuesday Prince Ernest of Leiningen left Buckingham Palace where his Serene Highness had been staying with the Duchess of Kent, on a visit to her Majesty—for Portsmouth. Prince Nicholas of Nassau visited the Duchess of Kent at Buckingham Palace during the day. In the evening the Queen and the Prince honoured the Olympic Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday her Majesty held her first Levee of the season; and in the evening dined with the Duke of Cambridge, at St. James's Palace.

The Hon. Lucy Kerr and the Hon. Mary Bulteel have succeeded the Hon. Matilda Paget and the Hon. Mary Seymour in their duties as the Maids of Honour in Waiting to the Queen.

THE LEVEE.

The Queen held her first Levee this season on Wednesday, at St. James's Palace. Her Majesty and the Prince Consort arrived from Buckingham Palace, attended by the Lords-in-Waiting and Gentlemen in Waiting, and escorted by a detachment of Life Guards.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, the Prince Nicholas of Nassau, and the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, were present.

Her Majesty wore a train of white poplin, embroidered with a running pattern of flowers in gold, trimmed with gold blonde and white satin ribbon. The petticoat was white satin, trimmed with gold blonde and white satin ribbon to correspond. The Queen wore a diadem composed of emeralds and diamonds.

The Foreign Ministers were first introduced, and afterwards the general circle. The following were among the more noticeable presentations:—

Major-General the Earl of Cardigan, on appointment to be Inspecting-General of Cavalry, by General Viscount Hardinge
Rear-Admiral the Hon. Richard S. Dundas, on appointment to be Commander-in-Chief of her Majesty's ships on a particular service, by Sir James Graham
Major-General Henry Bentinck, on permanent return from foreign service and appointment to the Coldstream Guards.
Lord Mayor, on succeeding to his title, by the Earl of Zetland
Ex-Lord Mayor, by Viscount Palmerston
Robert Harper, on his appointment by the Archbishop of Canterbury
Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis, Royal Marines, on promotion, and on the regiment being made a Rifle corps, by Earl Powis

The Duchess of Leinster is lying in a very precarious state at Carton.

The Earl and Countess of Clarendon gave a dinner on Monday evening, at their mansion, in Grosvenor-crescent, to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge and a distinguished party.

The Earl of Carlisle will leave London for Ireland in the course of the ensuing week, in order to enter upon the duties of the Viceregal Government

Northampton Election. Mr. Vernon Smith was returned for Northampton on Monday. Mr. Lockhart was also proposed, and had the show of hands in his favour but declined going to the poll. In the course of Mr. Vernon Smith's address, he detailed the circumstances under which he assumed office at Lord Palmerston's request. "He was not," he said, "so vain as not to be aware that he should not have been asked to accept office if they could have got a nobody also. He made no secret of saying that he was the last man asked." Referring to his vote on Mr. Roebuck's motion, the right hon. gentleman said "he had opposed the appointment of a Committee, although strongly in favour of inquiry, because he was satisfied that a Committee of the House of Commons was not the best agency for accomplishing the object. With regard to the war, he told them in his address that with the origin of the war he had nothing to do. He was not in office at the time, and therefore was not responsible for the conduct of the Government. He might say, however, that as Parliament and the Government were at present constituted, it was a most difficult matter to ascertain whether the Government was going to war or to interfere with foreign relations. No matter at what stage of proceedings a member asked questions, the invariable reply was 'Hush, hush, hush.' He was told at one time to be quiet, lest his question might lead to war; on another, lest it might embarrass negotiations, and so on. To a great extent he admitted that for a representative Government to carry on war was a difficult task. Representative government, however, was now upon its trial; and it was for the country to show that it was, at the same time, able to maintain its free institutions and to wage successful war."

Stirling Election.—On Monday last Mr. Peter Blackburn, of Killearn, was elected, without opposition, to represent the county of Stirling in Parliament, in the room of the late Mr. Forbes, of Callander. The hon. member said that he would give Lord Palmerston his support and a fair trial, believing that all parties should sink all minor differences, and give an honest and hearty support to those who would most energetically carry on the war.

Wills and Personality.—Dowager Lady Cooper, of Dundarrah-place and Isleworth house, has left £100,000 in personalty, and £300,000 real estates. Thomas Kennedy, Esq., of Cloughbally, Newcastle, £300,000. General George Carpenter, H.E.I.C., £180,000. Richard Jolliffe, Esq., Newcross, £70,000. James Salter, Esq., of Heaviree, £40,000. Sir George Wombwell, Bart., of Newburgh-park and Wombwell, Yorkshire, and of Kensington-gore, London, £30,000 within the province of Canterbury. Mr. W. Simpson, of Southam, Warwickshire, has been somewhat peculiar in his bequests, leaving it to each bearer of his corpse ten shillings, and directing five guineas to be expended in bread and distributed among the poor of his parish on the Sunday after his decease; and two guineas to each of his singers and ringers. On the decease or second marriage of his widow, he leaves the property to charitable uses.

THE BATTLE AT EUPATORIA.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES FROM FIELD-MARSHAL LORD RAGLAN.

(From a Supplement to Tuesday's *Gazette*.)

War Department, March 8.

Lord Panmure has this day received despatches and enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, and to his Lordship, by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, Feb. 20.

My Lord Duke,—Your Grace will have learnt, by my telegraphic despatch of the 18th inst., that the enemy had on the previous morning, at daylight, attacked Eupatoria with a very large force, and a powerful body of artillery, and had been repulsed, after an engagement which terminated with their retirement at 10 a.m.

I have now the honour to lay before your Grace copies of two letters which I have received from Colonel Simmons, who is attached to the headquarters of Omer Pacha, containing the details of the action; and, whilst your Grace will rejoice to see that the Turkish troops which have been landed at Eupatoria have availed themselves of the earliest opportunity to show that the character they acquired on the Danube was well merited and remained unimpaired, you will join in the regret which I feel that they have suffered so considerable a loss, and that among the killed is numbered the General of Division, Selim Pacha (an Egyptian), and among the wounded a General of Brigade (also an Egyptian). This loss, however, and particularly that sustained by a battery of artillery, afford ample proof of the gallant and determined conduct of the troops, and of the serious nature of the attack made upon them, as well as their being worthy of their illustrious chief.

I have great satisfaction in drawing your Grace's attention to that part of Lieutenant-Colonel Simmons' despatch, in which he bears testimony to the efficient assistance rendered to the Ottoman army by her Majesty's ships in the bay, under the command of the Honourable Captain Hastings, of the *Curacoa*.—I have, &c.,

RAGLAN.

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, &c.

Eupatoria, Feb. 17, 1855, 1 p.m.

My Lord,—I have the honour to inform your Lordship that on the 15th instant, several large convoys and arrivals of troops were seen moving along the north shore of the Sasik Putrid Lake, from the eastward.

This movement on the part of the enemy caused Omer Pacha to place the garrison on the alert. No further movement, however, was seen yesterday on the part of the enemy; but this morning, at daylight, they advanced in great force, and opened with artillery upon the intrenchments which enclose the town. The advanced line of works, which I informed your Lordship it was his Highness's intention to erect, were not yet commenced.

The enemy's artillery opened their fire about 1200 yards from the place, covered by skirmishers, and supported by heavy masses of infantry in their rear, and cavalry on their flanks. The artillery subsequently took up a second position more in advance, about 400 yards from a small crown-work which is being erected in front of the mills to the north-east of the town, and after continuing their fire for some time, the infantry advanced to the attack, having formed under the cover of a wall about 600 yards from the right of the town. They were repulsed at this point, leaving from 150 to 200 dead on the field. On other points of the field a number of horses were left dead, but the killed men were removed. At length, about ten a.m., the whole force retired, covered by the artillery and cavalry

I am not able as yet to ascertain the number of men engaged, but I should think there were not less than 40,000 of all arms, with a very powerful artillery. As many as sixty of the enemy's guns must have been firing at one time, amongst them some 32-pounders. Prisoners report that they were accompanied by 100 guns. As yet, all the particulars I have been able positively to ascertain is, that Liprandi's division (the 12th) was present.

At present I understand that they are in position about five miles north from this, their left leaning on the Sasik Putrid Lake.

It is with much pleasure I have to inform your Lordship that the portion of her Majesty's fleet under the Hon. Captain Hastings, have rendered most efficient assistance. The *Valorous* threw some well-directed shells, and completely covered our left; whilst the *Viper* gun-boat, which was at first stationed on the left, with the *Valorous*, by Captain Hastings' directions, moved, and took up a flanking position on the right, near the mills

I cannot at present give your Lordship any details of the killed and wounded on the side of the Turks. I regret to say, however that Selim Pacha, commanding the Egyptian Brigade, is amongst the former. One battery of Turkish Artillery is completely disabled, every gun having been struck, and a great number (nearly one-third) of the horses killed

I am desirous your Lordship should receive a report of the action, with as little delay as possible, by the *Queen of the South*; so I must beg your Lordship to excuse further details, which shall be sent by a future occasion.—I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN SIMMONS,
Captain Royal Engineers, Brevet-Major

Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., &c.

P.S. A prisoner informs us that a Prince commanded, but he could not remember his name.

I am happy to say that there are no casualties among the English or French officers. Two French sous-officers are among the killed, and two privates wounded. J. S.

Eupatoria, Feb. 18, six p.m.

My Lord,—I have the honour to inform your Lordship that nothing of importance has taken place here since the enemy retired yesterday.

Owing to the deficiency of cavalry with the army of his Highness Omer Pacha, we are not able to obtain exact information as to the position of the enemy, who have entirely disappeared, so far as we can see, with the exception of the usual cavalry advanced posts.

Convoys of waggons, however, have been seen from the fleet moving along the north shore of the Sasik Putrid Lake from the eastward. I am inclined, however, to believe that they are bringing forage and provisions for the cavalry which surround us.

In the meantime, however, his Highness is taking every precaution, by adding to the defences of the place, to provide against any further attempts of the enemy. Fortunately the two transports (sailing), containing artillery and materials for constructing works have arrived, and, in the course of the night we shall have twelve or fourteen more guns in position than yesterday. The parapets also have been raised, so that we may hope that our loss will not be so heavy on a future occasion.

The total loss yesterday amounted to as follows, of all ranks—Turks, 97 killed; 377 wounded. French, 4 killed; 9 wounded. Total combatants, 101 killed; 386 wounded. Tartar population, 13 killed; 11 wounded. Horses of the Turkish army, 78 killed; 18 wounded.

Among the killed of the Turks were—1 General of Division, Selim Pacha (Egyptian); 1 Colonel, and 3 subaltern officers; and amongst the wounded 1 General of Brigade (Egyptian); 4 superior, and 5 subaltern officers. Amongst the French wounded was an officer of the *Henri IV.*, who was serving ashore in a land battery.

A greater portion of the horses of one battery were killed, and nineteen men of the same battery, the whole of the guns being disabled

I have not been able to obtain any further positive details of the enemy's force.—I am, &c., (Signed) JOHN SIMMONS,
Capt., Royal Engineers, Brevet-Major

Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B

Before Sebastopol, Feb. 24, 1855

My Lord. The weather has improved since I wrote my despatch of the 20th instant

The snow is still on the ground, and the nights are cold; but the wind has subsided, and we have to day a bright sunshine.

Considerable activity continues to prevail in the movement of the enemy's troops on the north side of the harbour, and convoys of waggons are constantly arriving, and the object of the Russians would appear to be to fortify the heights extending to their left, and looking upon the valley of the Tchernaya.

The troops of the garrison having lodged themselves on the point of the spur of the ridge from Inkerman over the Careenage Bay, at about 300 yards from the new French parallel, on the extreme right, General Canrobert determined to dislodge them; and this was gallantly effected at two o'clock this morning by 1500 men, under the immediate command of General Mouet, and the direction of General Mayran, with, however, I regret to say, some loss, the consequence of the heavy fire which was brought to bear upon them from the enemy's batteries and the shipping whilst they were engaged in demolishing the works. When this object was accomplished they withdrew to the trenches, as had been their intention.

The gallant General Mouet is, I am much concerned to have to add, among the wounded

I enclose a return of casualties to the 22nd instant

Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown has, I am happy to say, resumed the command of the Light Division in perfect health The railway is going on remarkably well, and the exertions of Mr. Beattie, who is superintending the work, are unremitting, and entitle him to great praise.—I have, &c.

The Lord Panmure, &c. RAGLAN

(Translation)

Head-quarters, Eupatoria, February, 1855

My Lord. I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the enemy attacked Eupatoria on the morning of the 17th instant

The troops intended for the attack had left the camp before Sebastopol six days ago, and other troops from Perekop and Simpheropol had joined them in the night of the 16th, and the morning of the 17th, in the flat ground that lies behind the heights that are before Eupatoria

As far as one could guess, and according to the information furnished by prisoners, the enemy mustered thirty-six battalions of infantry, six regiments of cavalry, four hundred Cossacks, eighty pieces of artillery in position, and some troops of horse-artillery, which were in reserve.

The attack commenced at daylight by a strong cannonade, during which the enemy used even 32-pounders. At first the Russians showed themselves in great force along our whole position; but, seeing that our left was protected by men-of-war, which were there when the first shot was fired, they concentrated against our centre and right.

I then requested the senior officer of the English Royal Navy to send the gun-boat *Viper* to the right, and to take up a position near the French steamer *Vélace*, and the Turkish steamer *Schefkfner*, on board of which was the Vice-Admiral, Ahmed Pacha. At the same time I reinforced the right with some battalions of infantry and some pieces of artillery, which I withdrew from the left.

The enemy continued his fire, without ceasing, from the position held by his artillery, supported by a powerful fire of skirmishers, and then his infantry, carrying planks and ladders, three times tried to storm the works. Each time it was repulsed, and obliged to retire under our fire, but it was enabled to effect this retrograde movement under cover of its artillery, and of heavy masses of cavalry

Our cavalry, which at the present moment only musters about 200 or 300 horses, and which charged the Russian infantry at the commencement of its retreat, did not dare to pursue it in the face of such heavy masses.

Their superiority in artillery and cavalry prevented our disturbing the Russians on their retreat. After four hours and a half fighting, they commenced retiring in three different directions, towards the bridge of Lake Sasik, towards Top Mamai, and towards the Perekop road.

I have every reason to be satisfied with the conduct of my troops during the day. Although behind works only half finished, and not fully armed, they showed a bold front and were very steady.

Our losses are not very numerous, but they are to be deplored. We regret the death of Selim Pacha, Lieut.-General, commanding the Egyptian troops. We had, moreover, 87 killed, 277 wounded; 79 horses killed, and 18 wounded.

Amongst the killed there are seven officers, and ten wounded, amongst them Suleiman Pacha; thirteen inhabitants of the town have been killed, and eleven wounded.

I consider it my duty to make honourable mention of the French detachment that is here, and of the English men-of-war, *Curaçoa*, *Furious*, *Valorous*, *Viper*, of the Turkish steamer *Schefkfner*, and of the energetic co-operation of the French steamer *Vélace*, who all contributed greatly towards frustrating the efforts of the enemy. The French detachment had 4 men killed and 9 wounded—amongst the latter is a naval officer

The Russians must have suffered a heavy loss. According to the report of the civil authorities of the town, who had to bury the dead, their number of killed amounts to 453; their artillery lost 300 horses. They carried away a great many of their dead, and almost all their wounded. We have taken 7 prisoners.—I have, &c., (Signed) OMER.

His Excellency the Lord Raglan, &c.

NOMINAL RETURN OF OFFICERS, NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED FROM THE 17TH TO THE 22ND FEBRUARY, 1855, INCLUSIVE.

KILLED

77th Foot. Private Wm. James Brown

WOUNDED

38th Foot.—Lieut. Constantine S Gaynor, severely.
17th Foot.—Private Michael Begley and Peter Heddleston, severely.
41st Foot. Private Patrick Burke, severely
47th Foot Private Philip Clarke, slightly
47th Foot —Private Daniel Smith, slightly
56th Foot.—Private John Hartell, severely (since dead)

J. B. BURNSALL EYCOURT, Adjutant-General.

TEMPERATURE AT THE SEAT OF WAR.

Date. 1855.	Place. On the Black Sea.	Temperature. Fahrenheit	Wind.	Remarks.
Feb. 15th,	Off Balaclava,	62°	Southerly.	Blowing half a gale.
Feb. 16th,	Off Cape Chersonese,	56°	South-East.	Fine.
Feb. 17th,	Off Balaclava.	46°	North-East.	Snow.
Feb 18th,	Ditto.	48°	Ditto.	Frost during the night.
Feb. 19th,	Ditto,	52°	South-East.	Fine.

Balaclava. CHAS. RICKETTS, Staff-Assistant-Surgeon.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

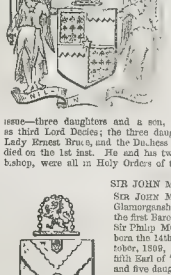
PHILIP-HENRY, FOURTH EARL STANHOPE, F.R.S. AND F.S.A.

THE death of this nobleman took place at his seat, Chevening, near Sevenoaks, on the 2nd inst. His Lordship was born 7th Dec., 1781, the eldest son of Charles, third Earl Stanhope (so distinguished for his mechanical genius and scientific researches), by Louisa, his second wife, daughter and heiress of the Hon. Henry Grenville, Governor of Barbadoes. He married, 19th Nov., 1803, Catherine-Lucy, daughter of Robert, Lord Carrington: and by her (who died 1st Oct., 1843) had issue—one surviving son, Philip-Henry, now third Earl Stanhope (the well known historian, under his courtesy title of Viscount Mahon); and one daughter, Catherine-Lucy-Wilhelmina, married, first, in 1826, to Lord Delmeny, and secondly, in 1834, to Lord Harry-George Vane.

The first peer of this branch of the noble house of Stanhope was James Stanhope, grandson of Philip, first Earl of Chesterfield. He was a distinguished Commander, of the reign of Queen Anne, served with great gallantry in Spain, and gained considerable renown by the reduction of Port Mahon in the island of Minorca. In the reign of George I. he became Secretary of State and First Lord of the Treasury, and was advanced to the Barony and Earldom of Stanhope. The celebrated Lady Hester Stanhope (who died in Syria 23rd June, 1839) was half sister of the nobleman whose death we record—having been daughter of the third Earl Stanhope by his first wife, Lady Hester Pitt, daughter of William, first Earl of Chatham

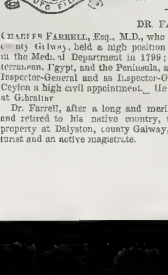
LORD DECIES

THE Rev. John de-la-Poer Horsley Beresford, second Baron Decies, of the county of Waterford, in the Peerage of Ireland, was the eldest son of the Most Rev. William Beresford, Archbishop of Tuam and first Baron Decies, by his wife, Elizabeth, second daughter of John Fitzgibbon, Esq., and niece of the Earl of Clare, Lord Chancellor of Ireland. The second Baron Decies, the subject of this notice, was born 20th Jan., 1777, and succeeded his father, the Archbishop, on the 6th September, 1819. He married, the 26th July, 1810, Charlotte-Philadelphia, only daughter of the late Robert Horsley, Esq., of Balma House, Northumberland, and assumed in consequence the additional surname of Horsley. By this lady (who died the 9th of March, 1852) he leaves issue—three daughters and a son, William Robert John, who succeeds as third Lord Decies; the three daughters are Mrs. Henry Edwards Brown, Lady Ernest Bruce, and the Duchess of Montrose. The second Baron Decies died on the 1st inst. He and his two brothers, the three sons of the Archbishop, were all in Holy Orders of the Church of England.



SIR JOHN MORRIS, BART

SIR JOHN MORRIS, second Baronet of Claremont, Glamorganshire, was the elder son of Sir John Morris, the first Baronet, by his wife, Henrietta, daughter of Sir Philip Musgrave, Bart., of Eden-hall. He was born the 14th July, 1775, and married, the 5th October, 1809, Lucy Juliana, youngest daughter of the 5th Earl of Torrington, by whom he leaves four sons and five daughters. The eldest son, John Armine, is now the third Baronet; three of the daughters are married—viz., Mrs. Albert Jenner, of Wenvoe Castle, Glamorganshire; Mrs. Hyde Leaver, and Mrs. Lavington. Sir John, who succeeded his father as second Baronet, the 25th June, 1819, died on the 24th ult., at Southsea-house, Hants



DR. FARRELL

CHARLES FARRELL, Esq., M.D., who died on the 15th January at Dalyston, county Galway, held a high position as a physician. He entered the Army in the Medical Department in 1799; and served many years in the Mediterranean, Egypt, and the Peninsula, as Physician; and in Ceylon as Deputy Inspector-General and as Inspector-General of Hospitals. He further held in Ceylon a high civil appointment. He was also several years Inspector-General at Gibraltar

Dr. Farrell, after a long and meritorious career, quitted professional life, and retired to his native country, to enjoy there the possession of a fine property at Dalyston, county Galway, and to become an enterprising agriculturist and an active magistrate.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

JEWS are standing aghast at the heavy prices given by noblemen, gentlemen, and Jew dealers themselves, for the choicer acquisitions at the Bernal sale. War seems to have had no effect upon the pockets of those present; and even the news of the fall of Sebastopol could hardly send some of the lots to higher prices. We are glad to observe that a young English nobleman, the Marquis of Bath, is among the spirited bidders for the better things, and that he has already secured more than one lot, of equal beauty and rarity—

Which Jews might kiss, and infidels adore—

for the stately Longleat.

Antiquaries and artists are waging a very idle and, therefore, unnecessary war about the purchase for the nation of two well-known collections of curiosities. "Buy the Roach Smith Collection of London Antiquities," exclaims the antiquary and F.S.A.; "Buy the Bernal Collection of Mediæval Art," exclaims not less loudly the painter and R.A. Both advocates have strong claims to be heard; but why, let us ask, do they quarrel with one another? Why does counsel for the Roach Smith Museum disparage the Bernal Collection? Why does *silk* for Bernal discredit the importance of the Roach Smith Museum? We have long been intimate with both collections, and can see much, very much indeed, to admire in both. That the trustees of the British Museum should secure Mr. Smith's Collection was our conviction the moment we heard that he was willing to part with it; and surely we felt that Government would be very remiss if it failed to obtain for the people all that was good in the Bernal sale. The antiquary who contends for Mr. Smith contrasts triumphantly three thousand pounds (Mr. Smith's price for his Museum) with the fifty thousand pounds required to obtain the Bernal Collection; but neither price (they are appraiser's prices) seems too large. Mr. Smith's Collection contains much that is very curious, and much (better still) that is curiously illustrative of London. No one has ever seen it without carrying away from it, not a coin or a curiosity, but some fresh certainty, from seeing it, of what London must have been like, and how our forefathers dressed who had sons to send to Crecy and Agincourt. "It would be ten thousand pities," says our F.S.A. friend, "that Mr. Smith's Museum should be lost to the nation." To which we would reply—"That securing it, my learned F.S.A., would be three thousand pounds well spent."

The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor—we are not, we believe, betraying a secret—gave a most admirable dinner last Saturday to his fellow members of the Garrick Club, and to a few other men of mark and fame that he thought (not unruly) would be glad to meet one another. There was a thick gathering of authors, artists, actors, M.P.'s, barristers, and of gentlemen at large. His Lordship looked and did his best. No £5000 profit on a plate after Landseer or Roberts could have given him, it was clear, so much satisfaction as the result of the £500 he was spending on the intelligent and merry lips before him. Lord Tenterden replied for the Club (he is its Vice-President) in a way that suggested a regret that he does not favour the House of Lords with his practical good sense and earnest eloquence. Lord Carlisle spoke for his relative, the noble President (his Grace of Devonshire), and Mr. Thackeray replied for authors generally in a way (a little sarcasm excepted) that gave more than satisfaction to his many admirers. Mr. Buckstone acknowledged the honour his Lordship had been pleased to pay to actors, and Mr. David Roberts the honour he had conferred on artists. There was but one omission, it is said—the Messrs. Staples should have been thanked for the excellence of their cooking and the choice character of their wines.

The death of Earl Stanhope has carried a well-known and able author into the House of Peers. Lord Mahon, the historian of England under the House of Hanover, is, by his father's death, Earl Stanhope. Those who know him best assure us that the dignity he has succeeded to will not lessen his love of letters, or his desire to appear once more as a faithful and able historian.

We have been touched by an anecdote (recently related in the House by Mr. Lowe) of the growing love for books which is now distinguishing not only our manufacturing towns, but our agricultural districts as well. Mr. Lowe is one of the members for Kidderminster—a town, he tells us, at the present moment not very flourishing in its manufactures, and unwilling, it was thought, to contribute to the formation of a free library of its own. When the proposition for the levying of a halfpenny rate for a free library was publicly announced at Kidderminster, cards were issued calling upon the people not to throw away their money, or to tax themselves at a moment when so many of the inhabitants were without work. The appeal was fruitless, and the original proposition was carried, as Mr. Lowe tells us, by a large majority:—"Only about twenty persons voted against a free library; and those persons (he said it with every respect) were persons whose calling in life pointed to the supposition that they thought there was a better way of spending an evening than in reading-rooms and libraries."

Another letter, and one to the point, on the subject of "Moredun," deserves insertion. Here it is:—

52, Upper Norton-street, March 6th, 1855.

It is not my intention to take part in the controversy whether or not Sir Walter Scott wrote the romance of "Moredun." I merely wish to make a passing remark on the assertion that Scott *never used initials* in signing his letters, made by Mr. Huntly Gordon and Mr. Shenn

I have in my collection eighteen letters of Sir Walter's; some are signed "W. Scott," others "Walter Scott," *and one "W. S."* This may be an isolated fact, a single exception, but so it is.

Mr. Gordon also says that Scott, in signing his name always *turned up* the bottom of the final letter *t*. Three of my letters prove the contrary.

The letter A is, however, throughout the whole of the eighteen letters (with only one exception) *without* the loop. That to which I allude is in a letter about a human skull found in a tumulus, and Lockhart's carving it, in which he says, "he hack'd and hew'd it well enough." Yours, faithfully,

ROBERT COLE.

We observe, in the obituaries of the week, and with regret, that Copley Fielding, the celebrated painter in water-colours, died at Worthing on Saturday last, aged sixty-eight He was at the very head of his profession, no artist ever having excelled him in his matchless rendering of English scenery—such as downs, waste lands, moors, &c. He was a most prolific painter, seldom allowing a season to pass by without at least a dozen exhibited works. He had, as he deserved, large prices, and his drawings will continue to be placed with the best examples of Girtin and Turner. Sussex was his favourite county.

SIR ROBERT PEEL has accepted the office of a Lord of the Admiralty, vacant by the appointment of the Hon. W. Cowper to the Under-Secretaryship for the Home Department

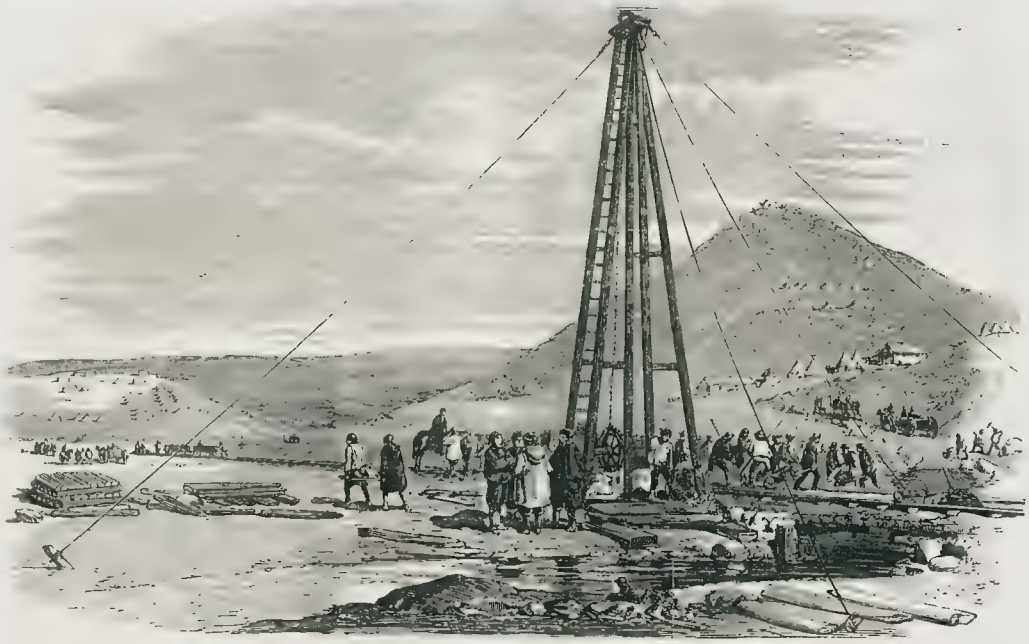
THE Solicitor-General for Ireland was returned for Ennis on Thursday without opposition.

MR. BAXTER has been returned for the Montrose Burghs by a majority of 44 over Sir John Ogilvy. The number were—for Baxter, 473; for Ogilvy, 429 Both were Liberals

PORTSMOUTH ELECTION.—Viscount Monck, who has accepted office as Lord of the Treasury, is to be opposed by Mr. Serjeant Gaselee, who has announced himself as a candidate for the representation upon Radical principles

FIRES AND LOSS OF LIFE.—There have been two fires this week, attended with loss of life. Both of them took place on Thursday; one between twelve and one in the morning, at No. 2, Clipstone-street, Portland-road; the other about noon, in a building called the Farringdon-Market Eel-pie House, Farringdon-street. In the latter the fire extended so rapidly as to cut off the retreat of two young women in the upper part of the house, one of whom, in desperation, threw herself from the window into the street, killing herself upon the spot. A Mrs. Hayward, with two of her daughters and a Miss Kelso, were burned to death at the fire in Clipstone-street

COMMENCEMENT OF THE RAILWAY WORKS AT BALACLAVA.



KADIKOI, THE HEAD-QUARTERS OF SIR COLIN CAMPBELL, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

THE NAVVIES AT BALACLAVA.

It ought to be consolatory to Mr. Carlyle and the mourners over the degeneracy of these our Latter Days, that there is at least one institution, and that a pre-eminently English one, which, despite climate, drawbacks, and all sorts of deteriorating influences, exhibits all its original stamina and pristine healthiness—to wit, the British Navvy. Everything we hear and read, from every quarter, testifies to the energetic, skilful, and matured progression of the great undertaking now advancing between Balaclava and the cannon-bristling heights of Sebastopol; and there cannot be a doubt that, when it has reached its terminus, those engaged upon it may safely adopt the motto of their honoured chief, Sir Morton Peto—"Ad Finem Fidelis."

It is already known that about 1¼ mile of the road from Balaclava was completed on the 16th of February; and it was expected that Kadikoi the first dépôt would be reached on the 19th. The whole distance from the harbour to the trenches is about 6½ miles. To render the first four promptly available is the primary and important object. The statement made by Mr. Dundas, M.P., on Monday last, before the Roebuck Committee of Inquiry, as to the state of Balaclava and the approaches around, is fully corroborated by letters before us, coming down to a much later date than the experience of the member for Linlithgow extends. The roads were frightful, the men working up to their middles in mud, while dead horses strewed the ground in every direction. The anticipation of the atmospheric consequences of this state of things had produced serious forebodings; and naturally so, when the reader hears that complaints had been made of the sultriness of the weather in the middle of last month, the thermometer being then 58 deg., though a few days previously 16 deg below freezing-point. It is this extraordinary vicissitude which renders the climate of the Crimea so difficult to be provided against, and therefore so trying to the constitution. But before the apprehended pollution from these decomposing carcases can set in, it is hoped that Mr. Rawlinson, the able engineering head of the Sanitary Commission, and whose great experience in the operation of the Health of Towns' measures pointed him out as peculiarly eligible for the present service, will have caused the removal of those accumulations which have long rendered the vicinage of Balaclava a synonym in every vocabulary for every abomination.

The want of horses has hitherto been the great drawback to the speedy realisation of the advantages expected to accrue from the railway. These were quite sufficient for all the purposes they were originally expected to be called on to fulfil; for in that, as in every other respect, the provision made by Captain Andrews, of the North of Europe Steam Company, under whose supervision the whole of the arrangements of the expedition were conducted, amply met all legitimate requirements. But, owing to the total deficiency of resources on the spot, the horses had not merely to be employed in making the line, but in working it, as far and as fast as it could be made; and hence the cry for more and more live-draught power. Eighty more, with thirty drivers, are on their way to Balaclava in the *City of Norwich* steamer, followed by the *Propeller*, carrying a large supply of fodder, of which there is great want in the Crimea. Both these steamers are paddles, and in the selection of these, and the total exclusion of screws, the heads of the Navvy expedition have shown infinite sagacity, as compared with Government officials. Screw steamers, even of the very largest tonnage, as was exemplified in the case of the leviathan *Himalaya*, are quite unfitted for horse conveyance. With the very first puff of wind they begin to roll, and do not right themselves so long as the least wind continues; for the horses, being placed athwart, necessarily roll

THE RAILWAY WORKS AT BALACLAVA.

with the ship, and, in endeavouring to preserve their own perpendicular, cause her to sway. So great is the effect from the latter cause, that even in the case of a paddle steamer, though she may have run perfectly level across an ocean, yet, when she comes into smooth water, say in the Thames, the motion of the cattle communicates an oscillation to her, and they often suffer more from a brief detention in smooth water from this cause than in a fortnight's steaming in tolerably rough weather. The tendency of the paddles, in addition to the above, is to keep the steamer upright, and of course to keep the cattle straight on their legs; whereas a screw has all the disadvantages of a sailer, and the horses are literally knocked to pieces during a boisterous voyage. Numerous costly illustrations of this truth have been afforded during the present "chartering" crisis; but the North of Europe Steam Navigation Company steered clear of the blunder, because of the experience Captain Andrews derived from the Danish shippers of horses and cattle between Tonning and Lowestoft, who would not now put a ton of live freight aboard a screw, knowing the deterioration that is caused as compared with what results from a voyage in a paddle. Fortunate had it been had the same species of disciplined judgment and business-like aptitude been availed of in the general fulfilment of governmental intentions. At the same time it is but the merest justice to the Duke of Newcastle to state, that, so far as he was personally concerned, all the practical capacity attainable was secured; and, when secured, was left unthwarted and unchecked by official intervention or routine inaccibility. Over whatever operation he could exercise undivided individual control, he exercised it wisely and well, and chiefly by guaranteeing it immunity from the hindrances of precedent and the hamperings of pedantry. In respect to this railroad expedition, for instance—the whole governmental merit of which belongs exclusively to his Grace—he placed it unreservedly in the hands of those to whom he had originally committed it; he ensured them the full exercise of their discretion—not only here, but in the Crimea—which he was wholly unable to do in other cases and with other duties; and as the is certainly deserving of a large share of the éclat which now accompanies its successful and invaluable prosecution. The *Times* has suggested the superiority of a plank-road; but the rail has this advantage, that the materials are far easier to convey to the spot: a plank-road of twenty feet wide would require fifty feet bulk per yard, while a railroad requires only about four feet bulk per yard.

The total number of workmen employed on the line, including those sent from Constantinople, is now upwards of 900; and it is most gratifying to be able to add, that out of so large a number, drawn from a class not remarkable for habits of self-control, and placed in a sphere of novelty where great irregularities might be reasonably looked for, not a single instance has occurred demanding the presence of the Provost Marshal, though in the ranks of the Army that functionary finds no such sinecure. A great deal of this must be attributed to the presence of the Rev. Mr. Gyngle, Chaplain of the (Navvy) Forces, who has had a place of worship erected, and also to the excellent example of decorum and zeal set them by the officers of the corps, viz:—Mr. Beatty, Mr. Kellock, Mr. Lance, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Raymond, Mr Shawe, and Mr. Camidge, the secretary and paymaster. Mr. Alfred Hawse, the surgeon to the corps, has given every satisfaction to those who have needed his services—fortunately very few so far, and of these none have been seriously ill.

Our first Illustration shows the commencement of the railway works, at Balaclava. In the foreground are a party of navvies loading a truck with rails; on the left is the shipping in the harbour, which, as far as the Crimean railway expedition is concerned, is under the excellent superintendence of Captain Raymond, R.N. Above the town, on a dry gravelly soil, are the wooden huts erected for the accommodation of the workmen; and on the highest eminence is the signal-post. As the huts are put up, the navvies give names, conspicuously emblazoned, to the buildings, calling one Peto-terrace, another Preston-hall, others Napoleon, Victoria, Blackwall, Suffolk, London, and so on. The second Illustration is a view near Kadikoi (head-quarters of Sir Colin Campbell), up to which point the railway is by this time completed, and in the hands of the military authorities; who, we may again take the opportunity of stating, are most favourable to the enterprise, and most courteous and considerate to all engaged in its promotion.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MARCH 8

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading	Thermometer. Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches
	Inches	°	°	°	°			Inches
Mar. 2	29.225	42.8	39.7	45.2	+ 5.2	96	S.W.	0.14
„ 3	28.879	51.0	35.1	41.2	+ 1.2	91	W.S.W.	0.20
„ 4	29.785	51.1	32.2	40.7	+ 0.6	86	S.W.	0.07
„ 5	29.796	47.8	29.7	40.8	+ 1.0	86	S.E	0.00
„ 6	29.864	46.9	29.6	38.0	— 1.7	87	E.	0.00
„ 7	29.815	48.0	28.2	36.2	— 3.5	84	E.	0.00
„ 8	30.016	47.4	26.3	36.2	— 3.7	80	E.N.E	0.00

NOTE The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign — below the average

The *reading of the barometer* decreased from 29.32 inches at the beginning of the week, to 28.88 inches by the 3rd; increased to 29.86 inches by the 5th; decreased to 29.80 inches by the 7th; and increased to 30.07 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 32 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.610 inches

The mean temperature of the week was 39.8°, being 0.9° below the average of the corresponding week during thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 27.5° being the difference between the highest reading on the 3rd, and the lowest on the 8th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 19.2°. The least was 13.1° on the 2nd, and the greatest 24.9° on the 5th.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of four-tenths of an inch.

The weather has been for the most part fine. Some rain fell on the first three days of the week, and fog has recently been prevalent. The nights have been cold.

Lewisham, March 9, 1855 JAMES GLAISHER

Health of London.—The number of births within the metropolitan districts in the week ending March 3, was 1726: of these, 838 were boys, and 888 girls. The average numbers from the preceding 10 years in the ninth week of the year, were 793 boys and 764 girls. The number of deaths registered within the same time was 1560, exceeding the calculated number for the week by no less than 364: indicating clearly, that though the rigorous weather has passed away, its effects still continue to be felt. The deaths in the last seven weeks were 10,968, and have exceeded the average for the period by 2238. The effect of the low temperature is shewn thus:—The average deaths from pneumonia, bronchitis, and asthma, in six weeks, are 951: the number from other causes rose to 2549 in six weeks. The cold, therefore, quickly brings to a fatal termination many chronic diseases which, are not induced by the cold.

City of London Election.—On Saturday morning the election for the city of London, rendered necessary by the acceptance of office of Lord John Russell, took place in the Guildhall. Lord John Russell having been proposed and seconded, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Magerridge asked whether any elector had another candidate to propose; Mr J. Stoner proposed Sir Charles Napier; but the nomination not being seconded, Alderman and Sheriff Muggeridge declared Lord John Russell duly elected, amidst loud cheers. Mr. Samuel Morley then came forward to propose the following resolution.

That, at a period like the present, when, by gross mismanagement on the part of the Executive Government, the high position of this country in the scale of nations has been in danger of being compromised, the citizens of London, in common hall, having elected as their representative in Parliament the noble Lord who has accepted office as one of her Majesty's principal secretaries of State, desire to place upon record the fact, that they have discharged this duty in the great hope and trust that the Government, of which the noble Lord is so important a member, will immediately and firmly grapple with, and effectually remove, the causes of that disastrous mismanagement which has been displayed in the conduct of the present war; and which, whether it has arisen from adherence to routine in the departments, from the incapacity of the men presiding over and employed in them, or from the overwhelming influence of political patronage, must, if left unremedied, involve the honour, the safety, and the free institutions of this country in extreme peril.

The resolution having been unanimously agreed to, Mr. P. A. Taylor declared that the four points, on the basis of which Lord John Russell had gone to Vienna to negotiate, were disgraceful and traitorous. Having declared that the British heart would have been delighted with a movement in favour of the depressed nationalities of Hungary, Poland, and Italy, he concluded by moving the adoption of the following resolution:—

That in the opinion of this meeting no treaty with Russia will be satisfactory, that does not enforce some material territorial cause.

The Sheriff declined to put the resolution, and Mr. Taylor then said he would submit it himself. He did so; and a large number of hands were held up in its favour.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from page 235.*)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Thursday.

The Earl of Orkney called attention to the reported want of aptitude for their situations in the junior officers of her Majesty's service now on duty in the Crimea. The noble Earl proceeded at some length to vindicate their conduct, and to show that all the evils that had arisen to our army were attributable to the fact of the war in which we are engaged being treated by the Government as "a little war."

Lord Panmure said that there were no grounds whatever for any such charges against the junior officers, whose conduct from the commencement of the war had been most gallant and honourable.

Their Lordships then granted permission to the Duke of Cambridge, the Earl of Lucan, the Earl of Cardigan, and Viscount Hardinge, to attend and give evidence before the Sebastopol Inquiry Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday.

Lord A. Paget gave notice that on the 22nd inst. he would move an address to the Queen that the widows of officers killed in the Crimea should receive the whole of their commutation, and that the Commutation Income-tax should be deducted from the officers' pay.

THE NEWSPAPER-STAMP.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply to Mr. M. Gibson, said that, as he had so recently acceded to office, he had had no opportunity to consider the provisions of the Newspaper-stamp Bill; and that, therefore, it would be impossible for him to proceed with it to-morrow (Friday). He would, however, endeavour to bring the matter forward before Friday week.

Mr. F. Peel, in reply to Mr. Bramley Moore, stated that no order had been issued from the House Guards to the effect that officers must be on the sick list fourteen days before they could be removed from the Camp.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES.

Mr. Heywood moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the best means of affording to the nation a full and equal participation in all the advantages which are now enjoyed exclusively of an ecclesiastical or spiritual character in the public schools and universities of England and Ireland, and of improving the Educational system in those great seats of learning, with a view to enlarge their course of instruction, in conformity with the requirements of the public service.

Mr. J. Ewart seconded the motion.

Lord Palmerston opposed it; and, after some discussion the motion was withdrawn.

WAGES (HOSIERY).

Sir H. Halford asked for leave to introduce a bill to restrain stoppages from wages in the hosiery manufacture.

Sir C. Grey opposed the motion, on the ground that the object was impracticable and merely tended to encourage a delusion He would not, however, object to the reappointment of the Committee of last session

Mr. Packe, Sir J. Walmsley, and Mr. Booker supported the motion, on the ground that a measure of the kind was absolutely necessary for the welfare of the labouring classes

Mr. Gardner opposed the motion as an attempt by the Legislation to raise the wages of the operatives

Mr. W. Fox denied that that was the object of the bill, but merely to compel the manufacturer to pay to the operative the wages he had honestly earned.

After some further discussion the House divided For the motion, 58: against it, 96: majority against the motion, 38.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR CHARLES NAPIER

Mr Malins called the attention of the House to the naval operations in the Baltic under Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, and moved for a copy of any correspondence which had passed between the Board of Admiralty, or any member of her Majesty's Government, and Sir Charles Napier since the 20th day of December last. The hon. and learned gentleman read extracts from the correspondence which had taken place between the gallant Admiral and Sir James Graham, with the view of showing that Admiral Napier was actually dismissed for not attacking and destroying Sveaborg with his own fleet alone at the end of October—an operation which had been unanimously pronounced impracticable at so late a period as the month of September by the French and English Admirals at a conference held upon the subject on board the *Duke of Wellington*.

Sir T. Herbert seconded the motion

Sir J. Graham denied that Sir Charles Napier had been dismissed from his command of the fleet in the Baltic. However, since the return of the gallant Admiral to this country, his conduct had been so indiscreet, and his correspondence with the Admiralty from the outset had been so turbulent and insubordinate, that the Board of Admiralty felt they could not in justice order him to rehoist his flag. On the 24th of September Sir C. Napier wrote to the Admiralty that, in his opinion, Sveaborg was attackable by sea; and he (Sir J. Graham), in his reply on the 4th October, assented to his making the attack, but still expressed a hope that he would be guided by a sound discretion. Sir J. Graham then proceeded to censure the gallant Admiral for making disclosures of a confidential nature to the honourable and learned gentleman who had undertaken his defence in that House.

Admiral Walcott justified the conduct of Sir C. Napier in the Baltic

Sir C. Wood was opposed to the production of the papers, inasmuch as he thought that their publication would be injurious to the public service.

In the course of some further discussion, Lord Palmerston stated that he had then an high opinion as he had ever entertained of Admiral Napier's abilities, and he was not disposed to retract a word he had uttered at the Reform dinner in praise of the gallant Admiral.

The motion was ultimately withdrawn.

HOUSE OF LORDS. Friday.

Lord St. Leonards asked whether the Government had any new schemes in contemplation in respect to the granting of tickets of leave to convicts?

Earl Granville said that the Government regretted the defects of the present system, but it had been found impossible to adhere to the old plan of transportation. The present scheme had been resorted to as a choice of evils, and he was not prepared to say that the Government had any other system under consideration.

Earl Grey was of opinion that the old system of transportation, though defective, was in some respects preferable to that now in use

The Lord Chancellor defended the Bill he had introduced under which the present system of tickets of leave was established.

The Exchequer Bills (£17,153,000) Bill was read a second time.

The Earl of Derby asked whether the Government intended to make any arrangement for carrying on the business of the Colonial Department, which was the more necessary in the event of the prolonged absence of Lord John Russell

Earl Granville said that measures had been taken by the Government to prevent any inconvenience being suffered by the public in consequence of the absence of Lord John Russell. The present Secretary for the Home Department, Sir G. Grey, who had so recently discharged the duties of Colonial Secretary, had undertaken the business of the Colonial office until the return of Lord J. Russell, who would not be delayed beyond Easter.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Friday.

MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENT.

On the motion of Mr. Hayter a new writ was ordered to issue for Tregony, in the room of Sir Robert Peel, who has accepted the office of one of the Lords of the Admiralty.

Lord Elcho asked the hon. member for Bristol whether it was his intention to bring forward his motion respecting the conduct of Lord Lucan in which the Lord Lieutenant of the country, felt it his duty to demand his resignation? Whether he had any other grave charge made against his professional character by Lord Raglan?

Mr. H. Berkeley thought that such an inquiry should be instituted but he was unwilling to postpone his motion until after the inquiry sought for—should it take place.

THE NEWSPAPER-STAMP BILL.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply to Mr. Ricardo, said he would bring on the Newspaper-stamp Bill on Monday week.

VOLUNTEER RIFLE CORPS.

Mr Williams called the attention of the Government to the discouragement which had been offered to volunteer Rifle Corps.

Lord Palmerston said, when he was in the Home-office, he received a great many offers of the character referred to, but he did not consider it at such corps would be of much service to the country

Mr. Maguire brought under the notice of the House certain improvements made in breach loading arms by Mr. Sharp, an American gentleman, by which the weapon could be loaded and discharged fourteen times in one minute

Mr. Monsell said that the improvements were still under the consideration of the Government.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of Supply upon the Ordnance Estimates; and the remainder of the night was occupied by a consideration of the votes

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A Roman Electioneering Placard.—In an establishment of ancient baths, discovered some time since among the ruins of Pompeii, in the street called the Odeon, there have lately been uncovered several grated windows looking into the street, and a door flanked by two pilasters, above which is painted this inscription:—"P. FVR. II. V.V.B. O. VF. Publium Furium duumvirum virum bonum oro vos fiunatis" ("I beg you to name as duumvir P Furius, an honest man") This is evidently a sort of placard made at the moment of an election

MUSIC.

A series of Vocal Concerts, consisting of glees, quartets, and concerted pieces, selected entirely from the numerous works of Sir Henry Bishop, has been commenced at the Hanover-square rooms, under the management of Mr. Mitchell, of Bond-street. They are afternoon concerts: the first took place on Tuesday last, commencing at half-past three o'clock and ending before five; a judicious brevity, sufficient for the full enjoyment of a highly refined and classical entertainment, and entirely avoiding the satiety which may be produced by the finest music, when it belongs to one class, and is all from the pen of the one composer. These concerts, as might have been expected, have excited much interest. Bishop is a great and honoured name in English music; and, indeed, we doubt whether the whole history of the art in this country furnishes the name of another musician who has exercised a greater influence on its state and progress, or has earned a more solid and enduring reputation. Music, more than any other art, is liable to the vicissitudes of taste and fashion; and this is especially the case with dramatic music—that branch of the art which Bishop has chiefly cultivated. The entertainments of the stage are continually undergoing changes in form and structure. The old pass away, and are succeeded by new, which grow old, and pass away in their turn. There is not a single dramatic work of their old English composers—not even of the greatest of them—which now keeps its place on the stage. All the pieces of our Purcells, Arnes, Shields, Arnolds, Linleys—pieces so charming, and once so popular—have disappeared, and are forgotten. But the composers themselves are not forgotten. Their operas, which formed the enchantment of our youthful days, are no more represented; but the beautiful songs, and duets, and glees, and concerted pieces with which they were enriched have not perished with them. They still live, and will still be heard with delight, so long as the English people retain the taste for the pure, natural, and expressive melody of their country. Among these older English composers Bishop must now be classed; for, though he happily lives among us in the enjoyment of a green old age, his chief works have existed these thirty or forty years—a long period in the history of the musical stage. But, though Bishop's dramatic pieces, like those of his predecessors, have passed away, yet the gems they contain are imperishable, and time will have no effect in dimming their lustre. His vocal pieces are now transferred from the theatre to the chamber; and, in our social and domestic circles, will ever continue to delight every one whose taste preserves its wholesome nationality, and is not vitiated by the foreign affectations of the day. In speaking thus, we would not be misunderstood as indulging a vulgar prejudice against the foreign schools of music, from which the English musician may derive the greatest benefit. Purcell himself, the most thoroughly national of all our musicians, was an assiduous student of the Italian composers of his day. In his own words, he "faithfully endeavoured a just imitation of the most fa-famed Italian masters; and he adds, that "though unskilful in the Italian language, he thinks he may warrantably affirm that he is not mistaken in the power of the Italian notes, or the elegancy of their compositions." Bishop, in the same manner, studied in the Italian school. He had an Italian education, and learned to engraft the grace and smoothness of Italy upon the native melody of his own country. It has always been remarked that the great charm of Bishop's music lies in its *naturalness*—as if it were the simple effusion of feeling, flowing in an easy and copious stream from a "well of *music* undefiled." Limpid transparency is a character of Bishop's music; it is never rendered turbid by elaboration, and its seeming artlessness is really the consummation of art. Such music will grow old, but cannot grow antiquated. The melodies of Bishop (like those of Purcell and Arne) will be as fresh a century hence as they are now.

The concert of Tuesday last consisted of a selection of glees and concerted pieces, chiefly taken from Bishop's theatrical works; care being taken to choose such as are most independent of the action and accessories of the stage. They were sung by Masters Sullivan, Cooke, Malsch, and Norman; Messrs. Frances, Benson, Lawler, Buckland, and Land. These dramatic pieces require to be accompanied on the pianoforte, and this was done by the composer himself; the glees, not originally written for the theatre, were of course sung without any instrumental accompaniment. Every piece in the programme had its own peculiar interest; those which appeared to make the strongest impression on the audience were, the quartet, "Sleep, gentle lady" (one of Bishop's most popular compositions), composed for the opera of "Clari;" "Though be be now a grey, grey Friar, from "Maid Marian;" "The Savoyard," written for Sheridan Knowles's "William Tell;" the glee, "Hark, Apollo strikes the lyre;" and the sextet, "Stay, pr'ythee stay, the night is dark," from the "Miller and his Men" a piece which contains some of Bishop's very finest productions. All the music was admirably sung and warmly applauded, several things being loudly encored. The audience were very numerous, and of a highly musical cast; many "familiar faces" of our most distinguished musicians and lovers of music being visible in all parts of the room.

The second concert is announced for this day (Saturday). A full chorus is to be introduced; and the programme includes "The Chough and Crow," "The Tiger Crouches," "Fill, boys, fill," and several others of Bishop's most favourite choral pieces. This is a great improvement on the plan of the concerts, and we should have recommended it had not the suggestion been anticipated.

The Harmonic Union had their second concert at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Wednesday evening. It consisted of the "Lobgesang" (Hymn of Praise) of Mendelssohn, and the "Stabat Mater" of Rossini. The performance, as on the previous occasion, suffered from unavoidable causes. Mr. Sims Reeves was so much indisposed that, after singing for a part of the evening with a degree of effort painful to himself and the audience, he was forced to retire, and was replaced by Mr. Herberte; and Mrs. Reeves, from a similar cause was unable to appear at all. She was to have sustained the principal soprano part in the "Stabat Mater," which was taken by Madame Weiss in such a manner as to leave nothing to be desired. The second soprano part was excellently sung by Miss Lascelles, a young vocalist who is making great progress in her art. Mr. Herberte sang very well, but omitted the principal tenor air, "Cujus animam," for which, under his circumstances, he could not be blamed. The bass part was given by Mr. Weiss with an effect which no other singer of his class could have surpassed. The instrumental orchestra was very good, but the chorus was deficient in strength. The performance was conducted with great ability by Herr Molique, and, on the whole, was received with approbation by a large audience.

Jenny Lind—or, as she was named in the announcement, Jenny Lind-Goldsmidt, sang at the Hall of the Park, Amsterdam, on Wednesday and Saturday last. The Hall, though one of the largest in the city, was crowded to excess; and on Saturday morning not a single ticket could be had, and many paid three and four florins for the privilege of standing along the passages. Jenny Lind Goldsmidt was encored in all the songs, two of which she very good-naturedly repeated. Two or three of her magnificent cadenzas in "Quand je quittais," brought down thunders of applause; but nothing could have astonished an audience more than her performance of a Norwegian echo-song. It took the quiet Dutch ladies and gentlemen by storm. Herr Goldsmidt's performance on the piano was also of the best, and earned immense applause. *From a Correspondent.*

On Wednesday evening the Master and Wardens of the Society of Apothecaries held a microscopical *conversazione*, at Apothecaries'-hall. The rooms were very well filled, and among those present were Professor Faraday, Dr. Carpenter, Dr Graham, Mr. James Yates, Mr. Appold, and many eminent medical men.

Royal Gallery of Illustration. The Duke of Cambridge, with the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, visited the Royal Gallery of Illustration, Regent-street, on Saturday last. The Duke of Wellington and the Earl of Cardigan paid a second visit to the Gallery of Illustration on Wednesday afternoon.

A Russian Propagandist Organ.—About the middle of this month we expect to see a new journal, in the French language, started in Berlin by the Russian Government, to be entitled *Journal Nord*. The funds are to be received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in St. Petersburg, and the paper will be conducted under the management of a member of the Russian Embassy here. The chief editor will be M Cretzenesh-Joly, known in the literary world as a zealous defender of the Order of Jesus. Two sub editors will be supplied from the head-quarters of the Russian propaganda in Brussels, and a third from St. Petersburg.—*Letter from Berlin*

The Irish Absconding Case An Irish paper states that the accomplice of Mr. M'Cormick is to be charged from imprisonment for the attempted abduction of Miss Arbuthnot are as follows:—"That he shall enter into a bond, himself in £20,000, and two sureties in £5000 each, to keep the peace towards all her Majesty's subjects for ten years, and that, on liberation from gaol, he will quit the country until the term of his imprisonment shall have expired Mr. Carden, agreeing to these stipulations, will be released at the opening assizes of Clonmel, when he will depart for Brussels to recruit his health

THE SUPPRESSED PAMPHLET ON THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

NEVER was a war more discussed, the subject of greater diversity of opinions, both as regards its policy and conduct, its general objects and its details, than that in which we are now engaged. Even before the first campaign is over we find military men, officers high in command, quitting the scene of action, and returning home to express opinions, or, more ominously, to assume an expressive silence upon past events, and to speculate vaguely upon the future; whilst others, who have hitherto taken no part in the war, have been even more forward to canvass the dispositions made by the Commanders. These discussions, or rather the occasion for them, are to be regretted; but it is impossible in these days of freedom of opinion and of expression to interdict them. The French Government, however, has attempted to do so, and the consequence has been that a pamphlet, entitled "De la Conduite de la Guerre d'Orient, Expédition de Crimée"—being a memoir addressed to the Government of the Emperor Napoleon III., and purporting to be written by a General Officer, in the French service—having been suppressed in France, has been taken to Brussels to be printed, where it is now being disseminated over all parts of Europe. France alone excepted. Whether this pamphlet be, as has been noised about, from the pen of Prince Napoleon, or from that of some underling retainer in his suite, it is impossible too strongly to denounce the evident bad spirit in which it has been got up; and the unscrupulous mascaracies (many of them too flagrant to have been accidental) with which it abounds. That a Prince of the new Imperial House of France should, under the influence of personal pique, deliberately sit down to malign his Sovereign, his friend, his patron—to misrepresent his policy, and to pervert his motives—to blacken, also, the character of his superior in military rank, under whom, at his own urgent request, he served, and who fell a glorious but painful death in the midst of the execution of his duty, is hardly to be credited; and we would gladly see his Highness's character cleared of the foul imputation.* Meantime, however, the Pamphlet is sure to be read; and although, in its general tendencies, a mischievous purpose is too clearly perceptible, there are some matters which, in a military point of view, and particularly in reference to the strategy of the present campaign, it may be curious to speculate upon. In now examining some of these points, we need hardly caution the reader that we do so simply as a matter of abstract criticism, and without at all pinning faith to the statements of the author—some of which are probably correct, but many of which are unquestionably apocryphal.

Supposing the revelations of the "General Officer" as to the ruling policy of the campaign to be correct, the conclusion forced upon all readers must be, that never was a great military expedition, so brilliant in its external aspect, undertaken under more unfavourable circumstances, as regarded its *morale* and its internal organisation, than that of the Allied armies to the Crimea, in September, 1854. We say this irrespectively of abstract considerations of the wisdom and expediency of the undertaking itself. Two circumstances are to be noted in respect of this expedition, which might have defeated the wisest and best-laid plans:—First, it was undertaken against the inward conviction of a very large minority, if not actually of the majority of the principal Generals commanding; and, secondly, the officer commanding-in-chief in deference to whose views it was undertaken, was, from physical ailment, incapacitated from superintending its conduct, and was removed by death before the preliminary stages of the campaign were completed.

With regard to the Expedition itself, the writer paints in lively colours the enthusiasm of the troops, English and French, as they successively landed at Gallipoli, to the blended sounds of "God Save the Queen," and the "Marseillaise," and their high hopes of speedily engaging the common enemy, with the certainty of conquering. On the 21st of May the Allied Generals held a conference with Omer Pacha, at Varna, at which a combined plan of operations was agreed upon—the field of action being the Danube, which the "General Officer" insists was the only proper one. By the middle of June there were at Varna 38,000 or 40,000 of the Allied troops "who demanded to march to Schumla and Silistria." The treaty of June 20th was signed between Austria and the Porte, by which the Principalities were put into the hands of the former Power, conferring upon Russia "the advantage of collecting all her forces upon any point that we (the Allies) might think proper to manœuvre."

"The sorrow which the notification of the treaty of the 20th of June caused amongst the Generals and superior officers of the army was indescribable. The Prince Napoleon manifested the most lively indignation at it. One French General muttered something about treason (*trahison*), the Turks were absolutely at a loss to understand anything in the matter. "The English were silent—gave no expression of opinion, in accordance with their military habits. General Scarlett, on being spoken to on the subject, coldly saluted his interlocutor, and left him on the plea of urgent business. If we were vain to interrogate Lord Raglan and the Duke of Cambridge, they would have given no reply." Marshal St. Arnaud alone appeared to be satisfied, and to understand what was going on.

The invasion of Russia by the three Allied armies, by land, by which the Crimea might have been cut off like a wen, at the isthmus of Perekop, was abandoned; and the descent upon the Crimea, and siege of Sebastopol determined upon. The former was the plan of the Generals on the spot; the latter of the Emperor Napoleon himself. "It was in the Cabinet of the Tuileries that originated the idea of this expedition; it was conceived in solitude. The Emperor, bending over a map with attentive eye, the compasses in his hand, passed many long hours in elaborating this scheme, and he forwarded it to Constantinople entirely written out in his own hand, and without having previously communicated it to any one." These instructions reached Marshal St. Arnaud in the course of July; he accepted and adopted them without reserve or hesitation. A reconnaissance of the south-western coast of the Crimea was made by General Canrobert, General Brown, Admiral Lyons, and some other officers, from on board the *Furious*; but the observations so made were confined to the selection of a convenient place for landing, and the best route thence to Sebastopol; and had nothing to do with the position or resources of the enemy in the Crimea.

On the 16th of August a Council of War was held at Varna, at which the Marshal explained the idea of the projected expedition. The plan was to select a proper landing-place, effect the landing of the troops under the protection of the guns of the fleet, defeat the Russians in an engagement, and then "march straight upon Sebastopol and carry it by a *coup-de-main*." "All eyes were now turned towards Lord Raglan. He had a thoughtful aspect, and his face during some minutes past had expressed all the incredulity of his mind. Lord Raglan objected to the want of information as to the forces of the Russians, and the condition of the place on the land side. The maps furnished no indications upon the latter point. The roads, rivers, and natural obstacles were unknown. It was an unfavourable field for battle. The English General objected, above all, that the army was deficient in cavalry, whilst the Russians are well supplied with excellent horses.

"Vice-Admiral Hamelin spoke with some warmth. In his opinion the expedition, undertaken under such circumstances, resembled very much an adventure. The forces of the Allies appeared to him to be insufficient for the purpose." He then went on to point out that the fleet, though they might do good service in covering the landing of the troops, might afterwards, by stress of weather, be prevented from co-operating; and he pointed out with emphasis the treacherous character of the sea and winds in the autumn and winter months. Marshal St. Arnaud replied briefly, but with energy:—"He reiterated his former arguments with greater force;" and concluded by "resting on the very competent authority of the Emperor." Prince Napoleon spoke for three-quarters of an hour in opposition to the project:—"The authority of the Emperor," he insisted, "was no doubt very high in this matter; but the Emperor at Biarritz (whence the instructions had been dispatched) was not in a position to take account of the practical difficulties of the enterprise." He then went on to argue in favour of an expedition crossing the Danube and the Pruth for the capture of Perekop.

The account of this memorable Council thus concludes:—

"What will happen," asked Lord Raglan, "if the place resists, and if it should be well fortified?"

The Marshal replied that, in that case, they would have to lay a siege to it, and that, by occupying the fortifications on the northern side, they would necessarily become masters of the town. If the fortifications on the north presented too serious obstacles, it would be easy to pass to the south, turning the position, and to undertake a regular siege with the co-operation and protection of the fleets, which would find good anchorage on the coast, especially at Balaclava, already inspected by Sir Edmund Lyons.

The details of the expedition were then minutely entered into; and the proposal, upon being put to the vote, obtained the approbation of a large majority in the Council. Notwithstanding the very sensible objections expressed by him, Lord Raglan in the end gave an affirmative vote, General Bosquet, the like; this was an error. The four who remained to the last in opposition to the scheme, were the Vice-Admiral Hamelin, Vice-Admiral Dundas, the Duke of Cambridge, and Prince Napoleon.

The events which followed are too fresh in our minds to need repetition. The fruitless bombardment of the town during seven consecutive days, from the 17th to the 24th of October, virtually brought the first campaign to a close; and at one time, particularly after the affair of Inkerman, it was seriously under discussion to end the affair, either by venturing an assault or re-embarking the troops. Neither course, however, was practicable, in face of the position held by the enemy.

To sum up, the "General Officer" says:—"Could we have taken Sebastopol by a *coup de main* on the northern side after the battle of Alma? Perhaps so; in any case it ought to have been attempted. Once arrived on the southern side, was it possible to reduce the place by bombardment and breaching? This is more questionable; the position was reversed, and to our disadvantage; for, after carrying the place, we should not, under any hypothesis, have been able to retain possession of it." As previously stated by Marshal St. Arnaud, the northern fortifications command the town; and one of these alone the Sieverna Fort—is armed with 300 pieces of large calibre, defended by a garrison of 3000 men:—"It is useless to make siege to the town of Sebastopol without the possession of that culminating point; and the place, supposing it to be reduced, would not be tenable as long as the Sieverna Fort is in the hands of the enemy."

We have only to add that, whilst we fully appreciate the disastrous commencement of this great expedition, we do not participate in the writer's discouraging expectations for the future.

* The *Post* Correspondent of Paris writes:—

"I can assure you that Prince Napoleon indignantly repudiates the authorship of the pamphlet (the suppressed Pamphlet on the War) which has been attributed to him. At the same time the Prince allows that there are certain specific facts which may have derived their authority from letters or conversations of his. The moment the Prince heard of the Pamphlet he went to the Tuileries, and begged that inquiries might be instituted, and, for his own part, gave every possible facility in order to discover the real author."

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C W., of S.—The following is the world famed "Indian" Problem:—White: K at Q R sq, R at Q sq, Bs at K R 6th and K Kt 2nd; Ps at K Kt 4th, K B 2nd, Q Kt 3rd, and Q R 2nd. Black: K at K 5th, Kt at K 3th, B at K B 6th, Ps at K 4th, Q Kt 3rd and 4th. White to play, and mate in four moves. Your Solutions are correct.

J. Ross, Rose—Have received all Dr Orville's beautiful End-game in the true one.

F. A., of Norwich.—Contributors should always send their address. It is impossible to respond on one-tenth of the Problems submitted to us, through the medium of the paper.

F. H. W.—Anyone should send the Solution. The position, if we mistake not, is an old one.

J. Lemos, Rome.—A reply shall be forwarded in a few days. Meanwhile accept our cordial thanks.

R. M. P.—Any covenant in a Problem, beyond the ordinary one of White or Black to mate in so many moves, detracts, in our opinion, from the value of the position.

E. H.—A little study of attention would have shown you that the key to Enigma 910 is 1—1, Kt to K 8th; and, after a Bad, the first move is Q to K 8th.

H. P., of C.—Too obvious.

J. Cole.—We are very sorry to say we cannot approve either of the design or execution. The compiler, it is evident from the antiquated blunder pointed out about Queening the Knight, knows little or nothing of his subject, and the attempt to teach Chess as he would the game of Fox and Geese is a signal failure. Chess is essentially complex and growing diversified of these characteristics, it would be no longer Chess—*superfortum* cor—but a mere schoolboy game, utterly unworthy the regard of grave and studious minds.

A. M.—The key move to Judy's charming Problem, "Sella," is White, K to Q B 3rd. The first move in that by E. A. M. M. is White, P to Q B 3rd.

A. B. W. C.—Your key shall be carefully examined.

Nemo.—Is in a state of Dutch Chess congress, from Kent's "of Paternoster-row; and you can do no better than your manuscript in a fourth of the time.

W. C.—We doubt think the operation of Castling is fairly allowable in a Chess problem.

A. J. B.—Thanks.—Our wishes respecting your last most interesting and opportune discovery shall be made known to you by letter in a delicacy.

DELTA.—Try your skill upon the famous Indian Problem which we give in the present Notice. This strategem is considered the finest four-move position known.

VON H. d. L., Brussels.—The promised communications were duly dispatched through the channel indicated, on the 1st inst.

G. T. M.—Unpublished games of the late M. Kieseritzky are somewhat rare. A few, however, have recently been forwarded to this journal by a distinguished French player, and are now nearly ready for the press.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 575, by Dr. Jacobus, C. W. of N., Cynon, P. P. of N., Philo-Chess, Bellerophon, M. T., J. H., of Hull.—All your solutions are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 576, by Dorcyon, J. Stonehouse, F. T. Derby, E. H. Norwich, Perseus, D. D., Dorcas, F. D. Norwich, W. M. W., W. C. C., Corbett, Sherborne, M. S., Ilgeworth, J. A. H. of Bakewell, Omicron, Derby, R. T. L., Cantab, True Blue, Philo-Alpha, An Old Salt, are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 575.

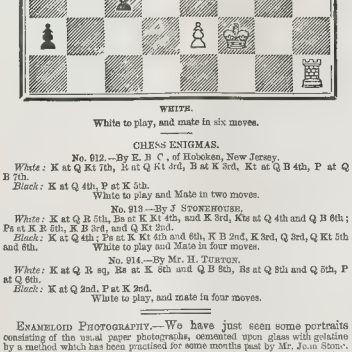
WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R to K R 7th	B takes Q, or (a)
2. R to Q R 6th	Any move
3. B or Kt mates	

(a)	
2. Q takes P (ch)	R takes R
3. Q mates	Any move

PROBLEM No. 577.

By Mr. H. THETON

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in six moves.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 912.—By E. B. C., of Hoboken, New Jersey.

White: K at Q Kt 7th, R at Q Kt 3rd, B at K 3rd, Kt at Q B 4th, P at Q B 7th.
Black: K at Q 4th, P at K 5th.
White to play and Mate in two moves.

No. 913.—By J. STONEHOUSE.

White: K at Q R 5th, Bs at K Kt 4th, and K 3rd, Kts at Q 4th and Q B 6th; Ps at K R 6th, K B 3rd, and Q Kt 2nd.
Black: K at Q 4th; Ps at K Kt 4th and 6th, K B 2nd, K 3rd, Q 3rd, Q Kt 5th and 6th. White to play and Mate in four moves.

No. 914.—By Mr. H. THETON.

White: K at Q R sq, Rs at K 6th and Q B 5th, Bs at Q 8th and Q 5th, P at Q 6th.
Black: K at Q 2nd, P at K 2nd.
White to play, and mate in four moves.

ENAMELOID PHOTOGRAPHY.—We have just seen some portraits consisting of the usual paper photographs, cemented upon glass with gelatine by a method which has been practised for some months past by Mr. John Stone of Clifton road, Brighton. Its superiority consists in making the uneven surface of paper acquire the appearance of enamel, bringing out the minute details of the picture with greatly increased distinctness, and giving a brilliancy of effect not hitherto obtained. To the photographs thus treated, Mr. Stone applies the name of enameloid, as it conveys at once an idea of their character.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Lord John Russell and suite arrived at Vienna on Sunday evening, at eight o'clock. Apartments have been taken for the noble Lord and his suite at the Hotel de Russie, Vienna, while the Russian Plenipotentiary to the Vienna Conferences, Councillor Von Titoff, is staying at the British Hotel in the same city.

The Empress of Austria was delivered of a daughter on Monday last.

The French Emperor and Empress drove in an open carriage, without escort of any kind, along the Boulevards on Tuesday afternoon. They alighted at a house on the Italian Boulevards, where they remained about an hour, and then proceeded on their promenade to the Champs Elysées.

The Right Hon. the Speaker gave his fourth Parliamentary dinner on Saturday, at his mansion in Eaton-square. The Speaker will hold two levees (his season) the first on Saturday (to-day), the second on Saturday, March 17th, both at two o'clock.

The Emperor of Austria has addressed an autograph letter to King Victor Emmanuel, expressing his sincere condolence on the losses recently experienced by the Royal Family of Sardinia.

The Court of Directors of the East India Company have invited a distinguished party to meet at dinner on Saturday (to-day), at the London Tavern, Major-General Vivian and the officers of the Turkish Contingent, about to take their departure for the East.

The Archduke William, the personal friend of the new Emperor of Russia, left Vienna on Saturday last, with an autograph letter from the Emperor of Austria to the Emperor Alexander.

General the Marquis Alphonse de la Marmora, Commander-in-Chief of the Sardinian Contingent for the Crimea, accompanied by Lord Hatherton, visited Portsmouth on Saturday, and inspected the *Hannibal*, the fortifications, &c., and also the fortifications at Spithead, Stokes Bay, and Cowes, Isle of Wight.

The King of Denmark is seriously ill. On Monday the symptoms were alarming. The bulletins say that the cough is violent and fever severe, with great restlessness.

General Roguet, Aide-de-Camp to the French Emperor, has been nominated Commander of the First Division of Infantry of the Army of Paris, in the room of General Levasseur, who has been placed on the reserve.

Sir James Graham is making preparations for removing from the Admiralty to his mansion in Grosvenor-place; and Sir Charles Wood is about to vacate his residence in Belgrave-square, for the official residence attached to the post he has assumed in the new Ministry.

A letter from Vienna of the 23rd ult., states that the Grand Duchess Sophia is so indisposed as to be obliged to keep her room. It is also said that the Duke of Brunswick is seriously indisposed.

The gold medal annually granted by the English Government to an architect of distinguished merit, has been this year awarded to M. Hittorf, member of the Institute of France. This is the third time since its institution that this medal has been awarded to a foreigner.

The Earl of Gifford is appointed additional private secretary to Lord Panmure.

Prince Frederic Oscar has been named Commander of the Norwegian fleet.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has appointed Sir Alexander Duff Gordon, Bart., of the Treasury, to be his private secretary.

Major Gorrone, who was sent to the Crimea some time ago by the Piedmontese Government, has returned to Turin.

Mr. Layard has been elected Lord Rector of the Aberdeen University, by a majority of three out of the four nations over Col. Sykes.

M. Egger, member of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, found in an Egyptian papyrus brought to France by M. Mariette, an unpublished fragment of a lost tragedy of Euripides.

Sir John Young, the late Irish Secretary, who has been appointed Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, will take his departure for Corfu about the end of the month.

The French Emperor has caused a number of fine horses to be purchased in the Calvados. The Prince Jerome has also just purchased four beautiful black carriage horses at Caen.

The Duke of Argyll has intimated his intention to be in Glasgow about the end of March or the beginning of April, for the purpose of being installed as Lord Rector of the University.

On the same day, and nearly at the same hour, that the Emperor of Russia died at St. Petersburg, the veteran Republican, Dupont (de l'Eure) breathed his last at Rougeperrier, in Normandy.

A bas-relief in white marble, representing Esculapius at the bedside of a patient, has just been brought over by the *Pelopeka* from Cyprus, in Asia Minor, for the museum of the Louvre.

Workmen have commenced the removal of the raised grass-plot in the centre of the court of the Louvre; and a pedestal is to be built on the site for an equestrian statue of Francis I., by Cessinger.

Sir J. M'Neil, G.C.B., and the members of the Sanitary Commission appointed to examine the state of the British military hospitals in the East, together with several civil engineers, sailed from Marseilles for Constantinople in the steam packet *Tamise* on the 26th ult.

The important office of Master of the Mint is now vacant, Sir John Herschel having tendered his resignation.

A Republican notability, named Bernard, who was the grave-digger of the French Executive Government in 1793, has just died in a village near Lyons. It was he who received from the hands of the Abbé Sylvain Renaud, the first Vicar of the church of the Madeleine, for the purpose of burial, the bodies of King Louis XVI. and Marie Antoinette, which were both placed in open coffins.

The number of members of the French Academy is at present only thirty-nine—the chair formerly occupied by M. Baour-Lormian not having yet been filled up.

A banquet is to be given to Captain M'Clure, discoverer of the North-West Passage, in the borough of Wexford, on the 23rd of March, when a number of the neighbouring nobility and gentry are expected to be present.

On the 14th ult. the port of Odessa was frozen up to a distance of two versts from the shore; the thermometer registered twelve degrees of Réaumur below zero.

A Liverpool firm has been prosecuted for fraudulently obtaining the register of a Russian vessel as an English one, by pretending that it had changed owners. Decision on the case has been adjourned.

Shocks of an earthquake in Mexico were experienced on the 1st and 2nd of February, which caused some damage to the city.

Notwithstanding the demand for small-arms, the gunmakers of Birmingham connected with the Tower work are not fully employed. This arises partly from an inadequate supply of bayonets and other materials.

Several cases of cholera have occurred within the last fortnight at Berlin, although the average temperature has been about 8 deg below zero, Réaumur. At St. Petersburg, with an average of 15 to 18 deg., the disease has increased.

At the last meeting of the Leicester board of guardians, the number relieved was stated by the clerk to be—Out-door, 2722; in-door, 826. Corresponding period last year—Out-door, 203; indoor, 503.

The glass trade in Birmingham is more than usually flat, and one of the principal firms in the town have reduced their workpeople to three days' employment per week.

While Europe has been undergoing so severe a winter, at Algeria, says the *Akhbar*, the thermometer has never been lower than eight degrees above zero Centigrade (47 Fah.), and that only for two days.

The project of arranging special direct trains from Berlin to Paris, during the Exhibition, is being matured into a plan.

Last week the licensing magistrates, at their meeting at Croydon, granted a spirit licence to Messrs. Staples for the Crystal Palace. In support of the application, evidence was given by Mr. Grove, the secretary, that 1,200,000 persons had been admitted to the Palace since its opening, and that £51,000 had been taken for refreshments.

The fire which broke out lately in the Imperial Palace at Prague destroyed twenty-two rooms, including two large saloons. The damage is estimated at about 1,500,000f.

An order for 20,000 spindles is now being completed in Preston, for a large manufacturing establishment at Bombay.

The committee of the Danish Volksthing has resolved not to admit the excess illegally charged on the national budget by the late Cabinet for military, naval, and other purposes. The ex-Ministers are to be impeached.

The annual account published on Saturday, shows that the receipts of the governors of Queen Anne's Bounty for the year 1853, amounted to £212,341, and the disbursements to £213,398.

A large fourgon, containing a printing-press for the Army of the Crimea, was embarked the other day on board the *Express* steamer at Lyons. On it was to be seen this inscription—*Armée d'Orient—Imprimerie Impériale.* Two of the best compositors of the Imperial printing establishment of Paris accompany it.

SALE OF THE BERNAL COLLECTION.

GROUP OF MAJOLICA FAENZA OR RAPHAEL WARE.

Doubtless many of our readers will be desirous to know somewhat concerning this celebrated Collection (now on the eve of dispersion, and which forms, perhaps, the most complete illustration of French art ever made by a private individual; including, besides, a great quantity of works of other nations, collected with such a union of zeal and refined taste as are rarely to be found combined.

Having been formed almost entirely during the last thirty years, of course falls short of the Strawberry-hill and Stowe collections in point of historical interest; but this is compensated for by its containing many interesting and beautiful examples from these and nearly all the other important cabinets both at home and abroad which have been dispersed during that period.

To do more than notice the most remarkable objects would require greater space than we can spare; and as numbers of our readers will doubtless have the pleasure of inspecting the entire Collection, it will be only necessary for us to point out the principal features, to assist them in doing so.

First amongst the most interesting portion are the Paintings and Miniatures, of which there are upwards of six hundred, many of them valuable not only as works of art, but as representing great historical celebrities, both English and foreign, of the last three centuries, terminating with the reign of Louis XVI. It is particularly rich in portraits of the sixteenth century, including many genuine works by Holbein, though not perhaps of the highest order of his productions. Of these "Nicholas Lord Vaux" (the poet), "Lady Johanna Abergavenny" (from Strawberry-hill), and "Ann of Cleves," are decidedly the best. The works of Francis Clouet, called Janet, are seldom seen to so great advantage as in the portraits of "Isabella, Queen of Charles IX." (which we have engraved), and "Eleanor, Queen of Francis I., and sister of Charles V., which two gems appear to have escaped the touch of the restorer. A noble portrait of the "Cardinal Chatillon," by Primaticcio, is so fine that, spite of the signature and date, it has been attributed by Dr. Waagen and others to Holbein—an error which may well be excused. The "Duke of Saxony and his Court," and a portrait of "Sybilla, Duchess of Saxony," by Lucas Cranach; the "Earl of Leicester and Queen Elizabeth," by Zucchero; and "Lucy, Countess of Bedford," and "Jane, Marchioness of Winchester," by Mark Gerrard, are worthy of notice. A portrait of "Edward IV.," from the collection of the Leighs of Allington, is one of great interest. The portraits of "Anna Maria of Austria, Queen of Philip II. of Spain," by Coello, and "Marie Louise d'Orleans, Queen of Charles II. of Spain," by Velasquez, are very fine. The "Czar Peter Dining with the Mayor of Dorkum," is a curious work of Gerard Wigmanna, the self-styled Raphael of Friesland. There are most capital portraits of "Mieris," "Ludolph," "Backhuyzen," and "Karel du Jardin," by their own hands. The Collection contains some of Rigaud's best works: amongst which may be noticed a small whole-length of "Louis XIV.," "The Comtesse de la Briffe" (known by the engraving of Drevet, &c.), "Mesdames La Vallière and Maintenon," by Mignard (the latter), from Quintin Crauford's collection. "Maria Leckzinski, Queen of Louis XV." (by Nattier), "Madame de Pompadour" (by Greuze), and "Nell Gwynne" (by Lely), are extremely elegant. A small equestrian portrait of "William II. of Orange," by Cuyp, is genuine and carefully painted. Amongst the subject pictures—which are few, but of high quality—may be mentioned "The Annunciation," by Fra Angelica da Fiesole; "The Virgin and Infant Christ" (seated on a throne, with the Hospital of St. John at Bruges in the background), one of Hemmelinck's finest works; "The Ripose of the Holy Family and The Virgin with Infant," by Jean de Mabense, is of similar high character, and finished equal to the most laborious works of the later Dutch masters. "The Adoration of the Name of Jesus," attributed to Albert Durer, is interesting as containing portraits of Charles V. and other celebrated characters of that period.

Under the head of Miniatures, which include works nearly all the best painters, may be noticed "James I. and Anne of Denmark, by Hilyard; "Faulconberg" (Cromwell's son-in-law), by Samuel Cooper. "Frederick, King of Bohemia," by Petitot; and a large elaborate subject by H. Bol, dated 1549.

Next in point of interest is the collection of Faenza Ware (or Majolica as it is sometimes called, from having originated in the island of Majorca) and Raphael Ware, from the Urbino manufactory, frequently representing the designs of that master. Of this there are about four hundred pieces; and it is believed that no other cabinet can at all compete with this either in the quantity or quality of its specimens, presenting a rare opportunity for the directors of our own Museum. Among them is the celebrated Stowe plate, and fine specimens with the monogrammes of Fra Xanto and Maestro Giorgio, which are very uncommon. Of this ware we have engraved a group of Vases. There are also a few fine specimens of the fine ware of Bernard de Palissy.

Since her Majesty has been graciously pleased to allow the superb specimens of Sèvres porcelain contained in the Royal collections to be exhibited at Marlborough-house, the public have become familiarised with some of the most beautiful objects which have emanated from that renowned manufactory. In this particular, however, the Bernal Collection will not disappoint them, containing as it does about twenty vases of very great importance, and several hundred other specimens of the highest quality,—forming, doubtless, as complete an illustration of this celebrated fabrique as is to be found in Europe.

GROUP OF VENETIAN AND GERMAN GLASS.

PORTRAIT OF ISABELLA, QUEEN OF CHARLES IX.

The several German manufactories, as also the Oriental and Old Chelsea, are represented by superb examples; and the collection of Old Dresden can only be compared with the Sèvres, both in magnificence and extent;—in addition to which there are two hundred snuff-boxes of the same material, probably the largest and most varied assemblage ever brought together.

Next in rotation comes the cabinet of Venetian and German Glass, which includes all the rare varieties, and numbers many hundred pieces. Of these we have engraved a group. The Enamelled German Glass is particularly interesting and fine, most of the specimens bearing dates.

The assemblage of Cologne Ware and Gris de Flandres is extensive and interesting, as illustrating the costume of the period. One jug has the arms of Queen Elizabeth.

The collection of Works of Mediæval Art, of silver and other metal, cannot fail to excite great interest, including as it does very pure specimens of ecclesiastical ornaments, some of which it will be remembered formed part of the beautiful Exhibition at the Society of Arts in 1850, and a very fine assemblage of argenterie of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, with several fine works of the Byzantine period. Of this portion of the Collection we have also engraved some specimens

The cabinet of Limoges Enamels is very complete, and numbers above a hundred specimens by the Laudins, Courtois, Limousin, and other celebrated enamellers. We engrave a group

The Collection of Armour and Arms, both European and Oriental, is very perfect, including a complete *cap-à-pie* suit of elaborately-chased Italian work, of the early part of the sixteenth century; and another of German globose armour, equally fine. A breast-plate is of russet steel, most elaborately chased and inlaid with gold, quite equal to the works of Cellini, though said to be of Spanish workmanship, of about 1560. A pair of pistols and dagger, of the time and style of Louis XVI., may rival the manufacture of any age. A court jester's helmet, with nose and moustache, in relief, is very curious.

There are also above one hundred watches and clocks, the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries: one of the watches is said to have been presented by Charles I. to Colonel Hammond.

The magnificent apartments are decorated with the choicest productions of the French ateliers of the last century which supply the place of furniture. The names of Buhl, Reisner, Gouttere, and Chippendale will speak for themselves.

The sale, which is entrusted to Messrs. Christie and Manson, commenced at their rooms on Monday, and will continue thirty-two days We shall illustrate a few more specimens.

GROUP OF MEDIÆVAL PLATE

EWER AND TAZZA OF LIMOGES ENAMEL.

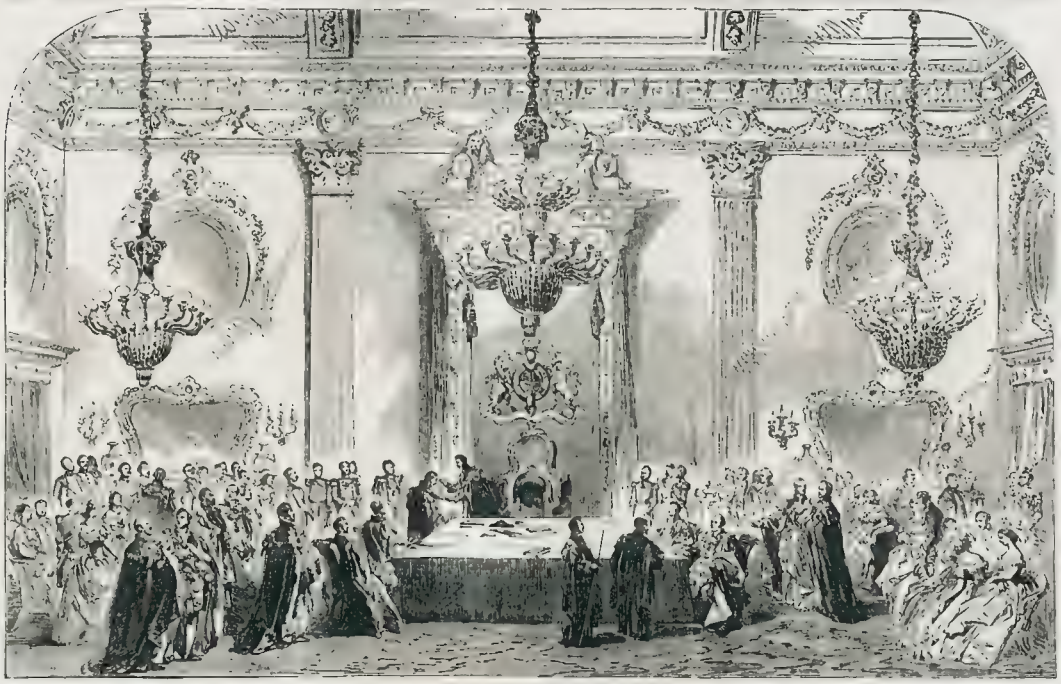
PHOTOGRAPHS OF PICTURES.

(*To the Editor of the* Illustrated London News.)

I observe by several late issues of your paper that artists in England are taking Photography in hand, and with considerable success, judging from the woodcut copies of their productions in your Journal. It may be interesting to your readers to know that the subject is pursued with considerable vigour in some parts of the Continent; but, as far as my opportunities of observation have gone, it is brought to a greater pitch of perfection—at least, in one branch of the art—at Dresden than elsewhere. In the "Artistisch-Photographisches Institut, von F. and O. Brockmann, Albrechtsgasse, No. 7," I lately had the pleasure of looking over a portfolio of Photographs, taken on glass and afterwards transferred to paper, from the magnificent collection of pictures in the Gallery of that city. Here I saw produced, with the fidelity of a pencil that could not err, the chefs-d'œuvre of Raphael, Rubens, Guido Reni, Holbein, Vandervert, Murillo, &c., which on the day previous I had admired in original on the walls of the Gallery. The beauty of execution generally, the delicacy and softness with which flesh and drapery were rendered, the clearness even to the very edges of the picture, and, lastly, the identity as it were of the copy and the original, claimed my warmest terms of praise. I purchased ten of the best specimens, and, on my return home, showed them to artists (painters) in Paris and to photographers in London. My judgment was fully confirmed by both, and they at once confessed that there was nothing produced in either of those capitals that could be compared to them. I made diligent inquiry in every shop where photographs were exposed for sale, if any copies of the originals in the Galleries at either capital were procurable. Sometimes the reply was in the affirmative, at others in the negative; but when in the former case the specimens came to be examined it was at once clear that they were photographs from *engravings* of the originals. In London, I was told, some attempts had been made on one occasion, which ended in an injury to one of the originals in the National Gallery, and that in consequence further experiments of such a nature were forbidden. However, Sir, I am a witness to the fact that the thing can be done most successfully without removing or touching the originals, provided there be sufficient light (a doubtful matter under the pepper-boxes of Trafalgar-square), and that the pictures are not too strong in certain colours which are antagonistic to the photographer's art.

I need not remind you or your artistic readers of the advantage that would accrue to the world if the great originals which enrich the Galleries of the different capitals of Europe could be reproduced in such quantities and on so diminutive a scale, that an artist might have duplicates of them in his studio, and that the traveller might bring away with him from every Gallery he visited absolutely accurate copies of the particular paintings that have won his admiration.

Ziegunker.



INVESTITURE OF THE ORDER OF ST. PATRICK, AT DUBLIN CASTLE.

INVESTITURE OF THE ORDER OF ST. PATRICK.

The accompanying Illustration represents the Investiture of Lord Cremorne and the Earl of Gosford with the Order of St Patrick, as described in our Journal of last week. This Order was first established by George III. in 1783—an act of justice no less than of policy, as there were two Orders of England and one of Scotland, and it was essential to conciliate Ireland by some manifestation of the King's favour. The Royal warrant was issued in the February of the year above named, commanding Letters Patent to pass under the Great Seal of Ireland, "for creating *a Society or Brotherhood*, to be called Knights of the Most Illustrious Order of St. Patrick." The Cross of St Patrick (a red Saltire), and a Golden Harp (the ancient Irish Ensign, together with the national badge, the Shamrock or Trefoil (to which the Saint had given celebrity, were made its principal symbols.

The new Order consisted of the Sovereign a Grand Master, and fifteen Knights; and of six officers, viz.—a Chancellor, Registrar, Secretary, Genealogist, Usher, and King of Arms; to which number a Prelate was immediately afterwards added. His Majesty, his heirs and successors, Kings of Great Britain, were declared to be the Sovereign, and his Lieutenant-General and General-Governor of Ireland, or the Lord-Deputy or Deputies, or the Lords Justices, or other Chief Governor or Governors of that Kingdom for the time being, were to officiate as Grand Masters. Every person of or above the rank of Knight was eligible to be elected a Knight of the Order; but of the fifteen originally nominated one was a Prince of the Blood Royal, one was a Duke, and thirteen were Earls of Ireland. The qualifications and forms of admission, the ceremonials, including investiture and installation, are similar to those in the Order of the Garter, the statutes of which were made, as far as is possible, the model of those of the new fraternity. The Prelate was to be the Lord Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of all Ireland; the Chancellor was to be the Lord Archbishop of Dublin, and the Registrar was to be the Dean of the Cathedral Church of Saint Patrick for the time being. Ulster King of Arms and his successors were always to be the King of Arms of the Order; but all the other officers were to be appointed by the Sovereign.

The first Grand Master the Order was George Nugent Temple Grenville, second Earl Temple, afterwards created Marquis of Buckingham who was then Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

The most memorable installation was that held by King George IV at Dublin in 1821. After it a banquet was given in St. Patrick's hall, at which the Knights Companions sate at the Sovereign's table, which crossed the hall, according to the order of their stalls, together with the Prelate, Chancellor, and Registrar. There were also two tables running down the hall, which were occupied by the nobility and other persons of distinction, who had been specially invited; the Lord Mayor presiding at the one, and the General Commanding the Forces at the other. The general effect of the spectacle is said to have been most splendid; and the installation of the Knights of St. Patrick on that occasion will always form a memorable event in the History of Ireland. While his Majesty remained in Dublin he constantly wore the Star, Ribband, and Badge of the Order of Saint Patrick, and usually appeared with a shamrock in his hat

SCENE FROM MEYERBEER'S NEW OPERA, "L'ETOILE DU NORD," AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE THEATRES.

DRURY-LANE.

The Sketch on the preceding page represents the last scene of the second act of Meyerbeer's new opera, "L'Etoile du Nord," at Drury-lane. In this scene the *Emperor* has confronted and overawed the conspirators, who have submitted and received his pardon; and he is in the act of leading his new reunited troops against their enemies the Swedes, accompanied by a grand martial chorus; the whole forming a very effective finale.

The Standard. This theatre on Saturday last produced the great Shakspearian epic, in the dramatic form, of "Antony and Cleopatra," with Mr. H. Marston and Miss Glyn as the representatives of the imperial lovers. Numbers were attracted in consequence to this old theatre and popular theatre who had never before witnessed its interior. It was crowded with an audience for the most part respectably attired, and deeply attentive to the business of the scene. That the star system should have this tendency to the East, and that the legitimate—the Shakspearian—drama should be so readily planted among the masses, is a sign of the times not to be disregarded, and partly to be accounted for by the improved education of the people. The tragedy in question was mounted with great care and splendour; the scenery being decidedly the most striking the costume various and imposing. That such a tragedy should have been adventured on such a stage is, however, a natural result of Mr. Phelps's admirable management of Sadler's Wells; and the heroine on whom the success of the experiment depended, owes Londoners her introduction to the character to the opportunity afforded her on the Islington stage. Dramatic reform is thus striking its roots in the popular mind; and in no long time we shall find it progressing from the east to the west; and, the circle having thus completed itself, there is abundant reason to believe that the national drama may regain the ascendancy that has been interrupted only, not abolished. Already, there are indications of the coming harvest, and we have strong hopes that our more influential and intelligent performers will ere long return to their first love, and prove the fidelity of their attachment to the cause of that poetry which proved the chief glory of the Elizabethan age, and may yet illustrate the fortunes of the Victorian. Miss Glyn's performance of *Cleopatra* has already commended itself to the critics as a remarkable instance of histrionic and personal suitability in the actress for the specific character. From the beginning it was felt that competition was hopeless, and accordingly none of our great actresses have as yet attempted to share the triumph that Miss Glyn had so signally achieved. So many attributes are required to satisfy an ideal so abstract as the Shakspearian portrait of the Egyptian Cleopatra, that the highest talent and genius might fail in the attempt. In Miss Glyn meet, in an extraordinary manner, the specific qualities themselves that were required and hence we have, in her acting of the part, something that is perfectly unique and inimitable. The manner in which she played it on Saturday was exquisite—surprising. Such dash, rapidity, force, dazzling effect, we have seldom witnessed even in the greatest of Rachel's efforts. Frequently we were reminded of what was said of Edmund Kean's acting, that "it was like reading of Shakspeare by flashes of lightning." Such is the vivid and ever-varying light and shade exhibited in Miss Glyn's *Cleopatra*, which must now be accepted as one of the most perfect impersonations on the stage of Europe. Mr. Marston has achieved a great success by his *Mark Antony*. He, too, has many qualifications for this peculiar character. First of all, he has what Mr. Charles Kemble called "a good historical face;" next his style is of the classical kind, and his personal manner, on the stage, not unlike that of C. Kemble himself, who probably was Mr. Marston's original model. He made, at any rate, a capital lover for Miss Glyn's *Cleopatra*, and for tenderness and amorous pathos is not to be exceeded. He also made a deep impression on the audience, who greeted him with frequent applause, and unanimously recalled him before the curtain, both in the middle, and at the end, of the performance.

Lyceum. An extraordinary title, called "Take that Girl Away," was produced on Monday. It is, of course, an adaptation of a French piece—to wit, "Otez votre fille, s'il vous plaît," and of that class in which amusement is the only purpose of the playwright. The annoyance suffered by an artist from a young lady's constantly occupying the opposite balcony is the motive of the action. He first angers the father by invoking him to "take that girl away;" next falls in love with the girl herself; contrives her abduction; gets her father's consent to the match; transfers her former lover to her sister; then falls in love with that sister himself, & afterwards reverts to his first impression, and concurs in the original arrangement; but doubts, as the curtain descends, whether the other state of things would not have been the better after all.

St. James's.—Mr. Markwell has translated for this theatre a French piece, in which Mdlle Rachel once acted, devoted to the final intrigue of the carrière and the death of Peter the Great. The Emperor indulges in a *penchant* for a French chevalier, and Peter's valuable time is wasted in unravelling the miserable intrigue for four tedious acts, until poison puts an end to the tyrant's suffering. The only thing noteworthy in the performance was the acting of Mr. Marcus Simon in the character of the irascible *Emperor*. His début is certainly promising, and we hope to see him better supported in something better. The parts in general were spoiled by the immature efforts of amateur candidates for stage distinction, which would be discouraging, and it would be idle to criticise.

Marylebone.—Mr. and Mrs. Wallack have this week appeared for the first time as *Leontes* and *Hermione*, in "The Winter's Tale," and, as they always do, portrayed the characters not only with great force, but originality. Mr. Wallack, by his searching analysis, brought out effects in the *Leontes* which we had never previously seen developed, and kept his audience in an extraordinary state of excitement regarding a character which usually awakens no sympathy. Much novel business also was introduced by Mrs. Wallack, both in the trial and statue scenes of *Hermione*, which was highly appreciated, and indeed commanded the unanimous applause of a very respectable house.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The late severe weather has been such a practical and salutary satirist on the growing absurdity of winter race-meetings, that their promoters will think twice before they fix them so early in 1856. The greatest dissatisfaction was felt at Lord Sefton's second postponement of the Liverpool Meeting, as all the flat-race engagements were voided thereby. The same remark applies to Nottingham, which was obliged to determine the best sport it could; while Lincoln was suffered to die out altogether, and reappears under the Johnson *régime* in a totally new shape, during Passion Week.

Next week will be rich in sport and flat racing, as the season will begin in thorough earnest at Doncaster, which claims Tuesday and Wednesday. The principal features of Tuesday are the Great National Steeplechase and the Hopeful Stakes, which will probably bring to the post about twenty out of the five dozen two-year-olds engaged. The Doncaster Handicap will be the great event of the second day; and the sports will be varied by the Hunt Steeplechase, which invariably produces more falls than race meets in the year. About £565 is added to the eleven events. On Thursday and Friday the fight will have a divided cry: is few will proceed southward to Salisbury, while the majority will go on to Thirsk, which has this year revived its ancient meeting, and met with no small success in its entries.

The regular Steeplechase Meetings for the week are:—Derby (3), on Monday; Diss (2), and Chipping Norton (3), on Tuesday; Nuneaton (4), and St. Ives (2), on Wednesday; King's Lynn (3), and Market Rason (2), on Thursday; and the long postponed Westbury (3), on Friday.

Coursers are also working hard to make up their leeway. The Ambleside Hampton and Oswestry (Ashton) are the fixtures for Tuesday; Spelthorne stands for Tuesday, Ax; Sundorne and Mountainstown (Meath) for Tuesday and Wednesday; and Ridgway for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Cumberland has a little meeting at Arnaby on Thursday and Friday; they has bespoken Mr. McGeorge's services for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

The racing stables are in very full work at present; and Polydore, Afghan, and Habena are receiving the most marked attention from the Newmarket touts. The latter has to prove up to high leeway. In the Ambleside Hampton and Oswestry (Ashton) are the fixtures for Tuesday; Spelthorne stands for Tuesday, Ax; Sundorne and Mountainstown (Meath) for Tuesday and Wednesday; and Ridgway for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Cumberland has a little meeting at Arnaby on Thursday and Friday; they has bespoken Mr. McGeorge's services for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

The racing stables are in very full work at present; and Polydore, Afghan, and Habena are receiving the most marked attention from the Newmarket touts. The latter has to prove up to high leeway. In the Ambleside with Nettle, who is kept very quiet at Richmond. The public will not have Polydore, in spite of the assumed confidence of Nat and the stable. We believe that the 2000 Guineas will prove him to be thoroughly slow. In this case the public will be mulcted, as Mr. Ben Dwyer, Pagnator, St. Hubert, &c.; but Lord of the Isles is reported weak on his front joints and in a very doubtful way both as regards this race and the Derby.

The pigeon shooting challenger is not likely to lack takers, as a keeper of Sir William Cooke's, of Whestley-hall, near Doncaster, offers, among others, to shoot him for £150 aside. Another of Sir William's keepers has just made one of the most sporting shots of the season, and brought down two wild swans right and left. The gunners were more unsuccessful with two gigantic birds, which they traced upon to the Ouse by footmarks, not unlike those which the bucolic mind of South Devon has been lately attributing to Satanic pressure. We hardly wonder that the Devon naturalists forget the existence of the badger, as this race of animals is fast following the fate of wolves in England; although in one or two parts of Yorkshire it still furnishes most delightful midnight sport to the keepers. The trapper thrusts a sack whose mouth is kept open by a hoop, into its rocky hole, and then mounting an adjacent tree, with the hoop-strings in his hand, tightens them the instant the badger enters, and then bears him triumph home. The greatest caution is required, as even a faint whisper on a still night would sound the alarm. Ruff's "Spring Racing Guide" will appear in a few days, and we know of no other literary novelty.

COVENTRY MEETING.—Tuesday

Handicap Plate.—Lady Fox, 1. Romeo, 2.
Selling Stakes.—Jemmy, 1. Queen Lady, 2.
Coventry Handicap.—Kitefyer, 1. Sleeping Partner, 2.
Craven Steeplechase Handicap. Augustine, 1. Tom Gurney, 2.
Free Handicap Hurdle Race. Warwick, 1. Star of England, 2.

LIVERPOOL SPRING MEETING.—Wednesday.

Tyro Stakes.—St. Armand, 1. The Baroness, 2.
Scramble Handicap Plate.—Amrytha Hero, 1. The Young Hack, 2.
Liverpool Spring Cup.—Prince Plausible, 1. Lady Tatton, 2.
Optional Selling Stakes.—Royal George, 1. Puncture, 2.
Grand National Steeplechase Handicap.—Wanderer, 1. Freetrader, 2.
Aintree Plate.—Media, 1.
The Trial Stakes did not fill.

NOTTINGHAM RACES.—Thursday.

Trial Stakes.—Lady Vernon, 1. Black Pepper, 2
Nottingham Handicap.—Jack Leeming, 1. Miss Allen, 2
Little John Stakes.—Ethelbert, 1. Pirate, 2.
Grand Stand Stakes. Eva, 1. Helmet, 2.

FRIDAY

Innkeepers' Plate.—Helmet, 1. Kennyside Hero, 2.
Forest Plate.—Miss Allen, 1. Falcon, 2.
Castle Stakes.—Leybourne, 1. Whittlock, 2
Hurdle Race.—Tom Gurney, 1. Warwick, 2

TATTERSALL'S.—Thursday

Great Metropolitan.—40 to 1 agst Marsbolo (3); 35 to 1 agst Fandango (1)
Chester Cup.—35 to 1 agst Mare Antony (4); 50 to 1 agst Weatherwick (1).
Derby.—6 to 1 agst St. Hubert (3); 12 to 1 agst Grenoulas Emerens (3); 25 to 1 agst Oulston (3); 2000 to 30 agst Sir George (1).

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The market for all National Securities was far from active on Monday, and the quotations suffered a slight decline towards the close of business. The Three per Cent Reduced marked 93¾ and 93⅝; Three per Cent Consols, 93⅞ to 93¾; the New Three per Cents, 94⅝ down to 94½; the New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 89½; Consols for Account, 93⅞ ⅞ to 93⅝. Long Annuities were done at 4⅝. India Stock was 222 to 226½. India Bonds, 15s.; Exchequer-bills were 15 lower—the quotations being 8s. to 5s. prem. On Tuesday Bank Stock was 213¾, whilst most other securities were rather flat. The Three per Cent Consols realized 93⅞ ⅞ ⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 93⅞ ⅞ ⅞; the New Three per Cents varied from 93⅞ to 94⅛; Long Annuities, 4⅝ 4 5-16 ⅜; India Stock, 224; India Bonds, 10s.; Exchequer-bills, 5s. to 8s. pm.; Exchequer-bonds were 93⅞. Very little change took place in prices on Wednesday:—Bank Stock was 214 to 216; the Three per Cents Reduced marked 93⅞ ⅞; the Three per Cent Consols, 93⅞ to 93⅞; Consols for Account, 93⅞ to 93⅞. New Three per Cents, 93⅞ to 94, with div. for Money; Long Annuities, 4 5-16; India Stock, 226 to 226; India Bonds, 13s.; Exchequer-bills, 5s. to 8s. prm.; Exchequer-bonds, 93⅞. On Thursday business was quiet, owing to the settlement of the account. Consols opened at 93⅞, fell to 93⅞, and left off at 93; the Reduced Threes were 93⅞ to 93⅞; Bank Stock 215 to 214½; Exchequer-bills, 5s. to 8s.; and India Bonds, 10s. to 13s. pm.

On the whole, the Foreign-house has been firm. The actual money business doing in it, however, has been very moderate.

There has been a very dull market for Joint-Stock Bank Shares, and the quotations have been supported:—Australasia have realized 82; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 15⅞; London Chartered of Australia, 21⅞; London Joint Stock, 27½; London and Westminster, 41½; New South Wales, 10; Provincial of Ireland, 46½; Union of Australia, 63½; Union of London, 29½. Miscellaneous Securities have sold to some extent, at very full prices.

On the whole, the Market for Railway Shares has been steady. In the general quotations, no material change has taken place. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

Ordinary Shares and Stocks.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston, 47½; Bristol and Exeter, 69½ ex div.; Caledonian, 64½; Chester and Holyhead, 12½; East Anglian, 14½; Eastern Counties, 13½ ex div.; Great Western, 54¼ ex div.; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 77½; London and Brighton, 99½; London and North-Western, 99⅞ ex div.; Ditto, Ely Shares, M and B C, 59 ex div.; Ditto, Eighton, 1½ ex div.; London and South-Western, 86½ ex div.; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 24½; Midland, 69⅞ ex div.; Newcastle, Wardley, and Hereford, 11½; Norfolk, 49½ ex div.; North Eastern, Berwick, 72½ ex div.; Ditto, York, 76½; North Staffordshire, 13½; Ditto, Preferred, 10½; Ditto, Deferred, 5½; South-Eastern, 61½; South Wales, 28½ ex div.; Waterford and Kilkenny, 4.

Lines Leased at Fixed Rentals.—Buckinghamshire, 96½ ex div.; Gloucester and Dean Forest, 26; London and Greenwich, 13; Royston, Hitchin, and Shepreth, 12½ ex div.

Preference Shares.—Eastern Counties Extension, Five per Cent, 4 prem ex div.; Ditto, No. 2, 3 prem. ex div.; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, Four per Cent, 63; Great Northern, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 103½; Great Western, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 104½; Ditto, Half-Shares, 71½; Ditto, Quarter Shares, 14½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, New £10 Shares, 12½; Ditto, £6, 4½; North British, 10½; North-Eastern, Berwick, Four per Cent, 92½ ex div.; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, £15, Six per Cent, 14½ ex div.; South Devon, 13½ ex div.; South-Eastern (Reading Annuities), 2¾; Waterford and Kilkenny, Six per Cents, 1½.

Foreign.—Aveiro and Beira, 3½; Belgian, Eastern Junction, 1½; Dutch Rhenish, 8½; East Indian Five per Cent, 22½; Grand Trunk of Canada Six per Cent—Stock till 1868—89; Great Central of France, 11½; Great Luxembourg Constituted Shares, 2½; Great Western of Canada—Shares—17½; Ditto, Bonds, 92½. Paris and Lyons, 37½; Royal Danish, 19½; Scinde, ½ prem.; Zealand, 18½.

Mining Shares have been firm. On Thursday Australian were done at 1¾; Imperial Brazilian, 2½; St. John del Rey, 36; Cobre Copper, 47½; Linares, 8½; United Mexican, 3½.

Friday Evening.

Consols have slightly improved to-day, with a steady market. The Three per Cents for the Account have marked 93½ ⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 93⅞; and the New Three per Cents, 93⅞ ⅞. India Bonds, 12s.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 8s. prem. In Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares only a limited amount of business has been transacted.

THE MARKETS.

Corn Exchange (Friday).—Only a limited supply of English wheat has been received up to our market during the present week, yet we had several of Scotch and Russian samples on offer to-day. There was very little inclination shown to purchase any description, and the trade was in a very sluggish state at Monday's decline. In foreign wheat, the demand for all sorts of foreign wheat has come to hand. Most kinds, however, sold heavily; indeed, so little business was transacted that prices were almost nominal. The barley trade was in a depressed state, and, therefore, prices were easier for samples. Malt sold heavily, at Monday's rates. We had no business show of Irish oats, in which an average business was doing on rather lower terms. Beans and peas were very dull. The flour trade was heavy, and the top price of English was 48s. per 280lbs. Several parcels have arrived from Spain and the United States.

Mark-lane.—Best wheat, 1910 bushels, 7040; malt, 3670; oats, 6200; flour, 1250. Irish: Oats, 1170. Foreign: Wheat, 870; flour, 200 sacks, 1700 barrels.

Friday.—We at Essex and Kent, red, 60 to 65s.; ditto, white, 68 to 73s.; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 62s. to 66s.; ditto, white, 68 to 72s.; Rye, 40s. to 42s.; Grinding barley, 28s. to 30s.; malting, 38s. to 39s.; malt, 6s.; Norfolk and Kent ditto, 70s. to 72s.; brewing malt, 70s. to 74s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 70s. Chevalier, 73s. to 75s.; Torkard, 70s. to 72s.; Wenlock, 74s. to 76s.; potato ditto, 67s. to 69s. Yorkshire and Cork oats, black, 23s. to 25s.; ditto, white, 24s. to 26s.; potato ditto, 26s. to 28s.; Irish ditto, 26s. to 28s.; maple, 36s. to 38s.; white, 36s. to 38s.; beans, 40s. to 42s.; Kent and Essex ditto, 40s. to 45s.; Scotch ditto, 40s. to 45s.; Scotch and Irish peas, 40s. to 42s. per bushel.

Corn Exchange.—Mondays last, 1 to 2 per cent cheaper than Monday, 1 to 2 per cent cheaper than Monday, 1 to 2 per cent cheaper than Monday.

Mark-lane.—Monday, 72s. to 73s.; Halifax, crushing, 75s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 68s. to 70s. per quarter; crushing, 17s. to 18s. per cwt.; brown, 16s. to 17s.; white, 8s. to 12s.; tares, 15s. to 18s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £45 to £35 per last; Mediterranean, £43 to £41; ditto, Odessa, £40 to £39 10s.; rape cakes, £6 5s. to £6 10s. per ton; canary, 44s. to 54s. per quarter.

Friday.—The prices of wheat ruled much lower, from 2s. to 10s. per quarter, and of barley, 1s. per bushel.

Imperial Gazette.—Wheat, 54s. 6d.; barley, 30s. 11d.; oats, 22s. 3d.; rye, 34s. 6d.; beans, 42s. 3d.; peas 40s. 11.

The Sun Weekly Herald.—Wheat, 54s. 11d.; barley, 31s. 10d.; oats, 22s. 11d.; rye, 34s. 6d.; beans, 42s. 3d.; peas 40s. 11.

English Gazette.—Wheat, 59,462 bushels; malt, 15,101; oats, 18,785; rye, 62; beans, 7,421; peas, 1,347 quarters.

Hops (Friday).—Although our prices are rather lower than last week, the demand for fine hops may be considered steady. Inferior parcels are very dull. This week's imports amount to 5,6 bales from Kent, 3,0 and East Kent markets, £14 10s. to £20; Weald of Kent, 1,0 bales; Sussex £14 to £15 10s. Average, £7 7s. 1d. per cwt.

Mark-lane.—Hartlip, 105s.; Sittingbourne, 105s.; Bailey, 97s.; Belmont, 105s.; Harvell, 95s.; [illegible]

The last old Bavaria realized 5s. per 8lbs. The few lambs in the market changed hands from 5s. to 5s. 6d. per 8lbs. We had a good supply of calves, at very full prices. Pigs were quite as dear as on Monday. Much cows sold steadily, at from £14 to £19 each, including their small calf.

Per 8lbs. to sink the offals:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; prime large oxen, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; prime sheep, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 4d.; prime coarse wools, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 2d.; prime Southdown ditto, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; large lambs, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 0d.; prime small ditto, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; large boars 3s. 0d. to 3s. 8d.; middling ditto, 4s. 4d.; sucking calves, 22s. to 32s.; and quarter old store pigs, 20s. to 22s. 4d. Total, supply:—Beasts, 8800; cows, 130; sheep, 34,320; calves, 89; pigs, 1,000.

Newcastle and Leeds shelf (Friday).—The grain trade remained much somewhat active, with very moderate supplies on offer.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass:—Inferior beef, 4s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 8d.; prime large ditto 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; ditto small ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; large pork, 3s. 0d. to 3s. 8d.; inferior mutton 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; prime ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 10d.; small pork, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, March 6.

BANKRUPTS

R. E. BARNES, Sloane-street, Chelsea, cabinet-maker. T. BESWICK, Half-Moon-street, Piccadilly, licensed victualler. T. BAIN, Covent-garden, and J. COWAN, De Beauvoir-square, merchants. J. BAKER, Ashford, Kent, bookbinder. J. T. CARE, Regent-terrace, City-road, timber-merchant. J. B. BINGLEY, Grove-terrace, St. John's-wood, shoemaker. T. H. HAWKINS, Bangeham, brassfounder. J. HALLINGS, Bridgend, Glamorganshire, grocer. J. EDWARDS, Aberavon, Glamorganshire, grocer. W. H. MINKER, Plymouth, grocer. J. WILKINSON, Jun., Horsforth, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturer. J. W. DOBSON, Lowborn, Yorkshire, cotton-spinner. W. TWEEDALE, Bradford, Yorkshire, painter. J. LAMBERT, Halifax, Yorkshire, cotton-spinner. J. WARNER, Edwinsowe, Nottinghamshire, brewer's cooper. J. HUTCHINSON, Jun., Hull, late of Liverpool, brokers. E. SPARROW, Liverpool, metal broker. J. FENTON, Holmes-mill, Crawshaw Booth, near Rawtenstall, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS

T. CARGILL, Dundee, flax-spinner. J. WILKIE, Glasgow, warehouseman.—CAMPBELL, MACRAE, and CO., Glasgow, merchants. A. BAYNES, Dundee, merchant.—P. MOIR, Perth and CO., Dundee, tanners.

Friday, March 9.

WAR OFFICE, March 9.

5th Dragoon Guards, Cornet W. Rowlands to be Lieutenant, vice H. Hibbert to be Cornet 6th, Lieut. T. C. B. Norbury to be Captain, Cornet T. Bott to be Lieutenant. 1st Dragoons, Cornet F. Hallows to be Cornet. 6th, Lieut. W. H. Reid to be Captain. 2nd Light Dragoons, Cornet A. H. Mansel to be Lieutenant. 7th, Lieut. Sir Peter Hesketh Fleetwood to be Riding Master. 9th, G. T. Halliday, to be Cornet. 10th, Assist.-Surg. J. Fraser to be Surgeon.

1st Foot, Brevet Lieut.-Col. H. Mostyn, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, Ensigns F. Hawkins, T. Burnthe, E. Edwards, and J. J. Grindlinton to be Lieutenants.

7th Brevet Lieut.-Col. T. St. Y. H. Trowbridge to be Lieutenant-Colonel, Ensigns A. Bennett, W. H. L. G. Wright, C. H. Malan, and H. G. Beauchamp to be Lieutenants. 9th, Ensign J. Le Breton, Lieutenant, vice Blackhurst to be Lieutenant, Ensigns J. W. H. Burland and J. H. Cobbold to be Lieutenants.

10th, Lieut.-Col. J. Watson to be Lieutenant-Colonel, Ensigns J. D. Bradley, H. Hammond, W. Beaton to be Lieutenants, Sergt.-Major J. Chance to be Ensign.

17th, Major J. Cole to be Lieutenant-Colonel, Ensigns A. H. Ottaway, J. Lee, and W. H. Jackson to be Lieutenants, Lieut. J. Newton to be Captain.

[illegible] Lieutenant-Colonel, Ensigns [illegible] Hotham to be Lieutenants, M. Powell to be Adjutant.

[illegible] Lieut.-Col. T. Carter, Ensigns [illegible] Hotham to be Lieutenants, J. Bulton and [illegible] to be Adjutant.

[illegible] Brevet Lieut.-Col. H. W. Rushby, Lieutenant-Colonel, Ensigns the Hon. N. Fitzmaurice to be Lieutenant-Colonel, Major C. Trevor and J. Pavelow to be Lieutenants.

[illegible] Brevet Lieut.-Col. J. J. Pattullo to be Lieutenant-Colonel, Ensigns J. H. Brown, H. Ellis, E. M. Smith, and N. W. Massy, to be Lieutenants.

[illegible] Major J. D. Jochanson to be Lieutenant-Colonel, Ensigns J. Wood, Cockburn, 64; Chester and Holyhead, 12½; East Anglian, 14½; Eastern Counties, 13½ ex div.; Great Western, 54¼ ex div.; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 77½; London and Brighton, 99½; London and North-Western, 99⅞ ex div.; Ditto, Ely Shares, M and B C, 59 ex div.; Ditto, Eighton, 1½ ex div.; London and South-Western, 86½ ex div.; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 24½; Midland, 69⅞ ex div.; Newcastle, Wardley, and Hereford, 11½; Norfolk, 49½ ex div.; North Eastern, Berwick, 72½ ex div.; Ditto, York, 76½; North Staffordshire, 13½; Ditto, Preferred, 10½; Ditto, Deferred, 5½; South-Eastern, 61½; South Wales, 28½ ex div.; Waterford and Kilkenny, 4.

Lines Leased at Fixed Rentals.—Buckinghamshire, 96½ ex div.; Gloucester and Dean Forest, 26; London and Greenwich, 13; Royston, Hitchin, and Shepreth, 12½ ex div.

Preference Shares.—Eastern Counties Extension, Five per Cent, 4 prem ex div.; Ditto, No. 2, 3 prem. ex div.; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, Four per Cent, 63; Great Northern, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 103½; Great Western, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 104½; Ditto, Half-Shares, 71½; Ditto, Quarter Shares, 14½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, New £10 Shares, 12½; Ditto, £6, 4½; North British, 10½; North-Eastern, Berwick, Four per Cent, 92½ ex div.; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, £15, Six per Cent, 14½ ex div.; South Devon, 13½ ex div.; South-Eastern (Reading Annuities), 2¾; Waterford and Kilkenny, Six per Cents, 1½.

Foreign.—Aveiro and Beira, 3½; Belgian, Eastern Junction, 1½; Dutch Rhenish, 8½; East Indian Five per Cent, 22½; Grand Trunk of Canada Six per Cent—Stock till 1868—89; Great Central of France, 11½; Great Luxembourg Constituted Shares, 2½; Great Western of Canada—Shares—17½; Ditto, Bonds, 92½. Paris and Lyons, 37½; Royal Danish, 19½; Scinde, ½ prem.; Zealand, 18½.

Mining Shares have been firm. On Thursday Australian were done at 1¾; Imperial Brazilian, 2½; St. John del Rey, 36; Cobre Copper, 47½; Linares, 8½; United Mexican, 3½.

Friday Evening.

Consols have slightly improved to-day, with a steady market. The Three per Cents for the Account have marked 93½ ⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 93⅞; and the New Three per Cents, 93⅞ ⅞. India Bonds, 12s.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 8s. prem. In Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares only a limited amount of business has been transacted.

THE MARKETS.

Corn Exchange (Friday).—Only a limited supply of English wheat has been received up to our market during the present week, yet we had several of Scotch and Russian samples on offer to-day. There was very little inclination shown to purchase any description, and the trade was in a very sluggish state at Monday's decline. In foreign wheat, the demand for all sorts of foreign wheat has come to hand. Most kinds, however, sold heavily; indeed, so little business was transacted that prices were almost nominal. The barley trade was in a depressed state, and, therefore, prices were easier for samples. Malt sold heavily, at Monday's rates. We had no business show of Irish oats, in which an average business was doing on rather lower terms. Beans and peas were very dull. The flour trade was heavy, and the top price of English was 48s. per 280lbs. Several parcels have arrived from Spain and the United States.

Mark-lane.—Best wheat, 1910 bushels, 7040; malt, 3670; oats, 6200; flour, 1250. Irish: Oats, 1170. Foreign: Wheat, 870; flour, 200 sacks, 1700 barrels.

Friday.—We at Essex and Kent, red, 60 to 65s.; ditto, white, 68 to 73s.; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 62s. to 66s.; ditto, white, 68 to 72s.; Rye, 40s. to 42s.; Grinding barley, 28s. to 30s.; malting, 38s. to 39s.; malt, 6s.; Norfolk and Kent ditto, 70s. to 72s.; brewing malt, 70s. to 74s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 70s. Chevalier, 73s. to 75s.; Torkard, 70s. to 72s.; Wenlock, 74s. to 76s.; potato ditto, 67s. to 69s. Yorkshire and Cork oats, black, 23s. to 25s.; ditto, white, 24s. to 26s.; potato ditto, 26s. to 28s.; Irish ditto, 26s. to 28s.; maple, 36s. to 38s.; white, 36s. to 38s.; beans, 40s. to 42s.; Kent and Essex ditto, 40s. to 45s.; Scotch ditto, 40s. to 45s.; Scotch and Irish peas, 40s. to 42s. per bushel.

Corn Exchange.—Mondays last, 1 to 2 per cent cheaper than Monday, 1 to 2 per cent cheaper than Monday, 1 to 2 per cent cheaper than Monday.

Mark-lane.—Monday, 72s. to 73s.; Halifax, crushing, 75s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 68s. to 70s. per quarter; crushing, 17s. to 18s. per cwt.; brown, 16s. to 17s.; white, 8s. to 12s.; tares, 15s. to 18s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £45 to £35 per last; Mediterranean, £43 to £41; ditto, Odessa, £40 to £39 10s.; rape cakes, £6 5s. to £6 10s. per ton; canary, 44s. to 54s. per quarter.

Friday.—The prices of wheat ruled much lower, from 2s. to 10s. per quarter, and of barley, 1s. per bushel.

Imperial Gazette.—Wheat, 54s. 6d.; barley, 30s. 11d.; oats, 22s. 3d.; rye, 34s. 6d.; beans, 42s. 3d.; peas 40s. 11.

The Sun Weekly Herald.—Wheat, 54s. 11d.; barley, 31s. 10d.; oats, 22s. 11d.; rye, 34s. 6d.; beans, 42s. 3d.; peas 40s. 11.

English Gazette.—Wheat, 59,462 bushels; malt, 15,101; oats, 18,785; rye, 62; beans, 7,421; peas, 1,347 quarters.

Hops (Friday).—Although our prices are rather lower than last week, the demand for fine hops may be considered steady. Inferior parcels are very dull. This week's imports amount to 5,6 bales from Kent, 3,0 and East Kent markets, £14 10s. to £20; Weald of Kent, 1,0 bales; Sussex £14 to £15 10s. Average, £7 7s. 1d. per cwt.

Mark-lane.—Hartlip, 105s.; Sittingbourne, 105s.; Bailey, 97s.; Belmont, 105s.; Harvell, 95s.; [illegible]

The last old Bavaria realized 5s. per 8lbs. The few lambs in the market changed hands from 5s. to 5s. 6d. per 8lbs. We had a good supply of calves, at very full prices. Pigs were quite as dear as on Monday. Much cows sold steadily, at from £14 to £19 each, including their small calf.

Per 8lbs. to sink the offals:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; prime large oxen, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; prime sheep, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 4d.; prime coarse wools, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 2d.; prime Southdown ditto, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; large lambs, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 0d.; prime small ditto, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; large boars 3s. 0d. to 3s. 8d.; middling ditto, 4s. 4d.; sucking calves, 22s. to 32s.; and quarter old store pigs, 20s. to 22s. 4d. Total, supply:—Beasts, 8800; cows, 130; sheep, 34,320; calves, 89; pigs, 1,000.

Newcastle and Leeds shelf (Friday).—The grain trade remained much somewhat active, with very moderate supplies on offer.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass:—Inferior beef, 4s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 8d.; prime large ditto 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; ditto small ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; large pork, 3s. 0d. to 3s. 8d.; inferior mutton 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; prime ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 10d.; small pork, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.

BIRTHS

At Agra, on the 15th of January, the wife of the Rev. W. J. Jay, of a son.

On the 1st inst., at Sheffield-hall, Mrs. J. Holland, of a son.

On the 1st inst., the wife of Q. Foley, Esq., of Wolverley-hall, of a son.

On the 5th inst., at Limehouse, the wife of Lieut. C. H. Carr, of a son.

On the 6th inst., at High Beech, Essex, the widow of the late Lieut.-Col. G. Hogarth, C.B., 20th Connaught, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES

On the 20th of January last, at Byculla Church, near Bombay, Capt. J. L. Evans, 16th N. Native Infantry, Assistant Quartermaster-General Session Division, to Helen Turnbull, eldest daughter of J. Bellamy, Esq., of Hedyes, Ayrshire, N.B.

On the 24th ult., Clarence Hillard, fifth son of P. Smith, Lieutenant Commissary of the Royal Artillery, to Jessie Mary, second daughter of the late Rev. Thomas Wilkinson, of Ratcliffe-hall, Norwood, Surrey.

On the 1st inst., at Worcester, the Right Hon. G. de Courcy, Lord Kingsale, Baron Courcy of Kinsale, Premier Baron in the Peerage of Ireland, to Adelaide, only daughter of J. P. B. Westhead, Esq., of Lea Castle, Worcestershire.

DEATHS

On the 23rd of February, at Dublin, Lieutenant-Colonel Barnett, of the 3rd West India Regiment, Deputy-Lieutenant of the county of Cork.

On the 1st inst., at Foley House, Margate, in his 8th year, Arthur R. Gould, second son of Francis Gould, Esq., of Hedyes, Ayrshire, N.B.

On Sunday the 4th inst., at 10 a.m., of inflammation of the lungs, Elizabeth, the beloved wife of Thomas Henry Hutchins, Chatham-place, Blackfriars-road, and Kelgrade-hall, Norwood, Surrey.

On the 13th of January last, at Belize, Honduras, the Hon. J. Gough, Member of the Executive Council, and Public Treasurer of that settlement.

On the 4th inst., at Southsea House, Hants, Mrs. J. Morris, Bart., aged 79.

On the last ult., the Rev. R. Dawes, Rector of Berwick St. John's, near Shaftesbury, aged 78.

On the 2nd inst., at South Harrow, Bromley, Kent, General S. Brown, in his 86th year.

On the 1st inst., in the 81st year of his age, the Rev. F. Bayles, M.A., Rector of the parish of Mylor at the Walls, Cut Keater, upwards of 56 years.

On the 1st inst., at Balsawartyan-hall, Stirlingshire, [illegible] Harriage, Lord [illegible], daughter of the late R. Goodrich, Esq., of Ashby.

On the 27th ult., at St. James's-square, Bath, the Rev. F. Hampden, Rector of Hampden-cum-Hardwick, and Prebendary of Lincoln, aged [illegible].

On the 1st inst., at [illegible

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—The STANDARD DANCERS (Signors Press Rosa and Macco Dio), in Two New Ballets Every Evening, with their extraordinary Pas Grotesque. The New Comedy, called THE SECRET AGENT. Also, The BALANCE OF COMFORT, Every Evening.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, LOUIS XI.; Tuesday, CORSICAN BROTHERS; Thursday, FAUST and MARGUERITE; Saturday, LANCIES. The New Farce, A GAME OF MOMUS, will be produced on Monday.

MISS GLYN as CLEOPATRA, at the GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch. Proprietor Mr. John Douglass. The popular Shakespearean Actress, Miss Glyn and Mr. Henry Marston of Sadler's Wells Theatre, as Cleopatra and Anthony

GO and HEAR LOVE, the greatest Dramatic Ventriloquist in Europe, at the UPPER HALL, 69, Regent Quadrant, every Evening at Eight, except Saturday—Saturday at Three. Pianoforte, Miss Julia Warman.

THE PORTLAND GALLERY, 316, Regent-street (opposite the Royal Polytechnic Institution). The Eighth Annual Exhibition of the National Institution of FINE ARTS is NOW OPEN from Nine till dusk. Admission, One Shilling. Catalogue, Sixpence. BELL SMITH, Secretary.

MR. ALFRED NELSON respectfully announces that the FIRST ORCHESTRAL UNION CONCERT will take place at St. Martin's-hall, on TUESDAY Evening, APRIL 3rd. Leaders Mons. Novello and Forster. Solo Violinist: M. Sainton.

MUSICAL WINTER EVENING, THURSDAY, MARCH 15.—Quartet, Spohr; Piano Quartet, F minor, Mendelssohn. Vocalists: E flat, Mozart; Melodies—Violin and Piano, Artaria, Molique, Coffee, Hill, Platti, and Lindley Singer. Family Tickets, One Guinea, and Single Admissions, Half a Guinea, at Cramer's, Chappell's, and Olivier's. J. ELLA, Director.

MR. C. SALAMAN will perform on the Pianoforte, Vocalists Handel and other Harpsichords, at the TWO MUSICAL LECTURES, at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on THURSDAY and TUESDAY Evenings, the 15th and 27th inst. Syllabus ready. [illegible] Reserved 5s. Unreserved, 3s. Single, 3s. 6d. and [illegible] Salaman, St. Baker-street, and Addison and Co., 210, Regent-street.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.—The collection of living Animals includes a magnificent series of Lions, Lion Whelps, Clouded Tigers, Hunting Dogs and other Carnivora, Lamas, Elephants, Rhinoceros, and a pair of Hippopotami together with an immense number of Birds, Reptiles, Fish, and other Marine Animals. Admission, 1s.; on Mondays, 6d.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—MONDAY EVENING, Lecture by Mr. Webster, "On Refrigeration to Australia." [illegible] Lecture on the Siege Operations in connection with Sebastopol. Wednesday Astronomy, with Slide from "The Crystal [illegible]." Thursday, [illegible] Lecture, "Sunrise, Sunset, Sunspots." Friday, [illegible] Steam-gun, Diorama of [illegible] and all the Exhibition as usual.

MISS BIRCH and MISS ELIZA BIRCH beg to announce they have REMOVED their RESIDENCE from PARK-STREET, Portman-square, where they continue to give LESSONS in SINGING, and hold Vocal Classes for Ladies. Part Singing once a week.

KENSINGTON, 24, Lower Phillimore-place.—Mr. WHEATLEY assisted by Miss M. WHEATLEY, has the honour to announce his CLASSES for DANCING, VARIETIES, and DEPORTMENT. Days of attendance, Wednesdays and Fridays, at Half-past Two o'clock. Soirees and Balls are attended or received at Mr. Wheatley's residence.

JOHN B. GOUGH will deliver ORATIONS in EXETER HALL, on TUESDAY, MONDAY, the 12th Feb., and 26th of MARCH, THURSDAYS, the 15th, 22nd, and 29th of MARCH, Morning each Evening at Seven, Chair taken at Eight o'Clock. Tickets—Body of the Hall, 6d., Reserved Seats and Platform, 1s.—they will be held at 337, Strand.

Also, at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on TUESDAY, MARCH 27, Morning and Three o'Clock in the Afternoon. Admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s.

ART-UNION of LONDON.—By ROYAL CHARTER. Subscribers select for themselves from the public exhibition, from a number of One Guinea will have, besides the right of [illegible], an impression of a plate of "A Water Party," by J. T. Willmore, R.A., after J. J. Chalon, R.A., and a quarto volume of the Art-Union Journal of Public Events, for 1854. Prospectuses are now [illegible], and the volume may be seen at the office. Subscriptions [illegible] instant.

[illegible] GOODWIN, } Honorary
March 1st, 1855. LEWIS POCOCK, } Secretaries.

MR. NEATE begs to announce that he intends to the course of NEXT MONTH to publish an EDITION of PIANOFORTE FINGERING, chiefly the connected with Expression. Price 10s. to subscribers, whose names must be addressed to the Author, 9, Chapel-street, Portland-place; and 15s. to non-subscribers.

THE ROYAL MAGNETIC PAGE-TURNER. An extraordinary novelty for the Musical World. Place the instruments turn over the leaves or music for the performer, promoting interesting. The Public are invited to view them at the Royal Polytechnic Institution, the Royal Panopticon, and the Patentee's, PHILLIPS and CO., 88, Baker-street, Portman-square. Price 17s. 6d. Plated, £1 1s. Submitted to the Queen (see "Court Circular," July 1).

MILITIA MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS of every description and quality.—JULLIEN and CO. have now on hand a large stock of Musical Instruments, both in Brass and Wood, which have been thoroughly inspected by Mr. GODFREY, Band Master of the Coldstream Guards, being the same kind as used in his celebrated Band. Lists of Prices sent free on application. The full value given for old Instruments in exchange.—JULLIEN and Co., 214, Regent-street.

MUSICAL-BOX REPOSITORY, 32, Ludgate-street (opposite Farrington's), London.—WALES and MCCULLOCH are direct Importers of Nicole Frères celebrated MUSICAL-BOXES, playing with unrivalled brilliancy of tone, the best Popular, Operatic, and Sacred Music. Large size, four airs, £4 10s.; eight, £6; twelve airs, £17 17s. Small-boxes, two tunes, 14s. 6d. and 18s.; three, 30s.; four tunes, 40s. Catalogue of tunes, &c., gratis, on post free, on application.

THE ONLY EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDAL for HARMONIUMS. Price 10 Guineas, with all the late improvements, manufactured solely by Messrs. WHEATSTONE and CO. Has full compass, with improved expression stop, a rich sustained tone, in power, not Bellows; an excellent substitute for the organ; does not require tuning, and is admirably suited to play with the pianoforte. Messrs. W. and Co. have on hand a selection of most of the above ready for exportation, also a variety of Prince's Harmoniums, with the various stops, as they were exhibited in the Hanover Rooms; instructions for the above, &c. Wheatstone and Co., Patentees and inventors of the Concertina, 20, Conduit-street, Regent-street, London.

SMART'S WRITING INSTITUTION, 5, Piccadilly, between the Haymarket and Regent-circus.—Open from Ten to Half-past Six. Persons of all ages and genders (private) taught and taught at any time, suiting their own convenience. Lessons one hour each. No charge on extras. Improvement guaranteed in eight or twelve lessons. Separate rooms for ladies, to which department (if preferred) Mrs. Smart will attend.—Apply to Mr. Smart, as above.

LADIES are invited to inspect SPARKES HALL'S STOCK of SATIN and KID SHOES, which will be found well assorted and in good taste. He hopes to announce a very great reduction in price, which he has recently effected by improvements in the cutting and manufacture of Boots and Shoes, which now enable him to offer three pairs of shoes for the price of two. The quality of the boots and shoes has always been the best, and he pledges himself that it shall continue to be so. In future, his French morocco, kid, brocade, and satin shoes will be of one uniform price—viz., 6s. 6d. per pair, of any size or colour. Elastic Boots, in Black and colours, for the present season. Lace Boots, of improved make, with kid facings, 4s. 6d. per pair. Enamelled and Camlet Over-shoes, 4s. 6d. Ball, Supper, and Dancing Shoes, in the Queen and the Royal Family, 3s. 6d. Sparkes Hall, Elastic Bootmaker to the Queen and the Royal Family, 300, Regent-street, opposite the Polytechnic Institution. N.B.—An Illustrated Price List sent free to any part of the United Kingdom, on receipt of Two Postage Stamps.

PATENT FUSEE CANDLE COOKING LAMPS will boil or stew a pound of meat in one hour—Boil water, eggs, rice, soup, &c.—giving at the same time a most brilliant light, in front with a mirror, forming a Reading Lamp and Hand Lantern. The Patent Fusee Candles can be instantly lighted as a lucifer, are made of hard stearine, will keep good for years in any climate. The cost in burning is as then one halfpenny per hour; the 4-pint of the Lamp complete, with one canister of Candles, sufficient to cook a month, supposing the Lamp to be in use eight hours per day, is under twelve pounds. The size of the two together, a foot before broad, six inches high, and six inches wide, proving it to be the most portable, efficient, and economical lamp that has yet been invented for the Army in the Crimea and the public generally. Sold by the Patentee, 50, Albany-street, Regent's-park.

N.B. Every Lamp bears a Label. S. CLARKE'S Patent Fusee Candle Cooking Lamp.

THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY of ST. PATRICK.

Under the Patronage of HER MAJESTY.

THE SEVENTY-SECOND ANNIVERSARY of this Society will be celebrated on SATURDAY, the 17th of MARCH, 1855, at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate-street.

PRESIDENT.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Eglington and Winton, K.T.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

The Archbishop of Dublin	The Marquis of Downshire
The Earl of Donoughmore	The Earl of Fingal
The Earl of Innisfallen	The Earl of Shrewsbury
The Viscount Palmerston	The Lord Bandon.

STEWARDS

Sir Wm. Chatterton, Bart.	Sir Ralph Howard, Bart.
Sir John Young, Bart.	Sir Cusack P. Roche
George Ashlin, Esq.	Col. W. H. Stopford Blair
Thomas Browning, Esq.	Hugh M. Cairns, Esq., M.P.
Wm. J. Courtenay, Esq.	Thos. A. Denny, Esq.
Jas. Redfern, Esq.	Lieutenant-General Ranah.
Chas. H. La Touche, Esq.	Robert M'Calmont, Esq.
Chas. M'Grath, Esq.	Major J. A. Morris
Andrew Mulholland, Esq.	Alex. Nesbitt, Esq.
Wm. Newman, Esq.	Fras. W. Russell, Esq., M.P.

Tickets, 20s. each, may be had of the Stewards, Edward Ebrinbridge, Esq., Treasurer, 12, St. Paul's Churchyard, at the bar of the Tavern; and at the Schools, in Blackfriars-road, Southwark.

BERKELEY W. KING, Secretary.

MEXICAN and SOUTH AMERICAN COMPANY

The whole of the New Shares having been subscribed by the Shareholders, no further Applications will be received.

HYDE CLARKE, Secretary.

17, Gracechurch-street, 5th March, 1855.

THE ASYLUM LIFE ASSURANCE OFFICE, 73, Cornhill, London. Established 1824. Policies on Healthy and Diseased Lives, at Home and Abroad, for Civil, Military, and Naval Employments. The only Office on purely Equitable principles, involving therefore no Partnership among Policy-holders. For Prospectuses, Proposal Papers &c., apply to

MARNEY HOPKINS, Resident Director.

THE ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.

Established A.D. 1720. Incorporated by Royal Charter of King George the First.

Chief Office in the Royal Exchange, London. Branch, 79, Pall-mall. Fire, Life, and Marine Assurances may be effected with this Corporation on fair and liberal terms.

The Assured are exempt from liabilities of Partnership, and payment of Premium, the entire amount of the profits being secured. They enjoy the advantages of modern practice with the stability of an office established under Royal Charter and special Acts of Parliament, and tested by the experience of nearly a century and a half.

Prospectuses with Tables of the Premiums and of the Bonuses declared in the Life Department may be had on application.

JOHN A. HIGHAM, Actuary and Secretary.

THE NORWICH UNION REVERSIONARY INTEREST COMPANY

Office, 25, Lincoln's-inn-fields. Established 1836.

This Company has for the object the purchase of every description of reversionary property, whether absolute or contingent; also to advance principal sums, or grant immediate annuities, on the security of reversionary property and life interests.

The paid-up capital of [illegible] capital, the Company affords the peculiar advantages of paying a liberal rate of interest, and securing them from all personal liabilities.

The Shares are £50 each (paying a dividend of £5 per cent per annum, payable half yearly, free from all deductions for Income-tax), and may be paid for either in full, or by initial sums of £3 on interest of no more than six months.

Every information may be obtained upon application at the Company's office.

By order of the Board.

March, 1855. H. NORRIS, Secretary.

CHARING-CROSS HOSPITAL, West Strand.

The Committee earnestly solicit the attention of this Hospital, which contains [illegible] ordinary subscriptions and the legacies of deceased benefactors, and to which there are annually admitted upwards of [illegible] cases of accident, many of which, but for such an asylum, might perish.

Donations are thankfully received at the Hospital by the Committee and Secretary; and by Messrs Drummond, 49, Charing-cross; Messrs Coutts, 59, Strand, Messrs Hoare, 37, Fleet-street, and Messrs. Glyn and Co., the principal bankers.

JOHN ROBERTSON, Hon. Sec.

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By order, J. B. OWEN, Secretary.

Bishopsgate Station, March, 1855.

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"IN THE TRENCHES, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—FROM A SKETCH BY J. A. CROWE, CORRESPONDENT OF "THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

SCENE IN THE 21-GUN BATTERY.

THE CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

(From a Correspondent.)

SEND two Sketches taken from Life in the Trenches. You may depend on their exact truthfulness: the want of finish to be found in them may be laid to my scarcely being able to hold a pencil in my hand from excessive cold.

First is a View in the 21-gun, or Gordon's Battery. The snow is melting, but large drifts and patches remain. The men are tired and fatigued with continued watching, and sickness. Injured guns are being remounted.

Next is a scene in a narrow ravine. The snow is above a foot deep. The sky is dark, and everything else perfectly white, except the forms of the men and stones, together with jagged rock, cropping out in ridges, along the right side of the ravine. The places where the men are sitting are low screens of loose stones, their only shelter by day or night.

"IN THE TRENCHES" BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

WHAT are the trenches? This is a question which appears to be generally asked, and never satisfactorily answered. In truth, the trenches mean all sorts of things. When on a dark night near Sebastopol an officer leads his men down the vale which runs at the base of Chapman's attack, and bears up for the friendly shelter of the high earthern battery, he is going to do duty in the trenches. When he leads his sentries forward from the shelter of the work, and posts them in the sinuosities of the ground in front of the battery, or when, in discharge of a different duty, he places his party behind a projection of earth or rock to cover the battery, he is still said to be doing duty in the trenches. If he marches down a parallel to the very extreme verge of the advance, and lies with his men in a breastwork which barely covers him, in a recumbent position, he is still "in the trenches." The term so used applying to every portion of the works in front of a besieged fortress. It is evident from this that the trenches are at all times a place where soldiers are subject to danger, and that, in many places, that danger is by no means inconsiderable. Amongst the safest of the positions in front of a beleaguered fortress are those of the parties which guard a breaching battery in its complete state. The height of the work is so great (nine feet) that cannon balls pass harmless over unless they enter the embrasure and shells burst so high or so distant as to be comparatively harmless The breadth of the foundations of the earthwork makes it proof against a cannon-ball, no matter how heavy, and constant exposure to the fire only solidifies the mass and makes it more compact. At the same time that danger from the front is guarded against, satisfactory means are employed to prevent the dangers resulting from a flank or enfilading fire; and the heavy abutments, which may be seen in our Illustration, are a safeguard against an enfilading fire which might not only be dangerous to life, but also to the safety of the guns. It appears probable that the Russians had but feeble abutments in the left face of their Great Redan; for, on the 17th of October, when our fire was opened, we overthrew every gun in it, even before the moment when the Russian magazine exploded with such dreadful noise, and havoc Notwithstanding all precautions however the most perfect battery is a

OUTLYING PICQUET OF THE 10TH REGIMENT IN THE SNOW, IN THE SIEGE RAVINE, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

post [illegible] And mortar shells, [illegible] ally, being cast up at a very [illegible] fall into the most sheltered places, where they fret, and fume, and burst, scattering their fragments in a dozen directions and to great distances. The most practical mode of avoiding this danger is by lying flat on the ground, and it is a method practised continually with wonderful efficacy. The more exposed portions of the trenches—such as breastworks or small shelters used by advanced parties—are by no means so pleasant to remain in. Not only are they much more open to the heavy metal of hostile cannon, but they are occasionally visited by the sharp pings of the Minié bullet, which whistles through the air, and patters over the stones and ground with a whizzing sound, as if it were an angry bee whose privacy had been disturbed, and wrath excited in consequence. Nor are the trenches more remarkable for the comforts which they possess. In the best of times it requires long habit to lie upon the bare earth and catch a brief nap in the intervals of sentry relief. But when the snow is lying on the ground, or the soil is hardened by the frost, the most favoured spots are but poor comfort, when compared even with the worst quarters we can make within the Camp.

We have endeavoured to give in the Illustration an idea of that portion of the trenches which is generally considered safest, that in the interior of one of the batteries constructed mostly with sandbags, of a white yellow colour, and gabions or fascines, whose dark and rugged sides are relieved as dark spots upon the lighter grounds. The fore-part is strewn with empty powder-cases, made of shining tin, with little boxes which have once contained shells, and with remnants of gabions, pieces of projectiles, stones, and earth in various shapes.

THE LATE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

Nicholas Paulowitch, late Emperor of Russia, was born at St. Petersburg on the 7th of July, 1796, being the third son of the Emperor Paul, by his second wife, Mary of Wurtemburg. Of his father, whose brutal eccentricities amounted to insanity, and who was murdered by his nobles in consequence of an alliance which his infatuated admiration for the Emperor Napoleon I. had induced him to contract, it is unnecessary to speak. The boy Nicholas was not five years of age when the night palace door of March 23, 1801, made him an orphan. His brother Alexander was enthroned, and took the oath at the hands of his father's assassins, having been privy to the murder, and having been, when it was perpetrated, in the room immediately below. The Empress, his mother, a woman of intelligence, superintended the education of Nicholas, which she committed to General de Lambsdorff, who was assisted, amongst others, by the Countess de Lieven, the philologist Adelung, and the Councillor Stork. At an early period Nicholas applied himself with great ardour to military pursuits, in which he evinced considerable proficiency, especially in the art of fortification. He also studied the science of political economy; and became as familiar with the French, German, and English languages as with his native tongue. When the French invasion took place, Nicholas was too young to take part in the noble defence which Russia made, or to join in those great military operations which ultimately led to the overthrow of Napoleon and the occupation of his capital. On the restoration of peace in 1814 he left Russia to travel, and visited the principal battle-fields of Europe. In 1816 he arrived in England, where he received a cordial welcome. On returning home he visited the different provinces of Russia, for the purpose of becoming acquainted with the actual condition of the population. In July, 1817, he married Charlotte Louisa, the eldest daughter of Frederick William, of Prussia, and sister of the present King. Four sons and three daughters are the issue of this marriage, the eldest son, Alexander Nicolaiewitch, having been born in the year 1818.

At this time Nicholas had little expectation of obtaining the Imperial Crown, but in the year 1825 his eldest brother, the Emperor Alexander, died at Taganrog, in the Crimea, it is supposed by poison. The next heir to the throne was the Grand Duke Constantine, who was then at Warsaw, and Nicholas hastened to take the oath of fidelity. Constantine, however, whether voluntarily or by compulsion, had entered into an engagement to Alexander, in which he renounced his eventual claims to the throne, and the document attesting this act was in the hands of Nicholas, when he received the news of the Emperor's death. Nicholas, whether sincerely or otherwise, it is not known, refused to accept the homage offered him by those who were aware of the actual state of things, and loudly professed his allegiance to Constantine, the new Emperor. Meanwhile, Constantine, who was at Warsaw, was taking the oath to Nicholas, in accordance with the act in question, which he had secretly signed on the occasion of his marriage with the daughter of a private Polish gentleman. Nicholas, with expressions of regret, then ascended the throne; and now came a terrible struggle. A vast conspiracy, composed of two classes—the enthusiastic lovers of liberty and the old Russian party, the supporters of Constantine—was formed. Their tactics were to spread a report in the garrisons of the empire that the abdication of Constantine was a forgery and to appeal to the soldiery in the name of loyalty, to rise and put down what they represented to be a *coup d'état* against legitimacy. On the 26th of December the oath to Nicholas was to be taken by the garrison of St. Petersburg. Several regiments swore allegiance; but the Moscow regiments, the Marines of the Guard, and the Grenadiers refused the oath, and marched through the streets and squares, shouting for Constantine. Nicholas saw all from his palace windows. The insurrection was speedily suppressed with grape shot. Nicholas then descended, and upon receiving a volley from rebels Standing before them with haughty bearing, he cried in a firm tone, "Return to your ranks—obey down upon your knees!" The energy of his valor—his countenance calm, though pale—and the veneration with which every Russian regarded the person of his Sovereign—prevailed. Most of the soldiers kneeled before their master, and grounded their arms in token of submission. To the intrepid self possession of that hour he is indebted to the continuance of his authority. Victory was now his. He returned from the spot. Wherever resistance was made the artillery played upon the gathering crowds, and the fire of musketry completed the work of destruction. The hopes of the Liberal and old Russian party having been thus quenched, Nicholas found himself the sole and absolute master of the gigantic Russian empire. Immediately afterwards five scaffolds were erected on the esplanade of the fortress of St. Petersburg; thirty-six noble persons were executed, and eighty-five sent to Siberia. From that time Russia Proper has been exempt from outbreaks, if not from conspiracies, and the late Czar was left free to carry out his ideas of government.

In September, 1826, the Emperor was crowned at Moscow with great pomp and ceremony. The Greek insurrection, to which the policy of Alexander had secretly contributed, served to exercise the influence of Russia in the East, and in 1828 war was declared between the young Emperor and the Sublime Porte. In 1829 the peace of Adrianople was concluded, by which Nicholas was permitted to retain authority in Wallachia and Moldavia, and the Porte agreed to indemnify the expenses of the war by a payment of eleven millions and a half of Dutch ducats—a sum from which three millions were afterwards deducted. But, whatever may have been his designs against the empires of the East in the earlier period of his reign, they were suspended, and a different course was given to his policy for twenty years by the French Revolution of 1830.

In 1830 the Polish revolution broke out; but England and France remained neuter; and Austria and Prussia ceded the Czar in crushing the insurgent patriots. After an heroic resistance Poland was reconquered—the Russians entered Warsaw, and an iron despotism was substituted for the semblance of constitutional Government which previously had been permitted to exist. A citadel was built on the heights above Warsaw, and when, in 1835, the citizens went out to compliment the Czar, pointing to the citadel, he exclaimed—"You see that fortress; if you stir, I will order your whole city to be destroyed. I will not leave one stone upon another, and when it is destroyed it will not be rebuilt by me."

He succeeded in 1833 in establishing a Russian army on the Bosphorus, and extorted the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi from the failing hands of Sultan Mahmoud. From that period, indeed, throughout his whole reign the under-current of Russian intervention in the affairs of Turkey may constantly be traced until it reached in 1853 that catastrophe which has for the last two years convulsed Europe. In 1840 the indifferent dispositions of Russia being adopted by the British Government and by that of Austria led us to the brink of war with France, and engaged us in military operations in Syria; but, with the exception, the peace of the world remained undisturbed until 1848. Upon the occurrence of that political earthquake, which shook half the thrones of Continental Europe, the Emperor Nicholas alone seemed quite prepared to meet the shock, and completely unmoved by its violence. His forbearance seemed equal to his strength. He was prudent enough to seek no pretext for interference in the affairs of other States, although he did not refuse assistance to his brother Emperor when it was required; he took no unfair advantage of the weakness and confusion of other countries, and the advice he tendered was invariably favourable to the cause of conservatism. The conduct of the Emperor Nicholas during those eventful and perilous years, from 1848 to 1851, raised him higher in the estimation of many persons than he had ever stood before; he was regarded as one of the wisest, as well as one of the most powerful, Sovereigns of Europe; and those even who detested his despotic [illegible] deny that he had shown moderation, and a strong desire for peace.

His reign lasted twenty-nine years, three months, and one day—a good longer term than the majority of his predecessors reached, and quite as long a one as he himself anticipated.

THE DEATH OF THE CZAR.

[The following memorandum has been communicated to the *Times* by Dr. Granville, the English physician, who formerly enjoyed the professional confidence of the Russian Imperial family. The document purports to have been addressed to Lord Palmerston, from Kissengen, in Bavaria, in July, 1853.]

My Lord,—Failing in my endeavours to meet with your Lordship at the appointed interview at the House of Commons on the 22nd ult., at which I proposed to make a very confidential communication of some importance to the Government, as I thought, concerning the present political discussions with Russia, I stated, in a second note, written at the moment of my departure from England for this place, that I regretted the disappointment, inasmuch as the subject of the intended communication, from its delicate nature, did not admit of being committed to paper.

I think so still. But, on the other hand, the necessity of the Government being put in possession of the communication appears to me to become every day so much more urgent, that if it is to be of any use it must be made at once, or it will fail to direct Ministers in time, as I think the communication is capable of doing, in their negotiations with Russia, and in their estimation of the one particular element which, I apprehend, has first provoked, and is since sustaining, on the Emperor in his present reckless course.

Mine is not a political, but a professional communication, therefore strictly confidential. It is not conjectural, but positive, largely based on personal knowledge, and partly on imparted information accidentally obtained—it is not essential that I should say from whom, for I take the responsibility of the whole on myself, inasmuch as the whole but confirms what I have myself observed, studied, or heard on the spot.

The Western Cabinets find the conduct of the Emperor Nicholas strange, preposterous, inconsistent, unexpected. They wonder at his demands: they are startled at his state papers; they cannot comprehend their context; they recognise not in them the clear and close reasoning of the Nestor of Russian diplomacy, but rather the distraction of an iron will to which he had been made to affix his name; they view the Emperor's new international principles as extravagant; they doubt if he be under the guidance of wise counsels. Yet they proceed to treat, negotiate, and speak as if none of these perplexing novelties in diplomacy existed on the part of a Power hitherto considered as the model of political royalty. The Western Cabinets are in error.

The health of the Czar is shaken. It has become so gradually for the last five years. He has been irritable, passionate, fanciful, more than usually suspicious, capricious, hasty, precipitate, and distrustful—all from ill-health, unskilfully treated; and of late deteriorating into a degree of cerebral excitement which, while it takes from him the power of steady reasoning, impels him to every extravagance—in the same manner as with his father in 1800; as with Alexander, in Poland, in 1830; as with Constantine at Warsaw, in 1830; as with Michael, at St Petersburg, in 1848-9. Like them, his nature feels the fatal transmission of hereditary insanity, the natural consequence of an overlooked and progressive congestion of the brain. Like them he is hurrying to his fate—sudden death, from congestive disease. The same period of life, between 45 and 60 years of age, sees the career of this fated family cut short.

Paul, at first violent and fanatical, a perfect lunatic at 45 years of age, is dispatched at 47, in 1801.

Alexander dies at Taganrog in December, 1825, aged 48. For five years previously his temper and his mind had at times exhibited the parental malady by his capricious and wayward manner of treating the Polish provinces. He died of congestive fever of the brain, during which he knocked down his favourite physician, Sir James Wylie—who assured me of the fact at St. Petersburg in 1828—because he wished to apply leeches to his temples.

Constantine, accounted always tyrannical, cruel, dies at Warsaw suddenly, in July, 1831, aged 52 years, after having caused rebellion in the country by his harsh treatment of the cadet officers. I saw and conversed with him on the parade and in his palace at Warsaw, in December, 1828. His looks and demeanour strikingly proved to a medical man what he was and what his fate would be. It has been said that he died of cholera; again, that he had been dispatched like his father. The Physician-in-Chief of the Polish Military Hospitals assured me some years after that he had died apoplectic and in a rage. Michael, after many years of suffering from the complaints of which afflict his only surviving brother—enlarged liver, deranged digestion, and fullness of blood in the head—became, in 1848-49, intolerably irritable, violent, and tyrannical to his own officers of the Artillery and Engineers' service, of which he was the superior. I saw him in 1848, in consequence of his visit at Petersburg. It was after he had passed in review the whole train of artillery which was leaving the capital for Hungary, at which review I was present and near him, and witnessed scenes of violent temper towards generals and Prince Gagarin, hardly equalled in a lunatic asylum. I found him as described above. I advised cupping, diet, non-exposure to the sun and to fatigue, the administration of suitable medicines, and the cessation from drinking steel mineral waters, of which he was fond and ever since he had been at Kissengen. His physician, the younger Sir James Wylie (himself since suddenly dead), assented reluctantly, but did not carry my advice into execution. The Grand Duke, in the state he was, unchecked by any medical measure or proper treatment, passed the army in review, rode out in the sun, and fell from his horse apoplectic in September, 1849, aged 48.

To complete this disastrous picture of the grandchildren of Catherine, their partner, Maria of Wurtemburg, a most exemplary Princess, died apoplectic in November, 1854, scarcely more than sixty-five years of age. The attack, mistaken for weakness, was treated with stimulants and bark by her physician, Rehl, and bleeding was only had recourse to when the mistake was discovered—but too late to save. The meek and mild Elizabeth had but a short time before followed her imperial partner, Alexander, to the grave, in the still fresh years of womanhood, fifty years of age.

During my second sojourn in St. Petersburg, in 1849, for a period of ten weeks . . . . What the opinion was of the Emperor's health—what it had come to my knowledge, which bespoke eccentricity—what were the sentiments of his physician, Dr. Mandt, who, homœopathist as he is, and exercising a most peremptory influence over his master, leaves him, nevertheless, unrelieved, except by mystical drops and globules—what transgressed of political doctrines and opinions, or, in fine, what I gathered afterwards at Moscow on all co-equal points, must be left to your Lordship's conjecture—not difficult after all. I have divulged. To go further would be like a breach of trust, and of that I shall never be guilty.

In all I have related there is nothing that had been committed to me as a privileged communication; while the imperative requirements of the moment calling for its immediate divulgement I hesitate not to make it, under the firmest conviction that my fears and anticipations will be surely realised.

If so, then the method of dealing with an all-powerful Sovereign so visited must differ from the more regular mode of transacting business between Government and Government. For this purpose it is, namely, to put her Majesty's Ministers on their guard accordingly, that I have deemed it my duty in your Lordship's hands the present professional information, which must be considered as so strictly confidential that I shall not sign it with my name.

That I have selected your Lordship as the channel of my communication rather than the Minister of Foreign Affairs, to whom more properly it should have been addressed, will at once appear natural to your Lordship. In my capacity of once, and for some years, your Lordship's physician (though not now honoured with that title), your Lordship has known me personally, and is convinced that what my pen commits to paper may be taken as coming from an honourable man and your obedient servant.

N.B. an acknowledgment of the receipt of this letter came by return of post to Lord Palmerston's handwriting.

Memorandum.—At an interview with Lord Palmerston, Feb. 23, 1854, on matters of a private nature, his Lordship was pleased to ask me before we separated whether I still adhered to my opinion and prediction. I replied that before July, 1853 (the Emperor would then be fifty-nine years old), what I had anticipated would happen. "Let but a few reverses overtake the Emperor," I added, "and his death, like that of all his brothers, will be sudden." It has proved so. Alma, Inkerman, Balaclava, shook the mighty brain. Eupatoria completed the stroke, which has anticipated my prognosis only by a few weeks.

Shameful Conduct of the Belgian Government.—A few weeks ago a cargo of Belgian paupers and criminals, sent over by the Belgian authorities to the United States, arrived in New York. They were seized and thrown into prison, where they have till the present time been humanely treated. A correspondence at once took place between the authorities and the Belgian Consul. At first it was stoutly denied that the men in question were criminals or paupers; but, when it was conclusively proved that they were both, and demand was made upon the Chargé d'Affaires of Belgium to send these men back to the country they came from, he refused to do it, and the Mayor of New York has declared that he will do it himself. He will; and it will be a lesson that all European Governments will have to learn, that they can no longer send their paupers and criminals to the United States. They will be sent back; and if the thing is kept up, such a state of feeling will arise in the United States towards the Governments of Europe, as no friend of peace or humanity would contemplate with any satisfaction.—*Letter from New York.*

[illegible] we find ourselves approaching the grand climacteric, and we feel that a clear conscience and a good [illegible] suffice to content most of our earthly aspirations, we are [illegible] to consider that the chief happiness of life depend, more or less, upon excitement. We are far enough from being deprived of this stimulus in these fortunate, though foggy, times. We have our domestic dramas, our divorces and our disappointments, our ingenious robberies and our abominable crimes, just like the rest of mankind; and we have, besides, our manufacturing strikes, our political *crises*, and our administrative mismanagements rather *more* constantly than other folks; but one thing in the way of popular excitation, which has lately been continually, and in perfection, enjoyed by "our lively neighbours," the French, we totally lack—namely, the suppressed pamphlet. There was Victor Hugo's "Napoléon le Petit"—(which I take leave to say, in a parenthesis, was a libel, though not a bit worse than what our newspapers are in the daily habit of saying of each other, or of any public men who don't happen to agree with their *chefs de file*)—the mere existence of which in a portmanteau would probably, if discovered over the water, have sent the owner to Cayenne. There was the "Carte d'Europe Reconstituée," whose (supposed) illustrious author must assuredly have suppressed it himself, but which managed to get loose nevertheless; and now we have "La Conduite de la Guerre d'Orient" purporting to be a memorial addressed to the Government of the Emperor of the French by a General Officer. The titlepage of the copy before me further informs us that it is "Edition autorisée pour la Belgique, l'Allemagne, et l'Angleterre!" Excellent! Here you have in the true history of the "suppressed pamphlet," partially killed, it may be, at home, but doubly vivacious just where you would like it to be particularly dead *videlicet*, abroad. If I were a despotic monarch, and felt anxious to circulate any special views as widely as possible, I would certainly have a pamphlet written which should embody them, and then suppress it with all the rigour of my police. There seems to be little doubt that the general officer spoken of in the title of this much-canvassed *brochure* being, however, not the author, but the inspirer—is the Emperor Napoleon's next heir and cousin, the Prince Napoleon Jerome, very generally known by a less dignified name, that of "Choo-choo." The authorship is very generally, but, I believe, falsely, attributed to M. Emile de Girardin, the proprietor of the *Presse* newspaper, whom the Chamber of Deputies treated so abominably under Louis Philippe by refusing to recognise him as one of their body on the ground that he was a natural son. That any "General Officer" should be found to write, or at least to father, a pamphlet, the chief object of which is to throw obloquy on the memory of a brave man whose body is yet scarce cold in the grave—the gallant St. Arnaud may well excite astonishment; that that General should be one nearly allied to the Throne, and whose inexperience should have made him diffident of thinking, far more of expressing, a judgment on the conduct of one who, with all his faults, was a *soldier*, and the story of whose last hours, during which with almost more than human energy he made his death agonies subservient to his will, is still fresh in our memories, is something more than wonderful. Without prejudging the future, it may be said that so far the French Emperor has shown himself to be a great man. Should he have no direct heirs, it is to be hoped that he will take such measures as may preclude the sceptre of France from passing into the hands of Prince Napoleon Jerome, if, indeed, he have anything to do with the pamphlet before us.

So much for the spirit in which this now celebrated *brochure* is written, which is as bad as the time chosen for its publication is inopportune. Its argument may or may not be correct; which is, shortly, that the Allied forces had no business in the Crimea, but ought to have pursued the retreating Russians into Wallachia.

Rarely has an event occurred which has raised such commotion in the minds of men as the death of the Emperor Nicholas. Utterly unexpected as it was (for though it now appears that he had been seriously ill for the previous ten days, we then knew it not), the news of it fell upon the western world with the shock of a thunderbolt. Nicholas Romanoff, the greatest Prince that the world has seen, except Napoleon and Charlemagne, is gone to his account, and Civilisation and Industry are the more hopeful for his disappearance. Alexander rules in his stead, and the quidnuncs of the House of Commons, and the male Cassandras of the Clubs, are, as usual, wrong again. With what a pitying smile and contemptuous shrug they used to beg you not to believe that there could be such a thing as legitimate succession to the throne of Russia! "Constantine, my good sir, is the man; the army swear by him, so do the navy, and Menschikoff and the old Russian party; and you'll find him a deuced deal worse for England than ever his father was. As for the Tsarovitch, they'll put him out of the way, if he doesn't retire of his own free will." Alas! for those judges of Israel!

Events now succeed each other with such startling rapidity, that it is good that Cabinet Ministers and Generals should always keep a portmanteau ready packed. The news of the Russian Emperor's death only arrived on Friday afternoon; and on Saturday morning Lord Clarendon was at Boulogne, in conference with the Emperor of the French (who was there on a flying visit to the Camp) upon the subject of the possible alteration in the state of affairs which this event might cause. It is not likely that there will be any diminution in the efforts now making by the Allies to send troops and *matériel* to the Crimea, as it is clearly expedient to redouble our blows, now that we have a better chance of winning the game; but, if rumour speak truly, a most unfortunate discussion took place between our Foreign Secretary and the Emperor on a collateral point. It is said that Louis Napoleon objected in the strongest manner to the continuance of Mr. Roebuck's Committee, and declared that, if it were not got rid of, either by a dissolution or otherwise, the French and English forces might continue to act for the same end, but all idea of cordial alliance between them must be considered as out of the question. That this is very generally believed there can be no doubt, and, consequently, reports of a dissolution have been flying about the clubs and the City, to the partial discomfiture of the Three per Cents, which had jumped up on the Czar's decease. Yet we cannot bring ourselves to put faith in it, partly because Louis Napoleon, who from long residence in this country is half an Englishman, knows quite well how bad a thing for both countries a dissolution would be at present, and partly because it is already clear that the examinations of the Committee, such as they are, decidedly tend to compliment the French at the expense of the English army, as far at least as management goes, which appears to be the only subject likely to be taken into consideration.

So much for politics. Since last week there have been, among others, two curious legal cases reported in the papers, which will bear a remark. One occurred at the Mansion-house, where a dozen Leadenhall-market salesmen were "pulled up," and fined for having, contrary to law, game in their possession more than ten days after the close of the shooting season. The Act is clear on the point, so there was no help for it; they were fined, and the birds confiscated. Yet this seems hard, inasmuch as a pheasant killed on the 1st February would certainly, seeing the frost that prevailed, have remained too tough to be eaten till near the end of the month.

The American Exploring Expedition.—Serious apprehensions have for some time been felt in reference to the fate of Dr. Kane, and his companions in the American exploring expedition that was sent out in search of Sir John Franklin. A law has been passed by the United States Congress authorising another expedition to be dispatched in search of Dr. Kane, and the Secretary of the Navy has been instructed forthwith to send steam-vessels for this purpose. A commission has been appointed to select the steam-vessels to be used, and they will get under way with all possible dispatch.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE CIVIL SERVICE IN INDIA.

Lord MONTEAGLE, in moving for correspondence touching the examination of candidates for the office of Assistant-Surgeon in the East India Company's Service, made some comments upon the rules and regulations which had been thrown in the way of the natives of India when seeking for appointments under the auspices of the East Indian directors

Lord ASHBURTON detailed the measures that had been adopted to remove the disabilities under which the Indian natives had heretofore laboured in this respect, and observed that there was no intention to exclude the natives of India from the covenanted service of the country

The Earl of ALBEMARLE expressed his hope that the Government would take some steps to enable the inhabitants of India to fit themselves for the civil service without coming to this country

Earl GRANVILLE observed that the names of those appointed by the Government to prepare the scheme of examination was a sufficient guarantee that there was no desire to place obstacles in the way of the natives of Hindostan. The returns were ultimately ordered.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. MONDAY.

THE WAR MINISTRY.

Mr. HUTT referred to the circumstance that the Duke of Newcastle, before he could recall Lord Lucan from the Crimea, was obliged to consult Lord Hardinge. He wished to ask whether, in the new Army reforms that were contemplated, the War Minister was to be relieved from his subordination to the Horse Guards?

Lord PALMERSTON, in answer, denied that the War Minister was subordinate to the Horse Guards.

THE MEDICAL SERVICE IN THE CRIMEA.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Layard, believed that orders had been issued to the medical officers in the army, prohibiting them from giving information without orders from head-quarters; but he could not believe that these orders were intended to preclude them from giving evidence before the Medical Commission. At any rate, Lord Palmerston would write out to ascertain how the matter stood.

Mr. FITZ GERALD, in answer to another question put by Mr. Layard, that Dr Lawson, who was censured in general orders by Lord Raglan, had been appointed to merely subordinate office in the Scutari Hospital.

Mr. S. HERBERT said, in reply to Mr. Perry, that he was responsible for the appointment of Dr. Meyer to the hospital at Smyrna. That gentleman was not, as the honourable gentleman alleged, a German, but an Englishman. He was favourably known at the Colonial-office, and he had never had the honour of seeing Prince Albert in the whole course of his life.

MILITARY EDUCATION.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply,

Mr. RICH rose to move that it is expedient to take measures for improving the efficiency of our military academy. He dwelt at great length on the want of all proper training for officers in the Army, the consequence of which was, that at the breaking out of a war the officers was forced to learn his duties at the expense of the treasury and blood of England, and recommended generally that the education of officers should be of a high standard, and that the examination of their requirements should be proportionally [illegible]

Mr. PEEL admitted the high importance of this subject, and recounted all that the Government had done and was doing on behalf of it. He sketched out a plan of training, which in his opinion would be available for the Army, providing that officers should serve for short periods in all arms of the service, so as to acquire an elementary knowledge before they [illegible] the profession. The new appointments ought to be regarded as the prize of the profession, and men should be trained for them accordingly. But all these matters were under the consideration of the Government, and he hoped, therefore, that the hon. gentleman would not press his motion.

Colonel DUNNE admitted the deficiencies of our officers, especially with respect to the staff; but he doubted whether the multiplying of academic education would attain that end. His plan would be to hold out encouragement to educated officers, and then they might depend upon it officers would come forward.

After some discussion (in which Mr. Owen Stanley, Mr. J. G. Phillimore, Lord Palmerston, and Colonel Knox took part), Mr. Rich withdrew his motion, and the House went into Committee of Supply

THE ORDNANCE ESTIMATES.

Mr MONSELL in moving the Ordnance Estimates, referred to the supplemental estimate which was rendered necessary by the great supply of shell, shot, warm clothing, and materials for huts, sent out to the army in the Crimea. These supplies were provided with the greatest celerity, at prices not exceeding 7½ or at the utmost 10 per cent, beyond their fair market value The quality of the articles, too, he could state was excellent. With regard to the stores on board the transports, he stated that a commission of officers at the Crimea, appointed to investigate the matter, had unanimously declared the allegations that shot and shell were placed above the medical stores on board to be groundless from £6 to £1 16s. per shell. The manufactory of small arms at Enfield was commenced, in accordance with the decision of the Committee which sat last session, but on a larger scale than that Committee recommended: it was calculated to turn out 50,000 muskets in the course of the year; and he stated the reasons which had induced the Government to enlarge their original design The factory he expected to be in work by the 1st of July next. The honourable gentleman went into an explanation of the other items, in which there was a great increase, except in the case of the establishments and in the Royal Laboratory at Woolwich, where, owing to the ingenuity of Captain Boxer, a larger supply of shells was manufactured at a great reduction of price from that at which they were formerly made in the establishment or supplied by contractors. There were other establishments in course of erection, the expense of which he justified on the plea that, at a time when such great improvements were making in every description of military projectiles, it was undesirable to have on hand a large amount which a single new invention might render obsolete; and, therefore, the only safe course was to have large establishments where a large store of projectiles of the newest pattern could be rapidly manufactured whenever they were wanted. He concluded by laying the first vote upon the table.

Mr. BLYTH proposed that the vote should be reduced by the sum of £15,000, for enlarging the manufactory of small arms at Enfield.

A long discussion ensued, in which Mr. Muntz, Mr. Newdegate, and others contended that the Birmingham makers of small-arms were quite sufficient to supply the wants of the Ordnance if they had fair play. On the other hand, Mr. Monsell, Lord Palmerston, and Mr. George Dundas contended that the Government required all the muskets that could be obtained from whatever source. Lord Palmerston stated that the Irish Militia were exercising at the present moment with broomsticks, and that this vote was therefore absolutely necessary. On a division, the vote was carried by a majority of 170 to 34

Another vote connected with the same subject of the manufacture of small-arms was also submitted by Mr. Muntz, who proposed to reduce the vote by the amount of £40,000 The amendment was negatived by a majority of 119 to 24

Several other votes were agreed to, and the Chairman reported progress.

The Newspaper Stamp Bill was postponed till Friday next

The Tea Duties Suspension Bill was read a second time.

The Secretaries and Under-Secretaries of State Bill was also read a second time

The Ecclesiastical Courts Bill passed through Committee

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE CHARGE OF CAVALRY AT BALACLAVA.

Lord LUCAN said that, as he had been charged by the Secretary of War with having sent an incomplete correspondence, because he had not said anything about a despatch from Lord Raglan of the 16th December, which he (Lord Lucan) had never seen till Monday last, he would now read it:—

Before Sebastopol, Dec 16, 1854.

My Lord Duke,—I regret to be under the necessity of forwarding to your Grace a copy of a letter which has been addressed to me by Lieutenant-General the Earl of Lucan. When I received it I placed it in the hands of Brigadier-General Airey, the Quartermaster-General, and requested him to suggest to his Lordship to withdraw the communication, considering that it would not tend to his advantage in the slightest degree; but Lord Lucan having decided to make the step recommended, I have but one course to pursue, that of laying the letter before your Grace, and submitting to your Grace observations upon it as I am bound in justice to myself to put you in possession of. Lieutenant-General the Earl of Lucan complains that in my despatch to your Grace of the 28th of October I stated that "from some reasons, not in the instructions to Lieutenant-General Cathcart, I considered that he was bound to assume great hazards. His Lordship conceives this statement to be a grave charge, and an imputation reflecting seriously upon his professional character, and he deems it to be incumbent upon him to state the facts, which he cannot doubt must clear him from what he represents his subordinate is a heavy imputation. He has referred to my despatch, and far from being within, to alter one word of it, I am prepared to declare that not only did the Lieutenant-General misconceive the written instruction that was sent him; but that there was nothing in that instruction which called on him to attack at all hazards, or to undertake the operation which led to such a brilliant display of gallantry on the part of the Light Brigade, and an equally at the same time, occasioned such lamentable casualties in every regiment composing it. In his Lordship's letter he is wholly silent with respect to a previous order which, and one sent him. He merely says that the cavalry was formed to support an intended movement of the infantry. That [illegible] order was in the following words:—"The cavalry to advance, and take advantage of any opportunity to recover the heights. They will be supported by infantry which have been ordered to advance on two fronts." This order did not seem to me to have been attended to; and therefore it was that the instruction by Captain Nolan was forwarded to him. Lord Lucan must have read the first order with very little attention, for he now states that cavalry was formed to support the infantry, whereas he was told by Brigadier-General Airey, "that Lord Lucan was to advance and take advantage of any opportunity to recover the heights, and that they would be supported by infantry" not that they were to support the infantry; and so little had he sought to do so as had been directed, that he had no men in advance of his main body, made no attempt to regain the heights, and was so little informed of the position of the army, that he asked Captain Nolan "where and what he was to attack, as neither enemy nor guns were in sight." Thus, your Grace will observe, is the Lieutenant-General's own admission. The result of his inattention to the first order was, that it never occurred to him that the second was connected with and a repetition of the first. He viewed it only as a positive order to attack at all hazards (the word "attack," be it observed, was not made use of in General Airey's note) an unknown enemy, whose position, numbers, and composition he was wholly unacquainted with, and whom, in consequence of a previous order, he had taken no step whatever to watch. I undoubtedly had no intention that he should make such an attack; there was nothing in the instruction to require it, and therefore I conceive I was fully justified in stating to your Grace what was the exact truth, that the charge rose from the misconception of an order for the advance, which Lord Lucan considered obliged him to attack at all hazards. I wish I could say, my Lord Duke, that, having decided against his conviction to make the movement, he did all he could to render it as little perilous as possible. This, indeed, is far from being the case in my judgment. He was told that the Horse Artillery might accompany the cavalry. He did not bring it up. He was informed that the French cavalry was on his left. He did not invite their co-operation He had the whole of the heavy cavalry at his disposal. He mentions having brought only two regiments in support, and he omits all those precautions either from want of due consideration or from the supposition that the unseen enemy was not in such great force as he subsequently found, notwithstanding that he was warned of it by Lord Cardigan after the latter had received the order to attack. I am much concerned, my Lord Duke, to have to submit these observations to your Grace. I entertain no wish to disparage the Earl of Lucan in your opinion, or to cast a slur upon his professional reputation, but having been accused by his Lordship of having stated of him what was unmerited in my despatch, I have felt obliged to enter into the subject, and trouble your Grace at more length than I could have wished in vindication of a report to your Grace, in which I felt I was confined myself to that which I knew to be true. I had indulged in no observations whatever, or any expressions which could be viewed either as harsh or in any way grating to the feeling of his Lordship. I have, &c.,

To his Grace the Duke of Newcastle. RAGLAN

Nearly at the same moment at which he received that letter, he received another letter from the Earl of Cardigan, Commanding-in-Chief, in answer to an application which he had forwarded to the noble Lord.

Horse Guards, March 5, 1855

My Lord,—I have had the honour to submit to the General Commanding-in-Chief your letter of the 2nd of March inst., reporting your arrival in London, and requesting that your conduct in ordering the charge of the Light Cavalry Brigade at the action of Balaclava, on the 25th of October last, and writing the letter you addressed to Field-Marshal Lord Raglan on the 30th of November, may be submitted to and investigated by a court-martial.

I am directed by the General Commanding-in-Chief to state in reply that, after a careful review of the whole correspondence which has passed, he cannot recommend to her Majesty that your Lordship's conduct in those transactions should be investigated by a court-martial.

I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient servant,

G. A. WETHERALL, A.G.

To Lieutenant-General the Earl of Lucan

Having read this letter, with the existence of which he was not acquainted until Monday afternoon, he was apprehensive entirely altered that he thought himself obliged to read this letter to the General Commanding-in-Chief —

Hanover-square, March 5

Sir, I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, informing me that the Commander-in-Chief cannot recommend that my conduct should be investigated by a court-martial. But this day I have been informed of the letter from Lord Raglan. It appeared to have been addressed by his Lordship to the Minister of War, when forwarding to me the 30th of November last. This letter contains entirely new matter, and is replete with new charges reflecting more seriously than before on my professional judgment and character. There is now imputed to me, and for the first time, inattention to, and neglect of, another order; and, again, a total incapacity to carry out my instructions, and to avail myself of the means placed by his Lordship at my disposal. Charges so grave, and of a character so exclusively professional, cannot, I submit, be properly disposed of without military investigation. I had myself, therefore, compelled to express my anxious wish that the Commander-in-Chief would be induced kindly to reconsider his decision, and consent to my whole conduct on the day of the action at Balaclava, on the 25th of October, 1854, being investigated by a court-martial. I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant, LUCAN, Lieutenant-General

To the Adjutant-General

Lord PANMURE. With reference to what has occurred, I wish, on the present occasion, only to explain one point. The noble Earl says that the correspondence ought to have been laid on the table of your Lordships' House long ago. I have stated that my reason for not producing the correspondence was this—that the noble Earl was on his way home to this country, and that when he arrived in this country, if he desired that they should be placed before the House of Commons, no man would be [illegible]tand in his way than I should. I thought that it was just to the noble Earl to let him arrive in this country, and express his opinion on the subject. I now hold in my hand, for the purpose of laying it upon the table the correspondence.

The Earl of LUCAN was understood to move that the papers should be printed

In reply to Lord Berners, who introduced the subject of the Russian trade, Earl GRANVILLE observed that the Government had no intention of changing the orders in council with reference to neutrals. The blockade, such as they were, had seriously affected Russian trade.

The Bishop of EXETER brought up the petition of the proclamation issued by Lord Derby's Government against Catholic Processions in Ireland. The motion was agreed to

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Sir C Wood, Sir G. C. Lewis, and Mr. V. Smith took the oaths and their seats on the Treasury bench.

Mr. HAYES moved a new writ for Portsmouth, in the room of Lord Monck, who had accepted the office of one of the Lords of the Treasury.

THE CRIMEAN MEDAL.

In answer to Mr Stanley, Lord PALMERSTON said, it was not the intention of the Government that the Crimean medal should confer upon its wearers two years' additional service, or any additional privilege.

LORD PANMURE AND LORD HARDINGE.

Mr. HUTT put a question to the noble Lord at the head of the Government as to the relations in which the Secretary of War and the Commander-in-Chief stood towards each other. The question was rendered necessary from the fact that before the Duke of Newcastle could recall Lord Lucan, he was obliged to confer with Lord Hardinge

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply, said that there was no intention to interfere with the Commander-in-Chief's control over the discipline of the Army; but that in all other matters the Commander-in-Chief was subjected to the direction of the Government, communicated to him through the medium of the Secretary of War.

LONDON CORPORATION REFORM.

In reply to Mr Labouchere, Sir G. GREY said that a bill was in preparation for the Reform of the Corporation of London, founded upon the report of the Royal Commission, which he hoped to be able to introduce in the course of the present session

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

In answer to Mr. H. T. Liddell, Sir G. GREY said that no accounts had been received from the Cape of Good Hope intimating that actual hostilities had taken place on the frontier of that country; but he was aware that considerable uneasiness was felt in consequence of a total relation between the kaffirs and the Fingoes, which was thought to bode the colony no good. The last accounts received from the Governor, dated December last, were of a more satisfactory and reassuring character, and the Governor himself was about to start for the frontier

RECORDER OF BRIGHTON

Mr. CRAUFURD moved for a Select Committee to consider the appointment of Mr. Edwin Jones, Queen's counsel, to the office of Recorder of Brighton, he having been refused admission to the bench of the Inner Temple, on account of his connection with the election for Horsham in 1852

After some discussion the motion was negatived, Mr. Craufurd having been left in a minority of 1.

Mr. I. BURT moved that the motion be struck off the records of the House.

Mr. CRAUFURD opposed this motion, and insisted on dividing. Ministers, he said, had made a mistake in not sticking to their decision. Mr. Jones could not take place, and Mr. Butt's motion was of course carried

CONSEILS DES PRUD'HOMMES.

Mr MACKINNON called the attention of the House to the inconvenience felt in this country from the want of a proper tribunal to adjust the disputes between masters and operatives. He gave an account of the institution of the "Conseils des Prud'hommes" in France, which had been found to be exceedingly advantageous in conciliating differences between masters and workmen in France; and though he did not mean to say that an institution in all respects similar would be equally advantageous in England, yet he thought great benefit would be derived from some modification of it He then moved that a Select Committee be appointed to collect information respecting the working of these institutions in France, and the possibility of introducing some modification of them in this country

Sir G. GREY said, there was no necessity for a Committee for this purpose. All information respecting the French institutions either was already in this country or could easily be obtained; and as to their working, from all he could ascertain, he did not think they were suited to the genius of this country

Mr. INGHAM suggested that the right hon. Baronet should himself turn his attention to this question, and establish a tribunal in which all parties might be heard

After some observations from Mr. Wilkinson and Lord Robert Grosvenor, Mr. MACKINNON withdrew his motion.

CEMETERY ACTS.

Mr. PELLATT then rose to move for a Select Committee to inquire into the operation of the recent Cemetery Acts, and was in the act of enforcing his motion when the House was counted out.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. WEDNESDAY.

Mr Horsman took the oaths and his seat, on his re-election for Stroud, he having accepted the office of Secretary for Ireland

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS BILL

The House went into Committee on this bill. On the first clause being proposed,

Mr. BUCK moved an amendment that, instead of the Act being made applicable to places containing a population of 5000 persons, it should be limited to places where the population amounted to 10,000. After some discussion the amendment was withdrawn.

Clauses up to 17 inclusive were agreed to. Clause 18 was omitted.

Mr. HAMPDEN moved the omission of the words "with the approval of her Majesty's Treasury

The House divided on the amendment The numbers were—For the amendment, 39; against it, 64: majority, 25

The clause was then ordered to stand part of the bill.

Mr EWART proposed that in lieu of the word "books," "newspapers" should be inserted.

After some conversation the House divided, when the numbers were—For the amendment, [illegible]; against it, 64: majority for the insertion of the word newspapers, 4

Sir E. PERRY moved that the libraries of the institution to be created under the Act should be lending libraries

A division of the House took place, when the numbers were—For the motion, 32; against it, 49: majority, 17

The remaining clauses having been agreed to, the House resumed. The further consideration of the bill was ordered for Wednesday next.

Mr. CRAUFURD moved the second reading of the Judgments, Execution, &c., Bill; which was lost by a majority of 71

The Tea-duties Decline Suspension Bill and the Marine Mutiny Bill passed through Committee

The report on the Committee of Supply was brought up and agreed to.

The Newspaper Stamp Bill (£17,165,000) was read a third time and passed.

The Secretary and Under Secretary of State (House of Commons) Bill went through Committee

WAS NICHOLAS POISONED?—Most people believe that he has been poisoned, but I have reason to think that it may be ascribed to another cause, from the following facts which have come to my knowledge, and for the authenticity of which I can vouch, although it is such a delicate subject that I thought it more prudent not to communicate it at the moment I heard it, which was several days ago. When the Czar received the intelligence that Sardinia had thrown off her neutrality and openly joined the Western Alliance, he was so overcome with passion that he raved with impotent rage. His first idea was to imprison all Sardinian subjects residing in Russia, and seize their property and ships. The Empress, in her delicate state of health, received such a shock from seeing the fit of passion that the Czar exhibited, that she was obliged to take to her bed, from which she has not yet risen. Nobody attempted to offer opposition, or to place him under restraint, and it was entirely owing to the gentle representations of the venerable Count Nesselrode that he was ultimately induced to give expression to his irritated feelings in the circular despatch of the 17th February, which bears evident internal signs of having been penned in a hurry and under great excitement, quite at variance with the usual care and skill which distinguish Russian diplomatic despatches. How long the paroxysm lasted I am not able to say, but I can assert that it was so violently severe that it was scarcely expected he would recover his reason Under these circumstances I think I am warranted in expressing it the opinion that poison was a superfluous agent in causing the alarming symptoms noticed in the newspapers—or death, according to the general belief—but that they may be ascribed to a brain fever, or another attack deprived him of his reason, and perhaps life.—*Letter from Berlin*

THE ALLIED AND RUSSIAN ARMIES IN THE CRIMEA.—We think we may estimate the strength of the Allies encamped in the Crimea at 100,000 men, and the reinforcements continually sent during the last month from France and England, and taking into account the arrival of the two French divisions which had been left in reserve at Constantinople. The Ottoman forces under Omar Pacha at Eupatoria, ought to present now an effective force of 40,000 men. And as the drafts of corps or detachments by the three nations to the Crimea is now going on at this very moment, we may safely assume that the entire strength of the Allied troops will amount to 150,000 men in the course of the present month of March The Russian army can hardly attain the same figure before it shall have received the reinforcement sent through Perekop by the routes of Odessa, Nikolaief, and Kherson. This army does not appear at this moment to amount to 100,000 men, inclusive of the garrisons in Sebastopol and the other strongholds of the peninsula. We can only dispose of about 60,000 or 65,000 men for any strategical operation. This explains the total inaction since the battle of Inkermann, where it brought into the field 45,000 men who were beaten without victory, as may be well remembered. It is an ascertained fact that the Russians have suffered as much at least as ourselves through sickness, the inclemency of the season, and the want of provisions and forage. In a climate something like that of France, the winter has exhibited there, as here, frequent vicissitudes of snow, rain, frost, and thaw. The transports across the Crimea have been almost constantly interrupted by the breaking up of the routes in a country that does not possess a paved causeway. The water in Russia Proper is the season for sledge transport, because the frost lasts there four consecutive months without any intervening thaw. It is not the same in Southern Russia, more especially in the Crimea. We may hence conceive the difficulties the Russian army must have had to contend with when marching its reinforcements, transporting its provisions and munitions, and we may picture to ourselves the impossibility even to which it must have been reduced in this respect, if we remember the route of three leagues merely—that from Balaclava to the camp before Sebastopol—because, impassable, that the English army remained for several days deprived of provisions; and that it was obliged, in order to keep up the fire of the batteries, to have balls and bombs brought on the backs of mules, and even carried by men in their arms.—*Colonel St. Ange, in the "Debats"*

HOW THE FRENCH MANAGE.—The French Commissariat, with its special companies of soldiers of every profession, has constructed ovens, where the bread for the army is baked; the bakers knead batch after batch; the military butchers, called "remueurs," cut up the meat for distribution; the stockkeepers place in large bins the supply of salted meats, biscuits, sugar, coffee, rice, and whatever military men call dry provisions; others, whose duty it is to attend to the encampment and clothing, stow away in good order a quantity of miscellaneous goods The regiments, by means of their own mules or fatigue duty, receive from the commissariat these provisions and goods on delivering tickets previously given to them by the military intendants. The military intendants set up office-shops, even eating-houses, or shops where all sorts of commodities are sold at exorbitant prices, and articles of food, which are bought by such individuals as desire to add some European delicacy or another to their ordinary rations. In addition, to the field hospitals, the bakehouses, warehouses, and canteens, you see on the same ground the workshops of the artillery, the engineers, and the navy. Here hundreds of smiths, wheelwrights, carpenters, and armourers—every one of whom is a soldier—are at work. Nothing can be more valuable during war-time, in distant countries without resources, than those companies of workmen in every branch of industry carried on by our military commissariat, and the two sappers, the engineers and artillery. One common foot-soldier even, always a good hand at digging, is easily converted into an active and ingenious workman, never at his wits' ends for supplying his wants, and who can set up his bivouac and his campaign kitchen in the best possible manner. Were he to stop any length of time on the same spot, he would soon have his kitchen-garden, as our soldiers actually had at several encampments in Algeria, and which have since grown into villages. We see, then, that the French Army carries with it all the aids and trades; everywhere it finds its resources; and is in itself a complete civilised body. Thus administrative, military, and industrial system, like companies of workmen, all this organisation, in short fails in the English Army, and its soldiers, so intrepid in the combat, have not the aptitude of ours for the various works of war, especially those of a siege like England knows them; it has recently felt the want of what is defective in her military organisation. Enlightened for the time to come by dear-bought experience, she is about to remedy that defect with the energy of a great nation that resolves to do so behind other nations, and yet ahead of them, and never are stalled in conjunction with France on the issue of a most serious war.—*Colonel St. Ange, in the Debats.*

THE SUPPLIES TO THE TURKISH ARMY.—A convention was signed in London on the 24th of February between our Majesty and the Emperor of the French relative to the supplies to be furnished to the Turkish army. The Allies undertook the supplies to the Turkish army as nearly as possible in the case of one of the two [illegible] furnishing a larger proportion of the supplies, there shall [illegible] the amount of the supplies furnished by each party, and the balance of excess of the expense with these quarterly accounts may show to have fallen to the charge of one of the Allied armies, shall be repaid to it by the other The valuation of the supplies will be fixed according to a tariff to be previously arranged between the [illegible] The convention was ratified on the [illegible]

PRINCE MENSCHIKOFF.

One of the last acts of the late Emperor of Russia is said to have been the recalling of Prince Menschikoff from the command he has held in Crimea since the commencement of hostilities. His successor in that highly responsible position will be Prince Gortschakoff, who commanded the Russian forces last year in the Principalities. If it be also true, as is stated in letters from Berlin, that General Rudiger has been summoned from the high position he held in the army in Poland to take the direction of the Ministry of War, in place of Prince Dolgorouki, and that General Bebutoff, the Home Minister of the Empire, is to be removed, we may now take leave of Prince Menschikoff, whose name has been, and will ever remain, so unfortunately mixed up with these transactions. He was chosen by the late Emperor as one of the principal members of the old Muscovite party in the State, to proceed on the mission to the Porte which gave the signal of this contest. He performed that mission with consummate arrogance; and, if his object was to pick a quarrel, no envoy could have been better chosen for that purpose. Unconciliating, and even uncouth, in his manners—unacquainted with the forms of diplomatic intercourse or the political dangers he called into life, Prince Menschikoff succeeded in nothing but in rousing the spirit of the Divan to all the ardour of resistance, and in enlisting the sympathy of Europe on the side of his victim. The day of his leaving Constantinople was virtually the commencement of hostilities; and the master in whose service he had undertaken this mission was destined never more to know an hour of success or repose on this side the grave.

Prince Menschikoff, in his capacity of Admiral, Head of the Fleet, and Minister of Marine, has continued with great energy to face the storm he had drawn down upon his country. His abilities as a commander of troops in the field do not appear to have been equal to his presumption, and the battle of the Alma first told him how ill-prepared the forces under his command were to meet the picked troops of England and France; but it is due to him to acknowledge that he has shown very great energy and inexhaustible resource in the defence of Sebastopol. There is no example in history of defences and works of so extensive a character thrown up by a besieged garrison in presence of a powerful enemy; and the highest compliment which can be offered to Prince Menschikoff is the simple statement of fact, that on the 26th of September the place was almost open, and only defended by the vessels in the harbour; but that, five months later, and in spite of continual attacks, the town is supposed by many persons to be impregnable to any direct assault. If Prince Gortschakoff is destined to hold the supreme command of the Crimean army, and General Osten-Sacken to command under him, the Allies will have no reason to regret the change.

PRINCE MENSCHIKOFF, LATE COMMANDER OF THE RUSSIAN FORCES IN THE CRIMEA.

The appointment of Count Rudiger to a higher position in the Government is deemed creditable to the sagacity of the new Emperor. This officer was the same who entered into negotiations with Georgey in 1842 to bring to a termination the Hungarian campaign, and who afterwards endeavoured to check the reactionary measures taken against the Magyars. He is a man of experience and moderation, whose influence is likely to be decidedly opposed to that of the fanatical Russian party, which has attempted to give to this war the character of a national crusade. If it be the resolution of the new Emperor to persevere in the negotiations which are about to open at Vienna, and to make the necessary concessions for the restoration of peace, he will need the authority of wise and firm counsellors to render that peace acceptable, and even endurable, to the Russian nation. Its ambition has been deceived, its aggression has been punished, its armies have been defeated, and its own territory invaded; but, in spite of the sufferings occasioned by this war, the resources of the Russian Empire are not yet so thoroughly exhausted, and public opinion, even in that country, is not so dead but that any Government must justify the terms of peace to its own subjects, if that peace is to be lasting and secure. In some respects the Government which has now succeeded to the direction of affairs may have greater difficulties to surmount in this matter than that of the Emperor Nicholas, which could have imposed upon the country any treaty he thought fit to sign. It may be a question whether his son and successor has power to lay the phantoms which the father had so imprudently raised; but this question depends on another—whether the spirit and energy of the Russian people is thoroughly engaged in this war, as the partisans of the dead pretended, or whether they are anxious to terminate its evils as speedily as possible.

We do not here enter into the long official career of Prince Menschikoff, as we gave in the Illustrated London News for December 10, 1853, an extended biographical memoir of the Prince, accompanied by a Portrait.

HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO CHATHAM

On Saturday morning last, at half-past ten o'clock, her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert, proceeded by way of the Bricklayers' Arms station, along the North Kent line, to Chatham, for the purpose of inspecting the wounded soldiers from the Crimea. In the carriage with the Queen were their Royal Highnesses Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Duke of Cambridge. Viscount Hardinge also attended her Majesty. The battalion of Royal Marines, with their splendid band, was in attendance at the Strood station, which was appropriately fitted up for her Majesty's reception. A substantial platform, sufficiently high to be level with the door of the Royal carriage, was laid down, and was covered with scarlet cloth, so that her Majesty and the Prince passed comfortably from one carriage into the other. Her Majesty proceeded through Rochester and Chatham—the inhabitants of both of which towns evinced their loyalty in the most enthusiastic manner—to the Government

HER MAJESTY INSPECTING THE WOUNDED TROOPS, AT FORT PITT HOSPITAL, CHATHAM.

H.I.R. MAJESTY INSPECTING THE WOUNDED GUARDS IN THE GRAND HALL OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE. (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

House, the residence of the Commandant, Colonel Eden, and from thence to the hospital at Fort Pitt.

On arriving at Fort Pitt her Majesty was received by Dr. Dartnell, the chief medical officer, and by the other officials of the establishment, who conducted the Royal party through the hospital. Her Majesty visited every ward in succession, and approached the bedside of every invalid, to each of whom she addressed some kind remark. The attention of her Majesty was particularly called to one of the invalids, an old man named George Hayward, who has been an inmate of the hospital upwards of thirty years. In the course of the inspection, her Majesty gave directions to Dr. Dartnell to prepare a return of the name of every patient in the hospital at the time of her visit, the nature of his wounds, and where and how received, with directions to forward the same to her. Some patients who were not confined to their beds were drawn up in one part of the hospital, and these were also visited by her Majesty, who took great interest in their maimed and mutilated appearances, asking several questions of them, and addressing words of kindness to the brave fellows, who expressed the fullness of their feelings for her Majesty's condescension by cheers, which were hearty, and meant also to be loud. Lord Hardinge accompanied the Queen through the hospital, her Majesty frequently asking questions of his Lordship as particular cases attracted her notice

The Royal party then drove to the Invalid Hospital, at Brompton Barracks, which has been fitted up by the Board of Ordnance for the reception of wounded troops. On arriving at this hospital, shortly after twelve, her Majesty and Prince Albert were received by Dr. Reed and Dr. Adkinson, of that establishment, by whom the Royal party were conducted through the very extensive wards. At this hospital there were about three hundred wounded soldiers, and her Majesty evinced the same anxiety to make herself acquainted with the details of each case, as she had done at Fort Pitt. His Royal Highness Prince Albert was also deeply solicitous for the welfare of the brave fellows, and frequently made inquiries of them as to the nature of their wounds, &c. The Duke of Cambridge was most cordially received by the men, his Royal Highness entering into conversation with several of them whom he appeared to remember. The Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred were near her Majesty during her tour through the wards. The inspection of the troops in this hospital lasted till one o'clock, at which hour her Majesty retired amid the loudest demonstrations of applause from all assembled

It was anticipated that her Majesty would pay a visit to the Garrison Hospital, and also to Melville Hospital, and arrangements had been made with that view; but on leaving Brompton Hospital her Majesty did not signify her pleasure of visiting those establishments. The number of invalids visited by her Majesty amounted to 493; but, exclusive of this number, a considerable number are also in the Garrison Hospital

The Royal party drove direct from Brompton Barracks to the Strood terminus, and were immediately conducted to their seats in the Royal carriage, immediately after which the train was set in motion, and the Royal party returned to Buckingham Palace.

THE WOUNDED GUARDS AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

At the inspection of the wounded and disabled Guards by the Queen, the other day, in the Grand Hall, at Buckingham Palace, these heroic soldiers appeared before their Sovereign in the very clothes they wore in battle, and most of them were dressed in their coats and foraging caps. Those who were unable to walk from the barracks were conveyed to the Palace in an omnibus. The Queen addressed each man, asking particularly about his wounds, how long he had been ill, whether he still felt any pain, and if the change to his native air had been beneficial to him, with many other inquiries, all dictated in the most kind and gracious spirit. Some of these veterans, for so they have earned the right to be called, had strange tales to tell their Sovereign. One had been left for dead upon the field during many a weary hour, another had received five bayonet wounds, a third had lost an eye in a most extraordinary manner, a fourth had lost his hands in the very act of presenting his gun to fire, when they were struck by an enemy's ball, and some even showed the Queen the holes in their coats through which the bullets had entered when they were wounded. After her Majesty had heard their narratives from the men themselves, the Surgeon-Major of the regiment gave an official report to the Queen, and her Majesty made inquiries of that officer respecting the general state of the health of the men. After the inspection, the invalid Guards were, by Royal command, marched to the servants' hall, where the very best banquet their medical officers would permit them to have was served to them. The repast necessarily consisted of the plainest viands. So delighted were these brave fellows with their Sovereign's kindness and condescension that nothing could restrain them, after dinner, from giving three vigorous cheers for the Queen. The most provident care was taken that the men should not injure their health; and the surgeon having recommended that porter should be served to them instead of ale, a plentiful supply of that national beverage was provided.

Nearly all these men bear on plainly the marks of the fearful struggle in which they were engaged, and are unfortunately disabled from further service in the Army. Several of them, having been but a short time in the Army, will be entitled to only a small amount of pension, and the brave idea that men who have performed such feats of valour in the service of their country should be left to struggle with penury and destitution cannot be for a moment tolerated. Many of these men, although unfit for military service, are quite capable of duties where steady habits of discipline, trustworthiness, and obedience are required, and would rejoice in any employment that would enable them to maintain their independence. They are well suited to act as private watchmen, gatekeepers, porters, or warehouse-keepers, and as porters in attendance upon passengers at railways would be highly useful. It is to be hoped that the generous feelings manifested in innumerable instances by the public during the present war will not fail to find employment for these noble fellows. We are glad to learn that every opportunity of employing them in the Royal parks will not be forgotten.

THE FOOT-MARKS IN THE SNOW, IN DEVON.

(We select the following from several additional communications upon this inquiry):—

In addition to what I said in my letter of the 28th ultimo, relative to the "Foot-marks in the Snow in Devon," it appears to me that, as the "snow lay very thinly on the ground at the time," as stated by your Correspondent, such was the reason why the inner part of the tracks was not so clearly defined as the outer part of them; therefore the outline traversed would look like a donkey's track, as stated in my previous letter; and I presume the heel of the tracks has been taken for the forepart of them.

If birds made the tracks, they probably were either web-footed ones or waders—most likely the latter, as they could run much swifter and better across the country.

Dr. Buckland, in his "Bridgewater Treatise," vol. ii., p. 39, in speaking of tracks in new red sandstone, set forth in plate 24a of that work, says—"None of the footsteps appear to be those of web-footed birds; they most nearly resemble those of Grallæ (waders), or birds whose habits resemble those of Grallæ. The impressions of three toes are usually distinct, except in a few instances; that of the fourth or hind-toe is mostly wanting, as in the footsteps of modern Grallæ."

Now, if the foot-marks in the snow were made by waders, the shallowness of the snow is a sufficient reason why the impression of the fourth or hind-toe was not made (as in the cases noticed by Dr. Buckland), and with respect to web-footed birds their hind-toe is very small

The size of the tracks in the snow—namely, four inches by two inches and three quarters—shows that they must have been made by very large birds (if they are attributable to them), and the probability is that some waders were frozen out by the severity of the weather from the shores of the rivers or estuaries of the sea, and that they ran over South Devon in the night of the 8th ult. in search of food, and afterwards mounted aloft, as cranes do, before the dawn of day.

If the bird theory is correct, perhaps some one skilled in ornithology may, from the size of the tracks, and the distance (eight inches) of the stride between them, give some idea what species of bird it was

Tivel House, Cheltenham, 3rd March, 1855. JAREZ ALLIES.

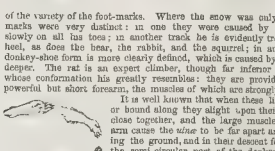
SAINT MARY'S CHURCH, TORQUAY, DEVON, 3rd March, 1855.

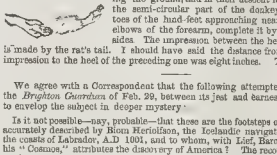
Having seen in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS sketches of the foot-prints made in the snow in this neighbourhood by some animal unknown, and as various conjectures are made as to what animal has thus travelled over fields and gardens, and after going clean over housetops has not been stayed by a tidal river two miles wide, I send you an attempted explanation of the affair. There are certain times and seasons for the pairing and breeding of animals accurately fixed by Nature. The green plover is frequently caught in the snow in Scotland after his arrival in that country, and he must bear it as best he can, or why send a not other animals have to face the snow-flake in the breeding season, and have to travel a weary way before they can make their beds and lay them down in peace? This, I am persuaded, is the hard fate of the animal who has caused such unwonted prints upon the snow in Devon. I infer from the simple fact of finding the marks of the animal first, and then finding the carcass with the evident marks of a violent and sudden death in the track. It was neither bird nor beast that made the marks, but a reptile; not only putting his feet and claws (for he had claws) to the ground, but his belly too: hence the puzzle of the large print made in a line by his four feet and his belly all at once, every time he hopped. At the twenty-first milestone from Exeter, and third from Torquay, a large toad was found by me in the turnpike road, crushed to death by a carriage-wheel, the track of the same was well defined for some distance upon the road, and was exactly as described by your Correspondents and illustrated by you.

The time for frogs and toads to spawn in Devon is rather earlier than in the north. Frogs are scarce here, but toads are not; and as Shaldon village lies against a steep hill, the houses admit toads into their cellars easily, and all toads that are to breed must travel to the water to do so, be the distance more or less; and as nobody turned out this unfortunate toad to seek his mate and mother, there can be no doubt been the fate of others like him to have had a trip on the snow-flake. ALEX. FORSYTH

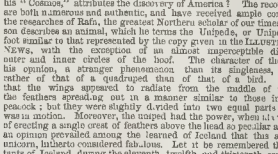
BALLINGDON, near Sudbury, Suffolk, March 3, 1855.

The foot-marks described by your Devon Correspondent are made, in my opinion, by the poor despised and insignificant rat. My brother lives in a house a quarter of a mile from Sudbury, surrounded by fields and gardens: he called my attention to the foot-marks of rats about his garden, and we found they had laid siege to his potato clamp. Tracing the depredators, he exclaimed, the Devonshire donkey has been here! and, on examination, I found the foot-marks exactly to agree with those described in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for last week. We found the marks of no other mammalia, except of the rabbit, and no one would suppose they could all be made by the same kind of animal. The snow being drifted, and, consequently, of varying depths, afforded me an opportunity of observing the cause





of the variety of the foot-marks. Where the snow was only one inch deep, marks were very distinct: in one they were caused by the rat walking slowly on all his toes; in another track he is evidently trespassing on the heel, as does the hare, the rabbit, and the squirrel; in another track the donkey-shoe form is more clearly defined, which is caused by the snow being deeper. The rat is an expert climber, though far inferior to the squirrel, whose conformation his greatly resembles: they are provided with a very powerful but short forearm, the muscles of which are strongly developed.



It is well known that when these little animals leap or bound along they alight upon their four feet very close together, and the large muscles of their short arm cause the *wise* to be far apart and nearly touching the ground, and in their descent form in the snow the semi-circular part of the donkey shoe; and the toes of the hind-feet approaching near to the *wise* or shoes of the forearm, complete it by forming its two sides. The impression between the heels and the shoe is made by the rat's tail. I should have said the distance from the toe of one impression to the heel of the preceding one was eight inches. THOMAS FOX.

We agree with a Correspondent that the following attempted solution, from the *Brighton Guardian* of Feb. 29, between its jest and earnest, is calculated to envelop the subject in deeper mystery:—

Is it not possible—nay, probable—that these are the footsteps of that animal so accurately described by Biorn Herlofsson, the Icelandic navigator, who visited the coasts of Labrador, A.D. 1001, and to whom, with Leif, Baron Humboldt, in his "Cosmos," attributes the discovery of America? The records of this event are both numerous and authentic, and have received ample confirmation from the researches of Rafn, the greatest Northern scholar of our time. Biorn Herlofsson describes an animal, which he terms the Unipeds, or Uniped, as having a foot similar to that represented by the copy given in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, with the exception of an almost imperceptible division in the outer and inner circles of the hoof. The character of the limb was, in his opinion, a stranger phenomenon than its singleness, for it partook rather of that of a quadruped than of that of a bird. He informs us that the wings appeared to radiate from the middle of the back with the feathers spreading out in a manner similar to those in the tail of a peacock; but they were slightly jointed into two great parts when the bird was in motion. Moreover, the uniped had the power, when alarmed or excited, of erecting a single crest of feathers above the head so peculiar and striking that an opinion prevailed among the learned of Iceland that this animal was the unicorn, hitherto considered fabulous. Let it be remembered that the inhabitants of Iceland, during the eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth centuries, created and maintained, amidst its snows and volcanic fires, a literature which would have honoured the happiest climes of Europe. Biorn Herlofsson, in completing his description of the uniped, states that the organs of vision approximated so closely that they had the appearance of a double eye. This bird, he affirms, flew, or rather ran, with incredible swiftness, touching the ground frequently and at equal distances. Thus the footsteps would be in a direct line. In conclusion, your readers may rest assured that the dimension of the tail of the uniped is just one half of that of a great dodo.

WE find the following in the *Inverness Courier*:—"The foot-prints seen in this neighbourhood were traced for a considerable way across the fields, and at the Longman, and again at the Crown, near the house of Abertarff. Many of our townsmen went to see the phenomenon, and one brought home a lump of the snow, in which the foot-prints were strongly impressed, exhibiting it as a very curious and mysterious occurrence. The cloven hoof had an ominous and by no means proposessing look! Fortunately, however, an observant naturalist had already examined the foot-prints and decided the point. Some animal, probably a hare or poleat, had traversed the field at a gallop with its feet close together. The paws had become slightly filled with snow, so that only the round form was impressed, and the open space between them left a slightly-raised and pointed mark like the centre of a cloven hoof. The gentleman followed the track till, on ascending a slope, the animal appeared to have slackened its pace to a trot, and then left upon the snow distinct impressions of its four feet. Further on, the animal seems to have sat down on the snow, and again its four feet were distinctly traced. Nothing more was desired—the mystery was traced.

ROYAL PATRIOTIC FUND.—The Royal Commission of the Patriotic Fund has issued a circular, stating that the following will be the scale of allowance from the 1st of March for the widows and orphans of the non-commissioned officers and privates of the army and marines, and petty officers and seamen of the navy:—

	Weekly Allowance								
Ages	Widows	Children							Mother
Rank		Under 7	7 to 9	9 to 11	11 to 13	13 to 15	15 to 17	17 to 19	Every
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Non-commissioned Officer (Colour Sergeant)	7s. 0	7 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	4 0
Do. a week additional	1s. 0	0 6	0 7	0 7	0 7	0 8	0 8	0 8	0 6
Corporal or Bombardier	6s. 0	6 0	7 0	7 0	7 0	7 6	7 6	7 6	4 0
Drummer, Trumpeter, or Private	5s. 0	4 6	5 0	5 0	5 0	5 6	5 6	5 6	3 0

Expence additional per week to be given to every child.

As the foregoing scale for widows and orphans must necessarily be influenced by the various circumstances of every case, although it is made to be the general rule, the Commissioners are to be at liberty to use discretion in cases calling for the exercise of their discretion; sickness and lying-in, for example, will admit of exception.

COMPULSORY PREPAYMENT OF LETTERS TO THE SEAT OF WAR.—As there is reason to believe that the rule requiring the prepayment of the postage upon letters addressed to officers, soldiers, and seamen, serving in the Army and Navy at the seat of war, is not generally understood, the Post-office authorities call the particular attention of the public to this regulation, inasmuch as letters which are not prepaid are detained at the General Post-office, for the purpose of being opened and returned to the writers. The same regulation applies equally to letters addressed to officers and seamen in the Transport Service in Turkey and the Black Sea.

PANORAMIC VIEW OF ST. PETERSBURG.

IN her amusing "Letters from the Baltic," Miss Sedgwick (now Mrs Eastlake), transported by the strange, and yet splendid, appearance of St. Petersburg, indulges in a rhetorical rhapsody which would have much scandalized Dr. Hugh Blair. She says:—"The real and peculiar magnificence of St. Petersburg consists in thus sailing, apparently upon the bosom of the ocean into a city of palaces."

But inasmuch as St. Petersburg, of which she speaks, does not sail into a city of palaces, its magnificence must consist in something else. If the lady meant that the magnificence of St. Petersburg consisted in her sailing into the midst of its palaces; we can hardly agree even with that observation; although the accession of a charming stranger could nowhere be more valuable than in a city where the upliest native women in the world are to be found. It was a magnificent city, however, before she sailed into it, and magnificent after she sailed away. What the authoress evidently intended to imply is, that one of the most splendid impressions which the visitor can obtain of the beauty of the great northern capital is by making the sea entrance to it, and by sailing, not "apparently," but in act and truth, into the very midst of its brilliant palaces. And this, at least, is perfectly exact. Such an approach must, of course be made in summer. The weather is then dazzlingly bright, and as hot as that of Marseilles. You have been some time without incidents and without a view, gently borne over the short chopping "mutton waves" of the Baltic. Upon a sudden, as if by magic, the horizon flashes upon you a blaze of glory—painted cupolas, superb towers and steeples, and the radiance of burnished gold from innumerable domes, shining with an unspeakable lustre in the pure air and powerful sunlight of a Russian summer; and almost immediately (so low and so long-concealed is the situation of St. Petersburg) the massive and imposing structures of this city of yesterday, stretch around you on every side, and welcome the ship in their gigantic embrace. You thus land on the English Quay, "Angliski Nabreshnaya:" it begins below the bridge on the left bank of the river

Nevertheless, we say it without hesitation, whatever pleasure may be derived from this approach, and from thus sailing into a city of palaces, ninety-nine visitors out of every hundred will experience a far more exquisite pleasure when they sail out of it again. This is no speculative opinion; it is the lesson of our own well-remembered experience. It is, with all its architectural splendours, the gloomiest, the dreariest, and the most miserable abode in which we ever had the ill-luck to dwell The moral atmosphere is pure; but the moral atmosphere is oppressive, chilling, dark with suspicion, with profligacy, with the sense of treacherous servitude and domiciliary espial, and with the all pervading influences of tyranny above, and servile degradation around. However, our business at this moment is not with Petersburg in its social or political condition, but with Petersburg in its aspect and site. The mistake of Peter the Great in choosing such a situation at all for a maritime capital is an old story; but there is the farther mistake of having selected a morass for the immediate building ground. The place is nothing but a swamp drained; and the canals which are so much admired, along which people row in summer evenings to take tea with each other, and which give a very picturesque Venetian sort of air to the town, serve in reality a more practical and necessary object—they are the great sewers, which contribute to make the place habitable. Another most serious disadvantage is, that the Neva is liable to overflow its banks, Some of the greatest disasters to which a populous and wealthy town can be exposed, have befallen Petersburg, through these inundations. Then the Isaac Plain becomes a lake, and the streets are turned into rivers as deep as the first-floor of the house. We could tell some painfully romantic stories in connection with these catastrophes But they would trespass on the space required by our present subject

When we remember the very recent foundation of St. Petersburg, and that it cannot count more than fifty years for every five centuries, or one century against ten, during which Paris and London have been growing, it is indeed an amazing spectacle. On the other hand, this very newness has been of immense advantage to the Russian capital. It began with the improved forms of modern towns. It has no wilderness of slums and courts to remove; no crooked, narrow, impracticable lanes to rebuild into commodious thoroughfares, none of the architectural entanglements of barbarous times to remodel. From the first, it arose on a metropolitan plan—grand, airy, and penetrable. At this moment, though not numbering one half the Paris population, it covers as large an area as Paris. And this is the work of about seventy hundred and twenty years

Let us now turn again to our Panorama. By far the most important part of the city stands on the further bank of the Neva, as the reader looks at the scene; that is to say, on the left bank. On this side, there is, however, the fortress of Peter and Paul, of the Emperors, who were corrupted and it is the first attempt in every conspiracy to gain him or to replace him it would not require ten minutes to blow to pieces the interior palace of the Emperor, on the opposite shore, and to reduce to obedience the entire capital. On the same side as the fortress and almost in it, a little behind to the left, is the cemetery of all the Emperors. Further up that bank, the town stretches into suburban villas, embosomed in trees, the impenetrable shade of which in summer makes them valuable to all who do not escape from the city. Opposite, on the same bank, are some islands connected with the main land by bridges; of these grove-covered islands, which are the resort of pic-nics in the hot months, the largest and most beautiful is that of Basil Vassili ostroff (ostroff meaning an isle). Beyond is the Gulf of Finland, the waves of which sprinkle the very trees, so close down to the margin does the thick and pleasant wilderness extend. That is in the further island.

If we now cross the river by that bridge of boats to the right, or, better still, by the truly magnificent bridge of granite, we come upon probably the largest and finest square in the world—the celebrated Isaac Plain, in which the Emperor Nicholas quelled by personal "derringdee" the dangerous insurrection which greeted his accession to the throne. Before you towers the mighty equestrian statue of Peter the Great, in an attitude and position to furnish a living model for which to the sculptor it is said that Count Orloff, Catherine's favourite, imperilled his neck, in that very perilous fashion, on the back of a thoroughbred horse, which he galloped to the brink of a precipice, and then checked.

To your right hand, running out of this square, stretches the English quay, and parallel with it, behind, several smaller streets, one of which you enter under an archway. The rest of that front of the square is occupied with the Senate House—a name which is but a mockery of freedom in reference to the scene of servile deliberations. Beyond this the Mall, with some terraced walks under a few trees, runs out of the square, parallel still with the English Quay. That to the west side. The south is filled with the Isaac Church, not yet finished for they say that the late Emperor had bowured a superstition that he would not survive the year in which it should be completed. It is designed to take rank among the greatest and most splendid fanes in the world. The interior will have the peculiar beauty or effect derivable from innumerable columns of malachite; and in many parts the walls will shine with rare decorations, and be literally encrusted with silver, gold, and gems. At right angles with this square, and opening into it, is another, not quite so capacious, extending before the Winter Palace and the Admiralty. If you reckon both these vacant places as forming one "square" (not of course geometrically), there is nothing so large in any other city. In the smaller space, which is oblong, and which is surrounded by magnificent palaces and public piles, occur, in winter, the games of the ice-hills, the carnival fair, and the sports of swing, merry-go-round, common people's theatricals, &c., under the very windows of the Emperor. The present palace was completed in two years (to replace the palace just burned) by an army of builders, working night and day without intermission.

Now being in the Isaac Plain, or rather in that space which abuts upon it, and which is called the Admiralty-square, you see running south, as straight as an arrow, the Regent-street of Petersburg, the Nevski Perspective. To cross all the canals there are pretty bridges—one of them adorned with specimens of colossal bronze sculpture, famous all over the world—and traverses the entire city between lines of lofty and massive granite mansions. About half-way you pass the Cazan Church, the name of which is taken from a town in the Russian Empire. There is no plata-glass in the shop-windows; many shops, indeed, are underground, with a sign of a glove, or whatever case, to tell you where to descend—all sombre, though imposing.

Returning back to the Admiralty-square, if you pursue the transverse road, and proceed up the left bank of the Neva, you pass the Hermitage, and Constantine's Marble palace, and many other superb piles; and in a few minutes you are in the Champ de Mars, about one-third smaller than that of Paris. Beyond it is the Summer Garden, with its bowers, walks, and statues; and, just outside of this, the Paul Palace

The most curious effect in the whole city is, after all, produced by the domes of the churches. These generally consist of a substance compounded of gold, and, we believe, zinc.

We have given a fair description of the odd beauty of the scene, and, knowing all that such a point is worth, we repeat that to all places in the world pretending to civilization which, as a residency, could give less satisfaction to a stranger than this gorgeous capital

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PANORAMIC VIEW OF ST. PETERSBURG, FROM A WATCH-TOWER.—(SEE PAGE 238.)

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 732.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE POSITION OF PRUSSIA AND AUSTRIA.

ALMOST immediately after receiving the intelligence, the Emperor of the French is reported to have said that "nothing was changed" by the death of the Czar. Having made up his mind to push the war with the utmost vigour, Napoleon III. could not find in the removal of one Czar and the substitution of another any reason for relaxation of effort; but, on the contrary, every reason for redoubled energy. Most people are now of the same opinion; and every day adds strength to the conviction in every part of Europe. If anything have been changed, we must look for the change not in Russia, in France, or in Great Britain, but in Germany. Russia must fight her way as best she can out of the perils and difficulties in which the ambition and the hereditary policy of her rulers have involved her; and the Western Allies must strain every nerve to settle the question by the great *ultima ratio*, against which all other arguments fall powerless the argument of the strong hand and the victorious sword. But in Germany, the death of the Czar seems as if it would operate to the confusion of counsel and to the renewal of the efforts of those Powers who dread and hate war for personal reasons, or who sympathise with the Russian system, and expect to profit by its extension.

Prussia and Austria have, it must be confessed, abundant reasons or disquietude as long as the war continues. Prussia, a still younger member of the European commonwealth than Russia—a Power which, like Russia, is an interloper into the European system, and, like her, has been constructed and built up at the expense of many neighbouring States—approves the policy of the Czars. The Kings of Prussia are in a great degree swayed by a similar ambition. They want Prussia to be enlarged. They want it to swallow up the minor States of Germany. They would like to annex Bavaria, Saxony, Hanover, Wurtemburg, and all the little Dukeries and Principalities that lie in such provoking contiguity to the Prussian territory. And if the Czars were successful in riding rampant over Europe, and in reducing Great Britain and France into the rank of second-rate Powers, Prussia, as far as her King is concerned, would be only too happy at a consummation which might result in making her mistress of Holland, and perhaps of Denmark, as well as of Germany. But, fortunately for Europe, the Prussian people have formed other and nobler wishes. They also desire the grandeur and the elevation of Prussia, not as Prussia, but as Germany. They have tasted the sweets of liberty, and are determined to repossess them. The triumph of Russia, if it pleased their King, would be in the highest degree distasteful to them. They are an intelligent and a civilised people, and, as such, can have no sympathy with the despotism and the barbarism of Russia. Of the same blood and lineage as ourselves, they would look upon the discomfiture of Great Britain and France as the greatest calamity that could befall the world. It is this antagonism between King and people which produces and explains the wavering policy of the weak but ambitious man who is unfortunately at the head of the Prussian State. He would be happy enough to make common cause with the Czar if his people would allow him; but he dreads the revolution which would result. One word from Napoleon III. would let loose the avalanche which would engulf his throne, and lead to the reconstitution of all Germany. As long as the war lasts, this peril is before him; and as it is not in his nature to take the bold course which his people would recommend, and help to bring the war to a speedy conclusion, by throwing the whole weight of the Prussian Monarchy against Russia, he will continue his neutrality as long as he can, and turn it, if possible, to the disadvantage of the Allies. The death of the Czar Nicholas will remove no difficulties from his way. It merely gives him an opportunity to plead for the new Czar, and to strive to make better terms for him than he could have hoped to gain for Nicholas. He will be as heretofore a sham friend of peace, and will support any proposition which would end the war without defeating the arms of Russia,' or exacting guarantees for the future stability of the European system. It remains for the Allies to bring him to reason. They must show him that as a false peace-maker he is a public nuisance; that, if it suits his purpose to look upon the war as changed in its aspects, its nature, or its importance by the death of Nicholas, they have other and wiser notions; and that he must take his side, or abide the consequences.

Austria—though a despotic State—has not, and cannot have, any rea sympathy with Russia. The extension of Russian power and influence has been at the expense of Austria more than of any other State in Europe, with the sole exception of Turkey. Metternich knew and acted upon this principle. Schwarzenberg—even when reluctantly compelled to accept the aid of the late Czar—felt the depth of the humiliation, and the danger of the assistance; and meditated even at that moment the "huge ingratitude," which at some future day it would be necessary to display towards the haughty protector of the Austrian empire. Every sentiment of policy, of reason, of justice, and of self-preservation, unites Austria with Great Britain and France; but Hungary and Lombardy are thorns in her side. To Austria war against Russia is far more hazardous than it is to the Western Powers. France and Great Britain have nothi

COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS TO INQUIRE INTO THE STATE OF THE ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

to fear from internal treason. Russia can appeal to no oppressed nationalities within the boundaries of either. There is no Celtic disaffection to fan into a flame in Ireland; there is no sanguinary Red Republic to call into being to undermine the throne of Louis Napoleon. But in Austria the case is different. The new Czar is just as likely as his predecessor to avenge himself upon Austria *per fas aut nefas;* and, if Kossuth and Mazzini be too pure-minded to become his tools, to look about for new Kossuths and Mazzinis, to raise the flag of revolution, and of Hungarian and Italian independence, if, by so doing, he could weaken the position and distract the councils of the Austrian Emperor. In presence of this great danger, Austria did not scruple, during the lifetime of the Emperor Nicholas, to approximate more closely, day after day, to the policy of the Western Powers. We do not see any ground for the suspicion, that Austria will be less wise and bold in dealing with Alexander II. than she was with Nicholas I.; but, on the contrary, much reason to believe that, even more than formerly, she will see that the only safe and the only prudent course is to be decided, and to carry on the war with such vigour as to isolate her domestic from her foreign foes; and, by helping to conquer Russia, to adjourn the Hungarian and Italian question until a firmly-based European peace shall give her the opportunity to convert those countries into well-affected and well-governed portions of one great and prosperous whole.

And while such are the relations of Austria and Prussia towards Russia and towards the Allies, the position of events in the Crimea is daily improving. The state of the British army has been in every respect ameliorated. With returning spring, and with good management, the health and spirits of the troops have revived. The Russians are dispirited, if not demoralised. To have been beaten by a handful of British soldiers at Inkerman, must have been disheartening, but to have been foiled ignominiously by the Turks at Eupatoria must have been a heavy blow and great discouragement. And the death of the Czar news of which must shortly afterwards have reached their stronghold—must have operated disadvantageously, not only upon the plans of the Generals, but on the courage of the soldiers. If anything, therefore, have been changed by the death of Nicholas, it is to be expected that it will be a change from comparative inaction into the full hurry and impetus of war. Peace shines upon the far horizon; but ere it comes the war-cloud must burst. It is likely that the world will not have long to wait for the explosion.

THE COMMITTEE ON THE ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

In the Sketch which our Artist has given of the members of the House of Commons sitting in Committee on the state of the army before Sebastopol, it will be remarked that the numbers present are much larger than is usual in cases where the subject is of less overwhelming interest. In fact there has been no difficulty in getting a quorum. Honourable members will hardly fail to recognise Mr. Roebuck in his place of chairman, Mr. Layard near him, and Sir John Pakington on his right. No one can look at the Hon. Col. Lindsay with his piercing eye, and military attitude, and not know him, and few who have visited the spot will fail to discover in the bearded Crimean who stands behind the chair the face of the Hon. Member for Linlithgowshire. Our Artist, while doing so much justice to the committee, has unfortunately been unable to depict the enormous crowd which forms a "queue" outside for an hour before noon, and which engulfs itself into the Committee-room with an eagerness and velocity only equalled by the noise which accompanies the operation. In truth the subject before the Committee is that on which the whole nation is intent, and one in which both members and public are too much interested not to be eager to attend.

Among other witnesses examined during the present week were—the Duke of Cambridge, Colonel Wilson, Captain Blakeley, Captain Shakspere, of the Royal Horse Artillery; Mr. Crowe, Correspondent of the Illustrated London News; Captain Kellock, of the *Himalaya;* Colonel Sparks, of the 88th Regiment; Thomas Dawson, Sergeant in the Guards; Colonel Kinloch, Lord Cardigan, and Mr. Macdonald, of the *Times.* The general tenor of the evidence hitherto has been in the main confirmatory of the accounts previously given regarding the wretched condition of the army, and the gross mismanagement as regards the supply and distribution of food, fuel, and winter clothing.

Tamworth Election.—Sir Robert Peel having accepted the office of one of the Lords of the Admiralty, one of the seats for this borough became vacant. The hon. Baronet offered himself for re-election on Wednesday, and there was no opposition to his return. The election took place in the Town-hall, but the proceedings appeared to excite very little interest, the attendance of burgesses being remarkably small. Sir Robert Peel, who was warmly received, in acknowledging the honour conferred upon him for the third time, remarked, that when the late Aberdeen Administration was crushed, a state of things without parallel was witnessed. No one of the old parties could take office; but a great party, having its influence on public opinion, and irrespective of Whig, Radical, or Conservative, determined to administer public affairs with vigour and patriotism, were placed in office. It did, as representing that party of the people, Lord Palmerston found himself at the head of affairs. His position was the will of the country. The character of the Premier stamped the character of the Cabinet, and the country wanted a man of independent action, that would not only inspire vigour into the councils of the Sovereign, but would throw his spirit into every branch of the Administration, more especially into those branches which were connected with the present war. Lord Palmerston was the man to do it, and it became the duty of the country to stand by the man of their choice. It was with this feeling that he (Sir Robert Peel) accepted office. After some remarks on the gross mismanagement of affairs before the Crimea, he proceeded to speak of the war. We had gone out with chivalric feeling to help an oppressed power, and in the interest of justice and right, but let the people take care that we did not transform this alliance for liberty into a combination of despots against it. The Premiership of Lord Palmerston was a guarantee for that; but he (Sir R. Peel) said that the Austrian alliance had been the curse of the war, had paralysed our efforts, and that German interests had paralysed our action. Why, the whole course of proceedings, from the time when the troops left for the Crimea till now, had been left to lazard or official mismanagement. We had fought three battles, but what had we gained? Sickness and death. Why, he had a letter from the Crimea on the preceeding day, in which he was told that the 11th Hussars mustered but four men. Let us have a peace as soon as we could. Let the people of the country now thoroughly open their eyes to the campaign, and, if peace could be got on honourable terms, and for the interests of Europe, let us have it, and save the vestiges of our army. Let us have a lasting peace. He showed the costliness of war in life. In one year's war we spend, it was supposed, 30,000 British lives, and £25,000,000 sterling. From the returns of the Board of Trade he demonstrated the injurious effects on commerce. Duties had been put on spirits, the reduction of the Tea-duties was stopped, bread was dearer. He heard people bawl out for more blood, and more determination in prosecuting the war. He said "Yes; but let us have peace at the first moment we can have it with honour, and for the interests of the country." He agreed that we should be prepared for the future. In a few days a hundred pennants would float over the finest fleet ever assembled at Spithead; but although we might sweep the ocean of the ships of every enemy, we must do more. We must no longer be humbugged by Austria (Cheers). We must not permit Prussia, under the cloak of neutrality, to act as the ally of Russia. (Renewed cheering). He would recommend further, that Moldavia and Wallachia should be erected into an independent state as a bulwark against Russia. He would go a little further. Why not raise Poland? If we want to stop the war, check Russia, save Russia—raise Poland. He had hopes of peace from the mission of Lord J. Russell to Vienna, and from the circumstance that the death of a Russian Emperor had invariably changed the policy of that state. But if peace was not to be obtained, then Government would carry on the war—not by halves as hitherto—but with energy and determination; having in view a double object—resistance to the aggression of Russia, and the promotion of the liberties of Europe. Sir Robert concluded amidst loud applause, by asking for Lord Palmerston's Government, which would correct abuses and organise reforms in our military system in that stage and no favour.

Russian Deserters.—The *Prussian Correspondence* states that the number of Russian deserters now in the Grand Duchy of Posen amounts to more than 13,000.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Thursday.

So constantly varied is the nature of the reports respecting the proposed expedition of the Emperor, that it is impossible to form any definite conclusion on the subject, and we can but content ourselves with chronicling them. Some of these state that the end of the month is the time at which the departure is to take place; some fix an earlier, others a later date. It is certain that an order has been dispatched to Cherbourg, by telegraph, to send to Toulon all the objects prepared for the voyage by the *Reine Hortense.* The whole band of the Guides, including the various musicians allotted to the orchestras of the principal musical theatres, is to join the expedition. It appears quite certain that the Empress will remain behind. Various rumours, especially one that has often been brought forward, and as often refuted—the prospect of an heir to the Imperial dynasty—are afloat as to the cause of this change of plans; and no fewer absurd reports as to the manner in which her Majesty is to spend the period of the Emperor's absence: one of these asserts that she is to become the guest of Queen Victoria during the whole time that her Imperial Consort is away.

The Emperor and Empress have caused to be remitted to the Ministers of War and Marine the sum of 10,000 francs (£400) to be distributed among the mothers, sisters, widows, and orphans of the soldiers' and sailors' widows, who perished in the wreck of the *Semillante.*

The question of Court mourning or no Court mourning for the Emperor Nicholas is one which has been so discussed, both as fact and principle, that we hold it good to state the real cause of its not having been adopted. On an event of this kind occurring, foreign Governments are only supposed to become cognisant of the fact on its being notified by the Court of the deceased Sovereign. As, in consequence of the rupture with that of St. Petersburg, there is no Minister or Ambassador to announce the event here, it is not *officially* known, and therefore no mourning is adopted. Such is the point of etiquette that decides the question, and not the circumstance itself of the Emperor Nicholas having been the enemy of France

Much censure has been expressed *officieusement* against certain provincial functionaries, who encouraged the most marked and indelicate demonstrations of rejoicing at the death of the late Emperor Nicholas. Such a course could not meet with the approbation of either the Government or public opinion; and both the dignity and good feeling of a great and liberal nation revolt at the idea of such a display.

This week commences the reception of the articles of foreign produce at the Great Industrial Exhibition. The complaints respecting the want of space in the Building are becoming daily louder. Independently of the petitions we spoke of last week, as about to be presented to the Emperor on the subject, a fresh one, to be signed by the cabinet-makers of the Faubourg St. Antoine—who, it appears, are peculiarly affected by the disadvantage—is prepared, and is receiving signatures. The class here comprised forms so large and important a branch of Parisian commerce, that no doubt due attention will be paid to its demands, and means taken to repair so great an evil as one so gravely affecting its interests.

It is said that among the papers of the Abbé Lamennais, has been discovered a translation of Dante, preceded by a preface in which the writer has expressed himself more strongly than in any of his published works against the orthodoxy of the Roman Catholic creed: it does not appear whether the translation will be published or not, but in any case the preface will doubtless be suppressed.

A most serious accident has occurred to M. Baucher, the celebrated *écuyer,* who for so many years has held the head of the *haute ecole d'équitation* in France. Mounting a horse he was breaking, in the manège at the Cirque Napoléon, a sudden crashing was heard; the horse, frightened, sprang away, and at the same moment the great lustre fell striking down M. Baucher, wounding him in the back and crushing his leg and foot. Severe as the accident has been, it is hoped that the recovery will not be very protracted; though it appears more than probable that it will prevent him from following his profession.

The Mi-Carême is being, as usual, celebrated with various festivities, of which fancy balls are the favourite form. After this, the continuation of Lent will be preserved with increased strictness.

The principal theatrical event of the moment is the *reprise,* at the Grand Opera, of the "Juive," sung by Gueymard and Cruvelli. The house was crowded to excess by a most brilliant audience on the first night, and continues to fill. Decidedly the honours of the evening were for Gueymard. Mdlle. Cruvelli is universally found to be so defective in certain points, so wedded to her errors, so careless of improvement, and so much more occupied with her own personality than with that of the character she represents, that the public begin—somewhat late, it is true—to discover that they would like her to pay a little more respect to their criticisms, and that they have seen so much of Mdlle. Cruvelli, that, just for a change, they would like to see a little of the *Juive,* or whoever else's identity she is supposed, for the moment, to assume. Altogether, the Opera, at this moment, *laisse beaucoup à désirer,* in the way of female singers especially. One of the new acquisitions (?), Madame or Mdlle. Pouilly, of Strasbourg—engaged at an annual stipend of 40,000 francs, and playing first parts—would, in our opinion, and in that of many better judges, be barely capable of sustaining secondary *rôles* with credit. Decidedly the Italian Opera has the honours of the season. The Porte St. Martin has a new piece, entitled "Les Noces Vénitiennes," by M. Victor Séjour—a drama of the true mark and dagger order, which has considerable success, and is well acted; the Théâtre Lyrique, a pretty little *bluette,* called "Les Charmeurs," which is likely to have a good run.

Before closing our letter a report reaches us that the Emperor's expedition to the Crimea is finally abandoned. We tell the story as 'tis told to us.

The four vacant Colonelcies have been filled up by the transfer of Sir George Brown from the 7th Fusiliers to his old corps the Rifle Brigade; of Lieutenant-General Authmuty, from the 55th to the 7th Fusiliers, with which he served in the Peninsula; and of Lieutenant-General the Hon. H. E. Butler, from the 84th to the 55th—the regiment in which his gallant son, who was killed at Inkerman, commanded a company. The Battalion of the 60th, vacant by the death of General W. Cornwallis Eustace, is given to Lieutenant-General Bunbury, formerly of the 67th Regiment, and, two or three years since, Commander of the troops in Jamaica, who had been for fifty-one years in the Army, and actively engaged in Holland and in the American war. The Colonelcy of the 54th, held by the late Sir Patrick Stuart, will be filled by the appointment of Sir Frederick Ashworth, an old Peninsula officer of fifty-six years' service. Lieutenant-General Henry Balneavis succeeds General Authmuty as Colonel of the 55th: he has been in the service since 1797, and was throughout the war in Spain, from Corunna to Toulouse, for which he now holds the war medal with nine clasps. The new Colonel of the 84th, in succession to General Butler, Lieutenant-General George Powell Higginson, entered the Grenadier Guards in 1806, and was likewise a sharer in many of the Peninsular victories.

Strike of Colliers.—On Monday morning last about of 700 of Lord Vernon's colliers at Pointon struck work. A meeting of the turn-outs was held in the evening at the Crescent Inn, Pointon; and, according to the statements of the men, it appeared that a man from each pit had been sent for by Mr. Ashworth, the manager, who stated to them that in consequence of the present stagnation in the iron trade and cotton manufactures there was less demand for coals, and it would be therefore necessary to reduce the men's wages in some places 3d. in the shilling, in others 6d. for getting one 2 tons coal, and in others again 6d. per yard. As soon, however, as times improved, he promised that the old prices would be given. When this announcement was made to the men, they replied, "Oh, put us on short time rather than reduce us" Mr. Ashworth said, he could very well spare 100 or 200 of them, and to were at liberty to take what course they pleased. The men expressed a determination to stand out, and said that they must get 50 of their body to go to work, still at work, to join them. Some of the speakers at the meeting directed attention to the fact that in all their previous strikes they had been beat.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The latest news from the Camp is contained in a telegraphic despatch from Admiral Bruat, dated Kamiesch, March 7. From it we learn a few important facts, but nothing decisive. The news of the Emperor's death had reached Sebastopol on the evening of the 5th three days after it was known in London. The siege operations were carried on with activity. For some days rockets had been thrown into Sebastopol, which had set fire to it in several places. When the despatch was sent off from Kamiesch a portion of the town was still on fire

By the *Ganges,* which left Constantinople on the 5th of March, and arrived at Marseilles on Wednesday, telegraphic despatches have been received, the number of deaths at Scutari had diminished to 20 per diem. The news from Balaclava was to the 3rd of March, at which date the weather was fine, but frosty. The preparations for the bombardment were making rapid progress. The railway now conveys ammunition the distance of three miles. The Russians were approaching towards Inkerman from Malakhoff. A truce of one hour was agreed upon on the 27th of February to bury the dead.

Constantinople letters of the 1st March have been received, containing accounts of the attack made by the French, in the night of the 23rd and 24th February, upon the redoubts erected by the Russians in front of the left flank of the fortifications of Sebastopol, which in some measure explain the contradiction existing between the despatch of Prince Menschikoff relative to that affair and the despatches from French quarters. The latter represented the French as having stormed the redoubts, and completely defeated the Russians; Prince Menschikoff's despatch, on the other hand, stated that the French had been repulsed with a loss of 600 men.

It appears that the French did take the redoubts by storm, but then found themselves exposed to a murderous fire from the batteries, and even from the guns of some Russian vessels anchored in the port. The position was not tenable, and having destroyed the redoubts they had taken, they withdrew with about 400 men *hors de combat,* of which number 100 were killed.

Letters from the French head-quarters, dated 27th February, state that the Russians were throwing up formidable works of defence at various points, and that they had sunk two more ships at the entrance of the port of Sebastopol. They feared an assault, and were making every preparation to meet it. It was said that they were establishing a battery of heavy mortars at Kamara, from which they hoped to throw shells into Balaclava. The weather was fine, though frosty, but the severe winter had passed.

According to official reports, which may be relied on, the Russian forces in the Crimea, including those at Perekop, amount to nine divisions of infantry, which are equivalent to the strength of three corps. These consist of the 3rd corps, Read, 7th, 8th, and 9th divisions; 4th ditto, Osten-Sacken, 10th, 11th, and 12th ditto; 5th ditto, Liders, 1st brigade, 14th division; Reserve brigade, 13th division; 6th corps, Gortschakoff, 16th and 17th ditto. These divisions, being each composed of sixteen battalions, give a total of 144, each averaging 500 effectives present under arms; or a total of 72,000 bayonets. To these must be added the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Rifles, six battalions of Black Sea infantry, three battalions of Grenadier-Carbineers, and a battalion of Greek volunteer Rifles from Bessarabia; or a total of 126 battalions of infantry, giving about 78,000 bayonets. Then come eight battalions of Marines, four of Sappers, and 10,000 Artillerymen of different kinds, exclusive of two divisions of sailors, who man the batteries; so that the total foot force may be calculated at about 110,000 effective. If to this be added ten regiments of regulars, and about as many Cossack regiments, the whole effective force may be estimated at nearly 126,000 men. According to the same accounts, the loss of the Russians in the Crimea, from the 24th of September to the middle of last month, exclusive of Eupatoria, has been about 46,000 men completely *hors de combat;* so that the junction of the 3rd corps and other detachments have not sufficed to replace the army on the strength at which it was prior to the 5th of November.

A letter from Berlin, in the *Post Ampt Gazette,* says.—

According to the last accounts from the Crimea, the Russians are using every effort to repair the injury inflicted on them by the occupation of Eupatoria by the Turks, and it is expected that a fresh attack on that place will be made. A Russian camp has been established at Orto-Oblaun, to contain 40,000 men, to watch Eupatoria, and to be changed with the operations to be undertaken against that place. The Turks are fortifying every point, even on the side of the lake Sasyk, from whence any attack would be most difficult, particularly as any enemy advancing on that side would be exposed to the fire of the fleet. The most considerable fortifications are, however, being made on the north and north-west of the town. In order to prevent the Turks from interfering with the reinforcements coming from Perekop, the Russians have established moveable columns near Eupatoria who immediately make known any movement that may take place. During the last week of the Russian army were sheltered in the villages in the interior of the Crimea. With respect to the troops in the neighbourhood of Sebastopol, the Russian advanced posts in the valley of Baidar have retired on Karlowa, and are in communication with the main body at Tchorgunn. General Liprandi on the Inkerman road, with his centre at Tchorgunn, and his left wing in the valley of Baidar. His right wing is in communication with the corps of General Osten-Sacken, which extends along the line of the northern part of Sebastopol, and from the ruins of Inkerman to the north side of the fort. The garrison of Sebastopol, at least 40,000 strong, and Prince Menschikoff has, moreover, concentrated 20,000 men in the neighbourhood of Bagtchesarai, to cover the road from Perekop, or to relieve any point that may be threatened. Between Eupatoria and Sebastopol are three divisions, in order to paralyse any operations which might be attempted by the troops from the former place against Sebastopol.

THE YOUNG EMPEROR'S MANIFESTO.

The German and French papers are almost unanimous in the opinion that the manifesto issued by Alexander II. is more warlike than any of the proclamations which emanated from his father. The determination he expresses to accomplish the long-cherished schemes of Catherine and the rest of his ancestors, which include Russian supremacy in the Black Sea, does not consist very well with the notion that he will be more favourable to peace than his father was.

In last week's publication we gave the telegraphic summary of the Russian manifesto. The following is the entire document, as it appears in the *Journal de St. Petersburg* of the 3rd inst.—

St. Petersburg, Feb. 18 (March 2).

By the grace of God, We, Alexander II., Emperor and Autocrat of All the Russias, King of Poland, &c., &c.

To all our faithful subjects make known,

In His impenetrable ways it has pleased God to strike us all with a blow as terrible as it was unexpected. Following a brief and serious illness, which at its close was developed with an unheard-of rapidity, our much-loved father, the Emperor Nicholas Pavlovitch, has departed life this day, the 18th February (March 2). No language can express our grief—which will also be the grief of our faithful subjects. Submitting with resignation to the impenetrable designs of Divine Providence, we seek consolation but in Him, and wait from Him alone the necessary aid to enable us to sustain the burden which it has pleased him to impose upon us. Even as the much-loved father whom we mourn conserved all his efforts, every moment of his life, to the labours and to the cares called for by the well-being of his subjects—we, at this hour so painful, but also so grave and so solemn, in ascending our hereditary throne of the Empire of Russia, as well as that of Poland, and of the Grand Duchy of Finland, which are inseparable from it, take, in the face of the invisible and ever present God, the sacred pledge, never to have any other end but the prosperity of our country May Providence who has called us to this high mission, so aid us that, guided and protected by Him, we may be able to strengthen Russia in the highest degree of power and glory; that by us may be accomplished the views and the desires of our illustrious predecessors, Peter, Catherine, Alexander the much-loved, and our august father of imperishable memory.

By their well proved zeal, by their prayers ardent unite with ours before the altars of the Most High, our dear subjects will come to our aid. We invite them to do so, commanding them to take at the same time, the oath of fidelity both to us and to our heir, his Imperial Highness the Cesarewitch Grand Duke Nicolas Alexandrovitch

Given at St. Petersburg the 18th day of the month of February (March 2), of the year of grace 1855, and the first year of our reign.

(Signed) Alexander

The St. Petersburg papers publish also the two following Imperial orders of the day addressed to the Russian army, dated March 3:—

I. Valiant warriors, faithful defenders of the Church, the Throne, and the country! It has pleased Almighty God to visit us with the most painful and grievous loss. We have all lost our common father and benefactor.

In the midst of his unwearied care for Russia's prosperity and the glory of the Russian arms, the Emperor Nicholas Pavlovitch, my most beloved father, has departed to eternal life

His last words were:

"I thank the glorious loyal Guards, who in 1825 saved Russia; and I also thank the brave army and fleet; I pray God to maintain, however, the courage and spirit by which they have distinguished themselves under me So long as this spirit remains upheld, Russia's tranquillity is secured both within and

without. Then, woe to her enemies! I loved them as my own children, and love as much as I could to improve their condition. If I was not entirely successful in that respect, it was from no want of will, but because I was unable to devise anything better or to do more."

May these ever-memorable words remain preserved in your hearts as a proof of his sincere love for you, which I share to the largest extent, and let them be a pledge of your devotion to your Emperor and Russia!

St. Petersburg, March 3, 1855. ALEXANDER

"Brave warriors, courageous participators in the deeds of your supreme military chief, now sleeping in the Lord!

"You have sealed in your hearts the last words of his tender and paternal farewell to you. As a mark of his love to the troops of the Guard, the 1st Corps of Cadets, and the Grenadier Regiment of the Generalissimo, Prince Suvarov (Suwarrow), I present to you the uniforms of his Majesty, those which the Emperor, your benefactor, designed himself to wear. Be worthy of this privilege, which I trust may remain among you sacred as a relic, and like an enduring memorial for future generations. Moreover, I ordain as follows:

1. In the companies and squadrons that have borne his Majesty's name, all his distinctive charges on the epaulettes and shoulder-knots shall retain the initial letter of the Emperor Nicholas I. so long as one of those, registered down to March 2, 1855, shall continue in the said companies and squadrons.

2. Those also who were attached to his Majesty's person as Generals or Aides-de-Camp General, or as Aides-de-Camp Adjate, will retain the same initial.

May the sacred memory of Nicholas I. survive among our ranks, as a terror to the foe and for the glory of Russia

St. Petersburg, March 3, 1855. ALEXANDER.

The Emperor Alexander has assumed the name of *Chef* of all these regiments of the Guard whose *Chef* the deceased Emperor had been; and, in addition, he remains *Chef* of the battalion of the Sappers of the Guard, of the 1st Brigade of the Artillery of the Guard, of the 1st Corps of Cadets, and of all the troops and forces the command of which he had had as crown Prince. The Cuirassier Regiment of the Body Guard, however, takes for its *Chef* the Empress Marie Alexandrowna; while the regiment of Lancers, which the Empress formerly had, is made over to the Crown Prince, Nicholas Alexandrowitsch. The Crown Prince is also nominated head hetman of all the Cossack armies; and General Rüdiger to be commander-in-Chief of the Guard and Grenadiers—equivalent in rank to the post of Commander-in-Chief of an army, inasmuch as the Corps of the Guards and Grenadiers forms a special and separate *corps d'armée*.

THE LATE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

Letters from St. Petersburg state that the funeral of the Emperor Nicholas will take place on the 20th inst. An order of the day by the Chief of the Police of St. Petersburg, in the official journal, announces to the inhabitants of the capital that, dating from Monday (5th March), all persons, without distinction of rank or condition, are admitted to the Winter Palace "to pay a last homage to the late Emperor Nicholas I., of glorious memory, from 10 to 11 a.m., and from 2 to 6 in the afternoon." The same paper publishes the order for wearing six months' mourning for the late Czar.

The Emperor Nicholas had made the most detailed arrangements in the event of his death. He has even left a legacy to the 6th regiment of Prussian Cuirassiers, of which he had been nominated the proprietor. A report is current that M. de Langenbruck, the celebrated operator of Berlin, has been sent for to St. Petersburg by the Imperial family, as they have a great confidence in the Russian surgeons, for the autopsy of the Emperor

A letter from Berlin in the *Post Gazette*, at Frankfort, says:—

The Emperor Alexander II. has written to the King of Prussia a letter to announce his accession to the throne, and to beg of him to continue with him the relations which existed between the two countries in the time of his father. The Dowager Empress has also written a letter to her brother the King. In the despatch which arrived here on Friday, and which announced the death of the Emperor, were the words pronounced by his Majesty in Greek, thanking our King for his friendship and fidelity, and entreating him to persist in the same sentiments. They began with "Tell my brother Fritz," but these words were omitted from the official publication, from motives of propriety. One of the most moving scenes which has occurred here in connection with the death of the Emperor Nicholas has been the celebration of the Service for the Dead, according to the Greek rites, in the chapel of the Russian Embassy. The Grand Duchess Olga, dressed in the regent costume, was present, as was also her husband (the Crown Prince of Wurtemberg), the King of Prussia, and all the Princes and Princesses of the royal Family. When the liturgy was terminated, and the prayer offered up for the blessings of Heaven on the deceased, the priests extinguished the wax tapers, and the Duchess Olga also extinguished the candle which, according to the rites of her Church, she had held in her hand. As she did so, the duchess, who had previously been deadly pale, threw herself into the arms of the Queen, and sobbed aloud

Letters from St. Petersburg state that the Empress Dowager stood as chief mourner in the *chapelle ardente* where the body of the Emperor Nicholas has been placed, and where it will remain a week. It will be carried thence, and remain for another week in the Citadel, after which it will be deposited in the tomb of the Imperial family

There have been various versions of the incidents which passed at the death-bed of the late Emperor, and of the words he is said to have addressed to his successor. One account represents him as at great pains to maintain the present cordial alliance between Berlin and St. Petersburg. Another one is given by the Paris correspondent of the *Times*, of a more startling character

According to this account, the Czar, on his death-bed, and in presence of the Empress, said to the heir to his Crown that it was necessary to make peace, even though at the cost of reducing their power in the Black Sea; that the responsibility of that concession would not rest on Alexander II., but on himself; that he never could bring himself to believe in the possibility or the reality of an alliance between England and France, and in that incredulity consisted his great error; that the tone of public opinion in England led him astray, because he had believed that the Emperor Napoleon cherished in his heart an ardent hatred against the English; that the Emperor Napoleon, being a man of a most obstinate character, would to the last moment persist in humbling Russia; that England and France united would sooner or later unite all Europe in their alliance, with perhaps the exception of Prussia and of two or three petty states of Germany; that France alone, aided with the money of England, was capable of throwing an immense host into the Russian territory, and would pass over the body of Prussia to do so if necessary; that such were the reasons why he recommended his heir to make peace; that he should for the moment reduce the Russian power; that he (the Emperor Nicholas) had been great and powerful, and perhaps his pride had been excessive throughout his long reign; and that perhaps God had, therefore, humbled him at the close of his career; but the will of God be done; that the object has been always ever lose sight of, was to labour for the dissolution of the English and French alliance, and to bring over to Russia Austria, which Prussia had foolishly betrayed and offended, and that his immediate care should be that Prussia should have weight in the Conference, in order to diminish as much as possible the onerous conditions demanded by the Western Powers. Such is the substance of what the Emperor is said to have recommended to his son in his dying moments

THE VIENNA CONGRESS.

The statement given last week, on telegraphic authority, that the Congress had commenced its deliberations, was not correct. The meeting at Count Buol's, on the 7th, was only a preliminary one. It had been summoned by the direct Imperial Minister, in consequence of Prince Gortschakoff having informed him that intelligence had arrived of his powers having been renewed by the new Emperor of Russia. At the meeting, it was decided that as the intimation concerning the powers of the Russian representatives had not been received by telegraph, the proceedings at that conference should be considered of a non official character, and that the formal opening of the conferences should take place when the regular documents should arrive. The persons present were Count Buol and Baron Prokesch-Osten, the Earl of Westmoreland and Lord John Russell, Baron de Bourqueney, and Arif Effendi and Riza Bey. Baron von Meysenburg, one of the Aulic Counsellors of the Austrian Foreign-office, acted as Secretary. The only matter discussed was the plan of action to be observed by the Allies during the Congress. As there was little diversity of opinion on the subject, it was soon settled to the satisfaction of all parties.

It was expected that the Conference would open on the 15th for actual business, as Prince Gortschakoff, who is said to have received his powers on the form, had signed a public document, generally adopting the principles which are to serve as the bases of negotiations, and which it will be the business of the Plenipotentiaries to define and apply. How those principles will be defined is, of course, the subject of universal speculation. The best data for forming a correct judgment on the subject is to reflect on the main object of the Allies, and the known views of the majority of the members of the Congress. The Envoys of the Allies are determined on—1. Relieving Russia from the exclusive protectorate of the Principalities. 2. The free navigation of the Danube. 3. The opening of the Black Sea to the flags of all nations. 4. The reduction of Sebastopol, and limitation of the Russian naval forces in that direction, in order that such may no longer perpetually threaten Constantinople.

The first three propositions will, probably, meet with little objection from the Russian Envoy, who will agree to them with one or two points of reservation. But when the question of Sebastopol is discussed, we may expect to find that Prince Gortschakoff will have to refer home. Lord John Russell, in all probability, will then leave instructions with Lord Westmoreland, and return to London. All this may take place within the next week. Government in France and England know at this moment the exact day and hour when the Envoys *propose* to meet, their plans having been formed on the supposition that certain documents ought to reach Vienna on a certain day. Such is the real state of things at the present moment, and such the only reliable data for calculating the chances of peace and war.

A THREATENED KAFFIR OUTBREAK.

By the *Nile*, which touched at the Cape, on her voyage home from Calcutta, we have received intelligence of a rather alarming character from that colony. One journal speaks of the Kaffir servants as leaving clan destinely the service of the farmers, and predicts another Kaffir outbreak at no distant period. The frontier journals speak as if the fear of a Kaffir disturbance were diminishing, but it is plain that the colonists require to be on the alert, as the following incident will show:—

On Friday, 12th January, an express reached the President at Bloemfontein, from J. Orpen, Esq., Landdrost of Winburg, written at the farm of one Pretorse, lying about 6 ght miles on the Cape side of Winburg. From this document, written in much haste, and on a small scrap of paper, during the forenoon, it appeared that, early the morning before, Mr. Orpen and Commandant Stander, with a patrol of about forty men, repaired to a bushman kraal on this farm, and that Mr. Orpen, leaving the main body at some little distance, rode with a small party to the kraal, and commenced a parley, which was sparingly to prevent bloodshed. The bushmen who are stated to have been about 120 in number—started up in a strong body, and attacked the party, some with arrows and assagais, and others with guns; and the result was that Mr. Orpen, who stood in front, received a slight wound on the shoulder from an assagai. One was shot dead and several more were wounded. Full particulars were not known, most of what was reported having been communicated orally by the Kaffir messenger, who stated that Mr. Orpen pulled out the assagai from his shoulder, and plunged it into the body of his assailant. On finding the enemy so numerous and resolute, an express was instantly sent to Winburg for ammunition, with which the patrol were insufficiently supplied, and also for a reinforcement. On riding away, the messenger related that he heard sharp firing for a great distance till he was quite out of hearing. It was altogether unknown at Bloemfontein how many of the robbers had fallen.

Accounts from the Trans-Vaal Republic announce the return of General Pretorius, after inflicting signal punishment on the Kaffir Chief Makapan, for the murder of Field-Cornet Potgeiter and seven or eight men, and the massacre of several women, accompanied by circumstances of the most horrid cruelty. General Pretorius was about to proceed on another commando towards the end of January, the destinationof which was kept secret.

THE DISTURBANCES IN AUSTRALIA

By the arrival of the *Arabian* we have advices from Melbourne to the 16th of December inclusive. The "strike" of the diggers—for "insurrection" is too strong a term—was over, and order restored. The firm attitude assumed by Sir Charles Hotham and the local Government has been attended with the happiest results. After the skirmish between the military and the diggers, unhappily attended with much loss of life, martial law was proclaimed at the gold-fields at Ballarat on the 6th of December. Order was, however, so far re-established on the 8th that another proclamation was issued by Sir Charles Hotham, revoking the same. In the Legislative Council of Melbourne, on the 6th of December, Mr. Miller, a member of the Council, moved:

That the Lieutenant-Governor, having been placed in a painfully-embarrassing position since his arrival in Victoria, is entitled to the sympathy and support of this Council, and it pledges itself to every means in its power, to aid him in restoring order and maintaining law and order

In seconding this motion, the Colonial Secretary made the following statement:—

Most of the disaffected, who did not form the bulk of the diggers, and many of the leaders, were foreigners, while the real hard-working diggers were delighted with the timely intervention of the Government. He read extracts from despatches received that day from Captain Paisley and Commissioner Rede, showing this to be the case; that order was now entirely restored, and that 417 licences had been issued in one day. He was also truly happy to say that the majority of the prisoners, as well as of those killed, were foreigners

The principal leader of the refractory had been arrested. The Legislative Council has passed a vote of thanks to the military.

AMERICA.

The steamship *Asia* arrived at Liverpool on Saturday night from Boston and Halifax, with letters and papers to the 27th ult.

The United States Senate had had under consideration a bill to protect officers and other persons acting under the authority of the Federal Government, designed to put an effectual stop to the annoyance heretofore experienced by officers of the Government when executing the laws in districts where the "higher law" advocates attempt to override the statutes and the Constitution. A fiery debate ensued between the Free-Soil fusion party and the Nebraskaites, who opposed the bill, headed by Judge Douglas. Since the commencement of the session the Free-Soilers have anxiously waited for an opportunity to display their forces, and the Democrats have as anxiously waited for an occasion to assail the omnipotent Know-Nothings. The wished-for time arrived, and Judge Douglas made a terrible onslaught on the party, which, in his opinion, were instrumental in defeating General Shields. The debate was the most exciting that has occurred for years, and the discussion lasted until after midnight, when the bill was passed by a vote of twenty-nine to nine.

In the House of Representatives, on the consideration of the Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation Bill being renewed, Mr. Egerton offered an amendment to refund duties on all railroad iron laid down between June 30, 1853, and July 1, 1856. The chairman decided it out of order, but the committee reversed the decision, and a debate on the tariff ensued; during which Mr. Banks said that the manufacturers of New England did not demand other protection than that which a revenue principle afforded; thus confirming the assertion made in the Senate a day or two since by General Wilson, that Massachusetts was nearly ready to embrace Free-trade doctrines. Mr Letcher offered as a substitute the amended tariff bill, proposed by the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, with alterations proposing that after July 1 articles now paying 100, 40, and 30 per cent, shall pay 80, 32, and 24 per cent. It was agreed to by a vote of 99 to 86, which reduces the duty on railroad iron six per cent, and is regarded as more adverse to the iron interest than the operation of the bill to extend credit for duties would be. On Saturday, the 24th ult., the amendments reducing the tariff rates were adopted by a vote of 126 to 82; and subsequently the bill was ordered to a third reading by a majority of 50.

Letters from New Mexico, by way of Louisville, state that the Indians were committing great outrages there. On the 25th of December a party of 100 Apaches and Utahs massacred at Pueblo fourteen men, and took three women and two children prisoners. Great excitement is now prevailing at Santa Fe on account of the general hostility exhibited by the Indians, who are swearing vengeance against all Americans and Mexicans. On the 25th of January Captain Howell, of the 1st Dragoons, had encountered the Missuilero Apaches at Sacramento Mountain, and killed twelve of them. The loss on the American side was Captain Henry W. Stanton and two privates. Governor Garland had called into service five companies of volunteers for six months, and recommended an application to Congress for an amount necessary to pay the expenses. An express arrived at Santa Fe the day before the mail left, stating that 400 Apaches and Utahs were coming to take the town by force of arms. Lieutenant Sturgis met the Apaches 40 miles from Santa Fe, and completely routed them, recapturing a lot of stolen stock.

The states from the city of Mexico are to the 17th February. The revolution against Santa Anna was gaining ground throughout the South, and the Government troops were deserting in regiments. General Palecia was besieged in Chilpancingo by 2000 of the insurgents, and reduced almost to starvation. Alvarez was to leave Acapulco for Mexico, with 3000 troops, about the middle of February, and was to be reinforced at Chilpancingo with 7000 more from the State of Michiacan; and, on their arrival within a few leagues of the city of Mexico, Alvarez was to be proclaimed President of the Republic *pro tem*. Santa Anna was still in the capital, and his new steamers were lying quietly in the port of Vera Cruz, for want of men. New Granada was perfectly tranquil.

The *Callao News*, of the 20th January, states that General Castilla, the Provisional President of Peru, had published a decree giving freedom to all those slaves who had not volunteered to serve in the army of Echenique. The Government pledges itself to pay the owners for their property in five years

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

REINFORCEMENTS for the several regiments at the seat of war are ordered to be held in readiness to proceed to the Crimea forthwith. According to present arrangements, the following are the numbers that are to be sent out, viz.:—Grenadier Guards, 3rd battalion, 900 men; 1st battalion Coldstreams, 150 men; 1st battalion Scots Fusilier Guards, 150 men; and it is stated that each of the following regiments of the line are to be increased by two companies of 100 men each, viz.:—2nd battalion 1st Foot (Royal Scots), 2nd ditto (Queen's), 3rd ditto (Buffs), 4th ditto, 7th Royal Fusiliers, 17th Foot, 18th (Royal Irish), 19th Foot, 20th Foot, 21st ditto, 42nd (Royal North British Fusiliers), 23rd (Royal Welsh ditto), 28th Foot, 30th ditto, 33rd (Duke of Wellington's Own), 34th Foot, 38th ditto, 39th ditto, 42nd (Royal Highlanders), 44th Foot, 46th ditto, 47th ditto, 48th ditto, 49th ditto, 50th ditto, 54th ditto, 55th ditto, 57th ditto, 62nd ditto, 63rd ditto, 66th ditto, 68th (Durham Light Infantry), 1st battalion 71st Highland Light Infantry, 77th Foot, 79th Highlanders, 82nd Foot, 88th (Connaught Rangers), 89th Foot, 90th ditto, 91st ditto, 92nd ditto, 93rd Highlanders, and 97th Foot. The Rifle Brigade is to be increased by a battalion of ten companies consisting of 100 men each. The reinforcements for the Cavalry will proceed early in the ensuing month, when the horses for the remounts will be sent out with them; but the draughts for the Guards will proceed immediately.

THE guns have been all mounted at the new battery, Sconce Point, Isle of Wight, and the works for a formidable redoubt commenced at Freshwater-gate, Isle of Wight.

THE total number of regular transports taken up by the Admiralty for the war, and numbered, is 201; of those, 15 have been lost, leaving 186 now actively employed in the service.

ON Saturday 152 invalids arrived at Chatham from the Crimea. Many of the cavalry soldiers show the effect of severe sabre wounds received at the grand charge at Balaclava. They all speak in the very highest and most grateful terms of Miss Nightingale.

REAR-ADMIRAL the HON. Richard Saunders Dundas, C.B., arrived at Portsmouth yesterday, and hoisted his flag (blue at the mizen) on board the *Duke of Wellington*, 131, Captain Caldwell, as Commander-in-Chief of the Baltic fleet. He saluted the Port-Admiral (his senior officer), Sir Thomas Cochrane, K.C.B., with fifteen guns, which Sir Thomas returned with the same number, "Ship leaving."

ON Saturday, several more of the Guards who were wounded at Alma and Inkerman, arrived at the hospital barracks of the brigade, Rochester-row, Westminster. Some of them had lost a leg, some an arm, &c., but they were all in good spirits, and were cordially welcomed by their comrades. They were admitted into the hospitals of the regiments to which they were attached, in connection with which, also, in consequence of many more wounded being expected, premises adjoining have been taken, which have been fitted up as a temporary hospital.

NAVAL MEDICAL OFFICERS.—A circular has been issued by the Board of Admiralty, increasing the emoluments of the naval medical officers. Inspectors of hospitals' pay to be increased from £1 11s. to £2 2s. per diem. A new grade to be introduced, called "Staff Surgeons," to consist of the senior surgeons of hospitals and dockyards, and surgeons of ships bearing the flag of Commander-in-Chief, where no Deputy Inspector is borne. The pay of Assistant-Surgeons to be increased as follows, viz.:—

	s.	d.	s.	d.
In ships in which no surgeons are borne—				
After ten years' service, from	10	1 to	11	1
After five	9	1 ..	10	1
Under five	8	1 ..	9	1
In ships in which a surgeon is borne—				
After ten years' service	9	1 ..	10	1
After five	8	1 ..	9	1
Under three	7	1 ..	8	1

Medical students to serve on the home or Baltic stations to be called dressers, to receive 6s. 6d. per day, to rank with, but subordinate to, acting assistant surgeons, to mess in the mids' mess, to wear the undress uniform of assistant surgeons, with the cap, band, crown, &c., and a sword. To be from about April to October, and then to be discharged at the time of the home ports to resume their studies, receiving a gratuity, if their certificates from the captain and surgeon should be satisfactory, of from £20 to £25.

THE Admiralty intend to employ a number of North Sea captains, well acquainted with the navigation of the Baltic, to act as pilots to the fleet. They are to have one guinea per day.

THE Government have entered into another extensive contract for the supply of cutlery straight cut rifles, Minié rifles, rifled carbines for cavalry, revolvers, sabres, naval cutlasses, and pistols. The manufacturers of Birmingham, Sheffield, and London will supply the greater part of the gunmakers and sword-cutlers, and Liège will supply the remainder. It is expected that the supply will approach 1000 stand weekly. A contract has also been entered into for the supply of saddles, and other horse accoutrements. The saddles will be much lighter than those at present in use, and the cumbrous shabrack will be dispensed with

It is stated that the 27th inst. is the day upon which the Baltic fleet is to assemble at Spithead, by which time the whole of that magnificent armada will, it is hoped, be in a perfect state of efficiency. Already the roadstead at Spithead is becoming crowded. The Baltic fleet of last year went off to sea as soon as each ship was got ready; consequently no striking array met the eye to challenge admiration. The fleet her Majesty reviewed the year before last, grand and numerous as it was, will sink into insignificance when compared with that which will leave Spithead next week. There is every reason to believe that her Majesty will inspect, if not review, the fleet previous to its departure. If the French contingent of fifty ships should join our hundred pennants—which is by no means unlikely—it would present a sight of grandeur and beauty far beyond anything of the sort ever exhibited to the eyes of an admiring people.

THE draughts for the cavalry regiments in the Crimea and the regiments under orders are directed to be held in readiness to proceed to the seat of war. It is intended to augment those regiments at present there by two troops of 80 men each. The following regiments will be immediately increased in strength—viz., 4th Dragoon Guards, 5th ditto, 1st Royal Dragoons, 2nd North British Dragoons (Scots Greys), 4th Light Dragoons, 6th Inniskilling Dragoons, 8th Hussars, 11th ditto, 13th Light Dragoons, and 17th Lancers. The 10th Hussars are to be 700 strong, augmented to 800 shortly. To effect the above simultaneously several horse transports are to be taken up, in addition to those at present in the service

MANUFACTURING LINT FOR THE ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.

IT is almost impossible in the course of a long life actively employed to form anything like an estimate of the vastness of London, and of the varied means resorted to by its inhabitants to provide for the necessities of life. In out-of-the-way places, in cellars, in garrets, articles of both beauty and utility are manufactured under the most seemingly difficult circumstances. In a wretched place leading from Oxford-street, we remember meeting with a woman of somewhat dissipated appearance making the cockades used on the heads of the horses of the nobility on drawing-room days—the gay streamers and ribbons contrasting strangely with the grey gloomy colour of the place. This woman was one of the best hands at this sort of work, and could, during the season, earn from £3 to £4 a week. In other most unlikely spots we have found the manufacture of many other fancy articles which find their way into the repositories at the "West End," which cannot fail to attract the admiration of persons of taste, many of whom are but little aware of the circumstances under which they have been produced. We must, however, pass over these matters to notice the manufacture which forms the subject of our Engraving.

If we examine the "London Directory" of the present year, amongst the list of trades the names of five lint makers will be found, who, together with a large number of poorer persons, have been engaged in the manufacture of Lint for surgical purposes. It will readily be supposed that for the uses of our hospitals—both metropolitan and provincial—for private patients, the Colonies, &c., a considerable quantity of this material is annually required. This trade might, however, have attracted but little notice but for the increased demand for this article, caused by the stern necessities of war. Before a ship of war or a soldier had left our shores for the East, the readers of the *Times* were startled by the announcement that Savory and Moore, of Bond street, had, in addition to other large medical contracts, undertaken to supply a thousand pounds weight of lint; since then fifty times that weight has been forwarded by this firm; and, as there seems some difficulty in meeting the increased demand, the public became so much interested that we proceeded to make some inquiry on the subject. On calling on some of the makers whose names are printed in the "Directory," we found them very unwilling to allow us to see their machinery, or to supply any particulars. However, after some difficulty, we succeeded in getting the accompanying Sketch.

Lint is simply a scraped rag, and many of our readers will remember old nurses in country places, in cases of emergency, making lint from a piece of clean old white rag by turning up the fibres on one side with a sharp knife. Old rag is better than new for the purpose, in consequence of the original stiffness of the linen having been washed out. The London Lint-makers have, however, long used a rude machine, which can

THE ENGLISH HOSPITAL AT ABYDOS.

be procured at the cost of from 25s to 30s. This machine, as will be seen by referring to the Engraving, consists of a wooden frame, in the front of which is a small platform, or cushion, on which the linen rests; one end of the linen is kept slightly stretched by a simple contrivance, and the other is gradually turned on a roller which the worker holds in her hands. One foot moves a treadle, which lifts up and down a sharp metal blade: this falls with sufficient force to cut one course of the threads without going quite through the material, this requires considerable care and practice. In an able article on this subject in *Chambers' Edinburgh Journal* the writer says:—

The force of the descent, however, is regulated by the dexterity of the worker, so that it shall only partly sever the cross-threads: and at every fall, while the knife is down, and its edge imbedded in the partly-severed threads, the blade is forcibly shifted in the direction of those threads for a certain small space. It is this horizontal shifting of the sharp and heavy blade of the knife upon the strained rag while it is half cut through, which, by disintegrating those threads that cross the blade at a right angle, and raising nine-tenths or more of their entire substance into a soft woolly pile, produces the lint. It is worthy of remark, that the threads which, lying horizontally with the knife, escape serious injury by the process, render an important service, by preventing the disintegrated pile from being detached from the surface of the rag by the violent passage of the blade.

Fine linen rags, being the first item in the manufacture of lint, have, in consequence of the increased demand, largely advanced in value (upwards of 6d. per lb.). These rags, when procured, require to be well washed, cleansed, and cut into suitable shapes. The procuring of this supply has become a sort of business of itself, and affords a good profit to those who travel amongst the different rag-merchants to collect the proper material.

The manufactory shown in the Engraving, is situated at Islington. The proprietor at the present time employs upwards of thirty hands, chiefly young girls from sixteen to twenty years of age: few of them, however, are at present engaged on the premises. The others, like the manufacturers to whom we have above alluded, may be found scattered amongst the dingy courts and alleys of London.

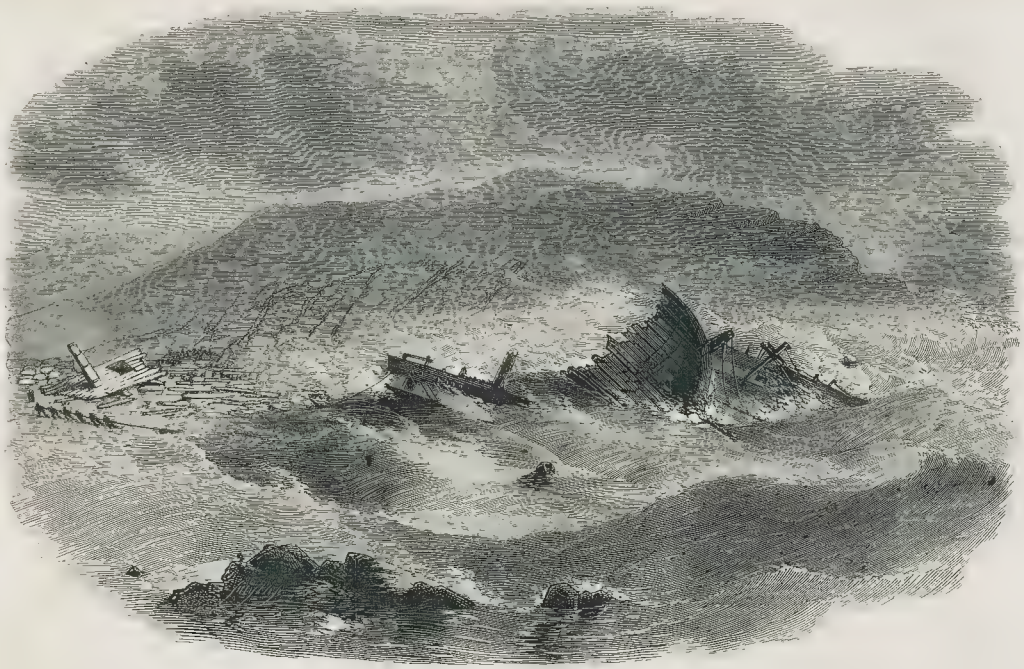
In some of these places may be found a woman, and perhaps two daughters, or apprentices, who manufacture the article, and hand it over to the larger dealers. A woman by her own hands can in a long day's work gain about 2s 6d., too small a sum for the patience, cleanliness, and confinement, required. During the increased demand for Lint these poor women should be thought of.

THE ENGLISH HOSPITAL AT ABYDOS.

Abydos is situated on the Asiatic shore of the Dardanelles, about twenty miles from the Sea of Marmora. The accompanying Sketch was taken from the steam transport *Robert Lowe*, on the 19th ult., she having brought down 100 sick to be landed at the station. The English Hospital contains about 400 patients. It is situated on the site of the ancient Abydos, and under a hill called after the Persian Monarch Xerxes, who is said to have watched from its summit the passage of his army across the Dardanelles. The Turks have thrown up a square redoubt on the crest of this hill, armed with four field-pieces. The occupation of this hill by an enemy would render the masonry battery on Nagara Point untenable, as it is completely looked into from it. Between the English Hospital and the Point is the French Hospital. Nearly opposite, on the European shore, is the site of the ancient Sestos. It was at this point Lord Byron swam across the Strait, a distance estimated at four miles allowing for the current, though only one straight across.

Our Hospital at Abydos is remarkable as the only place where, hitherto the English establishment has contrasted favourably with the French hospital.

MANUFACTURE OF LINT FOR THE ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.



WRECK OF "THE JOHN BANNERMAN," OFF HOLYHEAD.

WRECK OF THE "JOHN BANNERMAN."

On Saturday week the *John Bannerman*, 1700 tons, built of deal, with a cargo of raw cotton, was wrecked at Holyhead, on her voyage to Liverpool. The mate and six men, who left the wreck in a boat, have not since been heard of.

The accompanying Sketch represents the wrecked vessel as she appeared on Sunday morning, the 4th inst., with bales of cotton and a portion of the deck of the vessel being pulled up by men from the sea; the beach was also strewed with loose cotton two and three feet deep, which had the appearance of snow.

CONSECRATION OF ST. MARYLEBONE NEW CEMETERY.

It will be remembered that the Legislature, in the year 1850, passed an Act placing all interments in the metropolis under the Board of Health, and taking away the control of burial-grounds from parochial authorities. The Board of Health, after devising several gigantic schemes for providing cemeteries at remote distances from London, and by which it was intended to convey the bodies and mourners either by water or railway, found the difficulties they had to contend with insurmountable; and in 1852 the Government of Lord Derby introduced the present Burials Act (15 and 16 Vic., c. 85) restoring burial-grounds to local management, but enabling the Secretary of State to close the present grounds in the metropolis, and

CONSECRATION OF MARYLEBONE NEW BURIAL-GROUND, AT EAST END FINCHLEY.

giving power to parishes to provide others removed at a distance of two miles therefrom. The metropolis includes the several suburban parishes, such as Hampstead, Fulham, Hammersmith, Greenwich, round which a cordon is drawn, within which burials are prohibited. Under this Act the metropolitan burial-grounds either have been already closed, or will be so in a very short time.

The parish of Marylebone, to provide for the closing of their present burial grounds, have appointed a burial board, as directed by the Act, who have formed the new Cemetery, which was consecrated on Tuesday last, March 13th, by the Bishop of London. The ground is situate at East End, Finchley, fronting upon the road which lies between the Marylebone and Finchley turnpike road, and the high road to Barnet, turning to the left from that road at the Green Man Tavern. It is in a retired and rural spot, the ground lying high, sloping from the road to the valley between Highgate and Finchley, commanding extensive and picturesque scenery. Previous to the purchase of the ground for the present purpose, it was pasture land, known as Newmarket Farm, in the occupation of Mr. Cullum, of Finchley. The Board succeeded in obtaining the ground—consisting of twenty-six acres—at a sum of less than £200 per acre; and they have since erected the present buildings at a cost of about £15,000.

Passing the superintendent's lodge, the Cemetery is entered beneath an arched gateway; and a circular carriage-drive leads at once to the Episcopal Chapel, which is of cruciform character, with an open bell turret and crocketed spire on the nave or western gable, 70 feet in height. The Chapel contains 1400 superficial feet, and is at present pewed to accomodate 120 persons. An exit has been provided at the chancel end for transporting the coffins directly through into the proper part of the ground for interment. Passing onwards, we reach the portion of the Cemetery allotted to the Noncomformist population, who are likewise provided with a chapel and waiting-rooms, though on a smaller scale than the Church. The division adopted from the consecrated ground consists of an ornamental post and chain fencing. A commanding position has been preserved in the main carriage drive for catacombs. The general arrangement reflects much credit upon the members of the burial-board. The architects are Messrs. Barnett and Birch, who also carried out the adjacent works for St. Pancras and St. Mary, Islington, cemeteries. At the consecration on Tuesday, the service was read by the Hon. and Rev. J. T. Pelham, Rector of St. Marylebone. There were also present the Rev. T. H. Gurney, Rector of St. Mary's; Rev. C. Baring, Rector of All Souls; and the Rev. F. Braithwaite. The Rev. T. White and the Rev. F. Green, Rectors of Finchley, also attended; the members of the Burial-board, the deputations from the Vestry, the Board of Guardians, &c.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

Sunday, March 18.—4th Sunday in Lent. Horne Tooke died, 1812.
Monday, 19.—Louis XVIII. fled from Paris, 1815.
Tuesday, 20.—King of Rome born, 1811.
Wednesday, 21.—St. Benedict. Duc d'Enghien shot, 1804.
Thursday, 22.—Goethe died, 1832.
Friday, 23.—Southwark-bridge opened, 1819
Saturday, 24.—Earl of Chesterfield died, 1773.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 24.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m
2 6	2 .6	2 51	3 3	3 16	3 32	3 49	4 7	4 27	4 45	5 5	5 20	5 38	5 57

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1855.

The Sebastopol Inquisition continues its researches, and some distinguished witnesses have been heard this week—among them H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge and Lord Cardigan. Two representatives of the press have also been called upon to testify, orally, to the accuracy of the accounts they transmitted from the East—Mr. Crowe (the Correspondent of this Journal) and Mr. John Macdonald (the manager of the *Times'* fund for the civilisation of our Hospital).

The Duke of Cambridge's evidence was given, not only in a frank and straightforward manner—who expects anything else from a member of our Royal family?—but with a tact and discretion not always evinced by exalted personages when subjected to the ordinary forms by which facts are elicited from the common world. He evidently felt strongly upon the subject of the losses sustained by his noble Division, but had resolved that none of that indiscriminating indignation which too many persons have launched upon every head whose owner has been connected with our war system should manifest itself either in the matter or manner of his evidence. But he had a sad story to tell. It began at Scutari: not the present Scutari—a crowded, pestilential lazar-house, where it is now matter of congratulation that there were but twenty deaths each day; but the Scutari of last summer, the grand Asian barrack, full of high-hearted, high-spirited soldiers, eager to be led to the battle. Even there, in the face of the capital of our exulting ally—the great mart of Eastern Europe, where every necessary and most luxuries are to be had at will—the Commissariat began its blunders, delays, and impertinences:—"There was a great deficiency of forage, there was only one place of issue for all the troops, and a man would have to wait all day before he could obtain the supplies he wanted." Those who are acquainted practically with the horse will instantly see that the bad work was begun at once. Regularity of diet is as necessary to him as to his master, and the seeds of ill-health were plentifully sown in our cavalry chargers by this system of demi-starvation. Later, we find, that in the Crimea the same thing was going on:—"The horses before Sebastopol were very irregularly fed, which I attribute to the head-quarter Commissariat." But, insolent as well as inefficient, the Commissariat officers, while themselves blundering in all directions, insisted, upon a pedantic adherence to forms, on the part of others, and refused rations in one case on a false pretence that a printed paper had been wrongly filled up; in another, because a commanding officer had signed his name "half an inch too low." They wanted one half-hour of old Picton.

The Duke's testimony goes on to show that his Division was short of medical men—a privation of which the cruelty to the soldier is unspeakable. His Royal Highness also exposes a signal case of mismanagement at home. We all remember with what pleasure we learned that our gallant fellows were to be amply supplied with what the Duke justly considers almost a necessity of life—to the Guards at least—namely, porter. We heard of enormous quantities of this liquor being furnished, and some among us, who have enjoyed the nearly unspeakable pleasure of a draught of English beer in countries where it is a luxury for the few, were especially laudatory of a provision of the wisdom of which we were able to judge by experience. But it seems that we were all rejoicing without a cause:—"We got porter at Scutari and at Varna, but not afterwards," says the Duke. That is to say, the soldiers had it where it was not absolutely necessary, but the supply was cut off the moment the article became essential. Hear the Duke on this:—"I attribute the sickness to the climate, but I think the great mortality in the Guards arose from the men not being able to get porter." And why was this? The Liquor, in large quantities, was dispatched from England, and is charged for, in very large figures in the accounts. But the routine—the great Anarch interposed, and the porter was sent blundering about the Black Sea; calling, apparently, wherever it was certain that the army could not get it, and never going where it was wanted. And so the soldiers thirsted in vain, and died; and Sir James Graham, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. Herbert, thought it so unconstitutional that questions should be asked on such a subject, that they yielded up office rather than permit such impertinence.

At Varna the forage was irregularly supplied, as elsewhere, and the Duke's observation is worthy of remark. He saw all the country within fourteen miles of Varna, and noticed its fertility, and considered that ample supplies might have been obtained from it. Of course. A sensible English gentleman, accustomed to use his eyes as he rides, discovers, almost by instinct, the resources of a rural district. It is only Commissariat officials, who are paid to look about them, that cannot see what is around them. Benevolent ladies are sending out tracts to the troops; and a cheap reprint of Miss Martineau's "How to Observe," might work wonders upon the officers of the Commissariat.

A variety of other testimony in support of what the correspondents of Lord John Russell's "rabald press" reported upon the spot, and have been abused by noble Lords for reporting, has been put upon record by the Duke, by Lord Cardigan, and other distinguished personages; and as such truths have now been certified by a Duke and a Lord, and divers titled officers, the facts may be accepted in good society. Let us, therefore, turn to another part of the Duke's evidence, which deserves special note. His Royal Highness, in speaking of the landing at Kalamita on the 14th September, says:—"It rained all that night. The men had no covering, nor had the horses. I had what may be called a dog-kennel tent, which my servant carried on his back. Virtually we had no tents from the 14th September to the 4th of October." We knew this before, and the fatal results of this prolonged exposure—rain above, mud below. But the Duke states, in a few simple words, that the soldiers did not approach the shore with thoughts of encampment, but, as they supposed, to encounter an enraged foe:—"When we first landed, we expected to be attacked immediately by the enemy." This involves, of course, Lord Raglan's complete vindication from all charges made against him and they have been made pretty freely, in reference to this passage of the war. But it is no exculpation of others whose business it was to see that the army, whether it engaged or not, was supplied with shelter. Lord Raglan "had no means of transport for tents," nor—about to throw himself, as he supposed, upon the legions of the Emperor, whose soil he was invading—would he have thought of attacking, except *impedimentis relictis*. But where was the little fleet of transports which ought to have been hovering near, prepared to act as he should direct, in the event of victory or repulse? Those days of exposure ultimately destroyed more men than the fire from the south bank of the Alma, and those deaths are due to the "mismanagement" into which it was so unconstitutional to inquire. In the Duke of Cambridge's simple statement is summed up the history of misfortunes which have been eclipsed by greater subsequent horrors, but which must not be omitted when the account is made up.

The evidence of the gentleman to whom we are indebted for correspondence and other illustration of the history of war—contributions whose value has been far too largely recognised by the judgment of the public to make it necessary, even were it entirely fitting, for us to eulogise them—was chiefly directed to the hideous condition of Balaclava. The contrast which he drew between the state of the French Camp and dépôt and that of our own, will be a feature in the general case when this is made up; and perhaps the "three officers" who were stated to have been sent to Paris to examine the French system will be able to apprise the Government *why* the difference described by Mr. Crowe came to exist. Hitherto, everything that has come out before the Committee tells most favourably for the organisation of the army of our allies. Mr. Macdonald, the able, earnest, and energetic almoner of the *Times*, gave his verbal picture of the horrors of Scutari—a tale which he has told, only too well, in his masterly letters from Constantinople.

Such are the principal characteristics of the Sebastopol Inquiry so far as it has gone. We select and condense these details because—except when attracted by some lofty name or startling piece of evidence—the examinations may not be generally read as carefully as they should be. The Committee would have buried them in a colossal Blue Book, but Parliament over-ruled this device; and it is for the Press to see that the bearings of an investigation, which but for the Press would never have taken place, are understood by a nat on mourning its ruined army, and asking who are the authors of the ruin.

The complicated measure which the Ministers introduced to relieve the newspapers from stamps and regulate the sending of them by the post, seems not to have given satisfaction. We believe, in consequence—and we think that this will now be the wisest course—that the bill will be withdrawn, and a more simple measure substituted—the same as we formerly proposed, abolishing the stamp as a fiscal measure, but leaving it as a means of ensuring postage conveyance, permitting newspapers to be issued without a stamp, but requiring all those sent by the Post to be stamped. Such a measure would, probably, give more satisfaction to all parties. The bill stands for discussion on Monday evening, and will then, no doubt, be brought on.

While the political world is waiting with intense anxiety for the latest authentic intelligence regarding the Vienna negotiations, few persons seem to be aware that the question of peace was almost as good as settled at Newall's-buildings, Manchester, last week, by Mr. Bright. The common impression everywhere is that Russia will never consent to raze Sebastopol; and that, unless the Allies destroy that fortress, we should be in a worse position, were peace concluded now, than we were when the war began. But Mr. Bright does not agree with the public on that point. He would rather not have Sebastopol destroyed, because he sees no danger to liberty or to commerce from Russian encroachment. Even if the Emperor Alexander should attempt to carry out the intentions of his ancestors by taking possession of Constantinople—which he can do at any moment, so long as he remains master of the Black Sea—the honourable member for Manchester would not say a word against it. His doctrine is that we ought not to interfere in the affairs of any foreign country under any circumstances whatever. People of tender feelings may think it their duty to assist a weak nation when attacked by a strong one, but all such sympathy is dangerous, according to Mr. Bright, if it lead us to take a part in the quarrel.

With so very simple a theory regarding foreign politics, the leader of the Peace party can see no difficulty in bringing the war to a speedy conclusion. As for asking any material guarantees from a Power which stands so high in the estimation of Mr. Bright, such a notion would not be entertained for a moment. Of course Lord Palmerston might have some difficulty in meeting the House of Commons, in the event of his concluding what "the populace" would call a dishonourable peace, but in that case he will have the enthusiastic support of Mr. Bright. "Nothing should induce me to interfere the slightest obstacle to the smooth progress of a Government, so long as I thought it was honestly endeavouring to make peace." That is, peace at any price, for he would make no disagreeable stipulations in treating with so formidable a Power as Russia. On the other hand, he warns Lord Palmerston that he must prepare to encounter the most deadly opposition should the negotiations fail:—

> If I were to discover that Lord Palmerston's Government and his Envoy at Vienna (Lord John Russell) were drawing back from their terms, were causing unnecessary delays, were wishful, in conjunction with the Emperor of the French, to get out of their own propositions, what I might say to the Ministry might be of no avail, but there is no opposition that can be conceived that I would not offer to such a Government, as discreditable to the country, most unpatriotic, and most wicked

But how does Mr. Bright expect to find out what goes on at Vienna? He knows very well that all the diplomatic business of the country is carried on in secret. How, then, can he talk of discovering what Lord John Russell has done, unless the Russian Ambassador should furnish him with intelligence?

Apropos of secret diplomacy, we see that Mr. Bright now charges Ministers with having kept the House of Commons in the dark, during the Session of 1853, while the country was "drifting into war." This is rather too bad, considering the active part which Mr. Bright himself played on that occasion. He relies, no doubt, on the forgetfulness of the public; but it was hardly prudent in him to provoke inquiry into the matter. Those who remember the Session of 1853 cannot have forgotten that when Mr. Layard was about to bring forward his motion, in July, regarding our relations with Russia and the Porte, Mr. Bright made a strong appeal to him on the importance of leaving the matter entirely in the hands of Ministers. He made no attempt, on that occasion, to defend the aggression of Nicholas, who had then taken possession of the Danubian Principalities.

> In this country (said Mr. Bright) there is probably no difference of opinion with regard to certain circumstances which are occurring abroad. We all know it is very easy to get up in the House, or in the country, where people are of rather a pugnacious disposition, a feeling, which may seem justified, of a wish to protect the weak against the strong, and that feeling may be so pushed to that extent, that all efforts by the Government, however praiseworthy and patriotic, to preserve peace, may possibly be frustrated. Now, if I thought the Government at this time were pushing the country to war—a war which would be unpopular in this House, and hateful to the people—then I think any one would be justified in insisting upon discussion, that the House might bring its power to bear upon the Government. But that was not so on the present occasion. I speak particularly of the Prime Minister. I have the utmost confidence in the course he is disposed to take. I take it for granted that the noble Earl will maintain peace, if it be possible to maintain peace consistently with the character and position of this country. Well, having that confidence, I think it highly probable the discussion of a question like this in a popular assembly may have the effect of damaging the object I have so much at heart; and it is because I am of that opinion—it that I shrink from the discussion of any question before this House, if opportunity rendered it desirable—yes it is because I am of that opinion that I say (though Ministers, of course, use the phrase when things are to be concealed) that the public service will be injured by discussion.

And so, for these reasons, Mr. Bright begged Mr. Layard not to bring forward his motion. He had "the utmost confidence" in Lord Aberdeen; and as he knew very well that any attempt at explanation by Ministers would call forth a strong anti-Russian demonstration, not only in the House, but throughout the country, he deemed it prudent, for the nonce, to give up his principles in favour of open discussion, and let the most important business of the nation be managed by secret diplomacy. The result of that policy of concealment, which he so strongly recommended for his own purpose, was that the nation drifted into war, and now Mr. Bright turns round upon Ministers and accuses them of having kept Parliament in the dark till it was too late to prevent our being involved in a contest with Russia. Seldom have we witnessed a more unscrupulous exhibition of political dishonesty than this of the honourable member for Manchester. He ought to institute a new system of morality for himself and his friends, as well as a new code of international law.

Human Physiology, or the laws of health—a subject which interests the poor as well as the rich has hitherto been considered a matter on which it did not behove the mass of mankind to be instructed. If it were allowed by some to be a fit subject for the study of the wealthy and the "well to do," it was strictly forbidden to the poor. Why, it was urged, should the poor look to the "flesh" and the things of this world? Of what avail would a knowledge of the wonderful structure of the human body, and of the laws that regulate health and physical happiness be to them? Besides, would not irreligion and infidelity be encouraged among the poor, if anything was taught in common schools but the Catechism and the Bible the Alphabet, and the Rule of Three? Was not every other teaching revolutionary? and certain to lead to the subversion of all law, both Divine and human? Such were the fears expressed by many estimable but very short-sighted and narrow-minded men, whenever a philanthropist or a philosopher attempted to enlarge the circle of elementary instruction, and include within it, the teaching of "Common things;" and of the physical laws of the universe—affecting all material beings. In England, the opposition to the dictates of common sense in this matter—though strenuous and protracted long ago began to yield; and the days have happily passed when the cry of infidelity could be successfully raised against any man for teaching that the laws of health were as much the laws of God as any portion of the Decalogue. In Scotland the ultra-theological bias of the public mind has rendered the resistance still more obstinate than in

England; but even in Scotland we are glad to see that a beginning has been made which promises to rescue that country from the reproach of indifference or hostility to a subject of such high importance.

We refer our readers to a report in another portion of our paper of a speech made by Professor Lee, of the University of Edinburgh (a distinguished divine of the Church of Scotland) to the governors of Heriot's Hospital in that city. From that report it will be seen that the governors have unanimously agreed, on the motion of Dr. Lee, that Human Physiology—or the fundamental principles of the laws of health—shall, for the future, be systematically taught to the elder scholars of both sexes in that institution. This resolution was adopted—partly, no doubt, in consequence of the eloquence and the exertions of the Rev. Dr. Lee—but partly, we have reason to believe, from the impression produced by a "medical opinion," signed by sixty-five eminent physicians and surgeons, which was printed in the year 1853, and extensively circulated in every part of the country. The document states:—

Our opinion having been requested as to the advantage of making the Elements of Human Physiology, or a general knowledge of the laws of health, a part of the education of youth, we the undersigned have no hesitation in giving it strongly in the affirmative. We are satisfied that much of the sickness from which the working classes at present suffer, might be avoided, and we know that the best-directed efforts to benefit them by medical treatment are often greatly impeded, and sometimes entirely frustrated, by their ignorance and their neglect of the conditions upon which health necessarily depends. We are therefore of opinion, that it would greatly tend to prevent sickness and to promote soundness of body and mind were the Elements of Physiology, in its application to the preservation of health, made a part of general education; and we are convinced that such instruction may be rendered most interesting to the young, and may be communicated to them with the utmost facility and propriety in the ordinary schools, by properly instructed schoolmasters.

This opinion is signed by Sir James Clark, Bart., Dr. Arnott, Sir Benjamin Brodie, Sir William Burnett, Dr. Robert Ferguson, Mr. Cæsar Hawkins, Dr. Locock, Dr. Hodgkin, Dr. Southwood Smith, and, we may add, by almost every eminent member of the medical profession in the metropolis. We trust that other institutions for the education of youth will imitate the good example of the Directors of Heriot's Hospital;—and that the day will come when the poor, properly instructed in this branch of knowledge, will learn sufficient of it to make them happier men and better citizens.

THE COURT.

The Court left town on Thursday for Osborne, the marine residence of the Royal family in the Isle of Wight, where her Majesty will probably sojourn until the latter end of next week. During the week just closed, the Queen has held a Privy Council, and a second Levee. A third Levee is announced for Monday the 26th instant; and on the succeeding Thursday her Majesty will hold her first Drawing-room.

The leading incidents of Court life are thus chronicled by the usual official authority:—

On Friday the 9th instant the Queen and Prince Albert went to Woolwich to inspect the troops quartered there, and also to see the artillery-men wounded and disabled in the Crimea. Her Majesty also visited the Arsenal and Laboratory, through which she was conducted by the heads of the different departments. The Queen and Prince made a minute inspection of the ambulance waggons, the new means of transporting wounded men, and the various works of the Arsenal, and then returned to Buckingham Palace, where they arrived at a quarter after two o'clock in the evening her Majesty and the Prince Consort honoured the Lyceum Theatre with their presence.

On Saturday the Queen held a Privy Council, at which Mr. Edward Horsman, Chief Secretary for Ireland, was, by command of the Queen, sworn of her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, and took his seat at the Board. The Earl of Carlisle had an audience of the Queen previous to the Council, and took leave of her Majesty on proceeding to Ireland. In the evening her Majesty had a dinner party, the company at which included the Duchess of Kent, the Prince of Leiningen, the Duchess of Inverness, and a distinguished party of the aristocracy.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Alice, the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, and the Domestic Household, attended Divine Service, in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. In the evening Viscount Palmerston and Lord Panmure had the honour of dining with her Majesty.

On Monday the Queen and Prince Albert visited the Exhibition of the Photographic Society, in Pall-mall East. In the evening the Queen had a dinner party, at which the Maharajah Duleep Singh was among the guests.

On Tuesday the Queen—attended by Lady Churchill, Major-General Bouverie, and Captain Du Plat—visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester House; and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, at her residence in St. James's Palace. In the evening her Majesty and the Prince Consort, with the Prince of Leiningen, honoured the Olympic Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday the Queen held a Levee. In the evening her Majesty had a dinner-party, the company at which included, among others, the Duchess of Kent, the Duke of Cambridge, the Prince of Leiningen, the Swedish Minister and Baroness de Hochschild, Viscount and Viscountess Falkland, Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence, Lady Blantyre, Sir James and Lady Graham, Sir George and Lady Theresa Lewis, Major General Freeth, Major-General Torrens, Colonel J. A. Wilson, and Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. James Macdonald.

On Thursday the Queen and the Prince Consort, with the Royal children, left Buckingham Palace for Osborne.

Lady Churchill has succeeded the Viscountess Canning as the Lady in Waiting to her Majesty. The Earl of Lisgowel and General Sir Frederic Stovin have relieved Earl Somers and Colonel the Hon. A. N. Hood in their duties as the Lord and Groom in Waiting to the Queen.

THE LEVEE.

The Queen held a Levee on Wednesday afternoon, in St. James's Palace. It was the second this season, and was numerously attended, the presentations to her Majesty exceeding two hundred.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge and Prince Nicholas of Nassau, attended the Levee; were received by the Vice-Chamberlain, and were conducted by his Lordship to the Royal closet.

Vee Rajinder Wundah Singh of Coorg, attended the Levee, and wore a magnificent Eastern costume.

Lieutenant-General Vivian also attended, and a number of officers appointed to the Turkish contingent were presented to the Queen.

The Queen wore a train of white silk, embroidered in gold and cerise, and trimmed with gold blonde. The petticoat was white satin, trimmed with gold blonde and cerise ribbons. Her Majesty wore a diamond and opal diadem.

The following were among the more noticeable presentations:—

The Earl of Malmesbury, on his appointment to the Colonelcy of the Hants Artillery, by the Marquis of Winchester.
Captain Lord Bingham, on promotion and return from the Crimea, by General Lord Strafford.
Come before the Hon. Frederick Pelham, on appointment as Captain of the Fleet, by the First Lord of the Admiralty.
The Right Hon. Edward Horsman, on his appointed Chief Secretary to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, by Viscount Palmerston.
Major-General A. W. Torrens, on promotion, by General Viscount Hardinge.
Mr. E. Betts, by the Duke of Newcastle.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary left St. James's Palace on Thursday for Egerton Lodge, Melton Mowbray, on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Wilton.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester entertained the Duke of Cambridge and a select party to dinner, on Saturday evening, at Gloucester-house.

The Duchess of Sutherland and Lady Blantyre returned to town, on Saturday, from Brighton, whither they had proceeded on the previous day, upon a visit to the Duke of Devonshire, at Kemp Town.

The Earl of Wilton left town on Monday for Egerton Lodge, Melton Mowbray, where a distinguished circle of visitors are about to assemble to meet their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary.

Lieutenant Sir George Woombwell, Bart., of the 17th Lancers, has arrived in George-street, Hanover-square. This youthful Baronet has only recently been promoted for his distinguished gallantry at the memorable Cavalry charge at the battle of Balaclava.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE great talk of the week has been the successful *coup d'état* at the annual meeting of the Royal Literary Fund. This society has never been managed with the ability which its objects and its means most unquestionably demanded. It has been dry-nursed too long by a number of well-meaning old gentlemen whose united years would carry us into a fourth figure. It has never advanced with its age (its committee and management has not); and as it would not reform itself, it was necessary that it should be reformed from outside, by the general body of subscribers. From year to year the most patient attempts to bring its Committee to reason failed, in spite of arguments the most irresistible that could possibly be urged before a meeting of honest and really well-meaning men. "We are following the precedent of the Royal Society," said somewhat naïvely the good-natured chairman of the day (Sir Robert Inglis); for which he was quietly and somewhat sarcastically rebuked by Mr. Dickens. "Would any reform (as it is called) do us any good?" asked, very unintentionally the clever biographer and the best natured of committee-men, Mr. Edward Foss, for which he was rewarded with a titter of admission. The truth is, the subscribing body *out* of the Committee were unanimously of opinion that the expenses of the Fund were too large, its Council a nonentity, and its charter insufficient for the purposes of the day. There were, of course, people who contended that the expenses were not large; that a new charter involved an expense that the Fund should not incur; in short, that no change whatever was wanted. Authors not on the Committee contended, perhaps a little too strongly for success, on the necessity of confining the Committee of Management to authors and scientific men. This aroused the jealousy of the publishers, and carried over some useful votes to the Committee. The publishers mustered strongly. We noticed Mr. Murray, Mr. T. Longman, Mr. Green, Mr. Moxon, Mr. Colburn, Mr. Bentley, Mr. J. W. Parker, Mr. Bohn, &c. Nor were the authors of our country ill-represented at the meeting: history was well sustained by Dean Milman, fiction admirably supported by Dickens and Bulwer. While critics mustered in a formidable phalanx, confronting authors they had cut up now and then from necessity, and not unoften from choice.

The triumph of the day was the carrying a Committee "to consider the propriety of applying for a new charter or Act of Parliament, and to report the result of their deliberations to a special meeting summoned for that purpose." This Committee is thus appointed:

Lord Lansdowne.

Dean Milman.	Sir E. L. Bulwer Lytton.
Mr. Thackeray.	Mr. Dickens.
Mr. Robert Bell.	Mr. Procter.
Mr. Tooke.	Mr. Dilke.
Sir Henry Ellis.	Mr. Forster.
Mr. G. R. Gleig.	Sir John Forbes.

Mr. Auldjo.

This, we think, is a fairly-constituted Committee, and cannot but result in a real service to the Fund and to the cause of authors generally. There are some obstinate men on both sides—as may be seen by our printing of the names as it were in a kind of nominal opposition. Lord Lansdowne is not likely to attend, but the other members will meet, and the result of their deliberations will soon be known. The fight on Wednesday was rather a fight of principles than of men; though we were sorry to see Mr. Hallam's name pitted against that of Lord Lansdowne, and as sorry to hear the Dean of St. Paul's (well and honourably known in literature) revive the exploded notion that literature is in any way at present supported—by patrons. An author's only patron in the present day is—the public.

Death, in the shape of bronchitis, has just removed from among us Mr. John Hollins, A.R.A., one of the best portrait-painters in small and in oils that this generation of Englishmen has produced. He had a quick eye for a likeness, a happy skill in the composition of his figures, and a fine sense of the beautiful in colour. He was born at Birmingham, in the year 1802—the son of a painter on glass in that town. He began with small conversational subjects, and has been heard to declare that he owed his first feeling for Art to the works of Morland. There was, however, little resemblance in the works of his favourite beyond a certain realth of treatment common to both. He soon became known; and, judging London to be a better outlet for his genius than his native Birmingham, he started for London in his twentieth year, finding a firm friend in the late Lord Wenlock, whom he soon afterwards accompanied to Italy. In 1842 he was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy; but did not obtain any higher honour in that body, having, however, lived to see five junior Associates promoted above him—viz., Messrs. Grant, Cope, Dyce, Marshall, and Frith. He was buried in the General Cemetery at Kensal green, on Wednesday last; the pall being borne by Sir Charles Eastlake, P.R.A.; Mr. Charles Landseer, R.A.; Mr. Redgrave, R.A.; and Mr. Creswick, R.A.

The place of Mr. Hollins's sepulture reminds us that Mr. Copley Fielding was buried on Saturday last, in the churchyard of Hove, near Brighton. Biographers too often omit to mention the places of burial of their heroes. Mr. Fielding was christened Copley Vandyke Fielding, and exhibited for the first time in the Old Water-Colour Exhibition in Spring-gardens, in the year 1810. He is said to have died rich, the well-merited reward of a long life of useful and successful labour.

A well-known collector very properly reminds us that the approaching sale, at Edinburgh, of the magnificent library of the late Lord Rutherfurd more than merits a paragraph in our paper. It is by very far the best library ever offered for sale in Scotland. The books themselves are in the finest possible condition. Mr. Nisbet's shelves were never decorated before with so many tasteful bindings in calf, morocco, russia, and even in simple mutton. Lord Rutherfurd had great taste, and he spared not expense. He was always on the hunt himself, and he had many active friends on the look-out for him. In point of *condition*, no collection of the kind has been offered to the public since Osborne dispersed the Harleian Library. Great prices are expected.

ROYAL LITERARY FUND.

The annual general meeting of this society was held on Wednesday at the Society's Rooms, in Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury. The attendance of members was unusually numerous, in consequence of a rumour that some influential literary men intended to offer serious objections to the constitution and management of the Society. Among the members present were Sir R. H. Inglis, Sir Bulwer Lytton, M.P., the Very Rev the Dean of St Paul's, Sir H. Ellis, the Rev. Dr. Croly, Mr. C. Dickens, Mr. R. H. Cobbold, Mr C. Dilke, Sir J. Forbes, Mr. W. Dilke, Mr. W. Tooke, Dr. Arnott, Mr Godwin, Mr. C. Baldwin, Dr. Roget, Professor Graham, Mr. P. Cunningham, Mr. J. Murray, Mr. Longman, Mr. J. W. Parker, Mr Colburn, Mr. Bentley, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Bohn, Mr. Birch, Mr. Pakenham, M.P., Mr. Hardwicke, R.A., Dr. W. Smith, Mr. Panizzi, Mr. Colley Grattan, Mr. J. Forster, Sir C. F. Roney, Mr. Mark Lemon, &c.

Sir R. H. Inglis was voted into the chair.

After the statement of the accounts had been read, on the motion that the thanks of the Society be voted to the auditors, Mr. C. Dilke said, that in 1803 it was stated in a report issued by the secretary that all the offices were discharged gratuitously except those of collector and messenger, and it was very natural that it should be so. It was the policy of the founder that all the offices of the Society should be gratuitously filled; and when, in 1806, he had collected a sum of £6000, and when the income of the Society was £600 a year, the Prince Regent was asked to give the Society a place of abode near the Palace. The founder contemplated that any house or museum which might be given to the Society should contain a library of books and manuscripts, and should attract the subscribers as to a common centre of communication and action. The founder hoped that the institution might one day become a college for decayed and superannuated genius—the most pitiable of all objects. If that common centre for literary men and publishers had been established, it would have been one of the most beneficial things to literature and to literary men that was ever projected (Hear, hear). The Prince Regent did not give the Society a house near the Palace; but a sum of £400 per annum was, by his direction, charged upon the revenues of the Duchy of Cornwall to defray the expenditure for a house, and the taxes. At the death of George IV. that grant ceased, and now the Society took its rank with some others, and received an annual donation of 100 guineas from the Crown. The Society had great rooms, which were only used nine times a year by the committee. In 1840 the duties of the registrars were set down, and in was arranged that a registrar should attend every general meeting of the Council of the General Committee, that they should take minutes of the business transacted, and of the orders made at each meeting; and should superintend the Society's correspondence. Now, if the registrars performed that duty without remuneration, what was there for any one else to do? The committee met nine times a year. There were three registrars, and, if they divided the labours between them, each registrar would have three meetings to attend, each meeting occupying about two hours. The first assistance which the registrars applied for was a clerk at £40 per annum. The clerk had now grown to a secretary, and the £40 a year had become £200; while the same duty for twenty years performed for the Artists' General Benevolent Fund for £50. The committee of that Society met in a room at the Freemasons' Tavern, which they paid for, and this avoided a charge for house-rent; and, as the committee met twelve times a year, the remuneration to the secretary of the Artists' Fund was £4 4s. day, which he thought ample. He would take the Artists' General Benevolent Fund, between them and the Literary Fund there was no difference whatever. That fund was subscribed for artists generally, and he was sure there was as much difficulty of inquiry in the one case as the other. Mr. Dilke proceeded to read the following summary:

LITERARY FUND.

	Applicants relieved at a cost of—	
1844.	31	£250 6 10
1845.	38	189 10 7
1846.	48	302 13 7
1847.	56	364 5 9
1848.	50	400 10 10
1849.	41	327 18 7
1850.	38	285 11
1851.	45	325 15 6
1852.	42	313 17 8
1853.	47	306 4 7
	429	£3094 9 1

ARTISTS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

	Applicants relieved at a cost of—	
1844.	13	£90 17 9
1845.	13	82 8 10
1846.	13	87 7 1
1847.	13	126 19 2
1848.	13	86 5 9
1849.	13	86 8 5
1850.	13	86 13 8
1851.	13	86 8 4
1852.	13	101 13 8
1853.	13	86 11 4
	55	£1041 17 1

(Cheers.) In other words, every draught drawn for the benefit of applicants for the Society's aid cost £11 17s., in addition to the sum voted by the committee for their relief (Hear). He moved the following resolution:—

That whereas during the ten years from 1844 to 1853, both inclusive, the cost of assisting 429 applicants to the Literary Fund amounted to £3094 9s. 1d. (exclusive of collector's poundage, advertisements, and expenses attending the anniversary dinner); and whereas the cost of assisting 55 applicants to the Artists' General Benevolent Fund, within the same ten years, amounts to £1041 17s. 1d. (also exclusive of collector's poundage, advertisements, and expenses attending the anniversary dinner); this meeting is of opinion that the expenses of managing the Literary Fund are unreasonable and enormous, and that a great change must be made in the administration of its affairs.

The Chairman asked if the resolution were an amendment to the motion before the meeting, or was proposed as a substantive resolution?

Mr. Dilke did not wish to cast any imputation upon the auditors, and wished his resolution to be added to the thanks to the auditors.

Sir B. Lytton seconded Mr. Dilke's resolution.

The Rev. Dr. Russell did not think it fair to adduce the rent of the Society's chambers as a sum withheld from the claimants. The payment of a secretary was, he thought, fairly justified by the result. The secretary bestowed a great deal of labour in obtaining the money which formed the Society's income. The amount received in 1854 in subscriptions, donations, &c., was £1126—a result which was obtained in consequence of the letters sent out by the secretary. Deducting altogether the cost of the maintenance of the house, which he held to be a part of the concern, he did not think that the secretary was overpaid by the sum he received, and he was, therefore, at a loss to perceive how any fair charge of extravagance could be alleged against the Society (Hear, hear).

The Chairman put the question, when there appeared for Dr. Dilke's motion, 28; against it, 42.

Thanks were then voted to the auditors and the registrars.

Previously to balloting for the president, vice-presidents, and officers of the Society,

Mr. W. Dilke said that he should not be supposed to make this a personal question, when he declared it to be his opinion that the high office of president, now filled by the Marquis of Lansdowne, ought to be filled, as a question of principle, by the most distinguished literary and scientific men who were subscribers to the institution. He accordingly moved that Mr. H. Hallam be selected to fill the office.

The Chairman stated that the proper course of proceeding was for each gentleman to hand up his ballot-paper, when the name of any officer of the institution could be erased, and any other substituted in its place.

Mr. C. Dickens was one who held that this Society should be entirely in the hands of literary and scientific men; and that no other human being had any business with it. The committee had favoured the meeting with the names of those whom they proposed, and he called upon the Chairman to read the names of those whom he and his friends proposed.

Mr. Dilke said, he was about to hand in a list of presidents, vice-presidents, council, and a general committee exclusively selected from literary men and scientific men; but the Chairman ruled that separate papers containing these names could not be sent round.

The balloting papers were then collected; and shortly afterwards the scrutineers returned and declared that the house-list had been elected.

Mr. C. Dickens rose to propose the following resolution:

That, whether the general committee's construction of the present charter be legal or illegal (as to which there are differences of opinion), it is manifestly absurd, as contemplating a body expressly to be elected from members of the general committee, with at least three years' experience, called a council, to which it confides no powers and no duties, and which never meets, because it cannot even be called together by any authority for any purpose; and that it is therefore desirable to apply for a new charter, or an Act of Parliament, and that a committee be specially appointed with this object.

The existing charter was so excessively ridiculous, so inconsistent, and so manifestly preposterous, that it ought to be abolished by men of sound mind, memory, and understanding (A laugh). The charter having in an express manner declared that there should always be a council, and that the council, with the general committee, should always have the direction of the Society's affairs, he supposed that out of the Literary Fund and the two great establishments of St. Luke's and Bedlam, there could not be in the metropolis one human being who could doubt that this council was intended to have a real existence and something to do. He had had the honour to be elected some years ago upon the council, and he had hoped that by study and fasting (a laugh) he might be fit to discharge the high duties which he supposed devolved upon that august body. For months he never left home without leaving word where he might be found in the event of the Literary Fund wishing to take his counsel (A laugh). The Literary Fund, however, seemed to get on in its own manner, without requiring his aid; but when the council met, and where it met, and what it did, he never could learn. The fact was that it never could meet, never did meet, had no place of meeting, and nothing to do—that it was, in short, the only thing in creation that had no purpose, end, or object for which it existed (A laugh). What would the public say of a board of directors that did not direct, of a bench of judges who did not judge, of a jury that did not deliberate or find a verdict, of a physician appointed never to prescribe, of a surgeon directed never to set a bone, of a fireman enjoined never to go within fifty miles of a fire, or of picked officers of the Humane Society being tied up not to approach the water? (Much laughter). This was the case of the council at this moment. It was either used as a shelf for uncomfortable members of the general committee, or it was used to prop up the faults of the concern with the names of literary men who had nothing to do with it. The charter was, in fact, utterly defective and rotten, inasmuch as it appointed a council, but omitted to name its functions.

Mr. J Forster seconded the resolution.

The Dean of St. Paul's suggested that the committee should report the result of their deliberations to a special general meeting summoned for that purpose.

The suggestion having been incorporated into the resolution, it was put from the chair and carried unanimously. The appointment of the Committee was then resolved on, and thanks having been voted to the secretary, and the usual acknowledgment having been paid to the Chair, the meeting separated.

A THREATENED PAPER-DUTY IN FRANCE.—M. Didot, the eminent French publisher, has just issued a pamphlet against a projected paper duty in France. In 1240, says M. Didot, King Philip ordered that "paper and books being indispensable to pupils, should be exempt from duty." King John, in 1360, confirmed that privilege; and afterwards Louis XII. and Francois I. declared books exempt from every kind of impost. Henry II., in 1552, ordered that there should always be in France a special favour shown to paper; and, in 1789, when an attempt was made to impose a paper-duty, the idea was so unpopular that the proposed plan came to nothing.

THE FAST AGE.—The news of the death of the Emperor Paul in 1801 was *twenty-one days* in getting to London. That of the late Emperor Nicholas *four hours and a quarter* at the utmost, according to Lord Clarendon's statement in the House of Lords of the time it had been received at the Foreign-office.

ADMIRAL H. EDEN and Sir Robert Peel, Bart., are appointed Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty; Mr. Walter Drummond to be private secretary to Admiral Eden.

THE BARNSTAPLE ELECTION.—The vacancy in the representation of the borough of Barnstaple, caused by the unseating of Mr Laurie by a Committee of the House of Commons, was filled up on Saturday by the election of Mr. G. S. Buck, a Conservative. Mr. Tite, the Liberal candidate, had previously withdrawn from the contest, on the ground, as he declared in a placard, that he candidate who did not resort to corrupt practices could be successful

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

H.M.S. "VALOROUS." TURKISH ADMIRAL. H.M.S. "FURIOUS." H.M.S. "CURACOA." "VIPER."

THE RUSSIAN ATTACK ON EUPATORIA.

"NIGER." "SANE." "SIDON."

ALLIED STEAMERS ON THE LOOK-OUT BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

THE ATTACK ON EUPATORIA.

THE following account of the attack made by the Russians on the town of Eupatoria, on the 17th ult., is by the officer to whom we are indebted for the Sketches which accompany it:—

H.M.S. *Valorous*, off Eupatoria, Feb. 21, 1855.

At daylight on the morning of the 17th February, the Turkish batteries constructed for the defence of the town were observed to open fire on a large body of Russian troops advancing from the northward; and, as it soon became evident that a general attack was intended, the ships of war at anchor in the bay immediately shipped, and proceeded to assist in the defence of the flanks of the Turkish entrenchments—the *Curacoa*, *Furious*, and *Viper* on the right; and the *Valorous* on the left. The main attack was made on the right or east flank, where the defences are the weakest, while a large body of cavalry made a feint on the left rear—a building originally a Russian barrack, now held by a division of the Turks. A few shells from the *Valorous* soon dispersed these latter; but the main body, on the right, made several determined attempts to storm the works, in which they finally succeeded, being only prevented by the flank fire of the ships and the resistance they met with from a party of the "Bono Jaloures," who remained immoveable at their post of danger. Finding at last, after four hours' hard firing, that all their attempts were unsuccessful, the enemy retired, leaving upwards of [illegible] dead on the field. The loss on the side of the Turks amounted to about 100 killed, and 200 wounded, among whom was one of the chief in command (severely). The force of the Russians has been estimated at 40,000, and 60 guns, that of our allies being little above 30,000, and with scarcely any cavalry, of which the former had a large proportion.

The battle-field presented a terrible scene of robbery and barbarism on the part of the Tartars, who not only stripped the dead and wounded of every stitch of clothing, but insulted and mutilated the dead bodies in every possible way. Several Turks were even found stabbing those who were not actually dead, in trying to prevent which a French corporal gallantly lost his life.

Of the horses scarcely a vestige was left three hours after the engagement, the starving Tartar population having taken every part for food save the hoofs and skins.

The enemy have now encamped about three miles outside the town, and a fresh attack is daily expected.

LOOK-OUT STEAMERS OFF SEBASTOPOL.

WE are indebted to a Correspondent for the accompanying spirited Sketch of the Steamers (at the date of our Correspondent's communication, Feb. 23) on the look out off Sebastopol. These vessels were—the *Sidon* and *Niger*, English, and the *Sané*, French. Since the sortie of the two Russian vessels in December last, there have been continually two or three of the Allied steamers anchored off the entrance to the harbour, just without range of the batteries. By day they have to keep a good look-out, and report the movement of troops about the town, or anything stirring in the harbour; and at night prevent any attempt that might be made to tow fire-ships amongst the fleet off Kamiesch. The guns of the look-out steamers are kept loaded, and at night the men are at their quarters, steam up at full speed; and every thing else ready at a moment's notice to receive any Russian who may be disposed to come out.

BANQUET AT THE LONDON TAVERN TO GENERAL VIVIAN AND THE ENGLISH OFFICERS OF THE TURKISH CONTINGENT IN THE CRIMEA.

THE TURKISH CONTINGENT.

GRAND BANQUET TO GENERAL VIVIAN.

A MAGNIFICENT farewell banquet was given on Saturday evening last, at the London Tavern, by the East India Company, to General Vivian and the officers appointed to command the Turkish contingent in the ensuing campaign in the Crimea, previous to their departure to the seat of war. About 150 noblemen and gentlemen, members of both Houses of Parliament, and the principal proprietors of the East India Company, were invited to the banquet, and among those present were Viscount Palmerston, Marquis of Lansdowne, Duke of Argyll, Lord Panmure, Right Hon. E. Vernon Smith, M.P.; the Turkish Minister (M. Musurus), Lord Vivian, Lieutenant-General Sir George Pollock, Mr. Mills, Sir J. W. Hogg, Bart., M.P., Sir James C. Melvill, Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Pasley, Sir E. Currie, Bart.; Mr. Danby Seymour, M.P.; Hon. W. Leslie Melville, Sir F. Abbot, Mr. Shepherd, Sir H. Willock, Colonel Fitzgerald, Commandant of the Artillery; Colonel Sykes, and numerous others. Colonel Oliphant, the Chairman of the East India Company, presided.

The cloth having been removed, the health of her Majesty, Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal family having been drunk, the Chairman proposed "The health of his Imperial Majesty the Sultan," which was drunk with great enthusiasm.

M. Musurus, who responded in French, after expressing how highly his august master valued the English alliance, and referring to the fact that the Sultan had hastened to detach an important portion of his own troops to place them at the disposal of the Commander-in-Chief, said, he hoped the Turkish contingent would themselves be the generous rivals of the victorious combatants of Oltenitza, of Kalafat, of Citate of Silistria, of Giurgevo, and of Eupatoria—the worthy companions in arms of the heroes of Alma, Balaclava, and Inkerman. He felt certain that the Ottoman soldiers would esteem themselves fortunate

H.M.S. "ST. GEORGE" REFITTING AT SPITHEAD.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

in being placed under the direction of such a brave general, and that the general (General Vivian) would have reason to feel proud of having the command of such brave troops.

Sir C. Paisley, in returning thanks for "The Army," which had been duly honoured, indulged in some remarks on "Special Correspondents," which caused more laughter than approbation.

The Chairman proposed "The Health of General Vivian and the Indian Officers who were about to embark for the East." The company might judge with what alacrity those officers had responded to the intimation that their services were required, from the fact that, within three days, no less than 150 to 200 of them had readily volunteered.

General Vivian, in reply, said, he rejoiced to think he would be associated with a band of gallant soldiers. It was with pride and pleasure he had read a speech made the other day by his gallant friend Major Nasmyth, in reference to the Turkish army. With such material, and with such officers as he would have to assist him, he had no doubt of success.

Lord Palmerston did not seem very hopeful as to the Vienna negotiations. In referring to the Turkish contingent, he said -

I have no doubt they will march to victory, that they will cover themselves with glory on the battle-field, and contribute to obtain for us, by the mediation of the sword, that future security for the peace of Europe which we have not been able to accomplish by persuasion or negotiation.

Lord Panmure gave a more cheerful view of the condition and prospects of the Army in the East than the public are accustomed to see: -

No doubt there has been much suffering during the last campaign, and there were, no doubt, many occasions which experience may correct in future; but I have every reason to believe—and I may say it with confidence before this company and the British people—that the corner is turned, that the sun is again shining upon us, and that, with returning spring, the health, the spirit, and the energy of our troops are returning also, and that we may now hope that ere long the decisive moment will come when our gallant army in the East will add fresh laurels to those which they have already gathered—when they will again call forth the meed of their country's praise—again be seen fighting, and fighting with good service, in the cause of truth and liberty against despotism (Cheers)—in a cause which I hope will be dear to the people of this country, and one for which they will ever encourage their fleets and their armies nobly to fight (Loud cheers)

THE "ST. GEORGE" REFITTING.

The refitting of vessels for the Baltic now invests Spithead with the aspect of great activity, and presents several singular objects for the pencil. One of these, selected by our Artist, is very picturesque: namely, the *St. George*, three-decker. Her hammocks are all hung out to dry; their number is quite startling, and gives a good idea of the immense size of the ship. The men are tarring the rigging, and swinging about on the ropes, with the can hanging below; and, in contrast with the vast ship, they resemble so many bees.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from page 238.*)

HOUSE OF LORDS. Thursday.

Lord Panmure, in reply to Earl Grey, said that the practice in respect to the granting of first commissions without purchase was to select, in the first instance, such persons as had distinguished themselves in the Military College at Sandhurst. The second claims recognised were those of the sons of officers who had distinguished themselves in our Army or Navy. The third were the claims of the sons of poor deserving clergymen. And, finally, when those claims were exhausted, commissions were given to the gentlemen whose names have been placed upon the list of applicants. A great many commissions had been recently distributed amongst the last class of persons; and in order to meet the demands of the Army, the age for qualification was now extended from eighteen to twenty-two years.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed viz., the Marine Mutiny Bill, the Mutiny Bill, the Tea-duties Doeks at Singapore Bill, and the Secretaries and Under-Secretaries of State (House of Commons) Bill.

On the motion of Lord Brougham, the Ecclesiastical Courts Bill was read a second time.

The Earl of Malmesbury asked whether the Government had made any arrangements, and what, respecting furloughs to be given to married men in the Militia, and also as to the maintenance of their wives and families?

A long conversation took place upon this question; in the course of which it transpired that those men enlisted under the Act of 1852 were, after fifty-six days' service, entitled to a furlough for the rest of the year, if they liked to claim it. This was by generally understood by the men, but they would not be deprived of that privilege.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. -Thursday.

Sir R. Peel and Viscount Monck took the oaths and their seats respectively for Tamworth and Portsmouth, after their re-election.

Mr. Scholefield gave notice that, on the first day fortnight, to move for a Select Committee to inquire into the adulteration of articles of food.

Sir W. Clay gave notice that, upon that day fortnight, he would move for leave to bring in a bill to abolish Church-rates.

NEWSPAPER-STAMP.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply to an hon. member, stated that it was originally his intention to move the Newspaper-stamp Bill now before the House, and to propose great alterations in its details. On consideration, however, he thought it better to commence *de novo*, and he should therefore propose fresh resolutions on Monday.

Mr. M. Gibson and Mr. Ricardo urged the right hon. gentleman to proceed with his resolions to-morrow

The Chancellor of the Exchequer then consented to bring forward his resolutions to-morrow

REAL ESTATES.

Mr Locke King moved for leave to bring in a bill for the better settling of the real estates of intestates. He submitted that an alteration ought to be made in a law which sometimes left a widow and all her children, except the eldest, to poverty, while that eldest was placed in a position to indulge in the most unbounded luxury. He proposed that in the case of a man possessed of landed property dying intestate the law should make for him a will as fair and equitable as it would do if he had personal property only

Mr. Massey seconded the motion

The Solicitor-General opposed the bill, on the ground that it would be the first step towards altering the laws of primogeniture, which was at the very bottom of the institutions and of the order of society in this country.

After a brief discussion the House divided; and the numbers were—For the motion, 84; against it, 156: majority against the motion, 72.

Mr. W. Williams moved, "That, in the opinion of this House, real property and moveable chattels should be made to pay the same Probate-duty as is now payable on personal property; and that property belonging to corporations, universities, colleges, bishoprics, and deans and chapters, should pay a duty equivalent to the Probate and Legacy-duties levied on personal property."

Mr. Hadfield seconded the motion.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer opposed the motion, on the ground that there were peculiar burdens imposed upon land which did not affect real property. Personal property, for instance, could be transferred without the payment of Stamp-duty; whereas there was a serious charge imposed upon the transfer of landed property.

Upon a division, the numbers were—For the motion, 61; against it, 84: majority against the motion, 23.

Mr. Corbett moved for leave to bring in a bill to limit the hours of work of females and young persons in the factories of the United Kingdom to ten hours in the day, and to provide the means of more perfectly inspecting the factories. The hon. member said, that as inasmuch as the Act of 1847 was evaded by the manufacturers, he considered it necessary by a new measure to define the law more particularly, and to render its observance more imperative.

Sir G. Grey said that the subject was already settled by the Act of 1850, which, he believed, operated satisfactorily. It was not, therefore, advisable to reopen the question.

After considerable discussion the motion was negatived by a majority of 109 to 101.

Mr. T. Duncombe moved an address for copies of any despatches or correspondence that has passed between Lord Raglan and the Minister of War relative to the wants of the army in the Crimea.

Lord Palmerston opposed the motion. The Committee that had been appointed to inquire into the subject of the war might, if it pleased, ask for such papers.

The motion was negatived without a division.

Great Fire at Bermondsey.—On Thursday morning, about five o'clock, a terrible fire broke out in an extensive granary and wharf belonging to Mr. Glendinning, termed Lucas's Wharf, and upon the rope and sail works belonging to Mr. Holt, situated at Bermondsey-wall. Several adjoining premises are considerably injured. The damage was estimated at about £160,000

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

Preferments and Appointments. —*Archdeaconry:* The Rev. W. B. Otter to Lewes. *Rural Deaneries:* The Rev. W. Hayward Cox to Hereford; and the Rev. J. H. Underwood to Froome. *Prebendal Stall:* The Rev. C. M. Church to White Lodge, Prebend of Wells Cathedral. *Rectories:* The Rev. W. English to Bradfield, Norfolk; the Rev. E. C. Swainson to Winstanton, near Shrewsbury; the Rev. Isaac Hill to Newbourn, Suffolk; the Rev. T. Lewis to St. Paul's, Newlyn, Mounmshire; the Rev. H. Woodward to St. James's, Kennington. *Minor Canonries:* The Rev. W. R. Cosens to Chichester Cathedral, and to the Incumbency of St. Andrew's, in that city; the Rev. Richard Cattley to Worcester Cathedral.

The Rev. H. Hayman, assistant-master at the Charterhouse, and assistant-preacher at the Temple Church, has been appointed Headmaster of Queen Elizabeth's Schools for the parishes of St. Olave and St. John, Southwark.

The Bishop of London has sanctioned a proposal which has been made to him by his clergy that the collections on the day of Humiliation (Wednesday next, the 21st inst.) may be devoted to the purpose of erecting and permanently endowing a church in some part of the Turkish dominions for the benefit of our countrymen, whether military or civil.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MARCH 15.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 32 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Mar. 9	30.049	40.7	22.2	31.5	8.7	88	S.E.	0.00
,, 10	29.857	36.0	27.8	28.2	— 12.2	99	S.S.E.	0.03
,, 11	29.679	36.5	22.5	30.9	— 9.8	85	S.E.	0.07
,, 12	28.892	45.5	28.0	36.8	— 4.1	92	N.N.W.	0.40
,, 13	29.196	47.2	36.0	40.5	— 0.7	73	N.N.W.	0.05
,, 14	29.500	44.2	31.0	37.0	— 4.4	76	S.W.	0.00
,, 15	29.822	44.8	30.5	37.0	— 4.5	77	S.S.E.	0.00

NOTE.—The sign ° denotes below the average

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.11 in. at the beginning of the week to 29.88 in. by the 12th; and increased to 29.84 in. by the end of the week. The mean reading for the week, at the height of 82 feet was 29.55 inches.

The temperature has been low, and below its average on every day on Friday to the amount of 8°: on Saturday to 12°; and on Sunday to 9°.

The mean temperature of the week was 34·6°, being 6·4° below its average.

The average range of temperature daily was 13·5°: the smallest was 7°, on the 10th; and the largest was 17·2°, on the 12th.

Rain fell on four days to the depth of something less than half an inch.

Snow fell on the 9th, 10th, and 11th, and some still lies in places on Blackheath, where it had drifted in the previous snow storms

The weather of the week began with a painfully cold temperature, and which continued till Sunday, but gradually grew somewhat warmer towards the end of the week. On Sunday it fell to 29·4°, and on Tuesday rose to 47°. The sky has been in general overcast, and the weather dull

Lewisham, March 16, 1855. James Glaisher.

Health of London. Within the week ending March 10, the births of 1920 children were registered within the metropolitan districts: 971 were boys and 949 were girls. The average number on the fourth week of the year from the preceding ten years were 780 and 742 respectively. The number of deaths registered within the same limits were 679 males and 608 females, in all 1277—exceeding the average number for the tenth week of the year by 151, but are less by 153 than the deaths in the preceding week. Persons of ages exceeding sixty years have experienced the greatest relief; their deaths fell in the week to 266. Bronchitis was fatal to 169 persons, and on the preceding week to 249. To deaths from burns and scalds, 18 are referred; nine of these were children under five years of age, and five others were at ages less than 15 years

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

DON CARLOS

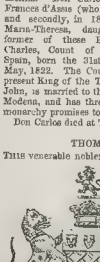
How variable is the public interest in men as well as things! There was a time when the death of that prince would have created a sensation little short of that now caused by the demise of the Emperor of Russia. The struggle between Don Carlos and his niece, or rather between him and his sister-in-law, for the dominion of Spain—a selfish contest at best—happened to be regarded, when it occurred, as a great battle between liberty on one side, and despotism on the other The eyes of Europe were on the belligerents, and the brilliant successes of Don Carlos's General, Zumalacarregui—the Moutrose of that war—gave to Carlos himself, and his cause, a chivalrous colouring that recalled the remembrance of our own King Charles and his cavaliers. But Zumalacarregui fell, and after him the war dwindled down into a very matter-of-fact and unheroic piece of business. Don Carlos was undone by treachery rather than defeat; he left Spain, and passed into obscurity so complete that his death now hardly excites a passing observation. The very memory of him has perished

Charles Maria Isidore de Bourbon, familiarly known as Don Carlos, was the second son of Charles IV., King of Spain, by his consort, Louisa Maria Theresa, Princess of Parma. He was born the 29th March, 1788. His whole life was a course of trouble and disappointment. When but a youth he shared in the misfortunes which Napoleon brought upon the Royal house of Spain. Carlos was a prisoner with his brother Ferdinand in France; but, unlike Ferdinand, he always exhibited a firmness and straightforwardness of purpose, which won for him, at least, the respect of his enemies. After a long exile he returned to Spain to be the heir presumptive of Castilian royalty; but, just as he was about to clutch the sceptre, the will of Don Ferdinand overthrew the Salic law, and gave the crown to a female. Hence the Carlist war: hence the armed appearance and vicissitudes and final overthrow of Don Carlos in Spain—events too well known to here require detail. Retreating into France in 1839, Don Carlos was, by the Government of Louis Philippe, put under surveillance, and he remained in a kind of confinement at Bourges until 1845. When he was permitted to retire into Italy. He that resigned his rights to the throne of Spain in favour of his eldest son, and assumed the incognito title of Count de Molina. Don Carlos was twice married: first, in 1816, to the Infanta Frances d'Assis (who died in 1834), daughter of John IV., King of Portugal; and secondly, in 1838, to the Infant Peter's (his first cousin's) widow, Maria-Theresa, daughter of John VI., King of Portugal. By the former of these Princesses he leaves issue, two sons—the Infant Charles, Count of Montemolin, present claimant to the throne of Spain, born the 31st January, 1818; and the Infant John, born the 15th May, 1822. The Count of Montemolin is married to Carolne, sister to the present King of the Two Sicilies, but has no issue; his brother, however, Don John, is married to the Archduchess Maria, daughter of Francis IV., Duke of Modena, and has three sons; so that a male heir-apparent to the Spanish monarchy promises to be quite strong enough to trouble the future

Don Carlos died at Trieste on the 3rd inst.

THOMAS HENRY, LORD RAVENSWORTH.

This venerable nobleman, who had completed his 80th year, died at Ravensworth Castle, co. Durham, on the 7th inst. He was the eldest son of the late Sir Henry George Liddell, Bart., by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of Thomas Steel, Esq., of Hampnet, and represented an ancient family on which a Baronetcy was conferred in 1642, in consideration of Sir Thomas Liddell's gallant defence of Newcastle for the King The fourth Baronet, Sir Henry Liddell, was created Baron Ravensworth in 1747, but died without male issue; whereupon that dignity became extinct; but the Baronetcy devolved on his nephew, Sir Henry

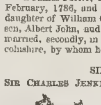


George Liddell; whose son, Sir Thomas Henry Liddell, Bart., was made a Peer in 1821, as Baron Ravensworth, of Ravensworth Castle, and was the nobleman whose decease we record.

He married, 27th April, 1796, Maria-Susannah, daughter of John Simpson, Esq., of Bradley, county Durham, by the Lady Anne Lyon, his wife, and had no less than sixteen children. The eldest son, Henry Thomas, now Lord Ravensworth, has represented Liverpool since July, 1853: he is married to Isabella-Horatia, eldest daughter of Lord George Seymour; and leaves Henry-George (M.P. for South Northumberland), and several other sons and daughters, of whom the second, Florentia, is the wife of Hugh Robert Hughes, Esq., of Kinmel and Dinorben, nephew and their male of the late Lord Dinorben. Of Lord Ravensworth's daughters, the eldest is Marchioness of Normanby; the second, Lady Williamson; the third, Viscountess Barrington; the fourth, the Hon. Mrs. E. R. Villiers; the fifth, the Countess of Hardwicke; the sixth, the Hon. Mrs. Trotter, of Dyrham Park; and the seventh, Lady Bloomfield.

SIR GEORGE LARPENT, BART.

Sir George Gerard de Hochepied Larpent, Bart., of Roehampton, Surrey a gentleman formerly well known as a merchant and a politician—died on the 8th inst., at his residence, in Conduit-street, aged about sixty-seven. Sir George Larpent was, in 1847, the Liberal candidate for the representation of the City of London, and he lost the election by only three votes. He had previously been M.P. for Nottingham. Sir George was formerly a member of the East Indian house of Cockerell and Larpent. He filled, among other commercial offices, the Chairmanship of the Oriental and China Association, and of the London Docks. He obtained his Baronetcy by creation, in August, 1841. Sir George Larpent was the youngest son of John Larpent, Esq., of East Sheen, Surrey, by his second wife, Anna Margaretta, daughter of Sir James Porter, British Ambassador at the Porte. He was born the 16th February, 1786, and married, first, the 13th October, 1813, Charlotte, third daughter of William Cracroft, Esq., by whom (who died in 1851) he leaves a son, Albert John, and a daughter Mrs. Adelaide Oranmoy. Sir George married, secondly, in 1852, Louisa, daughter of George Bailey, Esq., of Lincolnshire, by whom he leaves also a son.

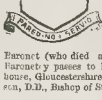


SIR CHARLES JENKINSON, BART.

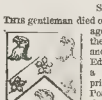
Sir Charles Jenkinson, tenth Baronet, of Hawkesbury, Gloucestershire, was the eldest son of Col. John Jenkinson, and nephew of Charles Jenkinson, the distinguished statesman and first Earl of Liverpool. He was born the 23rd February, 1770, and married Catharine, fifth daughter of Walter Campbell, Esq., of Shawfield and Islay, N.B., by whom he leaves three daughters, now all married. They are Mrs. Walter Nugent, Mrs. R. S. Guinness, and the Duchess of Montebello. Sir Charles succeeded to the old Baronetcy of Jenkinson on the demise of his cousin, Charles Cecil Cope, third Earl of Liverpool, and ninth Baronet, the half-brother of the second Earl of Liverpool, who was Prime Minister from 1812 to 1827. The Earldom of Liverpool became extinct with this eighth Baronet, and now that Sir Charles, the tenth Baronet (who died at Paris on the 6th inst.), leaves daughters only, the Baronetcy passes to his nephew, George Samuel Jenkinson, of Eastwoodhouse, Gloucestershire, eldest son of the late Right Rev John Bankes Jenkinson, D.D., Bishop of St. Davids.

STEPHEN JACKSON, ESQ., M.A.

This gentleman died on the 16th inst., at his residence, St. Lawrence, Ipswich, aged forty-seven. He was the proprietor and editor of the *Ipswich Journal*. Mr. Jackson was born at Ipswich, and was educated at the Grammar School of Bury St. Edmunds; and at Cambridge, where he graduated, was a scholar of Trinity College, and obtained the prize for mathematics. On the death of his father, Mr. Postle Jackson, he succeeded to the proprietorship of the *Ipswich Journal*, one of the oldest newspapers in the kingdom, which he conducted with ability and success until his death

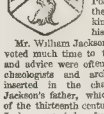


Mr. William Jackson was also a lover and patron of the fine arts, and devoted much time to the study of mediæval architecture His judgment and advice were often sought in matters pertaining to ecclesiology and archæologists and architects. The decorated three-light east window inserted in the chancel of Nettlestead Church, in memory of Mr. Jackson's father, which may challenge comparison with the best works of the thirteenth century, was executed from Mr. Jackson's own design. Mr. Jackson married, a few months before his death, Kate, daughter of Captain Frederick Cobbold, and niece to John Chevallier Cobbold, present M.P. for Ipswich. Mr. William Jackson was well known, and had a high reputation throughout the Eastern counties, and was much and deservedly respected and esteemed by all who were acquainted with him.



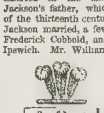
THE REV. T. C. BLOFELD.

The Rev. Thomas Calthorp Blofeld, M.A., J.P., died in his 79th year, on the 25th ult., at his seat, Hoveton-house, Norfolk. He was Rector of Hellesdon-with-Drayton, in that county, where his ancestors had been settled from the time of the Conquest; scions of whom represented Norwich in Parliament, where Mr. Blofeld was noted for his very regular attendance as a magistrate. He was greatly respected, and is much regretted



SIR FREDERICK HANKEY.

This gentleman, who died on the 13th inst., at his residence in Montagu-square, was the third son of John Hankey, Esq. He entered the British service in 1806, and served in Ceylon as Assistant Quartermaster-General. He there became a Lieutenant-Colonel and Deputy Inspector-General of Colonial troops; he was subsequently Deputy Judge Advocate at Malta, and after that, private secretary to Sir Thomas Maitland at Corfu. He was made a Colonel in 1826, and was, in 1833, created a Knight, Grand Cross of St. Michael and St. George, of which order he was previously Secretary Sir Frederick was twice married, and has died a widower.



JUDGE KNICKERBOCKER.

Judge Herman Knickerbocker, of Rensselaer County, U.S. (who is said to have been the original of Irving's "Congress-man" in his amusing History of New York), died recently in Williamsburg, aged 75. The Judge was a member of Congress in 1806-10. He was widely known, and everywhere respected, as one of the finest specimens of the old Dutch chivalry that time had preserved to these latter days. Having been educated for the Bar, he commenced the practice of his profession at an early age, taking immediately a prominent place in it, as well as in political life. He was a member of the New York Legislature, then Judge of the county of Rensselaer, until the infirmities of age forced him to retire. In social life Judge Knickerbocker always filled a brilliant place. Bred from his childhood to association with some of the most distinguished men of an age remarkable for its high-toned courtesy, and accustomed as a Judge to act with authority, he acquired in his manners that blending of suavity with dignity peculiar to those accustomed to early intercourse with the world and the early habit of self-control. This, with his generous hospitality and jovial humour, won for him the popular sobriquet of "Prince of Schaghticoke."

The Rev. James Eyre.—This excellent and amiable divine—a preacher of great eloquence and power—was formerly Incumbent of North Dalton, and the Minster, Beverley, Yorkshire. He died at his residence, in Hampshire, on the 7th inst., aged 83. The Rev. gentleman married in 1806 Penelope, third daughter of J. H. Phipps, Esq., of Leighton House, Wilts, by whom he leaves a numerous issue

Erratum in Notice of W. F. Campbell, Esq.—Mr. Campbell left only a son by his first marriage, and by his second marriage he has left a numerous issue.

Wills and Personality.—The Right Hon. Charlotte Baroness Colborne, personality £3000. Sir George Best Robinson, Bart., £18,000. Rev. Isaac Gossel, of Windsor, £60,000. Rev. Robert Ashe, £80,000. Rev. Eleazer Cogan, £20,000. Tristram Whitter, M.D., Bath, £20,000. John Sich, of Chiswick, brewer, £30,000. William Walker, wine merchant, £30,000. Jesse Curling, Esq., of Bermondsey, personality sworn under £30,000. The Rev. F. J. Faithfull, Rector of Bishop Hatfield, Herts, personality under £25,000.

General Hubert, Commander of the Legion of Honour, and Member of the Committee of Artillery, died on Saturday. He was buried on Sunday with the military pomp due to his rank.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE severity of the past winter, which seemed not unlikely to jeopardise even the Doncaster meeting, may be judged of by the unprecedented fact that a hare was last week discovered feeding on the remains of a frozen rabbit! The great Liverpool Steeplechase was nearly as odd in its result as the weather which had postponed it. Its winner was a rough, undersized Irish hunter, who was merely started to keep a more pretentious stable-mate in good humour; while the third out of the twenty hardly looked worth the attention of the knacker when he was sold in an apparently worn-out state at Tattersall's five years ago; and the fifth was running in a Cheshire shandry up to Doncaster, and could not start, but both he and Wanderer were among the eleven defeated ones at Doncaster. A field of nineteen contested the Hopeful Stakes, and the victor was Wandering Willie—the first of Windhound's stock that has appeared in public (Windhound is now brought to Eglinton, Hobble Nobbs, Miserrima, and the Reiver, but the worst public runner of the family). The Bold Bucclench, who is as beautiful as the young Annandales always are, showed both here and at Derby that his Nottingham running was a mistake. Wells had the first wiesing mount of the year, and has followed up his luck at every meeting since.

Race and steeplechase meetings will not set in next week with very considerable strength. Mr. Merry, after many disappointments, has claimed Monday and Tuesday for his Warwick Spring Meeting; Wednesday will, of course, be a *dies non*; but, on Thursday, the licensed victuallers will muster for their annual race festival at Epsom. Although its lamented projector, Mr. Beeton, is no more amongst us, the subscriptions of the fraternity come in as of old; but both the races are slightly on the decline, as regards acceptances and amount of speculation. There will, however, be a fairly strong day's sport, on the card; and the adherents of the "red spots" and "the tartan" will have their favour duly excited. Saturday will be devoted to the Brighton Spring Meeting, which will have a somewhat bleak celebration on its wind-swept hills. The Wetherby and Carmarthenshire Hunt Steeplechase Meetings will enliven their dispersion on Monday; "Wansford-in-England" and Warwick will be similarly favoured on Friday; and the Manchester garrison intend also to have an afternoon's sport on Saturday. The regular military steeplechase at Warwick have, of course, come to nothing; and many a gallant fellow is now mouldering 'neath the red Crimean sod who so often donned the merry racing-jacket over its town meadows.

Black Cap, Black Cloud, and a host of other good winners, won't down before Judge in the last Waterloo Cup—for which Lord Sefton had not even a nomination. His Lordship won it with Sackcloth last year, and beat Judge in the fourth ties, in that short and unsatisfactory course. Judge completely outpaced his opponent from the slips, but made such an unfortunate bungle, after getting "speed to the hare" and the first turn, that Sackcloth got in, and could never be gone out again. Coursing fixtures for next week commence with the Northumberland Union on Monday; this is followed by Bredwardine on Tuesday, and by the Caledonian Champion and Newmarket (open) on Tuesday, &c. Besides these, Hilton (open) and the Altcar Club hold their long-tail tryels on Thursday and Friday.

DONCASTER SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Trial Stakes.—Van Winkle, 1. Jack Sheppard, 2.
Sheffield and Rotherham Plate.—Caliph, 1. Bourgeois, 2.
Hopeful Stakes. Wandering Willie, 1. Gansevert, 2.
Grand National Steeplechase. Seaman, 1. Augustine, 2.
Municipal Stakes.—Puncto re, 1. Dan Cupid, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Juvenile Selling Stakes. Diana Lee, 1. Gipsy Girl, 2.
Betting-room Stakes. Hyaway, 1. Nolly, 2.
Doncaster Handicap Stakes.—Cossey, 1. Freddy, 2.
Scurry Stakes.—Corin, 1. Hasby, 2.
Hunt Steeplechase.—The Hero, 1. Golden Hue, 2.

FOOT-PRINTS IN THE SNOW.

(*To the Editor of the* ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

I beg the favour of you to insert in your newspaper the following fact, upon the authority of a Polish Doctor in Medicine living in the neighbourhood:—On the Plashowva-góra (or Sand-hill)—a small hill on the borders of Galliela, but in Russian Poland—every year are to be seen in the snow the same foot-prints as those seen in Devonshire, in a single line round the hill, at a few inches and regular distance from each other; no mark of a beginning or end being distinguished. It is universally attributed by the inhabitants to supernatural influence. The same footprints are occasionally visible in the soft sand with which this bare hill is covered.

C. C. C.

Heidelberg, March 12th, 1855.

PORTSMOUTH ELECTION.—The poll for the election for this borough, in consequence of the acceptance by Lord Monck of a Lordship of the Treasury, took place on Monday. The whole of the proceedings were very quiet and orderly. The following was the result of the poll at four o'clock:—For Lord Monck, 1478; for Mr. Gazelee, 473: majority for Lord Monck, 1005

THE Electoral Committee of the Society for Liberating Religion from State Patronage and Control has been organised, and Samuel Morley, Esq., has consented to be its chairman. The object of the committee is to prepare the way for a large accession to the scientific strength of the society at the next general election.

THE COLOSSEUM, REGENT'S-PARK.—This famous place of amusement was offered for sale under the hammer by Messrs. Winstanley, at the Mart, on Wednesday. The ground and building are held under the Crown for sixty-nine years to come, at a ground-rent of £303. It was stated that, including the erection of the building, upwards of £200,000 had been expended by Messrs Horner, Braham and Yates, and Turner, the respective successive owners. The sale was by order of the Court of Chancery, to repay the mortgagee, but the only offer was £20,000, which the auctioneer stated was below the reserve, and the property was bought in.

NAVAL MEDICAL OFFICERS. The movement in favour of the naval assistant-surgeons originated at the Middlesex Hospital, has been followed by the pupils of all the other metropolitan schools. An important meeting was held last week, attended by delegates from all the London hospitals, to organise an effective opposition to the recent unjust regulations of the Admiralty, admitting youths of eighteen, and who had only just finished their first medical sessions, into the Royal Navy to rank with, but subordinate to, that of the acting assistant-surgeons. The provincial schools are about to co-operate with the metropolitan in addressing petitions to Parliament on this important subject.

THE PATRIOTIC FUND.—A Toronto paper states that the Six Nation Indians on the Grand River, deeply sympathising with the sufferers by the war against Russia, have liberally and unanimously contributed the sum of £100 sterling towards the Patriotic Fund. It appears, from the same source, that many of the municipalities of Canada intended to petition the Provincial Legislature to double the amount (£20,000) originally voted and granted; and that meetings were being held from one end of the province to the other to promote individual subscriptions in aid of the fund.

THE CAMP AT ALDERSHOTT. The excavations for the new barracks to be erected at Aldershott, as also the foundations for the huts, are now commencing. The nature of the soil shows that the site selected is very salubrious, and, consequently, most eligible for the erection of the intended permanent barracks. It has also the historical prestige of being contiguous to the spot wherein was Cæsar's camp. The contract has been taken by Mr. G. Myers, of Lambeth, and the immense range of buildings to accommodate several thousand troops, including cavalry and artillery, as well as infantry, will stabling, officers' quarters, hospitals, &c., will be most substantially built, although it is to be more remarkable for its plain and unostentatious style, and the general arrangements with regard to utility, than for architectural embellishment.

EXPLOSION OF GUNPOWDER MILLS AT DARTFORD.—On Saturday last an explosion took place at the gunpowder manufactories of Messrs. Pigou and Wilks, situated close to the town of Dartford. The mills in which the accident took place were termed "incorporating," and they adjoined each other. Both were levelled with the ground, and the entire stock of powder contained in them destroyed. A man named Miller, who was coming out of one of the mills, had his clothes set on fire, but he had the presence of mind to jump into the millpond, and thereby extinguished the flames. He was nevertheless fearfully burned, and lies in a precarious condition. Another workman was struck on the back by a portion of the machinery, and much injured.

MR. LAYARD, M.P.—In returning his acknowledgments for his election as Lord Rector of Marischal College, Aberdeen, Mr. Layard regrets his inability, from the nature of his duties as a member of the Committee of Inquiry into the Conduct of the Army in the Crimea, to leave the Metropolis until he could go to Aberdeen. In all probability the most convenient time will be during the Easter recess. Mr. Layard is the youngest rector on the roll, being but thirty-eight years of age.

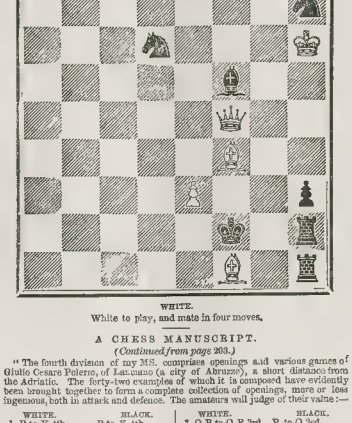
GENERAL JACKSON'S SWORD.—An interesting scene occurred in the United States Senate on the 26th ult. The sword which General Jackson wore through all his campaigns, and which, on his death-bed, he presented to his friend and companion in arms, the late General Armstrong, was presented to Congress. General Cass, in presenting the weapon, delivered an eloquent eulogy upon the public services and private virtues of the gallant hero of New Orleans. Mr. Bell followed in a similar strain; and, at the conclusion of his remarks, offered a joint resolution accepting the sword, and thanking the family of the late General Armstrong for the gift. It passed unanimously.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. B. O., Bristol.—White cannot win by stalemate—stalemate making a drawn game only.
DEREVON, W. C. C.—Your Solution of the End-game from M. Deskam's MS. appears to be the true one.
ARACTUS.—We last week gave what is considered to be the finest Four-Move Problem extant. The following, by the Rev. H. Holme, is perhaps the best known in Three Moves.—White: K at Q Kt sq, Q at K R 3rd, Kts at B 5th and Q B 8th; Ps at K B 4th, K Kt 3rd, K 2nd, Q 5th, Q Kt 2nd, and Q R 2nd. *Black*: K at K B 3rd, Q at K B sq, Rs at Q B sq and Q R 2nd, Kt at Q Kt 2nd; Ps at K Kt 2nd, K 5th, and Q 2nd. Let amateurs unacquainted with these masterly positions try to resolve them without moving the pieces, and see as the result.
J. A. M.—The key-move to "Sella" is—Kt to Q B 2nd, not 3rd, as (by a misprint) it is given in our MS.
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 575, by Paul, T. J. of Hanworth, Cesar, Magog, I. V. G. M. A., are correct.
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 576, by Davy, Glen Bridden, J. F. T., Devon, Mignon, Cwis, D. D., Omega, N. B., Percy, M. V. Major, Artifexman, Miles, Alpha, C. W., Pion, P. R. of Norwich, are correct.
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 577, by Arundel, B. A., M. P., F. T., Derby, E. H., P. R., Devreon, W. C. C., are correct.
SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by Alma, Pion, C. W., F. T., Derby, P. R. of Norwich, Devreon, E. H., W. C. C. are correct. All others are wrong.
*** The majority of our Chess communications must remain unnoticed till next week.

PROBLEM No. 578.
By Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.
BLACK.



WHITE.
White to play, and mate in four moves.

A CHESS MANUSCRIPT.

(*Continued from page 203.*)

"The fourth division of my MS. comprises openings and various games of Giulio Cesare Polerio, of Lanciano (a city of Abruzzo), a short distance from the Adriatic. The forty-two examples of which it is composed have evidently been brought together to form a complete collection of openings, more or less ingenious, both in attack and defence. The amateurs will judge of their value:—

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	7. Q B to Q R 3rd	P to Q 3rd
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	8. P to Q 3rd	Q B to K Kt 5th
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	9. Q Kt to Q 2nd	K Kt to K B 3rd
4. P to Q B 3rd	Q to K R 5th	10. Q to K 2nd	Castles on K side
5. P to Q Kt 4th	K B to Q Kt 3rd	11. Castles on Q side	
6. P to Q R 4th	P to Q R 3rd	White has the attack.	

"That I may not exhaust the reader's patience, I shall give but one *partie* more of G. Cesare Polerio's on this subject, and in that we shall find several interesting developments:

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE	BLACK.
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	8. Q B to K R 4th	P to K Kt 4th
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	9. K Kt takes Kt P	P takes B
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	10. Q to K R 5th (ch)	K to Q 2nd
4. P to Q B 3rd	Q to K 2nd	11. Q B takes P	Q to K Kt 2nd (a)
5. Castles.	P to Q 3rd	12. Bishop takes Kt (ch)	K takes B
6. P to Q 4th	K B to Q Kt 3rd	13. Q to K 8th (ch)	K Kt to K 2nd
7. Q B to K Kt 5th	P to K B 3rd	14. P to Q 5th—Mate.	

(*Notes by the Editor.*)

(a) In a variation on this move Greco plays the Q to K B sq, and then makes White continue his attack by K R to K R 7th.
(b) Mr. Lowe justly extols this very clever coup.

FIRST VARIATION.
(*Beginning at Black's 10th move.*)

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK
10.	K to Q sq	13. P to K B 4th	P takes Q P
11. Q B takes P	K Kt to K B 3rd	14. P to K 5th	P takes Q B P
12. Q to K R 6th	K R to K B sq	15. K to R sq	(dis. ch)
	And Black must lose. (a)		

(a) Greco prolongs the *denouement*, as follows:

(b)	P takes Q Kt P (becoming a Q)	16. P takes K Kt	P takes Q R
17. P takes Q (ch)	Kt takes P	18. Q takes R (ch) &c.	
(a) 16.	R takes P	18. Q takes the new Qn	K B to Q 5th
17. Q takes R	P takes Q R (becoming a Q)	19. Q B takes Q (ch)	K takes B
		20. Kt to Q B 3rd, &c.	

SECOND VARIATION
(*Beginning at Black's 10th move.*)

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
10.	K to B sq	14. K to R sq	P takes Q Kt P
11. Q B takes P	Q to K Kt 2nd	15. P to K B 6th	Q to K Kt 3rd
12. P to K B 4th	K P takes Q P	16. P to K B 7th	Q takes Q
13. P to K B 5th	P takes Q B P (dis. ch.)	17. P takes Kt (becoming a Queen, and giving Checkmate.)	

**M Donnu is possibly not aware that this game, move for move, and diversified by many beautiful variations, is given by the Calabrese. (See Lewis's excellent Translation of "Greco, pp. 72 73) EDITOR.

"Are we to consider this game as a formal condemnation of the defence which occupies us? I doubt it. The two variations occur too late in the game. After the 10th move Black may delay, but cannot avoid, defeat. Why does he not, at the 7th move, instead of playing P to K B 3rd, bring out his K Kt to that square? This, it appears to me, was the best variation which should have been proposed, because it modifies the whole attack of the opening player. As the examination of this defence may have tired my readers, I will review and repay them, by presenting a gambit of Leonardo.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	9. P takes Kt	Kt to K R 4th
2. P to K B 4th	P takes P	10. Q to her 5th	Kt to Kt 6th (ch)
3. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to K Kt 4th	11. K to Kt sq	Kt takes K R
4. K B to Q B 4th	P to K Kt 5th	12. Q takes K B P (ch)	K to Q sq
5. K Kt to K 5th	Q to K R 5th (ch)	13. Q B takes P	K B to Q B 4th (ch)
6. K to K B sq	K Kt to K B 3rd (a)	14. Kt takes Kt	K R to B sq
7. Q Kt to Q B 3rd (b)	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	15. Q B to K Kt 3rd	Q to K R 3rd
8. P to Q 4th	Kt takes Kt	16. Q to her 5th	Black must lose.

(*Notes by the Editor.*)

(a) This variation has always been attributed to Salvio, and its occurrence in a game said to have been played by Leonardo, is certainly surprising. Leonardo was of Naples, and died before 1826, and yet we find him in this MS practising an opening which was unknown to Salvio (also of Naples), when, in 1604, he produced the first improvement of his Treatise. In the second edition (1634), speaking of this very variation, Salvio tells us—"Il quale da che ho giocato meco m'è parevuto a sufficza, avendo giuoco so i primi giocatori, che s' abitano seguito, i quali hanno caminato diverse parti del Mondo e tal cosa loro non è accaduto." He adds, indeed, "Et essendomi dato un libro scritto in lingua Portoghese vi ho ritrovato scritto," but, even if we admit the possibility of Leonardo's deriving the opening from this source, it would not lessen the improbability of any striking variation proposed by so renowned a master being unknown to his contemporaries and immediate successors.
(b) The best move, according to modern authorities, is Q to K sq (see p 362 of the German, and p. 262 of the English, "Handbook").

[We shall pursue our extracts from this MS. no further. After an attentive examination of the openings, we have come to the conclusion—which no one who will be at the same pains, and who is accurately conversant with the ancient Chess writers of Spain and Italy, is likely to dissent from—that the compilation is of a much more modern date than that assigned to it. Some of the games are certainly interesting, and the variations instructive; but, to estimate them correctly, it will be prudent to rely only on their intrinsic merits, and not to be dazzled by the halo of great names with which the collector has thought it necessary to encircle them.—EDITOR.]

THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. VIII.)

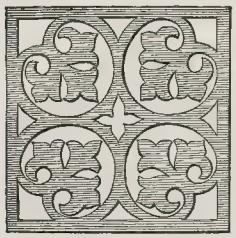
WHATEVER doubts and differences of opinion may exist as to the degrees of punishment that ought to be inflicted on criminals, there can be but one conclusion as to the necessity for making "certainty" its chief element. Half the moral effect of the sentences passed on criminals will be lost, if it begins to be known, or believed, that the penalty pronounced by the Bench will not, or may not, be the penalty that will be visited on the culprit. This state of uncertainty will still be more dangerous, if it is felt to apply more especially to the cases of richer, or as they are commonly called "more respectable" prisoners. It is right that the low and ignorant offender should suffer the legal penalty of his misdeeds; and it is no less proper that the well-educated criminal should undergo with certainty the punishment that has been awarded him. These reflections are suggested by two cases, that are occupying a share—but not in my opinion their due share—of public observation. The first case is that of Mr. Carden, who was found guilty of the forcible abduction of a young lady, and, having been sentenced to a long imprisonment, began to complain of his health before he had been very long in confinement. The authorities considerately gave him the benefit of the very best advice—that is to say the best official advice—by sending the Surgeon-General to attend him. This functionary has, no doubt, conscientiously reported that Mr. Carden's continued imprisonment will endanger his life, and upon this report the delinquent is, on certain terms, to be set at liberty. Every one will allow that the lives of prisoners ought not to be sacrificed; but it is difficult to see why death should be the consequence of imprisonment. Why must it be taken for granted that if a convict's health is bad, nothing can be done to save him but setting him at liberty? If a culprit has any disease, which must necessarily kill him, be he where he may, there can be no reason for letting him go at large. But if he requires medical treatment; and if even indulgences may be necessary for the preservation of his health, there should be nothing to prevent him from having them, although he is an inmate of a prison. There are infirmaries in the gaols for the poorer classes of criminals; and unless Mr. Carden's complaint is one which can only be treated by giving him his liberty—though he cannot be very bad if his doctor would prescribe for him by saying, "Go about your business wherever you please"—the infirmary is the proper place for him. If exercise is indispensable, surely there is, or ought to be, a prison-yard; and, if even change of air should be thought necessary to preserve his life, it would be better to give him an occasional airing in a prison-van than to defeat the ends of justice by remitting his punishment. It seems, however, that he sets less value on his own precious life than has been set on it by the authorities; for it is stated that he rejects, as "too stringent," the terms offered for his release by the Government. It surely cannot be incumbent on the authorities to cover a criminal into a regard for his health which he evidently does not feel; or perhaps, as every man is the best judge of his own condition, the danger is not so imminent as the Surgeon-General seems to think it is. Government need not go out of its way to wheedle Mr. Carden by fresh concessions into an acceptance of terms of release; and if he is determined to run the risk of his life by remaining in prison, unless he can go out on his own terms, he had better be permitted to stay where he is and try the experiment. Notwithstanding the medical opinion that has been given, the probability is that many a man office would insure his life to the end of his term of incarceration—with, or possibly without an increase of premium. Lord Brougham is entitled to great praise for having called the attention of the House of Lords to Mr. Carden's case; for it is part of the duty of a great law reformer to see that the laws are not only wisely made, but firmly and equally executed. It is to no purpose that laws are judiciously framed if they are badly carried out. And, indeed, it would be better to have imperfect laws well applied than the very best laws partially or badly administered. I hope Lord Brougham will follow up the subject by inquiring into the circumstances which have set the notorious Dr. Smyth at liberty, in London, within about four years of the time of a sentence of transportation for life having been passed upon him. If he was released on the score of bad health, his case should be cited as one of remarkable recovery, for he is now well enough to resume the active practice of his profession, on the very spot from which he was taken to answer the charges on which he was tried and found guilty at the Old Bailey.

The Legislature is occupied just now with some measures for the amendment of the Criminal Law; and, among other things, it is proposed to get rid of the evil of incurring great expense and delay in the trial of parties charged with stealing articles of trifling value. At present there are many of these offences which meet with no punishment at all, or, what is worse, they are punished by a sort of straining of the powers of the magistrate, who sometimes convicts a person for the "unlawful possession" of what has been clearly stolen, because there is a summary mode of dealing with the former offence, while the latter can only be legally dealt with by a committal for trial. Prosecutors often complain that their cases cannot be disposed of at once; and magistrates sometimes do a sort of irregular justice to all parties by inflicting a summary punishment; sparing the prosecutor from further trouble, with loss of time, and saving the public the expense of a trial, with the cost of keeping the accused in gaol. But, notwithstanding the advantages thus obtained, the system is open to numerous objections. A magistrate may please the parties better by a summary mode of proceeding not strictly justified by the law, but he cannot please himself; and, indeed, in this, as in everything else, the right course is the best; for it is only by the inconvenience being felt that it can be known and remedied.

The bill for the appointment of public prosecutors is not very sure of success. Nor is it very much required; unless, perhaps, as a check upon improper prosecutions unfairly got up—which are much more common than *bona fide* prosecutions inadequately conducted. There is no lack of facility for bringing forward charges, at all events in the metropolis, where the police are accustomed to assist; but it does sometimes happen that prosecutions are got up rather too easily. The investigation of every charge before a magistrate is the remedy for the latter grievance—a remedy which has been proposed in connection with the abolition of the grand-jury system, but the change is not yet assented to, although the necessity for it has been frequently recognised.

It is fortunate that the riots in Victoria have been put down, for the Colonial-office is not in a very efficient state just now for dealing with colonies in a state of revolution. Lord Palmerston, it is true, promises boldly enough that, between him and his friend Sir George Grey, the Colonies shall have all the attention they require. Things, however, do sometimes fall to the ground between two stools, and such might be the fate of the Colonial interest, to say nothing of the possible fall of the stools themselves, for we have had proofs lately that the seats in a Cabinet may be in a very ricketty condition. Lord Palmerston will, no doubt, keep up himself and all that lean on him for support, as long as he has a leg to stand upon.

There is really a touch of the ludicrous in some of the instances of mismanagement of the war, which every day develops. Somebody complained the other night of the great-coats of the soldiers, which were said to have been "made of the worst possible material, and utterly useless to the wearers." This description was officially admitted to be correct, but it was said nobody was to blame, because they were "quite up to the pattern," the object being "to give the soldiers as little as possible to carry." It would have been surely better to have given them nothing at all than to have burdened them, however lightly, with that which is admitted to have been useless. Surely somebody must be responsible for selecting this pattern great-coat, which is said to justify the worthlessness of all the others; for, from its extreme flimsiness, it could of course have been seen through, if even the most cursory inspection had been bestowed on it.

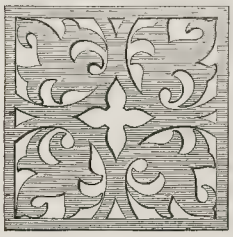


PANEL.

THE NEW PALACE AT WESTMINSTER.

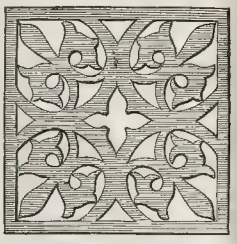
The accompanying Illustrations represent fine specimens of working in metal, which have just been completed for the New Palace of Parliament

First is the large Chandelier, just hung in the splendid Central Hall. This beautiful piece of work and design loses much of its real size from the height at which it is suspended; being at least thirty or thirty-five feet from the ground. It has two ranges of gas-burners, each range attached to a broad concave band of twelve sides. This band is surmounted by fleurs-de-lis and crosses; on its under edge it is ornamented with a saw-cut small leaf pattern, and is supported from the centre-rod by spandril brackets, enriched with curves, finished by trefoils; below this is a massive twisted ring. There are also lateral branches spreading from the centre-stem to the outer band; between which, and binding them together, are quatrefoils forming, when looking at it from below, a rich circle, through which is seen the intersecting lines of the upper band The corners of the concave broad band are terminated by the shafts for the gas-burners, twelve in number, each having a cluster of five narrow stems, at the ends of which are acorns, from which issue the gas-jets, making a total of sixty lights in this lower range. Below each cluster of



PANEL.

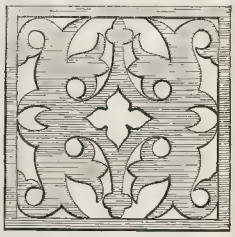
CHANDELIER IN THE GREAT CENTRAL HALL OF THE NEW PALACE, WESTMINSTER.



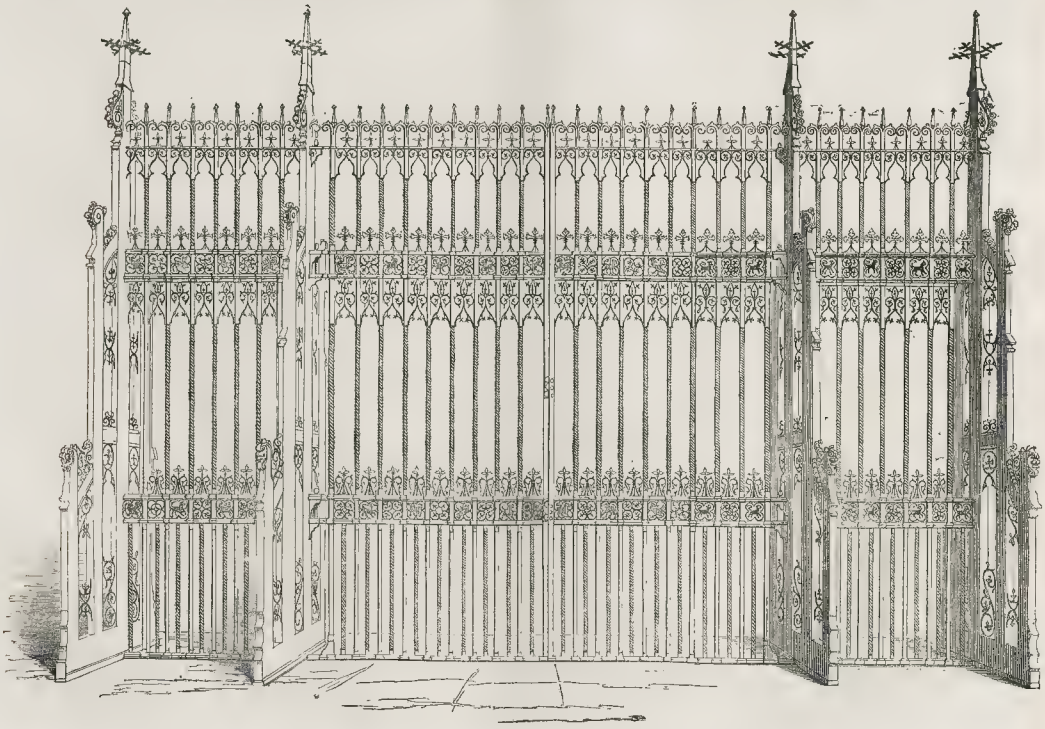
PANEL.

jets, and forming the top of the shaft, is a crown, composed of fleurs-de-lis and crosses. The band itself is ornamented with roses, between two twisted lines. The next tier of lights is very similarly formed, being supported from the centre-rod by spandrils; between each of which is a foliated crowned arch. There are but eight shafts for three branches each, on this range, making twenty-four jets of light. They are of the same pattern as in the large ring—viz., acorns issuing from a crown of fleurs-de-lis and crosses. Above this ring of lights is suspended a rich corona of fleurs-de-lis, crosses, and trefoils. Above this rise three or four smaller coronæ, some distance apart. The centre-rod is sexagonal in form, fluted, and enriched with roses up to the first small corona; after which it is circular in form, and not enriched When illuminated by the whole number of lights—eighty-four in number—the effect is gorgeous in the extreme. The design has been made under the superintendence of Sir C. Barry, and ably executed by Hardman, of Birmingham.

Next are the gates to the Victoria Tower: they are of wrought iron, and are to be decorated, we believe, in bronze and gold. The workmanship is exquisite. There are two gates for the carriage-way, opening in the centre, and turning upon hinges, placed on the standards. These standards



PANEL.



GATES OF THE VICTORIA TOWER, NEW PALACE, WESTMINSTER.

are about fourteen feet six inches high to the top of the finial; the total width from outer standard to outer standard is twenty-one feet, independent of a small compartment or two, which fill up the space formed by the moulding at the bases of the columns. The blocks of granite into which the standards are let are two feet thick, and each weighs about six tons. The total weight of the iron-work is about twenty-one hundred weight There is great lightness of character about the appearance of these gates; they are finely finished in every part; the twisted shafts are particularly fine, and reflect great credit upon the workmen under Mr. James's direction. The entire framework was executed in Stamford-street, London, and the ornamental part at Messrs. Hardman's in Birmingham.

There are, besides the carriage gates, two wickets for the footway, so nicely contrived as to appear, when all are closed, like one entire railing. There are two bands of panels running from end to end, composed of ornaments, and badges of the Royal houses. Of the former we give Four Illustrations. It may not be amiss to observe that the person who has twisted the shafts in these gates so cleverly was formerly a cab-driver.

THE EXHIBITION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

This, the eighth Exhibition of a society too little known, well deserves a visit, and a more extended notice than we are able to give to it this week.

It will be found to excel, as formerly, in its Landscapes a branch of the Fine Arts in which the English school has long been famous, and for which the English people have always exhibited a particular liking.

This Institution is managed by a "Proprietary," embodying many names distinguished in art, and the names of other men to be favourably known hereafter. That it was started in any way antagonistic to the Royal Academy is what few believe, and, indeed, is not the case; though its pardonable parade of its solicitor and its bankers has led many to suppose that a sneer is meant thereby at the honorary members of the Royal Academy, who figure once a year at the annual dinner, and in front of the Academy catalogues.

We agree with the critics generally that this is more than an average-merit Exhibition. The "Proprietary" themselves muster strongly, and are seen to advantage. The President and Mr. M'Ian excel in figure-pieces. The elder Williams has all the fire and vigour of his youth. Mr. A. Gilbert has become additionally poetical his "Tranquillity" (No. 472) possessing qualities such as are seldom seen in more ambitious pictures, and in works from men of greater name. The younger race of the name of Williams are a little too metallic in execution, but happy withal. Mr. Edward Hargitt has an eye still more alive than formerly (and it was never dull) to the beauties of landscape nature. We would praise also Mr. Hulme—he has, indeed, a dexterous pencil. A little picture by Mr. Smallfield (No. 60) deserves more than a word of praise. It is called "Ill-Tidings, 1854;" the hands of the widow are most carefully and conscientiously painted. Miss Howitt is too pre-Raphaelite-like; she should quit such an ecentricity, for she has evidently original talent of her own. In Portraiture Mr. Bell Smith is the chief support of the Gallery.

After a very careful examination of the five hundred examples of art that are hung to advantage in these rooms, we have chosen for this week's illustration a landscape by Mr. Raven (one of his two pictures), an English scene, rendered by a very skilful hand. He calls it "The Haunt of the Fallow Deer" (No. 391). It is much in Mr Creswick's manner, and is, if we mistake not, a view in Knowle-park, that fertile source of good things for our yearly exhibitions. The composition is graceful the trees are rendered with a masterly sense of the beautiful, and the sunny glimpse on the right of the composition is a touch of beauty that extracts praise from critics the most sparing in the world of words of approbation.

"HAUNT OF THE FALLOW DEER."—PAINTED BY J. S. RAVEN, EXHIBITION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

THE SPANISH DANCERS

(THE SENORA PEREZ NENA AND SENOR MARCOS DIAZ)

IN THE NEW BALLET.

We give this week an Illustration from the grotesque ballet of "The Galician Fete," in which the Spanish Dancers have created an double sensation. Senor Marcos Diaz is a most valuable accession to the troupe, and does the eccentric admirably: his bashful peasant, fearfully advancing and retreating until sufficiently encouraged by the object of his affections, and then abandoning himself to the momentary impulse, and expressing his passion in the oddest manner, is an entire history—a complete love-tale—in itself. The Senora Perez Nena performs the correspondent part with that rapidity and effect of execution which stimulates the utmost admiration, and is, indeed, irresistible in its power to produce that wonder which is "involuntary praise." Both artistes still continue attractive, and are at present the chief points of interest in the management of the Haymarket.

The French Exhibition.—The Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, in a circular which they have just issued, state that they have had under their consideration the measures necessary for conducting the British Section of the Universal Exhibition in Paris and are of opinion that the object will be most successfully obtained through a individual responsibility; their Lordships have, therefore, entrusted the superintendence over the arrangements in the Exhibition to Mr. Henry Cole, C.B.

THE SPANISH DANCERS AT THE HAYMARKET THEATRE.

MUSIC.

The Philharmonic Society's first concert of this season took place at the Hanover-square Rooms on Monday evening. The programme of the performance was as follows:—

PART I.

Sinfonia, No. 7 (Grand)	Haydn.
Terzetto, "Sento un Il vento" (Così fan tutte), Madame Clara Novello, Madame Weiss, and Mr. Weiss	Mozart.
Dramatic Concerto, violin, Herr Ernst	Spohr.
Scena, "Come mai, dunque mai" (Oberon), Madame Clara Novello	Weber.
Overture, "The Isles of Fingal"	Mendelssohn.

PART II.

Symphony in F	Beethoven.
Duetto, "O, my Father" (Der Vampyr), Madame Weiss and Mr. Weiss	Marschner.
Overture (Zauberflöte)	Mozart.

From this it will be seen that the society have adhered to their general practice of gratifying the cultivated taste rather than the appetite for novelty. The selection consisted of well-known pieces; but they were among the grandest and most beautiful productions of the art. The only novelty of the evening was the new conductor of the orchestra—Herr Richard Wagner—a musician whose character and merits have been made the subject of violent controversy—a civil war, indeed—among the artists and *dilettanti* of Germany. His arrival in England has consequently excited no small interest in our musical circles. His appearance at the head of the philharmonic band enabled the public to judge only of one thing—his capacity as a *chef d'orchestre*; a point which that one evening settled beyond all question. Though the whole orchestra—till the rehearsal, two days before—were utter strangers to him, yet his single rehearsal had established so thorough an understanding between them, that, at the concert, every piece was performed with a clearness, spirit, and delicacy which we have never heard surpassed; and this was the more remarkable, as his manner of marking the time, and his readings of some passages, differed widely from those of his predecessor. The soft and subdued tone with which he made the orchestra accompany the vocal music was especially remarked by every one present. So convinced were the audience of the admirable manner in which he had acquitted himself that, at the conclusion of the concert, he was saluted with repeated rounds of applause. It is sufficient to add, in regard to the solo performances, that Ernst in his concerto showed that in tone and expression he is still without a rival; that Clara Novello sang Weber's glorious scena as she alone can sing it; and that Mr and Mrs. Weiss did ample justice to Marschner's very dramatic and effective duet.

THE THEATRES.

Prince's.—At this theatre the elegant is preferred to either the subtle or profound, as best suited to a fashionable audience, and finds in Mr Keean an "arbiter" in all respects qualified for the office of leading their taste in this direction. "A Game of Romps," produced on Monday, is a translation by Mr. J. M. Morton, from the French of M. Fonsier ("Les Jeux Innocens") in which a little parlour poem (for the original is in rhyme), is skilfully adapted to the stage. It is exquisitely acted, and, with its appointments, should be regarded not as a trifle but a gem. First, we have Mr. Harley, as the pedant *Dr. Rhododendrum*, with Miss Daly as *Julien*, his pupil; then the gorgeous Mrs. Winstanley, as the *Marchioness*, who plots to make a celibate Knight of Malta of her nephew, the aforesaid Julien; then there is Julian's cousin, *Violet* (Miss M. Terman) and *Isabelle*, the niece of the great lady (Miss C. Lesieur) and *Blanche*, a young widow (Miss Heath); and last, not least, *Jeannette*, a waiting woman (Miss Murray). Here is, indeed, a "bevy of fair ladies," calculated to make a game of romps not only interesting but charming, in order to discover whether *Julien* loves *Violet*, and thus to defeat the plans of his hypocritical aunt. Acted by such artistes, we need not add that the piece was entirely successful, and pleasingly terminated the amusements of a gay vaudeville evening.

Adelphi.—Two new farces have been produced at this theatre—one with eminent success, and one with an equivocal result. The name of the former is "Betsy Martin"—a clever adaptation of "Le Chapeau d'un Horlogier," a Gymnase piece, in one act, written by Madame Girardin; the plot of which turns upon the terror suffered by a housemaid in consequence of having accidentally broken a magnificent clock, and the means she takes to conceal and repair the injury. This terror, which is excessive, commences the action, and receives full expression long before the cause of it is explained. Mrs. Keeley, as the unfortunate domestic, threw into its expression a tragic intensity which, while thoroughly artistic, was extremely painful. It was a fitting prelude for the lighter interest which glittered the more from the contrast. Her master, *Major Militiades Mohawk* (Mr. C. Selby), irascible and vacillating, is utterly confounded by her strange conduct; and, being somewhat jealously inclined, mistakes the clock-maker for a foreign Count whom he suspects of loving his wife. The bat of poor *Mainspring*, which is left on the table, becomes the occasion of much excitement; and the nervous agitation displayed by the girl to get it out of the way only serves to increase the confusion. The acting of Mrs. Keeley, throughout all these perplexities, is admirable, and, we pray, her *Betty Martin* may be pronounced equal to any *Lady Macbeth* that ever thrilled an audience with irresistible emotion.

The second piece, which was produced on Saturday, also proceeded on the element of terror, not sublimed, however, by Mrs. but by Mr Keeley, as a certain *Dr. Bile*, whose daughter is about to be married, and who fears that an amour of his may be disclosed to his wife, whence the title of the piece, "I'll tell your Wife." It may be mentioned, by the way, that the little drama is of French origin, "Les Marquises de la Fourchette"—a trifle by MM. Marc Michel and Choler. The scene takes place in an hotel, and the situation is realised to the eye by numbers and writing on the doors of different apartments. In one of these *Dr. Bile* deposits a mysterious bale; in another adjoining one *Paul* (Mr. Leigh Murray), his intended son-in-law, conceals another. Afterwards, the two parties meet in the common room, and endeavour to get rid of each other's company, but at last are compelled to dine together, each secretly to keep his own secret, and to send his fair partner a plentiful of food on the sly. *Dr. Bile* now resolves that *Paul*, who could be guilty of such an indiscretion the day before his wedding, shall not be his daughter's husband, and scrawls on door No. 8 "You shan't have my daughter." This is soon responded to by Paul's writing on door No. 9, "I'll tell your wife." At this point Mr. Keeley's terror becomes magnificent. The ladies prove ultimately to be *Mrs.* and *Miss Bile*—a concession made to English propriety. It would, however, seem in vain, as the audience, having laughed heartily up to a certain point, suddenly exhibited a change of mood and—hissed. The management, however, appear to demur to this proceeding, as the piece was repeated on Tuesday.

Haymarket.—"The Secret Agent," founded on a German drama by T. W. Buchlander, as filtered through an article in *Blackwood*, was produced on Saturday. The piece is in two acts, by Mr. Stirling Coyne, and is constructed with his usual neatness and skill. The moral of the piece is unexceptionable: it is, indeed, a political lesson which is enforced. The argument is the undue influence maintained by a *Dowager Duchess* (Mrs. Poynter) over her son, *Duke Victor* (Mr. Howe), who neglects to exercise the authority over the state to which he is entitled;—in a word, the *Duke* reigns, but the *Dowager* governs. The young *Duke* finds time hang heavy on his hand, from very indolence; but he is roused by the *Duchess's* niece, *Ernestine* (Miss Caroline White), who proves to him that various abuses under the cover of his name had crept into the practice of public affairs, and that a marriage between himself and a certain Princess had been settled for him by his intriguing mother without his knowledge. Not to compromise her, she counsels him to say that he had the information from his "Secret Agent," whose arrival he is hourly expecting. This fiction, once set on foot, is kept going until it becomes a puzzle to the whole Court, and almost drives *Count Steinhausen* (Mr. Howe), the *Duke's* Premier, and *Baron Standfuss* (Mr. Compton), the Grand Chamberlain, to assume the disguise of Mephistopheles at a masked fête, and which disguise is responded to by the *Count* appearing in the attire of a female—the costume of a Spanish dancer being preferred by Mr. Buckstone, the comic exciter of cheerfulness and merriment. In the end these worthies become mutually convinced that the other is himself the Secret Agent, and endeavour to get each other imprisoned in the Castle of Spilsberg. A *Count Oscar*, also (Mr W. Farren) has a duel with the Secret Agent that is, the *Duke* himself in a domino and mask, on account of *Ernestine*. These perplexities, however, are solved by the *Dowager* wisely perceiving that her government has expired, and surrendering to the necessity of retiring from its cares. The *Duke*, of course, weds *Ernestine*. There are enough incidents and bustle for a two-act drama. The interest is well maintained, and the idea is decidedly ingenious. The acting was capital, and altogether the performance "is suff for a good run."

The season at Sadler's Wells closes with this week, and Mr. Phelps on Wednesday, accordingly took his benefit, performing on the occasion *Cardinal Wolsey*, in "Henry VIII," and, for the first time, as an example of his power in eccentric comedy, the part of *Baillie Nicol Jarvie*, in "Rob Roy." His skill in such characterisations is extraordinary. We hear that Mrs. Gaskell has written a new play, which has been accepted at the Haymarket, the principal character being intended for Miss Cushman.

Grisi and Mario's Tour in America.—These famed artistes are now in London, on their way to Italy, after terminating their six months' engagement in the Western Hemisphere, which received £17,000 for their expenses paid in addition. The operas in which they appeared were Donizetti's "Lucrezia Borgia," Bellini's "Norma," "Sonnambula," and "Puritani;" Rossini's "Semiramide" and "Barbiere;" and Mozart's "Don Giovanni." The cities they visited were—New York, Boston, and Philadelphia. Grisi sang in all seventy-five times. They sang twice for the public charities in New York, realising more than 10,000 dollars for the poor. *Carte blanche* was offered by the speculators, who were represented by Hackett the actor, to renew their engagement and continue their tour to the Southern States. Their farewell appearance was at New York on the 20th of February.

Royal Gallery of Illustration.—The following distinguished persons have very kindly visited the Diorama of the "Evening of the Wars," viz.:—His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Marquis of Ely, the Marchioness of Downshire and party; the Earl of Malmesbury, Earl de Grey, the Earl and Countess of Ellesmere, the Countess of Jersey, Earl of Cardigan and party; the Countess of Granville, the Countess of Kinnoul and party; Sir G. Wombwell, Sir G. Leith, Sir John Walsh, General Fane, Major-General Carnegie, Major Gage; Colonels Buckley, Macdo aid, Bruce, Michel, &c.

Spanish Bigotry.—The hopes which the last revolution in Spain had awakened, that the bigotry and intolerance of that Government had seen their day, are, it seems, destined to be disappointed. The printing of the Protestant Bible, which had been commenced at Madrid, has just been prohibited by the authorities; while demonstrations are made in the northern provinces of the country against the part of the Constitution which sanctions liberty of worship, and provides for the progress of civilisation in Spain.

The Late Frost on Windermere Lake.—The late severe frost having disappeared, it may be worth while to record a few circumstances which occurred, as they are not likely to happen again for years to come. A few of the most remarkable are as follows:—During the very severe week—from the 15th to the 23rd of February—a lady and gentleman skated safely from Newbridge to Bowness without any obstruction whatever (except about ten yards at the ferry crossing, kept open). Several sportsmen, after dark, shot wild swans which were on the ice, went down the centre of Miller Ground Bay, where the ice was very strong. A lady, quite alone, crossed over direct from Wray Castle to Calgarth, where the water is 220 feet deep! One gentleman skated right down from Waterhead to the other end of the lake at Newby bridge; and a young woman walked over from Bowness direct to the wood, landing at Belle Grange, where no one had previously been, and returned the same way; and, finally, everything required by residents on the opposite side was taken over, not in boats, but on the ice, in wheelbarrows!

The Conservative Land Society.—The tenth quarterly general meeting of the members of this society was held at Exeter-hall on Wednesday, the 14th inst.; Viscount Ranelagh in the chair. The quarterly report of the committee stated that the result of the Old Ford allotment (on the 24th of January) must be regarded as of paramount importance. No less than 101 out of 187 lots were taken, amounting to £6564 14s. 6d. The amount actually sold is £7183. The Retford estate, in Nottinghamshire, was selected at the same date, and the Alford estate, Lincolnshire, and Malvern, Worcestershire, will be allotted on the 5th of April. Building had been active despite of the protracted winter. On St. Margaret's, building contracts to a considerable extent had been entered into; and on the Brighton estate, the progress is likewise considerable; on the latter the minimum ground-rent being ten per cent. The accounts showed an increase in the receipts of the quarter. The total land sold during the operation of the society amounted to £102,984.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

There has been great inactivity in the Consol Market this week, so far as actual money business is concerned; yet, in the aggregate, the large imports of gold from Australia and the United States, and the abundance of unemployed capital, added to the favourable nature of foreign exchanges, have, no doubt, tended to strengthen the Consol Market, and it is generally supposed that, in the event of matters in this respect continuing to improve, the present affords a most favourable opportunity for raising a loan in the Stock Exchange; and, further, that £30,000,000 might easily be raised without having any great influence upon the market value of other nation securities.

In the discount market, money has been abundant; but the demand for it has not been extensive.

The imports of the precious metals have amounted to £400,000 from Australia, and £107,724 from New York. The shipments have been on a very limited scale.

The Consol Market, on Monday, was flat. The Three per Cents varied from 92½ up to 92¾ for money, and 92⅝ to 93 for the account. Long Annuities were 4⅛. India Bonds 1pr. and Exchequer-bills, 6s. to 8s. prem.; Exchequer-bonds marked 99¾. On Tuesday a slight advance took place in the quotations, the highest figure for the Three per Cents being 93¼ for Account, and 92⅞ for money. India Stock was 224 to 227; Long Annuities, 4 1-16; Exchequer-bills, 6s. to 8s. prem.; Exchequer-bonds, 99¾. On Wednesday the Three per Cents were 92¾ to 93⅛; Long Annuities, 4⅛; India Stock, 227; India Bonds, 1s.; Exchequer-bills, 6s. to 8s. prem. The Consol Market on Thursday was steady, and the Three per Cents were down at 92⅞ to 93⅛ for Money, and 93⅛ to 93¼ for Account. India Stock was 227; India Bonds, 1s. to 1s.; and Exchequer-bills, 6s. to 8s premium.

On the whole the Foreign-house has been steady. Annexed are the leading quotations. Brazilian Five per Cents, 100¾; Chilian Six per Cents, 93; Chilian Six per Cents, 104; Ecuador Bonds, 4; Mexican Three per Cents, 20¾; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 79 ex div.; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 90; Ditto Five per Cents, 100; Spanish Three per Cents, 37; Ditto New Deferred, 18¾; Turkish Six per Cents, 79¾; Ditto Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 62¾; Dutch Four per Cents, 74¾; Sardinian Five per Cents, 86¾. A Neapolitan Loan (4½ per cent) is announced for £550,000.

Joint-Stock Bank Shares have been very firm, and prices generally have ruled steady. Australasia has realised 83; Colonial, 14½; London, 17½; Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 15¾; London Chartered of Australia, 20¾; Ditto, New, 5; London Joint Stock, 27; London and Westminster, 41; Oriental, 40; South Australian, 39; Union of Australia, 85. In miscellaneous securities, only a moderate business has been doing: Berlin Waterworks have marked 3; Canada, 121; Ditto, Government Six per Cent, 103½; Crystal Palace, 3¾; Ditto, Debentures, 3¾; London Docks, 102 (Vienna), 1¾; Ditto, New, 9 pm.; Mexican and Grand Surrey, 6¼; Feel River Land and Mineral, 2¾; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 51¾; Royal Mail Steam, 61¾; Van Diemen's Land, 13. Canal Shares have been dull, as follows:—Coventry, 200; Derby, 84; Grand Junction, 50¼; Grand Surrey, 48; Leicester, 29; Loughborough, 575; Neath, 150; Oxford, 110; Rochdale, 60; Stourbridge, 285; Stafford and Worcester, 425; Worcester and Birmingham, 305. In Railway Scrip and Railway Shares only a limited business has been transacted:—Berlin, 3; Kent, 7¾; Southwark and Vauxhall, 8¾; New River Company, 56; West Middlesex, 91. The market for Gaslight and Coke Companies Shares has been dull—British Provident has brought 20¾; Brighton, 14; Equitable, 29¾; Imperial, 99; Ditto, New, 15; Ratcliff, 7½; Stanley Consumers, 11; London Gas, 51; Westminster Chartered, 5. Insurance Companies Shares have been:—General, 5½; Globe, 12; Guardian, 5¼; Imperial Life, 18; Law Life, 55; Pelican, 46; Provident Life, 39; Sun Life, 67¾. Bridge Shares have marked the following quotations:—Hungerford, 12; Waterloo, 3¾; Ditto, Old Annuities of £8, 30; Ditto, New, of £7, 27½; Vauxhall, 23

In the value of Railway Shares very little change has taken place, and the business done in these shares has been but mod-rate. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:

Ordinary Shares and Stocks.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston, 4¾ ex div.; Caledonian, 64¾; Chester and Holyhead, 12¾; Dublin and Belfast Junction, 41 ex div.; Eastern Counties, 11¼; Great Northern, 88 ex div.; Ditto B Stock, 124½ ex div.; Lancaster and Carlisle, New Third, 10 ex div.; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 79¾ ex div.; London and Blackwall, 8; London and Brighton, 98; London and North-Western, 100¼; London and South-Western, 85; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire 24¾; Ditto, Quarter Shares, No. 1, 8; Midland, 69¾; North British, 20¾; North-Eastern, Berwick, 73¾; North and South-Western Junction, 9¾; South-Eastern, 8¾; Waterford and Kilkenny, 4¾.

Lines Leased at Fixed Rentals.—London and Greenwich, 13; London, Chatham, and Southend, 10¾; West Valley, 3¼.

Preference Shares.—Great Northern Five per Cent Scrip, 2¾; London and Brighton Five per Cents, 114; Ditto, New Five per Cents, 119; Midland Consolidated, Six per Cents, 134¾; ditto, £5 Four per Cent, 4¾; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Six per Cent, 108.

Foreign.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 8¾. Belgian Eastern Junction, 1¼; Bombay, Baroda, and Central India scrip, 4 pm.; Dutch Rhenish, 3¾; East Indian Extension, 11¾; Grand Trunk of Canada, A issue, 6¾; Hamilton and Toronto, 20¾; Northern of France, 34¾; Paris and Lyons, 38; Royal Dutch, 19¾.

Mining Shares have been dull. The principal dealings have been in United Mexicans at 4¾.

THE MARKETS.

Corn Exchange, March 15.—The show of English wheat in to-day's market was very large for the time of the year, and was very slightly active, at a decline from the quotations obtained on Monday and at prices as low as those of last quarter. There was a moderate supply for foreign wheats, of fair quotations. We were largely supplied with foreign barley, and sales progressed slowly, on former terms. In malt very little business was transacted, prices being as last week. Beans and peas were steady, but not dearer. The flour trade was dull, and, in some instances, Norfolk households produced 2s. per sack more money.

March 14.—We had a steady demand for all articles of grain, to-day, as fully Monday's prices.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 63s. to 65s.; ditto, white, 70s. to 75s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 65s. to 68s.; ditto, white, —s. to —s.; rye, 42s. to 44s.; grinding barley, 27s. to 28s.; malting barley, 38s. to 39s.; Kingston and Ware, ditto, 29s. to 32s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 64s. to 68s.; brown ditto, 61s. to 64s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 70s.; Chevalier, 70s. to 75s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 24s. to 26s.; potato ditto, 27s. to 29s.; Scotch and Cork, black, 23s. to 25s.; ditto, white, 25s. to 28s.; tick beans, 35s. to 38s.; grey peas, 36s. to 38s.; maple, 38s. to 39s.; white, 35s. to 40s.; boilers, 38s. to 40s.; red ditto, 36s. to 38s.; Scotch and Yorkshire, 40s. to 50s. per 280 lbs.; American flour, 30s. to 32s. per barrel.

Foreign.—We have a better feeling in the demand for silver seed, at an advance of 2s. per quarter. Trefoil is 3s. to 4s. higher. Other seeds command full quotations. In cakes, only a limited business is doing.

Linseed, English, sowing, 68s. to 70s.; Baltic, crushing, 58s. to 62s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, due to 62s.; brisqueed, 48s. to 50s. per quarter. Rapeseed, 40s. to 42s. per cwt. Linseed cakes, 10s. to 14s.; white, ditto, 8s. to 11s.; turnip ditto, 12s. to 14s. per 1000. English rapeseed, 41s. to 42s. per last. Rapeseed cakes, 10s. to 14s. English, £12 0s. to £13 0s.; foreign, £13 10s. to £12 12s.; Rape cake, 5s. to 6s. per ton. Canary, 68s. to 70s. per quarter. Red clover, 42s. to 48s.; white, 50s. to 60s. per cwt.

Flour.—Free sales of wheaten brand in the metropolis are from 9d. to 10d.; of household ditto, 8d. to 9½d. per four-pound loaf.

Tea.—Our market has become firm, and a steady business is doing, at very full prices. Common congou is selling at 9½d. per lb.

Sugar.—The demand for most kinds of raw sugar is steady, yet some difficulty has been experienced in maintaining prices. Foreign sugars have, at times, commanded extreme rates. Refined goods are tolerably firm, at 62s. 6d. per cwt. for brown lumps and 63s. to 65s. for low fine pinnacoes. The total importation to the 9th inst. was 1,472,626 cwts against 1,[illegible],[illegible] ditto, in 1854.

Coffee.—The general demand is steady, and, in some instances, the quotations have an upward tendency. Good ordinary native Ceylon is worth 42s. to 47s. 6d. per cwt.

Rice.—The market is firm, but we continue to quote old prices.

Provisions.—There is a fair inquiry for most kinds of Irish butter, at full prices. Foreign parcels move off slowly, on somewhat easier terms. English butter is lower, per 112 lbs. Fine new milk, 116s. to 120s. per cwt. Ordinary ditto, 108s. to 112s. per firkin. The bacon market is steady, and the quotations have an upward tendency. In other kinds of provisions very little doing.

Tallow.—Our market is dull, and we have sellers of P.Y.C., on the spot, at 47s. 9d. to 48s. 6d. per cwt. Rough fat is 2s. per 8 lbs. less.

Oils.—Linseed oil, on the spot, is selling at 28s. 3d. to 31s. Pale rape is sold at 38s. 6d. to 40s.; brown, ditto, 34s. per cwt. Cocoa-nut, 34s. per cwt. Turpentine is heavy. Rough, 5s. 6d. to 5s.; refined, 32s. 3d. per cwt.

Spirits.—There is more doing in rum, and prices have an upward tendency. Proof Leewards, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d.; East India, 2s. to 2s. 1d. per gallon. Brandy moves off slowly, at the late decline. Malt spirits is 2s. 3d. per gallon.

Coals.—Eden Main, 18s. 6d.; Belmont, 19s. 3d.; Haswell, 20s.; Hetton, 20s.; Hilton, 20s.; Lambton, 19s. 6d.; Stewart's, 20s.; Kelloe, 19s. 3d.; Chanel, 18s. per ton.

Wool.—Our quotations are very dull, and, for coarse wools, lower rates must be submitted to.

Potatoes.—The demand is heavy, at from 80s. to 120s. per ton.

Smithfield.—The present demand has been steady. In pets, no material change has taken place.

Beef, from 3s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 5s. 2d.; veal, 4s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; pork, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. per 8 lbs. to sink the offals.

Newgate and Leadenhall.—Each kind of meat has been in moderate request, as follows:—Beef, from 3s. 8d. to 4s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d. per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

Robert Herbert.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, March 9.

WAR-OFFICE, March 9.

Land Transport Corps.—Lieut.-C. H. Beddeck and J. H. Maclean to be Quartermasters of Brigades.

Unattached.—Lieuts. G. L. D. Ambel and E. Sutherland to be Captains.

Infantry.—Lieut.-Col. J. L. Dumas to be promoted to the rank of Colonel; Major-Gen. J. H. Vivian to have the local rank of Lieutenant-General while employed on apartacular service; Major-Gen. J. Lloyd, W. H. R. Dulac to have the local rank of Captain while employed on a particular service in Turkey.

Brevet.—Major C. F. Morris, A. J. Stewart, M. J. Jones, W. T. Irwin, A. R. Smith, R. Lucas, T. S. Barry, R. H. Beale, A. O. W. Swaine, W. H. Mackley, and C. O. Daniell to be Acting Assistant-Surgeons.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED

J. HALL, Purfleet Wharf, Camden-Town, wharfinger.

BANKRUPTS

S. ADAMS, New-court, Gresham-street, licensed victualler.—E. TURNELL, Houndsditch, and Skinner's-place, Leadenhall-street, baker.—J. BARTWELL, Exeter, boot and shoe maker.—J. D. FARNY, Sutton, Lancashire, brewer.—E. CARRINGTON, Birmingham, gun-maker.—G. HAGGIE, Swindon, Wiltshire, builder.—S. FERRAS, Wolverhampton, draw of Vine-in-wharf, Earl-street, Blackfriars, engineer and manufacturer of and dealer in machines for the crushing of ores, and manufacturer of and dealer in footscuds.—H. FOWLER, Bayford, Somersetshire, tent-maker and hatter.—J. HOLDEN, Fulham-row, New-road, timber-merchant.—T. HALL, Oldham, Lancashire, bobbin manufacturer and steam sawyer.—T. CLARK, Manchester, and Hollinwood, Lancashire, W. HILDY, J. LIPTON, R. HALSTEAD, and J. HAWORTH, Burnley, Lancaster, cloth-manufacturers.—J. GARRATT, Northwich, Chester, tailor and draper.

DISPATCHES FROM SIR E. LYONS.

Despatches from Sir E. Lyons, bearing date Feb. 28 and 31, have been received at the Admiralty. By them it appears that the Naval Brigade was in excellent health, all symptoms of scurvy having disappeared; and that it was actively engaged in carrying shot to the batteries, and in getting up slops and provisions to the Camp. Several inefficient seamen had been sent home. The army continued approaching his defences, and firing on our working parties during the day. The weather which, for the few previous days, had been severe, was at the date of the last despatch remarkably fine.

Tuesday, March 13.

WAR-OFFICE, March 13.

7th Foot: Lieut.-General S. D. Lushington to be Colonel.

14th: Lieut.-General Sir F. Adsworth to be Colonel.

34th: Lieut.-General the Hon. H. R. Bulkeley to be Colonel.

60th: Lieut.-General T. Dunlop to be Colonel, and Lieut.-Colonel of a battalion.

68th: Lieut.-General H. Ballenavis, C.M.G., to be Colonel.

71st: Lieut.-General Sir Colin Campbell to be Colonel.

Rifle Brigade: Lieut.-General Sir G. Brown, K.C.B., to be Colonel Commandant of a battalion.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, March 13.

[illegible] Lieutenant, J. Mason and T. J. Wilkins son to be Veterinary Surgeons.

Royal Engineers: Second Lieut. A. J. Frankland to be First Lieutenant.

ADMIRALTY, March 1.

Royal Marines: First Lieutenants A. de H. Sapeum, H. Spratt, and G. E. O. Jackson, to be Captains; Second Lieutenants T. Newell, F. O. Le Grand, S. S. J. Graham, B. F. Tyler, T. W. V. Arbuckle, A. H. Ozzard, E. H. Pritchard, and G. F. Blake, to be First Lieutenants.

BANKRUPTS

A. MARKHAM, Godmanchester, Huntingdonshire, grocer.—R. RUSSELL, Leamington Priors, Warwickshire, printer.—R. RIMMER, Tenbury, Worcestershire, publican.—J. KELL, Birmingham, Staffordshire, publican.—E. DAWES, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, victualler.—T. P. MILNER, Wolverhampton, commission agent.—J. HARRIS (partner), Cornwall, miller.—E. ROBERTSHAW, Northowram, Yorkshire, worsted-spinner.—J. SMITH, Horton, Yorkshire, innkeeper.—S. COWPERTHWAITE, Manningham, Yorkshire, bobbin-turner.—W. CLARKEHOUGH, Sheffield, saddle maker.—W. HICKS, Sheffield, brush manufacturer.—J. JONES, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, publican.—J. LOWE, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, publican.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED

D. L. LEWIS, Salters-hall-court, City, merchant.—J. LILLEY and R. F. COX, Day's-court, Cutter-lane, City, warehousemen.—R. HILLS, Hyde, Isle of Wight, tailor.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. MILLAR, Dundee, hatter.—H. TYRRELL, Leith, wine merchant.—W. FLEMING and R. FITCHARD, Glasgow, sewed muslin manufacturers.—W. MACDONALD, Glasgow, commission agent.

BIRTHS

On the 6th inst., at Harrow-on-the-Hill, Mr. William Winkley, jun., of a son.

On the 8th inst., at Pinbe-hill, Surrey, the wife of Richard Barry, Esq., of 164, Woodsyre, London, of a daughter.

On the 9th inst., at Clifton, the wife of the Rev. J. D. Gray, of a son.

On the 11th inst., at Hyde-park-gardens, the wife of N. Montefiore, Esq., of a daughter.

On the 11th inst., at Sydenham, the wife of Captain E. F. Nisbet, R.N., of a son.

On the 12th inst., at Warwick-villas, Warwick-road, Paddington, the wife of Lieut.-Col. H. Stansfield, of a daughter.

On the 5th inst., at Fern House, Lady Meadow, of Meaver, of a son.

On the 1st inst., at Avranches, Normandy, the wife of the Rev. J. Trobym, of a daughter.

On the 11th inst., [illegible] Colonel [illegible] A. Oak, of a daughter.

On the 8th inst., at Ashford, Kent, the wife of Lieut.-Col. W. Jones, of a son.

On the 10th inst., at Glen-Hill, Westmoreland, the wife of Montcrieff, R.N., of a son.

MARRIAGES

On the 1st inst., at [illegible] Bombay, by the Rev. W. Cumming, M.A. Major [illegible] Maria, second daughter of Samuel [illegible].

[illegible] Fort William, Calcutta, Captain H. P. De Jersey Lilley, [illegible] Tribune, to Mary Hickey, second daughter of the late [illegible] Esq., of the Royal Artillery, Master Attendant of the Royal Marines.

On the 12th inst., at St. Peter's Church, [illegible] the Rev. J. Fisher, the Rev. H. W. Hayworth, second son of the late W. Hayworth, Esq., of Langham-place, to Emma, youngest daughter of the late Jas. J. M. Pole, Esq., of Pitchcombe, Gloucestershire.

On the 19th January, at St. Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta, A. J. Ed. Ist, B.C.S., youngest son of the Hon. A. E. Elliot, M.P. for Roxburghshire, to Helen, third daughter of J. Lowis, Esq., late a member of the Supreme Council of India.

DEATHS

Lately, before Sebastopol John Herman Hodgskin, the eldest son of Mr. T. Hodgskin, of Islington.

On the 8th March, 1855, James Feltham, Esq., of East Molesey, Surrey, in the 80th year of his age.

On Friday, the 2nd inst., at Antwerp, Capt. T. W. Barrow, late of the H.E.I.C.S., of Oldbury-place, Bishopsgate.

On the 3rd inst., at Park-crescent, Worthing, C. Fielding, Esq., in the 68th year of his age.

On the 8th inst., at Fulham House, in the New Forest, the Rev. J. Eyre, LL.B., last surviving son of the late Rev. J. Eyre, D.D., of Wylye, Wilts, aged 83.

On the 9th inst., at her residence, in Leicester, aged 81, Anne, widow of the late Rev. A. Macaulay, formerly Vicar of Rothley.

On the 10th inst., at St. Leonard's-on-sea, Lady H. Paget, daughter of George, third Earl of Uxbridge, K.G., and relict of General the Hon. Sir H. Paget, G.C.B.

On the 2nd November last, at Rajeee, North Western Provinces, India, Capt. J. D. Smyth of H.M. 86th Regiment.

On the 10th inst., at Naples, aged 62, Baron C. Rothschild.

On the 2nd inst., at No. 8, Hyde Park Place West, London, the beloved wife of Lieut. Author, of H. M. ship *Dromedary*, having two days previously given birth to twins leaving an infant mother and twin sister to lament her untimely loss.

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—The SPANISH DANCERS (Signors Pepa Nena and Marcos Dias) Nightly; with the New Comedy of the SECRET AGENT. Also, Monday and Tuesday, The BALANCE OF COMFORT, and on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, A PRETTY PIECE OF BUSINESS. Performance on Wednesday

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE. Monday, and Friday, LOUIS XI.: Tuesday, FAUST and MARGUERITE. Wednesday, Performance, Thursday, CORSICAN BROTHERS; Saturday, LANCERS. A GAME OF ROMPS every day

MISS GLYN as CLEOPATRA, at the GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch the popular Shakspearian actress Miss Glyn and Mr. Henry Marston of Sadler's Wells Theatre, as Cleopatra and Anthony

MR THACKERAY, Esq., will deliver a LECTURE on HUMOUR and the Works of Hogarth, Sterne, and Fielding, THIS EVENING, Mond March 19, and Tuesday, March 20, at Willis's Rooms, St. James's-street. Commence at 8 o'clock. Reserved seats, 5s.; Area, 3s.

JOHN K. WILLIS, Secretary.

LECTURE at the TURKISH EXHIBITION, HYDE-PARK-CORNER, Piccadilly.—The MUSEUM is OPEN DAILY, from 9 a.m. till 10 p.m. Admission, 1s.—W. KNIGHT, Barrister-at-Law, having to deliver a LECTURE again, in two parts, on TURKEY and the TURKS, from 3½ till 5 o'clock, and from 7½ till 9 o'clock, admission, only from 10 a.m. till 6 p.m., will be 2s. 6d.; Ribbon, 1s. 6d.; the Evening Admission being again 1s.

JOHN B. GOUGH will deliver ORATIONS and LECTURES as follows:—MONDAY, the 19th and 26th March; TUESDAY, the 20th, 27th, and 29th of March. Doors open each Evening at Seven; Chair taken at Eight o'clock. Tickets to the gallery of the Hall, 5d.; reserved seats and platform, 1s. may be had of Mr. Strand. Also in the Hanover-square Rooms, on Tuesday, March 20, Chair taken at Three o'clock in the Afternoon. Admission, 1s.; reserved seats, 2s

TO and HEAR LOVE, the greatest Dramatic Ventriloquist in Europe, at the UPPER HALL, 69, Quadrant, Regent street, every Evening at Eight, except Saturday; Monday at Three. Pianoforte, Miss Julia Warnham. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s

VAN LERIUS'S GREAT ORIGINAL ENTERTAINMENT, at the HALL-HALL, Bond-street, EVERY EVENING, One Shilling. Will be on View from Monday next, 19th MARCH, 1855

THE PORTLAND GALLERY, 316, Regent-street (opposite the Royal Polytechnic Institution).—The 26th Annual Exhibition of the Royal Institution of FINE ARTS NOW OPEN from Nine till dark. Admission, One Shilling. Catalogue, Sixpence. HELL SMITH, Secretary

ROYAL PANOPTICON of SCIENCE and ART, Leicester-square.—A Grand Performance of Sacred Music on the Organ, by Mr. W. T. Best, illustrated from a series of objects from Sacred History by the Optical Diorama, daily at 1 (Saturdays excepted) and 8 p.m. Beautiful Views of the War in the Crimea at 3.30 and 9.30. Panorama of St. Petersburg and Moscow, with Illuminated Fountains, Ball, Sunday and Thursday at 3; the Moon, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday at 3. Pneumatics, by Mr. Pepper, Monday 7.30, Saturday 2; Pneumatics, by Mr. Pepper, Tuesday and Friday, 3, the Exploits in the Middle Ages, Mr. Pepper, Wednesday Morning from 12 to 5 [illegible] Admission, 1s. [illegible] will be closed [illegible]

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.—The collection of living Animals includes a magnificent series of Lions, Lion Whelps, Clouded Tigers, Hunting Dogs, and other Carnivora, Elands, Elephants, Rhinoceroses, and a pair of Hippopotami; together with an immense number of Birds, Reptiles, Fish, and other Marine Animals. Admission, 1s.; on Mondays, 6d.

CRYSTAL PALACE, Sydenham.—The PALACE and PARK are OPEN to the Public on WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and FRIDAYS, at 10 a.m.; on which days the admission is 1s.; and on SATURDAYS, at 2 p.m., when the admission is 5s., and close each day at 6 p.m. Tickets of admission, including conveyance by railway, may be obtained at the London office, Exchange-buildings, and at the several agents in London. Trains run at 8.5 a.m., at 9.15 a.m., and every half-hour after, p.m. up to 4.10 p.m.; returning from the Crystal Palace up to 6.10 p.m.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall. Conductor, Mr. COSTA. On FRIDAY next, MARCH 23, Mendelssohn's LORDS-PRAYER and Mozart's REQUIEM. Vocalists, Madame Clara Novello, Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Weiss. On WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, Handel's MESSIAH. Vocalists, Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Weiss. Trumpets Mr. Harper.—On FRIDAY, APRIL 6, Mozart's DON GIOVANNI. The Orchestra, as usual, will consist of nearly 700 performers. Tickets, 3s., 5s., 10s. 5d. each, may be at once secured at these Concerts at the Society's new Office, No. 6, Exeter-hall, Strand (entrance by Adam-street).—Applications (by letter) must be accompanied by a remittance to the amount; if by Post-office order, made payable to ROBERT BOWLEY, at the Clearing-cross Office

TO MR. HENRY CARR, late of the city of YORK, AUCTIONEER.—In consequence of the DEATH of Mrs. ANN S. Carr, the sole surviving child, and to save the expense of an application to the Court of Chancery, you are requested to COMMUNICATE to Mr. GARWOOD, Solicitor, York.

ART-UNION of LONDON.—By ROYAL CHARTER. Prizeholders select for themselves from MARLE Exhibition. Every Subscriber of One Guinea will have, besides the chance of a prize, an impression of a plate of "A Water Party," by T. Webster, A.R.A., after J. J. Chalon, R.A., and a quarto volume of thirty illustrations of Byron's "Childe Harold." The prints are ready for delivery, and the volume may be seen at the office. Subscription closes 31st instant.

(GEORGE GODWIN, } Honorary
(EDWIN DUNKIN, } Secretaries.
March 1st, 1855

OFFICE of ARMS, DUBLIN CASTLE, 3rd March, 1855.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to grant to CHARLES CARROLL, of DALYSTON, in the county Galway, Esq., her Royal Licence and Authority, assuming the name and arms of Fitz-Patrick, [illegible] Esq., of Castlecoole, in the county of Fermanagh, [illegible] Esq., Justice of the Peace for the county of Galway, deceased, provided that Her Majesty's Royal Licence and Authority be duly recorded in the Office of Ulster King of Arms in Ireland, which has been done accordingly. J. BERNARD BURKE, Ulster

SMOKE NUISANCE ABATEMENT ACT.—JEFFRIES PATENT.—This patent, the only really efficacious one, can be seen at study work at 29, Sackville, 120, Gloucester-place, and Fleurus-place, Calthorpe-street. WILLIAM WALKER.
14th March 1855

KENT'S PATENT WEATHER-PROOF [illegible] Hats, and Caps, Rendered as [illegible] as [illegible], exhibited at the Great Exhibition, 1851. Honourably Mentioned. Illustrated price-books on receipt of four stamps, or estimates sent. Hertford-street Building Works, Chichester.

HOUSEHOLD and FAMILY LINEN. Book of Prices, with Samples, post free.
NATIONAL LINEN COMPANY'S WAREHOUSE,
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CHINA and GLASS ROOMS.—JOHN W. SHARPLE begs respectfully to call public attention to his extensive STOCK of CHINA, GLASS, BATCHELOR'S WARE, and PARIAN STATUARY, in the most Modern and Classic Designs, both British and Foreign. The styles will be found all what is unique and beautiful, including hundreds of patterns in Dinner, Dessert, Tea, and Breakfast services, arranged conveniently for inspection in spacious Show-rooms, comprising the finest productions of the Staffordshire and Saxon manufactories, ranging from the lowest possible prices up to the most costly manufactures. The Glass Department is replete with every article of elegance that Europe can produce, together with a large assortment of the more useful and cheaper lines required for Table or Household purposes.—49 and 50, Oxford-street, and Portland Basset, Langham-place.

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CABIN PASSENGERS' Outfitting Branch	60 and 67, Cornhill
SECOND-CLASS and EMIGRANTS' Outfitting Branch	5 and 4, Bishopsgate-street, opposite the London Tavern; also at Liverpool.
SHIRT FACTORIES	Purbeck and Romsey, Hants
CABIN FURNITURE DO.	Commercial-road, London
WATERPROOF CLOTHING DO. ..	North Woolwich, opposite H.M.'s Dockyard.

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INDIA, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, and CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—D. YOUNG will dispatch the following fast-sailing A 1 Clipper SHIPS at the dates named as under:—

Ships.	Tons	Commanders	Destination	Docks.
Mary Ann	403	Wm. M'Culler	Calcutta	London, Mar. 17
Hesperus	1309	J. C. Clare	Calcutta	London, April 10
Matilda	150	P. Rees	Bombay	London, April 10
Queen	630	G. Wood	Shanghae	West India Mar. 17
Spirit of the Age	878	G. H. Heaton	Shanghae	London, Mar. 17
Sarah	477	W. Cameron	H. Kong & Canton	London, Mar. 17
Dryad	603	J. Hewes	Sydney	London, Mar. 17
Kensington	900	W. Kings	Sydney	London, April 25
Ballarat	1100	J. Stephen	Melbourne	London, Mar. 17
Anna Maria	362	D. Stephen	Cape G. Hope	London, Mar. 17
Sea Queen	415	G. Bowe	Adelaide	London, Mar. 17

These Ships have been selected specially for our high-class and fast-sailing Clippers, and will be found well worth the attention of Shippers and Passengers.—W. O. YOUNG, 54, Cross-street, Manchester; 18, Dale-street, Liverpool; and Sun-court, Cornhill, London

TO ARCHITECTS.—NEW SENATE HOUSE for the CITY of HAMBURG.—The Commissioners appointed by the Senate of Hamburg for erecting the new Senate House, hereby give Notice that they have SELECTED from the DESIGNS offered in the competition the following three, to which they have awarded the Premiums in the following order:

Premium, Designed by Gustav Gilbert Scott, of London

Ditto ex quo dois adhuc non quorta. Designed by A. Meurou, of Hamburg

Ditto sed ex quo. Designed by Ludwig Franz Carl Pohnstedt, Member of the Imperial Academy of Arts in St. Petersburg

The Commission requests all other Competitors to reclaim the Designs sent in, on presenting their receipts to Messrs. Gaudy, Cornelius, in Hamburg, between the hours of One and Four in the afternoon

THE COMMISSION FOR THE ERECTION OF THE NEW SENATE HOUSE

Hamburg, Feb. 23, 1855.

TWO very superior HOUSES to be LET on LEASE; spacious, elegant, and well finished, the backs overlooking Richmond Park, the fronts facing the park-like, well-wooded scenery, Richmond. On dry gravel, perfectly drained, and within three minutes of the Railway Station. Apply to Mr. Cale, Richmond

BANSTEAD, SURREY.—To be LET or SOLD, a most desirable FREEHOLD FAMILY RESIDENCE, beautifully situate in its own grounds, within an easy drive of three stations on the Croydon and Epsom Railway. In continuous dining, drawing, and breakfast rooms, six bed rooms, [illegible] well water laid on, &c., and most ample domestic offices. The house and stabling, conservatory, and nearly four acres of land. The house is approached by a carriage sweep, with stabled entrance lodge, and commands views of great beauty and extent. Rent or freehold. For cards to view apply to Mr. F. CROSS, architect, 54, Moorgate-street, City

BIRKBECK FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY. THE ALLOTMENT of the KINGSTON, CROYDON, WANDSWORTH and WIMBLEDON ESTATES will take place on MONDAY, 26th; TUESDAY, 27th; WEDNESDAY, 28th; and THURSDAY, 29th APRIL, at Twelve o'Clock on each day. Members holding Rights of Choice, and wishing to exercise them upon either of these Estates, must attend personally or by proxy. A BALLOT for RIGHTS of CHOICE will take place at the Other Offices, on TUESDAY, 27th MARCH, at Nine o'Clock in the Evening. Plans, Prospectuses, &c., may be had on application to

FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT, Manager,
London Mechanics' Institution, Southampton-buildings, Holborn.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY. At the twenty-fifth drawing for RIGHTS of CHOICE in this Society, held at the Universal Life Land Society's HALL, on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14th, 1855, the following numbers—Nos. 1027, 1077, 1097, 1112, 1125, 1163, 1205, 1245, 1319, 1361, 1377, 1402, 1448, 1507, 1526, grouped, 1575, [illegible] 1605, 1634, 1696, 1745, 1838, 2038, 2051, 2063, 2364, 2365, 2411, [illegible] grouped, [illegible] 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 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The Rowing shares likewise drawn, are in arrears—Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 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In foreign service, there are eight at Constantin

SKETCHES ON THE BLACK SEA.

HARBOUR AND TOWN OF BALACLAVA.

We have been avoured by a Correspondent, who writes from off Katscha with the two accompanying Sketches of the southern and western portions of the Crimea, which convey a good idea of its coast scenery; whilst the third view is on the coast of Circassia: the three scenes being interesting localities of the war.

The first Sketch shows the Harbour and Town of Balaclava, which, it is scarcely necessary to remind the reader of the news of the war, lies on the Black Sea, near the southern extremity of the Crimea, thirty miles south-west of Simpheropol. Its excellent harbour, land-locked and deep enough to float the largest ships, is likewise familiar to the reader. The Sketch is taken from an eminence on the foot-road leading to the encampment of the Royal Marines, bearing west. Koch, in his interesting little book on the Crimea (just published) says:—

I had certainly been told a good deal about the peculiar position of this little town; but, when we descended from the plateau, and the hollow, with its dark-blue waters, lay expanded before us, it surpassed all we had ever seen, all we had ever heard. The basin is about a mile in diameter, and is surrounded, with the exception of a narrow gorge, by very precipitous and only partially wood-covered rocks, which have an elevation of some hundred feet. The arm of the sea occupies nearly the whole of the hollow, and, save on the side opposite to us, where the water comes up close to the rocks, is surrounded by a green velvety lawn. Here lies, too, the little town of Balaclava, composed of a few private houses and a number of shops. The agricultura. inhabitants have settled on the slope, which we descended, in order to be nearer the produce of their industry.

While walking along by the side o. the dark waters, I noticed medusæ, a sure indication that this was no lake, but a gulf connected with the sea by some narrow outlet.

The romantic acclivities, which are not formed of nummulite limestone, but of a greyish blue or light red Jura rock, have their beauty augmented by the numerous ruins visible upon them. Here certainly stood the old castle

WRECKS ON THE COAST EAST OF EUPATORIA.

rom which the entrance to the strait was commanded. Traces are still found :o an immense outer wall; and there are two towers in a respectable state of preservation, one of which is built right above the narrow entrance. A harbour more protected against storms and sudden attack, would be difficult to find. It is, however, too small ever to acquire any importance.

Dubois de Montperreux fancies he found here the spot which Homer describes n the tenth book of his "Odyssey." In truth, if we visit the harbour of Balaclava with this book in our hand, we would be induced to imagine that the bard had actually visited the place. It is the passage describing Ulysses' first approach to the country of the Lestrigones, and which Pope thus translates—

Within a long recess a bay there lies,
Edged round with cliffs, high pointing to the skies
The jutting shores, that swell on either side,
Contract its mouth, and break the rushing tide.
Our eager sailors seize the fair retreat,
And bound within the port their crowded fleet
For here, retired, the sinking billows sleep,
And smiling calmness silvered o'er the deep.
I only in the bay refused to moor,
And fixed, without, my hawsers to the shore.

The picturesque ceases at Balaclava; beyond it the country, though undulating, is devoid of trees, and the vegetation is parched up.

The second Sketch represents a number of Wrecks on the coast east o Eupato-ia, extending from the windmills to the Turkish liner on shore.

The third View shows a small village called Djimiteia, a few miles north-west of Anapa, on the coast of Circassia. The *Tribune*, *Highflyer*, and *Lynx* completely destroyed the white martello tower, which mounted a few guns; and set fire to the village, which was garrisoned by some hundreds of Cossacks and Russian infantry. The tower, when entered, was found to have several hundred shells and a great quantity of powder in it This was set fire to, but unfortunately blew up much sooner than was expected, and severely burnt Lieut. Smithett; it also slightly injured Captain Moore.

VILLAGE OF DJIMITEIA, ON THE COAST OF CIRCASSIA.

ALEXANDER II, EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

THE PRESENT EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

THE new Sovereign of Russia, Alexander Nicolaiewitch, is the eldest son of the late Emperor, and was born 29th (17th) of April, 1818, and has, therefore, very nearly completed his 37th year. Previous to his accession he held the posts of Commander-in-Chief of the Corps de la Garde, and of the Grenadiers; presided over the Military School, and was Curator-in-Chief of the Military Hospital of Tchesmé; and holds the command of the Lancers, the Carabiniers of Erivan, &c. The Emperor married, in 1841, Marie-Alexandrowna, daughter of Louis II., Grand Duke of Hesse.

M. de Custine, in his popular work on Russia, has given the following sketch of the then Grand Duke Alexander, as he appeared in 1839. The author writes from Ems:—

The Hereditary Grand Duke has arrived at Ems, preceded by ten or twelve carriages, and followed by a numerous court.

I found myself at the side of the Grand Duke, among the curious crowd, as he alighted from his carriage. Before entering the house, he stood for a long time at the door of the baths in conversation with a Russian lady, so that I had time to examine him. He looks his exact age, which is twenty. His person is tall, but a little too stout for so young a man. His features would be fine, were it not for a puffiness that impairs his physiognomy. His face is round, but rather German than Russian, and suggests what the Emperor Alexander must have been at the same age, without, however, in any way recalling the Kalmuck type.

The look has many phases to pass through ere it will assume its definitive character. The habitual humour it now denotes is mild and benevolent. Between the ready smile of the eyes and the constant contraction of the mouth, there [illegible] moderate frank- [illegible] The vivacity of youth, the age when [illegible] always the better kept, that it is a mystery inexplicable even to the sufferer. The Prince's expression is one of kindness: his step is light and gracefully noble—truly that of a Prince. His air is modest, without timidity, which is a great point for all about him, since the embarrassment of the great is really an annoyance to the rest of the world. If they fancy themselves demigods, they are incommoded by the opinion they have of themselves, and which they despair of making others partake.

This silly disquietude never afflicts the Grand Duke. His whole bearing wears the impress of perfect good-breeding. If he should ever reign, he will make himself obeyed, not by terror, but by the attraction of his inherent grace, unless the necessities that cling to a Russian Emperor's destiny should alter his character as well as his position.

* * * * * *

I have again seen the Hereditary Grand Duke, and have had a long and close examination of him. He was not dressed in uniform, which gives him a stiff and swollen look. The ordinary costume suits him much better. His manner is agreeable, his gait noble, and without the stiffness of the soldier; and the peculiar grace that distinguishes him recalls the singular charm belonging to the Slave race. There is not the vivacious passion of warm countries, nor the imperturbable coldness of the North; but a mixture of Southern simplicity and adaptability with Scandinavian melancholy. The Slaves are white Arabs. The Grand Duke is more than half German; but there are German Slaves in Mecklenburg, as well as in some parts of Holstein and Prussia.

Notwithstanding his youth, the Prince's face is not so agreeable as his figure. His complexion has lost its freshness: it is viable that he is a [illegible]. The eyelid droops over the outer corner of the eye with a melancholy betraying already the cares of a more advanced age. His pleasing mouth is not without sweetness, and his Grecian profile recalls the medals of the antique or the portraits of the Empress Catherine, but beneath that air of kindness, almost always conferred by beauty, youth, and German blood it is impossible not to recognise a force of dissimulation that terrifies one in so young a man. This trait is, doubtless, the seal of destiny, and makes me believe that the prince is fated to ascend the throne. His voice has a melodious tone, a thing rare in his family, and a gift he has received from his mother.

He stands out among the younger men of his suite without anything to stamp the distance observable between them, unless it be the perfect grace of his whole person. Grace always denotes an amiable turn of mind; so much of the soul enters into the gait, the expression of the physiognomy, and the attitudes of the man. The one under examination is at once imposing and agreeable. Russian travellers had spoken to me of his beauty as a phenomenon; and it would have struck me more, but for this exaggeration. Such as he is, the Grand Duke of Russia still seemed to me one of the finest models of a Prince that I had ever met.

The new Sovereign of Russia is stated to have been initiated at an early age into the affairs of the empire by the Emperor his father; he was present at all the councils; he was invested with situations which gave him frequent opportunities of rendering himself useful to the army and pleasing to the youth of the schools. Whenever the Emperor Nicholas quitted the capital, he left the supreme direction of the Government to his son. In short, he had taken the utmost pains to prepare him to become his successor. The new Emperor is stated to be very popular in Russia—he is beloved and esteemed by the people. He will not exercise the great authority of his father, for he does not inherit either his hauteur or his inflexibility. He will rather please, as the Emperor Alexander I. did, by his mildness and his affability, and between the uncle and the nephew there is a very great similarity of character in [illegible] The new Empress is also highly spoken of and her [illegible] and her conciliating manners are much extolled. [illegible] will exercise a salutary influence over the Emperor.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Monday.

[illegible]ve was given to Lord Lucan to attend before the Sebastopol Inquiry [illegible]ittee. The noble Lord afterwards read two letters, one from him[illegible] to Commander-in-Chief, renewing his demand for a court-martial, and the other from Lord Hardinge, declining to accede to the re[illegible]

[illegible] Bill and Tea-duties Suspension Bill were read a second [illegible]

The motion for the second reading of the Secretaries and Under-Secretaries of State (House of Commons) Bill gave rise to a miscellaneous discussion, in the course of which many comments upon the Ministerial and military systems of the country were offered by Earl Grey, Lord Panmure, the Earl of Ellenborough, Earl Granville, the Earl of Derby, Lord Somers, and other peers.

The bill was ultimately read a second time.

The Exchequer Bills (£17,183,000) bill went through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday.

Solicitor-General for Ireland took the oaths and his seat on his re-election for Ennis.

Sir G. Grey stated, in answer to a question, that the Commissionership of the Ionian Islands had been offered to the late Secretary for Ireland (Sir John Young), but he was not aware that the right hon. gentleman had yet accepted it.

THE ORDNANCE SURVEY FOR SCOTLAND.

The bringing up of the report from the last Committee of Supply gave occasion for a debate, introduced by Lord Elcho, respecting the scale on which the Ordnance Map of Scotland should be completed and engraved. Various recommendations on the subject, varying from an inch to twenty-five feet per square mile, had been urged upon the Government, and were advocated by different hon. members, upon considerations of convenience and expense. The Lord Advocate said that some experimental surveys upon the largest scale were in progress; and the final decision of the question, it was understood, would be postponed until the results of those experiments had been ascertained.

THE COLONIAL DEPARTMENT.

Sir J. Pakington called the attention of the House and the Government to the present anomalous condition of the Colonial Department, owing to the absence of the noble Lord the present Colonial Secretary, at the Vienna Conferences. Yet there never was a period when Colonial affairs more urgently pressed for a decision. Points of the utmost moment were constantly rising up for arrangement, yet there was neither Chief nor Under Secretary for the Colonies to attend to them. He wished to know how long this state of things was to last?

Lord Palmerston said, it was not true that there was nobody responsible for the Colonies. His right honourable friend the Home Secretary and himself were responsible, and were ready to answer all Colonial questions in this House. He was unable to gratify the very natural curiosity of his right honourable friend as to the business of the noble Lord at Vienna, or the duration of his stay; but he could assure his right honourable friend that the stay of the noble Lord was not likely to be protracted, as he seemed to anticipate. He reminded the House that other instances of the absence of leading Ministers had occurred in recent times, and he especially referred to the time when the Duke of Wellington administered all the leading offices of the State for several weeks together.

Mr. Adderley deprecated the absence of the noble Lord, as leading to the further delay already too protracted of settling the Australian constitutions.

Sir G. Grey denied that any practical inconvenience had resulted from the present arrangement, which, he said, would only last for a few weeks longer. The only shadow of inconvenience that could be complained of was the delay in bringing forward bills for the settlement of the Australian constitutions; and, even if Lord John Russell had been in his place, he did not see how those bills could have been pressed while the Estimates were pending.

Mr. Law impugned Sir John Pakington's administration of Australian affairs when he was Colonial Minister, especially his attempt to induce the Australians to adopt a nominated Upper Legislative Chamber.

Mr. John M'Gregor condemned the appointment of the noble Lord as Colonial Minister, whose return to this country he was sure would not be expected by the Australian colonies.

Mr. G. Phillimore defended the appointment of the noble Lord, as one of the most accomplished and successful Colonial Ministers of the present age.

THE COMMISSARIAT ESTIMATES.

The House having gone into Committee on the Commissariat Estimates, Mr. Peel was formally over the different items, and explained that there was a sum of £115,000 for land transport, which was put down before the new arrangement of the Land Transport Service, for which a separate Estimate had been taken; but it was not judged advisable to withdraw the item at present, as various expenses of transport would still fall upon the Commissariat Department, and among others that the expense of the Balaclava Railway would be paid out of it.

The different items of the Estimate were all voted, after a long and discursive conversation upon the several heads.

[illegible] bills of minor importance were forwarded a stage.

[illegible] Solicitor-General obtained leave to bring in a bill to relieve Mr. Pr[illegible], M.P., from the disabilities he might have incurred by reason of a contract for sending wooden hats to the Crimea.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday.

The Marine Mutiny Bill was read a second time.

The Mutiny Bill, the Tea-duties Duties Suspension Bill, and the Secretaries and Under Secretaries of State (House of Commons) Bill respectively went through Committee.

On the motion for the third reading of the Exchequer-bills (£17,183,000) Earl Grey entered into a discussion upon the financial policy of the late Chancellor of the Exchequer in relation to public debt; and contended that, while laying down the principle that the exigencies of the year should be provided for out of the taxes of the year, Mr. Gladstone had, in reality, fixed a large additional amount of debt permanently upon the country.

[illegible] were offered by Earl Granville; and, [illegible] further remarks from the Earl of Derby, the Duke of Argyll, [illegible] Grey, the bill was read a third time, and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Tuesday.

THE FAST DAY.

In reply to Sir J. Walmsley, the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that no stoppage of wages would be occasioned among the employés of the Admiralty, Post-office, Custom-house, or other public departments, on account of the proposed day of general fast and humiliation.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

Mr. Heywood moved for leave to bring in a Bill to Amend the Law relating to Marriage, so as to admit of union with a deceased wife's sister or niece. Examining the historical, the moral, and the Scriptural arguments on which the existing prohibitions were based, the hon. member [illegible] that the Act passed in 1835 forbidding marriages within degrees of affinity had produced much injustice and not a little immorality, especially among the lower classes. He dwelt upon the difference between affinity and consanguinity, declaring that relationship of a former class presented no obstacle to marriage between the parties either on account of moral feeling or general expediency. Admitting the existence of serious objections to his proposal among the inhabitants of Ireland, he offered to leave that section of the United Kingdom out of the operation of the bill.

Mr. Turner regretted that the hon. gentleman had again agitated this question, as he must be aware that there was no chance of ultimate success. It was emphatically a "moral question," and he must say that, so far as his own experience went, the feelings of the women of England were against this bill. His own opinion was, that the opinion of the people of England was strongly and decidedly adverse to any change in the law. He combated Mr. Heywood's views on the subject of the Mosaic law, and contended that the spirit of that law did class marriage with a wife's sister among incestuous marriages; and that that law was imported into the Christian system by the first Council held at Jerusalem, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles, which declared what portions of the Jewish law were to be observed by the Gentile converts; and among those the prohibition of all sorts of unchastities, under the general name of fornication, holds a prominent place.

Mr. Bowyer remarked that the legal restrictions upon marriages of affinity in England were of modern origin, and not based upon any abstract principle.

Mr. E. Ball replied to the theological arguments advanced by Sir F. Thesiger, and observed that the unions now in question were sanctioned by the laws of nearly every European country.

Mr. M. Milnes also supported the motion, being convinced that the Act passed in 1835 had not diminished the number of marriages within the prohibited degrees, but merely rendered the unions the offspring illegitimate.

Mr. Gladstone contended that no case had been made out sufficient to warrant a change in the existing state of the law.

Mr. E. Ball replied to the present law exercised most demoralizing [illegible] of the Scripture texts which had been cited in support of permission for the contract of marriages within the degrees prohibited by the Act of 1835.

Lord Raymond and Admiral Walcott considered that the unions in question were forbidden by the law of God.

Lord Palmerston observed, that Parliament had formerly legalised marriages contracted within the degrees now prohibited. He believed that the restriction produced much social evil. The unions in question were viewed with no disapprobation on moral grounds throughout the country. He expressed his intention of voting for the bill before the House.

Mr. Walpole and Mr. Moore opposed the motion.

Mr. Cobden supported it, remarking that the Biblical argument, formerly so much relied on, had now been entirely given up by the opponents of the bill. The fact that the number of children born in defiance of the existing law was sufficient proof of the expediency of altering it.

After a few words of reply from Mr. Heywood, the House divided—For leave to bring in the bill, 87; against, 53: majority, 34.

IRISH PAUPER EDUCATION.

Mr J. Ball moved a resolution declaring the expediency of adopting some means for improving the education of pauper children in Ireland. Recent returns showed that the number of children below the age of fifteen in the Irish workhouses was nearly 80,000, of whom more than half were orphan or deserted. The provisions for educating these children were, he urged, exceedingly inadequate. To remedy the defect he suggested the application of some moderate grant of money from the public exchequer, as in England, for the purpose of supplying teachers to the union schools.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Bowyer, and supported by Mr. Kennedy.

Mr. Horsman confessed that the system of instruction and amount of remuneration to the teachers in the union workhouses of Ireland were altogether deficient. The primary cause of this deficiency, however, lay with the paramountcy management of the boards of guardians, whom the Poor-law authorities had no means of compelling to a more liberal course. Matters were, he believed, gradually mending, especially by the multiplication of agricultural schools; and altogether he saw no reason for calling upon Parliament to grant money in aid of the improvement.

The discussion was continued by Mr. Roche, Mr. J. Fitzgerald, Mr. O'Brien, and Mr. M'Cullagh.

Mr. J. Ball, to whom Mr. Horsman had appealed not to press his motion to a division, declared that his sense of public duty compelled him to challenge a division on the House on the subject.

Lord Palmerston had been figures showing that Ireland received for various purposes connected with education, criminal jurisprudence, &c., nearly twice the amount of public money devoted to these services in England.

This assertion called forth some angry comments and contradictions from Colonel Dunne, Mr. French, and Mr. Grogan. On a division, there appeared For the motion, 32; against it, 80: majority, 48.

Mr. Wrightson moved for leave to bring in a bill, repealing an Act of Anne, by which Members of Parliament were compelled to vacate their seats on accepting office.

After some conversation, leave was given, and the bill was subsequently brought in and read a first time.

On the motion of Mr. Jackson, a Select Committee was ordered to be appointed to Inquire into the State of the Metropolitan Bridges.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Wednesday.

The Speaker took the chair at five minutes past twelve.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES BILL.

On the order of the day for bringing up the report on this bill, Mr. P. Scrope urged, for the consideration of the House, as instructions to the Committee, the necessity of introducing clauses limiting the scope and objects of these societies to purposes more commensurate with their means. They should not be allowed to enter into contracts for distant periods, which, when the time came, they were found utterly unable to fulfil, and he hoped the House would take the subject into its consideration.

Sir G. Grey said, great attention had been paid both in the framing of the bill and the consideration of the details in the Select Committee. The bill had been already before the House and read a second time, but in Committee the observations of his hon. friend might be taken into consideration

After some observations from Mr. Bright and Mr. A. Pellatt showing that the workpeople of all trades in Manchester and the metropolis were in favour of the bill, the House went into Committee.

Clauses 1 to 5, as amended, were, after some discussion, agreed to.

On clauses 6 and 7 being proposed,

Dr. Mitchell said, they were very objectionable, and suggested that they should be expunged.

After a lengthened discussion as to the appointment of an unpaid commission in which Mr. Henley, Mr. Baines, Mr. P. Scrope, and other hon. members, took part, clauses 6, 7, 8 were negatived and withdrawn, their consideration to take place on bringing up the report. Clauses 9 to 15 inclusive were agreed to. Clause 16 was negatived. The clauses up to 20 were, with technical amendments, agreed to. Clause 38 was withdrawn. The remaining clauses and schedule to the bill were, after a lengthened discussion, agreed to.

The report was ordered to be taken into consideration on Tuesday, the 27th inst.

MEDICAL ATTENDANCE IN THE EAST.

On bringing up the report of Supply, Mr. Stafford asked for its postponement, as he was desirous of calling the attention of the House to medical arrangements for the sick and wounded soldiers in the East. The right hon. gentleman complained of the absence of the Secretary at War, and gave notice that he should ask the question on Friday.

Mr. Wilson stated that it would be more convenient that the question should be postponed, and asked the honourable gentleman to bring forward the subject on his moving the adjournment of the House on Friday.

Mr. Stafford assented.

The Dean Forest Bill was read a third time and passed.

(*Continued on page 260.*)

Copying Daguerreotypes on Paper. A new application of the photographic art by Mr Mayall, the photographer, of Argyll-place, Regent street, has developed a very interesting result—viz., the reproduction on paper of likenesses taken by the daguerreotype. Copies, whether on plain or paper, have not hitherto been valuable, from the loss of definition they present. Mr. Mayall, however, has so far overcome the difficulties in the way of securing good impressions that he can obtain correct photographs from plain or indifferent daguerreotypes. He takes an enlarged negative copy, which after undergoing some little preparation to strengthen the details, will yield any number of positives. A simple plan of arresting the light serves to extinguish the background by which many daguerreotypes are disfigured, and the result is an exact copy of the face and figure, minus the disagreeable characteristics of the original plate. If the copy is to remain black and white, little or no retouch will be required; on the other hand, if it is to be coloured, the paper surface will admit of the most exquisite miniature work. The melancholy that of some daguerreotypes is by no means calculated to convey an agreeable remembrance of friends we have lost, added to which many are of a fleeting character, and will certainly fade away. Mr. Mayall's plan of reproduction throws these objections into the shade, for the copies are not only agreeable to the eye, but are as permanent as ivory paintings.

Labourers' Club-house.—A commodious building is in course of erection, in the village of Charlton Marshall, near Blandford, Dorset, the largest portion of which is intended for a club-house, reading, but not smoking, for labourers and artisans; and the remaining portion for a beerhouse and shop, which will indirectly be useful to, though independent of, the former. The idea of such a club-house suggested itself to its promoter, Mr. T. Hodges, from his attention having been drawn to the little benefit which has accrued, from mechanics' institutes, to labourers, or even to mechanics; and from his attributing the ill-success to the circumstance that, in these institutions, intellectual recreation has been made the sole object, without any consideration of the question, whether the physical comfort of the members has previously been provided for. This led him to consider what were the real wants of the least favored of the industrious classes, and how, in supplying these, the opportunity might be taken morally to elevate their hearts, tastes, and aims. For the labouring class then some common home is necessary, and why should this not be of the club-house kind? The rich find it advantageous to club together, for the purpose of supplying themselves with comforts and conveniences which their individual means would not afford; and why should not the poor do the same? As moral improvement is an object with, and the chief of the necessary outlay is borne by, the promoter, he deems it allowable, in forming the club, to make the following conditions—viz., that decorous conduct shall be strictly enforced; that no intoxicating liquors or tobacco shall be supplied or introduced, nor smoking allowed; and that female members shall be admitted; and he proposes that the club-house shall be shut on Sundays from ten in the morning until five in the afternoon. The entrance-money is proposed to be one shilling, and the subscription three-halfpence per week for males, and one penny per week for females. The things provided to be tea, coffee, sugar, milk, bread, butter, cheese, fruit, buns, biscuits, and effervescent drinks, and possibly cocoa, chocolate, soup, and cold meat—all at prices little exceeding their cost, to pay for fuel and service—one daily and one weekly London, and one provincial newspaper, a few periodicals, and some books and maps. There are, however, reasons for expecting that some friends of the project will add newspapers and periodicals of not very old date, and books and other sources of intellectual recreation. In order to extend the advantages of the club, and give it a better chance of success amongst a small population, it is proposed to admit persons for one day, on payment of a penny, but without giving them any right to interfere in the club concerns.

Emancipation of the Jews. While Lord John Russell was passing through Marburg, Dr. Emingerer, editor of the *Gazette des Israelites*, sent an address, signed by several of his co-religionists, to the noble Lord, thanking him for his efforts in favour of the complete emancipation of the Jews in England, and for their admission into Parliament. The address, at the same time, expressed a hope that, in the Conferences of Vienna, no difference among the rayahs of the Ottoman Empire would be admitted, as to divide the principle would be to weaken it. Lord J. Russell, in a letter to Dr. Philippson, announces the firm resolution of the English Government to see that the Jewish and Christian subjects of the Sultan shall be admitted to the enjoyment of the same rights and the same impartial administration.

EPITOME OF NEWS FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Lord John Russell had an audience of the Emperor of Austria on the 7th instant.

The Court of Tuscany has gone into mourning for a fortnight, on account of the death of the Emperor of Russia.

One of the last acts of the Emperor Nicholas was to present a diamond ring to a writer named Rotchoff, for a pamphlet entitled "The Truth About England."

Lady John Russell landed on Friday week at Calais, on her way to Vienna, to join her husband.

Should Louis Napoleon go to the Crimea, the Empress will accompany him as far as Constantinople, and take with her her Dames du Palais, the Countess de Montebello, Madame de Pierres, and M. de Valabrègue

Lord Duncan, one of the Junior Lords of the Treasury, was on Saturday re-elected for Forfarshire without opposition.

The rite of confirmation was administered to the Princess Charlotte, daughter of the King of the Belgians, by the Cardinal Archbishop of Mechlin, on the 5th inst. The ceremony was celebrated with a certain pomp in the chapel of the Palace of Laeken.

Mr. C. H. Darling, late Lieut.-Governor at the Cape, having been appointed to the Governorship-in-Chief of the Leeward Islands, is about to sail for Antigua.

General de Hess, commander of the Austrian army of the north, having no children, has been authorised by the Emperor Francis Joseph, in consideration of the services which he has rendered to the Imperial house and to the country, to transmit his name and arms to an adopted son.

The Pope is about to erect a colossal statue of the Virgin Mary at Rome, in celebration of the triumph of the Immaculate Conception dogma.

General La Marmora left Paris on Saturday for Genoa. He has completed his arrangements with the Government of France and England.

Mr. H. Reeve has been appointed editor of the *Edinburgh Review*.

The Right Rev. Dr. Barber, the recently consecrated Bishop of Sydney, and the Metropolitan of Australia, sailed from Liverpool last week, accompanied by his chaplains.

Colonel Cler, Commander of the second regiment of Zouaves in the Army of the East, has been promoted to the rank of General of Brigade, and is to command the second Division of the first Division of the army of reserve, now organising at Constantinople. General Marquesat is to assume the command of the first brigade.

Gen. Prince Andrew Gortschakoff died at Moscow, on the 27th ult.

The Academy of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres has elected M. Regnier a member, in place of M. Langlois, deceased

A travelling glazier, the last descendant of Leonardo da Vinci, the famous Florentine painter, who expired in the arms of Francis I., died a few days back in the neighbourhood of Roanne (Loire).

A white marble statue of Charlemagne, by M. Leevol, is about to be erected in the open space in front of the College of France.

The Edinburgh people have already raised £1100 of the £1500 required for the colossal bronze statue of Professor Wilson, which is to be shortly erected.

The naturalist Chevalier de Meyer, known to the scientific world by his travels among the Altai Mountains, and in the region of the Caucasus, died on the 26th ult. M. de Meyer was born in 1795, at Vitebsk.

The Rev. Messrs. O'Shee and O'Keefe, of Callan, the Roman Catholic priests whose coercion in political matters by their Bishop has given rise to the famous memorial to Rome, have been removed by their ecclesiastical superior into distant and separate rural districts, in which they will have fewer opportunities for agitation.

General Adjutant Prince de Lieven arrived at Vienna on Sunday to notify to the Emperor the accession of Alexander II. of Russia. The General was received by the Emperor on the day of his arrival.

The *Moniteur* publishes an Imperial decree realising the institution of Civil Invalids, which the revolutionary leaders of 1848 proposed to establish in the Palace of the Tuileries.

A Chamber of Commerce at Birmingham is to be established, with the support of the bankers, merchants, and others, of the town and neighbourhood.

The greatest activity has prevailed of late in the manufactories of arms to Liege. 60,000 muskets have been ordered there for England, 40,000 for Russia (which are to be sent through Prussia), and 50,000 for France, Piedmont, Spain, &c.

The California Legislature having passed a bill appropriating 1000 dollars from the State treasury to each member, the Governor refused his sanction to it; but it subsequently passed the Assembly in spite of the veto, by a vote of 53 to 21.

The Government Emigration Commissioners have chartered the *Elephantes* to take out emigrants to Sydney, and the *South Sea* to convey emigrants to Adelaide.

Great numbers of wolves have appeared this winter in the department of the Sarthe. In the arrondissement of Le Mans alone, the officer appointed to destroy wolves has killed not fewer than fourteen.

Shellfish is scarcer in the Channel Islands than has been known for some time, in consequence of the destruction of the lobster-pots and fishing tackle by the late severe weather.

Twelve sisters of different religious orders have just left Lyons—[illegible] for the hospitals [illegible] accepted.

Three new daily papers are announced for publication in Glasgow on the abolition of the compulsory stamp—viz., the *Daily News*, the *Morning Bulletin*, at a penny, and the *Evening Digest*, at a halfpenny.

A retired magistrate died the other day at Falaise, aged 100 years six months. He had been [illegible] and received it for forty-three years

The telegraph cable across the Solent, by which Osborne House can communicate with London by the electric telegraph, has been broken twice lately.

A prohibitory liquor law has been passed in the Delaware House of Delegates, by a vote of eleven to ten. The Senate of New Jersey rejected a measure with the same object by a majority of one.

Three slight shocks of earthquake were felt at St. Germano Chipolata, on the 21st ult., and one on the 22nd No damage was experienced.

Mr. Smith, a chemist of Auchterardar, is said to have discovered a means of transferring the impressions of natural objects to glass with minute [illegible]

Austria has just issued a circular to her agents in Germany, which very distinctly menaces Prussia if she does not come at once to some settlement with the Western Powers.

A company of French and Belgian capitalists has been formed for the construction of a direct railway from Lille to Brussels, by Tourcoing.

The arrivals of specie during last week were about £1,100,000 The exports (including £128,000 shipped on Friday by the Brazil mail) are estimated at about £200,000.

The strike for the terms asked by the journeymen sailmakers of Greenock from their employers has extended to Glasgow, six out of nine lofts having ceased work. The difference has reference to the number of apprentices each master shall be permitted by the society to employ.

The *St. Petersburg Journal* publishes the text of a convention concluded between Russia and Prussia, for the transmission of telegraphic messages between the two States

The report is contradicted that the Russian Government has formed the project of selling its North American possessions to the United States.

Fifty pictures by members of the Academy of Fine Arts of Berlin have been sent off to the Exhibition at Paris

About thirty cart-loads of water-cresses are brought to the Paris markets daily, and the value of them is estimated at about 300f. each. Upwards of 3,000,000f. worth of water-cresses is consequently sold in Paris annually.

The Municipal Council of Paris has voted a sum of six millions for the indemnity to be granted to the bakers in order to maintain the price of bread at 40 cents the two-pound Loaf, expressing at the same time its wish that this subvention may cease on the 1st April next, when the abundance of work and the influx of foreigners into Paris will render it no longer necessary

At Beyrout the proclamation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception took place with great pomp, the ceremony terminating by a discharge of fireworks The Pacha, not knowing what was meant, sent in great haste to the French Consul to ask if news of the fall of Sebastopol had arrived

It is stated to be the intention of Mr. Headlam, M.P. for Newcastle, and Chancellor of the Diocese of Durham, to bring in a bill to prevent the celebration of the irregular border marriages.

Dr. Daubeny has signified his intention of shortly resigning the Professorship of Chemistry in Oxford University, which chair he has occupied since 1822.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

"The debate was very dull and stupid, last night," said somebody to somebody else (a smart article-writer would tell you who they were, without hesitation, and knowing no more who they were than I do); to which the latter replied, "Why date?" I was going to begin by saying that much nonsense is being talked in club-windows, about this time, but when is not much nonsense therein spoken? But the death of Nicholas has given an especial stimulus to the manufacture of senile crudities. People who, one would wager, could not have told you with positiveness, a couple of years ago, how many Russian sovereigns have intervened between Peter the Great and Alexander the Second, now talk as familiarly of the wills and testaments of the Czars, as a knot of hungry cousins, after a rummage at Doctors' Commons, do of the codicils of their crabbed uncle deceased. Moreover, the intentions of the late Nicholas are now so clearly known in smoking and billiard rooms that one regrets that Lord Palmerston is not seen oftener in such places, where he would be so rapidly "posted up," as the Americans say, with the information he really ought to have. We need not know that the second son, the Archduke Porphyrogenitus, was trained, from a baby, in the idea of being Emperor of Turkey, that his nine-pins were all Turks, to be knocked down, and that the rehearsal of his coronation in St. Sophia was one of the *jeux innocens*, in which his father delighted to see him engaged. In a word, Turkey was invaded in order to obtain an empire for Constantine, and thus settle the difficulty the old Emperor found from his being so unfortunate as to have two eldest sons. Consequently—for we are practical, *nous autres* Alexander, who has bound himself to carry out his father's will, is even more deeply pledged to the war than Nicholas himself, and his remaining upon the throne depends upon his "doing his possible" for the amiable Constantine. Peace, of course, is out of the question. It is a sad thing that Governments are so ill informed. If all this had been known, the expense of Lord John Russell's mission to Vienna might have been saved.

When the City was electing the Colonial Minister the other day, one of his opponents—doubtless a loud-mouthed friend of civil and religious liberty—proposed to exclude him because he was a Puseyite. This piece of novelty being rather incredulously received, the accuser exclaimed triumphantly, "Why, he has been known to attend regularly at St Barnabas's, Pimlico!" But what will the ultra-Protestants say now that his Lordship has actually "assisted" at the christening—of course, according to the Roman Catholic ritual—of the little Princess of Austria? Luckily Lord Shaftesbury—Protestant *sans peur et sans reproche*—has countenanced the Cabinet, though he could not stop in it; and this will assure timid people that, although Lord John has attended a Catholic service, and although both the Irish law officers belong to that Church, Government has no immediate intention of going over to Rome.

The Emperor Louis Napoleon is announced by an English paper, supposed to be in Lord Malmesbury's confidence, to have "taken precautions for the safety of his crown." This is a delicate reference of course to Chou-Chou—whom they also call "Crin-Plon" (*crainit plomb*) and may mean anything; either that our affectionate cousin is to be cast into a Vincennes dungeon, with a patent *oubliette* below it, warranted to swallow him up in the event of any undesirable demonstration elsewhere; or else that Chou-Chou has received orders to get his *sac de nuit* ready, with a view to the Crimea. My opinion, however (*salvat quantum*), is that the crown of France is not in the least earthly danger from anything Prince Napoleon is likely to do, or his friends to do for him. But that "precautions" for preventing the possible transfer of that crown to so unworthy a head as that of Chou-Chou, in the event of the Emperor having no direct heir, will be taken, is a probability which the good sense of France will desire to see reduced to a certainty. The man who could write, or furnish *materiel* to the writer of, the pamphlet of which I spoke last week, is evidently and utterly unfit to stand in the position of heir to the empire. The unabashed "canvass" of that pamphlet is one of its most remarkable characteristics: the public is particularly requested to take notice that there *are* members of the Imperial family who do not share in the opinions of the Tuileries. "The man you require," said Mirabeau, "should be an orator, a statesman, and a patriot; he should be of vigorous habits and mature age, he should be a member of the aristocracy, but trusted by the people; he should be courageous, resolute," &c., &c. "And," asked an auditor, "my dear M. de Mirabeau, should he not be somewhat marked with the smallpox?" An old story; but then Chou-Chou's is an old trick, and may be tolerated on the principle on which Sheridan gave a bad shilling to the driver of a bad coach.

Cochin-China has gone out, and real China come in. The sums Mr. Bernal's cups and saucers have fetched are perfectly appalling. I looked into Christie's on Wednesday with an idea of a very humble purchase, but Falconbridge's words came upon me, "Must your bold verdict enter talk with Lords"—and Hebrews? and I speedily retreated: a pretty little green cup—nothing else—being knocked down, after a spirited competition," for £52; and a saucer, with a painting on it of "Apollo trampling the Python," for (I think) £37. It would take some money to complete one's tea-service at that rate. It was worth while to notice the way that the professional purchasers, and especially the foreigners, snatched the articles from the attendant showman's hand, and rapidly passed them about—precious treasures, fit for "baby fingers, waxen touches," were handled in a way that only buyers and housemaids treat such things. What a good Chairman of Committees the late owner of these things was. He had not the cool courage with which the late Earl of Shaftesbury, in similar capacity in the Lords, used all but to bid the Peers of England hold their tongues and not talk nonsense, but look at the words before them, and read them if they could read (his tone said that, and a good deal more); but Mr. Bernal was very adroit in not hearing bores until he had put the question. The decision was taken, when it was too late for them to speak. Sometimes father and son (Mr. Bernal Osborne) had to exchange words. "Does the honourable member mean to say ——?" the paternal Chairman would ask. "Of course, Sir, if you decide that, I have done, but ——" the filial member would reply. The judgment of Brutus was not more impartial than that of Bernal.

What a rage Mr. Surtees's books have put the "sporting men" into. I use the term as distinguishing a class not to be respected, from one of the best classes in the world—the sportsmen. Whenever the sporting men can abuse him they do. It is true he survives their bad will and bad grammar, but the *animus* is the same. I need not say that to satire as such, the pachydermatous "do" is perfectly indifferent, but the books are bad for his trade. Surtees has done as much to destroy the conventional idea of the true British sportsman as the burlesque men have towards annihilating the true British sailor of the stage, who was always crying, delivering innocence, scattering sovereigns broadcast, and hitching up his trousers. He has as yet exhibited only one of the two orders I have mentioned—the sporting men; and the mischief he has done them is great. In his next book I hope he will bring the English sporting gentleman into actual, instead of only implied, contrast with the jobbers, and swindlers, and vulgarians whore he has worked so hard. I must not speak of Leech, because he is a *collaborateur*; though I do not know why that should be a reason for my not saying that some of his real "swells" would come into capital relief beside the Faceys, Spraggons, Sponges, and others who are so savage with him and Surtees, as they are so hard in "sporting publications"—with pardon for mentioning such rubbish.

A large gallery painting, representing "Adam and Eve in Paradise, before the Fall," has just been received in Pall-mall for exhibition. The picture is painted by the celebrated Belgian artist, Van Lerius, who has devoted several years to the production of this work of art, of which Continental critics speak highly

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE ORIGIN OF CHESS,

BY DR. DUNCAN FORBES.

(*Continued from page 118.*)

CHAPTER IX.—THEORY AND PRACTICE OF THE SHATRANJ, OR MEDIÆVAL GAME OF CHESS

I am now entering on a subject which, I think, has hitherto been very imperfectly understood in Europe, at least in modern times. From the sources of information alluded to in our last chapter, I am enabled to be before the reader a tolerably correct view of the mode in which Chess was played on the side the Celestial Empire from the sixth to the sixteenth century of the Christian era. I may further mention that, with regard to the three Persian MSS. which I have already briefly described, it luckily so happens that what is either omitted or lost, or summarily discussed, in one MS. is treated of very fully in one or both of the others. As this will necessarily be a long chapter, I shall, for the sake of perspicuity, divide the subject into two sections.

SECTION 1ST.—ON THE MEDIÆVAL CHESS-BOARD AND THE MOVES AND POWERS OF THE PIECES.

The ancient board on which the Chatranga was played (as was shown in Chap. V.) had no variety of colours; in fact, a chequered board in that case would have been rather objectionable than otherwise. When the game was modified into the Shatranj, the board, so far as we know, still remained unspotted; although the division into black and white would, in the latter case, have been a decided improvement. Hyde (p. 170) gives a drawing of a beautiful ivory chess-board presented to him by Daniel Sheldon, Esq., an East India merchant, nearly two centuries ago, on which the squares are, indeed, ornamented, but not of different colours. And here occurs a *query*. What is become of Hyde's Indian Chess-board? Surely the mice have not eaten it up; nor can I conceive the possibility of such a piece of barbarity as its being cut up into some other trumpery ornament or ornaments. But to proceed. The oldest representation of a chequered board in the East that I have yet seen is in a copy of the Shâhnâma, in the British Museum (No. 16,804, folio 260), transcribed about 140 years ago. It is a picture of the scene where Buzurjmihr is unfolding the mysteries of the game in the presence of Nûshirwân and the Indian Ambassador. The Persian sage has a chequered board of *sixty-four* squares placed before him, with the pieces arranged thereon, and a white spot to the right. However, in none of the three MSS. mentioned in our last chapter is there any allusion to the squares being of different colours. In the mediæval game of Europe the board seems to have been coloured about the fourteenth century: for in a Latin poem, supposed to be of that period, given in Hyde (p. 181), we have "Asser quadratus varie colore notatus;" but in an older poem of the time of the Anglo-Saxons, given by the same author (p. 179), there is nothing said about difference of colours

The arrangement of the pieces in the Shatranj was exactly the same as our own in the present day, that is—the Kings stood opposite to each other, and so did the Queens, or Queens. There is a general impression (though erroneous) that on each side the Queen was placed on the right hand of the King. This I found to be peculiar only to the modern Indian game; but it was not so in that country 300 years ago, as may be seen in the Museum MS. (No. 16,885), dedicated to the Great Mogul of the day. The pieces and Pawns being thus drawn up, the game generally began, as with us, by moving either the King's or Queen's Pawn: with the difference, however, that in the Shatranj the Pawns could move only *one* square, at the commencement. The King, Rook, and Knight, moved exactly as they do now. The Farzin, or what we call the Queen, moved one square diagonally; consequently her power slowly extended only over that half of the squares which we should say was of her own colour. The adverse Queen, being on the opposite square at the extremity of the board, was necessarily of a different colour—hence the two Queens could never by any chance encounter one another. That this was the case in Europe, in the eleventh or twelfth century, we know from a line in the older Latin poem given by Hyde (p. 180):—

Nam Regina non valebat impedire alteram.

The Fil, which we call Bishop, moved two squares diagonally. He attacked and commanded only the square next to him but one; he had no power over the intermediate square: hence his attack, like that of the Knight, could not be covered or warded off by the intervention of another piece. It will be found, by a slight inspection, that his power extended over only seven squares of the board (one leap of two squares at a time), besides the one on which he originally stood. It will be found, on examination, that each of the four Bishops had a diocese of eight particular squares for himself, out of which he could never move. It so happened, also, that the eight squares belonging to any one Bishop never fell within the range of any of the other three; hence a Bishop could never, by any chance, encounter an adverse Bishop, even when running on the same colour. Here, again, we can throw light on a line of the older Latin poem in Hyde:—

Firmum pactum Calvi tenent, neque sibi nascunt.

Lastly, when a Pawn reached the opposite extremity of the board, he obtained the rank of *Farzin only*, and never that of any other piece. He commenced thenceforth to move diagonally, one square at a time, being, of course, restricted to the colour of the square on which he had landed; hence in many of the old games given in the Oriental MSS. above described we find two or three Farzins on either side of the board, of which more hereafter. Here, once more, the older Latin poem in Hyde agrees with us:—

Cum Pedester usque summum venerit ad Tabulam,
Nomen ejus tunc mutatur; appellitur Ferma!
Ejus interim Regimen gratiam obtineat.

Here we have absolutely the Persian word Farzin still retained, although the term Queen had already become in vogue. Volumes could not speak more in proof of the Oriental origin of Chess. I may further observe that this peculiar fact of promoting the Pawns to the rank of Farzin, in the mediæval game, sweeps away at once the whole rubbish that has been written about the *nonentity* of "a plurality of Queens," which Philidor and his sapient editor, Mr Pratt, seemed to consider as a modern innovation. *Vide* Pratt's Philidor, 1856, p. 514. Let me not be here misunderstood: when I speak of Philidor, I fully admit that he held the first rank in chess-playing, but not in scholarship. Having now explained the moves of the pieces in the Shatranj, I shall henceforth discontinue the use of the terms "Farzin" and "Fil," using instead the well-known appellations of Queen and Bishop; the reader always bearing in mind their exact and very limited range on the board

In conveying an idea of the relative powers or exchangeable value of the pieces, the Arabs and Persians have adopted the following quaint and practical method, founded upon their smaller denominations of money. It so happens, too, that we have ourselves, as nearly as may be, a corresponding coinage. The drum is our sixpence; the dânk, our penny, and the tasû, our farthing; and with this explanation I am enabled here also to dispense with the Oriental terms

The King, they say, is beyond all value, *on account of his rank*, but in reality from the nature of the game. The value of the Rook is sixpence; that of the Knight is fourpence. On these two points all the three MSS. agree. The value of the Queen, however, is less decided, as one MS. estimates her at threepence, and another only at twopence; perhaps twopence halfpenny is near the mark. The value of the Bishop is three halfpence. The average value of the Pawns is one penny each, but the two centre or Royal Pawns are each worth a penny farthing, and, according to some, the King's Pawn is worth three halfpence. Again, the two side Pawns are worth only three farthings each. Finally, the real value of any particular piece or Pawn is liable to undergo considerable modifications according to circumstances. Thus it may happen that on certain occasions a Knight or even a Queen may be of more value than the Rook. So a Pawn, as it advances towards the opposite side of the board, gradually assumes a higher value than that of the Bishop

I now conclude this section with a very appropriate end game by Adali, an Arab an player of the highest class, who flourished in the first half of the tenth century. It is to be found in folio 4 a of the Asiatic Society's MS., in which Adali plays the Black. This I have altered into White, simply to secure the reader's good humour, as we are now accustomed in our problems to make the winner play with the white men. For the same laudable purpose, I have used, as in Ali's problem given in last chapter, our own chequered board, which, I maintain, the Shatranjis *ought* to have found out to be an improvement

White: K at Q K2 2nd, Q at her R 2nd, Bishops at Q B and Q 3rd, Rooks at K B and Q 6th, Kt at K B 5th; Pawns at Q R 4th, Q 5th, and K 3rd.
Black: K at his sq, Rooks at Q B 2nd and K R 2nd, Kts at K Kt and K 2nd, Bishops at Q Kt 6th and K Kt 5th; Pawns at Q R 4th, Q Kt 3rd, K 4th, K Kt 4th, and K R 5th

White moves, and mates in eight moves.

SOLUTION

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Kt to K4 (ch)	R takes R (a)	5. Kt to Q's 5th sq (ch)	R takes Kt (best)
2. R to Q's 8th (ch)	K takes R	6. R takes R (ch)	K to his Q R's 4th
3. R to K B 8th (ch)	K to his Q's 2nd sq	7. R to Q R 3rd (ch) (b)	K to his Q R's 5th
4. K B to Q Kt 5th (ch) (c)	K to Q's 3rd sq (he must)	8. Q to her Kt's 3rd mate	

(a) I have selected this problem in order to show the play the Bishops, which did not occur to any extent in the problem by Ali Shatranji given in our last chapter. We see in this instance the superiority of the Bishop's check over that delivered either by the Knight or Rook. Q would have been the case in our game. If the Rook takes, then for the Black Kt to move to his Q's 3rd.

(b) Black's White Q 3 visits over his own King and checks the adv King over the adv. Bishop

The foregoing position has every appearance of having occurred in actual play. It will be seen that Adali is numerically inferior in force by two Pawns and a Queen against a Knight, amounting in all to at least three Pawns These, we may safely infer, were given away by the shrewd old master as so many sprats, in order ultimately to secure the whole

In a paper on Chess, by Captain H. Cox, inserted in the "Asiatic Researches" (Vol. VII., 8vo edition, page 404), the writer says "They (the Bishops) move diagonally in advance or retrograde, always two steps in a move, and have what Mr. Irvin calls the motion of a racket-boy, hopping over any piece in their way except the King." Here we see that the exception does not exist, for the Bishop *does* hop over the King

SECTION 2ND.—ON THE GIVING OF ODDS, AND THE DIVISION OF PLAYERS INTO FIVE CLASSES.

The subject of odds is most minutely discussed by the author of the Asiatic Society's MS., of which the following is an abridged translation, viz.

"Having now explained the moves of the pieces, and their exchangeable value, I shall proceed, O reader! to inform you of the different degrees of odds established by the masters of old. A true chess-player ought to play with all sorts of people, and, in order to do so, he must make himself acquainted with his adversary's strength, in order to determine what odds he may give or require. A man who is unacquainted with the rules for giving or demanding odds is not worthy of the name of chess-player. It is only by equalising the combatants that both of them may reap amusement and edification; for what interest could a first-rate player, such as Adali, or Sûlî, or Ali Shatranji, find in playing even with a man to whom they could give the Knight or the Rook?

"The smallest degree of odds, then, is to allow the adversary the first move. The second degree is to give him the Knîl-Pawn, which consists in taking either Knight's Pawn off his own file and placing it on the Rook's third square. The third species of odds is the giving the Rook's Pawn; the fourth, that of the Knight; the fifth, that of the Bishop; the sixth, that of the Queen. The seventh degree of odds is to give the adversary the King's Pawn, which is the first on the board. The eighth species of odds is the King's Bishop. The ninth is the Queen's Bishop. The tenth degree of odds is the Queen. The eleventh, the Queen and a Pawn; or, what is equivalent, a Knight: for, though the Queen and Pawn be slightly inferior to the Knight at the beginning, yet you must take into account the probability of the Pawn becoming a second Queen. The twelfth species of odds is the Knight and Pawn. The thirteenth, the Rook. To give any odds beyond the Rook can apply only to women, children, and tyros. For instance, a man to whom even a first-class player can afford to give the odds of a Rook and Knight has no claim to be ranked among chess-players. In fact, the two Rooks in Chess are like the two hands in the human body, and the two Knights are, as it were, the feet. Now, that man has very little to boast of on the score of manhood and valour who tells you that he has given a sound thrashing to another man who had only one hand and one foot."

There is one point in the preceding gradation of odds which I am unable at present to explain. All the MSS. agree in considering the Queen's Bishop of greater value than that of the King. The author of the Asiatic Society's MS appears to have given the reason, but unfortunately has a giant breaks off suddenly at the end of fol. 25 B.; and the leaf that ought to follow is missing So far as I understand him, it would appear that the Queen and her Bishop (which is necessarily of a different colour) contribute in certain situations to make a drawn game, which game with the King's Bishop would have been lost. It is possible, however, that some explanation on this point may be found hereafter in our Section on Drawn Games. It would appear, also, that the Bishop's Pawn was considered to be slightly superior to that of the Knight: though, according to the author of the Mus. Pers. MS., this point is undecided among the best players

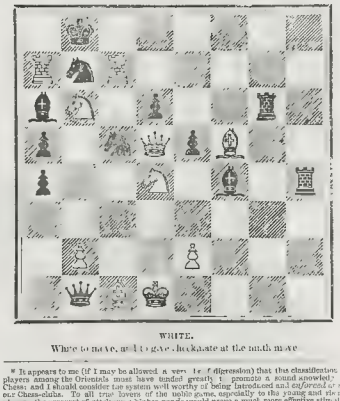
"The Arabs and Persians divided chess-players into five classes, viz.—1st, the 'Ahyat,' or 'Class of Grandees,' of whom seldom three exist at the same time. It is stated in the old Arabic MS. that Adar for some time remained alone of his class, and that the same thing happened to Al-Adli, a more recent Arabian player, and also to Ibn Dandûn and Al-Kuniff, both of Bagdad. The second class consists of such players as are able to win only two or three games out of ten when playing even with one of the Ahyat; the difference between the two classes being reckoned equal, on an average, to a Pawn; that is, a player of the first class could give to the very best of the second class a Rook's Pawn, and to the weakest of the same class the King's Pawn. The third class consists of players to whom one of the Grandees can give the odds of the Queen. The fourth class consists of those to whom one of the highest can give the odds of a Knight. (Here the hiatus occurs in the MS., but we know from other sources that) The fifth class consists of those players to whom one of the class of grandees can give the odds of a Rook.

After due consideration of this section, I cannot help arriving at the conclusion that the Arabs and Persians must have been very fine players. It is only among good players that such a minute and almost, to us, imperceptible gradation of odds could have been established. I may remark at the same time that it was much more difficult in the game of Shatranj to have given the odds of the Knight or of the Rook, than it is in our modern game. The difficulty arose from two distinct causes, easily perceived. In the Shatranj the Knight constituted the eighth part of the whole force; with us it is about only a twelfth part. Again, the Rook in the Shatranj was something between a fifth and a sixth part of the whole numerical strength; whereas in our game it is only about the eighth part. Another great disadvantage attending the giving of the Knight or Rook was that the stronger player had no brilliant opening to resort to as with us. He owed his superiority alone to his strategic skill and powers of combination Hence the number of fine positions occurring in actual play to such men as Ali Shatranji, &c. The mediæval game depended mainly on position. Hence the epithet "mansûba-baz" (position-player) applied by the Persians to a chess-player of the first degree of skill.

The following problem is worthy of due reverence from all true lovers of Chess. In the first place it is in itself a beautiful piece of strategy. In the second place it is one of the oldest on record, being upwards of one thousand years old. Lastly, it is the invention of a crowned Sovereign, Mutasim Billâh, the son of the renowned Harun Rashid of Bagdad. It is from folio 26b of the Asiatic Society's MS., which, as I think I stated before, has no solutions. I have myself solved it, but, instead of inserting the solution with it, I have deposited the same in the hands of the editor, in order to afford the reader an opportunity of solving a mediæval problem

PROBLEM BY THE CALIPH MUTASIM BILLAH, WHO REIGNED AT BAGDAD FROM A.D. 833 TO 842:—

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to move, and to give checkmate at the ninth move.

* It appears to me (if I may be allowed a very trifling digression) that the classification players among the Orientals must have tended greatly to promote a sound knowledge of Chess: and I should consider the system well worthy of being introduced and enforced at all our Chess-clubs. To all true lovers of the noble game, especially to the young and rising players, the great advantage of attaching a higher price to a win would prove a much more effective stimulus for improvement than the recent mode of playing for a shilling: I say "recent" because I believe [illegible] proceeding so degrading to Chess, and which [illegible] the St. George's Club [illegible] indeed many others to follow my example. To [illegible] players, then, I would [illegible] avoid the shilling men as you would the plague, and play [illegible] for honour. Th[illegible] very simple: we shall suppose two players, A and B [illegible] agree to play carefully a match of ten games, [illegible] and move to B. But the latter [illegible] three (drawn games not to count).

TURKS CONVEYING THE SICK TO BALACLAVA.

TURKS CONVEYING SICK TO BALACLAVA.

The Turks have no commissariat, no ambulances, not even an hospital at Balaclava. "It is one of the most heart-rending sights," says our Correspondent, "to see these unfortunate fellows carried on the shoulders of their poor comrades, who have sometimes to pay dear for their sympathy. I have seen many of them breaking down on the road, so tiny in cases where three or four have been required to carry (each for himself) a sick man, when they arrived at Balaclava one or two of the fatigue party were so knocked up that they never got back to the Camp again."

It is hardly possible to fancy a more depressing scene than the one which our Artist has depicted. The desolate landscape, the vestiges of mortality on every side, and the sad task in which the men are engaged, all conspire to exercise a most depressing influence upon the mind. It would be wrong, however, to conclude that the Turks must feel their case to be as hard a one as it seems to an English spectator. Partly owing to their fatalism, partly from a greater bluntness of feeling, as compared with the French and English, they either do not suffer so much as our men do, or they conceal their feelings so well as to appear insensible to suffering. Whatever may be said in disparagement of the Turkish character, no one will deny that they rise far superior to more civilised nations in their powers of endurance. Those philosophers who talk of the doctrine of compensation, may find in this feature of the Turkish character an illustration of their favourite theory.

THE ENTRANCE TO BALACLAVA.

The piles of planks for the soldiers' huts, standing there on the 17th of February—the date of the above Sketch—do not say much for the way in which matters have been managed in Balaclava. Later accounts would lead us to believe that an improvement is gradually taking place. A recent letter from that interesting locality says:—

The harbour of Balaclava is now crammed to the full with vessels that arrive faster than they can be unloaded. We have very evident proof here of the anxiety or the authorities at home to supply every want, and of the solicitude of the public to administer to our luxuries. And there is now an unexpected degree of attention to the means of availing ourselves of the good things sent out to us. The harbour arrangements are better under the superintendence of Admiral Boxer than they have ever been before. He displays a very remarkable degree of activity, and keeps all those who are under him equally on the alert. He has established a little order on the wharves, to which he has added extent by dint of pile-driving and filling up with stones; and he is now engaged in adding to the space for landing by forming a causeway along the base of the cliff, which will render available a new beach, equal to a sixth of the shores of the harbour, which has been hitherto a kind of timber and farm-yard, appropriated by one of the men-of-war.

When these improvements have been completed, and the railway carried up to the Camp, the soldiers will be able to attend to their military duties without distraction. By the end of this month, it is said, that the railway will be finished to that extent, so that we shall be able to send up shells and powder as fast as the gunners can fire.

ENTRANCE TO BALACLAVA.

MOUNTED POLICEMAN FOR THE CRIMEA.—SOLDIERS DRAGGING STORES TO THE CAMP.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

MOUNTED POLICEMAN FOR THE CRIMEA. SOLDIERS DRAGGING STORES TO THE CAMP.

The mounted policeman in the foreground has evidently the advantage of the soldiers in front of him, who are forced to do the work of beasts of burden, owing to the improvidence of those entrusted with the management of the Commissariat department. Now that the weather has improved considerably as regards temperature and dryness, this degrading work will not be quite so harassing as it has been, but it is still far too severe for human beings, and especially for men who have to sustain hard share of camp duty.

We are glad to see that arrangements are making for the complete organisation of a Land Transport Corps, which will be attached exclusively to the Quartermaster-General's department. The train will consist of 7000 drivers, and be officered in a similar manner to the old Waggon Train; viz., the corps will be under the command of a lieutenant-colonel, and divided into ten troops of 100 men each, under the command of a captain and two lieutenants. The Commissariat corps of waggoners, as the name denotes, will be under the orders of the Commissary General commanding, and will also consist of 1000 officers, superintended by an Assistant-Commissary-General, with the local rank of lieutenant-colonel. The corps will be divided into ten troops of 100 men each, officered by a captain, two lieutenants, two inspectors, and a quartermaster. Two troops, or a squadron, will be attached to each division of the army. The drivers of each corps will be armed with a cavalry carbine, a sabre, and revolver; and the uniform is to be a short blue tunic, without lace or ornament, with the exception of the officers, who will wear the epaulettes of their respective ranks. Each troop will, however, be distinguishable by different-coloured facings, as the blue troop, red troop, green troop, &c.

Each driver will have the charge of two horses or mules. 4000 animals will be required for the service. A large portion of the force has already proceeded to the seat of war; and as a sufficiency of men cannot be obtained from the police, recruiting parties have been sent into the agricultural districts to enlist them. A dépôt for instructing recruits is to be formed at Croydon, which was formerly the head-quarters of the Waggon Train.

A SNOW SCENE AT BALACLAVA.

The Commissariat mules and bat horses having broken down or died off, under the heavy work they had to go through upon half rations, the few remaining horses of the Dragoons were employed for a short time to carry, or rather drag, the planks from Balaclava to the Camp; and here we find two of them, as seen by our Artist on the 7th of last month, making the best of their way through the snow. The foremost horse seems to have become rather restive under its very awkward load, as was natural enough, for what beast of spirit would ever submit willingly to so painful and vulgar a task? The soldiers are fortunately well fortified against the inclemency of a Crimean winter. In their fur caps, pilot coats, and rough leggings, they do not bear much resemblance to any regiment in her Majesty's service, but they are well prepared to withstand the rigour of the bitter climate in which they have their work to perform, and that is a point of much more importance. The poor animals employed in dragging the planks along are in a much worse predicament. They have no extra clothing, although quite as susceptible of cold as their masters. No wonder, therefore, that the mortality among the Cavalry horses in the Crimea should have been still greater than that which has taken place among the soldiers.

DRAGOONS CARRYING PLANKS FROM BALACLAVA TO THE CAMP.

LITERATURE

Chronicles of Woolfort's Roost, and other Papers. By Washington Irving. Constable and Co., Edinburgh.

To say that a work is one of Washington Irving's is to recommend it for a very considerable number of readers. We do not regard any one of his many productions as a failure; the majority of them, indeed, in matter and manner, and we have from his pen one or two of surpassing merit—books which will be read with interest in all future time. Washington Irving is, upon the whole, the most charming writer whom the United States till his own day had produced. During the age we have specified there is no other of equal abilities who has established a reputation in both light and serious literature. Some of the rest are novelists and story-tellers only, some historians only, some essayists only, but Washington Irving has succeeded eminently in all these capacities, and is in all of them better known and more admired than any several of the other writers even in those special fields to wh they have confined, and on which they have concentrated, their whole exertions. This claims for him a very noticeable and superior rank, and bespeaks the uncommon gifts for which he was indebted to the partiality of nature, as well as the instinctive industry with which he was careful to cherish and cultivate such endowments. We should, even in a more restricted, more special, more technical sphere, than literature—in the far less noble and less intellectual study, for instance, of human codes, and the arbitrary secrets be immediately struck, if we found a man who exhibited this comprehensive proficiency. We could not, for instance, refuse the proper degree of admiration to him who constantly showed himself the best conductor of a case at the Old Bailey; we should admit his peculiar talents, imagine that we quite understood the nature of them, and respect them in their order; but our appreciation of his qualities in this "place," so far from diminishing, would greatly increase, our wonder, if we were informed that this very individual was also not only one of the best forensic orators in the higher courts, but one of the best chamber counsel at home. We should reconsider our opinion of him, admit that we had not estimated him rightly, and that such a union of powers marked a capacity of a very different class from that which we had assigned to our police-case practitioner.

So in the far more genuine proofs of genius and of mind required by Literature from her votaries. Literature, whose business is not to become adroitly learned in the enactments of men, and whose subject-matter is not casual, artificial, capricious, conflicting the wisdom, in fact, of the folly of human legislators—but real and primordial, every aspect of nature, every form of truth, every element of usefulness and beauty. It is necessary, in short, when we wish to gauge the due rank of any author, to inquire whether he figured in only one line, or succeeded in several. We all know perfectly well that for ordinary people—that is, for the immense majority of mankind—it is a rule of primary importance that they should make some one definite object or subject their exclusive business, if they wish to effect any results. The truth of this has been embodied in a maxim, and the maxim is old. We all know perfectly well, likewise, that the sunshine after too wide a range has been the ruin of a vast number of small intellects, and that absolute universality capacity has been the lot of no human mind. But the scope of the intellectual competency is various, and its limits are more or less restricted in different persons. The most comprehensive author, for example, whom this country, or perhaps any other, can boast of the present day is Bulwer Lytton, if we calculate the number of very dissimilar departments of literature in which he has toiled with honour and success.

In a far more proportion, Washington Irving has vindicated the versatility of his powers, and may stand in close comparison with three or four different kinds of composition with American writers who have respectively made each kind an exclusive occupation.

We have not under our examination at this moment any of his loftier performances. The "Chronicles of Woolfort's Roost" are not, like "The History of Columbus," or "The Conquest of Granada," a work of high purpose and pretension. "Woolfort's Roost," indeed, is by our well-known friend Geoffrey Crayon, Gentleman, to whom most of us feel very much indebted for the pleasantest Sketch-book in our possession. It is leisure-hour reading, yet the leisure hour which we give to such reading is not an hour of idleness. Almost invariably if not, indeed, always without exception—Washington Irving's sketches are based upon facts; we do not mean distinct isolated events of an historical kind (though these are frequently his subjects, and have suggested some of the papers in the present collection), but facts as discriminated from the gratuitous and capricious fabrication of scenes and manners such as never really existed. We say, therefore, that in reading the tales and sketches of this writer we do not waste our time; we learn a good deal, and obtain a lively conception of states of social life which he has either witnessed, or by peculiar and fond study made his own, or perhaps reveals vividly by the light of early-communicated traditions in his childhood. Of the first kind is the chapter called the "Bermuda," in the volume before us; of the second are all his sketches of Southern Spain, and of its ancient moresque or ancient national life; of the third are his views of the Dutch settlers in America and of the Dutch at home, which are, in truth, miniatures, matchless in every little detail. These are but instances. But, besides this scarcely-perceptible but [illegible] and varied fund of available information, derived from that basis of reality on which, as on a fertile site, Washington Irving's lighter works are constructed, there is much to be learnt from his style, which is, no doubt, less than perfect, but marked by great excellences. It is clear and elegant, with occasionally, an astonishing happiness in the expression. It has both humour and pathos, evinces close observation of men and manners—nay, of physical nature—is never affected, can be grand and delicate without bombast, and pleasant, facetious, familiar, without vulgarity. Add to this that he is, so far as his kindly heart can make him, one of the most unprejudiced of writers; he shows neither the rabid animosity with which some American authors have so frequently permitted themselves to speak of the institutions of all countries not Republican, nor the servility with which others have flattered even the worst tyrants; he belongs rather to the noble band of their best writers, and is part of the glory of the United States.

In "Woolfort's Roost" there are about thirty different stories and sketches, some of them positively historical—all instructive, entertaining, and delightful. His sketches of Parisian life are particularly good, and essentially in his own best manner. We could easily enlarge on this [illegible] but Washington Irving is well known, even to the worst-read [illegible], and we have had only to recal—not certainly to introduce or announce—the thousand fascinations of this highly endowed and general author. We could understand how one who never purchased another work not by an English hand, in Constable's Miscellany, should ask for this volume, for, while it is classic in many respects, a child might find pleasure in its perusal.

The Principles of Colouring in Painting. By Charles Martel. Winsor and Newton.

This little book derives its "principles" from the scientific deductions made by M. Chevreul, establishing the physiological laws which govern the phenomena of harmony and contrast of colours. That those laws, and their application to arts and manufactures, have been more tastefully exhibited by the French is well known; and they are doubtless greatly indebted to the teaching of M. Chevreul, while Superintendent of the Dyeing Department of the *Manufacture des Gobelins* at Paris, as well as to the lectures of this eminent chemist at Lyons. His great work—describing his discoveries, and detailing the immense number of careful experiments which established them—has been ably translated by the author of the present manual. But this little book is deserving of special recommendation as an effort to reduce the results of these researches to the comprehension of the young artist or artisan, and place the knowledge of them within his means. That we only want a scientific system, and not the faculty for feeling the fascinations of harmonious colouring, is evident from the unmistakeable superiority of English over French artists as colourists.

Although these principles are not limited to painting, as may be inferred from our remarks, still, their special application to the art by our author will be of great value to the young artist. They will not simply and alone make him a painter; for, of course, to be one requires not only tasteful selection of what is merely imitated, but often the power of *inventing* combinations of colour, and a delicate perception of the relations of different gradations of tint and hue as affected by chiaroscuro, which nothing but what is termed "an eye for colour" will afford. Still, a knowledge of these principles will save him much time, spare him many a useless experiment, and give him an unerring guide for the groundwork and general effect of his picture. In the course of manipulation, also, while looking at individual colours, he will be able to appreciate the influences at work which cause those colours to appear different from what they really are—thus giving him, as it were, constantly a "fresh eye."

The great merit of Chevreul's discoveries is, that they are established with all the harmony and certainty of scientific laws. Hitherto no subject has been treated more vaguely or empirically than that of colouring. We have had pretended applications of Newton's analysis of the spectrum; fanciful analogies between sound and colour (which the Germans have so delighted in making); or else merely a description of *material* colours. In this little book, however, are principles perfectly trustworthy. That they may be recognised and applied in England as they have been already on the Continent and in America, we earnestly hope, and welcome every effort to advance this result.

PHYSIOLOGY AS A BRANCH OF EDUCATION.

At a meeting of the Governors of Heriot's Hospital, Edinburgh, a special committee appointed at last meeting, on the motion of Dr. Lee, "to consider the propriety and practicability of instructing all the pupils connected with the institution in the elements of physiology and the laws of health," gave in the following report.

Treasurer's Chambers, 22nd Feb., 1855.

The committee appointed at last meeting of governors met, and having maturely considered the subject remitted to them, report as follows:

1. They are decidedly and unanimously of opinion that it is most desirable that a knowledge of physiology and the laws of health should be communicated to all the elder scholars, of both sexes, attending the Heriot Schools and also to the elder boys in the Hospital.

2. The committee are satisfied from numerous facts, that, by using proper drawings, illustrations, &c., which are easily accessible, this kind of knowledge can be successfully imparted to even very young persons, and that it seldom fails to prove interesting and attractive to them.

3. Having conversed on the subject with Dr. Bedford, the house governor, the committee find that he warmly sympathises in the proposal laid before the last meeting; and, having paid considerable attention to these subjects, he will hold himself prepared, within a reasonable time, to commence a course of lectures on physiology and the laws of health.

4. As it is important that the teachers in the Heriot Schools should have their attention directed to these important branches of knowledge, the committee have to suggest that two lessons should be delivered by a competent person weekly, till the principal subjects have been gone over. The committee [illegible] they will have little difficulty in arranging the time and place for the [illegible] if the Governors shall instruct them to proceed.

5. The classes to which this first course of lessons shall be addressed, in the opinion of the committee, consist of from sixty to eighty of the more advanced and intelligent pupils, selected by the teachers from the several Heriot Schools—the teachers, or as many of them as may be found convenient, being also present to hear the lessons and examinations.

6. The committee recommend that Dr Hodgson be invited to give the first course of lessons. They believe the gentleman to be well qualified for this duty, from his powers of illustration and simplification, as also from his experience in the same kind of instruction. His course of lessons extends to twenty-five, and they suggest that Dr. H., if employed, should be allowed £25 for his trouble. The apparatus, diagrams, &c., will be necessary; but the committee do not recommend that any considerable sum of money should be expended in procuring these at present; the sum of £10 at most—if the Governors will sanction it—will, they think, be amply sufficient. R. Lee, Convener.

Dr. Lee moved the approval of the report, which was seconded by Dr. [illegible]. After some discussion,

Dr. [illegible] said, he was gratified with the [illegible] which his motion had met with on the whole, and he augured the happiest results both to the children connected with this institution and far beyond its limits, from the experiment about to be made. If it should prove successful, of which he had no doubt. He thought it honourable to the intelligence and candour of the governors of George Heriot's Hospital that they should adopt this motion unanimously, and thus express their desire that so important a proposal should at least have a fair trial. He hoped other—many other—bodies entrusted with the education of youth would feel called upon to follow their example, and not yield to those narrow prejudices which arose either from ignorance or a miserably contracted and mistaken notion of the true sphere and objects of education. There existed, he was delighted to perceive, a wide-spread dissatisfaction with education as now carried on, and a lively sympathy with feasible schemes for enlarging and improving it. He had had most pleasing proofs of this interest in numerous communications he had received, since the last general meeting, from persons in very different stations in society, all expressing high approbation of the plan then proposed, and all sanguine of its success. Even Fellows of the realm did not think it beneath them to join in this sentiment, showing an interest in the improvement of the humbler classes which he could not but think was very graceful and very honourable in them. Several objections had, indeed, been expressed by different Governors, but he might be permitted to say that besides being so inconsistent as mutually to refute each other, they were very trifling, and many of them proceeded on misapprehension. Thus one reverend friend of his had expressed his repugnance to "smatterings in science," and another hon. gentleman (Baillie Brown Douglas) objected that so extensive a course of lessons should be proposed, and was of opinion that six lessons on physiology would be sufficient. Thus, to the first objector twenty-five lessons were only "a smattering," while to the other half-a-dozen lessons "were full and sufficient instruction." He (Dr. Lee) objected to the magistrate's notion, because within that compass the subject could not be treated so as to suit the capacities of young persons; it would be a smattering, the labour would be thrown away. If the subject is to be taught, it must be so taught that it may be comprehended, so that it may interest and may [illegible] the mind. If it be so, it will be understood, and if not understood it will not be remembered. For securing these important objects, the committee proposed so extensive and complete a course of lessons. And he replied to Dr. Hunter's objection that the teaching which would be given would not be a smattering, but within its own range, and for the purposes in view, would be a substantial and sufficient instruction. Another reverend friend (Dr. Clark) had made this objection, that the Governors might as well teach the children agriculture or horsemanship. He (Dr. Lee), however, rather differed with his reverend friend on that point. It was most likely that many of the boys, and it was certain that none of the girls, would become farmers or tillers of the ground; and if they did, they would learn the art in due time. Neither did he conceive it very probable that many of these boys or girls would in after life practise the profession of a horse-[illegible] rise to the dignity of fox-hunter; so that he thought, with submission, that agriculture and horsemanship might be, without absurdity, omitted from their programme of studies. But each of those boys and girls had a body, which must exist in health or disease, and to either of which conditions their own treatment of their bodies would greatly contribute; and, since health was one of the greatest blessings, and sickness one of the greatest calamities, which could befall any one, and to a thinking man even more intolerable than to any other, he thought that every person, however humble, should be shown how to preserve a property which was much to all, but to the poorer classes was more than to others. Another gentleman had feared that this teaching might interfere with the acquisition of other parts of education. He should be sorry if it did; but there was no reason why it should. But even if it did, he (Dr. Lee) was prepared to substitute it was, not to religious knowledge itself, the easy, and was in their own hands. He had always protested against the long hours with which children and youth were oppressed at schools. He was astonished such a system should be submitted to. A child naturally delighted in things; he was interested in objects; and we, reversing the process of nature, [illegible] a child's mind inward upon itself and keeping him to study half-a-dozen languages, as the poor unfortunate, we do make heavier that burden which was already so great. He admitted there was much reason in this objection. But the governors would remember that the remedy was

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 733.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

DIPLOMACY is splitting straws in the Austrian capital; but, in the meantime, the Sword is doing, or has done, more valid work in the Crimea. Captain Pen is, doubtless, a great Commander; but Captain Sword, in the present circumstances of Europe, is the best and safest General. If this great "Edax Protocolorum" will so manage as to defeat the Russians in a pitched battle before Sebastopol, and capture the town immediately, or very soon afterwards, he will save Captain Pen an infinitude of useless trouble, and clear away a whole wilderness of entanglements from the path of Ambassadors and Ministers Plenipotentiary. But as Captain Sword may require the whole summer to work out his plans, and as the diplomatists assembled at Vienna only require about fifteen days to come to a conclusion on one or two very great and essential points, diplomacy will share with war the attention of Europe, and attract to Vienna, for a short time, an interest only second to that which centres around Sebastopol and Balaclava.

If we could suppose that the new Czar would throw himself upon the mercy of Europe, and endeavour to make peace, as John Bright or Joseph Sturge would make it—*à tout prix*—even at the price of national honour—we might not unreasonably expect that the temporary pacification of the world would flow from the exertions of the diplomatists of Vienna; and that we should forthwith enter upon the enjoyment of halcyon days. But, as we cannot suppose anything of the kind—for we have no right to imagine that Alexander II. is such a madman as to inaugurate his reign by an unconditional surrender, which would degrade both him and the nation in the eyes of his subjects, and probably lead to the loss of his crown and his life—we have only to inquire whether the terms to which he may be willing to accede will be such as to satisfy not only Turkey—the party mainly interested—but England, France, and Austria. He has already yielded the famous Four Points, and the general interpretation put upon them by the Allies; but there remain two grand points flowing out of one of them—the limitation of Russian power in the Black Sea, and the existence of Sebastopol as a military and naval position. The Czar cannot, we think, yield on these two points, unless upon compulsion. If the Allies should be idiotic enough to forego them, we shall have peace—peace which will hugely please the Quakers and some of the ex-members of the *ci-devant* Anti Corn-Law League, and which will last as long as it shall suit the purposes of Russia to keep it, but not a moment longer. Such a peace will be at the mercy of other Powers than Russia to undermine; for if, by any unfortunate mischance, the alliance between Great Britain and France should be weakened in years to come, or, worse still, converted into hostility, the Czar, whosoever he might happen to be, would seize his opportunity, emboldened to dare and do by the too easy terms on which he had been permitted to escape the penalty of his last transgression. A peace on the basis of the Four Points alone, without the destruction of Sebastopol, and the limitation of Russian power in the Black Sea, might last three years, or ten years, or even twenty years; but inevitably a war with Russia, on the old pretext or provocation, would sooner or later ensue. Thus, the work, neglected or postponed at the present time, would have to be done over again, at greater cost and with augmented misery.

No doubt a peace for twenty years would be, *per se*, a very good thing; and to attain it, the Potentates of Europe might well make a large sacrifice of personal feeling. But it is far from certain that a patched-up peace would last for so long a period as twenty, or even for three years. And for a peace dependent upon the caprice of a powerful foe, exasperated by previous humiliations, it would be in the highest degree impolitic and unwise to sheathe the sword. Even if peace should last for a whole generation, we should remember that in the existence of states and empires thirty or forty years are of small account, and that the men of 1855 are paying the heavy penalty of war because their grandfathers in 1787 were too short-sighted to prevent the Czarina Catherine from perpetrating a great wrong against Europe. That wrong, by being unpunished, led to many others—each more mischievous than its predecessor. The work of resistance, which might at first have been easy, be

RUSSIAN PRISONERS AT PLYMOUTH.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

came more difficult by the lapse of time—like a fire, which, at the right moment, may be extinguished by a bucketfull of water, but which ten minutes later may defy all the engines of a great city to subdue it.

Thus, although the Czar may have acceded to the Four Points, it is the duty of the Allies, while accepting those terms as the basis of pacification, to insist upon additional securities—upon tangible "material guarantees" in the shape of money or provinces, that he will not again force the nations to take up arms against him. Austria may possibly refuse to be a party to any further demands, although circumstances favour the supposition that she will support the Allies with fidelity and honour in all that they require; but, whatever may be her policy, France and England, as well as Turkey, having been put to great expense, will neglect their obvious duty, and will betray the interests of their people, if they do not insist not only upon indemnification for the past, but ample security for the future. If the negotiations should break off upon this point, and no other, it may be taken as a proof that Russian diplomacy is not to be trusted—that the conferences at Vienna are a "sham," as far as the Czar is concerned in them, and that any peace concluded at the present time would prove to be alike unstable and pusillanimous.

For the reason that we detest war so earnestly and so thoroughly, that we would have a peace which should defy the Emperors of Russia or any other Potentate to break it, we trust that Alexander II. will persist in the policy of his race, and that Sword, and not Pen, will settle the question. There was a time when Pen might have been competent to the task, but it has long since passed, and Sword has become the only valid, safe, and reasonable arbiter. After the fall of Sebastopol the work of diplomacy will be simplified, and the reconstruction of the map of Europe will be the task to be accomplished. While Russia is undefeated that question seems too large for the courage and wisdom of diplomacy. But the progress of the war would open the eyes of statesmen to its urgency, and they would see, like many humbler, but better informed and bolder men, that the map of Europe, with which they so much fear to meddle, is in a state so highly unsatisfactory and perilous as to demand revision in the interest of humanity and of civilisation. The reconstitution of Poland as an independent kingdom or republic, the guardianship of the Danube by Austria, and the restoration of Finland and the Crimea to their ancient owners—these are but some of the changes in the map which the circumstances of Europe seem imperatively to call for. France and England can lend their hands to the work in a pure and disinterested spirit. They seek no territory for themselves, and have no desire but for the establishment of truth and justice. If any changes become necessary, in addition to the few which we have thus briefly indicated, it will be the King of Prussia that will bear the blame and the penalty.

THE RUSSIAN PRISONERS AT PLYMOUTH.

A cluster of buildings, situated on the shores of Millbay, Plymouth, first used as a prison during the last French war, and subsequently converted into barracks for Royal Marines and Militia, was, at the close of last autumn, redevoted to its original use; and, in the month of October, was prepared for the reception of several hundreds of prisoners of war, taken at the capture of Bomarsund. Soon after their arrival, Lieutenant H. T. Veitch, R.N., the Governor, effected a classification of them, which at present remains in full force. The establishment is divided by a range of offices into two extensive areas, an upper and a lower: a circumstance that much facilitates the arrangements for a separation of the natives of Russia Proper from those of her great European dependency of Poland—the former occupying what is called the "higher," and the latter the "lower" prison. The lower edifice is substantially built, three stories in height, and is capable of accommodating many more than its present number of occupants. In one of the wards of the night wards are located fifty-one Polish Jews, whose service in the battalions of the Czar, it may easily be imagined, was completely compulsory; and therefore their situation here, as compared with that they held when numbered in the ranks of the Muscovite army needs but little to be commiserated. A small platform, roughly erected, stands on one side against the wall, and is used by the Jews when at their devotions, in which they are occasionally assisted by a Rabbi. Several other of the wards in this wing are tenanted by 150 Polish Christians, the great majority of them being Roman Catholics, and five Fins, who were captured in one of the Russian traders by H M S. *Rosamond*.

The larger of the two prisons is at the head of this open space, and is divided, like the other into two wings, occupied by 500 Russians, including some members of Cossack regiments. Their habiliments are very slightly varied—most of them appearing in great grey coats, baggy trousers, and boots that reach nearly to the knees; a few keep themselves warm with coats made of undressed sheepskin. Such clothing, however, is hardly necessary here; for the wards are well heated with stoves. The prisons are far from crowded. The easternmost ward in the series is set apart for the religious services of the soldiers who are of the persuasion of the Greek Church.

Of the general behaviour of the prisoners there seems to be but little reason to complain. They are apparently as resigned to their fate as men under circumstances of confinement can be expected to be. No unnecessary constraint is imposed upon them; as much liberty of action being afforded them as is consistent with a due maintenance of discipline. The chief object is to keep their minds occupied; and those of them who are inclined to be industrious have facilities afforded them by the Governor; through whose kindness a workshop has been provided, where puzzles, boots, and other things are manufactured, and at times from fifty to one hundred men may be seen at work in this apartment. When the weather is fine the prisoners are allowed, at the discretion of the Governor, to go into the town and country for exercise; on such occasions they are invariably under the charge of a military escort. In the Sketch upon the preceding page, a body of them is represented proceeding through the Octagon, Union-road, Plymouth, on their return from a "general airing." In the Illustration are also shown portions of the north-east and north-west wings of the prison.

The number of individuals to be daily provided for in the establishment is 746 men, women, and children. The dietary is good and sufficient: tea in the morning and evening, and meat and soup at mid-day, are served out in messes.

Strength of the Army in the Crimea.—On the 7th of February the total number of *effective* non-commissioned officers and men was 26,868, and the sick in Camp and elsewhere numbered 13,943. On the 23rd of February the number of effectives was 26,193, and the sick 18,185. In both instances this was exclusive of officers and of the Ambulance and Mounted Staff Corps. On the 27th of February the strength of the British army (non-commissioned officers and men), inclusive of Marines, Ambulance and Mounted Staff Corps, was 27,067. The actual number of sick was on that day 17,633, of whom 5509 were in Camp, and 12,324 at Scutari, or otherwise absent. The number of horses of the Cavalry and Artillery was, on the 7th, 1974; on the 23rd, 1803; and on the 27th, 1617.

Cossacks and Tartars. The Cossacks are armed with a short carbine slung behind the back, a pair of pistols attached to their girdle, and a black lance, about eleven feet in length, tipped with iron well sharpened. This weapon is heavy, and difficult to balance; so that when the Cossack is on the gallop, making a foray among the Tartar herds, he places his lance across his saddle so as to ease the weight till he gets close to the object he is about to attack. The lance is a fearful weapon to the poor Tartar herdsmen, endeavouring to save their charge, and the Cossacks pitilessly run them through; but it is not dangerous to hold and skilful horsemen like ours, who easily parry the thrust and cut the lance through with one blow of the sabre, for the wood of the shaft is very slender.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

Paris, Thursday.

Last week took place, at the Greek Chapel in the Rue de Berry, a funeral ceremony, commemorative of the death of the Emperor Nicholas. The altar was covered with a cloth of black velvet, bordered with silver, and two masses—the one in Latin, the other in Russian—were performed. The honours of the occasion were done by Madame de Sabach, wife of the Saxon Minister, and daughter of M. de Nesselrode. The Princesse Mathilde, who is related to the family of the Czar by her mother, was present at the ceremony, and the Prince Napoleon was represented by one of his Aides-de-Camp. No funeral discourse was pronounced.

It appears that the Government, taking into consideration the enormous value of the collection of objects to be exposed at the Great Exhibition—a collection which it values at ten millions of francs a valuation likely to be increased, should reason be found to do so—has contracted an insurance for this sum. It has, besides, assured the Palace itself, with the buildings and accessories, for twelve thousand francs, guaranteed by different companies, and the Pavillon des Beaux Arts, in the Avenue Montaigne, for a million of francs (£40,000). It is said that in this addition—built in consequence of the want of space in the Exhibition itself for the reception of works of art no less than 13,000 pictures by French artists alone, are to be exhibited. Report gives to M. Ingres twenty-five specimens; to Horace Vernet, forty; and to Théodore Gudin, a hundred and fifty! all the artists being permitted to send, not only their later productions, but any they have already exhibited elsewhere. Without wishing to cavil at the arrangements of the Committee, we really think that it would be, not only more just to all, but more in the interest of art and artists themselves in France, to limit the pictures accepted to a certain number, and those not previously shown elsewhere. How is it possible to form any judgment on individual merit where the eye of the visitor will be overwhelmed by the thousands and thousands of canvases, subjects, and colours that will thus, all at once, present themselves?

There is a report that the Minister of State proposes to prevent the departure of Mdlle. Rachel until after the season of the Exhibition, in order not to deprive the visitors of the satisfaction of beholding the great tragedian.

A trial, the announcement of which has excited much attention, has just been concluded. It is that of M. de Jouvencel, nephew of the late *représentant*, and Madame de Jarsy, for the distribution of seditious writings. The former has been condemned to three years of imprisonment, *par contumace*, being abroad; the latter, a young and highly-distinguished-looking woman—whose appearance on the bench excited no small degree of attention—to six months of the same punishment.

M Clésinger, the celebrated sculptor, son-in-law of Madame George Sand, is employed on the pedestal of his statue of François I, which is to be placed in the Court of the Louvre. This statue has been ordered by the Emperor himself, who has, moreover, given the artist the subjects of the four bas-reliefs which are to decorate the pedestal; and on one of his first visits to the *atelier*, left with M. Clésinger the sum of 10,000 francs, to defray the first expenses of the work.

The last few weeks have been unusually rich in the production of new works of interest. Among these is "Histoire des Livres Populaires and de la Littérature du Colportage," from the fifteenth century up to the period of the establishment of the commission for the examination of books of the latter description, by M. Charles Nisard, Under-Secretary of the Commission. The work, in two thick volumes, illustrated with the coarse woodcuts of the books cited, forms a most singular and interesting collection, and exposes, in a striking manner, the nature of the literature that for so many succeeding ages formed the only intellectual food of the inhabitants of the country—a nature which, for the most part, is so composed of coarseness, immorality, triviality, and bad taste, that it is painful to reflect on the state of mind and morals that has been at once the cause and effect of the production of such books. Besides this, have appeared, a new edition of the complete works of Heinrich Heine, the Franco-German poet; the first volume of the "Memoirs of M. Dupin," the celebrated Jurisconsult; the second of the "Mélanges," of M. Villemain, the Academician; the "Légendes Fleuries," of the Marquis du Bellay; "Le Châtiment;" a most striking novel, founded on the manners of the day, by M. Adolphe Bélot; "Les Récits d'Heir et d'Aujourd'hui," by M. de Valbézen; "Les Mélanges Historiques and Littéraires," of M. Prosper Mérimée, who adds to the first quality of being a man of remarkable talent and distinction, the honours of Senator and Academician; and two or three other works of minor interest.

M. Duprez has completed, but not yet published, a new opera on a Scriptural subject, entitled "Samson." It is said to be a very remarkable production.

On Sunday took place at the Salle St. Cecile a concert for the benefit of the labourers out of work. At this concert sung M. Darius, who was one of the singers of the Chapelle Musique of Louis X.V.; and who, after a series of brilliant successes in his art, as composer and performer, retired, and now, after a repose of thirty-two years, reappears on this occasion at the age of 102.

One of the principal theatrical successes of the day is "La Joie de la Maison," at the Vaudeville. On Tuesday evening their Majesties honoured the theatre with a visit, and were highly gratified by the performance; which, from its own merits, and the admirable acting of Félix and the pretty *spirituelle* little Mdlle. Luther, went off admirably. At the Français, "Les Jeunes Gens," by M. Léon Says, has been well received.

THE WAR IN ASIA.

Recent accounts from the Caucasus and Georgia show that the Russians are preparing to commence the campaign. General Muraviéff, the new Commander of the Transcaucasian army, has just completed a tour of inspection, in which he has visited all the stations of troops. His plans of attack, and the number of troops to be placed at his disposal, were fixed, under the sanction of the Emperor Nicholas, before he left St. Petersburg. Important reinforcements had reached the General since his arrival in Georgia; these were two complete divisions of infantry, numbering nominally 14,000 men each, and accompanied by their artillery, and four regiments of light cavalry. General Baratinski has undertaken to the Emperor to hold Schamyl and his forces in check. The *Invalide Russe* gives the following report of a collision between the Turks and Russians:—

In consequence of their defeat on the 16th of June, 1854, on the Tcholok, the Turks had been compelled to remain on the defensive along the frontiers of the Gourel; and, in order to cover their territory, they had formed, near the villages of Leghoy and Okhtchanouey, two intrenched camps, each of which they had occupied with advanced detachments, to the number of 2000 men. In the night between the 30th and 31st of January, the chief of the Gourel Militia, Second Captain Prince Gouriel, who was on this frontier, attacked the Turkish camps with considerable success. Crossing the frontier near the bridge of Tcholok, he advanced rapidly, and vigorously charged the Turks, who had advanced to meet him. Notwithstanding his numerical superiority, the enemy was overthrown. The militiaman followed close upon his heels, and entered the entrenched camp, which, after expelling the Turks, they destroyed.

In the meantime, the Turkish troops occupying the camp of Okhtchanouey proceeded in all haste to succour Leghoy; but they met in the way a sotnia of the Gourel Militia detachment belonging to the flag of David Djokéli, and, after a protracted firing of musketry, were put to flight.

As soon as the first shots were fired at Leghoy, the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages of Gouriel, led on by the College Assessor, Matchavariani, Chief of Ocourghéti, and Prince Tavdghéridzé, Chief of the Gouriel Canton, came up to take part in the action. Their ready zeal proves the spirit that pervades the inhabitants of the frontiers. The Turks sustained a heavy loss in this affair. On our side we had four men killed and 39 wounded.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The announcement that the whole of the batteries which surround Sebastopol, would reopen their fire about a fortnight ago, has not been fulfilled, as the telegraphic report from the Russian commander, dated March 12, states that no change had taken place. The letters received by the last mail, however, which come down to the 6th inst., leave little doubt as to the probability of an early assault taking place. At that date the weather was fine, the thermometer having been, on an average, 45 deg for several days, and everything seemed highly favourable in the English Camp. Fresh provisions were becoming abundant, and supplies of vegetables were to be had for the sick and scurvy-stricken. The siege works were in a state of completion, and said to have been admirably made. Those on which our troops were then engaged proceed uninterruptedly. A great number of mules and ponies, with a staff of drivers, from all parts of the world, had been collected together, which lightened the toils of the troops and of the Commissariat Department. The mortality among the horses had ceased; and though the oxen and sheep sent to the camps might not find much favour in Smithfield, they were very grateful to those who have had to feed so long on salt junk alone. The sick were nearly all hutted; and even some of the men in those camps which are nearest to Balaclava had been provided with similar comforts and accommodation. Everywhere the reviving influences of the spring, and of a more vigorous and energetic system of management are visible. The policeman walks abroad in the streets of Balaclava. Colonel Harding, the new Commandant, is said to have exhibited great ability in the improvement of the town; and he has means placed at his disposal which his predecessors could not obtain. Lord Raglan is described as being about the camps every day; and Generals Estcourt and Airey are equally active. They all visit Balaclava, inspect the lines, ride along the works, and, by their presence and directions, infuse an amount of energy which will go far to make up for lost time, if not for lost lives.

The railway was extending its lines by night and by day. A little naval arsenal has grown up at the north side of the harbour, with sheers, landing-wharf, and store-houses, and a branch line was to be made from the spot to the trunk to the Camp. In a fortnight more it was hoped the first engine, which was lying all ready for work, with the driver, and all the apparatus for pulling up the trucks beside it, at its allotted station, was expected to be in operation.

The Electric Telegraph has now been established between head-quarters and Kadikoi, and the line will be speedily carried on to Balaclava. The telegraph is worked by four privates of the corps of Sappers and Miners, who have learned the principles on which it is constructed since they went out to the Crimea. The French have had a telegraphic communication by Semaphore established between the camps and naval stations for some time back. The Camp of the Allies is thus being rapidly concentrated, by these means of communicating with each of its parts with rapidity.

A council of war, attended by General Canrobert and General Bosquet, was held at Lord Raglan's head-quarters on the 4th. Nothing certain is known as to what the decision was, but the general belief in the Camp was that it had been resolved to commence active operations. The French were said to be rather uneasy at their position near Inkerman. The Russians were throwing up a new battery on the heights, but the distance was so great that no alarm was created. There was a report that General Pelessier had advanced against the heights occupied by the Russians to the rear of Balaclava, but no particulars were known. On the 6th, one of our batteries, which commands the bottom of the Sebastopol harbour, had compelled a Russian steamer to quit its position in great haste.

The English steam-transport *Imperador*, which had been sent from Malta to take on board 120 of the most robust and best-trained gunners of the garrison of Corfu, arrived there on the 4th, and left on the same day for Balaclava. She had on board, besides the men embarked at Corfu, about 260 artillerymen from the arsenal of Malta.

The following despatch from Lord Raglan appears in a Supplement to the *London Gazette* of Tuesday:

Before Sebastopol, March 8, 1855

My Lord, The enemy continued to manifest great activity in preparing the work which I mentioned to your Lordship in my despatch No 137, and are now bringing up platform timber and guns for the equipment and armament of it.

Vast convoys are daily observed arriving on the north side of the town; and I learn, from information entitled to credit, that the road leading from Simpheropol is covered with waggons laden with provisions and munitions of war.

This morning three British guns, placed in a battery overhanging the Tchernaya, opened upon two small steamers anchored at the head of the harbour, and, after a fire of about an hour, obliged them to take refuge behind a point. One of them appeared to have sustained considerable damage, and is supposed to have been deserted by her crew.

The weather was fine yesterday, and is particularly so to-day, and the country is becoming quite dry.

I have reason to hope that the sick are derriving material benefit from this change.

I have established a convalescent hospital on the heights immediately above Balaclava, near a fine spring of water.

The Inspector-General of Hospitals entertains great expectations of the advantages that will result from placing the huts in so healthy a locality.

Lieutenant-General Pennefather has resumed the command of the Second Division, and is, I am happy to be able to report, looking remarkably well.

I inclose the return of the casualties to the 4th instant. I have, &c.,

The Lord Panmure, &c., &c. RAGLAN

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED FROM 3RD TO 4TH MARCH, 1855, INCLUSIVE

KILLED.

21st Foot: Private Patrick Hanlan.

WOUNDED.

4th Foot: Private Joseph Young, slightly.
23d: Private William Ingles, slightly.
41st: Sergeant Patrick Shirley, severely.
47th: Private Matthew Kennedy, severely.
97th: Private Thomas Kelly, severely.
88th: Private Nolan Martin, slightly.

J. B. BURNAM, Escourt, Adj.-General

CONTINUED ISOLATION OF PRUSSIA.

Advices from Paris and Berlin show that the Prussian Cabinet remains in its former undecided relations to the Western Courts, avoiding equally a breach and an alliance with France and England. A despatch of M. Manteuffel has appeared, the object of which is to remove the character of a demonstration against France from the recent proceedings of the Prussian Plenipotentiary at the Frankfort Diet. The Prussian Minister maintains that the resolution adopted by the Diet on the 8th ult., requiring the Germanic States to prepare their armies for war, was not intended as a demonstration against Russia. He declares that Prussia has no intention of turning against France; and contends that Austria has no right to criticise the motives of the resolution of the Diet relative to putting things on a war footing.

The King of Prussia arrived at Dresden on the 16th, as the guest of the King of Saxony, and was expected to remain until the 20th instant. The policy of the two Kings is at this time evident—both acting for Russian interests, in return for the patronage of the Czar.

EUPATORIA.—THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

Positive orders have been received by the Russian Generals to take Eupatoria at all hazards. A letter in the *Indépendance Belge* (a journal generally well informed) states that, for the purposes of the siege of Eupatoria, large masses of men are to be marched down from Perekop and Bagtchesaraï. On their side, the Turks are neglecting nothing which can put their fortifications in the best possible state of defence. English, French, and Turkish vessels are posted on either side of the town, in order to protect the flank. The cavalry is the only arm of the service in which the Turks are deficient. They have taken advices the land and sea forces at Eupatoria amounted to about 50,000 men; and it was considered that their destination was not only to defend that place, but to execute in the spring the plan of Marshal St. Arnaud, and to operate against the fortifications of the north of Sebastopol, whilst the Allies would attack the south.

Speaking of the condition of the Russian armies in the Crimea, the *Militärische Zeitung* says that Bagtcheserai now resembles an enormous hazarette. Thousands upon thousands of sick and wounded soldiers are quartered in the town. The grand highway from Perekop to Bagtcheserai is covered with ammunition waggons on their way to Sebastopol. The number of Russian troops in the Peninsula is calculated at 170,000 men.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

The second Conference began at one o'clock on Saturday last, but the second of the four bases of peace was not brought forward, although the sitting lasted full three hours. A protocol, containing an account of what had occurred on the 15th, had been drawn up by Baron von Meysenbug, the Secretary to the Conference, and it is supposed the nine Plenipotentiaries were occupied during the whole sitting of the 17th in revising

it. It is said that the political situation of the Principalities was touched on in a general way; but there is no reason to believe that any details will be entered into until all the Four Points, with the interpretation given to them by the Allies on the 28th of December, have been formally accepted by Russia. The Vienna papers are silent as the grave on the subject of the Conference; and the Vienna politicians are so entirely ignorant of what is passing that they are literally necessitated to follow their example. The prevailing rumour set afloat by the Russian party was, that a pacific feeling prevails in the British Cabinet, but that France positively refuses to make certain concessions, which are counselled by Austria.

A letter from Vienna, in the *Journal de Francfort*, sums up the almost inevitable probabilities of the present political situation in these words:—"No treaty between Prussia and the Western Powers; no pacific result from the Vienna Conferences."

AMERICA

The steam ship *Baltic*, which left New York on the 7th inst., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday. The advices received by her are unsatisfactory, since they announce the defeat in the Senate of the bill for a general reduction of ship per cent on the duties of foreign goods. From the manner in which the measure, in the first instance, was passed by the House of Representatives, and the feeling with which it was received by the country, there is reason to believe, however, that the question cannot be long delayed, and that the victory of the Protectionists will be followed, as was the case in England with the Corn laws, by their being ultimatly forced to submit to a broader scheme than that which they have now rejected. The session of Congress had terminated. Among its measures connected with finance and commerce has been one appropriating £1,550,000 for persons having claims on the revenues of Texas previous to the annexation of that State; one for the better management of passenger-ships; one for granting a line of way 200 feet in width to a private company for a telegraph from the Mississippi to the Pacific, which will enable a perfect communication to be established between New York and California; and one for altering the rates of postage, which in future are to be 3c (1½d.) under 3000 miles, and 6c (2½d.) for any distance beyond. The bill for continuing the subsidy to the Collins' steamers had likewise passed with some modifications.

The *New York Times* publishes the correspondence at the recent Ostend secret conference of American Ministers Plenipotentiary in Europe. It has exclusive reference to the acquisition of the Island of Cuba. The question is considered in all its bearings: the price suggested—the splendour of the acquisition to the United States treated of—the uses to be made of the money by Spain enlarged upon—the early necessity for disposing of the island, and the importance of arresting agitation referred to; and, finally, the forcible means by which the glittering prize is to become American, if a sale be refused by Spain, boldly avowed.

By an arrival at New Orleans we have later news from the Rio Grande. There were Filibuster enterprises against Mexico, and it was reported that parties at Brownsville and Monterey had raised a large sum of money to fit out an expedition under the command of Caravajal.

Later advices from Honduras mention the prevalence of rumours of Filibuster expeditions from the United States for the invasion of the Mosquito country, and of the design of General Carrera to subdue and annex the state of Honduras to Guatemala.

Another demonstration on Greytown was also apprehended. The report had created an unusual excitement among the Hondurans.

The Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald* states that the President had received a friendly autograph letter from the late Emperor of Russia, communicating intelligence received from his secret agents of an organisation against the United States by England and France. At the municipal elections the "Know-Nothings" had been the most successful.

INDIA AND CHINA

The Overland Mail has arrived with dates from Calcutta, Feb. 10; Bombay, Feb. 17; Canton, Jan. 21; Hong-Kong, Jan. 22; Shanghai, Jan. 16.

Perfect tranquillity reigns throughout India, and there is every prospect of its long continuing to do so. Some time since it was stated that Tagshund, in the Bokan, had been occupied by the Russians; whereas we are now assured that Tagshund has not been occupied by them, and that no Russians are within two hundred miles of the place. A force has certainly arrived within some days' march of Khiva, but no Russian agent has been within reach of that town. The Shah of Persia is unremitting in his endeavours to effect an alliance with Dost Mahomed. The latter some time since sent one of his courtiers on a secret political mission to Persia: he lately returned to Cabul with costly presents from the Shah to the Dost, and a gracious and flattering letter, in which, among other things, the Ameer promises to restore all the territory wrested from Cabul by Persia.

Our negotiation with Dost Mahomed progresses favourably. The Governor-General did not think fit to send his reply to Cabul by any European officer, but entrusted it to a native of Afghanistan who had performed distinguished services for us under Major Edwardes. He was received with the utmost distinction by the Ameer, and conducted to the Durbar, where the letter excited the most lively satisfaction. Dost Mahomed is anxious to form an alliance offensive and defensive with us, and thus to obtain the benefit of our influence and prestige against the machinations of Russia and Persia. He has exhibited the highest confidence in us, by deputing the son whom he has selected for his successor to Peshawur to negotiate the treaty. He asks that we shall respond to this expression of good feeling by directing the Chief Commissioner, Mr. John Lawrence, the first authority in the Punjaub, to take charge of the negotiations which have hitherto been conducted through the agency of Major Edwardes. The Governor-General has cheerfully complied with this request, and Mr. Lawrence will immediately repair to Peshawur.

The latest advices from Burmah are to the 23rd ult. Orders have been issued by the Commissioner for two vessels to be in readiness in June next to proceed to Ava, whither the Ambassadors have already gone. They were so hard pressed for money at Rangoon, previous to their return to Ava, that one of them was necessitated to sell a handsome gold watch, presented to him by the Governor-General, for 130 rupees—about a fourth of its value. The Oude territories continue to be distracted by internal feuds. The state of affairs all over this country is grave and menacing. Several engagements have taken place, in one of which the enemy lost 60 killed, and the Government troops only 12. At the capital Colonel Outram was winning golden opinions—the King and people both feeling satisfied with, and reposing confidence in, the Resident's sound and impartial judgment.

The principal item of Chinese intelligence has been received from Shanghai, whence we have advices to the 16th Jan.

The French force stormed the city on the 6th Jan., but were compelled to retire, with the severe loss of two officers and thirteen men killed, and four officers and thirty-three men wounded. The officers killed were Lieutenant Durrun, of the frigate *Jeanne d'Arc*, and Ensign Petit, of the steamer *Colbert*. On the morning of the 6th a breach was effected by a party of 200 men landed within the French wall, the *Jeanne d'Arc* and the *Colbert* cannonading the city at the same time. Two divisions at once succeeded in mounting the breach without accident, but on the wall they were exposed to a severe fire from the houses, which caused the heavy loss. A party pushed on to gain possession of the north gate, upon which they placed the French flag; but subsequently great confusion ensued from a body of Imperialists entering the breach and attempting to scale the walls. The French party had to retire, and regained the breach, when a recall was sounded. Nothing has since been done, although it was expected that Admiral Guerre would not give up his intentions against the place in consequence of this disaster. The English and American forces took no part, considering that it would interfere with the neutrality that was agreed to.

At Canton the passive state of the rebels had temporarily restored confidence to the inhabitants; and this, coupled with some slight success in the neighbourhood of Fatshan, had made the authorities more active. The river and its approaches were still strictly guarded by the insurgents, and it was only by aid of foreign steamers that native vessels could carry on any communication with the city.

A Consular notification had been issued at Canton, stating that all boats laden with British property would be respected, and that the least interference with them would be treated by the naval officers as an act of piracy. The Bogue Forts were said to be in possession of the rebels, and this would afford facilities for a severer blockade than existed.

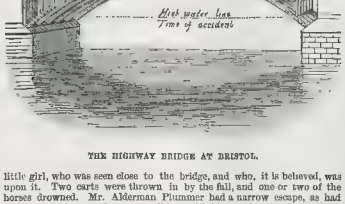
At Foo-chow the ground question was still creating much trouble, and there was great unwillingness on the part of the Chinese authorities to arrange it.

Her Majesty's brig *Bittern* had returned to Amoy, after succeeding in taking two of a large fleet of piratical junks—the others escaping in a fog. Six of the *Bittern's* men were wounded.

A newspaper in Chinese and English was started at San Francisco on the 1st of January last. It is called the *Oriental*; or, *Tung-Nyan-Sam-Luk*. It is published under the auspices of an English Missionary Society, for the purpose of converting the Chinese in California to Christianity. The Chinese editor is one Lee-Kan, converted to our faith at Hong-Kong.

TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE AT BRISTOL.—TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF AN IRON BRIDGE.

On Tuesday morning at about ten o'clock, the inhabitants of Bristol were electrified by the startling intelligence that the great Iron Bridge leading from Bath-parade to the London road, had been completely carried away through a collision with a steam boat, and that a number of persons had been precipitated into the river and drowned. The intelligence spread like wildfire throughout the city, and within half an hour of the occurrence of the accident there could not have been less than 10,000 persons attracted to the spot. At the time when the tidal river of Bristol was converted into a floating harbour, a new course for the Avon was cut from the Hotwells, and this course directly crossing the high road to London and Exeter and the west of England, two bridges had to be constructed sufficiently capacious for the traffic. The one in question, which was called Hillsbridge, connects the city at a point near the termini of the Great Western, Midland, and Bristol and Exeter Railways with the main roads to London and Wells. It was a cast-iron bridge, made by the Coalbrook Dale Iron Works Company; was of 140 feet span, and comprised a single arch, with six cast-iron ribs, crossed by iron girders, tied and pinned, and supported by cast-iron stanchions. It occupied in its erection from 1805 to 1809; and it is worthy of notice that, in 1809, owing to some defects in the stone-work upon which it rested, it fell, and either killed or severely injured thirty-two persons. The present accident happened as follows:—A screw-propeller, called the *John*, having an engine of six-horse power, had delivered her cargo of 180 tons of coke, and was descending the river on her return voyage, when she came in contact with the iron framework of the bridge, which rests on side piers. The force of the collision was so great that, notwithstanding the power of a very strong ebb tide, the steamer rebounded eight or ten feet, and the bridge immediately fell with a tremendous crash, carrying with it everything that happened to be upon it at the time of the occurrence. Of the extent to which life was sacrificed it is impossible as yet to speak with accuracy. Three or four persons swam to the banks, and were got out alive; but it is said that a woman with a child in her arms, and two ladies, who were seen struggling in the water, are missing, as also a



THE HIGHWAY BRIDGE AT BRISTOL.

little girl, who was seen close to the bridge, and who, it is believed, was upon it. Two carts were thrown in by the fall, and one or two of the horses drowned. Mr. Alderman Plummer had a narrow escape, as had also two gentlemen who were walking with him, and a gentleman in a horse and gig, who was within a yard of the bridge at the time of its fall. The fact of some hats having been seen floating down with the ebb tide induces fears that more persons than are known of must have fallen victims to the accident; and it is thought probable that some bodies will be found among the heavy *débris* of the ironwork. The steam barge was very much injured at the bows, and floated down the river to the second iron bridge, leading to Bedminster, where she ran with great force towards the pier on the Bristol shore, but happily grounded on a shelving rock.

REMAINS OF THE HIGHWAY BRIDGE AT BRISTOL, AFTER THE CATASTROPHE.

THE CONFERENCE AT VIENNA.

To the information which we have been able to afford to the public on the subject of the Congress at Vienna, we have to-day but to add, that a second protocol—the record of the proceedings of last Saturday—has received the signatures of the Plenipotentiaries. The discussion of the Four Points will be proceeded with, as we have stated, *seriatim*; but before they are entered upon, there are, we believe, several necessary preliminaries to be yet agreed upon. It is obvious, for instance, that it is requisite for the Plenipotentiaries to decide whether their deliberations on one point shall be finally concluded before they approach another; or whether, having come to a general decision on one point, they shall pass on to another without arranging, for the present, every detail. In the latter case, it is evident that, in perhaps some ten days, the whole Four Points could be discussed and determinations taken; but, in the former, it may readily be imagined that each point would take a long time to settle—the very first, for instance, involving a complete revision of many treaties, and the new constitution of the conditions of existence of the Danubian Principalities.

If the Congress first come to a series of general decisions, and then subsequently work out the details, we shall have the great questions shortly settled; and, greatest of all, we shall know whether or not Russia will yield to our terms on the third point relative to Sebastopol and the Black Sea fleet. Otherwise, supposing no vital differences to arise out of the first two points, the Plenipotentiaries may not arrive at the third for weeks.

Decisions on such matters as this having been arrived at, and the constitution of the Congress in its details having been settled, no doubt the work in hand will proceed as rapidly as possible. The parties present are, we fully believe, equally desirous of peace, but we hope not equally determined to obtain their own terms.

We have already warned the public against too ready a belief in peace as certain to be the result of the Congress at Vienna; and we would now also put them on their guard against the false reports circulated both at home and abroad—with reference to the proceedings of the Congress.

Yesterday, for instance, it was announced, in the columns of a contemporary, that "The first of the Four Points was, on the 17th, definitively settled, and adopted by all parties." This is quite erroneous, as are the pretended accounts that have been published of what passed, and who spoke, at the various conferences.

We believe that the intelligence which has appeared exclusively in this journal is alone correct—though necessarily scanty—as, in the general conduct of the conference, the most inviolable secrecy is observed.

We have already stated that, on Saturday, the protocol of Thursday's proceedings, recording the Four Points, and our interpretation of them, was signed by the Plenipotentiaries; and that the Russian Ambassadors, in affixing their signatures, did so—reserving always the dignity of the Russian empire from any detriment. Since this, a protocol of Saturday's proceedings has been signed, and in this form, from day to day, the labours of the Conference will be recorded.—*Morning Post*, Thursday.

The German Hospital, Dalston. On Thursday evening the tenth anniversary festival of this excellent charity took place at the London Tavern. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge presided; supported by Count Kielmansegge, Hanoverian Ambassador, Count Bernstorff, Prussian Ambassador; the Rev. Archdeacon Robinson, &c., &c. The Duke of Cambridge was received with long and continued cheers; and the proposal for drinking his health—in which he was termed "a worthy descendant of George the Lion," was a signal for a fresh outbreak of applause. His Royal Highness stated how happy he felt in endeavouring to do good in a civil capacity, in the same degree as he had endeavoured to do in a military one. The report of the society was most satisfactory, and many fresh donations to the charity were announced during the evening. The entertainment was altogether of a first-rate description. The gallery was crowded with ladies. The musical arrangements were admirable; M. Benedict, Herr Ernst, Miss Bauer, and Herr Ganz, kindly gave their services. The total collection for the Hospital was £2300.

A solemn service for the Emperor Nicholas was celebrated on Sunday in the Greek church in the Rue de Berry. Prince Jerome Napoleon, on account of the ties of relationship which unite him to the Imperial family of Russia, caused himself to be represented at the ceremony by two of his Aides-de-Camp. The Princess Mathilde was present.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, MARGARET-STREET.

Many of our readers may have been struck, while passing along Oxford street or Regent-street, with the appearance of a tall silvery-grey spire, rising from a lofty red brick tower with long belfry windows, above the monotonous mass of buildings to the north of the former, and to the east of the latter street. This is the spire of the still unfinished Church of All Saints, Margaret-street, of which we present our readers with an exterior view. The Church in question was undertaken several years since by voluntary subscriptions, to serve as a "model church" in its architectural arrangements and decorations, as well as in the future performance of Divine service; the first stone having, after long delays, been laid upon Saint Luke's Day, 1850. The cost of the work was undertaken, on his own responsibility, by A. J. Beresford Hope, Esq.; and that gentleman has been enabled to carry out the scheme up to the present time upon a very limited number of subscriptions—one of which is, however, stated to have been of the princely extent of £30,000 from a benefactor who requested, on giving it, to remain anonymous. Mr. Beresford Hope was fortunate enough to secure the services of that eminent architect, W. Butterfield, Esq., who has fully carried out—nay, exceeded—in this remarkable Church, the high reputation which he attained very early in life in St. Augustine's College, Canterbury, as an artist of singularly bold and original conceptions, and one who thoroughly realised the dignity of architectural science.

The plan comprised a residence for the clergy and schools, besides the Church itself; and for these various purposes a lot of ground measuring only 110 feet from east to west (the line of the street), and 100 from north to south was all that could be procured. This area, including the site of the old Margaret-street Chapel, the property of the Crown, and three houses belonging to the Duke of Portland, was obtained at the cost of £9000, including leasehold interests, deducted out of the subscriptions originally raised. It is most highly to Mr. Butterfield's credit that he succeeded in producing so effective a building on so confined a space. The Church occupies the northern portion of the area, covering the extreme length of the ground from east to west; the buildings destined for the schools and the clergy house projecting like wings upon the street line—the former abutting to the back against the tower, and the latter nearly touching the chancel aisle and the vestry. The central space forms a court-yard, divided from the street by a handsome iron screen, containing the common entrance, of ornamental brickwork, in the centre. The style of the entire mass is that which is known as Early Middle Pointed, i. e. the style of about A.D. 1300.

The whole building is constructed externally of red and black bricks, partly banded and partly arranged in patterns, relieved with blocks of stone so as to produce an effect of constructional polychrome, in which the prominent material should be brick. Hitherto there had been a prejudice against the employment of this material in the revival of Pointed architecture; against which no sufficient argument could be produced, inasmuch as many of the finest Gothic churches of Continental Europe are built of brick. The prejudice seemed peculiarly absurd when the church was to be built in a city like London, where the great majority of the houses are, like those of ancient Babylon, of brick; therefore it was decided that the "model church" should be constructed of brick. It was likewise decided that it should internally present the aspect of con-

structional polychrome, by a greater employment of coloured marbles (chiefly from British quarries) that had ever been attempted in British Painted architecture; and by the devotion of large wall spaces to fresco paintings of the highest style of art.

Internally the Church is divided into nave and chancel, both clerestored, with north and south aisles; those of the nave being of three bays each; while those of the chancel are of one bay, not reaching to its eastern end. The tower stands at the south west angle of the Church, covering the space of the most western bay of the aisle on that side. It is, including the spire, 227 feet in height from the ground—the latter being of slate and lead, built in what architectural writers term the "broach" form: its general contour recalling the spires of the magnificent churches of Lübeck. It is, we believe, at present, and will be, until the completion of the clock-tower of the New Houses of Parliament, the highest spire in London, being more elevated than that of Bow Church, or of St. Bride's. The south porch, the principal entrance from the court to the Church, is just clear of the school-house. More eastward there is another door in the same aisle. The clustered pillars of the nave are of red Peterhead granite (the material of the columns so conspicuous in the facade of the Carlton Club-house), with boldly foliaged capitals of alabaster. But the largest use of marble has been made in the chancel, which is mainly lined by alabaster and statuary marble; the arches dividing the chancel from its aisles being filled with tracery of alabaster, resting on shafts of dark red serpentine; while on the ground line of the sanctuary beyond, these rich materials are delicately sculptured into canopied arcades, forming most graceful sedilia. But the most original treatment is to be found in the east end and the upper portions of the side walls. Local reasons prohibited the insertion of an east window—a privation which was the more contentedly submitted to, as it afforded an opening for the display of mural painting which would otherwise have been hardly attainable. The work was entrusted to that distinguished artist W. Dyce, Esq., R.A., who designed and has partly executed a painting in fresco of the highest order of pictorial excellence. The field for the display of his pencil presented a large surface of wall, rising into a high tympanum, with curved sides following the vaulting lines of the roof. This upper space is devoted to a large representation of the "Celestial Court, with our Lord in Majesty in the centre." Mr. Dyce

NEW CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, MARGARET-STREET, CAVENDISH-SQUARE.

has completed this painting, which is universally admitted to be one of the finest productions of modern art. Underneath there are to be in the large central panels in the upper line, the "Crucifixion," and below it the "Infancy of the Saviour;" and on either side, in twelve smaller panels, standing figures of the Apostles. The panels are framed in canopied architectural work (flat niches as it were) of alabaster. Figures of the four Evangelists, and of the four greater Prophets facing each other are to continue the design round the side walls of the sanctuary. The upper portion of the chancel is decorated with geometrical mosaic work in different-coloured marbles. The roof of the chancel is groined in stone, to allow space, for which treatment the chancel is externally more elevated than the nave, for which numerous precedents are to be found in German churches, as well as in Hythe Church, Kent. The further completion of the internal fittings, including pulpit, organ, stalls, &c., at present stands still for want of funds, many thousands more being needed to bring the building to its desired consummation, and its projectors preferring to carry out slowly, but entirely, their original idea, than to hurry into use a building of diminished artistic perfection. Important progress has, however, been made in the painted glass; the principal (western) window being already filled with a representation of the Root of Jesse—a favourite subject with old glass painters—by M. Alfred Gerente, a Parisian glass painter of high ability and promise, to whom (after the premature death of his elder brother, M. Henry Gerente, who had attained great eminence in his art) the execution of the principal windows of this church was entrusted. The window in question, designed after one in Wells Cathedral, is distinguished by the boldness of its treatment and the richness of its colour. Another window by M. Gerente is, we hear, shortly expected in the south aisle of the nave. The north aisle of the nave is destitute of windows, being reserved for a belt of frescoes.

The ground-floor of the tower is allotted to the baptistery. The organ, of large dimensions, is to be divided between the two chancel aisles, the trackers passing under the floor.

The Church, when completed, will become the parish church of a "Peel" parish, formed, in 1849, out of the district rectory of All Souls, St. Marylebone, in the perpetual patronage of the Bishop of London. Its present and first incumbent is the Rev. W. Upton Richards.

THE VEN. ARCHDEACON SINGLETON, [illegible]

THE REV. JOHN JENNINGS (ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, WESTMINSTER).

THE REV. R. BURGESS, B.D. (TRINITY, UPPER CHELSEA).

FAST-DAY SERMONS.

THE REV. J. S. ANDERSON (WHITEHALL).

THE REV. W. CURLING (ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK).

THE REV. JOSEPH BROWN (CHRISTCHURCH, BLACKFRIARS-ROAD). FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY BEARD.

THE REV. H. ALFORD (QUEEN'S CHAPEL).

THE REV. CORNELIUS HALT (OLD ST. PANCRAS). FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY BEARD.

THE REV. F. W. WRENCH (ST. MICHAEL), CORNHILL.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY BEARD.

THE REV. ROBERT MONTGOMERY (PERCY CHAPEL).

THE REV. T. B. MURRAY (ST. DUNSTAN, EAST).—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY BEARD.

THE REV. J. TOGOOD (ST. ANDREW, HOLBORN).

THE DAY OF HUMILIATION.

Wednesday having been appointed by proclamation for "a solemn fast, humiliation, and prayer before Almighty God, in order to obtain pardon of our sins, and in the most devout and solemn manner to send up our prayers and supplications to the Divine Majesty, imploring His blessing and assistance on our arms, for the restoration of peace to her Majesty and her dominions," was devoutly observed throughout the whole of the metropolis. Closed shops and crowded places of worship were to be seen in all parts of London, and it may be doubted whether any day that has ever been set apart by Royal command for special prayer and religious exercise, within the memory of the present generation, was marked with more decorum. The Houses of Lords and Commons set a good example by attending respectively at Westminster Abbey and St. Margaret's Church; and at a later hour in the afternoon the Lord Mayor and Corporation of the City of London proceeded on foot to St. Paul's Cathedral, where a sermon was preached by the Bishop of the diocese. In all the parochial churches collections were made in behalf of various charities; the exceptions being chiefly such as might have been expected to lead in such a good work—for instance, St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, the Chapel Royal (St. James's), and the Temple. Of the sums thus collected, some will be devoted to the erection of a Christian Church in Turkey, some to the relief of the wives and families of the soldiers in the East, some to orphan asylums and "homes," established mainly for the benefit of children whose parents have been connected with the naval and military services.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY.—HOUSE OF LORDS.

Every part of Westminster Abbey was filled prior to the hour appointed for the commencement of the service. A procession was formed in the House of Lords, and their Lordships walked from the House to the Abbey. There were present the Lord Chancellor, the Earl Granville, the Earl Waldegrave, the Earl Grey, Lord Redesdale, the Bishops of Chichester, Winchester, St. Davids, St. Asaph, and Salisbury, with some other peers. The sermon was preached by the Lord Bishop of Salisbury, from the words, "God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke xviii, part of verse 13). He commenced by observing that the judgment that the war was a just and necessary one was very unanimous, and, on the whole, correct; and he put this remark on the very front of his discourse because a different judgment would introduce into the subjects of humiliation on that day other elements than those which belonged to it. One effect of such a judgment should be to increase, quicken, and confirm our endeavours to obtain success, and secure the restoration of peace. As regards the purpose for which they had assembled, national humiliation, to be anything better than the profession of the pharisee, must be based on personal humiliation—on a deep sense of those sins which mark our character as individuals. And we must add to these confessions, to this acknowledgment of sin, hearty resolutions and vows of amendment—to do our utmost to lessen the evil that has happened, and to compass all those great objects which are yet unattained. And here, he admitted that the most sincere resolutions would meet with difficulties. When benevolent feelings were awakened, they would often find that principles of truth claim to regulate and guide them. The case of education illustrated this. No one has been able to mark out the standing ground between secular and denominational education. Still, whatever may be these difficulties, every man will find plenty of work to do, and a sound faith, a hearty charity, and a strong will, may work wonders, and open a pathway through all obstacles. In saying such things he was not throwing blame on any persons. If he were to proportion and distribute blame, he must confess that the clergy must receive the greater share, and that the burden of past neglect and present duty presses with more fearful responsibility on the Bishops of the Church than on any other men in this kingdom; but having owned this, he would give a caution against harsh and rough judgments about the Church and its minister, and would plead in their behalf that they are but men. In conclusion, he expressed a hope that besides any direct blessings which God may grant to them in answer to their prayers and other sacrifices, the moral influence of that day might be good, in steadying, calming, and giving decision to the national mind—in helping to keep down the spirit of wrath and bitterness, and in fixing it on the one legitimate object, a right and lasting peace. War might thus be not an unmixed evil. Indeed, it had already been profitable to us in many ways: our army and navy had given proofs of the noblest devotion to their country's cause; the self-denying charities, patience, and perseverance of those Christian women who have ministered to the wants of the sick and wounded, had set us at home a noble example; "and I trust, said his Reverence, "that we shall so learn that lesson, that whenever God, in His mercy, restores to us the blessing of peace, we shall find that the storm of war has cleared away many clouds which were darkening our horizon. Let us hope that those hearts which are being now practised in expressions of strong, yet tender sympathy, will not, when the present demand upon them ceases, draw inwards, pulse from daily exercise, but that the poor, the unpaid, the publican, and the harlot, the prisoner, the orphan, and the widow, and the sick and the feeble will all experience the fruits both of that unselfish charity which the perils of war have so fostered and invigorated, and of those resolutions of amendment before God. This confession of our sins—these resolutions to amend our ways—have been prompted by our earnest desires for a successful issue of the calamities of the present war, and for the restoration of peace."

ST. MARGARET'S.—HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House of Commons assembled at a quarter before twelve, at which time there were a large number of members present. In a few minutes afterwards a procession was formed, and moved to St. Margaret's Church. It consisted of the Speaker, preceded by the Serjeant-at-Arms (Lord Charles Russell), and followed by Lord Palmerston, Sir George Grey, Sir Charles Wood, Mr. Vernon Smith, Mr. Wilson, Mr. F. Peel, Mr. Horsman, Sir James Graham, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Cardwell, Major Reed, Sir H. Willoughby, Mr. Guinness, Mr. Newdegate, Mr. J. Macgregor (Sandwich), Mr. G. Butt, Mr. E. Ball, Admiral Walcott, &c. Every door of St. Margaret's Church was besieged by crowds attracted by Mr. Melvill's pulpit talents, and, though every exertion was made by the Rev. Mr. Cureton, the Rector, to provide accommodation for all, many were disappointed. After the usual prayers, and the prescribed form, the Rev. Henry Melvill, B.D., ascended the pulpit, and selected for his text the 8th chapter of the 1st Book of Kings, 44th and 5th verses:—"If thy people go out to battle against their enemy, whithersoever thou shalt send them, I shall pray unto the Lord toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house which I have built for thy name: then hear Thou in Heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause." The rev. gentleman commenced by referring to instances recorded in Scripture of the success which had attended acts of national humiliation. From these he argued that such acts were acceptable to God, though it could not be denied that it was their sincerity, and that alone, which caused them to find favour in His sight. He then alluded more especially to the circumstances of the present humiliation. We were not summoned as a nation to humble ourselves before God because we were engaged in a war which, if it had been fruitful in triumphs, had entailed on us no common disasters; because it rested with the Almighty alone, who was emphatically and repeatedly, in Scripture, called "the Lord of Hosts," to give the victory which we desired to our fleets and to our armies. We entered upon this war with no selfish purpose. We saw that Europe was already darkened by the shadow of a colossal power which was ever pushing forward its boundary, and it was not for England to sit tamely by while country after country lost its independence. We had no fears for ourselves; if we could not contemplate the probability that the advancing tide would break on our own shores—at least, it was in our character not to suffer the weak to be borne down by the strong. Therefore, did we girt ourselves for the war. It was no war of ambition—no war of aggrandisement. We took up the championship of the oppressed; and if we looked beyond the immediate case, it was that we saw the world's liberties in peril, and resolved, at all hazards, to make a stand for civilisation, for enlightenment, for human progress and human happiness. And if we had unsheathed the sword only to maintain rights which ought not to have been invaded, and to prevent aggressions which threatened even worse disasters than themselves, we might the better hope that God would look favourably on our humiliation, and that He would not turn a deaf ear when, falling low at his footstool—the ashes on our hearts and the sackcloth on our souls—we exclaimed, in the words of the text, "Hear thou in heaven our prayer and our supplication, and maintain our cause." The rev. gentleman pointed out, in glowing language and brilliant imagery, the peculiarity of the term, that it was in heaven we especially desired that our prayers might be heard. The peculiarity belonged also to the Lord's Prayer, which was addressed to our Father "in heaven." Of course, the Divine Omnipresence must always be assumed or taken for granted in prayer. We could have no confidence if we knew nothing of God but that He dwelt in some far-off depth of infinite space.

ST. PAUL'S.

The Day of Humiliation was observed throughout the City with becoming solemnity. The choir of the Cathedral of St. Paul was crowded in every part. The Prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Calvert, and the Lessons by the Rev. Mr. Povah. The Sermon was preached by the Very Rev. the Dean, Dr. Milman, who took for his text the 2nd chapter of the Book of Job, and part of the 10th verse:—"What! shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?" In the course of the eloquent illustrations of the text, the character of Job, the type and model of all that was human, and the exposition of that which the reverend preacher described as a glorious poem, he proceeded to remark upon the meaning of a national humiliation as a national worship of God; and a reference to the war invoked a blessing on the arms of our country; and said if all in this eventful and momentous war had gone on smoothly, as at first, what would have been the issue? what the effect? let each man ask himself. Had all been successful, might we not have become too much enamoured of war? War was inevitable so long as there were powerful and ambitious sovereigns in the world. War was an evil, a terrible evil; but all history showed that there never was a war commenced under such circumstances, with so much magnitude, to such an extent, and with so much splendour, and at such a distance—upwards of three thousand miles from our own shores. We had, indeed, more terrible enemies to contend with than the sword, disease, and privation. He would demand full justice to those who had delayed the commencement of the war—who had clung to peace till peace could no longer be. Were we to be champions of the oppressed, with no suffering, no privation? Were the forces to respect our ships? Somewhere, so many flashes of powder and thundering of cannon, and no falling of masses of living men! In all later wars the knowledge of battles was or battles lost came to our ears by the wonderful facilities of communication. They are as soon over than they are before us in language and terms and with such power that we are, as it were, at the very seat of war, with all its splendour, ovation, and terror! Were we to expect to see charges of unbroken cavalry dashing through and destroying the enemy, and cannon thundering against the city, with no reverse, no check? God, in his own good time, would give us victory. Had we no faith in the justice of our cause? and if, from the events of the last two months, there was any dastardly weakness, who would have to answer for this? The Powers of the Powers of the West against the Asiatic and Northern barbarians might, however, bring forth peace. The Rev. Dean then proceeded, in language powerful and eloquent, to extol the conduct of our soldiers, who demanded all our admiration—soldiers who had never met their enemies but to strike, who had suffered with such noble endurance, sickness, disease, and privations, and human suffering beyond all imagination—exposure, cold, without repose, the very elements freezing and running the blood in their veins! After paying a just tribute to Miss Nightingale, and those ladies who had accompanied her to her holy mission, and who, by their assiduity, tenderness, and watchfulness, have saved so many valuable lives, the Reverend Dean concluded by calling upon all present to aid by their subscriptions, even to the smallest mite, the great work of alleviating the sufferings of the sick and wounded, and the relief of the orphans and widows of those who had fallen.

KENSINGTON

The Venerable Archdeacon Sinclair took his text from Joel ii., 15:—"Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly." The Archdeacon remarked, that, "while we are tracing the disasters which have befallen the greatest armament that ever crossed the seas, to faults in our administrative system, and to the negligence or incapacity of our administrators, we must on no account confine our view to secondary causes, but must look beyond them to the Providence of God: that not only He wounded, and His hands make whole, but He overrules the exercise of our intellectual powers; it is the inspiration of the Almighty that giveth understanding. He either frustrateth our counsels and turns our wisdom into foolishness, or gives us knowledge, discretion, and intelligence. The question therefore arises wherefore God contendeth with us? To what cause shall we ascribe our frightful and deplorable reverses? Was it want of bravery in our soldiers or seamen? On the contrary, they evinced a courage seldom equalled, and never surpassed in the annals of the world. Did they betray effeminacy or impatience under suffering and privation? On the contrary, never were extremities of hardship more manfully endured. Did they give evidence of irreligion or profaneness? So far from this, the private letters both of officers and men abound with sentiments of piety so naturally, so forcibly, and in the hour of death so pathetically expressed, that the man is little to be envied who can read these documents of piety without emotion. If then," continued the Archdeacon, "there be nothing in our gallant armament that would especially draw down upon it the Divine displeasure, the question next arises whether there be anything in ourselves, and in the nation at large to provoke that displeasure." After enlarging on the general faults and errors of the nation—such as the progress of superstition, the prevalence of crime, the irreligion of the working classes, and the negligence of the higher orders in not applying efficient remedies for these evils—he proceeded to remark upon those national sins which have special connection with our present warlike struggle—our vain glorious ness, our imprudence, and our pugnacity. "Notwithstanding our insular position, so favourable to peace," he said, "the history of Great Britain is a history of successive wars; we have not many intervals of tranquility to boast of;" and he proceeded to express his apprehension lest, at the present crisis, in the pugnacious temper of the public, our rulers should "go with the tide, decide against their own judgment, and be carried away from proposing or accepting terms of peace which their better information would lead them to be wise and equitable." In conclusion, he exhorted his hearers to self-examination, advising each to ask himself the question—"Do I find that my general sentiments and conduct have been, and continue to be, such as to give my fellow-citizens reason to reproach me for contributing more or less to provoke Divine displeasure, and call down God's judgment, at a most critical period, upon my country, instead of doing all I can, through Christ the Prince of Peace, to propitiate his favour?"

ST. JOHN'S, WESTMINSTER.

The Rev. John Jennings, Rector, took his text from Isaiah xxvi., 9:—"When Thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness." Having pointed out the sins and disasters which have befallen our Army in the East, which has been more than decimated by the sword and the pestilence, and having called upon the congregation humbly to acknowledge the Divine justice, that has and scourged our nation with the sore judgments of the sword and pestilence, to confess and deplore those sins, by means of which, both as a nation and as individuals, we are offensive in God's sight, and to entreating "in His wrath to remember mercy, lest we be no more a nation," the preacher enumerated some of those grievous national sins, which have drawn down the judgments of the Almighty, and more especially our national vanity and proud boastings. As of old, "God turneth wise men backward, and maketh their knowledge foolish; He sent among them pestilence after the manner of Egypt; their young men has He slain with the sword, and taken away their horses, and made the smell of their camps to come up into their nostrils." He concluded by earnestly appealing to his congregation to seal their solemn vows of humiliation and amendment of life, by their gifts to the treasury of the Lord, by their alms to the sick and needy; so doing, their fast and humiliation would be sanctified to them by the Holy Spirit, and their prayers would ascend to the mercy seat through the intercession of our great High Priest, and draw down a blessing upon our arms for the restoration of peace; and the righteous Lord, the Prince of Peace, who love thy righteousness, would teach us righteousness by His judgments.

TRINITY, SLOANE-STREET, UPPER CHELSEA

The Rector, the Rev. Joseph Burgess chose his text from Psalm lxxvi., v. 14 "Thou art the God that doest wonders; thou hast declared Thy strength among the people." After defining the object for which the people assembled in the respective places of worship this day, the preacher proceeded to answer some popular objections as to the fitness of the time for such humiliation; and the main scope of the discourse was to show that it was incumbent to acknowledge the hand of God in our victories, and cease to acknowledge the same power in our disasters. The several events in which the providence of God had been strongly marked during the war were then pointed out, and the duties of those at home to assist, as much as possible, in relieving the wants and miseries of our brave warriors. The preacher dwelt on the censure which was so carelessly passed upon our brave commanders, without a sufficient knowledge of the difficulties they had to contend with; and he ended with an appeal to the congregation on behalf of the institution existing or about to be formed, where the infants of our soldiers would be taken care of.

CHAPEL ROYAL, WHITEHALL.

The Rev J. S. Anderson, one of her Majesty's Chaplains, delivered an eloquent discourse upon Galatians, vi., 7-8: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the spirit, shall of the spirit reap life everlasting."

QUEBEC CHAPEL.

The Rev H. Alford chose his text from Lamentations, c. iii. v 40: "Let us search, and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord." The preacher delivered a very impressive discourse to a crowded congregation, and was heard with extreme attention. There was no collection made here; a collection having been made on the preceding Sunday, for the London Reformatory for Adult Male Criminals, when the sum of £223 was contributed.

PERCY CHAPEL,

CHARLOTTE-STREET

The Rev. Robert Montgomery preached at this chapel an eloquent sermon, taking for his text Ecclesiastes, c. vii., v. 14, "In the day of adversity, consider." The preacher dwelt with great power upon the aspect of the present times, and the state of the war, and our reliance upon our own exertions and the Divine aid to bring the great struggle to a peaceful termination. The discourse was heard with profound attention by the congregation; and the poetic eloquence and impressive manner of the preacher were fully appreciated.

ST SAVIOUR'S, SOUTHWARK.

The Rev. W. Curling delivered an impressive discourse in the morning upon Jeremiah c. viii., v. 9:—"They have rejected the word of the Lord; and what wisdom is in them?" The preacher commenced with observing that it was a fearful sign of national irreligion when a people, in the midst of troubles, did not regard those troubles, nor desire to be humbled under them. He made this remark because the present proclamation for a National Fast did not appear to carry with it, to the extent it ought, the nation's sympathies. Some seemed to think that there was more cause for thanksgiving than humiliation at this moment. But, to his own mind, the duty of penitence and prayer was most pressing and urgent: "I look at God," he observed, "with hope and trembling, for I know not what He will do. I think we have been so chastised in the afflictive visitation He has laid upon us—I think the indications of His displeasure have been so marked in the disasters we have experienced since we entered on this formidable war—that, to me, it appears the strangest infatuation to indulge at this time in the strain of thanksgiving and song of triumph. We may, indeed, bless God that He has dealt with us less than our iniquities have deserved. But He has surely smitten us with unusual severity. He has wounded us in our pride by cutting off our army. He has proved us in the depths of our hearts; for when has our nation had such mourning as the dismal tidings from Varna and the Crimea produced among us a few months ago? With such an affliction 'laid upon our loins' we ought to be prostrate at the feet of our God. We ought to come together, asking the cause why He has so afflicted us and, if we can ascertain the cause, we ought to deplore the sin, and ask for grace to sin no more." The preacher then, comparing England with Israel, showed in both cases that God had given His word to guide both nations in the discharge of their duty; that as in Israel, so in England, "the word of the Lord" had been "rejected" practically by rulers and people. Rulers had ceased to ask "What is Scriptural?" and expediency was all they thought about in the determination of the great questions; the polar star of religious principle, which guided our fathers when the Word of God was restored to us at the Reformation, having been long lost sight of in the free-thinking spirit of the age. The people, also, notwithstanding their possession of the Scriptures, very little regarded them, as the neglect of the means of grace, the increasing amount of Sabbath desecration, and the demoralisation and vices of the age fully show. He referred has punished us as he did Israel, by taking away wisdom from our rulers, the mismanagement of which the nation so properly complains;—a mismanagement that has cost us the best portion of our blood and treasury in the world, and to be viewed (said the preacher) as an accident, but as a positive judgement from God." He could look for nothing but a continuation of evils if rulers and the ruled did not joyfully return to "the Word of the Lord;" in obedience to which the nation would again be prosperous, triumphant, and happy. The St. Saviour's congregation was immense

OLD ST. PANCRAS

The Incumbent, the Rev. Cornelius Hart, preached an impressive discourse from Zephaniah, c. ii. v. 3: "Seek ye the Lord, all ye meek of the earth, which have wrought this judgment: seek righteousness, seek meekness, it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the Lord's anger." The preacher forcibly, by the captivity of the children of Israel under the Babylonish rule, counsels them to forsake their evil and corrupt practices, and to turn with their whole heart to God the Gracious and the Merciful in pure and holy worship. In the day of wrath, Jehovah alone is the hiding-place of His people. Meekness is the resignation of things past, present, and to come, to the Supreme Disposer of all events. Righteousness is not only the righteousness of the Mediator, but also the righteousness, justice, and equity between man and man. God's righteous indignation is manifested against every iniquity and transgression of man. He is a just God, and will by no means spare the impenitent guilty. The preacher concluded with an earnest appeal to seek God's mercy, pardoning the past and prospering the future, that He would over-rule. The church was crowded, and the sermon was listened to with great attention

ST DUNSTAN'S IN THE EAST

The Rev. T. B. Murray preached in the morning, taking for his text Isaiah xxvi., 9:—"When Thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness." He said that in order to take in fully the [illegible] language, the student of Scripture should go back to the 24th chapter, which reads according to its heading in our Bibles, "the doleful judgments of God upon the land," and read to the end of the 26th chapter. This exercise, among the duties of the day on which it was observed, was the preacher recommended to his hearers. They would see, in the intermixture of warnings and promises, that the picture of the ancient Jewish people was a picture of ourselves. Blessed by Almighty goodness with peculiar favours; which indeed, happy; in prosperity—forgetful of God, proud, self-willed—chastised, and brought low by His hand; in the time of trouble, seeking the Lord in repentance and prayer. "Events in our own history serve to show that St Paul's words were written not for our sakes only, but for those of the people of Israel—These things happened unto them [illegible] and they are written for our admonition" are applicable to our times, as they were to his. Living as we are, with all the awful interest of national joy about us, and in the midst of war, we never neglected by solid and substantial blessings, but ever defended by a favourable climate, who can read that list of afflictions for 'incorrigibleness,' in Amos iv., without being impressed by the lesson? Has not this land, the depository of the Christian faith, had its premonitory punishments for its sins? "Blasting and mildew" impatiently touching and spoiling a valuable article of food. "The pestilence" those repeated visitations of cholera—"sent among us." More recently, "Your young men have I slain with the sword, and have taken away your horses." It will become us, not only as a nation, but each one individually, who knows the plague of his own heart, to dwell on these portentous symptoms, and to bow beneath the rod in penitence and prayer" In the afternoon the Rev. S. Gell, M.A., Curate, preached on the 1st Peter, v. 6:—"Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God." A collection was made for the poor after each service

CHRISTCHURCH, BLACKFRIARS.

The Rector, the Rev Joseph Brown, took his text in the morning from Amos, iv., 10:—"I have sent among you the pestilence, after the manner of Egypt; your young men have I slain with the sword, and have taken away your horses: and I have made the stink of your camps to come up under your nostrils; yet have ye not returned unto Me, saith the Lord." In the evening the rev. gentleman chose Psalm ii., 12:—"Be sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise." The evening sermon was a continuation of the morning sermon; both pointing out—I. The duty of humbling ourselves before God: that it applied to nations, to families, to individuals. II. The reasonableness of this duty, especially at the present time—1. From the difficulties already encountered, 2. From the difficulties still before us. III. The encouragement to the performance of this duty was shown—1. From the promises the Almighty has made to hear prayer; 2. From the many instances of the Lord's deliverance as seen in the Scriptures. In conclusion, the congregation were exhorted—to find out their own sins; to seek pardon through the Lord Jesus Christ; to pray for our own country; to pray for peace; to pray for our friends engaged in the war, and for those who have been bereaved of their relatives: and, finally, to pray for that time so often and so long foretold in the Bible, when the Prince of Peace shall reign throughout the whole as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.—The attendance of all classes, especially of the poor, was very good—1850 persons were present at Divine Service during the day. Policemen were stationed at each gate to count the number.

ST. MICHAEL'S, CORNHILL

The text was the 14th verse of the 2nd chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke:—"On earth peace and goodwill to men." Before entering upon the main subject of his discourse, the Rev. F. W. Wrench referred to the object for which they had assembled:—"to plead with God on behalf of our distracted country, and to mourn over those disasters which, in His divine providence, He has seen fit to cast upon us." After painting the horrors of war, and showing how much it is opposed in its nature to the Gospel of Peace, he concluded by urging his hearers to make the Fast what it ought to be, as commanded in the Scriptures, by giving food to the hungry, and extending their aid to the poor

ST. ANDREW'S, HOLBORN

The Rector, the Rev. J. J Toogood, chose for his text, Ezra, viii, 21:—"Then I proclaimed a fast there, that we might afflict ourselves before God: to seek of him a right way for us and for our little ones and all our substance." In the text, Ezra—the leader of the colony of the Jews—proclaimed a fast, considering it right that the nation should humbly and sorrowfully acknowledge their offences against God, and supplicate His gracious favour, that He might guide and help them. The preacher dwelt at some length upon the nature of fasts, and concluded thus: "War is the scourge of God on nations for their sins; and, to whatever secondary causes our misfortunes may be attributed, we see the commencement of them in the sins of the nation have called for punishment, and the object of the appointment of this day is, that we may seek repentance and pardon therefore. In the prayers to be used we are taught thus to pray—'Grant, O Lord, that we may learn righteousness from Thy judgments abroad. Take away from us all pride and hardness of heart, and contempt of Thy word. Endue us with a spirit of piety and devotion, of justice and temperance, of humility and charity, as become our Christian profession; and that the blessing which we have long enjoyed, both spiritual and temporal, may, through Thy providence, be continued to us and our posterity. Teach us ever to lift up our hearts above this lower world to Thy heavenly kingdom, where pain and sorrow and war and hatred shall be no more.'"

The Madras Government is about to establish a class of assistant civil engineers for employment on the public works in the provinces, open to all qualified, whether European or native; the salaries being fixed from 400 to 600 rupees a month, while the highest species of engineering accomplishments do not seem to be insisted on.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, March 25.—5th Sunday in Lent. Queen Elizabeth died, 1603.
MONDAY, 26.—Duke of Cambridge born, 1819.
TUESDAY, 27.—Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, 1802. Gunpowder introduced, 1380.
WEDNESDAY, 28.—Colonel Alex. Gordon died, 1801.
THURSDAY, 29.—Siege of Acre, 1799.
FRIDAY, 30.—Cambridge Term ends. Dr. Hunter died, 1783.
SATURDAY, 31.—Oxford Term ends. Beethoven died, 1827.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 31

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
6 46	7 3	7 30	8 4	8 49	9 35	10 22	11 8	11 48	No Tide	0 22	0 46	1 7	1 30

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1855.

WITHIN a week the House of Commons has had the opportunity of expressing its opinion upon several subjects of a social rather than a political character, and it will not be unprofitable to examine the chief of these decisions, less in reference to their own merits than as a gauge of the fidelity with which the House of Commons expresses the feelings of the nation. Among the topics which have been submitted to the House have been the Wife's Sister question, the Protection of Factory Women and Children question, the Education question, and the Sunday Amusement question. It will not be denied that all these measures have a direct interest for the mass of the people, and that these are subjects which will be considered, discussed, and fought over, long after the ephemeral contests of factions, and their success and failure, shall have been forgotten. The rational settlement of any one of these points is of more vital importance to the country than the vindication of the character of a whole Cabinet of statesmen, or the rise or fall of half-a-dozen political cliques; and when this and cognate truths are not only admitted, but the conviction is acted up to, by the Legislature and the public, we shall find less time wasted upon men and more time bestowed upon measures. At present, unquestionably, the pervading feeling in Parliament is the other way, and the character of the man has precedence of that of the measure, sometimes to the exclusion of the latter—as was curiously instanced in the House of Lords a few nights ago, when Lord Montegle's censure of a financial operation, by which he alleged that the country was about to be saddled with half a million of new taxation, was met by the Government leader there, very slightly upon the merits, but very zealously upon the point whether Mr. Gladstone had or had not been consistent.

The agitation which a small, but wealthy and interested party, continue to cause in order to procure the alteration of the law which prevents marriage with the sister of a deceased wife, the continually bringing the question, as a vexed one, before the Legislature, and the retaining it in an uncertain condition, will most probably, sooner or later, compel a recognition of the marriages which it is thus sought to legitimatise. There is an exceedingly strong feeling, nevertheless, throughout a large and most respectable class of the community, against such marriages; and both religious and social objections are indignantly put forward against the proposed alteration. The subject was, perhaps, never worse argued than in Parliament last week, and assuredly no vote could have been swayed either way by anything that fell from the antagonists on the debate originated by Mr. Heywood. We do not, however, state this as a reproach. This social battle is always fought as one of feeling, whatever pretext of argument and logic may be put forth; and in this respect the House, upon the occasion in question, did represent the country, which has uttered and listened to little or no argument on either side of the subject. We are not now advocating either the retention or the relaxation of the law; but we believe that the agitation system, applied to a subject of this kind, is a positive evil, and also that it will ultimately succeed, thereby establishing a baneful precedent.

On Mr. Cobbett's bill for the extending to women and young children engaged in factories the privileges which, whether they were beneficial or not, were certainly intended to be conferred when Parliament last interfered upon the question, the House of Commons showed itself a faithful representative of one of our national characteristics. It responded in the half-indolent, half-practical tone of a thorough John Bull, when urged to revise and complete something at which he has previously laboured with his heart in the work, and who answers, "Well, yes, I did mean to have done that; but it is hardly worth while taking up the thing again; and I don't know, after all, whether it is not best as it stands." We can hardly complain of the Commons for not being more earnest and more decided than those who elect them.

Then came Sir John Pakington's attempt to deal with the great question of the Education of the People. This is one of the topics which neither journalist nor reader can approach without a feeling of humiliation. Every man in England knows that the humbler class in this country is not educated (by which word we mean, of course, trained, not merely taught); and that, in consequence, our streets are full of idleness, ribaldry, and ruffianism, and our gaols crowded with specimens of all three in fuller development. The children cry aloud for teaching. Their cry is not a direct appeal for that of which they know not the nature; but who does not recognise, in every brutal outcry of the demoralised children in our streets, the utterance of their need. The blackguard boy yells out a foul phrase as he passes you. You are shocked, angry; you look for the policeman, and declare—as a magistrate upon the bench, in no haste but in all earnestness, recently declared—that "the children of London are its greatest curse!" And such is the point to which civilisation has brought us in 1855. But, after your irritation is past, you interpret that wretched boy's words, and you find that they mean, although he knew it not, "Teach me!" and you reflect that, had you formerly called in the schoolmaster, you need not just now have looked round for the constable. Well, streets full of vice, gaols full of crime, and out comes a permissive bill of the mildest character—homœopathy for brain-fever—a flask of oil for a raging sea; and everybody (a few sectarians excepted) smiling and thanking the promoter of the measure which, after all, will probably not pass. Is not the House of Commons John Bull all over? "No doubt, Sir; no doubt. Education the great thing, Sir. Much wanted. Frightful amount of vice—frightful. But you see that in any large plan there are so many things to be considered—so many worthy people have scruples; and so—." And so he does not educate, but tries what he can do with the old punishment instead of the new prevention; and gaols rise instead of schools. Is the House of Commons in earnest? Quite as much so as the country; and the responsibility must not be shifted from the people to the Parliament.

Lastly came the Sunday question. The proposed alteration was confided to the weakest championship, and something was lost by this. But the enormous hostile majority would not have been much diminished had Mr. Hume (as was wished) survived to lead the attack. The nation spoke its will in that division, and yet in no way committed itself to the permanent exclusion of the public on Sundays from certain places where the treasures of art and of nature are aggregated. It did not affirm that it was more improper to look at the Gallery of Antiquities in the Museum, upon Sunday, than in the same day to look at the Hampton-court pictures, nor did it assert that it was less Sabbath-breaking to examine the Kew Palm-house on Sunday than to visit the exotics behind the curtain at Sydenham. But it brought out the shrewd old John Bull notion that the small end of the wedge makes way for the large one; and that a legal act, doing away with one set of Sunday restrictions would sooner or later lead to the opening the shops in the Quadrant "after service hours." The law of trespass, and the danger occasioned to rights of ownership by permission of very small encroachments, are topics upon which our old Saxon tenacity is very celebrated. The young Conservative leader, Lord Stanley, threw himself into the ranks of the movement party; and the veteran Premier, after an unanswerable declaration that Sunday ought to be kept properly, declined to intimate by his vote either way, where he conceived propriety to lie; but 235 to 48 was a trumpet-tongued testimony to the real determination of the country that Sunday shall not be made, hereafter, a day of *work*.

On all points, therefore, the House seems to have been no better and no worse than the country, and at all events to have, in these instances, fulfilled its mission. If the nation really think otherwise, in reference to these or other topics, it should begin by making *itself* understood—perhaps by understanding *itself*.

WE notice, with regret, that the papers of the manufacturing districts are beginning to dwell with some earnestness on an increase of pauperism. There have been added, it is said, 15,023 persons to those claiming relief in Lancashire and Yorkshire. From the official returns, we know that, at the beginning of 1855, there were 20,735 persons more in receipt of relief than at the corresponding period of 1854. Such circumstances, coming after a decline in pauperism for several successive years, till the winter of 1853, when the increase again began, may excite a little apprehension. Amongst us there are always many persons desirous of making political capital for themselves out of any public misfortune or any great distress. At present the agitators for peace are likely to take advantage of this increase of pauperism to gain converts to their views; and therefore we must remind our readers that, at the present time, there is much greater distress comparatively in the seaport towns of the United States than is to be found in England. A letter from a Catholic priest resident at New York was published in the *Times* of Thursday, in which he draws a frightful picture of the distress suffered by the people there, and adjures the authorities in England and Ireland to prevent the further emigration of the Irish to the United States. It is, in fact, notorious that thousands of persons have been thrown out of employment in the States; that meetings of the discontented have been held in New York, at which property has been threatened; that great subscriptions have been entered into, and great exertions made to relieve the distress, which in spite of them continues. The distress there, however, tells on our country. It checks the emigration that was going on, and has actually sent back to England a considerable number of emigrants. America, too, is our greatest and best customer, and its demand for our goods has latterly fallen off a full fourth, in consequence of its own deficient means. Our readers are well aware, too, that the trade to our Australian colonies has received a very severe check; that in one of them, Victoria, there has lately been an insurrection, preceded and followed by considerable disorder and a diminished demand in the colony for the productions of our looms and forges. These circumstances have much more to do in causing the deficiency of employment and the distress which are complained of in the manufacturing and other districts than the war; and we remind our readers of them that the facts and the truth may be widely known.

The great cause for the increase of pauperism was the very deficient harvest of 1853—one of the worst that has been experienced in this country for many years. It was accompanied, too, by a general deficiency on the Continent, and led to the highest price for wheat in our markets (upwards of 80s.) in January and February, 1854, that has been experienced for many years. A similar cause is now affecting the people of the United States. Tempted by the high prices which prevailed in Europe through the early part of 1854, they exported largely; and the harvest there in 1853 having been a failure, they are really suffering as our people suffered, from short crops. They have at least a fifth less to export than they had last year, and consequently they can buy less goods from foreigners, and have less trade. According to the reports from New York, the price of flour and wheat there has been for some months quite as high as in England, and the consequence is, that they are now sending us no breadstuffs—whereas last year, at this time, they were sending us 100,000 barrels of flour per week and we are sending them comparatively little cloth and iron. A war, which interrupts the fair and reasonable distribution of the harvest of different countries, may undoubtedly aggravate the calamities of bad harvests, but it is quite plain, from the example of the United States, and the condition of our own country, that the nature of the harvests themselves, as they are good or bad, has more influence over national prosperity than war. The United States are in the full enjoyment of peace, but it does not save them from deranged trade, high prices, and considerable distress.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

Accounts from Balaclava to the 12th have been received. A council of war had been held that day. It is also stated that the bombardment of the town was proceeding with greater vigour on the part of the Allies. Another despatch states that "on the 10th inst the weather was beautiful before Sebastopol. The new works were nearly completed. Sickness had almost disappeared. Lord Raglan had sent Lord Burgheresh to Sebastopol to announce the death of the Emperor Nicholas. The Russians do not believe it. The French continue to throw rockets into Sebastopol. The siege works are advancing. The *morale* of the troops is excellent. One the 8th Omer Pacha sent a messenger with a flag of truce to Prince Radziwill, who commands the Russians in that quarter, to announce the death of the Emperor Nicholas."

The death of Prince Menschikoff, from the effects of typhus, is again reported, but without confirmation.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.

Some of the German journals assert most distinctly that, if the result of the Conference should not end in the restoration of peace, Austria will declare war against Russia, according to Article 5 of the Treaty of Dec. 2. The *Constitutionnel* affirms the same fact.

The Vienna Correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* states that the "first point" was definitively settled at Vienna on the 21st.

FUNERAL OF THE CZAR

A letter from St. Petersburg, of the 12th, says:—

The funeral of the Emperor took place yesterday. In some houses, which were well situated, windows were let for as much as 400 francs. At nine o'clock in the morning the first salve of artillery, fired from the citadel of St. Petersburg, intimated to the public that the ceremony was about to commence. At ten o'clock a second salve was fired to announce that the cortege was to form itself in the order fixed by Count Gurjew, President of the Commission for the Funeral; and at eleven o'clock, a third salve announced that the funeral cortège had commenced its march. Everywhere, as the body passed, the spectators made the sign of the cross; and most of them, when they knelt down, touched the earth with their forehead, weeping bitterly. At the different churches the procession halted, and the various ranks of the clergy paid homage to the ashes of the chief of the Orthodox Russian Church. Prayers for Divine mercy to the soul of the deceased were offered up in every place of worship; and Nicholas himself was called on, as the chief of the Church, to address prayers to God to give force to Russia to combat with success for her rights and her territory. Cannon continued to fire until the coffin reached the Cathedral of Paul and Peter. The Service for the Dead of the Greco-Russian Church was then celebrated; and salvos, fired by the troops, announced the end of the ceremony. The evening was far advanced before the crowds of people who had assembled to witness the ceremony ceased to fill the streets.

THE COURT.

The arrival of the Court at Osborne was announced in our last Number

On Monday morning the Prince Consort embarked in the *Fairy* for Portsmouth, accompanied by the Prince of Leiningen, to inspect the Royal yacht *Victoria and Albert*. The Prince afterwards visited the Portsmouth Sailors' Home. The Queen embarked at Osborne-pier, at half-past twelve o'clock, and steamed into Portsmouth harbour, where the Prince re-embarked. The Royal yacht then proceeded to Spithead, and passed through the fleet lying at anchor there

On Tuesday her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, Prince Arthur, the Princess Royal, Princess Alice, and the Prince of Leiningen, and attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, embarked on board the Royal yacht *Fairy*, and went to Spithead to witness the departure of the advanced squadron of the Baltic fleet, under Captain Watson, C.B., which was appointed to take place at about three o'clock, p.m. On the *Fairy* approaching the fleet, which fired a Royal salute, signal was made for Captain Watson and the Captains commanding to come on board the Royal yacht, where they had the honour of being presented to her Majesty, to take leave. As soon as the Captains had returned on board their respective ships, the order was given to weigh, and the squadron immediately proceeded to the eastward, under steam, preceded by the *Fairy*. At about half past four o'clock the Royal yacht turned and passed each ship in succession, the crews of which manned the yards and cheered her Majesty in passing. The Queen returned to Osborne at half-past five o'clock.

On Wednesday, being the day appointed for the General Fast, the Queen and Prince, with the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Princess Royal, and Princess Alice, attended Divine service at Whippingham parish church, where the Rev. G. Prothero performed the service and preached.

The Duchess of Leinster's state of health is understood to be improving.

Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston have issued cards of invitation for a grand banquet to their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and Princess Mary this evening (Saturday). Her Ladyship will receive a brilliant circle of the aristocracy in the evening.

SANATORIUM OF THE CONSUMPTION HOSPITAL.—The committee of the Consumption Hospital at Brompton are making active exertions to secure the early and efficient working of their Sanitorium at Bournemouth. This auxiliary has been established to give patients the benefit of sea air, &c., after treatment at the parent institution. In aid of the funds for this purpose an anonymous friend has offered a donation of £500, providing ten other sums of £50 each are subscribed before the 1st of May next. Already several amounts have been received; and it is to be hoped that the full number will be realised before the date of expiry. In further aid of the same benevolent cause, Colonel and Mrs. Waugh, of Rankes Castle, have generously offered the free use of their estate for the purpose of holding a bazaar and fancy fair.

SCHAMYL AND HIS SON.—Within the last few weeks Schamyl has been rejoiced by the return of his son, who, eleven years ago, when of tender age, had the misfortune to be taken prisoner by the Russians. Since then Schamyl had not heard of the boy, and long ago gave him up for lost. It appears, however, that when he was captured, the Russian General, Prince Woronzoff, sent him to St. Petersburg, where the late Emperor took a liking to the lad, and had him educated in the Military Academy. It happened last year that Schamyl, in some sudden surprise, took several Russian ladies prisoners, amongst whom was the Princess Tscharawaddy. They were conducted to one of Schamyl's mountain fastnesses, and confined there as prisoners of war, but treated with the respect and decorum due to their rank and sex. The Governor-General of Tiflis sent a flag of truce to Schamyl to demand the release of the captured ladies, offering a large sum of money and the liberty of several Circassian ladies who had been made prisoners by the Russians. But Schamyl replied that if his son were alive, and the Russians would restore him, he would release all the lady captives. The Emperor Nicholas sent for young Schamyl, gave him his liberty, and fitted him out with the needful equipment to undertake the long journey. The exchange took place in the end of January. Young Schamyl, who, when at St. Petersburg, was not required to abjure the Moslem creed, has profited by his involuntary *séjour* at the Russian capital, and has now returned to his overjoyed father an accomplished cavalier, with a complete military education

THE BALACLAVA RAILWAY.

THE railway had reached Kadikoi by the beginning of March, the date of the above Sketch. In another fortnight it was expected that the entire length would be finished and handed over to the charge of the military authorities, who will now find themselves relieved from a world of hard work. Our Artist has brought in the newly-erected battery on the left, commanding the scene of a desperate engagement with the Russians. The pile of planks for soldiers' huts, drawn by two horses, gives one a lively notion of the marvellous improvement in the mode of transit which the "navvies" have already effected in the Crimea. To render the contrast more striking between the old and the new state of things, we have only to glance at the dromedarian vehicle in the background ploughing its way through the mire in the most helpless fashion, while a large party of the labourers, sitting at their ease on the top of the planks, look down with pity on the poor dromedary driver.

The end of April was generally assigned by engineers as the date at which the Railway would be in action; but the activity and skill of the men intrusted with it appear to have overcome all obstacles in a manner which few could have anticipated, even though accustomed to the celerity of workmanship in England, and which to our soldiers in the Crimea, worn out by the failure of so many fine schemes, appeared an idle dream. It is once more proved that the men who have made England great by their skill, enterprise, and powers of organisation, are of a far different calibre from the officials whom Government employs. While months have been spent in getting warm clothing and the barest necessaries for hospital practice, a few weeks only has been required for the conception and execution of a novel and most difficult enterprise.

PROGRESS OF THE BALACLAVA RAILWAY TO THE CHURCH OF KADIKOI.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL—INTERIOR OF THE LAST PARALLEL, TRENCH LINE (SEE N ...

INTERIOR OF THE LAST PARALLEL, FRENCH LINE.

Or what our Artist saw on the 1st of March, during a visit to the French lines, he has here given a faithful Sketch. The parapet, as will be observed, is formed of gabions, surmounted with earth or sandbags. Here and there little holes are made for the sharpshooters to take their aim at the Russians without being seen. In the covered way a number of soldiers are busily engaged, with picks and other tools, cutting the rock. The men near the parapet are in the act of loading or discharging their guns; while several officers are looking through the holes in the parapet, trying to find out what the Russians are about.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from page 283.*)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Thursday.

The Earl of Albemarle asked whether the Governor-General of Canada had communicated to the Home Government the fact that some of the native Red Indians had contributed the sum of £100 in aid of the Patriotic Fund for the relief of the wives and families of our soldiers and sailors engaged in the war against Russia?

Earl Granville said that he had not, as yet, received any information of the fact, but he would inquire into the matter

The Earl of Derby asked whether it was the intention of the Government to introduce any measure during the present session for the amendment of the law of partnership. The noble Earl then alluded to the growing deficiency of the materials for the manufacture of paper, and said that, from some successful experiments which had lately been made, it appeared that an excellent description of paper could be manufactured from the fibrous material of the plantain-tree, which grew luxuriously in the West India Islands. As it was desirable to give every encouragement to such a manufacture, he hoped the law of partnership would be so altered as to allow the investment of small capitals in such undertaking.

Lord Stanley of Alderley said, that the Government had in preparation a Bill to Amend the Law of Partnership, which, however, could not be introduced until after the Easter recess. He hoped that the measure would remove many of the evils complained of.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday.

In consequence of forty members not being present at four o'clock, there was no House.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Friday.

CONVENTION WITH SARDINIA.

The Lord Chancellor communicated a message from her Majesty, stating that her Majesty had concluded, in concert with France, a Military Convention with the King of Sardinia—whereby the King of Sardinia engages to maintain, in aid of the war against Russia, 15,000 men, well organised and instructed; and her Majesty has undertaken to recommend to Parliament to enable her to advance to the King of Sardinia a loan of £1,000,000—£200,000 to be paid as soon as possible after the assent of Parliament, and the remainder upon the expiration of six months from the payment of the first instalment. Her Majesty further engages, after the expiration of twelve months—should the war continue—to advance to the King of Sardinia a like sum of £1,000,000; the Government of the King of Sardinia engaging to pay four per cent per annum interest—one per cent of which was to be applied to the Sinking Fund. Her Majesty had directed a copy of the Convention to be placed before their Lordships; and she relied upon the spirit of the House of Lords to enable her to make good the engagement which she had contracted with her ally.

THE MILITIA.

In reply to the Earl of Malmesbury, Lord Panmure stated that the law officers of the Crown had given it as their opinion that every militiaman now serving under the Act of 1854, whether he had enlisted in 1852 or subsequently, was legally compellable by law to serve as a regular embodied militia man

Lord Brougham called attention to the subject of the Criminal Law Procedure, with a view to certain alterations and improvements, and concluded by proposing a resolution declaring the necessity of a measure for the better and more speedy trial of criminals

After a few words from the Lord Chancellor, the resolution was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. Friday.

On the motion of Mr. Hayter, a new writ was ordered to be issued for the borough of Wilton, in the room of Mr. A'Court, who has accepted the office of a Special Commissioner of the Income and Property Tax

Mr F. Peel, in reply to Mr G. Dundas, stated that measures had been taken by the Government to send out to Balaclava large quantities of peat charcoal, to prevent any ill effects arising from the stake of the burial grounds; and that those forming the Sanitary Commission recently sent out had full powers to carry out any measures they may deem necessary.

Mr. Monsell, in reply to Mr. Baillie, stated that various reports had been received respecting the trenching tools supplied to the Army, and that new patterns were being prepared

The Speaker read to the House the Treaty entered into with the King of Sardinia—the terms of which will be found in the report given of the House of Lords.

Lord Palmerston, in reply to Mr. Bowyer, stated that the Treaty would be brought forward for consideration on Monday.

On the motion of Lord Palmerston, seconded by Mr. Disraeli, a vote of thanks was passed to the Rev H. Melvill for the sermon delivered by him at St. Margaret's Church, on the National Fast-day.

THE NEWSPAPER-STAMP BILL.

Mr. Deedes gave notice that, on Monday next, he should move as an amendment on the motion for the second reading of the Newspaper-stamp Bill, "That the second reading of the Newspaper-stamp Bill be postponed until after the Chancellor of the Exchequer has made his Financial Statement."

EDUCATION IN SCOTLAND.

The Lord Advocate moved for leave to bring in a bill for the promotion of education in Scotland. He said that the measure was substantially the same as that which had been introduced last Session, and which was lost by a small minority. He trusted that, in consideration of the efforts which were being made to improve the system of education in England, the House would assent to a measure extending the advantages to Scotland.

The Great Gold Robbery in Australia.—Capture of the Burglars.—The notorious Henry Garrett, who stands charged with robbing the Victoria Bank, Melbourne, South Australia, of nearly £20,000, was detected by policeman E 111, aided by two City detectives, on Thursday, and, without a struggle on his part, though armed to the teeth, lodged in the St. Giles's police-station, Clark's-buildings. He was only a few days arrived from Melbourne. On the prisoner being searched at the station-house, the following property was found on his person: Two credit cheques on Coutts and Co.—one for £1957 6s. 6d., and the other for £300; £130 in gold, a dagger, a knife, two revolvers, a cutlass, four nuggets, and other valuable property. It appeared the prisoner lodged at No. 15, King-street, Soho. From the well-known character of the prisoner, and his ferocious disposition, it was deemed advisable by the inspector on duty to direct a police constable to act up with him in his call during the whole of Thursday night, in order that he might be closely watched. On Friday (yesterday), at one o'clock, he was brought before Mr. Hardwick, at Marlborough-street police-office. Mr. Clarkson, who appeared on behalf of the prosecution, said that the prisoner at the bar was charged to be one of four persons who met together at Ballarat, and concerted for the robbery of the Bank at Victoria. The other three persons were already in custody at Melbourne. These four persons, of whom the prisoner was one, went to the bank in broad daylight, having their faces covered with crape; secured the only two persons who were in the bank at the time, by tying them on the premises, and then proceeded to rob the place to the amount of between £16,000 and £20,000. One of the prisoners now in custody at Melbourne, who had been admitted as King's evidence, had fully described the whole of the proceedings, and identified his three companions in crime. Garrett, it appeared, had lately arrived in London, having come hither in the ship *Deistos*, which arrived at Deal on the 12th inst. The prisoner was remanded till next Friday, at one o'clock

Improvement in Screw Steam Machinery. A very simple but effectual plan has recently been introduced by Mr. Penn, the eminent engine-maker, for preventing that constant and excessive wear and tear of the bearings on the shafts of screw-steamers which has hitherto been found so great a practical difficulty and so continually recurring a source of expense. He introduces between the bearing and the shaft thin slips of wood, which have the remarkable property of entirely suspending that incessant waste of material which, after a certain pressure on the square inch has been attained, is constantly in progress. This simple expedient has been adopted in the recent repairs of the *Himalaya*, and will probably be applied, if found successful in her case, to all screw steamers. While the surface of the bearing is preserved from waste, singularly enough the slips of wood show no indication of being rubbed away or heated.

Pilgrims for Palestine.—A fresh caravan of pilgrims to the Holy Land embarked on the 15th on board the *Egyptus* steam-packet at Marseilles. Among the party are Count de Rottermund, of Pirlemont (Belgium), president; M. H. Perié, of Castres sur l'Agout, vice-president; the Abbe Gillard, of Bon (Lot et Garonne), chaplain; E. de Verpès, of Paris, treasurer; Regnon, of Nantes, secretary; Count de Boisrenard, of Paris; Comte G. and Arthur de Busseret, and Count E. de la Barre, of Brussels, &c. Previously to their departure they were all invited to the palace of the Bishop of Marseilles, which each of them received from that Prelate a small silver cross, bearing the date of their departure. Another caravan is to be organised, to leave at the end of August

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

We have to record a wonder. A recommendation of a Committee of the Commons has been carried into effect by the Lords of the Treasury! This is, indeed, a rare occurrence. Committees and Commissions are too frequently granted to stave off a pressing emergency. The fever will be over, it is said, by the time the Committee has done its work; and the most clamorous cannot any longer complain but what Government has been willing to listen to complaints and to take their suggestions into future consideration. But this future seldom comes at all, and the labours of the Committee or Commission are at length represented by a big Blue book, that some of our Senators sell to their buttermen in exchange for fresh butter and (let us hope) still fresher eggs.

The wonder we have to record is, that the recommendations of a Committee of the Commons of the year 1853 are in part carried into effect in 1855, and that the subject thus taken up in a time of war relates to so peaceful a matter as the Fine Arts. Sir Charles Eastlake—the best-read artist the country has produced (we have not forgotten Mr. Fuseli, my learned R.A.)—has just been appointed the salaried Director of the National Gallery. It will be remembered, doubtless, by many that the Commons Committee, consisting of men so well known as Mr. S tirling, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Monckton Milnes, Colonel Mure, and others, agreed to eight brief recommendations connected with the Keepership of the National Gallery. They were these:—"1. That a system of management by a Board of Trustees should be continued. 2. That no person should in future, in virtue of any office, become a Trustee of the National Gallery. 3. That the Trustees be appointed by the Treasury. 4. That it is expedient that the number of Trustees be diminished as vacancies occur. 5. That the office of Keeper of the Gallery should be abolished. 6. That a salaried Director should be appointed by the Treasury for a definite time, at the expiration of which he may be reappointed. 7. That every recommendation for the purchase of a picture should originate with the Director, and be made in writing to the Trustees. 8. That a fixed sum should be annually proposed to Parliament for the purchase of pictures, and placed at the disposal of the Trustees." The practical good sense of these recommendations was universally admitted as soon as they were divulged; and, though we expect to hear that Mr. Morris Moore, Mr. Coningham, and perhaps one or two more, will complain of the selection of Sir Charles Eastlake as the salaried Director, with one thousand pounds a year, yet we as confidently believe that the selection will meet with the fullest approbation of the British public.

This change for the better, in one half of the building in Trafalgar-square that is dedicated to the Fine Arts, has been accompanied, almost at the same time, by a change for the better in the eastern wing of the building. The assembled thirty nine Royal Academicians have just elected Mr. E. M. Ward, A.R.A, to be a Royal Academician, with permission to attach the well known "Esquire" after his name. Mr. Ward, a very able artist (as our pages have often exhibited), has been chosen to succeed a very indifferent artist—the late Mr. J. J. Chalon. In making this selection, the thirty-nine have passed over Mr. Danby, Mr. Patten, Mr. Elmore, and Mr. Sydney Cooper; and, while we implicitly admit the propriety of the selection, we cannot but express that a kind of injustice has been (unintentionally, no doubt) rendered to more than one artist well deserving to wear the ornamental R.A. appended to his name. Mr. Sydney Cooper is said to have run Mr. Ward hard in the election.

The Committee of Inquiry into the Literary Fund has had its first meeting—a full gathering, we understand; and there is every prospect of a Report, and of a call for a special meeting of the subscribing members before the London season of 1855 is over. Some of the elderly members foresee a falling off in the dinner receipts; but we have no such fear, if the fund is only managed with a purpose more erect (not more honest) than it has been for some years past. The committee have taken too seriously Dr. Johnson's famous couplet:—

What various ills the scholar's life assail—
Toil, envy, want, the patron, and the gaol.

Forgetting that "*patron*" was substituted for "garret" to vex Lord Chesterfield. When Johnson was asked why Pope had written a certain line without much individual meaning, the great moralist answered, happily enough, "Why he thought it would vex somebody."

This mention of Pope reminds us of a pleasant rumour accounting for the delay that has occurred in the appearance of Mr. Croker's promised edition of the works of that author. To his mass of unpublished and most important materials, he has recently been enabled to add the unpublished correspondence of the poet with Dr. Arbuthnot, Lord Bathurst, and David Mallet. Another important accession throws curious light on Pope's dealings in the far-famed South-Sea Bubble

That honest love of emulation which now exists between the English and French will be seen admirably exemplified in the forthcoming National Exhibition at Paris. All our best artists have applied, or are applying, to the possessors of their very best works for permission to send them to Paris; and very liberally, as we hear, have these applications been responded to by the possessors. Stanfield and Roberts, Eastlake and Frost, Leslie and Landseer, Mulready and Ward, Frith and Egg, are all on the eve of sending the choicest specimens of their art to the capital of France. Time, it is said (and no doubt truly), has mellowed some of the works of our living English artists into the rich and enduring condition of old masters. Our school will be seen to advantage, and will stand well.

Many besides ourselves had the pleasure of listening, on Thursday last, to a well-weighed and well-delivered lecture, by Mr. Thackeray, on a subject, as some most erroneously thought, foreign to his nature—Charity and Humour. How often are the best-informed—or those supposed to be so—mistaken in their estimate of their fellow-men. An author's nature is not to be judged of by his works—Grimaldi, the *Clown*, was naturally sad; Rowe, who wrote gloomy and successful tragedies, was always laughing; Thomson, who describes the delights of bathing, was (so Savage said) a stranger to its enjoyments. Mr. Thackeray (we have no idea of panegyric) is a living example (despite his works) of Charity and Humour. We will not offend him by any further allusion to the first subject of his lecture; but we will appeal to those who saw him on Thursday if Humour (the second subject) is not seated most unmistakably in his eyes. The way in which Mr Thackeray referred, on Thursday, to some of his living contemporaries afforded a pleasing proof that he is more than willing to admit "a brother near the throne." Mr. Thackeray had delivered this lecture in America; but, on Thursday, it was heard for the first time in this country.

An Extraordinary Metal.—The attention of the Paris Academy of Sciences was, some months since, directed to a discovery made by M. Sainte-Claire Deville, Professor of Chemistry at the Superior Normal School, in conjunction with M. Wöhler, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Gottingen, of the metal called *aluminium*. The Emperor, on hearing of it, ordered that every encouragement should be given to utilise the discovery, and some manufactured specimens of the metal will appear in the Exhibition. In a report made to the Emperor by the Minister of Public Instruction, proposing that the two above-named savans shall be promoted to the rank of officers in the Legion of Honour as a reward for their scientific skill, we find the following:—"When this extraordinary metal, light as glass, white and shining as silver, almost as unchangeable as gold, malleable and ductile in the same degree as these precious metals, strong as iron, and which is capable of being worked into any form by casting, by the hammer, and by the file; when the metal, which is found in abundance in the commonest clay, shall have taken its place in the domestic economy and the arts, no astonishment will be felt at the encouragement which your Majesty has given in order to render its extraction easy and less costly. Once more it will be admitted, that everything is connected in science, and that the same wonderful discovery of the decomposition of bodies by the pile, which procured for Davy the grand prize founded by Napoleon I., has led to this not less wonderful discovery of the conversion of potters' clay into a metal which may rival gold and silver in its unchangeableness, and iron by its abundance on the very surface of the ground." The report is followed by a decree making the appointments proposed.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

LORD ERSKINE

David Montagu Erskine, Baron Erskine, of Restormel Castle, in the county of Cornwall, was the eldest son of the great advocate and orator, Thomas, Lord Erskine, Lord Chancellor of England, by his first wife Frances, daughter of Daniel Moore, Esq., M.P. He was born in 1788; and married, first, on the 17th April, 1820, Tomyris, (who died the 25th March, 1843), daughter of General Cadwallader, of Philadelphia; secondly, the 29th July, 1843, Ann Bond (who died the 18th April, 1851), daughter of John Francis; and, thirdly, the 21st December, 1852, Anna, widow of Thomas Calderwood Durham, Esq., of Large and Fulham—which lady survives him. His Lordship has had issue by the first marriage only He succeeded his distinguished father as second Baron, on the 17th November, 1823. His Lordship was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he eventually became a M.A. and LL.D.; he was called to the bar in 1811. His life, however, was spent, not in the practice of the law, the judicial honours of which so deservedly fell to the share of his father and brother, but in the diplomatic service of his country. He was British Envoy at Washington from 1806 to 1810, and was afterwards Minister from St. James's at the Courts of Wurtemberg and Bavaria. He retired in 1843. Lord Erskine died on the 16th inst. at his residence, Butler's-green, Sussex. He is succeeded by his eldest son, Thomas Americus, some time Attaché at Munich, now third Baron Erskine; who married, the 12th May, 1836, Louisa, daughter of G. Newnham, Esq., of New Timber-place, Sussex, and widow of Thomas Legh, Esq., of Adlington, Cheshire.

SIR EDWARD FRENCH BROMHEAD, BART., OF THURLBY HALL, COUNTY LINCOLN.

This Baronet died on the 14th inst. He was the eldest son of Lieut-General Sir Gonville Bromhead, of Thurlby Hall (created a Baronet in 1806), by Jane, his wife, daughter of Rose, Baroness de Freyne, and granddaughter of Benjamin Bromhead, Esq., a Colonel in the Army, by Frances, his wife, only child of William Gonville, Esq.

Sir Edward was born 26th March, 1789. Never having married, he is succeeded in the Baronetcy by his nephew, now Sir Edmund Gonville Bromhead, Bart The deceased Baronet was M.A., Camb.; F.R.S. of London and Edinburgh, and F.L.S.; and High Steward of the city of Lincoln.

LIEUT-GENERAL DUFFY, C.B.

Lieut-General John Duffy, C.B., Colonel of the 8th Regiment of Infantry, died on the 17th inst., at his residence in Jermyn-street. This old and gallant British officer entered his country's service in 1795, and for more than eighteen years from that period was in constant and arduous employment He was in the West Indies in 1796, in Holland in the same year, in the East Indies in 1799, in the campaign in Egypt in 1801, and at the siege of Copenhagen in 1807 He was also with the 43rd Infantry throughout the long Peninsular war; he received a gold medal for Badajos, and the silver medal for Fuentes d'Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, and Nive. He was wounded in the head at Vittoria, and he commanded a storming party at the capture of Ciudad Rodrigo. Lieut.-General Duffy became a Military Companion of the Bath in 1831.

Myles Lynch M'Donnell, Esq.—This gentleman, whose sudden death occurred recently in Dublin, was the eldest son of Joseph Myles M'Donnell, Esq., of Doo Castle, late M.P. for Mayo: he had only attained his twenty-second year. His loss in the part of the country where the family property was situated will be severely felt by the poor. Though very young, for some years past he had the management of the estate, which passed into his hands pursuant to family arrangements; and his amiable and upright conduct had made him everywhere very popular

Captain Strode.—Captain J. Chatham Strode, of the 14th Regiment, who died at Scuthill, Somerset, on the 16th ult., of fever, and of an inflammation of the liver (contracted in India), saw during his brief but gallant career much active service. He was with the 61st Regiment in the Punjaub campaign of 1849, was present at the battle of Goojerat, and went with the field force in pursuit of the enemy to the Khyber Pass, for which he obtained a medal and one clasp. He joined the expedition into the Eusufzie country, and was in action with the enemy on the 11th and 14th December, 1849, when he aided in the capture and destruction of the insurgent villages of Saggoor, Pulles, Zoormundie, and Sheerkanee. Strode was also with the expedition against the Afridies, in the Kohat Pass, in February, 1850. This brave and efficient officer was only in the 25th year of his age at the time of his lamented demise. He was the youngest son of Vice-Admiral Sir E. C. Strode, K.C.B., K.C.H.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MARCH 22.

Month and Day	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer Highest Reading	Thermometer Lowest Reading	Thermometer Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			
Mar. 16	29.522	54·1	36·0	44·1	+ 2·4	92	S.W.	0.15
„ 17	29.612	49·1	35.5	42·6	+ 0·9	96	S.W.	0.07
„ 18	29.560	51·0	34·0	41·7	— 0·1	85	S.W.	0.08
„ 19	29.930	52·5	36·6	45·6	+ 1·7	95	S.W.	0.03
„ 20	29.806	58·2	33·0	44·1	+ 2·1	92	E.	0.01
„ 21	29.356	46·0	35.5	39·6	— 2·4	98	N.E.	0.00
„ 22	28.861	36·0	33·0	34·4	— 7·3	100	N.E.	0.28

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign — below the average

The reading of the barometer increased from 29 52 inches, at the beginning of the week, to 29 61 inches by the 17th; decreased to 29.45 inches by the afternoon of the same day; increased to 29·93 inches by the 19th; and decreased to 28 85 inches by the end of the week The mean for the week, at the height of eighty-two feet above the level of the sea, was 29 50 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 41·49, being 0·39 lower than the average of the same week during thirty-eight years

The range of temperature during the week was 22·0°, being the difference between the highest and lowest readings of the thermometer on the 20th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 15·10. The greatest was 25 2 on the 20th, and the least 8° on the 22nd.

Rain fell in five days during the week to the depth of rather more than half an inch.

The weather has been generally dull, the sky overcast, and rain falling frequently. The 20th was fine, and the temperature was high; but on the 21st the weather was again cold, and the 22nd was very cold; snow fell for some time in the morning of the day, and rain, snow, and sleet fell to the depth of 0.3 (three-tenths of an inch) nearly.

Lewisham, March 23, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

Health of London. In the week ending March 17 the births of 900 boys and of 873 girls (in all 1773 children) were registered within the metropolitan districts. Within the same week the deaths of 1425 persons were registered—a number greater than in the preceding week by 48. The estimated number of deaths for the week, from the average of the preceding ten years, was 1226, so that the mortality exceeded its average by 199. Diseases of the respiratory organs were fatal in 278 cases, while the deaths in the preceding week numbered 230; hooping-cough, 78; and influenza, 9. The number of deaths in this week show clearly that the consequences of severe weather, and changes of weather, affect the number of deaths, for some time after it has passed away

The Foley-place Murder.—Luigi Baranelli, who stands charged with the murder of Joseph Latham, otherwise Lambert, was brought before Mr. Hardwick, at Marlborough-street, on Tuesday, for final examination. The prisoner—who, under the advice of his professional adviser, reserved his defence—was fully committed on the double charge of shooting Joseph Latham, and of shooting at Mary Ann Jeance, with intent to do her some grievous bodily harm.

The Lord Chancellor in Danger.—An accident, that might have been attended with very mischievous consequences, occurred at the House of Lords on Tuesday. A stone of considerable size was being raised to the parapet of the new works; but, when near its destination, the fastening gave way, and it fell through the ceiling of one of the corridors, and rolling against one of the stained-glass windows at the north-east end of the House, slightly disfigured the feet of one of the female figures. If the impetus had been a very little more, it would have burst through the windows into the gallery of the House The Lord Chancellor was delivering judgment in an appeal at the moment, and the excitement was considerable until the cause of the noise could be ascertained.

Wills and Personality.—The Most Noble Harriet, Duchess Dowager of Roxburghe, personality £8000, within the province of Canterbury. General the Hon. Thomas Edward Capel, C.B., £14,000. Sir McLeod Hicks Beach, Bart., £90,000. Nathaniel Betton, Esq., of Shrewsbury, £40,000. Rev. James Buckingham, B.C.L, Devon, £16,000. Thomas Robyns, M.D., Somerset, £10,000; and he has bequeathed to the Bristol Infirmary, Clifton Dispensary, and National School, Fishguard, S.W., £50 each. Mr. Thomas Farr, of Cheltenham, has left to the Engham College for Training, and the Parochial Infant School (both of Cheltenham), £250 each.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

The flying squadron having gone, there are now at Spithead 19 pendants under the command-in-chief of Rear-Admiral the Hon R. S. Dundas, C.B., and those 19 ships require only about 600 petty officers and seamen to fill up their full complement. The flying squadron was composed of 7 pendants; the 19 now at Spithead make 26; the full force of the Baltic fleet will include 108 pendants. We shall have 30 screw ships of the line (including the screw guard-ships), and to each of those ships will be attached a screw gun-boat manned with a complement of 34. These alone will count 40 pendants. But all this force will not be ready for at least two months.

Captain Cuming has been selected for the command of one of the battteries. Captain Halstead (late of the *Dauntless*) and Captain Beauchamp Seymour (late of the *Pride*) will each have the command of one of those formidable ships. They are progressing very rapidly at Blackwall. Gangs of men are employed night and day to complete this new and difficult modern engine of war. Whilst the ships are being completed in building and the massive wrought-iron plates are being fitted to the sides, the engineers are busily engaged in fitting the machinery on board.

The General Commanding-in-Chief has directed that for every volunteer received from the militia, by recruiting parties, the regulated sum of 7s. 6d. be paid to the militia sergeant upon final approval.

SEVERAL of the ambulances sent down to Portsmouth some time ago, to assist the wounded to sick quarters, on the landing spot were found so heavy and rough as to be totally unfit for use. Common street omnibuses have been hired in preference.

THE A, B, and C divisions of the New Land Transport Corps, numbering 261 men, under Lieutenant-Commander Adick, arrived at Plymouth on Monday, from Hornfield barracks, Bristol, to embark for the Crimea.

REAR-ADMIRAL BERKELEY, the senior Lord of the Admiralty, accompanied by Mr. Burney, Accountant-General of the Navy, arrived at Portsmouth on Monday, and went out to the fleet in the *Vivid* yacht, to make arrangements for "paying down" the ships before starting. The fleet was joined on the same day by the *Blenheim*, 60, Captain W. H. Hall, the *Odin*, 16, Captain Willcox; and the *Basilisk*, 6, Commander Jenner. The *Edinburgh*, 58, Captain Hewlett, commenced to swing for the readjustment of her compasses, prior to joining. No day is yet fixed for the sailing of the main body of the fleet; upwards of 16,000 men in it are now daily victualled at Portsmouth alone, and at the Royal Clarence-yard they are slaughtering as many 210 bullocks per week: they are also loading vessels for Malta, Constantinople, and Balaclava daily. A number of the new class of medical officers, styled "dresses," will forthwith embark in the "flying squadron" for the Downs.

ORDERS have been transmitted from the Horse Guards addressed to the commanding officers of the several cavalry depôts at Manchester, Norwich, York, Piershill, Exeter, Sheffield, Maidstone, Canterbury, Dorchester, and Newbridge (Ireland), to hold in readiness for embarkation as many disciplined mounted men as may be available to reinforce the following cavalry regiments in the Crimea, viz.:-4th Dragoon Guards, 5th (Princess Charlotte of Wales's) Dragoon Guards, 1st Royal Dragoons, 2nd North British Dragoons (Scots Greys), 4th Light Dragoons, 6th Inniskilling Dragoons, 8th Royal Irish Hussars, 10th (Prince of Wales's) ditto, 11th (Prince Albert's Own) ditto, 13th Light Dragoons, and 17th Lancers. It is estimated that the depôt of each regiment will be able to supply at least two troops of 80 men each, making a total of 1760 sabres. In addition to the above, the 6th Dragoon Guards (Carbineers) quartered at Hounslow and the 15th Hussars, stationed at Exeter, are held in readiness to proceed to the seat of war. Each of these regiments can now muster upwards of 600 sabres. The 12th Lancers, 700 strong, are also on the route for the seat of war from India. The draughts from the depôts, with these three regiments, will make the cavalry reinforcements amount to 3600 sabres. Above 500 horses, for the remounts of the cavalry at present in the Crimea, will proceed in charge of the draughts which will embark early in the ensuing month.

OPENING OF THE CALCUTTA, DELHI, AND LAHORE RAILWAY, BY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.

THE merited sarcasm of the illustrious Burke—that, were the British expelled from the wide-spreading empire of Hindostan, the only traces left of them, and their rule, after the lapse of a century, would be those of the vulture and the lion has ceased to be true: this stigma on England's fame exists no longer.

On the 3rd of February was officially inaugurated the partial opening of one of the most gigantic engineering works ever undertaken by man—a line of Railway, which, with 1350 miles of unbroken length, will bridge the sacred Ganges, the Soane, the Jumna, and the Sutlej; traverse the most fertile tracts of India; connect its most populous and ancient cities with the ocean; open out the inexhaustible wealth and resources of nature, and at present, for commercial purposes, inaccessible districts; ameliorate the condition, weaken the prejudices, and enlarge the minds of millions of the human race; consolidate our power in the East; and finally leave an imperishable monument to the end of time, of the energy and beneficent dominion of the adventurous Saxon.

At an early hour the Armenian Ghaut on the Calcutta side of the river, here about half a mile in width, and the Howrah terminus on the other, were thronged by masses of the native population, whose countenances evinced much pleasure and interest in the spectacle. It is said, that very rarely, except in their religious ceremonies, have they displayed so much gratification and curiosity on any public occasion

A long arcade, covered with flowers and foliage, led to the water's edge, where two steam-boats, engaged for the occasion, ferried over those having the privilege of admission to the other bank. As far as the eye could reach along the river, large Indiamen, with lofty spars, crowded merchant men of many nations, and native boats, lay moored in long lines up and down the stream. The steamers were adorned with branches, flowers, and flags; as was a leafy arcade, leading up to the station.

About nine o'clock the Marquis of Dalhousie, attended by his staff arrived, announced by a salute of nineteen guns. He was received by Mr. Rowland Macdonald Stephenson, and Mr. George Turnbull—the former, fourteen years since, the projector, and now Managing Director of the Railway; and the latter the Engineer-in-Chief. A prayer was now read by the venerable Bishop of Calcutta, together with appropriate selections from the Scriptures.

The Governor-General remained till the departure of the first train, but ill-health prevented him being present at the banquet. On the platform were to be seen most of the leading members of the Government and society in Calcutta. They were conveyed in two trains—the first leaving Howrah at twenty minutes to ten a.m., and arriving at Burdwan, where the coal-fields commence, sixty-six miles from Calcutta, at half-past twelve o'clock.

At Burdwan a long arcade of leaves, ornamented with flags, and affording a pleasing shelter from the mid-day sun, led to the spacious tents, where covers were laid for 700 persons.

Grace having been said by the Bishop of Calcutta, the company dispatched an excellent champagne breakfast; after which Mr. R. Macdonald Stephenson gave the following toasts:—"The Queen," "Prince Albert and the Royal Family," "the Governor-General," "the East India Railway Company," "the Engineers, Locomotive Superintendents, and Contractors of the Railway," "the commercial interests of India," "Dr. O'Shaugnessy and the Electric Telegraph," "the Army and Navy."

The Chairman, in replying for the East India Railway Company, stated that, although fourteen years had elapsed since the subject came under semi-official consideration in England, it was but four years since the works were actually commenced. A line, exceeding in length either of the two great lines of England, had been completed and opened—under every disadvantage incident to the construction of works, in a country where a strange language, a trying climate, imperfect means of communication and transport, and other serious drawbacks, had been encountered and overcome—within a considerably less period, and at less than one-third of the cost of the two great lines referred to—the London and Birmingham and Great Western railroads. 121 miles of the East Indian Railroad were then complete; 649 miles were under contract, to be completed by 1857; 200 miles were being constructed by the Railway Company; and 380 miles were being surveyed: making a total of 1350 miles.

The first return train started from Burdwan at twenty minutes to four p.m., and arrived at Howrah at twenty minutes to seven. The weather was perfectly fine throughout the day, and the arrangements comfortable. At night the terminus and house near the Ghauts were illuminated.

A DEPOSITORY for Bibles and other religious books, in various languages, is about to be opened in the Frank quarter of Constantinople, as a branch of the similar establishment existing in Stamboul. A committee has been appointed to make the necessary arrangements, and a room has been engaged in the main street of Pera, near the British Consulate. In connection with the book store, it is proposed to provide accommodation for reading a few of the principal English and American newspapers, one or two of the French and Italian journals, and some of the religious and secular periodicals published in Great Britain, America, and on the Continent. Although pecuniary help is expected from one or more of the religious societies at home, whose publications will be offered for sale in this new Depository, yet the founding and support of the whole institution must chiefly depend upon local resources.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

LEONARD C., Cleveland, Ohio. The pamphlet of "Loose Leaves of Indian Chess" has been postponed; Mr Cochrane's professional engagements not allowing him leisure to complete it.

C. P. HUNT. *Problem.*—1. Your Solution of the Indian Problem is correct. 2. The position will be examined.

R. C. S. There is no difference. 2. The small pummed Chess figures are far more trouble than they are worth. 3. Your Solution is correct.

A. REMPE, Richmond.—You may procure a book of the "Rules for Playing Double Chess" either of Leuchars (Piccadilly) or Sherwin (Queen-street, Lincoln's-Inn-fields), makers of the used boards for the particular game.

M. ALLEN, France.—Thanked for his obliging communication.

C. W., Sunderland. They shall be reported on shortly.

TOM OF COVENTRY.—If Zost at Chess Meeting at Leamington is appointed to take place on 19 July, 12th and 26th (Q.)

DELTA, Scotland. We shall be glad to hear the result of your exertions.

J. H.—The last mate will be quickest by actively 34 and 35, are but indifferent.

C. W., M. N. O.—They want point, and are much too easy.

W. G. C.—No. 3 forms a tolerable diagram. The other is extremely simple.

A. Z. P.—Promising, but not quite up to our standard.

PHILO.—See our Solution.

H. H., Liverpool.—We answered this question last week.

MIRO.—Your solution of the Indian Problem is correct.

T. P. C., Edinburgh. You can procure blank Chess diagrams of Messrs. Kent, publishers, 42, Paternoster-row. The best, we believe, are 5s. 6d. per hundred.

E. M. J. Hereafter, we shall notice "Bell's Chess Chronicle" (Second Edition, 1852) is the more comprehensive. 2. The former is in two volumes; the price of each about 12s.

BONAMI. All we know of the matter is, that a match has been talked of between Herr Schulten, who is now permanently resident at Aix-la-Chapelle, and Mr. F. Deacon, of Brighton. Nothing, we believe, has been, as yet, definitively settled.

F. R. O.—Yes, must refer to some authority now obsolete. All modern writers concur in declaring Stalemate a drawn game.

G. H., DERBY.—Many other before attempts to solve any of the curious and ancient Problems presented in Dr. Jaenisch's articles on Oriental Chess, see our remarks in the Number for 1st March on the old names and powers of the Pieces.

DELTA, Malta, W. C. C., W. M. W., T. K., S. W., J. T., of Derby.—The Solutions of Mr Bolton and Mr Mason Hyde are correct.

JAN COLLINGWOOD.—Accepted.

J. K. It shall be reported on in our next.

C. H. B.—Yes, elegant little tridge; but we have already published it.

ANONYMOUS. The Paris Chess periodical *La Régence*, edited with its chief editor, Kieseritzky. We are glad to hear that there is a prospect of its being re-established under auspices which will secure to it the patronage and support of the most eminent players of Europe. The editorship, it is understood, will be intrusted to M. de Rivière, the present Honorary Secretary of the Paris "Cercle des Echecs."

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 577, by J. M. of Sherburn; M.D., Alpha, S. P. Q. R., D. D., are correct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 578, by A. Z., M.P., Chiswick Rants, E. H. M., F. R., of Norwich, Felix, Dereven, F. T., Derby; J. A. M., Fakenham, D. D., Sharpite, Septimus, J. T., Omega, Tyjiko, Tartar, Pleasant, W. W. W., Cotton, Cordelia, J., Blackburn, T. K., J. T., Blackburn, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by Sharpite, W. M. W., Dereven, M. T. W., F. S. A., Cantab, Omega, F. P., Camelot, Old Sarum, D. D., are correct. All others are wrong

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 576.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to K 3rd	Kt takes Q (c)
2. K checks	K takes Kt
3. B to Q 3rd—Mate	

(a) If B takes R, the Q checks at Q 3rd, and then gives Mate. If R takes Kt, the B checks at Q 8 6th, and Q mates next move. If R plays to K 3rd, the Q checks at Q 3rd, and the R then mates. And, finally, if R is played to K B 4th, the Kt gives check at Q B 3rd, and the B mates.

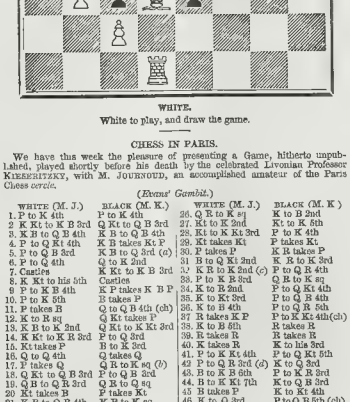
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 577.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to Q R 4th (ch)	K takes R	3. Q to Q R 4th (ch)	K takes Kt
2. Kt to Q Kt 2nd (dis. ch)	K to Q Kt 6th	4. R to Q R sq	K takes R (best)
		5. Q to Q B 7th—and mates	

PROBLEM No. 579.

This curious and ingenious termination of a game we owe to E. B. C. of Hobken, U S

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and draw the game.

CHESS IN PARIS.

We have this week the pleasure of presenting a Game, hitherto unpublished, played shortly before his death by the celebrated Livonian Professor KIESERITZKY, with M. JOUNOUD, an accomplished amateur of the Paris Chess *cercle*.

(Évans' Gambit.)

WHITE (M. J.)	BLACK (M. K.)	WHITE (M. J.)	BLACK (M. K.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	26. Q R to K sq	K to B 2nd
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	27. Kt to K 2nd	Kt to K 5th
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	28. Kt to K Kt 3rd	P to K 4th
4. P to Q Kt 4th	K B takes Kt P	29. Kt takes Kt	P takes Kt
5. P to Q B 3rd	K B to Q 3rd (a)	30. P takes P	K R takes P
6. P to Q 4th	Q to K 2nd	31. B to Q Kt 2nd	K R to K 3rd
7. Castles	K Kt to K B 3rd	32. K R to K 2nd (c)	P to Q R 4th
8. K Kt to his 5th	Castles	33. P to K R 3rd	Q R to K sq
9. P to K B 4th	K P takes K B P	34. K to R 2nd	P to Q Kt 4th
10. P to K 5th	P takes P	35. K to Kt 3rd	P to Q R 4th
11. P takes B	Q to Q B 4th (ch)	36. K to B 4th	P to Q R 5th
12. K to B sq	Q Kt takes P	37. R takes K P	P to K Kt 4th (ch)
13. K B to K 2nd	Q Kt to K Kt 3rd	38. K to B 5th	R takes R
14. K Kt to K R 3rd	P to Q 3rd	39. R takes R	R takes R
15. Kt takes P	B to K 3rd	40. K takes R	K to his 3rd
16. Q to Q 4th	Q takes Q	41. P to K Kt 4th	P to Q Kt 5th
17. P takes Q	Q R to K sq (b)	42 P to Q R 3rd (d)	K to Q 3rd
18. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q B 3rd	43. B to K 8 6th	P to K R 3rd
19. Q B to Q B 3rd	P to Q 4th	44. B to K Kt 7th	K to Q B 3rd
20. Kt takes B	P takes Kt	45 B takes P	K to Kt 4th
21. K B to Q B 4th	K B to K sq	46. K to Q 3rd	P to Q B 5th (ch)
22. K to K sq	P to Q 6th	47. K to Q B 2nd	P takes P
23. K B to Q 3rd	K to B 2nd	48. B takes P	P to Q R 7th
24. B takes Kt (ch)	K takes B	49. B to K 6th	
25. K R to K 3rd	P to Q Kt 3rd	And Black surrenders	

(a) With all his fine genius and extraordinary knowledge of the game, Kieseritzky was the most wayward and whimsical of players. It was this and his constitutional timidity, perhaps, which prevented his occupying the highest place amongst the chess masters of the day. In his Opening he delighted in all sorts of odd, rule-of-the-way manœuvring. In his End Games, when the road to victory lay plain and direct before him, he would turn aside as if from sheer wantonness, and lose himself in some inextricable maze, while his opponent took time and heart and reached the long-desiredst of goal. These eccentricities have been set down to an obliquity of mind. We are disposed to attribute them in part, at least, to another cause. He entertained a great repugnance to giving odds; and, as his opponents were for the most part immeasurably inferior to him both in skill and bookish lore, he could of course afford, when playing "even" with them, to risk a good deal. Of what import was the loss of a few moves or of two or three Pawns to one who felt he was a Rook stronger than his adversary? It was thus, we suspect, that he acquired that fondness for rash attacks, and whimsical defences, which injured his game, and told against him so terribly when he came to cope with men of mettle like his own.

The move in the text was one of his caprices, and cost him many a game.

(b) He should rather have played K R to K sq.

(c) A sage precaution against Black's occupying this rank with his Q Rook.

(d) This and the succeeding moves on White's side are very cleverly played.

A SOMNOLENT MEMBER.—After the body of the House of Commons was cleared on Tuesday evening, some amusement was caused to the tellers and the doorkeepers by the discovery of a member asleep in the gallery. The Earl of Mulgrave called out from the floor of the House, "Hi! wake up!" but without effect; the honourable member's slumbers were too profound to be lightly disturbed, and he was only brought to a sense of his undignified position by a gentle shake on the shoulder from one of the doorkeepers. The honourable gentleman, at once appreciating the situation, jumped up, and hastily quitted the gallery.

THE SILENT MEMBER. No. IX.

THIS week has been, as it were, cut in two by the Fast-day, which has given rise to other divisions besides those of time, for there has been much division of opinion as how it ought to have been kept, or whether it ought to have been kept at all, except by those whose sins of omission and of commission had been the cause of a Fast-day having been appointed. It is to be regretted that this day of fast set apart for religious observances should have been made the subject of a war of opinion which has been waged with so much bitterness, that the parties to it, instead of entering into the spirit of a Fast-day by humbling themselves, have seemed to throw all their energies into the attempt to humiliate each other. Now, that it is all over, let us hope that it was, on the whole, observed in such a manner as to aid the professed object with which it was proposed, and that it may have awakened those in authority to a due sense of the sin of reducing a powerful nation to the condition from which we have asked Providence to rescue us.

The Sunday question has this week undergone a discussion in the House of Commons, with a result that will disappoint some and satisfy others; for the proposal to open some of the national exhibitions on Sunday afternoon has been negatived by a large majority. The subject is beset with difficulties; for, though in these days few would deny that a portion of Sunday might be well appropriated to harmless recreation by those who labour all the rest of the week, there are still fewer who would wish this advantage to be obtained by making Sunday a working day for a large number of persons whose employment would be necessary to provide for the recreation of others. Perhaps the better course to be pursued by those who advocate the harmless amusement of the masses, is to urge the adoption of shorter hours of labour on the working days rather than the establishment of any amusements on Sunday, which would lead to the loss of that day as a day of rest, to any considerable portion of the community. Though an English Sunday may be rather dull, there are not many of us who would wish to see it converted into a Continental Sunday—of which, however, there is not much fear while the national feeling and temperament remain the same as they are at present. Individually, I would like to see the British Museum, the National Gallery, the Crystal Palace, and other places of an amusing and elevating tendency open on the Sunday afternoon; but I am told that "if we once begin, we shall not know where to stop"—an argument which, I confess, appears to me always absurd and contemptible. Everything good might be stopped—or rather might never be commenced—if this principle were adopted; for there is nothing, however excellent, which may not be carried too far, if we do not know where to stop. And that is precisely the knowledge which we are morally bound to acquire. We might as well say we could not venture to light a fire, lest from "not knowing where to stop," we burn down the house; or we might adopt the same argument with regard to the use of everything, —for there is nothing which, if we do not know where to stop, might not, by abuse or excess, become a source of injury. In all cases where the public good is concerned it is the duty of Government to find out where to draw the line—and draw it accordingly. It might be too much to expect the extreme of nicety in the performance of this rather difficult operation; but when there is a very large minority in favour of any proposition, we may be sure that the line is not drawn so near as it might be to the point that is most generally desired.

If the Vienna Conference proceeds as slowly as diplomatic negotiations usually do, it will be some time before the Colonial Secretary is at leisure to attend to the affairs of the Colonies. Perhaps it is felt by the Government that distant possessions are appropriately presided over by a distant Minister; and that, as any grievance, to be remedied at home, must travel some thousands of miles before it can be heard, there is not much additional inducing in dispatching it on a second trip, or letting it rest after its journey till the proper authority returns home from the Continent. Besides, it does not seem that the absence of the Minister can cause more delay than if he were at his post; for a drought constitution which arrived from the colony of Victoria on the 31st of May, last year—when the Duke of Newcastle was "at home" as Colonial Secretary, before he began to be "not at home" at the War-office—is still in that condition which precludes Sir George Grey from giving a "pledge" as to when it will be "considered." Perhaps, if the recent outbreaks had continued, we should have heard that "something must be done forthwith;" but as the colonists have happily restored order among themselves, and got rid of a most obnoxious Colonial Minister, sent out to them by the Colonial-office two years ago, there will be nothing to be done but to see what valuable appointments remain to be filled up from home, and let matters take their chance till next Session.

The weather continues to be the favourite topic of Lord Raglan, and the subject has been taken by the author of the telegraphic despatches, from one of which we learn that "a bright moon impeded operations by night"—an effect that seems rather remarkable. If the moon puts a stop to everything by night, the sun must *a fortiori* have the same effect by day, and thus, between the sun and the moon, everything must necessarily be at a dead stand-still. It is to be hoped that the telegraph is error in announcing that the British army is "moon-struck," though there is reason to believe that some of its heads have been for some time in that unhappy condition.

Some year or two ago there was a good deal of talk, followed by a conversation in the House of Commons, about the alleged committal of a person to prison for an extra month, for having called a policeman a pig at the Middlesex or Westminster Sessions. Many persons thought the penalty rather severe for an offence unknown to the statute-book; but what will be thought of a recent sentence of the Lord Mayor of London, who is reported to have given a pickpocket an additional month of imprisonment and hard labour—not because he called anybody any name, but because he refused to call himself any name—at the Mansion-house. "Prisoner," said the Lord Mayor, "I give you the utmost punishment I can give you three months, with hard labour. If you had given your name I would have given you no more than two months." If this is a correct version of what occurred, it is evident that a man is to be imprisoned one month, with hard labour, for not giving his name—a state of things I beg to recommend to the attention of the same member of Parliament whose curiosity impelled him to ask by what law the calling a policeman a "pig" is punishable with imprisonment? The statute under which a person is liable to a month's imprisonment for not giving his name must be a still more remarkable object, and if any amount of research can bring it to light, the sooner the discovery is made the better, in order that such a law may be repealed as quickly as possible. Perhaps, if the Lord Mayor had been satisfied with giving the "nameless one" the additional month, it might have been inferred that there is some old law in some old corner of our code, to justify, or rather to legalise, his Lordship's act; but this presumption is negatived when we find a reason adduced, instead of an Act of Parliament quoted, in support of the sentence. "If," said the Lord Mayor to the prisoner, "you had been at all respectable, you would have given your name" in that this is a conclusion to which I am not disposed to jump hand in hand with the Chief Magistrate. It does not seem to have occurred to the Lord Mayoral mind that the accused, without being "at all respectable" might have given any body else's name instead of his own; and as the former would have served his purpose as well as the latter—inasmuch as Jones or Jenkins would have been quite as satisfactory to the Lord Mayor as Smith or Brown—the withholding of a name is rather in favour of the prisoner's respectability than otherwise.

A tragical scene that occurred the other day at Marlborough-street, when a Chinaman charged with begging cut his throat in the court with a knife he had in his possession, suggests some reflections on the propriety of searching all persons that are taken into custody. Some of the Judges have condemned the practice with more or less of declamation on the sacredness of the liberty of the subject—which liberty, it must be remembered, being already taken away by the act of arrest, forms, in reality, no part of the subject for discussion. The question simply is, whether it would not be safer for themselves and others that all persons in custody should be required to give up (it might be, except in cases of felony, to any one they might think proper) whatever they may happen to have about them. The sacredness of the person, which some of the Judges so eloquently talk about, is gone as far as it can go, when a man becomes a prisoner, and therefore it is only the sacredness of the pocket which is the object of so much jealousy. When we recollect that a missile has been sometimes sent from a prisoner in the dock towards a judicial head—to say nothing of cases of violence committed on themselves and each other by persons in custody, and of robberies perpetrated in prison cells—it would seem to be as much for the good of prisoners themselves as of those who have to deal with them that all means of mischief should be carefully taken away from them.

EMBARKATION OF THE WILTSHIRE MILITIA, AT PORTSMOUTH.

THE ROYAL WILTS MILITIA.

On Friday (last week) the Dockyard at Portsmouth presented a very animated appearance, during the embarkation of the Royal Wilts Militia on board the General Screw Steam Company's ship *Crœsus*, for Corfu. They go out, under the orders of Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Methuen, of the following strength:—24 officers, 36 sergeants, 30 corporals, and 600 rank and file. The regiment is in splendid condition. The men marched down to the Dockyard from their barracks, accompanied by their own excellent band and that of the South Lincoln Militia, who have just been quartered in Portsmouth. The men went on board in excellent order, not a single case of drunkenness occurring.

The accommodation on board is very complete, and from the size of the vessel and her being specially adapted for a large number of passengers, the men anticipate a pleasant and speedy voyage.

Four officers and 128 non-commissioned officers and men of the 20th Foot, and four officers and 128 non-commissioned officers and men of the 95th Foot, also embarked on board the *Crœsus*, for Malta, to join the reserve of Lord Raglan's army there. The *Crœsus* sailed on Saturday morning. In the second Illustration, the fine ship is shown leaving the harbour. Our Artist has, in his Sketch, shown in the distance, H.M.S. *Resistance*: on board which, on Thursday evening, the following other draughts, sent down by railway, embarked for Malta, to join the reserve there:—6 officers and 128 non-commissioned officers and men of the 42nd Highlanders; 2 officers and 65 non-commissioned officers and men of the 46th Foot; 4 officers and 128 non-commissioned officers and men of the 79th Highlanders; 3 officers and 128 non-commissioned officers and men of the 93rd Highlanders; and 4 officers and 128 non-commissioned officers and men of the 97th Foot.

RECEPTION OF THE HON. MAJOR FEILDING, AT NEWNHAM.

The villages of Pailton and Monk Kirby, and Newnham Hall, the seat of the Earl of Denbigh, have recently been the scene of the impressive welcome of his Lordship's son, the Hon. Percy Feilding, Major in the Guards, who was severely wounded at the battle of Inkerman. The Earl and his family are absent in Paris; but, no sooner had it become known that Major Feilding was about to sojourn for a short time at Newnham, than the tenantry of his father resolved to convey to the gallant soldier an expression of affectionate sympathy, and hearty congratulation upon his return.

On the morning of the 1st inst., at about twelve o'clock the tenantry and other neighbouring gentlemen, well mounted, began to arrive at Pailton; and by one o'clock about fifty of them proceeded on the Harborough-road and met the carriage which had been sent to convey Major Feilding from the Rugby Station. The Major sat in company with his uncle, Colonel Feilding. The horsemen halted and loudly cheered, after which they formed a double line, and entered Pailton in the following order:—A large union-jack, French and Turkish flags, carried by three gentlemen on horseback; the Lutterworth brass band; fifty horsemen; another union-jack and flags carried by footmen; the Major's carriage, passing through a beautiful evergreen arch, in the centre of which was inserted a pink and white device, on which was inscribed on one side "P. F. Welcome," and on the other, "The Queen, God bless her." The whole party formed a circle before the Rev. E. Everett's house, where the Royal Standard, belonging to Captain Tryon, was hoisted, the band playing "God Save the Queen." After three hearty cheers, the procession moved on towards Kirby, and entered that village where the bells were ringing, and the band playing in good style "See the Conquering Hero Comes." The horsemen again formed a circle in front of garlands suspended from a fine oak-tree, in the centre of which was the inscription "Honour the Brave." Over this was the family crest, surmounted by a large Union

"THE CRŒSUS" LEAVING PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR, WITH THE WILTSHIRE MILITIA ON BOARD.

RECEPTION OF THE HON. MAJOR FEILDING, AT NEWNHAM HALL, ON HIS RETURN FROM THE CRIMEA.

Jack, and French and Turkish flags floating on each side. Here the horses were detached, and the carriage was drawn by about thirty men. A little further on was a white streamer thrown across the street, bearing the inscription "Better health and long life to Major Feilding" This was taken down and carried before the carriage. At the park-gate was another arch of evergreens, on which was the inscription, "Welcome Home." The procession again halted, while about two hundred children belonging to the Failton and Kirby schools sang "See the Conquering Hero Comes." At the entrance to the Court was a double arch of evergreens, with the inscription, "Long Live our Noble Patron;" and on the reverse the words "Alma and Inkerman," surmounted by a flag originally belonging to the Guards. On the carriage being drawn up to the hall-door, three cheers were given for the Major; after which the Rev. E. Bromfield, the clergyman of the parish, read a congratulatory address; to which the Major feelingly replied, concluding with these words:—"While I feel grateful to those who have showed by their presence the interest they feel in my welfare, and who have mingled their prayers with my own while I have been engaged in the war, I cannot sufficiently express my gratitude to God, who had mercifully preserved me while in circumstances of danger upon the battle-field." The Major was again cheered. Three cheers were also given for "The Queen," "The Army and Navy," "The Earl of Denbigh," "Old England, the Land of the Free," "Our brave Allies, the French," &c.

The Major looked exceedingly well, considering the fatigue and suffering he had passed through; and, when he left his carriage, he walked among his friends with the aid of two sticks. We wish the brave young Major a speedy restoration to perfect health.

"A GAME OF ROMPS," AT THE PRINCESS' THEATRE.

We this week give an Illustration of Madame Girardin's poem, as acted by Mr. C. Kean's company. The performance has so little story or incident that the title conveys all the interest which the piece embraces. In acting it becomes a sort of brief spectacle, in which the accompanying scene is the principal feature. But the spectacle is not of the ordinary kind; it consists not of the ordinary gew-gaws of the stage, but is composed of the chief female beauty of the theatre, which, whether collectively or individually, is certainly striking. The Misses Ternan, Leclerq, Heath, and Murray are the illustrators of the poetic ideal; and, by the grace of their movements and the cheerfulness of their general carriage, they contrive an imposing *ensemble*, the effect of which has an innocent charm that must prove attractive to the drawing-room audience of the stalls and dress circle at a fashionable theatre. The whole is an elegant and tasteful entertainment, which is not only amusing, but is calculated to cultivate an appreciation for accomplishments which, while "they make the virtuous still more virtuous," add a spirit to life, and give a stimulus to healthful and benevolent habits.

SCENE FROM THE NEW FARCE OF "A GAME OF ROMPS," AT THE PRINCESS' THEATRE.

MUSIC.

Grisi and Mario have returned to London, after their six months' sojourn in the United States. Their last appearance was in New York a few weeks ago, when Mr. Hackett, the *entrepreneur*, informed the public that, after paying Grisi and Mario their stipulated terms (£1,750 sterling, besides expenses of living and travelling), he himself had lost a great gainer by the speculation his net profits amounted to 20,000 dollars. This sets the question at rest as to the success of these great artists in America. Having amassed an immense fortune, they will now, it is said, retire to their estate in the neighbourhood of Florence. Meanwhile, however, it is believed (though the fact is not positively known) that Mario will appear during the ensuing season at the Royal Italian Opera.

Our sedate neighbours, the Dutch, have been smitten with the Lind-fever, which now rages among them as violently as it did in Eng land. It appears that Madame Goldschmidt has resumed professional life for a time, in order to raise a fund for endowing a hospital in Stockholm. She is now giving a series of concerts for the sufferers from the late disastrous inundations in Guelderland and Brabant. The first took place a few days ago at Amsterdam, and produced a clear profit of about £400 sterling. When she appeared on the concert-room, the audience rose *en masse*, with demonstrations of the utmost enthusiasm. At the conclusion the band struck up the Swedish National Anthem, and six children belonging to the most distinguished families of the city advanced towards Jenny Lind, and presented her with a garland, and a testimonial of gratitude written in the Swedish and Dutch languages. Her vocal powers and captivating qualities are described as undiminished. We regret to add that we are able, on unquestionable authority, to give a positive contradiction to the statement, which has appeared in several papers, that she is about to revisit England. She has no such intention, at least this season.

THE THEATRES.

Haymarket.—A new Spanish ballet has been produced at this theatre, in which Senora Peres Nena and Senor Marcos Diaz display their usual merits. It is entitled "Una Noche de Fiesta en Sevilla," and leads off the evening, which still continues with the "Golden Fiddle." The scene of the new ballet is laid near Seville, by moonlight, and the subject consists of villagers and gipsies dancing—in part very wild in character; but the Peres Nena eclipses all other *danseuses*, and entrances two cavaliers, who contend for her preference, which, however, she does not declare. The whole affair is exceedingly elegant, as well as vivacious. It will increase the reputation of the corps

Lyceum.—"A Cozy Couple"—a new, and, it is said, an "original" piece—was produced on Thursday week. It is a neat conversation drama, turning not upon a change of heart or mind—a plotless piece, in a word, of domestic felicity abruptly disturbed by an old acquaintance recently returned from foreign travel. His glowing statements operate upon the husband, and induce him to propose a temporary separation, in order that he may accompany his old friend and go abroad for a while The distress of the wife is so great that the friend is moved to compassion; and, by reversing the picture, he contrives to disgust his infatuated victim with the project he had previously recommended. The merits of this piece, however, have not, it would appear, availed to restore the prosperity of the house—from the management of which it is stated that Mr. Mathews intends shortly to retire.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

Although its sister pursuits have been in nowise affected by the war, it cannot be denied that the war has acted very prejudicially on the prospects of racing. The January entries were considerably below the average; speculation at Tattersall's has for some months back been very feeble; and losses of grand stakes will have to mourn over sad deficiencies, if their ticket sellers do not find more customers than they have had at the early spring meetings. Still the array of race-horses at present in training is, numerically, very strong. The four-year-olds, too, are headed by the hitherto invincible Virago; and include Muscovite, Ratapian, Andover, The Hermit, Meteora, Acrobat, Ivan, Knight of St. George, and Scythian—whose forms are quite near enough to create no small amount of speculation wherever they meet over a Cup course. We fancy that Ivan will prove the best of the lot, and make matters very uncomfortable to Virago as he did last year at York. Two-year-olds of last season were all so exceedingly moderate (except it be Nettle) that at this present moment the Derby may be said to be anybody's race. We rather incline to Rifleman, but we should be glad to hear that he was placed in the hands of a man like Harlock, as a final preparation in a small private training stable does not generally bode luck to a first favourite. "The Squire" looks confidently forward to victory both at Epsom and Doncaster, but the public will be unable to gauge these hopes till Claret nears the Bushes in the Two Thousand Guineas. The two-year olds of the present season are likely to be as good as their predecessors were bad; and the subsequent running of Elysway, who was bought for 155 guineas at the last Royal sale, shows that the forms of her conquerors, Wandering Willie, Gamester, and the Bold Buccleuch, are as hopeful as the race in which they were pitted.

No great interest attaches to the Northampton Meeting, which will come off on Tuesday and Wednesday next. The Northamptonshire Handicap will be run on the first day; but there has been as yet very little betting on it, although Meteora has been slightly fancied in some quarters. Nevertheless, her clever victory at York last year hardly convinces us that she will be at home over two such difficult miles as the Stakes course here presents. Lord Spencer's Plate, and the Althorp Park Stakes, are the great features of the second day. Croxton Park carries on the game on Thursday and Friday; but, after so many weeks of frost, the Meltonians are hardly likely to consider it the *finale* of the Melton season, as they have hitherto been wont.

Steeplechasing will attract its crowds at Birmingham and Wansford on Monday, and at Louth and Beckford on Tuesday. The Yorkshiremen have also a day's sport at Tadcaster on Wednesday; while Hexham and Dis are the fixtures for Thursday; and the Liverpool Hunt master for the same purpose at Hoylake on Saturday. Although "the Marquis" has not sent any of his stud, his brother Hibernian have carried everything before them this spring: Seaman and Augustine are both the property of Mr. A. M'Donough, and the former is the horse on which Mr. M'D. rode in her recent steeplechase match.

Harness and coursing secretaries are alike lively after their holiday, and meeting follows meeting in quick succession. The following are the principal ones in the ensuing week, to wit—Abington, on Monday, &c.; Mountainstown (Meath), on Monday and Tuesday; North Union, on Tuesday and Wednesday; and Biggar (open), on Wednesday, &c.; hence the Scottish sportsmen, who mourned sadly over the defeat of their elegant little Scotland-yet, in the run-up with the impetuous dashing Judge of Altcar, will have their hands especially full.

The Harrow and Taxedon steeplechases are to be united, and the lovers of that sport in the metropolis are promised an afternoon of it on Thursday week. Racing news generally is very scanty; but it will be observed that Lord Anglesey (whose 1200 guineas Derby colt, Strood, is a very doubtful purchase) has begun the season well with Naboth and Astrologus; the latter own brother to Angor (who is much liked in Lincolnshire), and was bought as a yearling at Mr. Jacques' York sale.

Adams's Orrery, at the Adelphi Theatre.—In Passion Week Mr. C. H. Adams will present his Orrery and deliver his annual Lecture on Astronomy, for the twenty-fifth time in the metropolis. The lecture's success for a quarter of a century is a fair index of its excellence; and we cordially recommend all who desire to obtain a very lasting impression of the most sublime of all sciences to pay Mr. Adams a visit at the Adelphi Theatre during the now very short season. The lecturer illustrates the numerous additions made to our planetary system by the recent discoveries of Hind, Lassell, and others.

Royal London Yacht Club.—On Monday evening last a numerous meeting of the members of this club took place at their rooms, Gloucester Hotel, Adelphi, to wreath their Commodore (Adams Gordon, Esq.) with a magnificent silver épergne and salver, valued at 150 guineas, as a slight token of the estimation and respect in which himself and his services are held by every member of the club. The ceremony of presentation was performed by Mr. Tress, one of the committee, who, in a graceful and complimentary address, called attention to the flourishing state of the club, numbering nearly 500 members, and among them many gentlemen of high position and influence, both here and abroad; and mainly indebted for that success to the exertions, management, and uniformly gentlemanly bearing of their respected Commodore. Mr. Goodson, in returning thanks for the honour they had conferred upon him, must feelingly alluded to the assistance he had received from their late lamented Rear-Commodore and the other officers, in carrying out his efforts for the success of the club. Both the address and reply were received with the greatest enthusiasm. Captain Andrews and George Ragin, Esq., addressed the members on their re-election as Vice-Commodore and Treasurer; and the harmony of the occasion was kept up till a late hour.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

Preferments and Appointments. *Rectories:* The Rev. J. R. Lewis to Cassot, Radnorshire; Rev. W. English to Bradfield, near North Walsham, Norfolk; Rev. H. F. Rose to Homersfield, with South Elmham St. Cross, near Bungay, Norfolk; Rev. T. Lewis to Denbigh; Rev. A. W. Weldeall to Stonegrave, near Oswaldkirk, Yorkshire; Rev. J. Pearce to Tittleshall, near Ainsbury, Wiltshire; Rev. R. J. F. Thomas to Yeovil, Somerset; Rev. E. C. Swanson to Winstanslow, near Shrewsbury; Rev. H. Clerson to Christchurch, Bristol. *Vicarages.* The Rev. P. W. Harris to Midmenham, Buckinghamshire; Rev. J. A. L. Campbell to Helpstone, near Market Deeping, Leicestershire; Rev. H. Gipps to Crosthwaite, Cumberland. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. H. Woodward to St. James's Church, Kennington, road; Rev. C. J. Garnard to Oakfield, St. Helen's, Isle of Wight; Rev. J. T. Wrenford to St. Paul's Church, Newport, Monmouthshire; Rev. J. L. Nash to the new church at Jacob's-well, near Bristol; Rev. W. Hutchinson to Armley, near Leeds; Rev. R. C. Hildersley to Cartmell; Rev. G. H Newman to Tentonhull, near Ilchester.

New London Churches.—Several new churches are about being commenced in the metropolitan district, and others are so far advanced as to be ready for consecration. The Bishop of Paddington intends churches are to be at once commenced, the Bishop of London having given £10,0 towards that object. In Coventry-street, Haymarket, a new church is about to be commenced, which is to be erected in her Majesty the Queen having subscribed £500, and the Bishop of London £1000 for that purpose. Three new churches are to be erected in Cornewall; an influential committee, of which the Earl of Shaftesbury is at the head, having been formed to raise the necessary funds. In the parish of St. Andrew, Holborn, a large church is to be erected, at the sole expense of Mr. J. G. Hubbard, the Governor of the Bank of England. A site having been given by Lord Leigh. At Limehouse a church is to be built at the sole expense of Mr. William Cotton. "A Member," whose name has not transpired, has volunteered to build and endow a church in London, in any spot the Bishop may point out. A committee, consisting of Earl Nelson, Earl Grosvenor, M.P., Lord Hadden, M.P., Lord R. Grosvenor, M.P., Sir W. R. Farquhar, Bart., Vice Chancellor Sir Page Wood, M.P., A. J. B. Hope, and other gentlemen, has been formed for securing the erection of additional churches in St. Pancras, Shoreditch, Whitechapel, and other densely-populated districts. Amongst the new churches which are approaching completion are St. Matthew's Church, Oakley-square; St. Luke's, Nutford place; All Saints, Notting-hill; St. Andrew's Church, Victoria-street, Westminster, and St. Paul's Church, Cavendish-square and one at Limehouse, built at the sole expense of Mr Alderman Cubitt, M.P.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Notwithstanding that money has been unusually plentiful—the advanced period of the quarter considered, and with the transfer-books closed and that the arrivals of bullion have been on a very extensive scale, great anxiety has prevailed in the Consol Market, and the quotations have a tendency to give way. The leading causes of the depression are—first, the slow progress of the Conference now assembled at Vienna towards peace; and, secondly, the want of all information as regards the Chancellor's Budget. The question now agitating the minds of both *Bulls* and *Bears* is, shall we have a loan in the Stock Exchange, or shall we have fresh taxes? Until, therefore, the determination of the Chancellor on this head, and the result of the Conference, are known, any serious changes in the price of Consols, cannot be expected.

The imports of bullion, since we last wrote, have been about £600,000 from Australia, £37,000 from the Peninsula, £325,000 from New York, and 1,169,075 dollars from the West Indies, Mexico, &c. The shipments have been comparatively confined to £52,500, mostly in silver, to India, China, &c. The foreign exchanges being favourable, there is now no profit on the export of gold from this country; and the stock in the Bank of England is increasing steadily on the increase. In the event of the exchanges continuing at about present rates during the next three or four weeks, the supply of gold in the Bank by the first week in May will be nearly or quite £15,000,000 sterling. There will be no difficulty in gold still on passage from Australia; and we have every reason to anticipate steady importations from New York in the period just alluded to

On Monday, no material change took place in the Funds. The Three per Cents marked 93¾ ¼ to 93 for money, and 93⅞ ⅛ ¼ for the Account. Long Annuities, 1859, were 4⅛. India Bonds, 1[illegible] Exchequer-bills, 69 to 68 prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 1855, were 99½ [illegible]. The Bank of England Stock was dull and drooping. The Three per Cents, for transfer, were down at 93½, down to 92½; the New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 78½; and Consols, for Account, 93½ to 92½. India Bonds were down from 98 to 96 prem. Ditto, India Stock, 229½; Bank Stock, for the Account, 216; Exchequer Bonds, 1858, 99½. Wednesday was observed as a close holiday The market on Thursday was very unanimous, but without any material change in prices. Done in the were 92½ to 92⅞ for Transfer, and 92⅞ to 93 for the Account. Exchequer Bills were 68. to 68 prem.; and Exchequer-bonds, 99⅞ ⅛.

The Foreign Stock has been dull, yet no material change has taken place in prices. Brazilian Five per Cents have realised 103; Mexican Three per Cents, 20¾; Sardinian Five per Cents, for the Account, 87½; Spanish Three per Cents, 37; Ditto Six per Cents, for the Account, 21¼; Ditto Five per Cents, 84; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 63; Dutch Four per Cents, 94¼; Greek Bonds, 19½; Russian Five per Cents, 106; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 90 to 91; Venezuela Three-and-a-Half per Cents, 29½; French Three per Cents, 70f. 1 Ditto Scrip, 5⅛ to 5⅛ prem.

There have been very few dealings in the Railway Share Market. Prices have shown a tendency to give way. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday

Ordinary Shares and Stocks.—Chelmsford, 64½; Chester and Holyhead, 11½; Eastern Counties, 14½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 58; Great Western, 68, ex div.; Ditto A Stock, 72 ex div.; Ditto B Stock, 124½ ex div.; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 91½; Great Western, 65 ex new; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 76½ ex div.; London and Blackwall, 8; London and Brighton, 98; London and North Western, 99½; Ditto £10 Shares, 5⅛; London and South-Western, 85½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 24½; Midland, 69½; ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 84½; North-Eastern—Berwick, 72; ditto, York, 49; North Staffordshire, 12½; South-Eastern, 6¼; Vale of Neath, 16½ ex div.

Lines Leased at Fixed Rentals.—Hull and Selby, 105½; Lowestoft Six per Cent, 168; Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock, 8½; Midland Bradford, 91; Wear Valley, 52.

Preference Shares.—Eastern Counties Extension, No. 1, ¾ pm.; ditto, No. 2 ⅝ premium; Great Northern Five per Cents, 107½ ex div.; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 101½ ex div.; Great Western Four per Cent, 91 ex div.; Ditto, Chester Shares, 9⅞; Ditto, 14½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 9½ ex div.; London and Brighton Five per Cent Stock, 114½; Ditto, New Five per Cents, 114; Midland, Bristol, and Birmingham Six per Cents, 134½; North-Eastern—York B, and 5 Purchases, 5½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Six per Cents, 107; Waterford and Kilkenny Six per Cents, 1[illegible]

Foreign.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 6[illegible]; Dutch Rhenish, 8[illegible]; East Indian Five per Cent, 2[illegible]; Ditto, Extension, 1[illegible]; Great Western of Canada, 17[illegible]; Hamilton and Toronto, 19[illegible]; Lyons and Geneva, 11[illegible]; Sambre and Meuse, 5[illegible].

Mining Shares have been dull, Australian have marked 1; Imperial Brazilian, 2[illegible]; Copper Miners of England, 7[illegible] per Cent Preference, 26; Pontgibaud Silver Lead, 15; Santiago de Cuba, 6; United Mexican, 6[illegible].

Friday Evening.

It being stated that the Conference at Vienna is broken up, Consols have been heavy, to-day, at previous prices. The Three per Cents, for Money, are 92[illegible] ⅞, and for the Account 9[illegible] Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares are very dull.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE, Friday.—There has been a fresh change in the arrivals of English wheat to-day, and the trade was quiet, and the sale of foreign was very dull. To-day's arrivals of English wheat were 2,000 qrs., and of foreign 2,000 qrs. The arrivals of barley were 1,000 qrs., and of oats 1,000 qrs. The arrivals of foreign wheat—and also of barley—were very large. The show of wheat was but moderate—and slowly. In the quotations no change took place from Monday. There was rather a firm market for barley at full prices; but malt commanded very little attention. The oat trade was tolerably firm at very full prices. Both beans and peas were steady, but not dearer. The flour trade was steady at full quotations

ARRIVALS.—English wheat, 3291 qrs.; barley, 1030; malt, 4760; oats, 2980; flour, 9250 barrels; oats, 5640. Foreign: wheat, 2460; oats, 470; flour, 400 sacks.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent red, 65 to 70s., ditto, white, 72s. to 84s.; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 65s. to 68s.; ditto white, 70s. to 74s.; rye, 44s. to 46s.; grinding barley, 37s. to 38s.; distilling, 39s. to 39s. malting, 38s. to 39s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 65s. to 68s.; brown ditto, 62s. to 64s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 70s.; Chevalier, 71s. to 72s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 25s. to 27s.; potato ditto, 27s. to 28s.; Youghal and Cork black, 24s. to 27s.; ditto white 25s. to 28s.; tick beans, 38s. to 41s.; grey peas, 38s. to 40s.; maple, 38s. to 40s.; boilers, 38s. to 40s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 42s. to 44s.; Suffolk, 40s. to 41s.; Hudsons and Yorkshire, 34s. to 35s., per 280 lbs. American, 38s. to 40s. per barrel.

Scotch.—General demand has been less active this week, yet prices are fairly supported. Linseed (sowing), 66s. to 70s.; Riga, crushing, 59s. to 62s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 58s. to [illegible]; Hempseed, 48s. to 50s. per quarter; Coriander, 20s. to 24s. per cwt. Brown Mustard seed, 14s. to 16s.; white ditto, 8s. to 11s.; Tares, 9s. to 12s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £23 to £25 per last of ten quarters Linseed cakes, English, £12 to £13; ditto foreign £10 10s. to £ 7 1s., rape cake, £6 5s. to £6 10s. per ton. Canary, 45s. to 56s. per quarter. Red clover seed, 52s. to 62s.; white ditto, 70s. to 80s. per cwt.

Bread. The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis, 6d. per 4lb. loaf of household ditto, 5d. to 5½d. per 4 lb. loaf

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 65s. 11d.; barley, 36s. 5d.; oats, 24s. 10d.; rye, 39s. 4d.; beans, 40s. 4d.; peas, 39s. 6d.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 68s. 0d., barley, 35s. 3d.; oats, 25s. 3d.; rye, 41s. 4d.; beans, 43s. 3d., peas, 39s. 9d.

Tea. A full average business is doing in all kinds of tea, at fully last week's currency. Common souchong is selling at 2½d per lb. The supply on offer is large

Sugar. The demand for nearly all kinds of raw sugar has been heavy, and, in some instances, the quotations have had a downward tendency Foreign sugars allow, have met a slow enquiry. In refined, very little is doing Refined goods are tolerably firm. Brown lumps, 48s. cd.; and low to fine grocery, 45s. to 49s. per cwt.

Coffee.—Our market continues firm, at very full prices. Good ordinary native Ceylon has changed hands at 47s 6d per cwt.

Rice. The amount of business doing in our market is by no means extensive; nevertheless, the quotations are well supported

Provisions. All kinds of Irish butter have moved off heavily, at dropping prices Foreign qualities have given way 5s to 5s per cwt. English bacon rule steady, at late quotations. The bacon market is rather active, and the quotations have an upward tendency. Lard, and other kinds of provisions, support former terms

Oils Linseed oil is dull, at 38s. 9d. to 38s per cwt. on the spot. All other oils move off slowly, at barely late rates Turpentine is heavy, and spirits may be had at 33s. to 33s. 6d., rosin, 8s. 6d [illegible]

Spirits.—Government has taken 90,000 gallons of rum, yet the demand for that article is by no means active. Proof Leewards, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d.; East India, 2s. to 2s 1d per gallon Brandy is tolerably firm, but not dearer. Geneva and corn spirits as last quoted.

Hops and Malt. Mondays hop, £3 12s. to £5 5s per cwt. Sussex ditto, £3 to £3 10s; and raw, £1 3s. to £1 10s. per cwt

Coals Friday, Haswell, 20s.; Hetton 20s; South Hartlepool, 18s. 6d.; Holywell, 18s; Tanfield, 17s.; Hartley 17s 6d.; Lonsdale, 18s. 6d. per ton.

Tallow (Friday).—Good and useful hops continue in steady request, at full prices and over other hands continue in extreme rates. This week's arrivals are 13 casks of Hamburg and 24 from Amsterdam Mid and East Kent pockets £14 14s. to £90; Weald of Kent, £11 £12; Sussex, £14 to £16; Yearlings, £7 to £12

Smithfield (Friday). To-day's market was moderately well supplied with beasts As the attendance of buyers was limited, the beef trade ruled heavy, at late prices. Sheep and lambs, at the quotations. Sheep—the supply of which was by no means extensive—sold steadily, at full prices. Lambs met with a fair inquiry, at from 5s. to 5s 6d per 8lbs. In calves very little was doing, at a dear line in value Pigs, per 8lbs Pigs were very dull at barely late [illegible]

Per 8 lbs. to sink the offs.—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 2d. to 3s 4d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; prime large ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.; prime Scots, &c., 4s. 6d. to 4s 10d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 4d. to 3s 10d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s 4d., prime coarse woolled sheep, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; prime Southdown ditto, 5s. 0d. to 5s 2d.; large coarse calves, 3s. 10d to 4s. 0d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; large ham, 3s. 6d to 5s. 0d.; med small porkers, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; [illegible] and quartered ditto, store pigs, 20s. to 23s. each. Total per 8lbs. [illegible] 5,200, calves 270, pigs, 430. Foreign beasts, 1240; calves, 150

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday) trade ruled heavy, and prices have barely supported.

Per 8lbs by the carcase:—Inferior beef, 3s 6d to 3s 2d; middling, ditto, 3s.4d to 3s 8d; prime large ditto, 3s 6d. to 4s 0d.; ditto small ditto 4s 2d to 4s 4d, large pork 3s 6d; 3s. 8d.; inferior mutton 3s 4d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s 8d. to 3s. 10d prime ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s 6d, veal, 3s. 6d. to 4s 8d., small pork, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 6d

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, March 20.

WAR-OFFICE, March 20.

Brevet. Lieuts. C. Hinde, J. Ballard to have the local rank of Captain while employed [illegible] Lieutenant-Colonel [illegible] Lieutenant-Colonel [illegible] Lieutenant-Colonel

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Last week but two of the SPANISH DANCERS, who will appear in their New Sevillian Ballet, and the GALICIAN FETE, with their famous Fan Grotesque, preceded by The SECRET AGENT. Also the Ballets The BALANCE OF COMFORT [illegible] and Saturday, A PRETTY PIECE OF WORK.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, FAUST and MARGUERITE: Thursday, CORSICAN BROTHERS; A GAME OF HOMES every Evening.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch. Proprietor [illegible] Nine Gifts, the greatest [illegible] Evening. Wednesday and [illegible] "Antony at a Discount." M. Henry Marc [illegible]

ADELPHI THEATRE.—C. H. ADAMS'S (O.B.E.R.) ON MONDAY, APRIL 2, and during the week (Good Friday excepted) Mr. Adams will deliver his ANNUAL ENTERTAINMENT, being his twenty-fifth Season. Doors Open at Eight, and about Ten—Boxes, 3s.; Pit, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.; Private Boxes, 10s. 6d., and 7s.—Box-office open daily.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK. The collection of living Animals includes a large efficient series of Lions, Lion Whelps, Clouded Tigers, Hunting Dogs, and other Carnivora, Elands, Kangaroos, Rhinoceros, and a pair of Hippopotamus Calves, together with an immense number of Birds, Reptiles, Fish, and other Marine Animals. Admission, 1s., on Mondays, 6d.

FALCON HALL, PRINCE ALBERT ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—MONDAY EVENING, 26th Inst., Lecture by Dr. Bachhoffner, on the Chemistry of the Non-Metallic Elements. Tuesday Evening, Important Lecture on Stage Operations (illustrated with Scenery), by E. Jekyll, Esq., late Captain Grenadier Guards). Polyphonic Concert by Juvenile Performers. Thursday, Humorous Reading, by Mr. Hugh Leslie—"Richard the Third." Wednesday and Friday, Astronomy, by Dr. Bachhoffner, with appropriate Music. The three Last Performances of the Tyrolese Minstrels, Monday, Tuesday and Friday Evenings.

EMMANUEL.—Under the immediate Patronage of her most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and the rest of the Royal Family. This Oratorio will be performed at ST. MARTIN'S HALL on THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 29, for the BENEFIT of the HOME for GENTLEWOMEN. Principal singers Madame Clara Novello, Miss Amy Dolby, Miss Dolby; Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Weiss. Conductor, Mr. Henry Leslie. Tickets, 3s. 6d., 5s., and 10s. 6d., are to be had at Jullien and Co.'s, 214, Regent-street.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall. Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—On WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, Handel's MESSIAH. Vocalists, Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Herr Formes. Trumpet, Mr. Harper.—On FRIDAY, APRIL 13, Mendelssohn's ELIJAH. Vocalists, Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Herr Formes. The Orchestra as usual, will consist of nearly 700 performers. Tickets, 3s., 5s., 10s. 6d., each, may be as now secured for these performances at the Society's sole office, No. 6 Exeter, within Exeter-hall, or by application (if by letter, with a stamped envelope) to the Assistant of the Society, made payable to ROBERT BOWLEY, at the Chart[illegible]

THE PORTLAND GALLERY, 316, Regent-street (opposite the Polytechnic Institution). The Eighth Annual Exhibition of the National Institution of FINE ARTS is NOW OPEN from Nine till dusk. Admission, One Shilling. Catalogue, Sixpence. BELL SMITH, Secretary.

EXHIBITION of the SOCIETY of BRITISH ARTISTS, Incorporated by Royal Charter.—The THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this SOCIETY is NOW OPEN from 9 to 6 in the morning. Admission, 1s. ALFRED CLINT, Honorary Secretary. Suffolk-street, Pall-mall East.

ART-UNION of LONDON.—By ROYAL CHARTER. Prizeholders select for themselves from the public Exhibitions. Every Subscriber of One Guinea will have, besides the chance of a superior prize, a proof-impression of "A Water Spaniel," by J. T. Willmore, A.R.A., after J. J. Chalon, R.A., and a quarto volume of thirty-two Cantos of Byron's "Childe Harold." The prints will be ready for delivery, and the volume may be seen at the office. Subscription closes Saturday next, 31st instant.
44, West Strand. GEORGE GODWIN, } Honorary
March 24th, 1855. LEWIS POCOCK, } Secretaries.

JOHN B. GOUGH will deliver ORATIONS on SABBATH EVENING, MONDAY, and TUESDAY, 25, 26, 27, May. Doors open each Evening at [illegible]. Tickets: body of the Hall, 5s.; reserved seats and gallery, 1s. May be had of WILLIS, 62, Ludgate-hill, and at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Tuesday, March 27. Chair taken at Three o'clock in the Afternoon. Admission, 1s.; Reserved Seats, 2s.

LECTURES to WORKING MEN.—The following COURSES of LECTURES will be delivered in the EVENINGS during the present Session in the THEATRE of the MUSEUM of PRACTICAL GEOLOGY, Jermyn-street:
1. On GEOLOGY, by A. C. RAMSAY, F.R.S.
2. On MECHANICS, by W. J. MILLER, M.A., F.R.S.
3. On NATURAL HISTORY, by T. H. HUXLEY, F.R.S.
The Fee for the Course of Six Lectures on any Subject or Branch of Art or Science taught in the Arts and Manufactures commenced at Right o'Clock on MONDAY, the 26th of JANUARY, and will be continued on the corresponding Monday Evenings.
Instruction in Drawing, Mechanics, by Professor Willis, will be continued. Further Particulars on the Conclusion of the Lectures.
Tickets are available, by working men only, upon payment of a registration fee of 6d. for the course of Six Lectures; and due notice will be given of the day on which the [illegible] issued.
[illegible] LUKE, Registrar.

THE POLY-HARMONICON; or, Royal Musical Gem, has received the highest encomiums from the Press, Polytechnic, and other institutions, for its amusing and instructive qualities. Third Edition. The number of changes is upwards of 15,000 Follies, delightful and original. Price 1s. 6d.; Duets, 6s. and 8s. Free 8 stamps.
P. KERRIE, VAN NOORDEN, 155, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury.

TOLKIEN'S 26-GUINEA Royal MINUTO PIANOFORTES.—R. T., the original maker of a 25-Guinea Pianoforte, has, by the care he has bestowed on the improvement of manufacture, obtained the highest reputation throughout the universe for his instruments, unequalled in durability and delicacy of touch, more especially for their excellency in standing in tune in the various climates of our colonies. In elegant walnut, rosewood, and mahogany. Cases packed for abroad for £3 10s. extra.—R. Tolkien's Manufactory, 27, 28, and 29, King William-street, London-bridge.

HARMONIUMS at CHAPPELL'S. The HARMONIUM by ALEXANDRE is the only instrument of the kind that can remain in tune; from the singularity of its construction it is not slightly affected by changes of weather; and is alike calculated for the Church, School, or Drawing-room.
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6 Twelve stops, oak or rosewood, 35 guineas.
7 One stop, and percussion action, in oak, 16 guineas.
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12 The new patent model—15 stops, percussion action, expression à la main, &c.; the most perfect Harmonium that can be made. In handsome oak or rosewood, 60 guineas.
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NO CHARGE for STAMPING PAPER and ENVELOPES with Monogram, Crest, or Initials. ROBINSON'S cream-laid Adhesive Envelopes, 6d. per 100; cream-laid Note, full size, five pounds for 5s.; thick ditto, five pounds for 6s. 6d. Foolscap, 9s. per ream; Sermon-paper, 4s. 6d. per ream. Card-plate elegantly engraved and 100 superfine cards printed for 4s. 6d. WEDDING CARDS: Beautiful Envelopes stamped in Silver in splendid variety, and in the latest fashion. Observe, at HENRY RODRIGUE'S, 34, Foscbury, London.

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STEAM to TURKEY and the CRIMEA.—PARCELS and PACKAGES for TURKEY, CRIMEA, and BLACK SEA, and the Hospitals at Scutari, Smyrna, & c., are FORWARDED per Steamer, Weekly, by G. W. WHEATLY and CO., [illegible] Leadenhall street, or Clapham, Surrey. [illegible] carefully attended to by W. and Co.'s Branch office in Constantinople, or their Agent, Mr. S. I. BOLKHEIM, at Galata, Pera, respectively.

INDIA, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, and CAPE of GOOD HOPE.—[illegible] following fast-sailing A 1 Clipper SHIPS at the dates named as under:—

Ships.	Tons	Commanders	Destination.	Docks.	To sail.
Mary Ann	406	Wm. M'Guffie	Calcutta	London	Mar. 19
Maidlin Wakenbah	1200	J. C. Clare	Calcutta	London	April 25
Queen	450	P. Reen	Bombay	London	April 5
Assyrian	630	G. Wood	Shanghae	West India	Mar.
Spirit of the Age	878	G. H. Heaton	Shanghae	London	Mar. 25
Rona	477	W. Cameron	Hongkong	London	Mar. 24
Orolona	600	H. Scoresby	Sydney	London	Mar. 15
Kensington	900	W. King	Sydney	London	April 25
Balmoral	1100	Dy. Jones	Melbourne	London	Mar.
Jessie May	302	D. Stephen	Cape G. Hope	London	Mar. 27
Sea Queen	515	G. Brown	Adelaide	London	April 1

These Ships have been selected specially for their high-class and fast-sailing qualities, and will be found well worth the attention of Shippers and Passengers.—W. & T. WOOD, Offices, 16, Cross-street, Manchester; 19, Dale-street, Liverpool, and Sun-court, Cornhill, London.

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SOLDIERS' FRIEND and ARMY SCRIPTURE READERS SOCIETY.
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Offices, 14 and 15, Exeter-hall, Strand, London.
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The Committee feel it a duty to themselves, and to the Christian public to state, that, encouraged by the liberality of the friends of the soldier, they have considerably extended the line of their operations, and from the deeply-interesting reports (several of which have been recently printed, but widely circulated), which they are constantly receiving from their agents, it is evident that the Lord is working by them and with them, and thus crowning their needful and arduous labours with a large measure of success. Hence they are encouraged and emboldened to make a fresh appeal to the continued sympathies, fervent prayers, and renewed liberality of their supporters in this cause.

For the spiritual and eternal benefit of the brave and beloved defenders of our country in humble dependence on the Divine blessing, there are now always employed under the auspices of this Society, nineteen Scripture Readers. And the Committee would entertain the hope that this number may yet further be augmented if they appeal in fervency responded to, seeing that the supply is far from being at all commensurate with the wants, and yet without a fair share of labour which is pressing upon us every [illegible].

The following are the several departments of labour occupied in this Christian enterprise. One agent is actively and [illegible] employed in visiting the barracks in London, Westminster, and the surrounding military depôts. One is engaged amongst the militia in London and its environs, who will also visit the wives and families of the soldiers. It is also the intention of the Committee, as promptly as possible, to station certain plans for the employment of a Scripture Reader at Aldershot, among the great concentration of troops, which is likely for some months to be located there. There are also one agent in Malta, one in Boulogne, amongst the sailors and the military, in the West of England, one in Yorkshire, one missionary to the Russian prisoners at Portsmouth, Sandwich, one in Scotland, and one in Ireland.

In foreign service there are eight [illegible] Readers. Two of these are clergymen of the Church of England, and [illegible] Protestants in the French army. One is at Balaclava. And the [illegible] would much pleasure in stating, that they have [illegible] appointed a Scripture Reader to labour amongst the thousands of military at Malta, under the auspices of the Rev. W. Hare the [illegible] chaplain.

A series of small and interesting publications especially adapted to the thoughts and habits of the soldiery, have been prepared, and gratuitously and widely circulated by all the agents at their various places of labour, at home and abroad. Also, an interesting magazine, entitled the "Sentinel," is published every alternate month, and gratuitously circulated and cordially accepted by the soldiers.

Having before them so extensive and inviting a field of labour, the Committee confidently present the claims of this Society to the continued and increased support before all those who profess to feel the warm glow of national zeal. They, therefore, must respectfully, yet most earnestly, entreat their friends, and the public at large, in no degree to relax their efforts for the claims on the Committee are great and urgent; and their ability to meet them only limited to and by them in this great and important enterprise, by their Christian sympathies, and, above all, by their earnest and fervent prayers, for a still larger measure of the Divine blessing on their several labours, at home and abroad.

The thanks of the Committee are presented to the following friends who have kindly supplied books and tracts.—Friends at Clifton (per Rev. G. Blasett, Dr. Lorimer, Miss Shephard, Rev. Dr. Cumming, Rev. A. P. Blake, the Misses Harrison, Archdeacon Law, and Rev. J. Dalton.

Donations will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, G. Barnes, Esq., 17, Portens-road, Paddington; by the Secretary, Mr. William A. Blake, at the Offices, 14 and 15, Exeter-hall; by Rev. Dr. Marsh, Bechenham; by Messrs. Mabbs, Brewer-street, Oxford-street; Lieutenant Blackmore, 8, Seymour-place, New-road; by the Bankers, Royal British Bank, 429, Strand; and at the Offices of the Record and Christian Times.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL, PADDINGTON. APPEAL.—The Governors of this Institution are in urgent WANT of additional FUNDS to enable them to defray the COST of its MAINTENANCE; and, unfortunately, whilst the demands upon this Charity are increased, its means are lessened. Additional taxation, the Patriotic Fund, and many similar causes have diverted into other and distant channels the sums which formerly used to flow into this Hospital, at a time when the increased price of provisions adds to the expenditure of the Hospital.

The poor are suffering greatly in consequence; privation and disease are the inevitable results. This year, therefore, may be considered as one of peculiar difficulty, and it is hoped that a generous public will aid the Governors in their endeavours to increase their receipts by the contributions now presented.

The Directors of the NEW PHILARMONIC SOCIETY have kindly consented to give a PROGRAMME of their Concert, SUBJECT to the Funds of this Hospital, and all whose benevolence may incline them to aid a design so laudable, are earnestly invited to give their support to this Concert, which, it is hoped, will prove advantageous to an Institution of such weight and extensive usefulness.

Stalls in the Centre Area, One Guinea, Reserved Seats (numbered), 10s. 6d. Tickets to be had at Messrs. Keith, Prowse, and Co.'s, Cheapside; Messrs. Cramer, Beale, and Co.'s, 201, Regent-street; and at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington.

CLUB CHAMBERS ASSOCIATION.—The ROOMS, which will become vacant on the 5th of APRIL next, may be seen on application to the Secretary. The rent includes the use of the coffee-room and drawing-room, with newspapers, attendance of servants, &c. The situation is one of the most eligible in London.

By order of the Committee,
15, Regent-street, March, 1855. W. RICHARDSON, Secretary.

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President—Right Hon. Lord MUSKERRY.
A Joint-Stock Company, formed for the purpose of supplying private families and establishments with Foreign wines, which never, in large or small quantities, at really wholesale prices—that is, from 25 to 50 per cent under the usual retail prices. Examples, the finest Champagne, at £2 8s. per three-dozen case, instead of £10 18s.; Claret, finest Chateau A. Margaux, wine, at £7 4s., instead of £18 12s.; Sherries, at 28s., 36s., and 44s., in place of 36s., 48s., and 60s.; Port, at 28s., the finest pale or dark, in place of 36s. per gallon. Apply to T. W. STAPLETON, Esq., Secretary and Manager, 21, King-street, Regent-street, for prospectus and detailed price lists. The principal clubs in London supplied. All wines sent out on approval, or samples forwarded first if desired. Terms, cash or references. Office and s.c. Bonkwood Bin Indian, Paris.

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See THE FAMILY FRIEND. [illegible]

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[illegible] LIFE OF SHEIL
With the Magazines on [illegible] March Sheil, will be published, in Two Vols., post 8vo, [illegible] Portrait, by C. Rosser.
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Published for H. Colburn, by his Successors, HURST and BLACKETT.

THE HOME NEWS for INDIA, published on MONDAY, the 26th Inst., for dispatch by the Mail, via Marseilles, will give a SUPPLEMENT containing a full Report of Mr. Roebuck's Committee of Inquiry on the State of the Army before Sebastopol, brought down to the latest sitting. Advertisements received up to Saturday evening. Home News Offices, 63, Cornhill, 9, St. Martin's-place, Charing cross; and may be had through all Newsmen.

PROFITABLE and PRACTICAL FEMALE EDUCATION, post-free, by Mrs. PULLAN, 130, Albany-street, Regent's-park.

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Visitor, The Right Hon. and Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of London.
Principal, The Right Hon. and Right Rev. [illegible]
[illegible] Lectures will commence on Monday, the 26th March next. [illegible] the year for the first quarter, £8 8s., second, £[illegible] £16 16s. for the year, or £4 14s. 6d. per quarter.—Prospectuses [illegible] every information may be obtained, on application at the College.
J. R. C. THOMSON, Secretary.

EDUCATION in GERMANY. Marienburg House School, near Cologne. Principal, Mr. ALFRED HASKETH SMITH, late of Trinity College, Cambridge, M.A., late Head Master of the Cologne Gymnasium, combined with a thorough knowledge of the Modern Languages, the Classics, Religious Instruction, and the important instruction only through the medium of these respective languages. For Prospectuses apply to Miss Baskerville, Radnor Villa, Great Marlow.

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YOUNG FRENCH GENTLEMAN well educated, requires LODGING and PARTIAL BOARD in return for which he would teach the FRENCH LANGUAGE in a very easy system. The highest references given, apply by letter to Mr. F. L., [illegible] Holborn.

GRESHAM LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. A VACANCY having occurred in the office of SECRETARY by the resignation of Mr. T. A. POTTS, Applications for the above office are requested to address their Applications to the Chairman, W. CARDE Esq., 18, Finsbury-square street Without, marked "private."

QUEEN'S HOTEL, near the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, Kent. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday [illegible] Hot-water pipes throughout. Rooms [illegible] night, 2s. 6d. Breakfast, 2s. 6d. Dinner, with sherry, 7s. per day. Observe—First-class stabling.—G. C. COOKE.

TO CAPITALISTS.—For SALE a QUARTER SHARE of a most valuable and recently-patented INVENTION, connected with Railways, which has secured the highest press from Scientific journals, and which must undoubtedly realise the most handsome percentage. A Share of the French Patent also to be disposed of. Some test periodicals, or their authorities treated with. For terms and further particulars apply to Mr. Edmunds, 234, High-street, Borough.

MONEY on MORTGAGE.—£3000 ready to [illegible] Property Advanced upon, at 4 per cent. Apply to Mr. HIGGS, No 9, Adam-street, Adelphi.

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THE NEW PATENT GUTTA PERCHA COLOSSISES for Ladies and Gentlemen, very light and durable. They are the lowest price goloish yet introduced. Gentlemen and General Camp Goloshes of Boots, one of the first class.—BOWLEY and Co., 52, Cheapside.

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THE ROYAL CAMBRIDGE SHERRY.—This beautiful Sherry is regularly purveyed to H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, Royal Dukes, and many Peers and Peeresses and families of distinction, and some of the principal Messrs. [illegible] It can only be had, in England of the Shippers [illegible] HALL and CO., 4, Mincing-lane, Fenchurch-street, and [illegible] per dozen, or at the port of Cadiz, £4 per dozen.

AMERICAN TRUNKS at the American Warehouse, Nos. 245 and 246.—We now view a Vanity that had not every his fine, light, and convenient travelling case; A splendid assortment of these Trunks have just been imported by J. T. ROGERS,

THE EARL OF CARLISLE,

LORD-LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND.

Of all the appointments made by Lord Palmerston in forming his Administration, none has been more popular than that which nominated the Earl of Carlisle to the high and important office of Viceroy of Ireland, vacated by the resignation of the Earl of St. Germans. The announcement that the noble Earl had accepted the post was received with satisfaction in Ireland, not merely by those who are politically of the same views as himself, but also by his opponents. Considering that Lord Carlisle has never disguised or compromised his opinions on the great subjects which agitate the minds of men in the Sister Island, such a unanimity of feeling is the strongest testimony that could be offered to the personal qualities of the noble Lord.

Ireland and Irishmen have had experience of those qualities. For several years he acted as Chief Secretary; and, as it was during the period of his administration that some of the measures were passed or proposed which most excited religious and political controversy in the Sister Island, he may well be envied the mysterious talisman by means of which he bore away with him the united suffrages of politicians and religious partisans so hot and hostile. We believe that the grand secret of his success was a certain natural dignity, derived from the influence of a high moral sense. It was perfectly well known that Lord Morpeth was not to be swayed or influenced by any of the lower classes of motives, so that he commanded respect among men who, though as a general rule, they love the sin which makes a Minister bend to influence, are almost unanimous in covering with contumely and contempt the sinner. Yet, withal, Lord Morpeth was ever so accessible, so courteously impartial, and there was so much amenity and suavity in his manners, that even refusals from him never took a provoking shape, and he was to a great extent exempted from that virulent abuse which the disappointed are too ready to pass off as public opinion. He returns to the scene of his labours with all the prestige attending his former sojourn, swelled by many political and sensatorial triumphs, and honours fairly won as an administrator and a philanthropist. He is himself an embodied "conciliation."

George William Frederick Howard, now the seventh Earl of Carlisle, first entered public life in 1826, as Viscount Morpeth. Born in 1802 at his father's mansion in Hill-street, Berkeley-square, he was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, where he took honours. At the age of twenty-four he was returned for the borough of Morpeth, where his family have always exercised a predominating influence. As a scion of one of the "great Whig houses," his earlier Parliamentary efforts were watched with considerable interest, but, although he made many able speeches—somewhat too much formed on the old Parliamentary models—he did not rise into any importance till the commencement of the Reform era. He had, like Lord John Russell, steadily acted with his party during the interval between 1826 and 1830. In that year occurred the first great political event of his life. To represent the West Riding of Yorkshire has always been regarded as an object of the highest ambition. It is looked upon as a kind of model constituency, so composed of the territorial and commercial influences as to become a kind of barometer of public opinion. Mr. Brougham's election heralded the Reform agitation. Lord Morpeth's proved that it was not a mere democratic cry, but that it was sanctioned and participated in by the aristocracy. This election gave a fresh impetus to Lord Morpeth's rising reputation; and he took rank in the House of Commons accordingly. As a speaker in support of Reform, and subsequently in general defence of the measures of the Whig Administration, he often acquitted himself very much to the satisfaction, not seldom to the admiration, of the House of Commons. His speeches were exactly those that might have been expected from a young Whig nobleman playing at democracy; and during this part of his career he kept strictly within the limits marked out by his chiefs

HIS EXCELLENCY THE EARL OF CARLISLE, K.G., LORD-LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND.
FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY KILBURN

In April, 1835, when the Melbourne Administration was reconstituted, after the brief but glorious effort of Sir Robert Peel to reconsolidate the Tory party, Lord Morpeth was appointed to an office worthy of his party influence and his talents, and requiring qualities of no ordinary kind for the discharge of its duties. By the alleged "Lichfield House Compact," the revived Whig Ministry, it was supposed, had entered into bonds to "do justice to Ireland." To Lord Morpeth it fell to be the organ and medium of these measures of "justice," which in the natural course of things would ever be too small for the one party, and too great for the other. It fell to his lot to introduce and defend in the House of Commons much of that important legislation which has contributed to cement the union between England and Ireland; and it would be difficult to explain, though the fact be true, how much the personal character of the young nobleman entrusted with the Chief Secretaryship contributed to soften the ordinary asperities of party feeling. How he succeeded as a merely local administrator, we have already described.

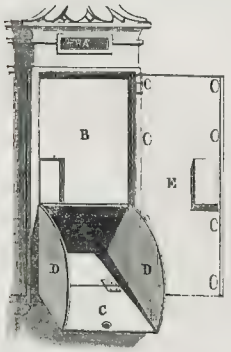
During five years and a half, Lord Morpeth continued thus to administer the affairs of Ireland, and share the general policy of his party in Parliament. But the first parliamentary tactician of any age had long been devoting his forces to the destruction of the Whig Administration, and in September, 1841, he consummated its downfall. His tactics had in the meanwhile proved fatal to the subject of this sketch, who at the general election of 1841, was deprived of his seat for the West Riding. Of course he left office with the Melbourne Ministry.

Lord Morpeth now took a bold resolution—not singular, because Mr. Macaulay afterwards took a similar one. He determined not to re-enter Parliament except as the representative of the West Riding of Yorkshire, and remained deaf to all appeals to shake his resolution. Fond of travel, he devoted the time necessary for the recovery of the public partly to a foreign tour. When he returned, he applied himself with much energy and perseverance to questions of sanitary and social reform, which derived a certain vogue (and, so to speak, respectability) from his countenance of them. In February, 1846, a vacancy having occurred in the West Riding, Lord Morpeth was once more returned for that loyal constituency, thus receiving the reward of long self-denial. The break-up of the Peel Ministry, and the return of the Whigs under Lord John Russell, brought Lord Morpeth again into office, this time as Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests. In the discharge of the duties of this office he was enabled to carry out many of the views he had adopted while in comparative retirement. In March, 1850, however, he changed it for the Chancellorship of the Duchy of Lancaster, which he held till the downfall of the Russell Administration in February, 1852. In 1847 he had been appointed Lord-Lieutenant of the West Riding. In the year 1849 he was elected Lord Rector of the University of Aberdeen. In 1848, on the death of his father, he succeeded to the Earldom of Carlisle, and entered the Upper House of Parliament. In the Coalition Administration he took no part; but accepted from Lord Palmerston the post of Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, for which his experience and local influence eminently fit him. Lord Carlisle is one of the Council of the Duchy of Cornwall, and Ranger of Dean Forest. He has appeared with success in the arena of literature, as a contributor of elegant verse to annuals; and as the author of a "Diary in Turkish and Greek Waters," the result of the noble author's recent visit to the East. This work, which was reviewed in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for October 28, 1854, is now in its fourth edition.

The Peerages inform us that the noble Lord is the seventh Earl of Carlisle. The family is a branch of that of Norfolk. The first Earl was Ambassador to the then Czar of Muscovy, in the seventeenth century, and afterwards Governor of Jamaica. The third Earl rose to be Prime Minister; and the fifth, like the present, became Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland. The sixth Earl was in office as Lord Privy Seal. The noble Earl is a bachelor; his heir presumptive being his brother, the Hon. and Rev. William George Howard, Rector of Londesborough, in Yorkshire. The mother of Lord Carlisle was the daughter of the fifth Duke of Devonshire.

NEW STREET LETTER-BOXES.

THE accommodation at the Post Receiving Houses in various parts of the metropolis, has long been of a very imperfect kind. Formerly a Receiving House was denoted by a richly-emblazoned pane, in which the time-honoured British lion shone in full national emblazonry; and here and there the tutelar animal's mouth was the receptacle of letters; just as the famous Lion's head at Button's coffee-house, received contributions for the *Guardian*. Few shop-fronts, however, bore so distinctive a feature; but the letter-mouth might be seen at various levels—rarely, as an artist would say, "on the line"—so as to render its discovery somewhat perplexing when the mixed topography of shop-windows is considered. Then came the mean-looking iron crown upon the top of the nearest street-lamp, which did not much enlighten the public in their pursuit of a post-office under difficulties. Next, the example was set by the French Post-office authorities of having cast-iron pillars set up in various streets of Paris, for the reception of letters; and this experiment having been found successful, a similar plan has been adopted by the authorities in St Martin's-le-Grand. At stated points have been erected cast-iron letter-boxes, one of which—that at the corner of Fleet-street and Farringdon-street—is shown in the accompanying Illustration. It is much less ornamental than the Paris pillar. Our Letter-box is a stove-like design, reminding one of the latest of the London conduits. An outer panel of the box bears this inscription:—



INTERIOR OF NEW LETTER-BOX.

LETTER BOX
FOR STAMPED AND UNPAID LETTERS ONLY
Newspapers posted here will not be forwarded
Letters containing Money or Valuable Articles should be Registered at a Post-office.
THE NEAREST POST-OFFICE IS AT 191, FLEET-STREET

GENERAL POST LETTERS,
For the Morning Mails are collected here, 5 a.m.; for the Evening Mails, 5.30 p.m
Letters bearing an Additional Penny Stamp may be Posted for the Evening Mails, 6 p.m.

LETTERS FOR LONDON AND SUBURBAN DISTRICTS

Hours of Collection	Delivery in London Commences at	Despatched from the Chief Office to the Suburban Districts
9 a.m	10 a.m	
11 "	12 Noon	
12 Noon.	1 p.m	
1 p.m.	2 "	
2 "	3 "	4 p.m. to places within twelve miles of the General Post-office
3 "	4 "	
4 "	5 "	
5 "	6 "	6 p.m. to places within six miles of the General Post-office.
6 "	7 "	
7 "	8 "	8 p.m. for delivery next morning 8 a.m.
10 "	11 a.m	

The Town Delivery is complete in about 1½ hours
The Suburban Delivery takes from 1½ to 3 hours from the time of dispatch according to distance.

The material is cast iron; and the manufacturers are Messrs. H. and M. D. Grissell, of the Regent's Canal Ironworks, Eagle Wharf road, New North road, Hoxton. The front of the Letter-box is shown in the Engraving; and the accompanying Diagram shows the interior contrivance for taking out the letters:—A, opening for letters; B, inner wooden front of box; C, flap, which opens and forms an inclined plane with the bottom of the box, by which means the letters are shot into the postman's bag; D D, slides to the flap, to prevent the letters falling over; E, inside of iron door. The locks are the "patent detector," by Messrs. Chubb, St. Paul's Churchyard.

THE RUSSIAN MEDAL.—On the bodies of numbers of the Russian soldiers who recently fell before Eupatoria were found the silver medal of the decoration of St. George. On one side is engraven the Russian eagle with two heads, holding in its talons the terrestrial globe and the sceptre of the Sovereign; over the eagle is the Imperial Crown of Russia, surmounted by the illuminated dove, and round these figures is the following motto, in the Russian language—"Fall on your knees, idolators, for God is with us." On the other side of the medal is the following motto, also in Russian—"For the submission of Hungary and Transylvania;" which sufficiently indicates its origin.

The temporary huts for the encampment of 20,000 men on Aldershott-heath are ordered to be ready for the troops on the 1st April. The nearest station to the Camp is Farnborough.

PRINCE MENSCHIKOFF. The disgrace of this commander is more complete than was signified in the first accounts from St. Petersburg. An order of the day, dated the 4th instant, removes him, under the form of accepting his resignation, not only from the command in the Crimea, but from the post of Chief of the Naval Staff, and from the Governor-Generalship of Finland. He retains only the titular appointments of Aide-de-Camp General and Councillor of State. Therefore, in addition to Bokarsowski and Dannenberg, we may now put down Menschikoff as the list of the Generals to whom the war has cost their command. Prince Menschikoff's removal into inactivity has been by no means accompanied by any bestowal of laurels. The Prince, it is true, undertook, with 50,000 men, to defend the Taurian peninsula against any enemy; but by degrees the conviction has gained ground that any other Russian General, with such a *terrain* as that of the Crimea, and with such fortifications as those of Sebastopol, could in all probability have done as much. In every case where he attempted to do more than just defend himself his enterprises failed. Alma and Inkerman are his witnesses, and now Eupatoria. No acknowledgment, no approbation of these operations—only uncommons on the bravery with which the soldiers fought at the bombardment of Sebastopol and various actions—proceeded from the deceased Emperor. The Grand Duke Nicholas was commissioned to hint to Prince Menschikoff that the state of his health, which has been ruined in the service, might perhaps make it desirable for him to resign it, and that, in the meantime, the supreme command could be made over to Prince Gortschakoff. Prince Menschikoff understood the hint, and forwarded to the by that time deceased Emperor his request to be allowed to retire. The present Emperor accepted it, and, on the 4th inst., relieved the Prince of all his offices

THE NEW POST-OFFICE LETTER-BOX, AT THE CORNER OF FLEET-STREET AND FARRINGDON-STREET.

EXHIBITION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

As our last week's Illustration from the Portland Gallery, we made Mr. Raven carry us (and very pleasantly he carried us) into the haunt of the fallow deer; this week Mr. Charles Dukes wafts us, by the ready resources of his pencil, to a touching incident of domestic life—common, let us hope, in every cottage hearth in England—a young mother listening to a chapter from the Bible from the lips of her eldest born; and Mr. Arthur Gilbert speeds us away into a solitude wherein we may think down hours to moments, so sublime and yet so beautiful is the repose he has brought most unmistakeably before us.

Mr. Dukes has very appropriately called his picture "Reading a Chapter." It is a kind of Cotter's "Saturday Night." The father has not yet returned from his toil as a fisherman; and the young mother, having washed her youngest born, is on the eve of putting him to bed, but not without teaching her children that praise and prayer are necessary for every condition of life. There are few sights more beautiful in domestic nature than that of a young mother thus properly employed. It is a scene of innocence—it is a prospect of happiness hereafter. Mr. Dukes has entered into this feeling with a very fine sense of what is beautiful and good; and the result has been that he has given us a picture which will find many admirers, though his colouring is somewhat too soft. The general defect of his picture is a want of firmness and crispness of touch; but these acquirements—the results of greater study—will soon come to him.

In conceiving a subject so commonly painted as "Tranquillity," Mr. Arthur Gilbert has not attempted anything that is very new; nor has he made any additions to nature, or had recourse to the compositions of other artists. He has been struck with what he has seen—what, indeed, thousands are seeing every year; some with eyes alive to its beauties, and which others (a large number) pass unregarded by, as an effect in nature pretty enough, and nothing more. But Mr. Gilbert has been gifted with an eye alive to the rich combinations of nature, and has rendered a scene of solitude as if he had never heard other sound than that of the rustle of the aspen leaf, or of a bird on the wing to its evening nest. How solemn is the repose of that deep water, under the shadow of that thick line of trees! It is one continual pool, never disturbed on its surface but by the slenderest insects. The very leaves in autumn fall so gently upon it that its smooth current (if current it has) can hardly be said to be touched by them. Here the greatest hater of London and its street cries, and the eternal rattle of its wheels, will find a change equal to the deepest solitude of his wishes. Here is a solitude as intense as that so exquisitely described by Dr. Donne:—

> Where together lie
> Feathers and dust—to-day and yesterday.

A second personage in such a scene would jar with the sentiment of the spectator. As we stand musing before it, we are inclined to be angry when any person approaches to participate in the pleasure of so solemn a repose, and when (on quitting the Gallery) we are hurried into the throng of Regent-street; we have recourse to poetry, and record our approbation to ourselves of a very fine work of art by all the scraps of poetry about solitude that we can call to mind. Grainger might have added another image or two to his "Ode on Solitude" (so justly admired by Dr. Johnson) had he seen Mr. Gilbert's picture. Our poets have not drawn largely enough on images and effects in art. Few of our poets, indeed, have understood art—none, we suspect, thoroughly but Thompson, Gray, and Mr. Rogers.

"READING A CHAPTER."—PAINTED BY C. DUKES.—EXHIBITION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION OF FINE ARTS.

FINE ARTS.

THE ART-UNION OF GLASGOW.

The prize paintings of the Art-Union of Glasgow, intended for distribution in the current year, are now on view at the Gallery, 121, Pall-Mall.

The Collection consists of 128 pieces, besides some five-and-twenty which are exhibited at the British Institution and the Edinburgh Academy; and more will probably be added as the season advances, and further subscriptions come in. The system adopted in this Art-Union is different from that of the "London," and contains some advantages, whilst undoubtedly, in the minds of some, it may be open to objections. It is this, that instead of a money prize being awarded, with which the fortunate holder may purchase any picture of his own selection, the gross amount of prize money is laid out in pictures by the committee, to be afterwards distributed; and this it is considered will ensure an average better quality, both as to subject and execution, in the art so patronised. In the exercise of this discretionary power, also, the Committee do not restrict their choice to works which have already been publicly exhibited, but seek to forestall the public, which, just now, is a cormorant with respect to pictures by artists of any note or likelihood, by securing pictures whilst yet on the easel. Amongst the works purchased under these circumstances in the present Collection, we must certainly congratulate the Committee, and the subscribers generally, upon a very fine picture by Sant, "Watching the Combat"—a group of three Saxon maidens, which is remarkable for forcible dramatic effect and poetic character. We remark also with

"TRANQUILLITY."—PAINTED BY A. GILBERT.—EXHIBITION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION OF FINE ARTS.

[illegible] the Collection, a "Stream in the Island of Arran," by Jutsum; "Lost Game" (at Chase), by F. R. Pickersgill; a beautiful "View in Venice" (painted to order), by E. W. Cooke; "Musidora:" a figure study, by W. E. Frost; "Don Sancho Panza, Governor of the Ile of Barataria," by John Gilbert; a "Sunny Morning," by J. Mogford; a "View on the Thames," by A. Gilbert; "Cromwell's Morning," another large landscape, by Niemann. The amount already disposed of by the purchase of pictures for the present year is £4201

PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

SINCE I last addressed you, great activity has manifested itself in various parts of the Exhibition. But the most exciting event which has yet taken place in connection with the Exhibition was the delivery of pictures and sculpture on the 15th inst. On this day, according to official announcement, the doors of the Fine Art Galleries were to close upon contributors; early on this morning, therefore, artists began to arrive before the back doors of the galleries, accompanied by their works. Before mid-day the scene was most amusing: every variety of Parisian conveyance, from the dashing *remise* down to the humble hand-barrow, had been in requisition. Some, too economical to employ the proprietors even of hand-barrows, arrived, carrying their pictures under their arms. Great excitement prevailed when a colossal painting was driven up; and, under cover of this excitement, timid ladies were seen to make their way to the doors, and taking a little portrait from under their cloak, to leave it, and hasten away. There were groups of calm artists lounging about, with cigars in their mouths, discussing the merits of the various performances they had seen in their friends' *ateliers*; workmen busy with crowbars; foremen with gay ribbons in their caps; custom house officers looking on sardonically; firemen of ferocious aspect; and groups of workmen, from the factories in the neighbourhood, come, with their huge lumps of bread grasped in their broad hands, to eat their breakfast, and feast upon the novel sight before them at the same time. In the midst of all the bustle stood colossal statues, looking very dead and leaden, as statues always look when drawn along public streets. Then, to take from their effect, some of them were half hidden by cloths and rugs—the sculptor not wishing his performance to be polluted by the eye of the vulgar. And not the least interesting object to the crowd was your artist sketching. His acquaintance—who had delivered their pictures, and felt a load off their mind—were skipping about in great delight; then, one by one, sauntered off to the Champs Elysées, to look at the masked madcaps of a Parisian *Mi-Carême*.

Our readers will learn with infinite regret that, up to the time at which I write, not a single English painting has reached Paris—the reason being that Lord Cowley and Mr. Owen do not consider the Art Galleries safe, on account of the contiguity of a sugar refinery, worked by steam. M. Arago, to whom I talked on the subject, and who, it may be remembered, is the Inspector General of Fine Arts, declared that there was no danger whatever, in the first place; in the second place, that an overwhelming force of firemen would be kept constantly on the premises; and, in the third place, that he had assured Lord Cowley, when he visited the galleries, that the English pictures should be placed in the part of the building the furthest removed from the refinery. Yet these assurances do not seem to have satisfied his Excellency. He was promised that the Continental schools should all perish before the British was touched, yet our diplomatic representative of Bruidwood in Paris was inflexible. The French pretty openly describe this obstinacy as a ruse, by which the English intend to escape the damage their artists would receive by direct contrast with the artists of Paris; and this is to be sincerely regretted, since the public mind will be made up, and our English contributions will be regarded with prejudice (should they be sent, after all) by men who will be long sore about the unfriendly judgment our Ambassador has passed upon the Exhibition arrangements of our allies. It will grieve many of Horace Vernet's admirers in England to learn that his labours as juror are suspended by an illness which I hope is not so severe as it is rumoured to be. Before turning from the Art portion of the Exhibition, I may add, for the information of English Art students, that throughout the approaching summer no copying will be allowed in the Louvre, as this establishment will be open to the public daily, for the convenience of Exhibition visitors.

I again visited the Palais de l'Industrie on Thursday last. While I was in the building the first waggon-load of contributions arrived. It was amusing to witnesse the wonderful excitement which this arrival appeared to cause among the gentlemen charged with the reception of goods. Although I watched the scene from the most respectful distance, the officials wildly waved their hands to me, begging my removal to another part of the Palace. I am afraid one fiery little gentleman would have been seized with a fit of apoplexy had I not instantly obeyed. I skipped up the staircase (or the ascent yet to be marked out with stairs) very nimbly—wondering, by the way, that not more than three or four workmen were at work upon this backward part of the works. However, these staircases, when finished, will be really fine: they are very prettily inlaid with marble; and their solidity contrasts very pleasantly with the light galleries to which they lead. These broad galleries, with their arched roof, will certainly be the most striking feature of the building. Already, at the eastern extremity, there is some light skeleton work up, evidently destined to display textile fabrics. It was so fragile in appearance, however, that I remarked its resemblance to a child's game of dead men's bones. In the Northern Galleries lie heaps of fragments of old Exhibition stalls, marked Lyons, evidently destined to be furbished up. Unhappily, some of the Cupids' legs were missing; and there were loyal ornaments, in vogue perhaps at the French Exhibition of 1844, but hardly palatable to the powers that be. However, I remarked that the escutcheons were all left blank, to be filled, in by the sagacious tradesman owning them, with the device that might best recommend his goods. The Western Gallery was chalked out into squares of space given to Saxony, Prussia, Wurtemberg, &c. Before leaving these galleries, I may remark that the great western painted window is advancing, I fear, amid the laughter of the majority of Parisian artists. That part of the design already set up looks like an elaborate glass caricature by Champ. Yet it is a serious work. I will simply describe two of the figures: one is a lady, who is nursing a cornucopia, the body of which resembles a flute, and the mouth of which disgorges—not grapes, and all the golden plenty of the earth, but—clocks and candlesticks, and all the golden manufactures of Paris. Under this figure is a sheep, and upon the head a shop-window of *articles Paris* is falling in the least admirable confusion. Next to the lady holding this extraordinary horn of plenty is a female of dignified aspect, clothed in a red garment, and standing near an enormous jar, which possibly only a fanciful figure of *Pickwickania*.

A long Machinery Gallery is even less advanced than the Palace; yet energy may accomplish much in six weeks. People who remember the Crystal Palace in Hyde-park six weeks before the opening day would not despair were they to go over the Paris Exhibition works at the present time. Nearly all the stalls are up.

Among the curious promises of the Exhibition are—excursion trains from Spain, the excursionists of which will proceed to Sydenham, after having visited the Paris Exhibition. This is a good sign.

A statue of Lord Clarendon, hitherto placed opposite that of Hampden, in the principal entrance to the Houses of Parliament, was on Tuesday removed to another pedestal, and Foley's new statue of Selden was raised to its place.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE LIGHT CAVALRY CHARGE AT BALACLAVA.

The Earl of LUCAN moved for copies of papers and correspondence respecting the charge of the Light Cavalry Brigade at the battle of Balaclava. He noticed the circumstances of the day, referred to the orders which had been sent to him by Lord Raglan, contending that in the position in which he was placed he was left without any discretion to decline or delay the charge when the last order he received. He commented on the correspondence which had taken place between the Commander-in-Chief, the War-office, and himself; vindicated the whole of his proceedings; and persisted in his demand for a court-martial, before which he might establish his case.

The Earl of CARDIGAN made some observations; after which

Lord PANMURE said, it was against military law to grant the court-martial required, for Lord Raglan had conferred every complaint on his part by giving the noble Earl further employment, and to institute the inquiry would strike at the root of the discipline of the Army.

Viscount HARDINGE considered the order of Lord Raglan discretionary, and not imperative, and, as differences had arisen between two officers high in position, so that they could not act in concert for the interest of the country, it was necessary that one of them should be recalled. He expressed the confidence the Government had in the Commander-in-Chief in the Crimea, and they could not with safety grant the inquiry.

The Duke of RICHMOND regretted the Earl of Lucan had brought this motion forward. He ought to have read the order "advance in pursuit," not "advance and attack."

The Earl of DERBY saw great difficulties in granting the court-martial; but he thought the publication of Lord Raglan's second letter injudicious, as it placed the Earl of Lucan on the horns of a dilemma. The noble Earl had entreated to have the fullest inquiry into his military character; and, though it was refused, he had made his statement in that House, and he might with safety leave his character in the hands of his country.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE hoped the matter would go no farther, and that the House would not establish a dangerous precedent.

Lord HARDWICKE differed from the noble Duke, and considered the Earl of Lucan justified in taking advantage of the privilege of sitting in that House to vindicate his character.

After some observations from the Marquis of Breadalbane, the Earl of Lucan, and the Duke of Newcastle, the correspondence was ordered to be laid on the table

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

THE NEWSPAPER-STAMP

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, after stating the circumstances which led to the Newspaper-stamp Bill of Mr. Gladstone, proceeded to show that the measure now proposed was identical with that bill in principle and substance. Whatever credit might be due to the adoption of it, therefore, was due, not to him, but to Mr. Gladstone. The object of the resolutions which he meant to propose was to abolish the legal definition of a newspaper, and extend the existing rule with respect to newspapers to all printed periodical publications which appear at intervals not greater than thirty-one days. The present penalty for publishing news without a stamp will be repealed, leaving it optional with the proprietors of any such periodical either to stamp any portion of their impression or to leave it altogether unstamped. In other respects the law will be the same as it is as regards the postal charge; and all newspapers or periodical publications which avail themselves of the penal privilege will be subject to the present rule regarding registration and sureties. The effect of the proposed change he went on to describe as follows

With regard to such publications as the *Bulldog*, the *Athenæum*, the *Medical Times*, and the *Medical Gazette*, they will be permitted by the law to retain that indulgence which they now possess, practically in defiance of the law, or at least unsanctioned by the law. They will be permitted to retain that exemption, and to stamp such portion of their impression as they think fit. The same legislation will be extended to the whole of the rest of the press, the political newspapers, such as the *Times*, or the *Morning Herald*, or the *Morning Advertiser*. They will be subject to precisely the same rules as the *Athenæum* now is subject to. They will be permitted to stamp that portion of their impression they wish to send by post; and if there be any demand independent of that which is wanted by transmission by post, they will be permitted to publish that portion of their impression without a stamp. Beyond that change I do not propose to go. The bill which I beg leave to submit to the House will be confined to that. I would now, Sir, with the permission of the House, advert to certain objections which have been made to this plan, and which have been represented as fatal to its successful operation One of these is, that there would be a great confusion in the printing establishment, in consequence of the impression on stamped paper and a portion on unstamped paper, and, consequently, loss to the proprietor of the newspaper. Now, Sir, I have used my best endeavours to ascertain how far that objection is well founded. In the first place, it may be stated that the number of the existing class papers—of which a return has been moved by my hon. friend the member for Westminster—is not less than 187; all of which publications conduct their business with a mixed circulation of stamped and unstamped copies. With regard to any one of that numerous class of quasi newspapers, the presumption is, that no practical difficulty is found in a mixed circulation. The principal newspaper, however, which publishes a portion of its impression upon stamped and a portion on unstamped paper, is the periodical which is familiarly known to all the members of the House—namely, *Punch*. *Punch* published 435,000 stamped copies in the year 1854. I understand the gross circulation is about 40,000 a week, of which 2000 are printed on stamped paper, and about 32,000 on unstamped paper. I have had an interview with the manager of that periodical (Laughter) not for the purpose of inquiring into the manner in which that interesting publication is compiled, but in order to inquire into the economical part of the management—and he was so good as to inform me that not the least difficulty arose with regard to the printing of that paper, that no confusion in printing the mixed impression partly on stamped and partly on unstamped paper was occasioned, and he declared the difficulty to be, in his idea, altogether imaginary. I have made further inquiries of the publisher of the *Athenæum*, which is a publication printed partly on stamped and partly on unstamped paper, and I was informed that about 3000 copies of the *Athenæum* are printed on stamped and 4200 on unstamped paper. The gentleman connected with that paper stated that there was no practical difficulty in conducting that paper. It was said, moreover, that the number of stamped copies varied according to the greater or less demand for certain numbers; and, moreover, that at the period of the year when many gentlemen went out of London, there was a greater demand for stamped copies, in order that they might be sent through the post, instead of being furnished in town, but that those temporary variations were easily adjusted, and that there was neither confusion nor loss. I have further consulted the proprietor of the INTERNATIONAL LONDON NEWS—a gentleman of great experience with regard to the management of newspapers. He has brought the circulation of that paper up to nearly 140,000 copies a week, and he is intimately acquainted with the management and printing of newspapers. He gave me his confident opinion, that no difficulty would arise in the management of his newspaper, or in the management of any daily newspaper, from a mixed system of stamped and unstamped copies. Another objection more serious connected with the management of a newspaper has been presented to me by various persons who, both orally and in writing, have described a proposition which repealed the compulsory Newspaper-stamp as a measure most dangerous to society. It is described to me as a measure which will open the floodgates of sedition and blasphemy, which will inundate the country with a licentious and immoral press, which will undermine the foundations of society, and sow the seeds of revolution broadcast over the land. Now those expressions are not an exaggerated representation of opinions which have been expressed to me from many quarters, since this measure has been in contemplation. I regret to say that my right hon. friend the member for the University of Oxford is considered an accomplished advocate of these wicked and dangerous designs Now, Sir, I need not say, that if her Majesty's Government believed there was any foundation for these views, or for any appreciable part of these views, they would not propose the measure which I am now submitting to the House. They have great confidence in the stability of our institutions, in the solidity of our social system, in the loyalty and good disposition of the people (Cheers); and they do not believe that any increased facility of public discussion through the press would lead to such consequences as those which have been described (Hear, hear). But we are not left merely to an inference or indirect reasoning with regard to the probable character of a cheap unstamped press. There are already in evidence a large class of publications which, not containing news, are not subject to the stamp, are published at a very cheap cost, and circulated largely among the lower classes. Among them is the *London Journal* (of which, probably, few of you have heard) which circulates (I am credibly informed) 500,000 a week (which, if true, would be a circulation of 26,000,000 a year, or 16,000,000 more than the annual circulation of the *Times*), and the price being only one penny. I have examined some of the numbers, and find the contents almost of morality, if not wholly unexceptionable, at least certainly by no means compared with the high fill pictures drawn of them. It resembles rather the *Penny Magazine* publications. There is also the *Family Herald*, a similar periodical, with a circulation of some 250,000. These facts show that the moderate price of the poorer class of readers as to cheap unstamped publications leads them to prefer a class of periodicals of a nearly innocuous character, at all events free from those dangerous elements which have been apprehended. I may add that there were some years ago five or six cheap publications in London, of a bad class, of which there is not now one existing. And that there were several newspapers of a higher price, but of a similar character—the *Age*, the *Argus*, and the *Satirist*, which have ceased to exist. So that it seems that no removal or licentious period is long-lived or enjoys an extensive circulation (Hear). Another objection is that the measure will lead to the establishment of one class of periodicals for the rich, another for the poor; one for the upper and educated classes, and another for the lower and uneducated classes; and that there will be a class of cheap newspapers intended exclusively for the poorer orders. To a certain extent that is so now. There are newspapers published at a very cheap rate, weekly or several times a week, for the poorer classes—as, for instance, the *News of the World*, and *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper* have a large circulation, and that is owing to the price being 5d. instead of 6d. And assuming this to be the case to a certain extent, I see not a reason that there is any reason to regret it. If the taste of the poorer classes prevents them from enjoying the periodicals prepared for the richer orders, and if another kind of periodical, rises up adapted to their wants, and moral and useful in character, is an advantage that such a kind of periodical should circulate among them; and we are aware that the periodicals published for the working classes will be printed with immoral or anti-social doctrines. At all events, those who devote themselves to the improvement of education and the division of sound opinions among the masses, will find a favourable field for their philanthropic exertions, and will be enabled to counteract any mischievous or anarchical opinions circulated through channels of that description.

Should the House decide in favour of the resolutions, it would be his duty to call upon them to provide the slender deficiency which would be occasioned by the change The present duty produced £400,000, one-half of which, it was estimated, would be lost by the change. As regards the cheap postage of books and pamphlets, he had not included that in his bill; but, as he fully admitted the importance of a cheap book-post, he should be quite ready, if the House concurred with him, to take the matter into consideration as a separate question. He concluded by moving the following resolutions—

That it is expedient to amend the laws relating to the Stamp-duties on newspapers, and to provide for the transmission by post of printed periodical publications

That any periodical publication, to be entitled to the privilege of transmission and retransmission by the post, shall be printed on paper stamped for denoting the Stamp-duty imposed by law on a newspaper, printed on the like number of sheets or pieces of paper, and of the like dimensions, with respect to the superficies, of the letterpress thereof

That printed newspapers (British, colonial, or foreign) shall be transmitted by the post between places in the United Kingdom and her Majesty's colonies or foreign countries, or between any ports or places beyond the sea (whether through the United Kingdom or not) either free of postage or subject to such rate of postage not exceeding 2d. for each newspaper, irrespective of any charge for foreign postage, as the Commissioners of the Treasury and her Majesty's Postmaster-General, with their consent, shall from time to time think fit

Mr. GLADSTONE deprecated discussion before the printing of the Bill, but regretted some of the changes which had been made in his bill. He regretted that registration should have been retained as a condition of the privilege. The right hon. gentleman had made no allusion to the question of copyright, which was a very important consideration, for there could be no doubt but that newspapers has a right to protection as far as regarded their labour, their correspondence, and literature. He was aware how difficult it was to lay down a plan, because, as far as related to news, it might be thrown into such a variety of forms as to render it hopeless to trace it; but he hoped that attention would be given to the subject, to ascertain if the law of copyright could not be extended in some way so as to meet the case.

Sir F. BARING said, the loss of revenue at the present period was a very serious consideration He had no objection to the bringing in of the bill, but he warned the House not to incur such a serious loss until they had before them the Financial Statement for the year

Mr. M. GIBSON objected to considering the proposition upon the fiscal principles, and preferred the plan of Mr Gladstone to that of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He hoped soon to see a cheap postage system for all printed matter

After some observations from Mr. MacGregor and Mr Warner, Mr. Beresford said, the measure would effect a revolution in the press; and, unless great care were taken, the country would be inundated with licentious publications

Mr. LOCKE said, it was of paramount importance that no taxation should be given up at the present crisis, nor until they could see more clearly how the exigencies of the war were to be provided for

Mr. Ricardo thought the £400,000 should not be considered as an insuperable difficulty to the adoption of this plan. He knew of a great number of publications daily and otherwise in Manchester and elsewhere, which would be glad to see such a measure should be carried out. He quoted an article from the *Times* of last May condemning the tax on newspapers in every possible way, and expressed his conviction that the *Times* would in one memorable case, and made by every word it contained. He was delighted to have so high an authority in favour of this measure

After some observations from Mr. Parke, Sir H. Willoughby, Mr. J. G. Phillimore, and Mr. Bentinck, the resolutions were agreed to, the House resumed, and they were ordered to be reported to-day

MEDICAL ATTENDANCE IN THE EAST.

Mr. A. STAFFORD called attention to the medical arrangements for the sick and wounded soldiers in the East, and expressed a wish to ascertain from the Secretary of State what steps were adopting to prevent the recurrence of such evils as they had so much reason to deplore.

Mr. PEEL stated at some length what had been recently done at Smyrna, Balaclava, and Scutari, and added further measures for the efficiency of the medical department which were being carried on by the Government.

Lord PALMERSTON said, there was no duty more imperative upon the Government than that of attending to the sick and wounded, and his noble friend at the head of the War Department was fully impressed with this necessity

After some observations from Colonel Knox, Captain Duncombe, and other members, the House went into Committee of Supply, and the remainder of the evening was occupied in the discussion of the Estimates

HOUSE OF LORDS. TUESDAY

POLICY OF PRUSSIA.

Lord LYNDHURST called attention to the position which Prussia now occupied with regard to the war, and the negotiations now in progress at Vienna. After premising that the aggressions of Russia, especially with respect to the navigation of the Danube, had seriously imperilled the interests of every Germanic nation, the noble Lord traced the conduct of the Prussian Government throughout the whole period that had elapsed since the invasion of the Principalities by the late Czar. This conduct, he declared, evinced a degree of servility and vacillation, which destroyed all possibility of placing faith in the professions of Prussia. The Government of that country had always subserved Russian interests, and seemed to be guided by Russian inspiration Acquiting the Prussian nation of any complicity in the policy of their rulers, he admitted the difficulty of adopting any decisive course, whether of war or diplomacy in the present unhappy state of Prussia

The Earl of CLARENDON said, such was the strange mixture of vacillation and timidity against the management of the Prussian Government, that no well-founded Prussia had not been admitted as a party in the proceedings of the Vienna Conference, although he did not apprehend that all hope was lost of inducing that country to take a more active and nobler member of the Alliance against Russia—a result to which considerations for her honour and interest alike pointed. The result hitherto of Prussian policy had been to frustrate negotiations, and to prevent a firm and uniform language on the part of Germany towards Russia. The issue had, in fact, been to prevent that union which would have gone far to secure a lasting peace, and to give to Germany those guarantees of which she stands so much in need. Prussia was in an isolated, and therefore in a false position, and although that fact might give satisfaction to her enemies, it was deeply regretted by the Allies, and deeply felt by her own patriotic people. It was a position from which neither honour nor advantage could be derived, and one which both this and the French Government were most anxious to see altered in Prussia. He could assure them, Lord Lyndhurst, that no exertions should be spared to secure the free co-operation of Prussia, while everything should be done in a friendly spirit, and with due regard to the honour and feelings of a great and independent nation

HOUSE OF COMMONS. TUESDAY

HUNGARY AND POLAND

Lord W. GRAHAM, in pursuance of notice, inquired whether the Austrian Ambassador in this country had taken any formal notice of an expression attributed to a member of the Government (Sir R. Peel) to the effect that no "settlement of the Eastern question would be satisfactory unless Poland and Hungary were"

Lord PALMERSTON expressed his gratitude in having secured the services of Sir R. Peel as a colleague in his Administration. With respect to the question proposed to him, he remarked that the Austrian Ambassador was fully aware that the British Government considered the preservation of the integrity of the Austrian Empire, so far as Hungary was concerned, essential to the peace of Europe. A [illegible] present condition of Poland constituted a standing menace to Germany, he submitted that the solution of that difficulty should be left to the German Powers themselves, declaring also that no point involved in that question would be raised at the pending conference in Vienna

COLONY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Mr. ROEBUCK referred to some discontent which he alleged had arisen among the British colonists in Newfoundland, in consequence of the delay in the introduction of the promised representative institutions in that colony, through the act of the Government

Lord PALMERSTON assured the House that care would be kept with the colonists as to the establishment of a representative government in Newfoundland

Mr. LOWE having remarked upon the critical condition of the colony of Victoria at the date of the last despatches,

Sir G. GREY observed that the disturbances which had occurred among the gold-diggers had been promptly suppressed. The constitution prepared for the colony would, he added, be shortly presented for consideration to Parliament

SANDHURST.

Col. NORTH moved a series of resolutions relative to the Military College at Sandhurst, with the view of extending and improving the means of education for officers in the Army afforded in that establishment. He proposed, also, that free education and maintenance should be granted in the College for the orphan sons of officers of the Army, Navy, or Marine.

Some considerable discussion took place on the motion, and calls were made for a division. Ultimately, however, Lord Palmerston consented to refer the subject to a Committee; and on this intimation Col. North withdrew his resolutions.

OPENING OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM AND NATIONAL GALLERY ON SUNDAY.

Sir J. WALMSLEY proposed a resolution setting forth the expediency of throwing open the collections of national history and art in the British Museum and National Gallery for public inspection after morning service on Sundays. So far from occasioning any desecration of the day, the opportunity to visit these collections, he contended, would tend to purify the tastes, elevate the character, and deepen the religious sentiments of the people. Sunday was emphatically the poor man's day, and it was only just to deprive him with the means of spending it most beneficially to his mind and body.

Mr. BIGGS supported the motion, contending that the arguments which had been in times past advanced against such propositions were based upon superstitious idea respecting the observance of the Sabbath. The exist ng restrictions caused most invidious and injurious distinctions betw en the rich and poor, and formed part of the too extensive mass of class legislation which disfigured our code of laws.

The motion was opposed on religious grounds by Mr. L. Davies, Mr. Drummond, and the Marquis of Blandford.

Mr. A. PELLATT remarked that a desire for a stricter observance of Sunday was spreading among the public. He proposed an amendment, to the effect that the Museum and National Gallery should be opened on Saturdays and Mondays, as being more convenient to the working classes.

Mr. KINNAIRD believed that the motion would lead to results which would finally deprive the working man of his day of rest.

Lord STANLEY considered that the objections to the motion were founded upon respectable prejudices. Intellectual and moral improvement formed a part of religion, and constituted a fitting exercise for the day set apart for sacred uses. To the numerous individuals occupied during the week with manual labour, there was no opportunity for acquiring such improvement except upon Sunday. There was no other time or means of continuing through life the education which the members of the working class were enabled to begin in their youth. As a matter of comparison, he saw no reason to keep the Museum shut while Hampton Court and Kew Gardens were open; and, in a religious point of view, denied the right of imposing compulsory restrictions on the consciences of the people.

Mr E. BALL opposed the motion.

Mr. GOULBURN, adverting to the amendment brought forward by Mr Pellatt, promised on behalf of the trustees of the British Museum that the establishment should be thrown open on Saturdays if that proceeding were proved to suit the convenience of the public. Respecting the original motion, he urged that if the Museum were opened on Sunday the precedent would be set for allowing shows, theatrical entertainments, and amusements of every character on the seventh day.

Mr W. J. Fox contended that the question was not one of theology, but of property. The institutions under discussion were maintained by public money; they belonged altogether to the people; and it was unjust to lock the people out on the only day when they could enjoy them. Declaring that Sabbatarianism was a modern invention, and the creed of a minority, he proceeded to argue that art was religious in its tendencies, and had been adopted by the members of every sect to propagate and popularise their principles.

Lord PALMERSTON opposed the motion, believing that the respectful observance of Sunday was either a symptom or a cause of morality and good conduct among the people. Individual actions might be left to the consciences of individuals, but Parliament should not sanction a step which would shock the religious scruples of a very large proportion of the community.

Mr. Barrow and Mr. Heywood having spoken.

Sir J. WALMSLEY replied, offering to withdraw his motion. The members opposed to it, however, insisted on recording their votes, and a division took place. For the original motion, 44; against it, 235: majority against the motion, 187.

The amendment was then also put, but withdrawn without a division.

SANITARY REFORM IN BALACLAVA.—Colonel Harding, who came forward at the eleventh hour to make good what the culpable neglect of his two predecessors had made bad, must surely be in constant communication with the Board of Health, for all his measures and arrangements savour of Whitehall rather than of the expedition to the East. He has come to the conclusion that the place is hopelessly swamped with mud, impregnated with filth, and dotted with abominations, and that every inch of ground, each house, each stone, is pregnant with the germs of disease. Having settled that point in his mind, the present Commandant did not, as is the custom in the army, sit down and leave the case alone as hopeless and irremediable, but he resolved to pull the town down, to destroy it utterly, to burn it with fire, and to build up anew Balaclava in the place of the old one. This resolution is now being carried out. For, after all, this town, though a nuisance, is a necessity, and we are compelled to hold it, even if it were to become the very cradle of pestilence and the occupant of hospitals hundreds of lives per week. The shorter manner of dealing with Balaclava would have been to burn the place outright. But, as we want the houses for stores, offices, and quarters, there were some very natural objections to this summary plan of radical reform. Colonel Harding's method is to pull down one house after another, and to erect wooden houses in their places. The cellars are cleaned out, and the filth and rubbish brought to light and burnt. Fires are heaped up in the open places, and burnt. For days past such fires have been burning in all parts of Balaclava, and a dense cloud of black, stinking smoke hangs over the town. The stones of the ruined houses are carried away, broken up, and used for the improvement of the roads. The places where the houses stood are levelled, and large quantities of quicklime strewed over them. It is a curious and interesting sight to watch the fatigue parties of soldiers, in their uncouth and motley winter dresses, invading a doomed house. In they march, with axes and picks, and in a few minutes out come from the windows and by the doors, abominations, old and new, foul straw, broken bottles, soiled rags, bits of biscuit, bones with the blackened and shrivelled flesh still sticking to them, mouldy cheese, piles of broken furniture covered with bugs, and whole heaps of unalloyed, indescribable, unmentionable dirt—are thrown up into a funeral pile—a matchbox is produced and a wisp of straw, the pile is properly lighted, and a dense cloud of smoke rising up proclaims that another act of purification has commenced. Next comes the work of the axe and the pick. The tiles and rafters are pushed up, and come rattling down, to the great amusement of the bystanders, who are numerous; for the demolition of a house always attracts a crowd. Then the earthwork and masonry of the walls is pushed out, the floorings and verandahs come down, and the posts and heavy woodwork follow in due course. Part of the fatigue party outside separate the wood from the rubbish and stones, and others at once cart away the stones and level the place. Where the morning sun shone on a house, there the evening sun shines on a smooth level place, whitened over with lime and prepared for house-building, in the sense of the Camp. And the next morning brings another fatigue party, headed by carpenters, and loaded with posts and planks. Holes are dug, posts fixed, the place is crowded and busy all day, and in the evening there stands a large wooden hut. Such has been the work between sunrise and sunset; and sheds, too, for stabling horses, spring up as if by enchantment; and all that is now going forward proves how much can be done if those in authority have but the sense and the will to keep things in order.—*Letter from Balaclava, Feb 26*

THE NEW GOLD DISCOVERIES IN BRAZIL.—St. Louis de Maranham is a city of Brazil, situate two degrees south of the Equator, is a seaport and the capital of the province, with a population of from 35,000 to 40,000 inhabitants. At some leagues from Maranham, in the interior of the country, lies the wild valley of Maracassumée, entirely covered by virgin forests, and enclosed by two navigable rivers, the Tury-assú and the Gurupi. The fugitives who have made this valley a refuge from the pursuit of their masters have been for some time exchanging gold in the rough state for such supplies as the neighbouring locality could furnish them with; and the gold, they said, was found in abundance on the surface. Under these circumstances, a company was formed at Rio, with a capital of £1,500,000 francs, and an expedition dispatched to investigate the auriferous locality, said to be between the Tury-assú and the Gurupi. Three of the principal auriferous sites have been explored—all three of extreme richness and easily worked, at least in the rainy season: and even in the dry season the necessary water may be obtained at very little expense by rivulets led from the rivers that border or cross the valley. The soil is composed of quartz, schistus, and ferruginous clay. The auriferous bed must extend, according to the explorers, to a chain of mountains called the Sierra Acucuhi, inhabited only by Indians in a state of nature. During their short stay the exploring party acquired some magnificent specimens of the richness of the earth. One of the miners brought away a bit of quartz of about six inches in width, four inches and two and a half in thickness; and, besides fragments reserved for analysis, this stone yielded ten ounces of gold.

FRENCH JOURNALISM AND THE WAR. The editors of all the Paris journals were summoned to the Ministry of the Interior, one day last week, and told that in future they would not be permitted to publish any intelligence respecting the movements of the French Army, even should it relate merely to the transfer of a regiment from one part of France to another. A representative of one of the papers inquired, by way of asking for an example, whether they were not to be at liberty to reproduce from the *Journal de Toulon* the paragraphs which that journal was constantly in the habit of publishing about the military movements in that port. The answer was that the Toulon journal would no longer be allowed to publish those paragraphs; that all the prefects had been supplied by a confidential circular to enforce the same secrecy in the provinces which the Governor was determined to enforce in the metropolis; and that if, by any accident, military news of the kind alluded to should appear in a provincial newspaper, the Paris press would nevertheless not be at liberty to adopt it. The editors were at the same time enjoined not to report a word of what might be said about the possible journey of the Emperor to the Crimea

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE examinations before Mr. Roebuck's Committee continue to exhibit the same sad tale of incapacity and mismanagement; but us, in an ill-regulated household, it is impossible to trace who is the real culprit answerable for the reduction of your dinner-service, or the smashing of your chimney ornaments; so at Woolwich or Southampton, at Kulalee, Scutari, or Balaclava, we know that there has been any amount of short-comings and blunderings, causing not only a deep blot on the glory of England, but, what is of far more moment, a fearful and needless quantity of misery to the bravest and best-conducted army that ever left our shores; yet it seems quite hopeless to attempt to find out who is to blame. Mr. Stafford, maddened as he seems to have been by the state of the hospitals at Scutari, hardly ventures to impute neglect or misconduct to any one in particular; in fact, he says that in almost every case he found it impossible to find out to what department it was proper to apply for the redress of the most crying abominations. "I never could find out where the duties of one department ended, and that of another commenced;" when, horrified at the persistence of a nuisance almost too disgusting to describe, he offered his own money to pay for its removal, he could get no one to accept it. Every word that has been written home by the *Times* Commissioner as to the absence of half the necessaries and nearly all the comforts of life in the hospitals, has been repeated by him before the Committee, and corroborated, nay, extended, by other witnesses; yet it appears that before he went out the Duke of Newcastle (whose *bond fides* no one doubts) assured him the fund he was about to administer would be totally useless, "as, if a man wanted champagne or anything else more expensive, he would only have to ask for it." It was only the other day that a Cabinet Minister assured the House of Commons that by the last returns the number of the British army fit for duty amounted to nearly 30,000; per contra, we have the word of the Duke of Cambridge that it did not then much exceed 12,000. Surely here there is a chance of fixing the cause of a grave error. How was Mr. Gladstone misled, by whom, and for what purpose? If this false estimate of our numbers was believed, as seems likely, at Lord Raglan's head-quarters, it would at once explain why there could be no recovery from, but rather an increase in the sickness of the troops. All accounts concur in representing that over-work had more to do with it than any other cause, and if 12,000 actual men were put to do the work of 30,000 in bucksram, the reason why they should be five nights out of seven in the trenches may easily be comprehended. In the meantime public expectation of the immediate receipt of important intelligence from the Crimea is stretched to the utmost. The City is in a fever, and the Clubs participate in the disorder, only in a minor degree—the fortunes of their denizens not depending to the same extent on the alternatives of Peace or War; and, like the human body in a similar condition, have broken out into an eruption—not of humours but of *rumours*. Tuesday was a regular field-day for the *concoiters*. The Turks had been defeated at Eupatoria—the Allies had been beaten in an attack on Sebastopol—the Austrians were making separate terms with Russia—the French Emperor was to go to the Crimea at the end of the week. Luckily, up to the present moment, none of the tales have been justified

Sir Benjamin Hall has introduced his bill for the better local management of the metropolis. Probably never before was so clear a case for reform made out—for this is, perhaps, the only occasion on record when, upon a similar proposition, no bold Tory was found to get up and assure the House that no alteration was wanted, and that the present system was as perfect as it was humanly possible it should be. Sir Benjamin conducted his case with considerable tact, using no theoretical arguments, but confining himself to a mere statement of facts, a *catalogue raisonnée* of some of the more glaring and amusing absurdities perpetrated by the hundred paving, lighting, and other boards who despotise over the metropolis. The general principle seems to be, that—in most parishes—for every £200 laid out on the roads, £400 is paid to officers for seeing that it is laid out. The climax of absurdity is attained in Westminster, where the division of the authority of the several boards usually runs along the centre of the street; so that if they did not agree as to the time of watering (as actually happened), one-half the thoroughfare would always be wet while the other half was dry. It seems that the local management is better in the City than elsewhere—a fact, by-the-by, which, from the apparent condition of the thoroughfares therein, one would scarcely have guessed—and in the wealthy parish of St. Pancras about the worst. It is to be hoped that the provisions of Sir B. Hall's bill, will not be frittered away in Committee, which has been too often the case where the patronage and jobbery of powerful communities have to be fought against. The fact is that London has hitherto been considered too much as an ordinary town, instead of (as was well said in the debate on Friday) as a built-up province, with the population, and more than the wealth of a secondary kingdom. What is wanted, is a simple uniform system of management for the whole extent of the metropolis, headed by an *Edile*, a great officer of State, something like the Préfet de la Seine, in Paris.

Any one might have guessed that the Great Exhibition of 1851, in Hyde-park, was sure to have a crowd of imitators. The copies have not hitherto prospered like the original: that at Dublin, though well managed in most respects, did not pay, and that at New York was, from the unpunctuality of its opening to the disasters of its close, one of the completest failures on record. If we may believe a letter addressed to the *Daily News*, signed "W. G. Rogers, carver in wood to the Queen," the management thereof was not more respectable than the result was remunerative. It appears that Mr. Rogers sent to the New York Exhibition certain works of art, under a guarantee that they should be returned free of charge, and an assurance from the "sole agent for Europe" that the goods should be thoroughly insured. For nearly a year after the close of the Exhibition he could hear nothing of his property, though he learnt that the jury had awarded him one of the ten silver medals. At last, "being accidentally in the London Dock," he recognised his packages on the wharf, and on getting them home and opening them he finds breakage to the estimated cost of £114 10s., for which he sends in his bill to the "sole agent." But the "sole agent" goes immediately to France and poor Mr. Rogers can hear no more about the matter, until he does so in the unpleasant form of a claim from the broker for £15 3s. 10d. for duty and dock charges. So much for the "guarantee" and "insurance."

The sale of the Bernal Collection still goes on. To hear the prices that are given for the merest little dots of cups and saucers, no one could imagine there was such a thing as a war or an Income-tax. A whole flock of real sheep would be dear at the price given for a couple of Shepherdesses in Dresden or Sèvres. We read of "an old stone jug, with silver mountings, six inches high," and that "it seemed probable the lot would go for *only* £7 or £8, but suddenly the biddings rose to £36!" Surely the catalogues should end as the old play-bills did—"No money returned!"

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THE mania or forming mining companies appears to be on the increase. The local share lists contain the names of twenty-five mining companies, with a subscribed capital of about one million and a half, all of which, with one exception, were established last year

A LARGE NUGGET. An immense block of gold is on its way to the Paris Exposition. It is the largest that has ever yet been seen, and weighs 160 lbs., of which fifteen only are of quartz, all the rest being pure gold. It has been sent from the county of Calaveras, in the state of California, and, according to the *New York Herald*, its value is 38,916 dollars. It belonged to a digging party of five miners, who sold it to an American for 40,000 dollars. The block is nearly ten times larger than that found in 1853 at Sonora, which weighed 247 ounces, and was valued at only 4350 dollars.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Sunday being the natal day of the Princess Louisa Carolina Alberta, March 18, 1848, and the Court being at Osborne Palace late at Wight, the whole of the fleet at Spithead fired a Royal salute in honour of the event.

The health of the Empress Elizabeth of Austria is improving so rapidly that no more bulletins will be issued. The infant Archduke is doing well.

The Grand Dukes Michael and Nicholas left Sebastopol on the 13th, for St. Petersburg

The report of an early visit of the Emperor of the French to this country has been revived. It is said that the Empress will probably be the guest of her Majesty at Buckingham Palace shortly after Easter.

The Queen of Prussia has proceeded for a few days on a visit to her twin-sister, the Queen of Saxony.

On Monday the French Emperor reviewed, in the Place du Carrousel, the Grenadiers of the Guards destined for the Crimea, or who are, as some will have it, to accompany his Majesty to the seat of action.

Her Majesty has granted a pension of £300 a year to the widow of the late Mr. John Montagu, Colonial secretary at the Cape of Good Hope.

The anniversary service for the repose of the soul of the Empress Josephine was celebrated on Saturday in the church of Rueil, where her remains are buried. Some personages belonging to the Imperial household, and a number of persons from Paris were present.

The Conde de Montemolin, the Infant Don Sebastian, and the Count and Countess of Chambord, assisted at the funeral of Donnarles, which took place at Trieste on the 13th inst.

The Earl of Aberdeen, it is understood, will shortly leave England for Egypt, in order to see his son, Lord Haddo, who contemplates prolonging his *séjour* in the East for some time to come. Lord Haddo is at present in the neighbourhood of Cairo.

The Archduke William arrived at St. Petersburg on the 11th, and was received in full state by the Emperor and the other members of the Imperial family. The Archduke was present at the funeral obsequies of the Emperor Nicholas

The health of the aged King Louis of Bavaria is greatly improved; and, as soon as the state of the weather permits his travelling, he is going with his physician, Dr. Becker, to Italy for change of air

The Earl of Carlisle sailed from Kingstown for Holyhead on the 16th. It is said to be his intention to be in Dublin again on Tuesday, the 20th April. A levee will be held on Wednesday, 18th April, and a drawing room on Thursday, 19th April

Private accounts from St. Petersburg state that the Empress Dowager is very ill.

Prince Maximilian of Thurn and Taxis is about to proceed to St. Petersburg to congratulate the new Emperor on his accession to the throne.

The widow of Don Carlos, who is residing at Trieste, has requested the Spanish Government to allow the body of her husband to be removed to Spain, and deposited in the vaults of the Royal family.

The *Cologne Gazette* of the 18th inst. announces the departure of the King of Prussia for Dresden.

Lord Panmure, Minister of War, on Monday took possession of the splendid mansion in Belgrave-square, *vis-a-vis* to Lord John Russell in Chesham-place, and lately tenanted by the Right Hon. Sir C. Wood, the First Lord of the Admiralty.

The Duke and Duchess de Nemours have arrived at Cadiz to pay a visit to the Duke and Duchess de Montpensier; and the Duke of Saxe-Coburg has left the same port for England.

Baron Goldsmid and Sir Joseph Bailey, the principal owners of the Birkenhead property, have signed a preliminary agreement, by which they bind themselves to accept 15s. in the pound for their property in the docks, payable in three and six years, with interest at the rate of four per cent. The amount, altogether, will be £1,500,000.

The King of Prussia has given permission to have the magnificent statue of the late King, Frederick William III, sent to the Paris Exhibition. The Prince of Prussia has also allowed to be forwarded to the same Exhibition the beautiful Album presented to him by the Rhenish provinces on the occasion of his marriage.

A letter from Rome of the 10th, in the *Univers*, states that a Mr. Palmer, represented as a distinguished man at Oxford, had a few days before read his recantation of Protestantism, and been received into the Roman Catholic church

It is said that Count Nesselrode will visit Vienna as soon as the deliberations of the Conference become critical

Mr. Layard has fixed Thursday, 5th April, as the day for his installation as Lord Rector of Marischal College, Aberdeen.

A grand dinner was given by Prince Paul Esterhazy on the 15th inst. to the members of the Vienna Conference; at which all of them appeared, except the Russian Plenipotentiaries, who were prevented from attending

The Queen of Spain has presented the Pope with six beautiful Andalusian horses.

The Lord Chancellor of Ireland and Lord Seaton, commanding the forces in Ireland, have been sworn Lords Justices of Ireland

The visit of the Emperor Napoleon is much talked of at Constantinople, and the Sultan is anxiously inquiring from his Ministers whether any positive news has been received on the subject.

Mr. Charles Dickens has consented to visit Ashford to read his "Christmas Carol," on Tuesday next, for the benefit of the South-Eastern Railway Mechanics' Institution.

The celebrated pianist, Thalberg, is now at Turin, on his way to Vienna, where he intends superintending the production of one of his compositions

At a general meeting of the Royal Academy of Arts, last week, Mr. E. M. Ward was elected a Royal Academician, in the room of the late Mr. J. J. Chalon.

A. M. Darius, formerly first bass singer of the theatre of Rouen who is not less than 102 years old, and who is the oldest professional singer in France, is to sing in a concert which is to be given for the benefit of unemployed workmen.

Mr. Barry Charles Hampton Knight, son of Mr. Charles Knight, is appointed index-maker to the *London Gazette*.

Cleisinger, the French sculptor, has lost the sight of one eye at his work a chip of stone flew into it, and destroyed it.

Cardinal Macchi, the oldest member of the Sacred College, is stated to be so seriously ill as to have received the last sacraments. Four Cardinal's hats are already vacant in consequence of deaths since the beginning of the year.

Last week Russian subjects residing in Brussels took the oath of fidelity to the Emperor Alexander II., in presence of M. de Oreptowitch, the Russian Ambassador to the King of the Belgians

A deputation from the Committee for the Reduction of the Duties on Wine had an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Tuesday, at his official residence in Downing-street.

Mr. Scholefield, the member for Birmingham, has given notice of the appointment of a Select Committee of the House of Commons, with a view to put down the adulteration of flour. Some cases of the kind have recently been discovered in the West Riding of Yorkshire, which have led to the convicting of several corn-millers.

The firemen of the London Brigade, together with the fire-engines appointed to proceed to the East to protect the hospital at Scutari, left London on Saturday last in the *Eldon*, steam screw-ship.

In the event of the Cent Gardes quitting Paris, the cuirasses which they now wear will be exchanged for others made of aluminum, the metal lately discovered.

It is said to be the intention of Government to introduce their bill this week for the abolition of the testamentary jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical courts.

The quantity of malt made in the United Kingdom, in the year 1854, and charged with duty, amounted to 36,819,554 bushels, against 42,039,752 bushels made in 1853.

The subscriptions to the Patriotic Fund amount in Bombay to upwards of £10,000; and in Poonah, and the other stations subordinate to the presidency, the call has been nearly responded to, as it has also been all over India.

An Italian railway company has obtained permission to construct a railway from Milan to Pavia. The same company is treating with the Sardinian Government for the construction of a line from Novara to Milan

The passage from Dover to Calais has been made by some of the new steamers in one hour and twenty minutes.

The sick and wounded soldiers from the Crimea who have died in Liverpool are to be buried in one grave, over which a monument will be erected by public subscription

THE EARTHQUAKE AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

Three months since the hurricane which destroyed the British transports burst over the Black Sea with a fury not to be surpassed by the tornadoes of the Mexican Gulf; and on the 28th ult. Constantinople was shaken by an earthquake which, had it lasted long, might have been reckoned among the calamities of the human race. At five minutes past three in the afternoon the shock was felt, and it lasted, as nearly as can be computed, about half a minute. The motion was not the slow wavelike movement which marks the earthquakes that extend over whole continents, but a sharp, rapid, trembling, which caused every pane of glass and every tile on the housetop to rattle; it is possible, therefore, that the disturbance may have been merely local. But the violence of the movement was far beyond that which is generally felt in the earthquakes of the Ionian Islands and the coast of Asia Minor, and the chief fear that it inspired was that it might only be the prelude to a more severe visitation. Happily, although it was succeeded by a number of other shocks, each of the following movements diminished in violence, and the only harm done was caused by the first. Many persons were only aware of a single disturbance; but between three and five o'clock no less than six shocks were counted; two took place between seven and eight o'clock in the evening; and the last that was felt was at a few minutes before midnight. With the exception of the shock at ten minutes past seven [illegible] all these were slight, and might not have been remarked, but for the apprehensions that had been roused by the occurrence in the afternoon. The consternation caused by the great shock was extreme. The lower animals seem to have had some feeling of what was about to happen for several seconds before it was felt by human beings. Whether the vibration made itself known to them before it was perceived by man, or whether what is called instinct gave them a peculiar warning, it is certain that horses, both in the streets and stables, stood still and trembling for some time before the shock was felt; and for some minutes after they were in great terror. The motion was chiefly felt in the upper rooms of houses. Pera is situated on a hill, and the higher stories of some of its lofty buildings are at no small elevation above the level of the sea. In these rooms glasses were thrown off the tables, and persons who were standing were obliged to sit down, or to cling for support to some fixed object. The motion is described by one who happened to have mounted to the top of Galata Tower as that of a ship in a gale. The British Embassy is one of the most solid edifices in the country; but, being constructed at the summit of the Pera-hill, it was exposed to the full violence of the shock. A stack of its massive chimneys was thrown down, and the large square stones of which the walls are constructed are said to have been displaced in certain parts. Every bell in the palace rang violently; and even in one or two churches the still larger masses of metal resounded dismally. A number of minarets in Stamboul and Pera were thrown down; and the large iron chimney of the building where the French bread is baked was broken short off by the shock. The bazaars are said to have been cracked in several places. If this be correct it will convey to all who have visited them an idea of the violence of the motion. The long low-arched passages, constructed of heavy stones, and, even in the height of summer, shutting out the heat and glare, and forming cool, shady tunnels, which invite the weary passer-by to enter, would seem to be the last kind of construction liable to be shaken by subterranean violence. Yet these are said to have been split in many parts, so as to require repair. Some of the large stone houses of Pera are also injured. Of the smaller houses one or two are in a very unsafe state. The wooden edifices have received no injury.

The motion increased in intensity during several seconds, and for a moment before its cessation it certainly seemed as if the house was coming down. In most cases the building seemed to be struck from without, and the feeling was as when two vessels come into collision. The motion then ceased abruptly.

After the shock was over there was much commotion in the place. Business was to a great degree suspended, and husbands and brothers hastened home to see if the female part of their families had received any injury from the convulsion, or terror it caused. The lower classes of the city were much frightened, and had recourse to prayers and supplications. The Turks in the neighbourhood of Galata Sera rushed out of their homes and crouched down in their attitude of devotion; while the Christians showed their terror by crossings and ejaculations after their various rituals. Many persons in the course of the day became anxious to retire to their wooden country houses, through an apprehension that a more severe shock would be felt in the course of a few hours; but next day the alarm had subsided.

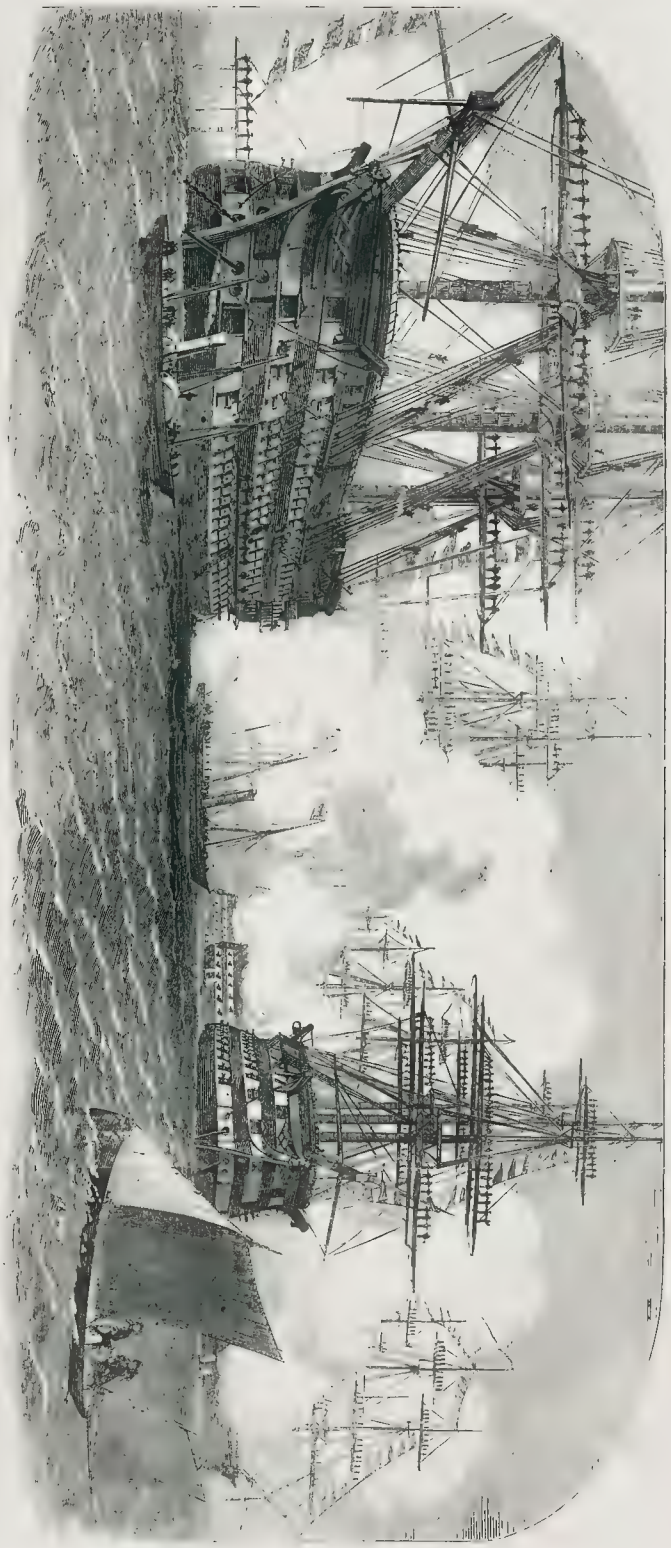
At Broussa the mischief done has been very serious. Letters from that place announce that, in addition to a vast number of mosques, many large khans, manufactories, and old houses were thrown down. Among the disasters was the destruction of a large silk factory. Sixty women, at work there, were buried under its ruins. Violent shocks were also felt some days before at Samos and the adjacent islands, and in Anatolia. At Macri the sea suddenly rose, and inundated the warehouses on the quay to the depth of two feet. The very frequent oscillations lasted some time.

BRIDGE AT BROUSSA.—FROM A SKETCH BY JAMES ROBERTSON, OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE LAKE AND RUINS OF INKERMAN.

The Crimean correspondent of the *Morning Herald*, who had seen our Artist while taking the Sketch below and several others, gives him credit

LAKE AND RUINS AT INKERMAN.



THE "VIRGINIE," IN "THE FLY," PASSING THROUGH THE FLEET AT SEBASTOPOL—(SEE PAGE 286.)

THE "STAR-OF-HAVEN," "LEPARD," AND "LION," ATTACKING KAFFAN, ON THE CIRCASSIAN COAST (SEE PAGE

as will be seen, for going through his rather hazardous work in a very cool manner:—

I saw to-day the Sketching Correspondent of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, who had been permitted to sketch amusing groups about the Camp. He has made a very clever and graphic sketch of the still unburied Russian bodies which have been lying in a putrid state, bordering the river Inkerman, ever since the 5th of November. While engaged taking his sketch, the enemy fired a few shots upon him from the opposite side, but he succeeded in completing his work before he left the place.

Our Artist writes, March 3rd:—"The last week I passed in the front, near Sebastopol, in the batteries, trenches, and advanced works, and I send you the result. I had commenced a View of the Town, from a height in front of the Green-hill Battery; but having several shots fired at me from the Russian rifle pits, with rather unpleasant precision, I thought it advisable to defer the washing-in of this effect until some more favourable occasion, when the attention of the Russian sharpshooters might be directed to some other objects; for I assure you that the sound of a rifle-ball is any thing but pleasant to the ears of an amateur.

"I send you a View of the Lake and Ridge of Inkerman. In the foreground may still be seen several bodies, marking the retreat of the Russians from the field of battle. The reason of their remaining so long unburied was that the burying parties were fired at by the Russian riflemen, who were hidden in the caves and behind the ruins on the opposite side of the lake.

"For the last fortnight," he continues, "the enemy have scarcely fired a shot at our works, consequently our casualties have been very few; their attention being chiefly directed to our neighbours, the French, who occupy the extreme left attack."

(We shall Engrave three other Sketches sent by our Artist next week.)

THE QUEEN AT SPITHEAD.

The scene represented on the preceding page took place on Thursday week, when the *Fairy* steamer, with her Majesty on board, passed through the fleet at Spithead. The huge vessel to the left is the *Duke of Wellington*, with her flags and yards fully manned. The *Neptune*, on the right, and the *Royal George* astern of her, are both fully manned also. The next little vessel on board of which the Queen has come to view her magnificent men-of-war, now nearly ready for the Baltic, shrinks into nothing beside those enormous ships. In such proximity the *Fairy* seems a most appropriate name for the Royal steamer.

On Tuesday last the Queen paid a visit to the flying squadron, previous to its departure for the Baltic. Soon after nine in the morning the advanced division of the fleet, consisting of—*Imperieuse*, 31 guns (screw); *Euryalus*, 51 (screw); *Arrogant*, 47 (screw); *Tartar*, 21 (screw); *Archer*, 16 (screw); *Conflict*, 8 (screw); *Cruiser*, 17 (screw), lit fires and got up steam. At three o'clock precisely the *Fairy*, with the Queen on board, was making for Spithead, from Osborne Palace, when a Royal salute was fired from the fleet. The *Fairy* then steamed slowly alongside each vessel under orders, and passed from west to east, the ships manning rigging and heartily cheering the Queen. After which signal was made for the *Dreadnought* to get under way, and the *Fairy* proceeded to between the Warner and Sandy Hill vessels, where the vessels passed in succession, manning the rigging and cheering. The farewell signal was hoisted on board the Royal yacht at 4 40, and the *Fairy* returned to Osborne.

THE ATTACK ON KERTCH.

The Sketch engraved upon the preceding page, from a drawing by a Member of the Staff, promises well for the success of the Allies in the Black Sea. The *Fulton*, a French vessel, under the command of Lieutenant Le Bris, and the *Leopard*, commanded by Captain Giffard, had been making a reconnaissance on Anapa and Kaffa; and, in passing by the small opening by which the waters of Lake Kouban flow into the Black Sea, they discovered a column of Russians marching over the spit of sand that separates the lake from the sea. A few shells put this column to flight, and the boats of the *Leopard* landed an armed force, who destroyed some houses, and burnt a rather considerable store of provisions. They also found at this spot four 24 pound guns, two of brass and two mounted abreast, of cast iron. The excessive cold, however, and the snow then falling in abundance, compelled the Captain of the *Leopard* to recall his boats, and to return to the anchorage at Kertch.

On the night of the 23rd 24th Feb. the two vessels were surrounded with ice, but they were able to make way by six o'clock in the morning, and in two hours and a half were abreast of the entrance to the lake. Captain Le Bris undertook to keep a party of Cossacks at a distance. The *Fulton* neared the coast, drove the cavalry from a village situated on the borders of the lake, and her shells set the houses on fire, though they were still covered with snow. During this time the armed paddle-boat boats of the *Leopard* drove back on Anapa a company of infantry that appeared to be marching toward Taman. Having made themselves masters of both sides of the lake, a force was disembarked that destroyed everything they found on the spot; ten 24-pounders, cast in 1850 and 1851, were rendered useless; and a large supply of provisions and warlike stores destroyed without any loss of life on our side, while that of the Russians was considerable.

The following despatches from Tuesday's *Gazette* give the official report of the affair:—

DESPATCH FROM SIR E. LYONS.

ADMIRALTY, March 19.

A despatch, of which the following is a copy, has been received from Rear-Admiral Sir E. Lyons, Bart., G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of her Majesty's ships and vessels in the Mediterranean and Black Sea:—

PROCEEDINGS AT KERTCH.

Royal Albert, off Sebastopol, Feb. 27.

Sir,—With reference to my letter of the 20th instant, reporting the highly creditable proceedings of the blockading squadron off Kertch, under the command of Captain Giffard, of her Majesty's ship *Leopard*, I have now the honour to enclose copies of two letters which I have received from that active and intelligent officer, reporting his further proceedings, and of his having, in conjunction with his imperial Majesty's steamer *Fulton*, captured and destroyed ten 50 cwt. 6-inch guns, and burnt seven large boats, two ranges of barrack-buildings, also a quantity of military stores and provisions, near the Boghaz of the Kouban Lake, on the 23rd inst.; and I beg leave to call their Lordships' particular attention to the fact that this gallant service was performed during weather which, must have rendered its accomplishment exceedingly difficult, and that Vice-Admiral Bruat and I consider that it reflects the highest credit on Captain Giffard, Captain Le Bris, of the *Fulton*, and the officers and men of both nations employed on the occasion.

The enemy appears to have lost a considerable number of men on the occasion, whereas no casualties have occurred on our side.

I am, &c.,

ED. LYONS, Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

To the Secretary of the Admiralty, London.

Her Majesty's steam-frigate *Leopard*, off Kertch, February 25, 1855.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that on the 23rd inst. his Imperial French Majesty's ship *Fulton* having gone to Kaffa to reconnoitre, I proceeded towards Anapa in her Majesty's ship *Leopard*; but, on passing the Boghaz of the Kouban Lake, we observed numbers of troops crossing the passage in boats, from Anapa to Taman, so I ran in and anchored off the passage in 4½ fathoms.

The troops had landed, but we opened fire on them, and drove them to the hills.

I sent a boat on shore, under Lieutenant Graham, to examine the building, [illegible] which proved to be guard houses, barracks, storehouses, [illegible] one of which was [illegible] but, a heavy snowstorm [illegible] led the boats.

Lieutenant Graham reporting he had seen some [illegible] and other military stores, which he had not time to destroy, and [illegible] the enemy were transporting from Anapa to Kertch, I [illegible] and left there on the 24th inst., in company with the *Fulton*.

A few rounds of shot and shell dro[illegible] and other troops, [illegible] 200 in number, to the hills. [illegible] Lieutenant Graham landed, and Monsieur L[illegible] took up a position to the north-west, to check the advance of the enemy, who soon after brought some field batteries on the hills and opened a heavy fire of shot and shell upon the ships and boats.

The very accurate fire of the *Fulton* drove them from two positions, and the *Leopard's* small 32-pounds a third, after which they retreated behind the hills.

After three hours' work the boats returned, having captured and destroyed ten new and handsome 50-cwt. 6-inch guns, burnt seven large boats, two ranges of barracks and buildings, also a quantity of military stores and provisions.

The *Fulton* received one shot in her hull, and I am happy to say no [illegible] occurred.

The loss of the enemy must have been considerable [illegible]

I am, &c.,

Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B., &c.

HEALTH OF THE ARMY OF THE EAST.

WAR DEPARTMENT, March 20, 1855.

Extract from a Despatch received by Lord Panmure from Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, dated "Before Sebastopol," March 3rd, 1855.

I beg now to lay before your Lordship Dr. Hall's report of the state of the sick; and I will direct him to make one weekly, which I will transmit for your Lordship's information.

Extract from a Report from Dr. Hall, Inspector-General of Hospitals, to Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, dated March 2nd, 1855.

I will offer a few observations on the weekly state up to the 24th of February, and, in doing so, I may remark that the state of the sanitary condition of the army up to that period is by no means so satisfactory as the previous improvement during the week of fine weather that we had had led me to anticipate. I may thought the unfavourable change in the weather, from the genial warmth of spring to the bitter cold of winter, which took place on the 20th, had an injurious effect on certain classes of disease in weakly subjects, still there is sufficient improvement remaining to enable us to look forward with confident hope to the future; and I am the more inclined to indulge this hope from the favourable change which has taken place, I may add, in the condition of the sanitary state of the hospital at Balaclava, in the third Highlanders and some other regiments, from low typhoid to that of a remittent, and even intermittent form. This change from typhoid to remittent was effected by removing the hospital at Balaclava to the convalescent establishment on the point of the old castle, overlooking the sea; and when the remainder of the huts are erected which I expect they will soon be now—I look for the happiest results to follow, from being able to place from 400 to 500 convalescents there, in place of sending them down to the crowded establishment at Scutari; and we can pack up the sick and wounded, with a wish of all things to keep them in comfortable hospitals, and, by a very little labour, the road up to the huts from the town could easily be made practicable to ambulance carts; and I, in the interval, have informed the Commanding Royal Engineer has been ordered to carry into immediate effect.

The position of the huts, I think, promises every advantage: they are placed on a very ridge overlooking the sea, sufficiently removed from the noise and stench of the town, and not too far from our stores and resources.

There is a running stream in a ravine close at hand, of easy access, and fed by a spring higher up in the hills, which could easily be led to the huts themselves by means of gutta-percha tubing.

Out of 142 patients treated in the General Hospital at Balaclava between the 18th and 24th of February, only three casualties have occurred; which, I think, may fairly be termed a low rate of mortality, considering the class of patients that are generally sent in there for treatment: such brought down from Camp, and found too ill to embark when they arrive at Balaclava.

The huts in the vine and in [illegible] of the hospital have relieved the hospital, and prevented the necessity of crowding it so much as we were formerly occasionally compelled to do.

The convalescent patients. The sick have also the benefit of the care of Miss Langston and the nurses under her, who are a great comfort to them, and I am glad to be able to assure your Lordship, that the state of the purveyor's store is such as to ensure every comfort the sick can require.

The Cavalry division, encamped in a sheltered valley near Kadikoi, has enjoyed better health of late; and the mortality this week, though high, as compared with service at home, still cannot be considered excessive; but, with the increased comforts the men now enjoy, and their relief on from night duty, further improvement may be expected. The [illegible] has also enjoyed good health; so has the Highland Brigade which occupies the lines in front of Balaclava, part of which are elevated, and much exposed. But being near Balaclava, they have converted themselves, and got wooden huts up for the accommodation of both the sick and a portion of the men in health. They have had the advantage of better shelter for their sick, in the village of Kadikoi during the whole winter. The men are warmly clad, and have the additional benefit of being nearer their resources than the men in front. The 4th, 5th, and 7th Divisions have improved in health, but the 2nd, and the Brigade of Guards, continue sickly.

The Guards have just been removed to Balaclava, where rest and better shelter will, I have no doubt, soon have a beneficial effect on their health.

The Third Division, too, will be relieved in some degree by the 5th Regiment, just arrived in the Bosphorus. The 4th has lately arrived, and is quite efficient. Huts have been erected for them on an eligible site, and they have a fair chance of escaping any serious outbreak of disease.

Bowel complaints continue to be the most prevalent class of diseases; but I think they are not so serious as they were a short time ago, nor is scurvy so manifest as it was since the issue of lime-juice daily as a portion of the men's rations. Lately, I have instructed the medical officers of regiments to inspect the men, for the purpose of detecting this complaint.

Skin diseases—and seeing that the men are clean in their persons, and change their shirts and flannels at stated periods, the last weekly return is favourable. In the fourth Division, which is the only report I have at hand in my hut, only 148 out of 2266 men inspected, bore any traces of scurvy; and this is one of the divisions which was as much or more affected with it than any division in the army. A short time ago, Dr. Roberts, the Staff-Surgeon recently appointed to superintend the medical concerns of the division, is an intelligent, active and zealous officer, and he has effected wonderful improvement in the health of the division. If the issue of fresh meat could be ensured, together with vegetables and lime-juice, I am quite satisfied, now that the men are warmly clad, and will soon be better sheltered, a manifest improvement would take place in their health. And if the military operations carrying on would only admit of some longer exemption from duty, a still greater improvement would be observed.

I am inclined to think our greatest difficulties and miseries have been surmounted, and we may now look forward for better and more cheering times. It was wonderful to see the cheering effect the few days had on the health and spirits of the men: and as the winter may now be considered nearly at an end, I am full of hope and confidence.

PRINCE ALBERT'S VISIT TO PORTSMOUTH.—Prince Albert proceeded from Osborne House to Portsmouth on a visit of inspection of the new Royal yacht and of the Sailors' Home, on Monday. The visit was a private one. The Prince first went to the yacht; on board of which he remained upwards of an hour, going over the whole of the interior of the vessel, and examining its various arrangements, and directing some alterations for the greater convenience of the crew to be made. On leaving the yacht the Prince proceeded to the Sailors' Home in the dock-yard, adjoining the dock-yard, where he minutely examined the accounts of the institution. He then went to the Commander-in-Chief's residence, and most kindly inquired after the health of Sir Thomas Trowbridge—who, it will be remembered, was severely wounded at Inkerman, and who is a relative and guest of the gallant Admiral at the present time. The *Fairy*, with the Queen on board, came straight into the harbour, and his Royal Highness at once went off to her, and returned to Osborne at half-past one o'clock. By orders of the Queen the fleet did not salute on her arrival, but this order not being repeated when she returned, the ships in harbour and at Spithead poured forth a magnificent salute.

BREAD WITHOUT YEAST FOR THE ARMY.—Before the recent changes in the Administration, Mr. Alfred Bird, chemist, Birmingham, communicated with the Duke of Newcastle, as head of the War Department, offering to supply the troops in the East with his baking and fermenting powder, which would admit of their being regularly supplied with fresh bread, as well as prove invaluable in the hospitals for the supply of the sick and wounded with bread, light cakes, light puddings, and other articles of food suited to their condition. His Grace, in reply, desired that a test made with the fermenting powder should be sent to him, and requested that the loaf might be made in the presence of the authorities in Birmingham, from whom a certificate was to be sent stating that the bread was made without yeast. The Mayor was accordingly applied to, and witnessed the making of fourteen pounds, or one peck of flour, with the powder and a little salt, into five loaves, the operation requiring no more than four minutes and a half. After being baked they were found to weigh 20 lbs. 2 ozs. One of the loaves was stamped with the corporate seal, and forwarded to the Duke of Newcastle, together with a certificate from the Mayor of Birmingham as to the mode of its production; and another from Dr. Evans, to the effect that he had on several occasions partaken of bread made with Mr. Bird's powder, and that the bread was light and good; the doctor, moreover, expressing his belief that the powder was a good substitute for yeast. In due course his Grace acknowledged the receipt of the bread, which he pronounced to be sweet and good; and, in order that the powder might receive a further trial, desired Mr. Bird to communicate with the Lords of the Admiralty, who supply the Army from the victualling yards. Their Lordships replied by requesting that a loaf, as a specimen of the bread, might be sent to them; on receipt of which they admitted the bread to be wholesome, sweet, and palatable. The result is that Mr. Bird has received a communication from Lord Panmure, the present Minister of War, announcing that the Government intend to give the ferment, ing powder a thorough trial at the camp of instruction at Aldershott, with a view to its introduction into the Army and military hospitals abroad.

THE LATE CZAR.—In the course of those memorable conversations which he held with Sir Hamilton Seymour between January and April, [illegible] of which have been published, the Emperor Nicholas observed, "If a war between Russia and Turkey should unfortunately break out, neither yes Majesty nor I would probably live to see it terminated." The Emperor asked Sir Hamilton how old he was, and, on his replying "Forty-five," said—"Then I am certainly older than you, but still I cannot hope to live so long."

A TRAPPER-HUNTER.—Died, on the 7th March, in the Epsom Union Workhouse, in his eighty-second year, Nathaniel Tayre, the last of the [illegible] family of Sir more Common, Little Bookham. The deceased [illegible] a member of the gentry in the county of Surrey.

SEBASTOPOL AND VIENNA.

Is Sebastopol to fall? That is the question which is now anxiously asked and discussed on all hands. The problem is no longer a mere question of time—a calculation of weeks and days, as heretofore; but of the feasibility of the undertaking. If mens' minds were too sanguine at the outset of this expedition, if they under-rated the enemy's strength and over-estimated the possible fruits of brilliant achievement, we think it cannot be denied that a more than corresponding reaction has since taken place, and that, worn out with daily watching and expecting, there are many who have given up "the siege" as a failure. There can be no doubt that the plan of operations with which the work was commenced was a mistake, and that no possibility existed at any after the mistake was found out of retrieving the first false step. But does it follow at all from this that Sebastopol is not to be taken? We will not admit the deduction. Sebastopol has not fallen, because it has not as yet been attacked with adequate means and in the only proper manner. It was thought, in the first instance, to take the place by a *coup de main*; then it was attempted to knock its casemated batteries down by sheer pounding; but both these expectations have been disappointed, and the balance between the attack and defence, contrary to precedent and to general expectation, turns, for the present at least, in favour of the latter. The most perplexing feature in the case is, that all the time our artillery has been powerless to destroy the works we meant to attack, the besieged, having apparently unlimited resources at their command, have been throwing up additional fortifications, external and internal, themselves sufficiently formidable to call for regular works of siege for their reduction; so that, under the supposition of our still adhering to the project of taking the place by main force, we must (under the existing conditions) look to taking it piecemeal—bit by bit—with a severe struggle at each stage of the proceedings. The truth we believe to be that, under the present plan of operations, even if we should succeed in mastering the outworks of recent construction, and in making our way, at the bayonet's point, within part of the enceinte itself, we would not be able to maintain our position there, there being no important portion of the works which is not effectually commanded by others. The boldest general would hesitate long before he would lead his troops to almost certain destruction in such a venture.

Is, then, Sebastopol not to fall? the reader will ask, casting away the paper from him with disappointment, and almost a feeling of disgust. Our answer is prompt. Sebastopol, properly invested, *must* fall in time, even if it were a mass of cast iron. Hitherto it has not been invested; it has been open, throughout one-half of its boundary, to receive reinforcements and stores of all kinds in greater abundance and with greater facilities than the besiegers. It has hitherto suffered none of the ordinary ills of a siege efficiently conducted. When this pressure—the pressure of a hermetic cordon—is placed around it, its strength must wane, its insolent front quail, its iron ribs collapse; but this must be the work of time, more or less in duration according to the extent of the resources within the place at the time its isolation commences.

The instances are numerous illustrating the importance of the blockading process. Three, however, will suffice as examples, and they are all of seaport places, otherwise considered unassailable. Gibraltar stood a siege of nearly four years' duration. The attack being defeated by the valour and intrepidity of the defenders, the active siege was converted into a blockade; timely succour, however, was thrown in—partly in consequence of the negligence of the commanders of the enemy's fleet; and before the issue of armed resources could be decided, the siege was stopped by the treaty of Paris. Malta is more to the point: here the blockade was strictly maintained for a period of two years; and, after gallant resistance, in the midst of terrible privations—the last attempt at relieving the place having failed—the garrison was at length forced to capitulate to the British flag. The case of Rochelle is still more remarkable, as an example of the extraordinary resources to which the assailants had recourse in order to complete the investment of the place, and the success which rewarded their labours. Entirely shut in by land, the garrison had for four or five months continued to receive succours by sea, and, so sustained, defied the besiegers. Richelieu, in order effectually to meet this difficulty, caused a mole to be constructed across the mouth of the harbour; and, at the end of ten months the brave Rochellois were starved into submission. Why should not similar means be tried with Sebastopol? By sea it is already blockaded; by land also on the south and east. All that remains to be done is to shut it in on the north, with Eupatoria as a base, either by regular works of contravallation, or by means of an army of observation, extending to Simpferopol or Perekop. Indeed, these dispositions having been made on the part of the besiegers, and the sunken ships, which at present obstruct the mouth of the harbour, being blown up and removed, there might even be on the cards to take the place by force, by a combined operation on all sides, by sea and land. Sooner, or later, however, it must fall, and with it the whole of the Crimea and of Russian power in the Black Sea.

These considerations should not be lost sight of, and are now doubly important in connection with sinister suggestions which have been put afloat of a possibility of the present political difficulty being got over, and peace established, without the capture or ce-sion of Sebastopol as a *sine qua non*. These suggestions, if report be true, emanate from the Court of Vienna, and are to be matured, or at least made the subject of discussion, at the pending Conferences. It is at Vienna, then, and not at Sebastopol, that, according to these writers, the Eastern question is to be solved, and the power of Russia upon the Black Sea reduced within limits consistent with the quiet of the rest of Europe. We, however, cannot concur in these expectations, and we also feel satisfied that neither the Government nor the people in this country or in France would consent, after all that the war has cost, in money, in blood, and in suffering, to patch up not a peace, but a precarious truce, by any such miserable arrangement as that shadowed forth by the Vienna politicians.

The grounds upon which these views are urged are so untenable as the alternative policy proposed would be mischievous and suicidal. It is considered too much to demand of the Czar to surrender and destroy his favourite stronghold which the Allied armies have hitherto been unable to take. But Sebastopol may and will be taken if the siege be properly carried on; and, as to the merits of the matter, we would ask, whose feelings ought to be deferred to?—those of the wrongdoer, who has caused all these troubles, or those of the powerful States who have gone to the expense and hazard of enormous armaments to reduce the pride and power of the aggressor?

But the demand for the reduction of Sebastopol under the now admitted policy of opening the Black Sea, comes almost as a matter of course, and without the slightest implication of offence to Russia; being strictly accordant with the principles of public law, and supported by numerous precedents. Dunkirk is an example of the dismantling of a fortress at the demand of a neighbouring State, which the proud French nation submitted to, by the treaty of 1713, and which arrangement continued in force for 40 years, by consent of England, in the treaty of 1783. As to the alternative proposed by the Vienna politicians, of the Maritime Powers erecting fortresses or establishing military posts on the southern coast of the Euxine—as at Batoum, Trebizond, Sinope, &c.—it is too absurd to be seriously entertained for a single moment. Instead of peace, this would establish a state of perpetual war; and make the sword, instead of the diplomacy and consent of nations, the public law of Europe. No; whatever it cost, Sebastopol must be taken, or surrendered; and the Conferences at Vienna must start upon no other basis. Q.

THE GRAVES OF THE HEROES AT SCUTARI.

THE spot represented in the Sketch on page 288 is recommended by the peculiar interest which attaches to it as the burial-place of many of England's bravest sons. There sleep not a few of the heroes of the Alma, of Inkerman, and of Balaclava; and side by side with them those less known, but not less deserving men, who, having endured with a patience never surpassed privations and pining sickness in the discharge of their duty to their Sovereign and their country, at length escaped to that place where "the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest." It was after attending the funeral of one in whose last moments were portrayed by every act and every word all the fortitude of a soldier, the humility of a Christian, and the courtesy of a gentleman, that the accompanying Sketch was taken. On the evening in question the sun was setting behind far distant islands of the marble sea, which reflected his last long line of glory towards the resting place of our beloved countrymen. One of these graves, on the edge of the cliff overhanging [illegible] of Mammora, is the resting place of Lieut-Col Amslie, [illegible] 21st Royal Fusiliers, who died by a small wooden cross, which is not the [illegible]

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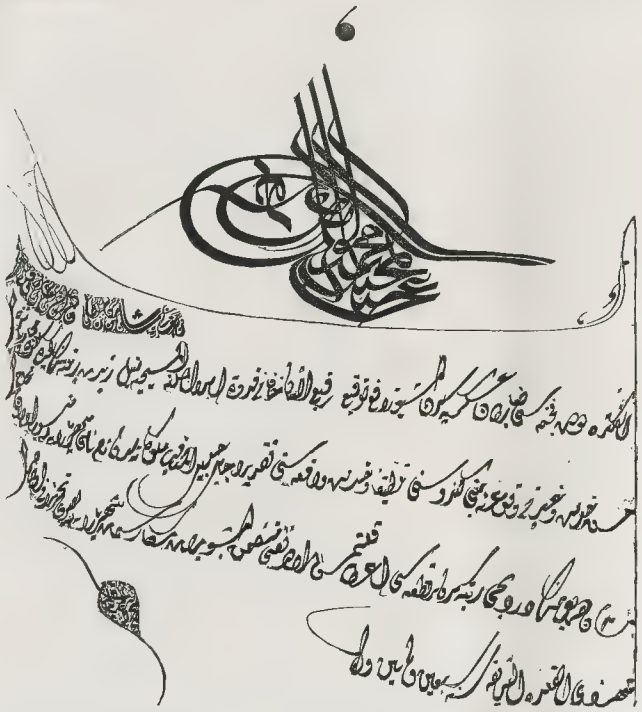


FIRMAN SENT BY THE SULTAN TO THE FAMILY OF THE LATE LIEUTENANT MEYNELL.

THE LATE LIEUT. MEYNELL, OF HER MAJESTY'S 75TH FOOT.

The career of this gallant officer, and the recognition of his bravery at Silistria by the Sultan, form a deeply interesting episode of the war.

Lieutenant William Meynell, of her Majesty's 75th Foot, was the fifth son of Godfrey Meynell, Esq., of Langley-park, Derbyshire. This officer, in the month of May, 1844, received a certificate of honourable distinction and special approbation of the Commissioners of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and was presented at the same time with a commission as Ensign of the 75th Regiment. In the year 1849 he accompanied his regiment to India, where he continued till the spring of 1853, when he returned to England on sick leave. Having recovered his health before the expiration of his leave, he solicited, but ineffectually, from the Horse Guards, an appointment with the forces about to proceed to the East. Notwithstanding his disappointment he determined to proceed to the East, hoping to obtain some appointment on the staff of General Cannon (Behran Pacha) during the remaining portion of his leave. In this he succeeded, being appointed Assistant Aide-de-Camp to the General, and was present in the operations in the Delhi-Ormand Forest; entered Silistria with General Cannon on the 12th of June, 1854; was present in Arab Tabia when the last attack was made by the Russians, and was by the side of the gallant Captain Butler when he received his mortal wound. Upon the retreat of the Russians he accompanied General Cannon in the reconnaissance made by that officer at Turtukai. On the 7th of July, under the command of Colonel Balfour Ogilvie (Youer Bey) he crossed the Danube, and with a small part of the force, in conjunction with Captain Arnold and Lieutenant Burke, R.E., took possession of two Russian redoubts in a position a mile and a half higher up the river than where the main body landed. These redoubts were held by them against a very superior force for more than two hours; and, when the Turks were eventually driven out of them, the bodies of Lieutenant Meynell and Captain Arnold were found the following day lying within the redoubts they had so bravely defended.

THE LATE LIEUTENANT MEYNELL.

The Sultan marked his high sense of the bravery of Lieutenant Meynell by conferring the order of the Medjidié, together with the accompanying firman, which were forwarded by Lord Raglan to the relatives of the deceased. We have engraved in facsimile the firman, of which the following is the translation:—

The bearer of this Imperial diploma, one of the most distinguished of the nation of the Messiah, Mr. Meynell, an officer in the British army, has rendered important services, and given proofs of zeal and devotedness, at the time of the siege of Silistria. Therefore, appreciating his services, and wishing to give him a mark of my Imperial satisfaction, I have granted him the 4th class of my order of Medjidié, which bears my Imperial name; and it is to this effect that this Imperial diploma has been delivered.

Written in the month of Zil Kaadi, in the year of the Hegira 1270.

The following is the letter of Lord Raglan:—

Before Sebastopol, December 25, 1854.

Sir,—Her Majesty's Government having authorised me to deliver to the officers upon whom Omer Pacha had announced that the distinction had been conferred, the decoration of the Order of the Medjidié, it becomes my duty, as your son has unfortunately fallen, to transmit the same to you as a memorial of his distinguished services, and a recognition of them by the Ottoman Government. I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

RAGLAN.

We understand that a Tablet is about to be erected to the memory of Lieutenant Meynell in the parish church of Langley, in the county of Derby, by the Colonel and officers of her Majesty's 75th Regiment, now serving at Peshawur, in India, with the following inscription:—

The Lieutenant-Colonel and officers of H.M. 75th Regiment, to their late comrade and brother officer, William Meynell, Senior Lieutenant, who, a volunteer, on leave from his regiment in India, fell gloriously at Giurgevo, on the Danube, the 7th day of July, 1854, aged 28, whilst gallantly leading a party of Turks against the Russians. This Tablet is erected as a mark of their affectionate regard and esteem, and of the deep regret they felt at his untimely but glorious fate.

GRAVES AT SCUTARI.—(SEE PAGE 286.)

London: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by William Little, 198, Strand, aforesaid.—Saturday, March 24, 1855

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 734.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

LETTERS ON THE WAR AND THE EASTERN QUESTION. (No. I.)

(From our Special Correspondent.)

PRAGUE, March 24.

GERMANY is not the place for a travelling stranger to pick up much news. There are no second and third editions of enterprising and well-informed journals, like those of London, to be had at railroad stations, or anywhere else, to keep him *au courant* of the world's business; and if, perchance, the English traveller is induced to buy the dingy, shabby little bit of paper, that the Germans call a "Zeitung," he will, in all probability, find nothing in it that he did not know two or three weeks before he left London, unless it be small gossip and personal news, indigenous to the locality. London is the great focus of intelligence; whence it is dispersed in floods of light to every state and people that do not resolutely shut their eyes against it. As regards war and peace I have heard absolutely nothing but vague rumours since I left London—some of them in the highest degree absurd. One was to the effect that Lord John Russell had abruptly quitted Vienna; that the Conferences were at an end; and that war *à l'outrance* had been declared. But in passing through Dresden yesterday, I ascertained, what I anticipated, that the statement was an idle fabrication, destitute of the slightest shadow of foundation. I stopped a forenoon in the Saxon capital, and heard that the King of Prussia had arrived four days previously on a visit to King John. His Prussian Majesty preserved the strictest *incognito;* and whether his visit was purely one of friendship and private business, or whether he had come to discuss with his Royal relative the great questions of peace or war, and convert him, if possible, to a neutrality akin to his own, no one could tell. The supposition, however, was, that the two Kings, if not exactly pro-Russian in their immediate objects, were decidedly anti-Austrian. The Prussian King never will forgive the high position that Austria has taken on the Turko-Russian question. He is anxious to assume the leadership of Germany; but he has not the skill, the wisdom, or the honesty, to employ the right methods of attaining it. On all these points he has been foiled by the young Emperor of Austria—a Sovereign who has acted from the very commencement in a clear and straightforward manner—perhaps rather more slowly and cautiously than has suited the wishes of Great Britain and France—but with singleness and honesty of purpose, and a wise appreciation of the true interests both of his own dominions and of all Europe. Judging from the print-shops in Dresden, a traveller might be forgiven for coming to the conclusion that in Saxony the war is popular. My attention was caught by a large and well-executed lithograph, which I recognised as an old acquaintance, and which I saw in at least half-a-dozen shop-windows. It was no other than a very fair copy (with here and there a slight alteration) of the large print which was originally published in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of July 15, 1854, representing the Sultan as the centre figure, surrounded by Lord Raglan, Marshal St. Arnaud, General Canrobert, Omer Pacha, and other less distinguished officers of the Allied Armies. The print goes in Germany under the title of "The Defenders of Freedom," a name which was not given to it by the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. I mention this circumstance to show not only the extensive popularity of your Journal in quarters where its influence might not at first be suspected, but the strong current of German sympathy in favour of the Allies. The same design is also doing duty upon pocket-handkerchiefs, which are exposed for sale at the linendrapers' doors—another little fact which may show, like a straw, how the wind blows in Saxony, and possibly in some other parts of Germany.

Prague, if not strictly beautiful, is a most interesting city. Its multitudinous spires and minarets, and the general character of its architecture, give it a semi-Asiatic appearance. It is finely situated upon the Moldau, and wears a strange outlandish aspect to the traveller who is familiar only with French, Belgian, and German cities. There are scores of picturesque old towns in France and Germany; and the towns of Belgium are perhaps more picturesque still; but none of them have the quaint and almost grotesque splendour of the Bohemian capital. I only made a stay of eight hours in it; but in that time, under the guidance of an active and intelligent German *commissionaire*, who spoke tolerable French and intolerable English, I managed to see the principal sights. Among these I would particularly recommend all future travellers not to omit the Old Bridge over the Moldau, with its gigantic statues of Bohemian and other saints and bishops on either side the Hradshin (pronounced Radshin), the present residence of the ex-Emperor Ferdinand; the Cathedral of St. Vitus, with its crystal coffin and costly silver shrine of St. John of Nepomuk. The silver in this shrine weighs no less than thirty-seven cwt.; but the shrine itself is tasteless as well as useless, and might advantageously be employed in making a beginning for a silver currency in Austria, to replace the filthy notes of ten kreutzers (about fourpence English) which form its principal paper currency. Another interesting spot within the limits of the Hradshin is the ancient palace of the Count of Waldstein—celebrated in the annals of Europe, and made immortal by Schiller in the tragedy of "Wallenstein." Schiller took a liberty with the name of his hero, which was Waldstein the same as is borne by the family at the present day. In this building is preserved the horse which the General rode, and which was killed under him at the battle of Lutzen. The skin has been exceedingly well stuffed; but portions of the head and legs have disappeared, and have been replaced by newer pieces from less illustrious animals. All the rest is the identical hide of the identical horse which bore the great soldier on that memorable day; and is adorned with the real trappings, bit, bridle, stirrups, &c., just as

THE NEW AMERICAN CLIPPER, "GREAT REPUBLIC."—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

Waldstein (*must* he be called Wallenstein?) left them. In the same apartments are portraits of the hero and his second wife, undoubted originals, but badly executed. Until within the last twenty years the palace of the Waldsteins belonged to the Government, and was used as a cavalry barracks. Waldstein having been declared a traitor, his private property and a portion of the family estates were confiscated. His brother succeeded to the title and to considerable wealth; and the present Count Waldstein, anxious to recobtain possession of a place so interesting to the family, purchased it of the Government about twenty years ago, and has since made it his residence. Under his auspices it has been tastefully restored; and the Great Hall, which was whitewashed in the time of the troopers, has been cleaned, and is now a real "Marble Hall," which Bohemian girls may dream of, and dance in, if it please the proprietor to invite them. In close proximity are the palaces of Prince Schwarzenberg, and of a whole host of the high nobility of Bohemia, who reside here for a portion of the year to economise, and thence transfer themselves in the proper season to Vienna, to make a display. There are upwards of 12,000 Jews amid the population of 130,000 souls in Prague; and though they are not now cooped up by the law, as they formerly were, in one quarter of the town, they still remain in the place associated with their love as well as their degradation—partly from old habit and association, and partly that they may be near their synagogues, and the graves of their forefathers. The Jewish quarter is by no means inviting to the senses either of sight or smell. I certainly should not like to walk through it on a warm summer day. But I performed the feat this morning, much wondering at my own temerity in venturing amid the squalid dwelling-places of these filthy children of Israel, redolent of old clothes and rags, and of the unmentionable creatures that live and breed in the old mattresses and dilapidated bedsteads that they buy and sell. But I was not altogether unrewarded for my pains. I saw one, if not two, of the greatest curiosities in Prague the old Synagogue and the old Burial-place of the ancient people. Their Synagogue is a copy, a very small one, of the Great Temple of Solomon, and is said by the Jews themselves to have been built in the tenth century, and by other authorities in the twelfth. However this may be, the place is in the highest degree curious. The walls are blackened with age and smoke, and have not been cleaned for centuries. Everything as it now stands is exactly as it stood five hundred years ago, no alteration being permitted in it by the Jews except such repairs as are imperatively necessary to keep the place from tumbling about their ears. But it is substantially built, and has been flooded scores of times by the Moldau, which, so lately as 1845, deposited five feet of water in the "Holy of Holies." The building will doubtless last for centuries to come, unless Baron Rothschild, or Sir Moses Montefiore, or their successors, shall buy the Holy Land in the interval, and gather the Jews, by force of money-bags, into the dwelling-places of their forefathers. But anything so mean-looking, so dingy, so dirty, so grimy and black and yet so venerable, I might also say so awe-inspiring, for its antiquity, and from the high religious feeling which has induced the Jews to keep the place standing through so many centuries of evil days—of persecution, of reviling, of contempt, and of cruelty—it is impossible to conceive. It is the oldest synagogue in Europe, if not in the world; and is seldom used at the present day, except for the most solemn festivals of the Hebrews: when the Books of the Law written upon parchment in the ninth century—are taken from the Tabernacle by the Chief Rabbi, and read before the males of the children of Israel. The females are not allowed to enter within these hallowed precincts for the purposes of worship; but may, like Christian strangers, visit the Tabernacle at after-hours, for the gratification of their curiosity. The Jewish Burial-ground is scarcely less remarkable: it is piled and heaped with the remains of the dead Jews of nearly a thousand years. The graves are at least ten feet higher than the floor of the adjoining Synagogue; and not only have the dead been buried—but the tomb-stones themselves have met the fate of the bodies whose memory they were intended to perpetuate, and have been covered up by the soil. Grave-stones, originally eight or ten feet above the surface, have been obliterated from the gaze of the living by the successive interments of thirty generations of Israelites; and of many a tall monument nothing appears above the clod but some small salient angle or topmost corner—Tradition itself, with its proverbially long memory, having lost all trace of the individual whose name or virtues it recorded. No interments have been permitted in this cemetery for more than a hundred years; but it is constantly visited by Jews from all parts of Europe. The inscriptions, in the Hebrew characters, are clear and legible on many of these memorials; and that on the tomb of one Rabbi, buried about seven hundred years ago, is as distinct as if engraven but yesterday—the characters being cut an inch deep. My *commissionaire* drew my attention to the little pebbles that were placed on most of these monuments. These pebbles answer the same purposes as the garlands or *immortelles* used by the French, and are placed as memorials of remembrance or affection. I saw but one tomb in the whole mound of this dense mortality that had not a pebble upon it. It was destined to remain no longer solitary amid its compeers; for I sought and found a pebble, and placed it upon the nameless and unknown grave just because it was nameless and unknown, and because it seemed to my fancy to be the grave of as good a Jew or Jewess as any amid the two or three hundred thousand who slumber in that receptacle.

On returning to the hotel, I saw Ferdinand I. coming out of a shop on the Kolowrath Strasse. I was prepared to see a man answering to Beranger's description of himself "laid, chétif, et souffrant;" but the ex-Emperor by no means realised the picture. He is a little man, certainly; but not ugly; and appeared to be in excellent health. So far from looking vague or idiotic, his face wore an expression of intelligence, mildness, and amiability. I was told that he was beloved by every one in Prague, and that he passed his time in acts of benevolence and charity, making himself the friend of the sorrowful, and raising those who had none other to help them. At the time of his abdication, his mental and bodily health was impaired; but freedom from care wrought wonders both on mind and body; and the Monarch, overburdened with a task too mighty for his faculties, subsided, in a couple of years, into a quiet, highly-respected, and, it is to be hoped, happy citizen.

Prague has entirely recovered from the effects of the sanguinary proceedings of 1848 and 1849. The damage done by the bombardment under the orders of Prince Windischgratz has been repaired, with the sole exception of some of the Titan-like saints upon the Bridge, which were broken to pieces, and overthrown by the cannon-balls, and have not since been replaced. The moral traces of the revolutionary period are as rapidly disappearing; and the Tchek population has ceased to dream of establishing an independent Bohemian kingdom. The Government has acted with much clemency since the final suppression of the revolt; and the keeper of a public-house in Prague—one of the ringleaders, bearing the historical name of Ziska—has been allowed to remain at peace at his usual business, although his popularity and eloquence, and his alleged desire of becoming the Masaniello of the movement, if not the Tchek King of Bohemia, very greatly exasperated the disturbances. But clemency and forbearance are the order of the day in Austria. The young Emperor inspired hopes, and as yet he has done nothing to destroy, but very much to increase them.

My second letter shall be from Vienna.

THE AMERICAN CLIPPER, "GREAT REPUBLIC."

This gigantic vessel—partly destroyed by fire soon after she was built, during a great conflagration in New York, having had her damages made good arrived in the Thames on her first voyage last week; having made the run from New York to Scilly in thirteen days, and beat up Channel to the Downs in three days against the heavy east winds which have been prevailing. She is at present exciting much interest, from her immense proportions and peculiar rig, as she lies at her moorings off Purfleet.

There is nothing particularly different in her hull, as seen from the shore, from the ordinary American clippers, except her length and the great sheer forward from the fore chains to the figure-head; but, on boarding her, one is struck with her enormous width of beam, which equals that of the largest line-of-battle ships afloat; and one of the great peculiarities of the vessel is her singular rig—she having four masts, and partaking of the qualities of both ship and barque. The topsails, instead of being on the ordinary plan, are housed, or divided into two, the upper one of which can be reefed to half its depth, or sent down altogether. The yards of the lower topsails are secured to the caps of the lower masts by iron slings, and have no further lift from that position. She has large hurricane-houses on her upper decks; and just abaft the mainmast is a roundhouse, containing an engine of 8-horse power. This engine does nearly all the heavy work of the ship—lifts yards, hauls on the braces, walks up the anchor, and assists in receiving and discharging the cargo.

In consequence of her immense beam she cannot enter either of the docks here; and, drawing with her cargo nearly twenty-five feet, she is compelled, from insufficient depth of water higher up, to discharge her cargo in the Long Reach; but it is intended when that is accomplished to bring her up to moorings at Blackwall. She is 3400 tons burthen; 335 feet long; 53 feet beam; hold, 30 feet; and has come here ballasted with 3000 tons of guano. She is the largest sailing ship in the world.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

Paris, Thursday.

Report fixes the 6th of April for the visit of the Emperor to England; but, as Good Friday falls on that day, we think it little likely that his Majesty will finish Lent and spend Easter out of France. Another rumour, which seems more probable, names the 9th. We are assured on *excellent* authority—authority to which the private as well as public reasons of Louis Napoleon are known that, if peace be not in the mean time concluded, his visit to Sebastopol remains a point quite decided, and will inevitably take place. It was remarked that, last week, at the review of the troops, the Emperor, for the first time, carried his sword naked—an indication, it is said, of active command.

The Emperor has presented to Vely-Pacha, through M. Fould, a beautiful service in Sèvres porcelain, having heard that his Excellency had expressed an intention of taking with him some specimens of this manufacture.

It has been impossible for many of the artists who propose to exhibit their pictures in the Salle des Beaux Arts of the Exposition d'Industrie to have all these productions ready by the day fixed for their reception—the 15th of March; some having been mistaken in their calculations as to time, others from the difficulty of getting frames, the services of all the frame-makers in Paris being put into the most active requisition to supply all the demands created by the occasion. Indulgence has therefore been accorded them, and all that were intended to appear will, it is expected, find places. Among the most important productions of French artists may be cited a "Chasse au Lion," by Eugène Delacroix, in which, it is said, the celebrated painter has shown himself to be as fine a draughtsman as he is known to be a colourist; "La Retour de l'Armée après la Bataille de Paris, en 1814," by M. Muller—a picture eighty feet long; "La Pilori des Sages," by M. Glaize—sixty feet long; and "La Maréchal Ney faisant le coup de feu"—an episode in the retreat from Russia—by M. Yvon.

The medical service for the Palais d'Industrie has just been definitively organised. Four physicians, assisted by two aids, selected from among the *internes* of the Paris hospitals, are attached to the service during the whole time that the Exhibition remains open. Particular rooms are allotted to the use of the physicians and their attendants, and such arrangements are made that one of the medical officers shall always be in attendance from eight o'clock in the morning till six in the evening.

It has been decided that there are to be no admissions gratis to the Palais d'Industrie. On the *jours réservés*, the tickets are to be five francs; on the ordinary days, one franc; and on what are called *les petits jours*, four sous. The Palais des Beaux Arts which belongs to the Government, will be subject to different arrangements, and will have certain days of free entrance.

We stated in our last that it was believed the Minister of State intended to refuse to Mdlle. Rachel the permission to fulfil her engagement to the United States while the Industrial Exhibition remained open. This right of detention existed in virtue of an Act entitled, *le décret de Moscou*, by which no *sociétaire* of the Théâtre Français could have the right to retire, or to play elsewhere, unless permitted by the State so to do, within the space of twenty years from his or her admission. As Mdlle. Rachel has only occupied the place of *sociétaire* eighteen years, she has not, according to this rule, the right to retire; yet, on the other hand, her *démission* from the theatre, sent in last year, having been accepted, she appears to stand in a peculiar position, which it is difficult to define. Whatever may be the justice of the case, the celebrated tragedian requests the permission to perform her American engagement, not as a right, but as a favour. The state of her health rendering a prolonged artistic career impossible, and finding in this engagement a pecuniary benefit which will secure an independence to herself and her family that no length of service in France could obtain, she places her case in the hands of the Minister of State; who, it is supposed, can hardly refuse the demand, seeing that, whether she goes or remains, the public here cannot benefit, the acceptance of her retirement enabling her to refuse to play in France. Several of the Paris papers have taken up the question with more or less warmth.

On Sunday took place at the Madeleine an imposing funeral service for the repose of the soul of Don Carlos. A Spanish priest, assisted by all the clergy of the parish, officiated, and a number of distinguished Spaniards, and Spanish refugees, attended the ceremony.

M. Troplong, the President of the Senate, is at this moment completing a most important work of jurisprudence, entitled "Physiologie et Philosophie des Testaments." Among other new publications of interest may be named, "Mémoires d'un Conspirateur," by the Comte Rufini, the friend and co-operator of Mazzini; "Les Aveux d'un Poëte," by Heinrich Heine; "Les Mémoires de M. Prudhomme," by Henri Monnier; and a "Correspondance Inédite" of Stendhal, preceded by an introduction by M. Prosper Mérimée. There is also a talk of the appearance of an autobiography of the *père* Ventura—who has left off preaching, and devotes himself wholly to writing.

The Minister of State has ordered the engagement of Madame Emilie Guyon at the Théâtre Française, to fill the place left vacant since the departure of Mdlle. Georges; Mdlle. Rachel's position being different to that occupied by that great tragedian.

Thalberg has just completed an opera, entitled "Monaldeschi." He is now at Turin, where he is instructing Bettini in the principal part, which has been written especially for him.

COUNT NESSELRODE'S CIRCULAR.

The following circular has been sent by Count Nesselrode to the Russian diplomatic agents abroad, announcing to them that the Emperor confirms them in their functions, and at the same time giving a sketch of the line of policy which their new Sovereign proposes to pursue with regard to the questions of peace and war:—

St. Petersburg, Feb. 26 (March 10)

My despatch of the 18th February (March 2) announced to you the accession of his Majesty Alexander II. I had the honour at the same time to send to you the Imperial manifesto addressed to the first day of the government of our august Sovereign. That document expresses the profound conviction with which his Majesty recognises the importance of the duties he is called upon to fulfil. Divine Providence imposes these duties upon him in the midst of a great trial. In ascending the throne of his ancestors the Emperor finds Russia engaged in a struggle unparalleled in the annals of history at the commencement of a new reign. Our august Sovereign accepts that trial, confiding in God, inspired with the sentiment of security in the unshaken fidelity of his people, with a religious veneration for the memory of his well-beloved father. With filial piety he welcomes (*accueille*) in his succession two obligations, which are equally sacred to him. The first exacts from his Majesty the development of all the power which it has pleased God to place in his hands for the defence of the integrity and of the honour of Russia; the second imposes upon his Majesty the duty of consecrating with perseverance his care to the accomplishment of the work of peace, the bases of which were sanctioned by the Emperor Nicholas. Faithful to the idea which manifested itself in the last dispositions of his august father, the Emperor has renewed the powers and confirmed the instructions with which the Russian Plenipotentiaries were provided since the month of December, at the period when the negotiations at Vienna were to be opened. In this manner the intentions of the Emperor Nicholas will be conscientiously fulfilled. Their object was:—

To restore to Russia and to Europe the blessings of peace, to consolidate the freedom of worship and the welfare of the Christian populations of the East without diminution of rites, to place the immunities of the Principalities under a collective guarantee; to assure the free navigation of the Danube, to the advantage of the commerce of all nations; to put an end to the rivalries of the great Powers in the East, so as to prevent the return of new complications; finally, to come to an understanding with them on the revision of the treaty by which they recognised the principle of the closing of the Dardanelles and of the Bosphorus, and thereby to arrive at an honourable arrangement for all parties.

A pacification founded upon these bases, in putting an end to the calamities of war, would invoke the blessing of all nations upon the new Government.

Nevertheless, Russia feels deeply, and Europe must avow that the hope of a conclusion of peace will remain fruitless if the conditions of the arrangement to be concluded should exceed the just limit which the sentiment of the dignity of the Crown traces irrevocably in the resolutions of our august Sovereign. The Emperor will tranquilly await the manifestation of the views which guide the policy of the Cabinets called upon to solve, in concert with Russia, the question, which is of a general interest for all Christendom. Our August Sovereign will join the deliberation in a sincere spirit of concord. Such is the thought which I am charged by his Majesty to express to you in his name. The general instructions with which you are provided trace out to you the line you are to continue to follow relative to the direct relations you have to entertain with the Government to which you are accredited. The Emperor, in confirming you to-day in the post you obtained from the goodness of his august father, confidently counts upon your fidelity and zeal. It is his desire that, by your conduct and by your language, you should render testimony on every occasion to the loyalty with which Russia fulfils the obligations which rest upon the faith of treaties, to her constant desire to live in good harmony with all the Powers her allies or friends; finally, to the respect she entertains for the inviolability of the rights of all States, and her firm resolution to maintain and cause to be respected the rights which Divine Providence has intrusted to the Emperor, by making him the guardian and protector of the national honour of his country. You are requested to make known the present to the Court at which you had the honour of representing the Emperor Nicholas of glorious and much-cherished memory.

NESSELRODE

AMERICA.

By the mail steam-ship *Canada*, which arrived at Liverpool on Thursday morning, we have dates from New York to the 17th inst.

There is no intelligence of moment from the United States. The news of the Emperor of Russia's death had been received. The Russian Minister, however, considered the reported death of the Czar to be a hoax.

The latest news from Texas is comprised mainly of accounts of the ravages of the Indians, committed in the most daring manner. Emigrants continued to arrive in large numbers, and there was plenty of employment for them.

A bill had been introduced into the Legislature to exclude from the mines all persons who are not eligible to citizenship. This bill, if it become law, will drive from the mines many thousands of the Chinese.

A new political party had sprung up in San Francisco, whose ulterior designs were supposed to aim at the formation of a Great Western Republic. It proposed immediately to organize Oregon and California into States, and to annex the Sandwich Islands and Sonora, and as much more of the territory of Mexico as can be conquered or purchased.

Late advices from Honduras mention the prevalence of rumours of Filibuster excitations from the United States for the invasion of the Mosquito country, and of the design of General Carrera to subdue and annex the state of Honduras to Guatemala. It was also expected that another bombardment and the destruction of Greytown would take place. These reports had created an unusual excitement among the inhabitants.

There is nothing important from Havannah up to the 10th inst. The trial of those concerned in the conspiracy had commenced.

Wills and Personalty.—Rear-Admiral Edward Augustus Down, £4000; Captain John Charles Conolly, 23rd Fusiliers (at Alma), £3000; Colonel Thomas Leighton, 2nd Grenadiers (Bombay), £7000; Thomas Graham Arnold, M.D., Stamford, Notts, £10,000.

The Late Czar's Physician.—Dr. Mandt, homœopathic physician to the late Emperor, is said to have left Russia in great haste and secretly. He is reproached with having too long concealed from the august deceased that his lungs were attacked; also with having himself prepared the medicines destined for the Emperor, instead of having had them prepared by a druggist. Great irritation was manifested against him at St. Petersburg, and the Emperor Alexander himself advised him, it is said, to leave Russia.

New Belgian Ministry.—A new Ministry has been formed, as follows:—Viscount Vilain, XIV., Foreign Affairs; M. de Decker, Interior; M. de Rothomb, Justice; General Greindl, War; M. de Dumon, Public Works; Mr. Mercier, Finances.

On Wednesday the anniversary festival of the City of London Truss Society Charity was held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Viscount Ranelagh was in the chair. Since the establishment of the charity, in 1805, no less than 197,000 persons have been relieved—the number in the last year being 3325.

A branch Synagogue, recently erected in Great Portland-street, was consecrated on Thursday afternoon by the Chief Rabbi, Dr. Adler, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Asher, the Rev. Mr. Green, and the wardens and other honorary officers of the congregations.

On Monday last, at Thames Ditton, the daughter of Lady Lambert expired, after a few hours' intense suffering, from the bite of her favourite cat.

The second reading of the Newspaper Postage and Stamp Duties Bill now stands for Monday, 16th April—not the 23rd, as at first arranged.

We have much satisfaction in stating that Sir John Herschel will be succeeded as Master of the Mint by the distinguished Professor Graham, of University College, now one of the Assayers.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The repeated announcements from the Allied Camp that active operations were about to commence have hitherto ended in nothing. Up to the 20th of March Lord Raglan and General Canrobert appear to have deemed it their wisest course to act on the defensive. A council of war was held on the 11th, at which Omer Pacha and the English and French Admirals and Generals were present; but, although they spent several hours in discussing what ought to be done, nothing is known as to what they have resolved to do. The letters from the Camp which come down to the 16th, continue to give a highly favourable account of the condition of the English troops. The improved weather has wrought as a charm in raising the spirits and improving the health of the men—aided, of course, by increased numbers, abundant clothing and provisions, improved arrangements for transport—immensely facilitated by the railway—and renewed activity and hope as to the bombardment. These letters are now as buoyant as were those written anticipatory of the opening of the fire in October last, with better grounds for favourable anticipations. They represent our works as very far advanced, and immensely strong in cannon and ammunition, and, though the Russians are as active in erecting defences and counter-batteries as ever, it is tolerably evident that their now much more extensive and complex line of works must be less abundantly manned and supplied with guns and stores than those from which they first replied to our fire. This may almost be inferred from the greater caution shown by the Russians in expending their shot. One of the greatest blunders which they committed from the first, was their useless waste of powder and shot. They have frequently fired from such an enormous distance at moving objects, that they have sometimes wasted 100 round-shot, and as many shells, to kill one of our soldiers. They have now grown much wiser. On the 16th, while Lord Raglan was inspecting Gordon's Battery, the English fired repeatedly upon the enemy, and succeeded in shelling out to our fire. This may almost be inferred from the greater caution shown by the Russians in expending their shot. One of the greatest blunders which they committed from the first, was their useless waste of powder and shot. They have frequently fired from such an enormous distance at moving objects, that they have sometimes wasted 100 round-shot, and as many shells, to kill one of our soldiers. They have now grown much wiser. On the 16th, while Lord Raglan was inspecting Gordon's Battery, the English fired repeatedly upon the enemy, and succeeded in shelling out the Russian riflemen, who lay perdu in front of the lines. All the while the Russians scarcely returned one gun for ten of ours. Formerly a single shot fired from the English works would have been replied to with such a volley as would have silenced ours in a short time.

A despatch from General Osten-Sacken announces that, on the 17th, three battalions of Zouaves attacked the Russian works in front of one of the new redoubts, and were repulsed. Another despatch states that the Russians made a general attack on the lines of the Allies, and were repulsed with considerable loss.

The Russian forces are said to be distributed as follows:—At Perekop is encamped the corps of Dragoons, a Division of Light Cavalry, and various other detachments, amounting in all to 20,000 men, under the command of General Pawloff I. At Simpheropol there are about 45,000 men, commanded by General Read. Near the Belbec General Osten-Sacken's headquarters have been placed, with 50,000 men, including the garrison of Sebastopol. On the Tchernaya is encamped General Liprandi, with 18,000 men; and in the valley of Baidar is General Wagner, with 9000 men. It appears that the first operations which General Osten-Sacken had executed, on his appointment to the chief command, was to have all the heights along the coast occupied and fortified from Karabelnaya to the mouth of the Tchernaya. The heights on the left bank of the Alma have also been fortified; and this defensive system seems to show that not only is Baghdeserai the centre of the General's operations, but that a greater importance is attached to the communications of Baghdeserai with Sebastopol and with Arobat, than to those of that town with Perekop. The Russians, in fact, seem determined to defend to the last extremity the basis of the Salzir as well as the ground extending from Simpheropol to Ruffa, their intention being, to all appearance, to procure their provisions and stores from the side of Anapa, and their reinforcements from Perekop. Should the Allies think fit to enter into operations not immediately in the neighbourhood of Sebastopol, it is not improbable that they will act against Baghdeserai, the centre of the Russian position.

The situation of the Allies in the Crimea is represented in the official *Journal de St. Petersbourg* in the following terms:—

The position of the Allies is now completely shut in by an enclosure of formidable intrenchments, extending from the great infantry camp near the citadel by the heights of Inkerman, along the Tchernaya, as far as the approaches of Baindava. New divisions have joined the army. Grave events are expected.

The latest despatches from Omer Pacha state that the Russians were evidently preparing another grand attack on Eupatoria. The Turkish General speaks with confidence of his power to resist the enemy. His supplies had nearly all arrived from Varna, and his defences were complete. The enemy appeared to be still waiting for reinforcements. Omer Pacha is anxious to obtain more cavalry to profit by the anticipated repulse of the enemy; but there are none to spare from the Allied Camp.

WHAT RUSSIA MEANS TO DO.

The most recent accounts from St. Petersburg give no encouragement to the notion that Russia is likely to be more anxious for peace under the new regime than she was under the old. The preparations for war are said to be going forward as actively as ever from Cronstadt to Sebastopol. At the great fortress of the Baltic, the Russians appear to be adopting the same system as they have pursued in the Black Sea. Telegraphic despatches announce that they have been sinking several ships of the line and other vessels between piles in the navigation way at Cronstadt. As regards the sentiments of the young Emperor, the following letter from St. Petersburg, of the 17th, professes to give his views regarding the course which Russia ought to take:—

Allow me to relate to you a scene which took place at the Winter Palace on the 4th, on which day all the Generals and subaltern officers of the Guards and Grenadiers received orders to assemble in the apartments of his Majesty at half-past ten in the morning. The Emperor appeared at eleven o'clock, and addressed them in the following terms:—

"By the death of the late Emperor we have lost our benefactor: we have all received a heavy blow. The loss which I have sustained is greater than that of any other person, and my grief is more acute. In the first moments of the disaster which has just fallen on me, my feelings were for the first place directed towards you, my well-beloved comrades, in order to share with you my affliction and to communicate to you the words of our illustrious benefactor, in testimony of his love for his faithful troops." (Here the Emperor read the words, which have been already published, "I thank my faithful and valiant guard," &c.) On coming to the words of his father, "So long as this spirit shall be preserved, the security of the empire, both abroad and at home, is secured, and *woe be to its enemies*," the Emperor made the sign of the cross, adding, "God grant that it may be so!" All the officers present also made the sign of the cross, and exclaimed "It shall be so." After reading the remainder of the expressions of the deceased Czar, the Emperor continued, "I hope that these words will be deeply engraven on your hearts. They will always remind us of what we owe to the deceased Emperor, our benefactor. In taking leave of you, as General Commander-in-Chief, I do not separate myself from you in heart; on the contrary, you are closer to me than formerly—you are my Guard. I have always loved you, and I shall always love you sincerely as my children. I will never abandon you. Believe me, when I say that the happiest days of my life were those which I spent in your ranks. I thank you from my heart for your services and for your true devotedness to my late father and benefactor. I hope, and I am sure that you will always retain those feelings of noble devotedness. It is a guarantee for me *that we shall not yield one step to our enemies*; we will never abandon our well-beloved Russia, which, we all, you and I, *must and will serve to the last drop of our blood*; for it is by that conduct alone that we can worthily honour the memory of our late Emperor, and respond to his deep solicitude for the welfare of the country."

The conclusion of the speech was hailed by a loud shout of approbation. In dismissing the officers, the Emperor blessed them with the sign of the cross, adding "Adieu! may God be with you."

The *Abeille du Nord* of St. Petersburg publishes a fanatical appeal to the Russian people to rise in arms for the defence of the Orthodox Church. It calls upon the clergy to exhort their flocks to fight for the good cause, and to impress upon them that the present war is the ancient war "of the Prince of Darkness against the Kingdom of Christ." It concludes with a prayer to the Almighty to admit those who fall on the field of battle for the good cause at once into the Kingdom of Heaven.

In the recruitment which was effected on the night of the 12th, the fourth within fifteen months, not fewer than 20,000 men were taken in different parts of the kingdom of Poland, the greater part on the left bank of the Vistula. A fourth of the levy consists of married men and fathers of families. In the levy were some hundreds of men who had cut off their first finger to incapacitate them for serving; but they have gained nothing by it, as they have all been enrolled.

A RECONNAISSANCE AT EUPATORIA.

On the 5th of March Skender Beg left Eupatoria with 300 irregular cavalry and 100 Tartar Bashi bozouks, to make a reconnaissance, and while doing so was met by four strong squadrons of regular Russian cavalry. Notwithstanding the disproportion of numbers, an obstinate struggle ensued; but Skender Beg was compelled at last to retreat, retiring slowly and fighting inch by inch of ground. In this affair the Russians lost about thirty men. The Tartars had made five prisoners, but they afterwards escaped. Skender Beg, according to the Turkish bulletin, had only received slight wounds; but in the affair he received a sabre-cut on his right hand, which damaged three fingers and rendered amputation of a fourth necessary; he also received the thrust of a lance near the heart; but the most serious wound was a cut from a sabre across his forehead. No fears are, however, entertained of saving the life of this brave and dashing cavalry officer.

The following letter from Eupatoria, dated March 5th, gives a more graphic account of the affair:—

To-day it was decided that a reconnaissance on a little larger scale should be undertaken. Accordingly three squadrons of regular cavalry—two of them of the 2nd Regiment of Rumeli (called Hadji Alay, because it has made the pilgrimage to Mecca), and the third a squadron of Redifs of the 2nd Regiment of Guards—about 30 Bashi-bozouks, and 150 mounted Tartars, went out, under the command of Skender Beg.

The Russian videttes occupy a number of mounds running nearly parallel with those occupied by the Turkish videttes. The first road left is close to the bridge which leads over a creek running inland from the shallow lake Sasak, while about the centre of the whole line are two other mounds, not far from each other, one of which has an appearance as if it had been opened. These three mounds are the scene of the daily excursions. Beyond them the Russian line of videttes falls back towards the little lake to the north of the town, on whose shore the white ruins of the Tartar village Meskow may be distinctly seen. For the support of the Russian videttes there was a squadron of Lancers hid in a hollow near the bridge to the right, two sotnias of Cossacks towards the centre on which the videttes retired when they saw the Turks coming; and besides this a squadron of Hussars on white horses appeared sometimes towards the left. From the daily excursions of the Turkish cavalry, these forces, as well as their respective positions, were tolerably known. On this Skender Beg, who had always led these military promenades, built his plan. He sent the two squadrons of the 2nd Regiment to the right, in order to keep in check the squadron of Lancers, while he himself, with the remaining squadron of Redifs, the Bashi-bozouks, and the Tartars, advanced towards the two mounds in the centre. The Russian videttes retired, as usual, on the main guard; but, before their reserves could come up, Skender Beg gave the order to charge, and Tartars, Bashi-bozouks, and Redifs went off at speed to catch the Cossacks, who, keeping their skirmishing line, made a precipitate retreat towards their reserves, which were advancing at full speed. Both parties kept up a brisk fire, and the Turks were already in the midst of the retiring main guard, when the Russian reserves came up. Skender Beg, seeing this, commanded a charge against them; and he himself at the head, charged with his accustomed courage: but he was only followed by the Bashi-bozouks: the Tartars, with few exceptions, remained stationary; while the Redifs, after having followed for a while, and lost a few men through the fire of the enemy, turned back and ran. Now the Cossacks charged and drove back Redifs, Tartars, and all. Skender Beg, who was only followed by two Bashi-bozouks, had to cut his way back through the enemy, which he effected, but not without receiving a sabre-cut over the forehead, which penetrated the skull, a lance-thrust, which glanced off from his breast, and a cut over the hand, which broke two of his fingers. Four Bashi-bozouks, six Redifs, and one Tartar are lost.

About 2300 yards from the mounds where the charge took place the Turkish cavalry at last halted and formed. Skender Beg, notwithstanding his wounds, which were copiously bleeding, wanted to remain and return to the charge; and when he was with great difficulty persuaded to go back to the town, Sefer Pacha (General Kaczelaky), a Polish officer, took the temporary command.

THE THIRD "POINT."

As it is commonly understood that this is the most important of all the "Points," we reprint the exact terms in which it was laid down in the identic note of August 8. It was there declared that the re-establishment of the relations between Russia and Turkey on a friendly basis was impossible—"*à moins que la Turquie ne lui fournisse, par un traité de concert avec toutes les hautes parties contractantes dans un intérêt d'équilibre Européen.*" (Unless the treaty of July 13, 1841, is revised in concert by the high contracting parties in favour of the balance of power in Europe.)

In their despatches of the 22nd of July, M. Drouyn de Lhuys and Lord Clarendon interpreted this Third Point in the same manner. Lord Clarendon said:—"The privileged frontier of Russia in the Black Sea has enabled her to establish in those waters a naval power which, in the absence of any counterbalancing force, is a standing menace to the Ottoman Empire."

The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* records in juxtaposition the interpretation of the Third Point agreed on by the Allies, and that handed in by Prince Gortschakoff on the 7th of January. He says:—

The *Aide Mémoire* of the Allies ran—	The Third Point, according to the Russian interpretation.
3. The object of the revision of the treaty of July 13, 1841, could be more completely to attach the existence of the Ottoman Empire to the European balance of power, and to put an end to the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea. The arrangements to be made in this matter depend too immediately on the events of the war for their bases to be settled at present. It is sufficient to have indicated the principle.	3. Revision of the treaty of the 13th July, 1841, to attach more completely the existence of the Ottoman Empire to the balance of Europe. I do not refuse to come to an understanding in formal conferences for peace on the means which the three Courts may propose to put an end to what they call the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea, on condition that in the choice of those means, there be not one of a nature to infringe upon the rights of Sovereignty of my august Master on his own territory.

PRUSSIA AND THE WESTERN POWERS.

A circular despatch, dated the 16th instant, signed by M. Manteuffel, and addressed to the Prussian Ministers at German Courts, contains a statement respecting the special missions of Herr von Diedhom and General von Wedell to London and Paris. It is therein laid down that, "according to the express command of the King of Prussia a regular understanding with the Cabinets of London and Paris cannot be attained, until Prussia has, by participation in the Peace Conference, acquired a thorough knowledge of the full import of the bases of peace, for the attainment of which she would have to enter into obligations." It is added—"As yet there has nothing taken place between us and the Western Powers beyond a confidential interchange of ideas, from which we, for our part, have not departed, and which character, if it had been observed on all sides, would, perhaps, have prevented many misunderstandings. This interchange of views, however, cannot, with all our sincere desire of arriving at an understanding, impose on us any obligations by anticipation."

Count Buol has officially notified the commencement of the Conferences to Prussia, at the same time expressing his sincere regret that, "notwithstanding the efforts of Austria, Prussia, who takes so sincere a part in the Eastern question, should not be represented at the Conferences, so that the Imperial Government will be alone in defending German interests."

INDIA, CHINA, AND AUSTRALIA.

The steamer *Bombay* arrived at Trieste on Wednesday, at eleven o'clock a.m., in 112 hours from Alexandria. The India, China, and Australia mails left Alexandria on the 23rd inst., with intelligence from Calcutta, Feb. 24th; Madras, 28; Galle, March 3; Bombay, March 8; Shanghai, Feb. 6; Hong-Kong, 15; Singapore, 23; Sydney, Jan. 27; Melbourne, 31; Adelaide, Feb. 3; Mauritius, 18.

Hyder Khan, as representative of Dost Mahomed, has arrived at Jellalabad, on his way to Peshawur, to negotiate with the Chief Commissioner Lord Dalhousie has gone to the Neilgherries. The condition of Oude becomes daily more deplorable.

The French had again attacked Shanghai, and been repulsed, with loss, by the rebels. The country round Canton is in the hands of the rebels.

Sir W. Denison, Governor-General of Australia, arrived at Sydney, Jan. 17. No further disturbances have occurred at Ballarat. Trade in Australia has somewhat improved, but political matters are unsatisfactory.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.

We believe we are correct in stating that the Third of the Four Points having come under the consideration of the Congress of Vienna, and the Plenipotentiaries having exchanged their ideas upon this important condition, it has been found by them necessary to communicate with their various Governments, and especially with St. Petersburg, in consequence of the inability of the Plenipotentiaries to reconcile their respective instructions.

The Third Point, it will be remembered, stipulates for the entrance of Turkey into the European family, and for the limitation of the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea. This point, it is true, was, with the others, accepted by that Power; but now, when its object and scope come to be determined, it is not surprising that Russia should endeavour to interpret them in a manner as little injurious to herself as useless to us; whilst we are determined to see them carried out in material guarantees—such as the limitation of the naval forces of Russia in the Black Sea to a squadron of a strength merely necessary for the purposes of police, and quite inadequate for aggression.

In matters of such importance as these is was not expected that Plenipotentiaries would be authorised to give a final answer. But, as the case now stands, M. Titoff and Prince Gortschakoff will receive at their imperial master in possession of the requirements of the Allies on this point, and will, no doubt, in the course of some days, receive his instructions.

While waiting for these the Congress will probably continue to meet, and, we may suppose, will pursue the study of the First and Second Points—which have not been accepted, as it has been erroneously stated, but merely acknowledged as to their general bearing. They have yet to be canvassed in all their difficult details; and this, if ever it be come to, will be a work of many weeks.

We must caution the public, then, against the many erroneous telegraphic messages and letters which have obtained currency, and against the premature statements which may be made, either peaceful or warlike, during the short interval which must elapse ere an answer is received from St. Petersburg.

We wish we could entertain hope that the Government of the young Czar will submit to the terms on which alone an honourable and safe peace can be obtained; but we fear that, great as our efforts have been, it may need yet greater before we can be satisfied of the future tranquillity of Europe.—*Morning Post.*

NATIONAL SPORTS.

ONE more week and Easter-Monday will see the doors of the antique rubbing-houses and weighing-stands, at Newmarket, once more creaking on their rusty hinges, and the racing season of 1855 begun in earnest. Next week will be a complete lull among racing men, who have only a small meeting at Lincoln to engage them on Tuesday and Wednesday. To the usual five flat races, three of which are on Tuesday and four on Wednesday, £210 is added. The Handicap Hurdle Race, and the Spring Handicap, on the latter day, have each eleven entries; but the other stakes have yet to fill. The late dull meeting at Epsom is not without incident. The first of "Mr. Howard's" high-priced two-year-olds appeared in the shape of the five-hundred-guineas Spindle, who was beaten easily by another filly, which cost 345 guineas less at the same Royal sale. Ireland's Choice was considered to be so useless at the end of last season, that his owner is said to have given him away to Mr. Baron Martin for a park hack. Owing to some mistake, the horse was never sent for by the learned Irishman; he was consequently put into training, but was thought so little of by his stable, that though his owner won £880 in stakes, he lost a £100 to £5 bet about him. Fandango (thanks to the restiveness of Corcobus), justified the confidence of his Yorkshire friends, who journeyed south in shoals to back their favourite "red spot," which were worn on this occasion by Sam Roger's best pupil young Steggle.

Steeplechasing has also a very scanty bill of fare to offer for the week. Lincoln will have two events—the principal of which, on Tuesday, has twelve nominations; and Henley-in-Arden holds its jumping fête on the same afternoon. Harrow and Uxendon join in a five-event card for Thursday; but since the memorable struggles of 1850, in which Maria Day and Frisky so much distinguished themselves, steeplechasing in the neighbourhood of the "great metropolis" has faded away to nothing. This year, however, the engagement of Mr. Johnson, of York, as secretary, will infuse fresh spirit into this meeting, and he has succeeded in getting nineteen entries to the principal stake. The practices of this dubious sport have received a fresh exposure at Liverpool, where the death of Miss Mowbray produced a chemical examination of her stomach, which was found to have been charged with a pint of deleterious liquor only an hour before her fatal start. An acquaintance of her trainer, who had the care of her at Liverpool, will, it is said, be prosecuted. This sport was seen in its best phase at Leamington last week, as Bourton (whose leg had wonderfully recovered by ten days' rest), gave 56 lbs. to Seaman, and was only defeated by the shortest of heads.

Coursing may be said to have come to an end in England and Scotland with the present month, although the Irish coursers sometimes slip at a hare in May. *Apropos* of dogs and hunting, we may mention that the New Forest pack, with its nine hunters, will be sold at Tattersall's on Saturday, and on that day the Oakmere hounds, consisting of fifty couples of working dogs, and thirty-five couples of puppies, will also be brought to the hammer, as well as twenty-five of the Heythrop Hunt stud.

As far as we know, the first cricket match at Lord's is fixed for May 28th, and already the knights of the Willow are big with preparations for their coming campaign.

The Oxford Torpids have commenced the boating season, and their metropolitan brethren will have their opening day towards the close of next week, when a £10 a side oars' match will be rowed, between four watermen, from Battersea to Hammersmith; while the London Unity Club row their first match from the same starting-point to Westminster.

CROXTON PARK RACES. THURSDAY.

Farmers' Plate.—The Times, 1. Sultan, 2
Copley Stakes.—Mind, 1. Mad Antonio, 2
Granby Handicap.—Dead Heat between Miss Briggs and Ethelwolf.

FRIDAY.

Farmer Handicap.—Sultan, 1
Belvoir Castle Stakes.—Benburns, 1. Pole Star, 2
Gold Cup Hercules, 1. Ethelwolf, 2.

NORTHAMPTON AND PYTCHLEY HUNT RACES.—TUESDAY

Stand Plate Commodore Charley, 1. Cranbourne, 2
Great Northamptonshire Stakes.—Hungerford, 1, Quince, 2.
Pytchley Stakes. Questionable, 1. Vulcan, 2
Whitelebury Stakes. Thames Ditton, 1 Paris, 2
Her Majesty's Plate.—Kingstown, 1. Rataplan, 2

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

SIR W. M. S MILNER, BART.

SIR WILLIAM MORDAUNT STUBT MILNER, fourth Baronet of Nun-Appleton Hall, Yorkshire, was the eldest son of Sir William Milner, the third Baronet, by his wife, Diana, eldest daughter of Humphrey Sturt, Esq., of Critchill House, Dorsetshire. He was born on the 20th October, 1779, and succeeded his father, as fourth Baronet, on the 9th September, 1811. The Milners Baronets are among the most extensive landed proprietors in Yorkshire, and, in politics, incline to the Liberal side. Sir William, the fourth Baronet, was a Whig, and his elder son, has been for some years, M.P., on the Whig interest, for the city of York. Sir William, who was a Deputy-Lieutenant of Yorkshire, married first, in 1803, Selina, daughter of the Right Hon. Theophilus Clements, by whom (who died the 28th May, 1804) he leaves one daughter, Catherine, wife of the Rev. Canon Markham. Sir William married, secondly, in 1809, Harriet Elizabeth, daughter of Lord Edward Charles Cavendish Bentinck, by whom he leaves two sons and five daughters: of the latter two are married, viz., Mrs. Scarbrough and Mrs. Strickland. Sir William died at his seat, Nun-Appleton-hall, on the 24th inst. He is succeeded by his elder son, now Sir William Mordaunt Edward Milner, the fifth Baronet, whose wife—Anne Georgina, youngest daughter of Frederick Lumley, Esq.—is great granddaughter of the fourth Earl of Scarborough.

LADY KATHERINE MOLYNEUX. This lady was the youngest daughter of William Molyneux, second Earl, and sister of Charles William, fourth and present Earl of Sefton. She was born the 20th December, 1808. Her Ladyship died (unmarried) recently, at Croxteth-hall, near Liverpool, the seat of the Earls of Sefton.

THE PANAMA RAILWAY.

In the year 1846 a charter was granted by the New Grenadian Government to a French company for the construction of a Railroad across the Isthmus of Panama. A survey was then made by order of Louis Philippe, and M. Napoleon Guerilla, the Chief Engineer who conducted the said survey, gave a brilliant report thereon; and is map exhibited but a slightly different route to that now accomplished.

In 1847, however, the same year that Guerilla completed the survey, the charter of the Railroad Company was transferred to the Panama Railroad Company—an American one—and the following year preparations were made for securing such change of charter, then in possession, as they desired, which was completed in April, 1850.

In May, 1850, the month following the grant of the charter, Messrs. Baldwin and Troutwine, and six men, went from New York to Navy Bay, and commenced clearing away the timber, &c., upon the Island of Manzanilla, on which the town of Colon, or Aspinwall—of which we are

PANAMA RAILWAY. THE CULEBRA OR SUMMIT STATION.

enabled to give a very faithful representation—is situated. They had with them a large storehouse, which the Company still uses. This they proceeded to erect, living meanwhile and for some three months on board the vessel that brought them. When the clearing was commenced not a tree had been felled on the island, and with Mr. Baldwin lies the honour of having felled the first.

In June, 1850, Mr. Stephens (President of the Company) and Colonel Tatten (Superintending Engineer) arrived with thirty men from Carthagena; and, on the 31st August following, Dr. Rodgers arrived from New Orleans with a number of mules, and forty-five Irishmen—the first white labourers employed on the island. They cleared a road from the head of the island, a short distance from the mainland, to what is now called Monkey-hill, a place subsequently made the burying-ground, and where thousands have unfortunately been buried during the carrying out of this work. In September and October, 1850, the houses on the point of the island in the foreground of the Engraving, near the lighthouse (from whence the View is taken), used as storehouses and dwellings for the Company's officers, were brought from New York, and put up. Immediately following supplies of labourers took place from Jamaica, and the engineering and work on the line were proceeded with rapidly. Unforeseen obstacles, however, arose, which retarded the work greatly in 1852. The mortality had been lamentable in extent, and the supplies of men were insufficient. Considerable reinforcements from Carthagena and Jamaica were subsequently obtained, and by the beginning of last year the line was opened out a distance of about forty miles—viz., to "The Culebra or Summit Station," within ten or twelve miles of Panama. From that station all passengers, goods, and specie were conveyed by mules—of which there was always a very large supply kept—to Panama; and Hampstead-heath, in its happiest time, could not present a more amusing sight than the "Summit Station" on arrival of a train and the transferring of its motley group of some thousand passengers to the backs of as many mules, amidst all the excitement of rival ownership.

It was not until the 29th of January last, after four years and a half of most arduous labour, that Colonel Tatten had the gratification of traversing, with a few friends, the whole length of line, returning the same day to Aspinwall, and receiving the warm congratulations of all around him.

The traffic on the line was, however, the very next day stopped, and remained suspended for about a week, owing to unusually heavy rains, which lasted for three days without ceasing, having washed in the new cutting at "the Summit," and by overflowing the rivers damaged some of the bridges. Every exertion having been used, the way was again made clear, and great preparations made for the formal opening on the 16th ult., when a large party of the Directors and friends arrived from New York, and the young town, with its many-coloured population in the greatest excitement, and in its holiday attire, with the buntings of all nations, real and imaginary, fluttering in the breeze, did full honour to the great occasion.

The railway across the isthmus of Panama, connecting the two oceans, is now a *fait accompli*; and presenting as the route does a direct line to Australia from England, together with facilitating the passage to the west coasts of North and South America, avoiding the tedious and dangerous voyage round the Horn, it is to be hoped that the enterprising Company which have, at great outlay, and under almost insurmountable obstacles, accomplished this undertaking, will be amply rewarded by the business arising therefrom, which already is rapidly increasing.

At the present time two steamers arrive fortnightly from America—viz., one from New York, and one from New Orleans via Havanna. These are large ships bringing and taking back each trip more than a thousand passengers (chiefly Californians), together with all the specie from that country for America. The Royal West India Mail Company have also a steamer every fortnight, with not many passengers, but a very considerably increasing freight of goods, &c., for transit to the coasts of Chili, Peru, &c. They also have the conveyance of the specie brought across from those parts for England. On the Panama side there are a sufficiency of steamers plying regularly—an English company going to the south, and American ones northwards to California.

THE UNITED STATES MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY'S PREMISES, AT ASPINWALL.

BURNING OF THE SHIP "MADONNA," OF BELFAST.

BURNING OF THE BARQUE "MADONNA."

On the night of Thursday week, at about eleven o'clock, it was discovered that a fire had broken out on board the *Madonna*, of Belfast, a barque 560 tons burthen; the property of Mr. W. Newett, Corporation-street. Superintendent Magee, of the Harbour Night Force, upon finding the vessel to be on fire, proceeded to the place where she was lying, in company with two sailors, in boats belonging to the *Swift* schooner. At this time it blew a brisk gale, and it was impossible either to approach the vessel or render any assistance to extinguish the flames. Fortunately, the ship was placed in an isolated position, and there was no danger of the fire extending to any other vessel. About twelve, the burning ship presented an awful spectacle. The fore, main, and mizen masts gave way shortly after, and went to leeward, with a dreadful crash. Before morning the ill-fated ship was burnt to the water's edge, and the conflagration had not been completely extinguished up to a late hour on Friday night. Captain White, Harbour-Master; Mr. O'Neill, Deputy Harbour-Master; Mr. A. M'Lean, ship-builder, and others, were present, and rendered what assistance was in their power. No person had been in the vessel for a considerable time before the fire broke out; and we are happy to state that the loss of the owner is entirely covered by insurance.

FUNERAL OF DON CARLOS.

A Correspondent has favoured us with the accompanying Sketch the solemn Funeral of the late Count Molina (Don Carlos), which took place at Trieste, on the morning of the 19th inst., at nine o'clock—when the funeral convoy left the Palace del Lazzaretto Vecchio, and traversed the Piazza Giuseppina, and the Corso, bending finally towards the Cathedral of St Just; from whence the accompanying Sketch was taken

The cortège had a most magnificent appearance. The coffin was followed by his Royal Highness the Count of Chambord, the General Cabrera, the Count Luchesi Palli, the Duke of Levis, and many other distinguished personages—as well as the representatives of all the civil and military authorities, the Mayor and municipality, and all the foreign Consuls. The Right Reverend the Bishop of Trieste officiated at the convoy, and subsequently celebrated in the Cathedral the holy mass.

As it is the custom in Spain for sons not to appear at the funeral of their father, the three Princes, sons of Don Carlos, were not present. The whole population were on foot, and the streets were crowded; every one

FUNERAL PROCESSION OF DON CARLOS TO THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JUST, AT TRIESTE.

regarding with interest the Count de Chambord, who, in a black frock coat, and without any order or sign of rank, walked after the body.

THE ROYAL FAMILY OF SPAIN AND THE LATE DON CARLOS

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS*)*

If you think the enclosed of sufficient interest to occupy a corner in your valuable paper, it is at your service. There was a slight mistake in your obituary of Don Carlos in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for March 17. He left issue three (not two) sons—Charles, born 1818; John, born 1822, and Ferdinand, born 1824. John has issue two (not three) sons, the Infants Charles and Alphonso, born 1848 and 1849

It is a singular circumstance in relation to the Royal Family of Spain, as bearing upon the fortunes of the unlucky Don Carlos, that the civil war which for so many years distracted that unfortunate country was not, as is generally supposed, originated by either Ferdinand Carlos or Christina, but was owing to the insane ambition and pride of their younger brother Don Francisco de Paula's wife Louisa (the sister of the present King of the Two Sicilies) This woman it was who first suggested the alteration in the succession, and the consequent expulsion of Carlos. King Ferdinand VII. was four times married. By his first three wives he had no children; but, on the 11th of December, 1829, wedding his fourth Queen, Christina, by her became the father of two daughters, the present Queen of Spain and the Duchess of Montpensier. In the natural course of events Carlos would have succeeded his brother; and in all human probability he would quietly have ascended the throne, had it not been for the intrigues of his sister-in-law Louisa. She suggested to Christina (who, we may premise, was her *own* sister), the facility with which she might work upon the feelings of the old King, to bequeath the crown to their infant daughter, and required as the price of her assistance in the matter the hand of the future infant Queen for her son Francis. To this Christina consented Their intrigues were successful. Ferdinand, worked upon by the entreaties of his wife, brother, and sister-in-law, in an evil moment for his country acceded to their demands; and, by a testament drawn up in 1830, excluded his brother from the succession, and bequeathed his crown to the infant Isabella This will he secretly revoked in 1833, but was again persuaded to re-enact prior to his decease, which occurred 29th September, 1833 It is said that Christina showed no eagerness to perform that part of the engagement which related to the marriage of her daughter; but, being admonished by her sister, on her dying bed (she died in 1834), of her promise, she swore anew to the performance of it. The result was the marriage of the present Queen to her cousin, Francis D'Assis, which took place on the 10th of October, 1846 It is an additional curious circumstance, as showing the dissensions which still exist amongst the most closely-related members of the Spanish Royal Family, that Caroline (Countess of Montemolin) is a younger sister of Louisa and Christina. Thus the intrigues of the two elder sisters have deprived the younger of a Crown, as effectually as brother deprived brother. There are three other sisters—the wives respectively of the Grand Duke of Tuscany, the Infant Don Sebastian, and the Emperor of Brazil. To those who view retributive justice as the certain lot of the wicked, the fate of Louisa's husband and children affords a striking example—her eldest son's (the present King-Consort) ill-assorted union is matter of notoriety; her second son, Henry, married a Spanish lady, was deprived of his rank as Infant, and his posterity debarred from the succession; her third son, Ferdinand, died unmarried, last year. Of her daughters, the three eldest have all married Spanish subjects, and forfeited their privileges and prospective claims to Royalty, as Infantas of Spain; the two youngest, the Infantas Mary Christina and Amelia, are unmarried. Thus it will be seen, and it is almost an unprecedented occurrence, that, of all Louisa's numerous offspring, not one (with the exception of the King-Consort) has formed a Royal alliance; as for her degraded husband, the Infant Francisco de Paula, his conduct has but lately been made matter of public notoriety by his marriage to a woman of notoriously abandoned character, to the great horror and disgust of the royalty and nobility of Spain. Such is the history of the Francisco members of the Royal family. That of the Christina members is too well known to require description And, with such a history of the past, who will dare to prophesy the future? W. T. J.

Lewisham, March 22nd, 1855.

[Of the exact claim of Don Carlos and his heirs to the Crown of Spain an elaborate account has been given in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, April 1.—Palm Sunday. All Fools' Day.
MONDAY, 2.—Maraleau died, 1791. Battle of Copenhagen, 1801.
TUESDAY, 3.—
WEDNESDAY, 4.—St. Ambrose.
THURSDAY, 5.—Maunday Thursday. Goldsmith died, 1774.
FRIDAY, 6.—Good Friday. Stow died, 1605.
SATURDAY, 7.—Fire Insurance due. Don Pedro abdicated, 1831.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 7, 1855.

Sunday.		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
43	2	0	2	14	2	29	2	46	2	59	3	13	3	26	3	38	3	44	3	56	4	16	4	33	4	49	5	5

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1855.

It is stated, and with great truth, that "the heads of the two departments of the army which are said most conspicuously to have broken down—the Commissariat and the Medical—no more imagined the army would have passed a winter in the Crimea than they thought of a Christmas campaign in Nova Zembla." These two departments are precisely the branches of the service with which civilians, clergymen, amateur inquirers, and others, would most readily come into contact, and probably find the most reason to complain of. The acts and resolves of the various chiefs, both at home and abroad, they were less able to criticise. Accordingly, the minute matters belonging to these departments have been much dwelt on in correspondence, and latterly—particularly the medical department—have almost exclusively occupied the attention of Mr. Roebuck's Committee. It seems to be losing its way amidst a labyrinth of hospital details, of beds, kitchens, and storehouses, and likely to divert public attention from the real causes of our national disgrace to the multifarious but painful scenes of sickness, wounds, and death, that occur in every war and every hospital. Earnestly desiring to see the truth of this great transaction elicited, and the burden of disgrace placed on the right shoulders—be they those of the Commander of the army abroad, of the Admiral commanding the fleet, the Commander-in-Chief of the Army at home, the Ministers, the public journalists, the Parliament, the whole nation—this direction of the inquiries of the Committee is, we think, much to be regretted. In all hospitals *improvised* at a time of war—in all places overcrowded by men stricken down by pestilence, there must, and will occur—there always have occurred instances of neglect and disorder; and the real authors of the national disgrace can desire nothing better than that the public indignation against them, whoever they may be, should be lost in the deep emotion of pity at great, but in many cases, unavoidable suffering.

Confining our remarks to the gentlemen of the medical profession implicated by the inquiry and for them as well-educated men, destined from the commencement of their studies to mitigate human sorrows and human woes, we entertain feelings of great respect—we must mention that Dr. Andrew Smith, the head of the Army Medical Department, has resigned or been dismissed, and takes with him into retirement much public obloquy; and that Dr. Menzies, the Deputy Inspector of Hospitals, has fallen, before the Committee, into sad contradictions, and has got into merited disgrace. Thus, two of the gentlemen of the medical department who were wholly unprepared, from what cause is not known, for the winter campaign both of whom had a great deal to do, if they did it not wisely, zealously, and well have already been sacrificed, and are probably to be made the scapegoats of others. That the medical men with the army have, almost one and all, been overwhelmed with work is quite true. Dr. Menzies states, in his evidence, that, besides attending to the sick, he had an immense deal of writing to do—reports to make, requisitions to draw; and that his duties, and the duties of the purveyors and all his subordinates, were vague and ill-defined, so that there was continual contention; and his health, like the health of others, gave way before the enormous fatigue. It will really be a great additional injustice if the medical men, whose labours have been unremitting, should be made responsible for all the evils resulting from bad regulations, from conflicting authorities, and from their being not duly informed of the winter destination of the army, and not duly provided for meeting it.

We are disposed to ascribe much of the evil to an unrevised system of antiquated regulations, which, till they were brought to the test, were supposed to be perfection. Dr. Andrew Smith stated in his evidence that, when the Expedition started, he required more medical men, but could not get them; though medical men of adequate capacity, as the public well know, are to be found in scores practising in all our towns or walking the hospitals, looking out for a berth. But Dr. Smith could not, except by dispensing with an Order of Council, employ these ready-made practitioners. He could select only gentlemen as assistant-surgeons who have passed their examinations at the Royal College of Surgeons of London, Edinburgh, or Dublin. All other practitioners, however skilful, are excluded. They may be the first men of their profession; but, if educated at Paris, Vienna, Berlin, or Aberdeen, they could not be made, however great the emergency, assistant-surgeons of the Army, unless an Order of Council were set aside. Nor could any assistant-surgeon, however skilful, be promoted to be a second-class staff surgeon, to make way for new assistant-surgeons when required, till he had served five years, unless the same Order in Council was set aside. Here, then, is a positive regulation drawn up in the most solemn manner, and with the greatest authority, which bound Dr. Smith and prevented him from employing a sufficient number of medical men, caused the insufficient number to be overworked, and stood completely in the way of obtaining, when required, a proper supply of surgeons. In a quiet time of peace such a regulation may be complied with; but it is wholly inapplicable to an emergency. The gentlemen of the medical profession are some of the most estimable of society, and we cannot do otherwise than denounce as most unwise any regulation which impedes the employment of them, when necessary, in the service of their country. Whatever may be the case at present—and we are afraid that on this point there is some degeneracy the former great successes of our Royal Navy were always mainly due to its drawing its vigorous life-blood from the most extensive mercantile marine of the world. If the two services were not identical, the latter was always the chief source of the vital power of the former. In the same manner real strength can only be given to every department of the public service by planting it in some corresponding branch of civil society; and the medical department of Army and Navy would be efficient or perfect in proportion as it was identified with the medical profession in civil life. By an arbitary regulation, they are separated, and therefore the official branch, while in society the medical profession is strong, breaks down in a moment of trial. The fact is an illustration of our whole official system. It has been cut off from civil society; it has no strength but antiquated regulations, no real life of its own; and it tumbles, rotten and decayed, to ruin, whenever a stress is laid on it.

On Monday the House of Commons decided in favour of the Bill for Abolishing the Stamp on Newspapers as a fiscal regulation, and retaining it on such as are sent by post, continuing to them all their present postal privileges. Hereafter the bill may be subject to some trifling changes in Committee; but its success as a whole seems assured. Being a money bill, the House of Peers is not likely to meddle with it. It is precisely such a measure as we desired and have endeavoured to procure; and we cannot be otherwise than pleased with the apparent result. When a Treasury Minute is passed to carry all printed matter of four ounces weight for a penny—which, we believe, is likely to be the case—there will be nothing left to desire from postal regulations for the diffusion of intelligence; and then it may be hoped that all questions concerning newspapers and the Post-office, except as time may introduce great changes, will be set at rest.

More than eighty years have passed since the "European family," uniting for crime, perpetrated the first Partition of Poland, and still the story of her wrongs excites the indignation of the hearers. Vain is the attempt to consign the deed to the keeping of history, as an "arrangement"—open, indeed, to criticism—but one which must now be accepted as a thing of the past. It is felt to be matter of criminal record, not of historical narrative; and it is the sentence of avenging justice, not of literary scrutiny, that is demanded by outraged humanity.

It was not to be supposed that the claims of Poland could slumber while an agitating crisis was trembling round the thrones of her chief enemies. For the moment, England—who stood aloof from her in her trouble, and hypocritically commended her case to "the intervention of the Almighty," the "only one" which, Lord North thought, could "remedy her evils"—is the solitary Power who can afford to listen to her claims. It is something at such a point of the war—when, to all appearance, the attempts at negotiation are failing, and while we are listening for the tidings that the Allies have rushed upon Sebastopol—that the case of Poland should be heard before the Parliament of England, and that the Premier should renew his declaration that the spoliation of Poland was a violation of moral law and public right. At any period it would be well to have such a declaration on the part of the Government of England, renewed and registered in the face of Europe; but at this time it has a special weight and significance.

In a very able and energetic speech, Mr. Phinn, the member for Bath, brought the subject before the House of Commons on Tuesday. He asked for an address to her Majesty, praying that an effort for the reconstitution of the kingdom of Poland should be made, in the event of negotiations being commenced with a view to peace. It was impossible that the claim could be more temperately or discreetly urged than in this form, and Lord Palmerston adroitly took advantage of its moderate phraseology as an additional and technical reason why the House should not agree to it. His Lordship contended that the motion did not go far enough, and that the proposed address should require that war should be carried on until the object in question had been attained. We have so frequently had to discriminate between House of Commons answers and answers which would be given to reasonable men outside its atmosphere, that it is scarcely worth while to remark that urging the claims of Poland by no means implied that we would make no peace unless they were accorded; or that Mr. Phinn, as an accomplished legalist, was not perfectly well aware that the forcibly interpolating a new element into a contest begun upon a defined principle would be a departure from the usage of diplomacy. But the reply answered its purpose, if it did not answer Mr. Phinn. Lord Palmerston further contended that the House ought not to dictate to the Government in reference to negotiations, because the former could not be in possession of information as to all the "nicely-balanced considerations" which the latter had the opportunity of obtaining. He saw no harm in the discussion, but much harm in letting it assume any other form than that of a demonstration; and as such he treated it, appealing to Mr. Phinn not to press his motion. This species of appeal from a First Minister, especially at such a time, is not one to be resisted, and the motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Phinn took considerable pains to meet by anticipation certain objections which, as it turned out, were not brought forward. He sought to show that Austria had, in great measure, repented of her share in the crime against Poland, and would be glad to make restitution. He cited what Maria Theresa declared to the French Ambassador at Vienna, namely, that the "affair" with Poland had brought a great stain upon her reign, and that her own exorbitant demands and pretensions had been really urged, not in earnest, but in the hope that the other two plunderers would be startled at such requisitions, and break off the negotiations; but the consciences of Russia and Prussia were not so easily shocked; and, to the Queen's "distress," they assented to the "cruel arrangement." Mr. Phinn also quoted a declaration of Metternich, who, at the Congress of 1814, hypothetically and hypocritically contemplated the restoration of Poland. More to the purpose, he brought out a little-known passage from the confidential correspondence between the Emperor Alexander and Lord Castlereagh, in which the latter, in skilful and energetic language, pointed out to the Sovereign the justifiable alarm felt by Europe, at the aggressions of Russia—aggressions which "totally exposed to her attack, the capitals of Austria and Prussia, without any line of defence or frontier." That Austrian rulers have admitted the criminality of their conduct, is not unsatisfactory, so far as it goes—such an admission may hereafter have a certain value; but the passage from Lord Castlereagh is more striking, because it suggests considerations of the extreme art with which, for forty years, Russia has succeeded in making the Courts of Vienna and Berlin close their eyes, wilfully, to a condition of things as apparent to themselves as to the English Minister of that day. Nations may ask by what agreements, or at what price, a despotic Monarch induced two brother despots to leave their capitals at his mercy? Was the Czar a political Vauban, whose engineering motto was, "I destroy, but I defend"? Were capitals laid open that palaces might be the safer?

The policy of our ally France towards Poland, Mr. Phinn showed to have been unvarying. Napoleon restored to Poland a considerable portion of the spoils of Austria and Prussia, and promised to secure her nationality. It is also worth remembering, though not mentioned in the debate, that when the three spoliators revoked the Treaty of 1815, and "annexed" the Free Republic of Cracow, this act was protested against by England, France, Sweden, and *Turkey*. Mr. Phinn referred to the manifestation by Louis Philippe on behalf of Poland, and his appeal to the present Premier (then Foreign Secretary), who, however, declined interference, on the ground that Russia was a friendly Power, and on the ground of our celebrated "non-interference" policy. The Napoleonic idea—and assuredly Napoleon's idea in regard to Poland was neither the least noble nor least politic of his conceptions—may reasonably be supposed to have been transmitted with his name and his diadem; but it is far more easy to see the difficulties which for the time may preclude the present Emperor from an effort towards the re-establishment of Poland, than to discover the rationale of our non-intervention at the time alluded to. Had Lord Palmerston listened to Count Walewski, Lord Clarendon would not have had to threaten Count Nesselrode, and Warsaw might have saved Sebastopol.

But neither Austrian repentance nor French consistency were argued by Lord Palmerston, who, after demolishing some petulant assumptions by Lord R. Cecil, that England's humanizing rule in India resembled the cruel tyranny of Russia in Poland, addressed himself to the getting rid of the question rather than the meeting the arguments. It was, perhaps, all that could be expected; and, if the grounds upon which the Premier urged the setting aside of the matter were stated in the old diplomatic tone, rather than with the candour his hearers out of doors would have preferred, we are not unwilling to believe that this was a sacrifice to the exigency of diplomatic etiquette. It was not for his Lordship to speak over the shoulder of Lord John Russell at the Conference Board, and as he said nothing which could commit even his own Government—the nation is, of course, not to be committed by any speeches—to a future non-intervention policy. When the rights of Poland are again in contest—and that they will be so, one day, no man who believes in the justice of Providence can venture to doubt—it may prove to have been well that, in the midst of a terrible war, England, through her Government, made renewed proclamation that the Partition was a robbery and a crime.

The French Minister of Foreign Affairs left Paris on Wednesday evening for London; and, on his return, will proceed to Vienna, to assist M de Bourqueney at the Conference

The Postmaster-General has just paid a fifth part of the life assurance annual premium of every Post-office official in the kingdom who has insured his life.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.

The Conference took the Fourth Point into consideration, on Thursday, the Third Point having been left aside for the present. The departure of M. Drouyn de Lhuys for Vienna has caused much speculation in Paris. The most contradictory opinions prevail as to the motives which have led to these apparently sudden movements of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Peace party consider the presence of so eminent a personage at the Conference as a confirmation of their most sanguine hopes; while those who entertain opposite views connect it with the recent despatch, stating that the Plenipotentiaries have written home for more ample instructions, and argue that some new complication has arisen.

The *Journal des Débats* of Thursday has an article contributed by M. de Sacy, giving a concise, and apparently authoritative, narrative of the proceedings at the Vienna Conferences. The two first points were discussed and decided at the sittings of the 17th and 28th instant. The First Point places the rights of the three Principalities under the collective protectorate of the Great Powers. The Second liberates the navigation of the Danube, and places all future questions relating to it under the jurisdiction of a mixed commission; Russia preserving the fortresses on the left bank, but with alterations rendering them no longer dangerous to the free navigation of the river. The discussion on the Third Point was commenced in the sitting of the 28th of March. The Allied Envoys demanded the revision of the treaty of 1841, with the objects—(1) of bringing Turkey into the European family; and (2) of making the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus free for the passage to and fro of the ships of all nations. They additionally demanded that the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea should cease. M. de Sacy then intimates that the most pacific intentions seem to animate all parties; that Russia is ready to make all honourable concessions and that the Western Powers will not demand anything inconsistent with the dignity of Russia. He points out that there are several ways of effecting the reduction of Russian preponderance in the Black Sea. The Russian war fleet may be reduced, and an equal number of ships from each of the Western Powers may be introduced. Or, France and England may establish at Sinope and Bourgas fortified ports to counterpoise Sebastopol, with Baladava established as a free port, and Consuls from the Western Powers in Sebastopol.

A letter from Berlin in the *Bavarialle*, states that there still exist some differences between Russia and the Western Powers as to the Second Point. The Allies insist that there shall be no fortifications whatever on the left bank of the Danube from Reni to Sulina; and that all the Russian military posts shall be beyond cannon-range distance from the river. It is also stipulated that the towing-path shall be perfectly free, it being difficult to ascend the river without towage.

THE COURT.

Her Majesty and the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Princess Royal, Prince Arthur, Prince Leopold, the Princesses Alice, Helena, and Louisa, and the Prince of Leiningen, returned to Buckingham Palace from Osborne on Friday, the 23rd inst. Her Majesty embarked on board the *Fairy*, at Cowes, at twenty minutes past two o'clock; and the yacht, having at once got under way, ran up to the fleet at Spithead, the whole of the ships being dressed in colours, and manning yards. After the *Fairy* had passed to windward, a general Royal salute was fired by the fleet.

On Saturday the Duchess of Kent visited the Queen at Buckingham Palace. Lord Panmure had also an audience of her Majesty in the evening.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, the Princess Alice, the Duchess of Kent, the Prince of Leiningen, the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, and the domestic household, attended Divine Service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace.

On Monday her Majesty held her third Levee this season. In the evening the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Princess Royal and the Prince of Leiningen, visited the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester House, on the occasion of a party given by her Royal Highness to celebrate the birthday of the Duke of Cambridge. The Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Cambridge, and the Princess Mary and the Duke of Cambridge were among the guests of the venerable Princess.

On Tuesday the Prince Consort visited Messrs. Robinson and Cottam's factory, at Pimlico; and honoured Mr. Bacon by inspecting his model for the statue of Mendelssohn.

On Wednesday the Prince Consort visited Mr. Scott Russell's iron-works at Millwall, for the purpose of inspecting the new floating batteries, and the large steamer in course of construction there. In the evening the Queen and his Royal Highness, accompanied by the Prince of Leiningen, honoured the Haymarket Theatre with their presence.

On Thursday her Majesty held her first Drawingroom for the present season. The Queen and the Prince arrived at St. James's Palace shortly before two o'clock, escorted by a detachment of Life Guards. The attendance of company was very brilliant, and the presentations were numerous.

The Duchess of Atholl has succeeded Lady Churchill, as the Lady in Waiting to the Queen. Earl Somers and the Hon. Mortimer Sackville West have relieved the Earl of Listowel and Sir F. Stovin, in their duties as the Lord and Groom in Waiting to her Majesty.

THE LEVEE.

The Queen held a Levee (the third this season) on Monday afternoon, in St James's Palace. Her Majesty and Prince Albert arrived from Buckingham Palace, escorted by a detachment of the Life Guards.

The Earl St. Germans had an audience of her Majesty, on his return from Ireland.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge and his Serene Highness the Prince of Leiningen attended the Levee.

The Queen wore a train of green silk, brocaded in white, and trimmed with white blonde and green gauze ribbon. The petticoat was of white satin, trimmed to correspond. Her Majesty wore a diamond circlet.

Among the presentations the most interesting were those of—

The Earl of Elgin, on his return from administering the Governments of Canada, by Sir George Grey.

Viscounts Raglan, Lieutenant and Captain Scott Fitzroy Guards, on promotion and return from the Crimea, by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge.

Sir Samuel Morton Peto, on his being created a Baronet, by the Duke of Newcastle, and Mr. E. H. Hargraves, the celebrated Australian gold discoverer.

The Countess Colloredo, wife of the Austrian Minister, had an assembly at Chandos House on Thursday, after her Majesty's Drawing-room.

The Countess Walewska had a reception on Tuesday evening, at the residence of the French Embassy, Albert-gate House.

The Hon. Edward Mostyn, eldest son of Lord Mostyn, and M.P. for Flint, is about to form a matrimonial alliance with the Lady Augusta Nevill, daughter of the Earl of Abergavenny.

The Right Hon. E. Horsman (Chief Secretary for Ireland) entertained at dinner on Saturday evening, at his residence on Richmond-terrace, the Attorney-General and Solicitor-General for Ireland, Sir Robert Ferguson, and other Irish members of the House of Commons.

SEAMAN'S HOSPITAL ANNIVERSARY DINNER.—On Wednesday evening the 34th anniversary of the Seaman's Hospital Society was celebrated by a sumptuous dinner at the London Tavern. Much additional interest was given to the festival by the presidency of Viscount Palmerston, who arrived punctually at six o'clock. There were also present Sir C. Wood, Sir C. Napier, Admiral Bowles, Mr. Buchanan (the American Minister), Admiral Tyler, Mr. Sheriff Crosley, &c. About 200 gentlemen sat down to dinner.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Dr. W. H. Smith, of Philadelphia, United States, has recently read to this society a paper on the "Utilization of the Fused Mineral Products of Smelting Furnaces." Dr. Smith produced beautiful samples of a new class of ware—consisting of table tops, &c.—made of slag, by a new process patented by him, which compared favourably with the best varieties of marble.

ARTISTS' GENERAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—The Anniversary Dinner of this excellent Institution will take place in Freemasons' Hall, this evening, when the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor will preside.

FIRE IN BRUTON-STREET.—At an early hour on Sunday morning a fire broke out in the building in Bruton-street, Bond-street, known as the Berkeley-chambers, which was attended with considerable loss of property. At one time the flames threatened to destroy the studio of Mr. Noble, the sculptor, situated on the ground-floor of the premises, and in which were the colossal statue of the Duke of Wellington to be erected at Manchester, the statue of the Duke of Wellington to be erected in the India House, and the statue of the late Archbishop of York, Harcourt Vernon, about to be placed in the Minster of that city. These and other works of art were fortunately rescued by the exertions of the firemen, but not until considerable damage had been done to the studio. It was some hours before the flames could be entirely extinguished, and not until the upper part of the building had been burnt out, and the furniture and property contained in the different floors destroyed.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

So very little is said about Literature at this juncture in political affairs, so very little is doing in the publishing world—even papers specially devoted to books and authors are duller than usual—that it is a real pleasure to record any circumstance likely to be of use to letters, though the certain chance is at a distance of at least two years. This is our present gratification, and a very real gratification it is. "And what is it?" said a publisher, rather doubtful of any run of luck, to whom we casually mentioned it "Does it relate to any amendment of the law of copyright? Is any new Sir Walter, any really Great Unknown, on the eve of emerging into life? or, are we to have a grant of public money that is likely to be of service to letters?" Our friend, fresh from his comfortable quarters in the Row, was evidently expecting more than our means of intelligence—or truth—would gratify. "No," we replied, "my liberal Mr. Tonson," we allude, unfortunately, to nothing immediately akin to your suggestive queries; our welcome gossip refers altogether to that great quarter of London in which intelligence is sought for, and is at pre sent sought for imperfectly, because the means of communicating it are so extremely contracted—we allude to the reading-room of the British Museum. In two years, my *present* amiable Mr. Tonson, we shall have a reading-room worthy of your literature and of our nation. We already possess one of the finest libraries in the world—a library that is comparatively of little use, from the narrow space in which it is buried; Mr Panizzi and Mr. Sydney Smirke are busy relieving us from this Baluclava of books, and in two years from March, 1854—this thirtieth of March—the *quod* of the Museum will contain a reading-room of such magnitude and excellence that no city in the world can compare with it for a single moment. Books—such as the members of the Philobiblon Society love to possess, and admire—will be produced as soon as asked for; and the scholar who is now obliged to seek for information surrounded by artificial difficulties, unworthy of letters and of London, will have recourse willingly to the Museum, and will produce you such books, my most amiable Mr. Tonson, that the Row will compete for—and generations of your race to come will strive who shall put forth with the greatest accuracy of text and the greatest luxury of type and paper. We have seen this work in progress, my learned friend from the Row, and no sight connected with letters has given us more pleasure than is now to be seen in what was, till now, the *useless* quadrangle of the British Museum.

There is an Exhibition now open in London to which we wish to direct particular attention. It is an exhibition, in Pall-mall, of works by amateur artists—sent on sale entirely in aid of the Patriotic Fund for the Widows and Children of Soldiers who have served in the Crimea. We were especially pleased with the contributions of the Royal Family. Her Majesty, it is well known, has long been devoted to the arts; and Prince Albert is our modern Prince Rupert (we suspect his Royal Highness is a better artist than Prince Rupert of the Rhine is said to have been); but the children will soon excel their parents—so careful has been their training; so innate, in the case of the Princess Royal, is a feeling for high art in a country so loyal as ours, we can readily believe that the competitors for the purchase of the drawings so generously sent by her Majesty will be very great. And such is the case. By far the best drawing in the room is that semicircular drawing by the Princess Royal, called "The Battle-Field," representing a soldier in the composure of death, attended by his young, his faithful—may we not add his beautiful—wife. The composition is artistic, the sentiment poetic, and the execution spirited. The Prince of Wales contributes a Knight—with rather a comic turn of look and leg; and Prince Alfred has a "Prince Hal"—which evinces a liking for Shakspeare that will additionally endear him to the English people. Mr. E H. Corbould is the tutor to the Royal Family.

Our correspondents are not tired of "Moredun"—though we confess that we are. Mr. Huntly Gordon, for his own sake, as well as for the sake of Sir Walter Scott, shall have the last say upon the subject. We can never know too much of Sir Walter Scott:—

Your amiable and learned correspondent, Mr. Cole, kindly showed me, among other volumes in his rich collection of autographs, one containing the letters of Sir Walter Scott referred to in his letter to you. The initials are appended to a note of a few lines to one of his most intimate friends, who lived much at Abbotsford—Mr. Scrope, the *facile princeps* of sportsmen, but Scott, I still contend, would never have signed even a note to so rare a correspondent as Mr Spencer with such familiar brevity. Since I saw Mr. Cole's note I have found a scrap, addressed to myself, signed in the same way; from all which it appears that Scott, when in an unusual hurry, did sometimes sign his initials only: though the instances must have been "few and far between," since Mr Skene, who was in almost daily habits of communication with him for forty years, never saw one. But the chief sin against probability in this part of the controversy called "Moredun" has been lost sight of. It is not the brevity of the signature, but that it is written in imitation of *printing*, which I feel quite confident Sir Walter never even tried.

The final *t* not *turned up* is only to be found in the signatures to Mr. Cole's letters, which I was not thinking of, the author of "Moredun" not having ventured to write Scott at full length.

There is only one looped *h* in Mr. C.'s eighteen letters, some of them of considerable length, and it is joined to the preceding word *and*, contracted (&) "The exception makes the rule," and this solitary one only fortifies my position, that a MS. in which few of the small *h*'s are formed *without* a loop could not have been penned by Sir Walter Scott, to say nothing of a dozen other grounds of disbelief as respects the handwriting. *Mene mene tercel* says Mr. S. Low. We shall speedily see whether the public will read any *mere dene* in the style of this "romance of the year 1210." I hope Mr. Low will not be "*done brown!*"—Yours, &c., G. HUNTLY GORDON.

March 28th.

"Moredun" must finally rest, as we have all along contended, on its own intrinsic merits; for, though we are far from being among those "boobies," as Pope calls them, who know men immediately by their style, yet Scott, as a story teller is not to be mistaken.

The Trustees of the British Museum have declined to purchase Mr. Roach Smith's Museum of London Antiquities, and the destination of an important collection is now said to be Liverpool or Manchester. We shall continue to regret this decision. There are curiosities in Mr. Smith's small museum that would shine as curiosities in the British Museum. But did Mr. Smith make any stipulation with the Trustees about maintaining his collection in its integrity? We are among those who think (and the number is increasing) that the Trustees should distinctly refuse to buy even a very choice collection on such terms. It appears to us that the Museum might buy as individual purchasers, select what they want, and sell the remainder by auction or private contract to the highest bidder. It is seldom seen that a collection is so very choice that it is desirable for a nation to retain it intact. Mr. Smith, as Mr. Roach Smith, has done wonders in bringing so many rare things together (neither Mr. Edward Hawkins nor Mr. William Tite will deny you this merit); but, as a whole—that is, to be retained in its integrity—we should question the advisability of its purchase by the British Museum, already overstocked in middling things, though by no means in good things.

Her Majesty's Palace at Newmarket is for sale—that palace, or rather house, so immediately connected with the sports of the Sovereigns of this country from King James I. to King George II. Our Kings have been capricious about their palaces. George I. delighted in Hampton Court and Herenhausen; George II. in Kensington and St. James's; George III. in Windsor and the Queen's House; George IV. in Brighton Pavilion and Buckingham Palace; William IV. hated Buckingham Palace; her Majesty delights in Osborne and Balmoral. If, as a great satirist has it,

Newmarket's glory rose as Britain's fell,

we may expect Britain's glory to rise with the fall of Newmarket's glory under the hammer of the auctioneer.

In a column devoted to Literature and Art, we may notice, with regret, the death of that eminent short-hand writer, Mr. Gurney, to whom the public has been indebted for the preservation of so many important debates. As we read the record of his death, we could not help calling to mind part of a famous epitaph in Westminster Abbey, on a brother of the craft—

Short-hand he wrote; his flowre in prime did fade
And hasty Death short-hand of him hath made.

Our ancesters were fond, even in epitaphs, of these quaint allusions.

The great room at Christie and Manson's has been unusually attractive this week, the treasures of four collections being on view at the same time. In the place of honour (as it deserved to be) was to be seen Mr. Frank Stone's masterpiece, "Bassanio reading the account of Antonio's Losses"; and facing it (on the left as you enter), Constable's masterpiece—a mill-stream," known among artists as "The White Horse." Here, too, were hung the three pictures painted by Mr. Stanfield for the late Captain Marryat (the novelist). Will Mr. Stanfield excuse us for preferring the small "Coast Scene" to the larger "Cologne;" and will Mr. Leslie allow us to think that Constable's "Corn-field" is a better picture than "The White Horse," fine as it is.

One of the attractions of next week will be the exterior of Mr. Sydney Smirke's Carlton Club-house, in Pall-mall. Masons are busy bringing the surface of the older portion to the texture of the new, so as to give the whole one and the same look.

MUSIC.

The two rival PHILHARMONIC SOCIETIES have had concerts this week.

The Old Society—*the* Philharmonic—had its second concert of the season at the Hanover-square Rooms on Monday evening. The following was its programme:—

PART I.

Overture—"Der Freischutz"	.. ..	Weber.
Aria—"O Salutaris Hostia," Mrs. Lockey	..	Cherubini
Concerto—Violin, Mr Blagrove	..	Mendelssohn.
Selection from "Lochengrin"	..	Wagner.

PART II.

Choral Symphony, No. 9	.. ..	Beethoven.

Here, the musical reader will perceive, there was only one novel feature, the Selection from an Opera by Herr Wagner, the Society's new conductor. Wagner, though in great vogue in Germany, has been hitherto quite unknown in this country; and this specimen of his powers as a composer, excited great curiosity and interest. The public have been told that he is a musical revolutionist, whose object is the destruction of all existing greatness—who seeks to pull down from their thrones all the recognised sovereigns of the art, that he may raise himself to supremacy in their room. Such, we are informed is the purpose of his critical writings; and, it is added, his extravagant doctrines are illustrated by equally extravagant compositions. It was with no small surprise, therefore, that the public, thus prepossessed, listened to Wagner's music on Monday evening. In place of finding it to be obscure, unintelligible, and studiedly unlike anything ever heard before, they discovered that it was clear, simple, melodious, and not at all hard either to perform or to comprehend. The audience were delighted; their prejudices were overcome by their feelings, and they applauded frankly and warmly; all but the professional "native talent" clique, who comforted themselves by trying to convince everybody who would listen to them that the music was conventional and commonplace. Even from the slight specimen now given, it was evident that Wagner's music is dramatic in the highest degree. Such music suffers greatly by being transferred to the Concert-room; but we felt satisfied, in listening to it, that, with the scenic action and adjuncts of the Opera-house, it would be as effective as the music of Meyerbeer himself. In regard to Wagner's character as an orchestral conductor, there was not on this occasion a single dissenting voice. His great skill, and its happy results, were felt and acknowledged by everybody from beginning to end of the concert.

The New Philharmonic Concert—also the second of the season—was given at Exeter-hall on Wednesday evening. Its programme was as follows:—

PART I.

Overture—"Coriolanus"	.. ..	Beethoven.
Selection from "The Ruins of Athens"	..	Beethoven.
Aria—"Deh vieni, non tardar," Madame Anna Thillon	..	Mozart.
Concerto in D Minor—Mr. Lindsay Sloper	..	Mendelssohn.
Symphony in C Minor	.. ..	Beethoven.
Part Song—"O Hills! O Vales of Pleasure!"	..	Mendelssohn.

PART II.

Overture—"Oberon"	.. ..	Weber
Selection from "Rienzi"	..	C. B. Horsley.
Fantasia—"Othello" (Violin), Herr Ernst	..	Ernst.
Recit. and Rondo—"Arriere, arriere!" Madame Anna Thillon (Ye'l'Etoile du Nord")	..	Meyerbeer.
Overture—"Ruler of the Spirits"	..	Weber.

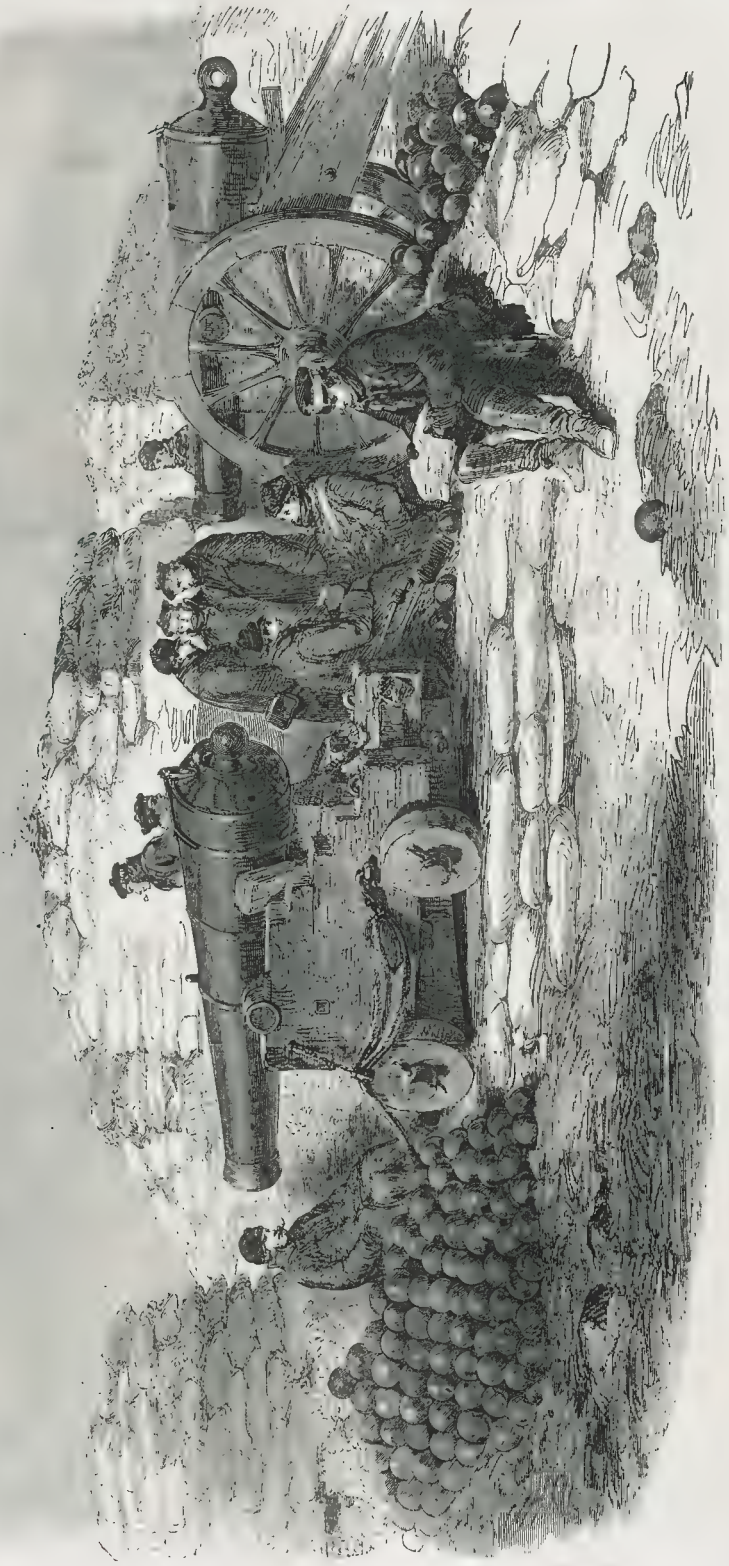
The concert was announced to be in aid of the funds of St. Mary's Hospital; and this charitable object, in addition to the attraction of the programme, drew a great assemblage. There being not a single feature of novelty, there is very little room for remark. Dr. Wylde acquitted himself very ably as Conductor, and the orchestral music—particularly Beethoven's magnificent Symphony in C Minor—was admirably performed. Mr. Lindsay Sloper, too, gained golden opinions by his masterly execution of Mendelssohn's Pianoforte Concerto in D Minor. Other parts of the concert were less satisfactory. The selection from the "Ruins of Athens" was not effective; the most striking part of it, the wild "Chorus of Dervishes," was spoiled by the excessive rapidity with which it was hurried through. Madame Thillon did not sing Mozart's beautiful air. Mozart is not in her style—it is in the Opéra Comique that she is at home. After Mendelssohn's concerto, another instrumental solo was *de trop*, and it must have been by no means pleasant to Ernst to play small the bustle of people going away. Horsley's music from "Cosmas" made no impression. The music is clever, but he erred in taking a subject already treated by such a man as Dr. Arne.

SIR HENRY BISHOP had a crowded and successful concert at Exeter-hall on Tuesday evening. The pieces, with a few exceptions, had previously been performed at the Hanover-square Rooms; but their effect was heightened by the addition of a powerful chorus. Several of his most popular songs were sung by Mr. Sims Reeves and Miss Birch, and received with great enthusiasm. We are glad to observe that the success of this concert has led to the announcement of another of the same kind, on the 16th of April.

VISIT OF THE FRENCH EMPEROR AND EMPRESS.—We believe it may be considered as certain that the Emperor and Empress of the French will visit her Majesty in this country during the ensuing month. It is, we believe, a considerable time since it was intimated to their Majesties how agreeable such a visit would be to the Sovereign as well as to the people of England; but, with a consideration which will be easily appreciated, it was not thought that the next few months were the fitting time for indulging in the festivities to which the event would naturally give rise. It is hoped, however, that no such causes can be considered as at present existing to prevent such an auspicious event; and, though no final arrangement upon the subject has been made, it is not improbable that, on Saturday, the 14th of April, the Emperor and Empress will arrive in England.—*Globe.* The *Moniteur* of Thursday announces that Queen Victoria has invited the Emperor and Empress to come to England, and that their Majesties will proceed to London about the middle of next month.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Mr. Allcroft has announced his farewell concert this season at the above theatre, to take place on Monday next, April 2nd; for which he has engaged all the most celebrated artistes, both native and foreign.

POST-OFFICE DIRECTORY OF THE SIX HOME COUNTIES (Kelly and Co.)—In this very useful volume the plan of the "Post-office London Directory" is extended to the Six Home Counties—Essex, Herts, Kent, Middlesex, Surrey, and Sussex; with coloured topographical diagrams, and valuable information respecting each town and village, grouped for ready reference. The great increase in the inhabitants of these counties, caused by the facilities of railway communication with the metropolis, has caused a corresponding increase of upwards of 200 pages in the volume; and that notwithstanding many suburban districts, such as Clapham, Brixton, Camberwell, Kentish Town, Dalston, Kingsland, &c., have been transferred from this work to the "London Directory." The index has been considerably enlarged, references being made to places much more minute than were previously mentioned. The volume has also the advantage of an external index, by means of coloured edges combined with lettering which has been universally approved of in the "London Directory." To this specification of the main features of the "Home Counties Directory," we must add our commendation of the execution of the work. The publishers have likewise just issued their "Parliamentary Directory and Postal Directory," as contained in the March edition of the "Post-office London Directory" for 1855; and a list of the persons who have commenced business since the compilation of the first edition of the work for the current year.



NO. 2, SAILORS' (GREEN-HILL) BATTERY, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—(SEE PAGE 304.)

DEPARTURE OF THE FLYING SQUADRON.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

ADVANCED SQUADRON OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

An advanced division or "flying squadron" of the Baltic Fleet left Spithead on the 20th, for the Downs, on its way to Kiel. This squadron consisted of the *Impérieuse*, 51, Captain Watson; the *Euryalus*, 51, Captain G. Ramsay; the *Arrogant*, 47, Captain Yelverton; the *Esk*, 21, Captain Birch; the *Tartar*, 21, Captain Dunlop; the *Archer*, 15, Captain Heathcote; and the *Conflict*, 8, Commander Brown. They each got up steam before noon, and made every preparation for weighing; but, as her Majesty had signified her intention of seeing them depart, their starting was delayed until her Majesty's arrival. At about three o'clock the *Fairy*, with the Queen, Prince Albert, the Prince of Leiningen, and the Court on board, with the Royal standard and Admiralty flag flying, was seen advancing towards the fleet from Osborne, when a general Royal salute was fired; and, as the *Fairy* glided into the midst of the "line," the crews of each ship manned the rigging, and some daring spirits climbed to the trucks of the masts to cheer and welcome the august visitors. The Royal vessel lay to off the *Neptune*, and signaled for Captain Watson, commanding the "flying squadron," to repair on board; which he did, and was presented (we believe, by Rear-Admiral Seymour) to the Queen. In a few minutes afterwards the *Fairy* steamed very slowly through the line towards the east, each ship's crew manning the rigging and cheering, even at the mainmast-head tops. At about half-past three the signal was made for those about to leave to weigh and proceed; and at about five minutes to four o'clock all were off, the *Fairy* leading. On steaming ahead to lead them to sea, the *Impérieuse* and *Euryalus* manned their rigging and their crews gave three rounds of cheers as the Queen passed them. The *Fairy* made the Nab Light at about ten minutes past four, followed by the squadron in the following order: *Impérieuse*, *Euryalus*, *Tartar*, *Esk*, *Conflict*, *Archer*, *Arrogant*; the latter, which was the last to weigh, took the station third on passing the Nab. The whole then presented a very interesting spectacle, which the clearness and beauty of the weather considerably enhanced. At 4.15 the *Fairy* altered her course to the westward, and hoisted a signal of farewell, which was kept flying until the last of the departing squadron had steamed by, each in turn again manning their rigging and cheering. The yacht then put on steam, and returned through the fleet at Spithead to Osborne, arriving about five o'clock, at which time the "flying squadron" was about five miles from the Nab, on their way to the Downs, the *Impérieuse* several miles ahead. The departure of this small instalment of the Baltic Fleet was witnessed by many thousands of spectators, besides those afloat; the walls of Portsmouth, the piers and beach of the Isle of Wight and of Southsea, were thronged with myriads of sight-seers, and the Queen's visit lent additional interest to the movement. The *Field*, with an Admiralty party on board, and numerous private packets, yachts, and smaller craft were also present. Rear-Admiral Baynes will ultimately command the "flying squadron" of the fleet, but his flagship (the *Retribution*, 28, Captain Fisher) will not be out of the hands of the dockyard artificers until the 7th of April. After remaining nearly a week in the Downs, the whole of the "flying squadron" sailed for the Baltic at 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday morning.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from page 307.*)

HOUSE OF LORDS. Thursday.

The Intramural Burials (Ireland) Bill was read a second time.

The third reading of the Militia (Ireland) Bill was, on the suggestion of the Earl of Wicklow, postponed until after the Easter holidays.

The Dispatch of Business (Court of Chancery) Bill was read a third time and passed. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday.

Mr. Antrobus took the oaths and his seat for the borough of Wilton.

Mr. Horsfall asked the noble Lord the member for Buckingham whether it was his intention to bring in a bill intituled "A bill for an improved Communication between England and Ireland?"

Mr. Bouverie, in the absence of the Marquis of Chandos, said, the bill would be brought in on the first Friday after the recess.

Mr. M'Cartney asked the Secretary of the Treasury whether any, and what, sums of money had been expended on behalf of the nation by the officers of the Society of Arts and Sciences in Marlborough-house, and the trustees of the British Museum, in the purchase of articles of vertu, at the sale of the property of the late Mr. Bernal; and, if so, by whose authority such purchases had been made?

Mr. Wilson said that it was at first suggested to the Government that they should purchase the whole collection. The question was well considered, and it was ultimately decided that £12,000 should be given to the Society of Arts and Sciences to perfect their collection, and £4000 to the British Museum for a like purpose.

Mr. Pellatt asked the First Lord of the Treasury whether there still exists in Turkey a law which condemns to death a Mussulman convert to Christianity; and, if so, whether this Government or our Allies the French have or intend exercising their influence to abolish so unjust a punishment?

Lord Palmerston said that, if the hon. member would refer to papers laid before the House in March, 1844, he would find that Sir Stratford Canning said that he had received an assurance from the Sultan and the Turkish Government that no such execution should take place thereafter.

The Convention with Sardinia Bill passed through Committee.

ODESSA.

Mr. F. Scott moved an address for copies of the instructions relative to the attack on Odessa, given to the Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean and Black Sea; and copies of, or extracts from, all correspondence relating thereto. The hon. gentleman inferred at some length upon the reasons why Odessa should have been attacked, and complained that the war was at present costing the country the enormous sum of £110,000 a day, while Sebastopol stood firmer than ever.

Mr. Bentinck seconded the motion.

Sir C. Wood resisted the motion on the ground of its inexpediency, and of the danger there would be that the production of the papers would put the enemy in possession of our naval tactics.

A discussion then took place, in the course of which Lord Palmerston took the opportunity of vindicating Admiral Dundas from the aspersions that had been cast upon him.

The motion was withdrawn.

LORD LUCAN AND THE CAVALRY AT BALACLAVA.

Mr. H. Berkeley moved that an humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying that she will be graciously pleased to order that an inquiry by Court Martial be held on Lieut.-General the Earl of Lucan, for ordering a charge of the Light Cavalry at the battle of Balaclava. He hoped, he member said, his object was to ascertain under what circumstances 300 of our finest and most gallant men had been wantonly sacrificed. Having read copies of the orders sent by Lord Raglan, and extracts from several documents bearing upon the subject, Mr. H. Berkeley observed that although he thought it was impossible that Lord Lucan could offer any excuse for his fatal misconception of Lord Raglan's order, yet in justice to the relations of those who had fallen upon that bloody field, as well as in justice to Lord Lucan himself, he was of opinion that an inquiry should be instituted.

Lord Elcho seconded the motion from a thorough conviction that his relative, Lord Lucan, would be able to show that he could not have acted otherwise on the unfortunate occasion.

The Judge Advocate opposed the motion. He did not think that the House should be made a Court of Appeal from the decision of the Commander-in-Chief and the House of Lords.

After some discussion, Mr. Disraeli expressed a hope that the motion would not be pressed to a division, and that Lord Lucan would be satisfied with the appeal which he had made to public opinion. He thought, however, that the Government had not acted fairly to the House of Commons in proposing the vote of thanks to Lord Lucan for his conduct in the Crimea, at a time when they were in possession of information which they thought justified them in recalling him from the army.

Lord Palmerston, in opposing the motion, did not wish to cast any imputation upon the military reputation of Lord Lucan. The Crown could not grant a Court-martial, and no precedent in point had been quoted to justify such a motion. The only reason for the recal of Lord Lucan was the difference between him and Lord Raglan, which induced the Government to think that they could not act cordially together.

Mr. Berkeley ultimately withdrew his motion.

CHURCH RATES.

Sir W. Clay moved for leave to bring in a bill for the abolition of Church-rates.

Lord Stanley supported the motion, being of opinion that the only way of settling this vexed question was to abolish Church-rates altogether.

Lord Palmerston admitted that the general subject was surrounded with difficulties. He would assent to the introduction of the bill, intimating, however, the probability of the Government introducing a bill themselves that would effect a compromise.

Mr. Henley, Mr. Spooner, and Colonel Sibthorpe, opposed the motion.

The House having divided, the numbers were:—For the motion, 155; against it, 76. Majority, in favour of the motion, 79.

Mr. M. Gibson obtained leave to bring in a bill to establish schools in England and Wales.

Lord Duncan obtained leave to bring in a bill to limit the time for county elections in Scotland.

HOUSE OF LORDS. Friday.

The Ecclesiastical Courts Bill passed through Committee.

The Earl of Ellenborough reopened the whole question of the war, and complained of the conduct of the Government in respect to its management.

Earl Granville defended the Government, and deprecated any discussion at so critical a time, when negotiations of so important a character were pending.

After some discussion their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Friday.

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS.

On the motion of Mr. Hayter new writs were ordered to issue—for Kilmarnock, in the room of Mr. Bouverie, who has accepted the office of Vice-President of the Board of Trade; for the borough of Lewes, in the room of Mr. Brand, who has accepted the office of a Lord of the Treasury; and for the county of Cork, in the room of Mr. E. B. Roche, who has accepted the stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds.

Mr. Pitt, in reply to Mr. G. Dundas, said that instructions had been sent to the Commissariat in the Crimea to abolish, as far as possible, the system of check and counter-check, which had become so multiplied in time of peace as to lead to great delay in time of war.

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer gave notice that on Friday, the 6th April, he would bring forward his Financial Statement.

On the motion that the House at its rising should adjourn until Monday the 9th April,

Sir J. Pakington once more adverted to the inconvenience arising from the continual absence of the noble Lord the Secretary for the Colonies, and gave notice that, if Lord J. Russell should not have returned to this country by the close of the recess, he would feel it to be his duty to bring the subject, by way of motion, under the consideration of the House.

Sir De Lacy Evans called attention to the necessity of sending reinforcements to the Crimea, where the Russians were no doubt strengthening its army to the utmost of its power. This was far more important than alluding to the Militia, and more important also than sending such an apparently unnecessary large force to the Baltic. The real struggle would take place in the Euxine, and all our disposable force should be concentrated there. He was glad to hear testimony to the improvement which had taken place in the condition of the troops and the management of the hospitals. It would have required 20,000 men to occupy Odessa, and that circumstance probably would explain why such a step was not taken. It was a mistake to suppose that the possession of Odessa had facilitated the operations of Russia in throwing troops into Sebastopol, as the forces were brought from an entirely different direction. However, no time should be lost in reinforcing the army in the Crimea to the fullest possible extent, while every available steamship and gun boat should be sent out to the Black Sea to co-operate with the army against the enemy, and he trusted that his suggestion would not be lost sight of by the Government during the recess.

The subject then dropped, and the motion for the adjournment was agreed to.

WILLS AND ADMINISTRATIONS.

The Solicitor-General obtained leave to introduce a Bill to abolish the Jurisdiction of all the Ecclesiastical and Peculiar Courts in England and Wales respecting Wills and Administrations, to establish a distinct Court of Probate and Administration, and otherwise amend this law in relation to matters testamentary. He proposed to effect these objects by the bill—first, to abolish the present Ecclesiastical Courts; secondly, to erect a new tribunal connected with the Court of Chancery, and in which *viva voce* evidence would be received; and, lastly, to give a liberal compensation to those who would suffer by the new measure.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

Preferments and Appointments. *Rectories:* The Rev. J. T. Johnstone, Beccles, Suffolk. The Rev. E. Swanson to Winstanslow, near Shrewsbury; Rev. E. Hall to Mylaud, Essex; Rev. J. Thwaytes to Colbeck, Cumberland. Rev. T. A. Allen to Jesmond, near Newcastle, county of Wexford. Rev. S. Hockwell to Little Ford, Hertfordshire. Rev. G. Coulcher to Wattesfield, near Bury St. Edmunds; Rev. H. P. Cooke to Nunsham Courtenay, Oxfordshire; Rev. W. Ewin to North Pakenham, near Swaffham. *Vicarages.* The Rev. R. J. F. Thomas to Yeovil, Somerset; Rev. E. Evans to Llanasaph, near Holyhead, Flintshire. Rev. J. Fitzgerald to Borden, near Sittingbourne. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. L. W. Heath to St. John's Church, Clapham; Rev. A. F. Sheppard to Flaenby, near Maryport; Rev. W. P. M'Farquhar to Bengeworth, near Easham; Rev. R. Nicholson to St. Mark's, Lower Easton, near Bristol.

Testimonial Presented to the Rev. Dudley Somervile. The parishioners of Shenton, in Leicestershire, have presented their late Curate with a parting testimonial of respect, on his being appointed a Chaplain of the Forces to the Crimea. The gift consists of a handsomely chased Silver Coffee-pot.

Liverpool Election.—The nomination of candidates for the representation of Liverpool took place in front of the Town-hall on Tuesday. The candidates were—Sir George Benham, who was represented as a man of great commercial experience, a hard worker, a sound Protestant, and a stanch supporter of the Constitution in Church and State; and Mr. Joseph Christopher Ewart, "a gentleman of the Protestant faith, of great commercial experience, but who would not join in persecuting those who were opposed to his views." The show of hands was in favour of Mr. Ewart, who was returned on Wednesday by a majority of 1469.

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, March 24.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, March 10

My Lord,—I have really nothing to report to your Lordship this day.

I am happy, however, to be able to inform you that the weather is exceedingly fine, and that I entertain great hopes, derived from the report of the Principal Medical Officer, that the sick will materially benefit by the improvement in the temperature.

Our advanced batteries are making great progress.

Every effort is directed to the maintenance of the camps in a healthy state, which, as the warm weather approaches, becomes daily more important.

I enclose the return of casualties to the 8th inst.

I received on the evening of the 6th inst. a telegraphic despatch from Lord John Russell, dated Berlin the 2nd, announcing the death of the Emperor of Russia at twelve o'clock on that day.

According to the information of deserters, the event has not been promulgated at Sebastopol.—I have, &c., Raglan.

The Lord Panmure, &c.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED FROM THE 27TH TO THE 8TH OF MARCH, INCLUSIVE.

1st Foot, Private Edward Garland.
9th Private Peter Mahoney, slightly.
17th, Corporal Thomas Swain, severely.
34th Sergeant B. Willett, slightly.
Private John Vernon, slightly.

J. B. Burnsall Estcourt, Adjutant-General.

War Department, March 28, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received two despatches and their enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, March 18, 1855.

My Lord,—The enemy commenced working upon the mamelon in front of the tower of Malakoff in the night of Friday; but the nature of the work, from the thickness of the atmosphere, could not be distinguished.

Great progress, however, had been perceived on Sunday, and that night a strong working party of the British troops was occupied in commencing a parallel from the advanced point of our right attack, with a view to form a junction with the corresponding parallel to be made on their side by the French, who began it on the following evening; and much was done towards the operation before daylight this morning, and it is hoped that the object will be completed to-night.

The weather is generally fine in the early part of the day; but towards evening heavy sea-fogs come rolling in, and wholly obscure the view of the place.

The enemy have shown a battalion and some Cossacks on the heights above Baclava, and towards Kamara, probably with the view to intercept the French and English wood-cutting parties, for the construction of gabions, in the immediate neighbourhood, but the Allied detachments have not been obliged to discontinue their work.

I enclose a return of casualties to the 10th inst.—I have, &c.,

The Lord Panmure, &c. Raglan.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED, FROM 9TH TO 11TH MARCH, 1855, INCLUSIVE.

Killed—97th Foot: Private John Widows. 55th Foot: Private John McGuire. 34th Foot: Private William Collard.

Wounded—4th Foot: Private Thomas Sadder, severely. 18th Foot: Private John Connors, severely. 77th Foot: Private Timothy Connell, severely, James Clarke, dangerously.

J. B. Burnsall Estcourt, Adjutant-General.

Before Sebastopol, March 17, 1855.

My Lord,—The progress of the parallel, which I reported to your Lordship in my despatch of the 13th inst., has not been as rapid as was anticipated, the ground being extremely rocky, and the difficulty of procuring cover consequently excessive, and rendering it almost impossible to carry on the operation during the day.

Both the English and the French have now, however, succeeded in establishing the communication between them. Her Majesty's troops have not been assailed; but our allies have been kept constantly in action, and they have succeeded in driving the enemy from the rifle-pits, in which they had established themselves in their immediate front, with distinguished gallantry and great perseverance. They, however, have sustained some loss, though not equal to that which they have inflicted upon the enemy.

A steady fire has been maintained upon the mamelon in the occupation of the enemy, from the guns in our right attack; and the practice of both the navy and the artillery has been conspicuously good, and reflects the highest credit on those branches of her Majesty's service.

Although no positive advance had been directed against our works, our approaches are carried so close to the enemy that the casualties are greater than they formerly been, as your Lordship will be concerned to remark in examining the returns I have the honour to enclose; and it is my painful duty to announce to your Lordship the death of Captain Craigie, of the Royal Engineers, whose zeal and devotion to the service could not be surpassed, and who was killed on the 13th, after he had been relieved from the trenches, and was on his way to the Engineer-park, by a splinter from a shell, which burst close to him.

I have the honour to report the arrival of Lieutenant-General Simpson, who joined my head-quarters yesterday; and that of Sir John McNeill and Colonel Tulloch, who reached Balaclava a few days before.—I have, &c.,

The Lord Panmure, &c., &c. Raglan.

NOMINAL RETURN OF OFFICERS WHO HAVE BEEN KILLED AND WOUNDED, FROM 10TH TO 15TH MARCH, 1855, INCLUSIVE.

Killed.—Royal Engineers: Captain A. D. Craigie.

Wounded.—93rd Foot, Captain J. B. Forster, slightly.

J. B. Burnsall Estcourt, Adjutant-General.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED, FROM 12TH TO 15TH MARCH, 1855, INCLUSIVE.

Killed.—18th Foot: Corporal Owen Whelan. 34th: Privates Thomas Gately and William Heritage. 41st: Private Patrick Cunningham. 77th: Private Francis Burton.

Wounded.—Royal Artillery: Gunner and Driver Hugh M'Bride, severely (omitted in the return of 9th March). Rifle Brigade, Second Battalion: Privates James Harrison, Thomas Stephens, slightly. 7th Foot: Private William Bewdrey, severely. 30th: Privates John Flatland, severely; John Callaghan, Patrick Kavanagh, slightly. 38th: Privates Francis Hayes, severely; Joseph Perrott, slightly. 41st: Corporal Richard Ivers slightly; Privates John Evans, John Navin, James Downes, slightly. 55th: Privates Michael Farrell (since dead), John Singleton, severely; James Lawrence, George Miller, Patrick Gorman, slightly. 77th: Private Michael Leach, slightly. 77th Private William Grange, dangerously. 88th: Privates John Hogan, William Hackley, Daniel Quinn, slightly. 89th Private Jeremiah Warren, severely; Sergeant Peter Carty, James Hargreaves, slightly.

J. B. Burnsall Estcourt, Adjutant-General.

DESPATCHES FROM SIR E. LYONS.

Admiralty, March 28, 1855.

Despatches, of which the following are copies, have been received from Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of her Majesty's ships in the Mediterranean and Black Sea.

DESTRUCTION OF THE TOWER OF DJIMITEIA BY HER MAJESTY'S STEAM-VESSEL "VIPER."

Royal Albert, off Sebastopol, March 17, 1855.

Sir,—I have the honour to enclose, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a letter that I have received from Captain Giffard, of her Majesty's ship *Leopard*, enclosing one from Lieutenant Armytage, reporting his having destroyed, in her Majesty's steam-vessel *Viper*, under his command, the martello tower and barracks of Djimitei a which had been recently erected for the defence of the direct communication between Anapa and Kertch.

This very useful service has been performed by Lieutenant Armytage in the manner that might have been expected from an officer of his acknowledged merit. I am, &c., (Signed) Edmund Lyons.

Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

To the Secretary of the Admiralty.

[Enclosure.]

Her Majesty's ship *Leopard*, off Kertch, March 8, 1855.

Sir,—The wind being off shore this morning, I sent her Majesty's ship *Viper* to examine the Bosphor of the Kouban Lake, and also the coast as far as the Tower of Djimitei a, and have the honour to enclose a letter from Lieutenant Armytage, reporting his having, in the latter place, destroyed the new tower, with two guns, also the barracks and other buildings.

Lieutenant Armytage deserves great credit for the able manner in which he has performed this service with his small vessel.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) Geo. Giffard, Captain.

Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief.

[Sub-Inclosure.]

Her Majesty's steam-vessel *Viper*, off Kertch, March 8, 1855.

Sir,—I have the honour to report that, in obedience to your instruction, I left this anchorage at 5.30 this morning, for the purpose of examining the mouth of the Kouban Lake. I arrived off there at nine, and, observing a small force of Cossacks on the north spit, opened fire and dispersed them; then examined the lake in the whole-boat of the ship, but, observing nothing of consequence, proceeded along the coast to the south-eastward.

I had just previously taken possession of a small vessel laden with charcoal and other goods, which I have brought in with me, with three prisoners on board. I enclose you her papers, &c., as they may be useful to his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and request your directions in reference to the prisoners.

At 1.50 p.m. I arrived off the Martello Tower at Djimitei a, anchoring bow and stern at a distance of 500 yards from the beach, and at 2 p.m. opened fire upon the fort, dispersing the few Cossacks that remained.

It is now my pleasing duty to inform you that I have effectually destroyed the fort, barracks, and granaries (having set fire to the latter), spiked and disabled the two guns, destroying the ammunition; and all I am happy to say, without any casualty on board the *Viper*.

I beg to bring under your notice the conduct of Mr. James Roche, Second Master, who commanded the landing parties; and Mr. J. B. Moss, Master's Assistant, who aided him destroying the guns; both having performed their duty much to my satisfaction. I have, &c.,

(Signed) Wm. Armytage, Lieutenant and Commander.

Captain George Giffard, H.M.S. *Leopard*, Senior officer.

AN ATTACK UPON SOUJAK.

Royal Albert, off Sebastopol, March 17, 1855.

Sir,—I have the honour to enclose, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a letter which has been addressed to me by Captain Giffard, stating, that while making a reconnaissance near Soujak-Kale, with her Majesty' ship *Leopard*, under his command, and accompanied by Her Majesty's ships *Highflyer*, *Swallow*, and *Viper*, and also by his Imperial Highness the steam-vessel *Fulton*, he was informed by the Circassians in the neighbourhood, that the enemy had so reduced the strength of that fortress, by the removal of men and guns to Anapa, that they were ready to attack it by land, if he would do so by sea; and that he, wishing to encourage the natives and to repress the Russians, had assented to the proposal, and moved the ships to within 1000 yards of the south face of the fort, where he performed his part; but that, on finding that the Circassians did not perform theirs, he withdrew, after having driven all the garrison out of the place, with the exception of a few gunners in the earthern batteries, and having also dismounted several guns, and done considerable damage to the arsenal and public works; leaving the garrison about a mile from the place, surrounded by Circassians, who were collecting reinforcements.

The ships appear to have been well placed, and to have fired with great effect; and Captain Giffard expresses his thanks to Captain Le Bris, his able coadjutor on former occasions, as well as to Captain Moore, Commander Crauford, and Lieutenant Armytage, and their respective officers and ships' companies, for their support.

Of Captain Giffard himself, I may perhaps be permitted to observe that this is not the first time that his zeal and gallantry have been conspicuous since he has been under my command. I am, &c.,

(Signed) Ed. Lyons,

Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

To the Secretary of the Admiralty, London.

[Inclosure.]

Her Majesty's ship *Leopard*, Soujak Bay, March 13, 1855.

Sir,—I have the honour to acquaint you that, from the information I had received from the Circassians, at Gelendjik, and also from the observations of M. Le Bris, of his Imperial Majesty's steam-vessel *Fulton*, as well as my own on the 6th inst. in Soujak Bay, I was led to believe the Russians had sent many guns, stores, &c., away from that fort, and would probably leave it a force appeared off it.

Wishing to have more certain information for you, on my return to your flag, I, on the evening on the 11th inst., when the *Highflyer* joined me, proceeded with the vessels named in the margin* to Soujak Bay, where we

* *Leopard*, *Highflyer*, *Swallow*, *Viper*, and *Fulton*, French steamer.

anchored on the morning of the 12th; but a fresh gale, with heavy swell, prevented our closing the batteries. I, therefore, threw some shells into the place; and the Circassians, who soon appeared in numbers, at the same time attacked the small fort at the head of the bay, opposite the town, drove out the garrison, and burnt it, at eight a.m. The morning the Circassians informed me they had a sufficient force, and would attack Soujak Kalé by land, if I would do as by sea, and wishing to encourage them and embarrass the enemy, I immediately moved the squadron to within 1000 yards of the south face, and opened fire on it. From this point the enemy only had ten guns to bear on the ships, but the light wind and damp weather made the smoke hang over and conceal them from our fire, while our masts above were conspicuous to them.

We soon drove all the inhabitants and troops out of the place, except those in the earthen batteries; but I was much disappointed to find that the Circassians did not venture to attack them when out of the town, as they had promised I, therefore, moved out again, as with our small force of men, it would have been too great a risk to land, the main body of the garrison being close at hand.

The arsenal and public buildings are much injured, and several of the guns were silenced and dismounted. Our loss, I am happy to say, has been small; and some injury has been done to the masts and hulls of the ships.

I was much pleased with the able way in which all the ships took up their assigned positions, and have to thank Monsieur le Bca. of the *Fulton*; Captain Moore, Commander Cranfurd, and Lieutenant Armytage, commanding the *Viper*, for their able support, as well as all the officers and men.

The Russian force, apparently 1500 or 2000 men, and the other inhabitants, are now encamped about a mile north of the town, having left a few men in the batteries; they will have great difficulty in communicating with Anapa, being surrounded with the Circassians (who were collecting reinforcements), and should they return to the town, a small naval force can at any time drive them out again.

I enclose a list of casualties among the ships.—I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE GIFFARD, Captain.

Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B.

CASUALTIES ON BOARD HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "LEOPARD," RECEIVED DURING THE ATTACK AT SOUJAK, ON THE 18th MARCH, 1855.

KILLED.—David Marchmont, gunner, Royal Marine Artillery.

WOUNDED.—George Davis, A.B., severely; William Brewster, private, Royal Marine, slightly.

(Signed) J. ACHESON, Surgeon.

RETURN OF WOUNDED ON BOARD HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "HIGHFLYER," AT SOUJAK-KALE, MARCH 18, 1855.

WOUNDED.—James Rickard, A.B., Jeremiah O'Brien, ordinary, slightly.

(Signed) W. D. KEER, M.D Surgeon.

The *Gazette* of yesterday (Friday) contains a despatch from General Cannon, making favourable mention of the British officers serving under his orders in the passage of the Danube at Rustchuk, on the 7th July, 1854; also a letter from Captain Brock to Admiral Dundas, detailing the gallant repulse of the Russians at Eupatoria, on the 15th Nov., 1854, and the following Amended Return of Officers Wounded at Alma and Inkerman, (in a despatch from Lord Raglan). At *Alma*: Major Gough, severely; Captain Fitzgerald, slightly; Lieutenants Walls and Worthington, severely; Ensign Sires, severely, Ensign Greenwood, slightly—all of the 33rd Foot. At *Inkerman*: Lieut.-Col. and Brevet-Col. Warren, severely; Major and Brevet Lieut. Daubeney, slightly—of the 55th Foot.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

COLONEL MICHELL, who commanded the 6th Foot throughout the Kaffir war, is appointed Chief of the Staff to General Vivian, with the Turkish Contingent.

THE first detachment of cavalry to embark for the Crimea will number 600 men and 1150 horses.

THE total rank and file now proceeding from the dépôts of the three regiments of the Guards and 40 battalions of the line, to form the provisional dépôt to the army in the Crimea at Malta, will number 3304.

THE *Pylades*, 20 guns, screw steam corvette, will leave Sheerness in a few days direct for the Baltic. On Saturday last, she completed taking in ammunition, shells, rockets, &c.

THE *Volage*, 22 guns, is fitting in dock at Sheerness for an extensive floating magazine for powder, with shell and rocket-rooms, for the use of the Baltic fleet.

ON Monday a large quantity of bale goods, consisting of upwards of 8000 suits of the new tunic regimental coats, trousers, blankets, shirts, &c., for the use of the army in the Crimea, were shipped from the Tower-wharf for conveyance to the seat of war. A large quantity was also sent viâ the South-Western Railway to Portsmouth for the same destination.

DR. ANDREW SMITH is no longer Director-General of the Medical Department of the Army. Among the reforms in course of preparation in the several departments of the War-office, it is contemplated to place the Army Medical Department, as well as the Ordnance and other Boards, under the more direct and immediate control of the responsible Minister for War. The Army Medical Board will, among other chief officers, be reinforced with an accession of civilians, who will be men of business, acquainted with the general conduct of its executive affairs, apart from mere professional duties.

It is the intention of the Government to erect new fortifications, and to strengthen and put into a state of defence the existing forts, towers, and batteries on the eastern coast of the kingdom, and on the coasts of Kent, Sussex, and Hampshire, for which purpose the line of coast will be surveyed by competent officers of the Royal Engineers and Royal Navy, assisted by the corps of Sappers and Miners, with a view to have the contemplated forts constructed on the most commanding points. The works will be done by contract; and it is stated that the batteries, when completed, are to be garrisoned by the Coast Volunteers, enrolled Chelsea Pensioners, and Militia regiments—the men belonging to which will be instructed in the great gun exercise. In order to guard against any surprise by an enemy, a cordon of telegraphs, on a similar system to that adopted by Captain (now Admiral) Sir H. Pigot, R.C.B., when in command of the Coast Blockade, is to be established.

IT is not intended, for the present, to send out the detachments that have been told off from the Household Brigade of Infantry to reinforce the service battalions in the Crimea. Thus, men belonging to the First Battalion of the Grenadier Guards who volunteered for active service will, until required, do garrison duty at the Tower and Royal Mint; and the men belonging to the Coldstream and Scots Fusiliers will continue to do the duty at the Royal Palace and West-end. Detachments for Infantry regiments of the line before Sebastopol will be the first to embark for the seat of war, viz.—1st Royals (First Battalion), 3rd Buffs, 7th Royal Fusiliers, 18th Royal Irish, 19th Foot, 21st Royal North British Fusiliers, 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 33rd (Duke of Wellington's Own), 42nd Highlanders, 50th Foot, 55th Foot, 63rd Foot, 71st Light Infantry (Second Battalion), 71st Highlanders (Second Battalion), 88th Connaught Rangers, 93rd Highlanders, and the First and Second Battalions of the Rifle Brigade. The following regiments will proceed to the Crimea as soon as relieved by regiments of militia, viz.:—Second Battalion 1st Royals, from Cephalonia; 31st Foot, from Corfu; 46th ditto, from Corfu; 56th ditto, from Gibraltar; 72nd Light Infantry, from Malta; 82nd Foot, from Corfu; and 92nd ditto, from Gibraltar. The 84th Foot is to be held in readiness for embarkation. The Cavalry draughts for the Crimea will proceed during the ensuing month. It is estimated that the horse transports already in the service, exclusive of those employed in the conveyance of artillery, are capable of transporting 3000 horses and nearly 5000 men.

ONE hundred and fourteen civil artificers, collar makers, wheelers, and blacksmiths embarked at the Royal Arsenal, at two p.m., on Monday, on board one of the transport vessels ready to leave Woolwich for the Crimea.

THE CAMP ON THE CURRAGH OF KILDARE.—The Commissary-General has issued a notice inviting tenders for the supply of bread and fresh meat for the troops intended to be buited on the Curragh of Kildare. The number of the troops "is expected to be about 10,000, more or less, and to be assembled towards the end of May next." The supply is to be continued from that time to the 30th of November next inclusively.

A NUMBER of young men of the Royal Sappers and Miners are now attached to the field battery, to learn to ride and drive and to groom horses, for the purpose of forming a pontoon brigade as soon as possible.

CAPTAIN MAUDE, of the Royal Horse Artillery, who was wounded while serving with his troop in the Crimea, and recently appointed Brigade Major of the Royal Artillery at Woolwich head-quarters, on the promotion of Brigade-Major Bingham to be Lieutenant-Colonel, has arrived in the garrison, and commenced his duties as Brigade-Major on Monday.

THE Royal East Middlesex, Colonel Thomas Wood, embodied at Hampstead; the Royal Westminster, Colonel Viscount Chelsea, embodied at Turnham green; the Royal 1st Surrey, Colonel W. Holme Sumner, embodied at Richmond, the 2nd Surrey, Colonel Lord Lovelace, embodied at Guildford; the King's Own Tower Hamlets Militia, Lieutenant-Colonel Grant, Commandant, embodied at Hackney, are all under orders to proceed to the encampment at Aldershott.

GOVERNMENT have called upon a number of the most distinguished officers now in England—both of the Queen's and the Indian armies—to state, in writing, their opinions as to the advisability of amalgamating the two services.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MILOR W. G. K., T. R., Mérioc, G. Mc A., E. H.—Your solution of the Indian Problem and that by Mr. Bolton are correct.

T. G. R., Tulse-hill.—The Problem of the Caliph, Mutasim Billah, may be solved in fewer moves if you give the Queen the powers they possess in modern games. This, however, is not allowable. For a description of the moves of the Chessman in olden times, see our Notices to Chess Correspondents in the Number for February 24th.

"10b."—Much too obvious.

T. R., of Melrose, MILOR.—Your Problems are under consideration.

CUBBIBO.—Neither of the Indian Problems, nor of Mr. Bolton's ingenious little Problem, I, as yet, have we received the correct solution from more than some half dozen correspondents. We expect that at least a hundred would have mastered the Indian Problems. Your attempt in each case is failure. Try resolutely once more. Success will be the reward of trouble.

ARACOS.—The Indian Problem is undoubtedly one of the finest four-move strategems known, but that the solution of it is, as you say, easy, we cannot admit. The Problem, by a German author, taxed Elcbstedt, is at least as difficult.—White, K at K R 5th, Q at K B 2nd, Kt at K Kt 3rd and Q 3rd. Black, K at K B 5th, Q at Q Kt 3rd, Bs at K B 4th and Q Kt 2nd, Ps at Q Kt 6th, Q Kt 7th, K B 3rd, K 4th, Q 5th, Q B 6th, and Q Kt 2nd. White plays first and mates in four moves.

P. L.—The key move to Problem 918 is—1. K to Kt 6th.

INVARIABLE.—Yes, have to consider the conditions. White is not limited to any number of moves, he is simply required to checkmate his opponent without capturing the Pawn.

E. F. Norwood.—It shall have immediate attention.

H. K., Bath.—You forget that the powers of the pieces (of three of them, at least) were much more restricted a thousand years ago than they are now. See our Paper for Feb. 10.

T. K., St. Mary's, CHELTENHAM.—Your under consideration. 2. K.'s Solution of Mr. Bolton's Problem is the true one.

THE PAPER.—In the position you submit, Mate can be given in four moves. The Key being 1. K to Sq.

C. W., Sunbury.—Impracticable, we believe, if Black for his opening move play Q to Q 5th and follow that by K to Q 4th.

PLUTON.—In our Notation, which is that commonly adopted, the squares of each file are numbered from one to eight, whether you reckon from White's side of the board or from Black's. Thus the square on which the White King stands at the beginning is called the 1st, the next square on the same file the 2nd, the next his 3rd, &c. So, if you count from the other side, the square on which the Black King stands originally in his 1st, the next his 2nd, &c., &c. The White King's 8th square is therefore the Black King's 8th, and vice versâ.

A. H.—There is no illegality in the Solution you propose. Black is bound to defend his K as from checkmate as long as possible; and, to do this, he advances his Pawn to the King's 4th, leaving you the option of taking it in passing or letting it remain.

J. Wormbone.—They shall be examined, and reported on in their turn.

A. F., Plymouth.—We are still without news of the long-expected despatches. Have the good ness to communicate again with us as soon as possible.

AMICUS.—Quite right in both. Now try—without moving the pieces, remember—to solve the admirable strategem by Elcbstedt, which is given above, and the hardly less clever little Problem below, by Mr Grimshaw.

ST. DAVID.—The Great Chess Match of the Northern and Midland Counties Association, at Leamington, takes place on the 3rd, 27th, and 28th of June.

M. P., Lowestoft.—1. The elegant little card, "Chess—A Poem," &c., is published by Hurtmann, 17 Pall-Mall. 2. The "Canon Sedivium," by the Rev. A. C. D. Ardley, has long been out of print.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 578, by S. J. Falmouth; T. J. of Hayworth; Jaque, Kirkling, Leglon, T. E., Melrose, R. L., Salopienis, J. D., Guernsey, Amateur, Mrs. E. P., N. Forwood, E. Lambert, T. K., R. M., H. W. H., Sainsfield, J. S. V., Court-yard, Mrs. Pilbeedy, C. M., Amateur, W. G., M. Pyrs, &c., correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 579, by Gregory, Dr. J., Medicus, F. R., of Norwich, A. Z., J. A. M., Falconbridge, E. Pyrs, Pluto, Mrs. McAn, correct.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS by Corvus, Milor, Philo-Chess, F. R., Sigma, Mus. Doc., Omega, Mrs. Pilbeedy; R. B., Sarlon, are correct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 573.

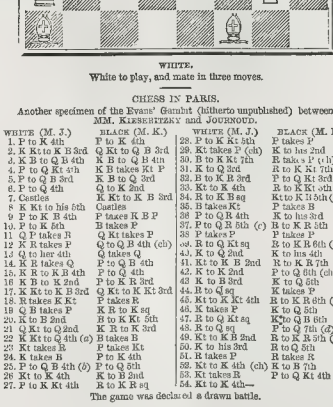
WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B to K Kt 3rd (Double ch)	K to Kt 8th (best)
2. B to K Kt 2nd	P takes B (dis. ch) or (a)
3. K to K Kt 8th	Anything
4 Q mates.	

(a) 2.	Kt to K B sq (ch)
3. K to Kt 8th	Anything
4. Q mates.	

PROBLEM No. 580.

By Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

CHESS IN PARIS.

Another specimen of the Evans' Gambit (hitherto unpublished) between MM. KIESERITZKY and JOUNOUD.

WHITE (M. J.)	BLACK (M. K.)	WHITE (M. J.)	BLACK (M. K.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	28. P to K Kt 5th	P takes P
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	29. Kt takes P (ch)	K to his 2nd
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	30. B to K Kt 7th	R takes P (ch)
4. P to Q Kt 4th	K B takes Kt P	31. K to Q 3rd	R to K Kt 7th
5. P to Q B 3rd	K B to Q 3rd	32. R to K B 3rd	P to Q Kt 3rd
6. P to Q 4th	Q to K 2nd	33. Kt to K 4th	R to K Kt 6th
7. Castles	K Kt to K B 3rd	34. R to K B sq	Kt to K 5th (ch)
8 K Kt to his 5th	Castles	35. B takes Kt	P takes B
9 P to K B 4th	P takes K B P	36 P to Q R 4th	K to his 3rd
10. P to K 5th	B takes P	37. P to Q R 5th (c)	B to K R 5th
11 Q P takes B	Q Kt takes P	38 P takes P	P takes P
12 K R takes P	Q to Q B 4th (ch)	39. R to Q Kt sq	R to K R 6th (ch)
13 Q to her 4th	Q takes Q	40. K to Q 2nd	K to his 4th
14. K R takes Q	P to Q B 4th	41. Kt to K B 2nd	R to K R 7th
15. K R to B 4th	P to Q 4th	42. K to K 2nd	P to Q 6th (ch)
16 K B to K 2nd	P to K R 3rd	43 K to B 3rd	K to Q 6th
17. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to K Kt 3rd	44. R to Q sq	K takes P
18. R takes Kt	P takes R	45. Kt to K Kt 4th	R to K R 6th (ch)
19 Q B takes P	K R to K sq	46. K takes P	K to Q 5th
20. K to B 2nd	R to K Kt 5th	47. R to Q Kt sq	K to Q B 6th
21 Q Kt to Q 2nd	K R to K 3rd	48. R to Q sq	P to Q 7th (d)
22 Kt to Q 4th (a)	B takes B	49. Kt to K B 2nd	R to K R 5th (ch)
23 Kt takes R	P takes Kt	50. K to his 3rd	R to Q 8th
24. K takes B	P to K 4th	51. R takes P	R takes K
25. P to Q B 4th (b)	P to Q 5th	52. Kt to K 4th (ch)	K to B 7th
26 Kt to K 4th	K to B 2nd	53. Kt takes R	P to Q Kt 4th
27. P to K Kt 4th	R to K R sq	54. Kt to K 4th—	

The game was declared a drawn battle.

(a) By this ingenious coup, which was evidently unforeseen by Black, M. Jounoud wins the game.

(b) The best move to ponder, or weaken Black's centre, but it would perhaps have been more prudent to retreat the Bishop to K 3rd, or play P to K R 3rd, beforehand.

(c) Ingenious and quite sound.

(d) In Black's place, we should now have preferred playing R to K R 8th, with the object of exchanging the Rook for the Kt, and then depending on our Pawns and King to win against the adverse Rook. We doubt in that case the possibility of White's saving the game.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 915.—By J. B., of Bridport.

White: K at K 8th, Q at her sq, B at Q Kt 4th, Kt at Q Kt 2nd, P at K Kt 3rd

Black: K at Q 5th, B at Q 7th, Kt at K B 8th, Ps at K 2nd and 4.h.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

No 916.—By W. C. C.

White: K at Q 3rd, Rs at Q B 4th and 8th, Kts at K 6th and K B 7th, Ps at K B 4th and Q Kt 7th.

Black: K at Q 4th, Q at Q R 2nd, B at Q Kt 2rd, Kt at Q Kt sq, Ps at K Kt 3rd and Q R 6th. White to play, and mate in four moves.

No. 917.—By J. McA.

White: K at his sq, Q at K B 7th, R at Q B 4th, B at K Kt sq, Kt at K B 8th.

Black: K at K R 3rd, R at Q R 4th, Bs at K 7th and Q sq, Kts at K R 8th and Q Kt 5th; Ps at K Kt 6th, K 2nd and 3rd, Q 6th and Q B 7th.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

THE SILENT MEMBER. No. X.

As the Easter recess approaches, when every member must of necessity become a silent member for at least a few days, the propensity to talk seems to increase in both Houses of Parliament. To talk for mere talking's sake is, unfortunately, the characteristic of many of our cleverest men; and during the last few days we have seen two instances of this objectionable practice—one in the Lords and the other in the Commons. It may be easily surmised who has been guilty of speech-making in the Peers; for, if eloquence can be an offence, the culprit would, in all probability be no other than Lord Brougham. True it is that this distinguished orator and statesman harangued the House of Lords for the best part of an evening sitting, on the subject of certain propositions which nobody had any wish to deny, and which the noble Lord himself had no desire to make the subject of a motion. He had drawn up some resolutions which he asked nobody to agree to, and from which no one had the smallest intention of dissenting. The propositions being obviously true, were so far entitled to respect. But his Lordship might just as well, for all practical purposes, have talked for an hour on the fact that one and one make two, and sat down with a request that certain resolutions embodying that conclusion may be allowed to lie on the table. Though it may be sometimes allowable to talk for the purpose of pastime in the Lords, it is hardly examinable to do so in the Commons, where want of time is almost always made an excuse, when the Session draws near the end, for neglected legislation. While, therefore, I agree with Mr. Phinn, the talented and promising member for Bath, in his liberal views with regard to Poland, I regret that his speech should have been made with so little practical purpose, that he consented at once, on the report of Lord Palmerston, to withdraw the motion on which his speech was founded. Lord Palmerston got the Government and the House very cleverly out of the difficulty in which they might have been placed if the member for Bath had been sufficiently in earnest to have pressed his motion. The independence of Poland is a question on which the Premier is quite prepared with his liberal sympathies, on the understanding that he is not to be asked for his vote; for statesmen can reconcile a theoretical enthusiasm with a practical indifference.

It seems rather hard that we should have suffered, and be still suffering so heavily on account of the war, when we have an Admiral in the service, or rather in the pay of this country, who has for some time professed to be possessed of a plan for taking Cronstadt, or anything else we feel disposed to take, from the Russians. After the experience we have had of the Warner invention, it would be hardly justifiable of the Government to give a very great price for a pig in a poke, and, without any disrespect to Lord Dundonald, we cannot compare him and his secret to anything better than a pig and a poke until we have some further enlightenment, although he has patriotism sufficient to require no payment for the plan by which the honour of his country might at once be saved. As he has expressed his determination to impart his valuable secret to our ally, we may expect that the efficacy of the invention will soon be put to the test, and, if successful, we shall have the mortification of feeling that the French have done what we might have done ourselves.

The protracted miseries of war are crying aloud, in various shapes, for sympathy. This quality has been brought out from all quarters and all ranks, and from none has it been more genuinely elicited, than from the highest rank of all, which has set a noble example, that the others have nobly followed. One of the most recent instances of the many that have been given by the Royal Family, of the sympathy the members with the sufferers by the war, is an amateur exhibition of pictures, to which some of the Royal children and the Duchess of Gloucester have contributed. Some of these sketches have merit, independent of the feeling by which they have been prompted, and the execution is worthy of commendation, as the design is excellent. It does not appear to be generally known, that the works supplied by the Royal Family may be purchased by any one who is willing to bid above the highest price that may have been last offered, and it is certainly a legitimate opportunity for giving what may be called fancy prices for articles of small intrinsic value.

The disclosures before the Sebastopol Committee proceed with a sort of *crescendo* movement as the first part comes to a conclusion, at the approach of the Easter holidays. The evidence of the medical men is remarkable for showing how doctors, who often disagree in treating their patients, can sometimes agree in neglecting them. Some amusement has been caused by the simple avowal of Dr. Andrew Smith, that, during an official experience of many years, he had been accustomed to look upon spending money as a thing to be avoided; and as, of course, he could do nothing without spending money, the aim of his official life would seem to have been to do as little as possible. According to his own evidence it took him "months" to realise the fact that he had any money to spend; and, of course, while this truth was being worked into his official head—which it was not very easy to penetrate—all the suffering went on, which the spending of the money at his command would have remedied. The shameful mismanagement of the purveying department is explained by the fact that the Purveyor-General was incapable of his duties on account of old age; but though this fact was declared by the "proper authorities," some improper authority was exercised to prevent the incapable official from being called on to retire. Lord Raglan "thought it hard to send him away, as he did not wish to leave;" and, accordingly the wishes of an incompetent veteran were allowed to prevail over the requirements of the public service. Perhaps if the wishes of those who were being sacrificed by the incapacity of the Purveyor had been consulted, it might have been found that they were quite as unwilling to perish for want of proper care as the worn-out official was unwilling to resign his situation. It was, however, no violation of official routine that hundreds should lose there lives, though it would have been against "the rules of the service" to send a high official home before he had quite made up his own mind to retire.

The Criminal Courts seldom fail to supply the Silent Member with something to talk about; and the acquittal of Elizabeth Law, charged with the murder of her mistress at Rochester, is a theme for many remarks. If this person was properly acquitted, many have been improperly condemned; and, if report speaks truly, the girl herself is of the same opinion, for it is rumoured that she has confessed the crime of which the jury declared her innocent. The verdict is said to have been the consequence of the "conscientious scruples" of one juryman against the punishment of death; but, if this be true, it would be curious to see how his conscience dealt with the obligation of the oath he must have broken if he was influenced by the motive to which his conduct has been attributed. Any man having scruples against the punishment of death has no right to trifle with the laws of his country, or with the solemnity of an oath; but, if any sacrifice is to be made, it should be a sacrifice of which he himself should be prepared to bear the consequence. It is mere cant to pretend that there must be some compromise of conscience, either by the violation of his oath, or by subjecting the accused to a punishment which his principles disapprove; for he may escape both alternatives by refusing to serve on a jury, and paying the fine, which is the heaviest penalty to which he can be subjected. There can be no respect for the motives of one who, while professing to act on conscientious motives, violates an oath rather than part with a sum of money, and had rather sacrifice his truthfulness than his pocket. If the punishment of death is to be opposed on the ground of high morality, the cause will be only retarded by men who are base enough to resort to perjury in pursuance of their object. The end can never justify the means; but the baseness of the means will often throw discredit on an end which, for its own sake, might be respected and desired.

GROUP OF GRIS DE FLANDRES.

THE BERNAL COLLECTION.

Rarely has the dispersion of any assemblage of Works of Art realised such high prices as the first portion of Mr. Bernal's Collection; the sale of which closed on Thursday last, the twenty-second day. In neither of the sales of Mr. Beckford at Fonthill or Bath, at the Strawberry-hill sale (in 1842), or at that of Stowe (in 1848), were there assembled so many articles of rare excellence, and that of an age rich in ornamental art, as in the Bernal Collection—extending from the Byzantine Period to that of Louis Seize. Fonthill, Strawberry-hill, and Stowe included many treasures of historic repute, more valuable for having been possessed by celebrated personages than for their perfection as works of art. Mr. Bernal's Collection, however, presented higher claims, inasmuch as his judgment was acknowledged over Europe; and the page which Mr. Planché has prefixed to the Catalogue attests with graceful truth the value of these Art treasures. "Distinguished among English antiquaries by the perfection of his taste, as well as the extent of his knowledge, the difficulty of imposing upon him was increased by the necessity of the fabrication being fine enough in form, colour, and workmanship to rival the masterpiece it simulated—to be, in fact, itself a gem of art, which it would not *pay* to produce as a relic of antiquity. Mr. Bernal could be tempted by nothing that was inferior." This is high warranty; but its truth is as well known to the amateurs of St. Petersburg as to the dealers of Wardour-street and Hanover street. Hence the high prices realised by the sale of his Collection are to be attributed rather to the artistic character of the articles themselves, than to their extrinsic value as historic relics: and frequent have been the contests between wealthy collectors and the heads of Art institutions for the acquisition of these treasures.

Accompanying our previous Illustrations of this memorable sale will be found a glance at the most rare and remarkable objects; and, as the articles already disposed of extend to nearly 3000 in number, we cannot do more, upon the present occasion, than quote a few of the results.

The first five days were devoted to *Oriental, German, Dresden, Chelsea, and Sèvres Porcelain*—601 lots. The first three days produced upwards of £3000. A Sèvres cabaret, purchased by Mr. Bernal for 65 guineas, was knocked down to the Marquis of Bath for £465: it is of the finest gros bleu, with wreaths of gold; and consists of a plateau, exquisitely painted, with two figures dancing to the music of two shepherds, seated on a bank, in a landscape; and the teapot, sucrier, milk-pot, and cups and saucers, are painted with peasant children and pastoral landscapes. The Marquis of Bath also purchased the pair of Dresden candelabra, with female figures and Cupids, for £231. A pair of oviform vases, the ground incrusted with forget-me-nots, and painted with "conversations" after Watteau, on gold ground, and mounted in excellent taste, were sold for 95 guineas. We have engraved three of the rarities of the porcelain—a group of Sèvres Gros Bleu Vases, for which Prince Demidoff is said to have once offered Mr. Bernal 3000 guineas. The two front vases are in pairs, the taller vase behind forming the centre. The latter is eighteen inches high; the handles and body are festooned with raised and gilt leaves; the centre is exquisitely painted with a peasant and two girls gathering cherries; and, on the reverse, with a group of flowers. The two other vases are similarly decorated, and are exquisitely painted with Bacchanal subjects and groups of flowers.

The Pictures occupied the three next days. "They," M. Planché remarks, "though avowedly not selected for their value as paintings, but for their illustration of costume, have probably, taken as a whole, more merit in them than any similar collection in Europe." The correctness of this estimate may be gathered from the fact that the pictures sold on Saturday produced as nearly as possible the amount at which the whole gallery had been valued by the auctioneers. We have only space to mention that the three days' sale realised nearly £2000.

The Portraits and Miniatures occupied the next day.

The Mediæval Metal-work and Ecclesiastical Silver occupied the next day, and included the dishes and locks, and some relics of exquisite workmanship. King Lothaire's Magic Crystal, circular, engraved with the history of Susannah, and Latin inscriptions above; over the central subject is inscribed, "Lotharius Rex Franc feri jussit," in copper-gilt Gothic frame, set with imitations of precious stones, several of which are wanting, and open-work flower edge—the crystal 4½ in. diameter. This curious relic, which was bought by Mr. Bernal for ten guineas, is said to have been once sold in Paris for twelve francs. After an active competition between Mr. Webb and Mr. Fairholt (the latter bidding for Lord Londesborough), the hammer fell at the enormous price of 255 guineas. Sir Thomas More's Candlesticks, of brass, with flowers and leaves enamelled in blue and white, the stems of globular form. Under the foot is inscribed, "Sir Thomas More, Knight, 1532"—5½ in. high. Mr. Bernal is said to have purchased these candlesticks of Mr. Chaffers for £12. They were now sold for 220 guineas. A Pair of tall Candlesticks of the same period, 9½ in. high, realised only £24. "The celebrated reliquaire of the Kings:" a coffer-formed reliquaire, copper gilt, enamelled with blue and turquoise, elaborately ornamented, presented by Pope Eugenius IV. to Philip le Bon, Duke of Burgundy, containing at that time the relics found in the Chartreux, at Dijon, in 1450. This was purchased by Mr. Bernal for £28, and now realised 63 guineas. A metal-gilt dish, with moresque ornaments and medallions of figures, a processionly round the border, and curious landscape border within, inscribed "Nicolo Rugina," 17 in. diameter—£57 15s. A curious steel lock, for a shrine, with the Saviour kneeling under an archway, surrounded by trees, in high relief; St. Peter and another below; a mask over the keyhole, and pierced borders—£32.

Among the ecclesiastical plate we can only mention the Thomas A'Becket reliquaire, a small coffer of copper gilt, richly enamelled with blue: on the front is represented the martyrdom of the Saint—27½ guineas, Colonel Sibthorp. A gilt sacramental cup, shaped like a wine-glass, on thin stem, curiously chased, 7½ inches high. This was found in pulling down an old house near Dorking, when it fell out of the inner roof, probably concealed there during the Parliamentary War. It is evidently English, and of the time of Charles I. 11 guineas. The receipts of this and the next day (also of metal-work) exceeded £4000. Among the lots was a tall silver drinking-cup, of English work, plain flat chased, engraved "The gift of Christopher Pym on his admission to the place as clerke of this company," with a coat of arms apparently relating to the Blacksmiths' Company, supported on stem, with a figure of an old warrior holding a smith's hammer and anvil, on which is engraved, "By the hammer and hand all arts do stand," 11½ in. high—£37 10s.

GROUP OF ARMOUR.—JESTER'S STEEL HELMET; RUSSET STEEL BREAST-PLATE, SWORD, AND HALBERD.

The Limoges, Dresden, and Oriental Enamels occupied the next day, and realised £3160. The sale derived increased interest from a well ascertained rumour that the French Government had an agent in the room—M. Kuyck whose instructions were to secure some of the most valuable lots for the Louvre. This gentleman was probably successful in the main object of his errand: one of the choicest subjects in the day's sale an upright oval portrait of Catherine de Medicis, in colours, 18 in. by 12 in., falling to him, after an active competition for 400 guineas.

The sale set down for the next day (*Carvings in Ivory and Curiosities*) was of necessity postponed. We have engraved one of its items—a very fine Powder-Flask, of ivory, carved in high relief, with figures hunting wild animals.

CARVED IVORY POWDER-FLASK.

The Faenza and Palissy Ware occupied the three next days. Of the Faenza, or Majolica Ware, Mr. Bernal was known to have possessed one of the finest collections in England. One of its choicest specimens was a plate, in strong colours, the subject believed to be Raphael and the Fornarina in the Studio of an Artist, who is painting a Plate. This was described in the Stowe Catalogue as "An Interior, with an Artist painting the Majolica Ware." In Mr Forster's Annotated Catalogue it is entered as sold to Mr. Forrest, of the Strand, for £4; of whom it was purchased by the late Mr. Bernal, who appreciated its real value, and hence Messrs. Christie and Manson had fully described it in the Catalogue. From a small sum, at which the lot was put in, the price rapidly increased, until it reached 89 guineas. From that amount Mr. Webb and Mr. Campagnelli were the chief competitors, and the hammer ultimately fell to the former at the enormous sum of £126. Here was an instance of a lot realising thirty times the amount it was last sold for; and if the report be true, the British Museum and Marlborough House, through their respective agents, were bidding against each other for its possession.

The sale of the remainder of the Majolica Ware occupied the two next days, Friday and Saturday last. There were in the Catalogue about 400 lots of this *material*, the whole of which Mr. Bernal is said to have purchased for less than £1000. The result of the three days' auction realised at least £7000, thus affording another proof of the remarkable skill of Mr. Bernal as a collector, and showing that the purchase of articles of *vertu*, guided by good taste and judgment, may prove an admirable means of investment.

A few lots of the "Bernard Palissy" ware were included in Saturday's sale; and one fine subject—a circular dish, on a foot, with a lizard in the centre, and a rich border, twelve inches in diameter—after exciting an active competition between Mr. Franks, Mr. Webb, and M. Kuyck, fell to the latter at the large price of £162.

The Armour, Arms, and Stained Glass were sold on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday last.

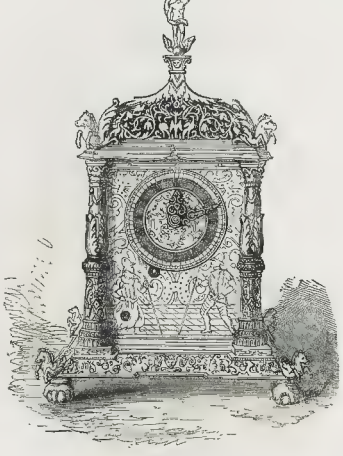
We have only space to enumerate a few of the items; among which are a pair of gauntlets, richly engraved and gilt, the wrists embroidered with figures of fine work 21 guineas. A pair of small gauntlets, chased all over with guns and other weapons, and partly gilt—£50. Two rapiers, with cup hilts, pierced and chased—£15 10s. A curious sabre, or executioner's sword, with very broad blade, the steel grip notched for the fingers—£15 10s. A wheel-lock gun, the barrel and lock chased with masks and flowers, and ornamented with silver and gold, the stock inlaid with ivory; in the butt is a silver medal, with a Bishop, and inscribed "Sanctus Rudbertus Episc. Salisb. 1622—£37. A warder's horn, formed of a very large piece of ivory, carved with animals and figures—£56. A round buckler of wood covered with leather, and the original velvet straps; it has a lantern at the top, and is painted inside with the history of Camillus, after G. Romano (22 in. diameter)—£21: the first bidding for this lot was 10s. 6d.

We have engraved a group of Armour and Arms. In the centre is a beautiful specimen—a Spanish Breast-plate of Russet Steel—it is of small size, damascened, and inlaid with gold and silver, and chased and embossed with figures, trophies, &c.; the date is about 1560; it realised £165. The Sword is a powerful fighting sword, the cup chased and pierced with flowers, the pommel chased with figures, with swept hilt and chased guards; the blade is inscribed "Face porto Guera Cercho." The Halberd has an engraved blade, and richly-chased head. The Helmet, which surmounts the group, is a singular Tilting Bourguinot, fluted: the outer visor has a grotesque nose and moustache; the inner visor is of open work, the comb twisted: the date is from 1480 to 1490.

The Sale will be resumed on April 17, with *Venetian and German Glass, and Gris de Flandres*. Of the latter we have engraved two fine specimens—a blue and white Gris de Flandres Jug, of very curious three-sided form, circle and half circle, with figures dancing under the handle, masks and ornaments at the top; under lip, a cipher and G. B.; dated 1602, with long inscription; 17½ inches high. Next is a singularly beautiful Gris White Jug, with elegant handle terminating in a mask; the ornamentation including stags, birds, and flowers, in high relief; besides subjects of field sports, and an angel holding a shield, with devices and inscription; height, 9½ inches; presumed date, 1570.

The *Watches, Clocks, and Compasses* will occupy one day. From among the twenty clocks we have engraved the most elegant specimen—a clock, in elegant case of metal-gilt, in the form of a temple; it is elaborately chased, and engraved with figures and arabesques, surmounted by a figure standing on a globe, on ball and claw feet, with winged horses at the angles, and dial on each side.

We shall return to this very interesting Sale. Meanwhile it may be interesting to announce that a *priced* Catalogue is in preparation for publication, by Mr. J. H. Burn, the author of the annotated Catalogue of the Beaufoy Collection of Coins, bequeathed to the Corporation of London.



GILT CLOCK.

GROUP OF SEVRES VASES.

"THE FAIRIES' GLEN, ON THE CONWAY, NORTH WALES—MIDSUMMER NIGHT."—PAINTED BY J. P. PETTITT.—EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

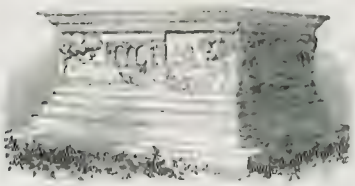
EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS, IN SUFFOLK STREET.

This, the Thirty-second Annual Exhibition of a Society that has experienced the many strange vicissitudes of uncertain support and of yearly caprice in more than one of its members, is by very far the best that we remember to have seen for several years within its walls. All the twenty-five members but one (Mr. Josi is the exception) have come forward, ay and ably, to strengthen the claims of the Society to public support. The strength of our school in landscape-painting has never been shown here to such advantage since Mr. Creswick deserted the retired air of Suffolk street for the more open breezes of Trafalgar-square. Mr. Pettitt delights in scenes on the river Conway, rendered immortal by Gray; Mr. West conveys us to Norway, and detains us there by the force and truth of his delineations; Mr. Pyne (he has only two pictures) holds us in an uncertain balance of choice between Chelsea and Sorrento; Mr. Alfred Clint delights us with choice scenes, most carefully rendered, from North Devon and North Wales. Mr. G. Cole make us hesitate between the banks of the Wye and the braes of Balquiddar; the two Wilsons give ample proofs that their residence at Folkestone has increased (certainly has not diminished) their innate and cultivated knowledge of sea-shores and distant scenes at sea; Mr. Boddington delights to retire with his canvas and colours

To where the silver Thames first rural grows,

and there, following the stream upwards, to carry away with him most truthful studies of English river scenery; while Mr. Gosling retires at times, like Mr. Boddington, to the beautiful banks of Father Thames (witness his "Church Pool at Wargrave"), but is oftener to be found in the depths of a plantation, or the inmost recesses of a forest.

In figure subjects (there are no large or ambitious attempts at History, or the Grand School) the President (Mr. Hurlstone) and the Vice-President (Mr. Salter) will be found fully to sustain their reputations. Mr. Salter is firmer in his colour (he was always rich), and more certain in his drawing than he has been for some years past. But in this [illegible] subject Mr. C. Baxter excels all competitors about him. His "Sunshine (159)—a half-length of a Nymph such as Milton and Spenser loved to describe—is a vision of beauty exquisitely embodied and most delicately rendered. Mr. Baxter is as chaste in his conception and execution as Stothard or Mr. Frost. We long to see him—and soon too—on subjects wherein he can more fully display the resources of his mind and the skill of his pencil, than in single figures, however gracefully conceived or delicately executed. He should find a subject in a great poet, and identify himself with the poem by his skill in treating it.



TOMB OF THE TRADESCANTS, IN LAMBETH CHURCHYARD.

E. M. WARD, ESQ., R.A.—FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY BEARD.

The leading novelty of the Exhibition is the appearance in full strength of two portrait-painters, who were thought to be seeking Trafalgar-square rather than Suffolk street. We allude to Mr. Swinton and Mr Buckner. Both gentlemen are fashionable portrait-painters, skilful in their art, and in large practice. Mr. Swinton introduces the visitor to the Countess of Verulam and Lady Claud Hamilton; and Mr. Buckner arrests us as we pass by his small full-length of the Duchess of Hamilton (in every respect an excellent portrait) and his clever likenesses of the Marquis of Douglas. Portrait-painting, now at a discount with the members of the Royal Academy, seems likely to revive in the Society of British Artists! Our future Lawrences and Hoppners—perhaps our Sir Joshuas—may be draughted hereafter from Suffolk-street to Trafalgar-square.

We have said that Mr. Pettitt has been rambling of late in North Wales, and that the banks of the Conway have supplied some admirable subjects for his pencil. We have now to add that he has thrown the rich resources of poetry into his art, and, in a scene called "The Fairies' Glen, on the Conway, North Wales—Midsummer Night" (157), has given fresh proof of his excellence as a painter. We have here (as our readers will in part see, for we have engraved the picture) a most careful study of nature peopled with a poetic race, and invested with a beauty of effect in keeping with the whole scene.

We shall have occasion to return to the Exhibition, both by way of criticism and pictorial illustration; but, at present, we cannot refrain from directing particular attention to the contributions in the Water-colour Room by Mr. S. Read—"The Chapel in St. Jacques, Antwerp" (No. 614), and "The Haunted House" (No. 640). We have already engraved the latter picture (as many of our readers will remember), and are under other obligations (in common with our subscribers) to Mr. Read's pencil.

E. M. WARD, R.A.

The newly elected Royal Academician, Mr. Edward Matthew Ward was born at Pimlico, in 1816, and introduced to the veteran Academician Ward, by having married his grand daughter. When a boy [illegible] M. Ward evinced a taste for art, and a desire to become a painter, which his parents lost no opportunity to foster. In a communication addressed by Mr. Ward to the Editor of the *Art Journal*, he thus feelingly writes of his early artistic career:—"I cannot forbear paying a tribute to the memory of my dear departed mother; to whose devoted tenderness, sound

TOMB OF THE TRADESCANTS, IN LAMBETH CHURCHYARD.—NORTH.

judgment, and natural good taste, though unacquainted with the practical part of art, I am chiefly indebted for much of whatever success he accompanied my professional efforts; and it is a great source of happiness to me to know that she lived long enough to find her many hours of anxious solicitude were not without their ultimate reward: she witnessed the approbation which critics and the public were pleased to bestow on many of my first exhibited pictures

A few of the young Ward's early productions being shown to his father led to the education of his son for the profession of painting He began by receiving lessons in oil-colouring, without acquiring a knowledge of the principles of Art—a mistake which was corrected by the advice of Chantrey, who recommended that the youth should first submit himself to an educational course of drawing from the antique and anatomical subjects Accordingly, in 1834, he was introduced, through Wilkie, to the Schools of the Royal Academy. In the same year, at the age of eighteen, he exhibited at the Academy his first picture—a portrait of Munden, the comedian, in the character of *Don Quixote*. In the following year he sent to the Academy a small picture of a scene from Sterne's "Sentimental Journey" it was marked "accepted" but not hung from want of space In the following year he went to Rome, where he remained three years, occupying himself mostly in studying at the living model schools, drawing from the antique, and in copying choice old pictures In 1839 he obtained the silver medal from the Academy of St Luke, in the class of Historical composition. He likewise painted a picture of "Cimabue and Giotto," which was exhibited at our Royal Academy the year after the return of the artist to England, in 1839. He accomplished little for two or three years, if we except his picture of "Napoleon in the Prison of Nice," exhibited at the British Institution, and bought by the Duke of Wellington In 1843 he became more successful in a less ambitious class of Art—exhibiting at the Royal Academy his picture of "Dr Johnson Reading Goldsmith's Manuscript of 'The Vicar of Wakefield;'" and in 1844, "Goldsmith as a Wandering Musician," and "La Fleur's Departure from Montreuil" In 1845 Mr. Ward exhibited at the Royal Academy his fine picture of "Dr. Johnson in the Ante-room of Lord Chesterfield, which was bought by Mr Vernon. "It now forms a portion of our National Collection, with the 'Fall of Clarendon,' painted in 1846—a reduced copy made for Mr. Vernon from the larger picture, which Lord Northwick had purchased from the easel of the artist and the 'South Sea Bubble,' a fine work in every quality of art, painted and exhibited in 1847 the preceding year Mr. Ward was elected an Associate of the Academy.—*Art Journal.*

Our space will only allow us to enumerate Mr. Ward's other principal pictures:—"Highgate Fields During the Great Fire of 1666;" "Interview between Charles II. and Nell Gwynne," "De Foe and the Manuscript of Robinson Crusoe," and "Young Benjamin West Drawing the Baby in the Cradle." In 1850 he exhibited "James II. Receiving the Intelligence of the Landing of the Prince of Orange;" and in the following year "The Royal Family of France in the Prison of the Temple," and "Charlotte Corday Led to Execution."

Mr. Ward has carried off prizes at many of the chief provincial exhibitions, namely: at Liverpool, for the "South-Sea Bubble" at Glasgow, for his "James II.;" at Manchester, for "The Royal Family of France," and at Birmingham, for his "Charlotte Corday."

Mr Ward, about two years since, undertook to paint, for the corridor of the House of Commons, a series of eight pictures illustrative of British history. Two of these have been completed and exhibited—"The Execution of Montrose," and "The Last Sleep of Argyll," and have been engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS; together with the greater number of Mr Ward's pictures enumerated above. Having, therefore, upon the appearance of each of these engravings, spoken of Mr. Ward's high rank as an historical painter, in conclusion, we congratulate Mr. Ward upon his election, a distinction to which he is fully entitled by the many fine works which he has already contributed to the British School of Painting

NOOKS AND CORNERS OF OLD ENGLAND.

TOMB OF THE TRADESCANTS, RESTORED, IN LAMBETH CHURCHYARD.

THE extension of the study of archæology has, of late years, led to the preservation of the memorials of many eminent persons who deservedly rank as benefactors to mankind and such love of the Past can scarcely be directed to a more useful purpose than by keeping in mind how much we owe to the source the enjoyments of the Present The Tradescants deserve to be placed in this collection of worthies They lived at South Lambeth, and a memoir which is Engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for March 7, 1846, at which period an interesting discovery illustrative of the history of the elder Tradescant was made by Dr. Hemel. Since this date much light has been thrown upon the personal history of these Tradescants by Conversations of the Rev. Dr. Rimbault *and Gardner*, vol. iii., among whom Dr. Rimbault and Mr. S W. Singer take foremost rank. The latter has satisfactorily proved the elder Tradescant to have been not a native of Holland, but been born in Suffolk, or perhaps in Worcestershire. "Let us, therefore," says Mr. Singer, "on these grounds, place him in the list of English worthies to whom we owe a debt of gratitude The three Tradescants are buried in Lambeth Churchyard, under a handsomely-sculptured table monument, which having fallen into decay in 1853, it was proposed to restore this Tomb, according to its original form, as represented in two drawings preserved in the Pepysian Library, at Cambridge At the same time, it was proposed to renew the epitaph upon the grave-stone of Elias Ashmole, who was buried in Lambeth Church A fund was raised for these purposes under the Rev. W. Cole and J. Hooker, K.H., the distinguished botanist, Charles Kerr, Esq., Sir Charles G. Young, Garter, the Rev. B. Dalton, Rector of Lambeth. It was an old debt to the memories of these first of English gardeners and naturalists, and such debts at best are but tardy payments; still, the requisite fund, about £100, was raised, and the good work completed.

Pennant has well described the Museum and Garden at Lambeth, and the Tradescants' tomb, "which no natural schoolmaster—I quote "Dr. Rimbault's paper in *Notes and Queries*, No. 79, is, however, fuller in its details. The monument was built by Mrs. Hester Tradescant, in 1662. She was buried in the vault where her husband and his son John (who "died in his spring"), had been formerly laid. The sculptures on the four sides of the tomb are as follows:—

On the north, a crocodile, shells, &c., and a view of some Egyptian buildings; on the *south*, broken columns, Corinthian capitals, &c., supposed to be ruins in Greece, or some Eastern country; on the *east*, Tradescant's arms, on a bend three fleurs-de-lys, impaling Allen quartered; on the west a hydra, and under it a skull; various figures of trees, &c., adorn the four corners of the tomb; over it is placed a handsome tablet of black marble The monument, by the contribution of some friends to their memory, was, in the year 1773, repaired, and (according to Sir John Hawkins) the following lines, "*formerly* intended for an epitaph, inserted thereon Other authorities say that they were merely *restored*." The beautiful drawings of the monument preserved in the Pepysian Library, were engraved for the *Philosophical Transacts* one, vol. lviii., p 58; and are printed from the same plates in the "Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica," vol. ii.; and these authorities have been strictly followed in the recent restoration The inscription is as follows:—

JOHN TRADESCANT,
DIED A.D. MDCXXXVIII
JAMES TRADESCANT his WIFE,
DIED A.D. MDCXXXV
JOHN TRADESCANT his SON,
DIED THE SEVENTEENTH OF MAY
JOHN TRADESCANT his SECOND SON,
DIED THE SEVENTH OF SEPTEMBER
HESTER, WIFE OF JOHN TRADESCANT YOUNGER,
DIED THE ELEVENTH A.D. MDCLXVII

Know, Stranger, ye that pass, beneath this stone
Lye John Tradescant, Father and Son
The last died in his spring, the first in age
Living th' t they and travelled Art and Nature through,
As by their choice collections may appear,
Of what is rare in land or sea
Whose they (as Homer Homer) Homer's Iliad) were
Would ye know what this world hath rarest in it
These famous antiquarians laid out here
Both gardeners to the rose, lily queen
Transplanted now themselves sleep here and when
Angels shall with their trumpets awaken them
And fire shall purge the world, those hands shall rise,
And change this garden for a paradise

This tomb, originally erected on this spot in year 1662,
By Hester, relict of John Tradescant the Younger,
Being in a state of ruin
Was repaired by Subscription in the year 1773

After lapse of nearly two centuries and a quarter, this tomb was restored by the Author of this Paper in 1853.

Surely it were meet to renew our memorials of men who did so much to minister to "the inclination of kings and the choice of philosophers" as did the early English gardeners who rest in Lambeth Churchyard.

MORE TROOPS FOR THE CRIMEA.—Before the month of April is a week old, another 10,000 of the *élite* of the French army will have left for the seat of war. The latest official intelligence from the Crimea informs us that General Canrobert would lombard and storm a portion of the town of Sebastopol as soon as the English army was ready to do so, which it would be within a week, at the latest.—*Paris Correspondent of the Morning Post.*

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MARCH 29

Month and Day	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 0 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading	Thermometer. Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.							Inches.
Mar. 21	29.67	38.0	32.1	34.5	— 7.8	87	N.	0.10
" 24	29.278	38.5	29.4	34.0	— 8.1	84	N.E.	0.00
" 25	29.542	45.1	36.0	41.1	— 1.1	83	N.	0.00
" 26	29.657	44.0	34.0	41.7	— 0.0	81	S.W.	0.00
" 27	29.791	41.1	31.2	36.7	— 4.1	84	E.N.E.	0.00
" 28	30.065	44.1	30.2	36.9	— 7.0	93	N.N.E.	0.02
" 29	30.428	38.1	31.1	37.2	— 6.8	89	N.E.	0.00

Note.—The sign denotes below the average

The reading of the barometer increased from the lowest reading, 29.02 in. at the beginning of the week, to the highest reading, 30.4 in., by the end of the week. The mean for the previous week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.575 inches.

The mean daily temperatures have now been below their average values since the 21st, varying from 2½° to 8½°—the mean defect for the period being 4.9°.

The mean temperature of the week was 35.9°, being 7.3° *below* the average of the corresponding week during thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 25.8°, being the difference between the lowest reading of the thermometer (23.3°) on the 26th, and the highest (49.1°) on the 27th

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 14.7°. The least was 5.8°, on the 24rd; and the greatest 21½°, on the 26th.

The weather during the week has been very dull and cold; the sky almost covered with cloud; rain and the sun only occasionally seen for a short time, till the afternoon of the 29th. *Snow* fell for some hours on Wednesday, March 28th

Lewisham, March 30, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending March 24th the births of 1558 children were registered within the metropolitan districts: of these 800 were boys, and 758 were girls. The average number in the twelve weeks of the first quarter in the preceding ten years were 780 boys, and 745 girls. Within the week the deaths of 1377 persons were registered; 698 were males, and 679 were females The number of persons who died last week was 19 less than in the preceding week. This indicates a slight improvement in the public health; but still the number exceeded the average for the twelfth week by 117.

EARLY CLOSING.—The booksellers in Paternoster row have all agreed to close their shops at 7 o'clock on Saturday evening succeeding the 7th of April, and will continue to close at that hour on Saturday through the spring and summer months.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Compared with several previous weeks the sales of stock, since we last wrote, have increased to some extent. The Market, therefore, in the absence of a spirited buyer, and in the presence of a very large number of sellers, has been extremely inactive In prices, however though the fluctuations in them have been numerous, no change of importance has taken place—the leading figure for the Three per Cents being 92.

The present large accumulation of unemployed capital, and the immense amount of notes now held by the Bank of England, under the head of "reserve," lead us to conclude that money will be cheaper At present, however, no actual reduction has been made in the interest; but most of the bankers refuse to take money on "call" at the old rates.

As the foreign exchanges continue favourable, the shipments of bullion to the Continent have been very small; but about £70,000 has been forwarded to Spain. The imports have been confined to £400,000 from New York and £3,000 from Africa. Several vessels must be close at hand, from Australia; but it is known that they have only a small amount of bullion on board

There was a steady market for Consols, on Monday, at full quotations. The Three per Cents were 92⅞ up to 93 for Money, and 92⅞ to 93 for the Account. Long Annuities were done at 4⅞ India-bonds, 10s. to 13s.; and Exchequer-bills 5s. to 9s. prem. Exchequer-bonds marked 99¾. The transactions in national securities, on Tuesday, were trifling, and some sales of Stock—that is, £70,000—were made by the Government broker The Three per Cents realised 92⅞ 92¾, and 93 for Transfer. The Amount prices were 93¼ to 93. India-bonds, 10s. to 13s.; Exchequer-bills, 5s. to 9s. prem. On the following day, the purchases and sales of Stock were trifling. The Three per Cents were 92⅞ 92 for Money, and 92⅞ 92 to 93 for the Account; India Bonds, 10s.; Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 8s. prem. Bank Stock for the Account was 214. On Thursday the transactions in Consols were very moderate. The Three per Cents were 92⅞ to 93 for Transfer, and 92⅞ to 93 for Account. Exchequer Bills were 5s. to 8s., and India Bonds, 10s. to 13s. prem. India Stock, 226; and Bank Stock for Account, 214 to 216.

The following return shows the extent of the note circulation in the United Kingdom during the four weeks ending the 17th ult

Bank of England	..	..	£18,785,825
Private Banks	..	..	5,312,785
Joint-stock Banks	..	..	3,408,151
Scotland	..	..	3,000,000
Ireland	..	..	6,738,000
Total	..	..	£31,959,761

Compared with February, 1854, the above return shows a decrease of £1,777,837 in the circulation of the United Kingdom.

The railway "calls" for April amount to £705,575 During the first four months of the present year they have been £5,581,898 against £4,717,140 in the corresponding period of 1854, and £3,931,008 in 1853. For most Railway Securities the market has been inactive, yet we have very little alteration to notice in the quotations The following are the official closing money prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Caledonian, 63¾; Eastern Counties, 11¼; East Lancashire, 73; Great Northern, 88¾; Ditto, B Stock, 124; Great Western, 56¾; Ditto, Short Valley, 90¾; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 76¾; London and Brighton, 97¼; London and North-Western, 98¾; London and South-Western, 85¾; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 24¾; Midland, 65¾; Norfolk, 43¾; North-East (Leeds), 49; South Wales, 42¾

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Midland, Bradford, 91; South Staffordshire, 7¾; Wilts and Somerset, 90.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Great Western, 104; Great Northern Five per Cent, 114¾; Ditto Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 109¾; Ditto Five per Cent Scrip, 2¾; Great Western Birmingham Guaranteed Stock, 72¾; London and Brighton Five per Cent, 113; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, £5, 2¾; Midland Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 1¾ dis.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, ¾; Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Scrip, ¾ prem.; East Indian Five per Cent, 2¾; Ditto Extension, 1¼; Paris and Lyons, 1¾; Sambre, ¾ prem.

Mining Shares have been dull, and prices have been barely supported:—Agua Fria have realised ¼; Australian Royal, 1¾; Australian Imperial, 2¾; Santiago de Cuba, ¼; South Australian, 1; United Mexican, ¾.

Friday Morning

The Consol-market has been by no means active to-day, yet prices have ruled firm The Three per Cents, for Money, have been 92⅞ ⅞ 93; and for the Account, 92⅞ 93 to 93⅛. All Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares have been steady.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday). There has been a moderate arrival of English wheat up to our market this week, coastwise and by land carriage; nevertheless the new crop of wheat in to day's market was sold at 2s. per qr. lower than last week, the trade was rather inactive, at Monday's currency. There was very little inquiry for foreign wheat, the supply of which was but moderate, at unalterated quotations. The inquiry for barley was steady, on former terms but malt was much neglected. The business doing in oats was comparatively small, prices, however, were well supported. Beans and peas were quite as dear as on Monday, but rather a dull inquiry

ARRIVALS.—English wheat, 2,000 qrs.; barley, 3410; malt, 3660; oats, 660; flour, 1270. Foreign: wheat, 810 qrs.; barley, 7,000 qrs.; oats, 5,000 qrs.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 64s. to 65s.; ditto white, 71s. to 84s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 64s. to 68s.; ditto white, —s. to —s.; rye, 5s. to 40s.; grinding barley, 27s. to 28s.; distilling ditto, 28s. to 30s.; malting ditto, 29s. to 32s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 52s. to 56s.; ditto Ware, 60s. to 70s.; ditto Chevalier, 70s. to 72s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 24s. to 27s.; potato ditto, 27s. to 29s.; Wexford and Cork black, 24s. to 26s.; ditto white, 26s. to 28s.; feed beans, 36s. to 40s.; ditto gray, 38s. to 39s.; maple, 37s. to 39s.; white, 39s. to 42s.; tick, 34s. to 43s. per quarter. Flour—ship ditto, 40s. to 45s.; ditto town, 45s. to 50s. per 280 lbs. Average, 38s. 2d. to 43s. per qr.

Seeds.—Most kinds of seeds have been in request at very full prices. In linseed and cakes only a moderate business is doing

Linseed, English, sowing, 66s. to 70s. Pale crushing, 56s. to 62s. Mediterranean and Odessa, 66s. to 67s. Hempseed, fine to fine per quarter, English, 40s. to 42s. per bushel. Brown Mustard seed, 12s. to 14s.; white ditto, 8s. to 10s. Tares, 10s. to 12s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £33 to £35 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £12 to £13 10s. per ton; ditto foreign, £10 10s.; ditto foreign, £10 to £12 5s.; rape cakes, £6 5s. to £6 15s. per ton. Canary, 40s. to 52s. per quarter. Red clover seed, 52s. to 63s.; white ditto, 72s. to 80s. per cwt.

Provisions.—The prices of provisions remain as from 94s. to 96s. per cwt. for Irish bacon, 52s. to 54s. per cwt. for Hams, 44s. to 46s. per cwt. for Mess, and 46s. to 48s. per cwt. for Prime Mess Pork, 44s. to 46s. per cwt. for Prime Mess Beef, 22s. to 24s. per cwt. for Mess Beef, 40s. to 42

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—On EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 9, and during the Week: Last Week but Two of the SPANISH DANCERS. The New Comedy of "The Secret Agent," with, for the First time, an EXTRAVAGANZA by J. R. Planche, Esq.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—On EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 9th, the CORSICAN BROTHERS. After which will be produced a Romance in two acts, entitled the BLETTERER OF TOLEDO; or King Queen, and Knave.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—C. H. ADAMS'S GRLEEY. On MONDAY, APRIL 2nd and during the week (Good Friday excepted) Mr. Adams will improve his ASTRONOMICAL LECTURE on ASTRONOMY, being his Twenty-fourth Year in London. Begin at Eight, and about Ten.—Boxes, 3s.; Pit, 1s.; Stalls, 2s.; Private Boxes, 10s. 6d., and 21s. Box office open from 10 to 5.

GO and HEAR LOVE, the greatest Dramatic Ventriloquist in Europe, at the UPPER HALL, 69, Quadrant, Regent-street, every Evening at Eight except Saturday. Saturday at Three. Handcuffs, Miss Julia Warner. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—ALFRED MELLON'S GRAND CONCERT will take place on MONDAY EVENING next, APRIL 2. To commence at Eight. Band of Fifty Performers. Vocalists. Madame Novello and Formes. Soloists, Sainton and Cousins. Conductor, Alfred Mellon.

LONDON SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER HALL.—On the TUESDAY IN PASSION WEEK (April 3), positively ELIJAH. Tickets, Area, 4s. Top of Gallery, 2s. Gallery, 3s. Reserved Seats, 5s. Central Reserved, 10s. 6d.—On Sundays, 9, Exeter-hall, where may be obtained the Easter-hall Edition of the Oratorio.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall. Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—On WEDNESDAY, NEXT, APRIL 4, Handel's MESSIAH. Vocalists, Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Herr Formes. Trumpet, Mr. Harper. On FRIDAY, APRIL 13, Mendelssohn's ELIJAH. Vocalists, Mdme. Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mrs. Lockey, and Mr. Sims Reeves. The Orchestra, as usual, will consist of nearly 700 performers.—Tickets, 5s., 3s., and 10s. 6d. each, may be had at the Society's office for those performances at the Society's sole office, No. 8 Room, within Exeter-hall. Applications (by letter) must be accompanied by the remittance of the amount; if by Post-office order, made payable to ROBERT BOWLEY, at Charing-cross Office.

MISS P. HORTON'S ILLUSTRATIVE ENTERTAINMENT at ST. MARTIN'S-HALL, on EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'Clock (Friday excepted), commencing MONDAY NEXT, APRIL 2, introducing MUSICAL and CHARACTERISTIC ILLUSTRATIONS from REAL LIFE, in English, French, and Italian, by Mrs. T. German Reed (née Miss P. Horton) and Mr. T. German Reed. Admission, 1s.; Centre Seats, 2s.; Stalls, 3s. Tickets to be had at St. Martin's-hall, and all Musicsellers.

EASTER HOLIDAYS.—THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK, will be open to Visitors EVERY DAY except SATURDAY, during Easter Week, on payment of SIXPENCE each person.

CRYSTAL PALACE, Sydenham.—The PALACE and PARK are OPEN to the Public on MONDAYS, at 9.0 a.m., on TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and FRIDAYS, at 10 a.m.; on which days the admission is 1 s.; and on SATURDAYS, at 10 a.m., when the admission is 2s., and on Saturdays at 5½ p.m. Tickets of admission, including conveyance by railway, may be obtained at the London Bridge Terminus, and at the several Agents in the Metropolis. Trains run at 9.5 a.m., at 9.10 a.m., and every half-hour from 10.10 a.m. up to 4.40 p.m.; returning from the Crystal Palace station up to 8.10 p.m.

PROFITABLE and PRACTICAL FEMALE EDUCATION. Sent, post-free, by Mrs. PULLAN, 126, Albany-street, Regent's-park.

HANWELL COLLEGE SCHOOL, MIDDLESEX (for BOARDERS only).—THE EASTER TERM BEGINS APRIL the 9th. Prospectuses sent, on application to the Rev. J. A. Emerton, D.D., Principal.

PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.—International Agency, established for representing exhibitors, looking after their goods, selling them, translating all documents and prospectuses, and giving all information they may require. Agent in Paris, 41, Boulevard des Capucines, near the Church of La Madeleine. London Agent, Mr. A. DELIZY, 1, Somerset-strand.

BOGNOR, justly called the Montpellier of England, for its salubrity of air, gravelly soil, excellent drainage, and genuine cleanliness. Those who have Children, the invalid, and all who wish to blend refinement and beauty of country with a marine residence, should visit this Bath of the Sea. Apartments FURNISHED, making from four to twelve beds, from 10s. to £2 10s. per week. For further particulars apply to the Post-office.

VICINITY of MALVERN. A CLERGYMAN, having a delightful place of residence, within about half an hour's drive of the Malvern resort, and quite accessible from Oxford, Cheltenham, and Birmingham, RECEIVES into his family YOUNG GENTLEMEN, on whose EDUCATION, in sound principles of Scholarship and Religion, he bestows much personal care. There is also a Tutor in connection with the domestic superintendence, who is delegated to Housekeeper or Servant. The treatment is liberal, and the terms are inclusive and moderate. Testimonials from persons of high respectability, including many late Pupils.—Address CLERICUS, care of Dawson and Son, Aldersgate, yard, London.

WESTBOURNE COLLEGE, Porchester Lodge, Bayswater-road, will be OPENED on MONDAY, April 23rd, 1855, as a School for the sons of gentlemen. Principal and Head-Master, Rev. Charles Mackenzie, A.M., Prebendary of St. Paul's, and for twenty-three years Head Master of St. Olave's Grammar-School, Southwark. The names of other Masters and Professors will be shortly announced. The year will be divided into three Terms, viz.—From April to July, from September to December, and from January to March. Fees for Nominees, five, six, or seven guineas a Term, according to instruction. For non-Nominees, six, seven, or eight guineas a Term. An entrance fee of £2 2s. and £1 1s. a year for stationery. Arrangements will be made for pupils to dine on the premises. The Assistant-Masters will take boarders. Prospectuses may be obtained at the above address.

POTICHOMANIA, Artistic and Classic.—LE KEUN'S designs for Etruscan Vases rendered impenetrable to water by a new process. Perfect specimens of finished Greek and Etruscan vases. The Portland Vase, in glass, with handles, "registered." To be had (wholesale only) at HUTTON and CO.'S, 8, Newgate-street, London; and retailed by all shops where Potichomania articles are kept. New designs from Paris every week.

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POTICHOMANIA.—For Presents, Boxes containing a pair of vases, about eight inches in height, all the necessary materials of the best quality, and instructions for this interesting art, are securely packed and forwarded, on receipt of a post-office order, or stamps, for 10s. 6d. London: JABEZ BARNARD, 8a, Oxford-street.

POTICHOMANIA.—J. BARNARD respectfully solicits the attention of Ladies and Gentlemen practising this beautiful Art, to his novel DESIGNS in GLASSES, comprising Vases of various shapes, Fruit Stands, Flower Baskets, and other articles adapted for the imitation of every description of China.

PAPERS of the best and most novel patterns in great variety. BARNARD'S PORCELAIN COLOURS (secated) will be found unequalled, dry rapidly, and are extremely hard. In. and 2s. 6d. per bottle. Brushes, Varnish, and every other Article necessary with the Art. Printed Instructions, 6d. each.

Jabez Barnard, Manufacturer and Importer, 339, Oxford-street (opposite John-street), London. The Trade supplied.

POTICHOMANIE.—MESSRS. A. MARION and CO. have a large Assortment of POTICHES, VASES, in every size and shape, with or without Covers; and a great variety of other articles in glass, plain or with gold borders. French colours and varnishes of the best quality (which is much superior). Papers of the newest designs, gold ornaments and flowers ready cut, and other materials. A complete instruction-book, 2s., postage free. Varnished wood boxes with materials, from 12s. and upwards. French tissue papers for making flowers. Repository Marion, 152, Regent-street. Wholesale and Retail.

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HAIR JEWELLERY. A new and elegant Illustrated Book. Sent free for Two Postage Stamps to any part of the World.—DEWINDT, Hair Jeweller, 179, Fenchurch-street, London.

HAIR JEWELLERY.—Artist in Hair.—DEWINDT begs to inform Ladies or Gentlemen resident in town, or any part of the Kingdom, that he beautifully makes, and elegantly mounts in gold, HAIR BRACELETS, Chains, Brooches, Rings, Pins, Stars, &c., and forwards the same (free) persons to their dictates, at about one-half the usual charge. A beautiful collection of specimens, handsomely mounted, for the inspection. An illustrated book sent free on receipt of two postage stamps. Dewindt, 179, Fenchurch-street.

CAMBRIDGE ASYLUM, Kingston-on-Thames. Established 1851. Supported by voluntary contributions. Under the patronage of the Queen, the Prince Albert, and other members of the Royal Family.

A SPECIAL ELECTION OF TEN WIDOWS of SOLDIERS fallen in the CRIMEA has been appointed to be by the Committee.

Donations, Subscriptions, and legacies are to be received at the Society's offices.

Subscriptions (advertised, may be paid to Messrs. Coutts; the Collector, Mr. Turner, 3, Chapel-place, Bond-street, or to

EDWARD FEND, LEEKS, Hon. Sec.

Palace Chambers, St. James's-street, and Charlton-row.

THE HONOURABLE ARTILLERY COMPANY OF LONDON, the most ancient Corps of Volunteers in England, is OPEN to the ADMISSION of GENTLEMEN who are willing to give a portion of their time to Military Service.

The Corps is supposed by its admirers and well-wishers from her present Most Gracious Majesty, and her Majesty's Royal predecessors, to trade persons in the use of arms, and to the practice of military evolutions and exercises.

The Corps possesses a Parade-ground of several acres, a Drill-shed, and a Armory-house, Arms, and every facility for effective military training.

The Officers are selected from the Corps, and hold her Majesty's Commission.

Gentlemen under twenty-one years of age are admitted as Cadets, but must produce the consent of their parents or guardians.

Members have to provide themselves with the Uniform of the Corps.

The expense of the Band, Arms, Ammunition, &c., are defrayed out of the funds of the Company.

Gentlemen desirous of joining, can obtain any further information on application, by letter, to Mr. William H. White, Secretary, 19, Artillery-place, Finsbury.

THE ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.

(Established A.D. 1720, by Charter of King George the First.)

Office of the Royal Exchange, London: Branch, 29, Pall-mall. Loans on Mortgage, Life Annuities, and Life Assurances may be effected with this Corporation on fair and liberal terms.

The Assets are exempt from liabilities of Partnership, and payment of their claims is guaranteed by a large invested Capital. Stock. They enjoy the advantages of modern practice, with the stability of an office safely constituted under Royal Charter and special Act of Parliament, and tested by the experience of nearly a century and a half.

Prospectuses, with Tables of the Premiums and of the Bonuses declared in the Life Department, may be had on application.

JOHN A. HIGHAM, Actuary and Secretary.

THE NORWICH UNION REVERSIONARY INTEREST COMPANY.

Office, 33, Lombard-street, London. Established 1824.

This Company has for its object the purchase of every description of reversionary property, whether absolute or contingent; also to advance present money, on great immediate annuities, on the security of reversionary property and life interests.

The present scheme of investing their capital; the Company offers the peculiar advantages of paying a liberal rate of interest, and exempt from all personal liabilities.

The Shares are £10 each (paying a dividend of £5 per cent per annum, payable half-yearly, free from all deductions on account of income-tax), and may be paid for either in full, or by instalments of £1 at the time of no more than six months.

Every information may be obtained upon application at the Company's office.

By order of the board,

March, 1855. R. NORRIS, Secretary.

CALEDONIAN INSURANCE COMPANY, Incorporated by Royal Charter and Special Act of Parliament. Established 1805. Offices, 27, Moorgate-street; London, 19, George-street, Edinburgh; 64, St. Vincent-street, Glasgow; 17, Cow Street, Dublin.

Fire and Life Insurance at moderate rates.

Bonuses on Life Policies of nearly 84 per cent of the profits divided amongst the participating Policy-holders of five years' standing and upwards.

These Bonuses can either be added to the sum assured, or their present value paid in cash, or a corresponding reduction may be made from the annual premium.

Prospectuses, with Tables of Rates, and every other information, may be obtained on application at the Office, 27, Moorgate-street, London.

EDWARD S. SHORT, Manager.

FOREIGN VINEYARD ASSOCIATION. (Capital £200,000.)

President: Right Hon. Lord MUSKERRY.

A Joint-Stock Company, formed for the purpose of supplying private families and establishments with foreign wines and spirits, in lieu of the ordinary retailers, at wholesale prices, viz., from £5 to 50 per dozen, or those of wine-merchants (samples on view at Gresham-house, E.C.), at a five-dozen case, instead of 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 18, 20, 24, 30, 36, and 48 shillings. Instead of Claret, Chablis, Hock, Sauterne, Sherry, Port, Madeira, Malaga, Cognac, &c., &c., and the finest pale or brown Cognac, 36s. per gallon. Apply to T. W. STAPLETON, Esq., Secretary and Manager, 31, King-street, Regent-street, for prospectus, containing full prices lists. The principal clubs in London supplied. All wines sent on approval, if required, and forwarded first if desired. Terms, cash or reference.—And at 6, Boulevard des Italiens, Paris.

MONEY to INVEST on REVERSIONS, Annuities, Entailed Estates, Advowsons, &c. Apply to MR. ALLEN, at his Office, 334, Regent street, Wakefield-place.

SCUTARI. Benevolent individuals are respectfully informed that RINDER'S PORCELAIN has been ordered to be sent to Miss Nightingale, for the use of the sick soldiers at Scutari, and that the Proprietor will be glad to receive orders for fiction. It is to be had from all Perfumers and Chemists, and from the Inventor, E. RIMMEL, 39, Gerrard-street, Soho. In Bond, for Shipping, as a reduction.

IMMENSE LABOUR SAVED.—BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT. This Article, for regularity and portability, surpasses the most scientific inventions of the age. It can be used with the most ordinary Pomatum, Oil, or Dye can be applied to the Hair at the same time, without the usual very soiling the hands. May be had of all respectable Perfumers throughout the Kingdom. Price from 2s. 6d. to 10s. 6d.—Manufacturers, J. BURGESS and SONS, London and Birmingham.

PATRIOTIC JUG.—SAMUEL ALCOCK and CO., Hill Pottery, Burslem, Staffordshire, being desirous of putting it within the reach of all to possess a memorial both of the present War and of the noble and generous sympathy displayed by all classes towards the sick and wounded soldiers, have published a PATRIOTIC JUG, illustrative alike of the horrors of war as well as of the nation's grateful efforts to alleviate them, evidenced by the Royal Patronage Fund. Copies of this Stirring Work can be had at all China and Glass Warehouses in the kingdom.

DR. ARNOTT'S SMOKE-CONSUMING FIRE-GRATE is manufactured by F. EDWARDS, SON, and CO., 428, Strand-street, Strand, Corner of Wych-street, where can be seen in daily use. The advantages of this Grate consist in the smoke being perfectly consumed, no chimney-sweeping being required, and a saving of from 40 or 50 per cent being effected in the cost of fuel. Prospectuses, with Testimonials, sent on application.

DARING ATTEMPT to FORCE OPEN one of CHUBB'S FIRE and THIEF-PROOF SAFES.

"Wadham's Hill, Northampton, "Feb. 9 1855.

"Gentlemen,—Last night some thieves broke into our office, and made a violent attack upon our iron safe, which is one of your fire and thief-proof manufacture, and contains a large sum of money, with other valuables. From the disfigured condition of the safe, and the appearance of many very strong housebreaking instruments which they had broken in their attempts, and left behind them, it is certain that the thieves spared no efforts in their endeavours to force it open, but we have much satisfaction in informing you that owing to the great strength of your safe, their object was entirely defeated.

"We are, gentlemen, your obedient servants,

"T. and W. JONES.

"Messrs Chubb and Son, 57, St. Paul's Churchyard, London."

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The principal Literary Contents are—Notes in Holland, by the Rev. E. L. Cutts, illustrated, The National Institution of Portraits—Lord Brougham, also of Cornelius Van Scott, Irish Industries—Coal and Iron, by Professor Hunt, The Bernal Collection, Part II., Ancient Greek Ornaments, Art, Manufacture, illustrated; Albert Durer, his Works, &c., by F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A., illustrated; Pre-raphaelite Art, illustrated; Picture Forgeries, &c., &c.—VIRTUE, HALL, and VIRTUE, 25, Paternoster-row.

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WE are informed that a CHAIR of PRACTICAL PHILOLOGICAL has been appointed at the University College, London, with Mr. M. PILLISCHER, of New Bond-street, for Teacher of the new Art of SHORTHAND, or STENOGRAPHY.

THE RAILWAY WORKS AT BALACLAVA, BY NIGHT.

THE BALACLAVA RAILWAY.

One of the recent accounts received from Balaclava opens thus:—"The navvy, his barrow, and pick-axe, are in possession, and he is 'master of the situation.' The noise of 'blasts' in the rock, the ring of hammers, the roll of the train, the varying din of labour, sound all around the harbour. The railway has crept up the hill, about three miles outside the town, and two engines have been dragged up to the top of the greatest elevation which the engineers will have to surmount, and will speedily be at work moving the drum to drag up the heavy trains laden with shot, and shell, and provisions.

Another account states:—"The progress which this tramway is making is perfectly marvellous. It is now progressing at the rate of a quarter of a mile per day, including all the delays which arise from bridging small streams, levelling and filling up inequalities, &c. Half the men are employed in laying down the rails and sleepers during the day, and the remainder work all night in boxing up with earth and stones the spaces left between each sleeper. As an instance of the rapidity with which the work proceeds, a pile-driving machine was landed one evening, and carried piecemeal up to where it was necessary to sink piles for a stout wooden bridge across a small, but very muddy stream, which runs into the harbour. The machine was erected early the following morning, and before that evening the piles were all driven, the machine removed, the bridge finished, and the rails laid down for the space of 100 yards beyond."

A Correspondent in the Royal Artillery, who writes from the "Balaclava Lines," has enabled us to present the accompanying Scene of the Railway operations by night.

THE SAILORS' BATTERY.

The Sketches which our Artist has given of the Sailors' Battery, do not give the impression of much working going forward; but, as they were taken some weeks ago, before the weather had improved, we may reasonably conclude that the men whom he has represented as so very much at ease, have had to bestir themselves somewhat more actively since he was in the trenches. The sailors in the Crimea seem to have got through the winter much more easily than the regular troops; partly, no doubt, from their having been pretty well seasoned to a life of hardship and privation:—

As to Jack (says a recent letter from the Camp) he is happy as he will allow himself to be, and as healthy, barring a little touch of scurvy now and then, as he can wish; but it must be remembered that he has had no advanced trenches, no harrassing incessant labour to enfeeble him, and that he has been most successful in his adaptation of stray horseflesh [illegible] tion to which he has had a peculiar [illegible] of the fleet to rely upon. It is a little out of p[illegible] extraordinary notion Jack has imbibed concerning the ownership of chattels, and the distinction between *meum* and *tuum*, but I may not have a better chance hereafter. A mild young officer went up the other day to the sailors' camp, which he heard was a very good place to purchase a horse, and on his arrival picked out a likely man, who was gravely chewing the cud of meditation and tobacco, beside the suspension-bridge formed of the staves of casks which leads across the ravine to their quarters. "Can you tell me where I can get a good horse to buy, my man?" "Well, sir, you see as [illegible] perhaps ain't come in yet, and we don't know what we may have this evening, if your honour could wait." "Then you haven't got anything to sell now?" "Ah! how I does wish your honour had a coned up yesterday, we had five regular good 'uns—harabs some on 'em was, but they was all bought up by a speckulator from Sallyclava." "So they're all gone?" "All, your honour. But (with his face brightening up suddenly), if you should happen to want a sporting out-and-out dromedydarey I've got one as I can let you have cheap;" and as he spoke, Jack pointed in great triumph to the melancholy-looking quadruped, which he had "moored stem and stern," as he expressed it, to the ground, and was much disappointed when he found there was no chance of a sale in that line.

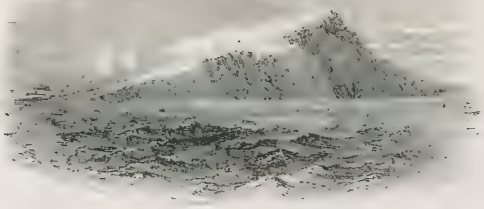
REAR OF NO. 2 SAILORS' BATTERY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

H.M. LIGHT-DRAUGHT SCREW TENDERS (GUN-BOATS).—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

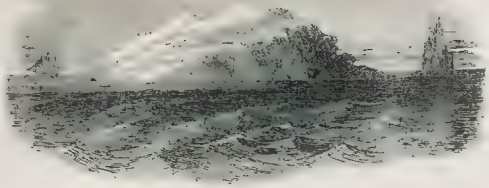
VISIT OF PRINCE ALBERT TO THE SAILORS' HOME.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Leiningen, and attended by Colonel Phipps and Captain Du Plat, paid a visit to Portsmouth Dockyard on the 19th inst., for the purpose of inspecting the new Royal yacht, and also to pay a visit to the Sailors' Home in that town. The Royal visitors landed from the Queen's barge at the north landing-stairs of the steam basin where a guard of honour composed of 100 men of the South Lincoln Militia, were drawn up. His Royal Highness was received at the gangway of the *Victoria and Albert* by Captain Sir Baldwin Walker, K.C.B., Surveyor of the Navy, and Captain Denman, with whom Prince Albert made a minute survey of

VISIT OF PRINCE ALBERT TO THE SAILORS' HOME, PORTSMOUTH.



GREY'S ISLAND, SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN.



PEAN'S ISLAND, [illegible]

[illegible] proceeded through the Admiralty [illegible] state to the Sailors' Home, in [illegible] the Board of Trustees, [illegible] Captain Gambier, Ad[illegible] [illegible]ere Lennox, and Commander Johnstone, the Superintendent. After spending half an hour in going over the institution, [illegible] he men at mess, and making himself acquainted with the details, Prince Albert and his friends left. His Royal Highness, before leaving, expressed to Captain Gambier how much he was pleased with all he had seen and heard, and his hope that the Home would extend its usefulness rapidly. Prince Albert and his Prince of Lichnigen, on leaving Portsmouth, went on board the *Fairy* steamer, in which the Queen was. On their way home to Osborne they passed through the fleet.

The following letter has since been received by the Chairman of the Directors of the Portsmouth Royal Sailors' Home, from Colonel the Hon. C. B. Phipps:—

Osborne, March 19, 1855.

"I have received the commands of the Queen and his Royal Highness the Prince to inform you, that, feeling deeply the importance of the present time, when so many seamen are required for her Majesty's service, of providing a much larger extent of accommodation in the Portsmouth Sailors' Home than at present exists, it is the intention of her Majesty and his Royal Highness to contribute a joint donation of £100 towards the expense of the present proposed increase of available room.

"I am further directed to inform you, that, in the event of so considerable a sum being collected as to give an early prospect of your being able to make use of the next house belonging to the establishment, for the purpose of affording a still larger number of seamen a clean, safe, and respectable lodging, when on shore, her Majesty would be willing, in addition, to give £200 more, to ensure so desirable a result.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
"Your most obedient humble servant,
"C. B. PHIPPS.

"Captain Gambier, R.N."

H.M.'S LIGHT-DRAUGHT SCREW GUN-BOAT TENDERS.

SEVERAL of these vessels, built at Northfleet, Deptford, and elsewhere, for tenders to ships of heavy draught of water, are now being fast completed for seas, and some have already joined the fleet at Spithead: their draught of water being about six feet, they are enabled to go into water unapproachable by the vessels they accompany. In length they are about 100 feet, and are propelled by engines of 60-horse power, and have for their armament two of Lancaster's long-range guns. Each of her Majesty's ships having one of these guns boats attached as tender is to bear on her books thirty-three supernumeraries for service in such tender, which is to have the following complement:—1 lieutenant or mate, 1 gunner, boatswain, and carpenter, 3 assistant engineers, 1 leading stoker, 12 seamen, A.B.'s, or ordinary, 3 boys of first and second-class respectively, and 4 privates of the Royal Marines.

They are smart-looking little vessels, and their performances have given the greatest satisfaction; they reflect the greatest credit on all engaged in their design and construction.

NEW ISLANDS IN THE SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN.

(From a Correspondent.)

WE have been favoured by Captain Hyde, of the Royal Mail Steam-ship *Argo*, with the accompanying Views of two recently-discovered Islands in the Southern Indian Ocean, reported at Melbourne, by Captain Rees of the ship *Linclude's Castle*; Captain Hatton, of the ship *Earl of Eglinton*; and Captain Attenage, of the ship *Herald of the Morning*, who states as follows:—"On the 3rd instant (December) I discovered an Island, and sounded in 72 fathoms on black sand, a harbour, then about two miles distant, good to view, but exposed to westerly winds. On the next day (4th) a small island, distant from the large one about ten miles, and a deep rock about a mile from it. The large island about forty miles, and the small about nine miles long. I had good observations when close to, and sailing along two sides of the Island. I give the middle of the large Island lat. 53 10 south, lon 74 36 east; longitudes deduced from chronometers which, leaving the Cape of Good Hope on the 18th Nov., and making this port on the 18th Dec., were found to be correct."

GEOLOGICAL WONDER IN GREAT NAMAQUALAND.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS*)*

37, Adderley-street, Cape Town, Jan., 1855

I. No 704 of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, which has just reached this place, I perceive a Sketch and notice of a "Geological Wonder" in New South Wales, which has been described by your Correspondent there as "the top of a cliff, covered with globular pieces of grey granite scattered loosely [illegible] and also fixed fast in the throats of fissures;" and, as I lately met with [illegible] of equally remarkable character in this country, some account of them may interest your numerous readers.

[illegible] along the banks of [illegible] Namaqualand, for the purpose of discovering [illegible] Copper Mining Company in this town, and during [illegible] perhaps very known, and many unknown, varieties of [illegible] one occasion, when about one hundred miles from [illegible] north of the river, and within eighty yards of a Hottentot encampment, [illegible] to find the road strewed with smooth, well-formed balls, of various [illegible], but mostly of the size of a large cricket-ball, but more perfectly formed, and smoother on the surface; these were easily broken, consisting not of granite but of greenish fluor. In the immediate vicinity of this place is a peculiar formation of red sandstone, consisting of large block, which appear to have been upheaved and disturbed from their original horizontal position, and now resemble well-formed niches or bridges. The low sandy hills on which the balls were found do not exceed half a mile in breadth; the character of the country (seaward) then changes, no red sandstone being found, but a junction of hills composed of reddish slate, trap, ridges of very white and pink quartz, and silicious formations of various hues. Between two ranges of these hills is a wide and extensively fertile plain, perfectly free from undulations; and the greater part of this is strewed with natural tiles of beautiful form and workmanship; these are invariably smooth on the lower surface; vary from ½ to 1½ inch in thickness; preceding on the upper part various patterns, arising, it would seem, from crystallisation; but having rather the appearance of having been run into moulds. When the first sample was picked up we imagined it to be a piece of agate, being of the same colour and thickness; but, on examining this and other pieces attentively, the probabilities were found to be more regular and uniform than in the case of agate, and affording greater variety of form.

The weather be[illegible] exceedingly hot, and food and forage unobtainable in these parts when our party passed through, we could afford no time for searching after good specimens. The largest found was about eighteen inches long by six broad.

I remain, &c.,
J. T. POCOCK.

THE KARIKOT RESTAURANT.—Mr. Oppenheim's store in the soldiers' camp at Kadikoi is now opened, and supplied with all comforting necessaries and luxuries; and next to it, the high separate from the establishment, [illegible] *restaurant*, where a "moderate dinner may be had at a moderate price" [illegible] in the Crimean sense of these terms. But certainly it is a great step in advance that a dinner or breakfast may be had for money, and better and for [illegible] money than was formerly charged by the transport captains in the harbour of Balaclava, many of whom converted their ships into hotels—and gave bewildered consumers of tea, with biscuit and salt pork, and dinners of bad soup, pork, preserved potatoes, and yam pies, for the very moderate sum of 10s. per head. It is impossible to use the fitting terms in describing the greed of the majority of our transport captains, and the unfair advantages they have at all times taken of the necessities of the army, to such an extent that the advent of the Mediterranean and Indian trades was a piece of good fortune. That the whole of whose space and carrying power has been hired by Government, take up passengers and goods indiscriminately. I have already mentioned, but I forgot to mention that they frequently refuse to convey, or [illegible] private goods sent on board by [illegible] [illegible] and charge [illegible] for [illegible] the purse of Sydney Stewart charged a [illegible] from Scutari to Balaclava [illegible]

CATCH A TIGER.—About three this afternoon there was a splendid bit of manœuvring. A Russian officer, accompanied by a dragoon, determined to break off a vidette. They came quietly towards the hill, upon the summit of which stood one faithful soldier. In order to avoid all suspicion, the two unknown strangers allowed their horses a gentle gallop—always, of course, in direction of their prey. All seemed to promise well; but, [illegible] were being closely watched by a very small cavalry picket, and just as the vidette's hill was about to be mounted, out darted three or four of our dragoons upon all the heads of the Russian horses were turned, and Russian spurs [illegible] the Russian heels, but the steeds of British steeds was too much, for they [illegible] the enemy, and in a few moments the daring pair were marched into Balaclava as prisoners—a Turcoman, and not a vidette, had been caught. An eye-witness tells me that the whole thing was as pretty a sight as he ever saw, and intensely exciting.—*Letter from Balaclava, Mar.* [illegible]

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

THE SARDINIAN TREATY.

The Message on the subject of the convention concluded with Sardinia was taken into consideration.

The Earl of CLARENDON recapitulated the heads of the treaty, and pointed out the advantages which it secured to the Allied Powers in carrying on the war against Russia. The King of Sardinia had acted with good faith, and had joined the Western Alliance without reference of delay as soon as the proposition was made to him. Sardinia intended to pay her full share in carrying on the war, but her finances were not at present in a condition to bear the strain of the immediate outlay, and it was therefore proposed that advances, by way of loan, should be made to her; this course was adopted, British vessels were already on their way to transport the 15,000 troops to the Crimea.

The Earl of HARDWICKE and the Earl of SHAFTESBURY congratulated the country upon the arrangement, and upon the compliments to Sardinia for the enlightened and liberal policy she had adopted in this and in other matters.

The Addresses in answer to the Queen's Message was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

Sir C. WOOD, in replying to Mr Sandars, stated that an effectual blockade of all ports in the Baltic and White Sea would be established as soon as the ice had broken up.

THE SARDINIAN TREATY.

The House having resolved itself into Committee, in order to consider the Royal Message respecting the Sardinian Treaty,

Lord PALMERSTON moved an Address in answer to the Crown; and, after briefly recapitulating the terms of the convention, went on to explain the advantages which he anticipated to arise from it both to the Allies, in carrying on the war with Russia, and to Sardinia itself, by bringing that country into cordial union with the great Powers of Europe.

A resolution sanctioning the conclusion of the treaty, and authorising the advance of money to Sardinia under the terms specified therein, was put from the chair.

Mr. DISRAELI would not assume the responsibility of opposing the resolution proposed to them, but wished to remind the House of the conduct of the proceeding. Financial operations at home, he declared, had lately assumed the character of loans in disguise, and the advance now to be granted to Sardinia was thrown out to the country in disguise. He expressing his fear that the transaction would serve as the precedent for a wholesale system of subsidies, he nevertheless admitted the value of the co-operation which Sardinia promised to afford us, that assistance being rendered [illegible] only important by the neglect and want of foresight of the Home Government.

Lord PALMERSTON [illegible] to permit Mr Disraeli to confound a loan with a subsidy [illegible] to the charges he had urged against the Government of want of foresight.

Mr EVELYN DENISON regretted the course taken by Mr. Disraeli, and the expressions he had made use of in giving effect to his opinions. Mr Denison regarded the transaction as honourable to all parties, and hoped the free co-operation of Sardinia would long flourish.

Mr BRIGHT [illegible] that such loans were generally "shuffled" out as often as opportunity presented. With regard to the security, he would have liked it all the better had it not been accompanied with 15,000 from Sardinia had no interest whatever in the struggle in which England and France were engaged; and it was one of the great misfortunes of the existing war that it led to endeavours to induce other countries to embark into it—the larger States by coaxing, and the smaller by bullying.

Mr. BOWYER had no [illegible] opinion of the financial resources of Sardinia, and had little expected [illegible] if the loan being repaid.

Mr. GLADSTONE remarked that it was satisfactory to find that, although different views of the proposal had been expressed, not a word had been spoken which tended to give a false impression of the feeling which existed in this country towards Sardinia. Adverting to Mr Bowyer's insinuations and imputations, Mr. Gladstone put the question, "Has Sardinia ever been shy of her financial engagements?" [illegible] said not. He believed that the loan was a *bona fide* loan, and that Sardinia would honourably fulfil her engagements. With regard to [illegible] agreed in the opinion that they ought to be narrowly watched.

Mr. ADDERLEY [illegible] the House the necessity of guarding against subsidies, and [illegible] to use all diligence in developing the military resources of our own country.

Mr. KINNAIRD expressed his high admiration of Sardinia, and referred with regret to the effect which the language made use of by Mr. Disraeli and his party, in reference to those who might enlist under the Foreign Enlistment Act had produced upon the minds of foreigners.

Mr. DISRAELI, being able, as the House was in Committee, to make two speeches on one question, took advantage of that circumstance to repeat his censure of the convention with Sardinia, extending his strictures to the general war policy of the Government.

Lord PALMERSTON replied to this attempt to attack by another vindication of the treaty and the Ministry.

Mr. WALPOLE thought Mr. Disraeli had done good service in drawing forth explanations on the [illegible] of the projected loan.

Mr. J. BALL spoke [illegible] of the financial condition of Sardinia.

Mr COBDEN doubted [illegible] how much whether Sardinia had consulted her best interests in entering into the treaty, and whether Austria have been called upon to fire the first shot? He was very much surprised that the advance should have been proposed at a time when negotiations for peace were going on; and he would put the question, Is there any peace or war. Would it not be well, therefore, to take that contingency into account as regarded the present vote?

Mr WALPOLE, Mr M'Gregor Milnes, Lord PALMERSTON said, that if peace should be concluded before the loan was expended in the military preparations of Sardinia, the payment of the balance would become a matter of arrangement.

NEWSPAPER-STAMP DUTIES BILL.

On the order of the day for the second reading of this bill, petitions were presented by Mr. Cowan, from inhabitants and from letterpress printers of Edinburgh, praying the House to repeal all restrictions on newspapers, and to admit all printed matter to postage at the rate of 1d for four ounces; by Sir J. V. Shelley, from Westminster, and other parts of the metropolis, and by Mr. G. Hudson, from booksellers and newspaper proprietors at Sunderland, to the same effect; by Mr M. Gibson, from the proprietor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, praying that the bill may be passed, and stating that very great inconvenience and injury would arise to newspaper proprietors if the authorised stamp duties should be delayed; also from the proprietors of the *West Cornwall Gazette*, in favour of the bill; from Spalding, Canterbury, and other places, in favour of the bill introduced by the late Chancellor of the Exchequer; also a petition signed by Messrs. Longman and Co., and all the principal booksellers, publishers, and musical publishers in Paternoster-row, praying that printed matter may be admitted to postage at the rate of 1d. for four ounces.

On the question that the Newspaper-stamp Duties Bill be read a second time, Mr. DERBY moved, as an amendment, that the motion be postponed till after the Chancellor of the Exchequer has made the Financial Statement. In addition to financial considerations, Mr. Deedes urged objections to the proposed relaxation "the moment was extremely inopportune for deciding so important a question; and his belief was that, if the people of this country were polled, their opinion would be in opposition to the Ministerial proposal."

Sir E. B LYTTON could not consent to argue the question upon the narrow basis of money. Many years ago he had proposed the abolition of the taxes on knowledge, including the newspaper-stamp, and nothing had occurred since to induce him to alter his opinion. A great increase had taken place in the intelligence of the people; and how had that arisen? Just because a great incentive had taken place in the number of cheap publications. Those who formerly entertained a fear of the results of cheap literature ought now to take courage, and support the proposed measure. He hoped the House would separate the principle of the bill from the details. The latter would have to be carefully considered in Committee; and on that point he would say that a simple and efficient law of copyright would be a great improvement, that it was a mistake to say that newspapers formed public opinion; it was the public who gave the tone to the newspapers. The principle of the proposed measure was this—that you ought not, in a free country, to lay a tax on the expression of political opinion, or upon the diffusion of information upon public affairs. As long as such a tax existed, no man, be his talent and character what they may, could establish a first class journal for the expression of his views without a capital unfairly enhanced by the amount of the tax. One effect of the emancipation of the press would be to induce persons to throw off the veil which now concealed them, and to write under their own name. With regard to the corrupting influence of a corrupt press, it was worthy of remark that the bad influence reached the higher classes of society, and, reasoning upon this fact, Sir Edward's belief was that any inflammatory articles which may be established in consequence of the removal of the newspaper-stamp, would not last six weeks; but, if attempted the Conservatives to avail themselves of the opportunity now presented of correcting the opinions the chance of reaching the eye of the working-classes. He knew of no Conservative organ which reached [illegible]

The Attorney-GENERAL [illegible] himself to the state of the law, showing that it was [illegible] to render one of two courses absolutely necessary—the [illegible] of the present law, or the enforcement of the penalties on [illegible] of periodicals which had been exempted for many years. He did not think that a law of copyright would be necessary; but, if unprincipled parties should steal the matter from the morning papers in order to bring out their publications at a somewhat later [illegible] would become the duty of Parliament, if series failed to convict, [illegible] of copyright than now existed.

Sir E BARING maintained that the financial objection to the measure, [illegible] loss of £200,000 of revenue without a substitute being named—and not been satisfactorily answered. No sufficient case had been made out to justify the loss of so much revenue.

Mr [illegible] Chancellor [illegible] all the fears entertained by certain newspaper proprietors of the effects likely to arise from the success of the proposed measure. In these fears he could see nothing but the lingering element of Protection. He would, as a newspaper proprietor himself, wash his hands of all such selfishness.

Mr DRUMMOND had the misfortune to hold opinions different from those which prevailed on both sides of the House. Instead of being the friend of England, he believed the press in its present state to be one of its greatest curses. It was the base adulation of a power which it could not resist. Hitherto the press was nothing more than a commercial speculation—a mere instrument for making gain by the manufacture and sale of political gossip.

Mr DUNCOMBE, as a newspaper proprietor, was prepared to support the bill.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER could not consider the question as mainly or principally a fiscal question. In introducing his bill he meant to give effect to the resolution passed last Session on the motion of Mr Milner Gibson. That resolution was passed in the full knowledge that a great new expenditure had to be proposed taxation. If the House be prepared to recede from its resolution, let it do so by rejecting the second reading of the bill, and not by a side-wind, like that proposed in the amendment. Adverting to the fears entertained by the London and provincial press of the effects of this measure, the Chancellor of the Exchequer considered that they originated in imagination. With regard to the financial part of the question, he stated that Government were prepared to provide amply for the expenditure of the year, and to make allowance for the estimated loss to arise from the repeal of the newspaper stamp. Government were also prepared to propose a reduction in the rate of postage for printed matter.

Mr. DISRAELI, after adverting to the difficulty in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer would find himself if he attempted to carry into effect every abstract resolution which might be adopted by the House, stated that he would support the amendment. No course could be more rational, under existing circumstances, than to delay decision till the Ministerial projects were before the House.

Lord PALMERSTON adverted to a peculiarity connected with the resolution passed by the House. It was carried without dissent. The law must be relaxed or altered. As it now stands it is a scandal. For himself he neither apprehended injury to the existing newspapers nor the creation of a class of low and bad publications as the result of the relaxation. He hoped the House would not be led astray by the insidious amendment. Whoever voted for that amendment, voted against the bill. Upon that point let there be no mistake.

At a quarter after twelve o'clock, the division was taken. For the second reading, 215; against it, 161: majority for the second reading, 54.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The Marquis of BREADALBANE (the Lord Chamberlain) brought up and read to their Lordships her Majesty's gracious answer to the Address from the House in reference to the treaty with Sardinia.

The Militia (Ireland) Bill was read a second time, on the motion of the Secretary of War.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

THE SEBASTOPOL COMMITTEE.

Mr. CORBEN asked if the hon. member for Sheffield could state when the Army Before Sebastopol Committee would lay upon the table the evidence taken before them? And suggested whether it might not be well to print the evidence day by day, as the daily papers published accounts of it which were sometimes considered by the witnesses not quite correct.

Mr. ROEBUCK said that the Committee had determined to print the evidence taken up to the last day of their sitting before the Easter recess. As to the second question, he thought the result of publishing the evidence daily would be so to increase the trouble and expense, that it would hardly be compensated by any advantage that could be expected.

Mr PRINSEP asked when it was likely that the Committee would make their report? (A laugh.)

Mr. ROEBUCK said that was rather a hard question ("Hear," and a laugh); but he hoped that soon after Easter the Committee would be able to report.

POLAND.

Mr PHINN moved that an address should be presented to the Crown, praying that, while attempting to negotiate a peace, the British Envoys should use their best exertions for the reconstitution of the kingdom of Poland within its ancient limits, as a measure just in itself, accordant with the ancient policy of the country, and absolutely essential to the due maintenance of the balance of power in Europe. The hon. member supported his motion by enlarging upon the political crimes which had attended the partition of Poland, and the beneficial results that might be anticipated from its restoration. He feared that there was a strong feeling abroad that the country was of a Quixotic character; they differed for Utopia than for a practical English [illegible]. But he might appeal to the petitions presented to the House, to the advice which the motion of his had received in foreign countries, to the declarations of distinguished members on both sides of the House, among whom he might mention one who filled a prominent position in the late Government of Lord Derby—he meant the hon member for North South Lincolnshire, and another distinguished gentleman who had avowed his sentiments and his sympathies on the subject. To these he might add the noble Lord at the head of the Government, and the other night said that he considered the position occupied by Russia in Poland was a standing menace to Germany. If that were so—if Warsaw were, indeed, a standing menace to Germany—if it was a menace to Turkey—if was a question at once practical and important to every European State, and essential to the maintenance of the balance of power in Europe. If was, however, objected by some that it was a delicate question, and a topic out of the Government, and that it was too delicate a topic for discussion in the House of Commons. But this objection arose from a morbid idea, encouraged by successive Governments, that questions of foreign policy were unfit for discussion in that House. If, however, we looked at what had taken place during the last few years, it would be found that the world had abstained from too much discussion in this House, but from too little. If public opinion had earlier expressed itself, we might not have been involved in such serious hostilities, or they would have been carried on more vigorously and successfully.

The motion was seconded by Mr SCHOLEFIELD, and supported by Mr. M MILNER.

Lord R. CECIL contended that England had [illegible] such a cause, since she could not come into court with [illegible] that took at the proposition which [illegible] Lord Derby had two centuries before [illegible] There was not a quarter of the globe in which England at this very moment did not maintain her dominions by the repression of oppressed nationalities. At the end of the last century she took the Cape by force, and at that very moment she kept it by force, and her dominion there was maintained over a population which detested her as much as they detested the Dutch. Humanity which prevented them from protecting themselves against the Boers. It was said of the Ionian Isles; and had they not heard of punishments being inflicted in these islands almost as severe as Constantine had ever inflicted upon Poland. Therefore it appeared that if any Turkey had conferred upon England the power in all occasions was to come forward in defence of oppressed nationalities when a great portion of her empire was constituted of them (Hear, hear). For 400 years Turkey had conferred upon England one of the greatest nations the world had ever seen, and she had maintained her rule without an effort to reconstitute or absorb it; and this war which the country had engaged in was to revert those claims on a nation one of the most oppressed in the world.

Lord PALMERSTON denied that the territorial extension of the British empire had been accomplished by oppressive aggression. On the moral question he agreed in all that had been said respecting Poland practically, however, he submitted that the motion laid before the House was highly inexpedient. It would embarrass the Government in their diplomatic proceedings, and implied a pledge of actually taking up arms against the present possessors of Polish territory, for the purpose of vindicating the independence of that oppressed nationality. The introduction of such a controversy would add enormously to the already existing difficulties in the way of concluding a peace. He appealed to the hon. mover to withdraw his resolution.

Mr. PHINN consented to this course, and the motion was accordingly withdrawn.

PROMOTION IN THE ARMY.

Major REED moved for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the present mode of conferring commissions in the Army, by purchase or otherwise, and to recommend a more efficient system for securing promotion to merit and long service, the existing modes of obtaining commissions and promotion by purchase was, he contended, pernicious to the service, unjust to the private soldier, and most oppressive to poor and deserving officers in the service. The Army as a profession, but could not afford to buy their advancement to its higher grades.

Captain SCOBELL seconded the motion, and spoke in strong terms against the injurious consequences of the system of purchase and favoritism.

Colonel HARCOURT contended that, if purchase was abolished, the steps of promotion would be much delayed, and no officers could reach high rank until they were too old for service. He considered, also, that the grant of commissions was a most unfit mode of rewarding merit among the soldiers from the ranks. A private who had become sergeant would find his position deteriorated by an ensigncy. The establishment of an order of merit, accompanied by pensions, and the assignment of certain posts of honour and emolument to well deserving soldiers offered a far better means of doing justice to the Army.

Colonel LINDSAY and Colonel NORTH also opposed the motion

Mr. W. WILLIAMS urged the necessity of a total change in the present system, declaring that the public would never be satisfied until all barriers to promotion from the ranks had been removed.

After some remarks from Colonel KNOX,

Mr LAING insisted on the advantage of throwing the career open to talent and merit in the military profession.

Lord LOVAINE defended the British Army, and the system by which it is organised

Lord SEYMOUR followed, with some additional remarks in vindication of the military *status quo*.

Mr LOWE remarked that our Army promotion was regulated by three systems—of purchase, seniority, and fitness, of which he had their good and their evil qualities to boast. In the British service, were all in turn adopted in the wrong place, and on wrong principles

Colonel DUNNE having spoken in favour of the motion,

Lord PALMERSTON observed that the proposed changes in the system were urged in the interest of the private soldiers and the regimental officers, the very departments of the Army which at present were most efficient, and whose members evinced the most admirable courage and endurance. Eulogising the performances of the Army during the pending campaign, he argued that while such were the results of the existing system, there was no true ground for abolishing it. Promotion by purchase might be indefensible in the abstract, but had for generations been rooted in the military organisation, could not now be superseded without much expense and disturbance, and offered many counterbalancing advantages in practical working. The reward of merit was admirable in principle, but in execution inevitably degenerated into promotion by favour. Adverting to the motion before the House, the noble Lord declared that he saw no utility in appointing the Select Committee; and, on the constitutional question, apprehended the adoption of such a step would involve the House in something approaching to a usurpation of the prerogative of the Crown

Mr. RICH denounced the continuance in the military profession of a system which would be regarded as a calamity in the Church, corruption in the Government, and venality on the Bench

Mr. P. O'BRIEN briefly supported the motion

Major REID replied, contending to omit from the subjects to be investigated by his proposed Committee the promotion for merit and long service.

On the motion being put, it was carried by a division took place, when there appeared—Ayes, 1; Noes, 34, majority against the motion, 34.

The Select Committee was committed *pro forma*, in order to its being reopened with the other Bill.

The Bill for the Commission of the Royal Family respecting the treaty with Austria was brought up, and received

The report from the Committee of Supply was also brought up

Mr. MACAULEY complained of the rapidity with which the votes on the Estimates had been hurried through the House at a late hour on the previous evening.

Mr. WILSON defended his conduct on the occasion, on the plea of necessity. The whole Civil Service must have stood still if the votes had not been duly passed before the end of the month

Some further conversation took place; after which the report was agreed to

HOUSE OF COMMONS. WEDNESDAY

The Bills of Exchange Bill was read a second time, by a majority of 4, after a long discussion

The Union of Benefices Bill, moved by Mr. Frewen, and supported by Mr. Spooner and Mr. R. Phillimore, was thrown out, on a second reading, by a majority of 8.

The Ecclesiastical Property (Ireland) Bill was read a second time

The Vacating of Seats in Parliament Bill was thrown out, on the second reading, by a majority of 4

The Convention with Sardinia Bill was, on the motion of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Thursday

(*Continued on page* 298)

DESTROYING THE RUSSIAN STEAMERS. On the morning of Tuesday the 6th inst., one of our new batteries on the right opened fire against two Russian vessels lying at the upper part of the harbor. This battery so close to the edge of the Cliff, that a stone could be cast from it into the water, was erected without difficulty, was traced out some time ago by Major Gordon, R.E., but had remained masked until the date mentioned. The chief objects against which its fire was to be directed were, a paddle-wheel steamer constantly employed in transporting troops and stores across the harbour, and another steamer armed with a heavy mortar, which has been a source of annoyance by its facility of changing its position, and obtaining shelter under the guns of Sebastopol, or a perfect from the southern shore. On Monday evening these two vessels were seen to be lying out from the land, east of the entrance to Careening Bay, about one third of the distance across the harbour to the north side. They were calculated to be about 1600 or 1700 yards from the battery in question, and within range of several of the guns with which the work was armed, as the shells of a mortar battery concentrated with it. The 13-inch five battery would only admit of a limited number of its guns being brought to bear upon the steamers. Shortly before day broke on the morning of the vessels themselves were visible, and the firing commenced from one of them almost well that they had not quitted their position. The fire at once commenced. It was not possible for some time to perceive with any accuracy where the shot fell; but when the mist had cleared away, a clear view of the two vessels became visible. It was evident that she had been struck. There seemed to be no doubt, judging from the abortive efforts which were observed to set it in motion, that the paddle-wheel looking towards the battery had been injured. In spite of all endeavours to get steam up, thirty-five minutes elapsed before the vessels had quitted their berth, and during this time above sixty rounds of shot and shell were fired against them. It was observed that eight or ten of these at least had been effective. The nearer steamer was seemingly warped off, and, as she disappeared round a projecting point to the westward of her former anchorage, it was for some time supposed that she had sunk. This supposition was chiefly caused by the sudden appearance in the course of her track of two boats crowded with sailors; but subsequently she was seen passing the entrance to Careening Bay, with masts and sides considerably damaged by the fire to which she had been exposed, but still floating on toward the Dockyard. A very short time was permitted, after the battery had been unmasked and the fire opened against the ships, before the Russian guns in turn opened their fire against the new work. A constant discharge was kept up from the two batteries near the west Inkerman lighthouse, from the battery on the edge of White Cliff, and from the work westward of the entrance to Careening Bay; but, whether the guns were badly served, or whatever might be the cause, they failed altogether either in damaging our work or injuring any one within it.—*Letter from the Camp*

AMUSEMENTS AT EUPATORIA.—The time is beginning to hang heavily enough upon everybody's hands, except those engaged at the fortifications, which will now very soon be completed, and will make Eupatoria not simply an intrenched camp, but a fortress which can only be taken by a regular siege. Troops and artillery still continue to arrive from Varna and Balik-lik in large numbers; the weather is passably fine, and the disembarkation goes on swimmingly. The north winds which prevail come sweeping over the steppe from Perekop, laden with frost and snow, and cause a good deal of suffering; but, as the roadstead is sheltered from them, the sea is calm as a mill-pond. When it shifts to the west or south, we pay for the warmth by a huge surf and heavy swell, which retards or puts a stop altogether to all work at the quay. The pier has now become the general rendezvous of all the Europeans in the place, who repair thither every morning after breakfast on horseback, smoke, and exchange or retail the various rumours that are afloat, and make comment which remains. I am persuaded that the majority go away almost coinciding with David's opinion, that all men are liars, as the love of the marvellous and improbable seems to be developed here to an extent almost unparalleled in the history of the human mind. This sort of diet over, the greater number wend their way to their quarters, take up their position in front of a stove upon a three-legged chair, and try to work themselves into the belief that they are sitting before a fire; or stretch themselves full length upon an aged sofa, once the property of some Russian, who is doubtless devoting us to the infernal gods at Odessa or Perekop, and occupy themselves in gazing at the ceiling or whiffing paper cigarettes. In the whole town there are perhaps eight or nine French novels, which have long ago gone the rounds; and, in the absence of all other mental food, the reading world is obliged to fall back upon reflection. In the stores of a few Greeks, who pillaged the houses after the flight of the inhabitants, and sorted the booty at exorbitant prices, great numbers of Russian books are to be found, mixed up with pots, pans, looking-glasses, and portraits of generals all covered with stripes and stars; but the majority seem to be dictionaries and manuals of arithmetic. Reading being, therefore, a luxury not easily to be had, writing is the only intellectual employment which remains; but one is restrained from indulging in this by the scarcity of ink and paper. Those who, like myself, are so fortunate as to live on the sea-shore, have an unfailing resource in looking out of the window at the ships, speculating which steamer it is that last came in, what vessel she towed, when she will go away, whether she has cheese, or butter, or hay, to sell on board; when the signals are about to change, the wind being favourable, that they hear firing at Sebastopol; or, if of a sentimental turn of mind, wondering "What the wild waves are saying," as they lie on their beds at night-fall, listening to their eternal roar at day-break on the strand; and guessing how all the fortifying, and marching, and embarking and disembarking, and cannonading and warring will end; and whether they will ever get out or clear of the territories of his Majesty the Czar, and sleep quiet nights under the safeguard of a policeman, in no fear whatever of being attacked, assaulted, shelled, peppered with Minié rifle balls and 24-pound shot before morning. But the waves go on roaring as loudly as if saying thus—and I am persuaded would reply to any one skilful in getting talk out of them—that it would be a long while yet, and that a vast number of those who pour on shore every day will never more return.—*Letter from Eupatoria. March 4.*

The value of the exports of the United States for 1854 is given at [illegible] Compared with 1850, the increase in the exports is 118,000,000. Canada contributed 600,000.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE interest felt by the public in the revelations extracted by Mr. Roebuck's Committee of the needless sufferings endured during the last autumn and winter by our soldiers in the East increases from day to day. Always the Committee-room is crowded; and the first thing read at the breakfast table, after the telegraphic despatches have been glanced at, is the newspaper report of the last day's proceedings. We were told that all sorts of inconveniences were to arise from these examinations injustice to the commanders of our army, who, attacked without the means of defending themselves, were to throw up their commands *en masse*, or at least to retire to their tents, like Achilles, in sulky inaction; encouragement to the enemy; and destruction to the cordiality of our alliance with France, if not to the alliance itself. As yet none of these misfortunes seem likely to occur. On the other hand, we are now for the first time learning the truth; or, at least, we for the first time know to a certainty that we might all along have put faith in those popular accounts, the correctness of which, under the pressure of official mis-statements and prejudiced contradiction, many were inclined to deny. And it is a great thing to know the truth, however disagreeable we may be sure that, in one way or another, good always results from it. This week, besides the examination of Mr. Osborne (S. G. O of the *Times*)—the most remarkable of all we have had that of Doctor Andrew Smith, and of Dr Menzies The former had resigned his office (having been 'recommended' thereto) before he faced the Committee and to this we must attribute that he was, on the whole, "let off easily" by the Examiners. Doctor Menzies, I believe, has not yet resigned his office (Deputy-Inspector General of Hospitals); therefore the Committee had no delicacy with him. Mr Drummond, Mr. Layard, and others cross-examined him; and never did Tipperary wit [illegible] determination not to be pressed into giving a direct answer

The charming Lyceum Theatre, one of the most pleasant places of evening amusement in London (and which, but for the absence of stalls, which, from some crotchet, the manager never would allow, would have been still pleasanter), closes its doors. Charles Mathews has given up the game at last. Hard times, want of capital, the ill health of his wife such are the causes which, in a farewell advertisement, he assigns for his retirement. As an admirable actor, sure always of a large salary, he could not do a wiser thing for his own interest. It is only a pity that he did not take this step years ago and that he has been so long in discovering that a man without capital has no more business with a theatre than he has with a grocer's shop. A popular actor, with a turn for speculation, hires a theatre—there is little difficulty with the proprietor, for, whoever else suffers, he is pretty sure to get his rent; there will always be money enough in the theatre to satisfy his claim, which is of the nature of a first mortgage. For a time all goes well: the play, or the pantomime, or the burlesque, is a "draw"—the salaries are paid regularly, and give food and lodging to a hundred families that the weather does not last for ever war, taxation, or a bad harvest arrives the middle classes have less money to spend on amusements—the dress circle is half full, the pit half empty. With a competent capital, the manager is able to tide over the difficulties in his way, which are not likely to last for ever; without capital he cannot. Of course he hopes for better times, and does not shut up at once. Nobody ever does. So then begins the descending scale of payments—three-quarter salaries, half salaries, no salaries The carpenter or the dancing girl's pound-a-week dwindles to fifteen, to ten shillings to nothing. They cannot go elsewhere, for the theatrical season has begun, and all the other companies are complete; so in Bow or Lisle street, in the courts of Drury-lane and Long-acre, there is great poverty, and, it may be, starvation. With all their little follies and conceits, a more uncomplaining, industrious, yet ill-requited, set than the small theatrical people does not exist. Who that has not been mixed up in these matters, would think that the old lady whom but the other day we saw pacing the stage resplendent in brocade, now presented from absolute want by a half-crown subscription? Yet this is a *fact*, and is probably no singular case As for the great actor, the unsuccessful manager, possibly he has to make a mere promenade through the Insolvent Court. The process is barely unpleasant, for what Judge can be hard upon the possessor of talents which have so often moved him to tears or laughter? Then the very worst that can happen to him is that he must content himself with his twenty or thirty pounds a week—for good actors are scarce, must be paid, and can always get security for the payment. *Hamlet* flourishes, but *Laertes* or *Guildenstern* are very likely to come upon the parish. They manage these things differently in France, where no one is allowed to open a theatre without he can previously give security to a reasonable amount that his payments shall not depend on the problematical chances of a run.

Jenny Lind has returned to the concert-room, her *locus in quo* being Amsterdam, and the motive assigned a charitable one. Her first concert appears to have been successful, the profits having amounted to £400, which will be applied to the relief of the sufferers from the recent inundations in Guelderland and North Brabant. What is not so well is that, *apropos* to this charitable action, we hear the first notes of a repetition of that ridiculous rhodomontade with which we were sickened a few years ago. We are told that the Dutch audience was "beside itself," that her "wonderful powers moved tears and smiles in one breath," &c. I have seen a Dutch spectator laugh till he cried at some broad farce; but the idea of a whole audience, especially of Dutchmen, crying and laughing simultaneously at one of Jenny Lind's, or any other Jenny's, ballads, is too absurd. Madame Goldschmidt is no doubt a very charming singer, and a very kind-hearted woman besides; but the continual deification of her which used to go on in the papers was too ridiculous, and, it is to be hoped, will not be permitted to recommence.

We have got the very man for a melodrame—a first-rate character for Mr. N. T Hicks—in prison. Henry Garrett—whose "personal appearance is formidable, a huge pair of whiskers and a thick moustache adding greatly to the natural ferocity of his countenance"—has been "nabbed" by four policemen, in Oxford-street. Garrett, accompanied by three friends, walked one fine afternoon into the Victoria Bank, at Melbourne, tied and gagged the manager and clerks, and walked off with the till, containing some £20,000. There is something really grand in the business, which gives one a kind of sympathy for the offender. There was nothing petty or larcenical in it. There is a largeness of idea even in the manner in which the robber invested his capital. He did not tie it up in a series of stockings, or hide it under his mattress; a Peer of the realm could not have dealt with his savings more methodically or respectably than Garrett with his stolen gold.

A public meeting, attended by men of all politics, has been held at Willis's Rooms, for the purpose of raising subscriptions towards a testimonial of respect for the memory of the late Lord Dudley Stuart. Few reputations stand less in need of a memorial—none deserve one more—than that of this excellent man. As an orator or a politician he was, indeed, not much; he was apt to prose in the House of Commons, and tediously to detail things out of place and out of season—so that his name is associated with many a "count-out"—but his whole life was one act of benevolence and unselfishness; and, to use a trite old phrase—which, in his case, is literally true—"he never lost a friend, or made an enemy."

In consequence of the intervention of Good Friday and of a Sunday, a delay of two days will be caused in the payment of the dividends this quarter, which will not take place until the 10th, instead of the 8th of April

The French Government, having [illegible] the value of the [illegible] effected in France for that amount [illegible] rise, with power to add [illegible] of the Exchequer Bills have been issued with [illegible]

EPITOME OF NEWS FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC

His Royal Highness Prince Albert honoured Mr. Bacon on Tuesday last, by visiting his studio in Lower Belgrave-place, Pimlico, and inspecting his model for the statue of Mendelssohn

The *New York Herald* notices the production of a blue rose at Paris, by artificial crossings; and also of a green rose in North Carolina

A return to Parliament shows a great increase in the importation of guano. In 1852 the importation was 120,869 tons; in 1853, 123,166; and last year, 235,111 tons.

The number of Piedmontese troops ordered to proceed to the Crimea has been raised from 15,000 to 17,000

The State apartments of Windsor Castle will be closed until further orders.

The *Ost Deutsche Post* of Vienna announces that Spain and Portugal have acceded to the European Coalition, and that the treaty was signed at Paris on the 21st

The Earl of Carlisle has issued instructions to the Comptroller of his household to see that every sick and wounded soldier, arriving in Dublin from the Crimea, shall be provided with a bed, breakfast, dinner, and tea, at his Excellency's expense

The Danish Volksthing has refused the second reading of a bill to cover the sum of 58,000 dollars spent last year without authority by the Minister of War and Marine

Eight waggons filled with Chinese articles intended for the Universal Exhibition have been sent from Havre to Paris

Lynch law prevails more than ever in California: twenty offenders were lately hanged there without any legal trial

Her Majesty Commissioners of Emigration have given notice that they require two ships to convey emigrants to Adelaide and Geelong, to be ready to receive them between the 10th and 15th May next.

Letters from Zurich state that a very active Socialist propaganda has been carried on [illegible] to the doctrines of Fourier, every day making

The coal-owners at Wigan have determined on giving notice to their colliers of a reduction of wages, in consequence of the decreased demand for coal, amounting to 2.10 per cent, or a reduction of employment to [illegible] per week.

The French Government [illegible] treaty for the conveyance to Cayenne of 500 free African [illegible]

The looking-glass manufactory of St. Gobain, has cast and polished for the Universal Exhibition, a mirror, eighteen metres 21 square

All the Russian prisoners who are so wounded as to be incapacitated from learning arms are to be sent from Odessa to their native home and [illegible] out any conditions, and at the expense of Russia

The greatest work yet accomplished in Victoria is the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway, opened on the 12th of September This, the first one in the colonies, is about four miles long. The entire distance is [illegible] in all

The large bell of the tower of Ivan-Velk, in the Kremlin, at Moscow, fell to the ground at the moment when the ceremony of swearing allegiance and fidelity to the new Emperor was going on, and by its fall crushed nearly a hundred persons

Letters from Athens announce the discovery of anti[illegible] or fragments of sculpture, recently brought to light by [illegible] the site of the Temple of Jupiter These pieces [illegible] recovered by the Greek Government.

The number of bankrupts in Berne in the last [illegible] amounted to 4255, of whom only about 600 have been rehabilitated

The works for the embellishment of the Bois de Boulogne are nearly completed; but extensive plantations of shrubs are now being made on the southern island, and in the avenue which leads from Neuilly [illegible]

The Queen has been pleased to excuse the Duchess of Sutherland, Mistress of the Robes, from [illegible] conducting the funeral mourning for the late Lord Frederick Leveson Gower shall take place [illegible]

The King and Queen of Prussia returned on [illegible] the Palace of Charlottenburg from Dresden

The Count de Chambord left Venice on the 17th, with the Duchesse de Levis, on his return to Venice.

The Earl of Carlisle arrived in town on Monday [illegible] Yorkshire. After a brief stay in London, his Excellency returns, I believe, upon the 11th of April, he will make his public entry [illegible] capital

The *Journal de St. Petersbourg* of the 14th announces that a Russian capital of the Grand Dukes Nicholas and Michael [illegible] Crimea.

The King of Prussia is said to have charged his brother, Prince Charles, whom he despatched to St. Petersburg, to present the condolence of the Court of Berlin, to be also the bearer of pacific counsel

The Duke and Duchess de Brabant returned [illegible] Alexandria, from their excursion up the Nile. Their Royal Highnesses [illegible] set out for the Tombs of Thebes and Dendera

Prince Albert of Saxony left Turin on the 14th, having paid a visit of condolence to his sister, the Duchess of Genoa

Lord Dundonald has announced his intention to communicate to the Emperor of the French the means not only to spare the [illegible] of the French army, but to ensure that of France, by the speedy destruction of the defences of Sebastopol

The Archduchess Mary-Dorothy, mother of the Duchess de Brabant, is seriously ill in Pesth.

The anniversary dinner of the Literary Fund is announced for May the 22nd, with the Bishop of Oxford in the chair

King Victor Emmanuel will proceed to Genoa in a few days, to be present at the embarkation of the Sardinian troops for the Crimea.

Professor Simpson of Edinburgh, has been requested by Lord Panmure to provide the medical officers requisite for the formation of an military civil hospital in the East

The French Emperor has recently extended his clemency to a great number of soldiers undergoing punishment, either of imprisonment or of hard labour. Of these men, 299 have received a free pardon, and 188 a commutation of punishment.

In the Camp before Sebastopol the Welsh Fusiliers gave a large dinner party to celebrate St. David's-day

M. Thiers and General Changarnier persist in denying the truth of M. Veron's statement (backed by M. Morny) as to their complicity in a plot for the violent dissolution of the National Assembly. Changarnier's denial is indignant and positive.

Mr. Ralph Waldo Emerson urges his countrymen to purchase the freedom of every slave in the Republic No tax, he thinks, would be paid cheerfully paid, though the sum exceeds 2,000,000,000 dollars.

M. Soulé has declined the invitation of the Cuban Junta to a public demonstration in his honour.

An Imperial ukase of the 7th appoints the Grand Duke Constantine to the head of the Ministry of Marine and at the same time to the command of the fleet, as Grand Admiral.

When Mr. Thackeray finishes his "Newcomes," he will go to America with a new set of curiosities

General De Marmora is to be placed in the same position as Omer Pacha. He will exercise an independent command, and have a seat in the Council of War, but be bound by decisions of the majority of the council

Mr. Ewart has obtained leave to bring in a bill to promote the establishment of free public libraries and museums in Ireland

Baron Tecco has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary of Sardinia for the conclusion of the military convention with the Porte, now necessary by the sending of the Sardinian troops to the Crimea

Alboni, after an absence of five years, is about to return to England. She is engaged by Mr. Beale, for a tour in the provinces, during the months of April and May. Great is the joy of the party

Baron von Lieven had his farewell audience of the Emperor of Austria on the 18th, and was to leave the same evening for St Petersburg

Mahmoud Bey, Mustachar of Foreign Affairs, has been raised to the dignity of Pacha, and appointed Governor of Beyrout

An exhibition has been opened in Dublin, in aid of the Patriotic Fund It contains several valuable works of art, and some interesting relics of the war.

Two slight undulatory shocks of earthquake were felt at San Remo (Piedmont) on the 16th. They were both preceded by a loud rumbling subterranean noise.

From the present time to the 15th of April, between 5000 and 6000 horses and mules are expected. Mules for the [illegible]

VICTOR EMMANUEL II. KING OF SARDINIA.—FROM A PICTURE BY L. V. GANDER

THE KING OF SARDINIA.

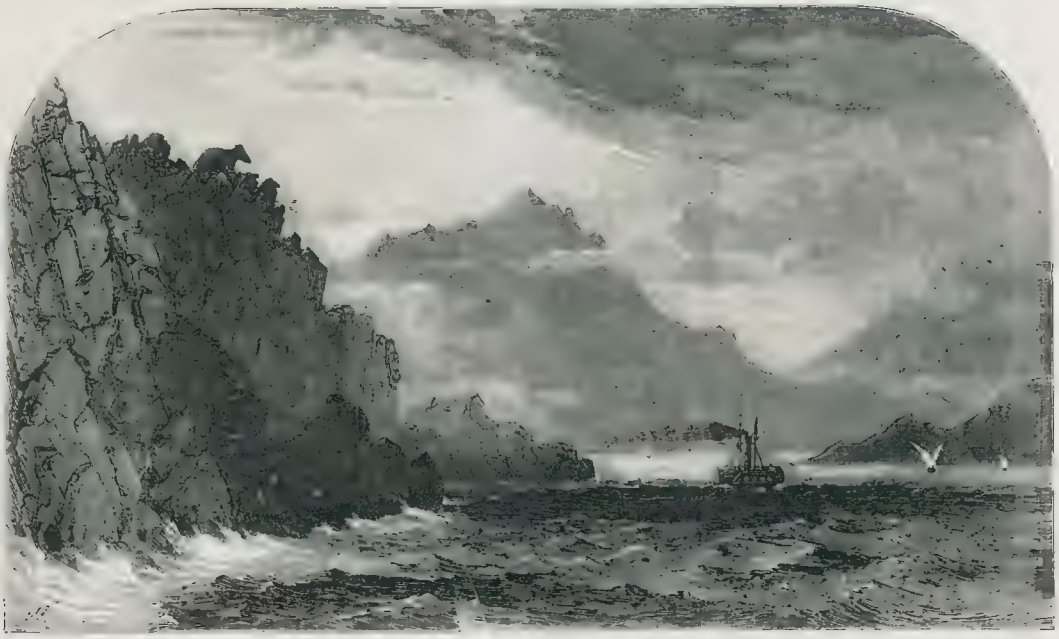
The vicissitudes through which the Kings of the House of Savoy have passed, even during the last half-century, have invested their history with a degree of romance not common among the minor European Sovereigns. After a long period of dynastic struggle and domestic turbulence, the kingdom of Piedmont and Sardinia has at length fallen under the sway of a Monarch who falls not short of any Italian Prince in patriotism, but who sees the advantage which a system of Constitutional Government, well administered, gives to a country over theories of Democratic liberty, or of Absolutism, or of Nationality. By taking a bold initiative in the great dispute now agitating Europe, the present King of Sardinia has raised his State to a higher rank than that enjoyed by any secondary kingdom. While Bavaria, for instance, is either paralysed by Russian influence, or absorbed in the general self-seeking policy of the minor States of Germany, Sardinia rises to the position so inexplicably abandoned by Prussia; and, by her declaration of war, and her magnificent contingent, acquires a right to share in the honours and advantages which may fall to the lot of the Belligerent Powers at the close of the struggle. Although the King of Sardinia has the aid of wise and accomplished Ministers, there cannot be a doubt that much of the prosperity and growing importance of his kingdom is due to himself, and that his personal character is destined to exercise no inconsiderable influence on the affairs of his country perhaps on those of Italy.

Victor Emmanuel-Marie-Albert-Eugene-Ferdinand-Thomas, King of Sardinia, Piedmont, and Savoy Carignan, was born on the 14th of March, 1820, and became at once the Prince Royal, with the title of Duke of Savoy. Carefully trained for the responsible duties he was afterwards to fulfil, his talents and amiable qualities endeared him to his father's subjects. Although well versed in the art of war—as far as the usual routine education of a soldier could give him that knowledge—he also early developed a taste for pursuits of a more peaceful order; and in him art, science, and literature have ever found a patron. When he had attained his twenty-second year he married the Archduchess Adelaide, the second daughter of the Archduke Renier of Austria, whose rule in Lombardy had so much contributed to soften the rigour of the Austrian sway. At the period of their marriage this Princess was two-and-twenty years of age, and it is only within the few weeks that he has been deprived of her, in her three-and-thirtieth year.

When the French Revolution of 1848 sounded the tocsin to the Democracy of Italy, the young Duke of Savoy was called to the defence of his father's interests. He was then scarcely twenty-eight years old, and already he was looked up to as the hope of the country. Sardinia was at that time placed in a position of peculiar difficulty, between the revolutionary excitement of the Italians on the one hand, which extended to the Sardinian people, and the permanent interests of the Monarchy—indeed, of the State—which demanded that Austria should not be provoked to an international war. The Duke of Savoy became a prominent actor in the military operations which were forced upon his father, Charles Albert, by the madness of the revolutionary portion of his subjects, and his fear of for ever alienating the affections of the Italian people. At the opening of the campaign of 1849 the Duke commanded the Sardinian reserve at Vercelli. On the 23rd of March he attacked Radetsky and the Austrians at Moriava. He was driven back; and, on the 24th of the same month Radetsky, in his turn, advanced between Malava and Novara. Then took place the fatal and decisive battle of Novara, wherein the Sardinian army was defeated. The Duke of Savoy, with his division, was driven back to Bielle at the foot of the Alps, when an armistice was concluded between him and Radetsky. Austria well knew the circumstances under which the King of Sardinia had been in a manner forced into the war, however much his own dynastic ambition might have been furthered by its success. The Duke of Savoy, therefore, did not find in Radetsky so hard a negotiator as he might have expected; and the armistice was concluded on terms by no means degrading to Sardinia. Nevertheless, the pseudo-patriotism of the people had been wrought to such a pitch of exaltation, that the Throne was endangered from the reaction created by defeat. Charles-Albert, therefore, abdicated in favour of the Duke of Savoy, now Victor Emmanuel II., who immediately ascended the throne.

At the very outset of his reign he had to contend with domestic faction. A new Ministry was formed, which met the Chamber; but the fanatical partisans of Italian nationality were very strong and very violent. With the Austrians at their gates they refused to sanction the armistice. A rebellion broke out at Genoa on the receipt of the news of Novara and its consequences; nor was it put down till General de la Marmora (the same who is Chief of the new contingent) had marched on that city at the head of a strong body of troops. The violence of the opposition in the Chamber compelled the King to dissolve the Parliament—an act which he accompanied by a manifesto, in which he declared to the nation his determination to adhere, as King of Sardinia, to the engagements he had contracted as Duke of Savoy. A new Parliament showed more sense than its predecessor, and the Crown was no longer menaced with the same species of disgrace. Since that epoch, however, the King has had to contend with difficulties of another kind. In all states where party spirit runs high, the excesses of the one side invariably produce counter excesses on the other. In this way the troubles that had been commenced by the revolutionists were continued by the reactionists. A great struggle has been maintained by Sardinia against ultra-montan-

THE LATE QUEEN OF SARDINIA. FROM A PAINTING BY L. W. DESANGES.



THE SEA [illegible] MADDALENA STRAITS, SARDINIA.

ism, but it has been satisfactory to see the advocates of constitutional government so show well that as soon as it was allowed to exercise its functions in Sardinia.

The conduct of the King of Sardinia with reference to the present war demands the admiration of Europe. While greater Monarchs have held aloof or have played a game of cajolery, the King of Sardinia has braved the anger of Russia by a declaration of war, by a treaty with the Allies, and by furnishing a hardy and compact army to the common cause. The ancient possessions of the Genoese are the actual subjects of contention in the Crimea; and if the same people of the present day should play a distinguished part on the scene of the conquests and colonisations of the ancient Genoese, the world may yet see the "greatest difficulty" of the question disposed of by a conjunction of the revised claims of Sardinia with military success.

The accompanying Portrait is engraved from a gallery picture painted by Sir E. M. Desanges, for which his Majesty sat to the painter.

The King of Sardinia ascended the throne on the 24th of March, 1849. His mother, deceased Queen bore him several children. The public will remember that but recently this Monarch was afflicted with a quick succession of domestic calamities. The Queen Dowager, the Queen, and the King's younger brother the Duke of Genoa, all died in quick succession. It is seldom that a Royal race is so stricken. In this case the calamity was the more severe, as the family were united in the bonds of strong affection.

THE LATE QUEEN OF SARDINIA.

The late Queen Adelaide of Sardinia, whose premature death we narrated in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, was in the female line, a daughter as well as a [illegible] of the royal Sardinian race. Her mother, the Princess Maria Elizabeth, [illegible] of her father, the last Duke of Modena. Her grandmother, Maria Beatrice d'Este, was sole sister of the gallant Sardinian Monarch Charles [illegible] of the Archduchess Maria Elizabeth, [illegible] Archduke, was the only daughter. In consequence, her loss is also [illegible] mourned and his infant children. The recent numerous deaths in the Royal Sardinian family are of the more [illegible] when it is considered [illegible] should especially flourish, as Sardinia is the only Italian State [illegible] the male representatives of its ancient hereditary [illegible].

The accompanying Portrait of the late Queen is from a picture painted by Sir E. M. Desanges.

THE BEAR ROCK, MADALENA STRAIT.

The north coast of Sardinia [illegible] and dangerous shoals or island rocks. [illegible] called the Passage of the Madalena Islands, frequently taken in [illegible] on the voyage between Leghorn and Malta, [illegible] route through the Strait of Bonifacio [illegible] and daylight, how [illegible] safety by the Royal Sardinian Navy, [illegible] Bear Rock, which is [illegible] coast on either side a success [illegible].

Wilmer Correspondent [illegible] admire the careful [illegible]. The three principal officers [illegible] two men were at the wheel and a mate was stationed midway [illegible] and accurate attention to the [illegible] before them. During the passage, in spite of a slight larking consciousness [illegible] danger, or of [illegible] the Bear Rock [illegible] the [illegible] engaged [illegible] the most conspicuous objects is the [illegible] bear in the naturalists, [illegible] of a small ruff on [illegible] common coast, called "le Port de Poire." Our Artist took a Sketch of his urbane eminence, from which [illegible].

THE [illegible]

BELPHOR'S [illegible]

The close of the [illegible] marked with circumstances of [illegible] also distinguished with the marks of remarkable [illegible] which commenced well. In some respects [illegible] was like [illegible] "Ion" [illegible] and "Leon," the last [illegible] received the approbation of [illegible] author or manager, [illegible] tation the highest possible result [illegible] there were circumstances connected with the [illegible] which injuriously affected all the theatres alike. The Christmas pantomimes were no longer good for the first six weeks of [illegible] symptoms of decline were consequently perceptible, not [illegible] the [illegible] central theatres.

One of the leading experiments of the season was the magnificent production of "Pericles," at SADLER'S WELLS; and, up to the middle of December, the expectations of the [illegible] were fully realised by the public. Indeed, the success was remarkable. But the severity of the winter became too [illegible] of so splendid a spectacle, notwithstanding the many fine scenes, the much poetry, and the excellent acting, by which the series of pictures illustrations was accompanied. The pressure of the times had soon to be added to that of the weather, and the conductors [illegible] a premature termination of the season.

That the decline to which we have alluded was not owing to any distaste in the public for the higher drama was clear from the circumstance that Mr. Charles Kean was enabled to produce, with uncommon success, a version of MACBETH, by Hughes. "Macbeth" [illegible] greatly to his reputation as an actor by his impersonation of the hero. The classic drama was welcomed back to the boards by the best friends of that gentleman with laudable eagerness, and his *Hamlet* recalled associations with the most palmy days of histrionic art, and [illegible] to afford an example of the excellence of the past. We believe and trust that the public have so well encouraged these highly commendable performances, that the management of the PRINCESS' theatre will [illegible] beginning, after Easter, in the same path, and thus prepare the way for the systematic production of the national drama in its highest [illegible], both revived and original.

The taste of the people for the [illegible] of our old drama has been as strangely as strongly manifested by the onward tendency of the STARLING system. The engagement of Miss Glyn at the STANDARD theatre, Shoreditch, shows it in a new and striking light. This lady's list of parts is peculiar, and pertaining to plays seldom acted, and at most times deemed indeed unacting. Her parts, for instance as Shakspeare's "Antony and Cleopatra" [illegible] dealing with such historic and lofty sublimities that its full merits can only be appreciated by the class, [illegible] poetic minds. [illegible] WELLS, however, even this work has travelled into the east, under the auspices of the able actress who personates the heroine, and commanded breathless attention from a miscellaneous audience, more numerous than at any other theatre in the metropolis.

We can only attribute the ultimate failure of Mr. C. Mathews' conduct of the LYCEUM to his neglect of this tendency. It has been long clear to us that this theatre, notwithstanding his admirable acting, could not be supported by the light pieces which held exclusive possession of his stage. The interest of most of them besides was alien to the spirit of English domestic life, and too obviously betray their foreign origin. We ever shall hereafter take the Lyceum must provide more satisfactory food for the educated public of the day. [illegible] The peculiar situation of this edifice should command the best company [illegible] would enable a competent management to do [illegible] than ever was attempted by the patrons of the theatre [illegible] But we are told that the rent is excessive. [illegible] difficult of immediate [illegible]; nevertheless, it must yield, however [illegible] to the necessity of justice—[illegible] prevails in the [illegible]

[illegible] stern old Webster [illegible] Miss Glyn, in [illegible]

crowded audience. An alteration is made in the echo-scene in the last act. The spirit of the murdered *Duchess* is made to appear in the light which irradiates the grove, and gradually to vanish as *Antonio* persists in his fatal determination to revisit *Amalfi*. This seems to us to be an improvement, and certainly rendered the situation more effective. Mr. Marston was strong in the *Duke*; the passionate passages were forcibly presented, and his lycanthropy at the end even fearfully portrayed. The performers were recalled at the fall of the curtain: and the play, over terrible as it is, may be considered to be fairly planted.

LITERATURE.

A HISTORY OF ENGLAND DURING THE REIGN OF GEORGE III. By W. MASSEY, M.P. Vol. I. Parker and Son.

The times of George III. are now fairly within the province of history, and a good history of them becomes a desideratum. Commencing nearly a century ago, more than the full term of a generation has elapsed since the close of a reign of unprecedented duration, crowded with memorable events. The actors who taken part in the lists and struggles of that time have now passed from the scene; the animosities of party have been forgotten, and a troublous and transitionary state of affairs has given place to a more defined and rational system of Government. Moreover, it so happens that we, in 1855, are in possession of better information on the history of that period, particularly the earlier part of it, than our ancestors who were contemporaries of the events themselves. The movements of State policy and party intrigue which Parliamentary jealousy rigorously concealed, and which the "ordinary channels of information" failed to detect and expose, have since been revealed, in more or less extent, by the posthumous publication of diaries and papers kept by the men who were the chief agents in those transactions. Mr. Massey, in the work now undertaken (and which he proposes extending to four volumes) has eliminated unvalled linesscif all these sources of information, in addition to the common stock handed down from the day; and has treated them with impartiality, candour, and discrimination.

The important influence of the period upon the interests of the country, whether considered in its internal or external policy, it is impossible to overrate. In the course of this reign the balance of constitutional power within the state was brought to something like adjustment; whilst abroad a series of wars centred, which generally conferred honour upon our arms, and extended the sphere of our authority and our means of wealth. Moreover, in science and the useful arts, discoveries and inventions were made which have thrown into the shade, and rendered, as it were, obsolete the acquirements of the older world, and opened up entirely new fields of production. Mr. Massey, in framing the plan of his History, has had to select a portion only from a vast mass of materials; and he has done so with a view rather to the elucidation of what concerns the progress of society and the interests of the various orders, the Lords, the Commons, the aristocracy, the middle classes, and the labouring people, than the details of battles, and other "collateral topics," which he considers "to possess only a temporary interest; to illustrate no moral nor political truth, or to have left no trace in the institutions of the country or in the manners of its inhabitants."

The early years of George the Third's reign were marked by circumstances which suggest a resemblance to things of our own day—Ministerial uncertainty in the midst of portentous emergencies abroad, war on the Continent and in the American colonies; at home, the settlement of the Regency Bill and the East India Government Bill, and the fiercely contested questions involving the liberty of the press, the privileges of Parliament, and the limits of the Royal prerogative;—all these matters tend to be treated by a succession of Ministers of weak and divided counsels. No doubt, this weakness in the executive, and many disasters to which it gave rise, were mainly attributable to the individual conduct of the King, under colour of circumstances which can never occur again. Finding himself the first monarch since the Revolution in undisputed tenure of the throne, he resolved to free himself from the trammels of the powerful Whig party by which that throne had hitherto been sustained; and the measures of the Jacobite faction; multiplying now in loyalty towards himself men of all parties, he resolved to break the power of all, by playing one off against the other, with a view eventually, there is too much reason to apprehend, of establishing a monopoly of irresponsible power in his own hands. Upon this point Mr. Massey says:—

But instead of bending to his service able and eminent men, without reference to the obsolete banners under which they had been ranged, the course which his Majesty pursued made it sufficiently plain that he idea of suppressing party distinctions meant no more than the suppression of that great constitutional party whose leading principle it was to restrain monarchical power. Even this design was not hopeless, had it been attempted with caution and tact. The nation was disgusted with party, which for the last twenty years had made an unprincipled struggle for place and power. The Whigs had no hold on public favour; they were considered, not without justice, as a proud and selfish aristocracy, and George III. might have calculated on popular sympathy in shaking off the irksome domination of a few great families which had oppressed his predecessors, if he had not arrayed popular prejudices by measures which he employed. A combination of two characters most odious to the English taste—a mimion and a Scot (the Earl of Bute)—was set up as the favoured Minister whom the King delighted to honour.

In full remembrance and appreciation of the policy of Walpole, whose motto was that every man had his price, the King determined not to place himself in the hands of a Minister, even one so useful and devoted as Walpole, but to conduct the business of corruption himself. Hence the constant battling between a mercenary Parliament and an ignorant and discontented people out of doors, and between the Ministerial, the Opposition, and the "Court" parties within the walls of Parliament; and the constant intrigues which the King did not disdain to resort to, to undermine the authority now of his own Ministers, now of opposite leaders, whose confidence he had gained in the privacy of the Royal closet. Having got rid of Pitt, with circumstances approaching contumely, at the very outset of his reign, he afterwards, on repeated occasions, went to humiliating extremities to induce him to resume office, and free him from a minister (Grenville) who was personally disagreeable to him. On the first occasion Pitt refused; on the second the negotiation proceeded to a certain point with promise of success. On the first summons to the Palace, Pitt with his usual ostentation, "was carried to Court in open day through the streets of London, in his well-known gouty arm-chair, that all the world might know what was going forward.

[illegible] found his ominous chair set down at Buckingham House when he went there, as usual, to transact business. After waiting two hours he was ushered into the closet. The King was agitated, but he made no mention of the important subject of his mind to him. Grenville complained and remonstrated in his usual tiresome manner, until the King cut him short, wishing him "good morrow," in a significant manner. Grenville retired with the impression that his fate was sealed.

After acceding, in all appearance, to the arrangements proposed by Pitt; and after having in several and separate interviews played off Pitt against Grenville, and Grenville against Pitt, the youthful monarch, brought what the author terms "a shameful scene of dissimulation" to a close, "by declaring that his *honour* could not admit of Mr. Pitt's propositions." The Duke of Bedford was then brought in to give strength to the Grenville Ministry; and, having thus succeeded in propping up the Administration, the King "proceeded, by a further breach of confidence, to impair Pitt's means of opposition. His Majesty condescended, either personally or through some sure channel of communication, to inform every gentleman whose pretensions to employment had been interdicted by Pitt of the slight which had been put upon him, and even to insinuate the ill-will of that statesman towards individuals of whom he had said little or nothing." Pitt was duly made acquainted with this conduct, but was too magnanimous and too loyal to resent it: he merely stated to his informant "that his Majesty's statement of what had passed in the closet relative to the proscriptions, as they were termed, was *not strictly true*." Lord Shelburne congratulated Pitt on the rupture of a negotiation "which carried through the whole of it such shocking marks of insincerity."

The King again quarrelled with Grenville about a clause in the Regency Bill; but while secretly plotting against his own Minister, dissembled his purpose until that measure had been carried in the shape he desired. What followed was in the highest degree unseemly:—

After the Regency Bill had received the Royal assent, the principal business of the session was disposed of, and Grenville came to take his Majesty's pleasure as to the prorogation of Parliament. The King, no longer thinking it necessary to preserve appearances with his Ministers, coldly answered that he would have Parliament *adjourned* for a fortnight. Grenville did not for a moment affect to misunderstand his Majesty's meaning. Time was required for making the new arrangements which were in progress of negotiation. Grenville refused at once to be a party to any such proceeding. He declared, in his usual style, that his Majesty wished him to do what would be disgraceful and dishonourable, in making him instrumental to a change in the Government without his advice or consultation. He went on in the same strain, and concluded by telling the King that all the world knew he had empowered the Duke of Cumberland to make offers to everybody from right hand to left; that these offers had been rejected; that there was but one voice on the subject; that, in the world saw it was Lord Bute's doing, and contrary to the express declaration made to the Government when they took office; and more to the same purpose. The King was astonished. He merely said that Lord Bute was not concerned in his present purpose of changing his Ministry.

The negotiations for a new Ministry were still carried on for some days; "offers made to everybody from right hand to left;" and at length, on the 11th of May, the King applied to his Minister to adjourn the Parliament while the new arrangements which he contemplated were in progress; but Grenville positively refused to do so, saying "he would leave the duty to be performed by his successor. This was on Sunday, and on the same or the following day, the Ministers informed his Majesty that they should resign on the next Tuesday, whether the new Government was formed or not." But the King, finding himself disappointed in all quarters, was compelled to request his Ministers to retain office upon their own terms. The terms they imposed were hard ones; and, in some particulars, ungenerous and paltry. The King took his revenge by showing his aversion for his Ministers on every possible occasion, and especially by "disregarding their recommendation of candidates for preferment."

Matters could not last long in this state. At length the old boroughmonger Newcastle was sent for, and under his auspices a new Administration was formed, at the head of which was placed the Marquis of Rockingham—a man of more experience on the Turf than in the Senate, insomuch that he was "incapable of making an exposition of any sort, even upon the plainest subject, in the House of Lords." A Ministry so weak could not be expected to stand in the face of the Colonial difficulties now every day becoming more serious; and Pitt, on being again appealed to, consented to take office, with a Peerage; and with the Duke of Grafton as his right-hand man. But the magic influence of the master mind was gone; he showed want of tact in the attempt to form an Administration without regard to party considerations, having to deal with men with whom party was everything. Abroad, too, the name of Chatham no longer inspired that respect for British counsels amongst foreign potentates, who in former days had been accustomed to bow and tremble before that of Pitt. This discouraging fact was soon manifested to him. His project for a grand alliance with the Northern Powers utterly failed as soon as broached. Frederick of Prussia—formerly the firm ally and admirer of "the great Commoner"—received the British representative, Sir Andrew Mitchell, very coldly when he came to talk of this matter; and the reason he alleged for doing so is remarkable, and worthy of being pondered over at a crisis like that now before us, when the cause of England, of Europe, and of peace, depends almost wholly upon our influence with foreign States.

The King [illegible] with many excuses, and when Mitchell pressed his Majesty [illegible] *on the instability of English counsels, the frequent changes of Administration*. He had confidence in Lord Chatham, but how was he to be assured that Chatham would remain in power, or that his policy would be preserved by his successors? It was not easy to answer this objection; Mitchell could only say that Chatham was high in favour both with the King and the people. The King better inclined, expressed his doubts even on this point.

The present volume takes us, through a succession of political chopping and changes down to the year 1770, when the unscrupulous North, whose chief recommendation was that he had opposed every popular measure, formed a Ministry, entirely subservient to the Royal taste.

Mr. Massey's tone is manly and dispassionate; his opinions are in conformity with constitutional principles; and his style is terse, effective, and sometimes very graphic. Whilst he unsparingly exposes the system of corruption which prevailed in the boroughmongering times, and denounces every unconstitutional stretch of authority, he is no admirer of the demagogue, whose ignorant and empty scurrility he estimates at their true value. He expresses a qualified admiration of the hitherto vastly-overrated Junius; criticises the courtesies of his satire, his ignorance in important points of law and policy, and his style generally observing, "a scattered up and down his works there are some fine passages and striking expressions; but on the whole they have ever appeared to me inflated, exaggerated, and tiresome;" an opinion in which we quite concur. If public men in our age have made some advance in morality, our public writers have certainly not retrograded either in honesty of purpose, perfidiousness of matter, or effectiveness of manner, since the days of Junius and Wilkes.

GLOSSARY OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE WORDS AND PHRASES, WITH EXAMPLES OF THEIR COLLOQUIAL USE AND ILLUSTRATIONS FROM VARIOUS AUTHORS. To which are added CLEVELAND OF THE COUNTY. By ANN ELIZABETH BAKER. Two volumes. J. Russell Smith.

Miss Baker has rightly apprehended the duties of a glossarist, which are not, as many people seem to think, merely to collect in a mere rescuing from oblivion words found in a particular locality and nowhere else. This very common but erroneous estimate is clearly a mistaking of the means for the end, and treating as a mere whim that which is really an endeavour to afford assistance to the inquirer. It should, if possible, not merely to discover the speech and customs of our forefathers in a particular district; but, by following those curious footprints, to trace the course of the different waves of population over our land. To object to the introduction of an archaism into a particular glossary, because it had already appeared in the glossaries of other counties, would be about as wise as to object to the record of a discovery of Roman urns and Samian pottery in a certain district, because hundreds of similar relics have been found in other parts of the country. If Miss Baker had adopted the "penny wise and pound foolish" principle of throwing aside every word which other glossarists had recorded, she would no doubt have kept her book within half its present limits; but she would, at the same time, have thrown away nearly all its ethnological value. She has not only had the good sense to retain many such words, but she helps the inquirer, by giving at the foot of each the initial letters of all the published Glossaries in which they occur, showing the extent and direction of their currency.

As illustrating and explaining obscure passages in our older writers, the "Northamptonshire Glossary" will be found of infinite service. Miss Baker supplies more than one hint for the next edition of Shakspeare. The word "palm-tree" for example, occurring in "As You Like It," has been a choke-pear to the commentators. "Look here," says *Rosalind*, "what I found on a palm-tree." "A palm-tree in the forest of Arden," remarks Steevens, "is as much out of place as a lioness in the subsequent scene." Collier tries to get rid of the difficulty, by suggesting that Shakspeare may have written "plane-tree." "Both the reasons and the conjecture," observes Miss Baker, "might have been spared if those gentlemen had been aware that in the counties bordering on the Forest of Arden, the name of an exotic tree is transferred to an indigenous one." The *salix caprea*, or goat willow, is popularly known as the "palm" in Northamptonshire, no doubt from having been used for the decoration of churches on Palm Sunday its graceful yellow blossoms appearing at a time when few other trees have put forth a leaf, having won for it that distinction. Clare so calls it

Ye leaning *palms* that seem to look
Pleased o'er your image in the brook

That Shakspeare included the willow in his forest scenery is certain, from another passage in the same play:

West of this place, down in the neighbour bottom,
The *rank of osiers* by the murmuring stream,
Left on your right hand, brings you to the place

The customs and amusements of Northamptonshire, which are frequently noticed in these volumes, were identical with those of the neighbouring county of Warwick, and, in like manner, illustrate very clearly many passages in the great dramatist.

"Nine men's morris," and "the mazes in the wanton green," mentioned by *Titania* in that exquisitely poetical speech in which the Fairy Queen describes the calamities which result from the dissensions between herself and *Oberon*, are Northamptonshire pastimes:

The nine men's morris is filled up with mud.
And the quaint mazes in the wanton green,
For lack of tread, are undistinguishable.

The maze, or "Shepherds' Race," "Shepherds' Trace," "Shepherds' Ring, and "Shepherds' Run," as it is indifferently called, is a game, it seems enjoyed on the green at Boughton, celebrated for its fair, near Northampton, from time immemorial. "A greensward circle of considerable size (says Miss Baker) is cut out, and then sunk the surface of the green as far back as memory can trace. A mazy path, rather more than a foot in width, is formed within by a trench, three or four inches wide, cut on each side of it; and the trial of skill consists in running the maze from the outside to the small circle in the centre in a given time, without crossing the boundaries of the path.

Philology vindicates the gentility of many a word that has long laboured under the odiousness of being a mere vulgarism. The verb "learn," in the sense of "to teach," is commonly so considered. Yet its use in the double sense of conveying and receiving knowledge is of Anglo-Saxon origin, and continued down to the classic days of Ben Jonson. Miss

Baker has also accumulated instances from the Common Prayer Book, from Chaucer, Drayton, and Shakspeare. Shakspeare, she observes, implies the identity of "teach" and "learn," by using them in the same sentence, apparently to vary the expression. "Unless you could *teach* me to forget a banished father, you must not *learn* me to remember any extraordinary pleasure" ("As You Like It," act 1, scene 2). Todd says, this sense is now perhaps obsolete; but Miss Baker states that it is still in common use in Northamptonshire, and quotes the following amusing epitaph on a village singing-master in the churchyard of the village of Harpole, near Northampton, dated 1799:—

He learnéd singing far and near,
Full twenty years and more;
But fatal death hath stopped his breath,
And he can *larne* no more.

His scholards all, that are behinde,
Singing he did unfoid;
Exhorting all their God to mande
Before they turn to molde

These instances are taken at random: the volumes abound in matter equally curious and illustrative. Miss Baker has pursued her task *con amore*, and the result of her painstaking is a valuable and interesting addition to the library of the philological student. The volumes are abundantly illustrated with quotations, among which the rural couplets of poor John Clare, the Northamptonshire peasant poet very frequently occur. Miss Baker has been peculiarly fortunate in an authority so wholly unquestionable. The genius of that remarkable man pastured itself in places where innovation had not found its way, and no modern writer so abounds in idealisms, with this additional advantage, that a mind so thoroughly poetical was sure to apply them so as to convey their strictest and intensest meaning. Many of the quotations, too, appear to be from MSS.; and we should infer that Miss Baker had had the privilege of a personal intercourse with the poet. She has also, we find, upon reference to her list of book authorities, had access to works of extreme rarity.

NEW MUSIC

SIX VOCAL PIECES. The Poetry and Music by CHARLES MACKAY. Published by Messrs. Boosey and Sons.

The words of these pieces are included in a volume of lyrical poems now in the press and on the eve of publication. They form an interesting specimen of the contents of the book.

It would be superfluous, at this time of day, to entertain the public, and especially the readers of this journal—in the columns of which so many of Dr. Mackay's pieces have first seen the light—with any lengthened eulogy on his genius as a lyrical poet. His writings are in the hands of all the world, and speak for themselves in a language which all the world understands and feels. Mackay is, in England, what Béranger has been, a little before him, in France—the *chansonnier par excellence*, the song-writer of the time. He speaks to the people in a language familiar to them, but purified and refined; he echoes their feelings, exalting and embellishing every thought, every sentiment, that is good, and beautiful, and noble. He cherishes the sweetest and holiest affections of domestic life, and the free and manly aspirations of the citizen, the patriot, and the lover of mankind. Hence it is that the verses of Mackay, though only of yesterday, have already become household words in the mouths of the people of England, as if they had descended by long tradition from a distant age. Versatility, too, is a feature of his genius. He has the rough energy of Ebenezer Elliot; while he has also, if not the voluptuous epicureism, the airy grace of Thomas Moore.

Like Moore also, Mackay is a musician; and we believe that no poet who was not in some degree a musician has ever written a good song. Henry Carey, Dibdin, Burns, Moore, wrote real songs, because their lines, in the act of formation, were associated with beautiful melodies; while the so-called songs of Scott, Campbell, and numberless other poets, are not songs at all; they are read with pleasure and only spoiled by singing, because their authors produced them without any musical associations. Mackay, in his song-writing, has always shown a delicate perception of melody; but it is only now that he has evinced the power of creating melody. The music of the vocal pieces before us, as well as the poetry, is his own; and it shows that he not only possesses the inventive faculty, but no small skill in the art of composition.

These vocal pieces are six in number—five songs and a glee for three voices. We cannot give an idea of their character in any way, so well as transcribing two of them; one of the songs and a glee:—

SONG "BELIEVE IF YOU CAN"

Hope cannot cheat us, or fortune betray;
Tempests never scatter the blossoms in May;
The wild winds are constant by rule and by plan;—
Oh! believe me, believe me, believe if you can

Young Love, who shows us his midsummer light,
Spreads the same radiance over winter's dark night;
And Fame never dazzles to lure and to pain;
Oh! believe me, believe me, believe if you can!

Friends of the sunshine endure in the storm,
Never they promise and fail to perform;
And the flowers of love are the most bright of flowers;
Oh! believe me, believe me, believe if you can!

Woods softly spoken to grace every bower,
Pen has never harbour a wasp at the core,
And the ground never slipp'd under high-reaching man;
Oh! believe me, believe me, believe if you can.

Seas undeceitful, calm smiling at morn,
Wreck not even in night the value fain to;
And go I makes a bridge every evil to span,
Oh! believe me, believe me, believe if you can,

GLEE FOR THREE VOICES

What joy attends the fisher's life!
Blow, winds, blow!
The fisher and his faithful wife!
Row, boys, row!

He drives no plough on sunburnt land,
His fields are ready to his hand,
No toiling toils his orchards fear,
He has his autumn all the year:
Yeo! heave, ho!

The husbandman has rent to pay,
Blow, winds, blow!
And seed to purchase every lay,
Row, boys, row!

But he who farms the rolling deeps,
Though never sowing, always reaps
Rich sea fields are fair and free,
There are no rent-days on the sea
Yeo! heave, ho!

Then joy attend the fisher's life!
Blow, winds, blow!
The fisher and his faithful wife!
Row, boys, row!

May fanning breezes fill his sail,
His teeming harvest never fail;
And, from his cottage on the strand,
Content be the friends of our land!
Yeo! heave, ho!

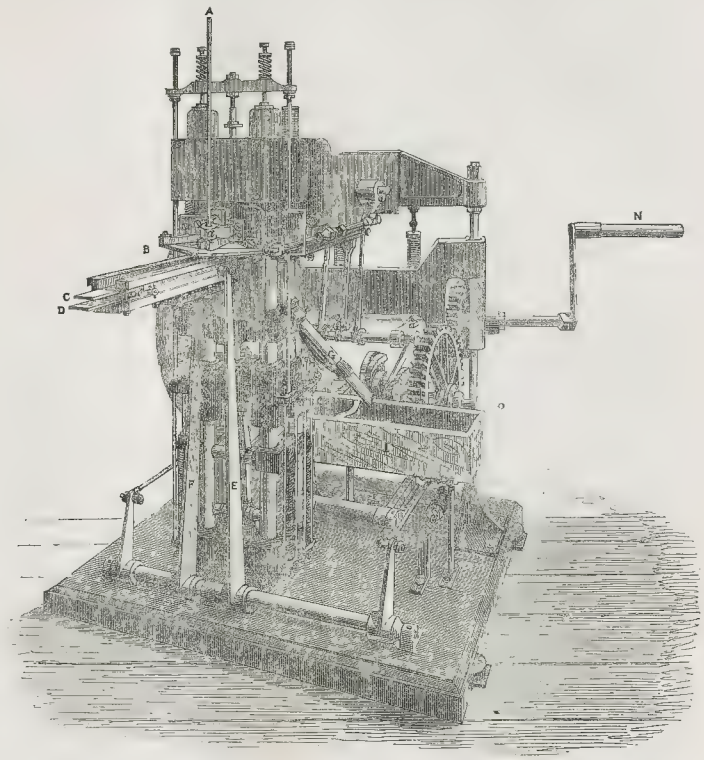
Verses such as these are essentially musical. You feel, in reading them, that they are made to be sung, and that the completeness of their effect demands appropriate melody. No melodies can be more appropriate than those which the author of the poetry has himself contributed. They are exceedingly tuneful, and in every instance echo with truth and fidelity and sense and feeling of the words. They are faultless in all the technical requisites of the art—in regularity of rhythm, symmetry of form, sweetness, and variety of expression; and (what is of the greatest moment) they admit of the clear and emphatic enunciation of every syllable. The arrangement of the vocal parts in the glee, and the simple but elegant pianoforte accompaniments, are skilful and musicianlike; and these compositions cannot fail to give great pleasure to every lover of genuine English song.

NAPIER'S PATENT BULLET-COMPRESSING MACHINE.

NOT many years ago the sphere was, as by common consent, regarded to be the best form of bullet; and whether for musket or rifle smooth or grooved bore, the *ball* of lead monopolised every barrel. Perhaps the simplicity of the sphere forbad ordinary minds to seek further; it seems to have been adopted as a matter of course. However, science and experiment, hand in hand, have realised the fact that air offers less resistance to a more pointed projectile. As in ships of late years, the lines have increased in fineness, the old round, bluff bow being supplanted by the sharp cutwater of the present day, which like a fine wedge divides the wave with ease, and the vessel ploughs on her way at railroad speed, so has the bullet elongated to a cone, with slightly-rounded point, and the result is a much longer range and greater accuracy.

The use of the conical bullet is necessarily confined to the rifled barrel—that is, to those barrels which have not smooth bores, but a number of small grooves passing from end to end having a spiral direction to the extent of about one-third of a turn round the bore in their length. A portion of the lead forming the bullet being forced into these grooves, either by the shock of the explosion, or by other means, according to the particular class of bullet used, the spiral character of the grooves imparts to the bullet a rotating motion on its axis as it passes along the barrel in its flight; it makes one third of a turn in its passage to the mouth of the barrel, and so continues to spin until arrived at its destination. Without this spinning action the conical bullet would be of no value, as it is thus kept in its true direction point foremost. There are many varieties of the conical bullet, and various plans adopted to cause the lead to enter the grooves of the barrel, whereby to obtain the spinning motion. Each foreign Power which has adopted the conical bullet has its own approved form, but we believe all agree in the propriety of leaving the hinder end of the bullet cylindrical, and grooving this portion with two or three deep recesses at right angles, to the axis of the ball, so as to form an appearance of so many rings. It is found that the action of the air upon these rings tends to retard the back end of the bullet, and so assists in preserving it point foremost in the same manner as the feather attached to the shaft of an arrow. Different opinions have, however, arisen in this country as to the value of these rings, perhaps from the difficulty of forming them perfectly, for by the common process of casting, the bullet is turned out so irregular in form, unequal in density; and the rings, which should present a cutting edge so rounded and incomplete, that, in practice, the value of the idea has been to a great degree lost. If the feather preserves the direction of the arrow which is unquestioned it appears to us most reasonable that the same principle applied to the bullet should have the same effect; but, destroy the balance of the arrow, by displacing the feather on one side—leave the bird as it were with one wing—and you have the same effect or defect as is inseparable from cast bullets, the edges of the rings not being all round alike. The weight of evidence is, however, as we think it should be, in favour of the use of bullets with rings, or, which is the same thing, with "cannelures," the French term for the grooves our own Government only having dispensed with them while they are considered of great value by all the Continental Powers. Our opinion is that the question can alone be set at rest by a course of experiments with perfectly-formed bullets of each kind; but there have been many serious difficulties in the way of obtaining the necessary material, namely, perfect bullets of the required forms. The old process of casting has been found imperfect, and must be discarded, and in its place compression must be employed. This principle was introduced into the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, by Mr. Napier, and has been employed for the last sixteen years in the manufacture of the spherical ball, and belted rifle-ball; but, upon the adoption of the elongated bullet, after the Minié plan, new machinery became necessary, which was arranged and most successfully carried out by Mr. John Anderson, the obile engineer of the Royal Arsenal; but, as our Government had decided upon the suppression of the Cannelures, the contingent difficulties in the manufacture were left unsolved.

The annexed Engraving introduces to our readers a machine just completed by Messrs. Napier and Son, engineers, of London, to the order of his Excellency the French Minister of War for the manufacture by compression of the "Balle à tige" used by the celebrated Chassaux de Vincennes in their "Carabines à tige." Fig. 3 represents the bullet, full size; it is solid, having a flat bottom, and, rising with three cannelures, terminates in a fine pointed conical head. The manner of its use may be described thus:—The soldier breaks open the cartridge and pours the powder into the barrel, which surrounds a small plug or "tige," standing

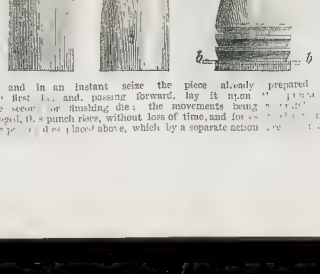


A Rod of lead
B Cutting lever or shear
C Lead slide for conveying lead
D Lever for working lead slide
E Lever, second ditto
F Ditto, second ditto
G Delivery tube, through which perfected bullet passes into magazine
H Receiver
I Wooden block for cutting
K Receiver
L Bullet-cutter
M Bullet
N Bullet-cutter, not used
O Crank shaft

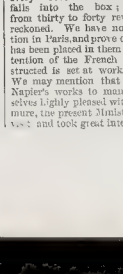
NAPIER'S PATENT BULLET COMPRESSING MACHINE.

in the centre at the bottom of the barrel, and fills up nearly to the top of the "tige," the bullet is then introduced, and passes easily down until it rests upon the top of the "tige," when, by a smart blow or two of a heavy ram rod formed concave to fit the point of the bullet, the bullet is forced on to the "tige," and the lead thus expanded enters the spiral grooves in the barrel. The principal difficulties encountered in the compression of this bullet were—first, the cannelures; second, the sharp joint. These are overcome by Messrs. Napier in the machine which we will now attempt to describe.

A represents a rod of lead, the lower end of which passes through a guide (*a*). *B* is a cutting lever, or shear, which, at each action of the machine, cuts off a portion of the rod, as shown at fig. 1. This operation completed, the detached portion falls into a pair of pincers, and by the slide *C* is conveyed under the first die, a punch below, rising immediately upon its arrival, pushes the piece of lead up into the die, and obliges it to take its form; the punch, then descends, and the lead being pushed out by a small plug at the top, acted upon by two springs, follows the punch, and comes to rest upon it, presenting the figure shown at No 2, a second pair of pincers now come into play, attached to the slide



D, and in an instant seize the piece already prepared by the first die, and, passing forward, lay it upon the piece of the second for finishing the movements being [illegible] at right angles, the punch rises, without loss of time, and forces [illegible] into the second die placed above, which by a separate action [illegible] in readiness to receive it. Here the bullet receives its final figure; and as soon as the punch has attained the extent of its upward travel, the dies soon as the punch has attained the extent of its upward travel, the dies open, and it is allowed to return to its first position, holding the bullet by its lower belt. It is now found that a fringe of surplus metal (Fig. 4) has been expressed between the dies and the punch, and remains round the bullet at the line indicated by *b b*, Fig. 3. To get rid of this is now the object of our attention. As soon as the punch has come to rest with the bullet standing in a recess formed in the punch to the depth of the lower band on the bullet, the film-cutter comes forward, open like a pair of nippers, and, closing round the bullet just above the film or fringe of lead, forms a round hole exactly fitting the diameter of the bullet. This accomplished, a small punch in the interior of the compressing punch, and occupying a position in the centre, and in contact with the bullet, is forced up by a quick action, and pushing the bullet out of its recess in the punch, and through the hole formed by the film-cutter, the film is separated and left upon the top of the punch, and the next succeeding bullet displaces it, when it falls through the waste tube *H* into the compartment of the receiving-box marked *L*; the film cutter, which still contains the finished bullet, retires from its position over the punch, and, opening, lets fall its contents into the delivering tube *G*; and thus the perfected bullet is found in the receiving box. As three or four bullets are in the machine at once in different stages of completion, no time is lost; but, at every revolution of the crank shaft *O*, a finished bullet falls into the box; and as the machine will be driven at from thirty to forty revolutions per minute, the results can easily be reckoned. We have no doubt that the machine will give great satisfaction in Paris, and prove our engineers to be worthy of the confidence which has been placed in them by our friends and allies. We believe it is the intention of the French Government, as soon as the machine now constructed is set at work in Paris to give Messrs. Napier further orders. We may mention that it has been exhibited in operation at Messrs. Napier's works to many scientific gentlemen who have expressed themselves highly pleased with its arrangement and performance. Lord Panmure, the present Minister of War also honoured Messrs. Napier with a visit and took great interest in the process.



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THE CONFERENCES AT VIENNA.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

VIENNA, March 31.

THE *mot d'ordre* at Vienna is "peace." Diplomatists and their secretaries, and men who have access to the sources of information, hold, with few exceptions, the same language, and express confident hopes that the war will be brought to a speedy and honourable close. To hint a doubt of such a result submits a man of little faith to the supposition that he is either an ill-informed or a prejudiced person. A very few weeks will suffice to show whether these hopes are destined to fulfilment; but, in the meantime, the English public may be enabled to judge of the extent to which they are well founded by a short statement of the facts that have led to them.

Prince Gortschakoff II., and M. Titoff, the Russian Plenipotentiaries, are exceedingly able diplomatists. They have studied in the best school. They know how to yield to necessity, and to turn unfavourable circumstances to account. The world was prepared to find in them a spirit of resistance; and to make all possible allowance for any hesitation, or even obstinacy, which they might betray in the course of the negotiations. But no one was prepared for the extreme readiness to meet the Allies half-way, if not more than half-way, which they displayed at the commence-

SOUTH MIDDLESEX. SOUTH MIDDLESEX. ROYAL WILTS SOUTH MIDDDESEX. KENTS ARTILLERY.

MILITIA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

ment of the Conferences, and which has since characterised the whole of their proceedings. The mere consent of Russia to treat on the basis of the Four Points was to have been expected; for it was but the renewal of a policy adopted by the late Czar, and which could not have been disallowed by Alexander II., without an open defiance to all Europe. But the alacrity with which the first two points were conceded was scarcely to have been anticipated. The First Point, as is well known, concerns the joint protectorate of the Great Powers over the provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia—a protectorate hitherto exercised by Russia alone, and the abuse of which, and the pretensions founded upon it, was one of the main causes of the war. The Second Point provides for the free navigation of the Danube. It is the general impression in Vienna that both of these points have been fully, fairly, and honestly conceded by Russia. Had they been conceded by the Emperor Nicholas previous to the declaration of war, it is almost, if not positively, certain either that no war would have taken place, or that, if Turkey had been dissatisfied with the arrangement, she would have been left without assistance to fight her own battles. Both points are of the greatest consequence to all Europe; and to Austria, more especially, the second is of vital importance. The exact conditions and stipulations by which the free navigation of the Danube is to be secured are not publicly known. The details of the business transacted at the Conferences are transmitted only to the Governments of the several States which take part in them, and although some particulars ooze out from time to time, it might possibly mislead if I repeated any of the rumours which have been circulated upon the subject: and I therefore content myself with the simple announcement that the arrangements, whatever they may be, are represented as entirely satisfactory to the representatives of the Allied Governments: and that they will, in all probability, be equally satisfactory to the public.

The Third Point was universally foreseen to offer the only difficulty that the Conferences were likely to present. But on this, also—much to the surprise of everybody—the Russian Plenipotentiaries have hitherto displayed the utmost readiness to yield what is demanded of them. It thus becomes of importance to know exactly what these demands are. The surrender of Sebastopol? By no means. The reply of the Russians to such a demand, had it been made, would very naturally have been: "You have failed to take Sebastopol by force of arms, you are upon the soil of Russia,—the sooner you quit it the better we shall be satisfied; but, under the circumstances, you cannot ask us to yield to your diplomacy what you have not been able to accomplish by the sword." Possibly, the Russians are not without the fear that, pending the negotiations, the place may be taken; and most certainly the people of Great Britain and France, and I may add of Austria, are not without the hope that such will be the result. In Austria the sympathies of the entire population (a few of the upper nobility alone excepted, who unwisely look upon Russia as a standing barrier against Democracy and Revolution), are in favour of Turkey and the Western Powers; and news of the fall of Sebastopol would be received in this city with acclamations of delight—in which, if public opinion be not quite incorrect, no man would share more warmly than the young Emperor himself. Until the Third Point shall have passed definitively though the ordeal of the Conferences, the possibility of this result will continue with the fullest intensity to occupy the thoughts of the whole public. If their hopes be realised the Conferences will take a new turn; and Russia, as usual, will make a virtue of necessity, and accommodate her policy to a fact which she will no longer be able to overturn or even to modify. In the meantime, neither Sebastopol nor any portion thereof being in the possession of the Allies, the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and France, in accordance with those of Austria and Turkey, deemed it advisable to draw up the Third Point in more general terms; and to stipulate only for the reduction of the naval forces of Russia in the Black Sea. The Russian Ambassadors have as readily as on the first two points expressed the willingness of their Imperial master that Russian preponderance in that sea shall cease. But by what means the result is to be obtained has not up to the present moment been taken into official consideration, however earnestly the individual members of the Conference may have turned the subject over in their own minds, and to whatever extent they may have been instructed by the Governments which they represent. Sebastopol, and its future fate or condition, has not, it appears, been mentioned on either side. The question remains—is Russia quite sincere in conceding so much as she has done? although her concessions, great as they are, may appear small to those who look for military as well as diplomatic triumph. If she be sincere, it can only be for the reason that the new Czar really desires peace; either because he disapproves of the policy of the war which his father so wantonly and wickedly commenced; or because, not disapproving of it, he feels himself unable to prosecute it against the whole of Europe, and possibly against the dead weight of his own empty exchequer. If the first of these two suppositions should be correct, it would scarcely be prudent on the part of the Allies, to attach to the treaty of pacification any conditions degrading to the Czar and his nation. On the contrary, it would be both generous and politic, to allow the wise and temperate Sovereign such terms as would spare his own *amour propre* and that of his people to the utmost possible extent; and thereby avoid the risk that might otherwise be incurred of exasperating the Russians against their Sovereign, and replacing him on the throne by a more violent and less scrupulous monarch.

If the second supposition be correct—the same reasons for forbearance would not exist; and the Allies would be justified in exacting such material guarantees as would compel the Czar to keep the peace in the days when his Exchequer might be replenished; and when disunion among the Powers of Europe, on some other question, might offer him an opportunity of aggression, too captivating to be resisted. Seen from this point of view, the actual concessions of Russia, would be concessions to fear, and not to justice. Under such circumstances the course to be pursued by the Allies would be clear before them. Greater pressure, less forbearance, and the strictest determination to exact the whole "pound of flesh" from a foe, discomfited for the moment, but powerful and ambitious enough to renew the war on the first favourable occasion—such would be the duties that would devolve upon Great Britain, France, and Austria. The alliance between the three Powers is, up to the present time, complete and cordial enough to justify the anticipation that Austria is ready to share not alone the diplomacy, but the battle-fields, of the Western Powers. Austria has a splendid army of 600,000 men; and though she desires peace—and what Power in Europe does not?—she will be prepared for war, in case of necessity—and for war on the same side with France and England.

But the world knows too much of Russian diplomacy to trust it implicitly. If there were anything in Russian history, past or present, which could entitle that Power to claim the slightest credit for honesty towards other States, the supposition of bad faith might appear ungenerous. But the treachery of Russia is proverbial; and it is no libel upon the character of her rulers and her statesmen to consider it not only a possible, but a probable, thing, that in conceding so much as she has already done, and in taking such an infinitude of pains to impress the world with the idea of her moderation, she is true to her antecedents by playing false to her foes. "*Reculer pour mieux sauter*" is an axiom that the well-trained and astute diplomatists in the service of the late and the present Czar, have long learned to reverence and to act upon. If, by the display of apparent forbearance and moderation, Russia can work upon the dislike which Austria for many reasons—principally financial and domestic—entertains against war; she can detach that Power from the alliance with Great Britain and France, or impair and weaken to its slightest extent the *entente cordiale* now existing between the three—her diplomatists would achieve a triumph peculiarly Russian, and peculiarly mischievous. In this would lie the actual danger of the present state of affairs in Vienna, if the Emperor of Austria were not an honest man, surrounded by able as well as honest advisers. But Francis Joseph is honest and sincere; and those courageous and far-seeing men whom he has called to his councils, are too wise to become the dupes of Russia, and too patriotic to pursue any line of policy that would not conduce to the ultimate honour, and thereby to the enduring advantage of their country.

The Conference which commenced the preliminary discussion upon the Third Point on Thursday last, the 29th inst. adjourned after the meeting of that afternoon to Monday, the 2nd of April. It appears, however, that the discussions on that point, which are likely to last a very considerable time, will not immediately be resumed; but that the Fourth Point, which stipulates for the revision of all the treaties in existence between Russia and Turkey previous to the war, will be the subject of the next Conference. So much the better. The longer the Third Point is kept in abeyance, the greater the chance that Sebastopol will fall in the interim or that the British fleet in the Baltic will do its part towards cutting the Gordian knot which the Plenipotentiaries in this capital are attempting to untie.

Next to their own Emperor—who, since his marriage, has become more popular than ever among all classes of his subjects—the chief favourite of the Viennese is the Emperor of the French. There has been a rumour current for the last few days that Napoleon III. would pass through Vienna *en route* for the Crimea, and though the rumour has not the slightest foundation, it acquires interest from the manner in which the Viennese have received it, and from the determination they express to give him a most enthusiastic welcome. The sentiments of esteem and admiration which the Austrian Emperor expressed towards his Imperial brother of France have found an echo among the people; and if, by any chance, he should hereafter visit this city, not even London will give him a more brilliant ovation.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys is expected here on Wednesday, to share the Conferences on the part of the French Government. It is also stated, but the fact is not considered quite certain, that Great Britain will immediately send a third Plenipotentiary to act with the Earl of Westmoreland and Lord John Russell.

MILITIA AT PORTSMOUTH.

The group of Militia Officers and Privates engraved upon the preceding page has been sketched by our Artist at Portsmouth, where these regiments were doing garrison duty. Commencing from the left hand, the first is a private of the South Middlesex Militia; and the next figure is that of a private of the Royal Wiltshire Militia, in marching order. Next are two of the bandmen of the South Middlesex. The figure in the centre is that of an officer of the Royal Wiltshire, in undress; and next him is an officer of the South Middlesex, in full dress. The figure whose head is next shown is that of a private of the Hampshire Militia Artillery; and the extreme right-hand front figure is that of an officer of the same regiment; and the figure in the rear is that of an Artillery private.

The Hampshire Artillery Militia.—A considerable number of the men of this corps, which recently arrived to do duty at Woolwich, on Monday last, followed the example of some of the militia corps in the north, and demanded and obtained their discharges, which they claimed after fifty-six days' service, in terms of the Act of 1852. The well-conducted men that remain will receive £2 10s. each of bounty, and be granted one month's leave of absence.

The City of London Regiment of Militia, numbering nearly 600 strong, have, to the number of 150, expressed their readiness for Colonial service.

Russian Defensive Preparations.—All the approaches to St. Petersburg are strongly fortified. The extremity of the point of the Vasilostrof and the banks of the river, near the gulf, are covered with fortifications and batteries. The whole of the Gulf of Cronstadt, on both sides, is nothing but an immense fortification, bristling with great guns, and defended by 40,000 men of the very best troops, and protected, besides, by 40,000 seamen in gun-boats moored along the shore. The fleet is completely dismantled; and, if necessary, the same sacrifice will be resorted to as at Sebastopol. Similar preparations are being made at Revel and Sveaborg, and vessels loaded with stones are all ready to be sunk to the bottom. Although Cronstadt is considered impregnable, yet great apprehensions are felt of those monster gun-boats which are said to be in course of construction in France and England, for it is well known that they are the only vessels that can approach Cronstadt. Should they burn the town and fortifications, they could then easily arrive at this capital. Workmen are actively employed in setting up a line of telegraphic posts along the coast from St. Petersburg to Riga and Abo. They are so arranged as that they will have a sort of pigeon-house on the top, fixed in four tall pieces of wood, and from them signals will be transmitted concerning the enemy's fleet. Warning has been given to the French residents here not to go outside the walls, as, though they were safe in St. Petersburg, the authorities do not hold themselves responsible for them outside. The feeling is much stronger in Russia against the English than against the French, and not a single English foreman remains in any of the factories. All have been replaced by Americans; these latter have also the management of the railway from this city to Moscow, and are exceedingly well treated. Alexander II. is well inclined, it is said, to peace, but the question is, can he make it? All I can say is, that the war is assuming more and more a financial character, and the army on its march is everywhere supplied with every kind of refreshment. The Government no longer gives any pay to the soldiers or seamen; it feeds and clothes them, and that is all.—*Letter from St. Petersburg.*

A Thorough Traveller.—Amongst the passengers who arrived in England by the last West India packet was Captain Petre. He sold out of a regiment of Dragoons some years since to gratify his love of travelling. He has travelled nearly over the world. His last journey was across the American continent, from Buenos Ayres to Chili, over the Pampas and the Andes.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

Paris, Thursday.

It seems probable that the day named for the departure of the Emperor and Empress for London, the 16th inst., will see the realisation of the project. In its execution, the Peace party insist on seeing a symptom of the furtherance of their views, and they cite a few random words *said* to have been pronounced by the Chef de l'Etat in confirmation of the idea.

It is said that magnificent plans are being formed for the reception of the Queen here, both by the Court and by the country, and that her Majesty is to be *fêtée* right royally.

There is a question of increasing the effective of the Imperial Guard to 40,000 men; the extra number to be selected among the troops which have particularly distinguished themselves in the present campaign. There is even some idea of establishing a special bureau for this body at the Ministère de la Guerre.

Although the visit of the Emperor and Empress to London, and the probable one of the Queen to Paris, indefinitely defers the expedition to the Crimea, the plan is still fully entertained. Among other preparations, the Sultan has ordered twelve sets of the most magnificent housings, for as many Arab horses, to be presented to the Empress.

It is still expected that the Great Exhibition will open on the day originally named—the 1st of May. We doubt the fact; but we may be wrong. Meantime, amid all the preparations that are being made for the reception of visitors, foreign and provincial, those for the care of their creature comforts are being carried on to the most unlimited extent. Right and left, in the way and out of the way, restaurants, and buffets, and gargottes are springing up, for the entertainment of man, if not for beast—at all prices and of all qualities. There is the Dîner de l'Exposition, whereof we have already given an account to our readers; La Société de Gastronomie; La Société des Buffets de Paris; Le Dîner de Paris; to say nothing of innumerable smaller fry, where people sit down and eat hot dinners, or stand up and satisfy the cravings of appetite with cold. The *entente cordiale* is kept up and utilised by most of these entertainments bearing the extra title of Anglo-Français. The Buffets de Paris is about to open on the *rez de chaussée* of the immense house built by an Englishman, Mr. Richard Wallace, on the ground lately occupied on the Boulevard by the Bains Chinois: the rent of the *part* of the ground floor thus occupied amounts to the sum of 50,000 fr., upwards of £2200. The Hôtel d'Osmont, one of the most elegant habitations in Paris, situated in the Rue Basse du Rempart, opposite the Rue de la Paix, is one of the most important mansions destined to be converted to this purpose. It is to be converted into a cercle restaurant—a sort of dining club, of the first class—where everything is to be conducted on the most splendid scale.

The grand steeplechase of the Croix de Berny, looked forward to for months by the "sportmans" who had made their "stut-books" for the occasion, was an utter failure on account of the weather: out of thirty horses inscribed, but nine started; and of these, five exhausted by the state of the ground, which in some places was little better than a quagmire—fell before nearing the end of the course; while the spectators sat through the whole ceremony under a small freezing rain.

Paris, we learn, is about to be favoured by the presence of Lola Montes, who, it is said, is married for the ——? time. The present worse half is, we believe, a gold-digger, whom the Comtesse de Lansfeld picked up at Grass Valley, and whose millions she proposes to dispose of here: this done, we suppose the gold-digger will be disposed of in his turn—*que ne nous regarde pas.*

It is said by some that the Exposition de l'Industrie will not have received anything like the whole amount of the objects to be exhibited before the end of May or beginning of June, but that it will, nevertheless open on the day appointed. Another report states that the Emperor, in conformity with the appeals addressed to him by certain members of French commerce, more especially in the Faubourg St. Antoine, has expressed a desire that a supplementary gallery to supply the want of space complained of shall be added; and if the difficulties—which are great—for the execution of this work can be surmounted, it is probable the opening of the building will be deferred till the addition can be completed.

A book that is likely to address itself to the interest of the world in general is a history of the late Emperor of Russia, about to be published by M. Leouzon-Leduc.

The success of "Le Demi-Monde" continues to be prodigious: boxes require to be engaged many days previously by those who crowd to see the piece. On the night of its first representation, the Prince Napoleon sent to M. Alexandre Dumas *fils* two magnificent shirt-studs in diamonds. The Porte St. Martin is about to produce an adaptation of one of the novels of M. Maquet, the author of the popular piece "Le Comte de Lavernie," entitled "La Belle Gabrielle," for the *début* of Fechter. On the 16th inst. the Opéra Comique is about to produce a new work by MM. Ambroise Thomas and Rosier, "La Cour de Célimène." The piece is said to be one of particular merit and importance, and is being brought out with the utmost care and attention. The principal parts are to be sung by Bataille, Jourdan, and Mesdames Miolan-Carvalho and Colson.

AMERICA.

The mail steam-ship *Nashville*, which sailed from New York on the 21st ult., arrived at Liverpool on Tuesday.

The most important news by the present arrival is from California. The dates from San Francisco are the 26th February. The intelligence of the failure of Page and Bacon, of St. Louis, had reached California, and caused one of the greatest monetary panics ever known; and so great was the run upon the banks and banking houses, that the heaviest and most important were obliged to give way to the pressure and close up their concerns.

An official document from the President of the United States proclaims the reciprocity treaty in full force from the 16th ult.

The *New York Herald* says:—"The letter of our Washington correspondent develops a new programme with reference to Cuba, originated by Secretary Marcy, and to be carried out by our new Minister to Madrid, Mr. Dodge. The length, breadth, and scope of this new plan is comprehended in the negotiation of a reciprocity treaty between the United States and Cuba. The alternative presented to Spain is to be free trade with Cuba, or a repeal of the neutrality laws, and the encouragement of Filibusterism."

The Governor of Halifax has received authority to raise a foreign legion for the British service there, with a couple of regiments formed of persons born subjects of the English Government

INDIA AND CHINA.

The Bombay papers received by the last Overland Mail—of which we gave a telegraphic notice last week—represent India as tranquil throughout, with the exception of some slight marauding on the frontier. On the 9th ult. a robbery was committed by about 200 hill men, near Peshawur, on a camp close by a police station, where some thirty people lost their lives—the robbers escaping.

Oude and the Nizam's dominions continue filled with disorder.

The Calcutta Military Board has been extinguished, and those of the other Presidencies are about to encounter the same fate; a separate department for Public Works is to be brought into existence in their room

The Governor-General of Calcutta for the Neilgherry Hills, and is said to have asked permission to return to England next year from this sanitarium without revisiting Bengal. Lords Harris and Elphinstone are at their respective seats of Government, both in the enjoyment of good health.

The *Overland Friend of China*, of Feb. 15th, publishes in a supplement two communications regarding the repulse of the French from the city of Shanghae. In one of them the loss is said to be 1000 Imperialists, in killed and wounded; and the French between forty and fifty men, including two officers killed and four wounded.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

A telegraphic despatch from the Allied Camp announces that active operations were to commence on Tuesday last, the 3rd of April, but it is highly questionable whether the Russians would allow them to wait so long. The sortie on the night of the 22nd ult., of which we first heard from St. Petersburg, proves to have been a much more serious affair than General Osten-Sacken represented it; in fact, a battle rather than a sortie. The Russian despatch admitted that the "loss on both sides was considerable;" but affirmed that that of the French was greater than the loss of the attacking party. General Canrobert, however, states that the Russians were repulsed with the loss of 2000 men, while that of the French was only 600.

The point of attack was the same position which had been the scene of minor struggles for many nights previous to this extensive sortie. The bold and successful occupation by the Russian engineers of the height known as Gordon's-hill delayed, by threatening to enfilade the newly-constructed batteries of the besiegers, the commencement of the bombardment, and opposed an unexpected impediment to the progress of the Allies. The attempt made by General Monet to dislodge the enemy from this advantageous position failed, it will be remembered, chiefly through the misconduct of the Marines engaged in that enterprise. The Russians laboured with great activity to render their new position unassailable, and at the same time rapidly advanced their lines in direction of the Allied trenches. To facilitate the latter enterprise, the rifle-pits, which were the source of three sanguinary struggles, were excavated by the enemy. The French engineers had been equally active in sapping towards the newly constructed Russian redoubt, which, although most menacing to the Allies as an offensive work, was ill-calculated, from its isolated position, to resist successfully a heavy cannonade. The rapid progress of the French works naturally excited a sentiment of apprehension in the minds of the Russian engineers, and they resolved to direct an overwhelming attack upon that position. The moral condition of the garrison of Sebastopol, elated by the arrival of reinforcements and by the transient successes of previous nocturnal contests, favoured this determination. On the night of the 22nd of March this carefully-prepared sortie was executed, with what success we have already stated.

From the fact of several British officers having fallen in the field, it appears that a portion of our army was engaged in this nocturnal action. The meagre accounts derived from the despatch of General Canrobert throw no light upon the assistance afforded by the British army; but, from our knowledge of the positions occupied by the Allies, we are enabled to form some notion of the part taken by our troops. The point of attack was entirely in the occupation of the French, and it is therefore probable that, owing to the serious nature of the sortie, the whole Allied force stood to arms, and that a portion of the British army marched to support the French, and contributed to the fortunate issue of the engagement.

As regards the operations contemplated by the Allies we are entirely in the dark at present, but it is impossible that the present state of inaction can last much longer. The Allied force now encamped on the heights before Sebastopol is of sufficient numerical strength to permit the detachment of *corps d'armée* in the necessary directions; and there can be little doubt that, if assistance were sent to Omer Pacha, the Turkish Generalissimo would be enabled to take the field, and advance either on the Alma or on Bagtcheserai, which is the true basis of the Russian position in the Crimea. A second *corps d'armée* might be disembarked, if found practicable, in the vicinity of the River Katscha, and thus force the Russian army either to abandon its positions on the Alma or to incur the risk, in case of an advance of Omer Pacha from Eupatoria, of being taken between two fires. Were even a third corps to operate in the rear of Balaclava, and, if possible, force the passage of the Tchernaya, an army would still exist in sufficient strength to conduct the operations of the siege and defend the Allied lines

We have had no reliable news from Eupatoria for some time. The Russian papers speak of Omer Pacha being about to attack the army employed to operate against that town; but it seems merely a rumour.

SUPPOSED DEATH OF AMMUNITION IN SEBASTOPOL.—Soon after dark the French opened on the left a more vigorous bombardment against the town than has yet been attempted. All their new mortar batteries opened, and a terrific discharge followed. A series of cascades of stars, as it were, played into the town, falling with such regularity, that seen from the distance of the right attack, it appeared more like a *feu d'artifice* than the deliberate of so serious a purpose. Behind the batteries of minor weight some of the 14, 13-inch mortar works were opened, the shells from which rose to an amazing height before they fell on the devoted town. The crash of their explosions reverberated among the hills. This continued shelling was kept up for some hours, and must have caused vast destruction. The fire of the Russian riflemen against the embrasures of the advanced works, which at first, gradually subsided. But the most wonderful part of the spectacle was the almost total absence of any flash from the Russian batteries. A complete silence reigned along their whole line. No fitly or a hundred shells thrown from the French, and from some of the works on Greenhill, scarcely one replied from the Russians. This formed so remarkable a contrast with the usual activity of the enemy's batteries, that it became the subject of much speculation. Whether there was really a dearth of ammunition, or whether from such a terrible shower of metal it had been thought prudent for the gunners to conceal themselves in a place that could small the hottest part of the storm was over, was equally uncertain. During the French attack on the night of the 14th instant, an Irishman, who had been two years in Sebastopol, managed to effect his escape in our lines, and he represented that there was great apprehension in the garrison respecting our opening the new batteries Whatever the cause, while an uninterrupted shower of shells was being poured into the town, scarcely a shell or shot was returned to check the fire or to retaliate. There was equal silence preserved in the Redan, and in the works around the Malakoff Tower, on the right—although from the batteries on the Lancaster and 21-gun batteries, and the French battery at Inkerman, maintained a fire against the parties supposed to be working in the new Mamelon redoubt. We must look to time alone for the explanation. The bombardment of last night on the left is a sample of what will be the fire against this town and arsenal when all the new works are opened.—*Letter from the Camp, March 19.*

A VISIT TO THE CAMP.—What a sad noisy place it is such bargaining, quarreling, I should fancy quite equal to the original Donnybrook The French soldiers were all busy, some making roads, others carrying fascines, &c., and I was much struck with their cleanly appearance. I passed several "vivandières," looking really smart and pretty—a very small glass of good brandy they gave for 6d. I got early to ——'s tent, and was most warmly received; would not hear of my going back till the following day; lunched, and set out for a stroll, and to get a good view of Sebastopol, which I was surprised to see so very little damaged. It looked very pretty and very quiet; boats were plying in the harbour, and ladies walking about; it looked like anything but what I expected a besieged town would appear. We saw our besieging batteries, and took a long turn through the various camps of several divisions; everyone I knew, and was surprised at the very healthy though rough appearance of them all; and they all seemed satisfied and happy. Hospitality is certainly one of the most distinguishing features of camp life: everyone offered a welcome, and all had a something in the eating and drinking way to offer. We got back by five or half-past; had a wash in some freezing water; pulled off my boots, which were knee-deep in mud, put on another borrowed pair, and a dry, warm coat, and at six dined. There were eight of us in all. We had mutton broth and sheep's head, salmon and lobster from preserved tins, roast mutton, fowls, hare, curried rabbit, cheese, made of sauces, sherry, port, and porter; and all of us in capital spirits. The stove was wonderfully; having no funnel, it was kept outside till the smoke was gone, and with the smoke went most of the heat in the men's tents; and we had all heard all sorts of jovial singing old familiar songs; and no set of men could to all appearance have been happier than those besieging Sebastopol, though it was blowing hard and snowing, and any moment their songs might have been stopped by war in its stern reality. We heard constant firing of heavy guns and musketry, which my companions seemed insensible to the noise of. By ten p.m. the singing and fiddling among the men ceased, but we sat chatting and talking till twelve. I had a tent to myself to sleep in, a camp bed, and plenty of warm clothing, and a very good fire. The tent pole was hung round with hams. It blew very hard, and the tent shook so that I expected it would blow down; however, I suffered no misfortune beyond a few hams tumbling on me. Turned out and had a cold wash. Breakfasted at eight—coffee, mutton chops, fried potatoes. A Frenchman brought from the French camp with him, made bread, but dear—2s. for a small loaf. At nine I mounted and rode to headquarters. Near Lord Raglan's little bit of road; loads of carriages, carts, and all sorts of things piled up; plenty of turkeys and poultry strutting about—it fact, his quarters have a good deal the appearance of a Dutch farmyard, nothing to denote that it was the Commander-in-Chief's.—*Letter from Balaclava March 21.*

A PRINCE INCOG.—A Jewish banker, of Frankfort, while proceeding to Vienna by railway not long since, fell into conversation with a gentleman of very pleasing manners, who was in the same carriage with him, and so delighted was the banker with his new acquaintance, that he offered to give him a letter of recommendation to his daughter, who was well married in Vienna, and might be of service to him. The gentleman thanked him, and, with a smile, said, "I also have one of my daughters married at Vienna, and she has made a very tolerable match." "Pray, may I presume," said the banker, "to ask the name of her husband?" "It is the Emperor of Austria" was the answer, the gentleman being Prince Maximilian of Bavaria.—*Vienna Wanderer.*

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, April 2, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received two despatches and their enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, March 20, 1855.

My Lord,—I do myself the honour to transmit to your Lordship a letter from the Inspector-General of Hospitals, both for the weekly return of sick to the 17th inst. The number of sick is not diminished, but the cases are lighter, and every day the men in Camp exhibit a more healthy appearance.

RAGLAN.

[Enclosure.]

Before Sebastopol, March 19, 1855.

My Lord,—In transmitting the weekly state of sick of the army to the 17th inst., I have the honour to state that, though the sickness still amounts to 14·31 per cent, the mortality does not exceed 0·51 per cent, which is a proof that the diseases are milder in character; and I think I may safely say the general health and appearance of the men is greatly improved; and, had not the duty, by the unavoidable operations of the siege going on, been increased of late, I think the sick list would have been still more diminished, as the men's condition is in every other way so much improved both in diet, dress, and accommodation

It has been proposed by the Minister-at-War to give the men tea, coffee, and cocoa, on alternate mornings; and to-morrow your Lordship will receive the report of the Medical Board ordered to consider the subject. The first two I think good, and the change will be both agreeable and beneficial to the men; but cocoa, I am afraid, requires much preparation to be usefully adopted in the army under present circumstances

The prevailing diseases are fevers, of a low typhoid form in some instances, and in others assuming an intermittent and remittent type, and bowel complaints. Fevers have been rather on the increase of late, but bowel complaints have become much fewer in number, and milder in character. Scurvy, too, though the number appears large in the return, is on the decrease; and I can assure your Lordship, from recent personal inspection of the sick of the different divisions, that the generality of the cases returned under that head are of the most trifling character; and, under the use of the present change of diet, I am in hopes the disease will soon totally disappear from our list.

In the First Division, the Brigade of Guards continues to improve in health and appearance, from its change of situation; and the Brigade of Highlanders is also efficient. The 79th and 93rd are influenced by the locality of their camps, which cannot well be changed, and have more sickness than the 42nd, which are more favourably placed; and in this regard, the most scrupulous attention is paid to the sanitary condition of their camp.

To show how locality affects the health of the men, I may mention the wing of the second battalion of the Rifle Brigade, which occupies the high promontory of the southern extremity of the Balaclava lines overlooking the sea; and here, though the men are exposed, and the duty is as severe as in any other part of the Camp, there is little or no disease.

In the Second Division, the 21st and 90th Regiments have been more unhealthy than the rest, and have had a larger number of fever cases than others admitted into hospital, and many of them have been of a serious character. It is difficult to account for this, as there is nothing in the locality of the ground occupied by these two regiments different from that of the rest of the division. Perhaps their tents were a little more crowded than the rest; and the hospitals, from the pressure of sickness, had more men in them than was advisable; but this I directed to be remedied when I visited the hospitals a few days ago.

The health of the Third Division is improved decidedly so in some of the regiments; and the health of the Fourth and Light Divisions is improved also.

The cavalry, with the exception of the 2nd Dragoons, is in good health, and the health of the 2nd, the superintending medical officer seems to think, has been influenced by local causes that are now in course of removal

The health of the artillery has been tolerably good during the week, and the cases under treatment, both in the general and convalescent hospitals at Balaclava, have progressed favorably; and when the remainder of the hospital huts at the Castle come into use, I expect great advantage from their occupation, both by convalescents and wounded men, should we unfortunately have any.

I have, &c., J. HALL, Inspector-General of Hosp tals

To Field Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, March 20, 1855

My Lord,—In my despatch of the 17th instant I reported to your Lordship the progress made in forming the parallel constructed to unite the right of our right attack with the left of the French on the Inkerman heights

The contest of the latter with the enemy for the possession of the rifle pits in their immediate front was renewed after dark on that night, and was continued for several hours, the fire being excessively heavy, particularly of musketry, and considerable loss must have been sustained by our allies I fear, as well as by the enemy, who continue to hold the ambuscades: but the French persevere, notwithstanding, in working forward, and are approaching the Mamelon, on which the Russians are busily engaged in building a formidable work, though frequently interrupted by our batteries and those of the I rench

On the night of the 17th the English parallels were not attacked, but the fire to which I have above alluded was so continuous, that the whole force was either under arms or ready to turn out.

Inclose the return of casualties to the 18th inst

It was currently reported yesterday that Prince Menschikoff had died on his way to Moscow. I have not been able to ascertain if the report be founded; but it was so fully credited as to have been dispatched to Constantinople.

Prince Gortschakoff is stated to have arrived at Bagtcheserai, and to have assumed the command of the army. Reinforcements are reported to be on their way from Russia, and the Ninth Division to have reached the neighbourhood of Eupatoria The position of the Russian troops in the vicinity of the Tchernaya remains unaltered

The progress of the railway continues to be satisfactory, and we are already able to use it with considerable advantage, both for the conveyance of supplies and hutting, so far as the high ground some way on this side of Kadikoi. Mr. Beattie's exertions deserve every commendation

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

Nominal Return of Officer, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Privates, Wounded and Missing, from 10th to 18th March, 1855, inclusive

WOUNDED.—47th Foot Lieutenant George Mcdonell, dangerously. Royal Rappers and Miners: Private B. Masters, slightly. 77th Foot: Private Robert Wiley, slightly. 34th Private Thomas Rutledge, dangerously. 88th. Privates John Wall and John Kelly, slightly. Royal Artillery: Sergeant Alexander Hunter, slightly 34th Foot: Privates Robert Hughes and Andrew Humphries, severely; Private Sidney Vlanlay, slightly 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private Thomas Franklin, severely; Private Emanuel Elliott, slightly

MISSING.—21st Foot. Private Hugh McWiggin.

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General.

War Department, April 3.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosure, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship, by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, March 20, 1855

My Lord,—It is with deep concern that I forward to your Lordship's confirmation the copy of a letter, which I received on the 18th instant, from General Canrobert, announcing, with every expression of concern, the death of a British officer, who appears to have wandered into the French camp, and, not answering challenge, was pursued and repeatedly fired on, three times, was shot dead by the French sentry, whose post he had approached

This officer, Surgeon Le Blanc, of the 9th Foot, occupied a tent near the hospital huts of his regiment, situate at some distance from the encampment of his regiment himself. He was a gentleman of most amiable habits, and was occupied in reading, when, suddenly, upon the alarm sounding, he rose from his seat, leaving his candle lighted and his book open, and walked out: he was never seen alive afterwards.

It should be explained that, shortly after the close of the day on the 17th, there was a very heavy fire on the left of the French right, which was maintained for several hours. None of the English posts were attacked, but it was considered prudent to get the greater portion of the troops under arms M. Le Blanc was shortsighted, and probably mistook his way from the first, the night being excessively dark, for he was found far distant to the left, and must have wandered from our position without knowing the direction in which he was going

Being anxious to ascertain the facts of this unfortunate case as correctly as possible, I have set on foot an inquiry, to be conducted by English and French officers, in association with each other, and I propose to do myself the honour to send you their report. I have addressed a similar letter to the General Commanding-in-Chief.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

[Inclosure.]

Head-quarters, March 18th, 1855.

My Lord,—I am grieved to have to inform you of an event, much to be regretted, which painfully engrosses the French army and the Commander-in-Chief.

Last night, while the troops were kept perpetually on the alert, an English officer presented himself before the line of the 18th Regiment, established near the Watch-tower behind our trenches of the left attack He was challenged three times by the guard, the officer did not reply; the sentinel fired, and he was killed on the spot.

I can hardly understand how this unhappy officer found himself at such an hour so far from the English Camp. I believe that his death can only be attributed to his own imprudence; but I do not the less deplore the event, which must also be attributed to the natural emotion of a young soldier, who, in the midst of the events which marked last night, rigorously executed the military regulation. I have, &c., GENERAL CANROBERT,

Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, &c., &c.

War Department, April 6.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship, by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, March 24.

My Lord,—On the morning of the 22nd the French troops in the advanced parallel moved forward, and drove the enemy out of the rifle pits in their immediate front, but nothing of any importance occurred during the day.

Early in the night, however, a serious attack was made upon the works of our allies in front of the Victoria redoubt, opposite the Malakoff tower.

The night was very dark, and the wind so high, that the firing which took place, and which was very heavy, could scarcely be heard in the British Camp; it is therefore difficult to speak with certainty of what occurred from anything that could be heard or observed at the moment.

It appears, however, that the Russians, after attacking the head of the sap which the French are carrying on towards the Mamelon, fell with two heavy masses on their new parallel, to the rear of which they succeeded in penetrating and momentarily possessing themselves of, after a gallant resistance on the part of our allies.

Having broken through, they passed along the parallel and in rear of it, until they came in contact with the force stationed in our advanced parallel extending into the ravine, from the right of our advance, where it connects with the French trench

The enemy was here met by detachments of the 77th and 97th Regiments, forming part of the guard of the trenches, who, although thus taken suddenly both in flank and rear, behaved with the utmost gallantry and coolness.

The detachment of the 97th, which was on the extreme right, and which consequently first came in contact with the enemy, repulsed the attack at the point of the bayonet

They were led by Captain Vicars, who, unfortunately, lost his life on the occasion; and I am assured that nothing could be more distinguished than the gallantry and good example which he set to the detachment under his command

The conduct of the detachment of the 77th was equally distinguished; and the firmness and promptitude with which the attack in this part of our position was met were at the highest degree creditable to that regiment

These troops were under the direction of Major Gordon, of the Royal Engineers, who was wounded on the occasion so severely as for some time, I fear, to deprive the army of the benefit of his valuable services.

The attention of the troops in our advanced works having been by these transactions drawn to the right, the enemy took occasion to move upon, and succeeded in penetrating into, the left front of our right attack, near the battery where two 10-inch mortars have recently been placed. They advanced single file works until they were met by a detachment of the 19th and 34th Regiments, which had been at work in the neighbourhood, under the direction of Lieut.-Colonel Tylden, of the Royal Engineers, who promptly made them stand to their arms, and led them with the greatest determination and steadiness against the enemy who were speedily ejected from the works and fairly pitched over the parapet, with but little or no firing on our part

Lieutenant Colonel Tylden speaks in the highest terms of the conduct of the troops on this occasion, and particularly of that of Lieutenant Marsh, Acting Adjutant of the 33rd Regiment, whose services and activity throughout the night were very useful to him.

Captain the Hon. Cavendish Browne, of the 7th, and Lieutenant Jordan of the 34th Regiment, were unfortunately killed in this attack, after displaying the most distinguished gallantry, and Lieutenant M'Henry, of the former regiment, was wounded; but I hope not very severely. Lieut.-Colonel Kelly, of the 34th Regiment, who commanded in the trenches, is, I regret to have to add, missing

The French, in retiring from their advanced parallel upon their supports, severely suffered, and fell upon the enemy, whom they repulsed with great loss, and followed so far up towards the Mamelon, that they were enabled to level and destroy nearly all the "ambuscades" or "rifle concealments" erected along their front.

I fear, however, that this success has not been accomplished without considerable loss on their part, although that of the enemy is much greater.

Yesterday the whole of the ground between the posts of the two armies was covered with their dead, amounting to several hundreds, besides those which they had undoubtedly carried off before daylight

In the meantime the enemy in great numbers found their way into the advanced batteries on our extreme left, which are not yet armed, and momentarily possessed themselves of them

The working parties were, however, speedily collected and re-formed by Captain Chermside, of the 30th Regiment, and they at once drove the enemy out of the trenches with the utmost gallantry.

Captain Montague, of the Royal Engineers, who was superintending the works, unfortunately fell into the hands of the enemy

I enclose the return of casualties to the 22nd inst inclusive

The wind is excessively high, but the weather is in other respects fine

I have, &c., (signed) RAGLAN

The Lord Panmure, &c

Return of Officers who have been Killed, Wounded, and Missing from the 19th to the 22nd March, 1855, inclusive

KILLED.—7th Foot: Captain Hon C. Browne 34th: Lieut W. W. Jordan 97th. Captain H. S. Vicars

WOUNDED. 7th Foot: Lieut J McHenry, severely. Royal Engineers: Brevet-Major J W Gordon, severely

MISSING. 34th Foot: Brevet Lieut-Colonel R. H Kelly Royal Engineers: Captain H. Montague.

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General.

Return of Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates Killed, Wounded, and Missing from 19th to 22nd March 1855, inclusive

KILLED.—Royal Artillery: Gunner Michael Cunningham 29th: Privates John Lynch, Patrick Mullen, Patrick Mullen, Michael Dwyer, John Keefe, James Blake, and Edmund Kirby 41st: Private Barnard Reynolds 47th: Private Michael Drennan 57th. Privates John Jones, Felix Smith. 77th. Privates Richard Vickers, Thomas Brennan, Charles Lindsay 97th. Lance-Corporal James Scrivens. Privates [illegible] under John Wilson

WOUNDED.—7th Foot: Corporal Mathew Hudson, severely: Privates William Carling, John Lambie, Martin Davenagh, Edward Procter, John Kerry, and Joseph Hutchinson, severely John [illegible] Corporals Patrick Mullen, dangerously Thady Hayden, slightly. Privates Peter Rowe, slightly: Michael Byrne dangerously, James Hussell, severely, Patrick Keohan, Patrick Keating, William Wilkes, James Lewis, slightly 21st: Privates Thomas Bryan, Michael Flinn, Roger Hickey, and John Horner, severely. 34th Corporal James McFeeley, severely. Privates Monk Connell, William Hutton, Thomas Hayden, James Lynch, Joseph Ward, severely. 38th Private Charles Tyler, slightly. 44th. Private Joseph Lakey, slightly 79th: Privates John Foley and James Hunter, severely 77th. Privates Peter [illegible] William Hackett, Thomas Donohue, Robert M'Leasky, William Lowe, severely 88th. Sergeant James Melville, slightly 93rd Corporal William Carmichael, severely Privates John Nicholson and James Buckley, slightly. 97th: Corporal John M'Hugh, slightly. Privates Patrick Butler, severely; Thomas Farrell, John Hamilton, slightly John Brown, severely John Gloyn, slightly. Benjamin Ford, severely. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private Patrick McGuire severely

MISSING.—7th Foot: Private John Murphy 14th Private John Bonham, Martin Healy, William Henry Robinson, William Wills. 57th Sergeant William R. Locke; Private Edward Sale. 77th. Privates Richard O'Sullivan, Collin, and John Lynn. 97th: Private H. Wrater.

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General.

FRENCH AND ENGLISH JOURNALS IN RUSSIA.—A St. Petersburg letter in the *Lettre* notices as a remarkable circumstance that since the commencement of the war all the French and English journals which used to be received in the Russian capital have been allowed freely to enter the capital, and to lie about on the tables in all the cafés. The London *Punch* and the Paris *Charivari*, with their broad caricatures of everything Russian, are now the most amusing reading in St. Petersburg. Nicholas I. is said to have changed the habits of his whole life, and reversing the established policy of the empire, ordered shortly before his death the free admission of all foreign journals without distinction, even of those which had hitherto received the continuance of the innovation. The object of the new measure is supposed to be to excite the orthodox nobility against the infidel enemy. "You see how they insult your Emperor, and how they speak of your Czar!" The Czarina, from old habit, sometimes scratch out a few lines; but, as a general rule, all the Paris and London papers may now be seen unmutilated.

EXPEDITION PRIVATELY FITTED OUT AT CAPE TOWN, CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, TO EXPLORE IN THE INTERIOR OF SOUTH AFRICA, BY MESSRS. GREEN AND ANDERTON.—Mr. Green, accompanied by a Mr. Dalton, sailed from Cape Town in September last, for Walvisch Bay, on the west coast of Africa. Starting from Walvisch Bay, they purposed to proceed overland to Lake O'Gnami. They have fitted out two waggons, and have taken an extra number of draught oxen, horses, &c., and the requisite supplies for a two years' expedition On arrival at the appointed rendezvous, Mr. Green has had a boat built by Mr. Hustwick, of Cape Town, on the life-boat principle, which will be conveyed on waggon wheels to Lake O'Gnami. The boat is *transitin* is so fitted up as to answer all purposes of an accommodation for the interior of the waggon, and on reaching the Lake O'Gnami will be of invaluable service. The object in taking a boat is to follow out the river Tlongua, and to trace, if the O'Gnami has any communication with the western coast. Mr. Green also purposed to explore further, and to solve the correctness of a report of the natives of the existence of a lake said to be 300 miles to the north of the O'Gnami. Mr. Anderton, who co-operates with Mr. Green, was one of the first travellers who penetrated from Walvisch Bay, on the west coast, to the lake. Mr. Green is an experienced and acclimatised African traveller; he is son of the late Andrew Green, who accompanied the Deputation of the Cape Colony. In 1830 he reached the territory of Sekome, the Bemengwati chief. In 1851, in company of Captain E. Shelley and Mr. E. Busbie, he reached the O'Gnami, and penetrated to the N.W., a distance far any European had previously done. In 1852 he again proceeded a very long way to the north-west. In 1853 he penetrated to within thirty miles of Belagon Bay, on the east coast of Africa. From his experience in Africa, his and travelling, and his acquaintance with the language, habits, and customs of the natives of South Africa, Mr. Green is well qualified for the arduous and lucrative enterprise which he has undertaken.—*From a Correspondent*

A barque called the *Panama* has just arrived at Southampton, and as to be immediately surveyed, previous to her taking out provisions to the Crimea

FIRE AT THE CHESTER GRAND STAND.

FIRE AT THE CHESTER GRAND STAND.

On Saturday evening last a destructive fire broke out in the Grand Stand on the Race-course at Chester, which has destroyed property to a considerable amount. We quote the details from the *Chester Courant* of Wednesday:—

A very serious fire broke out at the Grand Stand on Saturday evening last, which has destroyed property to a considerable amount. For some time past workmen have been engaged at the building; painting, beautifying, and cleansing the interior, and preparing it for the great Spring gathering, which will concentrate the interest of all classes of sportsmen on the 1st of May next. The building was left by the workmen apparently all safe at a few minutes after four o'clock, but about seven smoke was perceived issuing from the leaden roof, and an alarm was soon raised that the "Stand was on fire." The Castle engine, manned by a detachment of the Royal Artillery, was the first to reach the scene of the conflagration; but, in consequence of a scarcity of water, was unable to get to work for some time. The city engines, with the fire brigade, under the superintendence of Mr. Hill, soon after arrived, and commenced playing upon the devouring element. By this time the fire had made considerable progress, a greater portion of the roof had gone, and the timbers supporting the upper portions of the Stand had been destroyed. The melted lead dropped in scalding streams, and the windows in the balcony were quickly smashed with the heat. The fire was ultimately got under, but not before the whole of the rooms had been gutted, leaving only the ground floor and the outer walls of the edifice remaining. A detachment of the Royal Cheshire Militia was in attendance, and rendered effective service by guarding the engines and hose. It is supposed that the fire was caused by the carelessness of some plumbers who had been employed during the day in repairing the roof. The damage done to the Stand is estimated at £2500. The fire caused an immense sensation throughout the city, and thousands of persons have been attracted to the scene of the disaster

The property was insured in the West of England Insurance Office for £5000.

The Committee of the Grand Stand Proprietors met at the Exchange on Monday last; present Thomas Dickson, Esq., in the chair; Messrs. T. F. Maddock, Wm. Morris, J. Royle, Thos. Griffith, John Hill, and E. W. Topham; Mr. Penson, architect, also attended; when the following resolutions were proposed and carried:—"That Mr. Royle be authorised to proceed with the restoration of the building with the utmost dispatch in his power, under the direction of Mr. Penson, the architect." "That Mr. Penson be authorised to make a valuation of the damage done by the fire, with the view to lay the same before the Inspector of the West of England Insurance Office." It will thus be seen that the proprietors have taken active measures for the immediate restoration of the building, so as to be available for the Races, which commence on the 1st of May next; and we are assured that the building will be ready for use at that time

The following is the official report of the fire:—

"Saturday, March 31st, 1855.—The Chief Constable reports, for the information of the Watch Committee, at seven o'clock p.m he received intelligence that the Grand Stand was on fire, when he proceeded immediately to the spot, and found the flames just breaking through the centre of the roof: gave instructions to have an engine brought down, which arrived as quick as the distance which it had to be brought and the difficulty of running the engine up-hill *by men* would permit. A second engine arrived soon after, and both set to work as soon as possible. The Board of Ordnance engine from the Castle arrived first; but, in consequence of there not being a sufficient supply of water, and the city engine being of far greater power, the Ordnance engine was immediately stopped. By the time the second city engine arrived a further supply of water was found to feed both engines. The fire was completely got under by half-past eleven o'clock p.m. The awning in front of the Stand, stewards'-room, reporters'-stand, stairs leading to the saloons and roof, first-floor, and refreshment-rooms were all saved. The damage is estimated at £2500"

We understand that, in all probability, the building would have been entirely consumed had it not been for the prompt manner in which the 1st Royal Cheshire Militia and the detachment of Royal Artillery worked the fire-engines

The accompanying View is taken from the Race-course, and includes the Grand Stand, part of the Dee Stand, the City Walls, Water-gate, &c.

THE SCHOONER "WATERLOO" STRUCK BY A WHALE.

SHIP STRUCK BY A WHALE.

(*To the Editor of the* Illustrated London News)

I beg to send you a Sketch of an extraordinary occurrence; namely, the total loss of my vessel, the *Waterloo*, caused by being run down by a whale.

I sailed from Lynn on the 19th ult., being bound to Schiedam, with a cargo of barley. On the 21st, when about fifty miles from Lowestoft, a large whale was perceived to windward, coming down for the vessel, swimming at a fearfully rapid rate, partly out of the water. This was at ten a.m.: there was a strong gale and high sea at the time.

When about ten yards from the ship's side the whale dipped, and struck a fearful blow with his head upon the vessel under water, abreast of the fore-rigging, on the port side. Immediately the vessel was perceived to heel and crack: while the whale plunged into the deep, head foremost, and raised his tail erect, nearly touching the foreyard, and then disappeared.

The pumps were fixed and worked, but by half-past twelve we found the ship had five feet water in the well, and was settling down fast. The long-boat was cleared, and lashings cut away, and nearly floated off the decks, when all hands (six in number) jumped into her, without food or water; myself, the mate, and two men, were without jackets; we had only one oar and a piece of another in the boat, and the sea was running very high. About twenty minutes after we had abandoned the vessel she capsized; and, after floating for about twenty minutes or more on her side, she disappeared head foremost.

At the time of the vessel's capsizing, there was a French fishing-boat about four miles to windward, which immediately came to our assistance, and took us all on board; there we were most kindly treated; and at midnight we were landed at Calais, when Mr. Bonham, H.B.M. Consul, provided us with jackets, &c., and sent us to London. Mons. Peter Mulard, the owner of the fishing boat, and Mons. J. Leclong, the master, as well as the crew, treated us with the greatest kindness; we found them true friends at a time when we were without jackets, food, or money.

Evan Jones, late Master of the *Waterloo*, of Portmadoc.

THE CRIMEAN MEDAL.

This characteristic testimonial of the War has been struck at her Majesty's Mint, in silver, and is now in course of distribution. The design is

by Mr. Wyon: the obverse bears the effigies of her Majesty, from the die of the Peninsular Medal. The reverse, engraved in the accompanying Illustration, shows a figure of Fame about to place a wreath upon the brow of a stalwart hero; and the ribbon bears three clasps, inscribed Alma, Balaclava, and Inkerman.

ARRIVAL OF THE HIGH SHERIFF OF CHESHIRE AT THE MOTTRAM STATION.

GRAND BANQUET TO THE HIGH SHERIFF OF CHESHIRE. DEPARTURE FOR THE ASSIZES.

On Friday (last week) a grand Banquet was given to John Chapman, Esq., of Hill-end, Mottram, the High Sheriff of Cheshire, by the principal gentry and inhabitants of the county, prior to his departure for Chester to meet the Judges of Assize. The Banquet took place at Mottram, at the station of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company, of which Mr. Chapman is deputy-chairman. The room was elegantly decorated for the occasion. The day was clear and beautiful, and the assemblage probably the most brilliant that has congregated in Cheshire for many years. The friends of the High Sheriff mustered, not only from all parts of the county, but from many parts of Lancashire, and even so far distant as Sheffield and Grimsby. There were also a very large number of gentlemen from Manchester. The carriages assembled at the house of the High Sheriff, Mill-end, Mottram, at eleven o'clock There were not fewer than eighty equipages, &c. About half-past eleven o'clock the carriages formed in procession, and proceeded with the High Sheriff to the railway station, where the Banquet was given. The High Sheriff's carriage was drawn by four bay horses, and was preceded by an outrider.

THE BANQUET.

It was nearly twelve o'clock before all the company were seated. The chair was taken by John Cheetham, Esq., the Liberal M.P. for South Lancashire; who had on his right John Chapman, Esq., the High Sheriff, and Mrs. Chapman. At the head table were Sir Elkanah Armitage and lady, William Hutton and Richard Thorold, Esqrs., the Sheriff's Chaplain, the Mayor of Sheffield, the Mayor of Grimsby, P. Bazley, Esq., &c., &c.; and the assemblage mustered altogether 300 persons.

After the cloth had been withdrawn the Chairman proposed "the Health of the Queen." He said we had the happiness to live at a period of our history when the Throne was never surrounded with more dignity and affability on the one hand, and more private worth and excellence on the other (Applause). We had had monarchs who, possessing the courage of Englishmen, had led our armies in the field of victory. That was precluded from the sex of our present Sovereign; but he thought he was correct when he said that we never possessed a Monarch who united so much fervent loyalty, with such implicit obedience to the law, and such affectionate regard to her person. The health of her Majesty was given with every demonstration of loyalty. The band of the 61st Regiment, from Manchester, which was present, then played "God Save the Queen."

The Chairman then proposed "Prince Albert," "The Bishop and Clergy," and "The Army and Navy."

The Chairman next proposed "the Health of the High Sheriff," which was received most cordially; and alluded to that gentleman's public services as a magistrate for three counties, as an ardent supporter of popular education, as the moving spirit in the prosecution of the Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway, and the construction of the Great Grimsby Docks.

The health of the High Sheriff was then drunk, accompanied by three times three and several cheers more; the band playing "The fine old English gentleman."

The High Sheriff, on rising to respond, was loudly applauded. He should be doing an injustice if he attempted to find words to thank them for this great compliment. On similar occasions, as the Chairman had said, the High Sheriff had been honoured before his departure for the assizes, by his own invitation, with the company of his friends: then how great was the honour conferred upon himself, who was now the invited guest of such an assembly as the present! (Loud cheers.) He thanked them most cordially for such a distinguished compliment. He hoped they would excuse him when he said that at one time, after the recent loss in his domestic circle, he doubted if he ought to be present. But considering that this was a public duty knowing that his friends felt great interest in this event—feeling deeply also their great kindness—knowing, likewise, the gratification of the one to whom he referred when she heard of the high office conferred upon him—knowing that if she had been spared today she would have greatly appreciated their kindness, he could not refuse so great a compliment (Applause). He hoped, therefore, that no one would think he was doing injustice to her memory in being present on this occasion (Applause). He was glad to say that, through the exertions, not only of the clergy, but the laity of all denominations, the duty of High Sheriff was much less onerous than heretofore. We now lived in a period when the Queen's Judges were quite as safe under the protection of octogenarian javelin-men as if they had called out the ordinary protectors of the country (Applause). This arose from the progress of the age—from education and the good example of the intelligent classes. It was now discovered that it was far easier to teach a youth his duty to God and his neighbour than to reform the man (Applause); that it was better to bring the youthful portion of the community to a sense of their duty than to punish adults at the criminal bar (Applause). He sincerely hoped that this spread of education—this attempt to reform the young and to teach the man—would receive every support which such a noble object deserved, as by such means only could the bonds of society be drawn closer together (Applause). If these benevolent purposes were carried out, the Judges of Assize and Sheriffs would then have less onerous duties to perform, and the family circle would derive infinite advantage (Applause). The High Sheriff concluded by again thanking the company for the distinguished honour they had done him (Applause).

The Chairman then proposed "The Healths of the Magistrates of the County of Chester."

CHESHIRE JAVELIN-MAN, SKETCHED FROM THE SHERIFF'S PROCESSION.

Mr. Manwaring responded. He concluded by proposing "The Health of Mrs. Chapman, the lady of the High Sheriff."

Mrs. Chapman's health was drunk with three times three cheers, and was suitably acknowledged by the High Sheriff.

The Chairman proposed "The Healths of the Magistrates of the County of Lincoln," coupling with the toast the names of Mr. Thorold and Mr. Hutton. Mr. Richard Thorold having responded,

The Chairman gave "The Corporation of Manchester;" which was responded to by Sir Elkanah Armitage, of Manchester.

"The Chairman said that, on this occasion, not only was the Corporation of Manchester represented, but the Corporation of Sheffield, and he begged to propose "The Health of the Mayor of Sheffield." The toast having been duly honoured, Mr. Fisher, Mayor of Sheffield, responded.

The Chairman next proposed "The Corporation of Grimsby," which was also represented by the Mayor of that borough.

Mr. Robert Keetley, Mayor of Grimsby, in acknowledging the toast, said that the High Sheriff, Mr. Chapman, was certainly not a stranger to the inhabitants of Grimsby, and he had no hesitation in saying that the more they saw of him at Grimsby the more they appreciated his qualities. They trusted that ere long they would be able to pay him a higher compliment than this. (This last observation referred to an invitation recently given to Mr. Chapman to become a candidate for representation of Grimsby, and was received by the company with loud cheering.)

"The health of the Chairman," proposed by the High Sheriff, was then drunk; and the proceedings of the Banquet terminated. A procession on foot was then formed to escort the High Sheriff to the train, which was waiting at the station to convey him to Chester; and he took his departure about a quarter past two o'clock, amid the vociferous cheering of the assembled multitude. The special train, propelled by the "Chaperon" engine, arrived at Chester at four.

Next day the High Sheriff met the Judges (Crompton and Vaughan Williams), in accordance with the ancient custom, on the confines of the county. The Sheriff's private carriage and four horses were accompanied by the javelin-men and trumpeters. The "javelin-men" are vestigee of the past of considerable interest. Tradition attributes the origin of those of Chester to very remote times—some persons receiving them as the remains of the 23rd Legion, which occupied Castra (now Chester) in the year 48 B.C. The subjoined Illustration exhibits one of these veterans.

Mr. Chapman is a magistrate for the three counties of Lincoln, Chester, and Derby; and is Chairman of the local Sessions. He is also Deputy-Chairman of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company; and, since 1836, has had the largest share in the construction of that system of 200 miles of railway, and of the docks at Grimsby, upon which nearly £1,000,000 has been expended. Mr. Chapman was born at the residence of his father, near Mottram, in 1815; and married his cousin, Miss Sidebotham, in 1836. He inherited the properties possessed by his uncle and father, and is a man of very great wealth. Mr. Chapman is a true patron of the Fine Arts: in his collection at Hill-end, Mottram, are to be found Wilkie's "Reat Day;" C. Landseer's *first* picture, "The Faithful Sentinel;" and the well-known piece of Landseer "Waiting for the Countess." He possesses, also, some of the choicest cabinet pictures of Turner, Mulready, Maclise, Webster, Pyne, and Linley. Two of his pictures were exhibited in the Dublin Exhibition, and he is about to contribute to the magnificent collection to be brought together in Paris. Mr. Chapman possesses great local influence in the manufacturing districts, and is universally esteemed. Hitherto his life has been spent in promoting popular education and local reforms rather than in party politics. He has been invited to stand for Grimsby, and will doubtless be elected, as one of those thorough men of business who are now so much wanted in the Legislature.

The Emperor's Visit.—Preparations are being made at Windsor for the reception of the Emperor and Empress of the French. The apartments are under the process of decoration, and on which no less than forty gilders, besides upholsterers, are employed, are the Ball or grand Reception-rooms, the Throne-room, the Rubens-room (where the theatrical entertainments have usually taken place), the King's Council-chamber, the King's-closet, the Queen's-closet, the Zuccarella-room, the Vandyke-room, and, indeed, all the apartments on the North-terrace. That the whole suite will be finished in a style of unprecedented magnificence cannot be doubted. It is understood that the Emperor and Empress of the French will remain in England for about a fortnight, visiting London, Osborne, Woolwich, Portsmouth, Greenwich, and other places, but residing principally at Windsor Castle.

The Public Debt. A return just published gives an account of all additions made to the annual charge of the public debt by the interest of any loan or annuities created during the last ten years. It hence appears that in 1847 an annual charge was entailed of £270,837, in respect of £5,000,000 borrowed for the service of the year (at the rate of £89 10s. to £100 capital stock); in 1848, a total charge of £89,339 in respect of a capital of £2,228,434, created in Threes per Cent Consols; in 1853, a charge of £11,607, in respect of a capital of £388,098 created in the Threes per Cents Reduced; and one of £27,017, in respect of a capital of £891,652 in the Threes per Cent Consols; and, lastly, a charge of £11,344 in respect of £408,900 Exchequer-bonds created in exchange for Exchequer-bills, in 1853. All these annual charges are authorised to be defrayed out of the Consolidated Fund.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, April 8.—Easter Sunday.
MONDAY, 9.—Easter Monday. Lord Bacon died, 1626.
TUESDAY, 10.—Catholic Emancipation Bill passed, 1829
WEDNESDAY, 11.—Canning born, 1770 Napoleon abdicated, 1814.
THURSDAY, 12.—America discovered, 1492.
FRIDAY, 13.—Handel died, 1759. Vaccination introduced, 1796.
SATURDAY, 14.—Bishop Fortescue died, 1809.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 14, 1855.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
2 27	15 46	6 10	6 36	7 5	7 40	8 24	9 17	10 3	10 52	11 34	This	0 2	0 3[illegible]

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AND
VISIT OF THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH TO ENGLAND.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1855.

It is understood that on the re-assembling of Parliament certain determined and practical members of the House of Commons intend to take a decided course on the subject of the Sebastopol Committee. There are reasons for supposing that in influential quarters an effort will be made to render the inquiry nugatory, by protracting it until so late that the report would be almost impossible, if made, and nearly harmless. This departmental device will probably be met by a demand that the evidence, so far as it has gone, shall be laid before the House, and in some way it will be endeavoured to obtain an expression of opinion. Unless the investigation is to be a mockery, some step of this kind is essential; for although much evidence has been given to the world, and the people have pronounced their sentence, they have a right to insist upon a formal registry of sentence by their representatives. This fight will, in all probability, have to be fought and won; and then we trust that a few nights may be allotted to the social and domestic affairs of the nation.

The Educational question will come up in various forms, and we would hope, almost against hope, that some nucleus of a scheme for National Education might be framed out of the different projects before the House. Sir John Pakington has a plan, the Lord Advocate has a plan, Mr. Milner Gibson has a plan, and Lord John Russell has a plan. The High Church party are likely to set themselves against the first, on the ground that it is a compromise of principle, and that it tends to diminish the influence of the parochial clergy; the Scottish clergy will probably deem the Lord Advocate's scheme objectionable in many respects; the moderate religious party will most likely think Mr. Gibson's plan too secular; Lord John Russell's has been pretty well considered, and has not obtained much favour; and the Dissenting interest alleges that none but "voluntary" effort is required for the instruction of the people. There is so evident a clash of principles, all containing one view of truth, in the strife which has always attended the introduction of any such measure, that it is hard to believe that the disputants can be reconciled. Yet, is it not a stern and cruel fact that thousands of children are annually slinking on their murky way to the hulks, the gaols, and the convict-ships, simply because they are untaught? Fearful responsibility in this respect lies upon the heads of all who have influence upon legislation. This is not one of the questions that will ever be carried by popular outcry. Senators need not wait to see indignant assemblies carry fiery resolutions in favour of the primer and the copy-book. No banners will ever bear the menace, "Schoolmasters, or ——!" The presence of a conviction among the people that they need teaching would be a release to Parliament of any trouble on the subject, for they would take the matter into their own hands. But it is the duty of the educated and influential classes to show the need, and to provide the remedy, despite the absence of the pressure from without, and despite the probable unfruitfulness of the effort as a means of attaining popularity. We admit that this is asking no trifling matter; but there is a growing sense of earnestness abroad which forbids men to deny that wealth, power, and influence are attended by a responsibility not to be trifled with—one of which mere private merit, charity, and liberality do not acquit the owner, but one which must be discharged on the broad principle of social duty.

We shall have, too, some religious battles of another kind. The Maynooth Report has at length appeared. It is what every one expected who knew the materials for it, and those who had to work them. On the whole, it is a report favourable to the institution. The Commissioners have been unable, they say, to find that either immorality or disloyalty have been the results of the Maynooth system. It would have been singular, indeed, had the charges of the assailants of Maynooth been substantiated by the method which was selected for their establishment. Yet it is admitted that that foulness is contained in some of the educational works used in the seminary; and those who were incensed by the course of the Roman Catholic hierarchy in 1850-51 will not easily resign their belief that the Protestant Sovereign of England is a very secondary personage in the eyes of Maynooth acolytes. The question is just where it was, except that the report will be triumphantly appealed to by the Roman Catholic members in proof that the most rigid investigation could elicit nothing against the establishment in question. This will be a mere dialectic advantage, as nobody will be in the slightest degree convinced by the record of an unsatisfactory attempt to deal with what was intangible by the means employed.

Protestant and Catholic teaching having been discussed, some law reforms will be taken in hand; and even earlier than these, and before the Budget itself, the sanitary measures of Sir Benjamin Hall will come under the notice of the House. The latter bills will—to judge from certain local agitation—be resisted on the old cry of centralisation and arbitrary power. Every man's house is his castle—and every man's cesspool is his castle moat. The liberty of poisoning your neighbour is a precious relic of our Constitution, and a bequest from our gallant sires who accomplished the Revolution. The appointing responsible men to suggest, and even to compel, the removal of nuisances is a most tyrannical thing; and "Patricticus Furens," "Nolo leges mutare," "A Magna Chartist," "A Free Briton," and all the other blockheads who ably represent the dogged ignorance and self-will of the country, are already spasmodically shedding their ink in defence of the pest-heap and the stagnant pool—*pro aris et focis*, as they would themselves say. The abject terror into which thousands were cast by the cholera has subsided. A few months ago these bills would have been passed amid grateful acclamation; but the owners of nuisances have regained their courage, and clamour for their vested dirt. They declare that the authorities, as at present constituted, have power enough for sanatory purposes, and they will see no force in the argument that such power has never been exercised, and that those who ought to exercise it deny its existence. The dirt party is very strong in England, and in the House, and Sir Benjamin Hall's measures are by no means safe. We only ask the practical men in the House to consider the question in a large point of view, and not with reference to the representations of knots of interested parties.

As regards law reforms, we see measures which are of evident and hopeful promise; and, as for the time, the Legislature seems to think that punishment will do, almost as well as education, for the repression of crime, we may at least ask that the penal machinery thus logically elevated into the place of education should be made as efficient as possible. The abuses of the present system of dealing with petty offenders (the thief, for instance, who steals a halfpennyworth of milk being put upon trial, and costing the country £5) would be ludicrous, were the subject one for light treatment. Something may be done with this system; and a bit-by-bit reform of the Ecclesiastical tribunals is in hand the probate of wills being about to be handed over to a new Chancery department.

These topics, and a few cognate ones likely to be raised, may, it is respectfully hoped, occupy a portion at least of our representatives on the "off nights," when the great military "spectacles" are not given. In those brief intervals, *cedant arma togæ.*

Soon after the reassembling of Parliament, the Chancellor of the Exchequer will have to provide the ways and means of the year, and it will be useful if we place before our readers an account of our resources at present. From the Revenue tables recently published, it appears that the national income ending for the year ending March 31st was £59,496,154, and the national expenditure for the same period appears to have been £62,991,769; showing a deficiency of £3,495,615. To meet the immediate deficiency, an equal sum will be at once borrowed of the Bank of England, to be repaid out of the revenue as it accrues. The £59,496,154 is £6,312,624 more than the revenue to the end of March, 1854; but this sum does not show the whole amount of the revenue expected in the year. A part only of the increase of taxation imposed in 1854 has yet been collected—about £3,000,000 out of £6,600,000; and therefore about £3,600,000—a sum nearly equal to the deficiency may yet be looked for. If the late Chancellor of the Exchequer's expectations be answered, the whole of the expense of last year will be fully provided for, and the present Chancellor will have only to provide for the expense of 1855-6, with no arrears of his predecessors to pay off. We believe that this anticipation is very nearly if not strictly in accordance with facts; and it does credit to the late Chancellor that he has provided for all the expense of the first year of war. We can add, too—as Mr. Gladstone reduced as well as augmented the debt in his administration—that, taking into consideration the balances in the Exchequer and the funded and unfunded debt, the total of the National Debt was upwards of £1,400,000 less at the commencement of 1855 than at the commencement of 1853. The present Chancellor of the Exchequer has a fair field before him.

All the Estimates for 1855 are not yet voted, but we may be quite sure that the demand on the national resources will not be less than last year, or, at least, £64,000,000. It will most probably be considerably above this sum perhaps five or six millions. The additions made in 1854 to the Income and Property tax, and to the duties on malt, spirits, and sugar, were calculated to raise the revenue permanently up to £63,000,000; and there is no reason to suppose, as the country continues generally prosperous, that it will fall short of this sum in the present year. As much as the expenditure may be greater than this sum the Chancellor will have to provide. We do not mean to forestall, in any manner, his probable Budget, nor to recommend one plan of finance as preferable to another in the present condition of the country. We content ourselves with making our readers aware of the facts that nearly all the expense of last year has been provided for by the taxes then ordained; and that the expense of the present year is not likely to surpass by a very great sum the expense of last year. We must, however, press on them, and on the public generally, the propriety of saving in every other branch of the national expenditure, in order to apply all our resources in bringing the war to a successful and speedy conclusion. It is almost necessary for the future welfare of the Government, and the future peace of society, that the national feelings which have been roused on the question of the war into greater intensity than on any previous occasion within our recollection, and which have already been severely lacerated, should not be wholly disappointed and affronted.

As some little alarm has been occasioned by the publication of the Board of Trade tables, for the month of February, by our morning contemporaries, with some injudicious comments implying a decline in the national business and prosperity, we must remind our readers that a severe frost prevailed throughout the month; while in February, 1854—with which the trade in February, 1855, is compared—the weather was open and the rivers clear of ice. That this is the chief cause of the great falling off in our trade in February is evident from the fact that the coasting trade was more affected than the over-sea trade, the frost having blocked up many harbours, while it left the ocean open and free.

THE REVENUE.

An Abstract of the Net Produce of the Revenue of the United Kingdom, in the Year and Quarter ended 31st March, 1855—showing the Increase or Decrease thereof.

—	Year ended 31st March 1855.	Quarter ended 31st March 1855.	Year ended March 31, 1855		Quarter ended Mar. 31, 1855	
			Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	20,496,658	4,424,151	395,725	..	221,090	..
Excise	16,170,169	2,384,418	1,077,578	..	211,284	..
Stamps	6,963,516	1,677,771	176,131	..	54,944	..
Taxes	3,036,136	194,897	..	105,558	95,595	..
Property-tax ..	10,515,[illegible]03	5,746,708	5,137,334	..	3,798,812	..
Post-office ..	1,296,1[illegible]6	292,922	230,156	..	45,922	..
Crown Lands ..	272,572	66,000	..	123,316	1,090	..
Miscellaneous ..	731,578	240,411	..	375,426	..	44,109
Total	59,496,154	15,021,276	6,916,924	604,300	4,428,417	44,109
			£6,312,624 Increase on Year.		£4,384,308 Increase on Quarter.	

THE COURT.

The Queen and Prince Albert left Buckingham Palace at five minutes past three o'clock on Wednesday afternoon for Windsor Castle. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness were accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, Prince Arthur, the Princesses Alice, Helena, and Louisa, Prince Leopold, and the Prince of Leiningen. The Royal party occupied seven carriages, and was escorted by a detachment of Carabineers to the Paddington terminus of the Great Western Railway.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert, with the Royal Family, and his Serene Highness the Prince of Leiningen, and attended by the ladies and gentlemen in waiting, arrived at the Castle soon after four o'clock from London.

On Saturday morning the Queen and the Prince, accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge and the Prince of Leiningen, visited the Crystal Palace at Sydenham. In the afternoon her Majesty presided at a Privy Council held at Buckingham Palace. The Earl of Harrowby had an audience of the Queen, and was sworn in Chancellor of the Duchy and County Palatine of Lancaster, of which office the Earl Granville had an audience to resign the seals. Her Majesty in Council was pleased to appoint the Right Hon. E. P. Bouverie, Vice-President of the Committee of Council appointed for the consideration of all matters relating to trade and foreign plantations. The Right Hon Dudley Earl of Harrowby and the Hon. Edward Pleydell Bouverie were, by command of the Queen, sworn of her Majesty's Most Hon. Privy Council. In the evening her Majesty had a dinner party, the company at which included the Duchess of Kent, the Duke of Cambridge, the Prince of Leiningen, the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, &c.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, the Princess Alice, and the Prince of Leiningen, attended Divine service in the private chapel in Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated.

On Monday the Prince Consort went to Farnborough, and from thence proceeded to Aldershott, to inspect the works in progress for the accommodation of the troops. Viscount Hardinge accompanied the Prince to Aldershott. The Prince and Princess Augustus of Saxe Coburg arrived at Buckingham Palace on a visit to the Queen. In the course of the day, by command of her Majesty, fifty men of the Brigade of Guards on service in the Crimea, invalided during the different military operations, attended at Buckingham Palace, and were inspected by the Queen and the Prince in the Grand Hall. Twenty of the invalids were Grenadiers, fifteen were of the Coldstreams, and fifteen were of the Scots Fusilier Regiment. Her Majesty was attended during the inspection by Colonel Wood and Surgeon-Major Brown, of the Grenadiers, Colonel Upton and Surgeon Major Munro, of the Coldstream Guards; and Colonel Ridley and Surgeon-Major Richardson, of the Scots Fusilier Guards, who explained to the Queen the nature of the different wounds, the actions in which they were received, and the state of the health of the men.

On Tuesday the Queen, attended by the Duchess of Atholl, Lord Charles Fitzroy, and Colonel Seymour, visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester-house. In the evening her Majesty had a dinner party.

On Wednesday, previously to the departure of the Court for Windsor, Prince Albert went to the Wellington Barracks, for the purpose of inspecting the draughts of the three regiments of Guards under orders for immediate embarkation to the Crimea. The Prince remained nearly an hour in the barracks. The troops were then marched to Buckingham Palace, and were formed in the grand quadrangle, where they marched past the Queen, who was accompanied by the elder Royal Family and the Duke of Cambridge, the Prince and Prince Augustus of Saxe Coburg, the Prince of Leiningen, and Prince Ernest of Leiningen.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady Anna Maria Dawson, Lady Fanny Howard, Baroness de Speth, and Sir George Couper, left her residence, Clarence-house, St. James's, for Frogmore, on Wednesday. Lady Anna Maria Dawson has succeeded Lady Fanny Howard as the Lady in Waiting to the Duchess of Kent.

His Serene Highness Prince Ernest of Leiningen left Clarence-house, St. James's, on Wednesday afternoon, for Portsmouth.

The marriage of the Earl of Lichfield with the Lady Harriet Hamilton, eldest daughter of the Marquis of Abercorn, will take place during the present month, at Brocket-hall, Herts.

The Earl of Cardigan arrived in Portman-square on Monday from visiting the Duke of Rutland, at Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire.

Viscount and Viscountess Sydney have left London for Paris on a visit to their Excellencies Lord and Lady Cowley.

Advices from Madrid of the 4th, received by telegraph, state that the Spanish Government had assisted on the recall of Lord Howden.—*From the Daily News of Friday.*

THE NEW IRISH PEER. Mr. Edmund Burke Roche, late member for the county of Cork, which he has represented for nearly twenty years, has been raised to the Irish Peerage by the title of Baron Fermoy. Three Irish Peerages having recently become extinct, Lord Palmerston has had the power of recommending to the Crown the creating of a new one, and has done so in favour of a gentleman whose private character, public conduct, and ample means are a guarantee that he will sustain the dignity in every way most fittingly.

THE ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Gladstone), by an arrangement with his successor in office, Sir George C. Lewis, will not vacate the official residence attached to his late appointment, in Downing-street, until shortly after Easter, when the new Chancellor and Lady Theresa Lewis and family will remove from Kent House, Knightsbridge, and Mr. Gladstone and establishment will remove *pro tem.* to the Dowager Lady Wenlock's, in Berkeley-square.

HER Majesty the Queen of Spain has just been pleased to confer the honour of the Grand Cross of the Order of Charles III. upon Don Rafael Benjumea, as a further proof of her Majesty's high opinion of his works in painting.

THE NEW BELGIUM MINISTRY.—After a struggle of many years the Ultramontane party in Belgium have contrived to force a Ministry after their own heart upon their King and country. The King took a most friendly leave of the late Liberal Ministers on the 30th ult. All the members of the new Cabinet, with the exception of M. Mercier, are new to the duties of government.

THE NEWSPAPER STAMP.—A deputation of Yorkshire newspaper proprietors from Leeds had an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Wednesday at his official residence in Downing-street, for the purpose of laying before him their unanimous views in favour of a halfpenny stamp on newspapers to free the post, and of a halfpenny stamped cover to entitle unstamped copies of registered newspapers to a single transmission through the post.

GLOUCESTER ELECTION.—Mr. Price, who resigned his seat for Gloucester in consequence of his connection with the Government contracts for wooden huts for the Crimea, was re-elected on Saturday without opposition. Mr. Trotter and Sir Charles Napier were spoken of, but did not appear. A bill of indemnity respecting Mr Price has been passed, which obviates all difficulty as to the retention of his seat

MEDICAL COMFORTS FOR THE EAST.—The Queen has ordered her biscuit bakers, Messrs. Hill and Jones, of Jewry-street, to forward to Lady de Redcliffe, for the use of the hospitals in the Black Sea, a number of cases of their best biscuits, with other medical comforts, as jams, jellies raspberry vinegar, lemon and other syrups.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, APRIL 5.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 8 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Mean Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
Mar. 30	30.499	49.0	30.1	39.5	— 4.8	75	N.	0.00
" 31	30.407	49.5	30.0	38.7	— 4.7	70	N.N.E.	0.00
Apr 1	30.246	48.1	26.2	34.8	— 8.8	92	N.E.	0.00
" 2	30.161	49.1	24.0	34.0	— 10.7	95	E.	0.00
" 3	29.790	52.5	30.1	40.1	— 3.8	90	S.E.	0.03
" 4	29.650	56.0	37.9	44.0	— 1.0	89	N.E.	0.00
" 5	30.011	56.0	25.7	39.6	— 4.6	83	W.	0.00

Note. The sign — denotes below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.44 inches at the beginning of the week to 29.88 inches by the afternoon of the 3rd; and increased to 30.03 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 52 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.891 inches.

The mean daily temperature of April 1 was 34.8°, and is the lowest recorded since the year 1838, when the mean temperature was 33°, and that of the 1st was 29°, and is the lowest since 1838, when it was 32.4°. The mean daily temperatures have now been below their averages on every day from March 21, the mean defect being 6.3° daily.

The mean *temperature of the week* was 36.2°, being 5.0° below the average of the corresponding week during thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 30.9°.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 22.4°.

Rain fell slightly on the 3rd, to the depth of three-hundredths of an inch.

The weather has been fine and cold throughout the week.

For the month of March the mean reading of the barometer at the level of the sea was 29.726 inches. The highest temperature during the month was 56.0° on the 20th; and the lowest 24.0° on the 11th; the range of temperature during the month was therefore 33.7°. The mean of all the highest temperatures by day was 47.0°, and of all the lowest by night was 31.0; the mean daily range of temperature during the month was therefore 16°. The mean temperature of the month was 38.2°, being 3.4° below the average of the corresponding month during thirty-eight years. The mean temperature of evaporation for the month was 36.6°. The mean temperature of the dew point was 34.5° The mean degree of humidity was 88 (complete saturation being represented by 100); and the fall of rain for the month was 1.15 inch.

JAMES GLAISHER.

Lewisham, April 6, 1855.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending March 31 the births of the unusually large number of 2099 children were registered within the metropolitan districts. In the thirteenth week of the year, the averages from ten years ending 1854 were, 809 boys and 778 girls. The number of deaths registered was 1694; but these did not all occur within the week, but include 139 spread over the quarter, and to which coroners have held inquests; and death has chiefly been caused by fractures, wounds, burns, suffocation, &c. Under the head sudden, no less than 74 deaths are classed; which is a number much greater than usual. The estimated number of deaths for the thirteenth week from ten years' register, is 1567, so that fully 200 persons died last week above the usual number, in consequence, apparently, of the coldness of the season.

THE BANK of England reduced the rate of discount ½ per cent on Thursday.

LONDON REFORMATORY FOR ADULT MALE CRIMINALS.—A public meeting was held on the 20th ult. at Willis's Rooms, in aid of the funds of this excellent reformatory, established in Great Smith-street, near Westminster Abbey. The chair was taken by the Earl of Shaftesbury, and the claims of the institution, now on the verge of bankruptcy, money being wanted to meet present emergencies—the emigration of thirty of its inmates, and to cover outstanding bills—were advocated by the noble chairman, Mr. Sergeant Adams, Mr. Ball, M.P., and other gentlemen; and a resolution was passed pledging the meeting to respond to the call made upon its liberality. The Rev. H. Alford, B.D., pleaded the cause of the institution at Quebec Chapel, Portman street, on Sunday, the 18th, when the collection amounted to £237. The reverend gentleman has liberally given the MSS. of his sermon to Mr. E. Nash, the governor of the reformatory, who purposes having it printed by the inmates in behalf of the institution.

THE GUARDIAN THEATRICAL FUND. The annual dinner in aid of this fund took place on Monday at the London Tavern, and was, as usual, very well attended. About 170 gentlemen assembled on the occasion, and there was a large number of ladies, who, without partaking in the actual festivities, graced the hall with their presence. Mr. Buckstone occupied the chair, and, by a succession of humorous speeches, contributed much to the enjoyment of the evening. Mr. Charles Dickens, Lord Ernest Bruce, Mr. Mark Lemon, Mr. Ball, Mr. Webster, and others connected more or less directly with the interests of the drama. No specific statements were made as to the benefits conferred by the fund during the past year; but from what was said it appears to be in a prosperous, healthy condition, and subscriptions were announced during the evening amounting in the aggregate to more than £800. The musical arrangements, which were under the direction of Mr. Lovell Phillips, were excellent, Mdlle. Jenny Bauer, Miss Ransford, Madame Newton Frodsham, Mr. Donald King, Mr. Weiss, Mr. G. Genge, and other vocalists contributing their talents.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The fifth annual meeting of this society, whose object is to investigate the origin and conditions of epidemic diseases, was held on Monday evening, in the Council-room of the Royal Medical Benevolent College, No. 37, Soho-square. Dr. Babington presided, and about twenty gentlemen were present. The council presented their annual report, stating that there are now 100 resident and non-resident members, 78 corresponding members, and 6 honorary members—total, 211 members. The council had made an application to the Treasury, through Lord Palmerston, for some assistance, but it was not thought expedient to grant any; and they had resolved, therefore, to appeal to the profession and the public for support, by means of the circulation of a brief statement of the useful objects of the society. After the council's report, a paper was read by Dr. F. J. Brown, "On the prevalence of typhoid fever, and the absence of typhus fever at Rochester and Strood;" and another by Dr. W. Champs, "On the occurrence of fever at Cambridge, between Bridge-street and Cardiff; and at Sible Hedingham, in Essex." After some conversation, the scrutineers announced the election of the president and council for the ensuing year, and the business terminated.

SHIPWRECKED MARINERS' SOCIETY.—The committee of the above excellent institution has awarded its gold medal to Captain Edward Henry Salmond, and its silver medal to T. and W. Hunt, brothers, for their gallant and daring efforts in saving the lives and money of the crew and passengers of the *Charlotte*, having on board a detachment of her Majesty's troops, wrecked at Port Elizabeth, Algoa Bay. Also the gold medal to Captain Wm. Holland Warren, of the Holyhead mail steam-packet *Anglia*, who, on the occasion of that vessel carrying away her tiller, close in with the rock, blowing hard with a heavy sea, by his cool bravery and seamanlike conduct, in most perilous circumstances, was the means of saving the vessel and the lives of all on board. Also the silver medal to Captain John Robinson, of the *Antioch*, for saving the lives of the crew of the *Burs*, by bearing down under her lee, and taking them off the sinking vessel in a sea in which a boat could not live.

SIR R. PEEL AT THE MARYLEBONE LITERARY INSTITUTION. On Wednesday evening Sir Robert Peel, Bart., delivered to a numerous and highly respectable audience, at the Marylebone Literary and Scientific Institution, a lecture entitled "An Evening with the Poets," being notices of some of the most eminent English poets, interspersed with recitations of fruitful or powerful passages from their writings. These recitations were marked by great correctness of delivery and justness of expression; and they were heartily and unanimously applauded by the audience. The lecturer went through the series of English poets, including several choice extracts. A denunciation of Russia, and a declaration that the time had arrived when we must avenge the crimes committed by the late and previous Czars and by the Empress Catherine (which elicited much applause, but provoked a few hisses), introduced the remark that, in the eloquent lines of Campbell upon the partition of Poland (which were recited), was embodied a spirit which now possessed the people of England. The lecture was frequently and heartily applauded; and, at its conclusion, thanks were by acclamation voted to Sir Robert Peel for his kindness in delivering it. The funds realised by its delivery are to be applied for the benefit of the institution.

ON Saturday evening the fortieth anniversary festival of the Artists' General Benevolent Institution was celebrated at the Freemasons' Tavern. The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor presided. There was a subscription in the room of £611.

AT the City Court of Sewers, on Tuesday, two of the gas companies with which the commission have contracts for supplying the public streets with lights were fined £5 each for neglect.

CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS AND PREFERMENTS.—*Rectories:* The Rev. W. J. Stracey to Skeyton and Oxnead, with the vicarage of Buxton; Rev. H. Gough to Enham Knights, near Andover. *Vicarages:* The Rev. E. Brown to Addingham, near Penrith; Rev. J. Russell to Kempsford, Gloucestershire. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. W. Hutchinson to Armen, near Goole; Rev. W. J. Shield to North Moor-green.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

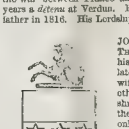
VISCOUNT BOYNE.

GUSTAVUS HAMILTON, sixth Viscount Boyne and Baron Hamilton of Stackallen, in the county of Meath, in the peerage of Ireland, and Baron Hamilton, son of Gustavus the fifth Viscount, by his wife Martha Matilda, only daughter of Sir Gustle Somerville, Bart. (who, having married, secondly, Sir Thomas Webb, Bart., died in 1826) His Lordship was born the 12th April, 1777, and married Harriet, only daughter and heiress of Benjamin Baugh, Esq., of Burwaston-house, Salop (maternally descended from the Holinsds, Earls of Kent). By this lady, who died in Nov., 1854, he had issue one son, Gustavus Frederick, now the seventh Viscount, who married Emma Maria, daughter of Matthew Russell, Esq., M.P., of Brancepeth Castle, in the county of Durham, and heiress of that estate on the death of her brother, in 1850, when her husband assumed, by Royal licence, the name of Russell, in addition to that of Hamilton. By this lady, now Viscountess Boyne, the seventh Viscount has an only son

The house of Hamilton, Viscounts Boyne, descends from Lord Claude Hamilton, third son of the Regent of Scotland, James Earl of Arran, who was created Baron of Paisley in 1585. The first Viscount Boyne greatly distinguished himself as an officer of William III., especially at the battle of the Boyne, the storming of Athlone, and the siege of Londonderry. For the service of the King, his master, he raised six regiments, two of which (infantry and cavalry) are now known as the Inniskillings. He was elevated to the peerage in 1717.

Gustavus, sixth Viscount Boyne, the subject of this notice, entered the British army at an early age: he saw and shared in active service in Flanders in the war between France and England; and he was afterwards for several years a *sitem* at Vienna. He succeeded to the peerage on the death of his father in 1816. His Lordship died at his town residence on the 30th ultimo.

JOHN SIMS WEIR, ESQ.



THIS gentleman died on the 21st February, in his forty-third year. Being the eldest son of the late John Weir, Esq., and Mary Sims, his wife, he was of the ancient family of Weir, otherwise, Vere, of Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire, Scotland; the estates of which passed into the female line on the marriage of Catherine, only child of Sir William Weir, Bart., with the Hon. Charles Hope, second son of Charles, first Earl of Hopetoun. Mr. Weir having died unmarried, the representation of the family devolves upon his younger brother, Charles Sims Weir, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, and barrister-at-law of Lincoln's-inn.

GRIFFITH DAVIES, F.R.S.

THIS gentleman, who was one of the most eminent actuaries in London, died on Wednesday week, at the age of 67. A Correspondent of the *Times* has communicated to that journal the following account of Mr. Davies's career, which affords a remarkable example of the results of integrity and preservance. Griffith Davies was born in 1788, at the foot of Cilgwyn mountain, Carnarvon. His father held a small farm, and devoted his spare time to work in the neighbouring slate quarries. Mr. Davies was also brought up a quarryman, and worked as such until the age of 21. He was about 17 years old before he learnt even the numeration table; but as soon as he had a little insight into the properties of numbers—which he managed to get by placing himself at school for a short time at Carnarvon, by his own savings—he would be seen during a portion of the meal-times allowed him at the quarry, practising himself in arithmetical operations with an iron pencil on the slates which he had to manufacture. He arrived in London in 1809, without a single acquaintance in the place, and with a very imperfect knowledge of the English language. He first sought a situation as a porter or messenger; and, being unsuccessful, placed himself for a short time in a school, where he became usher, and in the following year he opened a school on his own account. In 1814 he published his "Key to Bonycastle's Trigonometry; and in 1822 he was appointed consulting actuary to the Guardian Assurance Company; and soon after was appointed actuary to the Reversionary Interest Society. In 1823 he became the regular actuary to the Guardian, and published his tract on "Life Contingencies, containing his rate of mortality, deduced from the experience of the Equitable Society, and the improved columnar method in 1825. From about 1829 to 1852 he was extensively engaged, sometimes at the instance of the East India Company, in investigations respecting the present state and future prospects of the military, medical, and civil funds established in India, and subsequently for the Bank of England and the Equitable Society in this country. In the course of his career he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, of the Statistical Society of France, and of the Institute of Actuaries of Great Britain and Ireland.

R. C. CARPENTER, ESQ.

THE architectural world has lately sustained a severe loss in the demise, at the age of forty-three, of Mr. R. C. Carpenter, one of the most eminent of the school of architects who have made the revival of Gothic architecture, especially for religious objects, their particular study. Mr. Carpenter's death took place on Tuesday, the 27th ult.; and on Monday last his remains were consigned to their long home in Highgate Cemetery; the service having been performed by the Rev. N. Woodward, Provost of St. Nicholas College, Shoreham, assisted by the Rev. B. Webb, Secretary of the Entomological Society. Besides the family of the lamented deceased, the ceremony was attended by the Rev. E. Stewart, Mr. A. J. B. Beresford Hope, the Rev. W. Wheeler, and a few other personal friends of Mr. Carpenter. His works, too numerous to notice in their completeness, and all of them distinguished by some peculiar trait of grace and originality, were executed under the disadvantage of delicate health. The principal of them, the College of St. John, Hurstpierpoint, founded by Mr Woodward for the education of the middle classes, his already been engraved in our pages. The Churches of St. Mary Magdalen, Munster-square; St. Paul's and All Saints', Brighton; St. Peter's, Chichester, &c., attest his original powers; while his ability in the delicate work of church restoration is attested by the magnificent pile of Sherborne Minster, the old parish church at Brighton, &c. Mr. Carpenter's latest drawing, completed immediately before his decease, was a beautiful design for the west end of the proposed cathedral at Inverness, which has been sent to the Paris Great Exhibition. His taste and judgment in dressing and designing painted glass and metal work were most remarkable.

In private life Mr. Carpenter was as amiable as in the concerns of business he was strict and high principled. Altogether his loss—following so soon after the decease of his early friend, A. W Pugin—is one which the lovers of pointed architecture will long and severely feel. He leaves a widow and two sons to lament his loss His favourite pupil—Mr. W. Slater—is, we understand, to undertake the completion of the works upon which Mr. Carpenter was engaged.

WILLS AND PERSONALTY.—The Right Hon. Mary Ann Viscountess St. Vincent: personalty, £16,000. The Hon Thomas William Gage, £14,000. The Venerable Archdeacon Pope, Archdeacon of Jamaica, who died at Brompton, has left £30,000 personalty in this country. John Vylan, Esq., St. Clement's, Cornwall, £25,000 James Hill, Esq., silk manufacturer, £60,000. James Kinnoch Clement, Esq., Leytonstow, £60,000. John Southgate, packer, of Old-change, who lately died from the effects of a fall, had sworn under £14,000 last December last: personalty, £8000 (which is exclusive of pay deductions.) The will of Captain Lewis Edward Nolan, 15th Hussars, at Balaclava, has just been proved in London, and bears date June, 1854, on board H.M. steam-ship *Trent*.

THE REPORTED DEATH OF DR. BARTH.—A letter, dated March 13, from Cooko, in Bornou, her Majesty's Consul at Tripoli, has reached Malta. It says:—"You will, I am confident, be delighted to hear that the rumour of Dr Barth's death was unfounded. A letter from him, dated Kano, 15th November last, reached me yesterday. He then calculated on arriving at Moorzouk within three months, but which, as he purposed moving by the circuitous route of Kooka, he never would accomplish. The rumour of his death was fabricated by the ex-pasha of Bornou, for the purpose of possessing himself of a deposit of supplies that had been formed at Zeltan against the doctor's return, and in which he succeeded. The overthrow of this man was most fortunate, otherwise the fabricated report might have been converted into a stern reality."

MEMORIAL WINDOW.—A memorial window, of stained glass, well executed, has been placed in the east window of the chancel of St. Margaret's Church, in Durham, by the surviving members of the family of the late Mr. F. Humble, who was for many years a resident in that city, and the proprietor and editor of the *Durham County Advertiser*.

UNITED STATES' NAVY.—It is stated that in the past ten years nine sloops of 20 guns each, and four brigs and two schooners of 10 guns each, have, by casualty or decay, been removed from the effective force of the United States' Navy, and yet not a single vessel has been built to replace them

A STRANGERS' Home for the natives of heathen and Mahomedan lands is being organised in London.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

LITERATURE has just lost a very useful friend, and the publishing interest of Great Britain a back-bone of support, in the death of Mr. James Brown, of New Boston, the English partner of the European house of Messrs Little and Brown. For the last twenty years Mr. Brown has been in the habit of visiting England for the sole purpose of making extensive purchases of the most eminent publishers. His visits were looked forward to with very great interest by all the successors of Tonson and Murray; and many an English enterprise of note has been entered into on his agreement for a purchase, and would not have been undertaken without such valuable support. He knew the market of books well. He had dealings in old as well as new books, and in a very wholesale character. We have heard (and on excellent authority) that his orders in England alone have varied from £20,000 to £50,000 during the three months in the year that he was among us. Mr. James Brown, of Boston, was very much liked in this country He had a vein of quiet humour—was generous—was still a Yankee, and was very fond of English society. Now that he is gone, we shall, perhaps, look in vain for a successor to clear off *remainders* in the same spirited and searching manner, for many a work that has been very cheap, and therefore common in the market, has become to the unknowing unaccountably dear by Mr. Brown's purchases for the great American market. Of a man thus eminent we wish to say still more, and in our own words. We must, however content ourselves with a brief extract from his character as drawn by the American papers:—

Energy, firmness, and promptitude were among his most distinguishing characteristics, and these, united with sterling good sense and a judgment that rarely erred, contributed largely to the success which continually marked his progress in life. In the finer quality of good taste he was not lacking, and the books issued by the house of which he was a member bear ample testimony to the exercise of his nice discrimination in their production. He understood his business well, and was familiar with all its details; and this may be said of him not only in a mechanical but in a much higher sense—for he not only had a knowledge of the market value and fitness of the wares in which he dealt, but also an intellectual appreciation of their worth. He was well read in general literature, and the scholars of America, and those who endeavour to encourage and promote a taste for healthy reading, are greatly indebted to him for the publication and wide distribution of numberless works of real excellence; in which manner he has done a service to our literature and education which it would not be easy to estimate. Mr. Brown was eminently social in his disposition and habits, and fond of the enjoyments of home: he was deeply attached to his family and friends, and they reciprocally beloved by them in return. His cheerful face—often illuminated with a smile which was sunshine itself to the beholder, and which gave an inexpressible charm to his manner—was the index of his heart, which overflowed with generous emotions.

Mr. Brown was in his fifty-fifth year.

A fine and celebrated picture, attributed to Titian—"L'Adultera condotta al Salvatore"—has just been purchased by the Rev. John Holmes, of Brooke-hall, in the county of Norfolk (the Prince Regent is known to have offered 4000 guineas for it). That *chef-d'œuvre* of Rubens, the "Judgment of Paris," now in the National Gallery, was long the companion picture to this well-known example of Italian art. The history of this acquisition at Brooke-hall deserves publicity. It came to this country from the Count Valentini's collection at Ancona. It is in perfect condition. Sir Thomas Lawrence had "not the smallest doubt of its originality, and of its being a very able work by Titian," though others assign it (more correctly, we suspect) to Bonifazio.

Our remarks on Mr Roach Smith's Museum, and the refusal of it by the Trustees of the British Museum, have brought us several communications thereon. We quote the best:—

To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

In your agreeable column entitled "Town and Table Talk on Literature, Art, &c.," I last Saturday noticed your mention of the fact that the Trustees of the British Museum had declined to purchase Mr. Roach Smith's Collection of London Antiquities—a decision which you regret. You, however, put the question—"But did Mr. Smith make any stipulation with the Trustees about maintaining his collection in its integrity? We are among those who think (and the number is increasing) that the Trustees should distinctly refuse to buy even a very choice collection on such terms." In the opinion which you here express I quite agree with you. For the Museum to become a miserly hoard of duplicates and triplicates of articles of interest is to discourage, not advance, science. With reference to your query, the fact is, I read it I gave it a negative answer; but that I might be quite certain, before communicating with you, that I was right in doing so, I called Mr. Roach Smith's attention to the paragraph. He writes me, "I can tell you—indeed you know—that *the collection was offered unconditionally*." Has any one of the Trustees of the British Museum seen the collection which they have refused to purchase?

J. C. B.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

The place and the initials will indicate "an eminent hand" in the study of Roman antiquities to many readers.

Mrs. Nicol, better known as Miss Brontë, still better known as Currer Bell, but known best of all as the writer of a clever novel entitled "Jane Eyre," died at Haworth, in Yorkshire, on the 31st ult. "Jane Eyre" will outlive many novels in the so-called series of Standard Novels; and will, we suspect, be reprinted as often as any story that has proceeded in our time from a female writer.

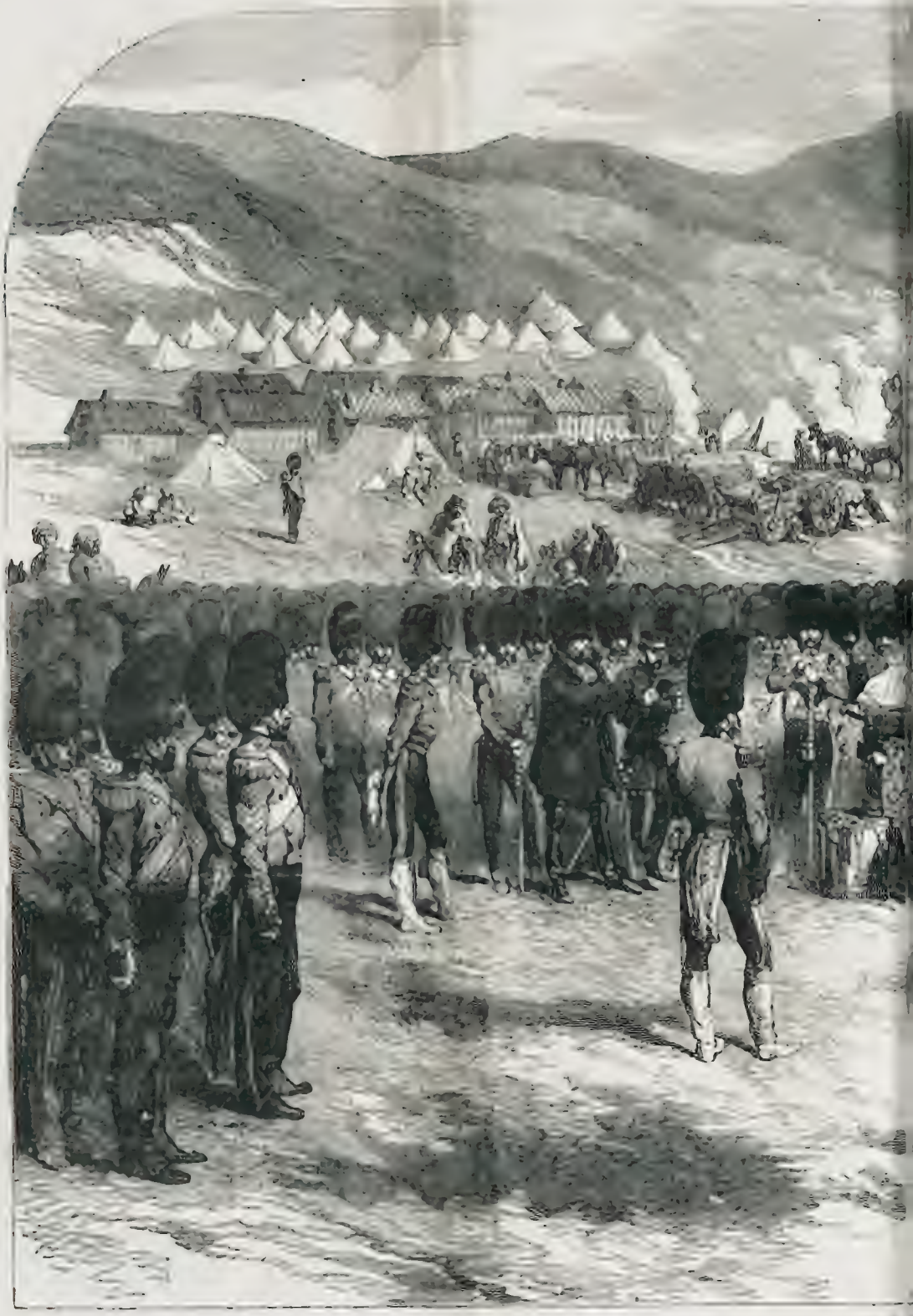
Architects are lamenting the too early death of Mr. Carpenter, the architect, whose knowledge of his profession has been shown to great advantage in the recent restoration of Sherborne Church, in Dorsetshire. Sherborne is almost a cathedral in point of size, and is equal to many cathedrals in point of architecture. Mr. Carpenter entered into its design, and restored it with great good sense. Mr. Carpenter was for some years the junior partner of Mr. William Brooks, the architect of the London Institution, Dudley Church, Finsbury Chapel, &c.; and, almost better still father of Mr. Shirley Brooks.

Londoners who in this busy season are unable to escape out of Cobbett's "wen" to more than half a day should join the Surrey Archæological Society, and enjoy the general gathering at Chertsey on the 19th. There are few places within fifty miles of London that can supply rural scenes of greater beauty than Chertsey; and the Museum of Antiquities to be improvised for the occasion promises well.

PARIS EXHIBITION.—An official return just published gives an account of the demands for space made by the various nations to the Fine Arts Department of the Universal Exhibition, which is not without interest. England demands 860 metres; Belgium, 800; Prussia, 752; the Netherlands, 310; Switzerland, 200; Austria, 210; Hamburg, 133; Sweden, 130; Hesse Darmstadt, 52; Wurtemberg, 23; and Hanover rather less than *half-a-metre*—45 centimetres only!

THE STAINED GLASS IN WESTMINSTER-HALL.—During the last few days workmen have been employed in removing the stained glass from nine of the lower compartments of the large window at the bottom of Westminster-hall, for the purpose of being transmitted to Paris as a specimen of Birmingham art in the manufacture of stained glass, at the forthcoming Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations. The vacated spaces in the window have been filled up with timber, which, from the body of the hall, has a rather unsightly appearance.

BOOKBINDING FOR THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.—We have just seen, at the establishment of Messrs. Leighton, Son, and Hodge, of Shoe-lane, the specimens of bookbinding which they have prepared for the approaching Paris Exhibition. In addition to some very tasteful and elaborate examples of binding in morocco, silk, papier maché, and other materials, their display is curious as illustrating the progress of what is called cloth binding for publishers, and which will well sustain the credit of the English bookbinders. Some of our readers who are old enough to remember the time when books were scarce and expensive, and consequently were issued from the publishers in the same unvarying drab paper cover, with a white paper label on the back for the title, can best appreciate the change which has taken place in noticing the style in which we now receive our new books—bound in handsome coloured cloths, and stamped on the covers with appropriate and artistic devices, giving a foretaste of the contents of the volumes. We may remark that the binding of books in cloth in large numbers for publication, is an art quite unknown to our neighbours the French; for, much as they excel in other kinds of binding, their new books are published *now* in the same style of thin paper cover as they were in the days of the first Napoleon. We are informed that the founder of the above firm, the late Mr. Archibald Leighton, was the first to introduce the binding of books in cloth, which is now brought to such excellence.



DIVINE SERVICE ON SUNDAY MORNING IN

CAMP BEFORE BALACLAVA.—GUARDS DIVISION.

DIVINE SERVICE IN THE ENGLISH CAMP AT BALACLAVA.

The interesting scene which our Artist has depicted took place on the 3rd of March. The three regiments present were the Coldstream, the Grenadier, and Fusilier Guards, who formed three sides of a square, the fourth side of which was partly filled up by the party mounting guard for the day, the latter in full uniform, with knapsacks, rolled blankets, and the new yellow boots lately issued to the Guards. A few of the men wore caps; but the general appearance of the troops, as will be seen from the Engraving, shows a very great improvement compared with what it was some weeks ago. For the first time since the battle of Inkerman the Guards are described as having looked smart as they assembled there, under the blue sky, within a few miles of a hostile army, to join in the solemn service of the Church of England. To any person imbued with the slightest share of religious feeling the scene must have been a very impressive one. As the weather was rather cold, the officiating clergyman wore a small black velvet *calotte*, fitting very closely to the head, something like the well-known cap of the late Duke of Sussex.

THE CRIMEAN COMMITTEE.

The "Departments" may congratulate themselves on having passed a week without any damaging disclosures from that place of torture for timid officials, "Committee-room No. 17." The proceedings in that apartment are, with good reason, dreaded in certain quarters; and Mr. Roebuck and his fellow-inquisitors are denounced as strongly as if the whole thing were a kind of revival of the Star-chamber. If the evidence yet to be taken tells out of doors with as much effect as that of the week before the recess, many proper authorities have every reason to fear the reassembling of the Committee, for some of the worst reports of "those newspapers" have been confirmed, sometimes almost unconsciously, by officials themselves. The public is gaining a more distinct notion of the working of the machinery of these "Departments," which do business in a manner incomprehensible to the comparatively few individuals from the outer world who are brought into direct contact with them. But suppose the Committee works through the Medical department into the Board of Ordnance, and, with the lights there obtained, explores the recesses of the Horse Guards; proceeding thence next door, to the Admiralty—by no means so blameless as Sir J. Graham alleged—what then? That is now the question; and there can be no better time to ask it than this interval of leisure, when one day's exposure or confession of mismanagement is not overlaid by the revelation of greater mismanagement on the next. It is a question that is being asked very generally. What is the result of the Committee to be? Is Mr. Sidney Herbert to prove a prophet; and is the inquiry really to turn out an "immense sham," leaving no trace behind but a Blue Book? In that case we should be inclined to add a single letter to Mr. Herbert's predictive epithets, and call it an "immense shame." But really, at this moment, it is by no means clear that the results expected from the investigation will be obtained. There is a vast distance between exposure and reformation; and abuses have an incredible vitality, especially in England, more especially if they are old; and most especially, if there are great numbers, with considerable "influence," interested in maintaining them. We fear all these conditions apply to the abuses from which the Committee has lifted a corner of the veil, and will probably apply to many more yet to be discovered. The public should keep the question, "What is to be done next,' before it, and furnish a practical answer; for we suspect the real work will have to begin where the Committee stops. Heads of departments may be called up one after the other; Mr. Layard may question in his boldest style, and infuse into his queries the most evident astonishment; Mr. Roebuck may guide the inquiry with more legal dexterity, and throw in a few sarcastic "asides," when the evidence is "too bad" even for more phlegmatic temperaments; that evidence may go on with a *crescendo* movement towards exposure of muddle of every kind, ending, perhaps, with a grand illustration of the disasters unwittingly brought about by the ambition of mediocrity—when the Duke of Newcastle is examined; but still Lord Napoleon's favourite question will recur—*Quid?* What then?

It is one not easily answered; the Committee can do nothing more than "report to your Honourable House;" and there is sufficient Government influence in the Committee itself to tone down any very strong condemnation of any body, Board, Department, or authority. But supposing the report passed, reflecting some degree of the feeling out of doors, all action formed on it must come from the Executive, not Parliament, for the days are gone when it could be said—

> The House impeach him, "Comingsby" harangues,
> The Court forsakes him, and Sir Balaam hangs.

How far will the House of Commons put a pressure on the Executive? The last great effective display of the prosecuting power of the Legislature was when it expelled certain members of its own body, and fined and confiscated pretty freely among the directors of that stupendous fraud, the South Sea Bubble. But very large bubbles have been blown since then, and Parliament has not interfered, except to help to inflate them by its private-bill legislation. It was one thing to vote the inquiry into the state of the army, but it will be quite another thing to act on the evidence collected by it.

Even the evidence condemns a "system" more than it criminates individuals; and a system cannot be prosecuted, indicted, or punished; it can only be changed—the most difficult thing to do of all. No culprit has yet been got at so as to fix him clearly with the responsibility for any failure. Facts enough come out, but individuals escape, as if they had had nothing to do with them. And their plea in extenuation is really a strong one—they have all had to work in fetters; and when they found they could not work well except by breaking them they had not courage enough to do it. They have all been trained to think the infringement of a regulation a kind of sacrilege.

Dr. A. Smith, "taught for forty years to save money and not to spend it," could no more acquire the habit of liberality or outlay when told he was free to disburse than an Indian fakir who has held his hand stretched above his head "for forty years" can bring it down to where the breeches pocket ought to be. Poor Dr. Menzies, bewildered among all kinds of authorities, with little power, and that disputed, obliged to leave hospitals uninspected that his piles of forms and returns might be written out—he, too, falls back on the intangible "system," and asks, "What could I do?" So all the confusion and blunders, ending in inflicting very avoidable suffering at a (now) unavoidable cost, have arisen from an invisible influence, mysterious and impersonal—"a bodiless creation," blighting everywhere, but nowhere to be grasped. Hints have been thrown out in the Committee of possible peculations and embezzlements of stores, and that certain trains of inquiry might be entrusted with advantage to the police; but there is no evidence of it. Where so much evil is so abstract, and nobody's fault, it would be almost gratifying to discover something "concrete" enough to come within the pains and penalties of a statute. The public would fully understand any part of the inquiry that could be transferred from Westminster to the Old Bailey, and would be much more secure of justice being done in the last locality than the first. But we fear the evidence will go no further than it has already; the "system" will excuse all the men who work it; and, unless a strong feeling be manifested by the constituencies throughout the country, a tolerably "strong" report, a division in the House—nearly like that a few nights since on military promotion—and a few weeks' angry talk, will suffice to restore the system to its pristine safety and oblivion, especially if assisted by the peace with which we are threatened from Vienna.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

DEPARTURE OF THE BALTIC FLEET FROM SPITHEAD.

The bulk of the ships at Spithead, belonging to the Baltic Fleet, sailed on Wednesday afternoon. The weather had moderated to some extent, and the wind had become more favourable than on Tuesday, although it was not fair. The order to sail was given, however, given by the Commander-In-Chief, Rear-Admiral Dundas, and the fleet went away in beautiful order. Although they were all steam-ships they left Spithead under canvas alone, but getting to the Nab Light their steamboat was brought into requisition by some of the ships. A vast number of persons witnessed the departure of the fleet, although it was concealed, in a measure, by a thick fog. The following are the ships that sailed:—

Duke of Wellington ..	131	Capt. Caldwell, flag of Admiral Dundas	Ajax	60	Capt. W. Ramsay
Royal George	120	Capt. J. Coloquhoun	Bellerophon ..	60	Capt. Warden
Exmouth	120	Capt. W. K. Hall, flag of Admiral Seymour	Edinburgh ..	60	Capt. W. H. Hall
			Magicienne ..	16	Capt. Wemyss
Nile	91	Capt. Mundy	Vulture	6	Capt. Glasse
Majestic	91	Capt. Hope	Dragon	6	Capt. W. H. Stewart
Cæsar	91	Capt. Robb	Bulldog	6	Commander Gordon
James Watt ..	91	Capt. G. Elliot	Gorgon	6	Commander Crawford
Colossus	84	Capt. E. R. Robinson	Basilisk	6	Commander Jenner
Cressy	80	Capt. R. L. Warren			

With the exception of the last-named six vessels, which are paddle-wheels, the fleet is composed of screw ships. Before they leave the Downs they will be joined by the *Orion*, 91; *Hastings*, 60; *Pembroke*, 60, from Portsmouth; the *Russell*, 60 (all screw ships), from Chatham; and other vessels from Plymouth, &c. Every one of the ships composing this fleet is in admirable order, with crews fully disciplined and well experienced. With only one or two exceptions, every ship and every crew has been up the Baltic before. One of the Admirals in command, Rear-Admiral Seymour, was Captain of the Fleet in the last Baltic campaign; whilst the present Master of the Fleet, Mr. Richard Stokes, went through that campaign as master of the *Neptune*, 120, sailing ship. The departure of the above-named fleet, together with the ten frigates and sloops composing the "flying squadron," leaves a very respectable force at Spithead, consisting of the—

Neptune	120	sailing ship.	Cuttanr	6	paddle
St. George	120	ditto.	Cruiser	6	screw
Orion	91	screw.	Horgon	6	paddle
Colossus	84	sailing ship.	Driver	6	ditto
Powerful	84	ditto.	Ariel	3	screw.
Tylades	21	screw.			

The Baltic fleet will anchor in the Downs and wait orders. Their departure there depends upon two contingencies, the state of the weather in the Baltic, and the character of the intelligence from Vienna.

It has been decided by the Commissioners of the Chelsea Board, which has been sitting at Chatham, to give a pension of 9d. per day to those who have either lost a finger or otherwise been slightly wounded. No decision has been come to with regard to pensions for those men who are more seriously wounded, having either lost a leg or an arm; the Board, however, has allowed sick furloughs to be given them, so that the men go home to their friends, and they are allowed their daily pay, viz.—a private 15d., a corporal 17d., and a sergeant 20d. per day.

The monthly returns of deserters from the army, the navy, and the militia, made up at the Horse Guards and Admiralty on Saturday last, show a large increase in the number of defaulters; the total being 914. The list of deserters, stragglers, and men discharged with disgrace from the navy is large, there being 74 deserters, 15 stragglers, and one person discharged with disgrace. From her Majesty's ship *Colossus* there are 24 deserters, and from the *Euryalus* 18. From the various regiments of militia there are 278 deserters, 216 of whom belonged to the 1st Surrey Regiment.

The Crimean medals have been issued for distinguished services, and have been dispatched to the army before Sebastopol. They are of silver, with red riband and blue centre. The friends of those deceased will receive them on putting in claims.

The new pattern clothing has been served out to the 1st Dragoon Guards. The frock, or tunic, appears to great advantage upon large-sized men, and when worn with the helmet, is undoubtedly a vast improvement upon the tailless garment conferred upon the "Heavies" some eight years since, and which is now about to be discarded.

Great progress has been made in the erection of the temporary wooden buildings, officers' quarters, stabling, &c., for the Encampment at Aldershott; the concrete roads and footways have been formed, and in a few days the buildings will be handed over by the contractors to the military authorities.

Orders have been issued for detachments of the following cavalry and infantry regiments to be held in readiness for immediate embarkation, for the seat of war, each cavalry regiment to be reinforced by 100 mounted men, and the infantry by 100 stragglers varying from 150 to 250 bayonets:—4th Dragoon Guards, 8th (Princess Charlotte of Wales) ditto, 1st Royal Dragoons, 2nd Scots Greys, 4th Light Dragoons, 6th Inniskillings, 8th Royal Irish Hussars, 10th (Prince of Wales) ditto, 11th (Prince Albert's) ditto, 12th Light Dragoons, 13th Hussars, 17th Lancers. The detachments for the Grenadier, Coldstream, and Scots Fusilier Guards will not proceed to the seat of war before the middle of next month; but the draughts from the respective depôt companies of the following infantry regiments will embark forthwith—viz., 1st Royals (1st battalion), 4th Foot, 7th Royal Fusiliers, 9th Foot, 14th ditto, 17th ditto, 18th Royal Irish, 19th Foot, 20th ditto, 21st Royal North British Fusiliers, 23rd Royal Welsh ditto, 28th Foot, 30th ditto, 33rd (the Duke of Wellington's Own), 34th Foot, 38th ditto, 39th ditto, 41st ditto, 42nd Royal Highlanders, 44th Foot, 46th ditto, 47th ditto, 49th ditto, 50th ditto, 55th ditto, 57th ditto, 62nd ditto, 63rd ditto, 68th Durham Light Infantry, 71st Highland ditto, ditto 2nd battalion, 79th Highlanders, 88th Connaught Rangers, 90th Foot, 93rd Highlanders, 97th Foot, and the 1st and 2nd battalions of the Rifle Brigade. The Land Transport Corps will be augmented by 500 drivers as soon as possible. The strength of the Royal Artillery in the field will be increased by four field batteries and two batteries of light field pieces of the Royal Horse Artillery.

The great point of attraction in the Thames at the present moment is the construction of the screw batteries for the Baltic. Messrs Bennett Russell is building one, Messrs Green two, and Messrs. Mare and Co. two. Numbers of people visit these yards daily, or other watch their progress, for they are crowded with workmen, and there is no room either about the slips or on board the ships for visitors. No efforts have been spared, no expense has been shirked, to get these batteries ready for launching. Night and day gangs of men are employed, and there is no pause to the busy work. It is expected that five batteries will be launched in the Thames on or before Monday, the 16th instant, when they will be instantly fitted and dispatched for service, under the most active, energetic, and skilful Captains in the Royal Navy.

Two Years' Enlistment.—The *Gazette* of Tuesday night contains an order by the Queen in Council, of which the following is the essential portion:—"Now, therefore, her Majesty is pleased, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that any person may be enlisted as a soldier in pursuance of the provisions of the Act of the 16th and 17th years of her Majesty (cap. 37), for ten years in the infantry, or for twelve years in the cavalry, or artillery, or other ordnance corps, and also that any person between the ages of twenty-four and thirty-five years may, under the provisions of the Act passed in the present Session of Parliament, for three years after the passing thereof, be enlisted as a soldier in her Majesty's military forces, or in the military forces of the East India Company, for the term of two years, and for such further term, not exceeding one year, as her Majesty may by order in Council direct—the term of service to be reckoned as directed and provided in and by the Act of the 16th and 11th years of the reign of her Majesty for limiting the time of service in the army."

On Tuesday upwards of 2000 Minié and Pritchett rifles, rifled muskets, and carbines, were delivered from the manufacturers at Birmingham into the Ordnance stores at the Tower.

It is intended to establish a dépôt of seamen, artificers, stokers, &c., for service in the Baltic and White Sea fleets, in Leith-roads, for which purpose, in addition to her Majesty's ship *Athol*, the guard-ship in the roads, a 50-gun frigate is to be stationed there, to afford accommodation to volunteers.

A large quantity of medical and surgical stores, &c., was shipped from the Tower on Tuesday for conveyance to Smyrna and Scutari. Among the stores are 500 hospital bedsteads, with bedding complete, hip and slipper baths, pails, &c., for the new hospital at Smyrna.

In the thirty-six days just past, thirty-five hired transports, having a measurement of 22,830 tons, have left the port of Southampton, with 12,000 troops, 500 horses, and upwards of 1000 tons of stores, and 641 wooden houses, sufficient to shelter 20,000 men. At a rate of 50s. per ton per month, the hire of these thirty-five vessels costs the Government £132,075 monthly.

On Saturday last Messrs. Green launched from their establishment at Blackwall two of the screw gun-boats for the Baltic fleet. On the same day Messrs. Wigram launched two of the mortar-vessels for the Baltic, to be fitted with Captain Roberts' flying machines.

The Camp at the Curragh of Kildare.—It will be beautifully placed on the side of the hill, extending from the walled-in Park mark for more than two miles towards the end of the Curragh, on the Wicklow side. In the rear it will be completely sheltered by the hill itself from the cold northerly winds, while in front its southerly aspect will make it exceedingly warm. The nature of the soil, and the inclination of the ground upon which it is placed, will cause it to be comfortable and dry in the driest season of the year. The Camp itself will be composed of huts made of wood, placed on brick foundations, about forty by twenty feet in size, arranged in rows, with streets twenty feet wide between them, running down the side of the hill, so as to form an inclined plane for the water to be carried away in rainy weather. Each house will face the one at the opposite side, and there will be a space between the end of each, forming an at wide cross street, a matter of great importance in the ventilation. Each hut will is covered in with asphalte, except those of the officers, which will have vulcanised iron roofs, and will be supplied with a dome in the centre, and open by a door at each end. Some of them will have boarded floors, others merely the soil on which they are placed, and none will have ceilings. It is estimated that five rows, each having eight huts, will accommodate 1800 men. The foundations for four are already built. Ovens and a slaughtering house will also be erected: thus, along with being taught to manœuvre in masses, the men will be trained to the minor though not less important duties of the field.

The Ordnance Factory at Enfield Lock. The Government Ordnance Factory for the manufacture of muskets and small arms at Enfield Lock, having been found very inadequate to the extensive supply at present required, it is about being increased to a very considerable extent. The new building, when complete, will be surmounted by a corrugated iron roof of immense space. In consequence of the large number of workmen now employed, and those that will be necessarily required, the Eastern Counties Railway Company have established a new station about a quarter of a mile from the factory, and midway between the Waltham and Ponder's End stations, thereby saving the workmen a walk of at least two miles.

INSPECTION OF THE GUARDS FOR SERVICE IN THE EAST.

The detachments of the Household Infantry, under orders for embarkation to join the service battalions in the Crimea, marched yesterday from their barracks to the Wellington Barrack Parade, where his Royal Highness Prince Albert and Staff, in the uniform of a very large assemblage of persons, made a most minute examination of the men, their arms, and accoutrements.

His Royal Highness, accompanied by the Duke of Cambridge, arrived shortly after ten o'clock, the Prince Albert wearing the tunic or new dress of the regiment, of which he is the Colonel. There were also on the parade-ground Colonel Wood (the second in command of the regiment), Quartermaster Payne, Colonel Thornton; Captain Hutton, Brigade Adjutant; John F. Cust, Adjutant of the 1st Battalion of Grenadier Guards; Captain Repple, of the 2nd Battalion of Grenadiers; Lieutenant H. Parnell, of the Grenadier Guards; Captain Quin, Lieutenant Mallett, Colonel Lewis, Colonel How, the Hon. G. Cadogan, Lieut.-Colonel Bruce, Captain Pleasiger, the Hon. A. F. Egerton, Lieutenant J. Digby, Lieutenant the Earl of Carrick, Lieutenant the Viscount Stormont, and many other distinguished officers belonging to the Scots Fusiliers and Coldstreams.

Prince Albert having reached the ground, he was received by the troops with full honours, the bands playing "God Save the Queen." The Prince Albert, accompanied by his distinguished suite, walked through the ranks, and minutely inspected the men, and expressed his approbation of their apparent efficiency. His Royal Highness, on perceiving several invalided soldiers, expressed his sympathy with their sufferings.

On his Royal Highness Prince Albert's return, the various detachments marched to Buckingham Palace, where her Majesty, Prince Albert, his Serene Highness the Prince of Leiningen, Prince Augustus of Saxe-Coburg, the Prince of Wales, and the younger branches of the Royal family, inspected them from the balcony of the interior courtyard, the bands of the various regiments being in attendance. At the conclusion of the inspection, her Majesty expressed her extreme satisfaction at the soldier-like bearing and efficiency of the several troops brought under her notice, when the detachments returned to their various barracks, and were greeted with the most energetic cheers from crowds of all classes who had assembled to witness the inspection.

On Wednesday forenoon, at nine o'clock, about 1000 of the Royal Artillery, with the full complement of officers, horses, baggage-waggons, and twelve pieces of heavy cannon, marched from the Barracks at Romford, Essex, for the Royal Dockyard, Woolwich, preparatory to their departure for the seat of war in the East. The whole of the men were in high spirits, and were loudly cheered as they passed on their way to London.

The Sardinian Contingent. The embarkation of the Sardinian contingent will take place at the period first fixed on that is, from the 10th to the 15th inst. The organisation of the squadron that will accompany and partly convoy it is now completed, and the command confided to the Marquis de Negro. Two squadrons of cavalry in garrison at Chambery have received orders by electric telegraph to leave *en route* for the East, and they would accordingly proceed to Genoa on Saturday. A grand banquet of 110 covers was given on Friday week at Turin by the deputies to such of their military colleagues as were about to embark with the contingent. Members of all shades of politics, even those who voted against the treaty of alliance, took part in this farewell.

St. Patrick's Day.—Many an officer had a bit of some sorry green sweetstuffe for a shamrock in his cap, and the cries of the appalling multitude had now and then a particular "shigne" about them which showed that the Hibernians who owned the voices had not forgotten the peculiar rite and ceremonies by which this erewhile celebrated day was remembered in times gone by. But not a drunken man was visible on the course. Every face beamed with good humour and joy, and high spirits. *Sant perpetua.* Some thoughtful people at home had actually sent out to their friends real shamrocks by post, which arrived just in the nick of time, and an officer of my acquaintance was agreeably surprised this morning by his servant presenting himself at his bedside with a handfuse of that comely plant, which he had cut out of some excellent vegetable with a pair of scissors, and a request that he would wear it, "and nobody would ever know the differ."—*Letter from the Camp.*

Emigration.—323,113 persons emigrated in 1854, viz.: 43,621 to Canada, &c.; 192,993 to the United States; 83,162 to Australia; and 3336 to other places. Since 1840, as many as 3,133,414 persons have emigrated from this country to the countries above mentioned.

Cremorne Gardens were reopened yesterday for promenade; and the amusements will be resumed on Monday with a holiday programme that will, doubtless, prove attractive.

Ship-Launches.—On Tuesday there were launched from Messrs. Mare's ship-building yard, Blackwall, two vessels—one of 900 tons, intended for the Mexican Government; the other, a large iron screw steam-ship of 2000 tons, sister ship to the *Perseverance*, which lately overturned in the Woolwich Dockyard. This latter vessel is also taken up by our own Government, for the conveyance of troops, and is ready for her engines, which are now in course of transit from Messrs. Rupier's, of Glasgow, and which were some time back seized as the property of the late Emperor of Russia. This splendid vessel makes, in all, five ships launched within a fortnight from Messrs. Mare's yards. The gun and mortar batteries are rapidly progressing to completion, and are expected to be launched in a few days.

Baths and Wash-houses. Cold is less fatal than dirt in the air and water of London, through which the cholera, dysentery, and other malignant and epidemic diseases are generated. While intense cold killed 1604 persons in the five weeks preceding the last; cholera destroyed 7232 in five weeks of last year; and while cold killed 189 men and women of the age 20—30, cholera killed 1309 at the corresponding period. In all occupations of antiquity, before science had demonstrated the truth that dirt is the cause of innumerable diseases, men had been taught by their great lawgivers to regard personal uncleanliness as something defiling and sacrilegious. It is only recently that the artisans, and even the middle class of London, have in parts been supplied with baths, and with the means of washing linen easily and at little cost. The last return of the "Committee for Promoting the Establishment of Baths and Wash-houses for the Labouring Classes," shows that there are thirteen baths and wash-houses in London, at which 1,220,739 baths were administered for £17,069, and 23,130 washings of the linen of about 1,456,404 persons were performed for £8696.—*Registrar General's Report, Feb. 24, 1855.*

Among the cases about to come before the Insolvent Debtors' Court, London, is that of an insolvent, at present confined in prison, who is nearly ninety-five years of age.

An Editorial Duel.—On the 6th ult. M. Corradi, editor of the *Clamor Publico*, and M. De Mazo, editor of the *Occidente*, both at Madrid fought a duel. To escape the penalty of the Spanish law, the duel was fought in a hired hall. The combatants fought with swords, which were ground for the occasion, and, having wounded one another, closed, intending each to end the other's life. The seconds were compelled to tear them asunder.

The Marchioness of Ely has been selected by the Queen to be Lady in Waiting to the Empress of the French during her Majesty's stay in England.

Lord Alfred Paget, Equerry to her Majesty, has been selected by the Queen to be Lord in Waiting to the Emperor of the French during his visit to England.

The manners of the "old Court" are returning to the Tuileries. On the day after the first representation of "le Demi-Monde," France Napoleon, the son of the successful author (Alexandre Dumas, fils) two magnificent diamond shirt-studs.

A party of thirty-one Mormonites started from Worcester on Monday morning by the ten o'clock train to Liverpool, on their way to the Salt Lake.

The Sardinian clergy are making enormous efforts to induce the Senate to reject the Convent Law. The Pope has authorised the clergy to guarantee, in case of rejection, 900,000 francs indemnity to the poor curates, in lieu of the benefits proposed to be confirmed on them by the law.

Nearly twenty of the senior mail-guards are about to be superannuated. Some of these guards have been in the service of the Post-office between forty and fifty years.

MUSIC.

THE "directors" of the Royal Italian Opera—a body incorporated in the single person of the enterprising Mr. Gye—have issued their annual prospectus of the arrangements for the season. Its substance may be comprised in a small space. The season is to begin on the 10th of April (Tuesday next), and to terminate early in August. A very strong company has been engaged. Its principal members are Soprani—Mdlle. Bosio, Mdlle. Jenny Ney, Mdlle. Marai, and Madame Viardot; Contralto—Mdlle. Didiée; Tenors—Mario (for a limited number of nights), Tamberlik, Gardoni, and Lucchesi; Baritones and Basses—Ronconi, Lablache, Formès, Zelger, Tagliafico, and Polonini. All these performers are well known to us, with the exception of Mdlle. Jenny Ney, who brings with her a splendid Continental reputation, both as an actress and a singer. Two other names are mentioned, both new to us—Albicini, a tenor, and Graziani, a baritone. This company is almost superfluously strong in some respects, while in one (and a by no means unimportant one) it is exceedingly weak; the *only* contralto being Mdlle. Didiée. We fully expected Madame Borghi Mamo, the celebrated contralto, of whom we lately gave a particular account, and who is now in the highest favour with the Parisian public. The only new operas promised this season are Meyerbeer's last work, "L'Etoile du Nord," and Verdi's "Trovatore." Meyerbeer is now occupied in preparing his opera for the Italian stage, and it is hoped that he will superintend its production in person. In the "Trovatore," the character of the *Gitano*, or gipsy, is to be performed by Madame Viardot, who has lately appeared in it at Paris with remarkable success. More attention than usual, it would seem, is to be paid to the ballet; for, in addition to the performers of last season, we are to have the famous Fanny Cerito, formerly one of the most brilliant stars of Her Majesty's Theatre. There is thus a goodly preparation for the approaching campaign; but, among the tuneful host whom we have been accustomed for so many years to welcome at the open season, there is one whom we shall welcome no more—and what can console us for the loss of the peerless Grisi?

THIS, not being a theatrical week, has been a week of concerts. Mr. Allcroft had one of his "monster" performances on Monday evening, at the Lyceum. An army of singers and players got through a farrago of popular music, to the delight of a crowded and insatiable audience, who insisted on having the greatest part of it twice over. On the same evening a concert of a much superior class was given at St. Martin's-hall by Mr. Alfred Mellon, a young musician of great talent, who is rapidly rising to eminence. Several of the finest orchestral pieces, including Beethoven's "Pastoral Symphony," Mendelssohn's overture to "Ruy Blas," and an excellent overture of Mr. Mellon's own, entitled "Hélène," were admirably performed by a select band. M. Sainton played a new fantasia, composed by himself, on themes from Verdi's "Rigoletto;" and Mendelssohn's Andante and Rondo Brillante, in B minor, was executed in a masterly manner by the accomplished young pianist, Mr. Cousins. Madame Clara Novello sang the splendid scene, "Ocean, thou mighty monster," from Weber's "Oberon," and the aria, "Deh vieni," from "Figaro;" and Formès gave the famous buffo song, "Largo al factotum," from the "Barbiere di Siviglia." The hall was crowded, and this excellent concert had the success it so well deserved.—Likewise, on the same evening, Mr. and Mrs. German Reed gave a comic and musical entertainment, under the title of "Illustrated Gatherings." Mrs. Reed (better known as Miss Priscilla Horton) has long been a favourite of the public, both as a comedian and a singer. She gave a series of sketches of character, extremely lively and amusing, intermixed with admirable singing. The most remarkable part of the entertainment was a scene taken from Hogarth's picture of "The Enraged Musician." Mr. Reed personated the unfortunate virtuoso, who was persecuted successively by a garrulous landlady, an Italian organ boy, a country housemaid, and a French prima donna; all these characters being assumed by Mrs. Reed. This clever performance was very favourably received, and promises to have a successful run.

On Tuesday evening the London Sacred Harmonic Society performed "Elijah;" and on Wednesday the Sacred Harmonic Society gave the "Messiah." On both occasions, as usual, Exeter-hall was filled to the doors.

MR. Sterndale Bennett's second concert of Classical Pianoforte Music, at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Tuesday evening, was a most elegant and refined entertainment. Mr. Bennett was assisted by Herr Ernst, Signor Piatti, and Madame Clara Novello. The principal instrumental pieces were Mozart's Trio in B flat for piano, violin, and violoncello; Clementi's Sonata in B minor, Op. 40; Beethoven's Sonata in G, Op. 30, for piano and violin; Mendelssohn's Duet in D, for piano and violoncello; and a selection from Mr. Bennett's own Preludes and Lessons. Madame Clara Novello sang Purcell's "Morning Hymn"—a fine specimen of that great old master; and Meyerbeer's "Sabbath-Song," with English words by Mr. Oliphant. So attractive was this fine performance, that the great room was literally full to overflowing

THE THEATRES.

OLYMPIC.—We had occasion lately, in noticing an amateur performance, to mention that a change had taken place in regard to such exhibitions. We were wont to go to them for the purpose of "guying" the candidates for applause, and getting some sport out of their blunders. A professional prejudice had, moreover, for a long time been maintained that the technical and traditional business of the stage was so difficult, the best part of a life was needful to its acquisition. Some of these grounds are dissipated: improved education, and applianl facilities, have given such advantages to the histrionic neophyte, that a play enacted by novices would now a-days command respect, and furnish no motive for derision; may, we have been present at amateur acting that was scarcely to be distinguished from the professional. On one or two occasions we have witnessed a tragedy so supported by ladies and gentlemen that its general effect was even better than that obtained by regular workers. On last Saturday at this theatre an experiment was tried, which henceforth in amateur annals must hold a remarkable place. The "Fielding Club" had resolved, for the benefit of a much esteemed journalist, now suffering from a severe affliction, to venture on an amateur pantomime—a school of histrionic art in which volunteer pupils are naturally rare. Mr. Albert Smith, Mr. Cole, Mr. Hall, Mr. Palgrave Simpson, Mr. Tom Taylor, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Arthur Smith, Mr. Bidwell, Mr. Edmund Yates, Mr. J. Robins, Mr. Ibbotson, and Mr. Hallett, assisted by a professional *Columbine*, Miss Rosina Wright, adventured on the perilous ground and within the magic circle of harlequinade achievement. It is proper to state that this "terrible feat" was preceded by the quiet presentation of the farce of "My Neighbour's Wife," which proved to be very neatly acted. The name of the pantomime is "Harlequin Guy Fawkes; or a Match for a King." A prologue by Mr. Tom Taylor introduced the important experiment. The opening was entrusted to Mr. Albert Smith, who, as *Catesby*, smokes a pipe in the midst of barrels of gunpowder, in the vaults under the Houses of Parliament, and sings a song including the story of the Fifth of November. Mr. Holmes was the *Guy Fawkes*; the combat between him and *Catesby* being admirably managed, with the genuine conventional grotesque. When the transformations were effected, Mr. Bidwell, as *Harlequin*, Mr. Arthur Smith, as *Pandolfo*, Mr. J. Robins, as *Clown*, and Mr. Edmund Yates, as *Lover*, proved to be so well fitted for their parts, that curiosity soon changed into wonder, admiration, and applause. "Hot Codlings" was sung to a riotous demand of the audience, and the whole affair, with its mock accessories and real humour, terminated in a decided triumph. Mr. Albert Smith appeared also as a showman, singing the "Country Fair," with alterations, in the style of the late Mr. Mathews, and audibly identifying the performer of some surprising balancing tricks as an amateur. Nor were the audience less distinguishable than the actors. Among those present were the Duke and Duchess of Wellington, the Marchioness of Allesbury, the Marquis d'Azeglio, the Marquis of Stafford, Earl of Mountcharles, the Earl and the Countess Earl of Shelburne, Earl Granville, Lord and Lady Besborough, Marquis and Marchioness of Ely, Frances Countess Waldegrave, and others of noble name, with the *élite* of authorship and the press.

ON the reopening of the theatres on Monday, some new pieces will be produced. At the PRINCESS', a romance in two acts entitled the "Muleteer of Toledo." At the HAYMARKET, a new farce, by Mr. Planché, called the "New Haymarket Spring Meeting (1855)," introducing Lord Mayor's Show—Mr. Buckstone sustaining the character of *Lord Mayor*, Mr. C. White the *City of London*, and Mr. Chippendale *Old Father Thames*. The sporting portion of the Extravaganza will introduce the "Grand Stand of Up-and-Downs, and Bird's-eye View of the Race-course, in the Field of Speculation; in which the favourites of the town will be trotted out by their respective jockeys. The names of the horses and colours of the riders will be correctly given while, previous to the start, the jockeys will dance a hornpipe and *galop*." At the ADELPHI, "A New Edition of the Fairy Tales of Mother Goose, with numerous highly-coloured Illustrations;" and at ASTLEY'S, "The Field against the Favourite." The LYCEUM company act at ROSER'S WELLS for the next fortnight. Mr. C. Mathews is engaged for two months at the Haymarket.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS

PALAMEDES.—There are four models than the games you speak of, played between La Bourdonnais and McDonnell. They have many faults. For what, that is human, is exempt? But where will you find such beauties? Where the same invention, depth, comprehensiveness—the wood, mind—as in those Titanic battles?

MUMUS.—Your opponent is in error. The King is not incapacitated from Castling by having once been checked.

HIN. CH. CHESS CLUB.—Not to G. L., TYRO. Now under consideration.

C. W. SUNBURY, P. T. A., G. P., HENRY IV.—Ineligible.

W. C. C.—The Enigma you refer to appears impracticable according to your own Solution, but to submit of an easy mate by 1. P. to B 8th "Queens," &c.

SOLUTION of Mr. Bellardi's clever Stratagem, or of the exercise old Problem of Caliph Mutarim Billah, have been furnished by W. C. C., C. W., Sunbury; P. T. F., A DANE, GEDIPUS, CHARLES LUCIE (Jersey), F. J., Dover, E. R. N. B.

SIGNOR D., Plaza di Spagni, Rome.—On a question so intimately affecting the interests of the Game as a revision of the Laws of Chess, the opinions of distinguished players in their own country are entitled to consideration and respect, and certainly none more so than those of the Italians. We trust, therefore, that you and others of eminence among amateurs of Italy will give free expression to your sentiments on the subject.

W. J. N.—Your attempt to give the Indian Problem a wide of the mark.

MORANO.—There is not space for "Career," or we should be tempted to break a lance upon more than one point in your pleasant gossip about Spanish Sports. Even as regards the Bull-fights, or, more correctly, Bull-fonts, admitting that you have some show of historic evidence to favour your attempt to trace them to a Roman origin; since everybody has heard of the "Lidi Tarrilla," and Pliny speaks of the Roman Bull-fights as a "Thessalian pastime; yet, the probabilities are that the Goths-Spaniards owed their Bull-feasts to the Moorish Caliphs. But to claim for Iberian Chess the same illustrious descent, when all authorities worth the name concur to prove the game unknown to Greeks and Romans both, is the wildest of quixotic theories.

ALPHA-BETA.—The objections you advance to a plurality of Queens on the Chess-board have been, with more or less force, repeatedly urged. Very lately, indeed, M. Petroff has suggested that the possessor of a Pawn advanced to its eighth square should be permitted to dispense his right to demand for it a second Queen, or other piece, and let it remain as a *Pawn* until it was captured, or the game brought to a close. With all deference to so eminent an authority, and to those who entertain the same opinion, we hold this suggestion to be inadmissible. What is a *Pawn?* A Pawn is a member of the Chess army, privileged to move one square *forward*, in a direct line, and to capture on one square *forward*, diagonally. When, therefore, it reaches the extreme limit of the Chess-board, it cannot go farther forward—it not invented with the power of some piece which is allowed to retrograde—it must remain, not a Pawn, but a mere nullity. But—consider—we upon a head, it was which led originally to the promotion of a Pawn, whenever it arrives at the eighth square. Once there, it is no longer

NEW GRECO-ROMAN SALOON, JUST OPENED AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

The noble apartment, or gallery, represented in the above Illustration, has just been opened to the public, and will be acceptable to the Easter visitors, especially to the more classically disposed, who are interested in mythology and hero-worship. It is the larger room of the two seen from the corridor, after leaving the large entrance-hall: its dimensions are—80 feet in length, about 17 feet in width, and 19 feet in height. The walls are coloured bright red, the moulding is polychromatic, as well as the ceiling or at least that portion of it which is left to support the skylights by which the room is lighted. The stove-grates are of the same bold pattern as those in the large Egyptian saloon, and other antique galleries.

This new apartment corresponds with the spacious grandeur and simplicity which we so much admire in the principal galleries of the Museum. The room is named the Third Greco-Roman Saloon, and contains a series of statues of gods, demigods, and heroes. Our Artist's View shows the fragment of a statue of a youth, seen on the right-hand side; beyond which are several heads of the Muses, the statue of Thalia, with various others. The room is terminated by a recess, and in the centre is a Caryatidal figure; behind which is a staircase leading to a lower room, at present unfinished.

By each successive addition to this truly national establishment, we are reminded of the large amount of enlightenment and social enjoyment which the British Museum has opened to all classes of the people: on this account, therefore, we are unwilling that the recipients of this public good should be excluded unnecessarily for a single day from the benefit. It will be recollected that the Museum is closed three weeks in the year—namely, in January, May, and September—for the purposes of "cleaning." Now, could not this be done by closing a portion of the Museum at a time, instead of excluding visitors from the whole of the public rooms at one time? The old Museum building was removed by piecemeal, and the present edifice was erected in the same manner; and surely a similar plan might be adopted for the "cleaning" of the rooms.

CIRCASSIAN BEAR, IN THE GARDENS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, REGENT'S-PARK.

CIRCASSIAN BEAR IN THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.

Among the attractions offered to holiday-makers, the Zoological Society's Gardens in the Regent's-park are always pre-eminent. On Easter Monday, 1854, they were visited by upwards of 16,000 persons; and during the whole week large numbers continued to avail themselves of the liberal terms upon which the establishment is opened at that period. The severity of winter has touched but lightly upon the well-protected inhabitants of the Society's menagerie, in which we find all our old favourites in the most beautiful condition, and eagerly waiting for the first rays of spring sunshine, which cannot possibly be much longer denied to us.

In the recent visit which the approach of Easter has induced us to make to the Gardens, we were particularly struck with the magnificent series of "Wild Beasts," which present almost every known variety of that popularly-interesting division of the animal kingdom. The profusion of Lions, Tigers, Jaguars, Leopards, Hyenas, and Bears, so fill the quarter allotted to them that they would seem to suffer from want of space, were it not that their healthy and vigorous appearance almost precludes the idea they could be better. It must be regretted, however, that there is, under present arrangements, no means of avoiding the separation of the smaller carnivora in two distinct buildings from the main body of the collection, as it would be infinitely more striking, as well as more instructive, if the whole of the illustrations of each great group of animals could be inspected successively, and, as it were, in juxtaposition. Among the most recent additions to this part of the Collection is the somewhat singular little Bear which was captured on the Circassian coast during the cruise of H.M.S. *Samson* in the Black Sea, and brought home by the officers of that vessel. Its youth renders its identification with the common Brown Bear rather uncertain; and it is quite possible that the differences which appear to exist both in colour and expression may hereafter become sufficiently developed to characterise it as the representative of another species. The Society are rich in bears, and, in fact, only want the Spectacled Bear of South America, and the great Grizzly Bear of the Rocky Mountains, to complete their series. The absence of the latter is scarcely felt when we look at the huge Russian specimen of *Ursus Arctos* which fills the next den to the Polar Bears at the end of the Terrace—by far the finest individual of this kind ever seen, either at large or in confinement.

The Antelopes have increased, notwithstanding the severe trial which they must have undergone during so many weeks of inclement weather; and we were agreeably surprised to find a young Eland, some fourteen days old, among the noble herd of those animals which the Society originally derived from the liberality of the late Lord Derby.

The pair of Hippopotami are both growing rapidly. Our old friend Obsysh has thickened into leviathan dimensions, and exhibits no small degree of ferocity when the aspect of some obnoxious visitor excites his caprice.

Perhaps one of the most picturesque and beautiful families in the Gardens are the Great Canadian Deer—the Wapiti—of which the Society are said to possess the only specimens now existing in Europe. The collection of deer, which is really large and interesting, suffers very much in effect from its being scattered about in half a dozen different localities, instead of being arranged in a continuous line of inclosures, which, one would think, might be made a most characteristic feature in the line of the Society's occupation towards the Park.

The *Birds* have suffered no sensible diminution since the winter commenced; and Pelicans, Flamingoes, Brush-Turkeys, Bower-Birds, and other rarities, still enrich the long catalogue of ornithological delights which present themselves at every turn.

The *Reptiles*, although not quite so numerous as formerly, are in beautiful state, and include a singularly striking horned Viper, of great size, from Western Africa, which, having just shed his skin when we saw him, affords one of the most exquisite combinations of colour that can be imagined.

The *Fish* and *Zoophytes* were never more interesting than at the present moment, as several species of the latter are now to be found in the tanks at all periods of their development, and every day presents some addition or some change in the wonderful population of these most successful illustrations of submarine existence.

Nothing can exceed the order and neatness of the whole establishment; and we cannot but prognosticate another season of gratifying appreciation of the Society's efforts by the public, who are already so largely indebted to them for the combined instruction and amusement which their spirited and liberal management affords.

"THE DEAD CHRIST."—PAINTED BY SPAGNOLETTO.—FROM THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

THE DEAD CHRIST, BY SPAGNOLETTO.

Ribera, otherwise and more generally known as "Spagnoletto," was, as the latter name implies, a native of Spain. He early went to Italy, however, and studied under Michael Angelo Caravaggio, whose vigorous dramatic style he emulated in all his works. He was of a period, however (the beginning of the seventeenth century), when the true inspiration of art was gone; and artists contented themselves with following in the steps and imitating the manner of the great originals Michael Angelo, Raphael, Correggio, &c.—who had raised art to its zenith of power and perfection, and left behind them names of undying fame. Of these scholastic followers Caravaggio was one of the most eminent; and Spagnoletto, undoubtedly, merits to be mentioned very nearly in the same rank with that master. Spagnoletto, from habits of mind, was inclined to gloomy and horrible subjects—emaciated hermits, martyrdoms, executions, and so forth; and prided himself upon the exhibition of the anatomical development which such incidents would call forth. In colouring he is distinguished by the general use of great breadth in his lights and shades

The picture before us, which was recently added to the national collection (having been presented by David Barclay, Esq.), is not one of the finest specimens of the artist; but it exemplifies his peculiar style, and is not without points calling for admiration. The body of the dead Christ is a careful study after nature—a little painful, perhaps, in treatment; and the figures of the female mourners exhibit an *abandon* of grief which appeals powerfully to the sympathies It must be confessed, however, that, taken as a whole, there is an absence of the sublime sentiment which we find in the severer works of the earlier schools. In the draperies, also—particularly the sheet upon which the body of the Saviour rests—we do not find that breadth and simplicity of treatment which we so much admire in the works of the early Florentine school. In a word, this picture is chiefly interesting as a connecting link between the period of the perfection of art and that of its decadence.

PLATE PRESENTED TO ROBERT BRIGHT, ESQ.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. ROBERT BRIGHT, OF BRISTOL

A very gratifying recognition of eminent services to the commercial world has lately been made at Bristol, by the presentation of a valuable Service of Plate to Mr. Robert Bright, of the eminent firm of Gibbs, Bright, and Co., Bristol and Liverpool, owners of the *Great Britain* steam ship, Eagle Australian line of packets, &c. The value of this superb gift, £1000, was the result of a public subscription, in acknowledgment of Mr. Bright's exertions in freeing the port of Bristol from the heavy dues levied on its commerce. Prior to 1848, the Bristol Docks were in the hands of a private company: in that year a bill was passed whereby they were transferred to the Corporation of the City, which has resulted in a vast increase of the shipping interest. In 1847 the number of vessels from foreign parts was 372, with a tonnage of 97,000; while, in 1854, they had increased to 788, and in tonnage to 175,000.

To Mr. Bright the citizens of Bristol are mainly indebted for the carrying out of this measure so vitally important to them; and, from his high character and untiring energy and zeal, conflicting interests were reconciled, and difficulties at first sight insurmountable were overcome

The presentation took place in the Council chamber of the city of Bristol by Mr. P. W. S. Miles, on behalf of the committee and subscribers; the Mayor, Mr. J. G. Shaw, being in the chair, and a large number of the merchants, bankers, and the influential inhabitants of the city being present

The Service of Plate consists of the following articles:—The

centre-piece, an allegorical group; two five-arm candelabra; two handsome soup-tureens; and four elegant corner dishes

The Centre-piece, which we have engraved, is a pyramidical group of ten allegorical figures, on a tripod base, measuring 24 inches on each side, and is 26 inches high. The centre figure represents Commercial Liberty extending her arms towards and protecting the principal sitting figure, representing the City, with her sceptre; at the same time turning towards the second figure, representing Maritime Commerce, assuring her she may traffic safely under her protection. The third figure represents Prosperity; the two boys on the front of the group are packing and carrying bales of merchandise; of the next two boys, one is receiving coin, the reward of labour, from the hand of the Civic figure, and is passing it in bags to the other, who empties it into the cornucopia of Prosperity; whilst of the last two boys one is receiving flowers from Prosperity, and is playing on a musical instrument; the other is dancing.

The group is raised on a tripod base, richly chased, supported by dolphins; in the centre of each side is a shield one bearing the city arms, one those of Mr. Right, and the other an appropriate inscription.

This costly Service has been designed and manufactured by Charles Taylor and Son, 30, College-green, Bristol.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

As the recent fine weather has brought horses considerably forward in their condition, we may expect to see some truer running next week, when the "Newmarket Cavalry" enlist every animal in the town, from the broken-down racer down to the mule (on which we once saw Tommy Eye seated), in order to open their 1855 campaign on the Heath. Frank Butler's name does not appear in "Ruff," and we fear that he will ride 8st. 7lbs. no more. The list, however, is not a very strong one, although the results may give some pregnant hints for Epsom. Diabeau and Corsbere are in a stake together on Monday; and Pura, Affghan, and Flatterer, in another. The Newmarket Handicap on Tuesday has forty acceptances out of seventy-six; and Doctor O'Toole (7st. 3lbs.) is not badly in. Strood is in a 100-sovereign stake on the same day; and Habena, Bonnie Morn, and Rambling Kate, all figure in the Column on Wednesday, when the list will also be strengthened by the Craven Handicap. Gracculus Esurienes has an engagement both on Thursday and Friday, but we should think his appearance doubtful. Flatterer and Pugnacious are also opposed on the former day; and Virago, Acrobat, and King Tom, are names of note in the Fort Stakes on the latter.

Newton Spring comes off on Monday, but its fields will be weak, both in quality and quantity; and New Hall has also a little gathering on the same day. The Northern Sportsman will not be idle; as Monday and Tuesday are claimed by Durham, and Wednesday and Thursday by Catterick Bridge. Though the "little short-horned country" will yield to none in its breed of horses—Voltigeur, Virago, West Australian, and Gothenstone, to wit—its racing card is somewhat meagre. Gamester (whose sire, Gameboy, had his leg so severely cut by a scythe when a foal that he was never trained) will have 6 lbs. extra in the Hopeful Stakes—an imposition which he will escape in the Catterick Triennial on Wednesday. Corsebus, Ellermire, and Nettle are in the Three-year-old Catterick Triennial on that day, while the Oran Stakes, on Thursday, includes Gamester; the 1000 Guineas, Marso and Prairie Birdcatcher. This is quite the pleasantest of the small Yorkshire meetings, and bids fair to prosper. Waltham has a slight intermixture of flat-racing on Friday, and the gentlemen riders will "take silk" at their favourite Hoo on Saturday. Alfred Day has begun the year unluckily, by being knocked down at Epsom, and thrown off at Northampton; and Mr. Padwick's Royal and Silly, Queen's Head, won at the latter place as a 900 guineas' yearling should. It was gratifying to see that splendid model of an English race-horse, Hungerford, once more in form; and it is to be hoped that Hayhoe will be equally lucky with King Tom's week strew. Steeplechasing is drawing to an end, and fate has made matters even with Mr. M'Donough, as his lucky English victors, Seaman and Augustine, totally missed their way, as they walked to the scene of the recent Croix de Berny steeplechase, in consequence of their grooms not understanding French. The English Steeplechase fixtures for the coming week comprise Newton Spring on Tuesday, Tanfield on Wednesday, West of Scotland and Horncastle on Thursday, and Waltham Abbey on Friday.

The Coursing Season may be said to have terminated very brilliantly at Biggar, where Judge had to resign his Waterloo laurels to "Bright Idea," after two undecided courses. He was, however, very unlucky, as he had twenty-five Heythrop hunters are advertised to be sold at Tattersall's on Monday. The packs will be routing the foxes out of the Wolds during the week, and then the horn will be "put in rest" for a season. Foxes, which are very plentiful owing to the long frost, are now beginning to be hunters in their turn. We watched two of them in the grey dawn of a morning last week trotting about like sheep-dogs among a large flock of ewes and lambs, and yet never attempting to touch one of the latter, on account of the mixture of tar and train oil which was judiciously smeared on their backs. Being thus baulked of their breakfast, they suddenly, out of spite, selected an old ewe and course it in most approved greyhound fashion, till they finally drove it, with a tremendous rush, into a brook. Landseer would have revelled in the tableau they presented, unconscious of our lair, as they stood archly eyeing their victim from the bank above. By-the-by, we may mention that one pack lately, thanks to fox destroying did not find till six in the morning, and ran their fox till nearly eight.

This water allusion reminds us that the caramen and yachtsmen are no longer idle, though their galas are still few. The Nautilus Club has its first pair-oared race in Chelsea-reach on Monday, while the London Model Yacht club takes its opening trip on Saturday.

LINCOLN SPRING MEETING.—THURSDAY

Consolation Scramble.—Lady of the Lodge, 1. Kennyside Hero, 2.

Steeplechase.—Belshazzar, 1. Massa Mungo, 2.

Selling Stakes.—Goose, 1. Jack Lemming, 2

Two-year-old Selling Stakes.—Mouse, 1.

WEDNESDAY.

Tickenny Handicap.—Helmet, 1. Hero, 2

Selling Steeplechase (Handicap) —Belshazzar, 1. The Squire, 2

Lincoln Spring Handicap Stakes.—Sanscot, 1. Nell Gwynne, 2.

Handicap Hurdle Race.—Black Swan, 1. Novelist, 2

HARROW RACES—THURSDAY

Hunters' Stakes.—Ironbrace, 1.

Handicap Steeplechase, Jaunt, 1, Diana, 2

TATTERSALL'S. THURSDAY NIGHT

KENNYKEEPY HANDICAP.—4 to 1 against Quince 7 to 1 against Bonbams (3 to 1 taken freely), 8 to 1 against Crown Pigeon (offered), 10 to 1 against Doctor O'Toole (taken), 20 to 1 against Early Bird (taken), 3 to 1 against Gamester and Bonbams (taken)

GREAT NORTHERN HANDICAP.—12 to 1 against Jonathan Martin (taken), 20 to 1 against Spencer (taken).

CHESTER CUP.—20 to 1 against Muscovite (taken), 25 to 1 against Mortimer (taken).

THE CHESTERFIELD STAKES.—6 to 4 against St. Hubert (taken), 6 to 1 against Lord of the Isles (taken).

DERBY.—8 to 1 agst. St. Hubert (taken), 10 to 1 agst De Clare (taken), 20 to 1 agst Wild Dayrell (taken), 25 to 1 agst Dirk Hatteraick (taken to £150).

GENERAL Sir De Lacy Evans honoured the Gallery of Illustration with a visit on Monday last, and was pleased to express his approbation of the Dioramic Illustrating the "Events of the War."

MR. CHARLES MATHEWS is announced to perform every night next week at the Theatre Royal, Manchester. On the following Monday, April 16, Mr. Ranger, the favourite comedian in French, English, and American characters, commences a short engagement in his own new comedy of "America in England."

A COUNTRY ACTOR'S JOURNEY TO LONDON.—I am enabled truly to depict what this class of performers endure, because I was a country actor, and, amongst other vicissitudes, once walked from Northampton to London—seventy-two miles—on 4½d. It is a fact, I assure you. I had a companion in the same plight; and, on comparing our pecuniary resources, we discovered ourselves masters of the sum of 9d.—4½d. each, according to Cocker. As it may interest you, gentlemen, I will describe my rubbers on the occasion, and how we got to London. My costume consisted of a threadbare whitey-blue coat, with tarnished metal buttons, secured to the throat, because I were undersnach what we had a-brought wi' me, and a pair of a very showy pattern, generally adopted when playing country boys and singing comic songs, which at that time was my vocation. I will not attempt to describe my hat, while my trousers must be only delicately alluded to, as they were made of what was originally white duck, but as they had been worn about six weeks, and having myself been much in the fields, there was a rich colouring that of green and clay colour about them, which imparted to that portion of my attire quite an agricultural appearance. I carried a small bundle. I will not describe its entire contents, except that it held a red wig and a pair of russet boots. Under my arm was a portfolio, containing sketches from nature, and some attempts at love poetry. While on my feet to perform this distance of seventy-two miles, I wore a pair of dancing-pumps, tied up at the heel with pack-thread. Thus equipped, I started with my companion from Northampton, and before breakfast we accomplished fifteen miles, when we sat down to rest ourselves under a hedge by the roadside. We felt very much disposed to partaken of the meal I have alluded to, but were rather puzzled how to provide it. Presently a cow-boy appeared, driving some hay-and-grass-fed cows, and carrying two large tin cans, suspended from a crossed stick. We purchased the contents of one of the cans for one halfpenny. A cottage was close at hand, where we supplied for bread, and procured a very nice, though rather stale-looking home-baked loaf for our journey. The cow-boy sat by us on that roadside to wait for his can. The cows seemed to regard us with a sleepy look of mingled pity and contemptuous wonder. Pity for the bottom crust of that loaf and our share of skimmed milk, I assure you I enjoyed the roadside breakfast of that summer morning more than I have enjoyed the sumptuous banquet of this evening. On the first day we walked forty miles, in which my pumps, and what they covered, "toasted and sore." Our bed for the night was in one of those wayside hostelries called "a lodging-house for travellers," for which accommodation we disbursed twopence. Late in the evening of the next day we completed the remaining twenty-two miles, and found ourselves at the Mother Red Cap, at Camden Town, with enough in our pockets to procure half a pint of porter.—*Mr. Buckstone at the Theatrical Fund Dinner.*

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

There has been considerable inactivity in the market for all National Securities during the week. Prices have shown a downward tendency, but the decline has been trifling. The great falling off in our export trade compared with the corresponding period in 1854 has been taken advantage of by the *Bears*, and some rather large sales of Stock have, consequently, been made; nevertheless the supply, from the public having absorbed any surplus, has not increased. There has been a moderate demand for money, the rates of which have ruled as last advised; and the Bank of England has not yet anticipated, notwithstanding that the stock of bullion in the Bank of England is still rapidly increasing

As the Continental exchanges continue favourable, scarcely any gold has been forwarded to France, Holland, &c.; but about £200,000 has been shipped to Spain, India, &c. The imports have been liberal, viz.:—£20,000 from Australia, £120,000 from New York, and £560,000 from Mexico and the West Indies Nearly £40,000 in gold will be received next week from Australia, via Marseilles; and several vessels with large supplies of that metal are expected here during the next fortnight or three weeks.

On Monday Consols were 92¾ ⅞ for the latter drooping. The Three per Cents were done at 93 to 92⅞ for transfer, and 93 to 92⅞ ⅞ for the Account. India Stock was 228½. India Bonds realised 11s. to 14s.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 9s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 99¼ ¼ for the latter drooping, on Tuesday were limited, and prices were not supported. The Three per Cents, for money, were 92¾ ⅞ ⅞ ⅞; and for the account, 92¾ ⅞. The New Three per Cents marked 98; India Stock 228; India Bonds, 14s. to 14s.; Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 9s. prem. Bank Stock, for the account, was 225½. Exchequer Bonds, 99¼. The following day's transactions were limited in extent. Consols, for the Three per Cents varied from 92¾ ⅞ to 92¾ ⅞ ⅞ ⅞ for the Account. India Bonds were 11s.; Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 9s prem India Stock for the Account was 228½. Exchequer Bonds, 99¼ ¼. On Thursday the market was heavy. The Three per Cents were 92¾ ⅞ to 92⅞ for Money, and 92¾ ⅞ for the Account. The New Two-and-a-Half per Cents marked 77; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 9s.; and India Bonds, 14s. prem. India Stock realised 224.

On the whole the Foreign Market has been tolerably firm, and prices have ruled rather steady. About £20,000 has arrived on account of the Mexican dividends:—Brazilian Five per Cents have marked 99 ex div.; Cuba Seven per Cents, 98; Chilian Six per Cents, 102; Mexican Three per Cents, 20¾; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 71; Russian Five per Cents, 100½; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 89¾; Spanish Deferred, 19½; Turkish Six per Cents, for the Account, 89¾; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 94½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 62¾; Dutch Four per Cents, 92¾ ex div.; Sardinian Five per Cents, 87½; Grandine One-and-a-Half per Cents, 7; Venezuela One-and-a-Half per Cents, 12; French Rentes Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 94 f.; French Scrip, 6 premium.

Joint-Stock Bank Shares have been in moderate request. Prices generally have ruled firm:—Australasia have realised 84 ex div.; London Chartered of Australia, 30¾; London and County, 36; London and Westminster, 42½; Oriental, 40; Union of Australia, 66½; Union of London, 26¾ Miscellaneous Securities have been tolerably active.—Australian Agricultural, Discount Shares realised 19½; British American Land, 67 ex div.; Canada Six per Cent Bonds, 108½; Crystal Palace, 8¾; General Screw Steam-Shipping Company, 10½; London Docks, 104½; St. Katharine Docks, 81½; North Australian, 1½; North of Europe Steam, 10; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 57½; Ditto New, 10½; Scottish Australian Investment, 1½; Van Diemen's Land, 1½. Railway Shares have marked the following quotations:—Birmingham, 92½ ¾; Bristol and Exeter, 84; Caledonian, 61½; Grand Junction, 107; Great Western, 48; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 75; Ditto, 50 Ditto, 100 Ditto, 50 Ditto, 100 Ditto, 50 Ditto, 100

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—On EASTER MONDAY, and During the Week, being the Last Week but One of THE SECRET AGENT, and the SPANISH DANCERS—Perea Nena and Marcos Diaz, with, Every Evening, a new Entertainment, entitled "The New Haymarket Spring Meeting," &c.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—[illegible] Musicians and Artists on the Mulberry of Tedder, Tuesday, Fleet and Marguerite; Thursday, Corsican Brothers, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, Louis XI.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch.—Proprietor, Mr. JOHN DOUGLASS. Continued success of the celebrated Miss GLYN, as the "Duchess of Malfi," Mr Henry Marston, with Mr George Wild and Miss Mary Williams. Every evening Tragedy and Comedy combined.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—C. H. ADAMS'S ORREERY Twenty fifth year in London. To-night the last of the Orrery. "A Series of Spectacles, Astronomical and Mythological, equalled in his Astronomical Illustrations." Begin at Eight, and about Ten. Stalls, 3s.; Boxes, 3s.; Pit, 1s.; Gallery, 6d. Children half-price: Private Boxes, 21s. and 10s. 6d.; at the Box-office, or at the Library.

GO and HEAR LOVE, the Greatest Dramatic Ventriloquist in Europe, at the UPPER HALL, 69, Quadrant, Regent-street. EVERY EVENING, at EIGHT and EIGHT-HALF. Saturday at Three. Stalls, 3s. Area, 2s., Gallery 1s.

EASTER HOLIDAYS.—PROUT'S VOYAGE to AUSTRALIA and VISIT to the GOLD REGIONS. Open daily at Mechanics' Hall, Regent-street. Entrance to the Great Globe. This is the only authentic Panorama of Australia ever exhibited. Stalls, 5s.; Front Seats, 1s.; Gallery, 6d.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.—The ROMANCE and DESTINY EVENTS of the Wall is now exhibiting daily at Three and Eight. The Romance by Mr. Stocqueler. Admission, 1s., 2s., and 3s.

SAM SLICK AT HOME and ABROAD, with SPARKS and SPECS of AMERICA HUMOUR. ON EASTER MONDAY, and during the entire NEW ENTERTAINMENT, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, depicting the mail steamer's passage from Liverpool across the Atlantic, will be exhibited at the ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION, in addition to all other novelties. Mornings at 3, Evenings at Eight. Admission, 1s.

ADAM and EVE. This great original work, by MODESTE VAN LERIUS, is now ON VIEW at 27, PALL-MALL (opposite the borough house), from Eleven to Six, daily—Admission, 1s.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.—An Exhibition of the finest French, Italian, and English Photographs will be OPENED on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, from Ten till Four. Admission, with Catalogue, One Shilling; Evening, from Seven till Nine, admission Sixpence.

PATRIOTIC FUND, for the RELIEF of the WIDOWS and ORPHANS of BRITISH OFFICERS engaged in the WAR with RUSSIA. Under the sanction of her MAJESTY. DRAWING by Members of the ROYAL ACADEMY, and WORKS of ART by Amateurs and others, are NOW being EXHIBITED at Pall-mall.—Admission, 1s.; catalogues, 6d. Open from Ten till Dusk.

THE ROYAL PATRIOTIC FUND BALL will take place at the BANQUETING SQUARE, under distinguished patronage, on FRIDAY, APRIL 13. Henderson's Full Band of 70 Performers. Supper Tickets, 10s. 6d. Double Ticket, at the Family Tickets, admitting three Ladies and one Gentleman, 1ns. Gentleman and a Half. To be had of the Stewards. Supper included, and provided by Mr. Widmore.—HORN. W. CLIFTON, Hon. Sec., 9, Old Bond-street, of whom all particulars may be obtained.

EXETER-HALL.—Mr. GEORGE CASE begs to announce that his GRAND CONCERT will take place on WEDNESDAY Evening next, APRIL 11th, at which only of the most eminent Vocal and Instrumental Artistes are engaged. Tickets, 1s., 2s., 3s., 5s., and 7s. To be had at 28, Holles-street, Cavendish-square; 1ns Ticket-offices and Musicsellers.

ROYAL ACADEMY of MUSIC. The EASTER TERM commences on MONDAY, APRIL 30th, 1855. Candidates for admission must attend at the Institution for Examination on Saturday the 28th April, or any previous saturday at Three o'clock. By order of the Committee.
Royal Academy of Music. J. SIMSON, Secretary
Tonbridge-street, Hanover-square, April 5th, 1855.

MUSICAL UNION.—H.R.H. Prince Albert, Patron. Members' Tickets have been sent to their respective residences in London. Those who have not received their tickets are requested to forward the names and address to the Director. Subscriptions are payable at Cramer and Co's., and Chappell and Co., 50, New Bond-street, any day. J. ELLA, Director.

THE NEW VOCAL ASSOCIATION, on the plan of the Berlin Sing Academie, for the Practice of Amateurs in unaccompanied Choral Music, directed by MR. HERBERT and BERNIE (Pupils of Mr. Hullah), MEETING will take place Monday after Easter. Terms (payable in advance), £1 10s. for Fifteen Meetings, including the use of music. Prospectuses, fully explaining the objects of this Association, may be obtained of the principal Music Sellers, and Librarians, by whom also Subscriptions (which alone will be received) of Mr. Beaudet, 7, Manchester-square; and of Mr. Henry Smart, 4, Regent's-park-terrace.

MISS P. HORTON'S ILLUSTRATIVE GATHERINGS at ST. MARTIN'S-HALL, EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'Clock (Friday excepted), introducing MUSICAL and CHARACTERISTIC ILLUSTRATIONS from REAL LIFE, in English, French, and Italian, by Mrs. T. German Reed (late Miss Marion) and Mr. T. German Reed. Admission, 1s.; Centre Seats, 2s. Stalls, 3s.—Tickets to be had at St. Martin's-hall; and all Music-sellers.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA. On FRIDAY NEXT, APRIL 13, Mendelssohn's ELIJAH. Vocalists: Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mrs Lockey, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Herr Formes. The Orchestra, as usual, will consist of nearly 1000 performers. Tickets, 3s., 5s., and 10s. 6d. each, may be secured by immediate application at the Society's sole office, No. 6 Exeter-hall.

PATRON H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT
ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—EASTER HOLIDAYS.—Great Novelties in Dissolving Views without Extra Charge. In addition to New Dissolving Views, a New Musical Lecture, by George Buckland, Esq. A Splendid Moving Diorama, illustrating an Entertainment called Sam Slick at Home and Abroad, depicting the Passage from Liverpool, across the Atlantic, and visiting all the principal Cities in the United States. Is now added to the other attractions of the Institution, and will be shown daily at Three and Eight.

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL.—The Parents and Friends of the Scholars of Christ's Hospital are respectfully informed, by special invitation from the Council, the Scholars will be at the ROYAL PANOPTICON on Thursday Afternoon, from Two to Five.

EARLY-CLOSING MOVEMENT.—For the convenience of parties released from business by the Early-closing Movement, the ROYAL PANOPTICON will be OPEN on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from Seven to Ten, as on other days. Admission, 1s.; Schools and Children, half-price.

ROYAL PANOPTICON of SCIENCE and ART, Leicester-square.—EASTER HOLIDAYS. The following attractive novelties will be exhibited in the Easter Week:—Large addition to the Dioramic Views of the War in the Crimea on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings, and on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings. Life in Tempest on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings. Dissolving View of the Moon's Path in the Starry Heavens, Monday evening and Saturday morning. Grand Organ, Gymnastic Displays, &c. Admission, 1s.; Schools and Children, half-price.

CRYSTAL PALACE, Sydenham.—The PALACE and PARK are OPEN to the PUBLIC on MONDAYS, at 1s.; TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and FRIDAYS, at 10 a.m., on which days the admission is 1s.; and on SATURDAYS, at Noon, when the admission is 2s.; and close each day at 6 p.m. Season Tickets, including conveyance by railway, may be obtained at the London-bridge Terminus, and at the several Agents in London. Trains run at 8.5 a.m., at 9.10 a.m., and every half-hour from 10 10 a.m. up to 4 10 p.m.; and at 4.40, 5.20, 6.20, 7.20 p.m., returning from the Crystal Palace Station up to 8 p.m.

POUSSILLON, 30s. per Dozen, with fine bouquet, and rich, racy, and mellow Burgundy flavour: it is a fine Port, but is fuller on the palate, and has the merit of not causing acidity in those temperaments that are subject to it as readily as port. (For particulars see ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of 11th February.) "A bitter wine I never wish to drink." (See Evidence of the late G. R. Porter, Esq., before a Committee of the House of Commons on the Wine Duties, 1852). Dinner Sherry, 24s., 30s.; standard or natural, 36s.; fine old ruby brewing Port, 42s., 48s.; St. Julien Claret, 36s.; Moselle (Mousseux flavour), 36s., 42s.; Milk Punch, 30s.; sparkling Champagne, 48s.
PORTER and INGLE, Mare-street, Mile-street, Cheapside. Cash Carriage free to all Rail Stations in England.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

INDIA, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, and CAPE of GOOD HOPE.—W. O. YOUNG will dispatch the following fast sailing A1 Clipper SHIPS at the dates named as under:—

Ships.	Tons.	Commanders.	Destination.	Docks.	To Sail
Matilda Waterloo	1300	J. C. Clark	Calcutta	London	April 25
Ocean Queen	450	P. Hess.	Bombay	London	April 10
Wm. Wilson	781	W. H. Harding	Madras	St. Kath.	April 29
Spirit of Tasmania	878	G. H. Heaton	Shanghae	London	April
Heroes of Alma	650	Rbt. Freeman	Hong Kong	West India	April 20
Ceylon	965	J. Hossack	Sydney	London	April 7
Australian	840	W. King	Melbourne	St. Katherine	April 20
Granite City	807	W. Leask	Sydney	London	May 10
Anna Mary	302	D. Stephens	Port Phillip	London	April 7
Sea Queen	370	J. Brodie	Cape G. Hope	London	May 5
	415	W. Rowe	Adelaide	London	May 10

These Ships have been selected specially for their high classed and fast sailing Qualities and will be found well worth the attention of shippers and Passengers. W. O. YOUNG, 34, Cornhill, and Mark-lane, Corn Exchange, 19, Dalkeith-street, and Sun-court, Cornhill, London.

LONDON, TILBURY, and SOUTHEND RAILWAY (ANCHOR, FENCHURCH-STREET). ON GOOD FRIDAY, Easter Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, Trains will run from Fenchurch-street and Blackwall-street Stations as follows:—On Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Monday, when [illegible] Trains will run as follows:—First Train from Tilbury, [illegible] Southend, Gravesend, at 7 35, 8.35, 9.35, 11.30 a.m.; 1.0, 2.30, 5, and 8 p.m. Fare, 1s. 6d. Second Class, 1s. Return Tickets, 1s. 6d. Second Class, 1s. Fare, 1s. 6d. Fenchurch-street, April 2, 1855.

NEW EQUITABLE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—Rome.—Policies effected on the participating scale before the 31st of December next will be entitled to share in four-fifths of the profits, to be divided at the close of the year 1855.
449, Strand, Charing-cross. JOHN TIDD PRATT.

LAW, PROPERTY, and LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—Professional Men, Clerks, and others, secured a Provision in the event of Permanent Sickness or Inability from any lower than Ordinary Occupation, by payment of a moderate annual Premium. Every description of Life Assurance Business transacted.
EDWD. B. SHERIDAN, Secretary.
30, Essex-street, Strand, London

ROYAL BRITISH BANK. The Directors are prepared to receive APPLICATIONS for their NEW ALLOTMENT of STOCK, under the provisions of their Supplemental Charter, just granted by the Crown. Applications to be made without delay at the Office, 18, Tokenhouse-yard, or at the Branches, 429, Strand; 77, Bridge-road, Lambeth; 97, Gosswell-road, Islington; 1, Shaftesbury-terrace, Victoria-road, Pimlico; 66, Queen-road, Southwark; and 32, Regent-circus, Piccadilly.
HUGH INNES CAMERON, General Manager.

CANCER HOSPITAL.—LONDON and WEST BROMPTON. The Secretary's office of the above Charitable Institution is removed to No. 5, Waterloo-place, Pall-mall, in order to give greater facilities to the out-door patients at the Consulting-chambers, No. 1, Cumberland-place, Fitzroy-square.
Subscriptions can be paid, and all information regarding the Society obtained at the office, which is open from 10 till 4.
By order of the Weekly Board. W. J. COLKEBILL, Secretary.

TESTIMONIAL to the late LORD DUDLEY COUTTS STUART.—At a Public Meeting, held at Willis's Rooms, on Friday, the 23rd March, the Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury in the chair,
It was Resolved,—That a Subscription be opened for the purpose of erecting a Testimonial to Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart, in commemoration of his persevering advocacy of the rights of the Polish nation, and of the Russian and Ionian Slaves, and of his unceasing sympathy for the afflicted and oppressed, of every country and condition.
Contributions received at Messrs. Coutts and Co., 59, Strand; Messrs. Lumbley, Taylor, and Lloyd, 60, Lombard-street, and by the Secretary of the Literary Association of the Friends of Poland, 10, Finsbury-square.
R. MONCKTON MILNES, Chairman.
W. L. BIRKBECK, } Hon.
CHARLES SZULCZEWSKI, } Secs.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.—ARRANGEMENTS for APRIL. On SATURDAY, the 14th of April, at the offices, 33, Northumberland-street, Strand, the TWENTY-SIXTH PUBLIC DRAWING for the Rotation of Members, according to the Society's Rules. All shares subscribed for before the 14th will be entitled to the advantages of this Drawing. Shares, if in arrear when drawn, will be disqualified.
On Thursday, the 19th of April, the allotment of the West Riding (Leeds) Estate (West Worcestershire), and of the Albert Estate (North Lincolnshire). Holders of rights will also be enabled on that day to select plots on the Estates in Middlesex (St. Margaret's, Lanfield, Tottenham, and Woodgreen), Essex (Romford), Hertfordshire (Watford), Bucks (Wycombe), Berks (Reading), Yorkshire, West (Leeds), Nottinghamshire (Retford), and Herts (Hertford and W.).
On and after the 26th of April, the warrants for the guaranteed five per cent interest, payable half-yearly on completed shares, and on subscriptions of a year in advance and upwards, will be issued. The holders of completed shares, and of shares paid in advance, will also be entitled to receive the Allotment Shares, which will be issued by payment into the Society, prior to the last Wednesday in April, of the balance of the shares, being the bonus declared in the second financial year ending September 29th, 1854, by the Executive Council.
For Prospectuses, Plans of Estates, &c., &c., &c.
CHARLES DENTON SIMS, Secretary.

PATENT FUSEE CANDLE COOKING LAMPS.—One Hundred Lamps, and Two Hundred Candlesticks will cook Four Meals per Day for One Hundred Men, for 1 or Months, the weight will not exceed Sixteen Cwt., and the cost Three Halfpence per day each Lamp. Supposing these Lamps to be now at the Camp, and the Candles lying at Balaclava, One Man would be enabled to carry sufficient daily to supply Five Hundred Men—SAMUEL CLARKE, Patentee, Wholesale Lamp and Candle Manufactory, 15, Alsager-street, Regent's-park, London. As those Lamps will be sold Retail by the Trade generally, the Patentee cautions purchasers to observe that each Lamp bears a label—S. Clarke's Patent Fusee Candle Cooking Lamp. None other are Genuine.
N.B.—In the event of a Regiment being ordered on Foreign Service, they can have any quantity of Lamps and Candles packed and forwarded direct to their place of embarkation.

THE BEST FOOD FOR CHILDREN, INVALIDS, AND OTHERS.—ROBINSON'S PATENT BARLEY, for the manufacture of a superior BREAKFAST-WATER in fifteen minutes, has not only obtained the patronage of her Majesty and the Royal Family, but has become a general household word for the consumer, and it is acknowledged to stand unrivalled as an eminently pure, nutritious, and light food for invalids and infants; much approved for making a delicious custard pudding; and excellent for thickening sauce or soups.
ROBINSON'S PATENT GROATS, for more than thirty years have been held in constant and increasing public estimation as the purest farina of the oat, and as the most and best available food for making a pure and delicate GRUEL, which forms a light and nutritious food for the aged, is a popular recipe for chills and influenza, is of general use in the sick chamber, and, alternately with the Patent Barley, is the usual food for infants and children.
Prepared only by the Patentees, ROBINSON, BELVILLE, and Co., Purveyors to the Queen, 64, Bold-street, Liverpool, Cash Grocers, and Oilmen, and Importers of Foreign Produce.
The Proprietors of Robinson's Patent Barley and Patent Groats, desirous that the public shall at all times purchase these preparations in a perfectly sweet and fresh condition, respectfully advise the public that every packet is now completely enveloped in the purest tinfoil, in addition to the usual and well-known Patent Wrapper.
Sold by all respectable Grocers, Druggists, and others, in town and country, in Packets of 6d. and 1s.; and Family Canisters, at 2s., 5s., and 10s. each.

WANTED, LEFT-OFF CLOTHES for AUSTRALIA.—Mr and Mrs JOHN ISAACS, 319, STRAND, opposite Somerset-house, are giving the highest price in Cash for Ladies' and Gentlemen's Clothes, Regimental Equipts., Boots, Books, Linen, Plate, Jewellery, and all Miscellaneous Goods. Ladies or Gentlemen waited on at any time or hour by addressing as above. N.B. All parcels from the country, the utmost value returned by Post-office order. Established 54 years.

WANTED, LEFT-OFF CLOTHES for Exportation.—Mr. and Mrs. HART, at 31, Newcomen-street, Strand, continues giving the highest price in cash for every description of Ladies' or Gentlemen's Wearing Apparel—viz., military Clothing, Indian goods, paint boxes, court trains, uniforms, and all miscellaneous Property. Ladies or Gentlemen waited on at any hour or distance, by addressing as above. N.B. Parcels sent from the country will meet with the same attention, and the utmost value remitted by Post-office order.—Established 54 years.

REDDING, Economy, Durability, and Comfort.—J. and S. STEER'S SPRING and FRENCH MATTRESSES—Sole Patentees of the elastic and softest bed. A Price List of every description of Bedding, Spring Mattresses, sent free. Feather beds of every description in wood, iron, and brass; Cribs, Cots, Arabian Bedsteads, Cradles, and Cotton Cases.—J. and S. STEER, Bedding, Bedstead, and Bedroom Furniture Manufacturers, 13, Oxford-street.

INSPIRATION of LEASE at 15, 10, and 17, LUDGATE-HILL.—The following must be left by the 12th of April.—Good Black Alpaca Lustres, 4½d.; Good Black Coburgs, 7½d.; Good French Merinos, 1s. 11½d.; Good Patent Crapes, 1s. 11½d.; Black Silk Dresses, 14s. 6d., 18s. 6d.; 21s., Mourning Mantles, 12s. 9d., 20s. Fine Cloth Mantles, 3s. 6d. to 18s. 9d. The Millinery and Fancy Stock Liquidly Reduced.—CITY OF LONDON MOURNING WAREHOUSE. The whole of the above spacious Premises to Let either together or separate.

NEW BOOKS, &c.

THE FRENCH MILITARY SYSTEM.—Art. 5 in the BRIT. SH QUARTERLY for APRIL.

THE WAR CONTROVERSY; The Truth about it. Art. 8 in the BRITISH QUARTERLY for APRIL.

HOW TO VISIT PARIS. Read "A Trip to Paris," in the April Number of THE FAMILY FRIEND. 11 engravings, 32 pages, notice, &c. Price 2d.; post free, 3d.
London: WARD and LOCK, 158, Fleet-street.

FOR "A TRIP TO PARIS" See THE FAMILY FRIEND. It tells what to do, and how to manage, to save both money and time, and get all that can be got, with economy and speed. Price 2d. Sold everywhere.

PRACTICAL MECHANICS' JOURNAL, Part 85, APRIL, 1855, 1s., contains Illustrations—Large Copper-plate Engraving of Messrs. G. and A. Harvey's large Slotting and Shaping Machine, 42 Inches Stroke, Illustrated Articles, 66, Chancery-lane; Editor's Offices (Offices for Patents), 47, Lincoln's-inn-fields.

NO. 14 of THE LANCET for 1855.—A few Sets of the Fourteen Numbers (price 8s. 2d.) published since the 6th of January last, containing PROFESSOR SYME'S LECTURES on CLINICAL SURGERY, also a great variety of Original Papers, and all the Medical News of the World, may be obtained of any Bookseller or Newsman in the United Kingdom or in the Colonies, or by sending Post-office orders to the Publisher. Price, Unstamped, 7d.; Annual Subscription, 30s. Stamped for free postage, 8d.; Annual Subscription, 36s. 8d.
Published by EDWARD THOMAS, 424, Strand, London.

Third Edition, price 7s., entered at Stationers' Hall, of EVERY MAN HIS OWN BREWER; containing Practical Instructions by which any man can brew his own Beer, of a strength and flavour equal to Burton Pale Ale, at 4d. per gallon, Stout at 3d.; and a variety of Ales at a proportionate expense, according to strength. No Malt or brewing Utensils required. Sent free for twenty-four stamps by Mr. CLARKSON, many years practical brewer No. 9, Avery-row, Lower Brook-street, London.

VICTORIA RIFLES.—Gentlemen who may desire to be ENROLLED will please to address the Hon. SECRETARY, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street; or at the Office of "The Court Journal," Catherine-street, Strand.

BLOODHOUND, very tractable, for SALE; quiet with children. Price Three Guineas. And a powerful CART GELDING, too large for the owner, seven years old, 17 hands high. To be seen at 34 Wood-street, Cheapside. Price Forty-five Guineas. Also, a ROAN COB. Apply to J. Bolton.

SHOPS.—FIRST-CLASS SHOPS to be LET, in DEVONSHIRE-TERRACE and HIGH-STREET, NOTTING HILL. For particulars apply on the premises, No. 5, Devonshire-terrace, Notting-hill gate.

THE WIFE of an OFFICER, whose husband is abroad, wishes to live as COMPANION to a LADY. No Salary required. References to be given. Address to R. A., care of Messrs Goodall and Co., Surrey-street, Strand.

PLEASANT HOME offered in a Rector's Family to a YOUNG LADY or TWO SISTERS. House large and beautifully situated, near a station, on borders of Devonshire and Somerset. Good and cheerful society. Liberal terms expected. Address "Rector," W. Thomas and Co., 21, Catherine-street, Strand.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—WANTED, as IN-DOOR APPRENTICE, to a LAW STANDARD AND PUBLISHING HOUSE, a Gentlemanlike Youth, in good Class Lond. A small Premium required. Address M. B., 6, New Inwell-court, Lincoln's-inn.

BOARD. The Widow and Daughter of a Naval Officer, residing on a mile from the Bishopsgate-street, are desirous of receiving a few LADIES and GENTLEMEN. Their house is commodious, with a good library, large garden, and stabling. Address B. Z., 5, Surrey-street, Strand.

EDUCATION in GERMANY.—Marienburg House School, near Cologne. Principal, Mr. ALFRED HASKEWYLLE. The object aimed at in this Establishment is a thorough education, combined with a thorough knowledge of the Modern Languages. Resident French and German Masters, who impart instruction only through the medium of their respective languages. For Prospectuses apply to Miss Haskewylle, Radnor Villa, Great Malvern.

MODELLING in LEATHER — PLAIN DIRECTIONS, by ROSE CHAMPION DE CRESPIGNY, Designer. Post free for 18 stamps each. Specimens of the Work (as it ought to be done) at the Soho Bazaar, left entrance; and at 18, Soho-square, from whence the necessary Materials may be obtained. Address, H. Gilbert, 13, Soho square. Price List forwarded.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT BROWN COD-LIVER OIL, Pure, manufactured of the finest quality, free from nauseous flavour, or sickly after taste, and of proved superior power and efficacy. Physicians are cautioned against administering any substitute or recommend a coarse brown oil, totally unfit for medicinal use, and to insist on the genuine Light Brown Oil in the Jongh attached to every bottle, without which none is genuine. Sold wholesale and retail by ANSAR, HARFORD, and Co., 77, Strand, London, and in the country by Druggists. Half-pints (10 oz.), 2s. 6d.; pints (20 oz.), 4s. 9d.; quarts (40 oz.), 9s. 6d. per bottle.

ON BOARD H.M.S. "NORTH STAR," in the ARCTIC REGIONS, for Two Years, the Ship's time was kept by one of JONES's Levers, all other Watches on Board having stopped. In silver £4 4s.; in gold, £10 10s.; at the Manufactory, 226, Strand, opposite Somerset-house. Read JONES's "Sketch of Watch Work." Sent free for a 24 stamp.

DENT, 61, Strand, and 34 and 35, Royal Exchange, Chronometer, Watch, and Clock Maker by appointment to the Queen and Prince Albert, begs respectfully to inform the Public that his patent rights and business at the above shops, and at the clock and chronometer factory, at Somerset-wharf, maker of chronometers, watches, astronomical, turret, and other clocks, theodolites, and patent ship's compasses, and to the Queen, and her Majesty's yacht. Ladies gold watches, 8 guineas; gentlemen's, 10 guineas, strong silver lever watches, £4 4s.

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CAUTION.—For above thirty years R. S. MOSES and SON have been compelled to caution the Public with reference to the various imitations of their EVER-PREFERABLE TROWSERS.
The celebrity which this article obtained when the letters patent were first granted has steadily and uninterruptedly increased, and the sections of the Patentees have been thrown back to justify this confidence.
In common with every invention of good reputation, the result has been that numerous imitations have been produced, and the vendors enabled, by the sale of inferior goods, to realise a larger immediate profit.
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Perhaps the above caution is even more strictly necessary when Cumberland Lead Pencils are purchased for refilling the pencil-cases. Unless these have been most accurately gauged to the exact size of the pencil, they will be found to be worthless.
Each box of genuine lead pencils is stamped "Warranted. R. Moses and Co."
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SALMON, TROUT, and PIKE RODS, FLIES, and every description of TACKLE of the Best Quality, can be obtained at J. BERNARD, 24, Church-place, Piccadilly.

TO ANGLERS.—JOHN CHREK respectfully calls ANGLERS attention to the largest, best, and cheapest STOCK in London. An Exquisite Fly Trout Fishing, 10s.; Superior Ditto, 21s.; the best, 31s. New Illustrated Guides and Lists of Prices gratis. 120, Oxford street.

TO ANGLERS.—CHARLES FARLOW, 191, Strand, Manufacturer of superior FISHING TACKLE, at moderate prices. Catalogues forwarded Gratis.

LITTLE and COL'S FISHING TACKLE is the best for which the Highest Prize Medal was granted Makers by Special Appointment to H.R.H. Prince Albert. Illustrated Catalogue of Prices Gratis.—15, Fetter-lane, Fleet street, London.

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THE "BABY'S" NEW FEEDING-BOTTLE.—From the "Times":—"We have seldom seen anything so beautiful as the Nursing Bottles introduced by Mr. BENJAMIN ELAM, 196, Oxford-street." 7s. 6d. each.

THE Improved INFANT PERAMBULATOR and all other kinds of Carriages for Children, manufactured by A. TRIBE, 93, Old-street, St. Luke's, London, at reduced prices

BURTON and HARE'S improved INFANT PROPELLER, supported on Steel Springs. These elegant and much-admired Carriages is furnished with all the recent patent improvements. Adult and Invalid Wheel Chairs upon the same principle.—Manufactory, 466, New Oxford-street, London.

WHERE SHALL WE PUT IT?—The difficulty is met by T. TROTMAN'S Patent FOLDING CARRIAGES. Patent Carriage Repository, Corner of Sligh-street, Camden-town. An assortment of Registered Promenade Perambulators (with Registered Safety Guards) on view.

BURTON'S PATENT PERAMBULATORS.—The distinguished patronage, the flattering encomiums, and the increasing demand are sufficient proofs of the utility and excellence of these fashionable, safe, and elegant carriages, for adults, children, and invalids. Propelled from behind by the slightest pressure. Illustrated circulars. Shipping orders.—Office, 152, Regent-street. Manufactory, Bury-place.

JOHN BOWEN, Watchmaker, 2, Tetbourne-street Piccadilly, opposite the Haymarket. A small stock of GOLD WATCHES STILL ONE POUND without reserve

BRIDENBACH'S WHITE ROSE SCENT is in great perfection, price 2s. 6d. Rose Cold Cream, 1s.; Rose Soap, 1s. Rose Water, Rose Pomade, Rose Tooth-wash, Rose Tooth-paste. 157A, New Bond street

MAPPINS' "SHILLING" RAZOR, sold everywhere, warranted good by the Makers, JOSEPH MAPPIN and BROTHER, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield; and 27 Moorgate-street, City, London

MAPPINS' SUPERIOR TABLE KNIVES, as made for the Crystal Palace, Sydenham; handles cannot possibly become loose; the blades are all of the very first quality, being their own Manufacture. Warehouses, Sheffield; and at their London Warehouse, 37, Moorgate-street, City; and Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

GREAT SAVING in the COST of BREAD by the use of WM. DRAY and CO'S DOMESTIC FLOUR-MILLS. List of Prices forwarded on application to Wm Dray and Co., Swan-lane, London

SCYTHES. BOYD'S PATENT SELF-SHARPENING SCYTHES are had of the Wholesale Agents, WM DRAY and CO., Swan-lane, London, and of all Ironmongers and Seedsmen. A liberal allowance to the Trade

ARMY and NAVY OFFICERS, SURGEONS, &c., GOING to the CRIMEA SUPPLIED with ARM SLINGS, Cushions, Rests, Gauntlets, Inst. and Medicine Chests, splints, collars, bandages for fractures, oil-silk for wounds, and every description of surgical appointments.—WILLIAM HUNTLEY JAILES, 416, Oxford-street.

GLASS, CHINA, and CHANDELIERS.—The largest Chandelier in London, at the Establishment of APPLEY BRILLIANT and CO.'S, Falcon Glass Works, Holland-street, Blackfriars; and 36 and 56, Baker-street, Portman-square.

DEAFNESS.—Patronised by Royalty.—FINE ACOUSTIC REFLECTORS are the greatest relief with the best Instruments, and are Recommended by the Faculty. They can be worn with the hat or bonnet. To be obtained of Mr. W. Pine, at the Acoustic Establishment, 363, Strand (one door from Wellington-street).

LEADEN COMBS for gradually Darkening the Hair. They are recommended by the faculty as superior to all counterfeits. Security packed with directions for use. Post free, twenty stamps. Prepared only at the Hair Manufactory and Proprietors, T. ARDEN, 18, Broad-court, Long acre, London.

LONDON and RAMSGATE.—T. M. ORDISH, the celebrated HAIR-CUTTER and DRESSER. Hair Worked in Bracelets, Chains, Rings, and other articles.—3, Wigmore-street, nine doors from Cavendish-square, and at 6, Harbour-street, Ramsgate

TO BE SOLD, for £33 15s., an ELEGANT SILVER SERVICE of Teapot, Coffee-pot, Sugar Basin, and Cream Ewer, of Large Size, Good Form, and Heavy Metal, and weighing 77 ounces. May be seen at WALES and MCCULLOUGH'S, 33, Lombard-street (opposite Birchin-lane).

HYDROPATHY.—Dr. EDWARD JOHNSON has REMOVED from Cumberland Hall, in order to take possession of the NEW ESTABLISHMENT which he has recently built for himself at GREAT MALVERN. The superscription of all letters addressed to him should bear his Christian name.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—STURROCK and SONS' TOILET PREPARATIONS may be obtained at their Depot on the Crystal Palace, Sydenham. Perfumers to the Queen.

UNIVERSAL REMEDIES are QUACKERY. —1,058 of HAIR.—Mr. PURKISS may be consulted upon all DISEASES of the HAIR, and will undertake by means of his new treatment to reproduce the Hair, and Stop its Falling Off.—12a, Pall-Mall, East, next door to the National Gallery.

BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS:—100 packets of flower seeds for 5s.; 50 packets for 3s.; or 36 for 2s. 6d. The selection will include some of the best stocks, bollyhocks, asters, marchionettes, zinnias, &c., and last, with directions for sowing, a sample packet of twelve kinds may be had for twelve stamps. Address JOSEPH GOLDING, Seedsman, Hastings

SOAP.—A Variety of Appointment as Purveyor of Warrant of Appointment has been granted to Messrs BOUGHTON and HATWARD, of 102, New Bond-street, and 17, Billiter-street, City, Agents to Messrs Gray's Improved Soap Company, of whom these valuable Household and Toilet Soaps are to be obtained. Sold by all Chemists, Oilmen, &c. Haggerston Soap Works, Goldsmith's-row, Hackney.

IN consequence of the death of Mr. JOHN WILLIAMS, COMMERCE-HOUSE, 60, 61, 62, Oxford-street, and 3, 4, 5, Wells-street, his Executors beg most respectfully to inform the Nobility and supporters of this establishment that the whole of his costly STOCK will be SUBMITTED to the PUBLIC daily, after ten o'clock. There has been no selling off whatever in connection with the firm of J. Williams and Co. since its commencement twenty-eight years ago. Visitors, therefore, will find the worthy of their attention

FASHIONS FOR LONGCHAMPS, 1855.—DRAWN BY GAVARNI.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR APRIL.

Although the Spring Fashions for Longchamps have but partially appeared, the materials may be seen in the shops of Paris. The shades are very varied: cherry seems the colour most worn. For fair persons, whose complexions would not support so varied a colour, more sober hues are intermingled. The ordinary patterns are plaids of about an inch wide, colour upon colour; bands of the same width, from the top to the bottom of the dress, are oftener worn; but the corsages of similar material are cut to disadvantage. This, however, is the only inconvenience; for the skirt is very graceful. Patterned robes, with three, or at most four, flounces for walking-dresses, are also very much worn. The ground is clear, and the patterns are of lively shades, somewhat deeper upon the edge of the flounces, and disappearing in the ground by a *chaud*, cleverly shaded. In other robes the pattern is reversed; the ground being shaded, and the borders plain. The material almost exclusively employed for these robes is taffetas. The materials for summer toilets are not yet known; the rigour of the season having retarded their appearance. The number of flounces upon the skirt is always repeated in miniature upon the edges of the sleeves. When seven flounces are worn on the skirt, the arms must be long to wear as many, otherwise they would reach to the shoulder.

The skirts are still very full. Corsages and sleeves have not changed. Ball dresses are still loaded with ornaments, and mingled with black velvet, either in short bows or long ends.

We notice a novelty in no longer placing the bow of the corsage in the centre, but wearing one on each side of the breast, just at the beginning of the sleeves. For balls that verge towards the fine season, a goodly number of white muslin robes richly embroidered *à l'aiguille et à plumettes* are worn; while, in order not to lose the traditions of winter, knots of velvet or of dark-shaded ribbon are employed.

Bonnets—if what is worn upon the head may be called such—are, perhaps, smaller, and placed more behind than ever. The ornaments are disposed precisely upon the edge of the *passe en dehors*, so as to touch the inside ornaments. The crown is very much inclined, behind it is very straight. This produces almost the same effect as a slightly truncated coronet. For walking, bonnets are of rice-straw, *gofrés* alternated with taffetas bands of different colours, with either feathers or flowers. Toilets, somewhat more dressy, are made of crape and blonde thrown back, with ornaments; green feathers, or dark-shaded, and sometimes even black, flowers. The Empress wore a dress of this pattern in one of her recent drives in the Bois de Boulogne. The *coiffures de bal* most adopted are those which terminate in long trains upon the shoulder.

The form of cloaks and mantles is still the same. The "transition" Indian shawls are most worn. A charming garment for summer is a little black lace corsage *à basques*, with *des entre-deux* of black ribbon, placed along it lengthwise. This is worn over the corsage of the robe; which, in similar cases, is of a clear colour.

For the gentlemen, the best advice is to steer clear of all eccentricity, and adopt a quiet taste in colours and forms.

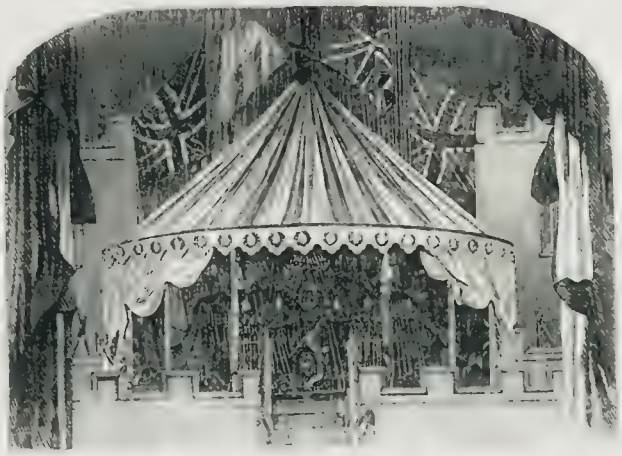
GRAND MILITARY BALL AT EDINBURGH.

A very tasteful instance of the martial *eclat* given to our public amusements by the all engrossing topic of the day has just taken place at Edinburgh. It appears that the officers of the regular regiments stationed in Scotland, acting with the officers of the different militia corps recently embodied, having resolved to give a Ball upon a superb scale, the Music-hall and Assembly-rooms were selected for the occasion; and the fête took place on the 29th ult. To give effect to its military character, the ample stores of the Castle Armoury, Piershill Barracks, and Leith Fort, were put in requisition, and ormed an important part of the decorations of the rooms, in which some four or five thousand stand of arms were conspicuously displayed.

The main entrance from George-street was lined with evergreens. Two formidable 24-pounder cannon, with limbers complete, were ranged to the right and left of the inside of the doorway. The staircase leading up to the Hall was festooned with floral decorations. In the Assembly-rooms, the light from the gaseliers was modified by throwing around them a screen of pink tarlatan. It was, however, in the Music-hall that the skilful disposition of the armour was most apparent. From every point the eye was met by the gleam of sword and musket, pistol and carbine, arranged with much taste by Mr. Scrymgeour. The most conspicuous of these were two enormous discs, placed one at each end of the hall, the radii of which were formed by sabres springing from the centre. Flags were also profusely hung from every available point; and not a few suits of armour that had, mayhap, seen service in the days of Oliver Cromwell hung side by side with the Highland bonnets of the gallant 92nd. The platform and organ had disappeared, and in their place had sprung the stately battlements of a lordly fortress, in which watch and ward was kept by armed sentinels. The presence of *bonâ fide* mortars pressing open-mouthed through the embrasures of the mimic fortification, and the heaps of shot and shell that lay piled beside them, kept up the warlike idea in the midst of the festive scene. In front of the fortress, and resting on its lower platform, a handsome tent was placed, inside of which, and surrounded with a blaze of light from innumerable gas jets, was erected a magnificent military trophy, composed of arms of all kinds, almost every weapon having its representative. The effect of this trophy, as seen from all parts of the hall, was most brilliant. The small ante room, which forms a connection between the Assembly-rooms and the Music-hall, was fitted up with exquisite taste in imitation of a tent, having for its pervading hues the national colours of France; the roof being partly covered with the union jack, as typical of the alliance between the two great Western Powers.

The company numbered from 600 to 700 of the *élite* of Edinburgh. The appearance of the main entrance was very imposing—the whole line of lobby and staircase being lined with military; the artillerymen standing beside their guns, and the infantry soldiers presenting an unbroken front, with the arms at the present.

Mr Mackenzie's admirable band performed in the Ball-room; but to those who preferred the wider area of the Music-hall, the band of the 1st Dragoon Guards played appropriate music; and the pipers of the Highland detachments gave some lively strathspeys.



GRAND MILITARY BALL AT EDINBURGH.—PRINCIPAL ENTRANCE.

THE 13-INCH MORTAR BATTERY, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—THE THIRTEEN-INCH MORTAR BATTERY.

This battery was brought very successfully into [illegible] short time, on the 16th ult. against the "Mamelon Redoubt. [illegible] has been said "excellent practice is said to have [illegible] the 13-inch mortars, several shells from which fell in the very centre of the large redoubt. At one time the Russians were observed to leave the work in such numbers as to lead to the belief that the whole of the working party had been driven out. On the following day a well-directed shot from a [illegible] Battery struck the upper pit of small redoubt, occupied by the Russian riflemen. A crowd, calculated to be forty in number, immediately took flight up towards the large redoubt, and, without going round to the entrance, sought shelter in the nearest part of the ditch. About thirty other riflemen followed in quick succession, escaping two or three together

Now that the railway is fairly in operation, so as to enable large quantities of shells and gunpowder to be transported to the Camp without much trouble, we may expect to hear of the 13 inch mortars playing an important part in the bombardment of the town. If it be true that the ammunition of the Russians is falling short, the direct effect of something decisive being accomplished soon will be greatly increased.

M. SOYER ON HIS MISSION TO SCUTARI.

(To the Editor of the Illustrated London News*)*

Acropolis, Athens, March 18.

Having left Marseilles, on the 12th inst., for Constantinople, in the process of my mission to the Hospital at Scutari, owing to a sudden and unexpected change from a beautifully calm to a rough and stormy sea, M. Pavie, the captain of our vessel (the *Simon*) was compelled to seek shelter in the peaceable harbour of Ajaccio, in Corsica, the birthplace of the immortal Emperor Napoleon I. And since our departure from that celebrated port a fine vessel succeeded a most tempestuous gale, and soon brought us alongside the Levanzo Rocks, on which the French frigate *Semillante* a few weeks ago was wrecked, and all her passengers and crew lost. At that time we were gratified with the sight of a slight eruption of the Stromboli Mountain, which rises immediately from the sea to the height of several thousand feet. Next morning we anchored at Messina, the spring garden of Sicily, where, in the open air, orange and lemon were in full blossom, and covered with delicious fruit. Lilies, roses, and violets perfume the air; whilst peas, beans, artichokes, and asparagus are gathered at the foot of the lofty mountains covered with snow. Although Messina is well known to travellers, yet they are not so well acquainted with the productions of its fertile soil. After a few hours' ramble in this interesting city, our party embarked, and rapidly passed on our left the small but pretty town of Reggio, and on our right the mighty Mount Ætna, covered with heavy snow. In less than forty-seven hours the *Simon* brought us before the Piræus, the voyage never having before been accomplished under fifty

M. SOYER.

[illegible] an Frenchman, built at Liverpool by Mr. [illegible], and [illegible] Messageries Impériales, and this is her [illegible] voyage in this sea. From the unexpected quickness of our passage, we were allowed to remain at the port four hours, and availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting Athens. At the present time, in the ancient Parthenon, I am cooking, with my new camp stove, on a table [illegible] the [illegible] *depuis a la France*, with Greek and Turkish gentlemen, for my distinguished fellow-travellers, amongst whom are General Canton (Sardinian), Colonel St. George, of the Woolwich Artillery, Captain Gordon, Captains Turner and [illegible], Mr. [illegible] Ball, Esq., Captain Arbuckle, Captain Boucher, Aide-de-camp of General Canrobert, and Signor Pitaki, the Governor of the Acropolis.

We send speedily re-embark for Constantinople.

A. Soyer

Russian Ships in the Baltic.—As our squadrons are on the eve of proceeding to their previous stations in the Gulf of Finland, the following statement of the number of Russian war vessels in the different harbours may be useful.—The fleet consists of three divisions, under Admirals of the Red, it consists, on the whole, of thirty liners, of which not above nineteen are fit to go to sea for other purposes than those of mere show close off harbour. The whole are set down as armed with 2476 guns. To these must be added eighteen frigates, of which only three are large seaworthy, with 418 guns, ten brigs and corvettes, of which eight [illegible] with 149 guns, are seaworthy; fifteen smaller craft (swivels, steamers, with gunboats, and bomb-guns); three liners and three frigates with screws—or rather without, as the screws [illegible] England has not arrived. Two divisions are at Cronstadt, and one at Sveaborg. Each division is manned by an average of 8,000 men (of whom a considerable portion are Jews), and 400 [illegible] not seaworthy are principally converted into floating batteries, and armed with guns of the heaviest calibre. The [illegible] force will be thus—Sveaborg, [illegible] Cronstadt, [illegible] Sveaborg, &c., 15 [illegible] Sveaborg, 2,000 sailors, and 12,000 [illegible] The above does not include the crews of the row-boat flotillas, of which so much was said, and so little seen, last year.

Russian State Secrets.—A private letter from Athens of the 4th ult. states that several papers of Russian importance, in the handwriting of the late Emperor, and of his papers, immediately after his death. It seems that some interesting documents, containing correspondence with several Russian statesmen, have been found, which they will, out of spite, be published. [illegible] of a communication made, [illegible] a Greek [illegible] belonging to him near Athens, and for which he demanded 100,000 francs. He [illegible] the world give him 100,000 silver roubles instead [illegible] that, moreover, by way of recompense for [illegible] of the Queen of Greece, [illegible] and [illegible] for life of the [illegible] man, is said to have supported R[illegible] most Turkey, in [illegible]

COPYRIGHT IN BOOKS

(From a Correspondent.)

The question of copyright, which now occasions treaties, complaints, and demands, deserves much attention. It is supposed to concern authors exclusively, in fact, it concerns the whole society; but, as the difficulty of ascertaining the welfare of the whole is very great, we be made out satisfactorily that copyright benefits authors, we should unhesitatingly conclude that it benefits society. If it could be shown even that the author's claim to copyright, as now understood, is founded on justice, such is our reverence for this highest of all social attributes and social duties, that we should accept it at once unhesitatingly, with all its consequences, and strenuously defend it, on the principle that to do justice to individuals, is the safest, the best, and the only way of promoting social welfare

At present the law confers on the author of all published works, the right solely to sell and dispose of these works for a certain *period*. It is this *conferring* for a certain period, that is the gist of the whole question Naturally and wholly independent of any human law, the author is necessarily the owner of his own thoughts and his own labour, and he cannot, except he be contrived, be deprived of the right to dispose of his labour and his thoughts, when spoken or written, if any person think them worth being purchased. Generally he sells them, or sells his labour, to a publisher; and we may be quite sure, as this practice is universal and natural, that it is for the convenience and benefit of both parties At this point, however, the law steps in and assures the publisher the exclusive right to sell the author's work for a certain period, departing in this case from the general practices of society. The law follows the work from the hand of the publisher to the hand of the purchaser, and forbids the latter for a period to make all and every use of it he likes. This is the erroneous principle. A farmer or a cotton manufacturer—to illustrate the true principle as it ought to be—buys the labour of the ploughman or the spinner, and the result of the labour purchased is a bushel of wheat or a web of cloth, which is exclusively the property of the farmer or the manufacturer, as the author's manuscript is the publisher's property, and which each of these purchasers is at full liberty to deal with as he pleases. But the instant the farmer or manufacturer sells the product to another person he loses all power over it; the person who purchases it acquires a full property in it, and is at liberty to do with it as he likes. It is not so with the book or the boots. He is not at liberty to make another book like it. The Copyright conferred by the law, therefore, is an arbitrary departure from the general usages of society, from the general laws of property, and requires a peculiar defence. It is not defended by saying that the law gives a copyright in patterns or in inventions, because both these are the offspring of the elder copyright in books, and on principle, like it, indefensible Not now to go into the question of inventions and patterns, we confine ourselves to copyright in books.

We start from the point that an author has an inherent right to his thought and his labour; but, naturally, there can be no property in a thought, in an opinion, or in a fact, when stated. The instant it is stated it becomes common property. It differs in this respect from wheat or flour, which can be used by only one person Neither is the style or manner in which it is expressed a property It may, like a man's gait, be imitated. Books or papers, as material objects, are naturally property; but not their contents. The reason, too, is obvious. The value of the contents depends on the public appreciation—on the public taste. It is not conferred exclusively by the individual who writes. The author's mind even is the reflection of his age—of the minds of others mingled with his own. Copyright is an attempt to give a pecuniary monopoly of general knowledge; to stop its diffusion; to prevent the inspiration that Heaven sends only to the chosen few being made known to all. It is an attempt to establish for a class a property in the mind of the world; and the copyright conferred by law, instead of being an act of justice to an author, is an injustice inflicted on the public. We confine ourselves to these few words on the general principle, and now pass to consider the question practically.

Nobody thinks it necessary to state a reason why the farmer's or the manufacturer's, or any other man's property, should be secured to him. It is his, and that is a sufficient reason When property has been violated, so many evil consequences ensue that we then recognise many reasons why property should be protected; but *à priori*, apart from experience, we acknowledge every man's right to his own labour, and what he acquires by it without invading the property of another. It is not so with copyright. Every man, and especially authors—all of whom live by studying and appropriating in part the thoughts of others—supposes he may make what use he pleases of the printed thoughts which he buys, or to which he has access. They are common property, and the law invents a reason for establishing a property in them by copyright. The author is to be encouraged to write by the privilege, and literature is to be encouraged by rewarding authors. This is the old plea of protection. The law continues to do for authors, by copyright, what it did for land cultivators, wool-growers, shipowners, and almost every class of workmen, till experience gradually taught us that in every case the so-called protection of the law makes victims of all to whom it has been extended. Property is secured because property is a natural right; copyright is instituted on the supposition that it encourages authorship and encourages literature, just as it was supposed—we now know most erroneously, that Corn-laws encouraged the cultivation of the soil. Copyright is not a natural right; it is established by statesmanship on the principle of expediency, and implies in statesmen an ignorance of the laws of civilisation from which the growth of literature arises

If it rewarded authorship, and promoted literature, the object proposed would be gained. It is assumed, however, that authorship is stimulated by pecuniary considerations, and that copyright ensures a pecuniary reward. The assumptions are erroneous. The ability to think, feel or write, is not the child of avarice. Almost all great authors have been authors from their cradle. Like Pope, they "lisped in numbers." Genius even in our competitive and money-loving community, has a different source from the desire of gain. As in Burns, it is heaven born If it be supposed that, content with its own visions, genius would lie idle and dull, its own contemplative delights, did not the statesman excite it into activity by money considerations, let us ask when did genius not aspire to distinction and admiration? It works, it lives only for honour; and, if it seek money, it is less for money's self than as a means of distinction There is a class of authors who labour to procure bread by their powers, but genius; and it is amongst this class, not amongst men of genius, that the great anxiety for copyright exists. The authors who chiefly live on others are those most desirous of the privilege. How far they should be encouraged is a question worthy of being discussed, but not now It is sufficient for the present purpose to remind the reader that the ability of authorship exists wholly independent of the artificial privilege of copyright, and that the desire to exercise it arises, not from the desire of pecuniary gain, but from the desire of distinction. It does not require, therefore, to be created, nor is it encouraged, by pecuniary rewards artificially bestowed.

That a man who devotes himself to literature should be able to live by his labours is true. But does copyright bestow a pecuniary reward? Will any man say that the popularity of Dickens is in any manner due to copyright? Can it make the public appreciate genius? Can it make men and women read and buy what they like not? Impossible. The appreciation of the public, like the genius which delights it, is wholly independent of copyright. If copyright can secure neither popularity nor a sale for a work, what can it do? It is supposed to prevent another person from pirating the works of a popular author, and so lessen the reward which the public would willingly bestow on him. Is this true? Can any man pirate the works of Dickens to his disadvantage? The pirate who sells his stolen wares at a much less price than the original work is sure, at least, to increase the number of its readers. He finds for it—witness the cheap reprints in America—a class of readers whom the original work would never reach. He carries it to those, also, who would not give the higher price, and secures the author more fame, and, in the end, more money, by making him known to a wider circle The literary pirate, like the smuggler, diffuses a taste for a prohibited, or a highly protected, or a taxed, article; and, in the end, brings an author into vogue, or literature into fashion, and helps to make it, in spite of monopoly, generally desired. Why, too, should a literary pirate succeed where the original author fail? Is this short? How can he publish cheaper? [illegible] The best friend were both accepting the first and most indispensable condition, the demand, but professing his inability to undertake the other part of the letter, and hinting that his fastidious client must have been impelled by some one it was late in the evening when the affair was discovered to be a hoax; and it was only at the [illegible] month that, in fact, it was the [illegible] tricks, known as *poissons d'avril*, are practised and [illegible] not entirely a profitless [illegible] or amused it, and it is certain, that in consider, he rose in [illegible] Sundays on the Italian Boulevards was the first [illegible] was made by it. The police are trying to discover the [illegible] exercising the want of a signature [illegible] *Poissons d'avril*

[illegible] author writes to have his book read. It is his business, or the business of his publisher, to bring it at once, by its price, within reach of the largest possible number of persons. When literature was a mere luxury, handed round only in gold clasped folios, or hot pressed wire-woven gilt-edged quarto, and the multitude were learning to have a relish for the delicious food; while there was a strong temptation from a large profit, to bring the contents of these luxuries to the poor thousands of the common people, there was a pretext at least for copyright But now, when literature has become a necessity—when the demand for it is almost coextensive with the demand for wheaten bread when the extent of the market for a book may be calculated with as much precision as the extent of the market for a cargo of tea and sugar, even the pretext for copyright no longer exists The publisher that adapts his wares to the market and sells them at as low a price as they can be produced for, and in that form which is agreeable to his customers, need fear no rival and no pirates; nor need he fear buying the author's edition at a reason able price. We have good authority for saying that copyright does not induce publishers to give a greater price to authors for their works than they otherwise would, and only in very rare cases does copyright confer any pecuniary advantage on an author or on his family It is altogether a delusion to suppose that the law attains the promised object and secures in any degree the well-being of authors or the success of literature. Since it has been in existence, no class, not even the foremost, have received the public ear with their demands and their complaints than literary men, and no class have so continually looked for eleemosynary relief. The law is expressly intended to stop all the diffusion of knowledge and literature which is apprehended from piracy. We may believe that it is to some extent operative in this direction, and so far as it operates it lessens the number of readers, and lessens, on the whole, the sale of books, and lessens the profit of authors and publishers It lessens the fame, too, of an author. It lessens the love, the influence and dignity of literature, and is injurious to authors and publishers as the Corn-law was to farmers, landlords, and to society. We would have authors and publishers, instead of relying on the restriction, take care of themselves. Only they can do this; the law cannot. Publishers are merchants or manufacturers, who ought especially to study and know the taste and the wants of the public, and the extent of the market for every species of literary production. At present, supposing themselves pretty certain, whatever form they may publish a book in, by other men not being allowed to use its contents for a certain period, of forcing a sale by dint of advertising and puffing, sufficient to remunerate them, they are careless and ignorant. They do not, or at least till very lately they did not, study the wants of the multitude; they thought only of a few, and endeavoured to make the public take what they chose to publish Under the law, and their mode of working it, literature has not flourished; writers of books have not generally flourished; but the class of publications has flourished amazingly, to which hitherto it has been found impossible to extend the principle of copyright The book trade is not, and for a long time has not been, on a good footing; and most of the literary talent of the country is directed to periodical writing. The restriction on copyright has a great deal to do with this It makes publishers negligent, and makes them ignorant of the public wants, which they by their trade are bound to study. Some periodical writing has become popular, and since publishers have in consequence been forced to attend more to the public wants, since the book trade has been thrown more open than formerly, literature has flourished more than ever, and authors—particularly the authors of periodical literature have—been better than ever rewarded.

New-paper copyright, which it is now proposed to try and establish, will be hereafter considered.

"OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT'S" LECTURE.

Mr Joseph Crowe, whose correspondence from the seat of war is so well known to the readers of the Illustrated London News, delivered a lecture, on the subject of his experiences at the Marylebone Institution, on Tuesday night Mr. Crowe has a great deal to recount Personally acquainted with Servia and the provinces—having seen Turkish life in camp and city, having seen campaigns in fighting periods and quiet ones, having had a narrow escape from death by shot on the morning of Inkerman, and death by storm during the great gale in Balaclava harbour—his personal authority on such subjects which the public have generally heard of only through print made his lecture in the highest degree interesting. His narrative is lucid, flowing, and agreeable—with that other point it which nothing but personal experience can give—and we cordially recommend our readers to take the next opportunity of hearing him on this the great subject of our time

In descending from Servia to Bulgaria you had an opportunity (said Mr. Crowe) of comparing the Bulgarian with the Servian, the rayah with the free man. The Servian's martial attitude is exchanged for Bulgarian sullenness and stupidity. Widdin is a truly Turkish city—filthy, fetid, and murky. The Turks principally live inside the fortress with the Jews, and the Bulgarians inhabit the suburbs. The Bulgarians of the towns are in bribes but cunning It is hard to say which will cheat the traveller most—Christian or Jew; and in that matter the Turk is dishonest as either of them

Mr Crowe was introduced to Ismail Pacha (now Marshal of Turkey, and Commander of the army on the Danube), and with him visited the [illegible] of Ibrahim, which he had been the first to throw up. The mention of this circumstance led him to [illegible] the sense of the Russian movements in that quarter. This again brought him to the system of military appointments in the Turkish army, many of which are infamous Stambouloots He recollected a Pacha, in one of the principal towns on the Danube who spent his evenings in firing at a Cossack on the opposite side of the river, with a gun that could by no possibility carry so far. This potentate's only claim to war command was having married one of the Sultan's wives. Another Turkish leader claimed a medal for the action of Citate on the ground that if he had been there he would have performed prodigies [illegible] These men the Turkish soldiers respected emphatically "men without hearts." By the way, the lecturer observed that it had been repeatedly proved that, properly led, the Turkish soldiers were capable of anything. He gave a capital sketch of Omer Pacha (among many other notabilities whose names now fly *per ora virûm*). He is, among other things, "a jolly man in manner," and "kindness beams in his great dark eyes."

Our Correspondent was the first to enter Bucharest after the Russians left it The reception given them by the town was pleasing and amusing. The whole population turned out strewed flowers, and hugged them The people of Bucharest were astonished when they heard we were going to invade the Crimea. They had a more lively idea of the difficulties we should meet there than we ourselves.

Mr. Crowe now came to the Crimean expedition, and his account of it was a happily-blended compound of anecdote and dissertation, by which the audience had all their previous knowledge of the subject, from documents, lighted up by the personal interest of the author's own experience. He rode on horseback 300 miles in six days, to join the expedition, when he landed at Varna he got a passage in the *Tonnerre*, commanded by the energetic Captain Ponsonby, and, arriving in the harbour of Balaclava, found a scene of novelty, liveliness, and excitement. The description of which was one of the most successful bits in the lecture.

He gave the testimony of an eye-witness to the condition of the Camp [illegible] the actual results of his experience on the bloody day of Inkerman. He stated emphatically that the accounts of the state of things during the army's days of sufferings were not exaggerations; and, by a mixture of facts, reasonings and criticisms, he gave a picture of the life there, such as was currently received with high interest by his audience.

On Thursday evening he delivered a second lecture, at the same place; and on Tuesday evening next he will deliver the third and last of the series.

A First of April Hoax.—A lady received a letter yesterday morning, alleged to be from one of the Ministerial offices, announcing the fact of her husband's being in the part of Belgium and the writer expressed himself from giving his name, owing to the peculiarity of his position. Though the communication was anonymous, yet the lady believed she recognised the handwriting of a friend who occupies a prominent position in the Government. She communicated the contents to a few of her friends, recommending discretion. In a short time, however, [illegible] having reached [illegible] day was so sure of [illegible] that she wrote in the afternoon to the friend from whom she believed the information expressing her joy, and inviting him to [illegible] friend wrote back accepting the first and most indispensable condition, the dinner, but professing his inability to undertake the other part of the letter, and hinting that his fastidious client must have been impelled by some one it was late in the evening when the affair was discovered to be a hoax; and it was only at the [illegible] month that, in fact, it was the [illegible] tricks, known as *poissons d'avril*, are practised and [illegible] not entirely a profitless [illegible] or amused it, and it is certain, that in consider, he rose in [illegible] Sundays on the Italian Boulevards was the first [illegible] was made by it. The police are trying to discover the [illegible] exercising the want of a signature [illegible] *Poissons d'avril*

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THEATRES may be comparatively empty—the souls of managers may be darkened by visions of Basinghall-street—but it does not follow that theatrical amusements are unpopular in England. If they are, how comes it that not a month in the year passes without our hearing of amateur performances, got up not only with expense, but with care and attention?—from those during the "Canterbury week" (now approaching their sixteenth repetition, and looked for annually by the squires of Kent much as the reopening of Covent garden is expected by the Opera *habitué*), or Somebody Countess of Scandso's aristocratic farces at a great house in the country—to the amateuring of the officers belonging to the gallant company-oneth, who are so constantly relieving the tedium of military discipline, and delighting the nobility and gentry of Tralee or Port Patrick with "Used Up," or "The Captain of the Watch;" and those of the "Philodramatics," or "Roscians," at the Soho Theatre. Everywhere the stage pursues you. No rank or position bars an appearance upon it, any more than in the days when Louis le Grand danced in a ballet, and *les filles de France* made up a chorus. The low comedian, who recalls John Reeve in his best days, is the secretary to a Minister; that capital light comedy actor has been a Minister himself. So when it became known that the Fielding Club—a society small in number, humble in its abode, and late in its hours, which counts among its members many of the most celebrated *littérateurs* of the day—had determined to give an amateur performance for the benefit of a popular writer whom Providence had seen fit to afflict with incapacitating sickness, no one was particularly surprised or excited. But when it transpired that the principal part of the performance was to be a pantomime, people became first incredulous, then astonished, and then they all wanted to know how to get tickets. Not one advertisement, not a poster, not a play bill was issued; and, on a moderate computation, just about ten times more admissions were wanted than the committee of management had to give away. Covent-garden night have been filled twice over, and they had to deal with the Olympic! For ten days before the night of performance they had to sneak about in courts and alleys, taking roundabout ways through unfrequented streets: St. James's-street or Piccadilly were closed to them, for there they were beset by unsatisfied applicants, crying "A ticket, or your life!" which ticket no one had to give. A private box with four seats sold for 12 guineas; and one enthusiastic party offered, unsuccessfully, £20 for two stalls. The night of performance came at last, and those most interested in the performers were not (though they knew how well the rehearsals had gone) without disquietude; while the general public rather anticipated a *fiasco*—complicated, probably, by an accident—Clown breaking his collar-bone, or Harlequin his neck. Very few really thought that amateurs could perfectly master those rough mysteries of Pantomime, the possession of which has hitherto been supposed to be confined to some dozen professionals graced by foreign sounding names. There is a popular opinion that the flesh and blood of Clowns differ from that of other men. First there was a prologue—Shakspeare and modern drama at issue, till both have to yield (for the time) to the spirit of Pantomime. Such a dress by-the-by as that spirit wore! not worth a guinea, but graceful as no theatrical wardrobe-maker could have designed it. Well, there was no hitch there—nothing amateur like (according to the general prejudice) in the way in which those smooth and brilliant lines were delivered. Then the curtain fell and rose again on the opening of the pantomime proper. Scene, the vaults under the House of Lords; present, Catesby and Guy Faux, and sundry powder-barrels, which looked as if in an earlier stage of their existence they might have been oysters; "to them," as old stage directions say, "Lord Monteagle," who tells us he was "formerly Spring Rice." A better scene than this, whether as regards the words, the acting, the singing, or the "terrific combat" (for there was a little of everything), never was put on any stage. The audience now saw that the idea of anything like toleration to the actors, on the ground of their amateurship, was absurd; so they gave it up, and only laughed and cheered the more heartily on that account. Still there were some who were nervous about the comic business. Could a real professional Harlequin jump through the accustomed window in the hatchetseller's shop without smashing his *os frontis*—could an unpractised Clown knock Pantaloon about in the usual cruel way without maiming him for life? It is not my business to give a detailed account of the performance, so I shall content myself with saying, in one summary of praise, that through the entire length of the pantomime—in which there was more fun, more dancing, more singing, more diversifications of all kinds than in a general way would make the fortune of half a dozen theatres on boxing-night—there was not a failure, not a hitch, not even a temporary slowness. I am not pantomimic mad, and I am warranted to speak the truth on such matters of all, "though they are my friends;" but I declare the amateur pantomime of last Saturday was the very best pantomime I ever saw in my life. The intimate friendship I enjoy with all the performers precludes me from speaking of them individually, with one exception—the Columbine (of course professional), Miss Rosina Wright. Such a Columbine as that was surely never seen before; to be sure, her doing the ordinary pantomimic business was something like Boslo singing in a chorus, but she had the opportunity of showing her real quality in several introduced dances. May I hope that Mr. Gye, of Covent-garden will be able to secure two or three corphées one-half as good dancers to support Cerito?

It is decision by Mr. Yardley, of the Thames Police Court, be correctly reported in the *Daily News* of Wednesday, the Sunday Tavern Act will prove a heavy blow and deep discouragement to the lovers of water souchée and whitebait. Mr. Lovegrove, of the Brunswick Tavern at Blackwall, appears to have been fined forty shillings for serving a customer at half-past four on the Fast-day. Woe to Hart and Quarterneine—desolation to the Trafalgar and the Crown and Sceptre, if this be the law! What will the House of Commons say to this reading of the statute? It annihilates one of the dearest prerogatives of its members—that of eating fish dinners on Sunday at Greenwich or Blackwall.

Two or three attacks have lately been made upon the Board of Ordnance with regard to their preparations for the Camp at Aldershott. It seems to be admitted that the situation, comprising 3000 acres of open common, at an easy distance from two railways and a canal, was well chosen; but the arrangements for lodging the troops—if the account given by persons little likely to be misled are correct—seems to have been hitherto distinguished by all the *improvvisjanze* and want of system which have made bywords of the Commissariat at Balaclava and the Hospitals at Scutari. It is proposed to construct upon this heath huts for 20,000 militia, and permanent barracks for 10,000 regular troops. The latter are but just commenced, and it is therefore too early to pass judgment on them; but, of the former, 400, out of 1260 are completed. Sir Joseph Paxton and other good judges tell us that scarcely any possible fault in their construction has been avoided. They were built without any foundation the windows are so placed as to give the minimum of air and light—the ventilators are faulty—the planking of the roof is so arranged that the thinnest portions of the wood are those which have to bear the most strain and exposure—&c. &c., *valent quantum*. But, without pronouncing on the justice of these accusations, there are some palpable absurdities in the different contracts. For instance, the timber to be used in the construction of the huts was described in the specification as follows:—"The fir timber to be from Memel, *Riga*, or Dantzic, and the deals to be the best yellow Christiania." Here the blundering of the Board of Ordnance is curiously exemplified in their forgetting that we happen to be at war with the country to which Riga belongs; and their ignorance by their requiring a supply of Christiania deals about ten times larger than could have been got from all the timber yards in the country. Further, we are told that the employment of only one kind of brick, that called greystock, a quality hardly known out of London, is insisted upon. The cost of the huts will certainly not be less than £150,000. Now, every country gentleman, who either knows his own business, or has a steward to whom he can trust, is well aware that a cow will cost a brick-built farm-yard and outhouses only not to cost more than £800 to £850; it would seem, therefore, unreasonable that the 1260 wooden huts intended for our 20,000 militia men should cost within a trifle of £120 each. If, however, the *Times* is correct in asserting that, "instead of giving the work out to be done in the usual manner, the Board retained it in their own hands, collecting all the broken-down labourers and half-grown boys in the country, and paying them, not by piece-work, but by the old-fashioned system of day's wages, without any adequate supervision over them," then it is not difficult to understand how a wooden hut can be made to cost nearly twice as much as a brick cottage.

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE ORIGIN OF CHESS.

BY DR. DUNCAN FORBES.

CHAPTER X.—THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MEDIÆVAL CHESS.

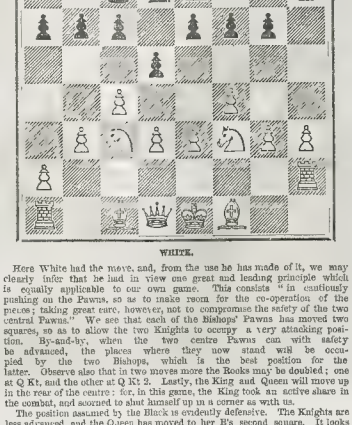
(*Continued from page 298.*)

SECTION 18TH.—ON THE OPENING.

IN order fully to appreciate the system of tactics adopted in opening the game of Shatranj, the reader must bear in mind, once more, that the Pawns could move only one step at the first move. From this restriction on the part of the Pawns, together with the very limited range of the Queen and Bishops, it will be easily perceived that no combination of the forces could have taken place till at least from ten to twenty moves had been made on either side. Hence, in order to save time, and to prevent useless exchanges, it was agreed that the first player should make his (let us say) fifteen moves all at once, without, however, crossing the middle line of the board; after which the adversary was entitled to play up, at once, an equal number of counter-moves, such as he might deem most conducive to success, being also restricted to his own half of the board. These preliminary manœuvres the Arabs called "Tarbiyat," which signifies "the drawing up of troops in battle array." This term corresponds in some degree with our word "opening," with this serious difference, that in the "tarbiyat" all the pieces and Pawns remain on the board, each on their own side, up to the fifteenth move, more or less, which, I believe, rarely happens in our game, except in the cautious openings of 1. P to K 3rd.

In the old Arabic MS. in the British Museum, we find no fewer than eleven diagrams of "battle array" mostly named after the old masters who established them. There is nothing said about the order in which the moves had been played up. Nor is this of any consequence; all we have to consider is the strategic position taken up by the first player—that of the opponent being supposed to exhibit the very best defensive position. It would be quite out of place here to give diagrams of all the Tarbiyats; nor would a mere dry rehearsal of their names prove of any interest to the generality of readers. I shall, therefore, confine myself to an examination of one very neat opening from the Asiatic Society's MS., folio 2 (a), which will amply suffice to explain this part of our subject. The following diagram shows the position of the respective armies after twelve moves have been played up on either side:

BLACK.



WHITE.

Here White had the move, and, from the use he has made of it, we may clearly infer that he had in view one great and leading principle which is equally applicable to our own game. This consists "in cautiously pushing on the Pawns, so as to make room for the co-operation of the pieces; taking great care, however, not to compromise the safety of the two central Pawns." We see that each of the Bishops' Pawns has moved before squares, so as to allow the two Knights to occupy a very attacking position. By-and-by, when the two centre Pawns can with safety be advanced, the places where they now stand will be occupied by the two Bishops, which is the best position for the latter. Observe also that in two moves more the Rooks may be doubled; one at Q Kt, and the other at Q Kt 2. Lastly, the King and Queen will move up in the rear of the centre; for, in this game, the King took an active share in the combat, and sought to shut himself up in a corner as with us.

The position assumed by the Black is evidently defensive. The Knights are less advanced, and the Queen has moved to her B's second square. It looks as if Black expected an attack on the Queen's side, which the menacing situation of the White Rooks seems to warrant. Still, from the peculiar nature of the openings in the Shatranj, it is evident that no rapid or brilliant attack could possibly take place as in our gambits. In the Oriental game the armies were drawn out into close quarters before the engagement commenced; and, thenceforth, the final victory really depended upon a series of skilful manœuvres, such as might tend to lead the enemy into an unfavourable position. In fact, the Oriental game, though less brilliant than ours, appears to me to have been calculated to form better players in the true sense of the term, that is, players who excelled in carrying the contest through the middle stage of the game a rare secret, which neither books nor preceptors can teach. Finally, the difficulty of giving the odds of the Rook, in the Shatranj, to which I alluded in our last chapter, will be abundantly obvious, when we take into account both the superior value of the Rook and the mode in which the game was opened. I think it is not too much to say that the odds of the Rook, in the Oriental game, was equivalent to the Rook and Knight, if not to the Queen, in our modern game.

SECTION 2ND.—OF END-GAMES, AND POSITIONS WON BY FORCE.

In the Shatranj the game was won in two different ways. First, by a *checkmate*, as with us; and, secondly, when one player had succeeded in capturing all his opponent's forces—provided he had any of his own forces remaining, however small. It will not be difficult to assign good reasons why the winner should have been allowed to conclude in the Oriental game. With us, for example, the circumstance of a King and Pawn against a King, is, under certain conditions, a sure victory; but not so in the Shatranj (that is if victory depended on a checkmate), for suppose the Pawn had become a Queen, the latter possessed not the mating power. Also, with us, a Knight and Bishop, or two Bishops, against a King, can mate; but not so in the Oriental game, where, as we have shown, the Bishops were of very little value. From these considerations, and many more that might have been alleged, it is evident, that in the Shatranj if the victory depended solely on check-mate, a won game among good players would have been a rarity; and it could have occurred chiefly between a first-rate player and one decidedly his inferior.

The Arabs, and after them the Persians, call the End-game "manasûba," which corresponds exactly with our words "position" and "situation," being a "determinate" Chess problem, the solution of which is reduced to a certainty. It would appear that their best players prided themselves on their readiness of seizing on such positions and led to victory in a certain number of moves. Hence the epithet "manasûba-dân," a man cunning in positions," became figuratively to signify "a prudent," or "far-sighted" man. So the term "manasûba-bâz," literally, "a position player," denoted "a first-rate Close-player." Such appears to have been Ali Shatranji, of whom it was said that no mortal could either divine his coming move, or perceive its purport when made.

We have already shown several specimens of Oriental positions won by checkmate, we shall now conclude this section with a position won by a superiority of force. It is from the Museum MS., No. 16,856, fol. 41 A, where White plays first and wins in four or five moves.

White: K at his Kt 5th, Q at K Kt 4th, R at Q R 5th, Ps at K B 7th and K Kt 6th.

Black: K at his Kt 2nd, K B at his own sq, R at K R 5th.

SOLUTION.—White R takes B; and, as his best move, Black K takes R. 2. White K to his B 6th; and Black R checks. 3. White Q interposes at K B 5th; and, as his best, Black R moves to his Kt 6th. 4. White P checks; and Black K takes P. 5 Q to her K Kt 6th, shutting up Black R. If R takes Q, K retakes, and the game is won by a majority of force. If R moves to R 2nd, Q takes R, and wins by stalemate. If R to Kt sq, P takes R, and the game is won by a majority of force. Lastly, if R moves to R 3rd, Q takes R, and wins by stalemate. It will be seen here, then, that with the Orientals *he who gave stalemate won the game*—at least, when the stalemated King had no other piece or Pawn left on the board. If, however, the Black King had any piece or Pawn blocked up anywhere on the board, he was allowed (in case of a stale) to change places with any such piece or Pawn at his own option, provided always he did not go into [illegible]

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Orders have been forwarded by the Minister of Marine to the Maritime Prefects at Brest and Cherbourg to fit out several steamers of the Imperial Navy, which are to accompany the Emperor and Empress on their visit to England.

The Prince and Princess of Saxe-Coburg and suite arrived at the Waterloo station of the South-Western [illegible] half-past twelve o'clock on Saturday, and at [illegible] were in waiting to Buckingham Palace, on a visit to [illegible].

In Court circles at Vienna a [illegible] prevails that a Prince of the Imperial Austrian family is shortly to [illegible] a visit to Paris on a special mission. It is said that a brother of the Emperor [illegible] will be changed to make this visit, and that it will take place before the opening [illegible] Exhibition.

The rumour runs in Constantinople that the Sultan intends to accompany the Emperor of the French to the Crimea, should the visit of the latter take place.

The following entry appeared in one of the recent returns made by the Vienna police agents to their superiors:—"Lord John Russell has walked arm-in-arm on the glacis with Prince Gortschakoff."

The King of Hanover has conferred the Grand Cross of the Royal Order of the Guelphs upon General de Budberg, Adjutant-General of the Emperor of Russia.

It is the alphabet which fixes the order in which the Plenipotentiaries are to vote, and sign the minutes—viz., Austria, France, Great Britain, Russia, and Turkey. The Congress holds only three sittings a week.

The Hereditary Princess of Saxe Meiningen, daughter of Prince Albert of Prussia, and niece of the King, died on the 30th ult., in a very sudden and unexpected manner. The King was very much attached to her, and her death has produced great affliction at the Court.

The Earl of Aberdeen has received more favourable accounts of the health of Lord Hardinge. His Lordship himself made a short trip in the climate of Upper Egypt, where he intends to remain until the middle of June.

The Grand Dukes Michael and Nicholas are making preparations to return to the Crimea.

The Duchess Regent of Parma gave a private audience on the 25th ult. to the Marquis of Normanby, who presented his credentials as Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Parma, as well as to the Grand Ducal Court of Tuscany.

The King of Holland arrived at Amsterdam on the 30th ult. A vast crowd awaited his Majesty's arrival, and saluted him with loud acclamations. The whole city was ornamented with the national colours and the arms of the House of Orange.

Captain Broch, deputed by the British Government to concert the necessary arrangements for embarking the Piedmontese contingent, arrived at Turin on the 26th ult.

M. de Kisseleff has continued his journey to St. Petersburg, where it is said he will occupy a post at the Foreign-office.

The Grand Duchess Regent of Parma, in order to give encouragement to agricultural pursuits, has ordered that cattle shows shall be regularly held in her States.

The King of Prussia has decreed that the Sixteenth Cuirassiers shall bear for ever the name of the Emperor Nicholas, and that the Third Regiment of Hulans shall take the name of the present Emperor of Russia.

Captain Douglas, who took out the General Screw Company's steamer *Bogheen* to Australia, has been appointed Harbour-master at Port Phillip, with a salary of £2000 a year and residence.

Death has been busy among the notables of Greece. General Tzavellas, the hero of Missolunghi; Gardikiotis Grivas, formerly Palace-Marshal; and Deliany, formerly President of the Senate, have died within the space of ten days.

Among the passengers who arrived at Marseilles last week from Malta is the Governor-General of Australia, Sir Charles Fitzroy.

The Archduchess Mary Dorothy, widow of the Prince Palatine Joseph, and mother of [illegible], died last week at Baden in Hungary, aged fifty-eight.

The *Indépendance* of Brussels states that M. d'Usedom, finding himself in a false position at London, demanded his recal, and has received a letter from the King of Prussia, requesting him to remain provisionally at his post.

Baron Prevost, formerly private Secretary to Kings Louis XVIII and Charles X., died a few days ago, at the château of Vosenon, aged seventy-three.

The late Right Hon. James Grattan has bequeathed the sum of £3300 to some of the most deserving medical charities in Ireland.

The Vladika of Montenegro has ordered a ten days' mourning, of the deepest kind, for the late Czar. Hopes are entertained that Alexander II will appreciate this manifestation, and restore the pension of 8000 zechins per annum, which Nicholas cut off in 1842.

Louis, ex-King of Bavaria, visited Munich on the 25th ult. The streets were crowded with people, anxious to welcome him.

Victor Hugo and his sons are engaged in writing a work descriptive of the history, customs, and scenery of Jersey.

Jenny Lind has left Holland for Dresden; but has promised to return and resume her professional avocations after Easter.

Judge Halliburton, author of "Sam Slick," &c., is at present on a visit to his son-in-law, the Rev. J. Bulbridge Smith, at Batby, near Wragby, Lincolnshire.

The editor of the *New York Herald* announces his intention to commence civil actions against the proprietors of the *Tribune*, for libels lately published in that paper. He demands at least 50,000 dollars damages.

Madame Bishop and M. Bochsa, who have been very successful in South America and in California, are going to make the tour of Australia.

As soon as the Paris Exhibition opens, a daily steam-packet communication will be established between Southampton and Havre.

Church-going has become a very expensive matter in San Francisco. At a recent sale of pews, several sold as high as 1200 dollars, equivalent to about 250 dollars per Sunday.

Several of the English missionaries lately expelled from Poland for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures have arrived at Hamburg on their way home.

The Government has decided to send no more malt liquor to the Black Sea. The East India Company are sending out 90,000 barrels for the use of the troops in India—all of this year's brewing.

The First Chamber of Prussia has adopted a motion inviting the Government to shorten the annual Parliamentary session!

The total cost of the contributions sent to the Paris Exhibition from the New South Wales is £10,000, £4000 of which was spent in purchasing gold specimens.

The convention between the Governments of France and Holland for the reciprocal protection of literary property was signed at the Hague on the 29th ult.

A native of the parish of Lairg, Sutherlandshire, who emigrated a considerable number of years ago, has returned to this country, after realising, it is said, a fortune of £200,000.

There are to be two days in each week set apart for free admission to the Paris Exhibition, that "the people" may have the full benefit of the event.

For the year ending September 1st, 1854, the advertising and printing for the Corporation of New York cost the city 73,231 dollars.

Amongst the Sydney contributions to the Paris Exhibition are a statuette in gold of a gold-digger with all his implements, and a statuette in silver of an Australian native.

The Bank of Rome is in so precarious a condition that it is preparing to wind up its affairs. It is to be succeeded by another bank, to be established by Prince Torlonia and Messrs. de Rothschild.

A new treaty has been signed between Sardinia and England, guaranteeing the right of coasting trade to the subjects of each country, on terms of equality.

The French Mint is now engaged in striking gold pieces of 100f., which will be soon put into circulation. These coins, which are rather smaller than a five-franc piece, have on the reverse the Imperial arms.

The estimated value [illegible] aggregate imports into the United Kingdom from Archangel [illegible] 1,658,198.

The sittings of the [illegible] Legislative Corps will be prolonged to the 11th of April.

The monster We[illegible] steamer *Pavana* has been taken up by the French Government.

An excellent company of dramatic artists will visit Paris during the period of the Exposition, and play the most esteemed and classical dramas of the Italian stage.

Last year the revenue derived from newspaper stamps, at one penny duty, was £464,000 [illegible] number issued was 111,362,170

EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

Our Illustrations for this week are excellent representations of the strength of the Exhibition in the [illegible] ment of female beauty, and the [illegible] ful rendering of the English landscape.

We are indebted to Mr. C. Baxter, now an established favourite in Suffolk-street, for a picture which he calls, somewhat obscurely, "Sunshine." We will not, however, quarrel with a graceful artist, for an unmeaning title, but are perfectly content to accept his picture for what it is worth, and even without a name. "Sunshine" brings before us what Dryden is said to have seen in the studio of Sir Godfrey Kneller.—

Once I beheld the fairest of her kind,
And still the sweet idea charms my mind
True, she was dumb: for Nature gazed so long,
Pleased with her work, that she forgot her tongue.
But, smil[illegible] said, she [illegible]
[illegible] pl[illegible]
I only ha[illegible] her [illegible]

Mr. Baxter's "Sunshine" does all but speak; those eyes of "dewy light" are worthy of Burns or Moore, of Lely or Lawrence

Mr. Gosling has given us (No 567) a delicious landscape, called "Church Pool, Wargrave." This is a sylvan scene close to the Thames in its mid way between Cirencester and London. Very full, indeed, of what is beautiful in nature and skilful in art is this picture. The atmosphere is pure and healthy, the trees delicately manipulated, and the whole effect irresistibly pleasing We have not seen Church Pool for many years, but Mr. Gosling has induced us to renew our acquaintance with a favourite spot. We shall see it once more, and thank Mr. Gosling for sending us there

PATRIOTIC FUND EXHIBITION.

When some future Horace Walpole shall compile a Catalogue of Royal and Noble Artists, he will have to include her Majesty, her illustrious Consort, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, the Princess Alice, and the Princess Helena; and, while describing their works, will doubtless find occasion to lament that the taste and skill in Art exhibited by her Majesty and her children had not been evinced by her Majesty's predecessors on the throne. Had King George the Second and Queen Caroline cultivated the Fine Arts, art in England had stood higher in Continental estimation than it does at present. The love for art and the skill displayed in it by the present reigning family, will materially assist in bringing our school of painting to a nearer level with the great Continental schools. If her Majesty would woo the Muse (Queen Elizabeth wrote English verses), drooping Poetry might once more revive among us.

We alluded last week to the contributions made by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and his brothers and sisters, to the Patriotic Fund Exhibition of Works of Amateur Artists, and we are this week enabled to Engrave two characteristic examples from the series—one by the Prince of Wales, "The Knight;" the other by Prince Alfred, "The Prince of Wales, afterwards Henry V." Critics as well as courtiers see proofs of merit in these drawings that evince a taste for art deserving cultivation. We see this, and more. We see a chivalric feeling in them, which would have warmed the blood of Sir Philip Sidney or Lord Herbert of Cherbury.

FINE ARTS.

Van Lerius's picture of "Adam and Eve."

M. Van Lerius's large picture of "Adam and Eve," of which there has been much talk lately in Art circles, is now on view at 57, Pall-mall. It is of large dimensions, very original in the idea and construction, executed with immense painstaking and [illegible] skill, and, be[illegible] striking from the [illegible] of the materials introduced. It is an important contribution, therefore, to the credit of the Belgian School of Art, of which the painter is a distinguished ornament: and will, for a season, command the attention, and perhaps divide the opinions, of the critical public. In this work the First Parents are represented before the Fall. They are both asleep—Adam in a half sitting, half reclining posture across the picture; whilst Eve reposes in his bosom, her limbs being carelessly gathered up, and her head thrown back whilst her magnificent golden tresses fall in rich masses over her arms and the upper part of the figure. The eyes and the mouth are slightly open; the latter affording the faintest indication of a pearly set of teeth. The face is altogether a very beautiful study The profile face of Adam is less striking, and as some would declare somewhat commonplace. The figures—seen of course in the nude—are treated in such a manner as to avoid all danger of offence. They are not after the classic ideal model, but obviously from Flemish originals: the female rather above than under the middle size, with long, well rounded limbs, and flesh fair and pulpy; the man long-limbed, and with fully sufficient muscular development for Adam in the days anterior to the imposition of the penalty of labour. The texture throughout, seen under the dubious gaslight in which the picture is exhibited, appears to have been most carefully and successfully finished.

We have now to mention a third figure, which completes the group—

"SUNSHINE."—PAINTED BY C. BAXTER.—EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

CHURCH POOL, WARGRAVE.—PAINTED BY W. W. GOSLING.—EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

"THE KNIGHT," DRAWN BY HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, PRESENTED TO THE PATRIOTIC FUND EXHIBITION.

"THE PRINCE OF WALES, APPREHARDS HENRY VI"—DRAWN BY HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALFRED, PRESENTED TO THE PATRIOTIC FUND EXHIBITION.

namely, that of the "Evil One," a dark-skinned personage, who stands in an attitude of vindictive triumph over his intended victims. In the left hand he grasps a coiled serpent of green colour, whilst his right is stretched out meaningly over the sleeping mortals: and his eyes, which give in a setting of lurid red, are cast towards heaven, with an expression of impious defiance. We have more doubt about the judgment shown in the introduction and treatment of this figure than of the other two. It certainly destroys the harmony; and the figure itself is but a transfer from the conventional stage demon, of which little Wieland used to give us so many samples at the Adelphi. In the landscape a similar contrast is introduced as that shown between the figures. In the foreground, where Adam and Eve repose, is the most delicious herbage, enriched with flowers and fruits; in the background, the sky is obscured and lowering, streaked with the fiery warnings of an approaching storm.

Art-Union Publications.

The publications of the London Art-Union for the present year are of a peculiarly attractive character, and will be sure to engage the sympathies and the applause of the numerous subscribers. The subjects selected for the large Presentation Print is the "Water Party," by J. J. Chalon, R.A.—a gay and brilliant scene, full of incident and material. Two state barges proudly float upon the water in front of a palatial building, down the steps of which a group of high dames and cavaliers are descending, as setting out upon the promised festive excursion. The engraving has been executed in a very superior manner by J. T. Wilmore, A.R.A.

The "Thirty Illustrations of Childe Harold," from original drawings by Cope, R.A., Faed, Goodall, A.R.A., J. Gilbert, Tenniel, Selous, Webnert, E. Duncan, &c.—engraved by J. L. Williams, J. Thompson, Dalziel, Smyth, Measom, the Lintons, &c.—are most charming productions, and afford gratifying proof of the wonderful strides which have been made within our time, in the art of wood-engraving. Landscapes and figure subjects of every clime and age are judiciously interspersed throughout the volume, which will form a most acceptable and graceful addition to the drawing-room table.

"Honour thy Father and thy Mother." Painted by H. Barraud, Engraved by W. T. Davy. T. Boys

This is a companion to several works of a similar kind, illustrative of Scripture subjects, which have become so popular of late years. It represents a mother inculcating the well-known commandment to her son, an intelligent and ingenuous-looking lad. Engraved in mezzotint, oval form.

St John and the Lamb. Painted by Murillo, Engraved by Frederick Bacon. T. Boys.

We are glad to see that the works of the real masters of art are still considered eligible subjects for investment by our publishers. Murillo's "St. John and the Lamb" is one of his most effective and popular works in the National Gallery, and never fails to please by its natural treatment and its suggestive poetry. The engraving, in line, by F. Bacon, has been executed in the first style of art; nothing can be finer in their way than the flesh surface and the soft woolly coating of the lamb.

Nicholas I., late Emperor of All the Russias. By Sir Edwin Landseer, R.A. Vincent Brooke, Lith. J. Hogarth

This little outline Sketch, taken from life, represents the late Czar—the terror and scourge of Europe—in rather a different aspect from that of some of the larger and more finished portraits; still, we cannot doubt the general verisimilitude—especially the life and truth which speak in that close knitted brow, and earnest downcast eye. Published subsequently to the death of the original, this may be looked upon as the shadow of a mysterious apparition, and is worthy of preservation as an historical curiosity.

PRESENTATION OF A WAR TROPHY TO STAFFORD.

A very interesting event was commemorated on Tuesday (last week) at Stafford, when a trophy of the Burmese War was presented to the county by Colonel Hutchinson and the officers of the 80th Regiment. The trophy was captured at the taking of Rangoon. It is a finely cast Bell, composed, we believe, principally of silver; it is eighteen inches in diameter, and proportionately high, and weighs about 200 lbs. An inscription, in Oriental characters, runs round the bell, in lines; so far as the inscription has been translated, it would seem to be dedicated to Gaudama—a deity of the Burmans.

BURMESE BELL, PRESENTED TO THE COUNTY OF STAFFORD.

The 80th Regiment, by whose officers the Bell was presented, was originally raised by the celebrated Marquis of Anglesey, who was a Captain in the Staffordshire Militia. About five hundred of the Militia volunteered to enter the line, under the command of their Captain: hence the title of the regiment—"The Staffordshire Volunteers:" the remainder being recruited from the county at large. Soon after their formation (in 1793), the regiment entered upon active warfare; and from that time down to the middle of the present century, they have contributed in an eminent degree to the renown of the British arms. During the long period of sixty years, few British regiments have been oftener engaged with the enemy, and none with greater distinction. Among the older victories achieved, with the assistance of the 30th, was the capture of Rangoon on the 14th April, 1852, and where they secured, among other trophies of the war, a bell, which, with others, was hung at the base of the Dagon Pagoda. The pagoda was hung round with bells of different sizes, varying from eight feet in diameter to eighteen inches. In consequence of the want of proper machinery to remove the larger bells, which were of immense weight, the regiment were compelled to content themselves with securing some of the smaller ones, including the trophy which has now been presented to Stafford

The presentation took place on the evening of Tuesday week, when a large party of gentlemen assembled at dinner at the Swan Hotel. The officers of the 80th were efficiently represented on the occasion, by Major Ormsby. Most of the officers of the 2nd Regiment of Staffordshire Militia, now quartered in the town, were present

The dinner was served in the handsome new assembly-room of the Hotel. The Bell was placed on a table at the end of the room, behind the Chairman, and attracted considerable attention

The Mayor of Stafford, J. H. Webb, Esq., presided, and Captain Hargreaves occupied the vice-chair. Major Ormsby, of the 80th Regiment, sat on the right of the Mayor; and Major Dyett, of the 2nd Regiment of Staffordshire Militia, on his left. The company numbered about fifty

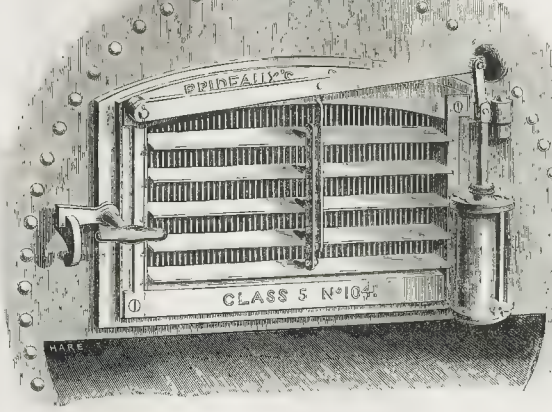
A variety of toasts were drunk; and Major Ormsby, in responding to his health, said "the Officers of the 80th Regiment," said, he would avail himself of that opportunity of presenting to the Mayor and Corporation and the inhabitants of Stafford a Bell which was captured by the 80th Regiment at Rangoon, on the 14th April, 1852 (Cheers); and he had no doubt that the Corporation of Stafford would cause the Bell to be placed in the County-hall, where the inhabitants of the county at large, as well as those of the town of Stafford, would equally have access to it (Hear and cheers). It might not be uninteresting to them to mention that on the occasion of casting a bell, such as that which he had been deputed to present to the town, the inhabitants of the place, as well as of the suburban villages, and indeed of the entire country for miles around, would attend; and while the metal was in a state of fusion the Burmese women of all ranks, walking round it in procession, would throw into it the ornaments which they had worn, consisting of gold, silver, and brass, according to their station in life: and the whole being fused together, were offered in the shape of a bell to the deity Gaudama, whose votaries they were

A recruiting party of the 80th Regiment, including a sergeant who was present at the capture of Rangoon, being in the town, the Mayor liberally ordered that a dinner should be provided for them at the Royal Oak, in order that they might also be partakers in the festivities of the day. The other recruiting parties in the town were also invited; and about thirty sat down to dinner.

PRIDEAUX'S SELF-CLOSING FURNACE-VALVE, FOR PREVENTING SMOKE

In the month of May last, in the anticipation of the speedy coming into operation of the Smoke Act, we thought it time to direct our attention to the subject of its prevention in our own establishment. So little favourable was our own experience and the reports that reached us of the operation of the various inventions before the public for obviating the nuisance, that we determined to have recourse to the use of smokeless coal. We here, however, encountered the difficulty of not being able to obtain a sufficiency of steam to drive our machinery, although the firing was pushed to such an extent as partially to melt the fire-bars. In this dilemma, our attention was directed to a new invention for preventing smoke, recently brought before the public by Mr. Prideaux, author of the "Treatise on Economy of Fuel," in Weale's Series. Although, upon examination, this invention appeared to us to be sound in principle, and carried into effect with great mechanical simplicity, yet, knowing the vast difference between theory and practice, and being influenced by the uniform failures of other inventions for the same object, in which our previous experience consisted, we must confess to having felt very considerable distrust as to any decided success being achieved; and we only consented to its being tried in our establishment upon condition that the apparatus should be fixed, and, if not approved of, removed entirely at the expense of the inventor; and also that the regular daily working of the machinery should not be interfered with

These terms having been readily acceded to, one day, *when we were in full work*, Mr. Prideaux's engineer made his appearance and measured the doorway of our furnace. At the expiration of a week he again presented himself (we being in full work), opened the furnace-door, and a piece of plank being



FRONT VIEW OF VALVE AS FIXED IN FURNACE DOOR.

held against the mouth of the furnace, so as effectually to close it, and prevent its action being in any way affected, he unhung our old door and hung in its place a new door frame, with the self-closing valve attached. The plank was removed, the door closed, and the affair was perfect. The rapidity and completeness with which the opening of the valve dissipated the smoke exceeded our most sanguine expectations; and from that time to the present a period of more than ten months—its performance has never varied, but continued all that we could desire

It is comparatively easy to get rid of smoke, if the consumption of fuel and production of steam be disregarded. A few perforations in the door or bridge will attain the object; but the effect of this continuous admission of air above the fuel will be to diminish the supply of steam from twenty-five to thirty per cent, as many can testify to their cost.

The superiority of Mr. Prideaux's invention consists in this—that it only admits a full supply of air immediately after coaling; lessens the supply as less becomes required from the fuel becoming coked, and, finally, shuts it off altogether, when, from this operation being complete, no more is desirable, burning in fact all the smoke by the admission on the average of only one-fifth part the quantity of air above the fuel which would enter on the principle of continuous supply.

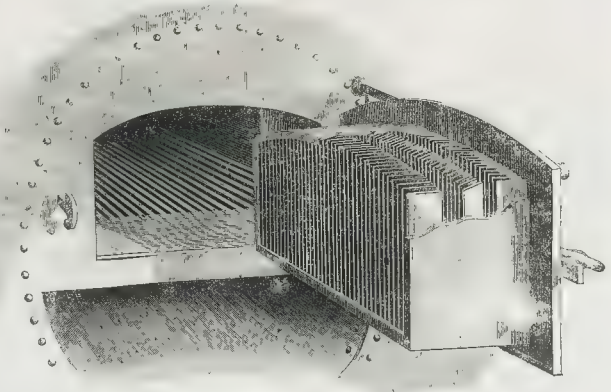
Another feature of this invention worthy of notice is the coolness (we may say, without exaggeration, coldness) of the furnace-door During the time of the action of the valve, the face of the door is reduced to the temperature of the entering stream of air; and it rarely rises above this in the intervals when it is closed, so extraordinary is the effect of the peculiar arrangement of plates in the interior (presenting a surface of 8000 square inches) in arresting the passage of heat

A large body of evidence leads to the conclusion that the saving is never less than 10 per cent in Cornish boilers, and 15 per cent in brick furnaces; on which supposition it is clear that, irrespective of the question of smoke, the adoption of the invention becomes a matter of economy.

In no case, however, does the introduction of this invention offer such great advantages as in that of steam-vessels, from the confined character of the stoke-hole. This forcibly suggested itself to our mind the first time we placed our hand on our fire-door after the application of the valve; and we are glad to see our own impressions on this point confirmed by the high authority of Mr Fairbairn, who, at a recent meeting of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, after remarking "that it would, doubtless, be an advantageous addition to any boiler, however well constructed for burning the smoke, by making the process more complete and certain in its effects," proceeded to observe, "that the apparatus appeared particularly applicable to marine boilers, where the heat of the stoke-hole was ordinarily very objectionable, and interfered seriously with the duties of the men: and he was surprised it had not been taken up by the marine authorities on that account, as well as for effecting the consumption of smoke. Those valves that he had seen at work certainly kept quite cool and in very complete order, and had not been injured at all by the heat."

We learn from Mr. Prideaux that the invention is already introduced on the Tyne, the Clyde, and the Mersey; and will be in the Danish navy in the course of this summer. In short, the invention of Mr. Prideaux bids fair to become as uniform an appendage to the furnace as the generator is to the steam-engine

Should any of our readers desire to become further acquainted with the Smoke question, we recommend them to read "A Lecture on the Prevention of Smoke, delivered before the United Service Institution, by Mr. Prideaux," and published by Weale, at 6d., as containing the clearest and most concise exposition of the subject we have seen



BACK VIEW OF VALVE, WITH A PORTION OF THE CASE REMOVED, TO SHOW THE ARRANGEMENT OF PLATES IN THE INTERIOR.

The Leviathan Ship.—Most persons have doubtless heard of the immense iron ship now building by Messrs. Scott Russell and Co., but few can form a true conception of her size from mere figures. She will be, when completed, 679 feet long, 83 feet wide, and 58 deep Now these are, as nearly as possible, the dimensions of the garden in the centre of Bryanstone-square, which is about 660 feet long and 85 feet wide; and the height of the houses in the square about the same as the depth of the ship, 58 feet. Thus, a person walking round the square may form some idea of the colossal size of this immense structure

Lodge of Antiquity.—On Thursday week, the 29th March, the foundation-stone of the Junior United Service Club, Regent-street, was laid by the Right Hon. the Earl of Orkney, with the ancient mall belonging to this lodge, which was used at the laying of the foundation-stone of St. Paul's, by King Charles II. This is the first time the lodge has ever lent the mall for other than masonic business; and upon this occasion it was entrusted to the care of Br Thiselton, the secretary of the boys' school, to whom it was returned by his Lordship the instant the ceremony was completed.—*Masonic Mirror.*

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The Committee feel it a duty to themselves, and to the Christian public to state that, encouraged by the liberality of the friends of the soldier, they have considerably extended the line of their operations; and that the Scripture Readers (several of which have been recently printed, and widely circulated), which they are constantly receiving from their agents, is a proof that the Lord has blessed and prospered the work, and thus crowning their unofficial and arduous labours with a large measure of success. Hence they are encouraged to continue their work, and to look for a fresh appeal to the continued sympathies, fervent prayers, and renewed liberality of their supporters in this cause.
For the spiritual and eternal benefit of the brave and beloved defenders (under the humble dependence on the Divine blessing) there are now actively employed under the auspices of this Society, twenty-six Scripture Readers. And the Committee would earnestly solicit the hope that this number may yet further be augmented if this appeal is liberally responded to, and that the supply is far from being at all adequate with the wide, and yet widening field of labour which is presenting itself on every side
The following are the several departments of labour occupied in this Christian enterprise. One agent is actively and usefully employed in visiting the barracks in London, Westminster, and the surrounding military depôts. One is engaged amongst the militia in London and its vicinity, who will also visit the wives and families of the soldiers. It is also the intention of the Committee, as promptly as possible, to station agents for the employment of a Scripture Reader at Aldershott, during the great encampment, which is likely for some time to be located there. There are also one agent in Kent, one in Dorsetshire occupied amongst the militia, one in the West of England, one in Yorkshire, one missionary to the Russian prisoners in Plymouth and elsewhere, one in Scotland, and one in Ireland
On foreign service, there are eight at Constantinople and Scutari. Two of these are clergymen of the Church of England, one of whom chiefly directs his attention to the spiritual instruction of the Protestants in the French army. One is at Balaclava. And the Committee have just received a letter stating that they have also just appointed a Scripture Reader to labour amongst the thousands of military at Malta, under the auspices of the Rev. W. Hare the garrison chaplain.
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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

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LETTERS ON THE WAR AND THE EASTERN QUESTION.—(No. III.)

(From our Special Correspondent.)

VIENNA, April 7, 1855.

FOR the last week the Conferences have been at a stand-still. The redoubtable Third Point—the only one of the four which offered any difficulties for diplomacy to unravel—was no sooner approached than the Ambassadors, ordinary and extraordinary, found themselves at a loss how to proceed. It is likely that Lord John Russell and Lord Westmoreland perfectly well understood the work they had to perform, and that M. de Bourqueney was equally well instructed. Perhaps, also, the Ministers of the Ottoman Porte, who are not quite extinguished by the powerful protection under which it is the misfortune of their country to be placed, were determined to resist any project, come whence it would, for cobbling up an ephemeral and unsatisfactory peace. But the Russians were evidently not prepared to carry their concessions beyond the first two points; supposing, which is not yet quite certain, that those points were actually agreed to. The Austrian Government—an arbitrator, rather than a principal, in the quarrel, and caring little or, at all events, less than Great Britain and France—for the point of honour involved in the capture or destruction of Sebastopol—had not made up its mind in what manner and to what extent the power of Russia in the Black Sea could be restricted. No sooner, therefore, was the Third Point reached than the assembled Plenipotentiaries discovered that the profane vulgar out of doors were not altogether wrong in the conviction that all previous discussion had been useless palaver; and that the tug of diplomacy, like the tug of war, would have to be directed against Sebastopol. A formal suspension of the Conferences at this point would have alarmed the too sensitive public; but, fortunately, a pretext was to be found by which appearances might be saved, and time gained. Advantage was taken of the religious solemnities of Passion Week to procure a delay which, while it could not injure the prospects of the Allies in the Crimea, was likely to be of service to such of the Ambassadors and Plenipotentiaries as desired to receive further instructions. In consequence of the difference in the Calendar it only happens once in about twenty years that the Easter of the Greek Christians occurs at the same period as the Easter of the Protestants and Roman Catholics; so that, on this occasion, the Russians had the same excuse as the British, French, and Austrian Ministers for the non-transaction of diplomatic business. The delay was further serviceable in allowing time for the arrival of two new and important personages—new to Vienna, but by no means new to the Eastern question or any of its complications. M. Drouyn de Lhuys—whose ruthless scarification of Count Nesselrode, on every occasion when the latter has been reduced to the sad necessity of pleading the bad cause of Russia, has gained him a reputation second to that of no statesman in Europe arrived in Vienna this morning. Ali Pacha is expected this evening; so that all the Powers which take a part in the Conferences, with the exception of Russia, will be represented by a high Minister of State, as well as by an Ambassador. When the Conferences resume business eleven diplomatists and statesmen will be present:—Lord John Russell and the Earl of Westmoreland, for Great Britain; M. Drouyn de Lhuys and M. de Bourqueney, for France; Count Buol-Schauenstein and the Baron Prokesch von Osten, for Austria; Ali Pacha, Riza Bey, and Arif Effendi, for the Ottoman Porte; and Prince Gortschakoff and M. de Titoff, for Russia. With these will be associated M. von Meyssenburg, as Secretary; and M. von Hammer (son of the celebrated historian), as Turkish Interpreter. Thus the number amounts to thirteen persons, which the Viennese consider of evil augury—thirteen in council being thought as unlucky as thirteen at dinner. This superstitious feeling is not confined to the *gobemouches* of the coffee-houses and the Exchange; but is shared by more than one high member of the Conference. Possibly Riza Bey will not remain many days after the arrival of Ali Pacha; but, if he should, it has been rumoured that the number will be reduced to twelve by dispensing with the services of M. von Hammer. If Riza Bey should take his departure, M. von Hammer will be allowed to remain as dragoman for Arif Effendi, the only member of the Conference who does not speak French. M. de Nesselrode will not be present—which is a pity, were it only that he might renew or make the acquaintance of M. Drouyn de Lhuys.

Last week the people of Vienna were in high spirits. All was *couleur de rose;* and every one dreamed and spoke of peace. This week the colour is gory red; and war—bloody war—seems to be imminent. The Government and people of Austria ardently desire peace; but the more the question involved in the Conferences unfolds itself to their understanding, the more inclined they are to the opinion prevalent elsewhere—that things have either gone too far, or not far enough, to admit of the labours of diplomacy. If the Crimea had not been invaded, the Allies might have been contented to accept the overtures of Russia without insisting upon the destruction of Sebastopol; or if Sebastopol had been carried, or any decisive victory had been gained by the armies or fleets of Great Britain and France, Ambassadors and Ministers might hope to arrive at a satisfactory pacification. But in the purgatorial *juste milieu* in which affairs at present stand diplomacy serves no other purpose than to prove that the Allies are as willing to hear as they are to strike; and that if Russia desires peace she can have it, if she will

RAILWAY AT BALACLAVA.—STATIONARY ENGINE BEYOND THE CAMP OF GENERAL VEREY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

give security. The Austrian Government has been slow to understand all the difficulties of this very difficult question; but it should not be forgotten that Austria has acted from first to last with the strictest honour and integrity; that every step she has taken has been a step in advance; that her sympathies are, and have ever been, with France and England; that she has many powerful motives—of which financial ones are not the least—to dislike and avoid war; but that reason, State necessity, and justice, are still more powerful in impelling her to take part against Russia; and that she could not, even if disposed, recede from the position which she has already assumed, without incurring dangers infinitely greater than any to which she could be exposed by the enmity of the Czar. Though it is always unsafe to make predictions, and although at the present time, when events succeed each other with such unexpectedness and rapidity that they set all reasonable calculation and ordinary observation at defiance, it may be doubly hazardous to speculate upon the future, it is impossible for any one who knows anything of the Austrian people and Government to doubt their good faith. Austria will not, dare not, and cannot, draw back from the path into which she has entered. In the honour of France and England lies the safety of Europe. Diplomacy may prattle as it will; but, as long as the Russians keep us at bay before Sebastopol, nothing can come of the proceedings at Vienna but utter failure. Something else might come of them, if these two great nations were weak enough to withdraw from the Crimea without striking a blow, and gaining a great victory; and that something would be Shame and Dishonour. Great Britain and France will not inflict upon themselves so fatal a humiliation. Prussia herself, degraded as she is, would be entitled to assume a higher rank in the world than these two mighty States, if they could sacrifice in such a manner the prestige of their name, the glory of their arms, and the character of their Governments. The same reasoning, though with less force, will apply to Austria. Where England and France are compelled to lead, she will be compelled to follow. It may be inconvenient, but it is right; and Austria, though reluctant to draw the sword, will wield it with effect against the common enemy, whenever the last effort at pacification shall be proved to be unavailing.

POSTSCRIPT. PASSION WEEK IN VIENNA. WASHING THE FEET OF THE POOR.

(*From our Special Correspondent.*)

Vienna, April 9th.

In the preceding letter is contained all the authentic information obtainable in Vienna on the subject of the Conferences, with the single exception of the fact that they are to be resumed this afternoon. Beyond this all is matter of speculation. In my next I shall probably be enabled to communicate something more positive than mere surmises. In the meantime a short description of some of the salient points of courtly and popular life in Vienna, as they struck the eyes of a stranger, during the week that has just elapsed, may prove interesting, if only as a relief to the eternal routine of politics, and the old, though engrossing, subjects of Peace and War.

The Viennese are as fond of pleasure as the Parisians. This day—after being long pent up in the observance of Lent—their gaiety breaks out in its full vigour, and the Prater swarms with crowds of all ranks and classes. "*Es ist lustig hier am Prater*," says Goethe, in "Faust;" and on Easter Monday the phrase is more especially applicable. But Passion Week, though the dullest of the year in Vienna, would possibly be accounted rather a gay week in London, if spent in the same manner by the soberer English people. Though the theatres and places of public amusement were closed, the streets for the last four days have been encumbered with crowds of citizens in their holiday attire, strolling forth to see and to be seen—the fair ladies sporting in all the hues of the rainbow, as if inviting the spring and summer not to be tardy, but to banish winter with the banishment of winter costume. So dense have been the multitudes that carriages have found it difficult to pierce their way through the moving masses; and the pedestrian whose business or amusement did not lead him with the stream had to fight against countless obstacles at every step of his progress, unless he were wise enough to strike out of the main streets, and percolate quietly through the byways. The public spectacles of the week have been rare; the only amusement offered being the oratorio of the "Creation"—very splendidly performed at the Burg Theatre. The churches have been crammed to suffocation at every hour of the day; the fine music, both vocal and instrumental, attracting thousands of persons who might not, perhaps, have even entered their doors had devotional feeling been the only motive that inspired them. The Court, also, contributed in an eminent degree to the gratification of those who delight in the brilliant and the imposing.

On Thursday the Emperor performed the ancient ceremony of the "Fusswaschung," in the Great Hall, or "Rittersaal," of the Imperial Palace. By eight o'clock in the morning, those who had been fortunate enough to procure tickets of admission (as I did, thanks to the excellent proprietor of the excellent Hôtel Munich, where I have been located for the last fortnight) began to pour into the avenues of the Palace, and by nine o'clock all the best places in the galleries erected for the purpose had been occupied. At ten o'clock the doors were closed. The *coup d'œil* presented in the noble apartment was particularly striking. The spectators, both ladies and gentlemen, were in full evening costume; and the places reserved for the nobility, the members of the Corps Diplomatique, and their families, were filled with all the rank and beauty of Vienna. On the right of the hall was arranged a table, on one side of which sat twelve old men, dressed in black serge, with large white collars;—these were the individuals whose feet the Emperor was to wash. The oldest was ninety-three and the youngest eighty-four years of age. They had been selected for the honour about to be conferred upon them on the three several grounds, united in each case, of old age, poverty, and good character. In the body of the Rittersaal coming and going, and forming themselves into groups, were some hundreds of the first nobles of the empire—most of them in military costume; and glowing in their white, blue, or scarlet uniforms. Precisely at half-past ten o'clock the sonorous chanting of priests, walking in procession through the hall, marked the commencement of the ceremony. The Emperor then entered, followed by his father, the Archduke Francis Charles, by several other Archdukes and members of the Imperial Family, whose names I could not ascertain; and by Prince Charles Lichtenstein, the Grand Marshal of the Palace; and a brilliant cortége of general officers and Ministers of State. Next followed a long array of ushers and gentlemen of the Court, dressed in black—and some of them wearing crosses and orders on their breasts—each bearing a dinner-tray, containing some portion of a very *recherché* and elegant repast. I lost some portion of the ceremonial as soon as the Emperor entered, for my attention was for a time too earnestly directed towards him to permit of any close observation of other things. His Majesty is about four-and-twenty years of age, but looks younger. His bearing is manly and erect. He is well made and handsome; and in any society, or in any dress, would, by the grace of his manner and by his fine, athletic form, attract attention. But it can scarcely be said that his face is as prepossessing as his general appearance. His high forehead, and the whole contour of his head, betoken a superior intellect and an energetic will. Perhaps his firmness has a tendency to degenerate into obstinacy; but, however that may be, it is evident that he is one of those men who are not to be swayed from any purpose that they have deliberately formed, and who will go right on to their object, through every kind of difficulty and discouragement. If he take the right course Austria will be fortunate in possessing such a Sovereign. If he take the wrong one there will be dark days in store for his country and for himself. But of this there is little prospect. His public acts for the last three years have been of a character to attach to him the respect and gratitude of his people; and since he made a love-match and a happy marriage proving thereby what some had previously doubted, more from his physiognomy than from his conduct, that he was in possession of a kindly human heart—his popularity has gone on increasing. This is a digression that may be excused, for the fate of Europe depends in no slight degree upon the conduct of this young Sovereign; who, more than any other man of the present day, under the peculiar circumstances of our time, has it in his power to influence the great war of Civilisation against Barbarism. If he give England and France the aid of his magnificent army of 600,000 men to repel the aggressions of Russia, as it is firmly believed he will, unless the Czar yield to the demands of the Allies, the war will be a short one. If he do not the war will linger, and Austria will ultimately be the greatest sufferer by it. But to return to the ceremonial. As each tray-bearer arrived with his burden, the Emperor disembarrassed him of it, and spread the viands on the table with all the *savoir faire* of an accomplished waiter. He seemed "to the manner born," and his agility and readiness would have done honour to a professional garçon of the Trois Frères Provençaux at Paris, or of a *Kellner* at the equally excellent restaurant of the Hôtel Munich. When the table had been spread, the Emperor spoke a few words to the nonagenarian, evidently inviting him and his eleven companions to partake of the good things set before him. The old gentleman rose, shook his head, and said something in reply, as evidently intimating that they could not think of dining in so august a presence. The Emperor did not press the point, for it was not in the programme, and immediately the viands were removed by the Archdukes and the members of the Imperial Family. The Archduke Francis Charles—the Emperor's father, and who might himself have been an Emperor if he had been disposed to assume the responsibility—performed the most active part in this stage of the ceremonial. A second course was brought in by the same attendants, in the same way, arranged on the table by the Emperor with the same coolness and agility, and removed by the Archdukes exactly as before—the only difference being that the twelve old men were not asked to partake, but were merely shown the good things which they were to discuss elsewhere, after the conclusion of the ceremony. A third course, and, ultimately, a very splendid dessert, were brought in, spread, and carried out, with precisely the same formalities; and thus this *faire-semblant* of a dinner was brought to a close. The table was then removed; and a long white cloth was spread over the knees of the twelve old men, concealing their legs and feet. The attendants, placing their hands under this cloth, removed the shoes and stockings of the whole twelve—leaving bare the aged feet, which had previously undergone sufficient ablution to be fit to be touched by the dainty fingers of a Kaiser. A priest, bearing a golden ewer half filled with water, and another priest holding a golden flagon also containing water, then proceeded to the real business of the morning. The Emperor knelt on his right knee, while the one attendant priest held the ewer under, and the other the flagon over, the foot to be honoured with the Imperial purification. The Emperor with his left hand sprinkled a little water from the ewer on the sole of the foot, while the priest poured a few drops from the flagon upon the instep. Then with his right hand the Emperor wiped the foot slightly with a towel and passed on to the next, performing the whole ceremony in somewhere less than three minutes. This done, his Majesty hung round the neck of each a little bag containing thirty pieces of silver of ten kreuzers each; and, amid the chanting of priests and choristers, and the sprinkling of incense, the ceremony was completed. The Emperor performed this part of the business, as well as every other, with gracefulness and self-possession—giving one the idea of a man who thought nothing too unmeaning or too commonplace to be done well, if it were necessary or desirable to do it at all. On ordinary occasions a similar honour is rendered by the Empress to twelve poor women; but this year, in consequence of the advent of the little Archduchess—now only a few weeks old—and the delicate condition of her Imperial Majesty, the ceremonial was shorn of more than one-half of its grace and beauty.

On Saturday there was a grand procession of the Imperial Court and household, and a review of troops in the court of the Palace, at which all the *élite* of Vienna were present. I had the good fortune to procure a place in the balcony of the Reichskanzlei; but it would occupy too much of your space if I were to enter into the particulars. This also is an annual ceremony, performed on the Saturday before Easter Sunday.

If the necessary funds can be raised, it is said that the next annual gathering of the Royal Agricultural Society will be held at Chelmsford.

BALACLAVA RAILWAY.

The navvies employed on the Balaclava Railway continue to enjoy excellent health, work with steady and hearty goodwill, and, with very few exceptions, are described as giving no cause of complaint on account of their behaviour

The View we have given this week represents the stationary engine for drawing goods up the incline. Some of the accounts speak of it as not adequate to the fulfilment of the task imposed on it. On the 23rd ult. twenty-four French waggons were loaded with *matériel* before half-past eleven o'clock, but the engines had not worked them up to the top of the incline at four o'clock. Perhaps it will be found advisable to give it a more moderate draught. An overtasked engine is as bad economy as an overworked man.

On the 26th ult. the engineers expected to complete the line as far as the Turkish Camp, and in a week or ten days more it would be extended to Lord Raglan's head-quarters—a distance of about four and a half miles from Balaclava. The main portion of the work would then be over, as the ground from head-quarters to the trenches is comparatively level.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

Paris, Thursday.

The arrival of Easter brings back all the movement and gaiety of the Carnival; and feasting and dancing, dressing and dining, become the order of the day. It is a strange, and to us incomprehensible, sign of the times that at the moment the country is engaged in a sanguinary, expensive, and, we cannot conceal from ourselves, in many respects disastrous war; when a series of bad seasons have made their ill-effects felt; and when these two combining causes have raised the price of every necessary and every luxury of life; that, in the midst of all these depressing influences, the taste for, and indulgence in, extravagances of all descriptions should have risen to the pitch it has now arrived at. In dress and in furniture this is particularly the case. Never did the streets and *salons* of Paris within our experience display the same *étalage* of velvets, satins, laces, plumes, and jewels, and these on people of less than moderate fortunes; never was there a greater demand for bubl and marqueterie, brocades and lampas; the while the price of rents and wages, bread and meat, become daily more and more heavy pulls on the pockets and purses of every class of consumers: this must come to an end; when and how, are alarming questions.

The second day of Longchamps, under the influence of a bright sunshine, which dazzled the promenaders out of the fact of the bitter north wind, that made great sport of their flimsy garments, was singularly brilliant. During a part of the day no less than seven compact lines of carriages, of one sort or another, defiled up and down the Avenue of the Champs Elysées, and the toilets displayed were of the most dazzling and *Mirobolante* description. Influenza and sore throats are abundant; but, of course, there is no connection between the two subjects. We merely make the remark *en passant*.

It is said that on the return of the Emperor and Empress from England, they intend inhabiting the Elysée, and resigning the Tuileries to the Queen and her household, during her stay in Paris.

The Emperor has acceded to the petitions on the subject of the extension of the Palais d'Industrie, and the order for the execution of the necessary works is being carried into effect. No announcement of the opening of the building being deferred has yet been made, but the general impression is that it will be impossible for it to take place so early as the day appointed. It appears that, contrary to the first statement, there are to be two days in the week when the entrance will be free, to enable the poor and working-classes and their families to profit by the sight, which, under other circumstances, many of them would be deprived of. In the Gallery des Beaux Arts a sensible regulation has forbidden the admission of sketches and *ébauches*, and it is only to receive finished pictures.

The often-renewed, and till now so often-rejected, question of the imposition of a dog-tax has brought to light the following singular facts on the subject of the canine population of France—facts which we think would, if sooner revealed, terminated the question. There are, it appears, in round numbers, three millions of dogs in France, which cost in food eighty millions of francs, and communicate hydrophobia to 200 persons annually. It is supposed that the tax would *supprimer* (the statist has a delicate consideration for the feelings of fanciers) about a third of the number; we humbly think, a larger proportion, as the greater part of the curs that infest the streets belong to persons who leave them pretty much to pick up their own livings among the offal thrown there, and who certainly would be extremely sorry to pay a tax for them.

A report went the round, a few days since, of the death of the Duchesse de Berry.

There is a question of raising two new regiments of infantry; but it is said that, instead of giving them new numbers, they will bear duplicate numbers (doubtless with some distinguishing mark) of two other regiments already existing. One of the reasons assigned for this plan is the design of deceiving the enemy as to the real number of the troops.

Among the works of improvement going on in Paris, those prosecuted on the ground formerly occupied by the Passage St. Pierre have led to a singular discovery—that of a quantity of human bones, in a state of perfect preservation, which, there is little doubt, are those of the victims of the massacre of St. Bartholomew, interred in the ancient cemetery of St. Merry. These remains have been transferred to the Catacombs.

Among the movements of journalism, it appears that M. Théophile Gautier (whose name stands almost at the head of the list of critics on art and the drama, and whose literary reputation on other points a number of most interesting and popular works has long since established) removes from the theatrical *feuilleton* of the *Presse* to that of the *Moniteur*. M. Gautier is also to render an account of the Exposition in all that relates to the domain of art. His engagement is, it appears, to last for five years, and it is to bring in a salary of 1200 francs a month. The place thus left vacant in the *Presse* is to be filled by M. Nestor Roque plan, late Director of the Grand Opera, who commenced his career as a journalist.

It is the *Austerlitz*—not the *Reine Hortense*, which has not quitted its station at Toulon—that is to convey the Emperor and Empress to England. The Emperor takes in his suite the Duc de Bassano (Grand Chamberlain), MM. Fleury, Toulongeon, Edgar Ney, and the Marechal Vaillant. The Empress's suite consists of the Princesse d'Essling, Mdmes. de Montebello and de Malaret, the Comte Tascher de la Pagerie (Grand Maître de la Maison), and the Baron de Pierre (Ecuyer).

A correspondence from Constantinople asserts that preparations are still being carried on there with the utmost activity for the reception of their Imperial Majesties; and that three Armenian ladies of the best society have been named to serve as attendants and interpreters to the Empress.

The Grand Opera has a *reprise* of the "Prophète" for the reappearance of Madame Stoltz. The celebrated *cantatrice* has but just recovered from severe illness, and her consequent weakness, joined to the emotion she experienced on the occasion, made itself somewhat felt in her voice: there is, however, every reason to suppose that with the return of strength will be restored her usual superiority. A new opera by Signor Billetti, which is highly spoken of, is to produce Mdlle. Cinti Damoreau, of whom such great things are said that we hope the public may not be disappointed. Rossini is expected in Paris. A story is going the rounds that, in order to repair certain losses sustained in 1848, the maestro proposes to sell to any amateur or speculator who chooses to become the purchaser the entire copyright of a "Macbeth" that he has lately composed, and that the Marquis of Hertford proposes to acquire possession of the work for 200,000 francs What to do with it seems a question that is not regarded. The celebrated pianist Emile Prudent has just published two new pieces, "La Barcarolle," and "Les Naïades," which promise to become highly popular.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

Once more we are told that the grand assault is at last about to be made. The letters which arrived by the *Clyde* steamer say, "The general opinion is, that within three or four days, at latest, we shall open; and I certainly think," says our Correspondent, writing on the 26th, "such a step will be taken in the course of another week at latest." Since the receipt of that intelligence, a telegraphic despatch from Marseilles, dated Thursday, announces the arrival of the *Hydaspes*, which left Constantinople on the 2nd inst., with news from the Camp to the 31st. The substance of it is, "that the Russians have constructed two new batteries, and have converted the ambuscades into an advance par allel." These batteries will, no doubt, be in front of the Malakoff Tower, that being the point toward which all the efforts of the besiegers, as well as the besieged, have been directed lately. The despatch from Marseilles states also that "the positive commencement of the Allied Commanders wish it, the whole town could be utterly destroyed in twenty-four hours. Not one stone will remain upon another if our guns and mortars are directed against it.

Up to the 6th inst., however, if we may rely upon the telegraph, the grand trial of strength had not been made. A despatch of that date affirms that nothing decisive had yet take n place. The French held their ground before the Malakoff Tower.

The *Ost-Deutsche Post* of Vienna says:—

The intention is that General Bosquet shall drive General Liprandi from his position, while General Canrobert will direct the operations against the Malakoff Tower in person; General Pelissier commands the reserve. From the heights of the French Camp, caravans of men, women, and children have been latterly seen to quit Sebastopol with their effects. One of these, which took the direction Bagchiserai, was preceded by a procession bearing sacred banners, and escorted by about forty Cossacks. Our letters state that many Russian soldiers take advantage of the sorties to pass over to the Allies.

The statement relative to the caravans of men, women, and children leaving Sebastopol is corroborated by the *Military Gazette* of Vienna, which says that General Osten-Sacken published an order of the day enjoining all females to quit the town at once. The Grand Duke Nicholas, taking the case of these poor women into consideration, has given from his own purse 100 roubles to each woman having a family, to enable her to remove; and from 20 to 50 roubles to each unmarried female. It was naturally supposed that this order was given in anticipation of a serious attack.

There have been various rumours regarding the operations of Omer Pacha, who is said to have advanced from Eupatoria towards Old Fort, with the intention of supporting a movement of the Allies. This is premature. The Turkish Commander has merely thrown out a covering party while advancing the fortifications of the town, so as to give the Russians a much warmer reception, should they attack him again. His army, it appears, has been strengthened by the addition of 8000 Egyptian troops.

THE SORTIE ON THE 23RD OF MARCH.

The letters received by the *Clyde*, which left Constantinople on the 29th ult., give ample details of the part which the English troops took in the affair of the 23rd. We are glad to learn that the number killed and wounded is not so great as was at first supposed. Instead of nearly 100 killed, wounded, and missing, our loss did not amount to much more than half that number; and Lieut.-Colonel Kelly, of the 34th Regiment, is alive in Sebastopol, with a slight wound. Captain Montagu, Royal Engineers, is also a prisoner.

It appears that at the time the heavy fire between the French and Russians was going on a portion of the 90th Regiment were employed on fatigue duty on the right of the new advanced works on our right attack. They were in the act of returning to their posts in the Gordon Battery just at the moment the heavy firing on the right had ceased, when a scattered irregular fusillade commenced in the dark, on the left of their position close to the Mortar Battery. Captain Vaughton, who commanded the party of the 90th, ordered his men to advance along the covered way to the works. They moved up in double time, and found the Russians in complete possession of the Mortar Battery. The 90th at once opened as heavy a fire of musketry as they could upon the enemy, who returned it; but the coolness and steadiness of our men were giving us the advantage, when an alarm was given that our men were firing on the French; but the mistake was speedily discovered by the enemy's fire being poured in with more deadly effect, and the small party of the 90th were thrown into great confusion. Captain Vaughton at this moment exclaimed, "Men of the 90th, follow me!" and Sergeant Henry Clarke, Sergeant Brittle, a sergeant of the 7th Fusiliers, about fourteen men of the 90th, and a few of the 7th, dashed out of the confused ranks, and rushed right into the Mortar Battery. In a few moments these brave fellows drove the enemy beyond the first traverse, and at the narrow way leading into the second traverse they made a stand, and opened a heavy flanking fire on the parapet, over which the Russians were making determined efforts to come upon them. The narrow pass was meantime defended by the sergeants and a few men, who delivered fire as fast as they could load right into the Russians, who gradually began to give way. With a loud "hurrah" the gallant little band sprang with the bayonet upon the enemy, who at once precipitately retired over the parapet, followed by our rifle balls, which were poured in upon them incessantly, till every round in the men's pouches was expended. In order to keep up the fire, the men groped about among the dead Russians, and exhausted all the cartridges they could find in the enemy's pouches. As the first charge at the Mortar Battery the Russian leader, who wore an Albanian costume, and whose gallantry was most conspicuous, fell dead. As an act of justice, the names of the officers and men of the party of the 90th Regiment whose conduct was distinguished in this affair should be recorded. They are—Clarke, Brittle, and Kaex (sergeants); Caruthers, severely wounded (corporal), Fare, Walsh, Nicholson (wounded), and Nash. Captain Vaughton received a severe contusion in the affair. The courage displayed by Captain Cavendish Browne, of the 7th, in another part of the works, was most conspicuous. He was severely wounded at the commencement of the attack, but he refused to go to the rear, though nearly fainting from loss of blood. He led on his men, encouraging them by voice and gesture, to the front. When his body was found it lay far in advance of our line, with three balls in the chest. The 7th Regiment behaved admirably, and Major-General Codrington has communicated to the 88th, and the other regiments of the brigade of the Light Division engaged, the satisfaction of Sir George Brown at their gallant conduct. It is not known how many Albanian chiefs there were with the Russians, but the two who were killed led them on with intrepidity and ferocious courage. One of them, who struggled into the battery in spite of a severe wound, while his life-blood was ebbing fast, rushed at a powder-barrel and fired his pistol into it before he fell. Fortunately, the powder did not explode, as the fire did not go through the wood. Another charged with a scimitar in one hand, and a formidable curved blade (which he used as a dagger) in the other, right into our ranks twice, and fell dead the second time, perforated with balls and bayonets. They were magnificently dressed, and it is supposed they were men of rank.

AN ARMISTICE.

On the morning of the 24th ult. a flag of truce was sent to Sebastopol by the Allies with a proposition to the Russians for an armistice, to bury the dead, which were lying in numbers—five or six Russians to every Frenchman and Englishman—in front of the Round Tower and Mamelon; after some delay, an answer in the affirmative was returned; and it was arranged that two hours should be granted for collecting and carrying away the dead on both sides. The news spread through the camps; and the races which the Chasseurs d'Afrique had got up in excellent style were much short of their attractions by the opportunity afforded to the French and English of meeting their enemies on neutral ground. All the ravines leading to the front trenches were crowded with officers hastening on horse and foot down to the scene of the bloody fighting. The forests of the hills and the slopes in front of the batteries were covered with men, and they dotted the deadly interval between the batteries, which had been before occupied alone by thousands of tons of shot and fragments of shell discharged by French and English and Russians during this protracted siege.

The day was beautifully bright and warm. White flags waved gently in the faint spring breeze above the embrasures of our batteries, and from the Round Tower and Mamelon. Not a soul had been visible in front of the lines an instant before the emblems of peace were run up to the flagstaffs, and a sullen gun from the Mamelon and a burst of smoke from Gordon's batteries had but a short time previously heralded the armistice. The instant the flags were hoisted friend and foe swarmed out of the embrasures. The riflemen of the Allies and the enemy rose from their lairs in the rifle-pits, and sauntered towards each other to behold their grim handiwork. The whole of the space between the Russian lines and our own was filled with groups of unarmed soldiery. The sight was strange beyond description. French, English, and Russians were mingling about, saluting each other courteously as they passed, and occasionally entering into conversation; and a constant interchange of little civilities, such as offering and receiving cigar lights, was going on in each little group. Some of the Russian officers were evidently of high rank and breeding. Their polished manners contrasted remarkably with their plain and rather coarse clothing. They wore, with few exceptions, the invariable long grey coat over their uniforms. The French officers were all *en grande tenue*, and offered a striking contrast to many of our English officers, who were dressed *à la* Balaclava, and wore uncouth head dresses, catskin coats, and nondescript paletots. Many of the Russians looked remarkably like English gentlemen in "style" of face and bearing. One tall, fine-looking man, with a long grey beard, and strongly-shaped cap, was pointed out as Hetman of the Cossacks in the Crimea; but it did not appear as if there were many men of very high military rank present. The Russians were rather grave and reserved, but they seemed to fraternise with the French better than with the English, and the men certainly got on better with our allies than with the few privates of our own regiments who were down towards the front.

The Russians appeared to treat their dead with great respect. Most of the soldiers were white-faced and seemed ill-fed, though many of them had powerful frames, square shoulders, and broad chests. All their dead who fell within and near our lines were stripped of boots and stockings. The cleanliness of their feet, and, in most cases, of their coarse linen shirts, was remarkable. Several sailors of the "equipages" of the fleet of Sebastopol were killed in the attack. They were generally fine muscular fellows, with rough, soldierly faces. The Russians carried off all the dead which lay outside our lines to the town, passing down between the Mamelon and the Round Tower. In the midst of all this stern evidence of war a certain amount of lively conversation began to spring up, in which the Russian officers indulged in a little badinage. Some of them asked our officers "when we were coming in to take the place?" others, "when we thought of going away?" Some congratulated the Allies upon the excellent opportunity they had of getting a good look at Sebastopol, as the chance of a nearer view, except on similar occasions, was not, in their opinion, very probable. One officer asked a private confidentially, in English, how many men there were in the trenches? "Bagotrix, only 7000 a night, and a wake covering party of 10,000," was the ready reply. The officer laughed and turned away. At one time a Russian with a litter stopped by a dead body, and put it into the litter. He looked round for a comrade to help him. A Zouave at once advanced with much grace and lifted it, to the infinite amusement of the bystanders; but the joke was not long-lived, as a Russian brusquely came up and helped to carry off his dead comrade.

In the town large bodies of soldiery were seen in the streets, assembled at the corners and in the public places. Probably they were ordered out to make a show of their strength. The Russians denied that Prince Menschikoff was dead, but they admitted that Admiral Istumin was killed. He was one of the principal officers engaged in the destruction of the Turkish fleet at Sinope, and the Czar had rewarded him by giving him an order of St. George of higher distinction than that worn by Prince Menschikoff, and of a class which is generally accorded only to successful generals who have conducted an army and closed a triumphant campaign. A distinguished-looking man, who complained that he was likely to be deprived of his cruise in his yacht this year by the war, was pointed out as Prince Baratinski. Owing to some misunderstanding or other, a little fusillade began among the riflemen on the left during the armistice, which caused a little alarm for a moment, but it was soon terminated. General Bosquet and several officers of rank of the Allied army visited the trenches during the armistice, and staff officers were present on both sides to see that the men did not go out of bounds. The armistice was over about three o'clock. Scarcely had it a white flag disappeared behind the parapet of the Mamelon before a round-shot from the Sailors' Battery went slap through one of the embrasures of the Russian work, and dashed up a great pillar of earth inside. The Russians at once replied, and the noise of cannon soon re-echoed through the ravine.

THE ADVANCED SQUADRON OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

The advanced squadron of the Baltic fleet arrived at Elsinore on the 1st of April, but, owing to the masses of drift ice and strong current, were unable to remain there—three (the *Arrogant*, *Tartar*, and *Cossack*) having parted their anchors; so they all got under way and proceeded to Landscrona, where they were joined by the *Amphion* on the 3rd inst., one of the "lame ducks." The *Archer* had not made her appearance. The *Amphion* got on shore near the anchorage, through the ignorance of the pilot; but it was not supposed that she had injured herself, as the mud is very soft. The *Imperieuse* and *Arrogant*, being of too much draught of water to pass through the Sound, parted company for Kiel, leaving the squadron under the command of Captain Yelverton, her Majesty's ship *Arrogant*. Some of the colliers sent out to supply the squadron with coals have fared but badly—one having foundered, and two or three others more or less injured, when trying to pass the Sound. Landscrona is a very snug little harbour, and it is expected that the ships will remain there till the Sound is entirely clear of ice.

A letter from Cherbourg says:—"The screw line-of-battle ship *Austerlitz*, which had been preparing to convey the Emperor and Empress to England, has received counter-orders, and is to proceed almost immediately to the Baltic, to operate with the English squadron. Four other line-of battle ships have been ordered to proceed to the Downs to serve as an escort to their Majesties in crossing the Channel, after which these vessels will also join the Baltic fleet."

A letter from Elsinore states that a Russian merchant vessel is lying there "which came in the autumn to take in a cargo of salt, and which got locked up in the ice. There are others similarly situated at Gothenburg and on different points of the coast; all of them came for salt, which appears to be wanted in Russia. They will probably be all captured by the English."

The Russians appear to be adopting the same mode of resisting invasion in the Baltic as they did in the Black Sea. The approaches to Abo, Helsingfors, and every town on the coast from Wyborg up to Tornea, have been rendered impassable by the sinking of vessels in the sailing channel; in Abo, Hymeborg, and other towns, the inhabitants have formed themselves into sharpshooter corps, and armed themselves with double barrelled rifles. On the southern coast of the Baltic the conviction is general that Riga will be the first point attacked in the coming Baltic campaign. On the sea-side vessels and large blocks of stone are being sunk at the entrance to the bay, so that the shallowest-going craft will not be able to pass Dunamunde. At the further end of the bay there are several heavily-armed batteries erected, in a semicircular form, have been several heavily-armed batteries erected, in a semicircular form. On the land side a fortified camp is being formed, capable of containing two divisions of Russian troops. The Baltic army, which was to be brought up to 100,000 men by the late Emperor, is now about to be raised to 140,000 men.

PERSIA

The Hon. Mr. Murray arrived in Teheran towards the latter end of February. The camp at Sultanieh was decided on, and 40,000 to 50,000 men, with 100 pieces of artillery, were to compose the force. The Government has ample supplies of provisions and ammunition; but the great sinew of war—money—is very scarce. The pressure on the treasury is to be remedied by an increase of taxes, which are ordered to be levied in the shape of capitation money. The Persians are impatient to see what the true intentions of the Western Powers are as regards their country. They would willingly pick a quarrel with the Russians, and declare war in favour of Turkey, if England and France would guarantee the restoration of the province of Karabagh, lost in the last war. On the other hand, if Russia offers her co-operation in taking the shrine of Kerbela from the Turks, there is not the least doubt that they would side with her. Much will depend upon what takes place in the Crimea. So long as the prestige of Russia remains unimpaired, as is the case at present, Persia will naturally lean to the side of its powerful neighbour.

AMERICA.

The mail steam-ship *Africa*, which left New York on the 27th and Halifax on the 29th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday.

The *New York Herald* of the 27th makes reference to proceedings taken in New York for or by the British Government for the procuring of recruits for the British army. A Mr. Angus M'Donald advertises that he is prepared to forward men willing to serve to Nova Scotia:—

It is to be presumed (says the *Herald*) that Mr. Angus M'Donald and the parties who are connected with the Chatham-street recruiting dépôt act in ignorance of the law which renders any such proceedings as theirs a misdemeanour at law, and punishable under the United States statute. Neither the British Government nor any one on its behalf has a right to recruit soldiers within the United States; and any and all proceedings taken with that aim fall clearly within the provision of the statute, and call for the interference of the district attorney. It behoves Mr. M'Keon to see that residents of New York are not entrapped or seduced to serve in foreign armies

The advices from California are to the 1st ult. The papers are occupied with further particulars of the great financial crash, of which the announcement was made by the steamer of last week. The house of Wells, Fargo, and Co., after a full meeting of their creditors, who agreed to wait upon them for thirty or sixty days, had resumed business, and is now in active operation. Adams and Co. had applied for the benefit of the Insolvent Act, and it was thought would be able to pay but a small per-centage of their liabilities. It was supposed that Page, Bacon, and Co. were still solvent, but, not having control of their resources, would defer the resumption of payments until a future time. The appearance of the long-wished-for rains at the mines had brightened the prospects in that quarter, and it was conjectured that a greater amount of gold would be realised during the month of March than had been taken for the same space of time since the discovery of the mines.

The Canada Militia Bill passed the second reading in the Legislative Assembly by a large majority. This seems to place the carrying of the measure beyond a doubt.

Havannah news to the 17th ult. had been received, per *Black Warrior*, by way of New Orleans. The only points of interest were the arrest of Mr. Thompson, U.S. Consul at Sagua, and the fate of the alleged conspirators Pinto. Cadalzo, and Pineto.

THE BALLARAT INSURRECTION.

Letters from Melbourne, of Jan. 29, state that the Crown prisoners implicated in the Ballarat riots, or insurrection, were then still waiting trial; and that it was doubtful whether the Crown would be able to secure convictions in these cases. There had been some unfortunate management of other cases, which seemed to indicate partiality and unfairness in the mode of dealing with parties implicated in the Ballarat affair. It is said that the police troopers continued their attacks upon the rioters and supposed rioters after the armed insurgents were completely overcome. Some were shot down, others sabred, some killed, and many wounded after the rioters had treated the insurgents as beaten, and as soldiers usually do, had ceased to fire. Several meetings have taken place at the diggings to memorialise for an amnesty. These meetings were all of a peaceable character.

The six men charged with sedition and riot on the day of the "Licence Court" of the 30th of November were tried on the 19th of January. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty against the whole of the defendants.

Prussian Calamities. In the midst of the great endeavours Prussia has been making to escape the horrors, or the burdens of war, even at the expense of her position in Europe, that country has been afflicted during the last six months with three heavy visitations in the shape of inundations. Last autumn it was the Oder and several minor rivers in Silesia that, swelled above their banks by heavy and continued rains, spread desolation and misery over the surrounding country. More recently the Rhine has exceeded its legitimate bed, and impoverished, if not ruined, large tracts of fertile land; and now the most heart-rending appeals are being made to the charitable feelings of the public on behalf of sufferers by most extensive overflowings of the Vistula, in the province of East Prussia

MEETING AT SURAT, IN AID OF THE PATRIOTIC FUND.

Knowing (says a Correspondent, writing from Surat) how great an interest is taken, in England and elsewhere, in the object of the Patriotic Fund, I enclose a Sketch of the scene at the meeting in aid of the Fund which took place in the Mess-house of the 9th Regiment Bombay Native Infantry, at Surat. The scene was very striking. The Mussulmans and Borahs, with their beards and general picturesque costume; the Brahminis and other Hindoos, with their peculiarly-shaped turbans; and the Parsees, wheel-cap, or rather, as it appears to the uninitiated, helmet of oilcloth, is perhaps the most ugly of all known head-dresses—whilst the more sober costume of the English or "Sahib tog" mixed agreeably with the white, red, and yellow of the native. The meeting was well attended, and able speeches were made both in English and Guzerattee. The exertions of the committee, especially of Mr. Hibbert (the Judge of Surat), who is president, and Captain A. B. Church, 9th Regiment, the secretary, have been well rewarded, as already more than 6500 rs. (£650) have been collected, and it is expected that 7000 rs. will be remitted to Bombay. Amongst some of the larger subscriptions I may mention the widow of the late Nawab, 210 rs.; a Rajah in the neighbourhood of Baroda sent 1000 rs.; whilst the Moolah, or High Priest of the Moslems (who, it may be as well to mention, are dissenting Musulmans), gave 500 rs.; Mr. Meerwanjee Hormusjee, 225 rs.; and Mr. Liddell, the collector, 100 rs.

The natives take great interest in the war, and though they, or at least the greater part of them, have but a vague notion of its origin and progress, yet they justly have a horror of the "Russes tog."

I remain, &c., John G. Watts, 9th Regt. N.I.

GRAND BANQUET AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress received a numerous and distinguished company at the Easter entertainment, given, in accordance with immemorial custom, at the Mansion-house on Monday evening. A more than ordinary amount of *éclat* was imparted to the occasion by the circumstance that his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge had announced his intention to be present; and in consequence immense crowds of persons lined the streets conducting from the Strand to the Poultry, who greeted his Royal Highness, not merely with those outward marks of respect which the English people generally award to members of the reigning house, but with a hearty enthusiasm that showed their appreciation of the character of the illustrious visitor, alike as a patriot and a soldier. Indeed, his Royal Highness's progress through the City in an open carriage and pair was a perfect ovation. On alighting at the Mansion-house, he was received by a guard of honour, consisting of picked men from the Grenadiers and light companies of the City of London Militia, under the command of Captains Browne and Grant; and the cheering with which he was welcomed by the crowd outside was continued long after he had disappeared from their view. The military bearing of the soldiers composing the guard of honour struck all who saw them as indicating a high state of discipline; and we understand that the fact did not escape the notice of his Royal Highness, and that he was pleased to convey his sentiments to the officers in command to that effect in the course of the evening.

Amongst the more distinguished guests, besides his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, were the Turkish Minister, the Brazilian Minister, the American Minister, the Danish Minister, the Swedish Minister, the Hanseatic States Minister; Admiral the Viscount Chabannes, of the French Navy; the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Marquis of Breadalbane, and the Bishop of Oxford. The general company included the Hon. J. Leslie Melville, Mr. Kinnaird, M.P., Major Fitzmaurice, Sir F. T. Baring, M.P., his Royal Highness's progress through the City in an open carriage and pair was a perfect ovation. On alighting at the Mansion-house, he was received by a guard of honour, consisting of picked men from the Grenadiers and light companies of the City of London Militia, under the command of Captains Browne and Grant; and the cheering with which he was welcomed by the crowd outside was continued long after he had disappeared from their view. The military bearing of the soldiers composing the guard of honour struck all who saw them as indicating a high state of discipline; and we understand that the fact did not escape the notice of his Royal Highness, and that he was pleased to convey his sentiments to the officers in command to that effect in the course of the evening.

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On the removal of the cloth his Lordship gave, in succession, "The Queen," "Prince Albert, and the rest of the Royal family;" with a few brief but appropriate observations; and the toasts having been duly responded to—

His Lordship next proceeded to give "His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge," a Prince, he said, not more remarkable for his Royal blood and lineage, than for the distinguished manner in which he had fulfilled all the relations of life (Hear, hear). His Royal Highness came of a race renowned for their daring, but by his own indomitable courage in the field he had shed new lustre on their reputation (Cheers). His Royal Highness had now returned to his native country, and had brought with him, in addition to the reputation of a gallant soldier, the more valuable character of the soldiers' friend (Loud cheers)

The Duke of Cambridge felt deeply grateful for the enthusiastic manner in which he had been received, not only in the hall, but when coming through the streets of the City (Loud cheers). Since he last had the honour of addressing the citizens of London he had witnessed many various scenes, and passed through much excitement. Sometimes he had experienced satisfaction, sometimes tasted glory, but sometimes had a share in events of the most painful and heartrending description (Hear, hear). But he could assure them that, after all these changes—whether agreeable, honourable, painful, or disastrous—there was nothing which was the source of more pleasure, or which was considered a greater reward by him and those who were engaged along with him, than that they should receive the hearty welcome and kind consideration of the citizens of London and the general population of this great country.

RECEPTION OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE AT THE MANSION-HOUSE BY THE LORD MAYOR.

As or himself, he had done nothing more than his duty, but he felt that those over whom he had had the honour and satisfaction of being placed in command had nobly conducted themselves, and, in short, achieved all the glory (Loud cheers). A General placed in high command has, indeed, no easy task; but, when supported, as he had been, by such men as the officers and soldiers of the First Division, or any other division of the British Army, he feels assured in the consciousness that that indomitable spirit which pervades every rank, from the highest to the lowest in his command, that it will not fail him in the hour of peril, but that the honour of the country must always be safe in such hands (Loud cheers.) But, in addition to having such men under his command, he had also had the advantage of acting with allies with whom it had always been his greatest pride and pleasure to be associated (Loud cheers.) He saw near him a gallant Admiral with whom he was associated in the Mediterranean, and he was glad to have the opportunity of assuring him and his country that one of the greatest sources of satisfaction had been his association with the French army in the Crimea (Loud cheers). That great alliance, so happily cemented, and which, thank God, was growing more intimate from day to day, would soon receive a new impulse rom the arrival in this country of that great and illustrious man who now rules over a neighbouring and mighty nation (Loud cheers). May that alliance be of long duration, and may such a friendship be cemented between England and France as is necessary to secure the peace of the world (Hear).

The Lord Mayor next gave the "United naval and military services of England and France," associating with the toast the names of Admiral de Chabannes, Sir George Pollock, and Admiral Ryder Burton.

Sir G. Pollock briefly returned thanks for the military service.

The Vicomte de Chabannes, who spoke excellent English, returned thanks for the French naval service, at the same time vouching for the friendly feeling of the French navy for its kindred service in England (Cheers). The same feeling existed between the two armies, and was, if possible, stronger, because it was stimulated by common action, common duties, mutual assistance, mutual esteem, and the great hardships which both had suffered together (Cheers).

Admiral Ryder Burton briefly returned thanks for the British Navy, but expressed his regret that two proposals he had made—one to lead the Allied fleets into Sebastopol, and another to burn the Russian fleet—had not been entertained by our Government.

The Lord Mayor gave, with one or two observations, "Her Majesty's Ministers," coupling with it the name of the Chancellor of the Exchequer

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in returning thanks, said that the illustrious Duke who had recently [illegible] the [illegible] of his success to the officers and men by whom he was supported. In the same way did her Majesty's Ministers derive strength from the support they received from the great communities of this country, such as he now saw represented in that hall, communities celebrated for their industry, wealth, and power Such support was in some sort a sharing of the responsibility of public affairs and a sure way of bringing them to a successful termination. It was only by the aid of well-earned public confidence that Ministers could get on with their difficult task, and that confidence was the more especially necessary in the office which he had the honour to fill.

Several other toasts were given, and suitably responded to, after which the company adjourned to the drawing-room

MEETING AT SURAT, IN AID OF THE PATRIOTIC FUND.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

OPENING OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.—THE BURDWAN STATION.

OPENING OF THE CALCUTTA, DELHI, AND LAHORE RAILWAY.

The official inauguration of the opening of this gigantic line of railway (of which we gave a description in our publication of March 24th) took place on the 3rd of February.

The building represented in the Engraving we have given is the Burdwan Station, sixty six miles from Calcutta, at which place the Company gave a champagne breakfast on the day of opening to about 700 guests, including most of the leading men in Calcutta. From the station a leafy arcade, richly garlanded with flowers and banners, conducted across the Grand Trunk Road to an enclosure where the breakfast had been tastefully laid out in tents. The Maharajah of Burdwan had sent his mounted body guard, and a number of sepoys, in honour of the Governor-General's anticipated visit. He also kindly lent his magnificent shawl tents, with silver poles, for the accommodation of the principal guests. After an excellent breakfast, at which a number of loyal and appropriate toasts were given, the company returned to Calcutta at an early hour in the afternoon.

CANOSA.—EXCAVATIONS OF GREEK TOMBS IN 1854-5, AND RESTORATIONS IN 1855.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

Whilst the excavations of Pompeii have of late been unattended with any important results, those of Canosa, on the contrary, have been full of the deepest interest. One of the most classical tombs discovered in this city within the last few years has been already described in the Illustrated London News. During 1854-55 the excavations have been continued; and, whilst treasures of art have been brought to light, funereal chambers of great architectural beauty have been disclosed to public view. The Engraving represents in three several compartments, as it were, the tombs just discovered; the portion of the ground not yet excavated; and the tomb already illustrated, with the exception of the intended restorations above, and a small chamber just discovered on the left. The compartment which we first described contained the entrances and the "prospetto" of the newly-excavated funereal chambers, decorated with columns and frontispieces. The doors have an Oriental character, narrowing towards the upper part—thus resembling the monuments of Assyria and Egypt. Two columns of the Ionic style, terminating with a fronti-piece, ornament these entrances, and the whole "fondo" is painted a dark red and blue. In the tomb facing us, perhaps, the master of the family was buried; whilst in the lateral chambers the women of the family were laid. And now we describe a state of things which would appear to be almost fabulous. Human skeletons were here extended on beds of bronze, decorated with statues and ornaments in ivory. The ground was bestrewed with filaments of gold, belonging certainly to a carpet, or some golden web; whilst round its walls were grouped vases of terra cotta, of various forms, but all extremely graceful. There were also paterne containing eggs and various kinds of eatables, whilst others had obviously contained liquids, as the deposit yet remained. In the female chambers were discovered a skeleton of one—young and beautiful, perhaps, when she died—wearing earrings which represented two peacocks, the colour of the plumage being produced by smalt upon gold. The arms were adorned with bracelets of gold, in the form of a serpent. The dress of this relic of mortality must have been

TOMB JUST DISCOVERED AT CANOSA; AND PROJECTED RESTORATION OF ADJOINING TOMB.

embroidered, for garlands of myrtle were found, both the leaves and the berries made of gold leaf; and in these are still visible the holes which were perforated when they were attached to the dress. A diadem of flowers, mysterious as were those of the asphodel, was ranged around the head. The cups of the flowers were of various colours, and were represented by rubies, by jacinths, and by emeralds, and some by small of various colours. That, however, which merits a distinct notice is a ring, which was found on the finger of this skeleton. It is formed of two clubs of Hercules, completing a circle, and terminating beneath in what is called the knot of Hercules, in the middle of which is a ruby. The upper part of the ring is a box, made to hold hair or perfume, and the cover is formed of a gorgeous emerald. The whole body of the ring is adorned with beautiful designs in filagree, which are the admiration of all the goldsmiths in Naples. The archæologists have been more particularly delighted with two gold medals found in this same tomb—having on one side, in relievo, the figure of a bull, the symbol of the earth; and on the other the head of the fountain of Juno, crowned with reeds. Such are the principal objects which have been discovered within this highly interesting tomb; the description of which will appear as fabulous almost as any of the illusions of the "Arabian Nights," but we have seen these objects within the last twenty-four hours, and seeing is believing. Passing to the second compartment, which we have marked B, and which is as yet untouched, nothing more is to be said than that the works will be resumed here after Easter. The portion of the design marked C has on the left side a small lateral room, just discovered. The entrance is decorated with two columns and a frontispiece. In this chamber were found the remains of a battle-horse, which had been sacrificed on the death of a warrior here buried. Its harness, ornaments, and bridle—all in bronze—were found here, as also a quantity of arms of various kinds. Some, perhaps, had served the purposes of the warrior, and some were trophies. The lower part of the tomb facing us in this compartment is that which has been already described in the Illustrated London News. In a short time it will be restored, according to the design here given, and with the original materials, which have been collected, and are carefully preserved in a chamber close at hand. The shade on the upper tier of columns marks the condition in which they were found, and their actual state. The restoration will commence from the shade line; and, when completed, this tomb will form an architectural curiosity perfectly unique. We may venture here to express a hope that his Sicilian Majesty, who has prosecuted these excavations hitherto with so much spirit, and has been so ably seconded by the Princes Bisignano and St. Georgio, will not relax his efforts in a work in which the whole artistic and antiquarian world is so deeply interested. It is expected that Signor Bonucci, director of the excavations, will resume operations immediately after Easter.

Henry Wreford.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

Sunday, April 15.—1st Sunday after Easter. Mutiny at Spithead, 1797.
Monday, 16.—Buffon died, 1788.
Tuesday, 17.—Abernethy died, 1831.
Wednesday, 18.—Oxford and Cambridge Term ends.
Thursday, 19.—St. Alphage. Lord Byron died, 1824.
Friday, 20. Spanish Fleet destroyed by Admiral Blake, 1657.
Saturday, 21.—Bishop Heber born, 1783.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 21.

Sunday.		Monday		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
1 6	1 23	1 44	2 3	2 23	2 45	3 3	3 21	3 40	3 57	4 15	4 34	4 51	5 11

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1855.

Parliament will reassemble under peculiar circumstances—not the least remarkable of which is the paralysation of party action under the influence of the double crisis. A few days must bring decisive tidings from Vienna, and may bring them from Sebastopol. We may hear that Alexander II. has consented to surrender Russian ascendancy in the Euxine; we may be informed that Canrobert and Raglan have anticipated his Imperial Majesty's resolution; or, as now seems to be expected, we may learn that the peace negotiations cannot be protracted with advantage. Whatever be the situation into which events may resolve themselves during the present month, it will be a very grave one; and faction—let it range itself on which side it may—must be silenced in presence of such operations. The visit of the Emperor of the French will, moreover, force the Houses of Parliament into a sort of holiday demonstration. There must be gratulations and compliments; and these, in ordinary decorum, must be unanimous. A family may be at extremely high words—and that species of aggravation which can be practised advantageously only in families, from the intimate knowledge each belligerent possesses of the weak points of all the others, may be at its intensest, when a visitor's entrance lays the whole storm. A general expression of gladness, and particular justifications of such gladness at such a time, and amiable testimonies to the hopes which had been previously expressed that such a visit should take place, succeed to the taunt and the homethrust; and not only is there peace for the time, but after the guest's departure the interval of courtesy is found to have done good. Something of this sort will be seen to have taken place in the House of Commons. Mr. Disraeli is "well up" in the supposed weak places of the Ministry, which he considers too aristocratic for such a country as this; besides its having a coalition taint upon it, and possessing no fixed principles, and being altogether incapable, and so forth; and Lord Palmerston is seldom at a loss for retort upon a party that is hungry for office, but distrusts its leaders, has little or no talent in its ranks, and is obnoxious to the nation; nor are the *dii minores* on either side much less ready with similar charges and counter-charges. But we shall not hear much of this kind of thing while the Emperor of the French is here. The satisfaction of Lord Palmerston at the presence of our noble ally will only be equalled by the delight of Mr. Disraeli that a great and wise Monarch should have selected such a time for his appearance; and perhaps the leader of Opposition will even congratulate her Majesty on having some one in the country who can give her judicious counsel at such a formidable conjuncture. And if the importance of the crisis should prove insufficient to ensure a statesmanlike gravity in its treatment, the duty prescribed by courtesy to the illustrious guest will infuse a becoming tone into the Parliamentary discussions of the time.

But the "lull," we take it, will not be of any long duration. The attitude of all parties must necessarily be that of expectation, for the moment, and any premature move would be received with the utmost impatience. There will be a home conflict, let the European question be decided which way it may. The conduct of the war, or the conditions of the peace, will supply equally matter for those who are bent on political strife; but still they must wait and see whether it is with war or peace that they are to be indignant. As soon as this is known the trumpet will, doubtless, give no uncertain sound. In the mean time, perhaps, the Budget may afford earlier scope for the energies of the discontented. For, whether peaceful or warlike counsels prevail, there is a bill to be paid. How Sir Cornewall Lewis intends to pay it remains to be seen (may we hope, *par parenthèse*, that all idea of getting it out of Russia, in the same way as we did out of China, has not been abandoned—the silver rouble will be as welcome in Threadneedle-street as the Sycee silver); but he has a more formidable task before him than any Chancellor of the Exchequer who has preceded him for many a day. We are disposed to think that, though his Budget will be a good deal criticised, it will not be torn to pieces, for reasons which have less to do with its own merits than with the situation of those who, were it destroyed, might have to concoct another. We shall not to be surprised to see the Budget—with the loan, to which all people seem to have made up their minds—disposed of with comparative ease.

Then, however, will come more serious business. It is not for nothing that the great Conservative party has been drawing together, appealing to traditions of our past military glory, fighting all election battles, obtaining what individual popularity was to be got at, and generally consolidating itself. Its leaders have not yet proclaimed war; but Russia, moving down upon the Pruth, gave not more significant intimation of her intention than the recent policy of the Opposition has afforded. The party is too strong to remain inactive, though not as yet strong enough to act independently. The incidents of the next few weeks may settle its position for a long period to come. Brilliant success in the Crimea, or an honourable and satisfactory treaty at Vienna, and the Opposition will have little chance of success in a hostile demonstration, or an appeal to the country. But reverses or long inaction at Sebastopol, and, still more, an unworthy and patched-up peace, and the road to office may be open to those who are eager to rush upon it. We will not so far wrong any class of statesmen as to impute to them a desire that the events at Vienna or in the Crimea may furnish them with political capital; but it is manifest that a large party is watching with no friendly eye the proceedings directed by Lord Palmerston's Government.

This state of things is, of course, perfectly well known to the Liberal party as to the Opposition. Already we have rumours that the Government contemplates measures, at home and abroad, which are designed to prevent the alienation of national confidence, and which are to afford rallying cries to the friends of the Cabinet. Lord John Russell may return either as a triumphant negotiator, or as one who has boldly asserted in Congress the sentiments he expressed in Parliament; another alternative may bring him home as the unpopular arranger of an unworthy peace—in which case it will be still more necessary that he should have something in store for the redemption of his character. It is said that the Representation of the People has not ceased to occupy his attention, and that his chief now approves his views. Then it is manifest that, whether peace or war is to occupy Europe, a bold course of action in regard to certain nationalities—one which should be at once an effort in the cause of liberty and a military operation of great advantage—would be a *coup de maître* on the part of an English Minister. Movements with which the name of Poland is connected are somewhat freely discussed in high places. Whether at present the two ideas in question are merely promulgated for temporary purposes, to be laid aside should they not be needed, we will not now discuss. It is sufficient for our purpose that such things are "ventilated," for they are evidence that the lull produced by the crisis is not expected long to survive the events that have, for the hour, paralysed party strife.

Since August 3, 1854, the minimum rate of discount at the Bank of England has been 5 per cent, but last week it was lowered to $4\frac{1}{2}$—a sign of money becoming more abundant and cheaper. Between January 20th, when the bullion in the Bank was £12,162,495, and the 31st March, when it was £15,205,527, it has increased £3,043,032. Within the same period the reserve, or cash, in the Bank, which it is ready and willing to lend, has increased from £6,116,825 to £9,717,217, or £3,600,392. But the money out of the Bank, or in the hands of individuals, is also abundant, or the bill-discounters have so much to lend, that in Lombard-street bills are discounted at lower terms than $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, and the Bank gets no bills, or is unable to lend money at its present terms. After a long period, from the beginning of 1852 to the autumn of 1854, of increasing and successful trade, a period of comparative stagnation and less successful trade has arrived. The chief causes of the rapid increase subsequent to 1851 were the gold discoveries in California, which gave a great extension to enterprise in the United States, and the gold discoveries in Australia, which in like manner affected our business. But towards the close of 1854 it was fully ascertained that the previous progress had been more rapid than sound; that the markets of California and Australia were overdone; that enterprise in the States had in many cases had a fraudulent basis; and bankruptcies became numerous in our colony, at home, and in the States. In the last six months the imports into the States have fallen off a full fourth, which has affected our manufactures; while the trade with Australia has not only fallen off—it has latterly brought home insufficient returns. At present commercial enterprise in both countries is very much curtailed; but much more, be it particularly remembered, in the States, which have had no war, than in our country; and in both countries money is now, in consequence of the diminution of commercial enterprise, comparatively abundant and cheap. A New York paper of the 24th says "the abundance of money is the inevitable result of the contraction of business, and of the effort to get out of debt; while there was, till the summer of 1854, only a desire to increase business and get into debt." If the present condition of trade, therefore, be less showy and dazzling than at the beginning of last year, it is more sound both at home and in the States. The reduction in the rate of discount will at least relieve business of one difficulty, if it give business no new impulse; but the probability is, that the increasing abundance of money seeking employment will stimulate enterprise; and the year 1855, as it advances, will be more prosperous than was the close of 1854.

The Duke de Grammont, French Minister at Turin, is about to proceed to Rome, and offer his good offices in the differences which have arisen between the Holy See and Piedmont.

THE COURT.

The most active preparations are in progress for the recepti of their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of the Fren who are expected to arrive at Windsor Castle on Monday next Tuesday a grand dinner and evening party will take place at the Cas and on Wednesday, it is understood, the Emperor will be invested w the Insignia of the Order of the Garter. Thursday is to be devoted a visit to the Crystal Palace; and on one of the succeeding days of t week the Emperor and Empress will honour the city of London w their presence at the Guildhall; the visit closing on Saturday

The incidents of the week just closed have necessarily been few unimportant

On Saturday last her Majesty and his Serene Highness the Princ Leiningen, with the Princess Helena and Prince Arthur, drove out in open carriage. His Royal Highness Prince Albert accompanied Majesty on horseback

On Sunday the Queen and Prince, the four elder Royal children, the Prince of Leiningen, the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, and domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel of Castle The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor performed service, and administered the Holy Communion

On Monday the Queen and Prince, accompanied by the Princ Leiningen, rode out in the morning. The four elder members of Royal family rode on horseback The younger Royal children took t accustomed exercise In the afternoon the Queen and the Princ Leiningen drove out in a carriage. The Prince Consort accompanied horseback.

On Tuesday there was no addition to the Royal dinner-party.

On Wednesday the Queen and Prince, accompanied by the Prince Leiningen, walked in the Home-park. Her Majesty afterwards rode the riding house, attended by the Hon Flora Macdonald.

On Thursday the Prince Consort presided at a meeting of the Comm sioners of the Patriotic Fund, at the New Palace of Westminster.

The Viscountess Canning has succeeded the Duchess of Ath as the Lady in Waiting to her Majesty. Lord Rivers and Ge ral Sir Edward Bowater have succeeded Earl Somers and the Hon. M timer Sackville West as Lord and Groom in Waiting.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge leaves London Monday for Windsor Castle, where he will remain a guest of her Maje until Thursday next.

The marriage of the Earl of Lichfield and the Lady Harr Hamilton, eldest daughter of the Marquis and Marchioness of Abercor took place at Brocket-hall, Herts, on Tuesday last.

THE APPROACHING VISIT OF THE EMPEROR AN EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.

The Emperor and Empress will leave Paris on Sunday by railway Boulogne. The following personages will have the honour of acc panying the Imperial visitors: In the suite of the Emperor: His E cellency Marshal Vaillant, M. le Grand Maréchal du Palais, and Excellency the Duke de Bassano, M. le Grand Chambellan. Aides Camp: General Comte de Montebello, M. le Colonel Fleury, M le Colo Fleury, M le Comte Comte Edgar Ney, and M. le Marquis de Toul gon, Officier d'Ordonnance. In the suite of the Empress: Madame Princesse d'Essling, Grande Maîtresse. Dames du Palais—Mdme. la Co tesse de Montebello, Mdme la Baronne Malaret. Premier Chambel M. le Comte Charles de Tascher de la Pagerie.

The Emperor and Empress will probably sleep at Boulogne, and ea on Monday morning proceed to Dover; where the Imperial visitors will received by his Royal Highness Prince Albert. His Excellency L Cowley will accompany the Emperor, and proceed with the Impe cortège to Windsor Castle Orders have been given to have apartme prepared for the Emperor and Empress of the French and their suit and a *déjeûner* is to be ready for their Majesties and the Prince at two o'clock on Monday next, the 16th instant, at the Lord Warden Ho Their Majesties will leave Dover for Windsor Castle by a special train two p.m. on Monday.

It is understood that their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empr of the French will arrive at Windsor, by the Great Western Railway, six o'clock on Monday evening. The august visitors will be received a guard of honour, composed of the 94th Regiment of the Line, n quartered at the Sheet-street Barracks, a company of the Foot Guar from the Tower, and by a detachment from the Rifle Brigade. The Ma of Windsor (John Clode, Esq) will have the honour of receiving the ill trious visitors on their arrival at the terminus in the Royal borough.

The Lord Chamberlain will be in attendance to conduct the Emperor a Empress to her Majesty's waiting room, which is beautifully fitted up the Arabesque style; and afterwards to the magnificent apartments p pared for them at the Castle. On emerging from the Windsor Railw Station, their Imperial Majesties will pass through a triumphal a erected at the junction between Thames-street and High street. Th will also be another triumphal arch erected in Castle-street under whi the Royal carriages will pass. The Castle-green, immediately bene the Castle walls, opposite to the establishment of Mr. Layton, confection to the Queen, will be furnished with thousands of seats, which will exte as far as Henry VIII.'s Gate, for the accommodation of the public tickets being previously granted by the committee.

On the arrival of the Emperor and Empress at the Castle they will received at the grand entrance by her Majesty the Queen, his Royal Hi ness the Prince Consort, and by the brilliant circle of visitors invited do due honour to the auspicious occasion.

On Tuesday next the Mayor and Corporation of Windsor, in th official robes, will present an address of congratulation to the Empe Napoleon III., and afterwards participate in a public dinner of the inhabitants, to be given at the Town-hall.

There will be state dinners at the Castle on every evening after t Emperor's arrival; and, subsequent to the investiture of his Imper Majesty with the Order of the Garter, on Wednesday, a magnificent be quet will be given, at which many of the nobility and gentry will present. There will be a review of the whole of the Household troo The 2nd Life Guards are at present in garrison, but the 1st Life Gua and the Royal Horse Guards (Blue) are expected next Monday, and w be billetted for two or three days on the inhabitants.

The Hon. and Very Rev the Dean of Windsor, who is brother to Lo Cowley, the British Ambassador at Paris, has placed his residence in t Cloisters at the service of a portion of the Emperor's suite, an l great p parations are in progress to redecorate the ancient mansion. The prepa tions at the Castle are by no means complete, no less than 300 workm being still engaged.

It is said that the six days to which their Majesties' visit will exte will be divided between Windsor Castle and Buckingham Palace; t the Queen will herself conduct the illustrious visitors to an inspecti of the Crystal Palace, and to a performance at the Italian Opera; a that her Majesty will give either a State concert or ball at Buckingha Palace during the short stay of the Emperor and Empress.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge and a brilliant party w be present at Windsor Castle as the guests of her Most Gracious Majes

The Emperor Napoleon is said to have intimated to the Lord May through official channels, his desire and that of the Empress to pay personal visit to the City. The visit of their Imperial Majesties to Crystal Palace will probably take place on Thursday, the 19th. T public will be excluded from the building itself while they are maki their inspection; but in their progress they will present themselves the balcony to the people assembled in the gardens. Season tick holders will be admitted to the interior during luncheon in t Queen's apartments, and her Majesty and her august visitors will th pass down the entire length of the Palace to the place of exit behind t Pompeian Court.

By these arrangements the inhabitants of the metropolis and the pub at large will have ample opportunities afforded them for evincing t cordial satisfaction with which they hail the presence of the Emperor a Empress of the French upon English soil.

The arrangements for the reception of the Emperor and Empress of t French at Guildhall are being completed with the greatest rapidity, und the able superintendence of Mr. Bunning, the City architect. As at p sent proposed, their Majesties will alight from their carriage in Gresha street, and proceed by a covered platform to the entrance to the G in front of the Hall, which will also be covered, and will accommodate abo 1700 persons. There will be accommodation for nearly 1500 in the Hall, a seats will be provided in the different lobbies on the north side of the H to dining 300 more. It is also proposed, subject to alteration hereaft that their Majesties will, on entering the Hall, turn to the east (the righ and sit upon the throne which will be placed there, when the address the Corporation will be presented to them. They afterwards proceed the Council Chamber; and, after partaking of the *déjeûner* which will there provided, will depart by the route they took on entering

The members of the Army and Navy Club have determined to inv the Emperor of the French to a public entertainment at their splen Club-house in Pall-mall, on any day proved convenient to his Majesty dur his stay in London Four hundred officers of the two services have p down their names.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

A GOVERNMENT LOAN.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has transmitted the following notice to the Governor and Deputy-Governor of the Bank of England, as a medium of communication with the Stock Exchange:—

Treasury Chambers, April 12, 1855

Gentlemen, I beg leave to inform you, and request that you will make it known in the usual manner, that Lord Palmerston and I shall be ready to see any gentlemen who may be desirous of contracting for a loan for the service of the present year, on Monday next, the 16th instant, at one o'clock, in order to inform them of the amount which will be wanted, and to fix the time and the manner of the bidding; and I hope it will be convenient to you, or one of you, to meet those gentlemen here at that hour.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient, humble servant,
The Governor and Deputy-Governor of the Bank of England. G. Cornewall Lewis

The announcement made to-day by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the Stock Exchange that on Monday he will be prepared to meet parties and receive proposals for a loan is no more than was anticipated, the expenses of the current year being about £30,000,000 beyond the ordinary expenditure. The loan will most probably be for about £20,000,000. Opinions are divided, however, as to the probable mode in which it will be raised. It is not expected that any further additions will be made to Consols, and while some lean to the idea that a Three-and-a-Half per Cent Stock at par may be offered, others consider it most likely that a further extension of the various terminable annuities may be made, which would be readily taken for another twenty-five years, and would provide fully three-fourths of the probable amount required.—*From the Globe of yesterday.*

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

Letters from Constantinople, of the 2nd of April, state that all the Allied fleet would soon sail for Sebastopol, in order to co-operate in the general attack. General Canrobert is said to have conferred with Admiral Bruat on the subject of a grand movement of the fleets. Admiral Lyons is making the blockade in the Black Sea more stringent.

According to a telegraphic despatch from the *Times* Correspondent in the Crimea, dated April 1 (this must be an error), the Allied armies were quite ready to open their fire on Sebastopol. The Generals probably only awaited the arrival of despatches from home before beginning the bombardment, which might be expected to take place any day during the ensuing week. The Generals wished to spare the town and public buildings. The Russians still shelled the Allied camp and batteries, but the guns of the Allies were nearly silent. The fire of musketry on both sides was active every night. The weather was fine and dry. Two fires had occurred in Balaclava, a circumstance which excited suspicions of treachery. The Russians were concentrating themselves towards Baidar. The garrison of Sebastopol was on short rations, as the authorities preferred storing up their supplies in magazines to issuing full rations.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* says:—

It is said that a modification in the military operations is intended to be announced, which may necessitate a removal of a considerable portion of the army from before Sebastopol. Already people are beginning of talk of strongly fortifying Balaclava and Kamiesch with from 12,000 to 15,000 men each, supported by the squadrons, and transferring the mass of the army to some part of the southern provinces of Russia. They may either proceed to the attack of Odessa, or with the Imperial Guard and the Sardinian contingent enter Bessarabia. Such conjectures, however, can as yet only be attributed to the article in question. It is rumoured that we are to have another levy of 100,000 men in France, and that from 60,000 to 80,000 troops will be placed at the disposal of Austria, should war be the issue of the Conferences of Vienna.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.

The latest accounts from Vienna speak as though there was very little hope of peace being concluded. Letters from St. Petersburg, received in Paris on Thursday, speak in very positive terms of the determination of the Emperor of Russia to consent to no limitation of his force in the Black Sea, on the ground that the Allies have gained no advantage which would justify them in making any such demand.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The following has arrived at Trieste, in anticipation of the Overland Mail:—

The steamer *Calcutta* arrived on the 11th April, at half-past three o'clock p.m., in 124 hours, from Alexandria. The India Mail left Alexandria on the 6th inst. with intelligence from Calcutta to the 10th; Madras, 14th; Bombay, 18th March. Mr. Laurence has gone to Peshawur to negotiate a treaty with Dost Mahommed. Lord Dalhousie was at the Neilgherries. The reorganisation of the military departments is complete, and the system works admirably. All usury laws throughout India have been abolished. The natives are petitioning the Council for an act to prevent polygamy.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

Preferments and Appointments.—*Rectories:* The Rev. J. M. Lee to Botley, near Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire; Rev. M. Farrell to Woughton-on-the-Green, near Fenny Stratford; Hon. and Rev. J. Gifford to Widworthy, near Honiton, Devonshire; Rev. S. Thackwell to Little Berkhamsteadshire; Rev. J. T. Johnson to Beccles, Suffolk; Rev. H. P. Cooke to Nuneham Courtenay, Oxfordshire; Rev. W. Ewing to North Pakenham, near Swaffham; Rev. G. Coulcher to Wattesfield, near Bury St. Edmunds; Rev. H. C. Pigou to Wyke Regis, near Weymouth; Rev. R. H. Scott to Woodton, Isle of Wight; Rev. J. M. Larkom to Guestling, Sussex; Rev. R. Carter to Brantham, Suffolk. *Vicarages.* The Rev. J. Fitzgerald to Borden, near Sittingbourne; Rev. J. Atkins to Ombersley, near Droitwich. *Incumbency.* The Rev. Symonds to Baldhu, near Truro.

The Lords of the Admiralty have notified to the Rev. J. C. Conolly, Chaplain of the Dockyard, Woolwich, that they have voted £300 for the improvement of the Dockyard Chapel, and to repair the damage done on the west side when the *Perseverance* fell upon it.

Testimonial.—A deputation from the poor of St. Matthew's district, Westminster, have presented the Rev. Alfred Jones, Chaplain of Asylum Hospital, Hoxton, with a silver cup, in testimony of his ministry among them during ten years.

The Monument to the Late Dean of Wells, described in the Illustrated London News of March 31, was designed by Mr. S. S. Teulon, architect.

A Committee, composed of members of the Church Protestant Defence Society, Evangelical Alliance, National Club, Protestant Alliance, &c., have convened an "aggregate meeting of Protestants" on the subject of Maynooth, on Tuesday next, at the Freemasons'-hall.

Orders have been received at Woolwich to fit out, with all dispatch, twelve 9-pounder field batteries and two 12-pounder batteries, for immediate service.

The Foley-place Murder.—The trial of Luigi Buranelli for the murder of Joseph Latham, on the 7th of January, took place before Mr. Justice Erle, on Thursday. On the part of the prisoner several witnesses were called to prove that he was subject at times to mental aberration. The jury, after having retired a quarter of an hour, gave a verdict of "Guilty."

Christ's Hospital.—According to annual custom, the Bluecoat boys, to the number of about 800, were presented to the Lord Mayor and Mayoress, in the Egyptian Hall, at the Mansion House, on Tuesday, when a more than usually large attendance of ladies and gentlemen were present to witness the interesting ceremony, in consequence of its being known that the Duke of Cambridge would attend. The Lord Mayor briefly addressed the boys, congratulating them upon the advantages which have been conferred upon them by the instruction which they had received in one of the noblest institutions of the City. The boys then then retired to the drawing-room, where the boys received from the Lord Mayor 1s. each, and partook of a bun and a glass of ale. We shall give an engraving of the proceedings next week.

The Newspaper Stamp.—A deputation, consisting of Mr. Baxter, president of the Provincial Newspaper Society, and proprietor of the *Sussex Express*; Mr. Johnson Gedge, of the *Bury Post*; Mr. Austin, of the *Maidstone Journal*; Mr. Richard Johnson, of the *Worcester Journal*; Mr. E. Baines, of the *Leeds Mercury*; Mr. Kenyday, of the *Leeds Intelligencer*; and Mr. Hudson, of the *Leeds Times*, had an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Thursday, at his official residence in Downing-street, to present a resolution unanimously adopted by a meeting of provincial newspaper proprietors yesterday in London, in favour of a halfpenny stamp for newspapers, to entitle them to pass through the post, instead of a penny; and also to press that the registration with sureties should not be confined to small newspapers as may be printed on stamped paper

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

There is every prospect of a good Exhibition of pictures at the Royal Academy. Rumour is busy in praise of many contributions, and we can confirm what is generally said by our own observation.

Sunday last and the two following days were dedicated by amateurs, as other first days in April have long been dedicated, to a round of visits to the studios of our principal artists. This visiting is no light work. Our artists no longer congregate in Berners-street and Newman-street: some are at Hampstead, some at Kensington, some at Bayswater, and some in the hidden and difficult recesses of St. John's-wood. To visit them all, and go through with proper politeness the requisite ceremony of compliment and sight-seeing, is simply impossible; but much may be done by dogged determination to see what is to be seen, and the result will always be found more than sufficient for the time dedicated, and the distances that have been accomplished.

We have no hesitation in saying ditto to rumour's assertion, that Mr. Roberts's single contribution will be one of the largest and most attractive pictures in the collection. It is in every respect a noble work of art, embracing a panorama-like view of ancient and modern Rome, rendered in a most masterly manner, and recalling the ages of Augustus and Leo most unmistakably to the spectator. This city of cities is represented by our English Canaletti under the warm effects of a setting sun: a red hue, almost of melancholy (and therefore not inappropriate), pervades the whole composition. The Tiber is seen winding its way as it minduf that the great city it once watered has seen not only its decline but its fall, and that a lazy course to the sea is becoming the dignity of its former importance. Mr. Roberts has very seldom shown a more poetic sense of the sublime in art than in this picture. While one stands before it it is impossible not to rush into poetry. Of Roberts's "Rome" it may be safely said that the execution will amply satisfy the expectation it must necessarily awaken

Mr. Stanfield's large picture will gratify expectation in a similar degree. The subject is "The Fall of St. Sebastian" (we had nearly written Sebastopol), and the picture itself is painted as a companion to the "Gibraltar" and "Man-of-War Conveying the Dead Body of Nelson"—which no lover of true art is likely to forget. The "St. Sebastian" is a commission, it is said, from Sir Morton Peto.

Rumour is not wrong in asserting that Mr. Maclise will contribute a very fine picture to the same Exhibition. He has chosen his subject from Shakspeare—from "As You Like It—the wrestling scene between *Orlando*, and *Charles*. With great good judgment Mr. Maclise has avoided taking the actual encounter of strength. He has made it more of an intellectual fight; and has admirably contrasted the muscular *Charles* with the mental *Orlando*. Nor is *Charles* too much of a Broughton or Dutch Sam; he is more of a pocket Hercules. Very exquisite indeed is that statuesque group of *Rosalind* and *Celia*. What exquisite faces!—what happy realisations of the female character as rendered by Shakspeare! Mr. Maclise has told his story on an English lawn in front of a mediæval mansion, that is said to be an accurate copy of a stately residence near Maidstone belonging to Mr. Betts. The picture, we believe, was painted for Mrs. Betts, the sister of Sir Morton Peto, and is one of a series of commissions from the same lady to our ablest artists. These railway monarchs have the good sense to commission good things. Why does not Mr. Brassey copy the excellent example of his partners?

To the same Exhibition Sir Edwin Landseer is to send only one picture. We have not heard its name, but it is safely described as very fine, with dogs and the usual Landseer addenda.

The newly-elected Royal Academician (Mr. E. M. Ward), with the customary coyness of a new member, has nothing to send. But Mr. Ward has been busy at the new Houses of Parliament; and, though the Exhibition will suffer from his absence, we must impute his not sending to a better reason than the custom of the Academy

Mr. Egg, too long an absentee, will atone, and ably, for the absence of Mr. Ward. He has three pictures in all and two are in one frame. His subjects are from Tom Moore, and from the life and death of the second Duke of Buckingham, of the Villiers family. The Moore is a prison scene, and represents a patriot rebel in the arms of his faithful wife. The figures are erect, and the expression on the woman's face is wonderfully fine. Her eyes beam with hope—admirably supported by a gleam of sunshine which passes across the composition, and speaks of happier scenes to come, as it reflects its light on the prison mattress and the prison fare. The twin picture is more ambitious. In the composition, to the left the Duke is seen.

Gallant and gay in Cliveden's proud alcove,
The bower of wanton Shrewsbury and love.

It is a supper-scene, and the toast of the evening is being drunk by the assembled guests, including King Charles II. himself. The moon looks in upon the scene of revelry. The Duke is in the centre, in white satin; the King is in dark blue. The whole picture is true to the times and to the life of the versatile Duke. Not less true to the death of the Duke is the second picture. We have here the worst inn's worst room; the scene, in short, as rendered immortal by Pope, in his poem "On the Use of Riches." What a contrast to the companion picture is this death-bed scene! This lord of useless thousands, this terror of wits, this envy of Whitehall—

Bold in the lists and graceful in the dance—

this man on whom all eyes naturally turned as soon as he entered a room, so easy was his bearing—is here nothing more than food for the worms. The contrast is solemn and suggestive.

The admirers of Mr. Frith—and he has a large and increasing circle—must be content with seeing him this year on a small scale, though as charming and true to nature as ever. One little bit—an illustration for a song by Moore (of course a tale of love) is exquisitely beautiful.

In that great stronghold of our school—landscape painting—we are to have some new and clever candidates for fame; but Mr. Creswick, from what we have seen and hear, will more than maintain his superiority in that walk of art with which his name is inseparably connected. When we are told that a collector possesses "a Creswick" we know at once that he has a good picture, and one that is true to nature and English scenery.

The Associates send strongly. Hook and Puckergill will be found to excel in figure-pieces. Our English Vandervelde (Mr. E. W. Cooke) has a winter piece—a Mill on Whittlesea Mere—that will more than sustain his well-earned reputation. Mr. Millais is in great force. His subject from common life—a Fireman Rescuing a Family from the Flames—treated with his fine feeling for the true pathos and sublime of human life. Here, then, is promise. We shall have, however, to regret the absence of Mr. Frost, whose delicate creations are not easily supplied elsewhere.

Favourite contributors without the pale of the Academy will be seen to advantage. Mr. Ansdell sends a pair of gamekeepers—an English gamekeeper and a Scottish gamekeeper; the characteristics of both countries admirably depicted in the faces of the men, in the scenery around them, and the dead game about them. Mr. Solomon has a Boulogne sea-shore scene, in which sickness and health, low life and high life, are most strikingly and touchingly contrasted. Mr. Glasse contributes a Prairie picture. The first Monday in May, we may safely assert, is more than likely to supply a treat to the lovers of art.

In Literature we hear of nothing of greater moment than the forthcoming "Life of Washington," by Washington Irving. The work is printed, and ready for delivery. But who is the London publisher? In the present uncertain state of the law no one is willing to venture his money in purchasing what anybody may reprint. As the law stands, no publisher is fool enough to open an account with an American book. It is not worth his trouble. The hardship of Mr. Irving's case may perhaps elicit a larger sympathy with the pockets of English authors than our American brethren have been in the habit of exhibiting. If this is so, we may have, before very long, a reciprocity of copyright, by which authors and readers will both gain.

Our contemporaries are giving circulation to a stupid paragraph respecting "a new Royal residence," which her Majesty, it is said, is about to purchase and inhabit. Denbies, near Dorking, is alleged to be the place, and Sir William Cubitt is the person whose house her Majesty has pleased to desire. Now it so happens that Denbies belongs to Mr. Thomas Cubitt, no relation whatever of Sir William; more than this, there is no truth whatever in the story.

The admirers of Mr. Martin's genius should make a point of visiting the three last efforts of his pencil, "The Last Judgment," "The Great Day of Wrath," and "The Plains of Heaven." They have never been properly seen in London, but are now on view and well hung at No. 52, Threadneedle-street.

THE CRISIS OF THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.

It is, perhaps, a singular coincidence that we shall receive the intelligence of the final determination of the Czar during the visit to England of the Emperor of the French. The certainty of our having to wage together a great European war may be announced, perhaps, at the very moment that our gracious Queen is investing the Emperor Napoleon with the insignia of the highest honour she has to bestow; or the news of peace might be proclaimed as Victoria and her Imperial ally pace the transept of Sydenham, surrounded by the arts and works of peace.

It is now certain that the instructions of Prince Gortschakoff and of M. Titoff cannot reach Vienna before the 16th, and may not arrive there till, perhaps, the 20th. The most probable date is, perhaps, the 17th or 18th; until which day public anxiety must postpone its impatience.

Whatever Conferences may be held previously to that date will have reference to matters of comparatively minor importance.

We are glad to be able to state that the professions of the Court of Vienna are most satisfactory to the Western Powers; that, if peace be not now attained, our ally is prepared to use his utmost efforts in war to obtain the object of our alliance.

The King of Prussia, whose Russian tendencies were but the other day pushing him strongly to ally himself with the Czar, has, as we predicted, found his heart fail him; and we believe we are correct in asserting that he has written a letter to the Emperor of Russia urging him to send Count Nesselrode in person to make peace if possible; and warning him that, if the attainment of peace should be prevented by unnecessary obstacles set up by the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, then all Germany would, no doubt, side with Austria and the Western Powers; and that Prussia, deserted by her German friends, would find herself in an extremely difficult position.

It is thought by some that this step on the part of Prussia may have some influence at St. Petersburg; but we confess we think that, if the weighty reasons that Russia has for yielding to our terms fail to induce to that course, the selfish arguments of the Court of Berlin will hardly be likely to determine Russia to sacrifice what she considers her truest interests to those of her valued neighbour.

If the King of Prussia really desired that his nephew should accept our terms, he would join our alliance. This would argue genuine approval and genuine determination; but, so long as he holds aloof from either party, he is only in the position of a man who, from fear, shrinks from adopting any definite line of policy. We do not believe that he will ever join Russia; we consider that we have material guarantees for that. Whether, however, he will join us till his aid is worthless, and his power nil, is more than we can pretend to say.

Since the proclamations and speeches of the Emperor, and the circular note of Count Nesselrode, we have no indications of any change in the policy of the Russian Cabinet; and the question remains the same—Will Russia postpone her dignity, reduce her fleet, and abolish her aggressive power in the Black Sea, or will she brave the alternative of an European war? We shall know this next week.—*Morning Post.*

Grand Military Ball at Edinburgh.—The pavilion engraved in the Illustrated London News of last week was from a daguerreotype taken by M. Popowitz.

A Business Man.—A commercial gentleman recently arrived at Niagara Falls just before midnight. He immediately bought a globe-lantern, crossed to Goat Island, examined the cataract, and, in thirty-seven minutes, had finished up the great American wonder, and was once more on his way to Albany.

For the second time, the clergy of the Convent of St. Sergius, near Moscow (which passes for one of the richest convents in Russia), have presented a sum of money to the Emperor for the purpose of carrying on the war, their gift on this occasion amounting to nearly a million francs.

All the electric telegraphs throughout the Pontifical States are now open to the public. A despatch of 25 words or under, transmitted to a distance not exceeding 40 miles, costs about 2f. 60c. (2s. 2d.)

A few days back Mr. John Harsit, a workman at Paisley, was presented with a purse containing 50 sovereigns, a handsome gold watch and appendages, and a gold ring for his wife, as a token of public respect for having rescued upwards of twenty persons from drowning in the river Cart.

Barbarous Uniformity.—St. Petersburg letters of the 31st ult. let us into some of the secrets of the Russian army. Strangers returning from the city of the Czars had more than once expressed their astonishment at beholding whole regiments, the uniformity of whose costume extended to their hair. The letter in question explains how this result is arrived at. "The Emperor has designed to order—1st, that the soldiers who mount guard on week-days shall not be required to dye either their hair or whiskers; and, secondly, that Sundays and feast-days they must mount guard with their hair and whiskers waxed and dressed."

The Queen of Spain has been pleased to confer the honour of Chevalier of the Order of Charles III. on Mr. W. J. Smith, of her Majesty's Office of Works, Whitehall.

Cremorne Gardens. The Easter festivities at this popular resort were liberally patronised on Monday, and the musical and other novelties which had been advertised appeared to give great satisfaction.

"Sparks and Specs of Sam Slick" at the Polytechnic Institution.—On Saturday evening we were favoured with a private view of this Dioruma, which is both novel in character and excellent in effect. After some delay, rendered necessary by the important preparations for so extensive an experiment, Mr. Pepper appeared, and explained the difficulties under which they laboured, and stated that it was the first attempt at a rehearsal of the entertainment. The working, however, of the Dioruma proved better than had been expected. The lecturer, who was not named, but who was either, by general report, Mr. Sheppard or Mr. Hall, stated that the Egyptian-hall Dioruma of some years since was the origin of these that are now so frequently exhibited. The present is certainly painted in a highly-pleasing style, well illustrative of the lecture, besides presenting a series of the great cities of the United States. Commencing at Liverpool, with the steamer lying off St. George's Docks, we are taken to witness the burning of the *Queen Bluancrh*, the stranding of the *Great Britain* in Dundrum-bay, a storm in the Atlantic and floating icebergs, and at length to Boston. Here the main interest of the dioruma really begins. To enable the *Britannia* steam-ship to sail for England, a channel is cut, eight miles in length, through the ice; the river steamers are brought into play, in order to land the passengers at Charleston, and enable them to arrive at Boston. Jenny Lind's hotel at New York was an object of interest, with the furniture, which was long preserved, until finally sold by auction—the auctioneer describing her bed as the "nightly receptacle of her vocalised bones." The Broadway also presents its points of attraction. Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington succeed. The lecture was, in parts, highly humorous in its details and reflections. Some interesting experiments on glass followed the exhibition of the dioruma, and the company parted highly delighted with the evening's entertainment.

South Wales Iron Works.—In consequence of the depressed state of the iron trade, and the high rate of wages which have for a length of time past been received by the workmen, the ironmasters of South Wales have determined to reduce the wages of their men to the extent of 10 per cent.

Expedition to the Interior of South Africa. (*From a Correspondent*)—I noticed in your paper of the 7th a paragraph respecting my brother Frederick's travels in South Africa, and his present expedition, in company with Mr. Dalton, to the Great Lake in Ngami. Mr. Anderton (not Mr. Anderson), a friend of my brother, is an experienced traveller in that region, and is at present in London preparing to give the public some account of his travels and adventures in Africa, and which, I have no doubt, will be faithful representations of what he has seen and done. My father, whom you designate as "Assistant-Commissioner on the frontier of the Cape Colony," was Deputy-Commissary-General there for some time; but latterly at Cape Town, and has now retired from the service. My brother has a further object in his present expedition—that of exploring the copper-ore region on the western coast. He is a young traveller for the experience he has had, being now twenty-six years of age.—W. G. Green, Chillingham Barns, Northumberland.

TOP LINE: NEPTUNE. CALCUTTA. CRESSY. DUKE OF WELLI

DEPARTURE OF THE BALT

CÆSAR. EDINBURGH. COLOSSUS. BLENHEIM. POWERFUL, AT ANCHOR.
NILE. AJAX HOGUE. JAMES WATT BASILISK
BULLDOG. GLADE.

FLEET FROM SPITHEAD.—(SEE PAGE 353.)

THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. XII.)

It has become a rather general belief that our recent disasters in the Crimea are attributable in a great degree to the aristocratic element which has been allowed to enter too largely into the composition of the heads of our Army, as well as into the principal offices of Government. Lord Palmerston, as a Premier belonging to the aristocracy, has been anxious to throw the blame from the shoulders of his "order;" and, in doing so, he rather unceremoniously attempted to cast the burden, with all the odium attaching to it, on to the unfortunate body of the Commissariat. The Premier argued that the department in question had been the weak point in the conduct of the war; and he assumed that, as the Commissariat is not made up of the materials objected to as aristocratic, it must be inferred that the aristocratic composition of our public service has not been the cause of our Crimean failures. It might naturally be expected that the department thus attacked by the Prime Minister would remonstrate against the treatment it has received; but it will surprise many people to hear the grounds on which the Commissariat complains of the alleged injustice that has been done to it. Passing over lightly the charges of incapacity, the Commissariat dwells with much sensibility on that part of the accusation which ranks the members of the department among the "common fellows," who have no aristocratic or gentle blood in their veins. It would, perhaps, have been a hopeless task to lay claim to much credit for ability; but the Commissariat had better have let the charge pass altogether unnoticed than have exhibited a maudlin sensitiveness to the sneers of Lord Palmerston on the class to which the body is presumed to belong. Nobody cares to know anything at all about the quality of the blood running in the veins of the whole of the Commissariat, whose members, instead of boasting of their own blood, had better render an account of that which has been sacrificed by their incapacity and neglect.

It is hardly a time to boast of aristocratic connection, when society is ringing with tales of scandal in which a member of a very aristocratic family has played a most disreputable part. Since all the daily papers have openly named the Hon. Francis Villiers—a son of the Earl and Countess of Jersey—it is unnecessary for the Silent Member to observe a solitary silence, as to the party against whom "painful rumours"—as they are always called when one of the upper circles has disgraced himself—have been for some time current. Without wishing to add to the sufferings of this very aristocratic family, one may legitimately ask whether such evils as the one that has lately happened are not sometimes aggravated by that cold exclusiveness which shuts out sympathy, and can see many to exult over the pride that has met a fall? Many will remember the slavish sycophancy which some years ago expressed its deep condolence with the distress of this very family at the calamity that had fallen upon it by the alliance of one of its daughters to a person of the middle class. "Society" was shocked at the contamination; and all the parasites of aristocracy lamented the *mesalliance* which is understood to have brought happiness to the two parties immediately concer ned, though the "honour of the family" is said to have never recovered the wound it then sustained. Let what has occurred be a warning to the nominally noble; that there are virtues out of their own class; and that, unless some of these virtues are from time to time imp orted into it, the honour of a family may either die away, or be exposed to those rude shocks, one of which has done more violence to the fame of the house of Jersey than the marriage of all its single members s at once into the middle classes would have inflicted

An attempt has been made to st op the gap at the Colonial-office by throwing into it a certain Ball, who, though not without ability, which he has from time to time displayed in the House of Commons, is wholly without experience in Colonial affairs. Mr. Ball goes to his new appointment, at all events, without prejudice, for it is impossible he can have formed a partial judgment upon that of which he knows nothing. The colonists at all events cannot complain of his views being one-sided, for he can have no views, as yet, of that which he has never seen. The news to be sent out to the expectant Colonies will, however, be more welcome than the last intelligence, which could only have told them that there was nobody at home at the Colonial-office; whereas now they may be assured that an apprentice has been taken into the business, who when the master comes back from Vienna, will begin to learn his work.

The condition of our own Administration in nearly all its departments brings very naturally to one's mind the great American party of Know-nothings, which seems to be making rapid progress, while our Know-nothings have a tendency rather to retrograde than to advance. In America, however, the Know-nothings are only ignorant of every thing which impedes the welfare of their own country; while our Know-nothings seem to know everything, or at least to be able to talk about everything, except the duty they have to perform. Our Know-nothings should rather be called Know-nobodies; for, while ineffient themselves, they seem to know nobody who can help them, and they system atically igno re everybody but the nobodies who belong to their own privileged class.

Everybody is beginning to talk of the visit of the French Emperor, with his Empress—an incident that some two years ago the boldest prophet would not have ventured to predict. Popular feeling has changed wonderfully in this country towards the illustr ious man who has used with admirable wisdom and good faith towards us the power which the friends of constitutional government would have desired to see attained in a different manner from that in which it came into the hands of Louis Napoleon. It is not, however, for us to question the will of the F rench nation, and we may, at all events, compliment our ally on havin g chosen for her ruler the most remarkable man of the present age, and the only Sovereign of France under whom a cordial alliance with England has ever been accomplished. In the choice of his Empress he gave a blow at that exclusiveness which often renders Royal marriages the source of unhappiness to Sovereigns themselves, and of misfortunes to the people they govern. Napoleon III. may be regarded as, in one sense, the embodiment of the principle of progress, for he is the representative of no ancient or noble family, and he owes his position on the throne of France less, after all, to his being the heir of the first Napoleon, than to his own invincible energy. His name, no doubt, gave him the opportunity; but, had he not possessed some of the genius which raised the first Napoleon to his high position, that opportunity would have been unavailing. Whatever sentiments may have been formerly entertain ed towards him, the fact of his being a guest of our Sovereign, and the ruler of a great nation in friendly alliance with ourselves, should ensure him a respectful and cordial, if not an enthusiastic, greeting. He has, at all events, shown his own generous confidence in us, by coming among us notwithstanding all the rather hard thin gs we have from time to time said about him; and he has set the example of putting in practice that oblivion of the past which we ought now to reciprocate.

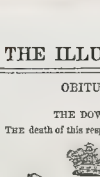
American Enterprise. Cornelius Vanderbilt, "the commercial king of America," who has always strenuously maintained that the American merchants could sustain ocean steamers at a profit without aid from the Government, is putting his theory into practice. On the 21st of April his steamship *North Star* sails for Havre, the pioneer of the new line of packets which he is establishing between New York and France. On the 3rd of next month he launches *the Arctic*, which is to follow the *North Star* in May; while in June the third ship of the line gets under way. These are all first-class steamers, and, with the enormous wealth and irrepressible energy of Mr. Vanderbilt, a great experiment will be made. This gives us now ten American steamers plying regularly between New York and Europe.

A proposition has been made to the French Government by M. Petros Demetracarakos, a Greek gentleman residing in Paris, to raise a corps of from 500 to 1000 Spartans, his countrymen, to fight against the Russians. The proposition has been submitted to the Emperor, who decided that there was no occasion for following it out.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF DOWNSHIRE.

The death of this respected lady occurred, after a short illness, at Hillsborough, county Down. The event has cast a deep gloom over the neighbourhood in which she resided.



The Marchioness was born May 30, 1790, the eldest daughter and coheir of Other-Hickman, fifth Earl of Plymouth, by Sarah, his wife, daughter and coheir of Andrew, last Lord Archer. Her Ladyship married, October 25, 1811, Arthur-Blundell-Sandys-Trumbull, third Marquis of Downshire; and by him, who died April 12, 1846, had three sons, viz., Arthur, present Marquis of Downshire; Lord William Frederick Hill, killed by a fall from his horse, March 18, 1844; and Lord Arthur Hill, M.P.; and two daughters, Lady Charlotte-Augusta, wife of Sir George Chetwynd, Bart.; and Lady Mary-Penelope, wife of the Hon. Alexander Nelson Hood. The Marchioness was one of the coheiresses of the barony of Windsor.

MAJOR GEORGE DRUMMOND GRÆME, K.H., OF INCHBRAKIE, PERTH.

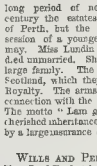
Major Græme died on the 20th ult., at Tours, in France. He was second son of the late George Græme, of Inchbrakie, Captain 73rd Highlanders, who was wounded at the Siege of Gibraltar, and grandson of Patrick Græme, of Inchbrakie, Captain in the Dutch Service, who was served heir to Patrick, first of Inchbrakie, second son of William, first Earl of Montrose, slain at Flodden-field.

Major Græme served with reputation in the 2nd battalion King's German Legion, and in the Hanoverian Guards, having been present with the former distinguished corps through a long series of battles and skirmishes; and having, at Waterloo, made himself conspicuous in the defence of La Haye Sainte, from the roof of which he kept in check (with a handful of rifles, and until he fell wounded) the repeated charges of the Emperor's Cuirassiers, the corpses of his friends in arms forming a breastwork around. The broken-down wall here in the old of the ancient family of Græme is of significant notoriety: it was originally granted to an ancester—in allusion to the prowess of the renowned progenitor who governed Scotland during the minority of his stepson Eugene II., repulsed the Roman legions, and, by overthrowing the mighty rampart of Antonius, immortalised his name, so that to this day the ruins, still extant, retain the denomination of the Græme's Dyke.

Major Græme, whose death we record, married, in 1842, his cousin, Marianne Jane, daughter of James, Viscount Strathallan, and grand-daughter of the late Duke of Athell, by whom he leaves issue

MISS LUNDIN, OF AUCHTERMAIRNIE, N.B.

This excellent lady died at her residence in Edinburgh, at the age of fifty-nine, last month The family of which she was the representative is one of the oldest, and was, at one time, one of the most influential in Scotland. Its possessions extended over the greater part of the counties of Forfar and Fife, where estates and villages are still called by the name of Lundie. The family can be traced up to the time of Malcolm Canmore, King of Scotland, the earliest period in Scottish family history that any documents are extant. The Lundins were, probably, as Chalmers believes, one of those great Anglo-Norman families that settled in the neighbourhood of the Forth and the Tay. In the reign of William the Lion, one of his sons married the heiress of Lundin, and took her name with her estates. From this period the Lundins of Lundin enjoyed, in uninterrupted succession, their possessions and influence for the long period of nearly five hundred years Near the middle of last century the estates were inherited by a female, who married the Earl of Perth, but the estate of Auchtermairnie still continued in the possession of a younger branch of the original family, and we hope it long may. Miss Lundin succeeded, in 1832, her brother, Captain Lundin, who died unmarried. She is succeeded by her sister, who is married, and has a large family. The arms of Lundin of Lundin were the Royal arms of Scotland, which they were permitted to wear, as being descended from Royalty. The arms of Auchtermairnie were those of the family before their connection with the Sovereign, and are still worn by the present generation. The motto "Lam genus," &c., shows that birth and power were their most cherished inheritance. The estate of Lundin at Elcholme is at present owned by a large insurance company. Auchtermairnie remains in the family.



Wills and Personalty.—The will of Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Lord Frederick Fitzclarence, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces at Bombay, has been proved in London under 25,000*l.*, within the province of Canterbury. The Rev. Sir Thomas Gery Gullum, Bart., F.S.A., M.A., £45,000. The Rev Jonathan Dawson, M.A., of Holleshy-hall, £40,000. The Rev. Joshua Rowley, £35,000. The Rev. James Haldane Stewart, M.A., £4000. Captain John Spencer Manning, 1st Dragoon Guards, of Portland Castle, £12,000. George Taylor, M.D., of Lewes, £12,000.

A Charger for the Empress.—The Emperor of the French has offered 1000 guineas, open to Great Britain and Ireland, for a perfectly broke charger for the Empress. He must be thorough-bred, quiet with troops, and stand fire.

Collision in the Irish Sea.—The screw-steamer *North Carolina*, from Philadelphia to Liverpool, was run into and sunk off Barnsey, on Sunday morning, by the *Robert*, from Liverpool to New Orleans. The *Robert* put back with the captain and crew on board, and the remainder of the *Carolina's* passengers and crew were saved by another ship.

A Prolific Ewe.—A ewe, the property of Mr. Arnall, of Thrussington, Leicestershire, has had the immense number of twenty-two lambs in six years, and is still in a very healthy condition. She has had three lambs at a time for three times, four twice, and once five.

There will be a meeting of the choirs of St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, Canterbury, Carabridge, Oxford, Windsor, and the gentlemen of her Majesty's Chapel Royal, at Eton, on Tuesday next, for the purpose of performing several anthems of the great composers of our cathedral music. The meeting is for the benefit of the Choir Benevolent Fund.

Prize Essay.—Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton's gold medal, for the best essay, by any student of the University of Edinburgh matriculated in 1853-54 or 1854-55, "On the Influence of the Mind over the Body in Causing and Curing Morbid and Anomalous Conditions," has just been adjudged by the Senatus Academicus. The successful competitor is John Glen, M.A., student of medicine; son, we believe, of the late Rev. Dr. Glen, for many years missionary in Persia.

Testimonial to Mr. G. D. Thompson.—On Wednesday evening a party of gentlemen, including several eminent members of the clerical and medical professions, with a strong contribution from the circles of art and literature, met at Radley's Hotel, for the twofold purpose of enjoying an excellent dinner, and presenting a testimonial to Mr. G. Douglas Thompson. This gentleman, we should state, is well known for his success in dealing with all defects of the voice, whether contracted by habit, caused by nervous affection, or arising from malformation of the teeth or palate. He is a skilful master of what has received the name of an art—phonascetics. This art Mr. Thompson has for many years practised in London, and the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, with uniform and decided success. Possessing the accomplishments of a scholar and a poet, Mr. Thompson blends with the mechanical exercises intended to improve the mind, while he trains and strengthens the organs of voice; and those who have sought him as pupils, in very many cases, remain to him as friends. In their feeling of the value of his services and gentlemanly conduct on Wednesday evening. Mr. Samuel Lover, the popular author and artist, presided, and, in the address with which he prefaced the toast of the evening, gracefully touched on the qualities above alluded to, introducing in his happiest vein of humour anecdotes and illustrations that, by turns sparkled with wit affected by pathos. The testimonial presented to Mr. Thompson was a handsome silver inkstand and a rare quarto edition of "Shakspeare." While the toast of Mr. Lover expressed his feeling Mr. Thompson, would quote the pen as a lynst; and in presenting the works of our great dramatist he reminded Mr. Thompson that his art had indeed Royal countenance, since the Prince of Denmark himself gave the "poor players" a masterly lesson in elocution. Mr. Lover read numerous extracts from the written testimonies Mr. Thompson has received from men high in rank and reputation in the Church; from medical men as eminent as Dr. Edward Meryon, and the late lamented Dr. Golding Bird; and from artists, who, as in the case of Mr. Gustavus Brooke, the tragedian, owe to Mr. Thompson's skill the restoration of a lost voice. Mr. Thompson acknowledged the gifts in a modest and feeling manner, and delighted the party by reading a scene from "The Merchant of Venice" in a style that elicited the warmest applause. The company did not separate till a late hour: a more pleasant evening has seldom been spent.

DESPATCH FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, April 12, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, March 27.

My Lord.—Adverting to my despatch of the 24th instant, I do myself the honour to state that the following officers have been brought to my notice as having distinguished themselves on the night of the 22nd and morning of the 23rd, in addition to those whose names I have already submitted to your Lordship: Major the Hon. James Lyon Browne, of the 21st Regiment, brother of the Hon. Captain Browne, of the Royal Fusiliers, who, it has already been my painful duty to report, fell upon this occasion; Captain Butler, of the 20th; and Captain Rickman, of the 77th.

I am happy to say that Captain Montagu, of the Royal Engineers, who was taken prisoner, was not wounded; and that Lieut.-Colonel Kelly, of the 34th Regiment, who also fell into the enemy's hands, is not severely wounded, though he received some injury both in his head and hand.

Major-General Eyre, the general officer of the trenches, highly eulogises the dispositions of Lieut.-Colonel Kelly, and laments the loss of his services.

The Major-General also speaks in the highest terms of the conduct of Lieut.-Colonel Tylden, Royal Engineers, who received a contusion, which, however, I am glad to be able to assure your Lordship does not incapacitate him from continuing those exertions and displaying those qualities which render him so valuable an officer

There was a suspension of hostilities for about three hours on Saturday, for the purpose of burying those who had fallen in the late encounters; and it was evident from the number of the bodies of the enemy, and of the French, to whom the last said officers had to deal, that the loss sustained both by the French and the Russians had been very severe, particularly that of the latter. Some French, too, were found lying close to the Mamelon—a proof that their gallant spirit had carried them up to the enemy's intrenchments.

Nothing of importance has since occurred. The siege operations continue to progress; and during the last two nights the interruption from the fire of the enemy has been inconsiderable.

The enemy are very assiduous in the improvement of their defences, and in the establishment of a trench in the front of the Mamelon, towards which our ally is advancing by serpentine sap.

The weather continues very fine, and the appearance and health of the troops are manifestly improving

Dr. Gavin, of the sanitary commission, and Mr. Rawlinson, civil engineer, have arrived, and are earnestly applying themselves to the discharge of the duties they have undertaken to perform, and I will take care that they receive every assistance it may be in my power to give them.

I enclose the return of casualties to the 25th inst.

The *Himalaya* has arrived, and has been disembarking her horses yesterday and this day in Kusatch Bay

Since writing the above, I have received the official report that Captain A. F. Hill, of the 88th Regiment, was severely wounded and taken prisoner last night whilst posting his sentries in front of the advanced trench on our extreme left. I have, &c.,

The Earl Panmure, &c. RAGLAN.

Nominal Return of Non-commissioned Officers and Privates Wounded from the 23 d to 25 h March, 1855, inclusive.

Royal Artillery: Gunners and Drivers Samuel Bowers and Ralph Murray, slightly 19th Foot. Private Charles Austin, slightly 44th Foot: Private Richard Griffiths, severely

J. H. Bucknall Estcourt, A.-Juiant-General.

Departure of the Guards for the Crimea.—On Thursday morning, at half-past seven o'clock, the detachments of the household infantry, under orders to join their brothers in arms at the seat of war, were mustered and paraded at the different barracks. The strength consisted of five officers and 450 Grenadier Guards for the third battalion; five officers and 307 Coldstreams for the first battalion; five officers and 298 Scots Fusiliers for the first battalion. The men, their arms, and accoutrements, having been minutely inspected, they were addressed in most enthusiastic and energetic terms on the nature of the service in which they were about to embark. Columns of section having been formed, and the words "Quick march," given, the men started with the royal step, the bands playing several favourite airs as they went along. The crowds in the streets greeted them with enthusiasm, and on their arrival at the terminus of the South-Western Railway a prolonged cheer was given by those outside.

Embarkation of the Royal Horse Artillery. The portion of the Royal Horse Artillery, embarked at Southampton on Wednesday, consisted of 190 horses, 13 officers, and 308 men, besides six 24-pounders (brass), with the usual ammunition waggons, rocket and hospital carriages, and about seven waggon-loads of ammunition, weighing about thirty tons

Fighting a Russian Gun.—This morning a heavy gun on the left embrasure of the Mamelon was opened on No. 3 battery, in the night attack. The electric telegraph has now been completed between Lord Raglan's headquarters and all the trenches, and by this a message was sent informing his Lordship of the opening of the gun, and asking advice. The reply was "fight it," and preparations were made accordingly. A long 68-pounder gun, from the *Terrible*, was found to bear upon the precise spot, and this, therefore, was the gun selected to fight the Russian one. The practice made with it was perfect—never was better fighting seen since the siege commenced. The very first shot torn away one side of the Russian embrasure, and laid the enemy's gun completely open. The next struck the gun full in the muzzle, shattering and dismounting it within five minutes after the order had been given to fight the enemy's gun. Lord Raglan was informed by the telegraph that it had been fought, and was then dismounted and broken. Orders were then sent back for the same 68-pounder to fire every half-hour in the same spot for the rest of the day. Before the day was half gone the greater part of the earthwork at each side of the embrasure was quite destroyed, and what seemed most strange, after their gun was dismounted, not a single Russian battery fired a shot in reply to ours. This unusual circumstance no one could account for.—*Letter from the Camp, Mar. 25.*

Commission on the Transport of Stores The late Minister of War issued a commission to Captain Craigie, R.N., Colonel Tulloch, and Mr. A. Stewart, to inquire into the irregularities in the transport of stores to the East. They have investigated the statement "that the *Robert Lowe* transport conveyed a quantity of medical stores destined for Scutari, over which were placed cylinders of powder and other things destined for Balaclava;" and they report that this statement is entirely unfounded. It was shown by a drawing of the part of the ship in which the cylinders were that no medical stores could have been placed beneath them. The Commissioners have also obtained ample proof that, in the case of the *Prince*, the shot, shell, and gunpowder were *not* placed above the medical stores, the fact being that the shot and shell were placed on board *before* the medical stores. These stores might have been landed "without any difficulty during the thirty hours the *Prince* lay at Constantinople; but the Captain, anxious to get on with the troops, did not examine the cargo-hook, and did not know where the medical stores were placed. The Commissioners add to their report several useful suggestions.

Lord Dundonald's Secret Plans.—Lord Dundonald writes that he has not communicated his plans to the French Emperor, because he is not about to proceed, as asserted, to the East, and consequently could not personally superintend the execution of them, or be sure of their success; whereas they would be triumphantly carried into effect by any less expanded mind or subordinate authority, he hesitated to risk an unfavourable result

The prospect of a railway from Belgrade to Constantinople has been revived; it is said, by the French Government, who has entrusted M. de Caslan to make the preliminary surveys.

Another Imprisonment in Tuscany for Reading the Bible.—The case of the Madiai has just been repeated by the Tuscan Government, in sentencing an individual to twelve months' imprisonment for the crime of possessing and perusing an Italian copy of the Scriptures. The name of the person is Domenico Cecchetti, a workman in a tobacco manufactory, and much esteemed by his employers. He is a widower, with four boys, of whom the eldest is sixteen and the youngest six, there has devolved on him not only the task of maintaining his family, but of discharging all those domestic duties which are a mother's peculiar province. Nor has he discharged so well that his four boys are patterns of good conduct, and the whole neighbourhood is wont to speak of Cecchetti's children as the model of what children ought to be. A "vicario," a neighbour (ecclesiastic, of course), was struck by the good conduct of the young Cecchettis, and by the excellent and kind bearing of the father; and, in the course of familiar intercourse, learned that the father was in the habit of reading with his children and his friends the Bible; and in casual chat with his own master he repeated the circumstance to him. A few days afterwards the vintner went to confession at San Lorenzo, and there mentioned to the confessor that his apprentice had been reading to him about Diodati's Bible, which he thought not so bad as it had been represented. The priest immediately interrupted the confession, and refused him absolution. Next day he met Buratti, the first Curate of San Lorenzo. "Why, what is the matter with you," said Curate Buratti, "you seem so dull?" "Ah, curate, no wonder: yesterday I was refused absolution." "Refused absolution!" rejoined the curate, "impossible! refuse absolution to so good a Catholic as you! There must be some mistake. Come to my house and confess to me; and I hope it will prove nothing." The vintner made his confession to Curate Buratti, and received absolution; and Curate Buratti lost no time in denouncing Domenico Cecchetti to the Tuscan police as guilty of the crime of Protestant propagandism, and requiring them to watch over his proceedings, and, if possible, to seize him in the act. Accordingly, some three months ago, four gendarmes suddenly entered Cecchetti's house, about nine o'clock in the evening. They seized and carried off in triumph one copy of Diodati's Bible and two copies of the New Testament. Cecchetti heard nothing more of the matter for nearly ten weeks. On the morning of Wednesday, the 14th ult., he received an order to appear before the delegate of Santa Maria Novella in the afternoon of the same day The result of the examination was his being sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment, for no other crime than reading the Italian Bible

MUSIC.

THE opening of the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, which was to have taken place on Tuesday last, was postponed to Thursday. The opera selected on this occasion was Rossini's "Comte Ory," a piece which was performed several times with considerable success in the course of last season. It owed this success to the beauty of the music and the brilliancy of Mademoiselle Bosio's singing, for the opera, as a drama, is beneath contempt. An additional interest was given to its performance by the accession of Gardoni, who has not appeared on our opera stage since the closing of Her Majesty's Theatre. Next Thursday the Queen is to visit the Opera for the purpose of conducting her illustrious guests, the Emperor and Empress of the French; on which occasion "Fidelio" is to be performed, and the celebrated Jenny Ney will make her first appearance in England.

THE opening of DRURY LANE, too, with an operatic company, which was to have taken place on Monday last, has been postponed to Friday. Signor and Madame Gassier, announced to appear in the "Sonnambula," are singers of considerable reputation on the Continent. Next week we shall be able to describe their debut and its success.

THERE was another "Monster Concert" at Exeter-hall on Wednesday evening, given by Mr. Case—a gentleman principally known as a performer on the concertina. The only remarkable feature was its *bulk*. "There were," says a daily contemporary, "*twenty* male and female vocal performers; *nineteen* solo instrumentalists, *six* of whom were pianoforte players; a pretty numerous orchestra, led by Mr. Violoti Collins; and no less than seven conductors. The number of the pieces in the programme was *forty-two*—many of which were instrumental solos of great length." The list of performers included almost every eminent name in London; but the programme consisted almost entirely of common and familiar things, which, though they appear backneyed to the *blasé* concertgoer, are nevertheless sufficient to please a popular audience not in the habit of frequenting such entertainments.

HARMONIC UNION, HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS.—At the next concert, which takes place on Wednesday, Mendelssohn's music to "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and the "Walpurgis Night" will be performed. Signor Piatti is engaged for Molique's Violoncello Concerto—a work which created a great sensation when first performed by the Philharmonic Society.

SIR HENRY BISHOP'S CONCERTS.—The Second Evening Concert will take place on Monday next, at Exeter-hall; and the Afternoon Vocal Concerts will be resumed at the Hanover-square Rooms on Saturday next, the 21st instant.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, APRIL 12.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barom. at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches
Apr. 6	30.098	64·5	38·0	48·7	+ 4·3	84	W.S.W.	0.00
„ 7	30.113	57·7	45·3	50·6	+ 6·1	74	W N W.	0.00
„ 8	30.048	52·0	36·0	44·0	— 0·7	79	N.	0.01
„ 9	29.763	56·5	39·9	47·7	+ 2·9	87	S.W.	0.00
„ 10	29.286	52·9	41·7	49·1	+ 1·1	71	N.W.	0.05
„ 11	29.461	56·6	42·1	46·9	+ 1·8	76	N.N.W.	0.02
„ 12	29.551	62·0	44·0	49·8	+ 2·6	69	S.W.	0.00

NOTE.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign — below the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The *reading of the barometer* decreased from 30·10 inches at the beginning of the week, to 30.04 inches by the afternoon of the 6th; increased to 30.11 inches by the 7th; decreased to 29·72 inches by the 11th; and increased to 29.55 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.724 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 47·8°—being 3° above the average of the corresponding week during thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 19·5°, being 3° the difference between the lowest reading on the 6th and 8th, and the highest on the 6th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 10·7°. The least was 11·4° on the 10th, and the greatest 19·2° on the 6th.

The weather on the first day of the week was very fine; and, with the exception of the 8th, the temperature has been somewhat above its average. A high wind was blowing almost continually from the 8th to the 11th. The weather has been unsettled and unseasonable. Rain to a small amount only has fallen.

Lewisham, April 13, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending April 7, the births of 1317 were entered in the registrars' books of the metropolitan district: 628 were boys, and 689 were girls. The average number in the fourteenth week of the year are 760 males and 734 females. The deaths of 1229 persons were registered within the same time, being less than the corrected average for the week by 23; thus exhibiting satisfactory evidence or an improved state of public health, the mortality week to week for a long time having been excessive. In the thirteen weeks ending 31st March, 19,627 deaths were registered, a number exceeding the average by 4000 nearly—chiefly persons in advanced age, weakly children, the sufferers from chronic diseases, and others who, when the winter set in, were in good health, and whose deaths were caused by the severe weather, which extended from January 10 to the end of the quarter. Congestion and inflammation of the lungs were the most prevalent fatal diseases.

BANK OF ENGLAND.—At a general Court of Directors, held on Tuesday, Mr. T. M. Wegnelin was elected Governor, and Mr. S. Neave Deputy-Governor, for the ensuing year.

MICROSCOPICAL SOIREE AT APOTHECARIES' HALL.—On Wednesday evening the Society of Apothecaries gave their second soirée, in their fine old Hall. The assembly was presided over by the master, N. B. Ward, Esq., F.R.S.; and the company, numbering between 600 and 700 guests, included the leading microscopists of the day. The walls were decorated with superb drawings, diagrams, and paintings from the most celebrated collections; and upon the tables were ranged upwards of 150 microscopes, exhibiting many of the actual organisms whose representations were suspended above them. We reserve the details of this very interesting meeting until next week, when we shall engrave the scene.

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, CHARING-CROSS.—At a quarterly meeting of the Governors of the charity, held on Thursday, the 5th inst., the secretary reported that 1190 poor persons had applied to be relieved as out-patients for the quarter ending March 31, 1855; 47 persons had been admitted as in-patients during the same period, and 47 discharged. Amongst other operations, 11 for cataract had been successfully performed during the last month. The Governors still have to regret the inadequate state of the funds placed at their disposal to meet the increasing demands for relief.

TRIAL AND ACQUITTAL OF MRS. RAMSBOTHAM.—The trial of Mrs. Ramsbotham for two distinct larcenies said to have been committed by her—two sleeves on the 15th of March, and four handkerchiefs on the 27th of March—from the shop of Mr. J. W. Moule, of Baker-street, took place at the Middlesex Sessions on Wednesday. Mr. Bodkin was counsel for the prosecution. Mr. Ballantine and Mr. Parry were for the prisoner. The court was crowded in every part, a large number of ladies being present. The prisoner pleaded "Not Guilty" to both counts of the indictment. A number of witnesses were called, who stated that they saw Mrs Ramsbotham take the articles in question. Mr. Ballantine, in addressing the jury on behalf of the prisoner, contended that a trap had been laid for her, and she had fallen into it. "She was about to go away when a basket of handkerchiefs was put forward to excite her morbid imagination, and tempt her to the commission of crime." No attempt was made to deny the facts of the case, but a number of witnesses to character were called on the part of the prisoner. The Judge then summed up the case, and the jury retired about half-past four to consider their verdict. After three hours' consideration they were unable to agree. A consultation therefore took place between Mr. Bodkin and the counsel for the prisoner, the result of which was that they agreed to suggest to the Court that the jury should be discharged without giving a verdict, which was accordingly done.

DANGEROUS EXPLOSION OF GUNPOWDER.—On Saturday last an explosion of gunpowder took place in the oil, colour, and Italian warehouse occupied by Mr. William Bennett, of Lancaster-street, Covent-garden, by which it is feared that three if not four children, members of the same family, will perish. It appears that Mr. Bennett sent one of his sons, aged about twelve years, to the top of the house, to fill a quarter pound canister with gunpowder. Having done so, he repaired to the third-floor back, in which the other children were playing. In order to amuse them, he began to sprinkle the powder upon the fire, when the whole contents of the canister became ignited, and exploded, blowing the windows out, forcing the ceiling down, and setting fire to the children's clothes. On the neighbours rushing in to render assistance, the four children were found to be so dreadfully injured, that it was deemed advisable to remove them to Charing-cross Hospital, which was accordingly done.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS

J. E. B.; J. E. SMITH, Dorset; DEKEYON, Mr., Aberdeenshire; R. T. V., OLD STAGER. The Solutions of Mr. Bolton's, E. Bardt's, and the Indian Problem, you have sent, are to hand.

T. H. (Hitchin.) Yes, the option of inflicting whichever of the penalties he pleases.

J. H. "Chess Players's Handbook," published by Bohn, of Covent-garden, gives "a translation of the German Handbuch, price 1s."

G. M. A. Your Solution of Mutation Bishop's problem appears to be correct.

OSSIAN. The Solutions at page 195 are misnumbered, that is all. *They* are the Solutions of Nos. "22" and 573, not of 571 and 572. The first move in the Solution of 577 is obviously Q R to Q R 4th, not Q to Q R 4th.

CHERUBS, BURY.—It admits of two Solutions

A H. Much be our standard

MAX R. You have omitted the White King altogether.

A. M. M. I. (Montreal.) Not, but too easy for our columns.

A. S. A. Approbation of our contents shall be forwarded.

DEVANA. Yes, Sir, Mr. Horwitz, Hon. Sec. of the Committee, receives all subscriptions, and all necessary information, in connexion with the Correspondence Meeting at Leamington, by applying to the Rev. W. Wade, of Leamington.

R. T. S., Dublin.—1. When a player has won two or three matches by a large majority of games, he may fairly demand to give his opponent the Pawn and move. 2. Messrs. Kenworthy, Paternoster-row, London.

R. P. Thanks. It is very pretty, and shall have a niche.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 580, by E. P. Newport, E. Lambert, M., Aberdeenshire; H. H., Tower Villa, Cate, Bumble, Argus, P. Q. E., Fendragon, J. E. B., H. L., Cottom House; J. E. Smith, R. B., C. A. M. M., Glasgow; Philidas, R. A., Belmont, J. C. H., T. J. of Hendworth, Dynamics, G. McA., are correct.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 581, by Dorever, O. P., E. H., Norwich, Phiz, C. F. L., F. T. Derby; G. McA., F. R. of Norwich; Medicus, Oxon, D. D., F. E. S., Philidas, Argive, J. E. B., J. A. Fakenham, Peter Simple, B. L., Boxer, O. P. Q., E. F., Norwood, J. Stonehouse, Mrs. Pulleedy, N. H., Carl, Omega, are correct.

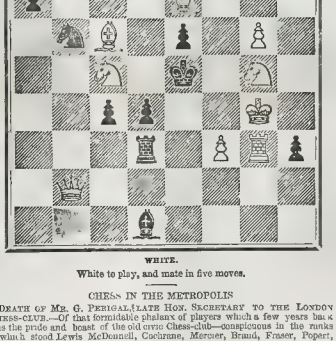
SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by F. F., T. W. Z., W. S. B., Ramsgate; Phiz, Omar, G. McA., J. Stonehouse, Arub, "Know-nothing," Ben Bowling, H. M. S., V., are correct. All others are wrong.

*** Several Notices to Correspondents are unavoidably postponed

PROBLEM No. 582.

By S. A.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS

DEATH OF MR. G. PERIGAL, LATE HON. SECRETARY TO THE LONDON CHESS-CLUB.—Of that formidable phalanx of players which a few years back was the pride and boast of the old ovvie Chess-club—conspicuous in the ranks of which stood Lewis McMorgan, Cochrane, Mercier, Brand, Fraser, Pepper, Horwitz, Sloan, Walker, Pulling, Perigal, Watts, Jones, &c.—the numbers are rapidly diminishing. Death has done his merciless work, and those whom he has spared, have, for the most part, retired from active service, so that in the arena of their glory their places know them no longer. The gentleman whose decease we have to-day the pain of recording was for several years the Hon. Secretary of this Club—an office he appears to have been eminently qualified to fill, and his resignation of which, through ill-health, we believe was very generally deplored. He was an excellent player—well studied, and well practised: not, perhaps, entitled to rank in the highest class of all—for his game was elegant and finished, rather than profound or comprehensive—but certainly he stood only one grade below that; and he has left scores of games which no amateur capable of appreciating the refinements of Chess skill will willingly let die. The two games which follow exhibit his powers both in attack and defence advantageously; and we hope next week to give some farther openings.

WHITE (Mr. G. Perigal).	BLACK (Mr. Pulling).
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th
4. Q Kt to Q B 3rd (a)	P to Q 3rd
5. P to K R 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd
6. P to Q 3rd	P to K R 3rd
7. Q Kt to K 2nd	K Kt to K 2nd
8. Q Kt to K Kt 3rd	P to K Kt 4th
9. P to Q B 3rd	P to K Kt 5th
10. P takes P	K Kt takes P at his 5th
11. P to Q 4th	K P takes P
12. Q B P takes P	Q Kt take P (b)
13. Kt takes Kt	Q to K 4th
14. Q to K B 3rd (c)	B to Q Kt 5th (ch)
15. K to K B sq	Q takes Kt
16. Q takes K B P (ch)	K to Q sq
17. K R to Q 2nd	P to Q 4th (d)
18. K R takes K R P (ch)	K takes R
19. K B takes Kt	R to K B 3rd
20. Q to K Kt 5th (ch)	K B to his sq
21. Kt to K B 5th	Q B takes Kt
22. Q B to K Kt 6th (f)	B takes K B
23. Q takes K B (ch)	K to Q 2nd
24. Q to Kt 7th (ch)	K to his 3rd
25. K P takes Q P (ch)	K to B 4th
26. K P takes P	K to K 4th
27. K to his Kt sq	K to K 5th
28. P to K 4th (ch)	K takes P
29. Q to Kt 6th (ch)	K to his 5th
30. Q takes B	K takes B
31. R to K sq (ch)	K to Q 5th
32. Q to Kt 6th	K R to Q 3rd
33. P to K B 5th	K takes Q P
34. P to K B 6th (dis ch)	K to Q B 3rd
35. R to Q 5 sq	Q takes R (ch)
36. Q takes Q (ch)	K to Q 2nd
37. Q to K Kt 8th	Q R to Q sq
38. Q to K B 5th (ch)	K to Q B 3rd
39. P to K Kt 4th	K R to Q 6th (ch)
40. K to B 2nd	Q R to Q 7th (ch)
41. K to his Kt 3rd	K R to K Kt 8th (ch)
42. K to B 4th	K R to R 8th (ch)
43. K to Kt 5th	Q R to Q 4th
44. P to K B 7th	K R to his sq
45. Q takes Q R (ch)	K takes Q
46. K to B 6th	R to K R 8th
47. P to K 5th	R to K B 8th (ch)
48. K to his 7th	P to Q B 4th
49. P to K Kt 6th	

And White won the game.

(a) This is a good sound opening, and should be more frequently played than it is.

(b) Bold, but ingeniously conceived.

(c) It would have been vain to attempt to preserve the K.

(d) Insidious; having in view a dangerous attack upon the adverse Queen by playing K R to B sq.

(e) This effectually frustrates all Black's plans; for if he now play the Rook to B sq, White gives check with his Queen a Bishop, and wins easily.

(f) These moves are very clever, and render the position highly critical and interesting.

(g) To avoid the evil consequences of the White Queen's threatened check at her K Kt 5th. We have some misgivings, however, as to this being Black's best resource.

BETWEEN MR. G. PERIGAL AND MR. SPRECKLEY.

(*Evans' Gambit*)

WHITE. (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. P.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. P.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	24. Kt takes P	Kt to K 2nd
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	25. R takes R	B takes R
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	26. K to B sq	P to K R 3rd
4. P to Q Kt 4th	B takes Kt P	27. Kt to K 4th	P to Q Kt 3rd
5. P to Q B 3rd	B to Q R 4th	28. P to K Kt 4th	P to Q B 4th
6. Castles	P to Q 3rd	29. R to K sq	P takes P
7. P to Q 4th	P takes P	30. K to K 2nd	Kt to Q 4th
8. Q to Q Kt 3rd (a)	Q to K 2nd	31. P to Q B 4th	K to Q B 3rd
9. P to K 5th	P takes K P	32. K to Q 3rd	P to Q Kt 4th
10. R to K sq	B to Q Kt 3rd	33. P takes P (ch)	K takes P
11. B to Q R 3rd	Q to K B 3rd	34. Kt to Q 6th (ch)	K to Q B 3rd
12. Kt takes K P	Kt takes Kt	35. Kt to K B 7th	B to Kt 2nd
13. B takes P (ch)	K to Q sq	36. Kt to K 5th (ch)	K to Kt 4th
14. Q to Q 5th (ch)	B to Q 3rd	37. Kt takes P	P to Q R 4th
15. R takes Kt	P takes R	38. P to K B 4th	P to Q R 5th
16. B to K 8th (ch)	K to B 2nd	39. K to B 3rd	Kt to Kt 6th (ch)
17. Q to Q 6th (ch)	Q takes Q	40. K to Kt sq	B to Q 8th
18. B takes Q (ch)	K takes B	41. P to K R 4th	P to Q R 6th
19. B takes Q R (ch)	B to K 3rd	42. B to K 2nd	K to B 5th
20. B takes B	K takes B	43. Kt to K 5th	K to K 6th
21. Kt to Q 2nd	P takes P	44. P to K Kt 5th	P to Q R 7th (ch)
22. K R to Q sq	B to Q 5th	45. R takes P	Kt takes R
23. R to Q B sq	P to K Kt 3rd	46. P takes P	

And Black gave checkmate in two moves more (c).

(a) This mode of pursuing the attack of the Evans' Gambit has been very fully and ably exemplified in a series of articles by Mr. Waller, of Dublin. (See "Chess Player's Companion," p. 219.)

(b) Up to this point, the play is on each side nearly move for move the same as that laid down by Mr. Waller in his analysis.

(c) The termination of the game is a beautiful and instructive lesson, and will well repay the student for any attention he may bestow upon it. On Mr. Perigal's side the play could hardly be improved.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 918.—By J. STONEHOUSE, of Sunderland

White: K at Q B 7th, R at K 6th, B at K Kt 5th, Kts at Q R 5th and Q sqr, P at Q 4th.

Black: K at Q 4th; Ps at K Kt 2nd, Q 2nd, 5th, and 6th, Q B 5th, Q Kt 6th and 7th, and Q R 5th.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

No. 919.—By A. B. Spraggon, Esq., Cambridge.

White: K at K Kt 5th, R at Q 7th; Ps at K B 2nd and 5th, and K 3rd.

Black: K at K 5th, P at K B 6th.

White to play and mate in four moves.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

WITH the exception of a hybrid meeting at Abergavenny on Wednesday and Thursday, which, although it possesses a stirring interest for the lovers of mountains and stone walls, will have none whatever for "the Ring," York and Malton divide the racing of the coming week between them. The York Stand opens its doors for the season on Tuesday, and Hippodrome, Jack Sheppard, King of Trumps, and Scherz, four of the speediest mile-horses of the day, will probably meet in the Craven Stakes. The Great Northern Handicap is a race of even more interest than it was last year, when it had double the number of subscribers. Fandango (6st. 6lbs.) is rather over-weighted, thanks to his 10lb. Epsom penalty; and if Vandal's trial be correct, and a clever lad can be got to ride the weight, nothing should be able to beat him. This son of Van Tromp (whom breeders are beginning to regret) also figures in the Spring St. Leger on the same day, along with Saraband, Jack Sheppard, and Fandango. Gamester, Mario, Prairie, Birdcatcher, and fifty-three others are in the Spring Biennial on Wednesday; and the sport derives great strength from the Lonsdebro' Cup and the Flying Dutchman Handicap, in the latter of which Ivan (7st 12lb.), than whom no horse improved more in look last autumn, will probably be no mean bearer of the "blue and silver." A general move will be made to Malton on Thursday and Friday, not so much for the sake of the racing, which has, nevertheless, very fair promise, but in order to pick up some crumbs of intelligence about the Whitewall Derby horses. They will no doubt be stripped, or take a gallop for the amusement of visitors, who generally return as wise as they went. Our own impression is that the Derby will not go north this year. Nat and Newmarkets are still in ecstasies about Polydore, who looks and goes wonderfully well; and it is thought that John Day, junior, has found out that there is less in Cruiser (who was little enough to begin with) than he once believed, and pins his Derby faith on St. Hubert. With such trial horses as Virago and Scythian in the stable, old John Day can hardly make a mistake about him, but, till we see his winning number up, we shall continue to distrust his Epsom chance, whatever he may do in the 2000 guineas. Parr is thought by some to have a good Chester Cup horse in Mortimer, who was only a clever leather-plaster last season, but our humour still jumps with Scythian for that event. John Robinson, brother to the great ex-jockey, has some horses in his charge at Newmarket but no one exactly knows to whom they belong.

The sudden "continental tour" of an M.P. and Steward of the Jockey Club has caused no small sensation. The stable in which he was a confederate has, for some years back, been very unlucky; although Bay Middleton, who has favoured other breeders so largely with his Flying Dutchman, Andover, Hermit, &c., was its Stud Nestor. This event, coupled with the sale of the Royal Palace on Tuesday next, will no doubt lead the public to infer that the sun of Newmarket is set for ever. Such an hypothesis would be premature, as several of the Clifden stud have been trained at Northlench for some time past, while the Palace has long been only a palace in name. Not even a Royal Duke has, we believe, been there for thirty years, and George IV. only slept one night there between the autumn of 1791 and the day of his death.

The steeplechases for the week include three at Abergavenny, on Wednesday and Thursday. There will also be a day at Howden, on Wednesday; while the Irishmen will employ Monday, in like manner, at Tullaghy, and Tuesday at Westmeath. It seems that their Miss Mowbray indictment cannot be sustained, and that the man in charge of her has made a legal "declaration" of his entire innocence in the matter. A steeplechase stud of seven will shortly be in the market; the sales for Monday at Tattersall's include the Heythrop hunters, and the Cottesmore hounds; and six thorough-bred yearlings and five brood mares will be disposed of at York, on Wednesday.

As regards coursing, we may remark that it has been a drawn battle between English and Scotch dogs in their recent contests at Biggar, as the first and second prizes for the Open Cup both went to England, and the first and second in the Open Champion, to Scotland. The last course of the meeting extended over about nine miles, and Mr. Nightingale's decision was considered at variance with the rules, as it gave it in favour of Turley Rhubarb instead of Knight of St. George. We hear of nothing, anywhere, but litters of black puppies by Bedlamite (who bids fair to emulate the glories of Snowball, King Cob, Figaro, and Foremost), and his owner need not regret that he bought him in for 500 guineas at Doncaster. This monster price reminds us that a nobleman in the midland counties has lately given 300 guineas for a cover hackney.

The Rugbeans have pitched their wickets for the season, and the eleven have thumped their twenty two. The Lancashire cricketers have had great sport—one of them, in Devonshire, killing a 14lb. and a 9lb. fish together, after a five-and-thirty minutes' struggle. The yachters are also gradually taking to the water, and the Royal London Yacht Club has its opening trip on Saturday.—"It seems to assemble at Blackwall, and weigh at four p.m. for Erith." The accounts of the different clubs are considerably more flourishing than those which clerks of the course have to show this year; and the walls of their club-rooms will soon receive an accession in the print of Messenger, the Champion of the Thames, which is on the eve of publication.

NEWMARKET CRAVEN MEETING.—MONDAY.

Craven Stakes.—Orinoco, 1. Scherz, 2.
Handicap Sweepstakes.—Nathan, 1. Guitar, 2.
Sweepstakes of 50 sovs.—Antonette, 1. Alcyone, 2.
Sweepstakes of 100 sovs.—Tumbler, 1. Retraction colt, 2.
Renewal of the Sweepstakes of 50 sovs. Paul, 1. Afghan, 3.
Bennington Stakes. Habena, 1. Harry of Hereford, 2.
Sweepstakes of 200 sovs.—Reciprocity colt, 1. Miss Whip filly, 2.
Handicap Plate.—Syvagen, 1. Alan, 2.
Sweepstakes of 200 sovs.—Bonnie Mora walked over.

TUESDAY.

Plate of 50 sovs Corsner, 1. Lovy, 2.
Twenty-second Tuesday Biddlesworth Stakes.—Chalice, 1. Hazel, 2.
Sweepstakes of 50 sovs.—Trescherous filly, 1. Bessie, 2.
Renewal of the Newmarket Handicap.—Beaulieu, 1. Dr. O'Toole, 2.
Sweepstakes of 100 sovs.—Retraction colt, 1. Spunner, 2.
Subscription Plate.—Scherz, 1. Top Sawyer, 2
Sweepstakes of 10 sovs.—Guy Mannering, 1. Fact, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Handicap Plate of £70 —Blue Bonnet, 1. Vingt'un, 2.
Craven Handicap Plate —Ephemus, 1. Cheddar, 2.
Handicap Plate of £50.—Tumbler, 1. Georgium Sidus, 2.
Column Stakes.—Habena, 1. The Bonnie Mora, 2.

THURSDAY.

Sweepstakes 100 sovs Dead Heat with Hazel and Sneer colt.
Sweepstakes 50 sovs.—Alcyone, 1. Professor, 2.
£100 Handicap Plate — Orinoco, 1. Gossip, 2.
Sweepstakes 50 sovs.—Icarus, 1.
Handicap Plate.—Vulcan, 1.
Selling Stakes.—Inex, 1. Guy Mannering, 2.
Sweepstakes of 100 sovs.—Professor, 1. Tynemouth, 2.

FRIDAY.

Sweepstakes 100 sovs. Acrobat, 2
£100 Plate —Testy, 1. Diminutive, 2.
Selling Sweepstakes.—Ceres, 1. Filly by Iago, 2.
Sweepstakes of 50 sovs.—Joshua walked over.
Sweepstakes.—Claret beat Antonette.

RAISING OF THE BARQUE "SAMUEL," IN THE THAMES.

The difficult operation of raising a sunken vessel in the Thames has during the past week been successfully accomplished by Messrs. Wallace and James Bell, the well-known divers, of Whitstable. The *Samuel*, a very fine Prussian barque, of 550 tons burden, belonging to C. H. Bulcke, Esq., of Dantzic, chartered through Messrs. R. W. Cousens, Atchison, and Co., of George-yard, Lombard-street, while proceeding down the river, in charge of a pilot, on the morning of the 8th ult., with a valuable cargo, bound to Kingston, Jamaica, came into collision with a brig, and in a few minutes went down, in about five fathoms, a short distance below Gravesend. The following method was used in raising her:—Several large chain cables, lent by the city of London authorities, were placed by divers under the keel and attached on each side to four powerful sailing-barges which, being so

THE RAISING OF THE BARQUE "SAMUEL," IN THE THAMES.

planned down at low water, held the vessel slung between them, while the rising tide carried her towards shore. This operation was repeated at each successive tide until placed sufficiently high on shore for the damage to be repaired. The accompanying Illustration shows the position of the vessel as her hull became visible above water, she having been carried for a considerable distance up the river while so slung, the shore in the neighbourhood of the disaster being unfavourable for the purpose. The *Samuel* is now in the West India Docks, discharging her cargo previously to undergoing thorough repairs

THE GEELONG AND MELBOURNE RAILWAY.

Australia is singularly deficient in rivers, and these often spread into marshes, and do not preserve any course which can be called long when compared with the size of the continent. Hence, the occupation of the country, unlike America, is restricted within narrow limits, except by sheep-farmers and graziers, who have extensive runs, far from the towns and settled districts. To develop, therefore, the resources of the colony, and to promote the social interests of its population, railways were imperatively demanded. With the importance of this demand the present Lieutenant Governor of Victoria, Sir Charles Hotham, became so fully impressed, that soon after his assuming the Government (in December, 1853), in order to encourage Railway enterprise, his Excellency made large grants of land and assigned guarantees out of the territorial revenue. A railway had already been commenced from Geelong to Melbourne, and the undertaking was begun in September, 1853, and one of the last acts of Governor Latrobe was the laying of the foundation-stone of the Geelong Terminus, and the inauguration ceremony was engraved in the Illustrated London News for Dec. 31. Sir Charles Hotham took up the great work which his predecessor had commenced; and one of the earliest steps of the new Governor was the inspection of the railway works, and the extension of the guarantee of 5 per cent interest, before limited to £200,000, to the entire capital of £[illegible]. At the same time the Governor made further grants of land for the general purposes of the Company. Since the date of our former Illustration the undertaking has been progressing most satisfactorily towards completion, and the entire line is expected to be opened at the close of the present year. We now engrave a View of the Station and Workshops of the Geelong Terminus.

The economy of this railway communication between the capitals of the gold district is evident. The formation of common roads to the digging population, from the tributary towns, has already cost the Government and some millions of money; and up to this time the great trunk highways to Ballarat, Castlemaine, and Sandhurst, during the winter months, are lined with broken-down drays, bogged and checked in their journey by the freshets in the creeks. Under the head of "Roads," "Bridges," "Police," and "Transport," may be found the largest items of the Colonial Public Expenditure; and it is only by the adoption of a general economic system of railways that the vast and increasing wants of the community can be adequately provided for, and the Colonial exchequer proportionally benefited. Of the wise policy of extending the inventive triumph of the Old World to aid in the development of the natural resources of the New, it has been well observed by Mr Sterling, in his able volume upon the "Australian and Californian Gold Discoveries," that Australia is "the first example in history of the discovery of a mutinous gold-fields in the midst of a civilized and intelligent community, already possessed of capital, and having its industry organized and protected by a stable government and free institutions;" a position which presages much for the success of such enlightened enterprise as railway communication, especially when backed by a Government guarantee of a minimum of five per cent, and all profits beyond, to the shareholders, as in the case of the Geelong and Melbourne Railway Company.

THE GEELONG AND MELBOURNE RAILWAY.—GEELONG TERMINUS.

SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

Mr. J. J. Hill's single contribution to the Gallery in Suffolk-street belongs to that class of subject of which the English have always been particularly fond. He calls it "The Cabin Door;" and his picture presents a young, comely, barefooted peasant girl giving a drink of milk to a barefooted boy of six years old, who is evidently enjoying the contents of the bowl that he holds to his lip with one hand, while his other hand, extended to the pail from which the bowl has been filled, evinces (very naturally) a longing for more when this is done. An attendant goat completes the picture

In cabinet pictures of this class there is not much room for any effort of fancy; nor, indeed, does the subject allow of anything more than a happy transcript of every-day life in the rural districts. Skill in execution more than compensates for any absence of invention; and in renewing our acquaintance with the Collection in Suffolk-street we have been at a loss to discover any one work of art, of its class, more true to peasant life than the "Cabin Door" of Mr Hill The complexion of the girl is, to our taste, too pinky, but this may be its recommendation to those critics who see in Mr Holman Hunt's unnatural hues the closest attention to every-day nature.

We shall seek another opportunity of engraving one more picture from this Collection; and shall then conclude our remarks on the prospects of a Society which promises, after a fitful life, to continue prospering.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.

(CONCLUDING NOTICE.)

In connection with the perfect representation of landscape scenery there are two difficulties with which the photographer has as present to contend. They are the representation of moving water and the foliage of trees, which is almost always in motion. The most successful representation of water is the views, a copy of one of which we have engraved, of "Waves in Caswell and Three Cliffs Bay," by Mr. Llewellyn. They are remarkable for their brilliant play of light and distinctness in the dark shades upon the surface of the rocks, not less than for the accurate manner in which the waves are represented. Some views of Mr. Fenton, showing the departure of the squadron of Admiral Napier for the Baltic, are also eminently successful with the water Passing from the regions of "still life," Photography has essayed its hand at the "fleeting clouds," and in this department Mr. Sherlock has been highly successful. It is not easy to overrate the value to artists of such studies of clouds as those by Mr Sherlock, Mr Hennah, and some very good examples sent by Prince Albert. Another highly valuable assistance which Photography is calculated to render to the artist is in the representation of animal forms. There is a most valuable collection of Photographs of live animals and birds, from the Zoological Gardens, by the Count de Montizon. The varied expression of these animals—the keen gaze of the eagle, the fierce glare of the lion's eye, the soft expression of the giraffe—are rendered with a precision and beauty which make these photographs exceedingly valuable alike to the connoisseur and to the artist. We noticed, also, a few very good specimens of dogs and deer, by Mr. W. Bainbridge, taken for her Majesty by the artist. A Calotype Portrait of a Lunatic Patient in Dr. Diamond's Asylum, illustrative of that peculiar and most distressing phase of lunacy, "melancholy," shows how much Photography may be made subservient to even this branch of medical science. The startling revelations of the microscope, of the breathing system, of the structure of bones, of the marvellous and minute anatomy of insect life, of sections of mineralogical specimens, when secured by the camera, in the clear and distinct form in which they are presented by the Rev. Mr. Kingsley and others, proves that a new and vast field is open to the photographer, in which his exertions will be alike beneficial to the cause of science and of popular instruction. In the production of copies of ancient pictures, and sketches of statuary and smaller works of art, the sun's actinic rays have shown themselves equally docile and useful. Most successful instances of this are to be found in a series of Photographs of sketches of Raphael in the Royal Collection at Windsor. They include, among others, the "Murder of the Innocents," a "Pieta," a "Leda," studies with the pen for the heads of Homer, Virgil, and Dante, the "Three Graces," &c. It is, we believe, the intention of his Royal Highness to distribute copies of these works among the principal museums and collections in the country, and to obtain in exchange copies of other fine works which exist in some of our collections, but which are but very imperfectly known and appreciated The photographs of Mr. Bedford, of a "Chinese Card rack," some Shields and some Statuettes, are remarkably fine and real in their appearance

The portrait department did not evince so much progress as that of landscape and still life. The finest portraits in the collection are undoubtedly two of Mr. Roslings, of a lady. They appear to us to be the very perfection of Photography. Some very good cases of specimens are sent by the principal photographers, such as Mr. Mayall, Mr. Heineman, and others, which fully sustain their reputation; and those who may admire pretty miniature likenesses, rather than fine photographic specimens, will be able to witness some very charming coloured portraits, principally contributed by Mr. Mayall.

"THE CABIN DOOR." PAINTED BY J. J. HILL EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

"WAVES IN CASWELL AND THREE CLIFFS BAY."—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY LLEWELLYN.

LINES

SUGGESTED BY THE PICTURE OF "THE BATTLE-FIELD" PAINTED BY HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS ROYAL.

Behold, a warrior sleeps the last long sleep!
A man of might! But who, so fair, doth keep
Watch over him that fought the glorious fight?
For Justice armed—went forth to stablish Right—
Bled for the cause—fell, with a soldier's sigh
For one best loved, in mortal agony;
In blissful peace then yielding up life's breath,
Trusted in God, a victor thus in death!
Yes, who is she that lingereth at the plain,
Heartstricken, weeping, and bowed upon the slain?
Some kindred soul, hath she not wandered there,
To solace, pray with him in humble prayer—
To save, if that might be, with her own life.
Help, LORD, the Widow; help the Soldier's Wife!

Albemarle-street. JAS. LOCKHART.

A FIGHT AND A FIRE.—Two little "affairs," calculated to break the monotony of Balaclavan existence, occurred on Monday (20th ult.) *Immediately* a fight broke out among the Crouts. These geese they were all armed when they landed, and it was judged inexpedient to deprive them of their stomachful of long pistols and yataghans. It was known for some time past that ill-blood existed between various little sections of these wild warriors; Montenegrins, Albanians, Crouts, Arnauts, Greeks, even Afghans and Koords—all has their quarrels. Some of the men accused the head men of cheating them. Last night a squabble took place between two parties of the Crouts. They drew their pistols and daggers, a regular fight took place. Thirty or forty shots were fired, and men fell wounded, two of whom have since died. Colonel Harding, the commandant, with a party of men, proceeded to the spot and quelled the riot, and disarmed all the Crouts on the spot. It is a pity it was not done before. *Secondly*, a fire broke out in the harbour on board a vessel (No 113), I believe, laden with combustible stores. The alarm bell was rung, and the *Leander* sent round her boats, and after an immense deal of excitement the fire was extinguished. An inquiry has taken place into the origin of the fire, but it appears to have sprung from combustion rather than the carelessness of some of the crew. There are, of course, rumours of incendiary spies and malignant Greeks, with matches, oil, and fusees, but they are not true.—*Letter from Balaclava.*

In the Boston Supreme Court, two English soldiers who deserted from Sydney, after having received a thousand dollars for their services, were convicted on a charge of simple larceny for bringing the money to America, were discharged from custody the other day on the ground that they cannot be punished in the United States for larceny committed in another kingdom.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Although the amount of business transacted in all National Securities this week has been comparatively small, and the sales have exceeded the purchases of stock, the fluctuations in prices have been unimportant. The statements abroad to the effect that the Conference at Vienna is not likely to lead to peace have checked operations for a rise; but the fact of the Bank of England having reduced its rate of interest from 5 to 4½ per cent has had the effect of inducing the *Bears* to operate with considerable caution. The steady increase in the stock of bullion in the Bank of England (which is now over £15,000,000), together with the abundance and low value of money out of doors, have, no doubt, tended to support prices. In the Stock Exchange loans may be obtained at 3 per cent; and we understand that the India Company will shortly make advances at low as 2½ per cent.

The inquiry for gold for export to the Continent has been limited, and the total shipments, including £14,000 to the Brazils, have been under £50,000. The arrivals have been chiefly confined to £1,000 from the Peninsula, and £146,000 from New York. In reference to the increased supply of the precious metals in the Bank, we may observe that during the seven weeks ending on the 31st ult. it averaged £949,681 per week—the total increase in the period here alluded to being not less than £2,447,767.

The Consol Market on Monday was very inactive. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 91¾ to 91 ex div.; the Three per Cent Consols, 93⅜ ⅛; the New Three per Cents, 91¾ ex div.; and Consols for Account, 93⅜ ⅛; Bank Stock was done at 210½ to 212 ex div. Exchequer Bills were 7s. to 5s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 1858, 99¾; Ditto, 1859, 99¾. On Tuesday very little business was transacted. Bank Stock was 210½ to 212; the Threes per Cents Reduced were 91 ⅛ ⅜; the Three per Cent Consols, 92½ up to 92⅝; Consols for Account, 92½ ⅜; the New Three per Cents, 91⅜ ⅜; and Long Annuities, 8⅞ 4. India Bonds rated firm, at 12s. to 14s.; and Exchequer Bills were 1s. higher, the quotations being 7s. to 10s. prem. Exchequer Bonds, 99½. Prices showed a tendency to give way on the following day. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 90½ to 91½; the Three per Cent Consols, 92⅜ ⅛; Consols for Account (10th of May), 92⅝ ⅜ ⅛; New Three per Cents, 91½ ⅜; New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 77¼; Long Annuities, 1885, 8⅛; Ditto, thirty years, 4⅞; India Bonds, 14s.; Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 7s. prem.; South Sea Stock, 115; Exchequer Bonds, 99⅝. Thursday was "pay-day" upon the Account, but the differences were easily met. The supply of Stock, however, was somewhat larger than had been anticipated, owing to a quantity of Consols having been thrown upon the market. The Three per Cents were done at 92 to 92½, closing at 92½ ⅜ for transfer. For the 10th of May the last price was 92. The New Three per Cents were 91 to 91½ and the Reduced, 91½ to 91¾. There was tolerably firm, at 210 to 212. Exchequer Bills continued at 7s. to 10s., and India Bonds 13s. to 14s. prem.

There have been very few dealings in the Foreign-house. Turkish Bonds, as the issue of another two millions is spoken of, have fallen to 75, after having been done at 77¼. The following are the leading quotations of other Stocks:—Brazilian Five per Cents, 99¼ ex div.; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 95¾; Buenos Ayres, 64¾; Chilian Six per Cents, 102; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 70; Ditto, Three per Cents, 49 ex div.; Spanish Three per Cents, 36⅝; Ditto, New Deferred, 18¾; Venezuela Three-and-a-Half per Cents, 27½; Danish Three per Cents, 82¾; Grenada One-and-a-Half per Cents Deferred, 6¾; Dutch Two-and-Half per Cents, 58; Dutch Four per Cents, 92¼; Sardinian Five per Cents, 87¾; Ditto, for the Accounts, 87¾.

Commercial advices from California are very unfavourable; but we hear that the yield of gold continues very large.

There has been a fair business doing in Joint-stock Bank Shares, and prices are well maintained:—Australasia have realised 80 ex div.; British North America, 53; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 17¾; London Chartered of Australia, 20¾; Oriental, 39¾; South Australia, 23; Union of Australia, 67; Union of London, 56¼. Miscellaneous Securities have been active. Australian Agricultural have marked 29. British American Land, 55 ex div.; Canada Six per Cent Bonds, 103¾; Crystal Palace, 3¾; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 10¾; London Docks, 100¾; Victoria Docks, 15¾; Netherlands Land, 1¾; South Australian, 37¾; Van Diemen's Land, 13. Canal shares have been dull, as follows:—Coventry, 209; Derby, 84; Grand Surrey, 48; Leicester, 59; Loughborough, 575; Neath, 150; Peak Forest, 86; Rochdale, 60; Stourbridge, 265; Stafford and Worcester, 445; Wilts and Berks, 49½. In Railway Shares scarcely any transactions have been recorded:—Berlin may be quoted at 41. East London, 100¾; Grand Junction, 68¾; Kent, 78¾; Southwark and Vauxhall, 99¾; West Middlesex, 91; Do. New, 16. Railway Debenture Companies have ruled dull:—Brighton, 14; Equitable, 31; Imperial, 103; Ditto New, 16; Ratcliff, 70; Phœnix, 26¾; Surrey Consumers, 11; United General, 20; Westminster Chartered, 30¾. Insurance Company Shares have been dull:—City of London, 24½; General, 64; Globe, 121¾; Guardian, 55; Law Life, 56¾; London, 29¾; Rock Life, 8; Victoria Life, 6¾. Bridge Shares have sold heavily:—Hungerford at 12; Waterloo, 34; Ditto, Old Annuities of £8, 31¾; Vauxhall, 23.

Most Railway Shares have been dull. In prices, however, very little change has taken place. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Caledonian, 80¾ ex div.; Eastern Counties, 11¾; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 19¾; Great Northern, 88¾; Ditto, A Stock, 78; Ditto, B Stock, 123; Great Western, 54¾; Ditto, Stour Valley, 50¾; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 75¾; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 99; London and North-Western, 99¾; London and South-Western, 82¾; Midland, 69¾; Norfolk, 47¾; North British, 29; North-Eastern Berwick, 71¾; Ditto, G. N. E. Purchase, 8¾; Ditto, Leeds, 19¾; Ditto, York, 48¾; North Staffordshire, 12¾; Scottish Central, 95¾; Scottish, 60¾; Wimbledon and Croydon, 3¾ ex.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—London, Tilbury, and Southend, 11¾; Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock, 2¾; Northern and Eastern, 58¾; Ditto, Six per Cent, 14¾.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Aberdeen, 103; Eastern Counties Extension, 2 prem.; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 19 ex div.; Great Northern Five per Cent, 118¾; Ditto Five per Cent redeemable at 10 per cent prem., 109¾; Great Western (Chester Flight Five per Cent), 17¾. ex New; Ditto, Birmingham Guaranteed Stock, 72¾. ex New; Midland Consolidated Bristol and Birmingham Six per Cent, 136; South-Eastern (Redemption Stock), 24¾; Dockers and Darlington Five per Cent, 17.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 8; East Indian Five per Cent, 23¾; Grand Trunk of Canada, A issue, 6¾; Great Luxembourg, 3¾; Great Western of Canada Shares, 17¾ Madras, New, 1¾; Paris and Lyons, 38¾; West Flanders, 3¾.

Mining Shares have been steady. On Thursday Imperial Brazilian were 3¾; St. John del Rey, 30¾; Linares, 7¾ ex div.; Pontgibaud Silver Lead and Mining, 14¾; United Mexican, 7¾.

Friday Evening.

A notice has been received in the Stock Exchange, to-day, from Downing-street, inviting capitalists to meet the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Monday next, at one o'clock, to subscribe amounts to meet the current expenses of the year. The particulars of the loan have only this day transpired. The amount required is not stated. Consols have been rather dull. The Three per Cents have marked 91¾. The Three per Cent Reduced are 92⅜; and the New Threes per Cents, 92⅜ ⅛. Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 10s. prem. In Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares very little doing

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—The receipts of English wheat up to our market this week, continue to be but moderate; the supplies of foreign have been very moderate, and the demand for the day was limited. The demand, however, was rather inactive, at Monday quotations. There was a very limited demand for foreign barley, and prices were nominally unchanged. In malting barley, prices were 4s. 6d. per quarter lower than last week, and they ruled very dull, at Monday's decline. In beans, peas, and flour very little was doing, at late rates.

ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 1,810 barrels; barley, 2,720; malt, 1,610; oats, 1,050; flour, 1,170. Irish: oats, 6,150. Foreign: wheat, 2,970; oats, 1,760. Ex. 22 Sacks, 6,110 sacks.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 64s. 6d.; ditto, white, 71s. to 84s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 64s.; rye, 38s. to 40s.; grinding barley, 27s. to 28s.; distilling, 29s. to 30s.; malting, 29s. to 32s.; Lincoln and Norfolk, malt, 34s. to 36s.; brown ditto, 63s. to 64s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 70s.; Chevalier, 70s. to 72s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 24s. to 27s.; potato ditto, 28s. to 29s.; Tweedside and Berwick, 34s. to 36s.; ditto, white, 36s. to 38s.; Irish beans, 36s. to 40s.; grey peas, 34s. to 37s.; maple, 37s. to 38s.; white, 40s. to 42s.; boilers, 43s. to 45s. per quarter. Yorkshire and Derby, 60s. to 65s.; country marks, 40s. to 55s. per 280 lbs.; American flour, 38s. to 43s. per barrel.

Seeds.—There has been a fair amount of business doing in our markets, at full prices.—Linseed, English, sowing, 68s. to 70s.; Baltic, crushing, 58s. to 60s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 65s. to 67s.; hempseed, 46s. to 50s. per quarter; coriander, 20s. to 24s. per cwt.; brown mustard seed, 12s. to 16s.; white, 8s. to 10s.; tares, 10s. to 12s. per bushel; English rapeseed, £35 to £36 per last of ten quarters; linseed cakes, English, £12 to £12 10s.; ditto foreign, £10 10s. to £11 10s.; rape cake, £6 10s. to £7 10s. per ton; canary, 60s. to 70s. per quarter. Red clover seed, 52s. to 60s.; white ditto, 70s. to 80s. per cwt.

Bread. The prices of wholesome bread in the metropolis are from 9d. to 10d.; of household ditto, 8d. to 9d. per 4 lbs. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 68s. 5d.; barley, 36s. 3d.; oats, 24s. 11d.; rye, 42s. 2d.; beans, 40s. 8d.; peas, 39s. 9d.

Hops. Weald of Kent, 47s. to 84s.; Mid, 47s. 10d.; barley, 30s. 5d.; oats, 25s. 1d.; rye, 38s.

Hops.—[illegible] Wheat, [illegible] 1852; barley, 48s. 11d.; oats, 24,756, rye, 268, [illegible]

Foreign.—[illegible] market during the week has been very moderate, on [illegible] Wheat, [illegible] barley, [illegible] oats, [illegible] rye, [illegible] at full quotations; but inferior parcels [illegible] have sold much more slowly. Foreign barley, [illegible] been in request, and crushed has commanded extreme rates. Rolled goods are [illegible] sale, at from 42s. 6d. to 43s. 6d. per cwt.

Coffee. The demand is far from active; nevertheless, the quotations are tolerably firm. Good ordinary Ceylon, 44s. to 45s. per cwt.

Rice.—Most kinds are a slower sale, at last week's decline in the quotations.

Provisions.—Irish butter has sold heavily, at 4s. 6d. quotations; but foreign parcels—the supply of which is good—are easier to purchase. In the value of English butter no change to notice. Bacon is dull, but not cheaper. In other kinds of provisions very little doing.

Tallow.—The demand is confined to immediate wants. P.Y.C., on the spot, is per cwt. Town tallow, 46s. per cwt. not cash. Several orders have taken place.

Hemp.—Very little business has taken place in the value of hemp.

Oils.—Linseed, Hull, Lynn, and Dublin, 32s. per gallon. Rapeseed is steady, but not dearer. Sperm, 84 gns. Cod, 40s. Pale seal, 38s. Southern ditto, 36s. per gallon.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £2 15s. to £5; clover ditto, £3 3s. to £5 15s.; and straw, £1 4s. to £1 18s. per load.

Wool.—All descriptions are heavy, and the quotations are next to nominal.

Potatoes.—The supplies are large, and the demand is heavy, at prices varying from 75s. to 120s. per ton.

Hops (Friday).—There is a steady business done in Sussex hops, on rather high terms. All other kinds move off slowly, at last week's currency. The arrivals of hops in 10 bales from Rotterdam, 37 from Hamburg, and 2 from Ostend. Mid and East Kent pockets, £14 to £22; Weald of Kent, £13 10s. to £14 10s.; Sussex, £12 10s. to £13 10s.; Yearlings, £7 10s. to £10 per cwt.

Cattle (Friday). Corn Harbley, 19s. 6d.; Hunting's Harbley, 19s. 6d.; Harton, 18s. 6d.; Stewart's, 18s.; Lamonby 19s. 6d.; Hough Hall, 18s. 6d.; Tees, 18s. per ton.

Smithfield (Friday).—Although the supply of beasts in the day's market was very limited, the demand for all breeds ruled heavy, at Monday's quotations. We were well supplied with sheep, which sold slowly, and the currency was 4d. per stone lower than last week. Imports moderate of heavy, at from 3s. 2d. to 3s. 6d. per 8 lbs. Prime small calves were scarce, and rather dearer; but inferior calves sold at full prices. The pork trade was heavy, at barely late rates. Mutton was moved off slowly, at from £4 to £5 per stock, including their small calf.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the offals:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; prime large oxen, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; prime Scots, &c., 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; prime coarse-wooled ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime Southdown ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; large coarse calves, 3s. [illegible] to 4s. [illegible]; prime small ditto, 4s. 8d. to 5s. [illegible]; large pigs, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; neat small porkers, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; lambs, 5s. 8d. to 6s. 6d.; suckling calves, 22s. to 32s.; and quarter old store pigs, 20s. to 32s. each. Total supply—beasts, 400; cows, 120; sheep and lambs, 6700; calves, 160; pigs, 320; Foreign beasts, 120, sheep, 50, calves, 190.

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday). The supplies were consumably good, and the trade was heavy, as follows:—

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass:—Inferior beef, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.; middling ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; prime large ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; ditto small ditto 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; large pork, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 0d.; inferior mutton, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; prime ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 4d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; small pork, 5s. 0d. to 6s. 4d.; lamb, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10.

WAR-OFFICE, APRIL 10.

Royal Horse Guards—Regimental-Corporal Major E. Hayward to be Cornet.

2nd Dragoon Guards: Lieut. J. H. King to be Captain, vice Coxe, retired.

7th Light Dragoons: Cornet T. F. Gurney to be Lieutenant.

9th Cornet W. D. N. Lowe to be Lieutenant.

1st Foot: J. W. [illegible] and H. Tomlinson to be Ensigns.

3rd: J. E. Sheridan to be Lieutenant.

4th: E. [illegible] and J. Sergeant to be Ensigns.

5th: J. Sergeant and E. Lord to be Ensigns.

6th: Lieut. M. R. M'Cumbie to be Lieutenant.

7th: E. D. Prestwice to be Ensign.

16th: R. C. Henley, W. C. Wolseley, to be Ensigns.

17th: Brevet Lieut. Col. W. P. Waugh to be Captain.

18th: Capt. A. C. Pretyman to be Captain.

30th: Lieut. F. J. Connell to be Lieutenant.

35th: W. C. Hill to be Ensign.

39th: Major R. N. Tinley to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Ensign L. V. Arbuthnot to be Lieutenant.

40th: E. Armstrong, G. Hobbs, F. W. Osborne, to be Ensigns.

1st West India Regiment: Lieut. A. Tunstall to be Captain; Ensigns C. G. Anderson, G. A. Robertson, and A. R. Fraser to be Lieutenants.

School of Musketry at Hythe.—Brevet-Major G. B. Crespigny to be Paymaster.

HERVEY.—Royal Artillery: Lieut. Col. Sir Thomas Fowle, Bt. C. Tisdale, and N. T. Lake, to be Colonels.

STAFF: Quartermaster T. Morris to be Quartermaster.

HOSPITAL STAFF.—J. C. Fuller, Esq., to have the honorary rank of Inspector-General of Hospitals in the Turkish Army; J. R. Robertson to be Surveyor in Chief to her Majesty's Forces in the East.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

W. BICKLEY, Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, draper.

BANKRUPTS.

G. C. LONG Deptford, Kent, draper.—J. HOBSON, West Cowes, Southampton, ratte salesman. W. ATTACK, Canning-town, Plaistow Marshes, Essex, engineer. J. ROLLAND, Sun-st., Bishopsgate-st. within, Middlesex, ribbon manufacturer. [illegible] R. STEELE, Leicester, linendraper.—J. MARKS, Redruth, Cornwall, grocer. J. LAMPER, Sheffield, butcher. J. BRIGHTMAN, Sheffield, brickmaker.—J. KEW, Sheffield, saw manufacturer.—C. WILLIAMSON, Rochdale, Lancashire, cotton cloth manufacturer. G. MUIR, Leigh, Lancashire, joiner. S. L. SAMUEL, Liverpool, watch manufacturer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

DONALDSON and M'CALL, Glasgow, merchants.—G. MURRAY, Broom, Perthshire, farmer.

FRIDAY, APRIL 13.

WAR-OFFICE, APRIL 13.

4th Dragoon Guards: Cornet G. Fox to be Sub-Lieutenant.

7th Light Dragoons: Capt. J. Burton to be Major.

7th Foot: Ensigns H. Plummer, H. N. C. Thorston, and L. P. Trahorne to be Lieutenants.

18th: Ensigns J. S. Theobald, M. J. C. Bingham, and H. [illegible] Arkell to be Lieutenants.

19th: Ensign G. C. L. Fox to be Lieutenant.

23rd: Ensign J. Williamson to be Lieutenant.

28th: Ensigns E. F. Angelo and T. E. Adams, to be Lieutenants.

42nd: Ensign W. Green to be Lieutenant.

53rd: Ensign H. J. Jermyn to be Lieutenant.

1st West India Regiment: Lieut. T. Clark to be Captain; Ensigns H. R. Sykes, W. W. W. Johnston, to be Lieutenants.

BREVET.—Major-General H. J. W. Bentinck to have the rank of Lieutenant-General in Turkey. Captains E. J. Lake and C. Hutchison to be Majors in Turkey. Staff Paymaster E. G. Cubitt and J. H. Starke, to be Paymasters of Provisional Depôt Battalions. Unattached: J. W. W. Sutton to be Captain. Hospital Staff: Surgeon J. M. Fleming, to have the local rank in Turkey of Inspector-general of Hospitals; C. Cameron, J. H. Crouse, and D. Bridges, to be Assistant Surgeons.

COMMISSIONS ANNULLED.

Royal Marines: Second Lieut. O. W. Cuffe to be Lieutenant.

UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE, APRIL 13.

2 GUIDS, Blue Liveries: [illegible] to be Yeoman of the Stable and stable-keeper.—C. K. W. TAT, Bow Barracks, Wiltshire, grocer, tea-dealer, and tobacconist. R. NICHOLSON, Kingston-upon-Hull, salt maker.

BANKRUPTS.

C. K. WITT, New Sarum, Wilts, grocer and tea-dealer.—T. [illegible] and M. HARGREAVES, Bradford, Yorkshire, wheelwrights and bolt makers.—T. [illegible] Hythe, Kent, boot and shoe maker.—J. GRANT, Birmingham, tailor and draper.—T. FLEMAN, Clarke-street, Northampton, carpenter, Clerkenwell, manufacturer of [illegible].—J. [illegible] W. MEAD, Bermondsey, Surrey, [illegible].—J. [illegible] Bradford, Yorkshire, [illegible] dyer, thermo-chemist.—W. SUTCLIFFE, Bradford, Yorkshire, [illegible] G. BLAKEY, Keighley, Yorkshire, [illegible].—J. [illegible] Yorkshire, [illegible] cooper.—W. HOLLADAY and J. CLEDSTON, Walling-street, warehousemen and mantle-manufacturers.—J. W. DAVIS, Dorchester, grocer and tea-dealer.—F. TODMINGTON, Aldersgate-street, City, manufacturer of lace falls and fancy goods. SARAH NUTTALL, Lower Tweedale, near Dewsbury, Yorkshire, [illegible].—J. MILLER, Lower Tweedale, near Dewsbury, Yorkshire, [illegible].—J. [illegible] West Bromwich, Kent, and Kingsland, [illegible] manufacturers.—J. [illegible]

On the 5th inst., at the Cathedral, Melbourne, R. R. Hornfray, Esq., grandson of the late Sir R. Brownrigg, to the widow of Admiral Sir J. Stirling, to Agnes Elizabeth Jeanette, youngest daughter of J. Eldorton, Esq.

On the 8th inst., at Rosscott Cottage, Ashford, J. Ivory, Esq., son of the Hon. Lord Ivory, to Harriette Jane Oakley, only daughter of W. A. Lewis, Esq., of Rossland.

On Wednesday, the 11th inst., at the parish church, Kendal, by the Rev. E. Gabriel, William Bryan Wilmoot, M.D., of Melbourne, Australia, to Mary Patrick, youngest daughter of the late Patrick Robertson, Esq., of Brixton, Surrey.

On the 12th inst., at St. George's, Hanover-square, by the Rev. John David Glennie, M.A., brother of the bride, Walter Chetwynd Spencer, Esq., of Thorney, son of Edward William Spencer, Esq., of Tonbridge, to Anna Maria, eldest daughter of the Rev. J. D. Glennie, of Worcester-street, Grosvenor-square.

DEATHS.

On the 22nd ult., in the trenches before Sebastopol, whilst gallantly repelling a sortie of the enemy, Lieut. Colonel Thomas H. Viney, Captain 97th Regiment, eldest son of the late Captain Viney, Royal Engineers, aged 24.

On the 4th inst., at Mattingly, near Cambridge, Philadelphia, widow of Admiral Sir C. Cotton, Bart., and daughter of the late Admiral Sir Jahleel Brenton, Bart., aged 88.

On Good Friday, at Ledbrose-villas, Notting-hill, the Rev. M. Maurice, aged 88.

On the 8th inst., at St. James's-square, Bath, Admiral Mark Robinson, aged 83.

On Good Friday, at Saltpool-house, near Bath, Lieut.-Col. W. James, late H.E.I.C.S., aged 70.

On the 1st instant, at the Salford Barracks, Manchester, Major Richard Atherton Fairington, of her Majesty's 81st (King's Own) Light Infantry, youngest son of Rear-Admiral Fairington, of Woodvale, Isle of Wight, aged 38.

At Bath, on the 8th inst., Sarah Jane, Anne Geddes, the beloved wife of Captain George Jeffrey, H.M. 32nd Regiment, aged 38.

On the 4th inst., at Rewsaster, in the full assurance of a joyful resurrection, Martha Matilda, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Craven Ord, M.A., of Greenstead-hall, Essex, aged 37.

MEMORIAL OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON I.

On this extraordinary man scores of relics are preserved in the cabinets of the curious and the museums of national establishments; but few of these memorials possess the interest of that engraved upon page 352—a solid wax cast of the Emperor, taken on the morning after his death.

We quote the following details from the late Sir Hudson Lowe's "History of the Captivity of Napoleon at St. Helena;" published in 1853, by Mr. W. Forsyth, M.A.:

Dr. Arnott remained in the room with the body during the night of the 5th, and early next morning Sir Hudson Lowe, accompanied by Rear-Admiral Lambert, the Marquis de Montchenu, and several British officers, together with Mr. Brooke and Mr. Greenstreet, two of the Members of Council at St. Helena, proceeded to Longwood, and viewed the corpse of Napoleon, which lay with its face uncovered. Afterwards an opportunity was afforded to various other persons—officers of the army and navy, and inhabitants of the island—to see the body as it lay dressed in uniform upon the bed.

"Well, gentlemen," said Sir Hudson Lowe to Major Gorrequer and Mr. Henry, as they walked together before the door of the Plantation-house, conversing on the character of the deceased, "he was England's greatest enemy, and since you have heard the confession of Bertrand, I forgive him everything; for the death of a great man like him we should only feel deep concern and regret."

Mr. Henry, who assisted at the dissection of the corpse, says that the face had a remarkably placid expression, and indicated mildness and sweetness of disposition. Those who gazed on the features, as they lay in the still repose of death, could not help exclaiming, "How beautiful!" The head was so large as to be disproportioned to the rest of the body, and the forehead was very broad and full. It may interest phrenologists to know that the organs of combativeness, causativeness, and philoprogenitiveness, were strongly developed in the cranium. The skin was particularly white and delicate, and, notwithstanding the accumulation of external fat, the whole frame was slender and effeminate. There was scarcely any hair on the body, and that of the head was thin, fine, and silky. On the left leg, near the ankle, was a scar, which appeared to have been occasioned by a wound

When the coffin was finally closed it was placed upon the bed, and mass was performed in the room.

The wax cast is now in the possession of Captain Winneberger, of the Paradise Barracks, Malta (No 151), who has brought it to England in the expectation that some collector of Napoleon relics may be induced to become its possessor. Our illustrations are from photographs by Bland and Sons, Fleet-street.

PROGRESS OF THE NEW LIBRARY, BRITISH MUSEUM.

THERE are few institutions, public or private, which have been more useful in advancing the general prosperity than the Reading-room and Library of the British Museum. In the former, except during short vacations, from 150 to 200 industrious readers (male and female) may be found daily following various inquiries—some for the production of important works, others for the purposes of more general literature and art: here are artists, antiquaries, architects, clergymen of various denominations, useful members of the newspaper press, students in anatomy, chemistry, botany, geography, &c., &c. The present Reading-room contains about 110 volumes, the most standard on various subjects, arranged in convenient order; for instance, the whole of the volumes of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and other periodicals of that class, with their indexes are put together; in another place, the best editions of the Greek and Latin classics, Hebrew Bibles, general histories, biographies, works on botany, &c., are also together; and the reader at the British Museum soon learns how to find them. All the 15,000 useful books contained in the present Reading-room can be taken from the shelves without assistance from the student. The value of this arrangement in the saving of time is very great; but for this, separate tickets of application for each book would need to be written, causing labour to the attendants, and delay to the readers. The contents of the Reading-room, however, is but a little in comparison with the whole Library, which contains, in round numbers, 520,000 volumes. The extent of this immense mass may be partly judged by the long range of catalogues, which reach almost round one of the Reading-rooms, and so rapidly have the catalogues been increased, that it became necessary to remove a duplicate copy which had been placed for the greater convenience of visitors. The supplementary catalogue for Sept. 1850 (the first transcript) till April 1855 has grown from 150 to 305 folio volumes. In addition to the catalogues of books, are also those of newspapers, music, manuscripts, &c.

The annual increase of volumes at the British Museum has for some time past amounted to 20,000—5000 more than the number now contained in the Reading-room. To provide space for, and to classify, so great a quantity of material has been a matter of anxiety to Mr. Panizzi, and the gentlemen of his department; who, by exercising much ingenuity, have placed and catalogued from fourteen to fifteen miles of books.

Books, as well as many other substances, require a certain amount of space, and it became necessary to accommodation. Several plans were offered, and at length that at present in progress (the happy suggestion of Mr Panizzi) was adopted.

In the main building was left a large square open area, in which it has been determined to erect a structure which would answer the purposes of a new Reading-room, and, besides, afford space for many thousand volumes.

The Reading-room will form, in the centre of the new structure, a circle of 140 feet in diameter, 440 feet in circumference, and 106 feet high. From the height of about 30 feet a dome springs, which will be lighted by twenty windows, 27 ft. by 12; there will be also a glazed lantern at the top of the dome. The Reading-room will contain upwards of 30,000 volumes for reference, and accommodation for about 400 readers. The effect of this room, when complete, must, even without decoration, be exceedingly fine; and it will, with the exception of the Pantheon at Rome, be surmounted by the largest dome in the world; the Pantheon is only 2 feet wider. In the Reading-room there will be a larger area that of St. Peter's at Rome, and of course very much larger than St. Paul's at London. If, however, this interior is properly decorated—and it affords a splendid scope for such a purpose—it will, no doubt, be amongst the finest interiors in the metropolis. Supposing the area to be lined with books, and surrounded by three galleries—let the windows be stained with rich and suitable patterns of such weight of colour as would prevent the glare of light and the windows from looking like holes through the dome; and the rich and subdued colours would enable a working space of 4 feet 4 inches by 2 feet. Great care has been made for the ventilation, which has been for long bad in the old room; in the new one every precaution will be taken to secure an ample supply of pure air

The appearance of the works a few days ago was so extraordinary that we have considered it worthy of a Sketch. The scaffolding is of ingenious and clever construction, erected by Mr. H. Fielder, of Stangate-wharf. The framework of the centre structure is of iron, and the whole, up to the spring of the arch, has been raised by a movable platform working

(*Continued on page 352.*)

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—MONDAY, 16th APRIL, and During the Week. Positively the Last Six Nights of the STANSHIL DANCERS, and Last Six Nights of THE SECRET AGENT, in consequence of the engagement of Miss Cushman on Monday, 23rd April, and of Mr. Sims Reeves, Tuesday, 24th.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, Louis XI. Tuesday, Faust and Marguerite; Thursday, The Corsican Brothers; The Minstrel of Toledo; or, King, Queen, and Knave. Every Evening.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch. Continued success of the celebrated Miss OLTY, as the "Duchess of Malfi," in the Tragedy of Miss Marston, with Mr George Wild and Miss Fanny Williams. Every evening.

ROYAL MARIONETTE THEATRE.—The New grand DIORAMA of the RUSSIAN WAR, with a beautifully illustrated Map. Every Evening at Eight; Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at Three.

CIO and hear LOVE, the Greatest Dramatic Novelty of the Metropolis, at the TEMPLE HALL, Shoreditch, Regent-street. EVERY EVENING, at EIGHT, except Saturday. Matinées at Three: Stalls, 2s; Area, 1s; Gallery, 1s. Pianoforte, Miss Julia Warman.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. The DIORAMA illustrating EVENTS of the WAR is now exhibiting daily at Three and Eight. Illustrations by Mr Bocquelet. Admission, 1s. 2s. and 3s.

ADAM and EVE.—This great original work, by JOSEPH VAN LEHUIS, is now on VIEW at 12, PALL-MALL (opposite Marlborough-house), from Eleven to Six, daily. Admission, 1s.

"ADVANCE, AUSTRALIA!"—PROUT'S VOYAGE to AUSTRALIA and VISIT to the GOLD REGIONS (late of 309, Regent-street), daily at Three and Seven. Admission, 1s.; stalls, 2s.; gallery, 6d.—Leicester-square Rooms (same entrance as the Assize Exhibition).

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.—An [illegible] graphs will be opened at the PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION, New Bond-street, on MONDAY, April [illegible], from 10 to 5. Admission, with Catalogue, 1s. Evening, open from 7 to 10. Admission, 6d.

MUSICAL UNION. TUESDAY, Half-past Three. Quartet (78), Haydn; Trio (Op. 97) in B, Beethoven; Quintet, G minor, Mozart. Solos on the Pianoforte: Artists Ernst, Goepel, Hill, Goffrie, Pinti, &c. Madame Pauer, Violiste (Violoncelle) by her Grammer and Co., Chappell and Co., and Ollivier. Pianos engaged for the Second Matinée.

EXETER-HALL.—Sir HENRY BISHOP.—The Second EVENING CONCERT at Exeter-hall will take place on MONDAY next, APRIL 16th, commencing at Eight o'Clock. The Afternoon Vocal Concerts will be resumed at Hanover-square Rooms on Saturday next, 21st April. Tickets, Reserved Seats, full Programmes, &c., at Mitchell's, Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street, and at the Libraries; also at Moses, Keith and Prowse, Cheapside.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—PATRON H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT. Monday Evening, the 23rd inst., LECTURE to the Industrial Classes—On the RADIATION of HEAT, by Dr. Lyon Playfair, Professor Frankland, F.R.S., &c. In addition to New Dissolving Views, a splendid Moving Diorama, illustrating an Entertainment called "Sam Slick at Home and Abroad," depicting the Passage from Liverpool, across the Atlantic, and embracing Views of the principal Cities in the United States, now added to the other attractions of the Institution, and will be shown daily at Three and Eight.

ROYAL PANOPTICON of SCIENCE and ART, Leicester-square. EASTER HOLIDAYS. The following attractive novelties will be exhibited during the Week:—Large additions to the Dioramic Views of the War in the Crimea on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, at 11.0, and on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings, at 9.10. Life in Pompeii on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings, at 9.10; and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings, at 4.10. Dioramic View of the Moon's Path in the Starry Heavens. Monday evening and Saturday morning. Grand Organ performances daily at 3 and 8.30. Luminous Fountain, Grand Electric Machine, and other Performances and Lectures as usual. Lower open.—Morning, 10 to 5; Evening, 7 to 10. Admission, 1s.; Schools and Children, half price.

EARLY-CLOSING MOVEMENT.—For the convenience of parties released from business by the Early-Closing Movement, the ROYAL PANOPTICON will hereafter be OPEN on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from Seven to Ten, as on other days. Admission, 1s.; Schools and Children, Half price.

THE EMPEROR'S VISIT to the CRYSTAL PALACE is well at once to get the necessity of being provided with one of CALLAGHAN'S CRYSTAL PALACE PRINCE'S GLASSES, so small, scarcely larger than your thumb, [illegible] powerful as to show objects at the distance of a mile. The usefulness, at the Crystal Palace in particular, [illegible] hundreds of season-ticket holders. Price 5s. 6d. at Sams's, Royal Library, 1, St. James's-street, Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond street, Westerton's, Hyde-park-corner; Lewis's, Royal Exchange; or the Receivable— the London-bridge and other principal Railway Stations. Or will be sent post-free on receipt of Stamps or Money-order, payable to WILLIAM CALLAGHAN, Optician, 45, Great Russell street, Bloomsbury, London.

THIS IS WHAT WE SAID IN ENGLAND. Sung by George Tedder. Price 2s. Also, The Lord Raglan Polka, by Linter. The Allied Army Waltzes, by Shalles. 3s. EMERY, 458, Oxford-street.

NEW SONG—ON THE STARTLED EARTH OF ENGLAND—suggested by the sudden death of the Emperor of Russia. Words by the Rev. G. S. MATZE. Music by Mrs. U. S. MATZEL—ADDISON and HOLLIER, 210, Regent-street.

CONCERTINAS, FLUTINAS, ACCORDIONS. The largest and cheapest Assortment of any House in London. The above Instruments, taught, Tuned, Repaired, or Exchanged. Instruction Books, published in parts. A List of Prices sent on receipt of postage-stamp. J. HUSSELL, 85, Goswell-street, opposite Compton-street, Clerkenwell, London.

THE UNIVERSAL CIRCULATING MUSICAL LIBRARY.—Subscription, Two Guineas per Annum. Subscribers annually presented with one Guinea's worth of Music. Prospectus, Mr. Nunn, "Unrivalled for the variety and quality of its contents" Morning Post.—"The Catalogue, containing 15,000 works, accounts for every lover of music." Prospectuses forwarded on application to Messrs. G. RICHMAND and Co., Importers of Foreign Music and Publishers, 86, Newgate-street.

ART-UNION of LONDON.—THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING to receive the Council's Report, and to distribute the annual subscribed for the purchase of Works of Art, will be held at the Theatre Royal Haymarket, by the kind permission of J. B. Buckstone, Esq., on TUESDAY, the 24th inst., at Eleven for Twelve o'Clock: the Right Hon. Lord Monteagle, President, in the chair. The prospectus for the current year will present admission for member and friends. GEORGE GODWIN, F.S.A. LEWIS POCOCK, Hon. Sec.

44, West Strand, April [illegible]

EIGHT HOURS at the SEA-SIDE.—CHEAP EXCURSIONS from LONDON to BRIGHTON and BACK the Same Day: First-class, 7s. 6d.; Second-class, 5s. 6d.; and Third-class, 3s. 6d. Every Sunday and Monday, from London-bridge Station, at Nine a.m.; returning from Brighton at 7.30 p.m. No luggage conveyed by these Trains. The Tickets are available only by the Brighton Trains.

London Terminus FREDERICK SLIGHT, Secretary.

HOUSES to be LET at WIVENHOE, near COLCHESTER, and entered upon immediately. A good family mansion, late the residence of Sir Thomas Hawes, Bart., Surgeon, within a distance of four miles from Colchester. It consists of the ground floor, of a Dining and Breakfast room, Surgery (fitted) and Consulting room, Kitchen, Brewhouse, &c. Four Bed, Drawing, Man and Maid Servants' rooms, also, a Bath-room, Water-closet, &c., a large Garden, well planted with the choicest fruit trees; Stabling for three horses, spacious Cellars, Harness-room, Coach-house, &c. Also, a Detached Residence, known as Wivenhoe House, opposite COLTAGE, late the residence of Hugh Green, Esq. It is very pleasantly situated, with a Garden in the front and back. It contains Dining, capital Cellars, Lining, Drawing, Breakfast, Three Bed, and Two Rooms for Servants, Two Kitchens, Water-closet, Pantry, and Store-room, Outbuildings, Coal-house, Fruit Closet, Brewhouse, with Three Coppers, Fixed Mangle, Carriage-house, Stabling for Two Horses, Knife-house, Dust-bin and Shed. Both houses are well supplied with excellent water. Both residences are near the Church, as well as the Post-office. Letters are delivered at eight o'clock in the morning. The journey to and from London can be accomplished in three hours. Both houses are very desirable for a Merchant wishing occasionally to spend some part of his time in the country. Rent, [illegible] For further particulars apply to Mr. JOHN GRAMPLAIN Wivenhoe.

THE ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.

(Established A.D. 1720, by Charter of King George the First.)

Chief Office in the Royal Exchange, London. Branch, 29, Pall-mall. Fire, Life, and Marine Assurances may be effected with this Corporation on fair and liberal terms.

The Annual Profits are divided by means of Participating, and partly [illegible] Policies, guaranteed by large invested capital stock. The only advantages of modern joint-stock companies, with security of perpetuity, and the benefit of the Royal Charter and special Acts of Parliament, and the long experience of nearly a century and a half.

Prospectuses, with Tables of the Premiums and of the Bonuses declared in the Life Department, may be had on application.

JOHN A. HIGHAM, Actuary and Secretary.

ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the ELECTION of PENSIONERS and FOUNDATION SCHOLARS is appointed to take place in LONDON, on THURSDAY, the 19th of JULY next.

Candidates for Pensionership must be duly qualified Medical Men, who have been in practice in England or Wales five years from the date of their diplomas, or the Widows of such.

Candidates for Foundation Scholarships must be the Sons of duly qualified Medical Men, or the Orphans of those deceased.

The Names of Candidates will be received after the 1st of May next.

The Governors vote by ballot, either personally or by proxy, having votes in the proportion of One for every Guinea subscribed annually, every Ten Guineas given, every Twenty Guineas collected. Proxy papers, containing a list of the Candidates, with particulars relative to the Election, will be duly forwarded to the Governors one week previously.

Those Gentlemen whose Subscriptions are due would oblige by remitting them at their earliest convenience, as no Annual Election whose subscription is in arrear will be entitled to vote.

Members of the Profession who may be desirous of having their Sons admitted as EXHIBITIONERS, are requested to make early application to the Council. JOHN PROBYN, Treasurer.

Office, 37, Soho-square, April 5, 1855.

ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE.

At a MEETING of the COUNCIL of the Royal Medical Benevolent College, held on Friday, 13th April, 1855—Sir JOHN FORBES, M.D., in the Chair—It was resolved—

That [illegible] the Opening of the College, on the 18th of June next, be constituted [illegible]

[illegible] Pensioners [illegible] Scholarships [illegible] Pensioners [illegible] Election [illegible] that another occasion of sufficient importance to [illegible] Pensioners [illegible] numerous body of supporters and [illegible] whose interest in the Institution they are most anxious to conciliate.

LADIES availing themselves of this privilege will be entitled to a VOTE at the ELECTION of PENSIONERS and FOUNDATION SCHOLARS, which is appointed to take place on the 19th JULY next.

JOHN PROBYN, Treasurer.

Office, 37, Soho-square, April 5th, 1855.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—Under the Patronage of the Queen, and under the Government of the Council of the College.

Head Master—THOMAS HENRY, A.M.

The School will REOPEN for New Pupils on TUESDAY, the 17th of APRIL, at a quarter-past Nine; for former Pupils, on WEDNESDAY, the 18th, at a quarter-past Nine, at which time all the boys must appear in their places without fail. The hours of attendance are from a quarter-past Nine to three-quarters past Three [illegible] of Wednesday and Saturday are devoted to Drawing. The subjects taught are Reading, Writing, the English, Latin, [illegible] French, and German Languages, Ancient and [illegible] Geography (both Physical and Political), Arithmetic and [illegible] ing, the Elements of Mathematics, of Natural Philosophy, and of Chemistry with Drawing.

Fee for the Whole [illegible]

Prospectuses and [illegible] may be had at the Office of the College.

CHARLES ATKINSON, Sec. pro tem.

9th April, 1855.

REPEAL of the MAYNOOTH ACT of 1845.

COMMITTEE of PROTESTANT Members of the [illegible] Protestant Defence Society, Protestant Alliance, Evangelical Alliance, Protestant Association, National [illegible] Reformation Society, and [illegible] Scottish Reformation Society.

CHAIRMAN—J. C. Colquhoun, Esq.

Vice-Chairman—Sir Culling E. Eardley, Bart.

Sir Benjamin Brodie, Bart. Sir Culling E. Eardley, Bart.
James Heath, Esq. Major-General Alexander [illegible]
Joshua Wilson, Esq.

OFFICES, Pall-a-Coffee-house, 177, Fleet-street, London.

AN ADDRESS to the MEMBERS of PROTESTANTS, including Deputations from the various Constituencies, will be held at the [illegible] HALL, Great Queen-street, London, on TUESDAY, 17th APRIL, at Ten o'clock a.m., when Resolutions will be submitted for promoting the united action of all denominations of Protestants, without regard to party politics, for the repeal of the Grant to Maynooth, and the Charter of the Institution will be continued, at the same place and hour, on Wednesday [illegible] which may be obtained at Messrs. [illegible] Fleet-street; at Mr. Seeley's, in Hanover-street; at Mr. Hatchard's, Piccadilly, or Messrs. Nisbet and Co., Berners-street.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, Gray's-Inn-road.

Patron—The QUEEN.

Founded 1828.

No order for admission is required.

During the past month the following number of sick poor received the benefits of this Charity, either as out or in door patients, on the 7 personal attendance:—

Week ending 7th March	.. .. ..	2,108
Ditto 14th March	.. .. ..	2,163
Ditto 21st March	.. .. ..	2,224
Ditto 28th March	.. .. ..	2,249
Ditto 29th, 30th, and 31st March	.. ..	842
Total in March	.. ..	9,609

(of which 2863 were new cases, the remainder (still under treatment) having been admitted previously.

Heavy expenses are inevitably incurred in affording such extensive relief. The Committee, therefore, earnestly appeal to the Aid of the Public.

The Management of the Hospital is in the hands of thirty Governors weekly rotating in the general body of subscribers at the Annual Meeting. Meets on Saturday, at Noon. Board held every Wednesday, at Two, to conduct the business, when any subscriber may attend, if he desires, and the Board being at all times desirous of receiving suggestions, or giving explanations.

The Hospital is not endowed, but is wholly dependent on voluntary contributions and legacies, which are thankfully received by the Treasurer, John Masterman, Esq., M.P., Nicholas-lane; also by Messrs. Coutts and Co., Strand; Messrs. Ransom and Co., Pall-mall; Messrs. Cox and Co.; Prescott, Grote, and Co.; Smith, Payne, and Co., Glyn and Co.; Messrs. Hoare and Co., Fleet-street; Barclay and Co.; Dickinson and Co.; Williams, Deacon, and Co.; Overend, Gurney, and Co.; Nisbet and Co., Berners-street; and by the Secretary, Mr. Mace, on the Hospital.

Cast off apparel and [illegible] will be gratefully acknowledged.

ROYAL SOCIETY for the PREVENTION of CRUELTY to ANIMALS. Established 1824.

Patron—The QUEEN.

President—The MARQUIS of WESTMINSTER.

At the monthly meeting of the Committee, held at the Offices, 12, Pall-mall, on Monday, April 8, 1855, the Report of the Society's prosecutor having been read, it appeared that the operations of the Society during the preceding quarter had resulted in One Hundred and Twenty-three convictions for the following offences:—

Horses and Horses to be driven with wounds, &c.	34	Ill-treating a Calf	1
Cattle, &c., driving lame	31	Ill treating a sheep	1
Ill-treating Dogs	1	Torturing Birds	1
Ill-treating a Cat	1	Ill-treating a Dog	1
Bull-baiting	1	Cruelty to Dogs-fighting	1
Stabbing a Pony	1	Torturing a Game Cock	1
Ill-treating Donkeys	2		
Ill-treating a Cow	1	Total	123

The punishment inflicted for these offences included sentences of imprisonment and fines, and the Society has obtained convictions in Seven of Six, one of £4, two of £3, two of £2 10s., eighteen of £2, six of £1 10s., twenty-nine of £1, and the remainder under £1, inclusive of costs in each case.

By order of the Committee.

April 8, 1855. GEORGE MIDDLETON, Secretary.

SAINT LEONARD'S, SHOREDITCH.—NEW ALMSHOUSES, for the Reception of Twenty Poor Widows or Single Women, Sixty Years of Age and upwards.—The REMAINDER of the SAINT DUNSTAN'S ESTATE, the Property of the above Institution, will take place at the TONTINE, Bishopsgate-street, on THURSDAY, APRIL 17th, 1855, on which occasion Robert C. Davis, Esq., Treasurer, has kindly consented to lead the Chair. Dinner on table at Five o'clock precisely. Tickets may be obtained of the Stewards: Messrs. Pocock and Sons, of Jean Wars, Hon. Sec., S. Whatley, Junior Assistant Secretary, at the Almshouses.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.—ARRANGEMENTS for APRIL.—On THURSDAY, the 19th of April, a PUBLIC MEETING, at BAKER S-ROOMS, ISLINGTON. Viscount Ennerlagh in the Chair.

On Wednesday, the 25th of April, the allotment of the West Malvern Estate (Worcestershire), and of the Alford Estate (North Lincolnshire). Holders of rights will also be enabled on that day to select plots on the valuable estates in Middlesex (St. Margaret's, Twickenham), Surrey (Oatlands-grange, Weybridge), Berks (Reading), Yorkshire, West (Leeds), Nottinghamshire (Retford), and Herts (Hertford and Ware).

For Prospectuses, Plans of Estates, &c., apply to

CHARLES LEWIS GRUNDY, Secretary.

Offices, 33, Norfolk-street, Strand.

This day, 7s. 6d.; post free, 8s.

RECOLLECTIONS of the MESS TABLE and the STAGE. By HENRY CURLING, Author of the "Schoolfellows."

London: THOMAS BOSWORTH, 215, Regent-street.

This day is published price 2s. 6d. sewed, or 3s. cloth, VOL IV. of THE SPECTATOR. A New Edition, with a Biographical and Critical Preface, and Explanatory Notes. Complete in Four volumes, price 10s. 6d. sewed, in wrapper, or 12s., handsomely bound in cloth.

London: THOMAS BOSWORTH, 215, Regent-street.

THE DIVINE DRAMA of HISTORY and CIVILISATION. Octavo. 12s.

"Noble book. Take book with the morning Post

"Remarkable book. Very suggestive." —Nonconformist.

CHAPMAN and HALL, Piccadilly.

HOW to VISIT PARIS.—Read "A Trip to Paris," in the APRIL Number of the FAMILY JOURNAL. It gives the Expenses, Hotels, &c.; tells what to do, and how to manage, to save both money and time, and get all that can be got, with the greatest speed. Price 3d. Or, Nos. 30 Monthly Sold everywhere.—London: WARD and LOCK, 158, Fleet-street.

A COPYRIGHT STEEL ENGRAVING, FROM MAYALL'S PHOTOGRAPH OF

JOHN B. GOUGH—a striking likeness—may now be had. Price artists' proofs 5s. 6d.; prints copies, 1s. The Autobiography of John B. Gough, with a Continuation of his Life to the present Time, with the Original Pure Steel Engraving of the Great Orator. Just published, cloth, gilt edges, price 3s. 6d.; new and handsome edition.

The Autobiography and Orations, bound in one handsome volume, gilt edges, with Portrait, 5s., post free, 5s. 6d

Orations separately.—1. On Hell. 2. The Importance of the Temperance Movement. 3. An Address to Children. 4. An Address to the Working Classes. 5. The Dangers Arising from Intemperance. 6. The Evil of Drunkenness. 7. Importance of Female Influence. 8. An Address to Young Men. 9. Our Duty to the Inebriate. 10. Are they all Fools who become Drunkards? 11. Who is my neighbour? 12. Prevention better than Cure. 13. The Power of Example. 14. The Liquor Traffic. The above may be had singly: No. 4, 2d. all the others 1d. each; or, in one volume, in stiff covers, 1s. 6d.; cloth, gilt edge, 2s. 6d. London: W. TWEEDIE, 337, Strand.

TO COUNTRY BOOKSELLERS.—Country Booksellers wishing to be AGENTS of the MASONIC Magazine [illegible] Strand, London. [illegible] Strand, London, and state which of the columns.

TO WHOLESALE STATIONERS.—A COUNTRY TRAVELLER WANTED, by Wiggins, Teape and Co., 10, Aldgate, London. Apply by letter, stating age and previous occupation

BAYSWATER GRAMMAR SCHOOL, Nos. 1 and 2, Pembridge Villas, Westbourne grove, is conducted upon those principles, and is accordingly conducted those principles of Education, which have ensured its success, and enabled it to take its present position in public estimation. The ensuing Term will commence on Monday, 23rd instant.—E. J. PEARCE, Principal

HYDROPATHY.—Dr. EDWARD JOHNSON has REMOVED from Umberslade Hall, in order to take possession of the NEW HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT which he has recently built at Malvern, and is NOW READY to RECEIVE PATIENTS. The prescription of all letters addressed to him should bear his Christian name

MODELLING in LEATHER—PLAIN DIRECTIONS, by ROSE GILBERT, Author of "Practical Designs." Post free for 13 stamps each. Specimens of the Work (as it ought to be done) at the Soho Bazaar, left entrance; and at 12, Soho-square (Drawing-room the necessary Materials may be obtained. Address, R. Gilbert, 13, Soho-square. Price List forwarded.

ON BOARD H.M.S. "NORTH STAR," in the ARCTIC REGIONS, for Two Years, the Ship's time was kept by one of JONES's Levers, all other Watches on Board having stopped. In silver 24s., in gold, £4 10s.; at the Manufactory, 338, Strand, opposite Somerset-house. Read JONES's "Sketch of Watch Work," sent free for a 2d. stamp

DENT, 61, Strand, and 34½ and 35, Royal Exchange, Manufacturer to the Queen and the Royal Household, and to the Queen and Prince Albert, sole successor to the late N. J. Dent to all the Royal Observatories, Manufacturer of the Great Clock and chronometers, as chief astronomer to the Admiralty, and of the chronometers, and chief astronomer ships' companies, on board her Majesty's yacht "Fairy," special Watches, 9 guineas, gentlemen's, 10 guineas; strong silver Watches, 5 guineas.

HAWLEYS, Watchmakers and Goldsmiths, 120, Oxford-street, and 284, High Holborn (from 76, Strand, and Coventry-street); established upwards of half a century. Regent GOLD WATCHES, Gold Jewellery, Silver Plate, Electrical Movement, £3 3s. Gold Lever and Lepine Watches, highly finished, from Twelve Guineas and Thirty-five Guineas; Silver Watches, Jewelled in four holes, maintaining power, richly-engraved cases and dials, £2 2s.; Silver Lever Watches, from £2 10s. to Ten Guineas. Fine Gold Chains, commencing at £1 10s. each. Mosses. Hawley respectfully informs the nobility and the public that they are the only genuine watchmakers of the same name in the Metropolis, and manufacturers of every chased or taken in exchange. Chronometers, clocks, and watches, cleaned, and adjusted by scientific workmen

CAUTION.—For above thirty years S. MORDAN and Co. have been compelled to warn the Public with reference to the various imitations of their EVERPOINTED PENCIL CASES.

The celebrity which this article obtained when the letters patent were first granted, has induced many unprincipled manufacturers to offer articles as the genuine have been in more recent times, only this difference, that in combining with every invention of good reputation, the result has been that numerous imitations have been produced, and the vendors assailed, by the sale of inferior goods, to realise a larger immediate profit.

Under these circumstances, S. Mordan and Co. are induced to issue this notification, and to request the public, when desirous of purchasing their Pencil-cases, to observe that they only guarantee those on which the name of S. Mordan and Co.' are stamped.

As in every town, in great Britain respectable houses are found who have a stock of S. Mordan and Co.'s genuine Pencils, it really need be an expensive or vexatious one, to obtain the article.

Perhaps the above caution is even more strictly necessary when Cuttapercha Lead Pencils are purchased. For rolling the pencil-cases, Unless those have been most accurately assigned to the exact size of the pencil point, they will be found utterly useless

Each box of genuine lead pencils is stamped "Warranted. S. Mordan and Co."

CEDAR PENCILS made from the Cumberland Lead, purified by Messrs. Mordan and Co.'s Patent Process. S. Mordan and Co. desire also to assuring that such excellent pencils in every respect are only to be obtained from Messrs. Mordan and Co.'s Manufactory, the genuine wood of the Cumberland lead, or any having impressed on it when of their stock of crude black lead to the patentee, S. Mordan and Co. are enabled to offer their Cedar Pencils, made from the only pure lead extant, with confidence that their superiority will be readily appreciated by the public. The highest commendations have been received on these Pencils by painters, engravers, architects, engineers, and draughtsmen, and testimonials of the highest character, from many of whose testimonials have been published in detail. The following names are selected:

Charles Barry, Esq., R.A.	Copley Fielding, Esq., P.W.C.S.
T. Faulkner, Esq., F.S.A.	W. Mulready, Esq., R.A.
J. K. Brunel, Esq., F.R.S.	David Roberts, Esq., R.A.
Charles Stanfield, Esq., R.A.	J. T. Willmore, Esq., R.A.
R. Westmacott, Jun., Esq., F.R.S.	E. C. Wilson, Esq., Director, Government School of Design.
B. Pratt, Esq., F.S.A.	
Philip Hardwick, Esq., R.A.	

Each Pencil is stamped "Warranted Pure Cumberland Lead. Mordan and Co."

PATENT FUSEE CANDLE COOKING LAMPS—One Hundred Lamps, and Two Hundred Canisters of Candles will cook Four Meals per Day for One Hundred Men, for Twenty-four Hours, Lighted with an expense of Twopence. The Lamps Three Halfpence per Day each Lamp. Supposing these Lamps to be gone at the Cost, and the Candles lying at Sixpence, Two Men would be enabled to carry sufficient daily to supply Five Hundred Men.—SAMUEL CLARKE, Patentee, Wholesale Lamp and Candle Manufactory, 55, Albany-street, Regent's-park, London. As these Lamps will be sold Retail by the Trade generally, the Patentee cautions purchasers to observe that each Lamp bears a label—S. Clarke's Patent Fusee Candle Cooking Lamp. None other are genuine.

N.B.—In the event of a Regiment being ordered on a Foreign Service, they can have any quantity of Lamps and Candles packed in the warmest climes and to their place of embarkation.

ROYAL CLIFTON SPA, PUMP-ROOM, Baths, and Mineral Water Manufactory, CLIFTON, BRISTOL (the Lease and Goodwill of this most desirable property, together with the Stock, Plant, and Machinery, to be SOLD, a bargain. The Establishment consists of a Pump-room (which serves as a Bazaar), Fifteen Baths of all descriptions, a Tepid Swimming Bath, Two Douche Rooms, Shower Bath, Chemical Laboratory, Dispensary, &c.; Reading and Refreshment Rooms, Views, Minerals, Dwelling-house, and a Sod-water Manufactory, fitted with Steam Machinery. Over £3000 has lately been expended in enlarging and improving the premises, and the Establishment is to be the most complete and efficient of their kind in England. The business is now [illegible] without additional expense. [illegible] Bristol and Clifton [illegible] Manufacture and has about eighteen years to run. The Season is just coming on, and immediate possession may be had, and the Proprietor can give most satisfactory reasons for parting with the same. A capital of from £3000 to £4000 would be required to enter upon the concern, but the payment would be made easy. Apply to Mr. HOLTON, Proprietor, on the premises, or Mr GOOD, 46, King William-street, London-bridge

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BREIDENBACH'S WHITE ROSE SCENT is in great perfumery, price 2s. 6d. Rose Cold Cream, 1s.; Rose Soap, 1s.; Rose Sachets, Rose Water, Rose Pomade, Rose Mouth-wash, equally fragrant.—157a, New Bond-street.

MAPPINS' "SHILLING" RAZOR, sold everywhere, warranted good by the Makers, JOSEPH MAPPIN and BROTHERS, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield; and 37 Moorgate-street, City, London

MAPPINS' SUPERIOR TABLE KNIVES, as made for the Crystal Palace, Sydenham; handles cannot possibly become loose; the blades are all of the very first quality, being their own Sheffield manufacture. Buyers supplied at their London Warehouse, 37, Moorgate-street, City, and Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield

ARMY and NAVY OFFICERS, SURGEONS, &c., GOING to the CRIMEA SUPPLIED with ARM SLINGS, crutches, frames, list, wool, lancets, splints, rollers, bandages for fractures, oil-silk for wounds, and every description of surgical appliances.—WILLIAM HUNTLEY BAILEY, 418, Oxford-street.

GLASS, CHINA, and CHANDELIERS.—The Largest Collection in London, at the Establishments of APPLEY PELLATT and CO.'S, Falcon Glass Works, Holland-street, Blackfriars; and 98 and 99, Long-lane, Bermondsey.

DEAFNESS.—Patronised by Royalty.—FINE'S ACOUSTIC REFLECTORS are the greatest relief with the least inconvenience ever offered to the Public. They can be worn with the hair dressed. To be obtained of Mr W. Fine, at his Acoustic Repository, 352, Strand (one door from Wellington-street).

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FOREIGN BIRDS for SALE. Thirty species of splendid Parrots, from 12s. to £6 each; Virginian Nightingales [illegible] American warblers [illegible] Lark, Rainbirds, Hawfinches, [illegible] Bullfinches, &c. [illegible] A. LAY, Naturalist, 18, Fore-street, [illegible]

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QUILTED EIDERDOWN PETTICOATS.—W. H. BATSON and CO.'S Stock is replete with every description of Quilted Petticoats for all seasons Eiderdown Quilts and Imperial Coverlet Manufactory, 39, Maddox-street, Regent-street.

DINNEFORD'S FAMILY MEDICINE DIRECTORY, containing a variety of practical information, especially adapted for the clergy, ladies, schools, and heads of families, to be obtained of all professional medical men, price 1s. 6d.; by post, 2s.

MEDIUM CHINTZES [illegible] comprising a large assortment of patterns, at prices from 10s to 14s. 7d. NEW Bond-street, London.

BEDDING.—Economy, Durability, and Comfort.—J. and S. STEER'S SPRING and FRENCH MATTRESSES must be the most elastic and softest bed. A Price List of every description of Bedding, Blankets, and Quilts, sent free. Bedsteads of every description. Cots, Cradles, Cribs, Cradle Furniture, &c. Elder-down Quilts in Silk and Cotton Cases.—J. and S. STEER, 3, Oxford-street, Bedstead, and Bedroom Furniture Manufacturers, 13, Oxford-street.

WATCHES.—All Watches Manufactured by J. W. BENSON, 33, Ludgate Hill, have the important regulator, Accuracy, Durability, and Cheapness combined, and are sent Free to all parts of the Kingdom on receipt of a remittance Gold Horizontal Watches, £3 10s. to £10 10s., Silver ditto, £2 15s. Gold Lever Watches, £5 5s. to £21 10s.; Silver ditto, £3 3s. to £10 10s.—33, Ludgate-hill, London. A Two Years' Warranty given with each Watch.

WANTED, LEFT-OFF CLOTHES for AUSTRALIA.—Mr. and Mrs JOHN ISAACS, 319, STRAND, opposite Somerset-house, are giving the highest price in Cash for Ladies and Gentlemen's Clothes, Regimental Equalets, Boots, Books, Linen, Plate, Jewellery, and all Miscellaneous Goods. Ladies or Gentlemen waited on at any time or by addressing a letter as above. N.B. Parcels from the country, the utmost value remitted by Post-office order. Established 48 years.

WANTED, LEFT-OFF CLOTHES for Exportation. Mr. and Mrs. HANT, of 31, Newcastle-street, Strand, continue to pay the highest price in cash for the clothes of Ladies' or Gentlemen's Wearing Apparel—Wife, military uniforms, Jewellery, Plate, Linen, Boots, Books, and all miscellaneous property. Ladies or gentlemen waited on at any town or distance, by addressing as above. N.B. Parcels sent from the country will be used with immediate attention, and the utmost value remitted by Post-office order.—Established 24 years

THE BEST FOOD FOR CHILDREN, INVALIDS, AND OTHERS. ROBINSON'S PATENT BARLEY FOR making superior BARLEY-WATER in fifteen minutes, has not only obtained the patronage of her Majesty and the Royal Family, but has been pronounced by the Faculty to be the most nutritious and is acknowledged to stand unrivalled as an eminently pure, nutritious, and light food for infants and invalids, much superior to the ordinary arrowroot, which is the usual and well-known paper wrapper.

Sold by all respectable Grocers, Druggists, and others, in town and country, in Packets of 6d. and 1s.; and Family Canisters, at 8s., 6s., and 12s. each.

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The evils with which so baneful a system is fraught are strikingly [illegible] Cocoa is [illegible] the Cocoa, therefore, computed arrangements with the highly-respectable firm of Messrs Henry Thomas and Co., Leeds, whose many years' experience in the preparation of this article, and their unexceptionable determination to manufacture only from the choicest nuts, and to rigidly exclude adulteration in any sample, warrant us in recommending their "Genuine Trinidad Cocoa," price 1s. 6d. per pound.

SIDNEY, WELLS, and CO. Family Tea-men, 72, New Bond-street, London.

THE NEW READING-ROOM AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM, IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION.

(*Continued from page 350.*)

rom a centre. About 2000 poles, of from 38 to 60 feet long, and 7 or 8 inches in diameter, have been required for the construction of this ingenious design.

The central framework will, however, form but the heart of the new Library; for the space round the Reading-room will be enclosed by a brick wall, and lighted from the roof, this space being divided into compartments, the walls of which will be lined on each side with books. The [illegible] and will be [illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] of the Museum, its usefulness might be [illegible] to a larger and increasing [illegible] and other students, whose engagements during the day prevent them from using the rich materials which will be here stored; and the main building, with its million of volumes, might (in order to prevent danger from fire) be readily lighted from the outside.

Mr. Sydney Smirke is the architect of the new works; and Messrs Baker and Son are the contractors.

WAX CAST OF THE FACE OF NAPOLEON I.—(SEE PAGE 350.)

XXVI.

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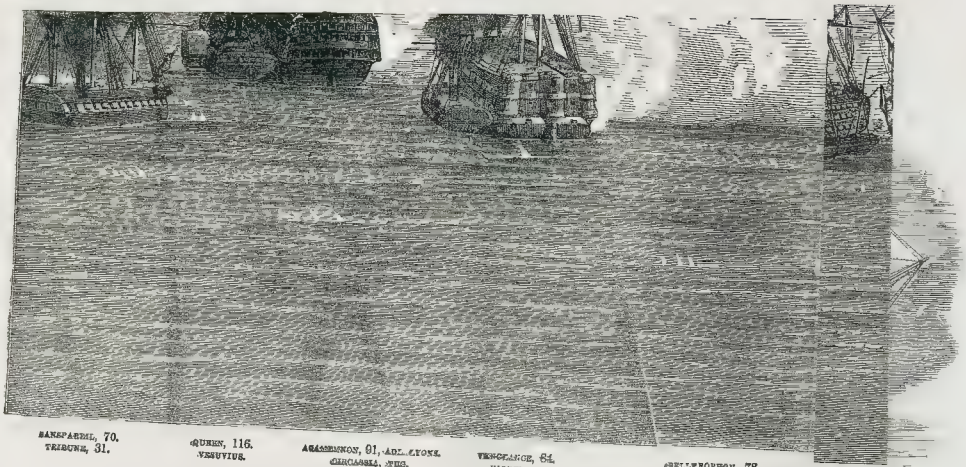

SUPPLEMENT TO THE
ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS
APRIL 14, 1855.

SEBASTOPOL:

FIRST DAY'S ATTACK BY THE ALLIED FLEET AND ARMIES OF FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

No. 737] SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1855. [VOL. XXVI.

DEPARTURE OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

Our readers are not likely to have forgotten the grand event of last year—the departure from Spithead of the noblest fleet that ever left the shores of this country, under the command of one of its most distinguished naval warriors. The morning of Saturday, the 11th of March, 1854, must be for ever "marked with white" in the calendar of every person who witnessed the glorious spectacle of that day. Everything that could avail to render a scene magnificent beyond description almost beyond conception a cloudless sky, countless masses of spectators, the thunder of a thousand guns, and the presence of the Queen of England—conspired to make that day memorable—at least as a show. But the performance of that great fleet fell sadly short of its promise. With a leader victorious in many a fight, officers of well-proved gallantry, and ships having resources wholly unprecedented, our Baltic fleet of 1854 did little more than perform a ministry promenade in the Baltic Sea; at least, what it did perform was more of a negative than of a demonstrative kind. Whether it could have done more than imprison the fleet of Russia is a question which we shall not attempt to discuss. We incline to the opinion that, under the circumstances, it served an excellent purpose, and could have done no more. In the event, let us hope that the Baltic fleet of the current year will form as strong a contrast to that of the past year as it certainly has done in the inauguration.

The Baltic fleet of 1854, on its arrival in our seas, was dispersed in various directions, and the winter months were occupied in repairing the damages inflicted during the previous cruise. From the various harbours and dockyards in which the ships found refuge during the winter, they had been, for some weeks previously con-

THE BALTIC FLEET, 1855.—"THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON," FLAG-SHIP OF REAR-ADMIRAL THE HON. R. S. DUNDAS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

centrating on Spithead, the great naval rendezvous. When the weather was deemed sufficiently auspicious, the Flying Squadron, as our readers are already aware, was sent forward, as it were, to feel the way. But people who lent their steps towards Southsea Beach, or seized the vantage ground offered by the batteries and houses overlooking Spithead, noticed little decrease in the number of ships, and certainly no falling off in the interest of the spectacle which varied the sameness of the sea between them and the sunny slopes of the Isle of Wight. There, during the latter days of March, in two long parallel lines, stretching from east to west, rode quietly at their anchors many of those noble ships, on whose giant strength we rely (under Providence) for the preservation of their countrymen and those which their precursors have won for us. During the week preceding the departure of the fleet, many visitors crowded into Portsmouth.

The first certain indications of sailing were given on the 31st ult., when signal was made by the flag-ship, "Prepare for Sea," all officers and sailors on shore were recalled to their respective ships, and all further leave prohibited. A general muster of crews took place, with a view to payment of wages before sailing. Exercise in gunnery practice was actively carried on; and it was evident to every looker-on that business, and that too of an engrossing kind, was to be the permanent order of the day. Steamers belonging to the local companies, and smaller craft of every description, were incessantly moving about, giving many thousands an opportunity of being gratified by a sight of floating floating castles; with a peep now and then, through port-holes, at their internal economy. The space of water between the lines of the fleet became a nautical promenade, where you were tolerably certain to find any acquaintance whom you could not discover on shore. The thousands who made Spithead their rendezvous on the 2nd of this month were fortunate in having a fine day; at least, as fine as any day can be which has a strong infusion of east wind in it.

That a day like this should pass over without something in the shape of an accident to diversify the scene would be quite out of the ordinary course of things. Accordingly, early in the afternoon of Monday (2nd), a boat from the Gosport side, laden with provisions and people for the fleet, managed to capsize in the swell. This gave occasion to good deal of anxiety amongst the many who were looking on, and an excellent opportunity to a couple of man-of-war's boats to show the admirable way in which they were handled. The people who were shot out into the brine, to the number of eight, were all speedily fished out, and the provisions were rescued soon after. The wonder is that dozens of boats did not be over, or get swamped. The escapes of some, full of women, too, were little short of miraculous.

"Queen's weather again!" was our exclamation, as we pulled up our window-blind on the morning of Tuesday the 3rd of this month: on this day, it was generally understood, and we believe intended, that the fleet should sail. Before noon it was evident that, if it did leave the anchorage, it must have been in the teeth of a gale of wind, and, as there was no special necessity for this, the order for sailing was countermanded. Bitterly bad though the weather was, much disappointment was felt by the excursion people who must return or pay some three pounds for a bed in Portsmouth, without any positive certainty of seeing the fleet depart on the following day. The greater number of excursionists were conveyed by the South-Western Railway; one train alone carrying seventeen hundred people. These people had little for their pains, for though steamers were seen passing to and fro, few save officials ventured out. But, rough though the weather was, and most uninviting to all ordinary mortals though the waters of the Solent were, we were not without a plurality of representatives at Spithead. To the very great convenience of our readers, the Artists and Correspondents of the Illustrated London News are ubiquitous; and the scenes which people travelled hundreds of miles to witness, and could not venture from the coffee room fireside to look upon, will become familiar to every one who looks upon our pages. It may console those who returned on Tuesday to hear that they were remarkably see the fleet depart, thanks to the fog, did not see the departure thereof. *Solamen miseris socios habere doloris!*

As early as six o'clock on the morning of the 4th inst. the Port-Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane, and the Board of Admiralty, went to Spithead in the *Vivid* steam yacht, and gave the last orders to the fleet, after which the *Vivid* carried them to Sconce Point, to inspect the new works of defence at that part of the Needles Channel. A dense fog shut out the fleet entirely from the view, and it was not until some time after the spectre-like hulls became visible to the anxious eyes gazing seawards. It appeared uncertain in the early part of the day whether the fleet would move, but at nine a.m. the flag ship the *Duke of Wellington* signalled to the *Geyser* and *Drivor* to get up steam and prepare to weigh, at ten signal was made to the fleet to weigh the small bower anchor and raise screw propellers. The wind being fair, it was then known to be the Admiral's intention that the ships should put to sea under sail; and at half-past eleven the 200-horse-power steamer *Drivor* began to tow up at slow speed, while at the same time the dinner pennant was hoisted. At ten minutes after one signal was made "Prepare to weigh;" the fleet immediately hove short, and at half-past one signal was made "Weigh and form order of sailing as most convenient,"—with *Magicienne* and *Basilisk* in front to look out ahead of the Admiral, and the *Bulldog* and *Dragon* to take their places in the Admiral's wake. At two a general signal was made to "Rendezvous in the Downs in case of parting company." The ships got under way as convenient (per signal), and when standing out towards the Nab appeared from that spot in the following order:—

PORT DIVISION.	Guns.	STARBOARD DIVISION.	Guns.
Magicienne, Hamb.	16	Basilisk, Jenner	6
Bellerophon, Hall	60	James Watt, Elliot	91
Colossus, Robinson	80	Hogue, Ramsay	60
Duke of Wellington (Flag)	131	Edinburgh, Hewlett	58
Gorgon, Crawford	6	Cæsar, Robb	91
Cressy, Warren	81	Ajax, Warden	60
Bulldog, Gordon	6	Nile, Maude	91
Majestic, Hope	81	Exmouth (Flag)	91
		Royal George, Codrington	102

The first off was the *Blenheim* under courses, topsails, and topgallant sails, the *James Watt* following closely in her wake under topsails and topgallantsails, and evidently having the heels of her. At a short interval came the *Colossus* and *Hogue*, the latter carrying fore and maintopmast and topgallant studding sails; which example was followed by the other 60-gun block-ships. Generally, the ships carried royals, which the *Blenheim* was first to hoist, when abreast of the *Pelodes*. The Port Admiral, Sir Thomas Cochrane, went out of harbour in the *Vivid*, while the fleet was under way, and remained close to the *Duke of Wellington* for some time, eventually proceeding some way out with the ships. Had not the weather been so hazy the pictures from the shore would have been magnificent, but the first of the fleet was out of sight before any movement was known ashore. About half-past three, however, the mist suddenly lifted, and a glimpse was then obtained of the fleet in full sail about six miles from port, between the Warner and the Sea Fort. The last signal seen was now made out, flying from the mast-head of the *Duke*, and was evidently in consequence of the wind falling light; it was for the line-of-battle ships to "Get up steam at low speed." During the time these manœuvres were being performed by the fleet, the splendid new screw-frigate *Orlon*, 91, under full steam, was cruising about the roadstead, and trying her speed by the measured mile. She is a magnificent ship, and apparently of great power. The *Bellerophon*, 78, sailing ship, afforded a sad contrast to the surpassing fleet, as she wastowed into harbour with sick and wounded invalids from the Crimea. There were but few vessels of any kind moving about the fleet, owing to the general impression that it would not leave before Thursday. Among those out we noticed the *Vivid*, the *Pigmy*, the *Bee*, the *Argus*, and the trim little Dutch war-schooner *Mercury*, which got under way and stood out abreast of the Commander-in-Chief's ship. The only casualty was with a schooner-yacht, the property of Mr. H. D. P. Cunningham, R.N., the inventor and patentee of the plan for reefing topsails from the deck, who got under way with the fleet to exhibit the utility of that important application. The yacht got under the bows of the two-decker *Majestic*, carried away both her topmasts, and obliged the line-of-battle ship to drop anchor. At five o'clock on Wednesday the van of the Baltic fleet was hard upon the extreme end of the land on the Pentemouth shore. On Thursday, at noon, it was in sight, off Dover. The weather was fine, with a light easterly breeze.

On Sunday morning the *Duke of Wellington*, 131, the flag-ship of Rear-Admiral Dundas, returned to Spithead from the Downs, to effect repairs of damages she sustained by getting into collision with the *George Hurlbutt*, an American emigrant-ship, on the night of the 4th inst., about six hours after leaving that port. As soon as she was in sight a party of ship-rights and riggers were sent off to her in one of the dockyard tugs, and these were at work on her all day. Admiral Dundas did not return to her, having shifted his flag to the *Nile*, 91, screw. Both vessels sustained considerable injuries by this unfortunate collision. The *Duke of Wellington* had her foreyard carried away, together with her port swingbeam, the whole of the port and part of the main chains, quarter-gallery, and hammock-nettings, breaking the stock of the best bower anchor, and driving the sheet anchor from its berth into the gangway. The shock was felt by the merchant ship losing foremastmast, bowsprit, jibboom, cutwater, &c. The accident is said to have arisen from the emigrant ship suddenly coming upon the fleet, which were steaming down Channel at an easy rate—the night being very fine, and the moon shining brightly. The *Duke* reports that the cause of the accident was a bad "look out" on board the merchantman, the man who was steering her not seeing his danger till he was close on the *Duke*, whose helm was put hard-a port, steering south, to get out of the way. By this it was thought that the vessels would have passed, when the merchantman suddenly put the helm hard-a-starboard, running into the *Duke's* fore-chains.

It will be seen from the following lists of the Baltic fleet for 1854 and 1855, that the naval force which has been sent out this year is much stronger than the one which Sir Charles Napier commanded:—

THE BALTIC FLEET OF 1854.

Ships and Commanders.	Guns.	Men.	Horse-Power.
Duke of Wellington, Capt. Gordon, flag or Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, K.C.B.; Michael Seymour, Captain of the Fleet	131	1100	700
Neptune, Capt. Hutton, Flag of Rear-Admiral J. H. Plumridge	120	970	—
Edinburgh, Captain Hewlett, Flag of Rear-Admiral Chads, C.B.	58	600	450
Nile, Commodore Martin, C.B.	91	850	500
Royal George, Capt. Codrington, C.B.	120	890	450
St. Jean d'Acre, Capt. the Hon. H. Keppel ..	101	500	600
James Watt, Capt. George Elliot	91	850	600
Cæsar, Capt. Robb	91	850	120
Princess Royal, Capt. Lord Clarence Paget ..	91	850	200
Majestic, Capt. James Hope, C.B.	81	750	400
Cressy, Capt. Warren	81	750	400
Prince Regent, Captain H. Smith	90	850	—
Monarch, Captain Erskine	84	750	—
Cumberland, Captain Seymour	70	650	—
Hogue, Captain W. Ramsay	60	650	150
Blenheim, Captain the Hon. F. Pelham	60	650	150
Ajax, Captain Warden	60	650	150
Impregnable, Captain Watson, C.B.	91	850	200
Euryalus, Captain Ramsey	51	550	400
Arrogant, Captain Yelverton	46	450	400
Amphion, Captain A. C. Key	34	350	400
Leopard, Captain George Giffard	18	400	500
Odin, Captain Francis Scott	16	270	500
Valorous, Captain Buckle	16	270	400
Desperate, Captain D'Eyncourt	8	175	400
Penelope, Captain Caffin	18	300	600
Magicienne, Captain Fisher	16	250	140
St. George, Captain Eyres, C.B.	120	970	—
Archer, Captain Heathcote	15	175	500
Vulture, Captain Glasse	6	200	470
Dragon, Captain Willcox	6	200	750
Conflict, Captain Cumming	8	175	400
Cruiser, Commander Hon. G. Douglas	14	160	60
Bulldog, Captain W. K. Hall	6	160	500
Driver, Commander the Hon. A. Cochrane ..	6	160	280
Rosamond, Commander Wodehouse	6	160	250
Gorgon, Commander Cracroft	6	160	[illegible]
Bee, Commander the Hon. H. Egerton	6	160	[illegible]
Hecla, Captain W. H. Hall	6	175	240
Lightning, Captain B. J. Sullivan	2	50	[illegible]
Locust, Lieutenant-Commander Day	—	75	[illegible]
Allan, Commander Otter	2	52	100
Porcupine, Lieutenant G. M. Jackson	4	60	122
Volcano, Second Master Gilpin	4	57	140
Otter, Lieutenant W. A. J. Heath	3	36	120
Pigmy, Lieutenant Hunt	3	36	120
Cuckoo, Lieutenant A. G. E. Murray	3	35	120
Bellerophon, Commander Hosken	24	240	—
Zephyr, Lieutenant Crawley	3	50	100

THE BALTIC FLEET FOR 1855.

Ships and Commanders.	Guns.	Horse-power.
Duke of Wellington, Captain Caldwell, flag of Rear-Admiral the Hon. R. S. Dundas, C.B.; Captain of the Fleet, the Hon. A. T. Pelham	131	700
Exmouth, Captain W. K. Hall, flag of Rear-Admiral Michael Seymour	91	400
Retribution, Captain Fisher, flag of Rear-Admiral R. L. Baynes	28	400
Royal George, Captain Codrington, C.B	120	900
James Watt, Captain George Elliot	91	[illegible]
Orion, Captain Erskine	91	[illegible]
Cæsar, Captain Robb	91	[illegible]
Neptune, Captain Bouverie	91	[illegible]
Majestic, Captain Hope	81	400
Cressy, Captain Warren	81	400
Colossus, Captain Robinson	81	400
Edinburgh, Capt. H. Hewlett	70	[illegible]
Blenheim, Captain W. H. Hall	60	450
Hogue, Captain W. Ramsay	60	450
Ajax, Captain Warden	60	450
Hastings, Captain Caffin	60	200
Pembroke, Captain Seymour	60	200
Barrowfield, Captain Chesley	60	200
Hawke, Captain Commanney	60	200
Russell, Captain F. Scott	60	200
Edinburgh, Captain Hewlett	58	[illegible]
Impregnable, Captain Watson, C.B.	91	[illegible]
Euryalus, Capt. Ann Ramsay	51	[illegible]
Arrogant, Captain Yelverton	46	400
Amphion, Captain A. C. Key	34	300
Bonaventure, Captain the Hon. A. Cochrane ..	24	250
Malacca, Captain Farquhar	17	200
Cossack, Captain Lanshawe	20	250
Tartar, Captain Dunlop	20	250
Pylades, Captain D'Eyncourt	20	250
Esk, Captain Hind	20	250
Archer, Captain Heathcote	15	200
Magicienne, Captain Vansittart	16	400
Odin, Captain Willcox	16	500
Vulture, Captain Glasse	6	470
Centaur, Captain Clifford	6	[illegible]
Dragon, Captain H. Stewart	6	[illegible]
Bulldog, Commander A. Gordon	—	[illegible]
Lightning, Lieutenant Campbell	—	10
Desperate, Commander White	8	[illegible]
Conflict, Commander Brown	8	[illegible]
Cruiser, Commander the Hon. G. Douglas	15	60
Harrier, Commander Story	15	160
Falcon, Commander Pullen	15	100
Ariel, Commander Luce	9	[illegible]
Basilisk, Commander Jenner	6	250
Rosamond, Commander Crofton	6	280
Driver, Commander A. H. Gardner	6	280
Geyser, Commander Tarleton	6	280
Gorgon, Commander Crawford	6	280

&c. &c. &c.

FLOATING BATTERIES, TO BE ADDED.

	Guns.		Guns.		Guns.		Guns.
Glatton ..	16	Æetna ..	10	Meteor ..	16	Thunder ..	16
		Trusty ..	16				

MORTAR VESSELS.

Blazer ..	1	Hardy ..	1	Manly ..	1	Porcupine ..	1
Flint ..	1	Havoc ..	1	Mastiff ..	1	Surly ..	1

GUN-BOATS.

Gleaner ..	3	Biter ..	2	Snap ..	2	Hind ..	2
Pellet ..	2	Bouncer ..	2	Jackdaw ..	2	Nimrod ..	2
Ruby ..	3	Clinker ..	2	Jasper ..	2	Snake ..	2
Pincher ..	3	Cracker ..	2	Jack ..	2	Swinger ..	2
Teaser ..	3	Dapper ..	2	Magpie ..	2	Thistle ..	2
Badger ..	3	Fancy ..	2	Redwing ..	2	Weazel ..	2
Snapper ..	3	Grinder ..	2	Skylark ..	2	Pigmy ..	2

BELLEISLE—Hospital ship, Commander Hosken.
ZOLUS—Shell magazine. | VOLAGE—Powder magazine.

In looking over these lists it will be observed that, whereas one division of last year's fleet was composed chiefly of sailing line-of-battle ships, in this year's fleet all are steamers. Nor did Sir Charles Napier possess any steam floating batteries or mortar vessels, nor even a gun-boat worthy of the name. Hardly any of the gun-boats are ready to sail, but now that the main body of the fleet has cleared off, all hands at the dockyards have been put to work upon them, and no doubt they will be in the Baltic as soon as there may be occasion for their services. It is expected that the five batteries will be launched in the Thames on or before Monday next, the 16th inst., when they will be instantly fitted and dispatched for service under the most active, energetic, and skilful Captains in the Royal Navy.

The fleet left the Downs on Monday. At five a.m. the signal was made to get steam up, and shorten in their cables, which was at once obeyed, and at ten minutes to six the signal to weigh was made. The *Nile* led the van, and the other ships in succession followed in two lines. The weather was rainy, and persons on shore could not discern the fleet very far.

At Deptford the newly-launched screw gun-vessels, by Pitcher, are being fitted with every dispatch; and at Woolwich the mortar vessels have been taken in hand, and are being fitted with the "sling" mortar carriages, and also on the old bed principle, as fast as they can.

Portsmouth still has a very powerful force of ships left, notwithstanding the departure of the bulk of the Baltic expedition. There were on the 6th inst. the following:

Ships and Commanders.	Guns.	Men.	Horse-power.	
Neptune, Captain Hutton	120	970	—	At Spithead
St. George, Captain Eyres, C.B.	120	970	—	"
Orion, Captain Erskine	91	850	600	"
Centurion, Captain J. J. Stopford	84	750	—	"
Powerful, Captain Massie	84	750	—	"
Hastings, Captain Caffin	60	600	200	In harbour
Pembroke, Captain Seymour	60	600	200	"
Retribution, Captain Fisher	28	320	400	In basin
Pylades, Captain D'Eyncourt	21	300	250	At Spithead
Malacca, Captain Farquhar	17	200	200	In dock
Odin, Captain Willcox	16	270	500	In basin
Centaur, Captain Clifford	6	200	540	At Spithead
Cruiser, Com. the Hon. G. Douglas ..	14	160	60	"
Falcon, Commander Pullen	14	160	100	"
Ariel, Commander Luce	9	160	60	"
Gorgon, Commander R. B. Crawford ..	6	160	280	"
Driver, Commander A. H. Gardner	6	160	280	"
Samson (preparing for commission) ..	6	200	467	In basin
Lightning, Lieutenant Campbell	8	52	100	"
Pellet (tender to Cressy)	1	32	60	In harbour

A letter from Elsinore of the 3rd inst., says, "Four steam-frigates of the flying squadron arrived and anchored in the roads on the 1st inst., at noon, but were obliged to return in the afternoon, some with loss of anchor and chain cables, namely, the *Arrogant*, the *Arrogant*, the *Fire*, *Archer*, and *Desperate*—came in again yesterday, and, the Swedish side of the Sound being clear of ice, they proceeded up to Landscrona. Four of the above squadron have arrived in the Belt."

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

The force at Spithead received an unexpected and important addition, on Sunday morning by the return of the flag ship *Duke of Wellington*, Captain Caldwell, to repair the damage sustained by the collision with the American ship *Hurlbut*, also in Portsmouth harbour under similar circumstances. She seems to have struck the *Duke* amidships on the port side, taking the bower anchor and carrying away the stock right in half amidships, got foul of the fore-chains and took them right in half, took the port bow and the fore-sheet anchor right up in the waist, carried away the hammock-nettings in the fore-castle and waist, stove in the port, entering that and seven others, then smashed part of the Admiral's cabin-walk and half-deck, carried away the quarter gallery; the swinging boom, of course, went too. The *Duke* left the Downs on Saturday at noon, and arrived at Spithead yesterday morning at eight, when Captain Caldwell landed and sent in his list of defects, to repair which Dockyard artificers were at once sent off. It is supposed the refit will occupy a week. Rear-Admiral Dundas, in the interim, shifted his flag, and returns to the *Nile*, 91, Captain Martin.

The want of sufficiently-experienced non-commissioned officers for the Turkish contingent in the Crimea has been much felt, and, in consequence, a notice has been issued that the Horse Guards and the Ordnance, and that thirty-eight generally speaking, of good character, were required for non-commissioned officers. A sub rat. bounty is offered, and the rate of payment is to be 4s. 6d. per day. As an additional inducement, the number of years they had previously served will be taken into account.

The Government are fitting up every available ship and steamer which has been lying idle in various ports, so that in about six months' time it will be in a condition to act, independent of the merchant and packet service for war transports. Already the charge for tonnage for war purposes is reduced. Large numbers of the present war transports will in a few months hence be restored to the merchant and packet service.

The effect of relensing militiamen who enlisted prior to the 12th of May, 1854, from permanent service, continues to be felt with more or less severity in the different corps. In the South Middlesex the commanding officer informs us, appealing to them as most of them had been enrolled at Pimlico, within sight of Mr. Sidney's Pavilion, they would remain true to her Majesty. Indeed, officers and their commanding officer, "we regret to say, that only 29 men have left the regiment. This corps, since its formation, has given up men to the line, and still numbers 500 men. The Nottingham militia ranks next in estimation. The Northumberland was reduced on Saturday week to less than half the effective strength, about 200 only remaining. The number in the Leicestershire does not now amount to above 400. In the Red or Radnor Rifles only 70 men out of 78 have declined to serve. Of the West Suffolk, first were entitled to their discharge, but of that number between 150 and 200 have been re-attested. The West Norfolk, now 300 men, and its effective strength is estimated to 450 men, including the staff. In the East Norfolk 300 men are liberated. In the Monmouthshire, unfortunately, much insubordination has been evinced. Two hundred men are entitled to their discharge; the regiment, however, will then be at least 500 strong, and is in a state of great efficiency. Of the 2nd Somerset, in Cork, 270 were discharged, and sailed for Bristol, leaving the regiment a skeleton. Of the 3rd West York 220 were disembodied; of the Cambridgeshire, 200; and all left Dublin last week for England. Of the Northamptonshire in Dublin, 40 claimed their discharge and left for Ireland.

On Tuesday last the officers and medical staff attached to the recruiting department were engaged in inspecting one of the large attached bodies (175 in number) of volunteers and recruits that has been attached in the metropolis in any one day since the commencement of the war.

Orders were forwarded from the Horse Guards on Tuesday to the commanding officers of the Household Infantry, quartered in Wellington, St. George's, and Portman street barracks, and the Tower, to have the detachments for foreign service under arms that morning at seven o'clock, for the purpose of being inspected previously to their departure, which was appointed to take place at eight o'clock.

Since the muster roll of the 2nd Staffordshire Regiment of Militia was gone through, in accordance with the circular from the War-office authorising the return to their homes of all the men who had been enrolled prior to the 12th of May last, and on the occasion of which reading, 200 men were reattested and received their bounty money, such men have been made at the average rate of seven men a day, and other men continue to offer themselves to be reattested. The regiment is now between 600 and 700 strong, and it is confidently expected that in a very short time it will reach its original numbers. The men who have been reattested are now absent on furlough—a favour granted to them by Government on their enlistment.

The Irish Militia are unaffected by the recent order of release, and consequently are progressing steadily in numbers and discipline. The Limerick Artillery is probably more nearly completed than any other Irish corps, it only needs to complete the quota. Recruiting for the three regiments of Cork Militia is at present proceeding with great activity, but the regiments are still kept below their standard in consequence of the numerous men who still volunteer into the line. The number of men now enrolled in the Roscommon Regiment exceeds 450, and that number will be considerably increased next week.

The Government is about to provide hospital accommodation for the sick and wounded soldiers on their return from the Crimea, by converting ships of war to that purpose, several of which are established at Portsmouth. The barrack at Chelsea is being converted into a temporary hospital for the sick and wounded. The work is approaching completion, and was taken under [illegible] on Monday.

Militia Force of the United States.—By the annual report of the War Department, transmitted to Congress on the 31st January, it appears that the whole strength of the National Militia is as follows:—

INFANTRY.		
Commissioned officers		45,062
Non-commissioned and privates		1,769,153
CAVALRY.		
Commissioned officers	910	
Non-commissioned officers and privates	12,539	
ARTILLERY.		
Commissioned officers	1953	
Non-commissioned and privates	32,456	
Aggregate		1,862,215

The cavalry and artillery must, of course, be regularly organised and drilled uniform companies. As stated above, they constitute an aggregate of 47,858 officers and men.

Russian Sisters of Charity. The first party of thirty-five Russian Sisters of Charity have found their labours in the hospitals of the Crimea beyond their strength. The fatigues and privations to which they were exposed in the hospitals of Simpheropol had, as early as January 16, been the death of two, while fifteen more were ill. From the 26 Feb. to the month several of the sisters did duty in Sebastopol, on the south side of the town. A further party of twenty left St. Petersburg for the Crimea on the 15th of February.

A Yorkshire squabbler, in the 7th Dragoon Guards, has backed himself for 500 guineas to ride 100 miles in five hours. Twenty miles per hour will therefore be the pace, almost equal to that of the Derby. He intends to have two horses, and rides over the Curragh race-course.

THE LARGE SHEET OF ENGRAVINGS

GIVEN WITH THE PRESENT NUMBER.

THE ATTACK UPON SEBASTOPOL BY THE ALLIED FLEET AND ARMY.

THE large Illustration represents the Attack of the Allied Fleet and Army upon Sebastopol. This sharp action has already been fully described in our Journal; the accompanying Engraving shows the heavy fire and respective positions of the ships, to which they were mostly taken by the small steamers. The fire of the troops is also partly shown.

HELSINGFORS AND SVEABORG.

(See the Panoramic View published with the present Number.)

THE city of Helsingfors, called in the Finland dialect Helsinki, is situated on a promontory called Estnas-Skatan, to the left of the island of Ber, at the bottom of the Gulf of Finland. It has an excellent harbour, of which the entrance is defended by the fortress of Sveaborg, while its houses are well built, and its general appearance is picturesque and imposing.

With respect to the foundation of Helsingfors it is stated that the Swedish King, Gustavus I. wishing to open up a commercial communication with Russia, caused a sea-port to be built on the isle of Sandhamn, which he proposed to people with emigrants from Raumo, Borga, Eckness, and other crowded towns. For some reason or other, to-day unknown, this project was soon afterwards abandoned; and the first stones of the new city were conveyed to a place near the waterfall of the Wanda, about five versts from the present site.

King John III. confirmed several privileges on the city in the year 1556, and among others the right of trading with foreign lands. In 1594 Borga was deprived of many commercial facilities which were thenceforth vested exclusively in Helsingfors; and, in 1607, it was ordained that every stranger desirous of returning to his country, should pay into the municipal coffers a sum of money equivalent to a third part of his moveables. It was soon perceived that the little town of Helsingfors, however industrious and enterprising its inhabitants, could never attain any great importance so long as it occupied its then site.

Feeling the need of a more convenient harbour, and of more spacious municipal establishments, the Regency, acting for Queen Christine (Oct. 2nd, 1639), issued a proclamation to the effect that the city should be transferred to the place where it now stands

Helsingfors was declared the capital of the Grand Duchy of Finland by an Imperial edict on the 27th of March, 1812. The advantages which ought naturally to have accrued from its splendid situation, and the numerous privileges it enjoys, were for a long time kept back by disasters of every description. The spirit of enterprise was baulked on every side: the people became disheartened, and neglected their business. In 1713, on a day when the people were devoting themselves to prayers, the Divine Service was interrupted by the arrival of a Russian squadron. After several fruitless attempts to repel the invaders, the miserable inhabitants set fire to their houses, and retired in mournful groups to the ancient town. When the conflagration had subsided, the Russians landed, and kept possession of the city till the conclusion of the Peace of Nystadt, in 1721. For several months after that event Helsingfors was nearly deserted. One by one, however, the families returned to their old homes, which their enemies had, at any rate, rebuilt for them; and in less than twenty years the city began to assume an air of prosperity and importance. Just at this period, however, the Russians again molested them, and their peaceful streets were made the scene of rioting, debauchery, and murder. Among the earlier disasters of Helsingfors may be mentioned a conflagration in 1657, which almost entirely destroyed it; a famine occasioned by the bad harvest of 1695 and 1697, which decimated its inhabitants and impoverished its resources; and a pestilence in 1710, which visited every house

A recent traveller (M. de Marmier), describing the capital of Finland, says—"Helsingfors contains a population of 16,000 inhabitants, and occupies as much space as many of the large towns of France It is a gay and attractive city, learned in the hard lessons of adversity, and hopeful for the future; a city which has seen within a few years hundreds of beautiful buildings clustering around it and rising as if by magic. Its streets are broad, long, and regular; its houses are neat and well built; and many of its public edifices are such as might grace even the most splendid metropolis. It has, in fact, a symmetry and entireness about it such as few possess, and which almost justifies the supposition that it was built by one hand. Court and senate, university and barrack, observatory and bathhouse, promenade and gymnasium—all that which gives to a city an air of authority, of instruction, and of enjoyment—may be found here in beautiful combination."

FRESCOES ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE BRITISH POETS IN THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

(See the Four Illustrations given with the present Number.)

OF the scheme of pictorial decoration for the New Houses of Parliament, not the least interesting and attractive department is that of the Frescoes illustrative of the works of British poets, in the corridor of the House of Peers. Passages from history and ideal representations of public virtues are grand subjects, no doubt, and very ably have they been dealt with by the various hands employed upon them in this palatial structure; but in their conditions they demand a severity of treatment setting bounds to the imagination of the artist. In the pages of the poets, on the contrary, the painter has free scope for his fancy and his pencil, both in the selection of his subjects and his mode of dealing with them; whilst, to the spectator, his work comes recommended by old and agreeable associations

The four Frescoes of which we give Engravings, and which form part of an intended series, afford gratifying evidence of the sympathy of our artists with the sister art of poetry, and the amount of talent available amongst us for the production of works of the grand class in the difficult medium of fresco

The first, by Mr. Cope, R.A., is a scene of deep pathos from the pages of the father of English poetry—"Griselda's First Trial of Patience: the Marquis cause her first Child to be taken from her." Nothing can be conceived more touching than the overwhelming grief exhibited in the prostrate figure of poor Griselda, whose averted look, closed eyes, and clasped hands denote the womanly tenderness and mild submissiveness of her nature. This touch of character, ably developed in the principal figure itself, is marked in a still stronger manner by contrast with the violence of surprise and horror displayed by the two attendant females. The group of the man carrying off the child is vigorous in treatment, and the glimpse we catch of the Marquis, looking through the casement, is sufficient to indicate the interest he takes in what is going forward. The style of architecture and of the background are appropriate to the early period the story refers to

Mr. Horsley in his Miltonian subject, "Satan touched by Ithuriel's spear, while whispering evil dreams to Eve," has assumed a task of no ordinary difficulty, in which, however, he has acquitted himself with success which does him honour. The figures of the angels are commanding and dignified, their expression benign and heavenly. Eve in an attitude of troubled repose, gives light to the foreground, and commands the principal share of interest. The figure of Satan called up, and only partially seen, is an ingenious conception. His face, also, is almost wholly concealed; but what is seen of it—that intent malicious eye, and the knitted brow—sufficiently identify the Genius of the Fall

St. Cecilia—whether in her prescriptive place in the Calendar, or as described in Dryden's celebrated Ode—has been a favourite subject with artists of all ages; and certainly few subjects exist better adapted for the display of varied, yet concentrated, interest—interest, alas, of the most elevated and impassioned kind. Mr. Tenniel has treated his subject in a manner at once original and striking Observing a severe simplicity in the attitude of the saint, as well as in her drapery, and the full but neglected hair, the life and sentiment of the composition are concentrated in the uplifted eye, the open mouth, denoting musical utterance, and the action of the hands roving solemnly over the keys of the [illegible] Surrounded by an unique circular arch, her head occupies the [illegible] of the picture, considerably above those of the semi-circular group, which, in various attitudes and with various expression, but [illegible] equally they are affected by the sublime [illegible]

Mr Armitage, a picture of the "Death of Marmion" (after Scott) is of the heroic character. The principal figures in the foreground are well conceived and ably executed. The distant glimpse of the battle field is very happily introduced: the bustle of the fray still survives, and calls forth the last latent energies of the expiring knight, who still urges his gallant comrades to do battle on that day:—

"Charge, Chester, charge! On, Stanley, on!"
Were the last words of Marmion

THE PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

PARIS, April 10.

THE authorities have been very active since I last addressed you. Various alterations have been made in the general plans. Thus the two buildings—viz., the Palais de l'Industrie and the Machinery and Raw Produce Gallery—on the Cours la Reine, are to be connected by a covered passage. At the same time, this passage will afford a little additional exhibition space to the Parisians for the *Article Paris*. This additional space was much needed, for the rejections had struck some eminent firms worthy to enjoy room in any Industrial Exhibition. Prince Napoleon, as President of the Imperial Exhibition Commission, has been, also, very busy. He has set the Fine Art Committee to work, appointed the Jurors for the industrial parts, and limited the number of Jurors to decide upon the claims of the English section to forty. He has also made some important alterations in the disposition of the Great Hall of the Palace. At one end an immense *phare* was in course of construction, and for it Gerome had painted a series of allegorical figures, representing various sea-ports. This the Prince has removed. He has also directed the removal of some chocolate apparatus that was to have been prominent in the Great Hall. In these removals the Prince has shown good taste. The French have better things than model lighthouses and chocolate machines to place in the grand Hall of their Palais de l'Industrie. If he could also urge the workmen forward; place ten men where there are now only two; put the Company in the background as far as possible, and let the Commission take care of the national and international interests involved in this Universal Exhibition—his services would be cheerfully acknowledged by his country. His return to Paris has already had its effect upon the activity of the Imperial Commission.

Among other points recently debated between the Company, that desires to realise heavy dividends, and the Imperial Commission, that is anxious only to please the French people and foreign visitors—that of the admission price has been prominent. The Company desired high prices; the Commissioners were for low prices. The first assented to a five-franc day, a franc day, and the rest four sous days; the latter desired a three-franc day, a ten-sous day, and the rest two-sous days. Englishmen, accustomed to pay for admission everywhere, would regard the Company's tariff as low enough; but the Commissioners, having to deal with a French public, accustomed to enter any public building free; to saunter into churches, museums, libraries, academy exhibitions, and industrial exhibitions free, knew that the Parisian population would not be content with a maximum of four sous entrance fee Besides, the French people pay the shareholders four per cent on their invested capital, for the privilege of holding the national exhibitions in the Palace. Therefore, all power should reside in the hands of the Imperial Commissioners throughout the progress of this Universal Exhibition. The less a commercial company like that which has built the Palais de l'Industrie interferes with a national festival like the one about to begin, the better for the dignity of the French people. The Fine Art Building is governed exclusively by the Imperial Commission. It has been built by the French Government entirely. Here, therefore, the French people will measure the disposition of the Imperial Exhibition authorities towards them. Here, I am already informed, there will be free days. What will our Academicians say, when they learn that in Paris their works will be seen gratis

The English Committee, in the Rue de Cirque, have requested me, through your columns, to inform the English public that letters addressed to the Poste Restante in their office should be prepaid. It is obvious that the Committee cannot undertake to keep an account current with any English exhibitor for postage. Besides, an unpaid letter is charged the old tariff of eightpence, whereas fourpence prepaid franks it. Other conveniences for exhibitors have been prepared by the Committee, headed by Mr. Cole. On the hot summer days the exhibitors' room will open upon a garden, where a tent is to be erected upon the lawn for their enjoyment. The upper rooms of the house—all splendidly decorated—are appropriated to various English committees of importance.

Not the least remarkable feature of the Exhibition-time in Paris will be the immense establishments now in course of construction, where counters are at the disposal of the rejected applicants for space, or for exhibitors who wish to sell articles similar to those they have in the *Palais de l'Industrie*. One of these establishments advertises fifteen hundred counters to let.

It may interest your readers to learn that the English engravings and water-colour paintings bid fair to be the first contributions arranged in the Fine Art Building. When I was last in the galleries there were not more than five or six French paintings upon the walls, but then many of these paintings will each take the side of an apartment. Horace Vernet's acres of canvas from Versailles; Gerome's colossal picture painted for the French Government, a portrait of the present Emperor five or six times the size of life; a colossal eagle; colossal groups of sculpture—everything immense, if not great. This passion for broad canvas reigns supreme in Paris just now. Every artist thinks that the more canvas he can set up the better chance he has of selling down to posterity The English paintings will generally be regarded as microscopic studies by the French. Here, a portrait only the size of life is a miniature.

For the 1st of May little, however, will be finished. Very energetic contractors are offering to prepare cases for the 20th of next month Still, skilfully-disposed drapery, striking sculpture in the Great Hall, an organ or two (I hear a fine one is to be contributed from England), perhaps some fountains, all kinds of gay fabrics temptingly disposed, will enable the Imperial Commissioners to present to visitors a fine picture for the opening day. We may all remember the state of the Great Exhibition on the 1st of May, 1851. Still the same excuses cannot be made in the present instance. Two years have been occupied upon the building, two years (or nearly this extent of time) have elapsed since the decree was published calling foreign exhibitors to Paris this spring. The time has been ample, both for exhibitors and Exhibition authorities; and it is to be regretted that so much has been driven off to the last moment. Even the architectural plans have suffered changes within six weeks of the opening day. The machinery gallery he wanted, this want was as apparent six months ago [illegible]

But there is no good to be gained from an analysis of what might have done. The business still to be achieved, how [illegible] should be set about methodically and seriously, and I should be glad to [illegible] lesson on these points from our English Committee. The [illegible] of all the English sections, in fact, excites no little jealousy.

STATUE OF LORD JEFFREY.—The colossal is now being put up in the Parliament-house for the [illegible] of the late Lord Jeffrey, which has been executed by Mr. John Steel. The statue will occupy the upper of the two niches formed in the hall by the removal of the old benches occupied by the Lords Commissioners before the building of the present robing-rooms of the Outer House. The niche [illegible] by the statue of the late Lord President [illegible] sculpt

INVENTION OF SHIPS' BOATS.—After the last meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers, there was exhibited to the Members a novel model of a system, introduced by Mr. Clifford, for lowering ships' boats from the davits, evenly, quickly, and safely, in a gale of wind, and disengaging them without any risk of capsizing, or being dragged under by the speed of the vessel. The chief point is the employment of a block of a novel form, having three sheaves placed over each other, through and between which the lowering ropes pass in such a manner as to have a tight grip upon them, and yet so that, by letting all run free, the falls will run out in such a manner as to let the boat down on the water, on an even keel and quite free from the ship. The lowering can be accomplished by a man sitting in the boat, and, though with a full [illegible] the descent can be checked at any point. It is evident that, by this system, the disastrous effects of undue haste in rushing to the boats, in cases of danger, can be completely obviated

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

A grand installation of the Garter will be held on Wednesday next, when the Queen will confer the order on the Emperor of the French.

The Dowager Empress of Russia is about to visit Berlin.

Earl Granville, Lord President, and the Countess Granville, left London on Saturday last for Paris

A rumour prevails in Vienna that the Emperor Napoleon is to visit that city after his visit to London; also, that the Emperor Francis Joseph and Queen Victoria will at the same time visit his Majesty at Paris during the Exhibition

The Empress of the French has made a present to the Empress of Austria of a lace dress, which will be seen at the Exhibition of Paris, and the pattern of which was designed by the Empress Eugenie herself. The value of that dress is estimated at 200,000f

The Emperor of Russia remitted through the Swedish Embassy a sum sufficient to give every prisoner in the Lewea gaol 6d each for hot cross buns

General Sir John Burgoyne, G.C.B., arrived at Vienna on Saturday last.

A letter from St. Petersburg states that the Emperor Alexander intends to visit Helsingfors, with his brother Nicholas, before the commencement of operations in the Baltic

The health of Lord Haddo has been so much improved by the climate of Egypt as to encourage the expectation that his Lordship will be able to attend to his Parliamentary duties in the course of next month.

The King of Prussia intends shortly to go to Konigsberg, to be present at the jubilee about to be celebrated in commemoration of the foundation of that city, just 600 years ago, by King Ottokar. As the precise day on which it took place in the year 1255 is not known, the King will himself appoint the day for the celebration of the jubilee.

The Lord Chancellor will receive the Judges, Queen's Counsel, &c., on Monday next, the first day of Easter Term, at his Lordship's residence in Upper Brook-street

His Excellency the Baron Brunnow, late representative of Russia at the Court of St. James's, and continues at St. Petersburg. The Baroness and Mdlle. Brunnow are residing at Darmstadt.

A religious ceremony took place on Good Friday in the Chapel of the Tuileries. A minute before the service commenced the Emperor and Empress entered, habited in black: the Empress wore the Spanish costume. Except at the sermon the Emperor and Empress remained kneeling during the service, which lasted about an hour.

The Duke and Duchess de Brabant were to leave Alexandria on the 26th ult. for Jaffa, whence, after visiting Jerusalem, they were to return to Europe

The King of Sardinia has been indisposed for some days past, and, after being subjected to the usual treatment of bleeding several times, has now quite recovered

The installation of Mr. Layard, M.P., as Lord Rector of the University of Aberdeen, took place on the 5th inst.

Letters from Naples state that Cardinal Wiseman is to be appointed Librarian of the Vatican, in the place of Cardinal Mai

The *Invalide Russe* contains an account of a visit made by the Emperor to the military schools, in which his Majesty took formal leave of the pupils whom he had directed and commanded for a period of six years

The Portuguese Minister of Finance having resorted to the novel expedient of appointing a committee of noble ladies to raise a loan of £12,000 to redeem the Opera-house for the majority of Don Pedro, September next, the Lisbon capitalists were unable to resist such powerful applicants

The vacant Under-Secretaryship of the Colonial Department, which necessarily remained open until the bill for regulating the number of Secretaries of State and Under-Secretaries became law, has been confided to Mr. John Ball, M.P. for Carlow

A letter from Berlin, of the 4th inst., positively denies that Dr. Mandt, physician to the late Emperor Nicholas, has been obliged to leave St. Petersburg secretly. He is still there, the letter says, and in the same situation as before

At Weimar, counterfeit autographs of Schiller have been made use of in an audacious manner. The heirs of the poet are amongst the dupes.

The name of the Rev. Dr. Stanford is removed from the list of the Viceregal Chaplains, some person having communicated to Lord Carlisle that the rev. gentleman had been dismissed as Chaplain to the North Dublin workhouse for proselytising tendencies

A Swedish *savant*, Professor Edlund, of the Royal Academy of Sciences, has succeeded in making an improvement in the construction of the electro-telegraph apparatus, by which it becomes possible to send messages by the same wire simultaneously in opposite directions

Augustus Cæsar Dodge, Senator from Iowa, has been nominated by the American President, and confirmed by the Senate, as Minister to Spain, vice Soulé resigned, and Breckenridge declined

Captain Casele, director of the Royal stables at Turin, has returned from Egypt with four magnificent Arab horses, two of which are a present from Abbas Pacha, son of the late Viceroy, to the King of Sardinia.

The Committee of the Napier Testimonial Fund have decided on the erection in London of a bronze statue of the gallant General. The height of the statue is to be twelve feet, on a granite pedestal eighteen feet high

The French Academy, at its last sitting, elected the Duke de Noailles, Director, and the Bishop of Orleans, Chancellor, for the present year.

The Governor-General of India has raised the salary of Dr. O'Shaughnessy, the superintendent of electric telegraphs in India, to £3600 per annum.

On the 31st of December last there were 35,960 vessels belonging to the several ports of the United Kingdom: the tonnage was 5,043,270, and the number of men employed 268,491.

A magnificent antique statue, in red marble, was purchased for the British Museum at the sale of M. Collet's collection at Paris. Ex-King Jerome attempted to become its purchaser, in order that he might present it to the Museum of the Louvre.

The Washington papers announce a default to the extent of 100,000 dollars made by a Government official. The delinquent was Governor Price, of New Jersey

On Tuesday last the Bishop of Ripon preached in the chapel connected with the Leeds Borough Gaol, to the prisoners, who joined heartily in the service.

The Rev. J. Coleridge Patteson, M.A., Fellow of Merton College, Oxford (son of Sir J. Patteson), has been appointed a missionary for New Zealand

A large addition has been made to the public park at Holyrood, by embracing within it a field of about thirteen acres, situated north of the Duke's Walk, and east of the ground used for military exercise and parade.

It is stated by a writer in the *Boston Transcript* that nearly a million of dollars has accumulated in the treasury of Harvard University

A county meeting is to be held at the Shire-hall, Bedford, on the [illegible] subject of establishing a juvenile reformatory institution.

Letters from Athens contain deplorable accounts of the progress [illegible] parts of Greece

A second free library and museum, including a reading-room, are about to be established [illegible] in the Quadrangle, Manchester [illegible] league in Brussels has [illegible] failed. The idea of [illegible] to represent Russia was [illegible] abandoned.

The estimated population of England and Wales in 1854 was 18,617,000; the number of births, 634,501; of deaths, [illegible]; and of marriages, 159,004

Dogs are henceforth to be taxed in France: a law has just been passed by the Legislative Body, levying a duty, varying from one to ten francs per head yearly, on these animals.

The railway calls falling due this month amount to £815,205, of which £[illegible] are called by foreign companies.

Six persons were poisoned at Cardigan on Friday by inadvertently taking a dose intended for killing rats. Four were recovered by medical aid, one is in a precarious state, and one has died

Trials for breach of promise of marriage have hitherto been almost unknown in France, but the Imperial Court of Nismes has just declared that the non-execution of a promise gives a right to damages.

A sum of 9400 florins has been conveyed to the Hague, from Manchester, in aid of the sufferers from the late inundations in Holland.

One hundred and thirty-two children and adults were baptised on Easter Sunday at Christchurch, Watney-street, St. George's-in-the-East.

The snow still remains deep on the high mountains of the Jura, and in several parts the roads are impracticable The mail-bags to Geneva are still conveyed in sledges part of the way, and will be, probably, for some time.

It is said Government have seriously entertained a proposal to divide the duties of the chair of Natural History in Edinburgh University.

MEN-OF-WAR'S MEN LEAVING PORTSMOUTH FOR THE BALTIC FLEET

WOMEN LEAVING "THE HARD," PORTSEA, FOR THE BALTIC FLEET

THE COMMON HARD.

Few people not born or bred in the locality imagine that they are out of Portsmouth proper when standing on the Common Hard; but the Common Hard is in Portsea: the history of the Common Hard is, nevertheless, to all intents and purposes, the history of Portsmouth. Now, the history of this place, important and interesting though it undoubtedly is, is not an excoriation in which we propose at present to indulge. It is quite beside our purpose to discuss whether the first Henry or he of the lion heart was the earlier patron of Portsmouth. The Common Hard is a patent fact, and a great one, in its relationship to the prosperity and every-day condition is the matter we have to deal with. Speaking by the card, this spot—where the *venue* of many a naval anecdote is placed, wherever two men-of-war's men meet on any part of the habitable globe—is bounded on the north by the Dockyard gates; on the south, by a mass of building, devoted to artillery stores; on the east, by a row of houses of an exceedingly diversified appearance, consecrated to Ceres and Bacchus—chiefly to the latter, they are figured in our Illustration of the embarkation of the Admiral; and on the west by salt-water. Standing with your back towards the houses, you have the *pons* before you, and, sloping down from this to the water's edge, you have, strictly speaking, "the Hard"—a patch of shingle, covered at high water with the said water, and at low water with sailors of all dimensions, and their friends. They who delight not in crowds had better avoid this place, on the arrival or departure of a fleet; but at any time one will be rewarded for a visit to the Hard, by a sight of the glorious old *Victory*, Nelson's own ship—the happy named—the same on whose quarter deck he fell death-wounded, and in whose cockpit he gave forth his last breath for the land he loved so well.

ANCIENT AND MODERN WARFARE.

We have been assured, upon the authority of our venerable friend Robert Owen, that the Millenium of Peace and Brotherhood among all the Civilised Nations of the Earth will take place about the month of May next. We sincerely hope his prediction may be verified; but there are, we fear, much stronger grounds for believing that by that time the war now raging will have swept into its terrible vortex half the great States of Europe, and that the long interval of peace we have enjoyed may be followed by a protracted, a bloody, and an expensive war. And, after all, war is the normal condition of man, although little of its calamities have been experienced by the present generation till within the last few months. It occupies the most prominent place in the history of the world; and from the time man first came upon the earth, his hand was against his fellow; so that we may take the firstborn of Adam as the original type of the tyrant and murderer. It may not be uninteresting to trace how this system of warfare and antagonism was carried on from the most remote antiquity, before the lights of science and modern invention and improvements showed us how to effect the greatest possible amount of destruction in the smallest space of time.

Clubs and stones were undoubtedly the first offensive weapons, and things to give the latter force were then added. The use of the bow is referred to in the 21st chapter of Genesis, for we find it stated of Ishmael, that "God was with the lad and he grew and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer." This is probably the earliest reference to the use of any regularly-constructed offensive weapon, as the date of this notice is supposed to have been about 1900 years before the birth of Christ, or nearly 1000 years ago. Many subsequent passages attest the continued use of the bow. The overthrow of Saul was owing to the Philistine archers, and Israel, when blessing his sons, says of Joseph, "the archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him and hated him." The companies that came to David at Ziklag were armed with bows, and could use the right hand and the left in hurling stones, and shooting arrows out of a bow. The Saracens, who were of the posterity of Ishmael, never set their hands to a plough, but got their living by the bow, and became very expert in its use. The Hiddekel, one of the four rivers named in Genesis, now called the Tigris, was named Teer by the ancient Persians, which signifies an arrow. It was so named either from the rapidity of its course, or arrows were named after it, and the inference in this case would be that arrows were used 4000 years before the Christian era. The Greians derived their knowledge of the bow from the Scythians, and its use was considered the highest department of education. The arrows used were reeds or light wood, tipped with bone, or stone, or metal; they were barbed, and at times dipped in poison; but this practice was more frequent among barbarous nations. The Persian, Turkish, and Tartar bows resembled the Scythian in form, and they required considerable strength and dexterity in using them. It is singular that bows of a similar form, made of wood, should have been found among the Esquimaux Indians

In England the use of the bow was once carried to a degree of perfection that has never been rivalled. The Anglo-Saxons and Danes were acquainted with it from a very early period, although we are probably indebted to the Normans for its use as a military weapon. Our chroniclers do not mention archery till the death of Richard I., who was killed by an arrow shot from a cross bow, while besieging the Castle of Chalons. The death of William Rufus, some years previously, was caused by an arrow discharged from the ordinary long-bow, which glanced from a tree and killed the monarch. Under Edward III, the glory of the long-bow was in its zenith. At the battle of Cressy, 1346, a shower of rain slackened the strings of the Genoese cross bows, and rendered them unserviceable, while the English, being covered up, did great execution. This and the victory of Poitiers, ten years later, was ascribed to the English archers. At the decisive battle of Halidon hill, against the Scots, in 1402, the armour of the Earl of Douglas, which was of the most perfect temper, was penetrated in five places: neither sword nor lance was used by the English, the battle was decided by the archers; and it was to them that the victory of Agincourt (1417) was also owing. In the reigns of Henry VII. and Henry VIII., the use of the cross-bow was prohibited by Acts of Parliament, while that of the long bow was encouraged down to the time of Charles I. But although the English collectively were celebrated as archers, we have no such individual instances of dexterity as that recorded of William Tell: it is almost a pity to destroy the illusion of the romance, but it is borrowed from a Danish writer of the twelfth century, who ascribes the feat to Toko, a Dane. The tyrant Domitian was said to be so expert that he could shoot arrows from a great distance between the fingers of a slave's hand. The extreme range of an English bow is said to have been 600 yards; but the greatest range in modern times has been 300 and 400 yards. The Turkish Ambassador, some years since, in presence of the Toxophilite Society, sent an arrow from a horn bow 480 yards. Contemporary writers tell us that Robin Hood could shoot an arrow a measured mile; but Firdausi (the Homer of Persia) tells a story that far exceeds this. When peace was made with the Scythian invader, one of the articles was, that the former should only have as much land as one of the Persian soldiers could shoot an arrow over. A hero ascended a lofty mountain near Tehran and shot an arrow to the banks of the Oxus, a distance of between 500 and 600 miles! The modern suggestion is, that it must have been a golden-headed arrow

The cross-bow has been known for about 700 years, but it was, at first, confined to the defence of fortified places and for sea-fights. It was introduced into France by the first Crusaders, and was used in the time of Louis le Gros, 1108. William the Conqueror used the cross-bow in his army at the battle of Hastings; and its effects were some time afterwards considered so fatal and cruel that its use was actually forbidden by the second Council of Lateran, in 1139, as hateful to God and unfit to be employed among Christians, and its continued use made churchmen regard the death of Richard I. by cross-bow fire, as a judgment from heaven. The cross-bow kept its footing in our armies, notwithstanding the anathema, till 1572, when Queen Elizabeth undertook to furnish Charles IX. with 6000 men armed partly with long bows and partly with cross-bows. A cross-bow some time afterwards *blent* at sixty yards; but, if elevated, at more than double the distance. The Cingalese have to this day a very ingenious one, which strings itself and discharges two arrows at a time until twelve, the number in the magazine, have been fired off

But at a much more remote period the bow and sling gave rise to other warlike combinations. In Deuteronomy, 1451 years before Christ, trees, we learn, were cut down "to build bulwarks against the city until it be subdued" and Uzziah made in Jerusalem "engines invented by cunning men to be upon the towers and upon the bulwarks to shoot arrows and great stones withal." According to Josephus, Uzziah was the inventor of this species of artillery. The primitive Greeians were unacquainted with the use of walls, and led a wandering life, their possessions remaining open to every invader. In this unsettled state they remained for several ages, till some superior minds suggested the idea of walls for protection. Within walls they were comparatively safe, because if it were not so, such a town as Troy could not have held out for ten years against 100,000 besiegers.

It is probable that the *Arles*, or battering-ram, was the earliest, as it is the simplest, of ancient engines. The name is derived from its being usually aimed at the striking end with iron in the form of a ram's head Some persons have suggested that the Walls of Jericho were beaten down by this engine, the ram being the horns of the battering-ram. The simplest form was a beam or mast, propelled by the united efforts of a number of men. When larger, it was suspended in a frame and worked by ropes and handles. Another sort was mounted on wheels, enclosed with hurdles and covered with raw hides to protect the soldiers while working. Some of these were of an enormous size. Vitruvius says, one used in the Parthian war was 120 feet long, being in fact composed of the largest trees hooped together with iron bands, and having iron heads of immense weight bolted to them. Josephus says, there was a tower twenty-five cubits in thickness to resist the repeated assaults of these powerful machines. It was not unusual to have fifteen hundred men working one of these engines.

Various stratagems were resorted to by the besieged to elude their effects—fire, stones, and missiles of every description were showered upon them. Sacks filled with chaff and wool were lowered down from the walls to deaden the effects of the blow—they were overthrown at times by undermining the foundations, and ropes were cut by long scythes fastened to poles; and, if no hope remained of defending the wall, a new one was raised within. The great defect of these ancient and formidable-looking machines was their small momentum or velocity. A very small body, if only moving with sufficient rapidity, may strike as forcible a blow as a very large one moving slowly; and this was fully illustrated by the theory of projectiles, by which it is demonstrated that a cannon ball weighing 3 lbs., moving 1500 feet in a second, will produce as destructive effects as one weighing 50 lbs. which only moves 90 feet in a second. According to a French writer (Desagulier), one of the largest batteringrams we read of in antiquity, weighing 18 tons, 180 feet long, and moved by 1000 men, would only be equal in effect to that of a 36-lb. iron ball fired from a cannon at point-blank distance. It may be assumed, then, that the force of a cannon ball to make a breach in walls must far exceed that of the ancient Arles; but the momentum or impetus by which the latter communicated a shock to the whole building was far greater than the force of cannon-balls; and its power to shake or overturn walls and demolish buildings was much superior to that which is exerted by our modern artillery.

The ram was frequently used even in the fourteenth century; and Sir C. Wren found nothing superior to it for demolishing the walls of old St. Paul's previously to rebuilding it. Dionysius used the ram at the sieges of Rhegium and Mycyta, in the years 370 and 368 B.C. The next memorable instance is the siege of Rhodes, by Demetrius Polyoretes, in the year 308 B.C., when he brought forward a variety of engines, employing in their management 30,000 men; but the siege was raised after continuing a whole year. Hannibal used engines at the siege of Saguntum, in 219 B.C.; and about the same time Marcellus laid siege to Syracuse. Archimedes was there at the time; and Marcellus having brought forward an amazing engine in eight galleys, the great mathematician destroyed it by discharging stones of enormous weight upon it, when it was at a considerable distance from the walls. He also used balistæ, scorpions, and a kind of crane lowered by a lever, which hoisted the Roman vessels by the prow and plunged them to the bottom of the sea. At the battle of Cremona the Fifteenth Legion used an extraordinary engine with dreadful execution against the troops of Vespasian. It was a balista of great size, which discharged stones of weight sufficient to crush whole ranks at once. Inevitable ruin must have ensued if two soldiers had not approached the engine unperceived, and cut the ropes and springs. The Romans had regular batteries of these machines; and they had 300 catapultæ and 40 balistæ at the siege of Jerusalem. Beams of wood, and lances twelve cubits long, and stones 300 or 400 pounds weight were thrown by the latter; and as early as the battle of Hastings they were used in this country. Under General Melville a balista was used at the siege of Gibraltar for the purpose of casting stones at the Spaniards, just over the edge of a rock, where shells could not reach them.

The discovery of gunpowder is of a very remote antiquity, but its practical application to the purpose of war is of comparatively recent date Bacon and Bertholdi Schwartz have been named as its discoverers, but Bishop, the translator, of the Gentoo code, finds fire-arms, gunpowder and cannon mentioned therein; and this work is supposed by some persons to be coeval with Moses Philostratus, in his Life of Appollinus Tyaneus, written 1600 years ago, refers to a people of India, who, at the time of the invasion of Alexander, used storms of lightning and thunderbolts to repel the enemy from their walls. In China its existence was known from the most remote antiquity; and the Arabs employed it at the siege of Mecca in 690. It was the same people who used it in their wars with the Spaniards, and in this way it was introduced into Europe It is urged that gunpowder has given civilised nations a decided superiority over barbarous ones, by intimately connecting the progress of science with improvements in war; and, in our own day, however paradoxical it may appear, it has been held that whatever increases the powers of destruction in war is infinitely advantageous to the cause of humanity!

On the introduction of artillery, custom made many prefer the ancient engines of war. The construction of the new weapons was so clumsy and imperfect, and their results so uncertain, that there was a general aversion to them as being contrary to humanity, and calculated to extinguish military bravery in the breasts of the chivalrous knights of the period. John Barbour, Archdeacon of Aberdeen, is the first who refers to cannon in our country; and he says that "crakys of war" were first used by Edward III in his campaign against the Scots, 1327. The Eng ish subsequently used them at the battle of Cressy in 1346. In 1378 when the English unsuccessfully besieged St. Malo, 400 cannon are said to have been employed; but they are supposed to have been hand cannon, or culverins, carried by two men. In the reign of Henry V. orders were given to make 7000 round stones in the quarries of Maidstone, to be used for cannon of different sizes. The cannon employed by Mahomet II. at the Siege of Constantinople were formed of bars of iron hooped together lengthways with iron rings. They were used for throwing immense masses of stone, some of which it was said weighed 1200 lbs. To this day the Turks exhibit a partiality for very large artillery; and the Dardanelles is protected by cannon, some of which throw stone balls weighing 500 or 1000 lbs. Tartan, a Dane, made a gun at that early period which cast a stone 400 lbs. weight, but, after a few discharges, it burst. All the ancient cannon were unwieldly, and could only be fired a few times in the course of a day Some of them were of the enormous length of 20 feet. We have ourselves the long 40 pounder at Tower Green, called "Queen Elizabeth's look pistol;" and at Edinburgh Castle the curious piece of artillery called "Mons Meg," to which many interesting traditions are attached, is a fine piece of ordnance known in modern times was the mortar cast at Dieppe, and used in the siege of Antwerp in 1832. Its effects did not equal the expectations entertained of it; and, when making some experiments with it afterwards before Louis Philippe, it burst. Cannon have been made of wood, leather, coils of rope, and even of ice. In 1740 several were cut out of the solid ice at St. Petersburg, and fired repeatedly with ice balls without bursting. The heaviest existing piece of ordnance is the Byapoo gun in India, which weighs forty-two tons. The greatest modern improvement in cannon is the removing some of the metal from the portion of the gun behind the trunnions, and adding it to the breech, increasing thereby the resistance to recoil

Hand guns, or small fire-arms, were first introduced into this country in 1471, when Edward IV., landing at Ravenspur, in Yorkshire, brought with him 300 Flemings, armed with hand guns. The Protector, Somerset, aware of the importance of firearms had about 3000 foreigners in his pay, of whom the greater part were musketeers The Spaniards used them in 1588, under Philip II., and at this period the Spanish armies were composed of the heavy and the light musketeers; the former were so heavy that they were supported in a staff, shod with iron, and the staff sometimes had a spike or dagger at the head, as a protection against cavalry. They were armed with a lighted match. When reduced in size they were called calivers, and after them came the more manageable musket. The Protector, Somerset, was introduced about the reign of Henry VIII., and continued in use till the time of Charles II. The arquebusiers were armed with morions or steel caps, cuirasses, and tassets covering the thighs. Another arm, called the petronel, was shorter than the musket, but of greater calibre, was worn in the broad baudrick or belt worn over the shoulder. This arm was used at the siege of Rouen, by Henry IV. of France, in 1592. Pistols were first manufactured in 1544, in the reign of Francis I., at Pistoia, a city of Etruria. The German horsemen called *reiters*, had used them some time previously to their introduction into France. In the time of Edward VI., the boss and spike issuing from the centre of the shield was superseded by one or more short barrels, fired by a match-lock, and having an aperture covered with a grating above for the purpose of taking aim. These were also used in India, and some beautifully inlaid specimens were exhibited, with four concealed pistols, in the Exhibition Building at Hyde-park, in 1851. Pistols were frequently introduced into the butt-end of pikes, in the handle of the battle axe, and the spiked-club, termed the "holy water sprinkler." These gradual innovations in the military system do not appear to have been generally approved of by the English. Their imperfect construction, and the badness of the powder, furnished some ground for the small account in which they were held. Nevertheless, the alarm created by the introduction of fire-arms was so great, that the men-at-arms became so loaded with defensive armour as to be almost incapable of any offensive movement The knights had their armour so closely fitted, and so firmly screwed on, that it was almost impossible to kill them unhorsed. At the battle of Fournoisi, under Charles VIII., a number of Italian knights who were overthrown and unable to rise, on account of the weight of their armour, could not be killed until they were broken up, like huge lobsters, with woodcutters' axes, by the servants and followers of the army. James I., speaking in praise of armour, said it not only protected the wearer, but prevented him from doing any injury to others. An anecdote in point is related of George IV.:—After the battle of Waterloo, it was proposed to make some changes in the dress of the Life Guards. The King ordered one of the soldiers to be sent for who had greatly distinguished himself by cutting down several French Cuirassiers. A variety of questions were asked him, when the King suddenly said, "Well, if you were going to have such another day's work as you had at Waterloo, how would you like to be equipped?" "Please your Majesty," said he, "in that case I had rather be in my shirt sleeves!" thus demonstrating the folly of loading the soldier with cumbrous defensive clothing, which impaired his activity and efficiency.

The most important appendage to the fire arm in modern times is the bayonet, which in the hands of the British soldier has almost invariably produced as striking an effect as the sword and shield of the Romans did in former times when opposed to barbarian warfare. A dagger or pike was frequently affixed to the end of the musket when the soldiers had exhausted their ammunition. The bayonet in its present shape was first manufactured in Bayonne, and the method of fastening them is also of French invention. It was first used by Marshal Catenat, in 1693, at the battle of Marsaglia, and by means of it the slaughter was immense, and the rout of the allies complete. Marshal Villars, at the battle of Spires, in 1703, and the Duc de Vendome, in 1705, at Calmata, in Italy, obtained victories by their means, and thus led to their adoption by other nations. The Spaniards were uniformly defeated by the bayonet alone in all their contests with the French, at the close of the campaign in 1794. During one of the campaigns in Flanders, the British army, under William III., was thrown into consternation at seeing the French fire upon them with fixed bayonets, but they rallied, and drove the enemy off the field. They were first used by the English soldiers in the reign of James II.; and in the reign of Queen Anne two horse grenadiers rode before her carriage with bayonets fixed by two rings to the muzzle of the musket. The general introduction of this weapon superseded the use of the pike, and, by the advice of Marshal Vauban, they were also laid aside in France.

The rifling the interior of the musket, or cutting straight or spiral grooves, to make the bullet go further and straighter to the mark—the introduction of percussion caps for discharging the fire arm—the substitution of a strong two edged sword, which can be wielded in the hand as well as used as a bayonet—and the recent German invention of a musket or rifle which loads at the breech, and enables the soldier to fire at least six shots in the time taken to fire one by the ordinary method of loading, are the most important improvements in fire-arms of the present day; but a consideration of the relative merits of these new inventions would lead us further than we have at present space for.

LAMBETH ASTROLOGERS.

Lambeth Astrologers.—Lambeth has been noted as the residence of astrologers. At Tradescant's house, in South Lambeth-road, lived Elias Ashmole, who was Albrey over the astrology. Simon Forman's burial is recorded in the Lambeth parish registers. Lilly used to be the day he had prognosticated. Lilly says, Forman wrote in a book left behind him: "this I made the devil write with his own hand, in Lambeth Fields, 1659, in June or July, at a place called Mother Bombie's house, in company with Forman, dwelt in Lambeth Marsh, and "resolved horary questions astrologically," a ladder which raised him to the gallery. At the back corner of Oakley lived Francis Moore, Lambeth astrologer, and almanac-maker, and the original author of "Moore's Almanack." Next to Tradescant's house lived the learned Dr. Ducarel, one of the earliest Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries, and librarian at Lambeth Palace—*Gentleman's Magazine*.

An Intelligent Jury.—In an action Kingsmill v. Millard," tried at Taunton the other day, to recover [illegible] of some land, Mr. Justice Crowder, in directing the jury that the plaintiff's case had been clearly proved by the defendant's counsel, we learn from the Exeter Gazette, addressed to counsel Mr. Serjeant Kinglake, one of the plaintiff's counsel, as his "brother Kinglake." The jury, which was not one of the slightest, had, however, predetermined to have their own way, and to give a verdict against the learned Serjeant, against the evidence, and against the summing up of the Judge, and as a reason for doing so, while consulting their verdict, one of them was heard to address another juryman with a very loud, quite audible whisper "Dost thee consult (meaning the learned Serjeant) brother? Dost thee think it is likely he was going to say anything against his own brother?" and with this conclusion, and in spite of opinions dictated to them, they returned a verdict contrary to his Lordship's directions

EXPORTS.—The declared value of British and Irish produce and

manufactures exported in 1854 amounted to £97,092,808, against £93,933,781 in 1853, and the total value was £95,108,244; in 1845, £58,111,052; and in 1850, £71,387,850. Between 1852 and 1853 there was a leap from £76,076,854 to £93,953,718. The principal countries which are our largest customers appear to be the Russia Towns, £7,093,000; Holland, £4,152,955; Russia, £4,228,404; Belgium, £3,271,617; France, £2,866,650; Portugal, £1,410,411; Spain, including the colonies, £2,979,773; Sardinia, £1,116,647; Turkey, £2,029,305; the United States and California, £25,656,427; Brazil, £4,186,407; Cuba, £1,194,942; Peru, £1,246,760; and China, £1,149,497. Of the English manufactures Articles figures for £1[illegible],500, the Indies for £8,183,869; the West Indies for £1,801,140; the [illegible] for £1,21[illegible]; and the North American States for £4,826,[illegible].

THE NEW YORK POLICE. The invest gations consequent on the murder of "Bill Poole," the well-known New York [illegible], which led the Know-Nothing party in the city to complain of the New York [illegible] obtained a return of the nationality of the men employed in the New York [illegible] in force, in which they alleged foreigners were too numerous [illegible] in proportion. The return of the chief police officers [illegible] department of the city of New York, which comprises [illegible] were born American, 305 born in Ireland, 26 in England, [illegible] France, 11 in Wales, 11 in Scotland, 14 in Canada, [illegible] where they were born, but they are foreigners, and other [illegible] the chief himself, generally supposed to be an Eng[illegible] of New York, and the only member of the police force who [illegible] Lewis Baker, the fugitive charged with the murder of Poole, [illegible] are no unnaturalised foreigners in the department [illegible] have been in the country [illegible] years; whilst the [illegible] in America of the 11 police officers in the city [illegible] the chief Judge of the city have been in prison, of which [illegible] twenty-four are Americans and fifteen foreigners

HAM FAIR. Among the many sights of Paris during Passion week, I mention one more curious than any other. *Rendezvous*, on the Boulevard Hôpital. While the fish stalls point out the place of long lamps becomes, year by year, more magnificent, Ham Fair, the people's end of the town, revels in more than usual uproar. The [illegible] is given out a very loud, quite idea of the [illegible] in every conceivable variety of shape, is exposed to [illegible] stages of Strasbourg, Lyons, and Arles, [illegible] the bottles, the [illegible] and end cutlets of Troyes; sides of bacon—some yellow, some white, and some black, according to the one canary name of cheap [illegible] from which they come; dried sausages (Lyons, Lucca, Saxon, Bologna), a very description of eatable comprised under the generic term *charcuterie*. The respective merits of all these savoury provisions are [illegible] chanted in the vernacular by all the [illegible] in the department [illegible] the metropolitan. You [illegible] Ham Fair, but her capacity does not [illegible] the suppositions exceed [illegible] of Lis Bayonne hams; while the [illegible] Vendée, a country lady from Lorraine, in the costume of the [illegible] auditors of a [illegible] Ham Fair, [illegible] of her swine necessitates [illegible] to taste, to [illegible] and [illegible] and sings out with [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] "genuine article" cannot [illegible] of all these savoury provisions are [illegible] the name of the department which the occupant comes from as the Mans, Maisille, Sarlin, or Bayonne Pyrenees. In many instances [illegible] discovered cart stationed in the rear, containing reserve stores and provisions [illegible] and [illegible] dogs as a palpable epitome of rustic [illegible] and anxiety, bringing forcibly home to the minds of the traveller that the owner is really "from the country." Accordingly, many housekeepers who form a believe thatents and benefit are the staple materials of sausages made in Paris, come to the fair to make their provisions for the ensuing year. The great fun is to stand round a stall, and watch the progress of a bargain. Not one visitor in ten comes to buy, although most of those who have any money in their pockets are tempted to purchase something before they go away. Every sausage is retail as well as a wholesale slap. I saw a bargain struck for a dozen hams, and as soon as they were paid for the vendor did not disdain to weigh two ounces of sausage for a nursery maid. Of course, in buying the sausages, my own faith would not be always without misgivings, although they do come from the country. It is notorious that a Lille manufacturer, when convicted of adulteration and fined, excused himself by alleging that nothing but excellent would give the flavour the Parisians looked for. *Letter from Paris*

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The Easter holidays have been, so far, holidays indeed. Little news on any subject has come to us from either of the two great centres of interest. The Vienna Congress is at a stand-still, waiting the arrival of the Turkish Plenipotentiary and of the Czar's final orders to Prince Gortschakoff and M. de Titoff; and Lord Raglan has for the time intermitted the series of his meteorological despatches. All, however, leads us to consider this unusual quiet as a lull before a storm; and to calculate that in the course of the next week we shall learn tidings, both from the seats of War and Conference, of greater importance than any that the electric wires have flashed across Europe for many a long day. In the first place—without troubling the telegraph—we shall know on the 20th how the Chancellor of the Exchequer means to raise the wind: whether a loan will be thought necessary, or whether we shall be able to balance our expenditure with our income. The City rather believes in a loan, though not apparently with very great confidence. The West-end Clubbites are much more certain of its necessity, perhaps because with so many of the members of these establishments a state of borrowing appears the normal condition of mankind. Some few plain people, on the other hand, look to the statements as to the position of the national ledger already made by both past and present Chancellors, and by the Secretary of the Treasury, and ask themselves if, with a deficiency of less than three millions, it is *land* that the country should borrow money in open market. They say this would be like a man with £50,000 a year mortgaging his estate for £1000. Without putting much faith in the perfectibility of Government offices or officials, one may reasonably hope that there will be somewhat less mismanagement and money wasted this than last year; so that the prosecution of the war, if not less, may not cost us more. Besides, to speak in the theatrical phrase, most of the "properties" of our naval and military drama are procured and paid for, so that for the future the chief part of our expenditure should consist in the salaries of the company. However there is small profit in speculating on the matter, as we are sure to know the worst—or the best—on the 20th. We know that the Conferences at Vienna are to be resumed immediately, and we know that, with such important negotiators as Lord John Russell and M. Drouyn de Lhuys, we cannot be spared from their own countries one day longer than is absolutely necessary, there is no danger that the negotiations will be allowed to *trainer en longueur*; so here, too, in a week, the best, or worst, must be known. Then, again, before Sebastopol, there are now encamped a hundred thousand French and English—forty thousand Turks are at Eupatoria: it is impossible that such immense bodies of men, now tolerably healthy, and perfectly supplied in every way, can remain any longer in *statu quo*. So it is more than likely that the intelligence received in the next week will fill a wide page—pray Heaven it be not a bloody one! in the world's Fasti.

In the meantime, though there has been a cessation in the labours of Mr Roebuck's Committee, that column in the morning papers which, regular as the theatrical announcements, contains the "complaints from the Crimea," is as full as ever. I will shortly notice two of these communications: one which, though founded on an honourable susceptibility, does not appear to me to be justified; and another, which certainly *does*. The first is the remonstrance addressed by the officers of the Commissariat to Lord Panmure against a speech of Lord Palmerston on the 19th February, which they understand to contain the assertion that they were not gentlemen. Every one knows that the language used in the House of Commons is not always distinguished for grammar, and certainly very seldom for precision. It is, therefore, only right that the spirit of a speech should be considered to override what may appear to be the literal meaning. Taken in this way, it is very clear that Lord Palmerston's intention (even judging merely from the single paragraph quoted in the letter—though I am far from justifying either the words or the tone, which seem to me ill-chosen and ill-judged) was to say what no one can deny that the Commissariat is not officered from those classes which, even in the largest sense, are considered to form the aristocracy of the country. Half the disputes in the world arise from the want of a precise definition of the meaning of words; and so it is here. "One of the gentry," and "a gentleman," sound something alike, but mean very differently. There is St. John Fitzwalloper: he has been "had up" before the Bench half a dozen times for assaults on his servants; he is a low sot, and a dirty dog in money matters; yet surely he is one of the gentry, for he has lands, lives in a time-honoured hall, and the Fitzwallopers came in with the Norman—but a gentleman—oh! certainly not. Now, when the Premier said the Commissariat was not usually officered by the gentry, he might not have said a wise thing, but he said the truth, and cast no imputation on anyone.

The other complaint—the just one—is conveyed in a letter to the *Times* from Messrs. Lang and Co.; who tell us that, by order of the Post-office, all letters addressed to persons connected with the Crimean Railway, and weighing less than a ½ oz., are charged *one shilling*, or four times as much as if the recipient was a military man. Now, why on earth should the navvy pay more for his letter than the soldier? Both are equally fighting their country's battle, only the one uses the bayonet and the other the spade—not by any means the less effective weapon of the two. Anyhow, there is a wretched cheeseparing economy about this regulation; a penny wisdom quite in accordance with the pound foolishness for which most departments of the Government have been lately so distinguished.

One of the peculiarities of our state of war is the difficulty of getting at the truth as to any matter connected with it. A paragraph, seemingly official, has been going round of the papers, which asserts that the medals for distinguished service have been sent to the Crimea. Is Cassius to be believed, who, writing from the Junior United, says, "No such thing; the department is not aware when they will be ready for delivery." I'll take Cassius's word for a thousand pounds.

Tweedledum and Tweedledee—that is, Mr. Schallehn the leader, and the executants, of the Crystal Palace band—have had a fierce quarrel. The musicians have rushed into angry, if not grammatical, print; from which it appears that all but four of them have refused to serve any longer under Schallehn's banner. Musical or theatrical discords are the very last with which I should like to meddle, as the almost universal rule of them is "faults on both sides;" but this unanimity in a band of fifty three musicians belonging to all nations does not look well for the bandmaster.

The Emperor and Empress of the French are certainly coming, but not to stay so long as was at first expected and hoped. They will arrive next Monday. This will be no common Royal visit—no mere interchange of politeness and hospitality between Sovereigns. The coming of the French Emperor to our shores—he, the nephew of our great enemy—is a greater fact in the world's history than treaties signed or battles won. It is the seal on the alliance of France and England. It is the stamp upon an unwritten agreement, felt in the hearts and brains of millions, from Marseilles to the Orkneys, which sets forth that though, from time to time, inevitable clouds may obscure its meaning, the two great nations of the West will henceforth march together in the cause of charity, religion, and civilisation. A strange life has been that of the Emperor Napoleon—stranger than any told in romance. When he lands on our coast, when he passes through the streets of our metropolis—applauded, admired, respected by all—he will point out to his fair wife places more interesting to both than the old towers of Westminster, or the noble terraces of Windsor Castle. He will show her the house in King street where he passed much of his sorrowful exile; he will point out the pavement where, on a certain sad day, he braved even ridicule, in testimony that he owed a duty of protection to the country whose free soil had afforded him a temporary home. Verily, that special constable's staff is not the least honourable of the trophies won by Louis Napoleon!

THE THEATRES, &c.

Haymarket.—Mr. Planché has supplied Mr. Buckstone with an extraordinary extravaganza, called "The New Haymarket Spring Meeting, 1855," another account of which we gave last week. Here there is no fairy tale, but a sporting chronicle, in which "the fancy" claims unwonted license, partly allegorical and partly dramatic. In great part, however, the piece retains the usual character of Mr. Buckstone's Easter entertainments—that of a revue of theatrical doings, past, present, and to come. Among the allegorical characters *London* holds a distinguished place, personated by Mrs. Caroline White, sleeping in Guildhall, but awakened by *Old Time* (in the shape of Mr. Chippendale) to a sense of her position. Mr. Buckstone as *Lord Mayor's Fool* undertakes to help her out of perils for which Gog and Magog have no remedy. The Lord Mayor's Show in a fog serves first as a vision of instruction; and the *Moon* is invoked for advice and assistance; by whom counselled, appeal is next made to *Westminster* (Miss Harriet Gordon). There is much in the mordant couplets of the *Fool* that reminds us of Mephistopheles' assumption of the character in the second part of Goethe's "Faust." *Bacchus* and *Tyburnia* are then introduced, and the rights of the West and East are interchanged between the high consulting persons. The various theatres are figured by horses running for the "Great Metropolitan Handicap, or London and Westminster Easter Stakes." A jockey dance ensues, which is concluded, as usual, with a magnificent tableau. The house was crowded, and the piece quite successful.

Princess'.—Mr. J. M. Morton is the compiler of the Easter piece for this house. It is entitled "The Muleteer of Toledo," and founded on M. Adam's opera of the same name. As might have been expected, the plot is none of the strongest or the most exciting; but it is capable of elegant distribution, is not without a certain calm interest, is well placed on the stage, and is acted with grace, propriety and effect. Miss Leclercq performs the part of the *Queen of Murcia*, in the disguise of a peasant with all that charming *naïveté* which so frequently distinguishes the style of this excellent actress. Mr. W. Lacy enacts the sham muleteer, but real King, who guards the supposed peasant girl through all the perils of the journey, and seats her at last on the throne of Castile. Mr. Harley, as *Count de Pompolo*, one of the conspirators whom these disguises serve to defeat, was to the full as eccentric as he was intended; and Mrs. Winstanley, as the *Countess*, could not help being portly, and when carried off by the clumsy plotters instead of the heroine, found herself in a naturally amusing position, which, however, she somewhat exaggerated. The last scene of cross purposes is composed of a series of stage-situations skilfully contrived and efficiently executed. The perplexity arising from the confusion of the King with his brother, and which fact is to serve as the solution of all difficulties, is an ingenious contrivance of M Dennery, and productive of that surprise which is permissible enough in plays of intrigue, though frequently injurious in dramas of more importance. Expectation, as in Shakspeare's plays, is in them the preferable element, and we have scarcely ever seen it substituted with advantage. But each class of piece has its own conditions; and the present has been treated with the judgment and tact to be expected from the well-practised playwright who has acted as adapter on the occasion.

Adelphi.—Mr. Mark Lemon, as the author of the Easter piece at this house, has achieved a remarkable triumph. A five-act burlesque is a novelty in itself, and may serve to show, together with the instance of "Janet Pride," and other examples, that the pentad form the drama is again asserting its ancient prestige. The notion of embodying five legends in one burlesque is that carried out by the playwright in his "Entirely New Edition of the Fairy Tales of Mother Goose, with many new and exceedingly pretty illustrations." A slender but sufficient link of connection is established, so as to enable the *dramatis personæ* of the first tale to pass easily into the representatives of the succeeding ones; all being managed in such a manner that a culminating development is obtained, and thus an increasing interest preserved. The stories are all of the most esteemed folk-lore. First, there is Mother Goose's own narrative; secondly, "The Three Wishes;" thirdly, "Little Red Riding-Hood;" fourthly, "Cinderella;" and fifthly, "The Sleeping Beauty." We were glad to find that Mr. Beard has been added to the company. His rich and ripe humour gave depth and breadth to the paternal burlesque which was highly relished by the audience. Miss Woolgar was, as usual, great in masculine parts, and in one not only sustained a "terrific combat" with Mr. Paul Bedford, but danced a hornpipe as *Lively Jack*, in obedience to the just expectations of the British public. Miss Mary Keeley performed more than one heroine with nursery pathos; and Miss Wyndham, as *Mother Goose*, was the most superb representative of that pantomimic dame that we ever recollect. Altogether, this burlesque is very elegant, ingenious, and effective. The pictorial accessories were fine, and the costumes very pleasing.

Strand. The title of the burlesque at this theatre is "King Queer." The allusion to Shakspeare's great tragedy is obvious; and Mr Halford (who is the author of the piece) enacts the hero with that wonderful, and apparently involuntary, imitation of Mr. Charles Kean's style, which originally obtained for him an unexpected reputation. Miss Isaacs sustained a part which combined caricatures of *Cordelia* and the *Fool*, in which she sings many songs. The text is full of verbal wit, puns, and temporary allusions. The success was complete.

Astley's.—Mr. Nelson Lee has furnished the equestrian drama for the season, under the title of "The Field against the Favourite." The opposite stake is the venture on which one *Mr. Candour* hazards and loses his all. The horse is doctored by his own jockey, and exposed to the chance of being burned alive in his own stables. Ultimately, however, the repentant servant makes restitution, and furnishes the means of punishing his tempters and his master's enemies. The scenes in the circle were as usual, calculated to astonish, and the performances of the evening were successful, though the house was not so full as usual.

Other theatres have not gone to the cost this year of furnishing Easter pieces; and, in fact, owing to the state of the war, exist in rather an exceptional state. Things must "suffer a change" before theatricals can regain their wonted position. The Lyceum company exhibited on Easter Monday a Sadler's Wells. Mr. F. Robinson supplied the place of Mr. C. Mathews in "Husbands, Rejoice," and fairly won his spurs in the competition. The "Cosy Couple," and "Two Heads are Better than One," successfully followed. Mr. and Mrs. F. Matthews and Mr. Roxby acted with spirit. The audience was numerous, and it is likely that the company will prosper in their temporary asylum. The Olympic puts forth no novelty, "The Yellow Dwarf" sufficing for the present. Mr. George Vining and Miss Cameron appeared (for the first time) as *Mr.* and *Mrs Howard*, in "Law for Ladies." Mr. Robson, in "Kill or Cure," was as effective as usual. The small amount of effort required at this house to ensure its progress may serve to show the advantage of good acting as the staple of attraction. There was likewise no novelty at the Surrey; but Mr. Wright has been engaged for a few nights in "Victorine," "My Precious Betsy," and the "Wreck Ashore." At the Marylebone sub-management is at present regnant. "The Merry Wives of Windsor" was, on Monday, respectably performed. *Fistaff* was sustained by Mr. Barrett; the rest of the characters were undertaken by some whose names we recognise as lately pertaining to the St. James's company. Miss Rosina Wright (late of the Lyceum) also appeared in a "ballet divertissement." The list of pieces announced imply some ambition in the *troupe*, and we trust that the members of it may find their enterprise an improving one—to themselves individually as rising young artistes, as well as collectively in a more material sense.

The Royal Panoptikon.—Among the Easter novelties produced at this excellent Institution was a lecture on "Life in Pompeii," by Mr Leicester Buckingham, illustrated by dioramic views, depicting the past and present appearance of that interesting city. After dwelling on the ancient history belongs to the domestic life of antiquity, and the unique facilities which Pompeii affords for its study, Mr. Buckingham sketched briefly the topography and early history of that city; and then, transporting his auditors from Pompeii in ruins to Pompeii in the zenith of its glory, introduced a vivid picture of its ancient aspect, and described the construction of its buildings, and the ordinary routine of daily life among its citizens, and concluded with a graphic summary of the most striking memorials of the sudden destruction of the city, which the labours of the excavators have unveiled. The pictures and views of the Bay of Naples, and of the Ruins of the Gate of Herculaneum, and the House of Sallust; and Restorations of the House of Sallust and of the tragic poet, the Temple of Fortune, &c. The "Scenes of the War in the Crimea" have received considerable additions; among which the most important are a pictorial map of the territory now occupied by the besieging armies around Sebastopol, and illustrations of the Light Cavalry Charge at Balaclava, and the Hospital at Scutari. The illustrative lecture, delivered by Mr. Leicester Buckingham, conveys a concise sketch of the history and topography of the Crimea, and a succinct narrative of the leading incidents of the campaign. In addition to these leading features, the programme embraces lectures on various scientific and literary subjects; the gigantic electrical machine, with many brilliant experiments, lucidly explained by Mr Partington; the performances on the grand organ by Mr. Best; besides the luminous fountain, &c.

Old English and Patriotic Songs.—Mr. George Buckland nightly favours the visitors to the Polytechnic Institution with a brief lecture, bearing the above title, of which the vocal illustrations are, of course, the most attractive portion. These are but five in number; *i.e.*, "The Old English Gentleman," "The British Grenadier," "The Leather Bottel," "Stand to your Guns," and "The Old Politician." Whether to praise Mr. Buckland more for his superior vocalisation, his skill as a pianist, or the humour which he throws into humorous songs, we cannot decide; but it is clear that his audiences admire greatly the declamatory power and the mimetic expression which he displays in rendering the two last-named compositions. This musical lecture is a decided success.

THE NEWSPAPER STAMP.

We stated last week that a memorial was presented to Sir G. Cornewall Lewis, Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the 4th of April, by a deputation of Yorkshire newspaper proprietors, in which they stated as their opinion that it would be a great advantage to the public, and a convenience to newspaper proprietors, as well as an actual and considerable gain to the revenue, if the proposed stamp on newspapers, to enable them to transmission and re-transmission through the Post-office, were a halfpenny instead of a penny; and if there were also issued halfpenny stamped covers to entitle unstamped copies of registered newspapers to a single transmission through the post."

As regards the revenue part of the question, they show that the effect of the proposed law would be to cause newspaper proprietors to print the greater part of their impression on unstamped paper. It was not improbable, therefore, that the number of newspapers sent through the Post-office would in future be reduced at least one-half, and possibly two-thirds; and, as the expenses of the Post-office could not be reduced in anything like a corresponding proportion, the revenue may suffer more seriously than has been contemplated.

If, however, instead of a penny stamp for newspapers to entitle them to transmission and re-transmission through the Post-office, only a halfpenny stamp were required, the memorialists believe that an immensely larger proportion of the newspapers issued would be printed on stamped paper. The difference of the halfpenny would in many, if not in most, cases remove the inducement to prefer unstamped to stamped copies. It would practically equalise the cost of the stamped and unstamped copies, except in the places of publication. The Post-office, generally speaking, would then deliver newspapers as cheaply as they could be delivered in any other way. There might, in some cases, be a fractional difference (not, however, equal to the smallest coin in circulation) in favour of distribution by news agents or special messengers, but the difference would be so slight as to induce newspaper proprietors to prefer the less troublesome mode of the Post-office; and their customers would probably wish to receive their newspapers along with their letters, by the post delivery, as at present. A halfpenny stamp would be universally approved, and scarcely any would think it worth their while to inquire if a cheaper mode of delivery could be found. Not only fourpenny and threepenny papers, but, probably, even twopenny papers, would print a considerable part of their impression on stamped sheets. Of course, when newspapers were sold (stamp included) at least a halfpenny cheaper than at present, the circulation would be stimulated, and a larger proportion would pass through the Post-office; still more would this be the case if the existing papers were issued at a greater reduction of price than a halfpenny, or if new publications should appear of a smaller size and lower price than the present. It may be confidently assumed that the tendency of a halfpenny stamp would be continually towards an increased consumption, while the tendency of a penny stamp would be continually towards a diminished consumption.

What would be the amount of the increase in the number of newspapers issued and sent through the Post office can only be matter of conjecture; but there are reasons for believing that the increase would be very great. According to a paper just printed by the House of Lords (No. 59), the number of stamps issued to newspapers in 1836, before the former reduction of the newspaper stamp, was 32,973,400, and the number issued in 1854 was 111,977,408; showing an increase in twenty years of 79,004,008, or 239 per cent.

The reduction in the price of the existing papers likely to take place now will not be quite so great in proportion as it was twenty years ago; but, considering the probability of new and smaller papers being published at a lower price, and that every reduction of price brings newspapers within the means of a much larger class of the population, while the progress of education is steadily augmenting the number of readers, it seems not improbable that, ere long, the number of copies of newspapers issued in this country will be threefold the present number.

It will not, therefore, be an over-estimate to compute that the number of newspapers printed on halfpenny stamps to clear the post would be at least double the number which now pass through the Post-office.

If, then, the effect of a penny stamp would be to reduce the number of stamped papers at least one-half, and the effect of a halfpenny stamp would be to double them, the difference between the two rates would be fourfold in favour of the cheaper. Of course, it is not meant that four times as many papers would be printed in the one case as in the other, but that four times as many would be printed on stamps to pass through the Post-office.

The practical question for the Government, in deciding between a penny stamp and halfpenny stamp, of course is, what would the newspapers yield in each case over the expenditure specially entailed upon the Post-office for that service. It is obvious that if the number of newspapers was reduced to one-half, the expenditure specially entailed by newspapers would not be reduced one-half; and, on the other hand, if the number was doubled, the expense entailed by them on the Post-office would not be doubled.

The opinion formed by the memorialists as to the reduction in the number of newspapers likely to be sent through the Post-office, if required to bear a penny stamp, entirely agrees with that expressed by Mr. Rowland Hill to the Commons' Committee. He stated that the number of newspaper stamps issued in 1849 was 79,000,000, and the number of papers computed to have passed through the Post-office was 65,500,000; and assuming that in future, if the stamp duty were repealed, and a newspaper paid a penny every time it passed through the office, he thought it "a high estimate" to expect half the present number. Now the number of stamps issued in 1854 was 112,000,000; and if we adopt the same proportion as above, 93,000,000 would pass through the Post-office. But if, by the adoption of a penny stamp on the repeal of the existing duty, the number of papers sent through the Post-office was reduced to one-half, the number would then be 46,500,000, which, at one penny each, would yield £193,750.

They have thought it reasonable to calculate that with a halfpenny stamp the number of newspapers passing through the Post-office would be doubled. Instead of 93,000,000 there would be 186,000,000, which, at a halfpenny each, would yield £387,500.

As regards the public advantage and convenience,—

It is obvious that persons living in villages and country districts would save 1½ a halfpenny on each paper which they receive, in case of the adoption of the halfpenny stamp, either as compared with the present state of things, or with the rate which would exist under a penny stamp. The lower rate would operate as the greatest advantage to those whose difficulty of receiving public intelligence is necessarily, from their local position, the greatest. The measure would therefore promote the diffusion of intelligence, and afford the country districts nearly the same intellectual advantages as are enjoyed in towns.

The memorialists testify that among their own body, the newspaper proprietors, most of whom have looked with alarm on the measure of the Government, the adoption of the halfpenny stamp would do very much to remove their objections. It would be regarded as an important boon, especially by those in the agricultural counties, where it is believed many proprietors would print their entire impression on stamped paper, so large is the proportion of copies which they send through the Post-office.

The halfpenny stamp would allow the newspaper business to be carried on with the existing arrangements, and with the least possible disturbance of those arrangements either to publishers, news-agents, or subscribers.

It would provide [illegible] of influencing the Government and the Legislature, that the lower rate of [illegible] recommended by the memorialists would give to the largest and best [illegible] noted newspapers published in London and the chief cities and towns of the kingdom very nearly the same facilities of circulation as would be enjoyed by small local papers. With a penny stamp the latter would receive a fractional and undesirable stimulus. With a halfpenny stamp, the ablest political writing and the best news would stand on nearly equal ground throughout the whole country with the most inferior publications.

Combining, therefore, [illegible] crease of the revenue [illegible] tage and convenience of the public, [illegible] is concluded the halfpenny stamp would be bet[illegible]

Hampton Court and St John's Wood.—In a Chapter of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, held 11th Jan., 1514, Sir T. Docwra prior, a lease was granted to Cardinal Wolsey of the manor of Hampton, which the most eminent physicians of England and learned doctors of Padua had selected as the healthiest spot within twenty miles of London for the site of a palace for the Cardinal. In this curious document (Cotton. MSS. Julius Musarum) as a grant of four loads of timber annually for piles for the Hampton Weir, to be cut "in and fro Seynte John's Woode, Middl."—*Chronicles of London.*

DEPARTURE, FROM PORTSMOUTH DOCKYARD, OF REAR-ADMIRAL D

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE BALTIC FLEET. — (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

EMBARKATION OF THE ADMIRAL.

From Portsmouth many a renowned sailor has gone on board his ship to lead the fleets of England to battle, to blockade the harbours of the enemy, or to keep watch and ward along the coasts of our island. The greatest amongst all

the noble names that light
Our Britain's gilded inn,

Nelson, stepped on board the boat which conveyed him to his flag-ship, the *Victory*, from Southsea Beach;—at least such is the tradition of Portsmouth. Many hundreds of people crowded to the spot to see him off and bid him God speed! The present Commander of the Baltic Fleet took leave of the land in a manner quite consistent with his modest antecedents. He walked on board his boat from the Dockyard-stairs in the manner depicted by our Artist, who has given permanence to a scene which otherwise was not likely to make much sensation. But there is more significance in this incident than meets the eye at the first glance. What would we not give now for a literal transcript of that fact on Southsea Beach, in 1805, when the greatest sailor of all time went forth to fight his last and greatest battle?

OUR ARSENALS IN CHEAPSIDE.

The quiet unimaginative inhabitants of "Cheape" will most probably rub their eyelids in mild wonder on being told that they have been all along (without knowing it) living amongst the arsenals in which are accumulated the most potent of our projectiles for attacking the forces and limiting the power of the Czar; but the diligent searchers after first causes must come at last to the conclusion that, however great may be the bravery of our soldiers and sailors, however long the range of our Lancaster guns, however formidable the armaments we may be at the moment throwing up at Sebastopol, it is in such places as Cheapside, and the surrounding [illegible]s, that the wealth is stored, the sinews of war created, which gives England a position in the political world to which neither the extent of her soil nor the numbers of her population would otherwise entitle her. It is in such places she acquires the wealth which enables her to repair the first blunders of a campaign, to build successive fleets, to subsidise needy allies—in short, to do as she has always hitherto done, make every cause in which she once seriously embarks become in the long run, a triumph to the national arms

The great city houses of London are in truth our arsenals, and are in themselves amongst the greatest wonders of the great Metropolis. The visitor will not find them in his Guide-book, classified along with Madame Tussaud and the Tower; neither will his eyes be arrested by their outward and visible signs as he travels gaping, through the main avenues of the City. As a general rule he will see drive down obscure lanes, thread deserted-looking courts and find them, and, if he be not accompanied by one of the initiated, will never imagine that behind a line of dull and bedly-cleaned windows, or up a flight of steps, whose only decoration is a few scattered straws, a perfect Hive of busy bees is ensconced, and an immense traffic going on, under a system of organisation as perfect that, if it could only transferred bodily to Whitehall, would set our Horse-guards, Commissariat, and Ordnance departments right in a week. London contains many establishments of this description, each employing its hundreds of hands, its hundreds of thousands of pounds capital, and acting as depôts for the textile products of the world, in which they are classified and priced, and then again distributed amongst the world's consumers. These establishments have not, as a general rule, arrived at their present dimensions suddenly, but have been of slow growth, the fruits of the labours of two or three successive generations of energetic men, who have thrown their whole lives into the task of rearing them, and, in some instances, very much curtailed their own natural longevity by their exertions. The tale is not unfrequently heard of some young Scot or English provincial arriving from the country with nothing but honesty, energy, and natural talent to recommend him, who, getting employment in a hay haberdasher's shop, marries his master's daughter, and, under his improved management, the concern shop gradually expands into the great City wholesale house. The first success attracts fresh capital, new names come into the firm, trade is extended, the house is enlarged, until at last the number of hands employed equals the staff of a public office, and the amount of trade done is reckoned annually by millions sterling

Sterne says—"If you want to paint captivity forcibly, you must take a single captive." To give the reader some idea of the extent and importance of these great City houses, we shall take one of several near to Bow Church, not because it is more remarkable for extent or the amount of its trade than many of its neighbours, but because an accident has made us more familiar with its interior economy. In the right-hand corner of Bow Ch.rchyard a very magnificent flagstaff marks the extensive premises of Messrs. Copestake, Moore, and Crampton, *consorts*, as the French would say, to the traffic in various descriptions of British lace, and the other lighter contributions to the female toilet. One would imagine that for so light a business a small establishment would be sufficient for enormous trade, but an idea of the magnitude of London commercial operations may be formed when the reader is told that to the sale of lace, sewed muslins, millinery, and baby linen, a warehouse is devoted which, gradually enlarging, has run down the whole length of the yard, at last, burst into Cheapside, and now forms, all the group of a handsome Italian front, towering three or four stories above all the neighbouring houses. Three hundred assistants of both sexes find constant employment in classifying and selling the goods, fifty-eight clerks are always kept busy recording their transactions in the ledger, and about fifty and about travellers are perpetually beating up, not the covers, but the country towns, for that custom which is the life-blood of the establishment. Nothing can be more striking than the sight which bursts upon the visitor when he passes the comparatively tranquil threshold, and finds himself in a spacious quadrangle of respectable-looking young men, hurrying to and fro, jostled by people from all parts of the country, transacting business in all imaginable varieties of dialect, or in imminent danger of being crushed by one of the immense "lifts" which are perpetually moving the goods from the bottom to the top of the house, or *vice versâ*. Everything seems to his inexperienced eye to be at high pressure, and in complete confusion; but a little more careful examination will soon convince him that the most perfect system and organisation reigns throughout, and that the smallest article cannot pass from hand to hand without being regularly accounted for. The principle of all this is like the mainspring of a watch, simple enough; it is the number of details that, like the wheels of the same useful machine, gives the appearance of complexity. To one department is allotted the receipt of the goods in bales as they come from the various factories. Having been duly entered here, they are dispatched in order to the different departments. One immense room, with numerous assistants, admits the cotton reels, one of the most homely and short but most extensively used of the materials for female finery. This article, which is made by machinery, is, we believe, an exclusively English fabric, and is sold in vast quantities by the house. Another department is devoted to the Nottingham silk lace, also made by machinery, and for the production of which Messrs. Copestake and Company maintain a large factory in Nottingham. The universal black cap, which we suppose our maid-servants have adopted out of compliment to our venerated Queen, has a department to itself; while the pillow-lace of Buckinghamshire, and the costly productions of Honiton, each give occupation to large portions of the building. The contents of two rooms we found particularly attractive. In one are devoted to the finer descriptions of cambric and sewed muslin we found that the fine arts had been laid under tasteful contributions, in the preparations of exceedingly pretty little boxes, of different shapes and sizes, handsomely gilt and decorated, and having on their lids pictures coloured in imitation of enamel, and of a very respectable artistic character. These are each filled with a dozen cambric handkerchiefs; and the theory upon which they are constructed affords an amusing illustration of the extent to which a knowledge and appreciation of human weaknesses must enter into the calculations of trade. These tempting little boxes are technically called "introduction goods;" and the shopkeeper of agreeable manners keeps them lying snug under his counter until his lady customer has completed the purchase she had come out shopping; then, [illegible] out of the pocket-book, out come the pretty little boxes filled with the nicest possible embroidered handkerchiefs; and the husband must be a brute indeed who objects to the unpremeditated purchase of the balance of his cheque in their purchase. The manufacture of these boxes was originally an incomplete copy of our French neighbours, but has being improved upon, and the prints of the *Tour de France* are now they are extensively made in London, quite as tasteful in appearance and much more solid in construction than the French originals. Higher up, and occupying [illegible] one large apartment, are the dominions of Flora, apparently presided over by the fairer members of the establishment. On [illegible] are devoted to the productions of English artists, and another to the French; and it would be hard to say to which must be given the palm of skill in construction or brilliancy of colour. The whole region glows like a rich parterre, and has all the fragrance of a real garden, for modern art has contrived to impart the natural colour to the carnation and others of the sweet-smelling flowers. But, step after we are now, although about four hundred years, we are transported. In the room devoted to the gorgeous camellia, the drooping fuchsia, the glowing Paxton rose, the suggestive orange flower, and all the other bright-tinted productions of the Rue St. Denis, it is supposed that Milton was busy at work, decked with evergreens of the true City brown, remarks the spectator those immortal flowers, with which—

Tick as autumnal leaves that strew the brooks
In Vallambrosa—

the "blind old man" has for all future ages decked the gardens of English poetic literature. However, we are describing a City house in the lace trade—not writing a rhapsody about Milton—so must leave the French flower-room, its famous bust, and its intelligent and obliging president, and ascend higher still to an extensive range of apartments situated in the upper atmospheric strata, and devoted to what, think you, fair and gentle reader! to baby linen! and all the other paraphernalia of that interesting period in married life when the joy of the newly-made father makes him totally reckless of all pecuniary considerations. Here are such delicious morning-gowns, such captivating convalescent-caps, such dainty nightgowns, such beautiful robes (fifteen guineas a-piece) for the young Astyanax, who is sure to be the image of his father. Here they lie piled in heaps, or ranged in rows, classed, ticketed, and numbered, nothing but material silk or muslin; but there is not one of these pretty miniature habiliments that is not destined to be the cynosure of the admiring eyes of a whole family, the herald of the best and holiest emotions the harbinger of a life for weal or woe, for fame, fortune, or perhaps misery. The great variety, immense number, and often the minute size of some of the articles, calculated for all these articles, gives the counting-house, with its twenty-eight clerks, employed in entering, crediting, and debiting, from year's end to year's end. The travellers are always on the move in town and country; and the "[illegible]" is a most important and generally well-paid class of functionaries—perpetually ransack all the markets at home and abroad for the newest patterns and the most attractive varieties of goods. On these gentlemen rests great responsibility; as to the judicious character of their purchases the prosperity of the house must be greatly indebted. On them also devolves the duty of marking the prices at which the various articles are to be sold at the retail dealers; so that, taken along with the travellers—the great distributors—these energetic and skilful men of business may be ranked as the great City house. The principals, like the landlord of an inn, are not often seen or heard of. Their pleasing duty is to provide the capital, and absorb the profits; and, as far as actual labour is concerned, they rest on the laurels they had gained in their struggle up the ladder, preferring to spend their leisure and pleasure in the selection of proper persons for the actual work. In the case of the house we have just been describing, one of the partners (Mr. Moore) most honourably and usefully devotes the comparative leisure he has earned by his earlier energy and industry to the fostering and maintaining of the Commercial Travellers' Schools—one of the most valuable and best-conducted charities of the metropolis.

The *Espana* says:—"The persons employed at the Palace complain that they have not received their salaries for February and March; but this is not surprising, since the Queen herself [illegible] Bravo's salary for the month of January."

An Antediluvian Toad. A live toad, in a torpid state, was recently dug out of a hard part of St. Kenelm's Church, Worcestershire, from fifteen feet below the surface, where he must have repposed for centuries. On being dug out, he was soon revived, and hopped off to give the worms of the nineteenth century a specimen of antediluvian shall in "snapping them up."

An Imaginary Diplomatist.—The Vienna correspondent of the *Independance* states that one of the members of the German Powers called the other day on one of the Plenipotentiaries of the Congress, and of course expected to find him deep in notes and protocols. To his surprise he found the diplomatist before a fine fire, tranquilly reading Schiller's beautiful poem of "The Bell." "I will write to my Government," exclaimed the Envoy, "that this is the manner in which the Congress makes progress."

Prince Menschikoff.—The death of Menschikoff seems to be no longer doubtful, but its cause is still a mystery. He is said to have been wounded by an English shell on the 18th of February, and to have sunk at last under the effects of the blow. According to the current statements, he was carried to Bagcheserai, and thence to Simferopol, with the view of being conveyed by easy stages to Odessa. He accordingly started from Simferopol the 8th, but became so much worse on the way, that he was obliged to remain at Perekop, where he died a few days after the matter whom he had so much influenced and so unsparingly served."—*Letter from the Crimea.*

Naturalising a Russian.—The master of the *Jessie Mitchell*, lately discharging guano in Leith Docks, from the island of Leone, relates a humorous scene which occurred under his own eye in that island. The barque *Atlantic*, seized and sold in Leith as a Russian prize, left the island of Leone on [illegible] last, [illegible] the *Jessie Mitchell*. One of the Russian crew [illegible] the ship, and concealed himself on the island; but he afterwards discovered himself to the seamen, and declared his desire to renounce his allegiance and become a British subject. How to effect the transformation was a question which puzzled the seamen, however, on the arrival of the *Jessie Mitchell*, her crew, along with the seamen on shore, met in solemn conclave, and their united wisdom determined that as water is ever emblematic of purity, and its cleansing properties have been known and appreciated in all ages and countries, it was the only medium which could effect the momentous change of converting a Russian into a true British subject. The conclave now adjourned to a small creek or basin, around the water, and the whole crew, headed by the mate themselves, about three yards apart, each with a bucket, while the poor Russian commenced walking round the margin of the creek, repeating the form of abjuration taught him by the tars, who took care, on their part, that he should receive from each a full bucket of water. This august ceremony completed, the sailors, with three hearty cheers, acknowledged him as a British subject, and admitted him, with all the honours, to their society.

An Adventure on the Sebastopol Road.—The *Journal de Bayonne* (Maine-et-Loire) relates the following act of courage performed by one of the sharpshooters of the Crimea, and related by himself in a letter to his mother:—"I must explain to you that about 100 or 120 yards from our trenches the Russians had planted a strike at which they levelled their cannon, and the shot by which they fire should reach us our works. By this means two of our guns had been dismounted, and ten or a dozen of our artillerymen killed. It was necessary at all hazards to remove this mark, and for that purpose a man was to be found who would resolve to sacrifice his life, for he would have to pass under a well-supported fire from twenty pieces of cannon. There was, however, some little chance in the man's favour, as there were some large blocks of stone lying here and there which might shelter him from the fire of artillery; but, on the other hand, he might turn into an ambuscade of a Russian advanced post and be made prisoner, or might be killed by an advanced sentinel. My Leutenant had been for twenty minutes talking with a *Chef d'Escadron*, who had asked whether among his riflemen he did not know a man who would undertake the mission which I have just mentioned to you. The Lieutenant told him he would undertake to find him a man; for I must tell you that for the last four months I have made one of the *francs tireurs* who have been so much talked of in France. The Lieutenant then came and proposed the enterprise to me, and five minutes sufficed for me to reflect on what I had to do. I thought of you, my excellent mother, and of my little sister Marie; for I did not feel at all anxious of ever seeing you again. I then jumped over the trench and went towards the town, and my heart, I can assure you, was beating strongly. I at last reached the spot, laid hold of the stake and shook it, and with much difficulty I pulled it out of the ground. The moment the point of it disappeared from the horizon a tremendous detonation was heard, and a regular shower of balls and grapshot fell round me. I ran off with the spikes of a bayonet, with my trophy on my shoulder, and I fell into the arms of my Lieutenant, who received me with the greatest enthusiasm. A report was immediately made to the General-in-Chief, and I was mentioned in the order of the day of my battalion, and of all the army, for my *sang froid* and my courage. I cannot describe to you what I felt when I found myself proclaimed for the decoration; I was wild with joy, and if God in kindness enough to preserve me in the terrible combat, I hope to show you my decoration, as I once more set by your warm fireside. *Tout a vous et pour toujours*, your son, Victor Picault."

Sir John Burgoyne.—He left the Camp to-day (March 21) and proceeded to Kermesh, where he took a passage by the mail-steamer, on his way to England. All kinds of opinions and acts have been attributed to Sir John while he was here as part-tendant the earlier operations of the [illegible] and the entire devotion and zeal which the veteran displayed in the prosecution of the works so far as he could [illegible] his manner exhibited that special energy and [illegible] difference which distinguished his [illegible] the "Great Dodge." his activity and personal energy were beyond his years. Whether he was for an immediate assault after arriving before the place—whether he originated the famous flank march to [illegible] or fallen into popular disfavour—whether he counselled delay at first, and afterwards recommended the sacrifice of the Light Division, and [illegible] grown and [illegible] his eyes unintelligently—whether he left on right hand or man unsaid—all these and other things are [illegible] no doubt, be able to state to those who have a right to assert the truth, and to do justice, be remembered that Sir John Burgoyne was in an anomalous and difficult position from the time he joined the army at Varna, when Brigadier-General Tylden was in command of the Royal Engineers, up to the moment that he was relieved from responsibility by the [illegible] Sir John Burgoyne [illegible] certainly failed to command success [illegible] We can only hope that the efforts of his successors may be more fortunate. After tree falls, so must it be." On his return to England, the Inspector-General of Fortifications will have an opportunity of vindicating himself from the charge which have been made by popular clamour against his professional character. He can, at all events, let the country know whether his friends, who have maintained that Sir John had little real power and control over the siege works, and should [illegible] responsible for the failure of the [illegible] accusation which has been made against him is that he [illegible] to throw up the tremendous works which have now so long defied our sciences and our efforts, and which, if we mistake not, he [illegible] he underrated the strength, and held out strong hopes that, after a couple of days' ammunition and bom' ardment, the place must fall. It was generally stated and believed that Sir John and we should be in Sebastopol forty-eight hours after the batteries opened fire; and never shall I forget the disappointment, almost [illegible] astonishment, of the groups of excited spectators as they returned to their tents on the evening of the 17th October from the front, where the Russian batteries were still vomiting forth fire and smoke; or their deeper or more painful sensations, expressed by many in emphatic phrase, when next day, and the day after, the enemy opened with redoubled energy and power. We fear we had no prophet among us. *Letter from Balaclava.*

LITERATURE.

Food and its Adulterations; comprising the Report of the Analytical Sanitary Commission of the "Lancet" for the years 1851 to 1854 inclusive. By Arthur Hill Hassall, M.D. Longman.

Take an ordinary wine-glass, half fill it with common port wine—to operate with a larger quantity in the experiment about to be proposed might be dangerous. Turn the glass thus charged upside down over a red-hot fire. A flash of flame will immediately ensue, of such magnitude as to suggest that if you had exploded rather more port wine, you would probably have set fire to the chimney. In fact, the port, so called, burns almost as if it were alcohol, simply because alcohol constitutes the greater part of it. This alcohol is not the spirit of the wine; it is spirit in the wine, most likely spirit of something other than wine, introduced into the wine to adapt it for the "British market." It is strange how almost every good thing imported into this country has to be deteriorated, in order to be "adapted to the British market." Foreign plays and operas even—ideal and sentimental food—require, it seems, to be "adapted," by mutilation and additions, to what, for goods of that description, is the "British market"—the British stage. Yet recent experiments have tended to show that this particular market desires no such adaptation, and is perfectly capable of appreciating the genuine article when presented to it. So, perhaps, the British market at large is able to exercise a sound judgment about material good things when it has the chance, and would like to have real port wine, for instance, sent to it, instead of the "adapted" beverage, so-called.

Port wine and foreign opera, however, are the luxuries of the few; and if adaptation to the British market were limited to goods of that sort, it would not much signify to the great British public. Port is adequately represented in the Legislature, port is strong in more senses than one, and can take care of itself. But tea, coffee, tobacco, snuff, vinegar, and pepper, with their purity or impurity, concern the mass of the people; and, considered as matters of popular consumption, are only too weak, both in quality and legislative influence. Unfortunately these, and all or most other descriptions of aliment and condiment, are like wise "adapted" to the British market, and thereby very much the reverse of adapted to the British stomach, and every other organ of the British body constitution connected with, and dependent on, that vital one.

The adaptation of provisions for sale rather than for consumption, is, in a word, their adulteration. The adulteration of articles of food and drink has long been a matter of uneasy interest, and of strong, though vague, misgiving. Accum's "Death in the Pot," between thirty and forty years ago, awoke attention to the subject; which has since been more or less accurately explored by Mitchell, Normandy, Chevalier, Jules Garnier, and Hassall; and has now at length derived a singularly lucid exposition from the researches, so far as they have extended—and that extent has been very large—of Dr. Hassall. The report of these inquiries fills between 600 and 700 closely printed pages of a large octavo, replete with details of the fraudulent contaminations commonly practised by the people's purveyors, at the people's expense of health and pocket.

Adulteration might be represented pictorially as a Cerberus—a monster with three heads. Under one head is compised simple "adaptation" to a real or supposed demand of the popular palate, consisting in adulterating for flavouring, pigment, or fragrant enhancement, as by making cayenne pepper with gin, or oil of vitriol with vinegar. The gin, to be sure, is generally bad gin in this case, and the vinegar bad vinegar; and the instances of adulteration, solely intended to suit the taste of the customer, are comparatively few.

"Adaptation" to the eye, by the addition of colouring matter, constitutes another head of adulteration. Pickles are dyed, confectionery is painted, with poison. Comparatively honest Italian-warehousemen put up green anchovies; downright rogues in the same line, sprats, in red mud, to invite the public vision. The deception, rather than the gratification, of sight, is, however, more generally the purpose with which commodities are tinted; the colour being used to disguise their inferiority or impurity.

Adulteration under the third head is the most extensive species of that form of rascality. It simply consists in the process of diluting and weakening a valuable with a worthless article, in order that, the latter being sold at the same price as the former, more profit may be extracted by the difference. Early allusion to this fraud will be found in the pages of Mr. Joseph Miller, who relates an anecdote, pretty well known, in reference to "watering the rum, wetting the tobacco, and sanding the brown sugar!" All these operations are so many forms of fraud, and attention, much, however, to the contaminated alone, but necessitates the perpetration, also, of one or the other, or both, of its kindred villanies. The coffee which has been adulterated with potato-flour for the increase of its weight and bulk, requires to be further adulterated with burnt sugar, or "black jack," for the restoration of its proper colour. The porter which has been lowered with water must have its taste reproduced by means of salt and worse substances.

The work of Dr. Hassall is not in any measure a compilation. The facts and conclusions contained in it are the results of strictly original investigation, of which the subjects have been veritable examples of the stock-in-trade of actual grocers, tea-dealers, tobacconists, bakers, confectioners, oilmen, butter and milk men, and other tradespeople carrying on business, honestly or dishonestly, as the case may have been—the latter in a deplorably large number of cases. Not only were these investigations original in the sense of being personal; there was originality also in their method, by which, what has long been an obstacle to practical analysis, has a definition for regress, has been surmounted.

By the help of modern chemistry, a wonderfully small fractional part of many substances contained in, or mingled with, some other substance may be discovered. The grave gives up its secret to the chemist, who detects the minutest particle of arsenic in the body of the victim long murdered. But every body who is poisoned is not poisoned by an agent so responsive as arsenic to chemical tests. Many poisons of the vegetable class soon decompose, and cannot be recomposed, or reproduced. If they contain permanent active principles the quantity of these is commonly too small to admit of any demonstration which is practically trustworthy. Much of the vegetable rubbish with which articles of food are poisoned, in a comparatively mild degree, by adulteration, is sufficiently by chemical analysis. Slow leaves among tea defy the examination of the detective chemist. He may demonstrate the tea not to contain as much of its active principle, "theine," as it ought; he may prove that its quality is bad, but he cannot show why: he cannot distinguish the fragments of the Chinese leaf by the produce of the British blackthorn. But the problem that baffles chemistry is solved by vegetable anatomy. The microscope supplies the short-comings of the crucible and the test-tube. The root, leaf, stalk, bark, flower, fruit of each plant, herb, or tree, has peculiar structure, discernible by microscopic examination in the minutest portion of each of those parts. The fragment of tea presents a different arrangement of cells, vessels, and other parts, from that exhibited by the piece of sloe leaf; and the difference is distinguished with certainty by the aid of the microscope.

All vegetable substances consist mainly of the same chemical elements—carbon, oxygen, hydrogen, and in some instances nitrogen. Most of them, so nearly alike in chemical composition as to be indistinguishable from each other, are so different in their active properties as to be, some nutritious, and others noxious, if not poisonous. Articles of food which are the same thing to the chemist, may be very different things to the consumer. Arrowroot is a form of starch; but wheat-flour contains another form of starch, and potato flour contains a third, to which may be added tapioca-flour, and the flours of all other farinaceous substances. [illegible] that chemistry has to say of these various articles is that they are starch: which is the superior article it saveth not, it only knows that [illegible] all intend nutritionately blue by iodine. But the microscope [illegible] that the starches consist of granules having distinct shape and structure; in each variety of starch; so that, not only has the arrowroot granule a different appearance from the potato starch and other starch granules, but the granules of arrowroot differ also markedly among themselves in that particular. Thus, in a sample of mixed starches sold as arrowroot we are enabled, by the microscope, to discover the several starch granules of which the stuff is compounded.

To Dr. Hassall, as chief analyst of the Lancet Commission on Adulteration of Food, the credit is due of having first brought microscopic aid to bear on the investigation of the subject in [illegible]. What with chemistry, and what with microscopy, he has done [illegible] to disclose to us some of those adulterations. Perhaps we [illegible] fancied we were drinking tea. The supposition was only partially correct. We were imbibing an infusion of some tea (and a very little), but of a much greater quantity of sycamore, horse-chestnut, and plum-leaves; of stuff called "tea-tea" (a Chinese sophistication, consisting of ten-dust and ordinary dust); of catechu and paddy-husk, mingled with exhausted tea-leaves "faced," or polished, with black-lead, and coloured with indigo, Prussian-blue, turmeric, Chinese-yellow, China-clay or kaolin, and soapstone or French chalk. Under the name of ground coffee we were taking a compound of chicory, roasted wheat and rye, burnt beans, acorns, and mangel-wurzel. Induced by the recommendation of a Chancellor of the Exchequer to try chicory as a

substitute for coffee, we have in fact made a more extensive trial of divers parched cereals—carrot, sawdust, mahogany ditto, ferruginous earths, and burnt sugar. With good arrowroot, in small proportion, we have eaten sago, potato, and tapioca starches, and bad arrowroot in large proportion. Dutch, French, and Sicilian fish, and British sprats, smeared with bole Armenian and Venetian red, have entered our stomachs under the denomination of anchovies. Our bread has contained a considerable proportion of mashed potatoes, water, and alum: the latter of the two last-named ingredients having been added thereto to the end of incorporating therewith as much as possible of the former. On that bread we have spread butter, through which, also, much water was diffused by the medium of salt. Our cooks, imagining that they were flavouring our food with cinnamon and other spices merely, qualified them much more with cassia, flour of various kinds, ground rice, linseed-meal, mustard husks, deal sawdust and salt; and our devilled biscuits have been seasoned with a mixture truly diabolical, of Cayenne pepper, with ground rice, mustard-husks, deal sawdust, salt, brickdust, and red lead. Commingled with the cocoa and chocolate wherein we have trusted, we have partaken of several sorts of meal, of sugar, chocory, and of red ochre and of other ores of iron. We have smoked water, sugar, and treacle with our tobacco. Gin-and-water, made pungent with capsicum, has been passed off on us for neat gin; diluted stout has commended itself to us as entire by the smack of cocculus indicus, sweet flag, quassia, capsicum, coriander, ginger, and grains of paradise. We have treated children to marmalade made chiefly of apples or turnip, and—if we have ever been thoughtless enough to give them coloured confectionery, we have administered to them cochineal, lake, red lead, vermilion, Indian red, gamboge, lemon and orange (tinted) yellow, chrome yellow, indigo, Prussian blue, sewerp blue, artificial ultramarine, carbonate and arsenite of copper, umber, sienna, Vandyke brown, white lead, and plaster of Paris; these poisons being somewhat mitigated by dilution with a little flour and sugar.

The list of substances of which we may have unwittingly partaken, or occasioned others to partake, might be swelled to an extent, for some id—, whereof we must refer the reader to Dr. Hassall's book. There are, however, some adulterations, besides those above specified, so delicious as to demand express notice. One of the worst of these is the contamination of pickles and preserves with copper, which is very general and frequently so intense as to render the articles quite poisonous. Green preserves and pickles are purposely impregnated with this metal in order to heighten their colour, though in jams and similar confections it is often derived from the copper vessels in which they are improperly prepared. Another most dangerous falsification is that of snuff; several sorts of which, in addition to chromate and bichromate of potash, chrome yellow, umber, and red and yellow ochre, are largely imbued with oxide and chromate of lead. This substance—and the same may be said of copper, and other pernicious metals—is what is called a cumulative poison—that is, when taken for a length of time continually in small quantities, it is apt to accumulate in the system till that is saturated with it, when its presence and agency are manifested by the most fearful results. Thus, lead produces paralysis, especially of the wrists, and some striking cases are related by Dr. Hassall in which this affection was clearly traceable to the use of snuff which had been poisoned with salts of that mineral.

A remarkable and very flagrant adulteration is that of mustard, which is nearly always fraudulently mixed with wheat flour to an immense amount, and coloured with turmeric, insomuch that such an article as genuine mustard is hardly to be obtained.

It may be some relief to those whom the foregoing citations of the *Lancet* Commission's disclosures may have made rather uncomfortable, to state that some dark suspicions generally current of the horrors of adulteration have not been verified. Bread has not been found to contain ground bones; nor have calves' brains been detected in milk, for the [illegible] shocked to learn that brown sugar [illegible] and flour—contains, among divers impurities, the spurules of minute fungi, or toadstools, and other minute bodies of an animal nature, called *acari*—all of mouldy, alive and creeping, visible to the naked eye, and when magnified disgustingly ugly. The moral of this information is that it is advisable to use loaf or crystallised sugar exclusively, in preference to brown.

Apprehension may also in a measure be calmed by the consideration that the publication of the *Lancet* Commission Reports has tended much towards abating the evil against which they were directed. Mr. Wakley, with admirable courage, decided on publishing, after due notice given, the names and addresses of those tradesmen of whom the articles submitted to analysis were purchased. The inquiry was thoroughly carried out; and really after reading the lists of "respectable parties," whose goods are noted for the most shameful adulteration, one is disposed, in walking through many a splendid street, to regard a large number of the shops on either side of it in much the same light as one might have viewed the smaller establishments on the right and left of Field lane, while Field lane was. Now, however, that attention has been drawn to the practices of the finer, but not less dishonest, shopkeepers, they will feel, and must feel, that the eye of the public is upon them, and be restrained in their dealings by the like salutary apprehension to that which controls their humbler brethren in the "low neighbourhoods," when conscious of being under the eye of the policeman. Moreover, the Volume of Reports, being profusely illustrated with woodcuts, of the microscopical details, and containing simple and clear chemical directions also, will, doubtless, tend to popularise the analysis of food, and thus to check or limit its adulteration. A microscope, which will fully answer the purpose, can be obtained for six guineas, and with this help, and that sum Dr. Hassall's book, almost any paterfamilias might be his own analyst. It might be worth the while of many a struggling philosopher to set up the business of performing analyses of commodities on moderate terms at any rate microscopical examinations might be cheaply made.

The Volume of Reports is dedicated to Sir Benjamin Hall, and certainly its argument loudly demands the attention of the Board of Health. To purify the atmosphere and clear the water are not the only sanitary requisites, greatly needed though they are; and how great the need of the genuine liquid is, and what a diluted sewage London is supplied with instead, are points strikingly illustrated in the pages before us. But to prevent the vitiation of food and manufactured drinks is equally necessary for the health of the public. This may be injured by the adulteration of nutritive substances to an extent that few perhaps imagine. The effects of "cumulative poisons" have been already adverted to: how do we know that diseases called malignant—such as cancer—may not be referable to some such causes? Those horrible diseases indicate the presence of *some* poison in the system. How did it get there? By any more likely conveyance than that of corrupted food? The maladies in question principally affect the poor, who are also the chief victims of adulteration; and prevention from the effects of poverty is a poor man's question.

Legislative interference to put this evil down should clearly exact severe penalties against it. Adulteration in its mildest form is more than equivalent to theft or forgery; it is not only stealth of money, but also plunder of the stomach. Nothing but fear of the cruelty of the laws will deter the rascals capable of adulterating provisions from picking a pocket or committing burglary. The admixture of noxious substances with human food corresponds precisely to robbery, aggravated by assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm. It deserves exactly the same sentence, and ought to be punishable with a long term of imprisonment and hard labour, or of penal servitude.

Dr Hassall's book contains a rich fund of information respecting its subject matter, conveyed in plain, straightforward terms. Those who want to understand the tricks of trade which it exposes, and wish to render themselves even with the dishonest tradesmen, should read this volume. There are few such whom its perusal will not induce to possess themselves of it as a book of reference.

THE PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF THE SEA. By M. F. MAURY, LL.D., Lieut. U.S. Navy. Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

Our readers are aware that nearly three-fourths of the earth's surface are covered by the sea, and that this apparent obstacle to man's progress, at the borders of which he shrank back terrified, is made by art to be to his foot what the atmosphere is to the wing of the bird, and yet indeed bears to him the new sails or steams quickly, and with ease, whithersoever he will. The great highway of nations, as the sea has in consequence been appropriately called, has its own laws, which he must study to use it advantageously for his purposes. But though it has long been known that the winds which blow over it follow (in some districts at least) a settled and ordained course, and that its currents can impede or can be turned to the profit of the voyager, only lately have these great phenomena been considered worthy of scientific speculation. Numerous theories have indeed been propounded of the trade winds and other regular winds, and of currents, such as those which continually set into the Mediterranean and into the Red Sea; and now and then a reflecting philosopher has suggested some doubt to be cleared up by ship-captains. But till lately the men who cross and recross the ocean, and pass their lives on its unrecording waves, no more thought of studying its phenomena than mail-coachmen thought of studying astronomy or natural history as they passed on the roads. Apart from the general impulse to gather and diffuse information, now making itself sensibly felt throughout the civilised world, Lieut. Maury, the author of the book before us, has the great merit of giving this new direction to the thoughts and labours of the increasing maritime population of every country. From his connection with the astronomical department of the United States Government he was led to notice the great want of correct knowledge of the winds and currents which assist or impede navigation, and he suggested forms by which every navigator could record his experience of winds and currents on a uniform system. He invented a language that should speak to the eye and at once tell the direction and the force of the wind at different times of the year and strength of the current—should describe the course of the navigator, and the time of the year at which observations were made. He induced old sea-captains to rummage up their long-forgotten logs: and, from materials gathered from them, he constructed a series of wind and current charts, which gave to the young ship-master at a glance a great deal of the experience of many clever or celebrated voyagers. The more information he got (many instances occurring of zig-zag routes being followed across the ocean for which no person could assign a reason except that chance had taken the first navigators in the track—and ship following another and leaving prints of the ocean wholly unvisited) the more was he convinced of the necessity of gathering further information. His first charts, meagre and unsatisfactory, showed some few spots of information gathered, like the sea off Sandy hook or the Gulf of Dover, and all the facts of cognizing them tolerably well known; but they also showed vast blank spaces, of which nothing whatever was known. To encourage ship-masters to make the required observations, to every one who gave a copy of the wind and current charts, and the sailing directions founded on the experience already acquired, who would undertake to send an abstract of his log to the National Observatory at Washington. The consequence was remarkable and encouraging. "In a little while there were more than a thousand navigators engaged, day and night, and in all parts of the ocean, in making and recording observations according to a uniform plan." Several Governments lent their aid to promote Lieut. Maury's plan, and the thousand navigators are likely soon to be increased to many thousand. Great Britain alone has upwards of 30,000 vessels: the United States have almost as many; all other nations together have scarcely as many as either of them, but supposing they have—and the number of ships is increasing very fast in almost every maritime nation—there may soon be ninety thousand observers scattered over every part of the ocean, and in the course of their duty recording observations of winds and currents, and all the physical geography of the ocean in a uniform manner. Such a vast army of natural philosophers was never before enlisted in one cause, and the great success they are likely to achieve appears the more certain from the fact that the progress of knowledge has been at all times and all places great in proportion to the number of observers. The great ocean, the poet's emblem of eternity; the winds that blow over part of it; the ceaseless agitations of its waters, carrying seeds, and plants, and animalcule from pole to pole—it being no more at rest in any one part than the blood is ever stagnant in the animal body—will all, in the course of time, be recorded, and the ocean and the atmosphere will be as well known as any part of the land. To prepare the way for these continuous inquiries, to point out the matters most worthy of being noted, and to assist this great army of observers, is one of the objects of Lieut. Maury's present work.

Another great object is to show how much has already been done to generalise the knowledge at present collected, and to point out some curious conclusions deduced from it. To show how much art may be promoted by unpretending and apparently trivial observations, we should like to quote largely from Mr. Maury's eloquent pages. This pleasure, however, is forbidden by our space, and we must limit ourselves to reminding our readers that many of the rapid voyages now continually made between Australia and England, between the United States and Australia, and between Canton and London, are in part due to ships being better constructed, but in greater part to the recorded observations of winds and currents, which have enabled the captains more advantageously to shape their course. Our readers are aware that the race betwixt the *Marco Polo* and other ships over a course of many thousand miles, has been so equal as to make it doubtful which ship was the victor. Similar sorts of races have taken place between New York to San Francisco, and the ships, following the counsel of the wind and current charts, have arrived within a few hours of each other. Voyages are not only shortened many days or weeks by the knowledge gathered by Lieut. Maury and his army of observers, they are reduced to a certainty, and are performed with almost as much regularity as journeys by land.

Say so much only of the utility of the pursuit, let us now say a word about what is considered at present as merely curious. Poets have dreamed of "a thousand fearful wrecks dead men's skulls—great anchors—heaps of pearls, and vast treasures that lie scattered at the bottom of the ocean;" but, while wrecks and drowned treasures, even after the ocean has been traversed for centuries, can only be, in the more frequented and dangerous parts, as grains of sand to the Alps, the bottom of the ocean presents to the sounding lead of the navigator many magnificent specimens of knowledge far surpassing all that ever glowed in the fancy of Shakspeare. It brings to our notice the "very ribs of the solid earth." Running between Cape Race, in Newfoundland, and Cape Clear, in Ireland, the existence of such a great rib has been ascertained. It is now called the telegraphic plateau; and a company purposes to make it the site of a submarine telegraph across the Atlantic. By dint of a very ingenious machine for sounding, invented by Lieutenant Brooke, of the United States Navy, some of the materials of which this plateau is formed have been brought to hand from a depth of more than two miles, and subjected to microscopic examination. Professor Bailey, of West Point, has ascertained that all these materials consist of microscopic shells; not a particle of sand or gravel exists in them. They are made up of perfect little calcareous shells (*Foraminifera*), and a small number of siliceous shells (*Diatomaceæ*). The ocean teems with life, and wherever there is life there is death—or, as Lieut. Maury says, "Where there is a nursery, hard by there will be found a graveyard: but it never occurred to us before to consider the surface of the sea as one wide nursery, its every ripple a cradle, and its bottom one vast burial place. "Animalcule, that make the surface of the sea sparkle and glow with life," "are secreting from its surface solid matter," and filling up the cavities below. The little marine insects which build up great coral walls are the architects of the new lands in the Pacific. Many marl beds, and many parts of the surface of the earth, are composed of the remains of similar small creatures to those which have been brought up from two miles below the surface of the sea. On Lieut. Maury's showing, which we cannot follow in detail, this life and death in the ocean is the means of preserving the purity of its waters. The rivers are always conveying into it matter, and the microscopic organisms of the deep-sea lead secrete it, and become themselves the basis of the solid earth. Lieut. Maury supposes, too, that the birth-place of these organisms may be the Gulf of Mexico, or some receptacle in the tropics, by the Lieut. Maury, the currents of the ocean, to a very distant burial place. The examination of the currents of the ocean, and of the deposits at its bottom, as revealed by the sounding ball and rod, carries us, like the researches of the geologist, but more directly and immediately, back to the formation of the world. We see, but with the mind's eye, creation at work. If this be only a curious, it is, at least, a splendid, fancy, and well worth studying, in all its details, in Lieut. Maury's eloquent pages.

One other leading point of great speculative importance must be referred to. The author speaks of the great heart of the ocean beating time to the seasons, and palpitating to the winds and rain, to the clouds and the sunshine; and continually invests the earth with the attributes of life. The great processes of secretion, assimilation, abrasion, and decay, that are for ever going on in all animals, are represented by analogous processes in the ocean which circulates like blood, and in the atmosphere, which is part of the grand and exquisite machinery—clouds, and day and night, all contributing to the growth, the deposits, the abrasions, and the assimilation, and preserving in harmony the exquisite adaptation of the ocean. Comparative anatomists have traced one homologous form through all animal life, from the smallest creature up to the highest, and it would be less astonishing than wonderful were there any analogy to be traced in the formation of the earth. There are larger animals on the surface than man, but less approximative to perfection. After man the next greatest perceptible objects in creation as wholes, are those with which we are in the earth, the planets, the sun, and the stars. Deducing from the ceaseless flow of the ocean and the atmosphere an analogy between the earth's existence and animal life—an analogy between the earth and all other stellar bodies being apparent—the conviction arises that one homologous form pervades all creation. These, however, are some of the merely curious and speculative results of inquiries which began in the lowest practical utility, which keep steadily in view the promotion of safe and speedy navigation, and which continually lead to practical suggestions of the highest value. By them several distant voyages have already been shortened from a sixth to a third, and though we may never "tame the winds," which will still "blow as they list," when we know thoroughly their habitual course and direction, and their successive changes in all quarters, by means of Lieutenant Maury's army of observers, we shall be able to profit by them as we profit by the tides in our rivers and on our shores to attain our ends. Of some books the publication comes, after a lapse of time, to be considered an event in the history of mankind. Bacon's "Advancement of Learning," Newton's "Principia," "Locke on the Understanding," Smith's "Wealth of Nations," Malthus' "Law of Population," are of this description; and we err greatly if Lieut. Maury's book will not hereafter be classed with them, and if he be not ranked with the great men who have taken the lead in extending and improving knowledge and art. His book displays, in a remarkable degree, like the "Advancement of Learning," and the "Natural History" of Buffon, profound research and a magnificent imagination.

THE LATE MRS. ARTHUR NICHOLS.

(THE AUTHORESS OF "JANE EYRE.")

THIS lady, formerly Miss Brontë, but better known under her *nom de plume* of Currer Bell, whose lamented death we have recently had occasion to notice, was the daughter of the Rev. Patrick Brontë, of Haworth, in Yorkshire, and wife of the Rev. Arthur Bell Nichols, of the same place. She commenced her literary career, in 1846, with a collection of poems, written in conjunction with her two sisters, which made its appearance under the title of "Poems by Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell." The volume produced some sensation at the time; less, perhaps, from any extraordinary power or originality, than from some thought or display, than from the peculiarity of the names affixed to what purported to be the general patronymic, and which, as the public quickly discovered, were designed to cover rather than to reveal the identity of the respective authors. The circumstances connected with this singular fraud now deeply interesting literary posterity, will be given most fully in the words of that member of the little band who has so recently passed from amongst us:—"About five years ago," writes Miss Brontë in 1850, "my two sisters and myself, after a somewhat prolonged period of separation found ourselves reunited, and at home. Resident in a remote district, where education had made little progress, and where, consequently, there was no inducement to social intercourse beyond our own domestic circle, we were thrown upon dependence on ourselves and each other, on books and study, for the enjoyments and occupations of life. The highest stimulus, as well as the liveliest pleasure, we had known from childhood upwards lay in attempts at literary composition. We had very early cherished the dream of becoming authors; this dream, never relinquished, even when distance divided and absorbing tasks occupied us, now suddenly acquired strength and consistency. It took the character of a resolve. We agreed to arrange a small selection of our poems, and, if possible, get them printed. Aware of our perfect privacy, we resolved our own names under those of Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell; the ambiguous choice being dictated by a sort of conscientious scruple at assuming Christian names appropriately masculine, while we did not like to declare ourselves women, because—without at that time suspecting that our mode of writing and thinking was not what is called "feminine" we had a vague impression that authoresses are liable to be looked on with prejudice; we had noted how critics sometimes use for their chastisement the weapon of personality, and for their reward a flattery which is not true praise. The bringing out of our little book was hard work. As was to be expected, neither we nor our poems were at all wanted; but for this we had been prepared at the outset. Though inexperienced ourselves, we had read the experience of others. Through many obstacles a way was at last made, and the book was printed. It did not obtain much favourable criticism, and a school town; but all success failed to crush us: the mere effort to succeed had been a wonderful zest to existence, it must be pursued. We each, therefore, set to work on a prose tale." The elder sister, Emily, produced "Wuthering Heights;" the younger sister, Anne, "Agnes Grey;" and Miss Brontë herself, a prose narrative in one volume, which, after efforts of her sisters, did not at that period succeed in meeting with a publisher. But, though it failed of actual success, it was declined (for business reasons) by the last firm to whom it was offered so courteously, its merits and demerits were discussed in a spirit so enlightened, that this very refusal cheered the author more, perhaps, than a less cordial acceptance would have done. The novel of "Jane Eyre," at which she had been patiently working while her other story had been plodding its weary way round London, was, in the course of a few weeks, finished. "Friendly and skilful hands took it in," says the writer, and, in the Autumn of 1847, within a month of its conclusion, this remarkable novel issued from the press. The public, at once recognising the power and genius of the writer, gave the work such a reception as must have proved a compensation for previous disappointments, and was calculated to save and strengthen her for renewed exertion in that path of literature which she had marked out for the exercise of her talents.

But the triumph of success on her own part, was damped by the lessmarked recognition granted to the works of her sister-coadjutors; shadow mingled with the sunshine. Neither authoress, however, allowed herself to sink for a moment under want of encouragement. Energy nerved the one, and endurance upheld the other: they were both prepared to try again. But a great change approached their quiet home. "Affliction came," wrote the bereaved sister, "in that shape which to anticipate is dread—to look back on, grief. In the very heat and burthen of the day the labourers failed over their work." Two months of hope and fear passed painfully by; and the day came at last when the beloved of many hearts was to pass away. The young author of "Wuthering Heights" finished her mental labours with her first book, and died of consumption, in December, 1848. Scarcely had the grass grown green over the grave of Emily, when the second sister, Anne, was called upon to follow. She lingered for scarcely half a year; and, in the month of flowers found her own resting-place in the quiet churchyard which they had all trodden so often together. In concluding a touching tribute to the memory of her sisters, Miss Brontë observes, "I can say no more than I have said for strangers they were nothing; for superficial observers less than nothing; but for those who had known them all their lives in the intimacy of close relationship, they were genuine, good, and truly great." Years have passed away since these words were penned, and now the sister of loving band of sisters are again reunited; the void is destined to be with the living. Married only last July to Mr. Arthur Nichols, the Curate of her native place, Charlotte, the you ngest of the three sisters, and the last of a family of six, died during the night of Saturday, the 31st of March, at her father's house, Haworth Vicarage, which had continued her home during the short period of her married life. Like those who had preceded her, she passed quickly away, but leaving a name which will survive, if we mistake not, in the memories of more than the present generation.

There are few instances to be found in the literary history of the time in which an unknown writer has taken firmer hold at once on the public mind than the authoress of "Jane Eyre." The startling individuality of her portraits, drawn in the full force of the energetic pen of the simplest character, fixes them on the mind, and seems "to dare you to forget." Successions of scenes, rather than of story, are dashed off under a fit of inspiration: until the reader, awed as it were by the presence of this great mental power, drawn breath and confess it must be truth, though perhaps not to be recognised among the phases of any life he may have known, or scenes he may have witnessed.

In the year 1849 appeared Miss Brontë's second novel, "Shirley." The story is laid in the dales of Yorkshire, the features of which are represented with the minute knowledge of a close observer. The incidents of the tale are associated with a picture of life in the outlying manufacturing districts at the close of the last war, when want and misery on the part of the governed and lack of knowledge and sympathy on the part of the rulers threatened to put out the light that science was bringing to bear on the arts of life; when labour and machinery were declared to be sworn antagonists, by the strong-handed multitude. Many stirring events of the war of classes cross the history of two young girls, the Allegro and Penseroso of the tale—one, a brilliant heiress, frank and fascinating, whose nature has expanded beneath the sunshine of prosperity, wins hearts at pleasure, but pines for the one which is long in coming; the other, silent and meditative, nurtured under the shadow of an unobservant and preoccupied father, reveals her sweetness, like the perfume of a flower, to all but himself. The sober flirtations of grave men are amusingly represented, and the strong feeling for earnest overpowering fascination to the detail of events of the simplest character. Currer Bell may almost be said to have founded a school of fiction in which the "flower is shown in the bud," and the child literally made "father to the man;" in which some young spirit, starved of sympathy, turns inward and revenges the injuries of the few, in scornful disrust of the many; isolated and self-concentred, till the well-spring of love, frozen, but not dried up, bursts its bonds under the influence of the first warm sunshine of affection, and pours itself with the reckless prodigality of a miser suddenly turned spendthrift.

COPYRIGHT OF SERMONS.—In a postscript to a Fast-day sermon just published by the Rev. Mr. Bunney, that gentleman complains of the unauthorised publication of his lectures and sermons. These are pirated, collected, and made into a book, and he has had the mortification of seeing a new volume announced as by him, with a title he never authorised nor heard of, in a way he could not control, and with a view to profits in which he had no share

EMBARKATION OF THE ADMIRAL.

From Portsmouth many a renowned sailor has gone on board his ship to lead the fleets of England to battle, to blockade the harbours of the enemy, or to keep watch and ward along the coasts of our island. The greatest amongst all

"the noble names that light
Our history's gilded leaf,"

Nelson, stepped on board the boat which conveyed him to his flag-ship, the *Victory*, from Southsea Beach;—at least such is the tradition of Portsmouth. Many hundreds of people crowded to the spot to see him off and bid him God speed: The present Commander of the Baltic Fleet took leave of the land in a manner quite consistent with his modest antecedents. He walked down his boat from the Dockyard-stairs in the manner depicted by our Artist, who has given permanence to a scene which otherwise was not likely to make much sensation. But there is more significance in this incident than meets the eye at the first glance. What would we give now for a literal transcript of that fact on Southsea Beach, in 1805, when the greatest sailor of all time went forth to fight his last and greatest battle?

OUR ARSENALS IN CHEAPSIDE.

The quiet unimaginative inhabitants of "Cheap" will most probably raise their eyelids in mild wonder on being told that they have been all along (without knowing it) living amongst the arsenals in which are accumulated the most potent of our projectiles for striking the fiercest of the warriors of the Czar; but the diligent searchers after first causes must come at last to the conclusion, that, however great may be the bravery of our soldiers and sailors, however large the range of our Lancaster guns, however formidable the entrenchments we may be (this moment throwing up around Sebastopol) it is in such places as Cheap de, and the surrounding streets, that the wealth is earned, the nerves of war created, which gives England a position in the political world to which neither the extent of her surface, nor the numbers of her population, would otherwise entitle her. It is in such places as these that we acquire the wealth which enables her to repair the first blunders of a campaign, to build successive fleets, to subsidise needy allies—in short, to do as she has always hitherto done, make every cause in which she once seriously embarks become in the long run a triumph to the [illegible].

The great city houses of London are in truth our arsenals, and are in themselves amongst the greatest wonders of the great Metropolis. The visitor will find them in his Guide-book, unchanged along with Madame Tussaud and the Tower; neither will his eyes be arrested by their outward and visible signs as he travels gaping through the man avenues of the City. No: as a general rule he must dive down obscure lanes, or thread deserted-looking streets to find them, and, if he be not accompanied by one of the initiated, will never imagine that behind a line of dim and begcleaned windows, or up a flight of steps, whose only decoration is a few scattered straws, a perfect hive of busy bees is concealed, and an immense traffic going on, under a system of organisation so perfect that, if it could only be transferred bodily to Whitehall, would set our House-guards, Commissariat, and Ordnance departments right in a week. London contains many establishments of this description, each employing its hundreds of hands, its hundreds of thousands of pounds capital, and acting as depôts for the textile products of the world, in which they are classified and priced, and then again distributed amongst the world's consumers. These establishments have not, as a general rule, arrived at their present dimensions suddenly, but have been of slow growth, the fruits of the labours of two or three successive generations of energetic men, who have thrown their whole lives into the task of rearing them, and, in some instances, very much curtailed their own natural longevity by their exertions. The tale is not unfrequently heard of some young Scot or English provincial arriving from the country with nothing but honesty, energy, and natural talent to recommend him, who, getting employment in a busy haberdasher's shop, marries his master's daughter, and, under his improved management, the retail shop gradually expands into the great City wholesale house. The first success attracts fresh capital, new names come into the firm, trade is extended, the house is enlarged, until at last the number of hands employed equals the staff of a public office, and the amount of trade is a reduced annuity by millions sterling [illegible]—"If you want to paint captivity forcibly, you must take a single picture." To give the reader some idea of the extent and importance of these great City houses, we shall take one situated close to Bow Church, not because it is more remarkable for extent or the amount of its trade than many of its neighbours, but because an accident has made us more familiar with its interior economy. In the right-hand corner of Bow Churchyard a very unpretending doorway leads you into the extensive premises of Messrs. Copestake, Moore, and Co., [illegible] which, if we thought it would say, to the traffic in various descriptions of British lace, and the other highly contributions to the female toilet. One would imagine that for so light a business a small establishment would be sufficient for its accommodation. Some idea of the magnitude of London commercial operations may be formed when the reader is told that to the sale of lace, sewed muslins, millinery, and baby linen, a warehouse is devoted which, gradually enlarging, has run down the whole length of the street, and at last, burst into Cheapside, where it now forms a handsome Italian front, towering three or four stories above all the neighbouring houses. Three hundred and sixteen of both sexes find constant employment in classifying and selling the goods, fifty-eight clerks are always kept busy recording their transactions in the ledgers, and in order that the stock of silk travellers are perpetually beating up, not the covers, but the country towns, for that custom which is the life-blood of the establishment. Nothing can be more striking than the sight which bursts upon the visitor when he passes the comparatively tranquil threshold, and finds himself in a commodious counting-house, respectable-looking young men, hurrying to and fro, jostled by people from all parts of the country, transacting business in all imaginable varieties of dialect, or in imminent danger of being crushed by one of the immense "lifts" which are perpetually moving the goods from the bottom to the top of the house, or *vice versâ*. Everything seems to his inexperienced eye to be at high pressure, and in complete confusion; but a little more careful examination will soon convince him that the most perfect system and organisation reigns throughout, and that the smallest article cannot pass from hand to hand without being regularly accounted for. The principle of all this is like the mainspring of a watch, simple enough; it is the number of details that, like the wheels of the same useful machine, give the apparent complexity. To one department is allotted the receipt of the goods in bales as they come from the various factories. Having been duly entered here, they are dispatched in order to the different departments. One immense room, with numerous assistants, sorts the cotton sets, one of the most hardy and cheap but most extensively used of the materials for female finery. This article, which is made by [illegible], we believe, an exclusively English fabric, and is sold in vast quantities by the house. Another department is devoted to the Nottingham silk lace, made by machinery, and for the production of which Messrs. Copestake and Company maintain a large factory in Nottingham. The universal black cap, which we suppose our maid-servants have adopted out of compliment to our venerated judges, has a department to itself; while the pillowlace of Buckinghamshire, and the costly productions of Honiton, each give occupation to large portions of the building. The contents of two rooms we found particularly attractive. In one devoted to the sewed descriptions of muslins and sewed muslin we found that the fine arts had been lend under tasteful contributions, in the preparations of exceedingly pretty little boxes, of different shapes and sizes, handsomely gilt and decorated, and having on their lids pictures coloured, in imitation of enamel, and of a very respectable artistic character. These are each filled with a dozen cambric handkerchiefs; and the theory upon which they are constructed affords an amusing illustration of the extent to which a knowledge and appreciation of human weaknesses must enter into the calculations of trade. These tempting little boxes are technically called "introduction goods:" and the shopkeeper of agreeable manners keeps them lying snug under his counter until his lady customer has completed the purchases for which she had come out shopping; then, if any loose inappropriated change appears glistening through the silk purse, or against the left side of the poor *damoiselle*, out come the pretty little boxes filled with the nicest possible embroidered handkerchiefs; and the husband must be a brute indeed who objects to the unprompted statement of the belief of his lady choice in their purchase. The manufacture of these boxes was originally a monopoly of one Parisian establishment, the use being to contain the gifts of the *Jour de l'An*, but now they are extensively made in London, quite as tasteful in appearance and much more solid in construction than the French original, and occupying more room than one large apartment, are the dominions of Flora, appropriately presided over by the fairer members of the establishment. One room is devoted to the production of English hats, and another to the French, and it would be hard to say which most be given the palm of skillfulness in construction or brilliancy of colour. The whole region glows like a rich parterre, and has all the appearance of a real garden, for modern art has contrived to impart the exact colour to the carnation and others of the sweet smelling flowers. But, strange to say, we are now, although at about four oaks of stairs, on a [illegible]. In the room devoted to the gorgeous camelia, the drooping iris, the glowing [illegible], the suggestive orange flower, and all the other bright-tinted productions of the Rue St. Denis, it is supposed that Milton was born, and [illegible] best, decked with evergreens of the true City brown, remains the spot [illegible] those immortal flowers, with which.

"[illegible] of celestial leaves that strew the brooks
In Vallambrosa—

the "blind old man" has for all future ages decked the garden of English poetic literature. However, we are describing a City house in the lace trade—not writing a rhapsody about Milton—so must leave the French flower-room, its famous bust, and its intelligent and obliging president, and ascend higher still to an extensive range of apartments situated in the upper atmospheric strata, and devoted to what, thank you, fair and gentle reader!—to baby linen! and all the other paraphernalia of that interesting period in married life when the joy of the newly-made father make him totally reckless of all pecuniary considerations. Here are such delicious morning-gowns, such captivating convalescent-caps, such delicious infant-robes, such baptismal robes (only fifteen guineas a piece) for the young Astyanax, who is sure to be the image of his father. Here they lie piled in heaps, or ranged in rows, classed, ticketed, and numbered, nothing but material silk or muslin; but there is not one of these petty mineralogy that is not destined to be the pressure of the admiring eyes of a whole family, the herald of the best and holiest emotions—the harbinger of a life for weal or woe, for fame, fortune, or perhaps misery. The great variety, immense number, and often the minute size of some of the best valuable of all these articles keep the counting-house, with its fifty-eight clerks, employed in entering, crediting, and debiting, from year's end to year's end. The travellers are always on the move in town and country; and the "buyers"—another most important and generally well-paid class of functionaries—perpetually visit all the markets at home and abroad for the newest patterns and the most attractive varieties of goods. On these gentlemen rests great responsibility; as to the judicious character of their purchases the prosperity of the house must be greatly indebted. On them also devolves the duty of marking the prices at which the various articles are to be sold at the retail dealers; so that, taken along with the travellers—the great distributors—these energetic and skilful collectors may be ranked as the main pillars of the house. The profits [illegible]. Like the backbone of an ass, are not often seen or heard of. Their business duty is to provide the capital, and absorb the profits; and, as far as actual labour is concerned, they rest on the laurels they had gained in their struggle up the ladder, and reap the fruits of their experience in the selection of proper persons for the actual work. In the case of the house we have just been describing, one of the partners (Mr. Moore) most honourably and usefully devotes the comparative leisure he has earned by his earlier energy and industry to the formation and maintaining of the Commercial Travellers' Schools—one of the most valuable and best-conducted charities of the metropolis.

The *Espana* says:—"The persons employed at the Palace complain that they have not received their salaries for February and March; but this is not surprising, seeing that the Queen herself has not yet been paid her allowance for the month of January."

An Antediluvian Toad. A toad, in a torpid state, was recently dug out of "hard pan" at Rutland, Vermont, some fifteen feet below the surface, where he must have lived for centuries. On being laid on the grass he soon revived, and hopes to give the worms of the nineteenth century a specimen of antediluvian skill in "snapping them up."

An Imaginative Diplomatist.—The Vienna correspondent of the *Independance* states that one of the members of the German Powers, died the other day on one of the Plenipotentiaries of the Congress, and of course expected to find him deep in notes and protocols. To his surprise he found the gentleman before a fine fire, tranquilly reading Schiller's beautiful poem of "The Bell." "I will write to my Government," exclaimed the Envoy, "that this is the manner in which the Congress makes progress."

Prince Menschikoff.—The death of Menschikoff seems to be [illegible] doubtful, but the manner is still a mystery. He is said to have been wounded by an English shell on the 18th of February, and to have sunk at last under the effects of the blow. According to the current statements, he was carried to Bagchcserai, and thence to Simferopol, with the view of being transported by easy stages to Odessa. He accordingly started from Simferopol on the 8th, but became so much worse on the way, that he was obliged to remain at Perekop, where he died a few days after the master who he had so much influenced and so unscrupulously served." *Letter from the Crimea.*

Naturalising a Russian. The master of the *Jessie Mitchell*, lately discharging guano in Leith Docks, from the island of Leone, relates a humorous scene which occurred under his own eye in that island. The vessel, *Atlantic*, seized and sold in Leith as a Russian prize, left the island of Leone on a day or two prior to the arrival of the *Jessie Mitchell*. One of the Russian crew had deserted from the *Atlantic*, and concealed himself on the island; but he afterwards discovered himself to the seamen, and declared his desire to renounce his allegiance and become a British subject. How to effect the transformation was a question which puzzled Jack greatly; however, and the arrival of the *Jessie Mitchell*, her crew, along with the seamen on shore, met in solemn conclave, and their united wisdom determined that as water is a very emblematic of all purity, and its efficacy in properties have been known and appreciated in all civilised countries, it was the only medium which could effect the momentous change, and bring a Russian into a true British subject. The conclave next resolved to a small extent, the ceremony of "the white cockade." The seamen formed themselves, about three yards apart, each with a bucket, while the poor Russian commenced walking round the margin of the circle, repeating the form of abjuration taught him by the tars, who took care, in their part, that he should receive from each a full bucket of water. The august ceremony completed, the sailors, will, three hearty cheers, acknowledged him as a British subject, and admitted him, with all the honours, to their society.

An Avenging of Secure Shots.—The *Journal de Bayonne* (Maine-et-Loire) relates the following act of courage performed by one of the sharpshooters of the Crimea, and related by himself in a letter to his mother:—"I must explain to you that at about 100 or 120 yards from our trenches the Russians had erected a stake at which they regularly fired their cannon in order that the shot by falling there should ricochet on our works. By this means two of our guns had been dismounted, and ten or a dozen of our artillerymen killed. It was necessary at all hazards to remove this marked, and for that purpose a man was to be found who would resolve to sacrifice his life, for he would have to pass under a well-supported fire from twenty pieces of cannon. There was, however, some little chance in the man's favour, for there were some large blocks of stone lying here and there which might shelter him from the fire of the artillery; but, on the other hand, he might fall into an ambuscade of a Russian advanced post and be made prisoner, or might be killed by an advanced sentinel. My Lieutenant had been for twenty minutes talking with a *Chef d'Escadron*, who had asked whether among his riflemen he did not know a man who would undertake the perilous task. I have his assurance, I tell you. The Lieutenant told him he would undertake to find him a man; [illegible] and proposed the enterprise to me, and five minutes sufficed for me to [illegible] what I had to do. I thought of you, my excellent mother, and of my little sister Marietta; for I did not feel at all sure of ever seeing you again. I then jumped over the trench and went towards the town, and my heart, I can assure you, was beating strongly. I at last reached the spot, laid hold of the stake and shook it, and was immediately fired at by a shot from the fortress. The moment the point of it disappeared from the horizon a tremendous detonation was heard, and a regular shower of balls and grape-shot fell round me. I fared off with the rapidity of a hare, with my trophy on my shoulder, and I fell into the arms of my Lieutenant, who received me with the greatest enthusiasm. A report was immediately made to the General-in-Chief, and I was received in the order of the day, and I was made the pride of all the army, for my *sang froid* and my courage. I cannot describe to you what I felt when I found myself proclaimed for the decoration; I was wild with joy and if God is kind enough to preserve me in the terrible mêlée, I hope to show you my decoration, as I once more sit by your warm fireside. *Tout à vous et pour toujours*, you son, Victor Picault."

Sir John Burgoyne.—He left the Camp to-day (March 21) and proceeded to Kamesch, where he took a passage by the mail-steamer, on his way to England. All kinds of opinions and acts have been attributed to Sir John will he was here a peri, tending the earlier operations of the siege, but no one has ever denied the zeal of the gallant veteran, which the veteran General displayed in the prosecution of the works so far as he could control them. If his manner exhibited that stoical apathy and hid fierceness which distinguish the few remaining disciples of "the Great Duke," his activity and personal energy were beyond his years. Whether he was for an immediate assault after we arrived before the place—whether he originated the famous flank march to Balaclava, which has now fallen into popular disfavour—whether he counselled delay at Eupatoria, or strenuously commended the bayonet—whether he allowed the enemy and fences to grow up under his eyes in matters, rightly—whether he left the right flank in the lurch—whether he did all these things or not, he will, no doubt, be able to state to those who have a right to ascertain the truth, but it must, in justice, be remembered that Sir John Burgoyne was an anomalous and difficult position from the time he joined the army at Varna, when Brigadier-General Tylden was in command of the Royal Engineers, up to the moment that he was relieved from responsibility by the recent arrival of Sir H. Jones. Sir John, last certainly failed to command success, however much he may have done to long for it. We can only hope that the officers of his successor may be more fortunate [illegible] the tree falls, so must it lie." On his return to England, the Inspector-Ge[illegible] of Fortifications will have an opportunity of vindicating himself from the charges which have been made by his enemies against his professional character. He can, at all events, let the country know whether his friends, who have maintained that Sir John had little real power and control over the field works, and should therefore have no responsibility, were right or wrong. The most serious accusation which has been made against him is that he permitted the enemy to throw up the tremendous works which have now so long defied our science and artillery, and that he did not prevent them, and that he underrated their strength, and held out strong hopes that, after a couple of days' reconnaissance and bombardment, the place must fall. It was generally stated and believed that Sir John and we should be in Sebastopol forty-eight hours after our batteries opened fire; and never shall I forget the disappointment, almost akin to astonishment, of the groups of excited spectators as they returned to their tents on the evening of the 17th October from the front, where the Russian batteries were still vomiting forth fire and smoke; or their deeper or more painful sensations, expressed by many an emphatic phrase, when next day, and the day after, the enemy one and every time evinced energy and power. We felt we had no prophet among us.—*Letter from Balaclava.*

LITERATURE.

Food and its Adulterations; comprising the Report of the Analytical Sanitary Commission of the "Lancet" for the years 1851 to 1854 inclusive. By Arthur Hill Hassall, M.D. Longman.

Take an ordinary wine-glass, half fill it with common port wine—to operate with a larger quantity in the experiment about to be proposed might be dangerous. Turn the glass thus charged upside down over a red-hot fire. A flash of flame will immediately ensue, of such magnitude as to assure that if you had exploded rather round, you would probably have set fire to the chimney. In fact, the pot, so called, burns almost as if it were alcohol, simply because alcohol constitutes the greater part of it. This alcohol is not the spirit of the wine: it is spirit in the wine, most likely spirit of something other than wine, introduced into the wine to adapt it for the "British market." It is strange how almost every good thing imported into this country has to be deteriorated, in order to be "adapted to the British market." Foreign plays and operas even—ideal art, one would fancy—require, it seems, to be "adapted" with mutilations and additions, to what, for goods of that description, is the "British market"—the British stage. Yet recent experiments have tended to show that this particular market desires no such adaptation, and is perfectly capable of appreciating the genuine article when presented to it. So, perhaps, the British market at large is able to exercise a sound judgment about material good things when it has the chance, and would like to have real port wine, for instance, sent to it, instead of the "adapted" beverage, if possible.

Port wine and foreign operas, however, are the luxuries of the few; and if adaptation to the British market were limited to goods of that sort, it would not [illegible] the general British public. Port is adequately represented in Dr. Hassall's pages [illegible] and can take care of itself. But [illegible] tea, coffee, and pepper, with their purity or impurity, concern the [illegible] and, considered as matters of popular consumption, [illegible] both in quality and legislative influence. Unfortunately these, and all the most other descriptions of aliment and condiment, are likewise "adapted" to the British market, and thereby very much the reverse of adapted to the British stomach, and every other organ of the British bodily constitution connected with digestion, and upon that vital one.

The adaptation of provisions for sale rather than for consumption, is, in a word, their adulteration. The adulteration of articles of food and drink has long been a matter of uneasy interest, and of strong, though vague, misgiving. Accums's "Treatise on the Art of Culinary Poisons" forty years ago, awoke attention to the subject; which has since been more or less accurately explored by Mitchell, Normandy, Chevalier, Jules Gunther, and Hassall; and has now at length derived a singularly lucid exposition from the researches, so far as they extended and their extent has been very large of Dr. Hassall. The report of these inquiries fills between 600 and 700 closely-printed pages of a large octavo, replete with details of the fraudulent contaminations commonly practised by the people's purveyors, at the people's expense of health and pocket.

Adulteration might be represented pictorially as a Cerberus—a monster with three heads. Under one head is comprised simple "adaptation" to a real or supposed demand of the popular palate, consisting in the admixture of flavouring, pigment, or fragrant substances, as by mixing Cayenne pepper with gin, or oil of vitriol with vinegar. The gin, to be sure, is generally bad gin in this case, and the vinegar bad vinegar; and the instances of adulteration, solely intended to suit the taste of the customer, are comparatively few.

"Adaptation" to the eye, by the addition of colouring matter, constitutes another head of adulteration. Pickles are dyed, confectionery is painted, with poison. Comparatively honest Italian warehousemen put up genuine anchovies; downright rogues in the same line, spread, in the red mud, to invite the public vision. The deception, rather than the gratification, of sight, is, however, more generally the purpose with which commodities are tinted; the colour being used to disguise their inferiority or impurity.

Adulteration under the third head is the most extensive species of that form of rascality. It simply consists in the process of diluting and weakening a valuable with a worthless article, in order that, the latter being sold at the same price as the former, the purchaser may be defrauded out of the difference. Early allusion to this fraud will be found in the pages of Mr. Joseph Miller, who relates an anecdote, pretty well known, in reference to "watering the rum, wetting the tobacco, and sanding the brown sugar." All these operations are examples of this variety of adulteration, which, however, is seldom committed alone, but necessitates the perpetration, also, of one or the other, or both, of its kindred villanies. The coffee which has been adulterated with potato-flour for the increase of its weight and bulk, requires to be furbished up with burnt sugar, or black jack, for the restoration of its appearance. The porter which has been lowered with water must have its taste reproduced by means of salt and worse substances.

[illegible] Dr. Hassall is not in any measure a compilation. The [illegible] contained in it are the results of strictly original investigation, of which the subjects have been veritable examples of the stock-in-trade of actual grocers, tea-dealers, tobacconists, bakers, confectioners, oilmen, butter and milk men, and the undeniable carrying on business, partly or dishonestly, as the case may have been—the latter in a deplorably large number of cases. Not only were these investigations original in the sense of being personal; there was originality also in their method, by which, what has long been an obstacle to practical analysis, and a formidable one, has been quite surmounted.

By the help of modern chemistry, a wonderfully small fractional part of many substances contained in, or mingled with, some other substance may be discovered. The grave gives up its secret to the chemist, who detects the minutest particle of arsenic in the body of the victim long murdered. But everybody who is poisoned is not poisoned by an agent so responsive as arsenic to chemical tests. Most poisons of the vegetable class soon decompose, and cannot be recomposed, or reproduced. If they contain permanent active principles the quantity of these is commonly too small to admit of any demonstration which is practically trustworthy. Much of the vegetable rubbish with which adulterants of food are poisoned, is so constituted that it escapes the detection by chemical science. Sloe-leaves among tea defy the examination of the detective chemist. He may demonstrate the tea not to contain as much of its active principle, "theine," as it ought; he may prove that its quality is bad, but he cannot show why; he cannot elicit from the fragments of the Chinese leaf the produce of the British blackthorn. But the problem that baffles chemistry is solved by vegetable anatomy. The microscope supplies the short-comings of the crucible and the test-tube. The root, leaf, stalk, bark, flower, fruit, and seed, of a tree, has its peculiar structure, discernible by microscopical examination in the minutest portion of each of those parts. The fragment of tea presents a different arrangement of cells, vessels, and other parts, from that exhibited by the piece of sloe-leaf; and the difference is distinguished with certainty, if the aid of the microscope.

All vegetable substances consist mainly of the same chemical elements—carbon, oxygen, hydrogen, and in some instances nitrogen. Many of them, so nearly alike in chemical composition as to be indistinguishable from each other, are so different in their active properties as to be, some nutritious, and others noxious, if not poisonous. Articles of food which are the same thing to the chemist, may be very different things to the consumer. Arrowroot is a form of starch, but arrowroot contains another form of starch, and potato-flour contains a third, to which may be added sago and tapioca-flour, and the flours of all other farinaceous substances. [illegible] to say of these various articles is that they are starchs; which is the superior article it sayeth not, it only knows that they are all tinged indiscriminately blue by iodine. But the microscope shows that the starches consist of granules having distinct shape and structure in each variety of starch; so that, not only has the arrowroot granule a different appearance from the potato-starch and other starch granules, but the granules of different samples of arrowroot differ also markedly among themselves in that particular. Thus, in a sample of mixed starches sold as arrowroot we are enabled, by the microscope, to [illegible] granules of which the stuff is compounded.

In Dr. Hassall, as chief analyst to the Sanitary Commission on the Adulteration of Food, the credit is due of having first brought microscopical aid of chemical analysis, for the investigation of the subject in hand. What with chemistry, and what with microscopy, he has done much to dissuse us of some delusions and hallucinations. Perhaps we flattered ourselves that we were drinking tea. The supposition was only partially correct. We were imbibing an infusion of some tea (and a very little), but of a much greater quantity of sycamore, horse-chestnut, and plum-leaves; of sediment tinted "blue" by iodine. But the micro-[illegible] of tea dust and ordinary dust); of catechu and paddy husk, mingled with exhausted tea-leaves "faced," or polished, with black-lead, and coloured with indigo, Prussian-blue, turmeric, Chinese-yellow, China-clay or kaolin, and soapstone or French chalk. Under the name of ground coffee we were using a compound of chicory, roasted wheat and rye, burnt beans, acorns, and mangel-wurzel. Induced by the recommendation of a Chancellor of the Exchequer to try chicory as a

substitute for coffee, we have in fact made a more extensive trial of divers parched cereals—carrot, sawdust, mahogany ditto, ferruginous earths, and burnt sugar. With good arrowroot, in small proportion, we have eaten sago, potato, and tapioca starches, and bad arrowroot in large proportion. Dutch, French, and Sicilian fish, and British sprats, smeared with bole Armenian and Venetian red, have entered our stomachs under the denomination of anchovies. Our bread has contained a considerable proportion of mashed potatoes, water, and alum: the latter of the two last-named ingredients having been added thereto to the end of incorporating therewith as much as possible of the former. On that bread we have spread butter, through which, also, much water was diffused by the medium of salt. Our cocks, imagining that they were flavouring our food with cinnamon and other spices merely, qualified them much more with cassia, flour of various kinds, ground rice, linseed-meal, mustard husks, deal sawdust and salt; and our devilled biscuits have been seasoned with a mixture truly diabolical, of Cayenne pepper, with ground rice, mustard husks, deal sawdust, salt, brickdust, and red lead. Commingled with the cocoa and chocolate wherein we have trusted, we have partaken of several sorts of meal, of sugar, chicory, and of red ochre and of other ores of iron. We have smoked water, sugar, and treacle with our tobacco. Gin-and-water, made pungent with capsicum, has been passed off on us for neat gin; diluted stout has commended itself to us as entire by the smack of cocculus indicus, sweet flag, quassia, capsicum, coriander, ginger, and grains of paradise. We have treated children to mixtures made chiefly of apples or turnip, and if we have ever been thoughtless enough to give them coloured confectionery, we have administered to them cochineal, lake, red lead, vermilion, Indian red, gamboge, lemon and orange (tinted) yellow, chrome yellow, indigo, Prussian blue, Antwerp blue, artificial ultramarine, carbonate and arsenite of copper, umber, sienna, Vandyke brown, white lead, and plaster of Paris; these poisons being somewhat mitigated by dilution with a little flour and sugar.

The list of adulterations of which we may have unwittingly partaken, or occasioned others to partake, might be swelled to an extent, for some idea whereof we must refer the reader to Dr. Hassall's book. There are, however, some adulterations, besides those above specified, so deleterious of a demand express notice. One of the worst of these is the contamination of pickles and preserves with copper, which is very general, and frequently so intense as to render the articles quite poisonous. Green preserves and pickles are purposely impregnated with this metal in order to heighten their colour, though in jams and similar confections it is often derived from the copper vessels in which they are improperly prepared. Another most dangerous falsification is that of snuff; several sorts of which, in addition to chromate and bichromate of potash, chrome yellow, umber, red and yellow ochre, are largely imbued with oxide and chloride of lead. This substance—and the same may be said of copper, and other pernicious metals—is what is called a cumulative poison—that is, when taken for a length of time continually in small quantities, it is apt to accumulate in the system till that is saturated, when its presence and agency are manifested by the most fearful results. Thus, lead produces paralysis, especially of the wrists, and some striking cases are related by Dr. Hassall in which this affection was clearly traceable to the use of snuff which had been poisoned with salts of that metal.

A remarkable and very flagrant adulteration is that of mustard, which is nearly always fraudulently mixed with wheat flour to an immense amount, and colored with turmeric, inasmuch that such an article as genuine mustard is hardly to be obtained.

It may be some relief to those whom the foregoing citations of the *Lancet* Commission's disclosures may have made rather uncomfortable, to state that some dark suspicions generally current of the horrors of adulteration have not been verified. Bread has not been found to contain ground bones; nor have calves' brains been detected in milk, for the sophistication of which recourse has in the main been restricted to the cow with the true tail." Economical housekeepers, however, will be shocked to learn that brown sugar—besides being falsified with starch and flour—contains, among divers impurities, the spurules of minute fungi, or toadstools, and other minute bodies of an animal nature, called *acari*—all, or nearly, alive and creeping, visible to the naked eye, and which must be disgustingly ugly. The moral of this information is that it is advisable to use loaf or crystallised sugar exclusively, in preference to brown.

Apprehension may also in a measure be calmed by the consideration that the publication of the *Lancet* Commission Reports has done much towards abating the evil against which they were directed. Mr. Wakley, with admirable courage, decided on publishing, after due notice given, the names and addresses of those tradesmen of whom the articles submitted to analysis were purchased. This bold step was thoroughly carried out; and really after reading the lists of "respectable parties," whose goods are noted for the most shameful adulteration, one is disposed, in walking through many a splendid street, to regard a large number of the shops on either side of it in much the same light as one might have viewed the smaller establishments on the right and left of Field-lane, while Field-lane was. Now, however, that attention has been drawn to the practices of the finer, but not less dishonest, shopkeepers, they will be more shamed than ever, and the public are upon them, and be restrained in their dealings by the like salutary apprehension to that which controls their humbler brethren in the "low neighbourhoods," when conscious of being under the eye of the policeman. Moreover, the Volume of Reports, being profusely illustrated with woodcuts, of the microscopical details, and containing ample and clear chemical directions also, will, doubtless, tend to popularise the analysis of food, and thus to check or limit its adulteration. A microscope, which will fully answer the purpose, may be purchased for about the same price as a good gun. Dr. Hassall's book, almost any paterfamilias might be his own analyst. It might be worth the while of many a struggling philosopher to set up the business of performing analyses of commodities on moderate terms; many rate microscopical examinations might be cheaply made.

The Volume of Reports is dedicated to Sir Benjamin Hall, and certainly its argument loudly demands the attention of the Board of Health. To purify the atmosphere and clear the water are not the only sanitary requisites, greatly though they are; and how great the need of the genuine liquid is, and what a diluted sewage London is supplied with instead, are points strikingly illustrated in the pages before us. But to prevent the vitiation of food and manufactured drinks is equally necessary for the health of the public. This may be injured by the adulteration of nutritive substances to an extent that few perhaps imagine. The effects of "cumulative poisons" have been already adverted to. how do we know that diseases called malignant—such as cancer—may not be referable to some such causes? Those horrible diseases indicate the presence of *some* poison in the system. How did it get there? By any more likely conveyance than that of corrupted food? The maladies in question principally afflict the poor, who are also the chief victims of adulteration; and protection therefrom is the duty of the Legislature and of the State.

Legislative interference to put this evil down should clearly exact severer penalties against it. Adulteration in its mildest form is more than equivalent to theft or forgery; it is not only stealth of money, but also plunder of the stomach. Nothing but fear of the crank or the halter deters the rascals capable of adulterating provisions from picking a pocket or committing burglary. The admixture of noxious substances with human food corresponds precisely to robbery, aggravated by assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm. It deserves exactly the same sentence, and ought to be punishable with a long term of imprisonment and hard labour, or of penal servitude.

Dr. Hassall's book contains a rich fund of information respecting its subject matter, conveyed in plain, straightforward terms. Those who want to understand the tricks of trade which it exposes, and wish to render themselves even with the dishonest tradesmen, should read this volume. There are few such whom its perusal will not induce to possess themselves of it as a book of reference.

THE PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF THE SEA. By M. F. MAURY, LL.D., Lieut U.S. Navy. Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

Our readers are aware that nearly three-fourths of the earth's surface are covered by the sea, and that this apparent obstacle to man's progress, at the borders of which he shrank back terrified, is made by art to be as a foot what the atmosphere is to the wing of the bird. On its yielding bosom he now sails or steams quickly, and with ease, whithersoever he will. The great highway of nations, as the sea has in consequence been appropriately called, has its own laws, which he must study to use advantageously to his purposes. But though it has long been known that the winds which blow over it follow (in some districts at least) a settled and ordained course, and that its currents can impede or can be turned to the profit of the mariner, only lately have these great phenomena been made by art to be of worthy of scientific observation. Numerous theories have indeed been propounded of the trade winds and other regular winds, and of currents, such as those which continually set into the Mediterranean and into the Red Sea; and now and then a reflecting philosopher has suggested some doubt to be cleared up by ship-captains. But till lately the men who cross and recross the ocean, and pass their lives on its unrecording waves, no more thought of studying its phenomena than mail-coachmen thought of studying astronomy or natural history as they passed on the roads. Apart from the general impulse to gather and diffuse information, now making itself sensibly felt throughout the civilised world, Lieut. Maury, the author of the book before us, has the great merit of giving this new direction to the thoughts and labours of the increasing maritime population of every country. From his connection with the astronomical department of the United States Government he was led to notice the great want of correct knowledge of the winds and currents which assist or impede navigation, and he suggested certain forms by which every navigator could record his experience of winds and currents on a uniform system. He invented a language that should speak to the eye and at once tell the direction and the force of the wind at different places—the set and strength of the current—should describe the course of the navigator, and the time of the year at which observations were made. He induced old sea-captains to rummage up their long forgotten logs; and, from materials gathered from them, he constructed a series of wind and current charts, which gave to the young ship-master at a glance a great deal of the experience of many clever or celebrated voyagers. The more information he got (many instances occurring of zig-zag routes being followed across the ocean for which no person could assign a reason except that chance had taken the first navigators in that track—and by following another and leaving other parts of the ocean wholly unvisited) the more was he convinced of the necessity of gathering further information. His first charts, meagre and unsatisfactory, showed some few spots continually frequented, like the sea off Sandy Hook or the Straits of Dover, and all the facts collecting them tolerably well known; but they also showed vast blank spaces, of which nothing whatever was known. To encourage ship-masters to make the required observations, to every one was given a copy of the wind and current charts, and the sailing directions founded on the experience already acquired, who would undertake to send an abstract of his log to the National Observatory at Washington. The consequence was remarkable and encouraging. "In a little while there were more than a thousand navigators engaged, day and night, and in all parts of the ocean, in making and recording observations according to a uniform plan." Several Governments lent their aid to promote Lieut. Maury's plan, and the thousand navigators are likely soon to be increased to many thousand. Great Britain alone has upwards of 20,000 vessels; the United States have almost as many; all other nations together have scarcely as many as either of them, but supposing they have—and the number of ships is increasing very fast in every maritime nation—there may soon be ninety thousand observers scattered over every part of the ocean, and in the course of their duty recording observations of winds and currents, and all the physical geography of the ocean in a uniform manner. Such a vast army of natural philosophers was never before enlisted in one cause; and the great success they are likely to achieve appears the more certain from the fact that the progress of knowledge has been at all times and all places great in proportion to the number of observers. The great ocean, the poet's emblem of eternity; the winds that blow over part of it; the ceaseless agitations of its waters, carrying seeds, and plants, and animalcule from pole to pole—it being no more at rest in any one part than the blood is ever stagnant in the animal body—will all, in the course of time, be recorded, and the ocean and the atmosphere will be as well known as any part of the land. To prepare the way for these continuous inquiries, to point out the matters most worthy of being noted, and to assist this great army of observers, is one of the objects of Lieut. Maury's present work.

Another great object is to show how much has already been done to generalise the knowledge at present collected, and to point out some curious conclusions deduced from it. To show how much art may be promoted by unpretending and apparently trivial observations, we should like to quote largely from Mr. Maury's eloquent pages. This pleasure, however, is forbidden by our space, and we must limit ourselves to reminding our readers that many of the rapid voyages now continually made between Australia and England, between the United States and Australia, and between Canton and London, are in part due to ships being better constructed, but in greater part to the recorded observations of winds and currents, which have enabled the captains more advantageously to shape their course. Our readers are aware that the race betwixt the *Marco Polo* and other ships over a course of many thousand miles, has been so equal as to make it doubtful which ship was the victor. Similar sorts of races have taken place from New York to San Francisco, and the ships following the counsel of the wind and current charts, have arrived within a few hours of each other. Voyages are not only shortened many days or weeks by the knowledge gathered by Lieut. Maury and his army of observers, they are rendered to a certainty safer, and are performed with almost as much punctuality as journeys by land

Saying so much only of the utility of the pursuit, let us now say a word about what is considered at present as merely curious. Poets have dreamed of "a thousand fathoms down where dead men's skulls—grand anchors—heaps of pearls, and vast treasures that lie scattered at the bottom of the ocean;" but, while wrecks and drowned treasures, even after the ocean has been traversed for centuries, can only be, in the more frequented and dangerous parts, as pieces of sand to the Alps, the bottom of the ocean presents to the sounding-lead of the navigator many magnificent specimens of knowledge far surpassing all that ever glowed in the fancy of Shakespeare. It brings to our notice the "very ribs of the solid earth." Running from Cape Race, in Newfoundland, and Cape Clear, in Ireland, the existence of such a great rib has been ascertained. It is now called the telegraphic plateau; and a company purposes to make it the site of a submarine telegraph across the Atlantic by dint of the very ingenious machine for sounding, invented by Lieutenant Brooke, of the United States Navy, some of the materials of which this plateau is formed have been brought to hand from a depth of more than two miles, and subjected to microscopic examination. Professor Bailey, of West Point, has ascertained that all these materials consist of microscopic shells; not a particle of sand or gravel exists in them. They are made up of perfect little calcareous shells (*Foraminifera*), and a small number of siliceous shells (*Diatomacea*). The ocean teems with life, and wherever there is life there is death or, as Lieut. Maury says, "Where there is a nursery, hard by there will be found a graveyard; but it never occurred to us before to consider the surface of the sea as one wide nursery, its every ripple a cradle, and its bottom one vast burial place" "Animalculæ, that make the surface of the sea sparkle and glow with life," "are secreting from its surface solid matter," and filling up the cavities below. The little marine insects which build up great coral walls are the architects of the new lands in the Pacific. Many marl beds, and many parts of the chalk, are more or less solid earth, are composed of the remains of similar small creatures to those which have been brought up from two miles below the surface of the sea. On Lieut. Maury's showing, which we cannot follow in detail, this life and death in the ocean is the means of preserving the purity of its waters. The rivers are always conveying to it solid matter, and the microscopic organisms of the deep-sea lead secrete it, and become themselves the basis of the solid earth Lieut. Maury supposes, too, that the birth-place of these organisms may be the Gulf of Mexico, or some remote region, brought by the Gulf stream, or other currents of the ocean, to a very distant burial-place. The examination of the currents of the ocean, and of the deposits at its bottom, as revealed by the sounding ball and rod, carries us, like the researches of the geologist, but more directly and immediately, back to the formation of the world. We see, too, with the mind's eye, creation at work If this be only a curious, it is, at least, a splendid, fancy, and well worth studying, in all its details, in Lieut. Maury's eloquent pages

One other leading point of great speculative importance must be referred to. The author speaks of the great heart of the ocean beating time to the seasons, and palpitating to the winds and rain, to the clouds and the sunshine; and continually invests the earth with the attributes of life The great processes of secretion, assimilation, abrasion, and decay, that are for ever going on in all animals, are represented by analogous processes, in the ocean which circulates like blood, and in the atmosphere, which is part of the grand and exquisite machinery—clouds, and day and night, all contributing to the growth, the deposits, the abrasions, and the assimilation, and preserving in harmony the exquisite adaptation of the ocean. Comparative anatomists have traced one homologous form through all animal life, from the smallest creature up to the highest, and it would be less anomalous than wonderful were the analogy to be traced in the formation of the earth. There are larger animals on the surface than man, but less approximative to perfection. After man the next greatest perceptible objects in creation as wholes, centering in motion, are the earth, the planets, the sun, and the stars Deducing from the ceaseless flow of the ocean and the atmosphere an analogy between the earth's existence and animal life—an analogy between the earth and all other stellar bodies being apparent—the conviction arises that one homologous form pervades all creation. These, however, are some of the merely curious and speculative results of inquiries which began in the lowest practical utility, which keep steadily in view the promotion of safe and speedy navigation, and which continually lead to practical suggestions of the highest value. By them several distant voyages have already been shortened from a sixth to a third, and though we may never "tame the winds," which will still "blow as they list," when we know thoroughly their habitual course and direction, and their successive changes in all quarters, by means of Lieutenant Maury's army of observers, we shall be able to profit by them as we profit by the tides in our rivers and on our shores to attain our ends. Of some books the publication comes, after a lapse of time, to be considered an event in the history of mankind. Bacon's "Advancement of Learning," Newton's "Principia," "Locke on the Understanding," Smith's "Wealth of Nations," Malthus' "Law of Population," are of this description; and we err greatly if Lieut. Maury's book will not hereafter be classed with them, and if he be not ranked with the great men who have taken the lead in extending and improving knowledge and art. His book displays, in a remarkable degree, like the "Advancement of Learning," and the "Natural History" of Buffon, profound research and a magnificent imagination.

THE LATE MRS. ARTHUR NICHOLS.

(THE AUTHORESS OF "JANE EYRE.")

THIS lady, formerly Miss Brontë, but better known under her *nom de plume* of Currer Bell, whose lamented death we have recently had occasion to notice, was the daughter of the Rev. Patrick Brontë, of Haworth, in Yorkshire, and wife of the Rev. Arthur Bell Nichols, of the same place. She commenced her literary career, in 1846, with a collection of poems, written in conjunction with her two sisters, which made its appearance under the title of "Poems by Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell." The volume produced some sensation at the time; less, perhaps, from any extraordinary power or originality that it was thought to display, than from the peculiarity of the names affixed to what purported to be the general patronyme, and which, as the public quickly discovered, were designed to cover rather than to reveal the identity of the respective authors. The circumstances connected with this singular and now deeply interesting literary partnership, will be given most fitly in the words of that member of the little band who has so recently passed from amongst us:—"About five years ago," writes Miss Brontë in 1850, "my two sisters and myself, after a somewhat prolonged period of separation found ourselves reunited, and at home. Resident in a remote district, where education had made little progress, and where, consequently, there was no inducement to social intercourse beyond our own domestic circle, we were thrown on ourselves and each other, on books and study, for the enjoyments and occupations of life. The highest stimulus, as well as the liveliest pleasure, we had known from childhood upwards lay in attempts at literary composition. We had very early cherished the dream of becoming literary partnership, which we designed, even when distance divided and absorbing tasks occupied us, now suddenly acquired strength and consistency. It took the character of a resolve. We agreed to arrange a small selection of our poems, and, if possible, get them published. Anxious to preserve publicity, we veiled our own names under those of Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell; the ambiguous choice being dictated by a sort of conscientious scruple at assuming Christian names peculiarly masculine, while we did not like to declare ourselves women, because—without at that time suspecting that our mode of writing and thinking was what is called "feminine"—we had a vague impression that authoresses are liable to be looked on with prejudice; we had noticed how critics sometimes use for their chastisement the weapon of personality, and for their reward a flattery which is not true praise. The bringing out of our little book was hard work. As was to be expected, neither we nor our poems were at all wanted; but for this we had been prepared at the outset. Though inexperienced ourselves, we had read the experience of others. Through many obstacles a way was at last made, and the book was printed. It did not obtain much favourable criticism, and as several town; but all-success failed to crush us—the mere effort to succeed had been a wonderful zest to existence; it must be pursued We each, therefore, set to work on a prose tale." The elder sister, Emily, produced "Wuthering Heights;" the younger sister, Anne, "Agnes Grey;" and Miss Brontë herself, a prose narrative in one volume, which, notwithstanding the efforts of her sisters, did not at that period succeed in meeting with a publisher. But, though it failed of actual success, it was declined (for business reasons) by the last firm to whom it was offered so courteously, its merits and demerits were discussed in a spirit so enlightened, that this very refusal cheered the author more, perhaps, than a less cordial acceptance would have done. The novel of "Jane Eyre," at which she had been patiently working while her other story had been plodding its weary way round London, was, in the course of a few weeks, finished. "Friendly and skilful hands took it off my hands," says the writer; and, in the Autumn of 1847, within a month of its conclusion, this remarkable novel issued from the press. The public, at once recognising the power and genius of the writer, gave the work such a reception as must have proved a compensation for previous disappointments, and was calculated to nerve and strengthen her for renewed exertion in that path of literature which she had marked out for the exercise of her talents

But the triumph of success on her own part, was damped by the less-marked recognition granted to the works of her sister-coajutors; a shadow mingled with the sunshine. Neither authoress, however, allowed herself to sink for a moment under want of encouragement. Energy nerved the one, and endurance upheld the other: they were both prepared to try again. But a great change approached them swiftly. "Affliction came," wrote the bereaved sister, "in that shape which to anticipate is dread—to look back on, grief. In the very head and burthen of the day the labourers failed over their work." Two months of hope and fear passed painfully by; and they came at last when the beloved of many hearts was to pass away. The young author of "Wuthering Heights" finished her mental labours with her first book, and died of consumption, in December, 1848. Scarcely had the grass grown green over the grave of Emily, when the second sister, Anne, was called upon to follow. She lingered for scarcely half a year; and, in the month of flowers found her own resting-place in the quiet churchyard which they had all trodden so often together. In concluding a touching tribute to the memory of her sisters, Miss Brontë writes, "I may sum up all by saying that for strangers they were nothing; for superficial observers less than nothing: but for those who had known them all their lives in the intimacy of close relationship, they were genuine, good, and truly great." Five years more have passed away since these words were penned, and now that little loving band of sisters are again reunited; the void is destined to be with the living. Married only last July to Mr. Arthur Nichols, the Curate of her native place, Charlotte, the sun-beam of the three sisters, and the last of a family of six, died during the night of Saturday, the 31st of March, at her father's house, Haworth Vicarage, which had continued her home during the short period of her married life. Like those who had preceded her, she passed quickly away, but leaving a name which will survive, if we mistake not, in the memories of more than the present generation

There are few instances to be found in the literary history of the time in which an unknown writer has taken firmer hold at once on the public mind than the authoress of "Jane Eyre." The startling individuality of her portraits, drawn to the life, however strange and wayward that life may be, fixes them on the mind, and seems "to dare you to forget." Successions of scenes, rather than of story, are dashed off under a fit of inspiration; until the reader, carried as it were by the presence of this great mental power, draws breath and confesses it must be truth, though perhaps not to be recognised among the phases of any life he may have known, or scenes he may have witnessed

In the year 1849 appeared Miss Brontë's second novel, "Shirley." The story is laid in Yorkshire, the features of which are described and painted with the minute knowledge of a close observer. The incidents of the tale are associated with a picture of life in the outlying manufacturing districts at the close of the last war, when want and misery on the part of the governed and lack of knowledge and sympathy on the part of the rulers threatened to put out the light that science was bringing to bear on the arts of life; when labour and machinery were declared to be sworn antagonists, by the strong-handed multitude. Many stirring events of the war of classes crowd in history of two young girls, the Allegro and Penseroso of the tale—one, a brilliant heiress, frank and fascinating, whose nature has expanded beneath the sunshine of prosperity, wins hearts at pleasure, but pines for the one with it is long in coming; the other, silent and imaginative, nurtured under the shadow of an unobservant and preoccupied father, reveals her sweetness, like the perfume of a flower, to all but himself. The sober flirtations of grave men are amusingly represented, and the strong feeling for earnest overmastering truth painted as by one who had proved and rated it at its true worth.

Miss Brontë's third and last novel, "Villette," appeared in 1853, and, unlike her preceding works, was marked by no startling incidents no romantic details. It is simply the history of life in a foreign school; but that little world is made to contain the elements of a sphere extended as humanity itself. Although not calculated, from its deficiency of story, to be as universally popular as "Jane Eyre," it met with high appreciation, as a remarkable result of that high order of genius which imparts its own powerful fascination to the detail of events of the simplest character. Currer Bell may almost be said to have founded a school of fiction in which the "flower is shown in the bud," and the child literally made "father to the man;" in which some young spirit, starved of sympathy, turns inward and revenges the injuries of the few, in scorn and distrust of the many; isolated and self-concentred, till the well-spring of love, frozen, but not dried up, bursts its bonds under the influence of the first warm sunshine of affection, and expends itself with the reckless prodigality of a miser suddenly turned spendthrift

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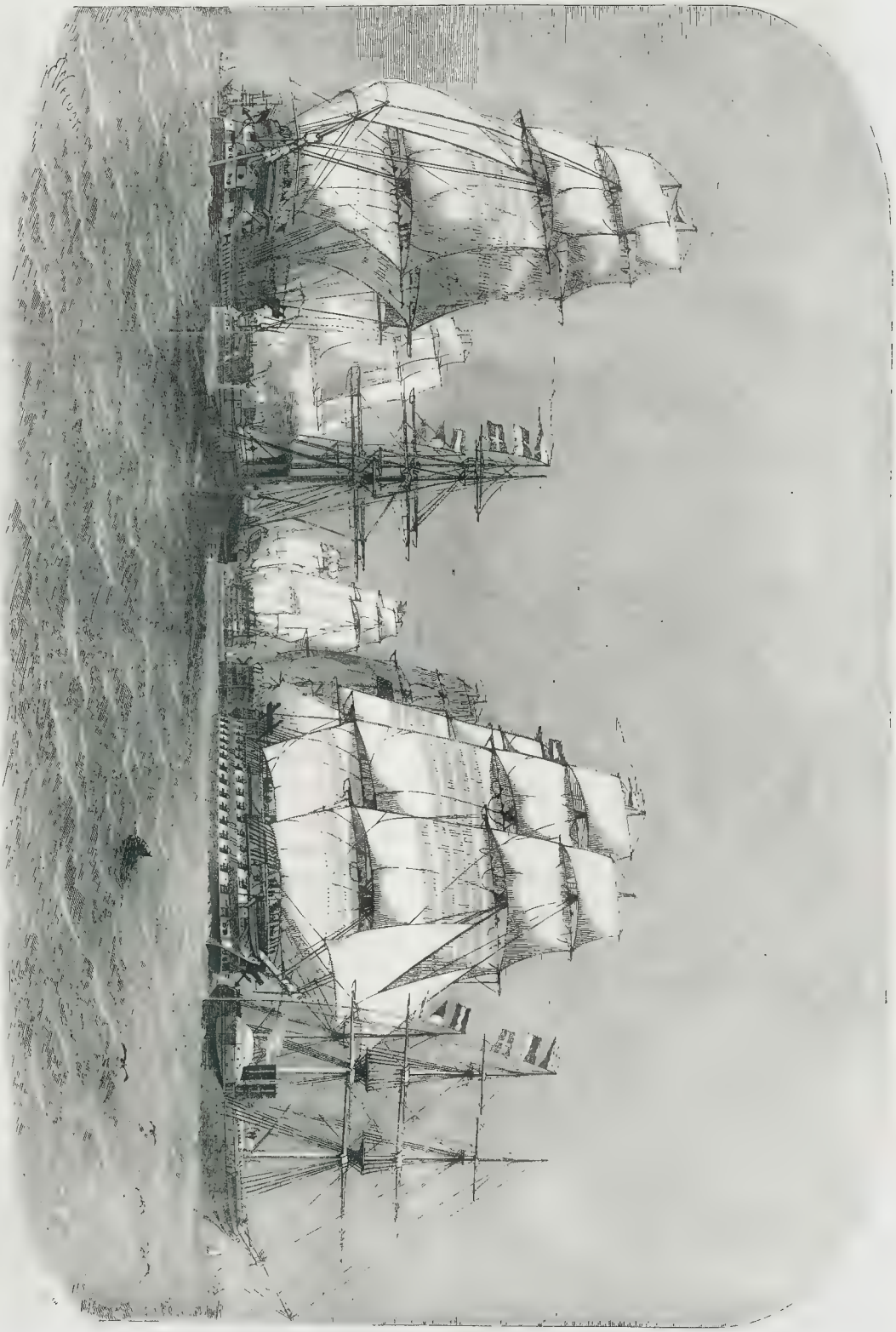
COPYRIGHT OF SERMONS. In a postscript to a Fast-day sermon just published by the Rev. Mr. Barney, that gentleman complains of the unauthorised publication of his lectures and sermons These are printed, collected, and made into a book, and he has made the mortification of seeing a new volume announced as by him, with a title he never authorised nor heard of, is a way he could not control, and with a view to profits in which he had no share

THE BALTIC FLEET AT ANCHOR AT SPITHEAD.



THE BALTIC FLEET LEAVING SPITHEAD.

DIVIDEND DAY AT THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

THE days when our great-grandmothers hoarded their small savings in old stockings, or interleaved the family Bible with bank-notes, or filled cracked teapots with golden guineas, have passed away long since: these ancient depositories of our small wealth—the stocking, the Bible, and the old cracked teapot—are quietly left to their more legitimate uses; and now-a-days we prefer in their stead the safer channels of investment—the savings' banks, or the shares of the various leviathan railway companies, or the Transfer-books of the Bank of England.

The small investors in the Government Funds are quite a class of themselves. Ordinarily timid to a fault, they can never bring themselves to part with any other mode of laying out their money. In their minds the stability of the Bank has something to do with the solidity of its masonry; and they would as soon expect each separate stone of the heavy pile to tumble about their ears as entertain a hint of the insecurity of the interest on their stock, or of the safety of the stock itself. "No, no! we're all right here! Savings-banks may be all very well: but then look at the Toddlerumbleton Savings-bank; didn't that go all to smash? and poor old Martha Munnps didn't she—and old Griddle the shoemaker, didn't he—and didn't a host of others, all lose every penny? And then Railways! Why, you remember young Spoffington—to be sure he wasn't anything very bright—but didn't he buy those shares in the Great Moony, muffincap Grand Trunk Railway; and didn't they turn out worth nothing at all? No, no, it's all safe and sound here." And so it is; much safer than the old cracked teapot, and more secure than the plethoric old stocking of yore.

Let us take a stroll to the Bank when the Dividends have become payable, and let us watch the various people who come in to receive their half-year's interest. Here they are, pouring in from east, west, north, and south. From populous Bethnal Green, as well as from opulent Whitechapel, from the trim suburbs, as well as from the more distant rural retreat. Hither they have come in every kind of conveyance, carriage, cab, fly, phaeton, omnibus, spring cart, and pony chaise. Here is the well-appointed carriage with its high-conditioned horses, and its tall well-fed footman, whose "fatted calves" excite the admiration or the envy of repentant City prodigals. There, mark the two dowagers getting out of the hired glass coach in which they have come periodically almost on the same day any time these—there's no saying how many years. Observe, too, that decrepit old man, who is lifted out of the cab: nothing on earth would induce him to grant a power of attorney to his banker, or broker, or anybody, to receive his simple dividends for him; the cost of a "power" would ruin him, besides he would be cheated, robbed, brought to beggary. No, as long as he can crawl he will come to take his own money, though it should kill him to get here

Let us go inside. See! what is the matter with the dumpy little woman, who is performing quite a pantomime with her head and hands, and a kind of *pas d'indignation* with her feet? Oh! she has asked for the dividend on an amount of stock, and the clerk has told her he has no such sum in her name. She is horrified; and is explaining to the clerk how she gave the money to her broker come Wednesday was just four months and a week; she "minds it exactly right," says Mr. Scrip, the broker, says he, "Shall we say, spinster, ma'am?" which as this lady by the side of me—who is one of the most respectablest of ladies, and has lived in the best of families—knows as I "——. But the clerk has no time to listen to what she said to Mr. Scrip, and she trudges off quite "just and furious" to give the unfortunate Mr. Scrip "a bit of her mind;" only to come back, however, all smiles and smirks, to beg "a thousand pardons" of the clerk for having asked for the dividend on a wrong amount of stock.

Observe that pale, harassed-looking woman, who is looking round her continually, as though she feared some one might be watching her. She is married; and her husband, who is a drunkard, ill-treats her. She works hard, and, unlike many women, earns very good wages at her employment, whatever that is. If her husband knew how much she gained, the worthless fellow would thence forth lead an idle life, depending on his wife's exertions for his subsistence. The poor wife, therefore, is put to all shifts to conceal her gains—not so much on her own account as for her boy, a fine little fellow, whom she is training up in all good ways. She has managed, from time to time, to save a tolerable sum, as a nest egg, in case of need, but she has invested it in her *maiden name*, adding to it as opportunity offered. Her visits to her broker, or to the Bank, therefore, are made in fear and trembling, lest her husband should have suspected and followed her, and become possessed of her secret, which would only be a preliminary step to his seizing upon her little hoard, and getting drunk till the proceeds of its sale became exhausted. This fear has always prevented her taking even her dearest friend into her confidence, and she has carefully hid away, or destroyed, every memorandum of her little investments. Perhaps she may die before her husband, and her secret may die with her; if so, her maiden name will go to swell the list of Unclaimed Dividends, and, ten to one, the stock may never be claimed

This is not a solitary case of the kind; or of investments made clandestinely for some special purpose, although some have not had the excuse of being such "pious frauds" as the above.

One day, some years ago, a fashionably-dressed young lady called at the office of a broker, bringing with her a letter of introduction from a gentleman holding a high Government appointment, who was a personal friend of the broker. The letter merely stated that Miss G wished to make a small investment in the Funds, and requested Mr. B's (the broker's) best attention on her behalf. The young lady instructed Mr. B to purchase about twenty pounds' Stock, and to add it to the amount (some two thousand pounds) already standing in her name, as Miss Emily G., of Blank-street, Blank-square; which was done accordingly, and she went away, calling the same afternoon for the stock receipt. A few days afterwards she came again to the broker, and said she had determined on buying her money out on mortgage; [illegible] Mr. B, therefore, effected the sale, and she went over to the Bank with him to [illegible] the requisite transfer of the stock. She signed the book, the broker himself handed her the money [illegible] and gold, and she was departing; when, just at the moment of her leaving the broker's office, the [illegible] who had given her the letter of introduction entered, and on [illegible] said, "Ah! Mary, how are you? How are all at home?" It was remarked by Mr. B that she trembled violently, and seemed very much excited at the appearance of her friend; which circumstance, and the name by which she had been addressed, created some suspicion in the broker's mind, who immediately on [illegible] the gentleman

"'You not call me young lady Mary?'

"'I did. What one should I call her?'

"'Her name is Emily

"'[illegible] the other, looking [illegible] the broker, "you [illegible]

"'[illegible] Lady?'

"'[illegible] pounds stock for her, and [illegible]

"'[illegible] deuce she has! Lady G. is her sister. Mary has forged her [illegible] and has thus robbed her sister of almost all she possessed. [illegible] with no hospitality; for we must get hold of this misguided girl [illegible] mischief.'

"'[illegible] reached her home she had not been there. They then sought [illegible] relatives of her relatives and friends, and inquiries were made, but not the [illegible]. They imagined she might be hiding away in some lodging, and, day by day, caused advertisements to be inserted in the [illegible] papers, carefully worded, beseeching her to return, and all should be [illegible]. This course was unsuccessful, and then they advertised for her in her actual name, offering rewards for any information respecting her. They never, however, saw her again; and, strange to say, not the slightest clue has ever been obtained of her from that hour to the present time; for it is known whether she be alive or dead, although five-and-thirty years have passed since her singular disappearance. [illegible] out of consideration for her, never claimed the stock, or declared the forgery, but put up with the loss. For the same reason, the notes which Mary had received from Mr. B., the broker, were not stopped; but in spite of her own, several questions, been made at the Bank, to ascertain whether any of them had been paid in. Not one has ever passed through the Bank, and the whole affair remains a mystery.

The annals of such an establishment are, of course, not wanting in examples of every shade and kind of roguery which the ingenuity of the Bank requires to be perpetually on guard. In some few instances brokers themselves have figured as the forgers or accustators of the fraud: and two or three, in former times, under the old Draconic laws, paid the penalty of their misdeeds at the scaffold. In 1794 a rather effeminate-looking young man called on a broker, and request him to sell a large amount of scrip (about £15,000); but was told by the broker that before he could act for him, some introduction, as is customary, was necessary. Just at that moment a Mr. Lyons was passing through the Alley (for there was then no Stock-Exchange, and all bargains in the Funds were transacted in Change-alley). The young man, on seeing him pointed him out to Mr. Martin (the broker to whom he was applying to sell the scrip), saying that Mr. Lyons knew him well. Martin accordingly went to Lyons, who spoke very highly indeed of the young man, as possessing considerable property; but expressed himself chagrined that he should apply to Martin, as he (Lyons) had always hitherto acted as the young man's broker. Martin was satisfied; the new client left the scrip with him, and Martin sold part of it the same day. The next day was a holiday, and Martin, having little to do, was looking over and arranging his papers and securities, when something peculiar in one of them struck him. He immediately went over to the Bank, and discovered that the whole was a forgery.

The effeminate *young man* was the sister of Lyons, who was the forger of the documents, and who had, of course, laid the plan of proceeding just as it had been carried out, though, fortunately, with a less successful issue than he had anticipated. He was apprehended, tried, pleaded guilty, and suffered the penalty of his crime. The sister, however, escaped.

Before that time, as early as 1762, another stockbroker, one John Rice, had suffered the extreme penalty of the law; and, subsequently, in 1811, Mr. Benjamin Walsh, a member of Parliament, and also a member of the Stock-Exchange, stood at the bar of the Old Bailey, on a charge of having defrauded his client, Sir Thomas Plomer, of a sum of £16,000. He was found guilty, but certain points reserved for the opinion of the judges, were given in his favour, and he was discharged; he was, however, expelled the House of Commons.

A singular trick is said to have been practised not very long since, but for the authenticity of the circumstances we are unable to vouch. The anecdote, however, is a curious one, whether true or not.

One day, a lady, who had just received the amount of her dividends (between two and three hundred pounds), in bank-notes, has just left the Rotunda, and was getting into her carriage in Bartholomew-lane, when a person, without a hat, and with a pen behind his ear, apparently a clerk from the Bank, rushed down the steps of the entrance on that side, and hurriedly apologizing to the lady, stated, almost out of breath, that the numbers of the notes, which she had just received, had been omitted to be taken; that the omission, he feared, would cost him his situation, unless the lady would kindly allow him immediately to remedy the error. Would she come back with him? Or, he would spare her all trouble, if she would entrust the notes to him, he would take them back to the Rotunda, copy the numbers, and return with them in two minutes. The lady unsuspectingly gave him the notes, and waited in her carriage—it is impossible to say how long. The pretended clerk never returned, and the lady going back to the Rotunda to make inquiry, the trick was, of course, discovered.

It was in 1717 that the Bank of England first undertook the business of keeping the transfer books and paying the dividends of the National Debt. The present system of transfer, however, was not adopted until 1783. In the early stages of the Debt, when a loan was contracted, tallies were given to the several contractors; and when a sale was made of any portion, the name of the buyer was endorsed on the tally, and the endorsement afterwards registered on the books kept by the Government.

The sum received by the Bank for conducting the transfer business and paying the Dividends was, previously to 1786, £582 10s. for every million of the Debt; in that year the allowance was reduced to £450 per million; in 1808 it was still further limited to £400 per million on six hundred millions, and £300 per million on all that exceeded that sum. On the renewal of the Bank Charter in 1833, this last allowance was reduced by £170,000 per annum; and the amount now received by the Bank for transacting the Government business is, we believe, £70,205 per annum.

PARIS EXHIBITION.—The precise number of exhibitors for the Paris Exhibition is not at present known; but it is [illegible] that it will be twenty 17,000 or 18,000—rather more than in London. Of them, not fewer than from 7000 to 8000 are French; from England there will be from 3000 to 3600; from the Zollverein, upwards of 2000; from Austria, 1800; Belgium, 600 to 700; Switzerland, 400 to 500; and Spain, 300 to 400.

AMERICAN MUSKETS FOR FOREIGN USE. There is great activity at present among American gun-manufacturers, induced in part by the war in Europe. The *Boston* (Vermont) *Journal* says that Robbins and Lawrence Company, of Windsor, have just completed for the navigation of the Black Sea, to the amount of some four or five hundred thousand dollars. The contract is made for a company in London, and the arm to be manufactured is the Minie rifle, with some modifications. The following will equip one company: An additional force of two or three hundred men. The *Boston Chronicle* has the following:—"Aside from the extensive contract from the English Government for gun-machinery, now nearly completed, at the Springfield Armory, Arms Company's Works at Chicopee Falls, we learn that another of our enterprising gun-manufacturers has lately received a contract from the same source for about 20,000 rifled muskets. The muskets are to be of the Minie, three grooves, and to carry a hollow conical ball, which makes them, in fact, a modification of the French Minie. A similar musket, or perhaps the old pattern altered, will be produced into our service. Thus the wonderful interests at it may, our New England gunmakers will reap considerable advantage from it, as the English Government has not the facilities at their command for the manufacture of the new arms as fast as they [illegible] they seek our.

MORTAR PRACTICE.—Considerable curiosity has been evinced in consequence of the long understood that a very large "sea-service mortar," which have been placed in a battery constructed on the left of the Woolwich Reticulat, on the [illegible], were to be opened on the town [illegible] of people visited the spot during the day, and, after waiting for a considerable time, returned disappointed. Just before sunset, however, when [illegible] and say no less than two thousand French and English officers, of all ranks, and men, were [illegible] red at the shot, two shells were thrown with great effect. The first of them [illegible] quite into the middle of the range of our guns, the consequence of the old adage, "Where there's smoke, there's fire," was terrific, sending up a large mass of dust and dirt; they probably thought one of their own mines had been sprung. As the spot had [illegible]

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THE TURKISH CAVALRY CAMP AT EUPATORIA.

We have to thank a Correspondent at Eupatoria for the accompanying Sketch of the location of the Cavalry Camp, the extreme left of the Turkish position:—"The long building on the left," says our Correspondent, "is a Russian barrack, deserted, unroofed, and the masonry partially pulled down to assist in forming the adjoining batteries. Next is shown the extreme of the breastwork, which extends round the whole town. The pickets are seen on the hills; and, to the right, the town of Eupatoria. This position is covered from the advance of the enemy by the guns of her Majesty's ships *Lynx* and *Valorous*, which vessels are within easy range of the plain, over which such advance must be made, as we proved yesterday, March 16, by a shot from our Lancaster gun, which put a body of Russians (who had made their appearance, and, no doubt, deemed themselves out of range) to the rightabout, thus showing that the much abused gun-boats are of some service in the Black Sea. The *Lynx* exhibits signs of the Russian's former attentions to her, in her fished foremast, which was badly wounded by a 32 lb, shot in the action of the 17th October, 1854, at Sebastopol."

ATTACK ON SOUJAK.

Of this spirited affair the official account has already appeared. We are now enabled, by an obliging Correspondent, to illustrate the scene, accompanied by further details:

H.M.S. ——, Soujak Bay, Tuesday evening, March 13, 1855.

I send you a short account of the most stirring day's work we have witnessed and shared in since we arrived in the Black Sea. On the *Highflyer's* joining, to relieve *Leopard*, the Captain of the latter (Giffard), who had previously examined the fortifications of this place, thought that an attack on it, in concert with the Circassians, might have very beneficial effects, and seriously annoy the enemy. We left Kertch on Sunday evening, the squadron consisting of *Leopard*, *Highflyer*, *Swallow*, *Viper* (gun-boat), and a French steamer, the *Fulton*, mounting three guns. We arrived here yesterday morning, but with bad weather brewing, and unable to attack the forts at once. We anchored in the bay; and the *Leopard*, with her heavy guns, began shelling the place, which had no guns to reach us. An advanced post and stockade which the Russians had at the head of the bay, opposite the town, was evacuated by them, under protection of a detachment, with a field-piece, sent from the town, to cover their retreat from the Circassians, who appeared in numbers in all directions, from behind every stone. We saw them skirmishing with the Russians as the latter first advanced and then retreated into the town, but too far off for us to hit them, particularly as it was blowing very fresh. The Circassians very soon took possession of this advanced post and stockade, and set fire to it, after demolishing the few buildings it contained; and it was a fine sight during the night, which was very dark. This morning about eight, there being little wind, we weighed by signal, and went in at the batteries. We attacked the weak point of the Russians, where they could bring only ten or eleven guns to bear on us, mounted on low "earth works," made apparently of sand—the most formidable kind of thing for ships to attack. We anchored at, I imagine, something less than a 1000 yards off; but it was difficult to judge, as the smoke from the first gun hung over us, and during the whole of the action we could very seldom see the enemy's guns. But they fired well, and with great rapidity: we suffered much in hulls and rigging, though apparently their heaviest guns were 24-pounders—many were only 12-pounders. It is a marvel to me that our loss in men was so small: *Leopard* had one man killed; his head knocked off by a shot; the *Highflyer* had two very slightly wounded; *Swallow*, luckily, had none hurt, though she was hulled in six places—one between wind and water, but no ball penetrated through her side—and two since picked out proved 12-pounders: her foremast was shot through, maintopmast rendered useless, and one or two ropes were carried away. *Leopard* and *Highflyer* were struck in many places—the latter principally aloft—maintopmast, maintopsailyard, mainyard, foremast, boats, lower rigging, and almost every rope in the ship shot away. We were about one hour under fire, and the damage done in so short a time was marvellous. The Frenchman was struck only once, in the hull, as he was very well placed out of the chief line of fire. The gun-boat kept at a distance, and was struck only once; but that smashed her chronometer. We came out by signal; but *Swallow* could not get away quite so quickly as her consorts, and we expected to see all the fire centred on her. The *Viper* gallantly kept in to cover her as in going out she could bring no gun to bear. But only two shots were fired at her, and it is clear that the enemy were silenced. Had there been a little more wind to clear the smoke away, and allow our fellows to point their guns better, we should have done our work in half the time. But the Circassians failed us, and made no attack, allowing themselves to be kept in check by some small guns that the Russians kept firing at them. Their force is guerilla warfare. We anchored beyond range on coming out; the Captains went out in the *Viper* for a reconnaissance, and landed to meet the Circassians, who collected in great numbers. From a high position a good survey of the town was obtained. It was completely deserted. The inhabitants and the whole garrison (about 3000) were encamped outside the town, and out of reach of fire. It was ascertained that great damage was inflicted; and the best effect of our attack will be—besides the encouragement given to the Circassians in this first active step to aid them—the preventing the Russians from withdrawing the garrisons of Soujak or Anapa to reinforce their Crimean army, as they have been doing lately.

A subsequent letter says:—

We have learnt that, the night after, the Circassians did attack the Russians, and took an officer and some men prisoners; also that we had done them (the Russians) much damage, and that they lost many killed and wounded in the action. Moreover, we have reason to believe that they are preparing to evacuate the place—retreating to Anapa, their last stronghold in Circassia. They seem to have left the forts and earthworks untouched after the action, which they never would have done had they any intention of remaining in the place.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 738.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

LETTERS ON THE WAR AND THE EASTERN QUESTION.—(No. IV.)

(From our Special Correspondent.)

VIENNA, April 14, 1855.

ANOTHER week of delays. The Third Point is the giant in the path. It blocks the way, perplexes the bold, alarms the timid, and demands that vigorous treatment which few seem disposed to give it, until favourable news from the Crimea shall reduce its dimensions. M. Drouyn De Lhuys and Ali Pacha having arrived, and the Conference being *au complet*, and having no one else to wait for, a meeting was held on Monday last. But Point Number Three had taken possession of the Council Chamber. There it stood, shapeless, indistinct, and terrible; a bugbear to Austria, a stumbling-block to Russia, a formidable difficulty to England and France; and an object of curiosity not unmixed with alarm to the Ministers of the Ottoman Porte. There it still stands; and the Conference has been adjourned to give the Russian Ministers time to receive the fresh instructions from St. Petersburg for which they have applied.

Diplomatic secrets are well kept in Vienna. Not even stock-jobbery can find them out. Indeed, if they are not to be closely kept in this city—which is the very fountain head and University of Diplomacy—the Alma Mater of intrigue and chicanery, where are they to be kept? Not to have matriculated here is to have small standing and character in the astutest and insincerest of all professions; and here, therefore, above all places

VISIT OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.—THE GRAND CORRIDOR IN WINDSOR CASTLE.—(SEE PAGE

in the world, secrecy—if it be desirable—may be most successfully imposed by the high priests of the calling upon the neophytes that minister in bureau and council-chamber. To pretend to know in what manner the Ministers of the Allied Powers expect to induce Russia to consent to the diminution of her naval preponderance in the Black Sea, is to pretend a knowledge which is strictly confined to those high personages themselves, and which they have agreed not to communicate until the Conferences are concluded. But although nothing can be positively known, much that must, *ex-necessitate*, be true can be surmised by those who make contemporary history their study. In addition to this a good deal may be ascertained by those same principles of induction which led Adams and Leverrier to the discovery of the planet Neptune long before that distant globe had been seen by the eyes of mortal man.

The bare facts of the week are few; but they are suggestive. M. Drouyn de Lhuys—besides having had interviews of some duration with the Emperor Francis Joseph and with Lord John Russell—was, soon after his arrival, closeted for two hours with the veteran Prince Metternich, the Nestor of the Austrian empire, as well as of European diplomacy. What passed between them is, of course, a secret. This much, however, it may be permitted to observe The Prince, though of great age, and too old to pay visits, is glad to receive them; is in full possession of all his mental faculties; and adheres to the anti-Russian policy of his earlier years, and which he has consistently and ably advocated since 1815. The distrust, if not hatred, of Russia which M. de Metternich feels is shared by every subject of the Austrian monarchy, having German blood in his veins, who has not been bribed by the ribands, stars, and crosses, or the gold, of the Emperor Nicholas. Upon the subject of this systematic bribery and corruption I shall have some interesting details to communicate on a future occasion. In the meantime, it is considered a favourable circumstance that M. Drouyn de Lhuys should have had this little conference of his own with so distinguished a statesman as Prince Metternich. For a longer period than any other servant of the Austrian Crown, the Prince has combated the malignant influence of Russia; and he has, in his old age, the satisfaction of knowing, that, if at one time he was wiser than his countrymen in this respect, he no longer stands alone, but has millions to agree with him.

Nor has this been the only conference bearing upon the great question which has been held during the week. Almost every day, in the inner cabinet of Count Buol, there has been an assemblage of diplomatists (at which no Russians have been present) to debate *en succursale*, but without official character, upon the knots and difficulties which, failing the sword, the cunning and facile fingers of the men of red tape are expected to untie. It is believed that Messrs. Gortschakoff and Titoff have in reality received the full instructions from St. Petersburg for which they are supposed to be waiting, but that they are glad of any opportunity or excuse for postponement; having an expectation that, by a judicious delay in approaching the Third Point, means may be found to open the door for the admission of Prussia to the Conferences. In this, however, it is likely that they will be disappointed. Although there are rumours afloat, derived from the Belgian and German papers, that the policy of Austria and Prussia will no longer be divergent, it is not probable that the King of Prussia has become so courageous as to resign the leadership of Germany to his Austrian rival. There is an old proverb which says that "you cannot make a silk purse out of a sow's ear." In like manner, no circumstances can make a safe politician or wise statesman of the King of Prussia. He flounders in a double set of difficulties, where an honest and single-minded man would get rid of one or both, by the force of his honesty and singlemindedness—things unattainable by him, whom the Czar Nicholas first called "Cliequot." Whether the rumour alluded to means that Prussia is to join the Western Powers, or that Austria is to detach herself wholly or in part from the policy of Great Britain and France, would only be of use to inquire if the rumour had any foundation.

But leaving Prussia to the dishonourable isolation in which the irresolute policy of the King has placed a nation that still claims to be a leading State in the comity of the world, it is apparently but too certain that Austria fears to take the final leap. She hates Russia—but she dreads war. She would rejoice to see the Czar humiliated and beaten by the armies and fleets of England and France. She would be delighted at the fall of Sebastopol. She would sing Te Deums and clap hands for joy at the decisive triumph of the Allies by land or by sea—in the south or in the north—in Finland or in the Chersonesus. But she dreads that an active participation in a war which might last for many years would entail upon her such financial sacrifices as would inevitably lead to bankruptcy. In one phrase, though a somewhat vulgar one, Austria "is not up to the mark." But the people of England may be assured that she will ultimately come, or be forced up to it, if no successes of our arms shall expedite the solution of the question, or if the Czar shall not yield all that is asked of him.

It is not only because the Emperor and his Ministers, backed by public opinion, sympathise with the Allies; it is not only because the well-understood interests of Austria are more intimately, perhaps, than even those of Great Britain and France, involved in the defeat and punishment of Russia, and point to them as absolutely essential to her well-being as well as to the tranquillity of all Europe that, *coute qui coute—per fas aut nefas*, with a good grace or with a bad one, with reluctance or with alacrity, with compunctious misgivings or with cheerful courage, she must cast in her lot with Civilisation and the Allies against Barbarism and the Muscovites. There is another and possibly still more cogent reason why Austria must no longer stand shilly-shallying upon the brink of the great war-current without boldly plunging into it. That reason is a financial one. Austria fears war because her finances have been sorely mismanaged; because she has not recovered from the shock of the revolutions of 1848 and 1849; and because the necessary expenses of the struggle would in all probability adjourn *sine die* those fiscal reforms and commercial developments which alone can save her from insolvency. But her neutrality, if such an abdication of her rights and her interests were possible, would lead to the same catastrophe. Without being at war with Russia, she maintains on a war footing a magnificently-appointed army of 600,000 men—of whom at least 250,000, if not 300,000, might be disbanded if peace were restored to Europe. Within the last twelvemonth she has expended a sum not far short of 300,000,000 of florins (or nearly £25,000,000 sterling) in the *matériel* of war necessary to fit this noble army for the field. Her baggage-waggons, her guns of large and small calibre, her ammunition, her warlike stores of every kind, are the admiration of her own officers and of all strangers who have studied the art of war. And is all this expenditure to be incurred for the barren office of a looker-on? By leaving France and England to fight the battles of the world, she would have to keep up the same forces as she does now and has done for two years. She could not spare a single soldier. If her armies do not fight, they will be compelled to watch; and watching, if not altogether so safe and so honourable to a great Power, will be almost equally expensive as coming to blows. In such a case, too, Austria would get nothing in return for her immense expenditure but the contempt of Europe, and of her own subjects. She would sink in the scale of nations; while the grim figure of Revolution would stalk in her footsteps, and darken her future history. That Austria would, in any circumstances, make common cause with Russia is a supposition not to be entertained for a moment. Could she be safely, honourably, and cheaply neutral, it is possible—though not at all probable—that she would decline to draw the sword. But even were her policy swayed by no higher than mercenary considerations, she could not be neutral. For the same reasons she could not be hostile to the Allies. Sooner or later she must "take the leap;" and perhaps M. Drouyn de Lhuys, in accordance with Lord John Russell, will find arguments of sufficient cogency to induce her to take it upon that famous point—"Number Three"—which now retards the Conference, and keeps all Europe in suspense and anxiety.

From the semi-conferences or consultations which have taken place during the week in Count Buol's cabinet at the Foreign-office, Lord John Russell and M. Drouyn de Lhuys seem to have kept themselves studiously aloof. Yesterday Lord John Russell and the French Minister betook themselves for a holiday excursion to Reichenau, amid the Sommering Alps, to visit the railway, which is at this point a marvel of engineering skill, and to inhale the fresh breezes and enjoy the beautiful scenery of the Schneeberg, or snowy mountain. They returned this morning at ten o'clock, no doubt like lions refreshed to attack, if need be, that still greater giant, the "Third Point." An attempt appears to be made in England by a portion of the factious press to throw disredit upon the mission of Lord John Russell, by the statement that his Lordship does not speak French. This statement is untrue. His Lordship, as is well known to his own circle, and as it ought to be known in England, is at no loss in this respect. The only member of the Conferences who does not possess the necessary accomplishment of that language is Arif Effendi, the Turkish Ambassador.

The Conference did not meet to-day, and will not, it is expected, assemble before Tuesday.

THE WAR. THE FRENCH EXPLANATION.

Our readers are aware that the *Moniteur* is the organ of the French Government, and that everything which appears in its pages, though it may not be designated official, has the sanction of the authorities. Hence, great importance is attached to two papers lately published in that journal the first describing with scrupulous exactitude the Eastern expedition, its objects, and the military operations; the second describing the negotiations entered into to obviate or terminate the strife. They are said, especially the first, to have been revised by the Emperor, and both together form an historical narrative of great value. They are to be considered as an explanation given by the Emperor to the French, and acknowledging, therefore, the continued supremacy of that people to whose votes he owes his crown. The first begins by setting forth the causes of war. Russia had violated treaties, invaded a territory, disdained and threatened Europe. Her armies were occupying the Principalities, were advancing on the Danube, and had even marched out the halting places of a victorious march on the Balkans. Russia found an unexpected obstacle in the heroic devotion of the Turks. But the struggle was an unequal one. It was then France and England, loyally united, did not hesitate to send their fleets and armies to the East, to defend there the integrity of the Ottoman empire, the respect due to treaties, the equilibrium of Europe, and the cause of civilisation.

The Emperor traced out instructions for the illustrious Marshal in whose hands the sword of France was about to be placed, recommending him to bestow the greatest care on the health of the troops, to spare them as much as possible, and not to come to an engagement unless he had made sure of two-thirds at least of the favourable chances.

Gallipoli was selected as the landing-place, the *place d'armes* and the point to which the French were to retire after advancing to the Balkans, should a retreat be necessary. The Marshal was to come to an understanding with Omer Pacha and Lord Raglan as to marching to meet the Russians on the Balkans; or to seize the Crimea; or to land at Odessa or any other part of the coast of the Black Sea. We know that these chiefs selected Sebastopol for their point of attack. The instructions stated, with great foresight: "The capture of Sebastopol ought not to be attempted unless you are provided with at least half a battering-train and a great many sacks of earth. When you approach that place do not neglect to seize Balaclava, a small port situate four leagues to the south of Sebastopol, and by means of which communications may be easily kept up with the fleet during the continuance of the siege." The Marshal was enjoined always to keep his forces united, but to concert every movement with the English Commander-in-Chief.

The allegation that, after the retreat of the Russians, the Allies ought to have acted upon the Danube and entered Bessarabia is thus disposed of:—"Let us put the matter in the most straightforward manner possible. Without the co-operation (*concours*) of Austria, our army could not advance upon the Danube without incurring the risk of a most fatal catastrophe. We must not forget that our base of operations was the sea. Losing this we risked everything, and compromised everything. Military science and common sense hold entered their present against undertaking operations with 60,000 Anglo-French and 60,000 Turks in an unhealthy and impracticable country, having no means of transport, without any reserves of artillery or organised park—no depôts of eatables or munitions at Schumla, Varna or Silistria. All these resources, indispensable at the commencement of a campaign, cannot be improvised in a few days, when those who have the management of affairs are 800 leagues distant from their country. These resources might have failed us completely. We should have found ourselves in front of an army of 200,000 men waiting for us on their own ground; or else retreating before us, trying to entrap us into a still more dangerous position, giving us no other alternative than that of a most disadvantageous battle or an impossible retreat. A simple reconnaissance of two days in the Dobrudscha, which cost us more than a most murderous combat, is a proof of what we have advanced. Again we repeat it, a campaign beyond the Danube and on the Pruth is not possible without the co-operation of Austria."

The expedition to Sebastopol having been made the subject of deliberation at Paris and London, and treated at last as a fact, Marshal St. Arnaud received hints to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the nature and amount of the Russian forces in the Crimea; find out whether those forces were too formidable; and land as a spot which might serve as a basis for future operations. The place recommended was Kaffa, as offering great advantages. The commanders, however, to whom the discretion was left, resolved to land at some few leagues at least from Sebastopol. "The glorious battle of the Alma," the document continues, "seemed to prove that they were right. But in the moment of victory they saw clearly enough that without a port they could have no base of operations. Influenced by that irresistible instinct of preservation which never deceives those who listen to it, they directed their course to Balaclava, on the south of Sebastopol. It was clear, too, that the army could not live in the enemy's country without being in direct communication with the fleet. But the consequence of retreating towards the south was to give up the northern heights—in other words, to abandon the idea of investing the fortification. The Anglo-French army, in fact, was not sufficiently numerous to invest the place completely. It was necessary to limit our operations to the southern portion of the town. * * At the very commencement of this difficult enterprise the Russians took two measures—very efficacious for themselves, and very regretable for us. The first was the strategic movement of Prince Menschikoff, who, instead of shutting himself up in Sebastopol, marched towards Simpheropol—afterwards took the field, and kept up his communication with the fortress. The second was the bold resolution to sink most of the ships of war—a measure which enabled the enemy to render the port inaccessible to our fleets, and to secure for the defence of the place from five to six hundred guns thus set at liberty, together with their ammunition, and to employ their seamen as gunners at the batteries. Thus, although the guns of the town were the first presented a formidable aspect, new batteries were raised as if by enchantment, and our feeble siege artillery could not extinguish the fire of the besieged. This situation was a serious one. The Generals-in-Chief contemplated it with that calmness which exalts a character to the level of the most difficult opportunities."

The document enters at length into the principles to be followed in sieges, and explains the impossibility, under the circumstances, of fully investing Sebastopol, the difficulties of the ground, and the many advantages possessed by the Russians; and concludes:—"The history of modern States does not present an example of a more difficult, more glorious enterprise, or one which, by the very grandeur of the obstacles it presents, agrees more nearly with the importance of its object, and that of the States engaged therein. The siege of Sebastopol has scarcely any analogy with any other in military annals. To attack a place which is not invested, when the enemy, superior in numbers, may recruit himself with more provisions and ammunition, and when he keeps the field, is an act of audacity which could be attempted only by England and France united for an object necessary for Europe."

The Second Document, which relates more especially to the negotiations, repeats the statement that Russia was the aggressor, and says she wanted a pretext for quarrel, which she found in the dispute with Turkey about the concessions to the Latin Church, making "the tomb of the Saviour a stepping-stone in her stride towards dominion." "Russia," it is affirmed, "wanted to rule at Constantinople; it was necessary to prevent her. Russia, sovereign of the Black Sea, having only to put out her hand in order to grasp the Bosphorus, wished to put the Mediterranean under the dominion of the Sebastopol fleet. While advancing towards the Dardanelles, she advanced her frontier to the shores of the Mediterranean. Wherever her vessels could go her preponderance was certain. From her inaccessible ports she could reach all empires and all kingdoms. Not only had France and England arrived in Russia—but not only was Germany being crushed under the enormous weight placed upon her—but Greece, Italy, Spain, Egypt, and all the secondary States, found at the same time their security and their independence extinguished.

"Strange to say, Europe had shut her eyes to the enormous danger attending this northern invasion. In 1828 France and England united with Russia, in burning at Navarino the Turkish fleet, and had destroyed there the force which protected the West. At that period we sought an ally at St. Petersburg, instead of seeing there an enemy both to our influence and our civilisation. In 1805 a fleet had started from Sebastopol, with 12,000 men on board, and disembarking them in Italy had brought the French and Russians into collision in the Mediterranean. This warning, however, deserved to be remembered, for it proved that Russia, by the possession of the Straits, could reach the entrance of the Adriatic from the Euxine. To Admiral Tchakoff the Emperor Alexander gave instructions on the 19th April, 1812, which showed that Russia then contemplated turning to good account the military genius of the Sclavonic races, such as those of Servia, Bosnia, Dalmatia, Montenegro, Croatia, Illyria; all of whom, once armed and organised on a military footing with the Hungarians, dissatisfied with the proceedings of their Government, offered an excellent means of disturbing Austria.

"This incendiary plan," says the paper, "could not issue more seasonably from its recess in the archives of St. Petersburg in order to demonstrate to Europe, and especially to the Cabinet of Vienna, the immense interest all the world has in finally placing a barrier against a policy which, so completely justified, by its means and ends, the foresight of the Emperor Napoleon I. Should the heirs of Peter the Great ever hold sway at Constantinople, by their power in the Black Sea, Austria, hemmed in, surrounded on all sides by the strong arm of Russia, would be at the mercy of an enterprise such as the one conceived by the daring genius of the Emperor Alexander. Hungary, opened to its action through the Danube, would be delivered up to all the excitements of its remembrances. The Adriatic Sea, exposed to the sudden attack of a Sclavic coalition, would cease to be the channel and the rampart of the Austrian empire, and the key of the Gulf of Trieste might pass, by a surprise, from Vienna to St. Petersburg. There is then nothing more lawful, more essential, or more just before God and the universal conscience, than this resistance, the signal of which was given by the two Maritime Governments of the West, in the month of April, 1854. England and France draw the sword in behalf of all States."

"The Emperor, opening the Legislative Session of 1854, had said in his speech—

"Europe now knows beyond all doubt that, if France draws the sword, it will be so because she is constrained to do so. It knows that France has no idea of aggrandisement. She wishes solely to resist dangerous encroachments. Moreover, I delight in proclaiming it loud, the age of conquest has passed away never to return; for it is not by widening the limits of its territory that a nation can henceforth be honoured and powerful; it is by taking the lead in generous ideas, and by causing the empire of right and justice everywhere to prevail!

"This solemn declaration left no doubt as to the character of the war.

"Germany, however, came to no decision, and, while notes and counter-notes passed between Vienna, Berlin, and St. Petersburg, the war continued, and developed itself on three seas. France and England strove before Sebastopol for the common cause, and were lavish of their blood to secure the independence and stability of Europe. Finally, Austria asked us whether we would consent to treat again on the basis of the four guarantees. There was much hesitation in the council of the two Allied Powers. The importance, however, of an alliance with Austria for peace as well as for war prevailed. The treaty of the 2nd December was the result of this policy. It was, therefore, out of respect for Austria, from a desire of alliance, defensive and offensive, and to give Germany an unequivocal proof of our moderation, that we agreed to open the negotiations on the basis of the four guarantees, reserving to ourselves, however, the right of introducing any other conditions which might arise from the chances of war. * * * * * The third of these conditions, that which has for its object the putting a stop to the predominance of Russia in the Black Sea, is the most important and the most contested. Russia has converted the Black Sea into a Russian lake; there she stores her naval establishments of the first rank; she has accumulated there, with as much perseverance as secrecy, considerable naval forces, and it may be said that by this exclusive domination in the Black Sea she has laid permanent siege to Constantinople. This state of things is incompatible not merely with the integrity of the Ottoman empire, but also with the security of entire Europe.

"France and England, therefore, are completely justified in demanding of Russia the limitation of her power in the Black Sea."

"Because this claim is said—"You ask of Russia a concession, which at the most could be the price of the surrender of Sebastopol, and this place is still occupied by the Russian army." To this it is replied, putting the success of the Allies in a strong light—

"It is true we have not yet taken Sebastopol, but what has Sebastopol meanwhile become for Russia? It is no longer a naval fortress, for its fleet, which is either sunk at the entrance of the port, or shut up behind that impassable barricade, has been withdrawn from the struggle. The Black Sea is the field of battle, which we have conquered, or, if you please, which you have abandoned to us. The Russian flag can no longer show itself there. The vessels of France, England, and Turkey plough it in all directions. Its dominion has been transferred. It has passed from Sebastopol to Constantinople. "Who compels us to renounce this pledge? Is not this a caution the best for us? And not only do we occupy the Black Sea; we besiege Sebastopol, we are in a fortified position at Kamiesch and Balaclava. Omer Pacha is intrenched at Eupatoria. Odessa is menaced by our fleets. What can Russia do? Can she long submit to the blockade which is about to seal up all its ports in the Black Sea and the Baltic, without damage to its moral power, and without ruin to its commerce? Can it exist under this paralysis which strikes at the vital principle of its life—the movement of its action, the right of export and exchange of products, and which condemns it to isolation, sterility, and impotence in the immensity of its empire?

"To demand of Russia to limit its naval forces, or to neutralise the Black Sea—that is to say, to exclude from it all ships of war, to whatever nation they belong, is thus to secure much less than we have already acquired by war, and which it rests with us to keep without effort. What is necessary in order that Russia shall not return to the Black Sea? Our vessels of each of the three maritime nations, France, England, and Turkey. Such a squadron would suffice to occupy the Black Sea, and transfer its sovereignty from the Crimea to the entrance of the Bosphorus.

"That which Russia has lost, that which it cannot recover by war, however long continued, is its preponderance in the East. That which it may fairly demand is a proper share of influence in the affairs the world. That which is demanded of her it is the right and duty of Europe to require. Let her grant it and the repose of the world is assured.

"One final word in terminating this paper. It is a new and perhaps a bold thing to speak of the military and diplomatic conduct of the war while the army is fighting and diplomatists negotiate. We have been of opinion that this is the very time for usefully proclaiming the truth to the country. Truth is dangerous only to the weak; and when one has right and power on one's side, it becomes those who speak it tranquilises those who hear

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

On Monday morning—favoured by a day which overhead was bright, clear, and hot as if it had been July, although the national fog persisted in shrouding with more than ordinary imperviousness the shore and cliffs of Dover—the Emperor of the French landed on English ground. No one doubted that the people of England would receive with acclamations (taking into account the national propensity for treating everything and everybody) the man whose stanchness and straightforwardness, whose good and great qualities, have done more than ever in the same time was done before towards the destruction of national prejudices and dislikes; but, I think, no one could have anticipated anything like the continuous ovation which must have rung in the Emperor's ears almost without ceasing from Dover to Windsor. The thing was incredible; there really never was anything like it. The great sight—or, I would rather say, the great hearing—was in the London streets. The order had been given to the escort and carriages to go from the Bricklayers' Arms to the Great Western station at a trot; but this was altered by Louis Napoleon himself, and the procession passed through the streets at a slow walk. Thus he and his beautiful wife showed themselves fully and closely to the multitudes thronging the streets, whose enthusiastic cheers they were not slow to return by salutes which appeared to have far more in them than mere courtly condescendence. Yet there were not wanting those who breathed more freely when they knew that the cortége had passed without accident through the streets of the metropolis, for they bethought them that, though a blessing to the immense majority, the Emperor Napoleon had been a scourge to some few of his subjects. Many a man thought of the Communists, the Red Republicans, who, exiled from their own, have sought a refuge in our country; they knew that one desperate or insane man may set at nought all the prudent cunning of the police, and even the better protection of an immense popularity, and they shuddered at the idea of a possible crime. Little enough, probably, of this danger thought Louis Napoleon, accustomed almost daily to encounter similar risks in Paris—whether riding like a private gentleman with a single groom, or, as he may be seen nearly every fine day, walking arm-in-arm with his wife, like a *bon bourgeoise de Paris*, in the Bois de Boulogne; but others thought of it, and were not sorry when the thing was over. It was calculated that their Majesties would reach the Paddington station soon after five; but owing to the slow pace adopted they were nearly an hour later; consequently, the Queen must have been kept waiting for her guests—a trying thing as we all know for a housekeeper; but, as there is little doubt that her Majesty in the same circumstances, would have done just the same as the Emperor, it is to be hoped she did not much mind it.

I should estimate that, of the immense amount of cheering which greeted the Imperial pair between Dover and Windsor, about 40 per cent was especially to the address of the Empress. It was no wonder—how well she looked—how fit for her great position! Undeniably beautiful—dignified, yet not haughty, but at the same time modest and graceful—the sort of person of whom, if met in any crowd or public place, you would ask, "Who is she?"—this Empress Eugenie—this granddaughter of a Scotch laird

I cannot help, for a moment, getting back to the war; the rather that by the last accounts we hear that the Allied forces were hard at work before Sebastopol, "administering" 13-inch shells, "exhibiting" 64-pound and other shot, for the benefit of the fortifications and garrison; all which promises a result of some kind, probably to be known before this paper is printed. May it be fortunate! The Vienna "own Correspondent" tells us that while Prince Albert was waiting on Dover pier for our illustrious visitors he occupied his time with an examination of a militia-man's slako. The day was warm, but in the Crimea, some month or two hence, the thermometer may be expected to stand thirty or forty degrees higher. Did his Royal Highness ask himself how, in such a temperature, with a knapsack and accoutrements to carry weighing from sixty to seventy pounds, a tight red coat, a tight pair of trousers, and an ill-fitting pair of boots to wear, he would like to have on his head during a long march that wonderful mass of wood and leather? And apropos to that, we hear that the detachments of the Guards who left for the Crimea last week, carried with them nothing but the regular St. James's park clothing and arms; that is, tight red coats, bear-skins, and brown bess. It is a wonder to me how a man can fight at all in hot weather with this accoutrement. I am not a particularly delicate person, but I am convinced that, if I were dressed in the full fig of the Horse Guards, any two active street boys of thirteen or fourteen would have no difficulty in taking me prisoner.

Parliament sits again, and on Monday there was a sort of *omnium gatherum* night, when evrybody ventilated his own particular small grievance. One member criticised Mr. Cope's pictures, which seemed an odd subject to bring before the House; and Mr. Wilkinson drew a sad picture of the stationery furnished to the members, declaring that it took six pens to write a note, whereat honourable members cheered as if he had even understated the grievance. The most interesting part of the business was the bringing forward by Sir William Molesworth of the estimate for Parks and Palaces. A large sum is annually voted for this department of the public service, and is most likely, on the whole, properly expended; yet there are always several little things which ought to be done, and which would not cost much, which, just because they are little things, are never attended to For instance, by the sides of the walks in Hyde-park a breadth of half a dozen or more yards meant to be grass has, between dry weather and foot-traffic, become a bare, hard stratum of soil. In its present state the turf will never spread over it again. Why are not the Park labourers ordered to loosen the surface, sow it with grass seed, and protect it in the usual country fashion, by strewing it with old thorn-bushes? Then the walk on the north side of the Serpentine—uneven, coarsely gravelled, with the roots of the trees which overshadow it allowed to remain exposed—might surely be put in a better plight. In these small matters few gentlemen's parks are so ill-cared for as those which belong to the nation. It is said that permission to let chairs for hire—after the fashion of Paris has always been refused by the authorities. If true, what unmitigated absurdity! And if there are to be no chairs, why are there not more benches?

Almost every musical man or woman has a pet *maestro* whom he or she asserts to be the first in the land; but, putting these multitudinous special favourites out of court, if their votes as to the first living English composer were taken, they would almost unanimously poll for Sir Henry Bishop. Few have written so much music; and of course with such fertility. Though he has hardly ever written anything without merit, there is much inequality in his compositions, but in some—his glees and ballads—he is *facile princeps*, certainly without an equal in this, and perhaps in any other day. There is the "Chough and the Crow," "Mynheer Van Dunk," "Under the Greenwood Tree," "Where the Wind Blows," and a dozen others. What have we like them—good as they are, equally to the educated and uneducated ear, popular in the street boy's whistle, or accompanied by the musician's piano? And here is Sir Henry Bishop, who for nearly half a century has charmed all ears, whose mere name is an answer to foreign skits at English want of musical taste, old, sick, and *poor*. Yes, very poor—in want in debt. No doubt he has been improvident; no doubt age and sickness need not in his case have been embittered by poverty; yet let me hope that the carelessness of his youth may be forgotten by those who are in a position to relieve the distresses of his age. The profession, of which Sir Henry Bishop is an ornament, have not been slow in coming forward to his relief, and I am given to understand that a series of concerts are about to be given not only in London, but also in the principal provincial towns, in the hope of realising a sum sufficient to place him beyond the reach of poverty for the remainder of his life, and perhaps even to make some provision for his family.

THE DEPARTURE FOR SYRIA.

(LE DEPART POUR LA SYRIE.)

To Syria young Dunois will go,
That gallant, handsome knight,
And prays the Virgin to bestow
Her blessing on the fight.
"Oh! thou who reign'st in heaven above,"
He prayed, "grant this to me—
The fairest maiden let me love,
The bravest warrior be."

He pledged then his knightly word,
His vow writes on the stone,
And following the Count, his lord,
To battle he has gone.
To keep his oath he ever strove,
And sang aloud with glee:
"The fairest maid shall have my love,
And honour mine shall be."

Then said the Count, "To thee we owe
Our victory, I confess;
Glory on me thou didst bestow,
I give thee happiness:
My daughter, whom I fondly love,
I gladly give to thee;
She, who is fair all maids above,
Should valour's guerdon be."

They kneel at Mary's altar both,
The maid and gallant knight;
And there with happy hearts their troth
Right solemnly they plight.
It was a sight all souls to move,
And all cried joyously—
"Give honour to the brave, and love
Shall beauty's guerdon be."

ORIGINAL.

Partant pour la Syrie,
Le jeune et beau Dunois
Venait prier Marie
De bénir ses exploits:
"Faites, reine immortelle,"
Lui, dit-il, en partant,
"Que j'aime la plus belle,
Et sois le plus vaillant."

Il trace sur la pierre
Le serment de l'honneur,
Et va suivre à la guerre
Le comte, son seigneur.
Au noble vœu fidèle,
Il dit en combattant:
"Amour à la plus belle,
Honneur au plus vaillant."

"On lui doit la victoire
"Vraiment," dit le seigneur;
"Pui que tu fais ma gloire
Je te rai ton bonheur.
De ma fille Isabelle
Sois l'époux à l'instant;
Car elle est la plus belle,
Et toi le plus vaillant."

A l'autel de Marie
Ils contractent tous deux,
Cette union chérie
Qui seule rend heureux.
Chacun dans la chapelle
Disait en les voyant:
"Amour à la plus belle,
Honneur au plus vaillant."

The music of this song, which was composed by Queen Hortense, mother of the present Emperor Louis Napoleon, is now the national air of the French Empire. The words are attributed to M. de Laborde. The date is 1809.—*From the "Illustrated Book of French Songs," Translated by John Oxenford, Esq.*

Training for the Great Affair.—For some days there has been a great stir in the Balaclava front. It is not yet exactly known whether Sir C. Campbell is acting on secret information received from the Russian Camp, or indulging the wakefulness of his own nature, or whether it is his plan to get the troops into training for active operations; but certain it is that, during the last few days, the division in the Balaclava front has been turned out regularly between three and four o'clock in the morning. At that hour aides-de-camp have sped in all directions, and from the backs of their horses held converse with officers commanding in encampments, whom they roused in their tents. And the trumpet and the bugle have sounded, the drums have echoed the note of alarm and instant preparation, and the discordant music of the Turks has risen up from the foot of the hill, where the followers of the Prophet eat their pilaff and smoke their pipes in the rear of Sir Colin Campbell's camp. The batteries have been all on the alert; the cavalry drawn up in dense columns, have been seen looming in the far distance of their camp; and the Guards, descending from their hills, near Balaclava, have marched up to support the Highland Brigade in the task of turning out arms for a couple of hours. That task performed, our gallant troops imitate the example of that King of France of whom nursery history records that he marched up a hill, and, having accomplished that feat, marched down again. It is now generally understood that the manœuvre is a measure of discipline rather than of precaution, for the best-informed assure me that the Balaclava front will in future turn out every morning one hour before daylight. The troops so mustering have a great desire to advance into the plain and reconnoitre the Russian position; and really there appears no reason why we should any longer be left in uncertainty of the exact strength of the force before us. If turning out early in the morning is a good thing for the spirit and discipline of the soldiers, surely a march across the hills and a little skirmishing would still further raise their spirits, confirm their discipline, and improve their health far more than standing under arms during the cold, misty, and fever-rife hour of a Crimean sunrise. Thus do they say and sing in the Camp. It is always the old story: the war-horse champing the bit and pawing the ground. Besides there are many fresh troops out who sicken at the mention of Alma, Balaclava, and Inkerman, but long to have a Balaclava or Inkerman of their own.—*Letter from Kaddiko, March 25.*

A monument to the memory of the Piedmontese students who fell in the Italian war of independence in 1848-49 was inaugurated in the chapel of the University at Turin on the 20th ult.

DINNERS TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF PARIS.

On Monday evening the Lord Mayor entertained at dinner, in the Egyptian-hall, the Prefect of the Seine and the other gentlemen connected with the municipality of Paris, who are now on a visit to the metropolis. The company numbered nearly 200, and included, besides the chief magistrate of the city of Paris, M. Delangle, President of the Municipal Council; Senator Thayer; Senator Germain Thibault, Secretary of the Paris Chamber of Commerce; M. Ferrier de Tourretes, private secretary to the Prefect; M. Mille, Engineer of Brigades and Roads; his Highness Prince Gholab Mahmoud, his Highness Prince Ferozeshah, the Right Hon. Lord Mayor of Dublin, and a deputation from the corporation of Dublin, &c.

The loving cup having passed round, the Lord Mayor gave "Her Majesty the Queen," which was received with the usual tokens of loyal affection.

His Lordship then called upon his guests to honour with enthusiasm the toast of "The Emperor and Empress of the French," and in a few brief sentences referred to the firmness of character which distinguished the Emperor, and the grace and beauty which adorned the Empress.

Loud and repeated plaudits greeted the names of the Imperial visitors, and the company continued standing while the band played the French national air, "Partant pour la Syrie."

The Prefect of the Seine, in responding, referred to the acclamations with which the toast had been received, and expressed the gratification which he felt at the enthusiastic reception that had been accorded to their Majesties.

The Lord Mayor next gave "His Royal Highness Prince Albert, Albert Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal family"—a toast which it is scarcely necessary to say was duly honoured.

The Lord Mayor, in proposing "The Health of his Excellency the Prefect of the Seine," declared he felt proud of the opportunity of receiving the chief magistrate of the City of Paris in that room, while he augured from the confidence which the Emperor and the Prefect had shown in the English alliance, by their visit to this country at the present moment, ultimate success in the enterprise which the Allied armies had undertaken, and eventually an honourable and lasting peace. Turning to the Prefect, he assured him that, although the English could not boast of those refinements which characterise the French nation, they felt the honour of his presence, and extended to him a hearty welcome

The Prefect of the Seine, when the prolonged applause was hushed, addressed the company in English, as he wished (he observed) to say to them without any interpreter—heart to heart—how much he felt the admirable reception they had met with from the English population (Loud applause). In conclusion he proposed "The Health of the Lord Mayor," which his Lordship acknowledged.

Several other toasts were proposed; and the company separated at eleven o'clock.

On Tuesday evening the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex (Henry Muggeridge, Esq., Alderman, and Charles Dennus Crosley, Esq.—gave a magnificent entertainment at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, to the Prefect of the Seine, M. Delangle, Senator Pelouse, Senator Thayer, Senator Germain Thibault, M. Ferrier de Tourette, and M. Mille. There were also present the Lord Mayor, Sir R. W. Carden, Sir J. Duke, M.P.; Alderman Cubitt, M.P.; T. Hankey, Esq., M.P.; Sir J. Key, Bart., and a number of other gentlemen. Mr. Sheriff Muggeridge, who presided, having proposed the usual loyal toasts, which were duly responded to, Mr. Sheriff Crosley proposed "The health of the Emperor and Empress of the French," which was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm. The Prefect of the Seine, in returning thanks, expressed his strong conviction that the interests of both countries, and especially the interests of humanity, pointed out the alliance of England and France as the surest means of preserving the peace of the world. The Prefect was loudly cheered throughout his speech, and, at the conclusion of it, the company, upstanding, gave three hearty cheers and one cheer more for the Emperor and Empress of the French. The other toasts were "The Prefect of the Seine," "The Members of the Legislative and Municipal Bodies," "The Sheriffs and Corporation of London," &c. The company did not separate till near midnight.

The Weather in the Crimea. March, which came in as a lion, is not exactly going out as a lamb; but its exit certainly bears a resemblance to that of a very quiet animal. For the season, the weather is splendid. None of those drenching, flooding, deluging rains which were announced, and which it now appears existed only in the muddled brains of the seniors and the orthodox hearts of the Greeks, whose wish was father to the thought. March has been dry enough to satisfy the most fastidious taste, and our roads are as hard and compact as strangers and lovers of hard pickings can desire. Storms of wind we have had, especially at night, and very cold winds too, more particularly in the early part of the month. But almost each day has been an improvement on the previous one; the wind has lost its sharpness, if not its violence, and while at times the gusts sweep you all but off your legs, or off your horse, they do not chill you. The mornings and evenings are misty; but the noonday sun is oppressively hot, and gives us warning of the heat of the summer. Each hour of March sunshine (fully equal to the sunshine of May in Bulgaria) warns officers to order out cargoes of flannel coats and trousers, Irish poplins, brown hollands, glove-leather boots, and other articles of clothing invented for the convenience of persons exposed to extreme heat. A speculative merchant in the sutlers' camp has sent home for a large quantity of Wenham ice, and untold numbers of bottles of ginger-beer and soda-water; but, unless the speculator's ideas of the consumptive powers of the army are of the most extended description, I fear the supply will hardly meet the demand. For if the heats of March are a fair criterion of the heats of June, then will the army be subjected to a heat by far more intense, though certainly much less dangerous to health, than the heat of Devnia valley and hills.—*Letter from the Camp, March 30.*

WINDSOR CASTLE.

STATE BEDCHAMBER.

The State apartments appropriated to the Royal visitors at Windsor are not entirely unknown to the public: they are those thrown open to view by the gracious permission of her Majesty at stated periods. The various paintings—of which there is a rich and rare collection by ancient masters—around the walls of these splendid apartments have in most cases retained the position in which the visitor has seen them for some time; the chief difference being in the furniture of the rooms. The chairs, tables, ottomans, and sofas have been re-gilt. In several instances new carpets have been added, chandeliers hung, cabinets, &c., displayed. From the lateness of the hour at which the arrangements were completed, we are only able to give a slight Sketch of the State Bedchamber The bedstead was originally presented to George IV., when Prince Regent, by the reigning Monarch of France. The whole has been richly decorated, under the superintendence of Mr. Crace. The dome is covered with green satin, having gold cords running up to the centre, a gilded cornice surrounds the base of the cupola, and from this hangs a valance, in festoons, of purple satin, edged with a beautiful gold fringe; the curtains are of the same green satin, with a purple border, upon which has been rendered the old embroidery of the former hangings. The bed-posts are gilded, as well as the footboard—the canopy of which has an eagle displayed, wrought in needlework—over and upon which are placed the initials "L. N." and "E. I.;" the ground is of the same materials as the curtains; the interior of the cupola or dome is lined with cream coloured satin, and so are the curtains.

THE ZUCARELLI ROOM

This apartment was set apart for the Emperor as a morning-room. It is well known by the paintings of Zucarelli around its walls, which are of crimson damask, the curtains of the same colour. There are portraits of the Georges, Henry Duke of Gloucester, and the Prince of Wales. The furniture is of white and gold, with crimson damask coverings. The carpet has a blue ground, with a trellis pattern of oak-leaves, of gold colour, within which is the garter and red rose: the border is a white ground, with floral ornaments upon it. Cabinets, vases, and caskets adorn this room.

THE GRAND CORRIDOR

The Grand Corridor in Windsor Castle is, from its great length and peculiar form, most striking. It runs along two sides, the north and east, of the building, and faces the great Quadrangle, and communicates with the beautiful rooms set apart for the use of Royalty, and the suite of State rooms, St. George's Hall, the private Chapel, &c., &c. The corridor is, for its length, somewhat too low, but at the angle of junction, the point selected for our illustration, the ceiling is considerably higher than in the other portions, and this variation, with the effect caused by the peculiar but pleasing and consequent arrangement of architectural lines of this spot, renders it extremely picturesque and highly pleasing. At this angle there are doors leading on the one side to the staircase used by her Majesty: and on the other to a beautiful room lining with the richest Gobelins tapestry. The corridor, throughout its entire length, is lined with pictures, very many of them of great beauty and interest as high works of art; and there are very many portraits of illustrious statesmen, warriors, and other, celebrities Busts in bronze and marble; bronze statues and groups, vases, ormoulu candelabra, cabinets of rich buhl-work, most elaborately-carved ebony cabinets and chairs, oak settees and chairs, and a profusion of gilding on furniture, walls, and ceiling, combine to render this corridor an extremely beautiful promenade, as well as a museum of art.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT.—DEPARTURE OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS FROM PARIS.

THE EMPEROR'S VISIT.

THE DEPARTURE FROM PARIS.

The quiet manner in which the Emperor Napoleon and his Imperial Consort took their departure from Paris on Sunday last formed a striking contrast to the enthusiastic excitement with which they were received on their arrival in London. At a quarter past one the Emperor and Empress and their suite, with an escort of Cent Gardes, left the Tuileries, and proceeded up the Rue de la Paix and the Boulevards to the terminus of the Northern Railway, where a vast assemblage waited their arrival, and greeted them with cries of "Vive l'Empéreur!" "Vive l'Impératrice!" They were received at the railway station by Baron James de Rothschild and other directors of the railway; MM. Troplong and De Mouny, Presidents of the Senate and Corps Legislatif; and several Ministers and officers of State. Baron de Rothschild took his seat in the Imperial train, which left the station at forty-five minutes past one o'clock, under the direction of M. Petiet, the chief engineer.

On arriving at Clermont the train halted, when the Mayor and some officers of the army met the Emperor, with whom they conversed for a few minutes. The station was decorated with flags, and the Imperial monogram of "N" and "E." The same ceremony occurred at Longueau, and each important town between Paris and Calais, where the authorities had prepared in a similar way for the reception of their Majesties; and on each occasion crowds of people assembled and greeted the Imperial travellers with cheers.

On arriving at Calais, at 8 45 p.m., the Emperor and Empress, with their respective suites, immediately proceeded to the state apartments provided for them at Dessin's Hotel. A body of troops had been marched down to the railway station as early as seven o'clock, and these formed three sides of a square, enclosing the avenues of the station; whilst a detachment which was posted under the station formed a lane from the train to the Royal carriage outside. This lane was carpeted with green cloth, whilst its sides were decorated with the national flags, and over the entrance were crossed the British Ensign and the Tricolour flag, enclosing the inscription, "Vive l'Empéreur! Vive l'Impératrice!" When a gun from a battery outside the terminus announced the approach of the train, another and another succeeded, the band of the National Guard struck up a welcome; and at length the Imperial carriage was slowly wheeled into the terminus.

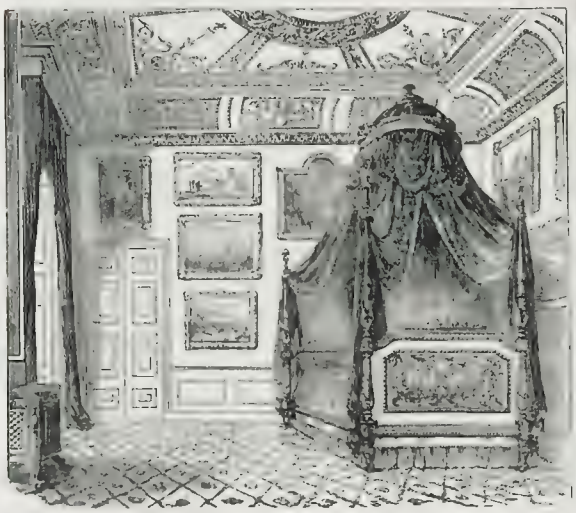
The Emperor and Empress were received by a brilliant assemblage, including the Prefect of Arras, the Sub-Prefect of Calais, the principal military officers, Admiral Chabannes, and all the captains and other officers of the French and English Royal Mail Steam-packet service, and the British Consuls for Calais and Boulogne. Their Majesties, on descending from the Imperial carriage, were received by this group of officials, and then, attended by them, the Emperor and Empress walked slowly down the platform. Attended to the Imperial carriages, their Majesties proceeded immediately to Dessin's Hotel, amidst crowds of spectators, through triumphal arches and illuminations. After they had arrived at Dessin's some presentations took place, and then some consultations, and soon after dinner the Emperor and Empress retired.

EMBARKATION AT CALAIS.

The authorities of Calais were early on the *qui vive* on Monday morning, and scarcely ever a finer day dawned. Everything looked auspicious; scarcely a breath of wind unfolded the tricolour, and there was scarcely a ripple on the water, certainly not sufficiently to "roughen into a wave." The Admiralty tender *Vivid* arrived from Dover, with Rear-Admiral Eden and Sir Robert Peel, and having arranged everything with Admiral Chabannes, the steamers made all ready for departure. As it was understood that the *Pelican*, small screw vessel, had been selected for the honour of conveying their Imperial Majesties, no particular anxiety was manifested as to who should be first at Dover. The 100-gun screw-ship *Austerlitz*, however, got away at eight o'clock. The Royal Mail steam-packet *Queen* was the first to leave the harbour. She left at a quarter past nine, having been engaged specially to carry over the deputation from the Council of Paris to the Corporation of London.

At half-past nine precisely the Imperial carriages, with the Emperor, Empress, and suite, arrived alongside the *Pelican*, their progress from the hotel being marked by the acclamations of a vast assembly. Their Majesties were received by the French Admiral; the British Ambassador, Lord Cowley; Baron Rothschild, Sir Robert Peel, Marshal Baraguay d'Hilliers; the British Consul at Calais, Mr. Bonham; M. Petiet, the Chief Director of the Northern of France Railway; M. Tissandier, and the district and local authorities. After the exchange of gracious salutations, the Empress was conducted on board the *Pelican* by Admiral Chabanne, the Emperor performing the same courteous office to the Princess d'Essling. Both their Majesties looked remarkably well. The Emperor was attired in the uniform of a Marshal of France; the Empress wore a small chip bonnet, a broad plaid silk dress, with a little graceful grey hood.

The Royal squadron wound their way out of the harbour one after the other in pretty style, and were received in the roads by a Royal salute from the French men-of-war, and then joined by the *Black Eagle*, with Sir Charles Wood, Rear-Admiral the Hon. M. F. F. Berkeley, C.B., the other Lords of the Admiralty, and by the steam-packet *Empress*, with the chief officials of the port and district, they formed in picturesque order, and proceeded at the full speed of the *Pelican*. As she left the shores of France, everything was bright and agreeable, and a most comfortable, if not a speedy passage, was predicted. The *Empress* had on board the band of the National Guard of Calais; and, as she ranged up at a respectful distance astern of the Imperial steamer, their Majesties were gratified by hearing the performance of the band under the most advantageous circumstances. But, unfortunately, in the course of a quarter of an hour after departure a dense fog came sweeping over the Channel, so thick as almost to obscure



STATE BED-CHAMBER, WINDSOR CASTLE.

MORNING-ROOM, WINDSOR CASTLE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

EMBARKATION OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS AT CALAIS, ON BOARD THE STEAM-SHIP "PELICAN"

each of the ships from the sight of the other. Under these circumstances the *Empress* was hailed from the *Pelican*, and ordered to become the *avant courrier* of the squadron; and thus from that hour she proceeded at about two cables' length ahead of the *Pelican*, and leading the way across. The fine screw-corvette *D'Assas* kept on the quarter port, the *Black Eagle* on the starboard quarter, and the *Vauid* bringing up the rear; the other vessels of the squadron parted sight, if not company. For two hours, making slow progress, the squadron continued their way across, notwithstanding the fog, prudently edging away a little to the eastward of Dover, to avoid the fleet and the numerous vessels on the look-out for them, occasionally stopping for a cast of the lead, and attending to the many reports of guns ahead, astern, and, as it appeared, sometimes all around them—ship answering ship, to discover by *sound* the position they could not make out with the *eye*. They thus grouped their way along until all at once the *Empress*, by her fog-whistle, gave the signal of land; and, simultaneously, the heads of the *Empress* and *Pelican* were turned down the Channel. The land was not seen until very near; and so close was it, that the *Black Eagle* and the French corvette had to turn for safety. Having made the land, however under the Foreland, they easily crept down the coast, the *Empress* keeping in shore in three fathoms water; but nothing more was seen of the *Black Eagle* or the *D'Assas* for some time.

At length Dover was reached; the *Pelican* proceeded with her Imperial freight alongside the Admiralty pier, and the *Empress* into the harbour.

PREPARATIONS AT DOVER.

Meanwhile, by dint of the highest possible pressure on artist and artisan of every kind, the numerous preparations for the worthy harbinger of Dover for the reception of their illustrious visitors had been completed early in the morning. Triumphal arches appeared, duly decked with verdant laurel; Imperial cyphers had been wrought in choice flowers; and naval, military, and civic dignitaries were all arrayed in their best, and panting with nervous eagerness to do the honours in their several departments. One slight drawback there was in the hopes of a successful pageant, and that was the presence of a dense, damp, and truly national fog, that hung like a pall over Shakspeare's Cliff, and obscured the fortifications in shadowy mystery.

At nine o'clock the Mayor and Corporation of Dover presented a loyal address to Prince Albert, to which he made a suitable reply, and then everybody proceeded to the esplanade of the hotel. This place was strictly guarded by the militia, and a long boarded platform, covered with crimson cloth, stretched from it all along the Admiralty pier to the landing-place. The platform was, of course, strongly palisaded on both sides, and strictly kept by the police; but still the crowd pressed closely, and bright eyes might be seen to twinkle, and sometimes unduly long noses to protrude through the chinks which the local artisans had with prescient good nature left all along the paling. With the help of our gallant militia a very respectable show was made, the several corps exhibiting a perfect military air, and a very high state of discipline.

The pier was covered with ladies, the *élite* of the town, and the landing-place with officers in varied and brilliant uniforms, in addition to which the band played over their programme more than once before the arrival of the Imperial party. Not more than one or two civilians were permitted to stand upon the landing-place, always excepting the Corporation, who crowded round the steps, and excluded the view from those who stood immediately behind them; but from this observation the Mayor and Recorder must be excepted, as both were in attendance on the Prince.

Notwithstanding the clanking of bells and the booming of guns, both from the fleet and the heights, and notwithstanding occasional gleams of sunshine, which would obstinately struggle through, the curtain of vapour that hung heavily on the face of the Channel refused to be lifted up. The outer harbour by degrees became dotted over with boats full of sightseers, anxious, through the gathering gloom, to have a near view of the landing. On the pyramids of granite and cement with which the pier and ground adjoining are loaded, many thousands of people had perched themselves. Had the day cleared up, with the fleet in the offing and the fine line of coast fully revealed, the *coup d'œil* would not have been without a certain amount of scenic effect; but at 150 yards distance the largest object became indistinguishable, and as the time approached when the Imperial squadron might be expected the assembled spectators listened attentively for the grand music of the Royal salute which was to herald their advent. It broke forth at twenty minutes past eleven o'clock, first from the fleet in the offing, followed by a sharper and more stunning reverberation from the batteries on the heights. Every eye was strained through the gloom to catch the advancing outlines of the Imperial squadron. The Prince Consort, attended by his suite, hastened down to the point of debarkation. His Excellency the French Ambassador, with the Countess Walewska and the Secretaries of the Embassy, was speedily on the spot, and barge after barge from the fleet struggled through the fog to give a nearer welcome to the august strangers. Still, however, they came not. Steamer after steamer left the inner harbour freighted with spectators, their alarum whistle screaming through the murky air. It began to be conjectured that the engines of the *Pelican* had broken down, or that some other accident had befallen her, for more than an hour had elapsed since the hour of the Royal salute, and yet no sign of the squadron. A wherry, manned by crack oarsmen, had gone out as far as the fleet, and brought back word that the salute had been fired by mistake, in honour of ships which had passed on their way through the Channel.

THE LANDING AT DOVER.

The position was becoming rather awkward, and to wile away the time his Royal Highness the Prince Consort entered into a careful examination of the weight and shape of the stake worn by the Militia, consulting with Lord Chelsea, and giving open countenance to the popular belief in the interest which he takes in the subject. The band of the Royal Bucks had apparently exhausted all its selections of music for the occasion, Lord Alfred Paget had put off in a man-of-war's boat on a cruise for information, and things were rapidly approaching what the Americans call a "fix," when through the fog the *Pelicon* suddenly appeared, within a hundred yards of the landing-stage, preceded and marshalled on her way by the *Empress* mail-packet. The *Pelicon* carried the English flag at the fore, the Imperial standard at the mainmast, and the tricolour waved from the staff on the poop. On her arrival the bands struck up "Partant pour la Syrie." The Emperor and Prince saluted each other, the troops presented arms, and from the boats in the harbour the multitude on shore the joyous cheers of a genuine English welcome resounded. Close to the Emperor and Empress might be observed the portly form of Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War; and there were also on board the Grand Chamberlain of the Imperial Household, the Princes d'Essling, the Countess de Montebello, the Baron de Malaret, the Count de Montebello, Aide-de-Camp, and other members of his Majesty's household. The *Pelicon* having been brought alongside the landing-stage, a gangway was immediately run out. As soon as it had been adjusted his Royal Highness Prince Albert took his station on the top of it. Thereupon the Emperor and Empress at once disembarked, the former shaking hands with his Royal Highness in the most cordial manner, and the ladies curtseying most gracefully. Their Majesties at once recognised the Count and Countess Walewski; and the Emperor then received the respectful congratulations of the Mayor of Dover, to whom he addressed some observations.

As soon as the ceremonial observances connected with the landing were over, the Prince Consort and his illustrious visitors proceeded without delay to the Lord Warden Hotel, the fine apartments of which had been suitably prepared for the occasion. On their way to the hotel the inhabitants of the town and the gentry of the neighbourhood greeted them enthusiastically; nor did their Majesties fail to acknowledge very graciously the tokens of hearty welcome which at all hands they received. Their Empress leant on the arm of his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, and the Emperor walked by their side, the suite forming a species of procession after them. It must have been a great relief to the Prince when the *Pelicon* have in sight with her precious freight, for she was at least an hour and a half behind time; nor had the voyage across been accomplished without serious peril.

The Emperor looked remarkably well, and appeared highly gratified by the reception which was given him on all hands. But the Empress bore the marks of fatigue, seemed to have slightly suffered from the voyage, and was rather pale. Her mild blue eyes, and the genuie expression of her face, spoke her thanks, and told the thousands around how deeply she was affected by their warm and cordial greeting. Both on the landing of their Imperial Majesties and their entrance into the hotel the usual salutes were fired by the guns on the heights and at the Castle

On ascending the grand staircase at the Lord Warden, Mrs. Hakes, the wife of the proprietor, had the honour of presenting to the Empress a magnificent bouquet, which her Majesty was graciously pleased to accept.

The police arrangements, under Capt. La Vad Mundier (Metropolitan Police) and Inspector Bray (A Division), were admirable, and reflected great credit upon those highly efficient officers.

THE LORD WARDEN HOTEL

This splendid establishment, the property of the South-Eastern Railway Company, by the exertions of Mr. Hakes, the proprietor, assisted by his talented manager, Mr. A. Hastier, was entirely remodelled for the occupation of the illustrious visitors. Immediately on Mr. Hakes' return from Windsor, where he was summoned to receive the commands of her Majesty, he commissioned Mr. Chaffin, of Oxford-street, to fit a suite of apartments with appropriate splendour.

The bed-chamber prepared for his Royal Highness Prince Albert was on the right hand of the great western corridor, next the grand staircase, furnished in mahogany and velvet; the dressing-room adjoining being furnished *en suite*. The suite of rooms right and left of the western corridor, from his Royal Highness's apartments to the sea front of the hotel, were appropriated to the members of the Prince's suite. The three grand State rooms, looking over the sea and forming the whole front of the hotel on that side, were entirely refurnished with richly-carved walnut inlaid with fancy woods and mounted with ormoulu; the chairs, settees, and lounges being covered with the richest crimson satin, trimmed with gold.

The first of these apartments was fitted up as an elegant drawing-room for the Prince; the next, as a saloon; and the third, as the drawing room appropriated to the Emperor and Empress. The velvet, carpets, and table-covers, and the embroidery of the lace curtains, are very superb. Next to the State rooms, on the right side of the east corridor, is the dressing-room fitted up for the Empress, which is superbly furnished *en suite* with the State rooms, with the addition of the toilet, which is of crimson satin, overlaid with lace with rich flounces of Mechlin. Next in order is the Emperor's dressing-room, furnished with a suite of carved walnut, with crimson satin coverings, trimmed with gold. The noble coffee-room on the ground floor was appropriated to the *déjeûner*, and fitted with a dais, on which their Majesties and his Royal Highness Prince Albert received the address of the Corporation. The floral decorations here, as elsewhere, reflect great credit on Mr. Epps, from whose establishments at Ashford, Maidstone, &c., the flowers and shrubs were forwarded.

PRESENTATION OF THE DOVER ADDRESS.

Their Majesties and the Prince having partaken of a hasty luncheon, descended to the grand saloon of the hotel, where the Mayor and Corporation, the members for the borough, and various civic officers awaited them, for the purpose of presenting an address of congratulation to their Imperial Majesties on their arrival in this country. Their Majesties received the address standing the Empress being on the left, and Prince Albert on the right of the Emperor. In the interval that had elapsed from the landing her Majesty had changed her travelling attire for a dress of large plaid tartan silk, black lace shawl, blue drawn silk bonnet, and black silk veil; and it was gratifying to observe that slight as had been her rest it had assisted greatly to refresh her and to call back to her cheek its wonted bloom.

The Corporation having entered the room advanced to the foot of the dais, when Mr. Bodkin, the Recorder, proceeded to read the following address:—

TO THEIR IMPERIAL MAJESTIES NAPOLEON III. AND EUGENIE, EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF FRANCE.

May it please your Majesties,

We, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of Dover, approach your Majesties with feelings of the most profound respect, deeply sensible of the honour conferred upon us in being graciously afforded the opportunity of expressing to your Majesties the hearty welcome with which we greet your arrival in this country to visit our beloved Queen

It is our earnest hope that this auspicious event may tend to strengthen and perpetuate the cordial union which, happily for the progress of freedom and civilisation, now exists between France and Great Britain, and that the just and necessary war in the prosecution of which the combined fleets and armies of both nations are gallantly co-operating may, through the blessings of Divine Providence, be speedily terminated to a secure and honourable peace.

We rejoice that your Majesties have been pleased to select this ancient port for debarkation; we shall cherish a lively remembrance of the honour that has thus been added to the many of a similar kind proudly recorded in our annals

We devoutly pray that you, Sire, may long guide the destinies of France, and reign in the hearts of a loyal, happy, and contented people; and that you, Madame, may long live to share the throne which your virtues so highly adorn, affording solace and relief to your august consort amid the cares inseparable from the government of a mighty nation.

Given under our corporate seal, at Dover, this 16th day of April, 1855.

The Emperor listened with deep interest to the reading of the document, and in the latter portion of the address, when the Recorder addressed himself to her Majesty, the Empress was considerably affected, and, beneath a look of graceful modesty, appeared with difficulty able to restrain her emotions. At the conclusion of the address, his Majesty made the following reply in English

I am exceedingly grateful that your Queen has allowed me to find such an occasion of paying my respects to her, and of assuring you of my sentiments of esteem and sympathy for the English people.

I hope our two nations will always remain united as they now are, in peace as in war. I think it will be for the welfare of the whole world, as well as for their own prosperity.

I am exceedingly thankful for your kind words, and the good reception you have given to me and to the Empress; and I hope you will be the interpreters of our sentiments to your countrymen.

It was with some difficulty that the grave and learned representatives of the municipality, with his worshipful the Mayor, were restrained, as they retired backwards from the presence of his Majesty, from giving expression to their feelings of exuberant enthusiasm; and it was only when the magic word "etiquette" was whispered, that a more enthusiastic member of the Corporation, who had already delivered himself of "One—two—three," was awed into silence, and prevented from inflicting upon their Majesties the remainder of a genuine round of Kentish fire.

THE JOURNEY TO LONDON.

The Mayor and Corporation having withdrawn, his Royal Highness Prince Albert at once conducted his guests to the railway station, which immediately adjoins the hotel. The interior of the station had been nicely decorated for the occasion with flags and evergreens, and the platform was kept clear by a guard of honour consisting of troops of the line. All the arrangements connected with the Royal train were as complete as could be desired, and conferred great credit upon Captain Barlow and the other officers of the company. Mr. Coles Child, one of the directors, presented a very beautiful bouquet to the Empress previous to her departure.

The Emperor and Empress, Prince Albert, Lord Alfred Paget, General Grey, and Colonel Seymour occupied the Royal carriage; and the Countess Walewska and the ladies in attendance on the Empress occupied the second Royal carriage. The enthusiasm of the ladies and gentlemen who had been fortunate enough to obtain tickets of admission to the station was not less than that which had been previously displayed by the crowds who lined the way from the pier to the hotel. The train left the station at a quarter to three o'clock, and arrived at the Bricklayers' Arms station at ten minutes to five, having completed the entire distance of eighty eight miles in two hours.

It is impossible to exaggerate the enthusiasm which was displayed by persons congregated at the several stations, or occupying the sides of the railway as the train passed. At Tunbridge, where a delay of five minutes occurred in taking in water, the station was crowded to such an excess as to cause considerable anxiety lest some accident should occur. The ladies swarmed and clustered round the carriages, and the gentlemen forced their way along the narrow and crowded platform, in a state of excitement which has seldom been equalled. At the Reigate station the children of the Philanthropic School, and at Norwood, those of the Industrial School, were drawn up at the station. At Croydon the Cadets of the Addiscombe School hoped to have seen the train stop at the station. Heedless of their hopes, and preparations, and gay decorations, the train dashed on, and a row of shadowy and indistinct objects were seen by the passengers in the train, which appeared to be the Cadets themselves; and amid the noise of the train was heard a momentary sound of music, which was conjectured to proceed from a band on the platform. Screeching and shrieking, the train dashed along its iron path, giving to its passengers here and there glimpses of children and rustic peasants by the side of the road—youth sending forth its shout of welcome, age swelling the chorus of exultation, the rich and the poor vieing with each other in loud hurrahs, and delicate ladies essaying to rival the applause of the more hardy sex. The whole of the progress from Dover to London was, in fact, one continued ovation.

THE ARRIVAL AT THE BRICKLAYERS' ARMS STATION.

The preparations at the Bricklayers' Arms station were worthy of the great event they were intended to honour. The right hand up-platform was entirely covered with scarlet cloth, and along the back of the platform, near the wall, were placed rows of elegant plants and tastefully-selected flowers, the perfume from which imparted a delicious fragrance to the atmosphere. Upon the rails facing the lower portion of the platform, along which the Imperial cortège had to pass, were erected seven tiers of seats rising above one another, and alternately covered with red and white cloth, for the accommodation of about 1000 of the friends of the railway officials and other privileged individuals, but into which, during the afternoon, 1500 persons contrived to cram themselves in some unaccountable manner. Above the platform, and from the roof to the top of the raised seats hung suspended the English Royal and the French Imperial standards, the English, French, Belgian, Sardinian, Spanish, Turkish, and various other national flags. The roofs of the railway carriages, the windows of the booking and other offices, and, indeed, wherever it was possible to fit or balance a human being, were positively alive with elegantly-dressed ladies and gentlemen.

At a few minutes before five unusual excitement was observed at the upper end of the platform, and at a given signal the band of the Coldstreams struck up "Partant pour la Syrie" as the Royal train moved along the platform. The Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs, Mr. Byng, the Deputy Chairman of the Company; the Directors; Mr. Browne, the Railway Superintendent; the Station Master, and the other officials in attendance, advanced to the Royal carriages to receive the illustrious visitors.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert left the carriage first, and assisted the Empress to the platform, the Emperor following immediately behind, the Royal and Imperial suites following in the rear. The Imperial cortège proceeded along the platform, the Empress leaning on Prince Albert, and the Emperor walking on the right hand of Prince Albert, a little in the rear. As they proceeded in front of the raised seats they were cheered most enthusiastically. Both the Emperor and Empress bowed courteously in acknowledgment of the compliment. The Emperor seemed much affected by the enthusiasm of his reception, and displayed considerable agitation while he remained on the platform. The Empress also seemed sensible of the honour that was paid to them, but she retained her self-possession throughout. As the cortège passed along the platform the scene was striking and impressive in the extreme; the deafening cheers of the spectators, the martial march of "Partant pour la Syrie," the variously-coloured uniforms of the Royal and Imperial attendants, and the many-coloured dresses of the ladies on the raised seats, waving to and fro as the wearers endeavoured to get the best and longest view of the Imperial visitors, more especially the Empress. Upon arriving at the lower end of the station, Miss Coles Child, the youthful daughter of one of the directors, presented the Empress with a magnificent bouquet, which she accepted most graciously. Upon emerging from the station the Life Guards and the Coldstream Guards presented arms. They were received by the people with the most deafening cheers. Six open Royal carriages were in waiting to convey the Royal suite to the Paddington station, the four first of which were surrounded by outriders in red liveries. Prince Albert entered the Royal carriage first, and assisted the Empress to take her seat, who with the Emperor occupied the back seat, his Royal Highness Prince Albert sitting in front; the different suites occupying the remaining carriages according to their rank and precedence. The whole cortège left the station about ten minutes past five, escorted by the squadron of Life Guards, and were immediately followed by the Coldstream Guards, who fell in the rear of the Royal carriages. Great interest was manifested by the visitors at the station in viewing the state carriage which conveyed their Imperial Majesties to London, and, owing to the kind indulgence of the officials, ladies and gentlemen continued to swarm in and out of it like bees for upwards of an hour. The carriage certainly well repaid the trouble of inspection, it being the most gorgeous and elaborate of the kind probably in England.

THE PROGRESS THROUGH LONDON

The Imperial and Royal travellers, on leaving the terminus, proceeded, with the entire suite, in six of her Majesty's carriages and four, with outriders in scarlet livery, escorted by a detachment of Life Guards, *en route* to the Great Western Railway

Upon the cortège reaching the curve of the road at the Elephant and Castle, one tremendous cheer greeted their Majesties, which they graciously acknowledged by bowing to the assembled crowd. A great number of flags and streamers were suspended across the Westminster-road; and the front of Cooke's (Astley's) Amphitheatre was decorated with flags, and many private houses exhibited streamers and banners.

Some fear was apprehended that the old ricketty bridge of Westminster would not be sufficiently strong to bear the weight of the thousands who were expected to line it. In order, therefore, to prevent accidents, vehicles were allowed to keep close to the left or outside side of the footpaths, which caused many thousand persons to seek a more commanding view in a different spot. A line of streamers Union Jacks and the national standard, together with the French flag—stretched over the centre of the bridge, and the shouts of the numerous workmen employed in forming the new bridge, as the Emperor and Empress passed over, were deafening in the extreme. The proprietors of the Watermen's Steamboat-pier, at the Middlesex side of the bridge, also hoisted the Allied colours as the Imperial processions passed over the bridge.

In Parliament-street every window and balcony was crowded with company, and great pains had evidently been taken in the way of floral and other decorations to do honour to the Imperial visitors, who were loudly cheered as they passed along. From this point of view the immense multitude assembled in Trafalgar-square had a most imposing appearance

The wide thoroughfare of Whitehall, crowded in every part, and display, besides the Tricolour and Union Jack, the flags of all nations (the enemy's alone excepted), presented a scene of great animation and gaiety. The Admiralty was fitted up with seats over the portico, and a splendid military band was stationed there, while the side seats were filled with the aristocracy. As their Imperial Majesties passed, the bank struck up several English and French airs. The Chapel Royal, the Horse Guards, the premises of the Poor-law Board, and Richmond-terrace, were all crowded with the *élite* of the metropolis, who cheered and applauded to the echo the distinguished visitors as they passed along.

CHARING-CROSS

This point of the route, from the great facility it afforded for observation, and the ample room given by the area of Trafalgar-square, was eagerly sought by a large number of persons at an early hour in the afternoon, who took up their position in the east and west of the Nelson column, and treble lines extended from end to end. The view of Parliament street from the rising ground from which it was overlooked had a very unique and gay appearance—for as far as the eye could reach were to be seen Union Jacks and Tricolours interspaced with other emblems of a national character. Overhanging the carriage-way near to the Admiralty might be seen an immense Union Jack, and in close proximity was the Tricolour surmounted by wreaths of laurel. The appearance of the whole was one of great richness, and attracted great attention.

The front part of Trafalgar-square, however, crowded, a nearer approach to the line of procession was secured by a number of persons forming a circle near King Charles's statue, where an excellent and close view could be obtained, free from interruption. On the arrival of the cortège at this spot, or even before its arrival, a long and loud shout rent the air, and never perhaps was a more truly English and hearty welcome given to any one than was accorded to the Emperor and Empress as they neared the spot that perpetuates the fame of one of her greatest heroes. The Emperor Napoleon and Empress Eugenie appeared to be highly gratified at this cordial greeting, and frequently addressed observations to his Royal Highness Prince Albert, as if to express the pleasure they experienced at such manifestations. The Emperor bowed frequently to the assembled multitude, and the Empress was equally condescending in her acknowledgments.

COCKSPUR-STREET.

The cheering that was so general, and, indeed, so unanimous at Charing-cross, suffered no diminution on the arrival of their Majesties in Cockspur-street; for they had scarcely entered it when the members of the Union Club and their friends testified the pleasure they experienced at seeing his Imperial Majesty and his illustrious Consort in the British capital, by loud and general cheering, which was gracefully responded to and acknowledged. Almost immediately adjoining, Waterloo-house presented a display of beauty and fashion that could scarcely be surpassed in the line of the route. The Napoleon and Eugenie flag, extending the whole length of the front of the building, was tastefully covered with scarlet cloth, surmounted by a canopy, and in this place was accommodated a large body of elegantly dressed ladies, who waved their handkerchiefs as the illustrious visitors approached.

PALL-MALL.

Perhaps at no part of the route was there more interest manifested to get a glimpse of their Imperial Majesties than was exhibited by the numerous and highly respectable class of persons who crowded Pall-mall and the approaches leading thereto. The members of the Senior United Service Club had evidently made up their minds to give the Emperor a hearty greeting, and many were the veterans that assembled on this occasion to do honour to the ruler of France, with who n many of them were on the most intimate and friendly terms during his residence in England.

Every window of the establishment facing Pall-mall, or the space leading to the Duke of York's Column, was crowded by members and their friends, who hailed their Imperial Majesties with the most enthusiastic cheering. The balconies of the Athenæum Club were crowded with elegantly-dressed ladies; and the Travellers and Reform seemed to vie with each other in the display of their galaxy of beauty. From the unfinished state of the new Carlton Club, but little accommodation could be afforded in the present temporary building for visitors, but still there was a tolerably fair sprinkling of members; and it is almost needless to say that they received the illustrious visitors in a most enthusiastic manner. The Ordnance Office departed from its habitual cold official routine observed on great public events, and for the time seemed desirous to emulate with its opposite neighbour, the Army and Navy Club, in its display of beauty and fashion. The two prominent elevations nearest to Pall-mall, and the gallery or balcony over the portico of the main entrance, were filled with company; and the "Red, White, and Blue" were exhibited and displayed in all directions.

To describe all that occurred up to St. James's Palace would be but to repeat what has been said above, for nothing could be more gratifying than their reception as they passed the various club-houses, but more especially that of the Guards, who rendered the Emperor and Empress all the homage due to their exalted station.

ST. JAMES'S-STREET.

At the bottom of St. James's-street, a vast number of persons were assembled, and a long line of carriages occupied the entire space between Marlborough-house up to the entrance to the court-yard of the Palace. As soon as the cortège turned into St. James's-street, the ladies who crowded the windows of the Conservative Club-house were marked in their demonstrations of welcome; nor were the gentlemen who accompanied them less warm in their greetings. The populace were loud in their cheering, and evinced a marked desire to give a welcome to the illustrious visitors becoming the occasion. The other club-houses—consisting of Arthur's, White's, Boodle's, and Brooks's—were also crowded with company, a large proportion of which were ladies, who received the Emperor and Empress with the loudest acclamations. The arrangements throughout the line by the police were most excellent.

PICCADILLY.

The scene along this great thoroughfare as the procession passed was exceedingly picturesque. Each side of the road was crowded with persons on foot; Bolton-street was filled with carriages, containing members of the nobility and gentry; Clarges-street and that part of the Green-park overlooking the public road were crowded with males and females. Both houses at the corner of Bolton-street were well filled with visitors; and Stratton-house, the residence of Miss B. Coutts, had the front balconies elaborately fitted up, and were filled with members of the aristocracy—the first-floor consisting almost exclusively of ladies. The other establishments of the nobility in this thoroughfare were also well filled; and so was the roof of Apsley-house, the residence of the Duke of Wellington; the occupants cheered in the loudest possible strains the Emperor and Empress and the Royal Prince as they passed the building.

HYDE-PARK.

Taking the exciting and imposing scenes that presented themselves from the Bricklayers' Arms station to the top of Piccadilly, they furnish but a faint idea of what was witnessed in Hyde-park: they even eclipsed the memorable year of 1851, when her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert opened the Great Exhibition, as far as the number of carriages filled with company were concerned. Upon entering Apsley-gate some thousand spectators were found, who lined every inch of ground that afforded standing room for a pedestrian; at the same time, the promenades immediately facing were studded with human beings, and it was with great difficulty that the spectators could be prevented from trespassing upon the centre of the carriage road. Grand and imposing as the scene at this point was by such a vast assemblage of members of the aristocracy, it was nothing to be compared to what took place on the north bank of the Serpentine, where something approximating to ten or twelve thousand carriages lined the road, and thousands upon thousands of pedestrians took up every available space on the footpaths. Each carriage was filled with from four to eight persons, the principal proportion being ladies.

About five minutes past six o'clock a cry was raised, "The Emperor is coming!" and in a few minutes afterwards the procession passed the Royal Humane Society's Receiving House, the assembled thousands giving a cheer that, literally speaking, rent the air. At the same time the Union Jack was hoisted from the vessel in command of the Prince of Wales's Model Yacht-Club. The procession then passed along the carriage way to the Victoria-gate, and proceeded *en route* to the Great Western Railway terminus at Paddington.

ARRIVAL AT THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY STATION AT PADDINGTON.

The gates were opened at half-past three, and the several entrances were admirably arranged, the admissions being by white, green, and yellow cards. The company were, however, condemned to stand the whole time, and the patience of the fair sex was only equalled by the curiosity which made them brave the heat and crowding with marvellous stoicism. There must have been some 2000 or 3000 elegantly-dressed ladies and gentlemen on the platform.

Every railway whistle, every sound of a bell, which applied to the ordinary traffic, served to excite the hopes of many that the Imperial guests were near at hand. But disappointments followed quickly upon each other, until twenty minutes past six o'clock, when the band struck up the air of "Partant pour la Syrie," and his Imperial Majesty appeared, accompanied by the Empress and his Royal Highness Prince Albert—the Empress leaning on the arm of his Royal Highness. Their appearance was the signal for a deafening shout of applause and welcome. Her Imperial Majesty was handed into the carriage by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, followed by the Emperor, the suite occupying the carriage immediately behind; the other carriages in front being occupied by the Royal servants and those of his Imperial Majesty. His Majesty very graciously acknowledged the welcome he received; and, on the carriage starting, both he and her Majesty stood up and made their repeated obeisances to the company. The guard of honour received their Majesties with the usual formalities; the cortège quickly vanished from the view of a host of spectators of every grade and class—the bridge and all places near the shed being crowded with people; and the train proceeded on its rapid course to the Palace of Windsor.

THE ARRIVAL AT WINDSOR.

At half-past three o'clock her Majesty, attended by her Grace the Duchess of Wellington, went out for a carriage airing, passing beneath the triumphal arch in Castle-street, and proceeding through the town, in order to witness the extensive preparations which had been made for the illumination.

The appearance of the Great Western terminus was very beautiful, and presented a *tout ensemble* never before witnessed in the Royal borough. The profusion of banners, the forests of laurel, the decoration arch, were in themselves sufficiently remarkable; but when to these we add the great number of children and youths belonging to the schools—the thousands of spectators who were accommodated on the Castle Hill and on the platform of the railway station—it may readily be conceived that the scene was most animating. The band of the Grenadier Guards, preceding the guard of honour, which was composed entirely of Foot Guards, arrived at half-past four o'clock. They were shortly afterwards followed by a troop of the 2nd Life Guards, under the command of Colonel Williams, to form the escort for the Imperial visitors from the station to the Castle. The Life Guards were loudly cheered by the assembled multitude, who waited with admirable patience the arrival of the much-expected train. At intervals the bands played several lively airs, and the national school children gave "Partant pour la Syrie" in very good style.

There was a sort of notion at Windsor that the Emperor would arrive at a quarter after five o'clock, and hence expectation began at an unreasonably early hour. However, half-past five, and six, and half-past six passed away, and the multitude was forced to content itself with watching certain alterations made in the arrangement of the flags of the triumphal arch, which, we may observe, was in a state of perpetual improvement throughout the day. Expectation, however, was kept afresh by the report, spread like wildfire, to the effect that the Emperor was at Paddington. Again the time seemed to grow long, the approaching evening began to sober that brilliancy of the sky which had so auspiciously distinguished the day, and the work of illuminating the lamps on the arch was deliberately commenced. The very fine arches were designed from plans drawn by Mr. J. F. Bedborough, one of the magistrates of the borough, and chairman of the committee of management, and entirely executed by him in their erection.

At this juncture there was something almost painful in the anxiety of the multitude, when, about seven o'clock, the report of a gun was heard, and everybody wakened into new life. That gun proclaimed that the Emperor was in sight on the railroad; the lamplighter of the arch speedily descended, and the thrilling sensation that the great event of the day would in a moment take place ran through the crowd like a galvanic shock.

The prophecy of the gun was soon fulfilled. The Emperor and Empress, with Prince Albert and their suite, arrived a few minutes afterwards, and it seemed but the work of a moment for them to alight, to leave the door of the waiting-room, so imposingly fronted by the "Welcome to Windsor" inscribed amid a thick mass of laurels on the opposite shed, to enter their carriages amid the shouts of the national school children, to receive the second inscribed "Welcome" from the smaller arch, and to proceed through the large arch in Castle-street, where their eyes were greeted by "Vive l'Empereur," "Vive l'Impératrice," "Napoleon," "Eugenie," "Welcome." The thunder of applause that rolled through the multitude as the carriages passed was something marvellous, the intensity of the feeling receiving an additional stimulus from the momentary character of the "sight." The whole affair scarcely lasted a second, but then everybody had a "good look" at the Empress, and a "good look" at the Emperor; a thousand curiosities that had been raging for a week past were at once assuaged, and, of course, everybody was delighted. Indeed, so very enthusiastic was the delight that a fresh allowance of applause was lavished anew as each carriage of the cortège followed the Emperor up Castle-hill, and every one of the attendant visitors had reason to be satisfied with his share of the "reception."

In the evening the illuminations were a new source of attraction. The Town-hall, with lamps twined about the columns, and marking out the windows, and the two arches, which blazed with brilliancy, were dazzling objects, which could not easily be exceeded even in our own huge metropolis.

THE EMPEROR'S STUD.

The stud of the Emperor, which is probably now the finest of that of any Sovereign in Europe, is at all times an object of great interest to persons visiting Paris who are connoisseurs in such matters. The fame of his Majesty's horses brought the Duke of Wellington, the Master of the Horse to the Queen, at an early hour on Tuesday morning to the stables set apart for the portion of the stud which the Emperor has brought over with him. His Grace, accompanied by M. Gamble, the *premier piqueur* to the Emperor examined the whole of the animals with much interest, and expressed himself highly delighted with them. In fact, no person visiting the stables could fail to be struck with the beauty, symmetry, and strength which some of these horses possess. Of the sixteen chargers and riding-horses which have been brought over, every one is English, and they have nearly all been purchased in England. His Majesty's favourite charger, Philips, is a remarkably fine animal; in his slower paces there is a richness of movement which is rarely to be met with, and his gallop is worthy of an Emperor. Sir Walter Scott is a splendid brown horse, principally used by the Emperor for his private riding, and as a "hack" is exceedingly fine in any and all of the three paces. Conyngham, a fine handsome chestnut, was recently purchased by the Emperor from the Marquis Conyngham. He is now in training for the Emperor's use either as a "hack" or as a charger. Ajax, a splendid, noble-looking hunter, is a rich dark chestnut in colour, and is almost constantly ridden by the Emperor at Fontainebleau and Compiègne. He is also an exceedingly valuable horse, a very large sum having been paid for his purchase. Adonis was recently purchased from Mr. Mason, of London, for a very large stake. He is a rich dark brown, and has been given by the Emperor exclusively to the service of Colonel Fleury. As a hack he is probably unequalled in Europe; his action is something magnificent, and at the review of the household troops he was admired by all who had an opportunity of witnessing his noble and spirited movements. Chesterfield is a brown horse, purchased at a high price from the Earl whose name he bears, and is a splendid hunter. Oxonian and Perfection the one is brown and the other a bay—are remarkable not less for their quiet qualities as chargers than for their fine symmetry and general excellent appearance. Six of the Emperor's horses were ridden by the members of the suite at the review. His Majesty was mounted on his favourite charger, Philips; Colonel Fleury on Adonis; the Duc de Montebello on Ajax; Colonel Edgar Ney, son of the Marshal of brave memory, on Chesterfield; the Marquis de Toulongeon on Oxonian; and M. Rouher on Cromwell. Marshal Vaillant, the French Minister of War, was mounted on his old favourite grey charger. Among the horses brought over there is no one for the special use of the Empress, as it was not expected that her Majesty would take any equestrian exercise during her visit. Although there are twelve fine horses in the stud appropriated to her Majesty's use, the Emperor is anxious to obtain for the Empress one of still greater beauty than he already possesses, and it is stated that he has expressed his intention of giving a sum of 1000 guineas for any really perfect and suitable charger which can be purchased in the United Kingdom. The remainder of the Emperor's horses which he has over here are for the use of the piqueurs and Imperial grooms, and there is not one of them but would be worthy of the establishment of the first nobleman of the land. Prince Albert's favourite charger, Deemas, is also a splendid animal, and may most worthily compare with the Emperor's charger for symmetry and action. The horse of which so much has been said as having been refused by Prince Albert, and which has been incorrectly stated to be the finest in the Emperor's stud, is named Perfection. His name, however, is somewhat too flattering. He is not, in truth, perfection, for he has a very important blemish, which consists in a weakness and great tenderness on one part of the back, caused by a fall while in stable. The defect was first discovered by Prince Albert, and great care is now constantly required in order to prevent the hurt producing injurious consequences.

ARRIVAL AT THE CASTLE.

Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of the French arrived at seven o'clock on Monday evening at the Castle, alighting at the Grand Hall, where the Queen, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Prince of Leiningen, received her illustrious guest.

Prince Albert, attended by Major-General the Hon. Charles Grey, Lord Alfred Paget, and Colonel Seymour, accompanied their Majesties, having proceeded to Dover on Sunday evening to meet the Emperor and Empress.

A detachment of the 2nd Life Guards, under the command of Major Howard Vyse, formed the escort from the Great Western Railway station to the Castle, where a guard of honour of the 94th Regiment, with their band, was on duty in the Quadrangle, and paid the usual honours on the arrival of the Royal cortège, the band playing "Partant pour la Syrie."

The illustrious party occupied several open pony carriages.

The Yeomen of the Guard lined the grand hall and staircase, under the command of Captain Macdonald, the Exon in Waiting; Viscount Sydney, the Captain, and Colonel Fitzmaurice, the Adjutant of the corps, also attended.

The Great Officers of State and the Household (in levee dress) and the Ladies and Maids of Honour in Waiting were in attendance the Queen at the Grand Hall. Viscount Palmerston, First Lord of the Treasury, and the Earl of Clarendon, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, were also present.

The Queen, taking the arm of the Emperor, and the Empress that of Prince Albert, followed by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Prince of Leiningen, passed up the Grand Staircase through the Music-room into the Throne-room, where the younger members of the Royal family were assembled; and subsequently proceeded to the Reception-room, where the ladies and gentlemen of the household of the Queen and the Prince were presented to their Imperial Majesties.

The Emperor and Empress presented to the Queen and Prince Albert the following ladies and gentlemen of their suite:—The Princess d'Essling, the Countess de Montebello, the Baroness de Malaret, Marshal Count Vaillant, the Duke de Bassano, Count de Montebello, Colonel le Comte Ney, Colonel Fleury, Marquis de Toulongeon, and Count Tascher de la Pagerie.

After the presentation of the respective Courts, at which Viscount Palmerston and the Earl of Clarendon, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, were present, the Imperial and Royal personages proceeded to their private apartments.

THE DINNER PARTY.

Her Majesty gave a dinner in the evening in St. George's-hall. The company included their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of the French, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, his Serene Highness the Prince of Leiningen, the ladies and gentlemen of the household, the Imperial suite, and a select party.

The band of the Grenadier Guards attended during dinner in the gallery of the Hall, and on the entrance of the illustrious guests commenced playing "Partant pour la Syrie." The band afterwards performed a number of favourite pieces.

The Emperor and Empress of the French occupy the State apartments of the Castle, and the ladies and gentlemen in their suite occupy rooms in the west front and north front.

The Marchioness of Ely and the Hon. Mary Seymour, Lady and Maid of Honour to the Queen, will attend the Empress during her visit to her Majesty; and Earl Somers, Lord in Waiting to the Queen; Lord Alfred Paget, Clerk Marshal; and Lieut.-General Sir Frederick Stovin, Groom in Waiting, will attend the Emperor while the guest of her Majesty.

MEET OF THE ROYAL BUCKHOUNDS AT SALTHILL.

Windsor was awake at an early hour on Tuesday, and its loyal inhabitants were astir with the morning sunshine, in spite of their festivities and illumination of the previous evening. A general notion prevailed that her Majesty and the Empress and the Empress Eugenie would accompany the Emperor to the "meet" of the Royal buckhounds, appointed at Salthill. Rumour and fancy conjoined had imagined a bevy of fair huntresses as well as huntsmen; and her Majesty being a good equestrian, and the Empress, as reported, partial to the chase, the good people of Windsor, and some thousands of expectant strangers from London, were all agog for a procession *en grand costume* to Salthill.

Shortly after ten this rumour became corroborated by the departure of several of the Emperor's suite in hunting costume; then followed the Royal huntsmen, with the Earl of Bessborough at their head, and shortly after the stag, in the usual deer-cart. The bridge and the walls of Eton College were thronged with spectators; and a multitude of equipages of every degree sped swiftly along the road towards Slough, where the Great Western Railway had already deposited the contents of two or three special trains.

The place selected for the "meet" was the well-known "Montem." Here, and on the rugged ground about, all the picturesque features and gay grouping of a "meet" was to be seen. But neither her Majesty nor the Empress nor the Emperor came; so, after a few moments of blank disappointment to the gazers, the hounds threw off in a field to the right of Botham's. Away went the horsemen in gallant style; but in about ten minutes the deer came back, and, the hounds running over the scent, as the stag leapt into the hollow of the railway, the whole field were at fault, returning exactly to the point whence they had started. They found and lost again within sight; but at last, after a few zigzag turns, got into clear running, and bore away in the direction of Farnham, where the stag was ultimately drowned. Those not engaged in the sport now returned to Windsor to await the leading event of the day—the anticipated Review in the Great Park—as well as to enjoy the bustling and animated scene which the town presented, from its triumphal arches, the many flags waving in all directions, the amateur bands of music parading the streets, and the numerous officers, in every uniform of the service, passing to and fro.

THE PRESENTATION OF ADDRESSES.

Three o'clock was the hour appointed by his Majesty for the reception of the various addresses of congratulation which were to be presented to him. The state carriages of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs were in waiting at the station of the Great Western Railway, to convey the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and other members of the Court of Lieutenancy to the Castle. The whole of the members of the deputation were dressed in their full uniform, and attracted considerable notice as they proceeded on their way to the Castle. The Governor and Company of the Bank of England also wore full Court dress. The Mayor and Corporation of Windsor wore their robes and gowns.

The first deputation which had the honour to be received by his Majesty was the Court of Lieutenancy of the city of London. The Commissioners were introduced to the Emperor in the Reception-room, and presented an address, which was read by the Lord Mayor.

His Imperial Majesty returned a most gracious answer. The mover of the address, Colonel Wilson, and the seconders, Mr. Moon and Sir Moses Montefiore, were then presented to the Emperor.

A deputation of the merchants, bankers, and traders of London was then introduced, and presented an address of congratulation to his Imperial Majesty.

The address was read by Mr. T. M. Wegnelin, the Governor of the Bank of England. The Emperor returned a gracious answer.

The Corporation of the borough of Windsor followed, and were introduced to the Emperor in the Reception-room, and presented an address of congratulation to his Imperial Majesty, to which he made an appropriate reply.

The Emperor was attended at the reception of the addresses by the following officers of his suite:—Marshal Count Vaillant, the Duke de Bassano, Count de Montebello, Colonel le Comte Ney, Colonel Fleury, Marquis de Toulongeon, and le Comte Tascher de la Pagerie. His Imperial Majesty was also attended by Earl Somers, Lord Alfred Paget, and Lieutenant-General Sir Frederick Stovin. The Emperor wore the uniform of a French General, with the grand cordon and star of the Order of the Legion of Honour.

The Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Muggeridge and Mr. Sheriff Crossley, accompanied by the City Remembrancer, had an audience to know his Majesty's pleasure as to the reception of an address from the Corporation of the city of London, when the Emperor was pleased to appoint Thursday next at Guildhall. The Lord Mayor, the Recorder, the Sheriffs, and the Remembrancer, were introduced, and requested the honour of the presence of their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress at an entertainment at Guildhall, on Thursday next, on the occasion of presenting the address to the Emperor. His Imperial Majesty was graciously pleased to accept the invitation for the Empress and himself.

REVIEW IN THE GREAT PARK.

During the interval occupied by the presentation of these addresses, the military had collected on the review ground. The Blues, the 1st and 2nd Life Guards, the Carabiniers, and two troops of the Royal Horse Artillery, had already taken up a position in Queen Anne's Riding Ground—a large plot of open land situate in Windsor Great Park, and excellently adapted for the purposes of a review. The troops marched there with their bands playing, and carried off with them a vast number of people from the over-crowded streets. But the intervening time had also brought down by the railways many additional thousands of sight-seers; and, the Castle being the general focus of attraction, every movement that could be seen there excited the greatest interest. The saddle horses for the Emperor, Prince Albert, and their suites, were taken into the Quadrangle, and next the Queen's beautiful pony carriages were brought in.

Soon after, from the Quadrangle into the Home-park, issued forth the Royal and Imperial cortège—consisting of the Emperor, Prince Albert, and the Duke of Cambridge, on horseback, with a numerous staff and suite, followed by her Majesty and the Empress, with the attendant nobility, in five pony phaëtons-and-four and several other Royal carriages. This was a glorious sight; as the brilliant party egressed from the George the Fourth's gate into the Home-park, countless numbers awaited their approach in the Long-walk, drawn up on each side of the road under the trees. Here first, a splendid following of the nobility and gentry: carriages was enabled to attach itself. Here first, also, broke forth a volley of rapturous cheers, which were continued afterwards along the whole line; and here, also, a numerous squadron of gentlemen on horseback, members of the suite, in their red coats, and others from the neighbourhood, or the counties adjacent, joined themselves to the procession, expressing by loud hurrahs their gratulations to her Majesty and her visitors.

Looking back upon the cortège from "The Double Gates," and up the Long-walk towards the Castle, the carriages speeding along seemed but specks upon a ribbon. As they advanced, and, in time, broke into a quicker gallop, the eye could comprehend the extent of the procession, whose approach inflamed the public with excitement, and was accompanied all its way by a swelling chorus of cheers that rolled onwards with it towards the spectator.

In the Long-walk the centre was occupied by the far-extending line of Royal carriages, in advance of which, the Emperor, Prince Albert, and the Duke of Cambridge were seen riding upon the greensward on the side, specks upon a ribbon. As they advanced, and, in time, broke into a quicker gallop, the eye could comprehend the extent of the procession, whose approach inflamed the public with excitement, and was accompanied all its way by a swelling chorus of cheers that rolled onwards with it towards the spectator.

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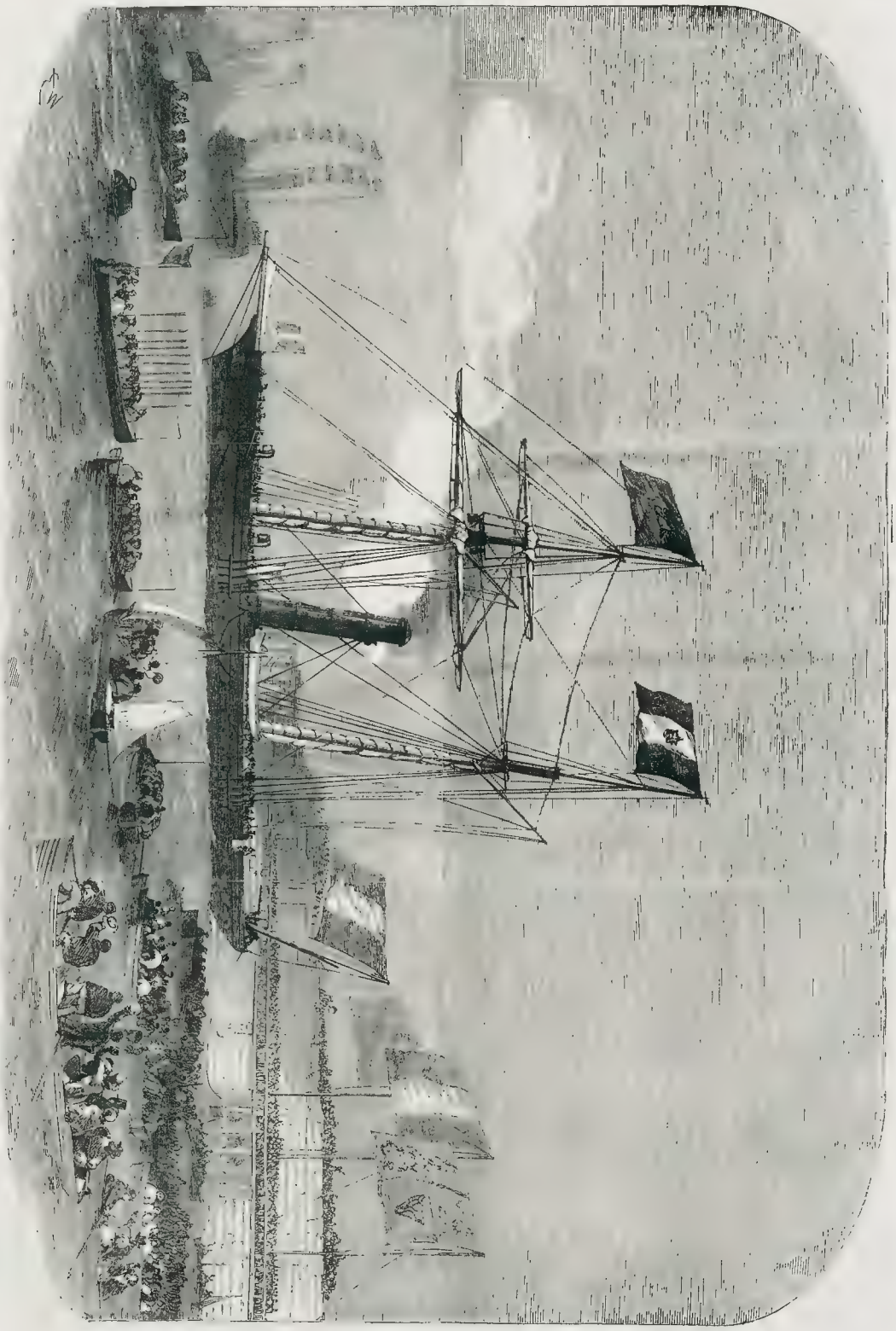
The scarlet liveries of the outriders, the glittering uniforms of the attendant officers—French as well as English—and the troop of horsemen, splendidly mounted in the rear, gave the "progress" of the party to

(*Continued on page 380*)

"THE PELICAN" STEAM-SHIP APPROACHING DOVER.



ARRIVAL OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS AT DOVER.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

Lord Ravensworth took the oaths and his seat among the Peers.
The Charitable Trusts (1855) Bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

Mr. Price, Mr. Brand, and Mr. Bouverie took their seats on re-election respectively for Gloucester, Lewes, and the Kilmarnock Burghs.

Mr. BOUVERIE stated that a bill on the subject of limited liability in commercial partnerships was in preparation, and would be shortly introduced.

METROPOLITAN LOCAL MANAGEMENT BILL.

Sir B. HALL moved the second reading of this bill.

Sir DE LACY EVANS presented a petition from Westminster, praying for certain corrective clauses in the measure.

Mr. MACKINNON thought the great defect of the bill was that it devolved its working on the vestries. Clause 103 gave immense power to vestries, and clause 113, which empowered them to raise money, required consideration.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS was of opinion that the bill would best be worked by a central body, with the Lord Mayor at its head, supported by a limited number of other boards acting in harmony with it.

Mr. PELLATT saw an improvement in the bill since it had been printed. The hon. member suggested its reference to a Committee; and, alluding to the impossibility of fairly discussing the second reading in so thin a House, threatened to move the adjournment of the House if the President of the Board of Health would not take his advice.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE, following up this allusion to the aspect of the House, observed that it was not every day it was the Emperor and Empress visited this country (Hear, hear). To the present bill he should give his hearty support.

Mr. BUTLER and Mr. BRADY thanked the Government for the present measure.

Sir DE LACY EVANS also expressed the obligations of his constituents for the bill.

Mr. LABOUCHERE inquired whether any bill for the reform of the City of London Corporation was in course of preparation?

Sir G. GREY replied that a measure on the subject would be introduced during the course of the Session.

The motion was then agreed to, and the bill, having passed the second reading, was ordered to stand for committal on Monday, the 30th inst.

The House having resolved itself into Committee of Supply, Mr. Fitzroy was moved into the chair, and took his seat accordingly as Chairman of Committees, in the room of Mr. Bouverie.

CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES.

The Civil Service Estimates were then brought forward by Mr. WILSON, but on the first vote

Mr. W. WILLIAMS urged a complaint against the haste with which votes for money were pressed, at a time when the House (from extraneous attractions) was scantily attended, and when hon. members had only had the Estimates placed in their hands a few hours. He moved as an amendment that the Chairman should report progress.

The expediency of proceeding with the supply votes was enforced by Mr. WILSON and Sir W. MOLESWORTH; and after a miscellaneous discussion, a division was called, on which there appeared—

For the amendment, 3; against, 126: majority, 123.

Several votes for the maintenance of the Royal and public palaces, parks, and gardens, were put and agreed to.

Upon the vote of £122,000 in further payment for works at the new Houses of Parliament, Sir W. MOLESWORTH stated the purport of a report and estimate obtained from Sir C. Barry, showing that there had been expended upon the new Palace of the Legislature up to the present time a sum of £1,660,000. About £173,000 additional would be necessary to complete the works already sanctioned by the House; and the execution of some supplemental works, which the architect considered highly advisable, would require £631,000. The total cost of the new Houses would thus reach two and a half millions sterling.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The Cambridge University Bill was read a second time, and the Dean Forest Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Mr. PEEL stated, in answer to Colonel North, that it was not intended to deduct Income-tax from the gratuities allowed to wounded officers.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S RETURN.

Sir J PAKINGTON asked the Home Secretary, in the absence of Lord Palmerston, if he could now inform the House when the Secretary of State for the Colonial Department would return to this country?

Sir G. GREY replied: I believe that the noble Lord will leave Vienna in the course of the present week—at the end of the week; and from the latest information received, I have reason to believe that he will be in England on the 27th or the 28th of the present month (Hear).

THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENTS—ARMY AND NAVY.

Col. BOLDERO moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the state of the medical departments of the Army and Navy. The gallant officer condemned the system pursued in both services, and quoted largely from the evidence given before the Sebastopol Committee in proof of his assertions. He complained that in the Army the surgical service was composed of extremely old and very young men; while in the Navy, though the qualification for surgeons was lower than in the Army, still, on account of the neglect with which they were treated, young men refused to enter as assistant-surgeons; and the Admiralty had shipped mere boys under the name of dressers.

Sir J. THOMLINE seconded the motion, and traced the deterioration of the medical department to the abolition of the Medical Board, and placing the whole medical service under the management of one man as Medical Director. To show the working of this system, he stated that a retired army surgeon, Dr. Davy, brother of the eminent chemist, who had been for two years in Turkey, volunteered to return to active service and proceed with the army to Turkey; but, after months of neglect, received a reply from Dr. Andrew Smith, stated that he could not be replaced on full pay. The hon. Baronet traced this insulting treatment to the fact that Dr. Smith had formerly been under Dr. Davy's command, who was obliged to report him for incompetency.

Mr. PEEL admitted the importance of the subject, but thought the appointment of a committee on this subject was, for the present at least, inopportune, as the Sebastopol Committee had at least half its time taken up with this very question. He stated that many of the evils complained of had already been got rid of, and mentioned many changes which were either carried out or determined on. Among others, he stated that Dr Andrew Smith had been allowed to retire from his post of Medical Director, and that a Medical Board, with a civilian at its head, was about to be substituted.

Dr. BRADY supported the motion.

Admiral BERKELEY denied that there was any lack of assistant-surgeons either in the Baltic or the Black Sea fleet.

Colonel NORTH supported the motion.

Mr. ELLICE did not see what was to be gained by two committees sitting on the same subject at the same time.

Mr. MUNTZ and Mr. M. CHAMBERS supported the motion.

Sir G. GREY denied that the Government were opposed to inquiry. All they proposed was to wait till this subject had been inquired into by the Committee already sitting.

Sir G. PECHELL supported the motion, though he defended the state of the Navy.

Colonel BOLDERO replied; after which the House divided, when the motion was rejected by a majority of 73 to 69. This narrow division was hailed with great laughter and cheering.

SUNDAY TRADING.

Lord R. GROSVENOR next rose to move for leave to bring in a bill for the prevention of unnecessary Sunday trading in the metropolis. As he understood the bill would not be opposed, he postponed the explanation of its details till the second reading

Lord ERRINGTON seconded the motion on religious, social, and economical grounds.

Leave was given to bring in the bill, which was brought in accordingly.

Mr. E. DENISON obtained leave to bring in a bill for the education of out-door pauper children.

The Convention with Sardinia Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

Several petitions were presented from newspaper proprietors, praying for the adoption of a halfpenny newspaper stamp.

A great many petitions were presented praying for the repeal of the bill of last Session relative to the sale of beer.

Mr. SPOONER presented petitions from various places against any grant whatever to the College of Maynooth.

The Interest (Scotland) Bill, the object of which is to assimilate the law of Scotland on that head to the law of England, was read a second time

The Coast Fisheries (Ireland) Bill was rejected, on its second reading, by a majority of 126.

Some conversation took place on the Tenants' Improvement Compensation (Ireland) Bill, which was put an end to by the Speaker at a quarter before six

ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

On the motion of Mr. STAFFORD, seconded by Mr. FRENCH, it was agreed that the House at its rising do adjourn until Friday, in consequence of the visit of the Emperor of the French to the City to-morrow.

The House then adjourned at ten minutes before six until four o'clock on Friday.

THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. XIII.)

An event like the visit of the Emperor and Empress of the French was sure to take possession of everybody's mind; and those minds which are under ordinary circumstances most vacant are—perhaps because they have most room to spare—invariably most full of such an incident as that which has just happened. At the time of my present writing, all—including the Tower guns—may be said to have gone off extremely well; and even the English climate has so far adapted itself to the brilliance of the occasion. Perhaps the new Smoke Act may have had some effect in diminishing the density of the London atmosphere, and relieved the metropolis from that air of gloom which used to engender a sort of melancholy feeling, that might be most appropriately described as the vapours, on all who entered the City. Their Imperial Majesties have, indeed, had a busy week of lionising; and British lionising is no joke when the operation is joined in by all classes of the community. The affair has been managed so skilfully, that the attraction has been not only brought within the reach of every rank and every pocket, but those who have empty pockets, or none at all, have had an opportunity of witnessing a portion of the series of spectacles in which the Emperor and Empress have figured. From the occupant of the ten-guinea stall at the Royal Italian Opera to the temporary tenant of the gratuitous kerbstone in the streets, all have had the means of catching a sight of our illustrious visitors. Odd stories are told of the anxiety shown to procure the privilege of getting on to the stage of the Italian Opera, and, if wealth and rank could have gratified their wish, the scene in the *Critic*, in which a nobleman is discovered in the disguise of a "beefeater," might have been realised. Many a possessor of wealth and title would have gladly given a handsome sum, and voluntarily surrendered himself as a prisoner—in the opera of "Fidelio"—if he could have been allowed to go forward in a pair of stage fetters, wearing the dishevelled wig, the tattered garments, and all the other attributes of a long (theatrical) captivity, in order to bask during the chorus of prisoners in the brilliant sunshine of royalty that illumined the Italian Opera on Thursday evening. Many a member of the aristocracy of wealth would cheerfully have purchased the place of linkman outside the doors of the theatre for that eventful night, if money could have been used as the golden link to bring him into even momentary contact with an Emperor and an Empress.

In the midst of all this gaiety, we hear that the bombardment has recommenced against Sebastopol; and that our great guns in the diplomatic line at Vienna have missed fire. Many feared, from a rather doubtful article in the *Moniteur*, that the Allies were about to raise the siege; but, instead of this, they have been making a fresh attempt to lay low the city. The diplomatic mission was always expected to fail, and Lord John Russell will, it is said, be at home next week—affording a new illustration of the connection between "quick returns and small profits." The return of his Lordship will be acceptable to those who require his services at the Colonial-office; but a return of the expenses incurred in this fruitless mission will not be very agreeable—at least to those who will be obliged to pay the cost of it.

However valuable the Militia may be in the defence of the country—and there is no doubt that the force in question, when called upon, will do its duty—there is something very disagreeable in the knowledge that some of these men are walking about with their bayonets, of which they occasionally make a premature and improper use, while the police have strict orders not to interfere with them. With all due regard for the Militia as a whole, it must be admitted that its ingredients are not all of the very best kind; and the hand that has tried everything, and failed, or has been too idle to try anything at all, is not exactly the hand that should be entrusted, except while under discipline, with the command of a bayonet. Some recent cases show that there are men among the Militia who are beginning to use their weapons against, instead of in defence of, their own countrymen, and some serious assaults have been the result of the double absurdity of allowing militiamen when off duty to wear their side-arms, and not allowing policemen when on duty to interfere with militia-men. Now that a good deal of mischief has been done, fresh orders will probably be given; and it must be hoped, therefore, that no more very serious casualties will ensue before the "departments" have had time to go through all the cumbrous machinery of countermanding the alleged orders which have been the cause of some very deplorable incidents.

The administration of criminal justice has recently not worked altogether in such a satisfactory manner as can be desired. The discharge of the jury that could not agree on the criminality of a lady shoplifter, and the arguments that are presumed to have prevailed with six of the jurymen who refused to find her guilty, must open a very wide door to the escape of all classes of female delinquents. According to the argument of counsel, by which the jury must be supposed to have been influenced, all women, at certain times and at a certain age, are not morally responsible for their acts; and, if this is to be accepted as a sound conclusion, it will be difficult to prove when a woman ought to be punished for any violation of the laws of society. It has been said in an influential journal that a costermonger's wife would have got off just as easily as the physician's lady; an assertion which is, I fear, founded on the knowledge of what ought to occur, rather than on the expectation of what would really happen. For my own part, I believe that the costermonger's wife would have been found guilty, without any one having thought for a moment about her time of life; and that the old saying, as to the possibility of driving through an act of Parliament in a coach and six, has been partially realized. I suspect, however, it would not have been so easy to drive through the law with a costermonger's cart as with a physician's carriage. Already there are disagreeable symptoms of the spreading of a malady which the law, or rather those employed in administering the law, have been too ready to recognise. At Clerkenwell police-court a "respectable" woman, with plenty of money in her pocket, has been charged with stealing an article worth eight shillings from a shop in Hatton-garden. She might, with the assistance of an "able advocate," have got off, on the new ground that has been adopted for the defence of female delinquency, but the magistrate seems to have prevented the defeat of the ends of justice, by dealing summarily with the accused, who confessed her error and begged for mercy. If counsel had been at hand to defend her and bully the magistrate, the tables might have been turned, though the Bench would probably have done its duty, in spite of the hard abuse of the advocate, or the anonymous threats of an "appeal to the Home-office," from those who seem to wish that the liberty of the subject should be secured—especially if the "subject" happens to be guilty—by making the magistrate the mere minion of the Minister.

If juries in criminal matters are blameable for inclining so far on the side of mercy as to lose sight of the side of justice, they are still more reprehensible when, in the event of a difficulty in nicely adjusting the balance, they refuse to allow the turn of the scale in favour of the prisoner. I do not say that the jury in Burnanelli's case have not acted conscientiously; for I have no doubt that the verdict delivered is quite in accordance with conscience, and with the best judgment that could be given to the facts of the case; but I confess, if the report is accurate, the medical testimony as to the sanity of the prisoner is so unsatisfactory as to admit of a doubt of which, I think, he ought to have had the benefit. The conductors of the prosecution have been censured for omitting to call a witness who, it is alleged, would have proved the insanity of the accused; while it is urged, on the other hand, that it is not the duty of the prosecution to call a witness in favour of the prisoner. In a legal and professional point of view, it may be true enough that they who prosecute are not bound to defend; but it is equally clear in a moral point of view, that as the prosecutor is supposed to concern himself a party to the prosecution of one of whose innocence he knows that there is existing evidence. For my own part, I do not believe the rumour that proof of Burnanelli's insanity was within reach of the prosecution; for, though there have been flagrantly discreditable cases in which advocates have thought it consistent with professional duty to resort to calumny and other contemptible means, for the purpose of saving the guilty, there is, I think, no instance on record where a barrister has wilfully employed a *suppressio veri* in order to obtain the condemnation of the innocent.

THE LOAN.

The expectation which had, since Friday, occupied the attention of all persons connected with monetary affairs, was, on Monday, brought to an issue by the promulgation of the intentions of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Speculation had been rife in the interim as to the mode to be proposed. Would the Loan to be raised be added to the Consolidated Fund, or would it come out in the form of Terminable Annuities? Or would it be provided for partly by the one and partly by the other? Nobody professed even to guess at the Chancellor's views, and the man on 'Change ventured to hint that he was in the secret. Those who ordinarily have everything from "undoubted authority" were silent on this occasion; and those who, at other times, "don't mind telling you confidentially," now either forget to confide in you, or forbid you to confide. Each man had, of course, his own pet crotchet; each mounted his hobby, upon which he was prepared to ride full tilt against all the windmill giants which any Chancellor of the Exchequer might set up. Each could recount to you his own projects, but of the project of the Minister of Finance none could speak.

As we have said, Monday afternoon brought all doubts and surmises to a close by the publication of the following plan:—

1. The Loan to be for the sum of sixteen millions of pounds.

2. For every £100 subscribed in money, the contractors to have £100 Three per Cent Consolidated Annuities, and a Terminable Annuity for thirty years, ending on 5th April, 1885

The biddings to be made in the Terminable Annuity.

3. The interest on the Three per Cent Consolidated Annuities to commence from the 5th of January, 1855, and the Terminable Annuity to commence from the 5th of April, 1855.

4. The days of payment, and the proportions of the contributions to be paid, to be as follows:—

On Tuesday, April 24,	deposit of	£10 per cent.
May 22	,,	£15
June 19	,,	£10
July 17	,,	£15
Aug. 21	,,	£10
Sept. 18	,,	£10
Oct. 16	,,	£10
Nov. 20	,,	£10
Dec. 18	,,	£10

5. For each instalment after the deposit, a proportional amount of Stock to be created for the contributors.

The Stock payable on the deposit to be created at the same time with that which will be due on the last instalment, when the Terminable Annuity will also be written in to the contributors' names in the books of the Bank of England.

6. The biddings to be made at the Treasury on Friday, April 20, at ten o'clock.

About one-tenth, therefore, of the Loan will be raised on Terminable Annuities for thirty years, and the remainder in Consols. To have attempted to obtain any very much larger portion on the former mode of security would have been difficult; and, under all the circumstances, we believe the mode adopted to be the best, and characterised by more judgment than has been the wont of Chancellors of the Exchequer in general.

The Loan was inevitable: to provide for the expenses of the war by means of ordinary taxation had perhaps become, from public opinion, an impossibility.

Let us hope that we shall not need a further loan to carry on the war. The last war cost us £601,500,343; at an annual charge for interest of £22,829,696; having continued from 1793 to 1815—a period of twenty-two years. At the commencement of that war the Debt was only £239,350,148; with an annual charge of £9,208,495; and, at its conclusion, it had increased to £840,850,491; the annual charge being £32,038,191.

THE INDIAN TELEGRAPH.—The electric telegraph has just been carried as far north as Attock, and will be at Peshawur in three months' time, a distance in direct line of 1000 miles from Calcutta, and the line from Bombay, and 1600 from Madras; so that the three Presidencies could be communicated with simultaneously, and in a few minutes' time by the Afghan frontier, the only point in the whole circuit of our Eastern dominions where serious troubles or annoyance can arise.

THE LIME-BURNERS.—The Russians have been greatly puzzled, and are exceedingly angry, with the proceedings of our lime-burners in front of the Third Division. The volumes of smoke arising from the kilns have attracted their notice, and they have shelled the spot at intervals ever since, to the discomfiture of Major-General Barnard's poultry in the rear of the quarries. One shell grazed the General's tent; another burst among his little temporary enclosure of cocks, hens, and pigs, and is said to have injured some of them, and the General has had to shift his quarters. The navvies who were burning the lime took the exigencies of their position with great coolness, and contented themselves with expressing a wish for a gentle rain to extinguish the fire lighted the Russians with in the interval of lime-burning. The Russians evidently think the smoke arises from some works connected with the railway; and although the kiln—which is concealed by the quarried stone before it—is full two miles from their batteries, they direct shells at it now and then during the day.—*Letter from the Camp, March* 30.

A FEMALE SPY.—For some days past nothing has been talked of but the arrest of a young Russian woman: she had been remarked several times before, as her bonnet was apparent to be in the trenches. The rumour ceased for some time, and the General at last was informed of the fact. He ordered a stricter watch to be kept, as he thought it could be only a spy disguised in woman's attire. At six o'clock on the morning of the 28th the same woman presented herself in front of our men while they were at work. She was of tall and majestic stature, and held an extinguished lantern in her hand, and seemed to examine the works with much attention. Some perceived that she [illegible] of paper half open, in which probably she noted all the observations she could collect. At the sight of our soldiers and officers she quickened her pace, and entered a sort of ravine which is at the extremity of the French trenches. As soon as she reached that spot she began to run, but the commandant sent two Zouaves in pursuit, and they soon overtook her. Two hours after she was conducted to General Canrobert. Her examination was not long: she at once replied that it was for the good of her country, and to avenge the death of her husband, Beninoff, killed at the Alma, that she acted thus; and, moreover, that she felt no regret. She was then searched. The searchers found in one of her pockets a paper book, containing several details on the state of our batteries, the number of men employed, the number of guns in the batteries, &c; and in another pocket a double-barrelled pistol, and a letter addressed to Prince Menschikoff. After the visit she was shut up in an apartment of the General's headquarters, under the guard of two soldiers, until such time as she can be sent to Malta.—*Letter from Kamiesch, March* 30.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE BOMBARDMENT OF SEBASTOPOL.—To day two more 10-inch mortars were sent to the front, with about fifty or sixty tons of powder, 300 rounds of filled shell, and 200 rounds of empty 10-inch. To-day also, the greater part of the crew of the *Leander*, 50, came on shore and joined the Naval Brigade, near head-quarters. These men will be distributed at the heavy guns in the different new works. Their appearance as they landed was unusually picturesque; each man dressed in blue, with his cutlass and revolver at his side, and in the centre one of the Quartermasters with the "Union." To add still further to the imposing nature of the procession, two sailors—one with a fife and the other with a fiddle—marched at its head, enlivening the way with "Jack's Alive," "Cheer, Boys, Cheer," &c., and, accompanied by such tunes, and joking and laughing with themselves and all they met, the blue-jackets rolled off in high glee to share in the bloody pangs of the trenches. Wherever they go they will do their work well, for in the management of our large siege guns the artillerymen are not to be compared to them. At the same time that the sailors landed 5000 Turks were sent up to head-quarters, each man carrying a long fascine. There are not less than 10,000 or 12,000 of these fascines already piled near Lord Raglan's house, and a ship now in harbour has about 1500 more from Sinope, and other ships are expected. We have no new works either in course of construction, or, as far as I can ascertain, contemplated, for which such enormous numbers would be required, and I am, therefore, led to the conclusion, that they are wanted for the storming of the Russian batteries. Each of these batteries is surrounded with a deep fosse, which the storming party fill with fascines provided for the purpose, and are thus enabled to cross without the tiresome and delay which scaling-ladders always occasion. Orders were received at Balaclava to-day to prepare ships for the reception of wounded, and to the general hospital the same intimation to have beds ready was also given. The *St. Helena, Orient*, and the *George Pelhock* transports will be fitted up with all dispatch, each for the reception of between 200 and 300 wounded; and the general hospital, with the wooden huts which have been built for the purpose, will accommodate about 200 more. These additions to the four regular hospital-ships, besides one or two temporary hospital-ships now in harbour, ought to accommodate a larger number of wounded than we would get by a mere bombardment and assault; but if a general assault of the whole place is contemplated, the necessity for hospital accommodation will be fearful. All out here seem agreed that the bloody horrors of Inkerman will fade to a mere skirmish before the storming of the town and fortresses. The Zouaves, it is said, with a party of Tirailleurs d'Afrique and Chasseurs de Vincennes, are to storm the Malakoff the night after opening fire; and to the English has been allotted the Mamelon. These may be mere rumours, but they are universally believed here, and will very likely prove true. The plan of the assault is, no doubt, to concentrate the fire of our batteries upon the Malakoff works and Mamelon, and storm directly a sufficient number of their guns are disabled to enable us to do it with the smallest loss. From the Mamelon the town can be commanded at every point; and, with the Malakoff towers in our possession, the Redan would be untenable to the enemy, and the dockyard at our mercy.—*Letter from the Camp, April* 3.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

What remuneration Sir Charles Barry is to receive in his capacity as Architect of the New Houses of Parliament is still a fruitful subject of disagreement between Sir Charles and the Treasury. His claim is made, we believe, at three per cent on the expenditure, but if this, plus the outlay of the present time, would give him, it is said, fifty-four thousand pounds. This is thought, by some, to be too large a sum; by others it is thought just enough; and by Sir Charles himself it is called, if anything, under the mark. There was, it appears, a kind of implied understanding when the works commenced that the architect's remuneration should be twenty-five thousand pounds. But this disputed stipulation was made twenty years ago, when the works, it was widely supposed, would not cost one-third of the sum already spent upon them, and the time of erection would be at least within one-half the period that has not yet seen the Palace completed. It is quite clear that twenty-five thousand pounds is a very insufficient sum for the twenty years' labour of so skilful an architect as Sir Charles Barry; that fifty-four thousand is nearer his proper reward; while it is equally obvious that the system must be bad which has suffered Sir Charles to dream of sums very different in amount from those contemplated to be paid by the Lords of the Treasury.

Two pieces of good news transpired in the Commons the other night. The beautiful Diana fountain in Bushey-park is to be forthwith restored; and that unsightly hole in Hyde-park, occasioned by the abstraction of good gravel, and the partial filling up of it with mud and something worse, is no longer to be a public eyesore. Gravel is to be got elsewhere, and the pit is to be restored to its original level of turf.

They are making a mess of the long-promised building in Fetter-lane for our Public Records. The fault is not with the architect, but with the Master of the Rolls. The Master is accepting the contents of every public repository, and is crowding costly shelves—designed for other purposes—with useless papers, fit only for the mill. When once he has accepted, the Master has no power to destroy. Public offices are only too glad to empty their old and useless papers into the lap of the Rolls, and the result is that there is now very little chance of our seeing the contents of the Tower, of the Chapter-house, and of the Rolls' Chapel, within any part of Mr. Pennethorne's new building. Sixty-one thousand three hundred and twenty pounds were never voted for the safe keeping of useless papers, but for the better preservation and use of those real records, than which no nation can produce a nobler series than ourselves.

Artists are talking of a very admirable series of portraits commenced by Mr. E. M. Ward, R.A., partly for his own pleasure, and partly with a view to publication. The idea is excellent, and the execution in Mr. Ward's happiest manner. He has commenced a series of full-length portraits of our eminent living authors. Each author is seated in his own study, surrounded by those books and faces with whom he is accustomed to hold almost daily converse. Six are already finished—Lord Mahon (now Earl Stanhope), Mr. Macaulay, Mr. Hallam, Sir Bulwer Lytton, Mr. Dickens, and Mr. Thackeray. Men who know all six are divided in their opinion which is the best portrait—all are so good. The pictures are of a cabinet size; and will, we hear (and are happy to think), be engraved in a fitting style of art. What would not one give for a Shakspeare and Ben Jonson set; a Milton and Marvel set; a Dryden and Otway set; a Pope and Swift set; a Johnson and Boswell set; a Scott and Byron set—of portraits akin in spirit to these by Mr. Ward. It is high time that in our school of portrait-painting a painter's column and curtain should give way for some thing more real, more appropriate, and quite as pictorial.

The cost of a park and pleasure-ground is no light matter. It is not every well-to-do-in-the-world person who can afford to keep a luxury of the kind. The expenditure required to maintain our parks is incredibly large. Sixty-six thousand pounds were expended in one year, ending March 31st, 1855, on our parks and pleasure-grounds, and the income derived therefrom was barely above six thousand pounds. The three parks in London that immediately join one another—St. James's, the Green, and Hyde Parks—consume £20,000 of the £60,000; the Regent's-park is maintained at a yearly cost of £5500; and the Victoria-park at a yearly cost of £2300.

Sir William Hooker is petitioning Parliament for more accommodation to the greenhouse plants removed from temperate climates to the uncertain atmosphere of Kew Gardens. The claims of the war should not be put forth as any reason for the rejection of a petition like this, in which the public is so largely interested. The cost of Kew to the country is fifteen thousand pounds a year; and in the season the visitors who frequent its greenhouses and walks—returning pleased and instructed—vary from eight thousand to ten thousand a day. Many students desirous of information about economic and other plants throughout Europe have come to reside at Kew, for months at a time, with the sole purpose of studying in these well-stored gardens, of which Sir William Hooker is the indefatigable Director. Think very favourably, if you please, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, of our judicious Hooker and his "sma' request."

This mention of the living Director at Kew reminds us that we have just lost by death the Director of the Metropolitan School of Science applied to Mining and the Arts. Sir Henry De la Beche was the painstaking founder and parent of this school, from its infancy in Craig's-court to its removal to its present quarters in Piccadilly. His successor should, if possible, be a still better man. We await with interest the name of the new Director. The appointment is in the gift, we believe, of the President of the Board of Trade—the salary £1100 a year.

We are not quite sure but what there is a very fair foundation for the complaint about the British Museum put forth in the following letter:—

(*To the Editor of the* Illustrated London News.)

April 17th, 1855.

Sir,—Seeing the interest you take in matters connected with the Library of the British Museum, I venture to hope that you will express your opinion on the following facts.

My object in resorting to the Reading-room was the consultation of several elaborate works on Harmony and others on Music in general; but, though all published prior to 1850, not one could I find in the Catalogue. With a view of testing the Music Catalogue, I last week took a column of advertisements of music in the *Times* for December, 1849; but, out of thirty-nine pieces, only five (and those all with words) were mentioned. Indeed, the Music seems composed entirely of pieces with words; those lighter compositions, such as quadrilles, marches, &c., are scarcely to be found at all.

Can you inform me if it is optional with music publishers to forward copies; or, if not, is any distinction made in the class of music required to be forwarded?

You will perhaps have remarked that the Music Catalogue seems never to receive any additions, and that it is seldom consulted—probably because those who have done so do not desire the musty old ballads which seem to have found such favour with the compiler

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

One who hopes for better things in the New Room.

The "musty old ballads" unnecessarily condemned by our Correspondent are curious records of bygone times, and well merited the descriptive catalogue which has made them really serviceable.

The Soldiers' Dress in the Crimea.—A fear has been expressed that the men will not be allowed to wear the white quilted chako covers which the Bulgarian climate forced upon the coy martinetism of the Peninsular veterans. I believe that is an idle fear. The absurd objectors to this necessary head covering were conquered through the force of circumstances; and, though they may still survive, they will not again dare to display their foolish faces to the light of day. The campaign, short as it has been, has justified all those reforms of costume and habits which were so urgently demanded and so reluctantly conceded at its commencement. The British soldier, emancipated from the trammels of the collar and stock, permitted to wear the beard God gave him, and to move about in his light and easy Russia leather boots, now that he is neither overworked nor undieted, looks a happy, strong, and prosperous creature. War is forming its own ends, and the military education of the nation, so much neglected, is making rapid strides.—*Letter from the Camp.*

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C F S. They shall be returned shortly.

M de R.—Your letter was unfortunately mislaid. It shall be replied to immediately.

P G., Ayr is thanked.—Inquiries have been answered by letter.

M. von H., Brussels. Many thanks. The "Concordance" is minutely exact, and will greatly facilitate reference.

A F., Florence.—We are still without any news of the long-promised transcripts. Pray forward them, through the accustomed channel, with all convenient expedition.

M D., Paris, is cordially thanked for his obliging offer, of which we shall gladly and frankly avail ourselves whenever an opportunity to do so occurs.

Bourbon.—A copy of "Gianutio," first edition, 4to, 1597, would be a bargain at the cost you name. As to Ducchi's "Sacbetde" and Severino's "Giuoco da Scacchi," they throw little or no light upon the ancient form of the game, and are not of much interest or value to any one.

F. J., Norwood.—You must apply by letter to the publisher, Mr. Little, enclosing a Post-office order for the period you wish to receive the paper. The subscription is 26s. per annum.

W. C. C.—We referred to one of your own Problems, not to the Solution of our Enigma.

An Old Subscriber.—A Bishop can generally draw the game against a Rook, although there are a few exceptional cases where the latter wins. See the "Chess-Player's Handbook," p. 439.

B J E.—Stagnell's Problem is extremely pretty, and shall have insertion.

Saintelie, W. G., McD., Philo—Yes; quite correct.

Chilion.—In this instance we retained no copy.

Derion.—The key-move of Enigma 918 is *B to Q 2nd*. Your Variation shall be examined.

D. G. B. Your Solution of Mr. Bolton's little gem is the true one.

F. I. Derby.—A player having advanced a Pawn to his 6th sq is at liberty to exchange it for any piece (a King, of course, excepted) which he may choose, without regard to the pieces he has at the time on the Chess-board.

An Amateur.—In Castling on the King's side you place your Rook on the K B sq. When Castling on the Queen's side the Rook is placed on the Q sq.

J. C., Beaumont St. L., Falmouth.—You are mistaken. Try once more.

Amateur, Ramsay.—In the position given White could not win.

Solution of Problem No. 581, by Salopiensis, Murphy, Photographer, Andy, Max D. G., Beldam, J. Mischief, Mona, Joannes, W. Prescot, are correct.

Solutions of Problem No. 582, by Derevon, M. P., Andy, Napoleon, G. T. V., B. A., Castalia, W. C. C., F. T., Derby; J. Minchin, Philo, Ernest, S. P. Q. R., Philo-Chess, Caillabert, Gregory, Punch, Peregrine, Argus, Oldfogus, A. E., Omicron, Eton, Philip, Eldolon, Miles, Civis, F. A. S., Omega, Rex, Pebbles, Max, Trinity Cell, St. George, Nero, Oldbuck, Admirer, Subscriber, are correct.

Solutions of Enigmas, by Derevon, F. T., Derby, Phil, Dux, Maltravers, Delta, T. W. V., D. D., Pedagogue, M. G., P. R., Ontario, M. P., Gregory, are correct. All others are wrong.

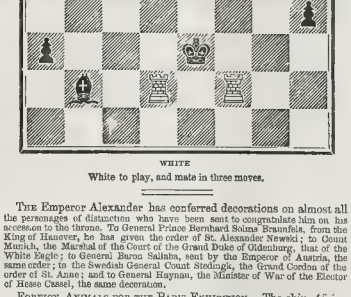
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 580.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. K B to Q B 4th	P takes B (best)
2. R to K 8nd	K moves
3. Kt or P mates	

PROBLEM No. 583.

By Mr. J. B., of Bridport.

BLACK



WHITE

White to play, and mate in three moves.

The Emperor Alexander has conferred decorations on almost all the personages of distinction who have been sent to congratulate him on his accession to the throne. To General Prince Bernhard Solms Braunfels, from the King of Hanover, he has given the order of St. Alexander Newski; to Count Munich, the Marshal of the Court of the Grand Duke of Oldenburg, that of the White Eagle; to General Baron Salisba, sent by the Emperor of Austria, the same order; to the Swedish General Count Stedingk, the Grand Cordon of the order of St. Anne; and to General Haynau, the Minister of War of the Elector of Hesse Cassel, the same decoration.

Foreign Animals for the Paris Exhibition.—The ship *Africa*, Captain O'Neill, arrived in the Mersey on Sunday last, from Bombay, had on board two Surat bulls of "high caste," intended for the Paris Industrial Exhibition. The animals are of a snow-white colour, and have exceedingly strange developments. They are very fine in the limbs, with necks hanging below the knee, and very long, heavy ears. The animals attracted considerable attention in Liverpool.

Arrest of Dr. Lang in Australia.—This gentleman, who is well known in this country by the frequent visits he paid here, and the lectures that he delivered, has been committed to prison in Geelong, on a charge of writing letters "calculated to bring the administration of justice into contempt." The Doctor, it appears, felt keenly the result of a trial in which his son, Mr. G. D. Lang, late manager of the branch bank of New South Wales at Balarat, was convicted on a charge of having embezzled the funds of the bank to the extent of £10,000. In a letter which he wrote in the *Melbourne Argus*, he did not hesitate at classing Sir W. A'Beckett with the infamous Judge Jeffreys, and denounced the trial as a proof that justice was polluted.

Remarkable Discovery.—About a fortnight ago, as some persons were clearing and trenching a piece of waste ground for a garden at Tynrach, Perthshire, a small Druidical circle, close upon the highway, was disclosed to the gaze of the stranger by the removal of masses of broom and bramble that had hitherto concealed it. This olden temple is about 18 feet in diameter, and quite entire, each of its huge stones standing erect and in its proper place; but there is an additional interest attached to it from the fact that, while digging and levelling the interior, four huge urns, about two feet in height and one foot in diameter at the mouth, were exhumed, full of calcined bones, besides three or four stone coffins, formed of thin, unshapen slabs, evidently from the adjacent ground, and likewise containing the mortal remains of the ancient Caledonians of a pre-historic period. Unfortunately, either from the extreme brittleness of the urns, or a want of care on the part of the labourers, the whole were broken to pieces, but enough still remain to show that they were of the very coarsest manufacture, in shape remote from classical, and with no pretension to decoration but a profusion of scratchings without method on the outside of the upper portion of each. The coffins were equally unconsciousness devoid with; but it is worthy of remark that they lay in no particular order in reference to the compass, but, if anything, rather inclined to south and north—indeed, one of them lay exactly in that direction.

A Smithfield Market Incident in the Crimea.—During the afternoon Balaclava was considerably enlivened by the antics of a wild bull, which for about an hour held complete possession of the place. The lean kine, which are issued for fresh provisions now, are generally tame enough, Heaven knows; but occasionally, and especially in the ships from Asia Minor, wild cattle are caught on the plains by means of a lasso, in the use of which all the people along the coast are very expert. These young bulls, when first caught, are perfectly savage and ungovernable, and are always slaughtered on board the vessel before landing. By mistake, however, one was landed to-day, and he instantly took charge of the town. The soldiers were interested in the hunt, which was a thing exactly suited to their taste, and as the bull formed part of their rations, they chased him with peculiar zest and keenness. But the bull was cool and wary, and three or four who ventured too near were soon taught the value of discretion in connection with their valour, and were capsized heavily and severely bruised. Fortunately the animal had no horns, or the consequences would have been most serious. As it was, his hoofs did mischief enough, and kept everyone at a respectful distance, whilst the refractory brute promenaded amongst the huts at leisure. Everywhere he went the soldiers from the tops of walls and huts showered down stones enough to kill and bury him, but they only half been as well aimed as they were well meant; but none succeeded in bringing him down. Occasionally, when hit harder than usual, he turned, stood at bay for a moment, then charged his assailants, who of course scattered in all directions. In the midst of these abortive efforts to slay him some very imprudent individual called out to fire, and instantly, without the least reference to the people about, half a dozen shots were directed against the unfortunate animal. One sergeant, within six feet of the bull, missed his aim, but shot a private of the 71st through the knee instead. After this mishap the indiscriminate volleys were discontinued, and the bull, taking to the hills, was at last killed by a rifle shot from an officer of the Guards. Now that much of our fresh meat comes from Asia Minor, these cattle *émeutes* are not uncommon, though they never went to such lengths as to-day.—*Letter from Balaclava, April 2.*

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The drawing by the Princess Royal at the Pall-mall Exhibition, for which £200 have been offered, was timidly valued by her Royal Highness herself at one guinea.

The Emperor of the French has, through M. Casabianca, purchased several estates on the territory of Civita Nova. It appears that he intends to purchase a villa in the neighbourhood of Ancona, where M. Casabianca will take up his residence.

The Cortes approved a Budget of Civil List granting to the Queen of Spain 28,000,000 reals; to the King, 1,000,000 reals; the Princess of Asturias, 1,000,000 reals; and the Duchess de Montpensier, 1,500,000 reals.

The Emperor of the French has presented to Mr. Wyld a gold snuff-box, with his cipher in diamonds, as a souvenir of his visit to the model of Sebastopol. The Queen of Spain has also decorated Mr. Wyld with the Order of Carlos III.

When the Poles had to swear allegiance to the new Czar a change was made in the form of the oath. In 1825 the Poles took the oath to "the Emperor of Russia and King of Poland;" now there have been added the words, "and to the Grand Duke of Finland."

Major-General the Hon. Yorke Scarlett, commanding the Cavalry Division, has left Balaclava for England, having been summoned home on account of the serious illness of his wife.

A memoir of the Rev. Sydney Smith, by his daughter, Lady Holland, is promised in a few days by Messrs. Longman.

The Emperor Alexander has ordered the Minister of the Imperial Household to leave untouched the apartments of the late Emperor; and for the present, for the sake of economy, no change will be effected in the State apartments, nor in those which the present Emperor occupied during his father's lifetime.

The Prince of Prussia has left Coblentz for Berlin, in obedience to an order of the King, to take part in conferences relative to the mission of General de Wedell.

The Earl of Listowel has made a grant to the nuns of the Presentation Convent in Listowel of the land on which their convent is erected.

The Princess Bonaparte, of Rome, have been invited to Paris by the Emperor, and are not likely to return to the former city, as their villa and their palace in town are offered for sale.

Mr. Lionel Gisborne has settled the conditions on which an English company will undertake the construction of a submarine telegraph from Constantinople to Alexandria.

The Duke de Brabant is expected at Beyrout: he will visit Constantinople, where a brilliant reception awaits him.

Muchlies Pacha has given in his resignation as chef-d'état-major, and has left Eupatoria in consequence of a quarrel with Omer Pacha.

Under the will of Miss Anne Thompson, formerly of Sackville-street, and lately of Brighton, eleven hospitals and charitable institutions are left residuary legatees; and it is calculated each will ultimately get nearly £400.

Judge Helfenstein, of Pennsylvania, has left his coal estate at Shamokin, Pa., estimated to be worth one million and a half of dollars, for the benefit of the poor of New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore.

On the 6th inst. Reschid Pacha was at Alexandria, his object being to obtain men and money from the Government, to assist in carrying on the war.

Dr. William Aitken, Demonstrator of Anatomy in the University, and Pathologist to the Royal Infirmary at Glasgow, has been appointed assistant Commissioner at the hospitals on the shores of the Black Sea.

Iskender Bey is rapidly recovering: he has lost only the tips of three fingers of his right hand, the forefinger being uninjured; he will therefore be able to wield the sabre with as much vigour as heretofore.

Professor Macnochie has resigned the chair of Civil Law in the University of Glasgow, and Sheriff Skene has received the appointment of the Crown to that office.

Madame George Sand continues her autobiography in the pages of the *Presse*. She is at present recounting her youthful experiences while in a convent—having, it seems, narrowly escaped taking the veil.

The *Kendal Mercury* states that Miss Martineau is engaged, in the intervals of ease, upon her autobiography.

On Tuesday next Mr. W. M. Thackeray will lecture at Doe's Hotel, Birmingham, under the auspices of the Birmingham and Midland Institute, on "Humour and Charity."

The Directors of the Crystal Palace intend to have an exhibition illustrative of the arts and manufactures, and of the manners and customs of India, China, and other Oriental countries, in a Court to be set apart for that purpose.

The *Moniteur* announces that the Universal Exhibition at the Palais d'Industrie will be opened on the 1st of May; and that no articles for exhibition can be received after the 20th instant.

Several inspectors of the Metropolitan Police will be stationed in Paris during the opening of the Exhibition, in order to keep watch on the English *chevaliers d'industrie*, who are pretty sure to abound.

A number of persons have been arrested at Grenelle on a charge of being concerned in the construction of a new "infernal machine."

Persons who can speak English, together with the Danish, Swedish, or Russian tongues, are greatly needed for the Baltic Fleet, as interpreters.

A company has been formed in Buenos Ayres to light that city with gas.

Nearly 2000 colliers are on strike at Wigan, in consequence of the late reduction of wages. Large and tumultuous assemblages of the people are prohibited.

The quantity of zinc used in Paris last year in the manufacture of small pistols for cauldron was 83,000 kilogrammes; and the quantity of the same article for the small round mirrors with covers, and for spectacle-cases, reached to 200,000 kilogrammes.

Several officers of the French Navy are engaged at present in visiting and taking plans of the ports of Dieppe, Calais, and Boulogne.

According to recent returns, there is a very great falling off this season in the production of beetroot sugar in France.

Government is about to issue a commission to inquire into the condition and management of lunatic asylums in Scotland.

Adulteration in wines and other liquors is taking place to an enormous extent, both in Paris and in some of the wine-growing districts of the departments.

A young man who acts as a clerk to an influential firm in Glasgow was swindled out of not less than £414 in bank notes the other day, by a parcel of card sharpers, in one of the carriages upon the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway.

During the existence of the potichomania, the glass-works at Sèvres alone have made 800f. of vases a day, and the crystal works at Clichy have for more than twelve months employed the greater number of their workmen on smaller articles.

The steamer *Atlantic*, which arrived at Liverpool on Thursday morning, from New York, is reported to have brought one million and a half of dollars.

The last link to the chain of continuous railway communication between Paris and Marseilles is completed, and was opened for passengers on Monday last.

Her Majesty's discovery-ship *Enterprise*, Captain Collinson, C.B., was at the Cape of Good Hope on the 17th of February, and her arrival in England may be expected in a few days.

Several contemporary painters, foreigners as well as Frenchmen, will have specimens in the Paris Exhibition. MM. Ingres, Horace Vernet, and Delacroix, are expected to have compartments, in which the whole of their principal works will be collected.

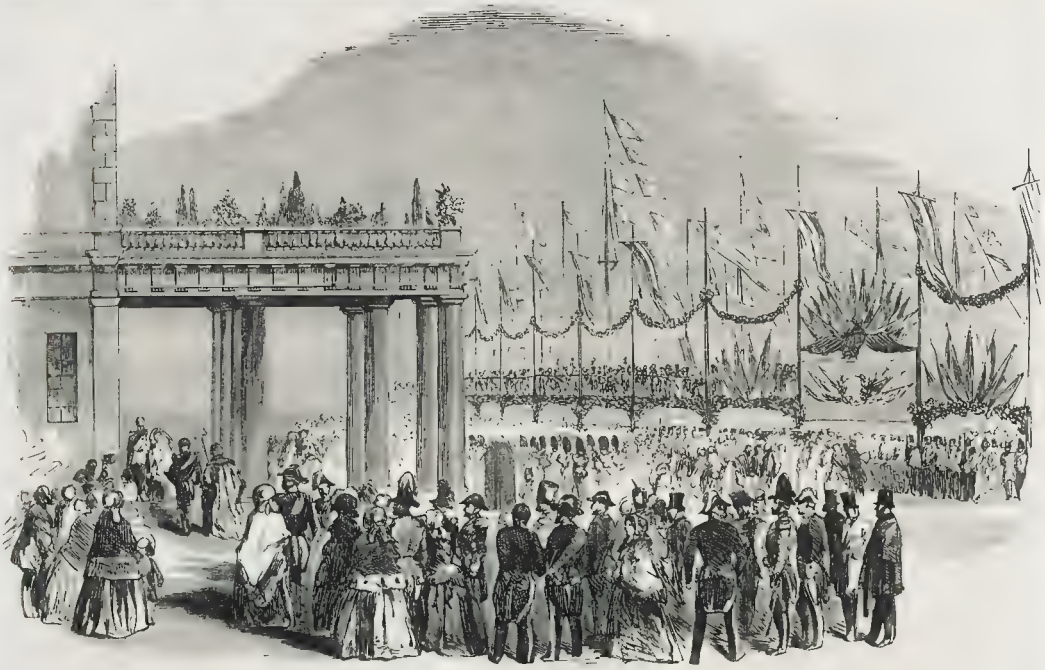
The estate of Strichen, in Aberdeenshire, has been sold by Lord Lovat, for the sum of £140,000. This is from £20,000 to £30,000 beyond what could have been obtained a few years ago, when it was offered in three several lots, but failed to attract purchasers.

The journeymen carpenters of Orleans have followed the example of those of Nantes, and struck for an increase of wages. The authorities have interfered, and six of the ringleaders of the movement have been arrested.

A number of Prussian deserters have lately arrived at Metz, and requested permission to join the expeditionary army of the East. Not fewer than seventeen arrived in one day last week.

A boy in one of our London ragged schools having shown a great taste for acquiring languages has been sent out as an interpreter to Balaclava, and frequently has the honour of dining with Lord Raglan.

Orders for between 2000 and 3000 cast-iron guns up to 16-pounders, with a large quantity of shot, are in the market just now, for the merchant service in the East Indies. One Glasgow ironfoundry has contracted to supply 1400 of them, with shot to suit.



RECEPTION OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS AT THE LORD WARDEN HOTEL, DOVER.

(*Continued from page 375.*)

the review-ground very much the appearance of some triumphal procession The Royal and Imperial party and staff found the troops all drawn up in line, down the front of which they passed, and returned along the rear. The carriage conveying the Queen and the Empress then came back to the Flag-staff, and the horses were taken out of all the Royal carriages, to prevent accidents.

A great crowd of people of distinction from the neighbourhood, with an immense number of other persons on foot and horseback, who already occupied a portion of the ground, here received the Emperor and Empress with acclamations.

The troops which were to be reviewed consisted of the 2nd Regiment of Life Guards, the Horse Guards (Blue), and the Carabiniers. The 94th Regiment of Foot kept the ground, and a company of Grenadiers and Coldstream Guards served as a guard of honour to their Majesties. From an elevated position the illustrious visitors had an opportunity of witnessing the manœuvres of the troops subsequently to the inspection. Upon the arrival on the ground of the Emperor and Prince, the brigade of cavalry regiments, which were drawn up in two lines, were inspected. Accompanied by Lord Cardigan, who was in command of the brigade and who was most enthusiastically cheered upon the ground, Colonel Forrester, and a numerous staff, they rode along the front and down the rear ranks, the ladies in attendance and other members of the suite following in open carriages. The inspection over, the three regiments of cavalry broke up into open squadrons, and walked past the illustrious visitors, followed by two troops of Horse Artillery, and reformed in their first position. The brigade next marched past by "threes," formed into squadrons, and marching off "left wheel," formed close columns of squadrons, took up a fresh position, and afterwards trotted past in columns of troops. They then took up a fresh position, changed front, and galloped past by troops, re-forming in the position which they occupied on the ground on the arrival of the Emperor. This portion of the inspection being concluded, a sham fight—if such it could be called—took place.

There being no force on the ground but cavalry and artillery, no movements, of course, could take place, except those which indicated the uses to which these arms can be applied for the purposes of war. The thousands of visitors who were assembled around had, therefore, to suppose not merely the existence of an unseen enemy, but also to imagine that, acting in combination with the cavalry, were large masses of infantry. The duties of cavalry in connection with active warfare—consisting mainly in marching and countermarching, forming and re-forming, and taking up fresh positions, for the purpose of covering the advance or protecting the retreat of troops—were those which on this occasion could only be displayed. If the visitors had fancied that the large crowds assembled on the ground formed part of an immense army, and that opposed to the cavalry, they would have further to imagine that the cavalry were the rear-guard of a Russian army, vanquished after an obstinate engagement, and com-

ARRIVAL OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS AT THE BRICKLAYERS' ARMS RAILWAY STATION.

THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS LEAVING THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY, AT WINDSOR

pelled by the Allied forces to withdraw. The Carabiniers, who occupied the centre of the line, first sent out a column of skirmishers; and then two troops of artillery on the right flank opened fire, and, as the smoke gradually cleared off, the long lines of cavalry could be seen falling back; the infantry having it must be supposed fallen back in good order, pursued by the artillery and covered by skirmishers of Light Cavalry. Still a terrible fire was supposed to be pouring down upon the retreating forces, and pressing them somewhat hard, when, the Blues charged in line in excellent [illegible] broke the masses of troops, and rallied preventing, as must be supposed, further molestation from that quarter. The artillery upon the centre of the line protected the Blues as they fell back. The skirmishers of the Carabiniers having been recalled, the whole regiment charged from the centre, but, led away by the ardour of the charge, and penetrating [illegible] into the Allied lines, became broken, and had to retire in confusion; but thanks to the artillery which thundered away from their flank, regained their lines. Defeated on their right, though partially successful on the centre, the Allied masses now shifted their attack, and commenced pursuing the enemy on his right. The artillery was immediately seen flying across the field, and at once opened a rapid and terrific fire in that direction. The Horse Guards [illegible] then advanced for the purpose of making a reconnoissance as to the exact position and objects of the Allies, and upon retreating to the position the whole brigade broke up into columns of troops, and with a change of front took up a fresh position in the direction of the attack. The whole line then made a most brilliant charge, the Carabiniers retiring in columns of squadrons from the right, and the Blues "threes about." Having re formed, a squadron of Horse Guards (Blue) made a final charge and withdrew. The retirement of the enemy's forces being thus effected, [illegible] and having established to the satisfaction of the thousands of spectators [illegible] probably unable to distinguish or appreciate the nature of the [illegible] movements—the truth of the great military axiom with respect to the difficulty of securing and protecting a retreat, the whole of the brigade formed in line, and with the proud consciousness which must invariably attach to men who are victorious in a great cause, and who have secured the objects for which they have striven, triumphantly advanced in review order, the bands playing appropriate marches. Thus ended the military manœuvres of the day. The Emperor and Prince passed along the lines, followed by the Royal carriages, the united bands playing the National Anthem, the colours being drooped, and the men saluting in the usual style. The different regiments marched off the ground to their respective barracks, the bands playing, and the vast mass of spectators gradually dispersed.

In the evening the Queen gave a grand dinner in St. George's Hall. The company included their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of [illegible] their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, the Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, his Serene Highness the Prince of Leiningen, and a select party of the nobility. The band of the 2nd Life Guards attended and played during dinner. Her Majesty had afterwards an evening

THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS PASSING THE ARCH AT THE ENTRANCE TO WINDSOR CASTLE.

party. For the accommodation of the Queen's visitors a special train on the Great Western Railway was provided, which left Paddington at half-past eight o'clock, and was in readiness at twelve o'clock to convey her Majesty's guests back to town.

THE CHAPTER OF THE GARTER.—THE INVESTITURE OF THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

Animated by the mere hope of catching a glimpse of his Majesty and his Imperial Consort, Windsor was again the point of attraction for some thousands of strangers, who flocked to the Castle, and besieged every avenue and approach. But the proceedings of their Imperial Majesties were confined entirely to the interior of the palace, and the portion of the grounds to which the public have not the privilege of being admitted. For a considerable period during the forenoon the Emperor and the Empress, the Queen, Prince Albert, and the Duke of Cambridge, took walking exercise in the Slopes; and at three o'clock her Queen held a Grand Chapter of the Order of the Garter, for the purpose of investing the Emperor of the French with the insignia of this most noble Order. The Knights Companions were robed in the Guard-chamber, and afterwards passed to the Grand Reception room. Her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert were conducted by the great officers of State to the Throne-room, followed by the Duke of Cambridge and the Prince of Leiningen. The Queen and their Royal and Serene Highnesses wore the purple velvet mantle, the crimson velvet hood, and the splendid collar of the Order. The train of her Majesty, the Sovereign of the Order, was borne by the Pages of Honour in Waiting. The Queen wore also a diamond diadem. The Knights Companions were called over by Garter King of Arms, when the following answered according to their order of seniority:—The Marquis of Exeter, the Duke of Richmond, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Duke of Buckingham, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Duke of Cleveland, Earl De Grey, the Marquis of Abercorn, the Marquis of Hertford, the Duke of Bedford, the Earl of Clarendon, Earl Spencer, Earl Fitzwilliam, the Duke of Northumberland, the Earl of Ellesmere, and the Earl of Aberdeen. The Knights appeared in the mantle and collar of the Garter, and the others wore their respective robes with their chains and badges. The Knights Companions and Officers entered the Throne-room and took their seats at the table, the Queen being seated in a chair of State at the head; a second (vacant) chair of state being on the right hand of her Majesty. The Prelate of the Order stood on the right of the Queen, the Chancellor on the left; while the Registrar, Garter, and Black Rod remained at the bottom of the table

The ceremony commenced by the Chancellor reading a new statute, by command of the Queen, dispensing with the existing statutes of the Order of the Garter in as far as required for the especial purpose therein mentioned, and ordaining and declaring that his Imperial Majesty Napoleon III., Emperor of the French, be declared a Knight of this Order, any statute, decree, rule, or usage to the contrary notwithstanding. By the Queen's command, the Emperor of the French was conducted from his apartments through the Music-room and Grand Reception-room, between his Royal Highness Prince Albert and his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge—the two senior Knights Companions present, preceded by Garter King of Arms (bearing the ensigns of the Order upon a crimson velvet cushion) and by Black Rod. The Queen and the Knights of the Garter received his Imperial Majesty standing; and the Emperor, passing to the head of the table, took a seat in the chair of State, on the right hand of her Majesty. The Empress of the French, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, the Princess Alice, and the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, had been conducted to the Throne-room, before the entrance of the Queen, for the purpose of witnessing the august ceremony. The Empress and the Duchess of Cambridge were ushered to seats near the Throne. The Queen announced to the Emperor of the French that his Imperial Majesty had been elected a Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter. Garter King of Arms, kneeling, presented the Garter to the Sovereign, and her Majesty, assisted by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, buckled it on the left leg of the Emperor, the Chancellor pronouncing the admonition. Garter King of Arms presented the Ribbon with the George, and the Queen put the same over the left shoulder of the Emperor, the Chancellor pronouncing the admonition. The Queen then gave the accolade to the Emperor; and his Imperial Majesty received the congratulations of his Royal Highness Prince Albert, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, his Serene Highness the Prince of Leiningen, and each of the Knights Companions present. The Chapter being thus ended, the Knights Companions were again called over by Garter, and retired from the presence of the Sovereign with the usual reverences. Her Majesty accompanied the Emperor to his apartments, followed by the Empress and Prince Albert, and attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the Royal suites. The Queen and Prince afterwards returned to their own rooms.

A guard of the hon. corps of Gentlemen at Arms was in attendance upon her Majesty the Queen at the Chapter-room; and a special guard of honour of the hon. corps was on duty, in attendance upon his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French, at his apartments and at the Chapter-room. The Yeomen of the Guard lined the Grand Staircase, the Vestibule, and the Music-room. The Queen's footmen, in state liveries, were stationed in the Vestibule. A guard of honour, consisting of two companies of the Grenadiers and one company of the Coldstream Guards, with the band of the latter corps at their head, marched into the Quadrangle, where they took up position, and on the termination of the investiture saluted and retired.

At five o'clock the Imperial visitors and their Royal host drove to Virginia Water. The Queen, with the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Mary of Cambridge, in an open carriage and pair, took the route which leads through the Great Park, preceded by the Duke of Cambridge, the Prince of Wales, and Prince Alfred on horseback; and followed by another equestrian party, consisting of Colonel Fleury, Colonel Edgar Ney, Lord Alfred Paget, and other gentlemen of the Royal household and Imperial suite. The Emperor, the Empress, and the Prince Consort were understood to have taken a different route for the purpose of giving their Imperial Majesties an opportunity of seeing his Royal Highness's Flemish farm. A large number of persons in carriages, on horse back, and on foot, lined the beautiful avenue known as the Long-walk, and demonstrated their respect for her Majesty and the Duke of Cambridge by the warmest acclamations.

In the evening the Queen gave a State dinner, at which all the gentlemen appeared in uniform or Court dress, the members of orders of knighthood wearing their respective ensigns. The magnificent service of gold plate was used on this occasion. The middle of the table was adorned with a number of beautiful épergnes and vases in gold, while on two buffets at each end of St. George's-hall, in which the banquet was served, were displayed, on a background of rich crimson, a variety of beautiful specimens of art in the precious metals, in shields, tankards, jewelled cups, vases, tazzas, and other articles of vertù in the Royal collection. The buffets and the table were brilliantly lit by numerous wax-lights in candelabra of silver-gilt, the St. George candelabrum forming the centre ornament. Opposite to this candelabrum, at the table, were seated—on the one side her Majesty the Queen and his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French, and on the opposite side her Imperial Majesty the Empress and his Royal Highness Prince Albert. Behind the Royal party on each side were stationed a special guard of her Majesty's honourable corps of Gentlemen at Arms. Two yeomen of the guard were posted at each end of the hall, at the flanks of the buffets. After the banquet, Earl Spencer, the Lord Steward of her Majesty's Household, gave, by command of the Queen, the toast of "The Emperor and Empress of the French."

The Queen and Prince Albert, the Emperor and Empress, with the Royal family and her Majesty's guests, retired to the Drawing-room at an early hour, where the Queen received the evening party.

(*Continued on page 387.*)

THE LARGEST EMERALD IN THE WORLD.—The largest emerald in the world, the companion of the far-famed Koh-i-Noor, has arrived in London, and is now at the establishment of Mr. Hancock, of Bruton-street. It is the property of his Highness the Maharajah Duleep Singh, and has been brought to this country by Sir John Laton. It is to be mounted with his Highness's jewels. The emerald once formed the chief ornament of a costly horse-trapping which figured conspicuously in the late Runjeet Singh's magnificent Oriental military cavalcades.

PARIS EXHIBITION. Amongst the locks and fireproof safes sent by Messrs. Chubb and Son for exhibition is one of their patent detector locks with key, of elegant design and workmanship, meeting especial attention. The lock is of a large size, suited for the door of [illegible] encased in walnut-wood, covered with or[illegible] [illegible] fluted design. The handle of the key is composed of [illegible] crown, surmounted by the Imperial crown. The whole [illegible] out of wrought steel, and will bear comparison with [illegible] manufactured at any [illegible] ages

THE EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.

AMONG the many romantic incidents that have marked the life of the Emperor Napoleon III, not the least extraordinary was his marriage with the beautiful and accomplished lady who is now the great of the Queen. The course he took in this respect was distinguished by the same boldness, self-reliance, and originality that have characterised the chief events of his career. In his address to the Senate and Legislative Body announcing the choice he had made, he sketched in a few masterly strokes his motives and intentions. "I have preferred," he said, "the woman whom I love, and whom I respect, to one who is unknown, and whose alliance would have had advantages mixed with sacrifices." In taking this course the Emperor at least avoided the rock on which his uncle wrecked his fortunes; and, although there were not wanting enemies who censured him for having married the daughter of some soldier purely French in origin, the mass of the people recognised in this abandonment of the customary Royal alliance a new tie binding them to their Ruler.

The Empress Eugenie, in all respects but her not being of some reigning Royal house, is in every way fit to fill the place she occupies. "Is she who has been the object of my preference," said the Emperor, on the occasion already referred to, "is of distinguished birth. French in heart, by education, by the recollection of the blood shed by her father in the cause of the Empire, she has, as a Spaniard, the advantage of not having in France a family to whom it might be necessary to give honours and fortune." In respect of her origin and ancestry, indeed, the Empress Eugenie may claim to take rank with the proudest and noblest of Europe. Her great-grandfather, on her mother's side, was Mr. Kirkpatrick, of Closburn, a gentleman of ancient descent, of large landed property. His son, Mr. William Kirkpatrick, went to Malaga as British Consul, and there married the daughter of Baron Grevenne. His eldest daughter, Maria, married the Count de Montijo; and of this marriage the Empress was born. The Kirkpatrick family is of great antiquity in Scotland, and various members of it figure in the bloody records of that kingdom.

It is, however, on the father's side that the ancestry of the Empress are the most illustrious. As Countess de Teba, she is a Grandee of Spain, and belongs to the ancient and illustrious house of Guzman, which dates from the very foundation of the Spanish monarchy. Among her ancestors was the famous Alonzo Perez de Guzman, surnamed *El Bueno*, who, in 1295, so heroically defended Tarifa against the Moors. They had taken prisoner his son, and threatened to kill him before his father's eyes, unless he yielded. From the ramparts he saw them preparing to execute their threat, while his son supplicated him with extended arms. "Never," exclaimed Guzman, "will I surrender the city confided to my charge. Let my son die, but my honour must remain unsullied." Throwing them a sword, he cried to them, "Use it, if you dare!" In a few moments the head of his son rattled on the ground, and, at the cry of horror raised by the soldiers, he said, on being told that his child was dead, "What! is it only that? I thought the enemy must be giving the assault!" The family ever afterwards adopted the motto, "My King is worth more than my blood."

The Empress also counts among her ancestors the celebrated Gonsalvo de Cordova, the greatest captain of his age; as also Antonio de Léva, the greatest General of the Emperor Charles the Fifth. One of the female ancestors was Luisa Francesca de Guzman, the wife of the Duke of Braganza, afterwards King of Portugal; and the blood royal of Spain also flows in her veins. She has certain ultimate claims to the Spanish crown; in this respect, standing next to the Duke of Medina-Coeli, who regularly, at each coronation in Spain, makes a formal protest against the usurpation of his rights.

The father of the Empress, the Count de Montijo, embraced the cause of Napoleon when he entered Spain. He was an officer in the French army, and distinguished himself at the battle of Salamanca. Later, he was made a member of the Senate of Spain, being Grandee of Spain in right of no fewer than six titles. He died in 1839.

The Empress was born at Granada in 1837. She was partly educated in England—at Bristol, we believe—and resided, during her infancy and youth, alternately at Madrid, London, and Paris. Here it was that her beauty and accomplishments, which made her the ornament of every circle she frequented, attracted the attention of the Emperor, who at once saw in her all the elements of a queen. The grandeur of a throne were less the attraction for Made. de Montijo than the admiration she had conceived for the Emperor's character. On both sides the marriage was one of affection. Of the ceremonial that attended it we gave at the time the most ample details. Since she has occupied the throne, her conduct has been in accordance with calculated the respect and love of the French people. Her beauty, her unaffected cheerfulness of disposition, and, above all, her many virtues, endear her to the nation. Her charity and benevolence are already the theme of universal praise, and long before her elevation she had given proofs of extraordinary goodness of heart. On one occasion, passing at the moment when a poor workman fell from a scaffold, she stopped her carriage, alighted, and herself rushed to succour him. Hundreds of such anecdotes pass from mouth to mouth in Paris, while her larger and more public charities offer an example to the French ladies which they are not slow to follow.

ACCIDENT TO EARL GRANVILLE. On Tuesday evening as Earl Granville was driving in his cab from the House of Lords to the Great Western Railway terminus at Paddington, on his way to Windsor Castle, on a visit to her Majesty, to dine with the Emperor and Empress of the French, he met with an accident, which happily was unattended by serious results. The noble Lord, President of the Council, it appears, was pressed for time; and, being anxious to catch the train, urged his horse to a pace so rapid that he lost all control over the animal, which at length carried the cab against a lamp-post. In the collision Earl Granville and his groom were both thrown out of the cab; the horse, a high-spirited animal, commencing to kick furiously, breaking both the shafts off short. Earl Granville was much shaken, but fortunately not seriously hurt. His valet Linnell of the household of a friend then passing, and recognised his route to the railway terminus. The horse was uninjured, but the vehicle was greatly damaged.

FRENCH SANG-FROID.—In the intervals between the sorties of the enemy the soldiers amuse themselves in the trenches in playing pitch and toss, or cards, or at bowls.—the Russian balls serving as the bowls. Sometimes, too, to try the skill of the Russian riflemen, who are in ambuscade at fifty or sixty yards from them, they raise a bottle or a cap on the top of a parapet; and when the man hits it, which he almost always does, they hoist up a canteen, to signify that he deserves a drink for having fired so well. Four days ago eight of the soldiers were playing at loto in the trenches, and all at once a shell fell in the midst of them. *Qui vive?* cried one, with a laugh; and the moment after it was ascertained that of their party one was killed and six wounded. The other exclaimed, as he raised himself, when peeping through a hole in the parapet, cried, "Here are the Russians coming!" "Are they far off?" asked the others. "Not very!" answered the sentinel. "Well, when they are quite close tell us!" was the answer; and the men returned quietly seated. Presently the sentinel cried, "Here they are!" On which each man seized his musket, and, after firing a volley over the parapet, proceeded to attack the Russians with the bayonets, and in a few seconds routed them.—*Letter from Kamiesch, March 30.*

ROBBERY OF THE DEAD.—A painful sensation has been caused in Bristol by the sacrilegious violation of the vault in which for several centuries have reposed the remains of the Smyth family, of Ashton-court, situated about three miles from that city. It appears that there must have been at least seven or eight persons engaged in it; and, from the artistic manner in which the vault was laid open, it is evident that these marauders were engaged to conduct the operations. The object of the plunderers is pretty well known. Owing to some family differences, the aunt of the late Sir John and Sir Hugh Smyth resided by herself. She was of somewhat eccentric habits; and it was currently reported at the time of her funeral that a quantity of jewels were buried with her, and that, the body having been embalmed, the heart was placed within the coffin, enclosed in a silver box, and that the breastplate, handles, &c., of the coffin were square silver. The sacrilegious villains cut open the lead coffin of the late Sir John Smyth, and also that of the late Lady Smyth. The former they must have had some difficulty in removing from its position, as it took far more to replace it. They were disappointed, however, in their anticipations of plunder, the leaden coffin in which are contained the remains of the Dowager Lady Smyth remaining intact. It is supposed, also, that they were disturbed, as they left a file-bottom behind them, and some massive silver ornaments, which had been appended to the exterior of one of the coffins.

EXPEDITION TO THE INTERIOR OF SOUTH AFRICA.—By the *Antelope*, just arrived from the Cape of Good Hope, the agent of Mr. Chas. J. Anderson (not Anderson, as printed last week) writes that Mr. Green had been seriously ill at Walvisch Bay, and that, consequently, it was very doubtful whether he would be able to prosecute his journey to Lake Ngami

MIRAGE OFF HASTINGS.—On the rising of the fog from the sea, the afternoon of the 18th, the ships in offing off Hastings were reflected in the most varied and grotesque forms. In one case a double reflection was seen; in others, the ship was reflected only once, reversed; and in others, where the fog was thinner, only topgallant-sails and royals were to be seen. The phenomenon lasted half an hour.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE *Duke of Wellington*, 131, flag of Rear-Admiral Dundas, sailed from Spithead on Monday afternoon to join the Baltic fleet.

WITHIN the last two months no less than ten whole companies of artillery have sailed for the Crimea, and many of them have already arrived at the seat of war. The 3000 infantry left the shores of the United Kingdom to reinforce our battalions in the Crimea early in May there will be full 6000 British cavalry at the seat of war

A REPORT having reached Dover on Monday evening that the *Anaxerkis*, French line-of-battle ship, was ashore off the South Foreland, instant orders were issued for the *Orpheus, Pylades, Cruiser, Olin, Falcon, Harrier, Centaur*, and *Phœnix* to proceed to the assistance of the ship in distress. They instantly got up steam, and were quickly under way On reaching her she was found to be high on a ledge near St. Margaret's Bay, about three-quarters of a mile from a place known as the "Old Stairs," and about five miles to the north-east of Dover Castle, and under the cliff north-east of the South Foreland. The *Spitfire*, paddle-tender, was ordered to take a 24-inch hemp cable from the *Neptune*, whilst the Commander-in-Chief, Sir T. Cochrane, went himself to the scene of disaster in the *Fire Queen*. The *Spitfire* got alongside soon after eight o'clock, and found the *Anaxerkis* was fast in 16 feet water, with a list to starboard in shore, and with only about 10 feet of water around her. The French corvettes were busily engaged in laying out warps and hawsers, so that, on the rise of the tide, at half-past eleven p.m., they should all heave with a will She came off easily, and anchored in safety about a mile from the shore. The gallant crew instantly set to work, got topmasts and topgallants on end, set up their rigging, and by nine a.m. on Tuesday the ship was again ready for sea.

THERE was a general muster of the City of Dublin Regiment of Militia on Saturday last, to ascertain whether any of the men were willing to volunteer for service in the Mediterranean. The men were formed in hollow square, when the Colonel addressed them in explanation of the course before them, mentioning the amount of bounty which was offered, namely, £5 to each man. The officers, on being asked if they would volunteer, walked into the centre of the square, with the exception of the doctor, Surgeon Leech. The men were then told off in companies, and individually asked, when it appeared that the great majority had volunteered to accompany their Colonel wherever he was going. There was loud cheering on this being announced. It appears that not more than three-fourths of any militia regiment will be required, the remainder is to stay at home and act as a dépôt.

The Galway Militia volunteered *en masse* on Friday for foreign service, a course which was adopted a few days previous by the Armagh regiment. Volunteering from the Kilkenny Fusiliers commenced on Saturday.

An enormous quantity of shot, guns, and shell, rifles, pistols, and common arms have been supplied from the Persian gun-wharf for the equipment of the Baltic fleet, and a very large supply of Colt's revolving pistols has also been provided there for the same service.

LAUNCH OF TWO FLOATING BATTERIES.—On Tuesday afternoon two large floating batteries (constructed for the Government) were launched from the yard of Messrs. C. J. Mare and Co., at Blackwall. The scene was an animated one, and the fineness of the weather attracted a crowd of spectators. The first vessel, the *Meteor*, was launched soon after half-past one, and the second, the *Thunder*, a few minutes after two o'clock. These floating batteries, or enormous gun-boats, as they may be called, present a very imposing appearance. Their length between the perpendiculars is 172 feet 8 inches, their extreme breadth 35 feet 18 inches, and their depth in hold 14 feet 7 inches. Their tonnage is 1469. They are coated with iron about 4 inches to 4½ inches in thickness, and pierced for twenty-eight 10-inch Lancaster guns, carrying 68-pounders. The decks are of 9-inch oak, the beams being 12 inches square, and only their breadths apart. One peculiarity worthy of notice is that the mooring holes are below the water-line. The extreme draught of water (with everything on board) will be 7 feet 9 inches. The *Meteor* and the *Thunder* were launched with the steam up. Their engines are high pressure, and of 300-horse power. Three more of these floating batteries are in course of construction for her Majesty's Government in other yards, making five in all. On Tuesday the *Meteor* and the *Thunder* proceeded down to Woolwich, where they will await the pleasure of the Lords of the Admiralty

THE LOSS OF HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "TIGER." —The court-martial which was opened at Portsmouth on Thursday week on board the flagship *Victory*, to try Lieutenant Royer and Mr. Edington (the sailing-master), of her Majesty's late ship *Tiger*, for the loss of that vessel on the morning of the 12th of May last at Odessa, was brought to a termination on Saturday last. Having read their charges, the accused called witnesses to character; after hearing which, the president (Rear-Admiral Martin) ordered the court to be cleared and, after four hours' deliberation, on the re-admission of the members, Lieut. Colonel Graham, Esq. (Deputy-Judge-Advocate), read the verdict of the Court, which was to the following effect:—"That the ship *Tiger* was run on shore in consequence of having been rashly conducted as she approached the coast of Odessa, and that, after the ship had been run on shore, the measures resorted to to get her afloat were very injudicious; but, in respect to the surrender of the *Tiger* to the enemy, that, as the ship was then without any hope of being entertained of floating her off, and as she was exposed to the enemy's guns, which had set her on fire, and upon which the guns of the ship could not be brought to bear, in consequence of such surrender, the court is farther of opinion that no blame is imputable to Lieutenant Royer, since he acted under the immediate direction of his Captain, and the Court doth adjudged him to be acquitted." The court is farther of opinion that Mr. Francis Edington is blameable for the want of caution which was exhibited by him in approaching the shore near Odessa; but, in consideration of his previous good character and long service, doth adjudge him to be only severely reprimanded; and the said Lieutenant Royer is hereby acquitted; and the said Francis Edington be, and is, hereby severely reprimanded The Court was then formally dissolved

BURIAL OF THE DEAD BEFORE SEBASTOPOL

Camp before Sebastopol, March 30th, 1855.

I beg to enclose a Sketch of a subject so interesting that I think you may readily consider it deserving of a place in your journal I will briefly repeat the circumstances which gave rise to this scene:

On the night of the 22nd instant the enemy made a very vigorous attack upon the whole line of the Allied intrenchments; and, though it was everywhere repulsed, it was not without considerable loss on both sides. During the following day the plain was strewed with dead, both in front of our left and right attacks, but more especially in front of the Mamelon a new and important work, which our ever-active enemies have recently thrown up in advance of the Malakoff Tower, and which, with a chain of rifle-pits in its front, has since furnished a constant bone of contention between them and our allies.

On the 24th a suspension of hostilities for two hours was agreed upon to enable both sides to bury their dead. It was intended that none but the burying parties should be allowed to pass beyond the works; but so great was the anxiety to tread on ground hitherto too closely guarded by the enemies' sharpshooters to admit of such trespass, that numbers on both sides pressed eagerly to the front, as soon as the white flag was seen waving on our batteries. English, French, and Russians intermingled in courteous intercourse, and much badinage, mixed with compliments, passed between them, notwithstanding the bloody scene around. "When are you going to take Sebastopol?" was the oft-repeated question of the Russian officers. "Not just yet," was the reply of an English officer; "we are at present too busy with our railway." The answer of a French officer was perhaps more polite, though no less significant. "Et quand prendrez vous Sebastopol?" "Mais jamais, Monsieur, vous êtes trop braves." "Et quand alliez vous quitter la Crimée?" "Mais jamais, Monsieur," was still the reply

During this time the scene was most striking; and, in the accompanying Sketch, I have endeavoured to commit to paper some of its points. On the right is the body of a gallant officer of Zouaves, which had been extracted from the ruins of a parapet thrown down by the enemy during their temporary success. On the left is seen part of this parapet, still occupied by the French covering party. In the centre of the picture is the Mamelon, its sides thronged with parties carrying the ghastly and distorted dead to a soldier's grave; and, in the distance, on the left, may be observed the ruined Round Tower, formerly demolished by our Lancaster guns, but now surrounded by a most formidable earthwork, and yet further strengthened by a deep French and abattis along its front. Conspicuous from his height amongst the group on the right, is a Russian officer of distinction, wearing a long black poncho over his uniform. In general, I may observe, the Russian officers were well and carefully dressed; so much so as to lead some to conclude that they were got up for the occasion—a thing which assuredly could not be laid to the charge of many in our own ranks.

The flags of truce continued flying long after the appointed hour; but at length, as the hour of sunset approached, they withdrew within our respective lines of defences, they were lowered, and the immediate crack of the rifle and boom of heavy artillery proclaimed that peace was at an end

H. I. WILKINSON, Capt. 9th Regt.

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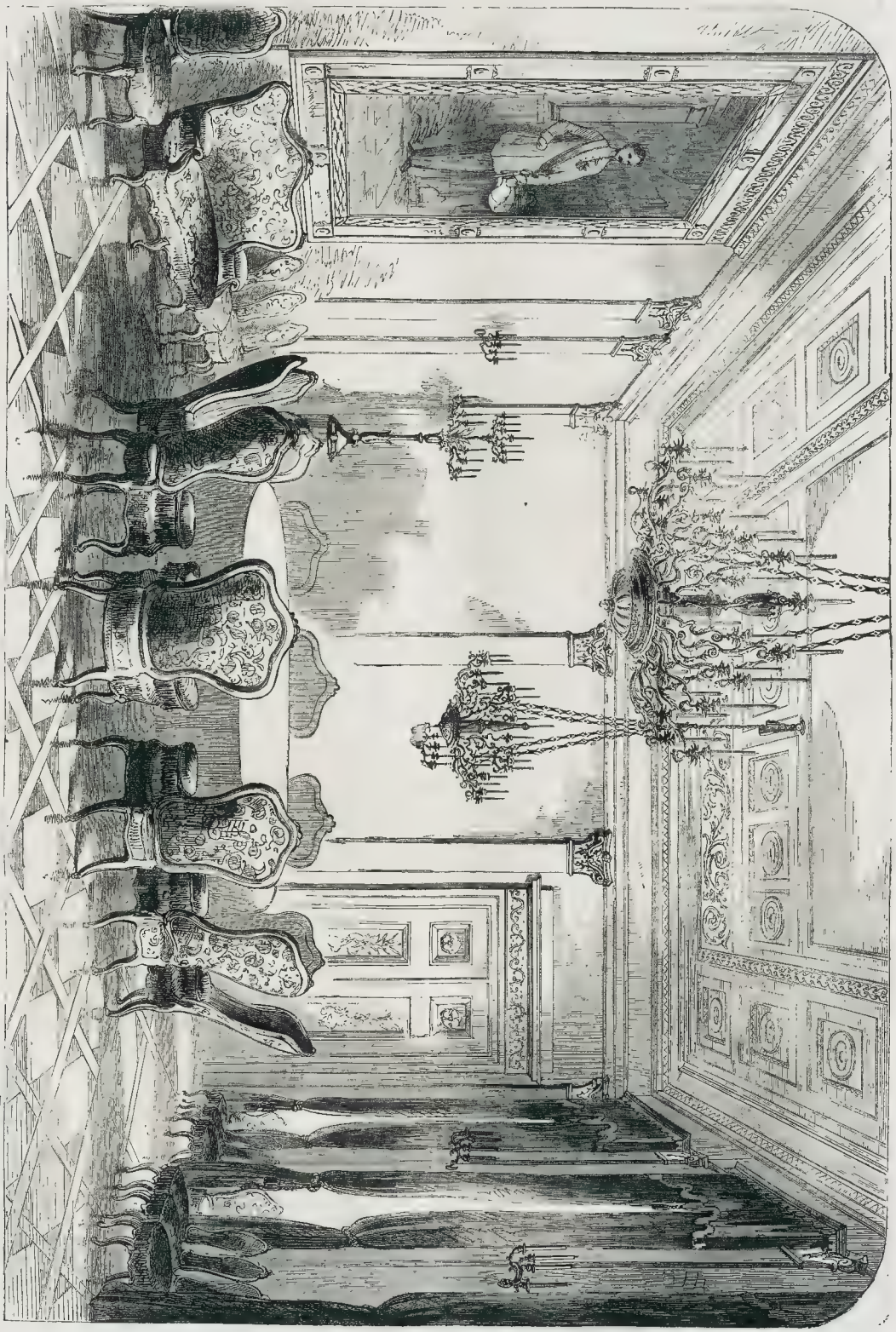
THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.—BURIAL OF THE DEAD IN FRONT OF THE MALAKOFF TOWER.—(SEE PAGE 382.)



THE CONFERENCE-ROOM, AT THE FOREIGN-OFFICE, VIENNA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE APARTMENT IN WHICH THE VIENNA CONFERENCES ARE HELD.

Public attention is once more attracted to the important decisions which are about to be taken within the walls of this venerable building, and from whence will shortly go forth the resolutions of the Great Powers of Europe, either to continue the present war, and to extend its limits, or to conclude an arrangement which shall restore to our part of the globe the blessings of a peace which is based upon an honourable, sure, and lasting basis. The solution of this all-important alternative constitutes the grave task that is entrusted to the "Vienna Conference," which are now being held in the very same apartment of this ancient palace where the celebrated European Congress met in solemn deliberation in 1814 and 1815, to determine upon the destinies of the world in those eventful days. It was here that the late Duke of Wellington received, on the 11th of March, 1815, a despatch from the Earl of Westmoreland (then Lord Burghersh), the British Minister at Florence, which first announced the important intelligence that Napoleon Bonaparte had quitted the island of Elba—and thus broken the terms of his first exile—for the purpose of reassuming his authority in France. It was here that the memorable protocol proposed to the Congress by Prince Talleyrand was signed by the assembled representatives of the Powers on the 13th March, 1815, which terminated their arduous labours, with the view to the resumption of the contest against the great disturber of the peace of Europe in those days.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Thursday.

A report has been going the rounds here—and has even met with some credence—that the Emperor, after his visit to England, would proceed to Vienna. On what grounds such a rumour was started does not appear; and what *rôle* Napoleon III. is to play during the sitting of the Conferences—in which, necessarily, he can take no part—seems still less apparent. If there be any truth in the statement of his intention of going to Vienna, the journey will doubtless take place when the closing of the Conferences will have brought about some solution of the present question.

Great preparations are making at St. Cloud for a splendid fête to be given to the Queen.

The opening of the Exposition de l'Industrie for the 1st of May seems a thing quite decided on; but as it is impossible that it can be ready for the continuous reception of the public at that period, it is to close, after the inauguration, till the middle of the month. Meantime Paris is rapidly filling, more especially with English, who occupy nearly all the hotels on the Boulevards, and in the most frequented part of Paris. This is the moment for those who have furnished apartments to let; so great has the rage for speculation on this point become, that *entrepreneurs* go about from house to house, belonging to private individuals, who have nothing further than such a speculation in their heads, depositing circulars, and making proposals to take their dwellings off their hands, without risk or loss to them, for the purpose of underletting them to the visitors to the Exhibition.

It appears that the great amateurs of the noble and humanising sport of bull-fighting in Madrid propose to initiate the French and other unenlightened Europeans into the joys and edification of this elevating pastime during the continuation of the Exhibition. A petition signed by many of the noblest names in Spain, and backed warmly by M. de Turgot, the French Ambassador, has been presented to the Government here, for the authorisation of the introduction; and the Duc d'Albe has, it is said, written to the Empress to request her support. Already, so secure do the noble sportsmen at Madrid feel of the success of the demand, that they have entered into treaty with Cucharès, the first toreador in Spain, as well as other stars of fainter radiance in the same horizon, to undertake the expedition, which will be composed almost entirely of the company which delights and edifies the leisure of the Spanish Court. We ought, indeed, to be proud at having the chance offered us of seeing spilled only the same blood that would have flowed before the eyes of Royalty in its native soil. We think it almost a pity that the idea of representing to the eyes of Europe, assembled on this occasion of public interest and instruction, a few scenes revived from the Inquisition, has not suggested itself to these amateurs of blood and wanton cruelty.

There is a rumour—which, however, we believe to be wholly without foundation—that the Government has authorised the Cercle de l'Exposition, established at the Hôtel d'Osmond, to permit play, but only among the foreigners who visit Paris for the Exhibition. When two years ago a similar request was made to the Emperor for a gaming house at Enghien he formally refused, adding that he would never consent to the re-establishment of play at Paris, on any pretext whatsoever. It appears little likely, therefore, that the well-known firmness of the Emperor, and his habitual adherence to any determination he has once made, should yield on this occasion.

By desire of the Emperor the city of Paris has, by means of exchange, possessed itself of the grounds of Boulogne, St. James, and Neuilly, which border the Seine, with the intention of extending to that boundary, the Bois de Boulogne. The great racing-ground of Longchamps is included in the bargain, and it is the Emperor's own hand that has traced on the plan to be presented to the Corps Législatif the lands to be exchanged on either side to complete the arrangements.

We regret to have to announce the serious illness of one of the most distinguished literary women of the day, Madame Emile de Girardin. We trust, however, that there is nothing in this malady to excite any ulterior alarm among Madame de Girardin's numerous friends and admirers, and that care and repose from her too arduous literary labours may restore her.

A few days since a chestnut-tree, planted eighty years since by Buffon, in the Jardin des Plantes, fell from old age.

We learn that Rossini, who was expected to arrive here during the course of the summer, has been attacked with a serious illness, supposed to be miliary fever, which is very prevalent, and often dangerous, in Tuscany.

M. Serrot, author of the highly-popular piece "Que dira le Monde?" has lately completed a new work, entitled "Le Bonheur des Riches," which was to have already appeared at the Odéon, but, in consequence of some scruples of the Censure relative to the character of a certain banker in the piece, the representation has been delayed. There appears, however, no doubt but the difficulties will be raised, and the play shortly produced.

The principal theatrical news of the day here is that Cerito is studying singing, and is to *débuter* at the Opera in London, in the capacity of cantatrice. We give the report without venturing any remark on the probability of its authenticity—in support of which the rumour in question cites the examples of Mdlle. Nathalie Fitz-James, and of Carlotta Grisi, who in a piece entitled "Le Zingaro," at the Théâtre de la Renaissance, appeared with a certain success as singers.

The Austrians in the Principalities.—I have already mentioned to you the little sympathy which the inhabitants of the Principalities entertain for the Austrians, and the dislike of the Austrians to them. The ill-feeling between the two has led to a sad affair, followed by a rising at Krajova. An Austrian officer pursued a Wallachian lady at a window; struck by her beauty, he entered the house and acted rudely towards her. The husband hastened to defend his wife, and a quarrel ensued, in which the husband was killed by the officer. When this became known, all the population took up arms. The Austrian authorities, when called on to do justice, would not consent to punish the officer, on which the Wallachians determined to do justice themselves. A veritable battle took place, and more than 300 Austrians perished. The Turkish authorities had to interfere to establish order. Since then Krajova has resembled a besieged town. The shops are closed. The Wallachians occupy the interior of the town, and the Austrians are encamped outside. A deputation has been sent to Constantinople to complain to the Sultan of the foreign occupation. How sad affair will end is not yet known here, but it has caused a great sensation.—*Letter from Pera, April 3.*

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The long-threatened, often-postponed, bombardment of Sebastopol has begun at last, and any hour may now bring the news of a great victory, or a disheartening defeat. From the different despatches which have arrived through English, French, Austrian, and Russian channels, it is plain that the attack was prosecuted with vigour, and with considerable success. The fire commenced at five a.m. on the 9th of April, and continued without interruption throughout the night and the two following days. Prince Gortschakoff (whose reports have usually been more accurate than those of his predecessors) reports a loss of 833 men on the two days, which is considerable when caused exclusively by a fire against covered defences, and, although he states that the Russian batteries have replied with success, he does not disguise the extent of the damage which such a bombardment must have inflicted. The Allied forces were in a condition to open their fire from no less than 500 guns and mortars, the greater part of which far exceed in range and in weight the guns employed at any former siege. In fact, the Allies have brought to bear against Sebastopol an amount of artillery equal to at least five ordinary siege-trains in number, and superior in calibre. These enormous pieces of ordnance have hitherto been almost exclusively used in marine artillery. There is no instance of such an extent of batteries, armed in such a manner, against an intrenched town; and, if any reliance can be placed on the opinion of Sir John Burgoyne, he is known to have expressed his conviction at Vienna that it is impossible for the place to hold out against such a fire as the Allies were about to open against it.

It is impossible to say what the plan of the Allies is; but as it appears from accounts from Kamiesch, dated the 7th, that 8000 Turkish troops had arrived close to Sebastopol, and that 12,000 more were expected, under the orders of Omer Pacha, it seems probable that a general assault is in contemplation.

As we stated last week, the intention was to begin the bombardment on the 3rd inst.; and it is said that everything was ready for doing so. The *Moniteur de la Flotte* gives a letter from Kamiesch, in which it is said that the Allies did not deem it proper to begin the work of destruction either on Good Friday or Easter Sunday, and that the bombardment was postponed on that account. Another letter ascribes it to an expectation on the part of Lord Raglan and General Canrobert that the negotiations at Vienna would supersede the necessity for any rough work.

According to the *Presse*:—"The Allies, on the 9th, made a breach in the bastion between the centre of the Russian works and the Quarantine Fort. Admiral Bruat has anchored in Streletzka Bay, and waits for fine weather to begin his operations. It is said that three Russian batteries have been dismounted."

Official intelligence has been received in Paris up to the 12th inst. On that day the fleets were ranged in line of battle before the port of Sebastopol. The bombardment had been kept up against the Malakoff Tower, but without result, up to that date.

We have been favoured with the following private letter from the Camp from the son of Dr. Marsden, of Lincoln's-inn-fields:—

March 23, 1855.

My dear Father,—About a week ago I left Scutari, and have been now two days at Baladava, this evening I have received orders to proceed to the Third Division of the army. I shall be attached to a regiment, most likely the 89th. The other day I went up to the Camp, and dined with a friend. We went all over the batteries; the firing continues, without intermission, day and night. When in the Green-hill battery, standing in the parapet to obtain a good view of the town, three round shot, 32-pounders, were fired at us, passed over our heads, and tore up the earth about fifty yards beyond, and went bounding over the hill. I had a capital view of all the works, both our own and also those of the enemy. Everything at the Camp is apparently as satisfactory as possible, and the men, a number of whom I questioned, are most cheerful, and enter into the spirit of the thing, heart and soul. The English and French lines extend from about two miles on the right of Baladava to Sebastopol about ten miles in all, and the Russians are in the hills, all along this line. The general impression seems to be that as soon as 600 rounds of shot can be got up for each gun that the bombardment is to commence. If this be the case I shall come in for the Sebastopol clasp. But there is no doubt that before Sebastopol falls an immense number of lives must be lost; for the moment we open fire the whole line, from Baladava to Sebastopol, will in all probability be attacked. It is a most beautiful sight to see the firing, particularly at night; the shells look beautiful. I slept in the Camp the night before last, and the cannons were going all night. To-morrow I shall begin my tent life, and I think I shall like it very much; the rations are much better than at Scutari, and everything much better; I may also have a chance of a little operating. I slept in the tent of Captain Hill; he was on duty in the trenches. The Russians throw shells three series; in the first he was struck by a rifle-ball, and taken prisoner: the impression is that he was killed. On the back of this paper is a rough plan of the operations; the south shore of the harbour should be carried out to the sea much farther, but otherwise it gives a tolerable idea. I will write again soon. I am writing this in a great hurry. Trusting this will find you quite well, and with kindest regards to all my friends,

Believe me your most affectionate son,

Alex. A. Marsden.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

On the 14th inst. a few of the flying squadron were at anchor off Copenhagen, and two others passed by that place on the 15th, from Elsinore, steering in a southerly direction. A couple of other vessels are mentioned as having arrived at Elsinore from the north, supposed to be some of the main fleet from the Downs. The frigates *Sarpaide* and *Dagsbrunn* left Kiel harbour on the morning of the 15th. The principal part of the main fleet, under Admiral Dundas, was expected to arrive at Kiel in the course of three or four days. On the 13th there were seven or eight of the British steamers lying in the harbour of Langeland. The British officers had been welcomed by the town authorities and the military commandant of the place in the most cordial manner possible.

The winter, which has been this year extremely severe and perseveringly in the north, has at last been succeeded by a sort of spring, which promises the speedy reopening of the navigation, interrupted during the last four months. It was expected that the entrance into the Baltic by the Sound and the Great Belt would no doubt be navigable about the 17th.

The *Dagsposten Belge* states that several Russian merchantmen ventured, in the month of December last, to quit their harbours and put to sea, in the hope of being able to reach their destinations before they should be blocked up by the ice. Most of those vessels, however, were surprised by the winter in the Baltic. Some of them arrived at Malmoe, but others were completely hemmed in by the ice, in the open sea, between the Island of Gothland and Sweden. Two of those unhappy vessels actually spent the whole winter thus locked up within a few leagues of the port of Westervick, a town situated on the Swedish coast, opposite Wisby, in Gothland. It is expected that these vessels will be captured by the English cruisers the moment they can be approached, for it is impossible for them to escape.

AMERICA.

The mail steam-ship *Atlantic*, which left New York on the 4th inst., arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday.

The new postage law passed into effect on the 1st inst. All letters henceforth must be prepaid. If not, they go to the dead-letter office.

A savage riot occurred at the election in Cincinnati, on the 2nd inst. between the foreigners and Americans. The ballot-boxes were destroyed at the outset; and whether the Know-Nothings or the "Sagnicht" party elected their candidates could not be ascertained. Several serious fights took place in different wards of the city during the early part of the day, but in the afternoon a terrific battle came off in the Eleventh ward. The Dutch paraded with a loaded cannon, bidding defiance to their adversaries. They were specially attacked, their field-piece captured, and its fire turned upon its former possessors. It was reported that three foreigners had been killed. One American was so severely wounded that for a long time his life was despaired of. In the evening the Americans formed in procession, with loaded cannon, and paraded the streets; and it was feared that during the night the riot would be renewed with increased fury.

It is supposed that five hundred recruits for Great Britain have been raised in Philadelphia. On Wednesday fifteen were arrested in that city, just as they were leaving on board a steam-boat for New York. An examination into the case took place on the 31st ult. About fifty passengers left Boston on the 29th, on board a brig bound for Halifax. It is generally believed that they were recruits from New York for the British Army, but the agent of the vessel affirmed that they were engaged as railroad labourers.

Havannah dates are to the 28th ult. Ramond Pinto, chief of the conspirators, suffered death by the garotte on the 22nd. He protested his innocence to the last. Cadalzo and Pinelo, it was supposed, would be sentenced to ten years in the chain-gang in Africa. It is stated that the American Consul had notified to the Captain-General, by direction of Secretary Marcy, "that if one drop of American blood is spilled in the present crisis, the Government of the United States will not be answerable for the result." Francisco Estrampes, under sentence of death, is an American citizen; and it remains to be seen whether General Concha will commute his punishment or accept the alternative presented. Arrests continue to be made. Some fifty persons have been imprisoned on suspicion of political discretion.

A letter from Washington, in the *Tribune*, states that the plans of the Filibusters are not affected by the recent discoveries in Cuba, nor by the severity with which General Concha is punishing their accomplices in the island. A large expedition is about to sail from New Orleans and other southern ports. Stores of arms and ammunition have been sent forward to an island near Cuba, and as soon as advices are received that these articles are safely landed the men will set out. The military organisation is represented as being complete, and many of the officers have seen service in the American Army.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

Despatches by the Overland Mail, dated Calcutta, 10th; Madras, 14th; and Bombay, 18th March, have been received.

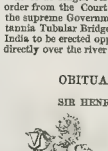
The *Bombay Times* speaks of much excitement having been caused by the opening by Government of a five per cent loan of two millions sterling, to be employed on public works.

We have still troubles on the Peshawur frontier, and a force of 3000 men was under orders to take the field on the 1st, when it was found that the enemy had dispersed of their own accord, and the troops were countermanded. On the 27th of February a successful foray was executed by a party under Captain James, when forty hill people were captured, three killed, and five wounded, and a hundred head of cattle secured. The statement formerly published, that a party of the 10th Cavalry had abandoned the cattle they were carrying to Fort Mackeson, proves to be incorrect; the escort was from the 14th Irregulars, who carried off their booty in safety, and never saw the marauders before whom they were said to have fled. Operations were ordered to be commenced in the Meeranzai country on the 20th of March. The proposed treaty with Dost Mahomed has greatly offended the hill tribes, who have intercepted his son, Hyder Khan, on his way to Peshawur, to meet Mr. Lawrence.

It is at length resolved that the Hooghly is to be bridged. The order from the Court of Directors to this effect has been received by the supreme Government. A bridge of the same character as the Britannia Tubular Bridge is to be constructed in England, and sent out to India to be erected opposite the Calcutta Mint, and so carrying the people directly over the river to the railway station at Howrah.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

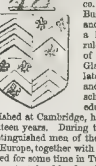
SIR HENRY THOS DE LA BECHE, C.B., F.R.S.



This distinguished geologist died on the 13th inst. He was born in 1796, the son of the late Thomas De la Beche, Esq., of Halse-hall, Claverton, Jamaica, a Colonel in the Army, by Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of J. Smyth, Esq., of Downham. He claimed descent from the family of the Barons De la Beche, seated at Aldworth, Berks, temp. Edward II. At the period of his lamented decease he was Director-General of the Geological Survey of the United Kingdom, and of the Museum of Practical Geology, as well as a member of the Health of Towns Commission. As a writer on Geology, Sir Henry stood deservedly high. He married, in 1818, Letitia, daughter of Charles White, Esq., of Loughbuckland, county Down, and became a widower in 1844.

A Portrait of the late Sir Henry De la Beche, with a copious Memoir of his eminent scientific labours, appeared in the Illustrated London News.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS, ESQ., OF ABERPERGWM.



This gentleman—the earnest advocate of the cause of Wales and Welshmen—died on the 17th ult., at his seat, Aberpergwm, in the co. of Glamorgan, in the 67th year of his age. He had married, in 1837, Matilda, only daughter and sole heiress of Colonel Smith, of Castella, co. Glamorgan, by Hylda, his wife, daughter of John Bush, Esq., of Burcot, co. Oxford, and leaves four sons and two daughters. Mr. Williams was descended from a long line of ancestors who held for centuries princely rule in South Wales, and he was possessed of extensive and valuable estates in the counties of Glamorgan and Brecon. He was the eldest son of the late Rees Williams, Esq., of Aberpergwm and Maesgwyn; and at an early age he went to one of the great public schools (Eton, we believe), and afterwards pursued his education at St. John's College, Cambridge. After he had finished at Cambridge, he started on a foreign tour, and remained abroad about sixteen years. During that period he associated and conversed with the most distinguished men of the age, and visited every capital and almost every city in Europe, together with a great portion of Asia and Northern Africa. Having served for some time in Turkey, Russia, Poland, and the Crimea, he was able to entertain his friends with clear and comprehensive notions of the aggressive nature of the Russian policy, and graphic descriptions of the almost impregnable fortresses which have been raised for the protection of that empire—such as Sebastopol, Cronstadt, &c. On the 24th ult. his remains were deposited in the family vault in Aberpergwm Chapel. The funeral was private, but his numerous tenants and hundreds of the neighbours followed the mournful procession, being anxious to know the last sad rites paid in their power to the one who lived among them, and also always advised them for the best. The beautiful service of the Church of England was impressively read in Welsh the language which the deceased in life loved so well—by the Rev. W. Griffiths, B.D., incumbent of Resolven. As a magistrate, as a landlord, and as a private gentleman, his conduct was always upright and unimpeachable.

A Bashi-bazouk Victory.—Yesterday afternoon the Bashi-bazouks showed themselves, for the first time, in the Crimea in all their glory as irregular troops; but, at the same time, in all their ferocity. After the cavalry dismantlement last week, which served to mask the construction of the new works, when it became clear that the Turks had no intention to advance, the main body of the Russian cavalry, which had been brought up for the occasion, was again withdrawn, and only the usual outposts left. The first of these posts is to the right on the other side of the bridge which leads over the creek running in from Lake Sasik. The next to it, towards the left, leans on the village of Bazar, situate in a slope leading down to the above-mentioned creek. The videttes thrown out by this post occupy a ridge overlooking the village, and concealing it. It was determined to surprise this post, and push forward to the village. In order to draw off the attention, several large bodies of regular cavalry were ordered to move out, and the Cossack outposts on the rifle guns were sent to the right, towards the bridge. While this cavalry was displayed on the most prominent points, the Bashi-bazouks divided into three bodies, and, concealed by the undulations of the ground, went off at full speed towards the village. The Russian videttes, accustomed to former reconnaissances, which were always seen half an hour before they could reach, thought themselves in such security that they had got off their horses, and some of them even laid down. The videttes had scarcely time to mount and to retire on their reserves on the ridge above the village when the Bashi-bazouks, with one furious yell of "Yallah Illah!" were upon them; a hand-to-hand *mêlée* ensued, Cossacks and Bashi-bazouks were for a moment mixed up together, furious yelling and firing on both sides, which ended in the flight of the Cossacks towards the village. In the village they made another stand, the fusillade continued unabated; but the Cossacks were evidently demoralised, and soon after made a precipitous retreat from the village, leaving all their baggage, fur cloaks, cooking utensils, and a quantity of corn and hay behind them. The Bashi-bazouks, intoxicated by their success, were for following them up to the ridge beyond the village, where they had halted, but already clouds of dust were seen in the distance, and shortly after nine squadrons and four guns appeared in sight. So the little drums began to beat the retreat, and the Bashi-bazouks, laden with copper dishes, cloaks, forage, &c., singing and caracolling, retired unmolested. A Bashi-bazouk cannot understand warfare without liberty to plunder. Plunder is for him a proof of victory, and one can see him often loading up the most useless things, only to have something to show. When he sees plunder before him the Bashi-bazouk becomes reckless; thus, in the affair of yesterday, while one part of them was fighting in the village at close quarters with the Russians, others were dismounting from their horses, and taking up whatever they could find, regardless of consequences. Considering the numbers engaged and the shots fired, the loss was very small. The Cossacks towards the village had attacked about 300 Cossacks and a squadron of regular Lancers, and the former lost two horses and one man, while the latter had two men and three horses killed, and one man severely wounded. This small affair has incredibly raised the spirit of the Turkish cavalry, which had been rather depressed by the repeated checks which they had experienced in their former reconnaissances. The entry of the Bashi-bazouks into the town was quite a triumph, Turks and Tartars hailing them with "Ay Wallahs" and "Mash Allahs," and thronging to see them. Two persons who had got hold of a cow were the principal points of attraction. Their return in the lovely spring evening, their picturesque costumes, the excitement of the population, the sound of their war drums, intermixed with the shouting and singing, formed one of the most interesting scenes imaginable.—*Letter from Eupatoria, March 29.*

THE EMPEROR'S VISIT.

(*Continued from page 339.*)

DEPARTURE OF HER MAJESTY AND THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH FROM WINDSOR.

On Thursday morning her Majesty the Queen, Prince Albert, and their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of the French, took their departure from Windsor Castle, about a quarter past eleven, and proceeded by the South-Western Railway to the private station of Queen Victoria at Nine Elms. The preparations for the reception of the Emperor and Empress of the French at Nine Elms were of the most heart-stirring character, the length of the Wandsworth-road being studded with countless thousands of persons. The private station erected for the special use of the Queen and Royal family was fitted up with great splendour, the raised platform being covered with crimson Wilton. On either side, except the space necessary for the Imperial and Royal egress to their carriages, were seats surmounted by canvas and gracefully festooned with flags, in which the tricolour was particularly predominant, although associated with the Union and Standard flags of our own country. Shortly before eleven o'clock a squadron of the Life Guards, as a guard of honour, with a trumpeter in full dress, arrived at the station, and took up their position opposite the entrance gate; two companies of the Grenadier Guards, numbering 160 rank and file, arrived shortly after, and took up their position on the south-west side of the platform; the band of the Coldstream Guards were in attendance, and during the morning played numerous popular pieces of music. The companies of the Grenadier Guards, as guard of honour, were under the command of Colonel Rowan. The guards were under that of Captain De Ros.

The hour at which the Queen and her Imperial guests arrived was somewhat beyond the time fixed, it being twelve o'clock before their arrival at the station. A few minutes before the arrival took place the signal-flag was hoisted announcing the approach of the Royal cortége, and in a few seconds the military and civil officials were formed in order. On the arrival of the train at the platform, containing her Majesty, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Emperor and Empress of the French, the band of the Coldstream Guards struck up the French air of "Partant pour la Syrie," which was continued until the time of their Majesties' departure. The greatest possible enthusiasm prevailed, and both our own gracious Queen and their Imperial Majesties, on alighting from the train and entering the Royal carriages, were loudly cheered, the troops of the Grenadier Guards presenting arms. On emerging from the railway gates the immense crowd present took up the cheering in the most loyal manner, and certainly a more pleasing exhibition of enthusiasm mixed with loyalty has never been displayed. The Royal cortége then proceeded over Vauxhall-bridge, along Millbank, to Abingdon-street, at which point the enthusiasm was immense.

On either end of Vauxhall-bridge seats were raised and flags and banners displayed crowds of well-dressed persons, principally ladies, being present, and, in reply to their acclamations, the acknowledgment of their Majesties was most pleasing. Their progress through Parliament-street to the Horse Guards, and through the Park to Buckingham Palace, was of a similar character

The arrival of her Majesty and the Emperor and Empress at Buckingham Palace was one which will be recollected for many years by those present. The enthusiasm and cheering exceeded all that has been heard for many years in this country. The State band of the Life Guards were stationed in front of the Palace, and, on the arrival of the Queen and the Emperor, again struck up the air "Partant pour la Syrie," and the National Anthem. Their Majesties, on their arrival, were received by Earl Spencer, the Marquis of Breadalbane, and the Duke of Wellington.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT TO THE CITY.

Although the reception which the illustrious visitors met with on their arrival in London on Monday afternoon was of the most generous and enthusiastic character, it was far less brilliant than it would have been if the people generally had known the route their Majesties proposed to take. The opinion was general that on that day they would leave the main line of the South-Eastern Railway at the Red-hill junction, and proceed by the Reading, Guildford, and Reigate branch to Windsor, and thus altogether avoid the metropolis. It was not until the appearance of the newspapers on Monday that the public became aware that there had been any alteration in this route, and comparatively few and meagre arrangements were made for greeting them as they passed along our great thoroughfares. But on Thursday there were no drawbacks of that kind, and the citizens of London had afforded them an opportunity of showing how cordially they appreciate the visit of his Majesty and his illustrious Consort, as an evidence of the strength of an alliance between the two greatest nations of Europe, the importance of which cannot be overrated, and the beneficial results of which it is impossible too highly to estimate. From the moment their Majesties reached London until their arrival at Buckingham Palace, and again, from the time they left Buckingham Palace until they reached Guildhall, an unbroken cheer greeted them. Their Majesties graciously acknowledged this mark of respect.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE RECEPTION.

At an early hour in the morning the metropolitan police, under the command of Sir Richard Mayne and Captain Hay, and the civic force, under the direction of Mr. Daniel Whittle Harvey, took possession of the streets, and to their admirable arrangements is to be attributed the strict order which prevailed. From the South-Western Railway station at Vauxhall, where their Majesties left the line, to Buckingham Palace, flags floated from nearly every house; and the same remark applies to the Strand, Fleet-street, Cheapside, and the other thoroughfares along which they had to pass. But it was in the immediate neighbourhood of the Guildhall, and in that splendid building, that the most striking preparations were made. At the corner of King-street, facing Gresham-street, barricades were put up to protect those whose duty it was to receive their Majesties at that spot; and from St. Lawrence Church, all round the Guildhall-yard, commodious galleries were erected for the accommodation of the citizens and their friends. Just at this point an enormous pavilion was erected. This structure was 90 feet in width, of canvas, stretched over to form the roof, which extended in length just 97 feet, and was fitted up on each side by ten rows of raised seats. Upwards of 1200 persons were thus accommodated. The top of the pavilion was covered with scarlet and white bunting, and the sides were hung with scarlet and white, and appointed with French and English trophies. Eight pillars on either side placed to support the top were covered with red and white bunting. From the front of this pavilion stretched an awning 20 feet wide and 140 feet long, terminating at the corner of Gresham-street, from which a canopy bulged to form the grand entrance to the Hall. This, as well as the awning, was surmounted by the flags of all nations except Russia, and the City and also the French arms were emblazoned in bright colours upon the circular shields upon the trophies. A beautiful ornamental device, in cream colour, bearing the following, "Alma, Balaclava, and Inkerman," was placed in front of the upper windows, which, being surmounted by the French and City arms, had a most magnificent effect. The tops of the flag-staffs attached to the trophies had splendidly-gilt eagles and spears attached, and the light shining from behind the devices gave them the appearance of solid burnished gold. In the yard there was also erected a most elegant refreshment-room, 76 feet long and 22 feet wide, formed of red and white bunting, and differing in appearance widely from the ordinary canvas marquees, inasmuch as the bunting was almost as thin as cambric, and, whilst it afforded full protection to those who were seated beneath, allowed the light to show up the brightness of the colours. The appointment in this compartment consisted of festoons in red, white, and blue. The Great Hall was covered with galleries, with the exception of a portion set apart for his Majesty and suite to pass over, and the eastern end, where the throne stood. On each side of the entrance to the throne were eight rows of raised seats, whilst a little more to the east were six raised, apparently, dining-places At the western end of the Hall was a spacious gallery, divided into three classes. In order to provide this amount of accommodation it was found necessary to raise the figures representing Gog and Magog some three or four feet, although each figure weighed about a ton. The whole of the monuments were cleaned, and not fewer than fourteen trophies of feet high were placed in the Hall—seven on each side. Affixed to the top of a pole was a wreath of Peace in gold and white, encircling the French Eagle, under which was a large circular piece of work bearing an admirable medallion of the Emperor; following this downwards was a splendid circle. After which was an entablature bearing the name of "Napoleon" in gold letters. Seven of these, in honour of France, were matched by an equal number representing England. At the top was a similar wreath of Peace encircling the British Lion, and underneath it a circular piece of work bearing a medallion of her Majesty the Queen A little below was an entablature bearing the name Victoria. Passing from the Hall towards the Council-chamber, on the right hand was a spacious apartment, carpeted and tastefully embellished with plants and flowers, prepared for the suite. The boudoir for her Imperial Majesty was sumptuously provided with richly-gilded furniture. The sofa and chairs had a most brilliant effect, which was relieved by the elegant lace window-curtains The chief decoration, however, of this magnificent apartment was the toilet, upon which was a magnificent mirror in a carved gold frame, and the whole draperied with rich lace festooned hangings over white satin. The toilet bottles and china vases were selected for their artistic beauty and superior manufacture. The lavatory-stand, covered with a beautiful slab of marble, had the usual fittings in white and gold china, with splendidly cut-glass ewer and goblets. A cheval-glass in gold frame adjoined the toilet, and the flooring of the apartment was covered with Turkey carpet.

Perhaps the most interesting feature in the whole of the fittings upon this occasion was that represented in the halls leading from the Great Hall to the Council-chamber. It consisted of a group of figures representing the family of the Emperor Napoleon. They were lent for exhibition upon this memorable occasion by Her Wetter, and the value of them is estimated at 1,000,000 francs. Subjoined is the list:—

1. Hortensa, Queen of Holland, daughter of the Empress, and mother of the present Emperor, consort of King Louis, brother of Napoleon I., and father of the present Emperor.
2. Letitia, mother of the Emperor Napoleon I., and grandmother of the present Emperor
3. Catharina, Queen of Westphalia, daughter of the Queen of Wurtemburg, by his Consort the Princess Royal of England, cousin of her Majesty Queen Victoria, and Consort of King Jerome, the youngest brother of Napoleon I., and uncle of Napoleon III
4. Emperor Napoleon I., uncle to the present Emperor.
5. Joseph, King of Spain, eldest brother of Napoleon I., and uncle to the present Emperor.
6. Jerome, King of Westphalia, present heir presumptive, youngest brother of Napoleon I., and uncle to the present Emperor.
7. Count Wallersdorf, Marshal of King Jerome.

THE PROGRESS TO GUILDHALL

Shortly after one o'clock the Emperor and Empress, attended by a numerous suite, left Buckingham Palace in several of the Queen's carriages, to pay a visit to the Lord Mayor and Corporation of the city of London, at Guildhall. The parks and streets through which the procession passed were densely thronged with spectators, and their Imperial Majesties were everywhere received with the most enthusiastic shouts of welcome. On arriving at the entrance to the Guildhall their Imperial Majesties were received by the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, and the members of the Court of Aldermen. The Emperor and Empress, on entering the Hall, proceeded to the eastern end of the building, where a dais, overhung by an elegant canopy, had been erected for their reception of the Address. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge had previously arrived; and among the distinguished personages present we remarked the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl of Clarendon, Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston, Sir George Grey, Viscount Canning, and many others.

PRESENTATION OF THE CITY ADDRESS.

When their Imperial Majesties had taken their seats upon the throne, The Recorder (who was surrounded by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and various members of the Court of Common Council) read the Address. It congratulated his Majesty upon his arrival in this country, and expressed a hope that the alliance between the two nations would be of a permanent character. A graceful compliment was paid to the Empress, which brought down thunders of applause.

The Emperor, having received the Address from the hands of the Recorder, proceeded to read his reply. He said he felt more gratitude than he could express for the kindly reception he had experienced since his arrival in this country, and towards her Majesty the Queen of England, for enabling him to pay a visit to this country under such favourable circumstances to both nations. He felt the highest pleasure in receiving expressions of respect from such a body as the Lord Mayor and Corporation of the city of London—a city which possessed all the necessary resources either for peace or war. Flattering as were the sentiments which had been expressed, he received them cordially, because he knew they were addressed not so much to himself personally as to the French nation, of which he was on that occasion the interpreter (Cheers). For himself he had never dispraised the sentiments he felt towards England and the English people, and since he had been on the throne of France he had never changed those opinions which, while he was an exile, he had always avowed (Loud cheers). He believed, moreover, that those sentiments were in complete accordance with those which were held by the nation which had chosen him as its ruler. England and France were united on all the great questions of politics and of human progress which at present agitated the world from the shores of the Atlantic to the Mediterranean, from the Black Sea to the Baltic. They had at heart one cause, and were determined on pursuing one end (Loud cheers). It was by no pitiful rivalries that the union of the two nations could be dissevered, and while they followed the dictates of common sense they would be sure of the future (Cheers). The Corporation of the city of London were quite right in supposing that his presence amongst them was a fresh and convincing proof, if any were wanting, that the war should be pursued with vigour—until, at all events, the Allied nations succeeded in obtaining an honourable peace. If they persevered in the war there could be no doubt of a successful result, for the soldiers and sailors of both nations were men of tried valour, and were united in determining to secure the honour of both countries. In their generous and enlightened ideas lay their great superiority. He was deeply grateful to the Corporation for the kind and affectionate expressions which had been used towards the Empress (Cheers). The cordial manner in which she had been received would never be effaced from her memory. Throughout the whole of France, of which he was the representative, he knew that there was but one feeling of affectionate gratitude for the cordiality which had been shown to himself and the Empress. They would take back with them to France a lasting sense of the kindness which had been shown to them—a kindness which would be appreciated not only by themselves, but by the whole of their fellow countrymen (Loud cheers).

Mr. John Wood and Mr. Alderman Wire, the mover and seconder of the Address in the Court of Common Council, were presented to the Emperor and Empress by the Lord Mayor.

His Lordship also presented a number of gentlemen connected with the Corporation, and the Lord Mayor of Dublin.

Immediately after the presentation the Duke of Cambridge advanced towards the Emperor and Empress, and cordially shook hands with both. His Royal Highness was loudly cheered. Their Majesties, the Cabinet Ministers, and other distinguished persons present, were then conducted to the Council-chamber, where they partook of an elegant déjeûner, and at which the freedom of the City was presented to the Emperor.

After the luncheon their Imperial Majesties were conducted through the vestibule of the Hall, and thence along the covered pavilion—the Lord Mayor, the members of the Court of Aldermen, and the Court of Common Council forming the committee of management.

Their Majesties, having entered their carriage, were greeted with immense cheers, both during their passage from the Hall and their departure.

During the return through Fleet-street, the Strand, Pall-mall East, Regent-street, Piccadilly, to Albert-gate, the same enthusiasm prevailed.

Their Imperial Majesties were escorted by a squadron of the Life Guards, as a guard of honour; H.R.H. Field Marshal the Duke of Cambridge following in one of the Royal carriages, under a similar escort.

Their Majesties proceeded to the residence of the French Embassy, Albert-gate, where the Emperor received the *corps diplomatique*, and afterwards returned to Buckingham Palace by way of Hyde-park and Constitution-hill.

In the evening her Majesty the Queen, and their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of the French, proceeded in state from Buckingham Palace to the Royal Italian Opera, to witness the performance of "Fidelio."

THE STATE VISIT TO THE ITALIAN OPERA.

This was one of the most splendid scenes ever witnessed within the walls of this theatre. The house was fitted up and decorated with unprecedented magnificence. The State box, on the grand tier, and fronting the stage, resembled that which was prepared for the Queen's visit in 1846, but was still more richly ornamented

The opera was "Fidelio," and Mdlle. Jenny Ney made her debut in this country; but the performance was only a secondary object of attention. The thoughts of everybody were engrossed by the anticipated arrival of the illustrious group, which did not take place till about ten o'clock, when the first act of the piece was over. The Emperor was in the centre, having the Queen on his right hand and the Empress on his left, with Prince Albert at the side next her Imperial Majesty. As they entered, a shout, as from one voice, burst from every part of the house; the whole audience standing up and waving their hats and handkerchiefs. The orchestra played "Partant pour la Syrie," which was received with acclamations; and the Imperial pair acknowledged, by graceful salutations, the compliment to themselves and their country. "God Save the Queen" was then sung, and received with the warmest demonstrations of loyalty. The curtain then rose, and the performance proceeded.

THE ILLUMINATIONS ON THURSDAY NIGHT.

At the West-end of London the illuminations in honour of the Imperial guests were very general—some streets presenting one blaze of light. Their Imperial Majesties, on their way to the Royal Italian Opera, seemed highly pleased at the splendid reception which greeted them from one of the most enthusiastic crowds ever witnessed. In many parts, particularly opposite the Reform Club, the number of people was greater than ever before witnessed.

THE VISIT TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

Yesterday the Emperor and Empress of the French had another of those brilliant days, and another of those brilliant receptions, to which they have been accustomed since their arrival on the shores of England. In company with her Majesty the Queen and Prince Albert, the Emperor and Empress paid a visit to the Crystal Palace; and, although there was no attempt at display, the scene was equally as striking as any of those which have previously occurred. The route over which the Royal party was to pass having become publicly known, thousands of eager spectators lined the whole road from one palace to the other, in the hope of catching a glimpse of the Emperor and Empress, whose popularity appears to increase as the period of their visit to this country draws to a close.

As early as seven in the morning the whole line of route was alive with pedestrians, and as the morning progressed, the carriages conveying the *élite* began to appear, and soon filled the roads, presenting a scene which equalled, if indeed it did not surpass, that which was witnessed when the Queen of England opened the noble temple at Sydenham.

At eleven o'clock the Royal carriages (ten in number) emerged from the Royal Mews, and proceeded to the quadrangle of the Palace; they were all open carriages, each preceded by outriders.

At a quarter past eleven her Majesty, Prince Albert, and the Emperor and Empress of the French entered the Royal carriage, the Empress Eugenie sitting at the right of her Majesty, and the Emperor at the left of his Royal Highness Prince Albert. There were also in the Royal carriages the Princess d'Essling, the Comtesse de Montebello, the Baroness de Malaret, Count Pagerie, the French Ambassador and the Countess Walewska, Baron de Malaret, the Duke de Bassano, Counts Montebello and Ney, General Fleury, and the Lords and Equerries in Waiting upon their Majesties.

On leaving Buckingham Palace the Royal cortége proceeded through the Park Mall, Horse Guards, and over Westminster-bridge; and during the entire route their Majesties were received with marked respect and enthusiasm. Her Majesty, Prince Albert, and the Emperor and Empress, on their arrival at the Crystal Palace, were received with immense cheers by thousands of persons who had been attracted to the spot. The escort accompanying her Majesty was composed of the 6th Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers), under the command of Captain Johnson.

The route the Royal cortége took was from Buckingham Palace through the Park Mall, the Horse Guards, over Westminster-bridge, the Elephant and Castle, Walworth-road, through Camberwell, Denmark-hill, and thence through Dulwich by the private road to the Palace.

THE RETURN TO FRANCE

It is generally reported that our illustrious visitors will leave this country on their return to France this day (Saturday), and that they will return by way of Dover. The French Admiral, Viscount Chabannes, came up to London on Thursday night; and yesterday (Friday) the officers of the French squadron at Dover were ordered to London, to be presented to the Queen. They are the captains of the screw corvette *D'Assas*, *Corse*, screw; *Pelikan*, screw; *Petrel*, paddle; *Bayonnaise*, &c.

Two of the English and French Royal Mail steam-packets are announced to take excursion parties at Dover to-day, to witness the embarkation of the Royal visitors, to accompany the Imperial squadron across the Channel, and, after seeing the landing in France, to return to Dover.

The Prefect of the Seine and his colleagues of the municipality of Paris are invited to a grand banquet at the Mansion-house this evening; the provincial mayors are also invited to meet Baron Haussman and friends on this occasion.

MUSIC.

THE opening of the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, on Thursday, last week, was less brilliant than usual. The announcement of Rossini's "Conte Ory" did not excite much interest; the house was indifferently attended; and the performance—notwithstanding the admirable singing of Mdlle. Boslo and Gardoni—went off very coldly. This result, we must say, was creditable to the good sense and good feeling of the public; for though the music is light and pretty, yet the piece is not only contemptibly silly, but immoral and offensive. It was repeated on Saturday, and again on Tuesday; but this last repetition was rendered necessary by the indisposition of Madame Frezzolini, which prevented the performance of "Fidelio" that evening; so that Mdlle. Jenny Ney's début in that opera was deferred till the State visit of the Queen and her Imperial guests, on Thursday.

DRURY-LANE THEATRE, under the title of "the Royal Opera," opened on Monday, with an Italian company, who performed "La Sonnambula" extremely well, and with complete success. The new prima donna, Madame Gassier, is from Paris, where she has gained a considerable reputation. She is an *élève* of the Conservatoire, and her vocal school is decidedly French; but she is an accomplished singer, and a pleasing and interesting actress. Her husband, M. Gassier, has a good baritone voice, and his performance of *Count Rodolpho* was gentlemanlike and agreeable. Bettini (who was already known to the English public) was an excellent *Elvino*. The orchestra and chorus were effective; and the whole performance deserved the favourable reception it met with from a crowded house.

THE Third PHILHARMONIC CONCERT took place on Monday. The programme presented little novelty, but its contents, both instrumental and vocal, were of the highest order. The symphonies were—Mendelssohn's second in A, and Beethoven's in C minor, in our opinion the greatest orchestral work in existence. The overtures were Weber's "Euryanthe" and Cherubini's "Deux Journées." Beethoven's pianoforte concerto in B flat (one of his early works) was most admirably performed by Mr. Lindsay Sloper. Madame Rudersdorff had great success in a bravura song of Mozart, and in the fine scena from Spohr's "Faust." and, Formès having been prevented by indisposition from singing, his place was efficiently supplied by Mr. Weiss, whose performance of Spohr's "Va thereinto" was admirable.

THE other principal concerts of the week have been the first meeting of the Musical Union, at Willis's Rooms, on Tuesday morning; the concert of the Harmonic Union, at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Wednesday evening; and, the same evening, Mr. Hullah's performance of "Elijah," at St. Martin's Hall.

A DESERTER TO THE RUSSIANS. Information has been circulated by the Government authorities respecting Sergeant Charles Aldridge, who, on the 21st February, deserted from the army in the Crimea, and went over to the Russians. He went away with his great-coat over his regimental uniform, taking with him also his bayonet, pouch, belts, and ammunition. He is a native of St. Margaret's, Middlesex. This is the first statement of the kind published by the authorities.

THE TAX ON DOGS is looked for with great satisfaction at Toulon, the streets of that place being overrun with a number of these animals, left behind by the different regiments which have embarked for the East.

MURDERS IN INDIA.—Three deplorable murders have occurred in the course of the past fortnight: a Mr. David Thom, assistant in the Agra Bank at Bengal, once a merchant in Dundee, has, in a fit of drunkenness, literally pounded his wife to death with a brick-bat; Sergeant Doyle, at Madras, has nearly decapitated his wife through jealousy; and a native in Bombay Presidency, in a fit of suspicion, waylaid and murdered the suspected paramour. *Bombay Times.*

WILLS AND PERSONALTY.—The will of the Right Hon. Philip Henry Earl Stanhope has been proved in London personality, £25,000, within the province of Canterbury. Lord Dunalley, £20,000. Dowager Baroness Dynevor, £16,000. Lieut.-Colonel James Richard Hutton, £36,000. Alexander Baillie, Esq., late of Naples, £140,000. Rev. Thomas Huntingford, M.A., £6000. Henry Compton, Fenchurch-street, pewterer, £30,000, within the province of Canterbury. Thomas Simson, Rotherhithe, timber-broker, £25,000

ANOTHER RESPECTABLE SHOPLIFTER. A charge of shoplifting (very similar to that preferred against the wife of Dr. Ramsbotham) was last week brought against Mrs. Emily Roberts, a person moving in respectable society, at Hereford. She was charged with purloining ladies' neckties and handkerchiefs in the shop of a draper, and it appeared that she had got some of them into her pocket; but the magistrates, after hearing the evidence, dismissed the case. It is said that the shopkeeper has determined to [illegible] a bill of indictment against her at the Hereford [illegible]

VICTORIA ALBERT

NAPOLEON - EUGENIE

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

Sunday, April 22.—2nd Sunday after Easter. Fielding born, 1707.
Monday, 23.—St. George. Shakspeare born, 1564.
Tuesday, 24.—Daniel Defoe died, 1731.
Wednesday, 25.—St Mark Princess Alice born, 1843.
Thursday, 26.—Lord Somers died, 1716
Friday, 27.—Sir W. Jones died, 1794.
Saturday, 28.—Mutiny of the Bounty, 1789.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 28.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
5 31	5 52	6 12	6 36	7 1	7 33	8 13	8 58	9 43	10 25	11 0	11 33	Title	0 3

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Monday, Wednesday Friday, and Saturday, Louis XI.; Tuesday, Faust and Marguerite; Thursday, The Cenciaia Brothers; The Muleteer of Toledo; or, King, Queen, and Knave, Every Evening.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, Miss CUSHMAN, for THREE NIGHTS ONLY, in the Character of ROMEO. On Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, Mr Sims Reeves, in Fra Diavolo, with Mr Weiss, Mr. Farquharson, Mr. Manvers, Madame Weiss, and Mrs. Sims Reeves. The New Haymarket Spring Meeting every evening, with Mr Buckstone, Mr. Chippendale, Mrs White, and Miss H. Gordon.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch.—The celebrated Miss GLYN as HERMIONE, in the WINTER'S TALE, produced with New and Splendid Scenery, Magnificent Dresses and Appointments. Mr. Henry Marston, Mr George Wild, and Miss Fanny Williams. Every Evening

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—Mr. ALFRED MELLON respectfully announces that his second GRAND ORCHESTRAL UNION CONCERT will take place at the above Hall on MONDAY EVENING, MAY 7th.

ROYAL SOCIETY of MUSICIANS.—EXETER-HALL. Under the patronage of her most gracious Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert. The MESSIAH will be performed, in aid of the funds of this Institution, on MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 23rd Conductor Mr Costa. Principal Vocalists: Madame Clara Novello, Madame Weiss, Miss Dolby, and Mrs. Lockey; Messrs Lockey, Benson, and Augustus Braham, Signor Belletti. Mr Lawler, and Mr Weiss. The Band and Chorus will consist of 700 performers. Trumpet: Mr. T Harper. Tickets, 5s., 3s., 10s 6d each, reserved numbered seats, 15s: may be had at the Office of the Sacred Harmonic Society, No. 6 in Exeter-hall, and of the principal Musicsellers. JOHN BRAHAM, Secretary.
6? New Bond-street.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall. Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—On next FRIDAY EVENING, APRIL 27, Handel's ISRAEL IN EGYPT. Vocalists: Madame Clara Novello, Madame Rudersdorff, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, Signor Belletti, and Herr Formes. On Wednesday, May 2, will be repeated Mendelssohn's LOBGESANG, and Mozart's REQUIEM. Vocalists: Madame Clara Novello, Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Herr Formes. The Orchestra, the most extensive available in Exeter-hall, will consist of nearly 700 performers. Tickets, 3s., 5s., and 10s 6d each, may be secured by immediate application at the Society's sole office, No. 6 Exeter, within Exeter hall.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.—The DIORAMA illustrating EVENTS of the WAR is now exhibiting daily at Three and Eight. The Lecture by Mr Stocqueler. Admission, 1s., 2s., and 3s.

GO and hear LOVE, the Greatest Dramatic Ventriloquist in Europe, at the UPPER HALL, 69, Quadrant, Regent-street, EVERY EVENING, at EIGHT, except Saturday. Saturday at Three. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.

GUY'S. The SUMMER SESSION commences on TUESDAY, the 1st of MAY
Gentlemen desirous of becoming Students must produce satisfactory testimony as to their education and conduct. They are required to pay £40 for the first year, £40 for the second year, and £10 for every succeeding year of attendance. One payment of £100 entitles a Student to a perpetual ticket.
Clinical Clerks, Dressers, Ward Clerks, Dressers' Reporters, Obstetric Residents, and Dressers in the Eye Wards are selected, according to merit, from those Students who have attended a special year.
Mr Stocker, Apothecary to Guy's Hospital, will enter Students, and give any further information required. April 17, 1855

NAPOLEON SUPPLEMENT
TO
THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

A GRAND DOUBLE NUMBER
Will be published on SATURDAY, APRIL 28th, 1855, on the great occasion of the

VISIT OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS
OF THE FRENCH TO ENGLAND.

The following ENGRAVINGS will appear in this Grand Number:—
A large Sheet View of the Arrival of the Imperial Guests at Windsor Castle
Investiture of the Emperor with the Order of the Garter.
State Procession of the Emperor and Empress to the City.
Reception of the Imperial Guests by the Lord Mayor in the Guildhall, and Presentation of the City Address.
Visit to the Royal Italian Opera—The State Box.
The Visit to the Crystal Palace, on Friday.
Departure of the Emperor and Empress from Dover, on Saturday.
Also,
A large Portrait of Lord John Russell;
Portrait of Count Buol, the Austrian Minister;
The Foreign-office at Vienna; and several other Engravings.

Interesting Accounts from Vienna (from our own Correspondent), and all the Latest News connected with the
WAR WITH RUSSIA.
Price of the Double Number, One Shilling.
Office, 198, Strand.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1855.

The Emperor of the French has entered the English capital, received with cheers which have attended him to the threshold of our own Queen's home. Everywhere the wise Ruler of France, the energetic ally of England, has met the cordial greeting which we owed to the representative of the French nation, and to the undaunted enemy of Russia. The scenes of this past week will not easily be effaced from the memory of those who have witnessed them. Our fathers still talk of the visit of the Allied Sovereigns, early in the present century; but the more remarkable guest who now occupies all our thoughts, and the strange crisis (graver than anything that has occurred since 1815) at which he presented himself among us, will affix to the ceremonials and gratulations of April, 1855, a still more abiding interest.

What a moment it is for a friendly Sovereign to appear in the midst of us! A war, begun with imperfect knowledge of its demands—some say with imperfect ideas of its object—had stagnated in disaster and misfortune, and, during the protracted interval in which we were seeking to repair our errors and losses, a last attempt was made to spare further effusion of blood. A Congress, at which all the great nations were represented, including the original belligerents, met in the capital of a professed ally of the Western Powers, and debated terms of peace. The same week we learn that the negotiations fail, and that the storm of fire has again opened upon the enemy's stronghold. That week finds our best and most powerful friend an honoured guest in the halls of Windsor.

Looking beyond the exciting and gratifying spectacles which have been engaging the attention of England—the graceful hospitalities and the stately ceremonials of Windsor, the cordial homage of Municipalities, the brilliant public entertainments, and the spontaneous plaudits of the people—we may be permitted to express our belief that the visit of the Emperor will be found productive of good, which will endure when the present excitement is past. He comes at a moment when England is finally apprised that she must throw herself into this war in terrible earnest. She is told that the ordinary resources of finance are inadequate to sustain her in the affray, and the old mine, whence War Ministers of other days were wont to draw their gold, is once more opened. She has at length, also, learned that a powerful and skilful enemy has been underrated, and it is at a fearful price in life and treasure that she has attained to a right understanding of the relative position of herself and her foe. To the lightest-minded among us this conjuncture is one of extreme gravity. We are not discouraged, but the moments are sombre and stern. Our army has been wasted, our *prestige* imperilled, and now, with somewhat of heaviness in our hearts, we buckle anew to the conflict with a gloomy determination that it shall not be fought in vain. At this precise time there lands upon our shore and enters our city the ally whose soldiery have fought and died beside our own, who by compact is as deeply pledged as ourselves, and even more deeply than ourselves by policy, to fight the battle in the East until the West has won it, and who comes not only to renew and confirm engagements, hitherto so nobly fulfilled, but to animate our counsels and to reassure some who, it is believed, need the reassurance imparted by the presence of resolute energy. Upon the people, who at such a time might have received the tidings of fresh hostilities and fresh demands with no unreasonable gravity, the visit of the Emperor has produced a beneficial and cheering effect. He comes as the ruler and representative of a neighbouring nation, equally involved with us in the strife, and equally prepared with her exertions and her sacrifices; and he comes with a guarantee that on the rugged path of duty now before us (and, as yet, but faintly gilded by the sunbeams of glory) France will tread, side by side with England, with steps as unflagging as her own. While to statesmen, if there be any such in high places, who are supposed to lack that full confidence in the justice and success of our efforts in the cause of liberty and humanity which is essential to the vigorous prosecution of the war, the Emperor of the French will have been able to impart the convictions which he has derived from his own intimate acquaintance with every feature in the struggle—convictions which it is all-important to England that all who direct or influence her counsels should entertain with a plenary faith.

Therefore, we esteem the presence of the Emperor of the French among us, at this moment, as that best of all possible omens—the one which aids in bringing about its own fulfilment. But in the plaudits which everywhere greet him, the glorious nation which he represents will hear, we trust, something more than the welcome dictated by policy, or even gratitude. The people of England feel as well as think; and it is to the people of France that they shout their greetings as the Sovereign of France passes down the long files of our populace assembled to welcome him. There is no mere momentary excitement, no mock sentiment, in the feeling which unites the two nations. Fêtes, galas; ceremonies, may adorn an alliance of Monarchs; but never made an alliance of peoples. The true, deep sentiment between the two nations is this—that they are friends from having in the hour of danger made common cause in behalf of the right and, from having fought, suffered, and conquered together. Trouble and misfortune—which either separate friends for ever, or bind them for ever—have united England and France; and, though it might be presumptuous to anticipate the dispensations of Providence, and to augur that the links that have joined us are indissoluble, it would be at once a senseless and a heartless abnegation of the best instincts of our nature did we not recognise in such a tie an assurance of no ordinary value that the friendship of the nations shall be permanent. This is felt by the British people as they cheer the French Emperor; and this they desire should be interpreted to the people of France.

In the admiring homage which all, from her sister Queen to the humblest among us, have rejoiced to offer to the beautiful Consort of the Emperor, not one cold or calculating thought has entered. To a lovely and amiable woman, wooed neither for her rank nor for dynastic considerations, but raised to the Throne because its owner saw his happiness in her exaltation, the gaze of our people turned with a peculiar interest, and the fair face and soft eyes of the Empress Eugenie will long be household words among those who came out to meet her on Monday last. Her Imperial Majesty has double claim to our people's regards—herself a daughter of the people (at least in the estimation of daughters of palaces), and one in whose veins runs British blood. The nation has given her its warmest welcome, and has seen with peculiar satisfaction the especial earnestness with which she has been welcomed at Windsor.

With unmixed gratification, therefore, we record the visit of the Emperor and Empress of France, believing not only that with the political crisis, so important to the welfare of the two greatest nations of Europe, an ameliorating element has been introduced, but that a nobler and grander union, based upon better foundations than the instinct of self-defence, has been promoted both politically and socially. To our own Sovereign, whose invitation brought such guests among us, the best thanks of the nation are due; and assuredly that Royal lady who has so often spoken and delighted to speak—with the voice of her subjects, never uttered their wishes more faithfully than when bidding Louis Napoleon and his beautiful wife to Windsor, nor fulfilled their utmost desires more gracefully than in the splendid hospitality with which Queen Victoria has received her illustrious guests and friends.

This is a week of great events. It will be ever memorable in our history for the presence of Napoleon III., the Emperor of the French, and his Empress, as welcome guests at the palace of our Queen, the granddaughter of George III. The union of two nations so long opposed to each other as the French and English seems almost like the realisation of the prophecy that "men shall beat their spears into pruning-hooks; and the lion shall lie down with the lamb." Waterloo is to be consigned to oblivion by mutual friendship; and, so far as France and England are concerned, palaces for the enshrinement of Art will supersede foundries of cannon and arsenals of murderous weapons. Thus Civilisation makes its way in the West. In the East all is different. According to the telegraph information given to the journals, the Conferences are virtually at an end. The English and French Ministers are probably on their way back to London and Paris, and the war is to be prosecuted with additional vigour. As we write, however, we hear a different statement. The Government has been informed by telegraph that the instructions which Prince Gortschakoff has received empower him to hear and discuss the propositions on the Third Point, on which, in the first instance, he said he had no instructions; and there arises a doubt whether Lord John Russell will immediately return, and a further doubt whether the Conferences will immediately end, as has been announced, in smoke.

News, however, has, at the same time, arrived that the bombardment of Sebastopol—so long delayed as to have given rise to an insinuation that Lord Raglan was sparing the town in expectation of peace, at the expense of his own soldiers—has been renewed. On the 6th the Russians made a sortie in great force, and attacked the English lines, but were repulsed with great loss. On the 9th the bombardment began, and was continued on the 10th, with an admitted loss on the part of the Russians of 833 killed and wounded. We have thus the growing amity of the two Western nations compensated by their common strife with their Northern and Eastern antagonist; and, in the same week that we record the festivities in honour of the Emperor, we must also mention the continued mourning for the sacrifices made by war.

The renewal of hostilities with vigour is of almost equal importance to the presence of the Emperor. It is coupled, too, with the statement and the probability that before the time we are writing a decisive assault has been made on Sebastopol. The present, in fact, is the critical period in that country. Later in the season the heat is as dangerous as the cold was, till April commenced, and the effectual fighting must be done at no distant day. We must, too, fight earnestly.

The road to peace is by a vigorous prosecution of war; and when a nation is compelled to enter into war it ought to bend all its energies to bring the evil to a speedy end. War is justified as a stern duty imposed on man to secure the supremacy of right over wrong; and, if it be not conducted energetically as a solemn duty, with the whole heart and strength of a nation, it becomes a great crime. To assist a criminal likely to escape from justice the whole population would turn out and leave no stone unturned and no bush unexamined till they had found him. To enter into war is like a chase after a criminal, and we cannot answer to ourselves if we do not use our utmost energies in the pursuit. We are glad, therefore, to announce that, amidst the festivities proper to the presence of the Emperor, the great object to the attainment of which his presence is most conducive, that of conquering permanent peace, is prosecuted with more vigour than ever.

Now let us say a word on the procession that lately passed our doors. The Emperor, though he was in a close carriage, and could not be seen so fully as the multitude wished, was everywhere loudly cheered. No more welcome guest ever trod our shores, and the multitude have shown that they comprehend the purpose for which he is at present amongst us. They forget all his antecedents, and greet him as the chosen chief of the great nation with which our interests are now irrevocably bound up. With France our commerce is extending; and, for the interest of both nations, it ought to be extended. The Emperor has already done more than all his predecessors to promote the trade of his people, and to give it freedom; and his exertions, his example, his teaching, and his enactments are preparing the way for a great extension of Free-trade in France. The Emperor is welcomed by the whole metropolis, including bankers and merchants, not only as the friend of our Queen, as engaged with us in prosecuting a just war, but as promoting that freedom of commercial intercourse which increases employment and promotes the happiness of all.

He will see amongst us many things to recommend freedom. Since he was here, the metropolis has been extended amazingly, and been somewhat beautified, and the people have been much more cared for. He will see altogether a fairer sight than London could show in 1848. It is less favourable, indeed, for such exhibition as we have witnessed than Paris. The long and broad line of the Boulevards, extending round the whole city, affords ample space for marching troops or conducting processions which is denied to us in our narrow streets. London is more a business city than Paris; at least business is more commonly the object in the former, and pleasure in the latter. To these peculiar pursuits each is adapted; and we have an infinitely more crowded thoroughfare from its being narrower and collecting a greater number of people. We have nothing to equal the lines of trees and houses, sparkling in the sun, which adapt Paris to be a city for processions and shows. It is, at the same time, a city of business; and, as history tells us, of stern acts and solemn duties. If we can show the Emperor no Boulevards, we show him a great multitude of peaceable, orderly, well-behaved people, who rejoice in his presence, and will enable him to carry back to France the conviction that the most free nation in Europe is at the same time the most wealthy and the most peaceable.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON III.

(From a Correspondent.)

During his exile in England Prince Louis Bonaparte used to read with great interest the proof sheets of M. Thiers' "History of the Consulate and Empire," which were supplied to him by Mr. Forbes Campbell, who was then preparing an English version of that work. The following remarkable passage occurs in a letter which the Prince addressed to Mr. Campbell in 1847, when returning the proof sheets vol. v. It will be seen that even at that early period the Emperor meditated the English alliance, which he has since so happily accomplished:—"Why was not I born to share in the glories of those heroic times? But on reflection it is better as it is. What a saddening spectacle to behold the two greatest and most civilised nations of the world destroying one another (*s'entregorger*)—two nations that ought, in my opinion (*selon moi*), to have been friends and allies, and rivals only in the arts of peace. Let us hope the day may yet come when I shall carry out the intentions of my uncle, by uniting the interests and policy of England and France in an indissoluble alliance. That hope cheers and encourages me. It forbids my repining at the altered fortunes of my family."

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

(By Submarine and British Telegraph.)

VIENNA, Thursday, April 19th.

Monday—despatches arrived from St. Petersburg. Tuesday—the Conference resumes. Lord J. Russell leaves for London to-morrow, via Berlin. The Allies yield. Expect a patched-up peace. Drouyn de Lhuys remains here. Bombardment of Sebastopol confirmed.

VIENNA, April 20.

The Conferences assembled yesterday; and important debates ensued. Lord John Russell's departure is postponed until Monday.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The news from the Crimea is of two days later date, and of an authentic character. The following telegraphic message from General Canrobert of the 14th is published in the *Moniteur* of yesterday (Friday) morning:—

Under date of the 14th of April General Canrobert writes from before Sebastopol that the superiority of the artillery of the Allied armies is more and more confirmed.

Our troops on the preceding night, having twice driven the Russians from their strong positions on the left, remained masters of them; they are much nearer to the town.

Rumours prevailed in Vienna on Wednesday evening of a sanguinary engagement having taken place outside Sebastopol, in which the Russians were defeated.

The *Daily News*, under date of Eupatoria, of April 7, says:—

The Allies have demanded 20,000 men to be sent down to Sebastopol—it is imagined for the assault. The embarkation begins to-day. Omer Pacha goes to-morrow.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

A despatch from Hamburg of the 19th says that an English fleet, of twelve ships of the line and four steamer corvettes, passed the Belt on the preceding evening, in front of Nyborg.

KIEL, April 19, TWO P.M.

The British fleet under Admiral Dundas, twelve liners, with the *Vulture*, *Bulldog*, and *Firefly*, have just arrived here and anchored.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, APRIL 19.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer Highest Reading	Thermometer Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches
Apr. 14	29.540	57.2	45.7	50.3	+ 4.7	90	S.W.	0.00
„ 15	29.649	63.0	42.5	50.1	+ 4.4	81	S.W.	0.01
„ 16	30.075	57.5	41.0	51.3	+ 5.5	95	W.N.W.	0.06
„ 17	30.223	54.1	42.9	45.5	− 2.3	81	S.W.	0.00
„ 18	30.354	57.8	47.2	56.0	+ 9.8	73	E.S.E.	0.00
„ 19	30.317	57.6	32.9	44.3	− 2.2	77	S.E.	0.00
Mean	30.088	57.5	38.2	46.8	+ 0.1	76	E.S.E.	0.00

NOTE. The sign + denotes above the average and the sign − below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.54 in, at the beginning of the week to 28.81 in. by the 15th; increased to 30.33 in. by the 17th; and decreased to 29.98 in. by the evening of the week. The mean reading for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.088 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 50·6°, being 4·9° above the average of 38 years.

The mean temperature during the week was 45·9°, being the difference between the highest reading on the 16th and the lowest on the 19th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 22°. The least was 11½° on the 15th, and the greatest 28° on the 19th.

The weather during the week has been unusually fine—the last four days being almost cloudless during night and day.

Lewisham, April 20, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending last Saturday the births of 1718 children were registered within the metropolitan districts: of these, 912 were boys, and 806 were girls; exceeding the averages of the ten corresponding weeks of the ten previous years by 100 and 117 respectively. The number of deaths was 1347—of whom 715 were males, and 632 were females. The average of the fifteenth week of the year from the ten preceding years, corrected for increase of population, was 1138. Hence it appears that a high rate of mortality still prevails, the excess of deaths in this week over the estimated number being 209. The number of deaths from bronchitis still continues very high, being 79 in the weekly average by 69. Pneumonia 92 deaths are attributed, exceeding its average by 14. The hooping cough, 59, being a decrease on the number of the preceding weeks. To diarrhœa 13 deaths are referred; and to violence, cold, privation, and intemperance, 39, being 18 in excess of the average number.

TESTIMONIAL TO THE LATE LORD DUDLEY STUART.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of the borough of Marylebone was held on Tuesday evening at the Court-house, Marylebone-lane, for the purpose of opening a subscription for a public testimonial in commemoration of the indefatigable exertions of their late representative, Lord Dudley Stuart. Sir B. Hall, M.P., presided; and was supported by M. Kossuth, Lord Ebrington, M.P., and a number of influential gentlemen connected with the borough. The attendance at the meeting was large. After Sir Benjamin Hall and Lord Ebrington had spoken, M. Kossuth addressed the meeting, amidst loud and protracted cheers. After a brilliant oration on the political conditions of Hungary, Poland, and Italy, he said there was no man more conspicuous for his virtues than Lord Dudley Stuart (Cheers). Duty prompted him to say that there was, in his humble opinion, better means of carrying out this object than raising a statue and the like. He thought the best means of doing it would be to imitate his example. If all those who desired to assist in paying a tribute to Lord D Stuart had assisted him in his efforts to throw the weight of England into the scale of national justice and right, how different would have been the fate and condition of Europe at the present day. A committee was then appointed and a subscription opened.

ANTI-MAYNOOTH MOVEMENT.—A public meeting, attended by delegates from the Church Protestant Defence Society, the Evangelical Alliance, the National Club, the Protestant Alliance, the Protestant Association, the Reformation Society, and the Scottish Protestant Society, was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, for the purpose of reviving the agitation against the State support of the College of Maynooth, which had subsided during the session of the Royal Commission and the preparation of its report. The chair was taken by Mr. J. O. Colquhoun. There were also present—Lord Berners, Hon. and Rev. Mr. Powys, Hon. Major Powys, Sir Culling Eardley, Bart., Admiral Vernon Harcourt, General Alexander; Rev. Dr. Hugh Stowell, Rev. Dr. Marsh, Rev. Lewis Potter, Rev. W. Carling, and about four hundred other gentlemen, clerical and lay, who formed deputations from the principal provincial towns of the United Kingdom. The proceedings having been opened by the reading of a chapter from the Revelations and solemn prayer, the Chairman explained the course which the committee proposed to take in the management of the conference. It seemed to be the idea of some of their fellow Protestants that they sought to establish a new Protestant organisation. That was not the case. The present conference would be confined to the consideration of one simple and definite object—the repeal of the Act of 1845 which endowed the College of Maynooth. The meeting was subsequently addressed by the Rev. Dr. Cumming, Rev. M. Fox, Rev. Hugh Stowell, Rev. Dr. Bery, Rev. Mr. Menton, and other Protestant advocates; and a series of resolutions adopted condemnatory of the grant, and recommending the several constituencies represented to vote for no candidate who would not pledge himself against its continuance.

CROWDED STATE OF LUDGATE-HILL.—At a meeting of the Court of Common Council, on Saturday, Mr. Ross moved "That, in order to diminish the pressure of the traffic on Ludgate-hill, it is expedient to form a new line of street from the Old Bailey to the south east end of Farringdon-street, on the side of the Fleet Prison; and that it be referred to the Improvements Committee to cause a survey to be made of the property to be removed, to estimate the cost, and to report to this Court thereon." The site of the Fleet Prison has been purchased by the Corporation for nearly twelve years; it cost £35,000, which, together with incidental expenses connected with it, amounted to £36,882 17s. 1½d., against which there was a set off of £3369 10s. 1d., leaving the net cost of the site £31,513. Mr. Ross, after stating the necessity that existed for increased traffic accommodation in the neighbourhood of Ludgate hill, with a view of affording which the site of the late Fleet Prison might be called into use, concluded by saying that it was the duty of the Corporation, as guardians of the trading and commercial interests of the City, to see that the nuisance occasioned by its unoccupied state should be forthwith removed. Deputy Bedford having seconded the motion, Mr. Anderton moved, by way of amendment, "That the Improvements Committee do forthwith report upon the reference of July, 1847, as regards the appropriation of the site of the Fleet Prison." The amendment, after considerable discussion, was carried by a large majority.

ARREST OF A FRENCH REFUGEE.—Shortly before seven o'clock on Thursday evening a rumour spread through the metropolis with electrical rapidity that a man had been arrested for attempting to fire at the Emperor on his return to Buckingham Palace. A reporter from this establishment having been dispatched to make inquiries found at Gardner's-place, Regent-street, a man who had been arrested for attempting to throw a letter into the carriage, and otherwise offering violence. He is at present in custody at the station.—*Globe.*

NATIONAL SPORTS.

WITH 300 horses in training at Newmarket alone, we can hardly expect the First Spring Meeting, which is the only one fixed for next week, to be very dull, albeit the list is the reverse of inviting. Monday has an A.F. match between Kaffir and the Physales colt, who ran together last October over the Dell. In the present match, Kaffir has to give, instead of receiving, 2 lbs.; but the new distance will be so much in his favour. The Coffee-room Stakes, on Tuesday, may end in a struggle between Wissma filly and Pugnator, and the stout head of Van Tromp will probably carry Bore successfully over the Beacon and the 300 Sovs. Stakes. Paxton has gone to the Crimea as a trooper-horse; and we do not know that any of the other three, except Pelham, are in training. The Two Thousand Guineas is a race of immense interest; but we fancy that Dirk Hatteraik will not be seen in the fray. The starters will probably comprise Polyphemus (Nat), Kingstown (A. Day), St. Hubert (Wells), Lord of the Isles (Marlow), Bonnie Morn (Templeman), Hazel (Rogers), Claret (Marson or Bartholomew), and perhaps two or three others. Bonnie Morn has shown such good speed over this very course last week that we should not be at all surprised to see him save his stake, but he is still far too much of a pony in size.

Nearly every pack of foxhounds will cease from their labours to-day, but the Tverton do not draw their "rest and be thankful" cover till next Saturday. The corners and the fields have been so burnt up during the last three weeks that, instead of a "burning scent," hounds have been hardly able to carry it over three fields, although the fox might have broken in view.

At Tattersall's next week there will be but little interest, as Newmarket will have paramount claims. Beehunter, Sir Peter Laurie, Free Trader, &c., are, however, to come to the hammer on Monday, along with the Lullington harriers, a pack of about sixteen couple, and seventeen inches in height. Mr. Frank Holmes, M.P., who has been entertaining transactions are thought to exceed £120,000, is said to be in Sweden where the extraditional treaty is not in force. As far as turf matters went, we believe he was not a defaulter, although it was the borrowing of money at such frightful interest, to pay his turf liabilities, that brought about his ruin, which will affect not a few sporting men, who dabble in bill-discounting when the horses are on their winter beds. He had backed Greucolus Esurience heavily, through his commissioners, who have been obliged to lay against the horse pretty freely of late, in order to get out. Lord Exeter seems to adhere steadily to his resolution to reduce his stud to the lowest point, as he has advertised fifteen of them, of which twelve are yearlings, for sale at Tattersall's.

YORK SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Craven Stakes.—Hospodar, 1. Defiance, 2
Great Northern Handicap.—Neville, 1. Fandango, 2.
Zetland Stakes.—Sister to Broughton, 1. Eustace Fitzjohn, 2.
Selling Stakes.—Blossom, 1. Medina, 2.
Spring St. Leger.—Blooming Heather, 1. Vandal, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Tyro Stakes.—Lord Raglan, 1. Wonder, 2.
Flying Dutchman's Handicap.—Neville, 1. Cecil of Eton, 2
York Spring Biennial Stakes.—Eglantine, 1. Gamester, 2.
Londesborough Cup.—Sir Henry, 1. Hospodar, 2.
Consolation Scramble.—Tom Perkins, 1. Exmouth, 2.
City Plate.—St Julian, 1. Marco Spada, 2.

MALTON RACES.—THURSDAY.

Malton Handicap.—Gameland, 1. Freddy, 2.
Two-year-old Stakes.—Sister to Broughton walked over.
Rascal Handicap.—Paterson, 1. Fanny Fern, 2.
Hunt Cup.—Samson, 1. Sir Henry, 2.
Amateur Stakes.—Victory, 1. Phoebus, 2

FRIDAY.

Langton Stakes.—Notre Dame, 1. Ernest Atherley, 2
Convivial Handicap.—Hobby Horse, 1. Medway, 2.
Tally-ho Handicap.—Trio, 1. Dil gent, 2
Wilberfoss Cup.—Sir Henry, 1. Lunaloo, 2
Scurry.—Tom Perkins, 1. Medina, 2.

BETTING AT TATTERSALL'S.—THURSDAY EVENING

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—7 to 4 agst Lord of the Isles, 5 to 2 agst St. Hubert (3), 10 to 1 agst Claret (4)

CHESTERFIELD.—20 to 1 agst Neville (4)

DERBY.—5 to 1 agst De Clare, 10 to 1 agst St Hubert (3), 12 to 1 agst Dirk Hatteraik (3).

TEN surgeons, fifteen sisters of charity, and sixty hospital assistants, have proceeded to the East to organise three Sardinian hospitals—one at Constantinople, one at Varna, and the third at Baladava.

THE distillation of whisky in the Highlands is particularly brisk at present. One still turns out from 500 to 600 gallons per week, most of which is sent to France and Australia.

BARON de Stieglitz, the Russian Court banker, has proposed to erect in the Stock Exchange a monument to the late Emperor, as a protector of commerce.

LETTERS from Weimar state that the literary committee engaged in investigating the forgery and sale of autographs attributed to Goethe and Schiller have received from various parts of Germany 12,000 manuscripts, the owners of which distrust their genuineness. A young man, one of the attendants of the Grand Ducal Library, and formerly a shoemaker, has been arrested, and confesses that for two years he has devoted himself most assiduously to meet the public demand for autographs of the poets at a reasonable rate.

SPANISH POSTAGE.—The Queen of Spain has issued a decree directing that, except in cases of special treaty, the inland Spanish postage on all letters received from abroad shall, from the 1st of next month, be four reals (tenpence) the quarter ounce. On English letters this will have the effect of reducing the Spanish charge (when the letter does not exceed a quarter of an ounce) to less than one-half the present amount, viz., from two shillings and a penny to tenpence.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The great event in monetary circles this week has been the issuing of the particulars of a Government loan of £16,000,000, of which an explanation will be found in page 370

As might be expected, the market for National Securities has continued dull and drooping. The fall, however, since Friday last has not been heavy. On Thursday very little business was done in Consols, indeed the attention of most parties in the City was absorbed by the visit of the Emperor of the French. The Three per Cents closed 90 to 91½, both for Money and Time. The Three per Cents Reduced were 90¾ ⅞; and the New Three per Cents, 89⅞ to 90. Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 10s.; and India Bonds, 12s. to 15s. prem.

There have been some heavy importations of bullion. From Australia, about £300,000 has come in; and the arrivals from the West Indies have amounted to £164,000; from New York, £300,000. The foreign exchanges continue very favourable

Joint-Stock Bank Shares have been but in moderate request, yet prices have continued tolerably firm. Australians have realised 3¼; British North American, 64½; Chartered of Asia, 4½; Eastern, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 17½; London Joint-Stock, 27¾; New South Wales, 34; Oriental, 40; South Australia, 28; Union of Australia, 66½; Ditto, New, 3.

Most Miscellaneous Securities have changed hands slowly, and the quotations have had a downward tendency.

Although the traffic upon most lines continues good, Railway Shares have been very dull and drooping. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Caledonian, 89½; Chester and Holyhead, 12½; Eastern Counties, 11½; Great Western, 64; Ditto, Stour Valley, 80½; London and Brighton, 99; London and North-Western, 98½; Ditto, Fifths, 15½; Midland, 69; North British, 25¾; North-Eastern, Berwick, 71; Ditto, Edinburgh, 128½; Scottish Midland, 64½, Shropshire Union, 45; South-Eastern, 60½; Vale of Neath, 17.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Great Western (Birmingham), 10½; Ditto, Guaranteed Stock, 72; Norfolk Five per Cents, 103½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 104; Stockton and Darlington Five per Cents, 91.

FOREIGN.—Great Luxembourg (Obligations), 2¾; Great Western of Canada Shares, 17½; Ditto, Bonds, 1857, 97; Scinde, ⅞ prem.; Zealand, 18.

Mining Shares have been heavy. On Thursday English and Australian Copper Smelting Company realised 1½; Fortuna, 1¼; New Granada, ⅞; Nouveau Monde, ¼; Santago de Cobre, ⅞; United Mexicans, 7½

Friday Evening.

The whole of the new Government Loan of £16,000,000 has been taken to-day at the Terminable Annuities, at 14s. 6d. The market value of the Consols of 1853 The scrip has already changed hands at 1⅞ to 1⅞ premium. The usual stocks are inactive, and rather lower. The Three per Cents have marked 89½; the Three per Cents Reduced, 88½; and the New Three per Cents, 89½. In Foreign Bonds and Rs. Iway Shares very little is doing.

THE MARKETS.

CORN-EXCHANGE (Friday). During the present week the receipts of English wheat have been very moderate, since a-day. Fresh up to-day, the supply was small, and the show of samples was limited. Although the demand was somewhat firmer than on Monday, the amount of business doing was limited, at rates of prices current. The imports of foreign wheat have been rather over 7000 quarters. Of sale for all descriptions called dull, but no change took place in prices. Foreign cargoes were held at extreme rates. We and a very dull sale for barley, and fully rates were with difficulty supported. The supply was good. Malt moved off heavily, at last week's currency. Oat meals was dull. Inferior oats were the turn lower. Beans, peas, and flour were dull, at previous quotations.

ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 3170; barley, 6110; malt, 3670; oats, 1190; flour, 1860. Irish: oats, 600. Foreign: wheat, 2000; barley, 2700; oats, 4200; flour, 140 sacks.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 64s. to 65s.; ditto, white, 71s. to 84s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 64s. to 68s.; ditto, white, 70s. to 74s.; rye, 38s. to 40s.; grinding barley, 27s. to 29s.; distilling ditto, 29s. to 30s.; malting ditto, 29s. to 33s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 60s. to 68s.; brown ditto, 62s. to 64s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 72s.; Chevalier, 70s. to 72s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 24s. to 27s.; potato ditto, 27s. to 29s.; Yaughall and Cork, ditto, 28s.; ditto, white, 28s. to 29s.; tick beans, 32s. to 34s.; grey peas, 34s. to 37s.; maples, 37s. to 38s.; white, 40s. to 42s.; beans, 34s. to 40s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 65s. to 68s.; country marks, 42s. to 45s.; American flour, 28s. to 30s. per barrel.

Foreign.—We have had a good demand for most seeds, at fully last week's currency

Linseed.—English, sowing, 68s. to 70s.; Baltic, crushing, 58s. to 62s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 58s. to 62s.; hempseed, 48s. to 56s. per quarter. Coriander, 20s. to 21s. per cwt. Rapeseed.—Coarse and fine, 52s. to 54s.; white, ditto, to 10s.; tares, 10s. to 12s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £33 0s. to £35 0s. per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £11 0s. to £12 10s.; ditto, foreign, £10 10s. to £12 5s.; tares cakes, 6d. to £ 0 15s per ton. Canary, 48s. to 52s. per quarter. Red clover seed, 52s. to 66s., white ditto, 5s. to 8s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 9½ to 10d., of household ditto, 8d. to 9d. per 4lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average. Wheat, 68s. 4d; barley, 31s. 1d.; oats, 25s. 10d.; rye, 39s. 1d.; beans, 41s. 7d.; peas, 38s. 7d.

The Top Weekly Average. Wheat, 67s. 9d.; barley, 33s. 6d.; oats, 25s. 3d.; rye 38s. 8d.; beans, 43s. 7d.; peas, 39s. 5.

British Grain Sold Last Week.—Wheat, 96,312; barley, 42,992; oats, 19,679, rye, 151 beans, 3416; peas, 809 quarters.

Tea.—The public sales held this week have gone off slowly, yet very little change has taken place in prices. Privately the demand is heavy, and common sound congou is quoted at 8d. to 9d. per lb. Up to Saturday last, duty was paid on 11,385,222 lbs., against 12,331,339 duty last year

Sugar.—Our market has ruled tolerably firm, and a full average business has been transacted in raw sugars, at fully last week's currency. Foreign sugars, actual, are in steady request, and good commands more attention. Refined goods have advanced in price. Fine Brown lumps, 44s. to 46s. 6d.; and low to fine grocery, 43s. to 50s. per cwt The total clearances to the 4th inst were 1,863,193 cwt., against 1,178,459 ditto in 1854

Coffee.—Planters' whole have met with more attention, at an advance of from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per cwt. In our ordinary sale we has raised 14s. to 4s. 6d. All other coffees have sold at very fluctuating prices.

Rice.—Prices are doing no far market has continued limited, on former terms.

Pepper.—The market for Irish butter is very inactive, and old parcels are difficult to sell. Foreign butter is selling freely at 2s. to 4s. per cwt more money. We have in Ireland, in England, at drooping currencies. Fine new Danish, 12s. to 13s.; mid to ord 96s to 98s. per cwt: fresh, 60s. to 13s. per dozen lbs. The sale for bacon is rather active at from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. more money. Irish is worth 6s. to 10s. per cwt. In other kinds of provisions very little is doing

Tallow.—The demand has improved, and P.Y.C. on the spot has realised 50s. to 52s. 6d and 53s. 6d. per cwt. The imports, however, are seasonably large

Spirits.—There is a fair business doing in rum, on former terms. Proof Leewards, 3s. to 3s. 1d., and East Indies, 1s. 11d. per gallon. Brandy is in moderate request, at full prices. Malt spirits is worth 10s. 6d., proof; gin, 17 under proof, 9s. 10d; and 32 ditto, 9s. 4d. per gallon.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £3 0s. to £5 0s.; clover ditto, £3 3s. to £5 15s.; and straw, £1 4s. to £1 10s. per load

Wool.—The demand for all kinds of wool is extremely heavy, and prices are barely supported. Several imports have taken place this week, from Port and other colonies.

Potatoes.—The supplies continue seasonably large, and the demand is heavy, as follows. York Regents, 100s. to 120s.; Scotch ditto, 90s. to 110s.; red and lapis, 65s. to 80s. per ton

Hops (Friday).—Only a limited business is doing in our market, and some few sales have been made on easier terms The importers are only 15 bags from Hamburg. Mid and East Kent pockets, £14 0s. to £20 0s.; Weald of Kent, £13 10s. to £15 10s.; Sussex, £10 0s. to £12 10s. per cwt.

Coals (Friday).—Tanfield Moor, 18s.; Heaton, 18s. 6d.; Hebburn, 18s. 3d. Eden Main 17s 3d.; Hilton, 18s. 3d.; Lambton, 18s.; Stewart's, 18s. 3d.; South Kelton, 17s. 9d. per ton.

Smithfield (Friday).—There was a fair average supply of beasts on offer to-day's market, and the demand for meat kinds ruled steady, at Monday's advance in the quotations We had a fair demand for sheep—the show of which was indifferent—at very full prices. There was a good inquiry for lambs, the value of which had an upward tendency The pigs of breeds were in some instances worth 6s. 8d. to 7s. per Slbs The show of calves was extensive, and the veal trade was heavy, at barely stationary prices. In pigs very little was doing. Prices of cows were steady at from £14 to £20 each, for ordinary to good stock.

Per 8 lbs to sinks the offal.—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 3s 10d to 4s. 0d.; prime large ditto, 4s. 2d to 4s. 4d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 8d to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 3s 10d to 4s. 0d.; prime coarse-woolled ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime Southdowns, 4s. 6d to 4s. 8d large coarse calves, 4s 8d to 4s. 6d prime small ditto, 4s. 8d. to 5s 0d large hogs, 3s. 8d. to 4s 0d; neat small pork 4s. 4d to 4s. 6d.; lambs 5s 6d to 7s. 6d. suckling calves, 4s to 5s., and quarter old stores, 20s. to 30s each Total supply: beasts, 882; cows, 91; sheep and lambs, 7200; calves, 50; pigs, 460. Foreign: beasts, 149, sheep, 90, calves 120.

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—Each kind of meat moved off steadily, at very full prices.

Per 8 lbs. by the carcase:—Inferior beef, 3s. 2s. to 3s 4d; middling ditto, 3s 6d. to 3s. 8d.; prime large ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; inferior small ditto, 4s 4s. to 4s 6d., large pork, 3s. 6d to 4s 8d.; inferior mutton, 3s. 2d. to 3s 4d.; middling ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; prime ditto, 4s 2d., to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; small pork, 3s. 10s. to 4s. 4d.; 5d. to 6s. 8d

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17.

OFFICE OF PROCEEDING, APRIL 16

Medical Department: Acting Assistant-Surgeon R Webb to be Assistant-Surgeon

BANKRUPTS

T BILLING, Cambridge, cooper W WEAVER, Bishopsgate-street, silk mercer, brush manufacturer W HOLLIDAY and T HOLLIDAY, Wakefield, Clay, worsted spinners W LEWIS, formerly of Liverpool-road, Islington, and of Mile-end-road, Middlesex, and T HOLLIS, Mile-end, linendraper.—R BERGHOLSE, Rod [illegible] Hackney, tailor, J HIPKINS, Northampton, grocer.—J SIMS, Old [illegible] Gloucestershire, worsted yarn—D BENNETT jun, Bristol, innkeeper I KNOWLES, Preston, Lancashire, innkeeper G BANKS, Pulverton, Cornwall, dealer in hardware R W BENNETT Wednesbury, Staffordshire, brewer.—W and J HORTON, Wednesbury, Staffordshire, timber merchants.—C and F PRYERSBLLE, Horn-lane, Harlesden, dealers—J WEBBER, Hirn-street, grocer M and H. P. TALBOT, Sidmouth, Devonshire, drug-gists. W HATWOOD, Devonport, tallow chandler C. EVANS, Bradford stuff merchant.—W ASPDEN and A. W. BRID, Gateshead-on-Tyne, and Newcastle, little Ashe, plate-street, commission agents.—F. TRAPNELL, Bristol, timber merchant

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS

M BURKES, Montrose, baker.—A REID, Glasgow, grocer —T. DUNCAN Dees, Fife, silk rc. grocer

FRIDAY, APRIL 20.

BANKRUPTS

G. HESOP, Cliftonville Hove, Sussex, builder T HAWKE, Polruan, Cornwall, dealer in hardware R J OGGLES Kingsland-road, victualler.—W GITTUS, Hoxham, Cambridge, grocer and tallow-chandler H HOLLIS, Macclesfield, silk throwster.—BROWETT, Bradford, Yorkshire, innkeeper.—D. NORBURY, Alderley, Cheshire, butcher, and cattle and sheep salesman J BROWN, Hastings, Sussex, wheelwright.—E. KILE, Reading, licensed victualler, wine and spirit merchant, and clerk to a provision merchant.—J. MOSELEY, Manchester, and J MOLLAN, Bristol, hatter, hatter, and woolen merchant, shipping and commission agent. W PARTRIDGE, sen., Birmingham, builder, and of Park-street, Portland-place

On the 14th inst., at St. George's, Hanover-square, the Rev. W Crowther, to Lucy, daughter of the late Lieut. Colin Rodbourne, of Harwich, Essex, R.N.

On the 14th inst., at Chelsfield, Dorsetshire, the Rev R. G Pym, second son of the late W. Pym, Esq., Rector of Wilton, Hants, to Lucy Catherine, youngest daughter of R. Baker, Esq., of Highfield, Doncaster, and Park-street, Westminster

On the 14th inst., at St. Mary's, Bryanston-square, by the Rev. Knox Child, M.A., Vicar of Tadley, Hampshire, assisted by the Rev. John Pardoe, M.A., Vicar of Leyton, the Rev William Spence Hemming, M.A., Rector of Rayne, Essex, to Emma Caroline, second daughter of the late Samuel James Capper, Esq., of Leyton, Essex.

DEATHS.

On the 16th inst., at Jacmel, Haiti, Joanna Catherine Scholastique Louise Dufresne, the beloved wife of W. Clarke, Esq., and daughter of the late Count de la Dufresne of Dieppe.

On the 12th inst., at Hereford, J. S. Paulinson Esq., formerly M.P. for Southampton, and for seven years British Consul at Barcelona, aged 69.

On the 15th inst., at Tresham, near Truro, E Collins, Esq., for many years a magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant of the county of Cornwall, aged 71

On the 15th inst., at Twickenham, Miss Hamilton, only surviving sister of the Dowager Countess of Ellesmere, and of the late Sir William Gordon Gordon, of Wingerworth, Derbyshire

On the 16th inst., at Cheltenham, L. C. Onslow, Esq., Rotchdaling, C. Onslow, Esq., and Hon T C Onslow

On the night of the 22nd ult., in the trenches before Sebastopol, whilst gallantly leading a detachment of his regiment against a sortie of the enemy, Hon C Browne, Captain Horse Fusiliers, third son of Lord Kilmaine, aged 27.

On the 21st ult., at his residence Invalsgeon, near Arnadel, E. G. Penfold, Esq., formerly a Captain in the Royal Horse Artillery, and in the Commission of the Peace for the county of Sussex

On the 13th inst., in the Lower Ward Windsor Castle, Margaret, the beloved wife of Major C Moore, Grey M K., W., aged 81

On the 12th inst., at Portsmouth, Ann, the beloved wife of Colonel Maitland

On Tuesday, the 3rd of April, by the [illegible] Hughtown, Cornwall, Francis Frances William, Lieutenant in the Royal Regiment, the [illegible] son of R M Fox Esq., M.P., of Tax Hall aged 18

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 739.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1855. [WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS, 1s.

RUSSIAN BRIBERY AND INTRIGUE.

THE English public has never been sufficiently informed of the patient intrigues of the late Emperor Nicholas in every country in Europe where he had influence or territory to gain, or any advantage—military, diplomatic, or social—to expect. His intrigues in Austria were carried on for years before their object was suspected. Prince Metternich was perhaps the only Austrian statesman of his day who was fully aware of the duplicity, the perseverance, and the infinite resources o. Russian diplomacy. Count Stadion and Prince Schwarzenberg saw the danger at a later period. While living they did their utmost to avert it; and they left their anti-Russian policy as a legacy to their successors. It was not only by means of his agents and Ambassadors that Nicholas endeavoured to carry out his plans. He turned his own personal advantages and opportunities to the utmost account, and flattered the vulgar rich by his smiles, his presents, his crosses, and his orders; while he left to inferior agencies the task of demoralising the vulgar poor. He was gifted by nature with a commanding presence. He was "every inch a King." He looked the Imperial Potentate that he was. There was a power and a majesty about him which never failed to dazzle all who came within the charmed circle of his presence, especially when it pleased the demigod to smile upon the smaller men that "crawled under his huge legs" and did him homage. When it suited him to inspire terror as well as admiration, he never failed in his purpose, unless the object of the experiment happened to

THE RIGHT HON. LORD JOHN RUSSELL, M.P., MINISTER OF ENGLAND, AT THE CONFERENCE IN VIENNA, 1855.—FROM A PAINTING BY THOMAS CARRICK.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

be an Englishman, an American, or a Frenchman. To the Russians he was God's viceregent; and to the Germans—so well had they been tutored by their Governments—he was little less formidable and awe-inspiring than he was to his own subjects. His demeanour towards his own military and civil functionaries offered a striking contrast to that which he exhibited to the high authorities, especially to the military ones, of foreign nations. At home he was a "Jupiter tonans," armed with the thunderbolt, to betray whom was to incur certain destruction. He rarely forgave the slightest transgression. His will was the law both of the State and the Church; and he had the pretension to rule not only the bodies but the souls of his people, to be as absolute over their consciences as their lives. His caprice, while it lasted, had the effect which, in our happier country, can only be derived from an Act of Parliament. His ukases, though the one issued to-day may have been diametrically opposed to its predecessor of yesterday, were all equally binding; and if he were in the humour to be severe—which he generally was, for he hated human nature whenever he did not despise it—to obey or to disobey him was equally perilous. He suffered no contradiction from a Russian, and rarely tolerated remonstrance or advice. If he ever overlooked a fault, which is doubtful, it was in Prince Orloff. No other servant, or favourite, however great his services, was forgiven, if he had the misfortune, voluntarily or unvoluntarily, to incur his displeasure. Diebitch, Paskiewitch, Menschikoff, all served him, and disappointed him—not for lack of zeal, or capacity, or honesty, but solely for lack of fortune, and for not accomplishing the impossible; and each of them fell under the ban, and was disgraced. Cold, stern, and vindictive, he strove to rule by terror alone. He comported himself towards his people and his aristocracy as if he both hated and feared them; and as Van Amburgh might have done towards the lions and tigers of the menagerie; relying only upon the strong arm and the inflexible will to coerce them into abject submission. He avoided the least show of indulgence, lest it might lead to the suspicion of weakness, and tempt the wild beasts to turn upon and rend him. But, while this was his conduct at home, his policy abroad was very different. To Russians he showed the terrors, but to Austrians and to Germans the splendours, of his countenance. Though he treated the ex-Emperor Ferdinand of Austria as a harmless idiot, and the present King of Prussia as a dangerous pedant, he took care to heap all possible honour upon the military chiefs of both nations. He strove to ingratiate himself with Generals and Colonels, with Captains, and even with Lieutenants, in the Austrian and Prussian service. He talked to them of their families and their prospects. He kissed the foreheads of their wives when presented to him; and when he had, as Emperor, conferred this honour upon them, he kissed their hands as a gentleman, to confer honour upon himself. He took means to ascertain the amount of the private means of officers of high standing and position; and if he discovered among them any one who was both poor and ambitious he made a note of the fact, that he might turn it to profitable account on a future occasion. In some instances he is known to have paid the debts of Austrian, Prussian, and Bavarian officers; and in hundreds of cases where this could not be done, or where the perilous favour would have been proudly refused, if offered, he conferred the order of St. Vladimir, or some other equally coveted; or he sent a jewelled snuff-box or a diamond ring. But to the civilians in the service of Austria he adopted a different course. He affected to treat Austria as an entirely military Government—as a pure despotism ruled by the Kaiser, through the medium of his army. He recognised as little as possible any other authority. He snubbed Count Buol in 1851 for speaking of "the Austrian Government," stating that he recognised no Government (*Regierung*), and that he only knew the Emperor. Count Buol has possibly forgiven the rebuff, but it is not likely that he has forgotten it. Nicholas objected to moustachios, except when worn by military men. One of the existing Ministers of the Emperor Francis Joseph, whose name need not be mentioned, attempted, on the occasion of the famous meeting of the two Emperors at Olmütz, to do a graceful thing by shaving off the ornaments of his upper lip before appearing in the presence of Nicholas. The Czar, however, would not condescend to receive him, either with or without moustachios; so that the Ministerial sacrifice was made in vain. Unless the Minister be a very amiable man, it is probable that he, too, may not have forgotten this trifling circumstance: for such trifles are affronts which rankle deeply, and which human nature, unless it be extremely philosophic and well disciplined, is not likely to pardon. One result of this systematic flattery of the Austrian army, and that which Nicholas no doubt anticipated, is that among the upper ranks of the service the cause of Russia has many enthusiastic adherents. If the Austrian Court has been slow to act with the Allies, it is possible that influence of this kind has been brought to bear upon it. The fact itself is notorious. The Czar played this game in Prussia with still more brilliant success. Nor, as regards Austria, were his blandishments confined to the army. In the Austrian dominions, out of a total population of nearly 37,500,000, there are 3,699,896 of the United Greek Church, and 3,161,805 of the Non-united Greek Church. The United Greek Church is Roman Catholic except in name. It acknowledges the spiritual authority of the Pope, and does not differ from Roman Catholicism in doctrine; its only point of severance being that it uses a ritual in the vernacular of its people, and not in Latin. The Non-united—or, as it is sometimes called in Austria, the Schismatic—Greek Church is the same in doctrine as the Russian Greek Church. Its followers are chiefly to be found in Galicia, Bukovina, Dalmatia, the Military Frontier, Hungary Proper, Croatia, Slavonia, &c. They have a Patriarch of their own, who resides at Carlowitz; but it suited the purpose of Nicholas to ignore, and to cause the schismatic Greek Church of Austria to ignore, as much as possible, the existence of this Prelate. At an early period of his reign he adopted towards the priests a course of systematic bribery. Whenever a Greek church in Austria was ascertained by his spies and agents to be poor, Nicholas sent the priests the funds to build a new or to endow an old edifice. If the priests had shabby robes, Nicholas sent them money to buy rich ones. If the church had no ornaments, Nicholas sent them pictures and statues, and presents of gold and silver plate. When he had by these and other means created and strengthened a favourable impression, he sent them his portrait by cartloads for distribution among the peasantry. In the cottages even of Hungary the traveller sometimes found the portrait of the Emperor of Austria, but he almost always found that of the Emperor of Russia; represented not only as the Czar, but what was of more importance, as the head of the Greek Church. That nothing might be left undone to create or to strengthen the influence of this too liberal and too wily benefactor, the liturgical books of this population were sent to them, cheap (if not gratuitously), from Moscow, where they were printed by Imperial command. These books, as might be supposed, contained a prayer for the Emperor Nicholas, and every Sunday and Saint's day the people were taught to regard him as their friend and protector—their spiritual, if not their temporal, chief. It was not until after the revolutions of 1848 and 1849, and after it had begun to feel the tremendous weight of the unlucky obligation it incurred when it invited Russian assistance to crush the Hungarian insurrection, that the Austrian Government became fully aware of the mischief which had been thus fomented. At that period it resolved to put a stop to these underhand proceedings, and forbade the importation of Russian Prayer-books. These are but a few of the circumstances which, to borrow an American phrase, have "riled" the Austrian Government against the policy of the late Czar. The *Moniteur* has opportunely brought to light the instructions given by Alexander I. to Admiral Tchichagoff, in 1812, which show at how early a period Russia began to act the traitor towards Austria. Even within the last fortnight it has become known to the Austrian Government that Russian agents have been intriguing among the Slavonic population of her borders. When to such causes of distrust are added high reasons of European policy, as well as of self-interest, the world may well believe that Austria will dissociate herself once, and for ever, from the schemes of Russian aggrandisement which the present or any future Emperor of Russia may inherit or originate. Russia stands alone; and, if she be not effectually driven back at the present great and unparalleled opportunity. Europe will rue the day that she was either timid or merciful towards a Power whose barbarism is a solecism and an anachronism, and whose ambition is a standing peril to every civilised country.

LETTERS ON THE WAR AND THE EASTERN QUESTION.—(No. V.)

(*From our Special Correspondent.*)

Vienna, April 21, 1855.

On Monday afternoon the instructions required by Prince Gortschakoff and M. Titoff from the Czar arrived from St. Petersburg. The courier was five days on the road. On Tuesday the tenth Conference was held at the Foreign-office, under the presidency of Count Buol; and a messenger with despatches was sent off to Berlin by Prince Gortschakoff, probably to make known to the Prussian Government the contents of the important document so anxiously expected. What took place at the Conference is known to no one but to those present and the Governments which they represent. At its close Lord John Russell made arrangements for leaving Vienna on Friday (yesterday). It was his Lordship's intention to proceed to England viâ Berlin; and to remain for half a day in the Prussian capital. On Thursday another Conference (the eleventh) was held, and sat for two hours. Lord John Russell, at its close, postponed his departure from Vienna until Monday morning, the 23rd instant. To-day the twelfth Conference was held—and, at the time at which I write, is still sitting. These are all the facts that I have to communicate, with the sole exception that M. Drouyn de Lhuys does not take his departure with Lord John Russell, but remains for some days longer—how many is unknown perhaps even to M. Drouyn de Lhuys himself. Beyond these simple facts all is conjecture. It would be easy to expatiate upon and draw inferences from them, as the Viennese do—but *cui bono?* Of what use is it to say that on Tuesday the Russian Ministers refused to concede the Third Point; and that Lord John Russell resolved to leave them to their obstinacy; and that on Thursday, having reconsidered the matter, they held out the olive branch; and that, thereupon, Lord John determined to remain, and confirm them in their good resolution? But all this would be idle, and possibly erroneous, surmise; which the telegraphic wires might render of no avail—and of no interest—long before the Post-office delivered this letter in London. But there are persons who have, or are supposed to have, access to official sources of information—who, with all the mysterious vagueness of a Pythoness upon her tripod, drop hints of the actual state of the negotiations, and give you to understand that "they could, an they would" make you as wise as Count Buol, or Lord Westmoreland. But it would be as unsafe to attach any value to such inuendoes, as to buy for hard cash a breath that has been breathed, a sound that has been made, or an odour—good or bad—that has evaporated and gone off into the thin and fathomless atmosphere.

It is natural, however, that people should be uneasy amid the secrecy that is so rigidly maintained; and that Rumour should be as busy in her own way as the ten diplomatists of the Conference are in theirs. But rumour in Vienna is as changeable as the season. One day it blows pleasant spring weather, and men go out in light costume, and dream of Peace; next day it blows cold, biting, and frosty from Spitzbergen, and men wear overcoats, and think and speak of nothing but War. When the wind blows from the Peace quarter, everybody believes that Russia has yielded, or is about to yield, to the demands of the Allies on the Third Point; but when the man of little faith inquires what it really is that the Allies demand, no one can tell. When the wind blows from the War quarter, Russia is said to yield nothing, or to propose terms which it would be dishonourable on the part of the Allies to concede. Thereon arises a giant of fog and mist—huge and shapeless—who stalks into the Exchange, and sends down the Funds one-and-a-half or two per cent before people have had time to examine whether it were a real giant after all, or a monstrous unreality, having a *gobemouche* for its father and a *canard* for its mother.

Upon the whole, however, the opinion gains ground that the Austrian Government is too anxious for peace, though it hates Russia with the intentest hatred, to play as bold a part as Great Britain and France desire; and that Great Britain and France, on their side, are so anxious to secure the co-operation of Austria, that rather than break with her they will yield many points which, under other circumstances, they would not dream of conceding. For my part, I believe nothing of the kind. It is possible that we shall have a "patched-up" peace if Sebastopol be not levelled to the dust by the Allies, or by her own desperate act, to save them the trouble. Russia will make good terms for herself, and will manage to escape from the difficulties of her position without draining to the dregs her cup of humiliation. But if Russia be let off too easily it will be the fault of Great Britain and France, and not of Austria. Austria has gone too far to withdraw from the alliance. If the Western Powers are themselves "up to the mark," if they see their duty and their interest clearly and palpably, and are firm enough to insist upon "material guarantees," and to suffer no denial, Austria will follow them whithersoever they please. But if they yield at the last moment Austria will be well contented. But, in this case, blame ought to fall on the right shoulders. A "patched-up" peace will be the fault of Great Britain and France alone. The game is in their hands. If they have not the sagacity or the courage to play it out, so much the worse for them, and so much the worse for Europe. A peace conceded out of mere dislike to war, and for the sake of present ease, will not be worth a sheet of paper. There are two great points involved—two points quite as vital to the Allies as the Four Points which they are still discussing with Russia. The one point concerns their honour, the other involves the security of Europe. There are not wanting persons—in high as well as in low station—who maintain that the Western Powers have done enough for their honour in driving the Russians out of the Turkish territory; in maintaining possession of Eupatoria, Balaclava, and Kamiesch; in sweeping the fleets of the Czar from the Black Sea and from the Baltic; in reducing the naval power of Russia to a nonentity, in destroying her maritime commerce, and in gaining every battle which the Russian generals have ventured to offer, or to accept. All this is true; but English and French honour requires something more. It requires Sebastopol as the crowning point, and unless that be gained Russia will claim and be entitled to the credit of having foiled the two greatest Powers in the world. That it will make the most of such a circumstance in all her future intercourse with Europe, and with Asia, is as certain as mathematical science, and as the fact of Russian cunning and ambition. The Allies must either take, or compel Russia to destroy, her Black Sea fortress, or the war will have been fought in vain, and Alma and Inkerman will remain as inconsequential and barren victories.

On the point of European security can any one, not a Russian, maintain that a peace without material guarantees from Russia will conduce to it? Russia has taught the world that no reliance is to be placed upon her honour; and if at this moment the Allies forget the lesson, they deserve to sink into second-rate States, and to lose all right and power to influence the affairs of the world.

The people of Vienna are on the tiptoe of expectation. They are looking for a visit from Napoleon III.; and are resolved, if he come, to give him a reception as splendid as that which he has received in London. So confident are they that he will honour this city with his presence, that householders have already begun to speculate on letting their windows at high prices for the occasion. The idea of such a visit is not very consistent with that of a peaceful close of the Conferences.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL AND THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

If Lord John Russell's mission to Vienna has not been attended with all the good results which were desired, we think it has achieved all the success that was expected by reasonable and thinking men including, we have little doubt, the noble Lord himself. There was little to be hoped for in diplomacy from a Court which, in the piquant phraseology of our distinguished representative at those Conferences, had already "exhausted every variety of falsehood;" and the professed desire for peace was soon discovered to be merely a delusion and an expedient to gain time and advantage in the field. If the Ministers of the Western Powers had been so minded, there is little doubt but these negotiations might have been indefinitely protracted; but their own sense, and the sense of the united peoples whom they represented, would not tolerate such an idea. A plain proposition, extremely moderate in its nature, was proposed to the Russian Minister for the adjustment of the famous Third Point, and to this a plain answer was demanded. The answer was given, and it was one of flat refusal—a refusal which palpably revealed the fact that Russia had never seriously entertained the idea of treating with a view to peace. We have no doubt that the part taken by Lord John Russell and the French Minister will prove to have been such as fully to justify the concurrence and approbation of the two nations. In the meantime, Lord Palmerston on Monday night satisfied the natural curiosity of the country by stating the main facts of the case as it stood at the period of the abrupt termination of the Conferences. In answer to a question from Mr. Bright, the noble Premier said:

It is well known to the House that the English and French Governments, in concert with the Government of Austria, had determined that the proper development of the Third Point with respect to the treaties of 1840 and 1841, regarding the Straits of the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus, should be, among other things, that the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea should be made to cease. That was the principle laid down by England and France, and agreed to by Austria; and that principle was in the abstract accepted by the Russian Plenipotentiary. On Thursday last, at the Conference held in Vienna, the Plenipotentiaries of England, France, Austria, and Turkey, proposed to Russia, as a mode of making that preponderance cease—as a mode of carrying out the principle which had been in fact admitted and accepted by Russia—either that the Russian naval force in the Black Sea should henceforth be limited by treaty, or that the Black Sea should henceforth be declared neutral ground, and that war-ships of all countries should be excluded from it, and those of commerce only admitted. The Russian Plenipotentiary required forty-eight hours for the consideration of that point. That was granted. On Saturday the forty-eight hours had expired; and on that day another Conference was held, at which the Russian Plenipotentiary absolutely refused to accept of either of those alternatives. These alternatives had been pressed by the four other Plenipotentiaries unanimously. Thereupon the Conference was adjourned *sine die*. The noble Lord added that the Russian Plenipotentiary had made no counter proposals of any kind

Now that this famous Conference is over, it can hardly fail to occur to every man who knows anything of such matters, that, from the first, it was a "a mistake"—a mistake from which our enemy was the only party who, in the chapter of accidents, could possibly reap any advantage. We were early told and there was no denying it—that, in the prosecution of the war, we had not obtained any successes which would entitle us to lay hard conditions upon our adversary. We had not taken Sebastopol; and it was not to be expected that the Czar would voluntarily yield up and raze fortifications which had, during six months, successfully resisted our attacks. To this—much to the regret of a large portion of the public—our Ministers assented, and expressed their willingness to accept of other conditions for limiting the power of Russia in the East, in the interests of the European balance. Various plans were proposed—all more or less fallacious; and which in the end, as we firmly believe, would only have postponed the difficulty in hand—postponed it to come before us again at some future period, under a more formidable aspect. Amongst other propositions was one that the Western Powers should be allowed to keep up fortified positions in the Black Sea, as a check upon Sebastopol; the absurdity of which was at once apparent, resulting, as it would, in a permanent armed occupation, and *status belli*, in which the Western Powers, by reason of their distance from the field, would ever be at the disadvantage. Another proposition was to throw open the Black Sea to all nations, and remove at the same time the veto which the Porte rightfully asserts upon the passage of ships of war through the Straits of the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus. But this project was even more seriously obnoxious upon public grounds than the other, as it would at once destroy the national integrity and sovereign rights of Turkey, the defence of which had been the cause of the war. Lastly came the proposition for limiting the strength of the Russian fleet in the Black Sea, which, as we consider it would eventually have proved illusory, we are very glad the Czar has rejected. We have only to add that, in so rejecting a very modest proposal, the Court of Russia has shown that it was utterly insincere when it pretended to accept the Four Points as a basis of peace. Nothing now remains but to improve our position to the utmost by force of arms.

VISIT TO ENGLAND OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.

(*Continued from page 416.*)

devolved on the Recorder, and the learned gentleman did full justice to the importance of his text, his manner of reading the portion addressed to the Empress being exceedingly admired for its respectful friendliness. The address was in the following words:—

TO THEIR IMPERIAL MAJESTIES NAPOLEON III. AND EUGENIE, EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF FRANCE.

May it please your Majesties.—We, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of Dover, approach your Majesties with feelings of the most respectful, and deeply sensible of the honour conferred upon us in being graciously afforded the opportunity of expressing to your Majesties the hearty welcome with which we greet your arrival in the country to visit to our beloved Queen.

It is our earnest hope that this auspicious event may tend to strengthen and perpetuate the cordial union which, happily for the progress of freedom and civilisation, now exists between France and Great Britain; and that the just and necessary war, in the prosecution of which the combined fleets and armies of both nations are pulling in co-operating, may, through the blessing of Divine Providence, be speedily terminated by a secure and honourable peace.

We rejoice that your Majesties have been pleased to select this ancient port for debarkation. We shall cherish a lively remembrance of the honour that has thus been conferred on the county of a similar kind recorded in our annals.

We devoutly pray that you, Sire, may long guide the destinies of France, and reign in the hearts of a loyal, happy, and contented people; and that you, Madam, may long live to share the throne which your virtues so highly adorn, affording solace and relief to your august Consort amid the cares inseparable from the government of a mighty nation.

Given under our corporate seal at Dover, this 16th day of April, 1855.

At the termination his Imperial Majesty advanced a step, and, without any paper, and evidently impromptu, delivered his reply in excellent English, as follows:

Mr Mayor and Gentlemen,—I am exceedingly grateful that your Queen has allowed me to find such an occasion to pay my respects to her, and to assure you of my sentiments of esteem and sympathy for the English people. I hope our two nations will always remain united as they are now, in peace as in war. I think it will be for the welfare of the whole world, and for their own prosperity.

I am exceedingly thankful for your kind words, and the good reception you have given to me and the Empress, and I hope you will be the interpreters of our sentiments to your constituents.

The Emperor having cordially exchanged greetings with the Mayor and principal municipal functionaries, the latter retired from the room.

At the railway platform the energy and ability of Mr. Way, the station master, had put into the most complete order the arrangements for the Imperial journey to town. The whole of the interior had been tastefully decorated with laurels and flowers, dressed with many-coloured bunting, and trophied with the Imperial and English flags. A standing gallery had been prepared, in which were closely packed the principal inhabitants of the town; and here again the Emperor and Empress had to bring their best bows and smiles into requisition, in order to acknowledge the genuine hearty greetings of their English friends. Captain Barlow, the Company's Superintendent, was in attendance at the door of the carriage, and, by the Queen's command, Mr. Inspector Baker—a most efficient officer, on whom regularly devolves the onerous duty of attending the Royal progresses. The Emperor and Empress walked slowly along the platform, and looked with a decidedly pleased expression on the well-dressed and smiling crowd, and the various excellent arrangements which had been made for the reception. Mr. Way had the honour of taking the lead to the Imperial carriage, and Captain Barlow had the distinguished honour of handing them into the carriage. Strict injunctions had, it appears, been given that no persons but those whose names had been given in a list which had been furnished by the Imperial Equerry should travel in the special train; but, whether by favour or subterfuge, some parties contrived to get into one of the carriages, and as a consequence the rule had to be relaxed in favour of others who had an equal claim to accommodation.

Just as the train was about to start, the Emperor beckoned the Mayor to the door of the carriage, and held him for a few minutes in friendly conversation, at the same time repeating his address to the municipal body. At half-past two the signal for starting was given, and the train proceeded at high express speed for town. As it flew past every station crowds of people might be seen waving handkerchiefs; and at Tunbridge, where it stopped for a few minutes, and the illustrious party alighted, there was an imposing demonstration. The whole platform was crowded, but the Emperor walked through, without seeming in the slightest degree incommoded; but graciously acknowledged the cheers even of the workmen, who covered the adjoining walls. Reigate, Norwood, and all the minor stations, exhibited similar scenes of enthusiasm; but the appearance of the Bricklayers' Arms Station was of an imposing character. Every accessible spot was densely crowded, the cheering was deafening, and the martial Guards and the Imperial carriages and liveries gave unequalled brilliancy and effect to this first stage in his Imperial Majesty's visit to the great metropolis. Here also the platform was densely filled with distinguished company.

The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, accompanied by Mr. Sheriff Crossley, and attended by Mr. Catty, one of his Lordship's secretaries, was in attendance to receive the Emperor, and the greeting between his Imperial Majesty and our civic monarch was of the most cordial character. His Imperial Majesty shook hands in a friendly and familiar manner with his Lordship, expressed his delight at making his acquaintance, and his hope that that acquaintance might be of long duration. His Lordship then proceeded to search out his own special guest, the Prefect of the Seine; and all the notabilities, Imperial, Royal, and civic, were soon *en route* for town. The carriage containing the Emperor, Empress, and Prince Albert, started off at once without escort, except that of at least half a million of people, who densely filled the streets on both sides, and cheered all the way into town. The remainder of the carriages followed, and were accompanied by the escort, and the vast crowd had a friendly cheer for every successive detachment.

The brilliant cortége proceeded at a foot pace through the great southern section of the metropolis—the home of those industrious classes who are the bone and sinew of the country. The crowds were imposing from their sheer numbers, but much more so from the fact that they were all men and women who supported themselves by the labour of their hands, and had made for them the costly sacrifice of a day's earning, in order that they might ratify, by their presence and acclamations, this crowning event of the great alliance between France and England. The streets through which they passed, if not magnificent, are, at least, spacious, and thus afforded ample accommodation for the immense masses of people who had turned out for this great holiday. All through the Kent-road, thence to the Westminster-road, Westminster-bridge, and in the route through the West-end, the crowds were still increasing, and the cheers increased in fervency as the Royal carriages passed along. Historic Whitehall made a noble picture; and at Charing-cross the unsightliness of the National Gallery and our contemptible fountains of Trafalgar-square were hidden from the visitors' view by the countless thousands who blackened the whole of the open space. We have not the taste of the French in getting up gay and brilliant decorations with a few scaffolding-poles, a bundle of green leaves, and a plentiful supply of many-coloured calicoes, but many laudable attempts were made along the route to display our hearty affiliency was amply compensated by the unmistakeable cordiality of the people. Every hearty shout brought a sunny smile into the ordinarily grave countenance of the Emperor, and his features indicated that the observations he frequently addressed to Prince Albert were of a gratefully and compliimentary character. To describe the remainder of the route to the terminus of the Great Western Railway at Paddington would merely be tedious repetition; there were the same crowds, the same cheering, and the same good-humour and good order. Mr. Brunel, the daring Brunel of the broad gauge, was in attendance, mounted on his favourite steam-charger, and at a given signal whirled the illustrious party off to Windsor at the pace of seventy-two miles an hour. They arrived at the Royal borough a little after seven o'clock; having been received by the worthy Mayor, Mr. Clode, were soon "at home" with their Royal hostess, and hid for the remainder of this exciting day from public observation.

The next day (Tuesday) was a day of deputations, receptions, and reviews. The Lord Mayor of London and the Lord Mayor of Dublin had an audience, to deliver their invitation to the Guildhall, which was graciously accepted; and an invitational deputation from the bankers and merchants of London was also received; and in the afternoon the Emperor politely went to the Great Park to see such a review as we were able to offer him, with our 2nd Life Guards, our Blues, and our Carabiniers. They made but a sorry appearance in point of numbers, but then the Emperor would remember that they were the same manner of men who at Balaclava clove through the dense masses of the Russian cavalry, as if it were a "sheet of pasteboard;" and his historical reading would recall to him that Alexander the Great marched victorious from Thrace to the Indus with only 25,000 chosen Macedonians. One Roman legion could at one time keep all Germany quiet; and the men of which our own army is composed are not a little behind the old Greek or Roman warriors. It was expected that the Queen and her guests would have been present at the meet of the stag-hounds, and the investments in scarlet coats and buckskins were accordingly of appalling amount; but the Nimrods were doomed to disappointment, as the Royal party, on their morning perambulations to the Park and the Model Farm. The review, which was gone through with admirable precision, lasted about two hours—the Emperor was most eulogistic; and the evening closed with the Royal dinner party.

The next day's proceedings, although, hidden by strict Court etiquette from vulgar eyes, was one of the most gorgeous in its character ever seen in this or any other country, as well as one of the most important in its incidents, and in the remarkable personage who was now about to receive the most distinguished order of Europe's knighthood. We refer to the *Court Circular* for the detailed programme of the Chapter of the Order of the Garter, and content ourselves with referring to one or two incidents which make the present investiture remarkable. In the first place it was noticed that on entering the grand Presence Chamber the enthusiastic calm and impassive Emperor was obviously struck with the peculiar splendour of the scene that awaited him. On the throne, clad in her splendid robes of state and resplendent with jewels, sat her most gracious Majesty, and near her the Empress of the French, dressed with almost equal magnificence. The Court ladies stood around in brilliant costumes, and long rows of the Knights in their state robes, gave a solemn and magnificent finish to the picture. The Emperor paused for a moment and changed colour, and exhibited considerable emotion, as the august ceremonial was being performed. At the conclusion he would have kissed her Majesty's hand, but the Queen, as is the custom between Sovereigns, kissed him on both cheeks, and gave him the accolade. It may here be mentioned that her Majesty had been sinisterly condescending on his Imperial Majesty's arrival at the Castle. In the evening her Majesty gave a state banquet: the company comprised the Imperial visitors, nearly the whole of the English Royal Family, the Ministers and ex-Ministers, and the most distinguished members of the Emperor's cortége.

On Thursday the Emperor paid his memorable visit to the city of London; which innocent and puissant municipality fully maintained its high character for splendour and hospitality on this remarkable occasion. It is unnecessary that in this sector in the Imperial visit the Emperor attached the highest importance. Court pageants could be got up in Paris, and the pageantry of the English Court followed as a necessary consequence on the invitation. But to be received of their own free will, without any suggestion or pressure, by the powerful and wealthy citizens of London, in their own ancient Guildhall, was a spontaneous ovation, of which the well-known feelings of the French bourgeoisie made the Emperor deeply appreciate the value. Besides, people at home, who are sometimes fond of laughing at our Lord Mayor and Corporation, although never refusing to accept their hospitality, have little appreciation of the estimation in which the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London are held all over the Continent. It is told of the First Napoleon that, when some one proposed to present Sir James Mackintosh, the Emperor asked his social rank and profession, and was answered that he was a distinguished man of letters, and a Lord Advocate. Upon which the Emperor peevishly replied, "I want none of your men of letters, or Lord Advocates—show me the Lord Mayor." We can recollect ourselves that, during the Paris fêtes of 1851, the great cry amongst the French sight-seekers was "Où est le Grand Maire?" although it must be confessed that, when they did see him, they manifested some surprise at the rather seedy habiliments to which the inexorable *dowme* had restricted the then exponent of civic dignity. It was finely said by a popular orator who had said many striking things, that the municipality of London was an institution older than the present English people, being a legacy of the Roman occupation, when Hengist and Horsa were not thought of in the tight little island. The saying is not less forcible than true, and few will deny that an institution which has lasted so long, must have some great intrinsic merits to produce for it such an unparalleled longevity. But however old, the entertainment of Thursday proved that with the Corporation, as with the Egyptian queen,

> Age could not stale nor time
> Wither its infinite variety.

As on the day of the arrival, the citizens kept general holiday: shops were shut, decorations abounded, and the streets were thronged with countless multitudes. The Imperial visitors passed rather smartly through the main avenues of the City; in a state carriage drawn by two of the Royal cream-coloured horses, and the reception was, if possible, more flattering than it had been on the previous Monday. There was a strong military escort, and a gigantic Lifeguardsman rode at each carriage window, but it was to the public that this rendered such precautions unnecessary. Great anxiety was, it is understood, felt at head quarters best advantage should be taken of so favourable an opportunity for some insane attempt upon the life of the Emperor. Accordingly, in addition to the strong military escort, there were no less than 500 of the French secret police amongst the crowd, besides a large number of our own detectives; in addition to which watch and ward was carefully kept on the known haunts of the "Red" fraternity. One humorous story is told of the way in which a small colony of them was taken care of during the Imperial visit to the City; and, although we cannot vouch for its accuracy, it is too good and too probable to admit of its entire suppression. It is said that one of the most active of the secret police having ascertained that a considerable number of them were to assemble on the morning of Thursday in a house in the neighbourhood of Leicester square, made a secret bargain with the landlord, the result of which was that they were all locked in, and kept in durance vile until their presence in the street had ceased to be of any consequence. Another anecdote, for which our authority is of the first excellence, shows that however smart and intelligent the secret police of Paris, there are some of our London pickpockets who can manage them. No less a personage than their director-general, while out seeing the sights of London, and accompanied by his myrmidons, had his pocket picked of a valuable watch by a "gentleman" who kindly undertook to be his cicerone; and, although the director discovered his loss in a moment, and arrested the thief, the watch had disappeared as if by magic, and to this moment has not been discovered. The act caused at first "beaucoup de chagrin," but has become a good joke amongst the director's friends. Beyond this little illustration of the fruits of the *entente cordiale*, there was nothing on the part of the English people calculated to give the slightest offence to our Allies. At a bookseller, in the neighbourhood of Temple Bar, had the good taste to exhibit a placard announcing the sale of a revolutionary *brochure* of Victor Hugo's, at the small charge of a penny; but the public evidently thought it dear at the money, as there were no bidders; but, on the contrary, there was great danger of the shop being gutted, so indignant were the people at this gross breach of the rules of hospitality.

At the old Guildhall itself the stroke of the hammer was going merrily up to the moment when the fanfare of the trumpets announced the approach of the Imperial cortége. Four companies of our noble Grenadier Guards, the comrades of the heroes of the Alma lined Guildhall-yard, and completed the military appearance of the vast pavilion which had been erected for the friends of the Corporation, immediately in front of the entrance. The decorations, however, both here and in the interior, have already been described in detail, and it is only necessary to add that their general appearance was much commended. It struck many of the spectators that the white colour of the walls formed a bad ground for the trophies with which they were decorated; but we bow to Mr. Bunning, and the exigency of the time. The diplomatic box was well filled with the usual variety of foreign uniforms, and the Cabinet was fairly represented on the opposite side. We did not notice the presence of many ladies of high quality; but then it must be remembered that this was a citizens' festival, and that a burgher's wife or daughter had a right of precedence over the first lady in the land. The "City" was most imposingly represented, and the entrance was almost blocked up by the Common Councilmen in their gowns of mazarine blue—giving it the appearance of a Flemish picture of some solemn meeting of the stout burghers of Ghent or Bruges. The band of the Oxford Blues "discoursed most excellent music" from one of the galleries; and in the pauses a running recitative was sustained by the inexorable deputies who kept the postern and the people who thought to force their way in with wrong tickets, and sometimes with no tickets at all, a trick which was in more than one instance successfully practised by ladies. Science was in attendance with the photographic apparatus; but we fear the subject will offer real difficulties in the way of a successful result. The appearance of the Empress has already been described; and that of the Emperor is familiar to every one who looks—and who does not?—into the pages of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. When they took their places on the dais, the splendid *tableau vivant* which the hall and its gay company formed may be easily imagined. The Emperor looked round him with evident gratification, and the Empress blushed and paled alternately in the presence of the vast assemblage. The Corporation, headed by the Lord Mayor, in a grand crimson velvet mantle, came up with the address; but it was to be read by the Recorder, and some moments had elapsed before that functionary made his appearance. When he had arrived in "hot haste" the address was handed to him, and he read as follows:—

TO HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

May it please your Majesty,—

We, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled, desire to offer to your Majesty our heartfelt congratulations on the arrival of your Majesty and the Empress of the French in this country as the guests of our most gracious Queen; and on behalf of our fellow-citizens and ourselves, we humbly tender to your Majesties the warmest expression of our gratitude for the welcome visit by which you have deigned to honour our city on this memorable day.

The attention of Europe and the world is already fixed on the attitude of dignity and united strength displayed by France and Great Britain in the present war, and the coming of your Majesty, invited by our beloved Queen at such a time, will draw closer the bonds of mutual friendship and common interests so happily uniting the two countries.

The cordial alliance of two such mighty Powers, cemented and sealed by intimate and frank intercourse between their rulers, must sway the destinies of all, will abate the pride of our common enemies, increase the confidence of our allies, and give new vigour to our arms.

By the wise policy of your Majesty's reign all our ancient jealousies have been suppressed, and the flags of France and England now mingle their colours alike in the Baltic and in the East. Ranged together in a righteous cause, bravely fighting side by side, and shedding their blood side by side in victory, the soldiery of our united armies and the seamen of our combined fleets have learned to regard each other with the love of brave and generous comrades, second only to the love they bear their respective countries; and while such are the feelings, we reject the sentiments akin to those are growing daily, and sinking deeply into the breasts of the people of these great and neighbouring nations.

None can doubt that the Allied forces thus animated, led in perfect harmony by commanders of tried skill and valour, and guided by united counsels at home, will achieve by arms the just and unambitious object of the present war; unless, as we may hope, the efforts of assembled statesmen shall yet avert the calamities of protracted warfare by the speedier negotiation of an honourable and enduring peace.

This cordial reception, therefore, of the chosen and puissant Emperor of the French by the illustrious Sovereign who reigns over these realms, and lives in the hearts of the British people, we regard as a type of a close and lasting friendship between the two nations, and the happiest augury of a returning time, when, undisturbed in the onward course of civilisation, the nations of Europe may again lay aside the sword, and resume their exalted rivalry in the works of beneficence alone.

We are earnestly anxious further to express to your Imperial Majesty the lively pleasure and respectful admiration with which we have seen you accompanied on this happy occasion by your illustrious consort her Majesty the Empress of the French. We tender to your Majesty the expression of our confident hope that you may ever find in the affections of domestic life the best solace and support which this world can afford, under the cares and weight of the high destiny your are now fulfilling with such conspicuous power and moderation, and we fervently pray that life and health may, by the blessing of Providence, be vouchsafed to your Majesties for many years to come.

The Emperor listened gravely; but evidences of internal emotion were afforded in the nervous play of the nostril and a slight quiver about the mouth. The Empress, also, who listened with great attention—being an excellent English scholar—showed by the quick movement of her fingers, and the faint blush that came and went over her delicate features, that she too appreciated the occasion, and was gratified by this address from the first city in the world. At the termination of the address, it was handed to the Emperor, who quickly handed it over to one of his suite, and, drawing a paper from his breast-pocket, proceeded to read his answer in English. It is often said that Louis Napoleon speaks English like an Englishman; but that is not true. He speaks it like a Frenchman who has been long in the country, and who thoroughly appreciates the idiomatic force of the language. The answer itself is a remarkable State paper, and will no doubt find a prominent place in the histories of the period. The following is the text:

My Lord Mayor,—After the cordial reception I have experienced from the Queen, nothing could affect me more deeply than the sentiments towards the Empress and myse lfto which you, my Lord, have given expression on the part of the city of London; for the city of London represents the available resources which the commerce affords both for civilisation and for war.

Flattering as are your praises, I accept them, because they are addressed much more to France than to myself. They are addressed to a nation whose interests are to-day everywhere identical with your own (Immense cheering). They are addressed to an army and a navy united to your own by heroic companionship in danger and in glory (Cheers). They are addressed to the policy of the two Governments, which is based on truth, on moderation, and on justice (Loud cheers).

For myself I have returned, on the throne the same sentiments of sympathy and esteem for the English people that I professed as an exile, while I enjoyed here the hospitality of your country (Protracted cheers); and if I have acted in accordance with my convictions, it is because the universal public opinion which the commerce affords both for civilisation and for war has chosen me, no less than those of universal civilisation, have made it a duty (Cheers). Indeed, England and France are naturally united on all the great questions of politics and of human progress that agitate the world (Cheers), from the shore of the Atlantic to those of the Mediterranean—from the Baltic to the Black Sea—from the desire to abolish slavery to the hope of amelioration for all the countries of Europe. I see in the moral as in the political world that there are two nations, with but one course and one end (Loud cheers).

It is then only by narrow considerations and pitiful rivalries that our union can be discovered. If we follow, then, the dictates of common sense alone we shall be sure of the future (Great cheering)

You are right in interpreting my presence amongst you as a fresh and convincing proof of my energetic co-operation in the prosecution of the war. If we fail in obtaining an honourable peace (Great cheering). Should we so fail, although our difficulties may be great, we may surely count upon a successful result (Cheers), for not only are our soldiers and our sailors of tried valour—not only do the two countries possess within themselves unrivalled resources, but above all—and here lies their superiority—it is because they march in the van of generous and enlightened ideas (Cheers).

The eyes of all who suffer rise instinctively toward the West, because our two nations are even more powerful from the opinions which they represent than from their armies and their fleets (Tremendous cheering).

I am deeply grateful to your Queen for affording me this solemn opportunity of expressing to you my own sentiments and those of France, of which I am the interpreter (Cheers).

I thank you in my own name, and in that of the Empress, for the kind and hearty cordiality with which you have received us (Cheers). We shall take back to France with us the lasting impressions made on minds thoroughly able to appreciate the very imposing spectacle which England presents, where virtue, on the throne, directs the destinies of a country under the empire of liberty without danger.

This address was loudly cheered by those who were near enough to hear it, for its great force and generous sentiments; and by those who were not, because they believed in the judgment of their brethren in front. A series of presentations followed; in the course of which a variety of bows were achieved, from the briefest of "bobs" to the most profound of salaams; but it was remarked that Mr. Deputy Harrison, the Chairman of the Committee, was the only person presented who showed a proper sense of gallantry, by bowing in the first instance to the Empress. Honour to Mr. Deputy Harrison! "None but the brave deserve the fair." The moment these affairs of state were over, the Emperor and Empress descended from the dais, evidently relieved by the termination of its formalities, and chatted freely with the persons by whom they were surrounded. They stopped good-naturedly in the centre of the hall, under portentious batteries of lorgnettes, in order that every one present might have a full and sufficient view before they left the hall for the banqueting-room. Here Messrs. Staples of the Albion had prepared a magnificent entertainment, and the *élite* who were admitted proceeded to do it full justice. The tables were soon filled with aristocratic company, but it was a melancholy sight to see the portly Aldermen looking wistfully on, at a proceeding at which every one of them was *facile princeps*. To show the extraordinary efforts that were made by Messrs. Staples to do justice to this extraordinary occasion, it may not be uninteresting to mention that the napkins were trimmed with lace, and embroidered with the Imperial and City arms: the doyleys were of imperial green velvet, fringed with gold, and sprinkled with bees and the imperial cipher. The wine-glasses were elaborately cut with appropriate devices, and the beauty of their workmanship attracted the marked notice of the Empress, who showed them to the Emperor, and both seemed highly pleased with the design. The dessert plates were a special effort of the great Coalbrook Dale Pottery, made in seven days, and were of a beautiful Imperial pattern on the celebrated turquoise ground, the great difficulty of high-class porcelain. In addition to this, there was also on the table a service of the celebrated Du Barry pink, which is intended for the French Exhibition.

To describe this great feast in detail, with its "Bisques d'Ecrevisses,"

RECEPTION OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH, AT THE GRAND ENTRANCE, WINDSOR CASTLE.

GRAND RECEPTION OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH, BY THE LORD MAYOR AND CORPORATION, IN THE GUILDHALL.
THE RECORDER READING THE ADDRESS.

its "Potage de nids d'oiseaux Chinois," and all the other varieties of the French culinary nomenclature, would trench too muchupon our space; besides, what we have to do with is the Imperial visitors, and not the delicacies of the table. His Majesty ate sparingly, and drank almost nothing; but the Empress evidently enjoyed her luncheon, and took her glass of wine gracefully and with moderate freedom. The manner of the Imperial couple to each other was of the most affectionate character, and the Empress's excellent flow of spirits showed the absurdity of all the reports of her discontent with her condition. The Lord Mayor gave two toasts—the health of the Queen, and that of the Imperial visitors. The Empress drank the Queen's health standing; and, in return for her own, again rose and bowed gracefully to the company.

At the termination of the feast, and while the return procession was being formed, the Emperor went over to the Marquis of Lansdowne, and chatted freely with him; and the Empress conferred the same honour on the Earl of Clarendon, going down to where he stood and chatting with his Lordship in the most friendly manner for several minutes. The Emperor also notified Sir Charles Fox amongst the spectators, and beckoning him to his side shook hands with him in the most friendly manner, and seemed much gratified when Sir Charles warmly expressed his satisfaction at witnessing so happy an event as this ceremonial consummation of the cordial union between France and England. Another proof of the wish of our Imperial guests to gratify their English hosts was afforded in the hall, where they stood before the dais conversing with the distinguished group around, evidently in order that the whole of the occupants of the vast interior might have full opportunity of seeing their Majesties. While *en route* from the council-chamber to the hall, his Majesty's quick eye detected the portrait of Queen Hortense upon the wall. He paused for a moment, looked at it, and said, "This is kind indeed." Immediately after this little incident the imperial party returned to their carriages, and the general company made a vigorous onslaught on the various buffets which the hospitality of the Corporation had prepared for their refection.

In the evening her Majesty the Queen took her Imperial guests to the Opera, where great exertions had been made to render the interior fit to receive such illustrious company. The anxiety of the public to be present was evidenced by the enormous sums paid for boxes and stalls. The Lord Mayor was charged 80 guineas for his box, and as much as 50 guineas were given for a single stall. Even the stage was invaded upwards of a hundred persons paying from £3 to £5 each for the privilege of standing with the chorus during the performance of the National Anthem. The State box exhibited the fittings of the Royal visit in 1848, when "The Huguenots" was performed, and occupied the centre of the grand tier and that of the two immediately above it. The fronts of all the circles of boxes were hung with white and silver draperies, and festoons of flowers, having a light and cheerful effect which harmonised admirably with the gaily-coloured dresses of the fair occupants of the boxes. The illustrious visitors did not arrive till near ten o'clock, when the first act of the opera was over. They were attended by a numerous and brilliant cortège, composed of the distinguished ladies and gentlemen of both countries who formed the suites of the French and British Sovereigns. As the Emperor and Empress, the Queen and Prince Albert, came forward to the front of the box, a loud shout of welcome rang through the house, and was prolonged for some minutes, hats and handkerchiefs waving in every direction. At the same time the orchestra struck up "Partant pour la Syrie," while the cheers waxed louder and louder, and the Emperor and Empress acknowledged the compliment by bowing repeatedly. "God Save the Queen" followed, and was received with the warmest demonstrations of loyalty. When the Royal visitors had taken their seats and the house became quiet, the curtain rose and the performance went on. At the end of the opera there was another demonstration. After a short interval the curtain rose and exhibited the stage, covered not only with the members of the establishment, but with a crowd of persons who had paid both pit and boxes prices. The two national airs were again performed, but their order was reversed, "God Save the Queen" being sung first, and "Partant pour la Syrie" played afterwards. The Royal visitors then departed. The opera was "Fidelio," and included in the cast the appearance of a *debutante*, Mdlle. Jenny Ney; but little attention was paid by the audience to anything but the occupants of the Royal box. Had criticism been desirable, it would have been a feat of wonderful literary dexterity, as the critics were so admirably placed that they could neither see nor hear, nor understand, and consequently were obliged to amuse themselves during their stay in the theatre by an attentive contemplation of the ceiling, to which they sat in very near proximity. After the Royal party had left, our old favourite Fanny Cerito burst upon the stage taken their seats and the house became quiet, and received a kind welcome and generous meed of applause. The crowds in the street on this occasion were enormous: and, the time being night, still greater precautions were taken by the police than for the visit to Guildhall.

Friday was a hard day's work for the pleasure seekers of the Court, and must have tolerably well satiated all parties concerned. The programme for this day included the visit to the Crystal Palace, and the evening concert at the Palace of Buckingham. The Royal carriages left the Palace at twenty minutes past eleven, for Sydenham, and thus giving the Emperor and Empress a splendid opportunity of admiring the imposing beauty of the country between Kennington and Penge-hill. His Majesty might look in vain anywhere out of England for villas so trim, parks and gardens so well kept, or fields so green and mellow in aspect, with which the whole route is studded. The Crystal Palace is itself finely situated; but, whatever its admirers may say to the contrary, there is nothing very strikingly beautiful in its appearance from the road. It looks, in truth, like what it is—an immense greenhouse. The conservatory—the amplification of the Palm-house at Kew; while the two unsightly towers which are now nearly finished, remind one of the shot-towers at Waterloo-bridge—so dark and dismally do they contrast with the light tracery of the Palace, and those huge boxes bays with which the taste of Mr. Owen Jones has relieved the monotonous vastness of the original design. The arrangements did not allow of a visit to Mr. Waterhouse Hawkins, who is always to be found in the bosom of his antediluvian family—putting leather wings on his Pterodactyles, or devising some new costume for his pet Iguanadon. We fear that the habits of this gentle creature in dress are expensive, as we generally observe him in a new coat (of paint) at each successive visit to the Crystal Palace. The Company had determined to make the most, commercially, of the interesting occasion. They could not, like Mr. Gye, sell the boxes at fabulous prices to the curious; but they hit upon a very ingenious plan for procuring a subsidy to help the next dividend. Season-tickets for the unexhausted portion of the year were advertised at a guinea each—being virtually a guinea for each visit of the Queen and her Imperial guests; and the crowded state of the interior indicated that many persons must have availed themselves of the offer. The company was supposed to consist of shareholders, ticket-holders, and exhibitors; and, seeing that the first are scattered all over the country, and that the last have gradually dwindled away to a very reduced number, the great bulk of the company on Friday must have been the ticket-holders both of the old and new classification. All these persons had to amuse themselves as they best could for a rather lengthy period, while the directors and other officials were escorting her Majesty and her illustrious guests round the interior of the building. It is not our purpose here to write a description of the Fine Art Courts, but to record the Royal progress through the Palace and the incidents which occurred. The Royal carriages arrived at about half-past twelve o'clock, and, after a short pause in the Royal refreshment-rooms, a cortège was formed—the Queen and Emperor taking the lead, the Empress and Prince following, and then the representatives of the two Courts, in gay morning toilette. Mr Laing and Sir Joseph Paxton were in immediate attendance on the Sovereigns, as was also Sir Charles Fox, with whom the Emperor freely and repeatedly conversed in the course of the procession. On Mr. Francis Fuller devolved the duty of escorting the ladies of the Royal and Imperial suites, and this gentleman acquitted himself very agreeably, but with his accustomed politeness and success. In the cortège were also Messrs Henderson and Cochrane, to whose united exertions the Palace owes its admirable solidity of construction; and Messrs. Farquhar, Anderson, Leech, and Lushington, the remaining members of the directoral body. The superintendents of the Exhibitors' department, Messrs. Deane and Belshaw, had the honour of conducting the illustrious party over the various courts. Of course, with such a limited space of time to be disposed of, and such a collection of works of art to be passed in review, nothing but the most cursory glance could be afforded to each; still the Imperial visitors found time to pause for a moment before each of the more conspicuous chefs-d'œuvre, and ask questions concerning them of their cicerone. Mr. Owen Jones was at his post amongst his Egyptian family, and escorted the party through that Court, thence through the Greek and Roman Courts, and finally to the Alhambra, the great architectural wonder of the native country of the Empress Eugenie. A more than usual space and time was devoted to this beautiful court, to judge regarded with pride by the distinguished artist, and warm compliments were passed on its unrivalled beauties of design and construction. The only regret was that the Emperor and Empress had not time to hear Mr. Jones's explanations of those wonderful Moorish antiquities, in which he is at once so enthusiastic and profound. Mr. Fergusson was in attendance in the Assyrian Court; after a short inspection of which the cortège passed over to the dominions of Mr. Digby Wyatt, which range from the gloomy Byzantine through Gothic and Renaissance to the light and luxurious Italian period. The Empress gazed with seeming interest on the monumental effigies of the Gothic Queens, and made many inquiries about the rare specimens of the Renaissance Court. It is to be regretted, however, that the Ghiberti Gates were not pointed out; but time, luncheon, and the impatient public alike precluded the possibility of delay.

The Empress stopped for a moment in the Italian Court, on recognising a statue recently imported from Seville, and eagerly turned to Mr. Wyatt for information about this friend from Fatherland. The inspection being now completed, the Queen, Empress, Emperor, and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Ladies of Honour, and attended by Mr. Laing and Sir Joseph Paxton, proceeded to a temporary balcony which had been erected in the garden front of the Central Transept; and here a spectacle was afforded which few who were so fortunate as to witness it will speedily forget, least of all the imperial couple, who were themselves the central points of its attraction. On the terraces underneath upwards of 40,000 well-dressed people were densely crowded, who, the moment the Queen and Empress made their appearance, greeted them with fervent and long continued cheering. Then the Emperor had his separate ovation, which was so earnest as to keep him bowing and smiling for several minutes; and last, and certainly not least in fervency, rose a cheer for Prince Albert, who, with commendable good taste, had, up to this moment, kept himself rather in the back of the balcony. Her Majesty the Queen was radiant with smiles and condescension, and, gracefully taking the Empress by the hand, led her to the front of the balcony, when, it is hardly necessary to add, the cheering was again and again renewed, with deafening vigour. It was certainly a sight rarely to be equalled in interest, these two young and graceful women—one the Queen Regnant of the mightiest empire in the world; and the other the chosen consort of that remarkable man who, having, by his personal boldness, won an Imperial crown, has ever since been winning the good opinion of mankind by the dignity and efficiency with which he wears it—standing thus, hand in hand, in front of a vast multitude, who had assembled mainly in their honour. The beauty of the prospect evidently struck the Empress and Emperor, as both pretty plainly indicated by their gestures. That nothing might be wanting to complete the novelty and attraction, the great central fountains, so long the subject of alternate hopes and fears on the part of the public, commenced playing, producing a magnificent series of jets, which glistened brilliantly in the sunbeams. The company who had waited on the esplanade so patiently all the morning had now their reward, since with the Royal group in the balcony, the play of the fountains, and the strains of the bands, which commenced playing "Partant pour la Syrie," the splendour of the surrounding scene, and the fineness of the day, a combination of attraction was produced of which the most favoured visit of the interior could not have the slightest conception.

After a lapse of some moments the Queen and her guests retired to the Transept, and the people outside made a sudden rush to the various entrances, to avail themselves of the privilege which they had been promised when the Royal party retired to luncheon. This meal was served in that portion of the Palace which has recently been used as a picture-gallery, but which has been, by the decorative skill of Messrs. Jackson and Graham, transformed into a handsome banqueting-room, with painted ceiling, graceful violet-coloured draperies, and gold ornaments; the glass sides being covered with worked muslin hangings, lined throughout with delicate green. The vestibule has been hung with crimson cloth and costly mirrors: and all this magic change was wrought in the space of time elapsing from the previous Friday. The repast was prepared by the Queen's servants, without the slightest interference on the part of the Crystal Palace management. Here may be a proper place to mention that a member of the Court communicated to Mr. Belshaw the great satisfaction of her Majesty with all the arrangements; adding that he had never seen the Queen in better spirits, or exhibiting a greater appearance of enjoyment.

The retirement of the Royal party was the signal for the entrance of the sovereign people. In they poured through all the entrances, and it required the exertions of whole armies of policemen to keep the central passage clear, and preserve the transept platform from intrusion. This erection, which was but of modest pretensions, was raised half a dozen steps on each side from the floor, and was covered with crimson cloth. In the centre was a high pole, decorated with laurel, and surmounted with a trophy of the colours of the two nations. Two green banners with the Imperial cipher completed the artificial decorations; but nature had also been called into requisition for the supply of a profusion of beautiful flowers, which gave colour and fragrance and freshness to the whole. The effect of this tiny platform was pretty and simple, but not sufficiently strong to distract the public attention from the Royal group who were to be its temporary occupants. By an excellent arrangement of the police, the front rank of the company all through the line of procession was made to consist exclusively of ladies, so that, not only was the pictorial effect improved, but an excellent security taken for the preservation of order. As in the case of "the thin red line" at Balaclava, there were no Cossacks who would be hardy enough to dislodge these fair battalions. It was soon, however, deepened by many a row, by anxious lovers, husbands, and fathers; and the first gallery was before long equally crowded. There was not, however, the slightest confusion; but every one waited patiently for the egress of the Royal party from the Banqueting Salon. On their appearance the cheering was renewed, and gradually increased in volume as they approached the Transept, round which, of course, the greatest numbers of the company had congregated. The Queen ascended the platform, accompanied by the Empress Eugenie, and both Sovereigns took their seats, followed by the Emperor and Prince Albert, the former sitting on the Queen's right hand, the latter on the Empress's left. The whole party, however, soon again rose in acknowledgment of the salutations of the company, the second Crystal Palace band struck up the French national air, and the second of the magnificent tableaux were formed, which might be said to be the great features of the day's proceedings.

The appearance of the great Central Transept on the opening day will be recalled by the public, but the effect of this day's pageant was considered by those who had seen both to be far surpassing its predecessor. It was at once the climax and the conclusion of the day's proceedings, as the Royal party slowly retired immediately after the lines were broken, and the vast company scattered themselves over the building, some to look at the objects of art, but the greater portion in search of creature comforts, of which the Messrs. Staples, to whom the commissariat is entrusted, had provided a plentiful supply.

When the Royal and Imperial party finally emerged from the Crystal Palace, they found all the pleasant hedge-rows lined with people, who greeted them with such a cheer as Englishmen only know how to give; and the Royal carriages having drawn up at the entrance, they bade their adieus to the authorities and started at a rapid rate for town. In the evening her Majesty gave a concert at Buckingham Palace, at which the whole of the two Courts, all the foreign ministers, and about five hundred of the *élite* of the nobility were present. Mr. Laing, the Chairman of the Crystal Palace Company, had the honour of an invitation. The Sovereigns were seen in an ecstasy of admiration the dresses and jewels of the Queen and Empress, the decorations of the rooms, and the radiant glow of the gold and silver plate. Choice exotics filled every niche, and the great musical celebrities of the Opera performed a selection of the choicest musical morceaux. Although it was Budget night in Parliament, the collective wisdom forgot taxation and the war, broke up early, and donning their Court suits and girding on their rapiers, which are formidable only to their own shins, wended to the palace to air their best Court bows and curtsies in the presence of royalty. The Emperor wore his newly acquired garter, and the brilliant star of the order glittered on his breast. With the concerts terminated the sixth day's proceedings.

On Saturday morning the "Chant du Départ" was sounded, and the French Sovereigns and Court took a reluctant leave of their illustrious hosts. An imposing cortège once more entered the Bricklayers' Arms station, of which the escort of the Royal Horse Guards Blue formed by no means the least imposing feature. The journey down to Dover was as nearly as possible a repetition of the journey up to town as regarded the railway arrangements. The Directors attended and travelled down to Dover with the Imperial party; and Captain Barlow and Mr. Way delivered them safely on the platform. The Mayor of Dover was in attendance, and received, to his great delight, a present from the Emperor's own hand, of a magnificent gold snuff-box, with the Emperor's cipher jewelled on blue enamel. At Dover, the indefatigable landlord of the Lord Warden Hotel (Mr. Hale) had made arrangements for receiving the Emperor and Court; but they passed rapidly on to the Admiralty-pier, which had (under the active superintendence of Captain Herrick) been prepared for their reception. The Militia were again in attendance; and the townsfolk mustered in force to bid their visitors good-bye. A number of the workmen—not, we understood, those belonging to the pier—had perched themselves on the piles of stones immediately overlooking the platform, and their appearance excited the ire of the Emperor and Empress, who, it appeared, had not taken the hint. Their not over-clean faces and rough jackets did not add much to the general picturesqueness of effect, nor was there anything peculiarly poetic in the great hunks of bread and cheese with which they continuously fortified themselves against the anti-sanitary influences of the sea breeze. Admiral de Chaumareys, who came down before the arrival of the special train, to see that everything was in proper order for the embarkation of the Emperor, was perfectly horrified at the aspect of this rough looking group, and applied frantically to the police for their removal. The latter appealed to the men in moleskin in moving terms, to their nationality, to their hospitality, to their love of the picturesque. But they were snugly ensconced aloft, far beyond the reach of the dreaded bâton, had a day's provision in their wallets, and were "deaf to the voice of the charmer." A council of war was held below between the French admiral and the English constables, and it was at last determined that, seeing that the dislodgement of the enemy would be a work of considerable delay and difficulty, and that the Emperor was momentarily expected, the rough-looking group should be allowed quietly to retain their commanding position. The subjects of all this discussion had, in the meantime, continued placidly to munch their bread and cheese, disturbed only by an occasional fitting aspiration for beer, and were the objects of wistful admiration to the Royal Bucks Militia, who had been shivering in the spray from an early hour in the morning. For the voyage an arrangement had been made, which must be taken as a high compliment to the efficiency of our mercantile marine. The Emperor, it appeared, not satisfied with the performance of the *Pelican* on the voyage to England, directed Admiral Chabannes to put himself in communication with Mr. Churchward, the active Manager of the Postal Steam-packet company, and the latter immediately placed at the Imperial service the fine new steamers, *Empress* and *Queen*—the chefs-d'œuvre of Mr. Ayre, the eminent shipbuilder of Blackwall. These vessels had formed part of the Imperial squadron in the voyage to England, when the Emperor was enabled to judge of their performances; and his Imperial Majesty, who bids fair to be soon as good a judge of a ship as he is of a horse, was more than satisfied with the arrangement of his Admiral. The special train with its illustrious freight arrived at Dover shortly after twelve o'clock, and the Imperial party was soon on the platform making their adieus. The Emperor warmly shook hands with the Prince and the Duke of Cambridge, and the latter had severally the honour of kissing the hand of *l'Imperatrice*, who was also most gracious in her adieus to the ladies of the English Court. The steamer was alongside blowing off her steam in a most independent manner, as if impatient of delay, and our rough-looking friends on the pile of stones, enjoyed the whole scene with evident complacency. They did not forget their politeness, however, but gave the Empress a hearty cheer as she gracefully stepped on board the steamer. The offing was at time filled with boats, an imposing number of French and English. There were: English, the *Black Eagle*, *Orion* (90), *Pylades* (21), *Ocean* (16), and some smaller vessels-of-war. Of the French, there were the line screw corvettes, *D'Assas* and *Corse*, *Pelican*, *Petrel*, and *Bayonnaise*, all of which displayed a considerable quantity of complimentary gunpowder in honour of the Imperial *voyageurs*. The white foam of the ground-swell gave indications that a heavy sea might be expected in crossing the Channel. But *n'importe*—the ship was good, the crew were skilful, and the chief passengers had been born under a lucky planet. The Imperial ensign fluttered at the main, and near it, in peaceful rivalry, the brave old Union Jack. The directors of the company, Messrs. Churchward and De Clepsedal, were in charge, and the good ship moved off from the shore with every prospect of a prosperous voyage. The Prince and the Duke returned to the hotel, and partook of luncheon, and they started for town, having first expressed their unqualified approbation of all the hotel arrangements of the Lord Warden. In the meantime the *Empress* was ploughing the main, followed closely by her consort, the *Queen*, which was with difficulty restrained from closer rivalry. Her gallant English captain, Moore, gloriously restrained her speed, and the chief engineer heaved many a sigh as he occasionally let off the steam, which he would much rather have employed in getting a revolution or two more out of the paddle-wheels. Early in the voyage a clumsy-looking boat with a white funnel crossed the bows of the Imperial vessel, politely blowing her whistle into the ears of the Emperor and Empress, but the latter were soon beyond the reach of this pattern of English politeness, and the offender was obliged to give up the attempt to keep within annoyance reach of the mail steamer. The Emperor and Empress remained on deck the whole second day of the voyage, and the Marquis of Clanricarde, the British Ambassador and the French Chamberlain coudoled one another in the agonies of sea-sickness on couches below. During the voyage Messrs Churchward and De Clepsedal were presented, and the Emperor conversed with the Freely, and the Duke of Cambridge, with many compliments, visited their noble vessel. By the Emperor's command the vessels lingered as they left the English shore; and the cheers from the shore could for a long time be heard waiting to him, in sounds becoming every moment fainter and fainter, as he neared the shores of his adoptive land.

The voyage to Boulogne was performed in less than two hours, and on arriving at that port the comparatively quiet appearance of the landing-place presented a singular contrast to the animation which had recently been exhibited at Dover. The ceremony of landing, however, considerably, and for the reception of the Emperor was, after the French manner, favourable and hearty. There were a good many cries of "Vive l'Empereur," and one or two of "Bon retour," all of which his Majesty acknowledged with much calmness and courtesy. Marshal Magnan, the Governor of Boulogne, was present in attendance, and the Imperial party soon drove off to the Marine Hotel, certainly one of the finest hotels in France, and which had been specially engaged for the Emperor's accommodation. Here we should have taken leave of the Emperor; but it has learned that his Majesty had promised to Lord Alfred Paget a military parade on the following day, we waited for a spectacle for which we are fain to confess an almost French predilection. The vicinity of the Army of the North gave every facility, and in order that the Emperor might have an unobtrusive witness it, it was appointed to take place on the sands in front of the Marine Hotel. It was certainly a magnificent sight, and the locality chosen permitted of its being seen to the best advantage by the thousands assembled. The sands in front of the hotel are beautifully smooth and level, forming a splendid parade ground; while the sea foaming and surging beyond served the purpose of a splendid frame to the picture. The troops in coming to the ground, had to round a bluff headland that bounded the view in the direction of the Camp at Honvault, so that every regiment, as it came up, could be distinguished by those who were versed and that was every French man, woman, and child present in military matters. On they came, seemingly as innumerable as the host of Xerxes, but most better disciplined, and regularly took their places on the ground marked out for their reception. A polite French officer, among the spectators, obligingly informed us that the force to be reviewed consisted of seventeen battalions of the line, four regiments of Chasseurs de Vincennes, four companies of Genie, one regiment of Hussars, and four squadrons of Lancers, in all about 32,000 men—a number which, if reviewed in Hyde-park, would attract all England as spectators. They looked truly a most formidable force, and were calculated to give the English spectators a profound appreciation of the huge physical power of our ally.

While they were being marshalled on the strand, Captain Smithett and Messrs. Churchward and Jenkings were sent for, the first to receive the Cross of the Legion of Honour, the others splendid jewelled snuff-boxes in testimonials of the Emperor's appreciation of their exertions for his comfort; and afterwards the Emperor and Empress proceeded to church in Capécure, accompanied by the Court and Lord Alfred Paget. Two or or three little accidents distinguished this part of the day's proceedings, which tend to show the popularity of the Emperor and Empress, both with the English and their own subjects. Amongst the former we noticed a stalwart gentleman from the Emerald Isle, escorting a graceful and lively little Englishwoman, who quite astonished the French by the energy with which she pushed her way to the front of the line, in order to get a good view of the Empress. Her gigantic cavalier alternately coaxed and bullied with his national ferocity and good-humour, and at last they stood erect, and defiant of gensdarmes, close to the *porte cochère* of the hotel, awaiting the return of the Imperial party. As the Emperor descended from the carriage, our Irish friend roared out, in a voice of thunder, "God bless the Emperor!" and his fair companion exclaimed with equal energy, although not quite so much vocal power, "God bless the Empress!" The French people around started back in amazement, as if a shell from Le Corse had fallen suddenly amongst them; but the Emperor and Empress, to whom an English cheer is by this time not quite such a novelty, smilingly turned round and severally bowed and curtsyed to their admirer, and the little English lady, nothing daunted, performed an emulative curtsey; the gentleman made his best Tipperary bow; and the Emperor and Empress passed laughingly into the hotel. The other incidents brought out the charitable feelings of the Sovereigns in a way which gave great satisfaction to the pious poissardes of Boulogne. As the Empress walked along the front of the hotel she recognised a poor and aged woman amongst the crowd. Her Majesty immediately let go the arm of her husband, and running over to the poor woman, poured a bountiful alms into her hand amid the sincere cheers of the bystanders. A similar appeal was subsequently made to the Emperor by a poor fellow in a blouse, who suddenly dropped on his knees, and poured forth a voluble tale of distress. The Emperor went over and spoke kindly to him, then calling his valet Leon to him, the latter gave the poor man a gold piece, and, by the Emperor's directions, took down the petitioner's name and address. This act and the manner secured for the Emperor a cheer

quite as fervent as that which had previously been accorded to the Empress. By this time the preparations for the review had been completed; and the Emperor, having mounted his beautiful chestnut charger, descended, accompanied by Lord Alfred Paget and a brilliant staff, to the sands. His Majesty passed slowly along the ranks, exchanging salutes as he rode past, and distributing the decorations which had been awarded to the Army of the North. This ceremony occupied a considerable time, but was scarcely intelligible to the crowd who lined the distant road. One individual, who had been favoured with a pass by Colonel Fleury, narrowly escaped decapitation from an infuriate gendarme, who, being fortunately unable to read the pass, mistook the signature of the Colonel, revenged his educational deficiencies on the person who had so awkwardly brought them to light. It is needless to add that the demonstration was quite sufficient to cause the precipitate retirement of the too curious stranger.

The ceremony having terminated, the Emperor returned to the esplanade in front of the hotel, and stopping his horse immediately under the decorated balcony on which stood the Empress and her ladies, remained like an equestrian statue, while the whole army marched slowly past in regiments. As each regiment came up the Eagle was lowered, the Emperor raised his hat, and immediately resumed his statuesque attitude, while his noble horse showed his perfect training by emulating his rider's impassibility. His Imperial Majesty remained fixed in his conspicuous position until the last drumboy of the immense army had passed; and then rode to the railway station, accompanied by the Empress, in a carriage and four; and in a very few minutes the Imperial couple were on their road to Paris. Thus terminated the last act of the Imperial Visit to England—an act of the highest political importance; and with respect to which this unpretending *résumé* will, it is to be hoped, form at least reliable materials for future and more ambitious historians.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE *Horatio*, late 24 guns, now two monster guns, is being rapidly equipped by the artificers at Portsmouth. The minimum weight of her shot is to be 3 cwt., the maximum 10 cwt. elongated shot, passing through a rifle-cut barrel; the minimum charge of powder is to be 30 lbs. the maximum unlimited, according to distance required.

NEW CONTRACT FOR RIFLES, SMALL-ARMS, &c. Government has entered into a new and extensive contract for Minié rifles, plain bore muskets, rifled cavalry carbines, and revolvers. The number of rifles and muskets is stated to be 70,000, and 5000 revolvers. The supply will be at the rate of 2000 per week at the least, until the number is completed. A great portion of the contract for rifles, and the whole of the revolvers, have been taken by an eminent American firm, and the remainder by the manufacturers of Liége (Belgium), Birmingham, and London.

THE firm of Losh, Wilson, and Bell, whose works are at Walker, on the Tyne, have received an order from the Turkish Government for manufacture 35,000 shells and some mortars of the largest calibre. Previously to being forwarded to Turkey, the shells will have to pass an examination at Woolwich, where they will be filled with their combustible material and made ready for use. The firm are manufacturing 500 shells a day, and a large quantity awaits shipment.

IN addition to the reinforcements to embark from England, the following battalions and regiments will immediately proceed to the seat of war, viz., the 13th Light Infantry, 54th Foot, 68th ditto, and 92nd ditto, from Gibraltar; 72nd Light Infantry, from Malta; 2nd Battalion First Royal Scots, from the Ionian Islands; 21st Foot, from ditto; 48th Foot, from ditto 1st Battalion 71st Highland Light Infantry, from ditto; and 82nd, from ditto. The above-mentioned regiments will each be augmented to 1200 bayonets from their respective depôt companies in England.

OFFICIAL instructions have been received at Southampton to fit up the General Screw Company's steamer *Indiana*, for conveying cavalry to the Crimea.

A NUMBER of the men belonging to the Denbighshire Royal Rifles have claimed their bounty and discharge; but, in consequence of an address from Major Wynn, which was read to them in Welsh, inviting them to re-enlist, with an offer of an additional bounty of £1, the majority returned to the regiment, and their conduct has been unexceptionable.

NEARLY 150 Poles and Fins who for some time have been in the barrack at Millbay, Plymouth, with the other prisoners taken at Bomarsund last year, having volunteered for service against the Russians, have been temporarily removed on board the *Royal William* ordinary guard-ship at Devonport. This was a necessary precaution from the hostile feelings evinced by their Russian comrades on hearing they had offered to serve against Russia.

THE FIRST BALTIC CAPTURE OF 1855.—MEMEL, April 19.—The *Myran*, *Kenewich*, from Lubeck, with a cargo of coals, was captured off Libau, April 17, by her Majesty's steamer *Desperate*, and has been brought to this port.

SIR J. LIDDELL, Medical Inspector of Hospitals and Fleets, and at present at the Royal Hospital, Greenwich, is appointed to succeed Sir William Burnett, as Director-General of the Medical Department of the Navy, in consequence of which Sir John Richardson, Medical Inspector of the Royal Naval Hospital at Haslar, has sent in his resignation, he being the senior medical officer of the service, and not liking to serve under a junior—Sir John Liddell standing two below him on the list.

HER Majesty's new steam-yacht *Victoria and Albert*, Captain the Hon. Joseph Denman, is ordered to be equipped for the Queen's reception and service by the 1st of July. In the interim the old *Victoria and Albert* (now *Osborne*) is to receive stores, and be prepared for service in lieu of one of a sea-going yacht being required for use by the Queen before the new one is ready.

THE following detachments of cavalry are under orders to proceed to the Crimea early in May, viz.—5th Dragoon Guards (Princess Charlotte of Wales), 1 subaltern, 1 sergeant, 30 privates, and 173 troop horses, from the cavalry depôt at Newbridge, to embark at Kingstown; 4th (Queen's Own) Light Dragoons, 1 officer, 3 sergeants, 40 privates, and 200 troop horses, from Brighton, to embark at Southampton; 10th (Prince of Wales's) Royal Hussars, 1 officer, 2 sergeants, and 50 privates, with 30 troop horses, from the cavalry depôt, Maidstone, to embark at Southampton; 17th Royal Lancers, 1 officer, 2 sergeants, and 40 privates, with 60 troop horses, from the cavalry depôt, Maidstone, to embark at Southampton; 17th Lancers, 4 officers, 4 sergeants, and 100 privates, with 150 troop horses, from Brighton, to embark at Southampton: the first division, consisting of 1 Major, 3 Captains, 4 subalterns, 12 sergeants, and 240 mounted men, of the 13th Royal Hussars, from Exeter, will embark on board the *Kent* and *Chalmers* transports at Plymouth; the second division will embark shortly afterwards, and the head-quarters of the regiment, comprising the staff, will follow. It being expected that the draught for the 17th Lancers will reach the Crimea before the regiment arrives from India, the detachment will do duty with the 17th Lancers in the interim.

THE *Great Tasmania*, a large new clipper ship, built by Mr Donald M'Kay, of Boston, and chartered by Messrs. James Baines and Co. with the intention of adding her to their "Black Ball" line of Australian packets, is being fitted, in the Sandon Dock, Liverpool, as an hospital ship, and will be ready to take her departure for her destination in a few days. In a few days she had been transformed from an ordinary emigrant ship to a floating hospital for the reception of sick and wounded soldiers. To the two decks there is permanent accommodation for upwards of 500 invalids, which can be extended to 1000, or more, by slinging hammocks from the beams. The *Great Tasmania* will take out a detachment of the Rifle Brigade, and a number of horses for the cavalry regiments well padded and efficiently sheltered boxes for which have been erected on the main deck. The greatest novelty in the matter has been the fact, that Messrs. Baines and Co. contract with Government to feed the troops both on the outward and homeward passages for so much per day. Under the terms of their agreement, they have already placed on board upwards of 1000 tons of stores and water in anticipation of the vessel being ready for sea in a few days.

A CORRESPONDENT relates that, when the Emperor's train stopped at Tunbridge, a beautiful little girl, about four years old, was carried to the door of the carriage in which the Empress was seated, and presented her with a bouquet of flowers, which seemed to give her Majesty the highest gratification, as, upon one of the flowers dropping off, she was observed most carefully to wrap it in paper.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—When the Queen and the Prince, and their illustrious visitors, the Emperor and Empress of the French, took their seats on the dais, in the centre of the Crystal Palace, to hear the band play "Partant pour la Syrie," a photographer was busily at work in the gallery close by, and, by the help of his magic art, secured a most charming picture of the imposing scene. Mr. Delamotte was successful in obtaining an instantaneous picture of her Majesty and the Court at the inauguration ceremony last May; and we think he has been equally happy in the point of view he took last week. The present photograph is published by Messrs. Negretti and Zambra, of Hatton-garden.

RUSSIANS, LOOK OUT!—When the arrival of the first four English vessels was signalled to Kronstadt by the commander of the *Cronborg*, a general hail of "Hallo! hallo! Lugans" (look out) was addressed by the skippers in the roads to the few Russian craft that were warily threading their way through the drifting ice.

NAPOLEON III., EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

ONE of the most remarkable phases of the history of the human mind is the change that has taken place in the opinion of mankind as to the true character of the present Emperor of the French. We have not on record a welcome so enthusiastic and universal given to any Sovereign by the people of this country. Yet, but a very few years ago he was regarded with, to say the least, aversion, by those who now receive him with acclamation. The explanation of this seeming contradiction is very simple. The English people are devoted to the constitutional and representative system of government; and they denounced Louis Napoleon because he destroyed an imitation of it in France. But they have since seen what use he has made of the power he gained so arbitrarily. They see, also, that the French themselves live under his rule with something more than contentment; and they, therefore, greet the Emperor in his character of chosen representative of the people over whom he rules.

The life of the Emperor of the French has all the characteristics of a romance. Born the presumptive heir to a throne the greatest and most imposing of modern times, he had scarcely passed the earliest stage of childhood, when the sudden downfal of his family forced him, with his parents, into exile, and what seemed an eternal proscription. Tenderly nurtured in his infancy, and seductively trained in his love

THE GRAND STATE BANQUET I

GEORGE'S HALL, WINDSOR CASTLE.

THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. XIV.)

In addition to the time already lost in useless negotiations abroad, more time will necessarily be expended at home in explanations and the business of legislation will be interrupted next week by long speeches in reference to the failure of the business of diplomacy: *ex nihilo nihil fit* will receive ample illustration in a few days, when Lord John Russell, having returned from doing an infinite deal of nothing at Vienna, will have to talk an infinite deal of nothing in the House of Commons, by way of apology for the fruitlessness of his mission.

One would have thought that the consciousness of the very serious hardships to which our officers in the Crimea are exposed would have sobered down the dispositions of those young officers at home whose natural bent would incline them to those acts of frivolity, folly, and something worse, which have already, on more than one occasion, brought discredit on the military profession. Scarcely, however, had the public ceased to think of the case of Lieutenant Perry, when the subject is unpleasantly revived in one's recollection by the disgusting details of the conduct of two officers in the 30th Regiment, who have amused themselves by pulling a brother officer out of bed, dragging him into a room, and kicking him out again, after smearing his mouth with tallow, in an attempt to execute a threat that they would make him eat a candle. This may be the fun of the fast school of military "gents;" but the humour is of that coarse and extravagant kind which belongs to the tricks played by the Clown and Pantaloon in a pantomime.

The honour and safety of England would stand but a poor chance against an enemy if all our "officers and gentlemen" were of the class represented by the three parties in this disreputable affair—two of whom evinced a large amount of cowardice and blackguardism, while the third was degraded by forced submission to a series of the most debasing indignities. The matter has been dealt with by the Commander-in-Chief in a manner not very consistent with common sense, and in a style not by any means conformable to the rules of common English. He tells the culprits that they "may think themselves so far fortunate in having escaped the inevitable consequence" of their ungentlemanly conduct; but, as that only is "*inevitable*" which cannot be "escaped," the Commander-in-Chief has shown that the command of language is not one of his attributes. It seems that an apology had been made to the insulted officer, with which he was "quite satisfied," and it is natural that he should be, for no one who is liable to such insults as those above described can pretend to be very sensitive on the point of dignity. An individual who has been dragged out of bed and thrashed, while a candle has been smeared about his mouth, will fancy, no doubt, that the stains can be wiped away from his honour as easily as the candle-grease can be rubbed off his countenance. One of the delinquents, after having apologised for his ungentlemanly conduct, was found repeating the offence; and the Commander-in-Chief very properly intimated that "no reliance can be placed on Ensign Neville;" but, with the usual luck of many of those in the public service on whom there is "no reliance," he is allowed to retain his position. It is true that the Commander-in-Chief threatens to recommend to the Queen that the offender's "name shall be erased from the 'Army List,'" if he should be again guilty of the offence; but in the meantime his Lordship is satisfied that his opinion of Ensign Neville's conduct "shall be read to all the officers of the dépôt," who will thus learn the encouraging fact that, in spite of the opinion of the Commander-in-Chief "no reliance can be placed "on him by the Commander-in-Chief, the Ensign is still thought fit to hold his commission. If this decision of the Commander-in-Chief is intended *pour encourager les autres*, it will doubtless have the effect of encouraging many to hope that they will not lose their rank in the Army, though they may lose at the same time their characters as gentlemen and the confidence of Lord Hardinge.

Perhaps this comparative impunity for the offences of the two officers in the 30th may have inspired the lively vagaries that have just taken place in the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons, where a subaltern has been exposed to all sorts of practical jokes, including the saturation of his wardrobe with water, and the cutting off his horse's tail, by way of a climax to the exuberance of the humour of his comrades.

Second thoughts are said to be best, but it is as well in some cases to reserve the utterance of a first thought, if there is a probability that a second thought, or a variance with the first, is about to arise in the mind of the utterer. This caution should especially be observed on the judicial bench, in passing sentences on a prisoner; for it is not very satisfactory to hear the judge in almost the same breath assign to the same offence two different amounts of punishment. An instance of this kind occurred the other day at the Middlesex Sessions, when Mr. Witham sentenced a woman, for assaulting her husband, to four months' hard labour. On hearing the penalty that was thought due to her offence, the prisoner exclaimed to the prosecutor, "I hope you may be paralysed before I come out!" upon which Mr. Witham said, "he should make the sentence six months instead of four"—a change that was evidently the result of a second thought as to the amount of punishment the assault deserved, for the mere expression of a wish, however malignant on the part of the culprit, could not by any law or by any reason have exposed her to two months' imprisonment. It is always better to pass a sentence all at once than to do so by instalments of two months at a time; for if the *crescendo* principle is introduced, and an additional term of imprisonment is launched from the bench after each violent exclamation that is hurled from the dock, the process of pronouncing the penalty of the law might become a mere undignified game of "last word" between the Judge and the prisoner. Mr. Witham generally performs his duty with good sense; and, I have no doubt he will, on reflection, agree with the Silent Member as to the propriety of thinking twice before he speaks once from the bench, if his first and second thoughts are likely to be at variance.

The Sunday Beer Act does not gain in popularity by the difficulty of deciding the question, "What is a *bonâ fide* traveller?" I believe the difficulty of settling this question was pointed out when the measure was in progress; but those who were concerned in passing it into law are said to have declined the task of giving a definition, and determined to leave it—where it is the fashion to leave almost every legal difficulty in these days—with the discretion of the magistrate. This, if true, is a gross dereliction of duty; for it is an imperative obligation on the Legislature to provide against doubt whenever it is foreseen, and it is not fair to the public or the magistrates to leave the former to be bound by the interpretations which the latter may put on a confessedly ambiguous provision. The result of this omission on the part of Parliament has been to set up a different law in places a few miles apart; and, while a man who walks to Hampstead-heath is a traveller according to the law of Marylebone, a man who goes twice the distance by boat or railway is not a traveller by the law of Greenwich. The landlord of the Crown and Sceptre will be fined for doing that which the host of Jack Straw's Castle may do with impunity. No blame attaches to either of the worthy magistrates of these two districts, each of whom takes his own conscientious view of a confessedly doubtful point; but it was the duty of the authorities who framed the bill to take care the anomaly should not arise of there being a different law for different localities. The officials to whom this measure was entrusted must have been lamentably stupid if the difficulty was not foreseen; and culpably negligent if, having foreseen the difficulty, on its having been pointed out to them, they failed to provide against it. If they have not the sagacity to detect the ambiguities of their own language, they should submit the measures they have in preparation to those wiser heads than their own by which the laws are administered. Considering the great powers now conferred on the police magistrates—who are entrusted to decide on matters of the utmost importance, without any appeal against their decisions being allowed—it is due to them that their very great responsibility should not be needlessly increased by the ambiguities which official incapacity or negligence will allow to creep into the language of Acts of Parliament.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Monday.

The Convention with Sardinia Bill was passed through Committee. Some routine business was disposed of, and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.

In reply to a question from Mr. Bright, as to the present position of the Conferences at Vienna, Lord Palmerston said, he could not say at what time he could give a full statement of the occurrences at the Conferences, but he would state the position in which they now stood. It was already known to the House that the English and French Governments had determined, in which determination Austria agreed—that it was requisite that the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea should cease. The Russian Plenipotentiary had also assented in the abstract to the proposition. On Thursday last, however, when the Plenipotentiaries of England, France, Austria, and Turkey were present, it was proposed, as a mode of accomplishing this principle, that the amount of the Russian naval force in the Black Sea should be limited by treaty, or otherwise that the Black Sea should be constituted neutral, in which no vessels of war of any nation should be allowed; confining its waters altogether to ships devoted to commerce. The Russian Plenipotentiary required forty-eight hours' time for consideration, at the end of which time, at another Conference, he absolutely refused either alternative; upon this the Conference adjourned *sine die*, and Lord John Russell and the French Ambassador were to leave Vienna on that day.

Mr. H. Willoughby asked if Russia had made any counter proposition?

Lord Palmerston said that Russia had made no counter proposition.

THE LOAN.

On the bringing up of the report of the Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. Goulburn said, he would offer no objection to the plan of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, though he did object to the part of the plan which compelled its repayment at the rate of a million a year, as being a delusion. Believing it to be a delusion, he could only look upon the Loan as an addition to the redeemable debt of the country. He thought it would be far better to have raised the money by means of the New Three per Cents, which might be paid off, without the usual twelve months' notice, in 1874. At all events he hoped his right hon. friend would not adhere to the delusive portion of his plan of paying off the Loan at the rate of a million a year after the termination of the war.

Mr. T. Baring was surprised at the objection. Surely it was only right, when borrowing money, to make, if possible, provision for its repayment as soon as the circumstances of the country might admit of it. He not having adopted that prudent course heretofore was no reason for not doing so in the present instance.

Mr. Gladstone repeated his objections to the portion of the plan which made repayment obligatory, as Parliament should not be pledged to a course which might prove very inconvenient. He did not believe the Loan could have been accomplished in Terminable Annuities without a great sacrifice of the public interests.

After some observations from Mr. Laing, Mr. John Macgregor, and Mr. James Macgregor,

Mr. T. Hankey reminded Mr Gladstone that this proceeding on the part of the Chancellor of the Exchequer found a precedent in his dealings with Treasury Bonds. He approved of the pledge respecting repayment.

Mr. Wilkinson entertained a different opinion of this portion of the plan.

Mr. Cardwell warned the House not to consider this Loan as temporary in its character.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his reply, said he would adhere to his plan of repayment. He was glad to find his plan approved of by such high authority as the hon. member for Huntingdon (Mr. T. Baring) and other hon. members of that House.

Sir H. Willoughby thought the plan was a fair one; but it was hardly fair to make the bargain in the morning, giving the Annuities in part payment, and taxing those very Annuities in the evening.

The report was ultimately agreed to, and leave was given to bring in bills founded upon the resolutions thus adopted.

THE NEWSPAPER-STAMP.

The House then went into Committee on the Newspaper-Stamp Duties Bill.

Mr. Collier, on the second clause being proposed, moved, as an amendment, that, instead of a penny for postage, the charge for transmission be only one halfpenny, and that one halfpenny be charged for each transmission.

Mr. Cowan seconded the amendment.

Lord Stanley said, the principle ought to be that the revenue should not gain by the stamp on newspapers, while, on the other hand, newspapers had no right to expect to be transmitted at a loss to the Post-office. Having laid this down as the principle, he thought it would not be difficult to arrive at the numerative point. Believing this point to be the penny stamp, he should stand by the resolution as it now stood, until convinced that it was too high a rate of postage. The privilege of retransmission could not be in equity granted, but as it had grown up under the law, he would for the present agree to its being retained.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, the Government was not prepared to risk any further loss of revenue by reducing the stamp to one halfpenny, and he should, therefore, adhere to the resolution as it stood.

Mr. M. Milnes spoke of the advantages of retransmission as of inestimable value to the London papers.

Mr. Gladstone objected to the principle of subsidising newspapers at the expense of the community at large, by transmitting them and retransmitting them at a loss to the Post-office. He was, therefore, opposed to the amendment, believing it would lead to a heavy loss to the revenue.

Mr. Barrow supported the amendment, believing that one halfpenny would be sufficient to pay the expense.

Mr. M. Gibson opposed the amendment, which included the whole periodical press, but omitted any publication which was not periodical. After a few words from Mr Phillips,

The amendment was withdrawn, and the clause was agreed to.

On the fourth clause being proposed, relating to registration and surety,

Mr. Whiteside proposed an amendment, with the view of making registration compulsory, instead of leaving it to the option of the parties according as they might be desirous of having postal facilities or other wise.

Some discussion took place, in which Mr. Gladstone, Mr. D. Jacob, Mr. M. Gibson, Mr. Drummond, and other hon. members took part, after which,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, he would postpone the clause, with the view of limiting the registration and sureties to all newspapers, leaving other periodical publications free from such regulations.

The other clauses, with the exception of the registration and copyright clauses, were then agreed to; after which the House resumed, and the Chairman obtained leave to sit again on Monday next.

THE SEBASTOPOL COMMITTEE.

Mr. Roebuck said, the Sebastopol Committee had come to the conclusion unanimously that they could, in their present condition, pursue the inquiry with great advantage without supplying the place of Mr. J. Ball. They were desirous of avoiding division in that House of a party character; and he had, therefore, in obedience to the wishes of the Committee, communicated with the noble Lord at the head of the Government, who had expressed his readiness to acquiesce in the wishes of the Committee. He should not, therefore, propose any name to supply that of Mr. Ball.

Mr. Berkeley could not at all agree in the decision come to by the Committee, being still firmly of opinion that there ought to be a naval officer on that Committee to aid in the inquiry into the conduct of the transport service. He should, therefore, move that Captain Gladstone be appointed a member of the Sebastopol Committee.

Mr. Liddell looked upon the decision of the Committee as an arrangement between Mr. Roebuck and the Government. He should vote for the motion of Mr Berkeley, if it went to a division.

After some observations from Mr. Drummond and Mr. Packe,

Lord Palmerston said it was a matter of perfect indifference to the Government whether the motion was carried or not; but the Committee was appointed as all other Committees were invariably appointed, and it was only in deference to the opinion of the Committee that he should oppose the motion.

Mr. Disraeli had always said that there ought to be a naval officer on the Committee, and he should therefore support the nomination of Captain Gladstone for the Committee.

Mr. Roebuck denied that the proposal not to supply the place of Mr J. Ball had come from Lord Palmerston. He had nothing to do with it. It came from Sir John Pakington, and the Committee unanimously agreed to it. However, he had no wish to divide the House upon the question.

Lord Palmerston said, if the hon. and learned gentleman, who was Chairman of the Committee, would not persist in his objection, he had no wish to give the House the trouble of dividing.

The motion of Mr. Bentinck was then agreed to amidst loud cheering.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.

The Earl of Malmesbury said, that it appeared there was no longer any hope of inducing Russia to accept the terms laid down by the Western Powers, and, as was believed, supported by Austria. As he understood that it was upon the Third Point that the Conferences had broken down, he rose to ask his noble friend (the Earl of Clarendon) either the Russian Government had agreed to the first two points laid down by the Western Powers? He would also inquire whether it was still contemplated to include Prussia among the Protecting Powers, as had been originally proposed when the Four Powers met laid down?

The Earl of Clarendon said, his noble friend was right in assuming that the several points were discussed in the order in which they came, and that the first and second were virtually accepted by the Russian Plenipotentiaries. With respect to the two alternative contained in the Third Point—viz., the limiting by treaty of the Russian naval force in the Black Sea, or the exclusion of all ships of war from those waters—they had been absolutely rejected by the Russian Government. In answer to the question of the noble Earl, as to the position of Prussia, he could only say that the position which Prussia had occupied since the 8th of August, and which she continued to occupy, had entirely excluded her from the Conference, and therefore she was not a party to all the arrangements which had resulted from them.

The Earl of Hardwicke was anxious to obtain some information with respect to the intentions of Austria. At this moment she was placed in a position in which she could play the game either of one side or the other, and be perfectly sure of support; and if it was but right that the country, on entering upon the second act of this war, should seek all the information that her Majesty's Government might be in a position to give in reference to the part which this great German Power might be expected to play.

The Earl of Clarendon had no reason to think that Austria would depart from the terms of the Treaty into which she had entered on the 6th of December. He would remind their Lordships that it was only in case of peace not being made upon the bases provided by the Treaty that Austria was to be called upon to concert measures for carrying its stipulation into effect. That time had not arrived: and till then it was not for him to say precisely what course Austria would take.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BILL.

The Lord Chancellor moved the committal of the Cambridge University Bill, and described in much detail the scope and working machinery of the measure.

Lord Lyndhurst commented upon various features presented in the bill, and entered into a minute examination respecting its effect on the internal arrangements of the University.

Some further conversation ensued, after which the motion was agreed to, and the bill passed through committee *pro formâ*.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. Tuesday.

ACT OF UNIFORMITY.

Mr. Heywood moved that the House should resolve itself into Committee to consider such clauses of the Act of Uniformity, passed in 1662, as imposed religious tests, by which the educational advantages offered in the Universities, grammar or free schools, were limited in their application, together with any of the regulations enforced in the national institutions of every kind throughout the country that were calculated to produce a similar result. His object was explained by the hon. member to be the removal of all obstructions to the enjoyment of educational privileges by any class of the community through the operation of religious tests or conditions.

The motion was seconded by Sir E. Perry.

Lord Palmerston admitted the expediency of removing all obsolete regulations. He apprehended, however, that the resolution, if adopted in its present form, would interfere with the measure passed last year respecting Oxford University, and he could not consent to embarrass the operation of that Act without further experience of its working.

Mr. Gladstone opposed the motion on similar grounds, observing that it proposed to reopen a question which had occupied Parliament during nearly the entire half of last Session.

After a few words from Lord J. Manners,

Mr. Heywood consented to modify his resolution, and proposed to move only for a Committee to consider the clauses of the Act of 1662.

This modified proposition was discussed for some time, but ultimately negatived without a division on a point of form.

Mr. A. Pellatt moved for certain returns relating to the appointment of counsel and solicitors to the Charity Commission, the number of communications, &c.

The Attorney-General opposed the returns, which, he said, the honourable gentleman would never have made had he not allowed himself to be made a tool of by some discontented solicitor.

After a few words from Mr. Vernon, Mr. Pellatt withdrew his motion, but denied having been induced to make it by a solicitor.

Mr. Baillie rose to call the attention of the House to the defective Post office communication in the western isles of Scotland, when an hon. Member moved that the House be counted, and forty members not being present, the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Wednesday.

COLONIAL CONTINGENT.

Mr. Adderley asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether authority had been given to the Governors of the North American colonies to raise a force of her Majesty's natural born subjects in those colonies for active service; and whether such force had been designated as a foreign legion.

Sir G. Grey said, such instructions had been sent to Canada to raise such a force, but as the hon. member had asked the question, he would say that of course it had not to be designated a Foreign Legion, but what name would be given to it he was unable at the present time to say.

MARRIAGE LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Heywood moved the second reading of this bill.

Mr. Walpole then rose and moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months. One of the arguments urged was, that these marriages could not be prevented. He admitted that, on an inquiry, which occupied seven or eight years, it was found that there were no less than 1560 such marriages; but he would ask what law might not and was not evaded? They could not even prevent polygamy. It had been said that these marriages were in the upper classes, but he denied that it was so; the returns had been analysed, and it was found that only 100 of the 1560 had taken place in the upper classes (cheers), 1000 in the middle classes, 1400 (hear, hear); and amongst the poorer classes, only 60 (Hear, hear). It was said that this was a poor man's bill. He denied that it was so; it was the very reverse; it was supported by those who ought to be legislating in favour of morality, but by this bill they were doing the reverse. If there were any members of the Government present besides the Attorney-General—whose opinion he knew was opposed to his—if the chief of the Government was present, he would appeal to him to put an end to an agitation on this subject, which had already been settled in the House, unless the Government was certain that they could carry it into law. Why encourage an agitation which had the effect of lowering the standard of morality when they ought to be employed in raising it? They were encouraging these marriages by persons who believed that the law would pass, and they would be protected. After some further remarks, the right honourable gentleman concluded by moving that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

The Attorney-General said, the arguments and reasoning of the right honourable gentleman had wholly failed to convince him that the opinions he had expressed on a former occasion were erroneous. The honourable and learned gentleman then proceeded to contend that such marriages had not been considered by the Hebrew people prohibited by divine law, and that though they were voidable they were not void in the earlier ages of the Christian Church. Divided as Christians were upon the construction of the Levitical law, they had no right dogmatically to force their own interpretation of the Scripture and their opinions on the Levitical law on others. The question was one of religious opinions, and every man ought to be allowed to enjoy his own opinions. The hon and learned Attorney-General then proceeded to show that these marriages were permitted in the Roman Catholic Church, all over the Continent, in Germany, in Denmark, Sweden, and other countries. He would go further—across the Atlantic, all over the United States of America—was it not permitted? (Hear, hear). To those who believed such marriages to be irreligious, the bill was no doubt unnecessary, but to those who thought otherwise the present law was a positive tyranny (cheers) which ought at once to be put an end to as intolerable (Cheers). The right hon. gentleman (Mr. Walpole) had said, that if the noble Lord at the head of the Government was present he would ask him to stop the agitation on this subject. Stop this agitation! why you might as well put your foot in the sea, and ask the tide not to flow (Cheers). It was impossible to stop the agitation on a question which involved the interests and happiness of the community, the people were too deeply interested, and their happiness too deeply involved, to stop agitation until they were successful; for his part, he gave his most cordial support to the second reading of the bill.

Mr. Wigram and Mr. Napier opposed the motion. Mr. Collier and Mr. M. Milnes supported it.

Mr. K. Seymour said, the Attorney-General had appeared that day in a new character: he had appeared as the advocate of those who broke the law of the land and the Church, and who had committed perjury to enable them to do so.

Mr. T. Chambers looked upon the question upon religious grounds, and he was of opinion there ought to be no restriction, and that the Act of Parliament which prohibited these marriages should be removed from the Statute-book. He therefore supported the bill.

Sir W. Heathcote moved the adjournment of the debate until the 9th of May, which was agreed to.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE two quarterly returns from the Row and from Albemarle-street contain ample evidence that little is doing in permanent literature. When we turn to the advertisements of new books in the recent number of the *Edinburgh Review*, we find very little indeed; when we turn to the advertisements in the recent number of the *Quarterly* we find very little more. Yet these are the two fountain-heads from which literary intelligence still continues to rise. If we turn to the columns of the *Athenæum*, or to our own columns, we find the same slender thread of promise. Yet this (but for Sebastopol) would have been the great "term time" of publishers. Our circulating libraries (but for Sebastopol) would have been crowded with liveried footmen anxious to secure the earliest copies of new works by the most eminent hands: now, the herd of readers are compelled to be content with delayed intelligence, an additional Income-tax, and—no new books.

Yet still, with rapid strides (we are happy to record), the new Reading-room of the British Museum, is fast filling the quadrangle of Sir Robert Smirke's ill-planned edifice. Each day reveals some additional growth towards the completion of a crying necessity. Readers still flock to the Museum as if the reproduction of books was in urgent demand in the Row and Albemarle-street. The room is thronged by readers, intent—if we may judge by their faces—on works of enduring importance; each on

A work to outlast Seth's pillars, brick and stone—
And, Holy Writ excepted, made to yield to none.

And each, as he closes his researches for the day, concludes with an expressed longing for the new Reading-room which Mr. Panizzi is about to give us. But is Mr. Panizzi the parent of the new building? Hear a Correspondent:—

(*To the Editor of the* ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Liverpool, April 20, 1855.

SIR,—In your impression of the 14th inst., speaking of the additions now making to the British Museum, you say—"Several plans were offered, and at length that at present in progress (the happy suggestion of Mr. Panizzi) was adopted.

By referring to the *Builder*, vol. 8, p. 295, it will be seen that this arrangement was suggested by Professor Hosking; and it is also stated that this idea had occurred to him as soon as the progress of the works had developed the plan.

Some correspondence followed in that journal; and at p. 320 it is intimated that the trustees declined considering the proposition.

I trust you will take an early opportunity to give credit for the suggestion to the right person, and oblige your obedient servant, AN ARCHITECT.

Having no other object than truth, we readily give insertion to this letter. But is our Liverpool architect correct in his belief that the merit of the suggestion is due to Professor Hosking rather than to Mr. Panizzi? Are not the plans of the Professor and the Librarian essentially different? What is the case? Sir Robert Smirke devoted (with very little skill as an architect) a huge quadrangle in the British Museum to London cats by night and London sparrows by day. The waste of space was obvious to every eye. It caught, of course, the clever eye of Professor Hosking; and a plan, we are told, was submitted by that gentleman to the trustees of the British Museum for filling up the middle of the quadrangle by a modified copy in stone of the Pantheon in Rome. The Professor thought only of architecture and sculpture, and his plan (though perhaps not for these reasons) was rejected by the trustees. Mr. Hosking's structure was designed to satisfy in stone and brick a totally different object from that designed by Mr. Panizzi in iron and glass. Mr. Hosking contemplated a central hall of communication (grand, no doubt, in its proportions, and ornamental) with the four sides of Smirke's structure; while Mr. Panizzi designed, and is now on the eve of completing, a library filled with a busy and unobtrusive hum of men intent on catering for the daily requirements of the public. Sir Robert Smirke was neglectful; Professor Hosking was suggestive and architectural; Mr. Panizzi is useful and ornamental. We have our own few complaints against Mr. Panizzi, but we are unwilling not to do full honour to a man who deserves so well as Mr. Panizzi does of the British public.

Some of our contemporaries are pressing on public attention the necessity of placing on each exhibited picture the name of its artist and the subject it seeks to embody. "It would certainly," we are told, "be a vast relief to be spared the necessity of continually looking at the catalogue." The suggestion is not likely to be adopted. Conceive a society surrendering nearly one half of its revenue. Who would purchase a black and white catalogue when all that is supposed to be required is told *gratis* in letters of gold upon the frame? Fancy a frame with a long extract from Tennyson, or Turner's "Fallacies of Hope," attached to it, dangling half way down a "Momentary Thought" of Frank Stone, or a "Sympathetic Stag" by Sir Edwin Landseer.

Who is satisfied with his condition in life? Even actors—strange to say—are not satisfied; and a Club especially devoted to do honour to them is said to be wanting in courtesy to the stage. When honour and kindness are sincerely meant, honour and kindness should be as sincerely accepted. When (some thirty years since) the Garrick Club was instituted, for the sole purpose of doing honour to able and honourable men, and to the stage in general, actors of known standing were brought into a Club, then, as now, called the Garrick Club. This Club, from its kitchen to its garret, does nothing but celebrate celebrated, and even bad, actors. It is a sort of Walhalla of English players, eminent and indifferent. Its very crockery and linen bear the impress of homage to the stage. But this is not enough. This homage is insufficient, and actors, it is now thought (by a few), are not treated with sufficient consideration by the Club. They should share its management; they should have a full vote in the committee of election. Nor is the claim thus urged without its due weight; but is it not unduly pressed forward; and, above all, is it likely to serve the object which we sincerely believe its promoters have in view? We have received some letters on this subject, and may hereafter revert to the suggestions they throw out.

PHOTOGRAPHY IN GUILDHALL.—On Thursday week the City authorities kindly granted permission to a gentleman from the Stereoscope Company, 313, Oxford-street, to take views of the grand ceremonial in Guildhall. Two large cameras were busily at work during the day from a stage erected in the gallery opposite the grand entrance, by which means several most striking views were taken of the very interesting proceedings.

INAUGURATION OF THE PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION. The Imperial Commission have invited the President and Vice-President of the Board of Trade, the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, the Jurors, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London, the Lord Mayor of Dublin, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, the Chairman and Vice-President of the East India Company, the President of the Royal Society, the President of the Institution of Civil Engineers, the Chairman of the Council of the Society of Arts, and the Chairman and Secretaries of the Local Committees of the Paris Exhibition, to be present at the inauguration of the 1st of May.

THE HOTEL MUNSCH.—In the letter from our Correspondent at Vienna, which appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of the 14th inst., the name of the Hotel Munsch—one of the best in Vienna, if not in Europe—was erroneously printed the Hotel Munich. We are anxious to rectify this error—not only that we may be correct, but that we may do justice to the proprietor of an establishment who does so much to make Englishmen comfortable when they visit Vienna; and who thinks no trouble too great that can make their stay agreeable, in that most agreeable of capitals. It was at this hotel that Lord John Russell, and his family, resided for eight weeks, during the famous Conferences which have given Vienna a new notoriety in the annals of diplomacy. His Lordship and suite occupied upwards of thirty rooms in the establishment of M. Munsch; and we have reason to believe expressed himself highly satisfied, in every respect, with the accommodation and the attention which he received.

M. Niewerkerke, the Director-General of the Imperial Museums, has intimated that, from the 1st May, and during the whole period of the Universal Exhibition, artists will be allowed to make copies in the Louvre every day except Sundays and Mondays, from eight in the morning to one; and that the Galleries will be open to the public every day except Mondays from two to five.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E F, Norwood.—Too simple.

H FRYER.—You should procure some elementary book on Chess, and learn the openings.

C. C. D.—Apply for the rules of the Brighton Chess-club to J. Turner, Esq., Regency-square, Brighton; or for those of the Reading Club to Mr. W. Hodges, jun., hon. secretary, Reading.

J. J CWM, Aveo.—It is not possible to checkmate with a King and Kt against a King alone.

MATCH BETWEEN M. DE RIVIERE AND MR SCHULTEN, AT PARIS.—A match of six games has been arranged between those eminent amateurs, to be played immediately, at the Cercle des Echecs. We shall probably give the opening game in our next number.

W C L, EUSTON, Norwich, and others. In Enigma No. 948, if Black for his second move play P to Q Kt 5th and claims a Kt, we suspect he may retard the threatened mate.

W C C.—Your Problem No IV is over what too obvious, and No V is defective, *for Black can* [illegible]

JULIA.—1 We shall finish your article in the Solutions very shortly 2 You have failed in No 563 The key move is 1 Kt t. 5 6th

R I, Edinburgh.—If you will be good enough to forward the Solution the Problem shall be examined, and, if it has ever been published, we shall doubtless be able to tell you who was the author, or where it appeared

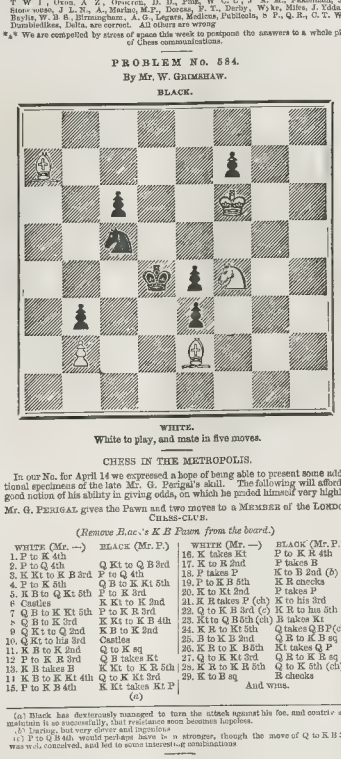
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 583, by Derevon, F. R. of Norwich, Peter the Little, T W I, Omega A Z, Omicron, D. D., Phiz, W C C, J A M., Falconhan, J., Stone-wall, J L. Ni, A., Marina, M.P., Dorset, F. T., Derby, Wyke, Miles, J. Yddan, Baylis, W. B S., Birmingham, A. G., Legres, Medicus, Publicola, S P., Q. R., C. T. W., Dumbledikes, Delta, are correct. All others are wrong

*** We are compelled by stress of space this week to postpone the answers to a whole pile of Chess communications.

PROBLEM No. 584.

By Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

IN our No. for April 14 we expressed a hope of being able to present some additional specimens of the late Mr. G. Perigal's skill. The following will afford a good notion of his ability in giving odds, on which he prided himself very highly.

Mr. G. PERIGAL gives the Pawn and two moves to a MEMBER of the LONDON CHESS-CLUB.

(*Remove B.ac.'s K B Pawn from the board.*)

WHITE (Mr. —)	BLACK (Mr. P.)	WHITE (Mr. —)	BLACK (Mr. P.)
1. P to K 4th		16. P takes Kt	P to K 4th
2. P to Q 4th	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	17. K to R 2nd	P takes B
3. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 4th	18. P takes P	K to B 2nd (*b*)
4. P to K 5th	Q B to K Kt 5th	19. P to K B 6th	K R checks
5. K B to Q Kt 5th	P to K 3rd	20. K to Kt 2nd	P takes P
6. Castles	K Kt to K 2nd	21. K R takes P (ch)	K to his 3rd
7. Q B to K Kt 5th	P to K R 3rd	22. Q to K B 3rd (*c*)	K R to his 6th
8. Q B to Q 3rd	K Kt to K B 4th	23. Kt to Q B 5th (ch)	B takes Kt
9. Q Kt to Q 2nd	K B to K 2nd	24. K R to Kt 5th	Q takes Q B P (ch)
10. Q Kt to his 3rd	Castles	25. B to K B 2nd	Q R to K B sq
11. K B to K 2nd	Q to K sq	26. K R to K B6th	Kt takes Q P
12 P to K R 3rd	Q B takes Kt	27. Q to K Kt 3rd	Q R to K B sq
13. K B takes B	K Kt to K R 5th	28. K R to K B 5th	Q to K 5th (ch)
14 K B to K Kt 4th	Q to K Kt 3rd	29. K to B sq	R checks
15. P to K B 4th	K Kt takes Kt P (a)	And wins.	

(a) Black has dexterously managed to turn the attack against his foe, and contrives to maintain it so successfully, that resistance soon becomes hopeless.

(*b*) During, but very clever and ingenious

(*c*) P to Q B 4th would perhaps have been stronger, though the move of Q to K B 3rd was well conceived, and led to some interesting combinations

MR. G. PERIGAL gives his Queen's Rook to an AMATEUR.

(*Remove Black's Queen's Rook from the Board.*)—(*King's Gambit declined.*)

BLACK (Mr. G. P.)	WHITE (Mr. C.)	BLACK (Mr. G. P.)	WHITE (Mr. C.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	15. Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q Kt 3rd
2. P to K B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	16. P to K R 3rd	Q to Q 2nd (*b*)
" K Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 3rd	17. P to K B 5th	P to K Kt 3rd
4 P to Q B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	18. P to K Kt 4th	B takes P
5. P to Q 4th	P takes P	19. P takes B	Kt takes Kt P
6 P takes P	K B to Q Kt 5th (ch)	20. Kt to Q 5th	Kt to K B 7th (ch) (*c*)
7. K to B 2nd	K Kt to K B 3rd	21. R to Kt 2nd	Kt takes B
" K B to Q 3rd	Castles	22. Kt to K B 6th (ch)	K to Kt 2nd
9. K R to K B sq	Q B to K Kt 5th	23 Q to Q B 3rd	Kt to K B 5th (ch)
10. K to Kt sq	Kt takes Q P	24. K to B 3rd	Kt to K 7th
11. Q to her K 4th (*a*)	Q B takes K Kt	25. Kt to K 5th (dble ch)	K to R 3rd
12 Q takes K B	Q Kt to K 7th (ch)		
13. K to R sq	Kt takes Q B	26. R to K R sq (ch)	K to Kt 4th
14. R takes Kt	B to K B 4th	27. Q mates.	

(a) This was a very good counter-move; and, we suspect, quite unforeseen by White when he opened the Pawn

(*b*) White appreciates the difficulty of extricating his poor B ab. p, and plays to gain as much compensation for it as less as the position will afford.

(*c*) The rest is full of spirit; and, as Mr Perigal's side, extremely well played

CHESS MATCH BETWEEN MANCHESTER AND LIVERPOOL.

A Chess contest of more than ordinary interest has just commenced between the well-known Clubs of Liverpool and Manchester. The match in question is not to be conducted by correspondence, but by personal competition over the Chess-board. For this purpose it has been arranged that the best men of Manchester shall first pay a visit to Liverpool, and play a rubber of three games each against the picked players of that Club. Next month the Liverpool magnates are to return the compliment by visiting Manchester, and playing there three more games each, against the same antagonists. The Club that scores the majority of games will then be presented by their friendly rivals with an appropriate memento of the contest in the shape of a set of Chess-men. From the acknowledged prowess of the players selected to take part in this tourney, some capital games may be anticipated, and of these we trust to have it in our power to chronicle several for the edification of our readers in future numbers

Since writing the above, we have been favoured with particulars of the first meeting, which took place at the Union Hotel, Clayton-square, on Wednesday (last week). The result of the play on this occasion giving—

Manchester	...	...	...	...	12
Liverpool	...	...	...	...	6

The return visit will come off at the end of May, and the total score will then decide the match.

CHESS MEETING AT READING.—The annual gathering of Chess players, under the auspices of the Reading and Berkshire Chess-club, was held at the Literary and Scientific Institution on Tuesday, the 10th inst., and was attended by several of the local clergy, many of the most influential residents of the town, and a fair sprinkling of amateurs from London, Oxford, &c. Shortly after the assembling of the members and their guests Chess-playing commenced, and was carried on uninterruptedly till six o'clock. At that hour the majority of the party adjourned to dinner at the George Hotel; where, the chair being filled by Mr. Keating, M.P., and the vice-chair by Admiral Allen, the proceedings terminated, after an agreeable fusillade of speech and anecdotes, about twelve at night.

A NIGHT SCENE BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—10 P.M. The night is dark and tempestuous; the wind continues to blow strongly from the south-west, and the rain, though less continuous, passes by in heavy fitful showers. No stars are visible. The fire from the batteries continues. Flashes of light from the guns, and the reflected glare in the sky, burst through the darkness at frequent intervals, and appear among the mists and clouds with the sudden effect and vividness of lightning; while the roar of the guns and the roll of the echoes among the mountains not inaptly complete the illusion of an Alpine storm, by their close resemblance to the crash and stunning sound of thunder. The horizontal flight through the air of some of the larger shot and shell, with their peculiar shrill rushing noise, contrasts strangely with the deep booming of the guns, and adds to the confusion of sounds which strike the ear. The report from each piece at the instant of explosion is so modified by the weight of metal, amount of charge, position, and distance, that no two sounds appear alike either in tone or intensity. Sometimes the explosion and discharge are made with such force that even at a considerable distance the concussion of the air strikes the spectator forcibly, and he experiences the sensation of having received a blow on the chest. The noise would be much increased if the wind blew from an opposite direction, even on these open heights: what must be the roar in the streets and buildings of the town below! The shells rise thickly and mightily from the English batteries, and in less number from the French works on the right, but become dimmer as they travel through the misty atmosphere towards the Russian side. The Russians are replying comparatively feebly.—*Letter from the Camp, April 9*

THE ATTITUDE OF PRUSSIA.—I believe I do not misstate the opinions of those who represent Prussia here in saying that they do not believe that Russia will ever consent to the proposition of the limitation of her power in the Black Sea, and I am pretty certain that they highly approve that refusal. They think that Russia is a match for all Europe. As to Prussia, they affect to believe that, whether the issue be peace or war, she will still be able to maintain herself in the same "high position" she has hitherto maintained, and that if the war continues she will succeed in preserving her neutrality in spite of all Europe. "She is," says a Prussian diplomatist, "like a noble animal of the forest, sitting motionless on its hinder part, with head erect, showing her teeth, and with watchful eye, attacking no one, but ready to spring on the first, whoever he may be, that menaces or irritates her." Such is the portrait drawn of Prussia by those who must be in the secret of her councils.—*Letter from Vienna.*

COUNT BUOL-SCHAUENSTEIN.

CHARLES FERDINAND COUNT BUOL-SCHAUENSTEIN of Riedberg, Strassberg and Ehrenfels, is Imperial Royal Chamberlain and Privy Councillor, Minister for Foreign Affairs and of the Imperial Household, President of the Conference of Ministers, Knight of the Imperial order of the Iron Crown, 1st class; Grand Cross of the Imperial order of Leopold; Grand Cross also of the following, viz.: Of the Baden orders of Fidelity and of the Zähringen Lion; of the Grand Duchy of Hessen order of Lewis; of the Russian orders of the White Eagle, and of the Alexander of Newski order in brilliants; of the Netherlands order of the Lion; of the Parmese order of Lewis, and Senator Grand Cross of the Parmese order of Constantine St. George; Grand Cross of the order of Malta; of the Electorate of Hessen order of the Golden Lion, of the Saxon Ernestine House-order; of the Greek order of the Saviour; of the Wurtemberg order of the Crown; of the Belgian order of Leopold; of the Brazilian order of the Rose, of the Brunswick order of Henry the Lion; of the Danish order of the Elephant; of the Pontifical order of Pius; of the French order of the Legion of Honour; of the Turkish order of Medjidie, 1st class; Knight of the Prussian orders of the Red Eagle, 1st class, and of the Black Eagle; of the Sicilian order of St. Januarius; and of the Bavarian order of Hubertus.

This eminent statesman was born on the 17th of May, 1797, and is the son of the late Count John Rudolph Buol Schauenstein (I. R. Actual Privy Councillor and Minister of State, formerly Presidial Ambassador at the Diet of the Germanic Confederation) and of the Countess Alexandrina, born Countess Lerchenfeld-Preunberg. In 1833, he married Caroline Franciskus Dorothea, born Princess of Isenburg-Birstein, Lady of the Palace, Lady of the order of the Starcross, and of the order of Theresa, by whom he has issue two daughters, namely—the Ladies Josephine and Alexandrina.

The present Count Buol-Schauenstein is the descendant of an ancient Grison family, whose ancestor, Ulrich Buol, was a captain in the service of Albert of Austria, at Speyer, in 1298. John Anthony Buol received the Predicate of Strassberg in 1645, for his services in Grison; his son, Paul, acquired the noble castle of Riedberg, and as the possessor of both these estates (Strassberg and Riedberg), was raised to the Baronage of the Empire in 1690, and in 1693 he espoused the Roman Catholic faith. Charles Rudolph Baron Buol, I. R. Chamberlain, Privy Councillor and Imperial Ambassador at the Court of the Electorate of the Palatinate (the great-grandfather of the present head of the family) was adopted by his uncle the Imperial Field-Marshal Francis Thomas, Count Schauenstein, as his son, in lieu of direct issue; inherited the dignity of the Countship of the Empire, granted to the latter, and thus united the title, estates, names, and armorial bearings of Schauenstein and Ehrenfels, in 1742. After the extinction of this younger branch of the Buol family, the dignity of a Countship of the Empire was transferred to the elder branch (founded by Rudolph Anthony, the grandson of the above mentioned Baron Paul Buol, who acquired the fiefs of Country in the Tyrol, in 1731). The first family mansion of the old Barons of Schauenstein was Ehrenfels, in Grison, which name they originally bore. As far back as the twelfth century two members of this family were Bishops of Chur. In the year 1267 Burkhard of Ehrenfels received the Castle of Schauenstein as a donation, and since that time the male members of the family of Buol have borne either the names of Ehrenfels or of Schauenstein, or both together.

The above data prove that the Counts of Buol-Schauenstein (beginning with the great-grandfather of the present Count) have been employed by the Imperial House of Austria in a diplomatic capacity for upwards of a century

Count Charles Buol-Schauenstein, his Imperial Royal Apostolical Majesty's present Minister for Foreign Affairs, entered the diplomatic service in his nineteenth year, first as Attaché of the Imperial Embassies at Florence, Hanover, and Cassel; afterwards at Frankfort, where his deceased father was then I. R. Presidial Ambassador. In 1819 he was appointed Secretary of Legation at the Hague; in 1822 he was sent as Secretary of Embassy to Paris; in 1824 he was removed, in like capacity, to London, where he at that time remained four years. In 1828 he was appointed I. R. Ambassador at Carlsruhe; in 1831 he was simultaneously charged with the same post at Darmstadt; and in 1833 he was promoted, with the same rank, to the Royal Court of Stuttgard. On the 13th July, 1844, he was invested with the dignity of an Imperial Privy Councillor; and shortly afterwards appointed Ambassador to the Court of the Turin (at the same time also to the Court of Parma), where he remained until the eventful year 1848. The characteristic resoluteness and firmness of Count Buol as a diplomatist of the modern school here displayed itself in an act of premeditate and independence which is well worthy of record. When Charles-Albert, contrary not only to all the recognised usages of civilised diplomacy and the principles of international law, but in violation also of the most positive assurances of amity, ordered his troops across the Austrian frontiers, to invade Lombardy, even without a previous declaration of war, Count Buol, being without instructions from his Court, hesitated not to act upon his own responsibility on the instant he forthwith demanded his passports and quitted Turin.—an act which doubtless greatly redounds to his honour, and was highly approved of by the Imperial Government. Shortly after this event Count Buol was appointed Imperial Ambassador to the Court of St. Petersburg. In the meantime, however, honoured by the special confidence of his Sovereign, he was sent as second Plenipotentiary of Austria to the German Conferences at Dresden (the then Prime Minister, Prince Felix Schwarzenberg, being the first Plenipotentiary). In 1851 Count Buol was definitively removed from the Court of St. Petersburg to that of St. James, where he remained as Imperial Ambassador until after the death of Prince Felix Schwarzenberg, when, on the 11th of April, 1852, his I. R. Apostolic Majesty appointed him as his Minister for Foreign Affairs, and of the Imperial Household, as also to the Presidency of the Conference of Ministers.

Since the accession of Count Buol to his present high office, he has concluded the following treaties with other Powers, viz.:—Postal treaties with the Pontifical States (30th March, 1852); with Spain (20th April, 1852); with Switzerland (1st August, 1852); with Sardinia (28th September, 1853); and with Russia (5th May, 1854); treaties relating to telegraphs with Switzerland (26th April, 1852); with the German States (additional treaty of the 23rd September, 1853); with Sardinia (28th September, 1853); treaties relating to the respective laws of settlement with Bavaria and Saxony (1853); treaties relating to jurisdiction with Saxony (6th Jan., 1854) and with the Germanic Confederation (26th January, 1854); treaty of customs and commerce with Prussia and the German Customs' Union (Zollverein) of 19th March, 1853; treaty of commerce and navigation with Bavaria (5th May, 1854); convention with the Sublime Porte for the military occupation of the Danubian Principalities by Austrian troops (Constantinople, 14 June, 1854); the famous protocol signed at Vienna on Palm Sunday, 1854, by which Austria, conjointly with the Western Powers and Prussia, acknowledged the justice of the war on the part of France, England, and Turkey, against Russia, and declared that in principle perfect unanimity of purpose prevailed among the Four Powers; exchange of notes with England and France, for the precision of the four points of guarantee in the Oriental question, on the 8th August, 1854; offensive and defensive treaty with Prussia of the

20th April, 1854; accession thereto of the Germanic Confederation of the 24th July, 1854; additional article to the above treaty with Prussia (26th November, 1854); accession thereto of the Germanic Confederation of the 9th December, 1854; treaty of alliance with France and Great Britain of the 2nd December, 1854; protocols of the 28th December, 1854, and of the 7th January, 1855.

By the sudden death of Prince Felix Schwarzenberg, in April, 1852, Austria was unhappily deprived of the man who within a few years had saved the empire from the greatest danger in which it had ever been, and to whom the country was indebted for its rapid elevation to new glory. This fearful blow, however, seemed to paralyse the State anew, and the youthful Monarch saw himself unexpectedly deprived of the bold and safe support of that extraordinary man who had gallantly and successfully carried the vessel of State through the greatest difficulties, and in whom his Majesty naturally reposed the most unbounded confidence. The gloomy days of Dresden and of Olmütz had but just been happily overcome when this new calamity occurred, which threatened to render the future destinies of the empire once more uncertain. At this trying moment the entire greatness and significancy of the intellectual life of the deceased Minister was most sensibly felt. His premature death had caused a vacuum in the whole organism of the State, and the loss sustained appeared to be truly irreparable. But Prince Felix Schwarzenberg's incomparable foresight had extended even beyond the grave; for he had himself directed the attention of his Sovereign and of the political world to the statesman whom he believed worthy of being called to the councils of the Emperor, as the inheritor of his ideas. This statesman was none other than Count Buol, and the greatest but also the most deserved compliment that can be paid to him is, that he has hitherto proved himself the truly able successor of the great genius who presided over the Ministry for Foreign Affairs immediately before him. It may, therefore, with perfect truth be said that, under the administration of Prince Felix Schwarzenberg and Count Buol, the policy of Austria has assumed a new and grand character, alike free from traditional prejudices and petty considerations. The above enumeration of the various and important treaties which Count Buol has entered into with foreign States since he has been in his present high office proves to demonstration his undeviating indefatigability in the prosecution of a truly liberal policy. Whilst, as a salutary consequence of the adoption and realisation of the great principle of the unity of the empire, the internal Customs barriers were removed by Baron Bruck, the present enlightened Minister of Finance (at that time Minister of Commerce), Prince Schwarzenberg and Count Buol abolished the previously existing prohibitive system in respect of the foreign commerce of the country. This new and improved commercial policy has already been fruitful of great and important results; it brought about, within a comparatively short period, an assimilation with the German "Zollverein." Austria, indeed, proposed the abolition, within a given time, of all Customs barriers between the Zollverein and Austria; but Prussia—illiberal, narrow-minded Prussia—declined to enter into the proposed arrangement. As regards the policy of Austria in the Oriental question, an immense deal might be said in commendation of the extraordinary and masterly abilities, the unflinching consistency and never-swerving loyalty which Count Buol has displayed throughout these trying complications. It must not, however, be forgotten that, in this respect, the present Minister for Foreign Affairs in Austria simply reflects the truly enlightened and magnanimous policy of his Sovereign, the youthful and energetic Emperor Francis Joseph I. Without, therefore, entering more fully into this all-absorbing question of the day, suffice it to say that, notwithstanding the incessant intrigues of a certain influential but retrograding party in the State, his Excellency Count Buol has hitherto perfectly succeeded in overcoming all obstacles thrown in his way, and is up to this hour in the full enjoyment of the most unbounded confidence of his youthful and high-gifted Sovereign, whose steadfast support and unqualified approbation never fail to cheer him on in the consistent prosecution, but otherwise thorny and difficult path, of his patriotic exertions in behalf of the true interests and welfare of his country and his nation. The fundamental principles which form, as it were, the groundwork or this herculean task, and have hitherto been faithfully carried out, may be briefly summed up as follows:—In matters material, the foreign policy of Austria is based upon comparatively liberal commercial and customs laws, which the more recently-concluded postal, telegraph, navigation, and other treaties with foreign countries exemplify. In matters purely political, Count Buol advocates a close alliance with the Western Powers, but especially with France—to wit, the protocol signed on Palm Sunday, 1854; the exchange of notes (without Prussia) on the 8th August, 1854; the treaty of the 2nd December, 1854; the vast military preparations for a war against Russia, &c.; furthermore, the enormous and indefatigable exertions which have been made, and are still making, to secure the support of Prussia and the Germanic Confederation for the impending conflict; and, lastly, the persevering advance towards the main object in view, viz., the annihilation of Russia's supremacy in the East. These are the main and unmistakable features of the foreign policy or Austria's present Minister for Foreign Affairs.

In conclusion, a few words on Count Buol's external appearance and private character.—He is rather above the middle stature, and has an exceedingly dignified bearing. The noble and frank expression of his manly countenance, and the invariable urbanity of his demeanour bespeak at once the man of intellect. He is a kind husband, and a fond father; a sincere and faithful friend. The placidity, or, better still, the apparent imperturbability, of his general deportment to strangers or inferiors, coupled as it usually is with a very prominent degree of reserve, seldom fails to produce upon them the impression that Count Buol is, withal, a cold and proud statesman. This unfavourable impression, however, gradually wears away upon longer and better acquaintance, when the noble qualities of his superior mind and generous heart shine forth in all their native dignity.

COUNT BUOL-SCHAUENSTEIN, THE AUSTRIAN MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

THE FOREIGN OFFICE, AT VIENNA.

With respect to the origin of this highly-interesting public building at Vienna, the only reliable data that we have been enabled to obtain are indicated in the following inscription, which we found over the great portico, or principal entrance:—

Praeterium
Maj Sigilli et Rerum cum Exteris. Gerend.
Maria Theresia Aug Inhoate.
Cura W Principis A. Kaunitz Rittberg
Absolvitur
1766-1775

In Feb. 1742 the Imperial Chancery of State was separated from the Austrian Court Chancery, or Hofkanzlei (at present called the Home-office, or Ministry of the Interior), and was placed under the Presidency of the then Court and State Chancellor, Count Uhlefeld; with whom therefore, the illustrious list of the Ministers of the Imperial House and of Foreign Affairs commences. He was succeeded in this high office by the following statesmen:—Prince Kaunitz, Prince Colloredo, and Count Cobenzl (who held this post conjointly), Baron Thugut, Count Stadion, Prince Metternich, Count Floquelmont, Baron Wessenberg, Prince Felix Schwarzenberg, Count Buol Schauenstein. Of the apartment in this Office, whereon the Conference has recently been held, we gave an Engraving in our Journal of last week.

We have already briefly referred to the great European Congress which was assembled within the walls of this building in 1814 and 1815. The next important meeting of diplomatists, which took place here in 1819 and 1820, as well as that which followed in 1834, are known under the appellation of the "German Conferences." The former of these deliberated upon the so-called "Carlsbad Resolutions," which were mainly directed against the public press, and led to the introduction of the much-hated censorship upon all literary productions throughout Germany. It was also at these Conferences of 1819 and 1820 that the German Federal Constitution was completed by the signing of the "Vienna final act" thereof. The German Conferences in 1834, it will be remembered, took place shortly after the serious riots that had occurred at Frankfort, where the Constable Guard-house had been attacked, and an assault upon the Federal Palace been effected. The object of these Conferences, therefore, was to deliberate upon new and more stringent laws in respect of the then existing rights of association, and of the ancient privileges of the Universities, which had become exceedingly inconvenient to almost all the Governments in Germany. These conferences also aimed at the introduction of a limitation to the publicity of the debates of the German States, and at the establishment of a Court of Arbitration for all matters of dispute between the several Governments of the Germanic Confederation and their States (representative parliaments). The results of their deliberations were subsequently confirmed by resolutions agreed to at the Federal Diet.

These general historical reminiscences which attach to the Austrian Foreign-office will, together with the above sketch of this interesting public building in Austria, doubtless be deemed particularly acceptable to the readers of the Illustrated London News at the present moment.

THE FOREIGN-OFFICE, VIENNA.—THE CONFERENCE OF 1855 HELD HERE.

SCIENTIFIC CONVERSAZIONE AT APOTHECARIES' HALL.

PRESENTATION OF THE BOYS OF CHRIST'S HOSPITAL TO THE LORD MAYOR.

ROM the foundation of this Institution it has been the annual custom to resent the Bluecoat Boys to the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress on aster Tuesday. Considerable anxiety was manifested to witness the ght this year, in consequence of its having become generally known that e Duke of Cambridge, the newly-elected President of the Institution, ould attend the presentation. A very large number of ladies and gentlem assembled accordingly in the Egyptian-hall on that day. Precisely at alf-past one o'clock his Royal Highness arrived—the band of the City of ondon Militia, immediately on his alighting from his carriage, playing e National Anthem.

The Lord Mayor, as is usual when the City is honoured with the presence any member of the Royal family, met his Royal Highness at the enance under the great portico, and conducted him to the chair of state in the drawing-room, where several members of the Corporation were presented to him. They then formed a procession to the parlour, where a sumptuous déjeûner à la fourchette awaited them; after partaking of which they proceeded to the Egyptian-hall, where the presentation took place. On his Royal Highness making his appearance, the boys gave three hearty cheers. They then sang the National Anthem, and also a psalm of thanksgiving; at the conclusion of which the Lord Mayor expressed the great satisfaction he felt at receiving the boys in that ancient hall. From year to year young men of genius and talent who had been educated in that noble institution were sent forth to seek their fortunes in the wide world, where many of them had attained to high and honourable positions.

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by his Royal Highness and a great number of the visitors, then proceeded to the drawing-room, where the Lady Mayoress presented the Grecians with a five-shilling piece, the monitors with half-a-crown, and the juniors with a shilling; and, on their passing out, a bun and a glass of wine were given to each.

SCIENTIFIC CONVERSAZIONE AT APOTHECARIES' HALL.

A *conversazione* of a most agreeable character, and one pre-eminently calculated to promote philosophical research, was given on Wednesday evening, April 11th, by the Master, N. B. Ward, Esq., F.R.S., and Wardens of the Society of Apothecaries, in their Council-chamber, Water-lane, Blackfriars. This society—long and honourably distinguished for the services it has rendered to the cultivation of medical science, by its careful direction of the education of the student, and by its elaborate examinations, which have had for their tendency the elevation of the character, and general attainments of the medical practitioner—gave another proof of its devotion to the advancement of the profession, by collecting together one of the largest assemblages which has ever taken place of men devoted to the cultivation of science. The wonders of the microscope formed the subject of the evening's entertainment; and never, perhaps, in the history of optical science, has the power of that instrument been so variously or so fully displayed, nor

PRESENTATION OF THE CHRIST'S HOSPITAL SCHOLARS TO THE LORD MAYOR, AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.

the philosophical inquirer so fully furnished with means, both as regards objects and instruments, to behold the greatness and wisdom of the Almighty, as displayed in the minutest objects of creation, as on this occasion. The walls of the great hall were decorated with the most superb drawings and diagrams from the collections of Professors Grant, Quekett, Busk, Carpenter, Letheby, and others; not forgetting some exquisite paintings of zoophytes, by Mrs. Mummery, of Dover. Most of these were on a very large scale, and comprehended many of the most minute and obscure forms from the animal and vegetable kingdoms, exhibiting a connected series from the simplest cell formation up to the highest complexities, so called, of vegetable and animal life—confounding all attempt to distinguish where the one ended and the other began. Beneath these drawings the tables were covered with microscopes—upwards of 100 in number—exhibiting many of the natural organisms, whose representations were suspended above them. Among them we may name:—British sponges, exhibited by Mr. Bowerbank. Zoophytes and medusæ, by Drs. Grant and Amott. Diatomaceæ and desmidiaceæ, by Mr. Jabez Hogg. Vegetable tissues, &c., by Mr. Loddiges and Mr. White. Phenomena of polarised light, by Mr. Woodward; and a new modification of the same, by means of Herapath's polarising crystals, by Mr. John Furze. Foraminifera, by Dr. Carpenter. Tooth and bone structure, by Mr. E. W. Cooke, A.R.A. Mr. Brooke illustrated the value of careful illumination to the microscopic observer—a point so frequently neglected.

Professors Quekett and Rainey, with Dr. Letheby, occupied at one end of the hall, specially devoted to their particular department of anatomy and pathology; and the various makers—Messrs. Smith and Beck, Ross, Powell and Lealand, Salmon, and Baker—showed to what perfection emulation had brought their instruments, under the scientific directions of J. J. Lister, Bowerbank, Quekett, Brooke, and others.

We must not omit Mr. Peters' extraordinary specimens of minute writing, which required the aid of the microscope to read them.

On the floor of the hall, surrounded by most beautiful orchidaceous and other plants from Messrs. Loddiges, and Masters, was placed the original vivarium formed by Mr. Ward, and shown by him in Wellclose-square in the year 1831, and which has proved the fruitful parent of others by Messrs. Gosse, Warington, Mitchell, &c., proving intimately the mutual relation of animal and vegetable life, and their dependence on each other.

In the reception-room was exhibited a collection of photographs of snow-crystals observed by Mr. Glaisher during the late severe weather, and contributed by that gentleman; also a collection of Mexican antiquities from Mr. Christie, unique in its character, and many other scientific applications.

The assembly was presided over by the Master, N. B. Ward, Esq.; and among the distinguished visitors we observed the Lord Chief Baron and his son; Mr. R. Stephenson; Professors Bell and Grant, Revs J. B. Reade and Mr. Binner; Drs. Paris (P.R.C. Physicians), Robert Barnes, Hooker, Nisbett, Hassall, Lankester, R. Bennett, Carpenter, Letheby, Ansell, Druitt, Semple, Farre, J. Webster, Hodgkin, Billing, Todd, Southwood Smith, and Sibson; Messrs. Glaisher, Whitbread, Gassiot, Lawes, Combe, White, R. Heward, Wenham, Grove, Brande, Faraday, Jackson, Redgrave, Pilcher, and many others, amounting to upwards of 600.

Altogether the evening afforded a treat of the highest and purest intellectual gratification; and old Gideon de Laune, apothecary to James I.—whose bust exquisitely carved, graces the hall, and who followed to the grave by thirty-six children and ninety grandchildren—had still greater reason to be proud of his more numerous scientific and learned progeny.

On Thursday a morning lounge of the ladies of the philosophers, with a large concourse of beauty, rank, and fashion, concluded the instructive and agreeable *réunion*.

The Empress's Dressing-case.—On Monday week, on the arrival of the Emperor, his Majesty's dressing-case, containing jewels of great value belonging to the Empress, was taken by mistake to Radley's Hotel, where it remained till the Wednesday following. In the meantime the police were actively engaged in making inquiries for the lost property. Ultimately the case was given to the Lord Mayor, who at once telegraphed to Windsor, and received an answer requesting his Lordship to forward it thither immediately, by one of the Mansion-house officers. Mr. Mitchell, an officer attached to the Mansion-house, was forthwith dispatched to Windsor with the valuable charge at ten p.m., which he delivered safely into the hands of the Emperor's valet, in the presence of Lord Alfred Paget. The valet gave the officer a receipt for the dressing-case, countersigned by his Lordship.

The Emperor's Visit to the Crimea.—While many people are yet doubting of a fact which has never, from the first, been a moment doubtful—the Emperor's fixed intention to go to the Crimea—there appears in the *Constitutionnel* of Monday morning the following very conclusive announcement:—"The camp equipage of the Emperor was sent off yesterday to the south by the Lyons Railway, in charge of several employés of the Messrs. Fillon, who, from their departure, were provided with a complete uniform, and an ample cloak. These men, selected from the best upholsterers of the garde-meuble, will have the care of the Emperor's tent and all its accessories

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GRAND STATE BALL AT WINDSOR CASTLE

No. 740.] TO THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, APRIL 28, 1855 [VOL. XXVI.

VISIT TO ENGLAND OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.

A SHORT week has now elapsed since the Imperial guests whom our gracious Sovereign and her loyal subjects have so much delighted to honour have left the shores of this country, which, during their sojourn, had been the scene of one continued ovation. The visit is now a *fait accompli*—the facts are in our hands, and a public writer can scarcely have a more pleasing office than to combine, in one succinct and comprehensive narrative, the events of a week destined to form a material landmark in the history of the two greatest countries in the world, and fraught, it is fervently to be hoped, with permanent advantage to both. The time, the personages, and the circumstances of this Imperial visit all combine to invest it with extraordinary interest, and make it one of those events of which a single phase must not be let drop; and the object of this article is to give such a collective impression of the whole as may fix at least its larger features on the memories of the numerous readers of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. Many and bloody have been the wars between England and France; emulous and straining has been the rivalry between the two countries in arts and arms; but now, at last, the iron glaive has been thrown away, and the open hand of friendship has been freely extended across the Channel—never, it may be hoped, to be withdrawn while the united action of the two nations is necessary for the peace, the civilisation, and the prosperity of the world.

When one reads of the landing of the Sovereign of mighty France in peaceful guise at the historic chief of the Cinque Ports, accompanied by his young and beautiful wife, and surrounded only by the gay costumes of a brilliant Court, the memory instinctively turns to the former periods when the Royal visits from France boded nothing but war and desolation, and in one instance a subjugation to old England. The glowing pages of Thierry have preserved, in a series of brilliant pictures, the descent of William the Norman and his mail-clad barons, the one great battle of the Conquest, and the long train of sorrows which its results brought on the stalwart Anglo-Saxons. We have had French Kings and Empresses who have come in different guise—as prisoners, or refugees, or suppliants; but now we have, for the first time in a period of more than eight hundred years, the visit of a Sovereign who comes, on the pleasing and equal footing of friendship, to see us at home, to accept our hospitality, and to take back with him to France the best impression of the true sources of our material power, the most irrefragable proofs of our friendship towards himself and towards the mighty people who so unmistakeably chose him as their ruler. Every incident of such a visit has a high historical value, and therefore, *ab ceo usque ad mala*, it must be our humble endeavour to preserve them.

On Saturday, the 14th April, 1855, the ordinarily dull little town of Calais gave early indications that something was a-foot calculated to rouse it, for one day at least, from its chronic lethargy. The Place was filled with Imperial fourgons, Imperial liveries flitted to and fro through the narrow streets, and the authorities of the Hôtel Dessin had assumed the grand Court air of persons who had high and honourable duty in hand. The tricolour hung listlessly from the Hôtel de Ville and the Semaphore, and the regiments of the garrison were under arms at an early hour in the morning. The English Admiralty packet *Vivid* came into harbour, with Sir Robert Peel on board, and arrangements were speedily made for the departure of the Imperial naval escort. The light and graceful *Pelican*, who was to bear "Cæsar and his fortunes" to the shores of England was soon fuming away with that brisk, cheerful simmer which betokens that the steam-ship is eager to start upon her voyage. The huge *Austerlitz* was got under way; and shortly afterwards the rapid and beautiful English mail-steamer *Queen* shot out of the harbour, with the Prefect of the Seine and a number of Paris civic notabilities on board. They were Baron Hausseman, the Prefect; M. Delangles, First President o the Imperial Court of Paris; M. Thayer, Senator, and formerly Post master-General; and MM. German, Kibaut, Pilouze, Duparre, and De Clebsattel (the last-named being the French Director of the Dover and Boulogne Postal Steam-packet Company. Shortly afterwards the *Pelican* was under way, and the Emperor and Empress left Calais after the usual leave-takings with Marshal Baraguay d'Hilliers, commanding the army of the north, and the whole of the military and civil authorities of the Pas de Calais. The Imperial travellers were accompanied by Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War; the Duc de Bassano, Grand Chamberlain to the Empress; the Prince d'Essling, Counts Montebello, Lizay Maisin, and De Las Marinas. To Captain Smithett, the well-known Channel navigator, was given the high honour and trust of piloting so distinguished a freight safely to the shores of England. A squadron of English and French steamers accompanied the Imperial yacht, and the national air of "Partant pour la

(*Continued on page 416.*)

VISIT OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH TO THE CITY.

☞ Before cutting this Sheet, observe the large Engraving of Windsor Castle the Frontispiece to the present Volume.

ROLLING THE MINIE RIFLE BARRELS.

THE MINIE RIFLE.

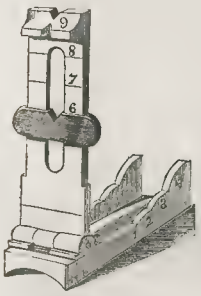
Improvements in guns and locks are so numerous that it has been justingly said that the Board of Ordnance has a new invention every day offered to them; but the Minié Rifle is in fire-arms undoubtedly the greatest improvement of modern times, after the introduction of the percussion principle in place of the flint and steel.

The use of this Rifle by the British Army during the present war makes it an object of interest as a manufacture. Its peculiarity, as most persons are aware, consists in its having the least possible "windage." By windage is meant the space left between the bullet and the inside of the barrel. The Minié bullet has a chamber at the back, and when the powder explodes it rushes into this chamber, and expands the ball, so that it fits tightly the bore of the barrel as well as the grooves; these grooves are similar to those of any other rifle, but very shallow, in order to prevent any portion of lead remaining in them after the discharge. In this shape the principle cannot be applied to cannon on account of the bullet being of iron.

The Minié Rifle has also a peculiar sight, of which we give an Engraving the actual size. It enables the marksman to aim at very distant objects with great certainty. This "sight" consists of a steel frame, with a sliding piece tempered to fit as a spring. The upright portion being turned on its hinge, the slider rests upon the level marked No. 1, and this gives the range 100 yards; it is shifted to the next upper step for 200 yards, and so on up to 400 yards. From 500 to 1000 yards are marked by the elevation of the upright piece and the adjustment of the slider thereon, as in our Illustration, where the range is set for 600 yards.

The Minié Rifle can be loaded more quickly than any other, because the ballet may move easily down the barrel; and, from the absence of windage, the explosive force of the gunpowder is not in the least wasted; it, therefore, carries the ball much farther, and more truly to its aim.

Great exactness is required in the inside of the barrel; it must be a perfect cylinder, and no accuracy can be too great. In many of the old muskets—now so well known by the familiar name of "Brown Bess"—the gauge of the exterior is quite true, while, in the process of reboring previously to grooving for the Minié bullet, the interior of the barrel has been found to differ in its bore to the extent of one-sixteenth of an inch.



GOVERNMENT MINIE SIGHT.

The same perfect accuracy is required as to the sight, it being evident that an almost imperceptible difference of space would become many yards in the distance traversed by the bullet. Every part of a gun and sight is gauged by the Government officials, and any found inaccurate are returned on the hands of the manufacturers. It is said that a needless accuracy is required in the size of the bayonets, and that in consequence they cannot be supplied with sufficient rapidity.

There is a great division of labour in the gun-trade as carried on in Birmingham; this is true, not only of the men but of the employers. the barrel-making is a separate branch, lock making another, and so on. The gunmaker buys the barrels, locks, &c., and sets them up—that is, puts them together. Several attempts have been made to combine the parts in one factory, but none such has hitherto held its ground.

The process of manufacturing the barrel is in itself extremely simple, although in one particular part of the work there is much difficulty in procuring men competent to its execution—namely, the straightening of the inside of the barrel; and at present there exists no mechanical test by which the correctness of this part of the work can be ascertained. It depends entirely upon the eye.

The iron principally used for the Government rifles is called "Marshall's" iron, and comes from Wednesbury, in Staffordshire. Mr. Marshall possesses some secret (not a patent), by which he is enabled to produce the purest iron, most free from what are technically termed "greys," and this is found to be in all respects equal to the metal composed of twisted fragments.

The iron is procured by the gunmaker in plates about twelve inches long by four inches wide, and three quarters of an inch thick, varying in weight from nine to ten pounds; it is moderately heated, and subjected to the action of a pair of rollers which bend it into a shape called a "mould." It is then placed in the furnace for welding, and in this time brought out nearly in a state of fusion, and passed through rollers which convert it from a bent piece of iron to a barrel. This process is shown in our first Engraving. The workman withdraws the iron from the fire by means of a mandril—a rod of iron with a small shield attached to prevent the heated portion from slipping to his hand; the rollers take this iron between them, and by their movement draw it off the mandril; it is received in a semi-cylindrical shape by a man on the opposite side; it is then again heated, and passed through other rollers of varied shapes, which bring the two edges gradually together until, after the fifth heating, the iron is withdrawn a

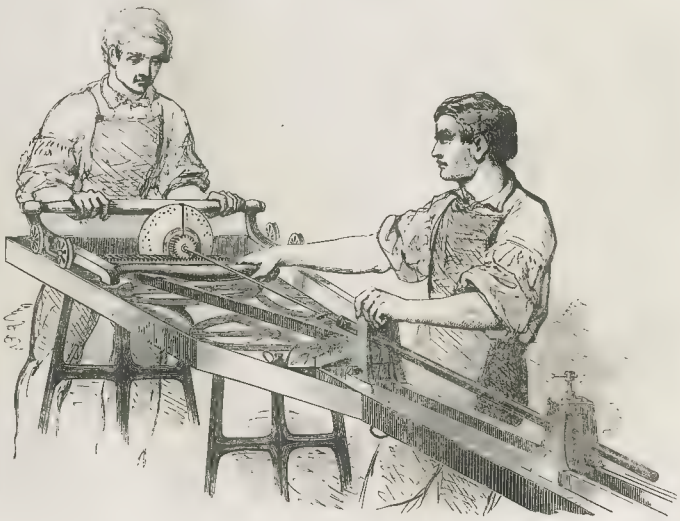
SECTION OF WELDING ROLLERS.

complete cylinder: the gradual change of form is shown in the diagram. The process of tapering towards the muzzle of the barrel is performed in a similar manner. From the rollers the barrel goes to a workman, who welds on what is called the "percussion lump." From him it is transferred to the mill for rough boring. This is performed by steel "bitts," properly hardened and tempered, tapering in the first instance from about half to three eighths of an inch, the cutting part being about eighteen inches long. These revolve at the rate of 500 times per minute, and three or four of them are used before the barrel comes into the hands of the fine-borer, who works with a different kind of "bitt," not taper, and having only one cutting edge, about fourteen inches long. It is in the processes of fine-boring and straightening that there is a scarcity of skilled labour of the quality required for the Minie Rifle. The outsides of the barrels are then turned in a lathe, and again submitted to the fine-borer. They are then ground, to reduce the percussion lump to the required dimensions, and to remove the turning marks from the outside. The grinding is a very picturesque process, and has been already engraved in our Number 167, of Feb. 1, 1851, Vol. 18. From the grinder they go to the filer, who fits the breech, pin, and sight, and they are then ready to be grooved for the Minie bullet. This is accomplished by the machine represented in our second Engraving: the barrel being securely fixed in two vices, a long steel rod, with a cutter (of which we give a drawing) is inserted in the barrel; this is connected with a cog-wheel working in a horizontal rack sliding on a bar, so adjusted as to allow only the requisite turn to the rod in the case of the Government rifles, half a turn in the length of the barrel (three feet three inches). Two men move the machine to and fro rapidly, and, when one groove is completed, a slight change in the wheel shifts the cutter, until the three grooves fit exactly the plug furnished by the Government. A piece of wood called a spale is inserted in the split end of the cutter, to tighten it; and the time occupied in rifling each barrel varies from twenty minutes to half an hour. Machinery has been employed for this process, but we believe the hand is still considered the best, as, on meeting any accidental obstruction, it becomes sensible of it immediately. Last comes the Government "proving"—the least satisfactory process to the gunmaker, as he is obliged to fetch away those barrels not approved.

CUTTER.

There is much complaint of great delays in the supply of Minié Rifles, but most persons are not aware that, from the time an order is given out until the guns begin to be completed, an interval of from four to six months must elapse.

For much of the information contained in this article we have to thank



RIFLING MACHINE.

the courtesy of Mr. Clive, of Birmingham, and Mr. Adams, of the firm of Deane, Adams, and Deane

[We have received a letter from Mr. Greener, claiming this rifle as his invention, as far back as 1838, in which year he laid the plan before the Board of Ordnance, when it was tried by a company of the 60th Rifles, under the command of Major Bridges, Royal Artillery, with the most marked success, and so reported to the Board; but it was rejected on the ground of being a compound ("*compound of parts*") and thus rendered it unsuitable to her Majesty's service. In the two following years, Mr. Greener states that he used the Rifle much with the same success; and brought it before the public, in a letter written on the 20th December, 1841, and printed in the *Times*, followed by a series of letters on the improvement of military arms at that period. Copies of these letters also appear in the Appendix of Mr. Greener's last work on Gunnery, 1846.—ED.]

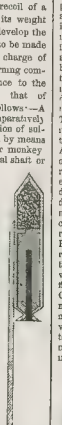
WAR-ROCKETS AND THEIR MANUFACTURE.

WHEN old Barthold Schwartz invented the sooty compound "gunpowder," which has spread such death and desolation over the world—when his military successors racked their ingenuity to devise the best means of confining gunpowder in cannons, and tried so hard to find the best material for cannon-balls—when every imaginable device was employed to diminish the recoil of great guns, and retain them motionless in their places—military engineers little thought that the time might come when all their cherished hopes and aspirations would be turned clean upside down, and the proposition should assume the shape of seeking to add to the recoil as much as possible, of ignoring cannon balls altogether in a certain variety of ordnance, and making the cannon itself a projectile. Yet so it is. The War-rocket, as we shall presently show, is nothing in principle more or less than a gun, the recoil of which is encouraged to the highest practicable extent—a cannon, which, rushing backwards, expends its momentum on the foe.

It is far from improbable that the rocket is the most ancient of all fire-weapons. Conventionally we are in the habit of referring the invention of gunpowder to old Schwartz, sometime about the year 1330; but there are many arguments capable of being adduced in opposition to this opinion.

Some very plausible authorities could be cited, both ancient and modern, favouring the opinion that gunpowder, and some form of military fire-arms (probably rockets) were known to Asiatic nations so early as the days of Alexander the Great; but for a statement of these authorities we have no space here. Suffice it to remark that the Chinese profess to have been acquainted with the use of war-rockets from time immemorial, and war rockets of enormous dimensions had been made by the Burmese long before Sir William Congreve developed the use of these terrible weapons of fire in our own service

But to commence our description of the manufacture and construction of war-rockets, let us once more return to the primary idea of the recoil of a gun. The momentum of a projectile being the equivalent of its weight multiplied into its velocity, the deduction follows that in order to develop the recoil of a gun into a really efficient force, some provision requires to be made for prolonging the time of combustion; that is to say, instead of a charge of quickly-burning gunpowder, a charge of comparatively slowly-burning composition must be used; and this consideration brings us at once to the construction of a rocket. The simplest form of a rocket is that of the ordinary sky-rocket, the nature of which is as follows:—A paper case, being contracted or choked at one extremity into a comparatively narrow orifice, is filled with successive small charges of a composition of sulphur, nitre, and charcoal; each charge being tightly rammed down by means of a wooden or metallic cylinder urged by the blows of a mallet or monkey But this is not all. The rocket composition is not solid: a cylindrical shaft or hole is left in the direction of its long axis for the purpose of affording a large area of simultaneously burning material. The shaft or orifice in question may be either made during the operation of filling by the use of perforated rammers working on a spill, or the rocket may be rammed solid, and bored out subsequently. The latter plan seems to be the best, and it is now adopted in manufacturing the superior descriptions of war rockets. It follows from a consideration of the facts already mentioned that such a case if charged and ignited would not explode on a sudden, as happens with a charged gun, but the charge would occupy some appreciable time in burning, and the recoil first established would grow by successive increments to a powerful projectile force. One thing, however, is evident—the ignited rocket would have no certainty of direction—it would move about with all the uncertainty, and, indeed, something more, of a rudderless ship in a stormy sea. Hence some appendage equivalent in function to a rudder is necessary, and the appendage ordinarily employed is a stick The accompanying diagram affords a general idea of the structure of a rocket, and the manner of attaching it to the stick. The stick is relatively much longer than here represented; in point of fact it is of such a weight and length as to exactly balance the rocket at the point. Such then is the ordinary paper-cased sky-rocket. Although a mere toy, it is nevertheless a weapon of considerable projectile force. Usually it is made to carry a charge of stars or other ornamental devices, which, becoming scattered at the rocket's point of culmination, imparts a very graceful effect. It is obvious, however, that any material of equivalent weight to the stars or ornamental fireworks, might be made to take their place. Thus an iron shell properly charged with grain powder, might be attached, and a communication established between it and the rocket composition in such a manner that the shell should burst as soon as the rocket composition might be expended. In a similar manner a dart or arrow might be attached, and this indeed is the expedient had recourse to by our ingenious friends the Chinese, whose war-rockets are of the kind depicted in our accompanying Sketch



Rockets of this description were taken by our troops at the capture of Amoy, and they are now to be seen in many of our public museums

The next step of development the rocket underwent in becoming a European military weapon was a very obvious one. Instead of paper as a material for the case, iron was used, thus imparting to the weapon greater weight, and consequently greater momentum, by which means its perforating energy and shattering force were both vastly increased

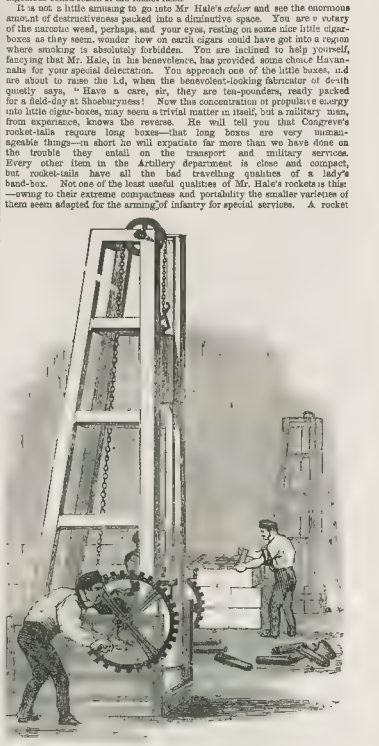
The merit of introducing the iron case is commonly ascribed to our countryman, Sir William Congreve, but this is erroneous Rockets having iron cases had long been made in India, before the improvements of that gentleman. To Congreve, however, undoubtedly belongs the merit of imparting to rockets the necessary power and precision for their adaptation to the purposes of civilized warfare

The first rockets of Sir William Congreve were so nearly identical in shape with that of the ordinary pyrotechnic sky-rocket, that any illustrative sketch is unnecessary. His largest rockets were of enormous size, weighing no less than three hundred pounds, and being seven or eight feet long. Rockets of this size were intended for bombarding, but they have not been found so efficient as Congreve imagined, and are not employed at this time. The most usual varieties of Congreve-rockets are from ten pounds to thirty-six—the smaller varieties being intended for field purposes, to take the place of field-guns; and the larger varieties for battering and bombarding. Congreve was an enthusiast: he fondly hoped that his war-rocket would banish cannon almost, if not entirely, from the field of battle: but practice soon taught him the fallacy of this opinion. His rockets had power and range enough, considerably more than cannon-balls of corresponding weight; but in one particular they were singularly defective—namely, in accuracy of flight: they would not go straight to their mark, under any conditions of wind and weather, and firing them with effect against or across a wind of only moderate strength, was totally impracticable. Field-rockets were very little employed during the Peninsular War, the Duke of Wellington having been strongly prejudiced against them, and this indeed not without reason. Very soon after Congreve had sufficiently perfected his rockets to admit of their being employed in warfare, some of them were sent to Spain for use by Wellington's army. The Duke naturally desired to have a sample of their powers, so one morning, his army being on one side of a hill, and the enemy at a tempting distance on the other, he thought he might as well try what Congreve's destructives could do. The exhibition was most discreditable to them. Unfortunately their line of intended flight had to cross the wind, a condition which interfered with them to such an extent that, turning their tails to the enemy, they came back hissing and spitting amidst the legions of the Duke. His Grace entertained a dislike of rockets from that day forward, and never encouraged their employment. However, they did good service against the enemy on the occasion of crossing the Adour, having saved from destruction a brigade of English troops

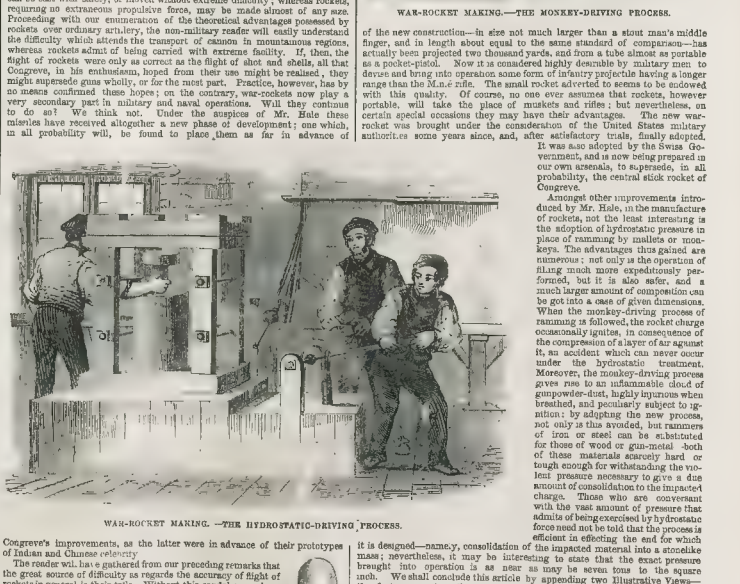
If the war-rocket was not destined to manifest all its terrors in the Peninsula, a different fate awaited it at Leipsic. The only British soldiers present on that occasion were some of our newly-established rocket brigade. One volley having been discharged against the enemy the extreme of terror pervaded his ranks. Never since the introduction of fire-weapons had such terrible missiles of destruction been seen—of what kind they were, how propelled, how to be avoided, the enemy could not tell. To stand against these fiery messengers of death was deemed hopeless, therefore almost without a moment's hesitation the troops against which these rockets were directed laid down their arms. If we mistake not, the war-rockets which did such terrible execution at Leipsic were formed exactly like sky-rockets, with one sole exception they were made with iron cases, instead of paper ones. Their sticks, like those of the ordinary sky-rockets, were lateral; owing to which construction the flight of the missile—always erratic under the most favourable circumstances—was far more devious than it would otherwise have been. Congreve next turned his attention to the proposition of imparting to the flight of the rocket the straightness of that of an arrow, for which purpose it was absolutely necessary that the lateral stick should be removed, and a central one supplied its place. The solution of this problem rendered necessary some extensive modifications in the construction of rockets. These we shall now proceed to explain, prefacing our remarks by a representation of the Congreve-rocket, as it at present exists

By referring to this diagram, it will be seen that the stick is no longer lateral, but central, occupying the place of the vent, or orifice in the ordinary sky-rocket. It follows, then, that some new provision must be made for the exit of the propulsive flame. Such provision exists in a number of peripheral holes surrounding the central orifice—an arrangement which will be rendered perfectly intelligible by reference to the front view of the stick end of the rocket.

The reader has now fairly before him all the improvements which Sir William Congreve effected for the war-rocket. By his latest modification—namely, the central stick the projectile was rendered more adapted for propulsion out of a tube, and the general accuracy of its flight was much increased. A word, now, concerning the method of firing these rockets When especial accuracy of range is required, they are ignited at one extremity of a tube supported on legs, like a large telescope, and elevated to the necessary angle of altitude; but when extreme accuracy of range is a secondary consideration, and the effect sought to be gained depends on one large flight or salvo of rockets discharged at an object of considerable magnitude—such, for example, as a dense mass of infantry or cavalry—then what artillerists term the ground volley is had recourse to; that is to say, a row of rockets being placed flat on the ground, with their heads pointing in the required direction, and their vents connected by a train of quick-match, one end of the match is ignited by means of a portfire, and the rockets being thus unfamed almost at the same instant of time dash forwards still in a row. For the first hundred or hundred and fifty yards they do not ascend very high from the ground level; after this they usually ascend to the breast height of a man, or even higher, and spread death and desolation in their track. The theoretical advantages of rockets over cannons are numerous and important. For instance, a cannon loses its aim, owing to recoil after every discharge, and, during the height of battle, there is usually so much smoke that the instant for taking a correct second aim occurs only at rare intervals. The discharge of a rocket, on the contrary, involves no recoil. The rocket itself is the recoiling mass—from which consideration it follows that a rocket-tube, having been once correctly aimed, should need no further adjustment Again, this same force of recoil is a serious impediment to the use of heavy ordnance on ship-board; mortars especially are open to this objection; but a rocket admits of being fired with perfect safety from a boat or raft only large enough to float it. Again, the size of shell and shot is limited by various conditions. It is obviously useless to construct shells and shot of larger dimensions than guns can be cast to throw, or, if cast, admit of being moved wherever required. In practice nothing heavier than a 13-inch mortar can be cast with safety, or moved without extreme difficulty; whereas rockets, requiring no extraneous propulsive force, may be made almost of any size. Proceeding with our enumeration of the theoretical advantages possessed by rockets over ordinary artillery, the non-military reader will easily understand the difficulty which attends the transport of cannon in mountainous regions, whereas rockets admit of being carried with extreme facility. If, then, the flight of rockets were only as correct as the flight of shot and shells, all that Congreve, in his enthusiasm, hoped from their use might be realised, they might supersede guns wholly, or for the most part. Practice, however, has by no means confirmed these hopes; on the contrary, war-rockets now play a very secondary part in military and naval operations. Will they continue to do so? We think not. Under the auspices of Mr. Hale these missiles have received altogether a new phase of development; one which, in all probability will, be found to place them as far in advance of



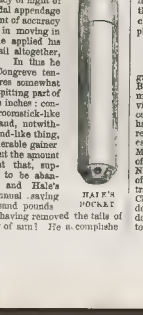
WAR-ROCKET MAKING.—THE MONKEY-DRIVING PROCESS.



WAR-ROCKET MAKING.—THE HYDROSTATIC-DRIVING PROCESS.

Congreve's improvements, as the latter were in advance of their prototypes of Indian and Chinese celerity

The reader will have gathered from our preceding remarks that the great source of difficulty as regards the accuracy of flight of rockets in general is their tails. Without this candal appendage a rocket was supposed to be incapable of any amount of accuracy of flight whatever; with tails, rockets persisted in moving in most unaccountable curves and zigzags. Mr. Hale applied his best energies to the problem of lopping off the tail altogether, and, nevertheless, retaining accuracy of flight. In this he appears to have succeeded absolutely. A Congreve tempounder, from point of nose to tip of tail, measures somewhat about ten feet; but the vital, death-dealing, fire-spitting part of the combination will be somewhere about thirteen inches long; and, consequently, Mr. Hale begins by lopping off a broomstick-like appendage of some eight feet nine inches long; and, notwithstanding this extensive caudal amputation, the fiend-like thing, far from losing any of its powers, is a considerable gainer Tails cost money, too, as our readers may infer; but the amount of gain will be best realised by the statement that, supposing the manufacture of Congreve-rockets to be abandoned at our Woolwich arsenal altogether, and Hale's rockets to be adopted in their stead, the annual saving would amount to no less a sum than thirty thousand pounds But how, it may be asked, is it that Mr. Hale, having conquered the tails of rockets altogether, manages to give them accuracy of aim? He accomplishes this by making the line of gravity to correspond with the line of flight the result of a very ingenious application of the rifle principle The rifling is partly given by the tube from which the rocket is fired, and is partly secured by an ingenious construction of the rocket itself



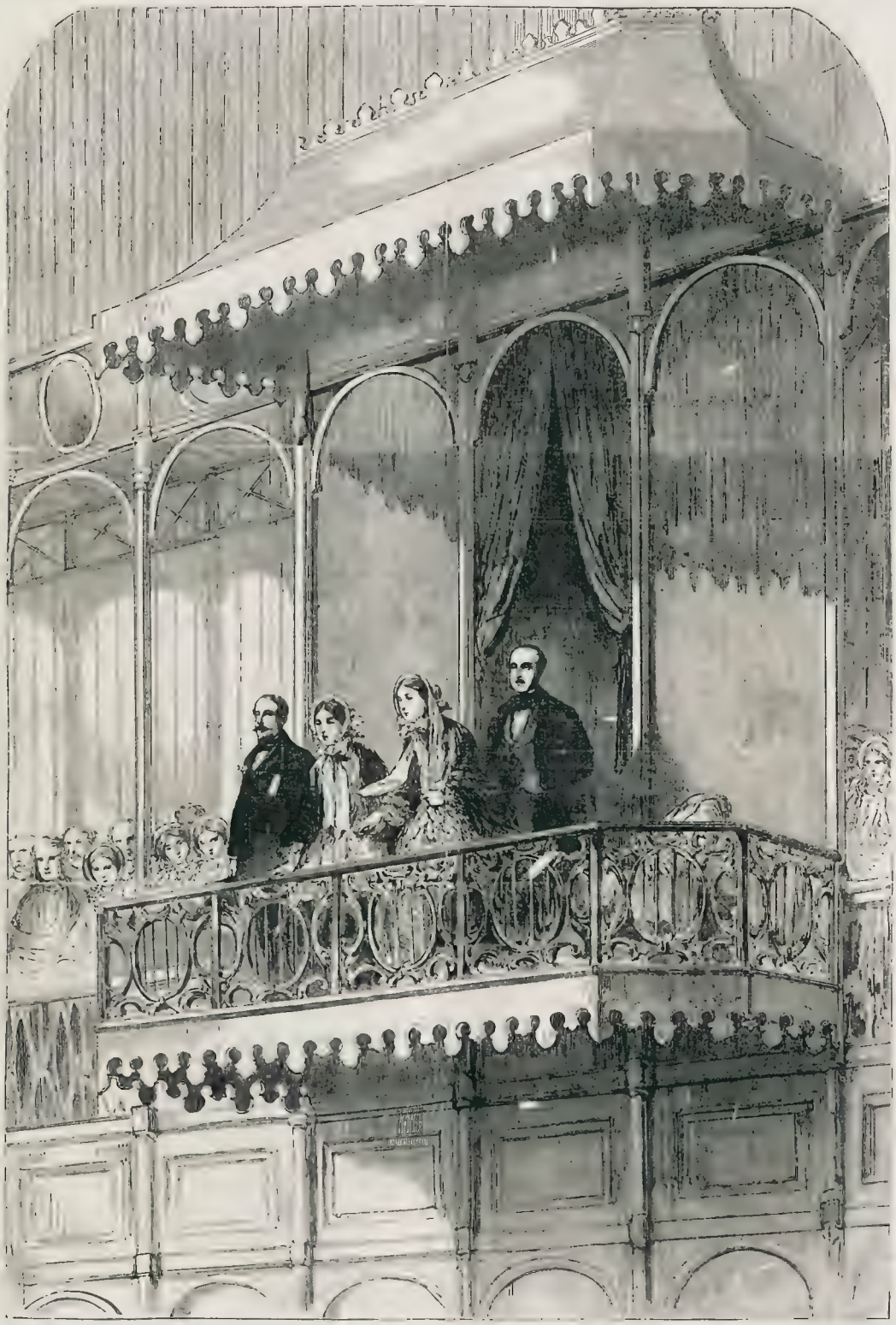
HALE'S ROCKET

It is not a little amusing to go into Mr Hale's *atelier* and see the enormous amount of destructiveness packed into a diminutive space. You are a votary of the narcotic weed, perhaps, and your eyes, resting on some nice little cigar-boxes as they seem, wonder how on earth cigars could have got into a region where smoking is absolutely forbidden. You are inclined to help yourself, fancying that Mr. Hale, in his benevolence, has provided some choice Havannahs for your special delectation. You approach one of the little boxes, and are about to raise the lid, when the benevolent-looking fabricator of death quietly says, "Have a care, sir, they are ten-pounders, ready packed for a field-day at Shoeburyness! Now this concentration of propulsive energy into little cigar-boxes, may seem a trivial matter in itself, but a military man, from experience, knows the reverse. He will tell you that Congreve's rocket-tails require long boxes—that long boxes are very unmanageable things—in short he will expatiate far more than we have done on the trouble they entail on the transport and military services. Every other item in the Artillery department is close and compact, but rocket-tails have all the bad travelling qualities of a lady's band-box. Not one of the least useful qualities of Mr. Hale's rockets is this: —owing to their extreme compactness and portability the smaller varieties of them seem adapted for the arming of infantry for special services. A rocket of the new construction—in size not much larger than a stout man's middle finger, and in length about equal to the same standard of comparison—has actually been projected two thousand yards, and from a tube almost as portable as a pocket-pistol. Now it is considered desirable by military men to devise and bring into operation some form of infantry projectile having a longer range than the Minié rifle. The small rocket adverted to seems to be endowed with this quality. Of course, no one ever assumes that rockets, however portable, will take the place of muskets and rifles; but nevertheless, on certain special occasions they may have their advantages. The new war-rocket was brought under the consideration of the United States military authorities some years since, and, after satisfactory trials, finally adopted. It was also adopted by the Swiss Government, and is now being prepared in our own arsenals, to supersede, in all probability, the central stick rocket of Congreve.

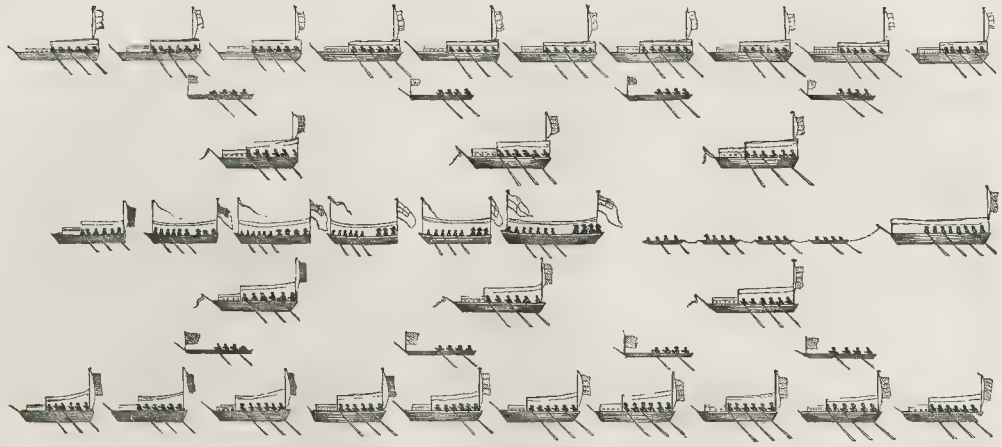
Amongst other improvements introduced by Mr. Hale, in the manufacture of rockets, not the least interesting is the adoption of hydrostatic pressure in place of ramming by mallets or monkeys. The advantages thus gained are numerous; not only is the operation of filling much more expeditiously performed, but it is also safer, and a much larger amount of composition can be got into a case of given dimensions. When the monkey-driving process of ramming is followed, the rocket charge occasionally ignites, in consequence of the compression of a layer of air against it, an accident which can never occur under the hydrostatic treatment. Moreover, the monkey-driving process gives rise to an inflammable cloud of gunpowder-dust, highly injurious when breathed, and peculiarly subject to ignition; by adopting the new process, not only is this avoided, but rammers of iron or steel can be substituted for those of wood or gun-metal—both of these materials scarcely hard or tough enough for withstanding the violent pressure necessary to give a due amount of consolidation to the impacted charge. Those who are conversant with the vast amount of pressure that admits of being exercised by hydrostatic force need not be told that the process is efficient in effecting the end for which it is designed—namely, consolidation of the impacted material into a stonelike mass; nevertheless, it may be interesting to state that the exact pressure brought into operation is as near as may be seven tons to the square inch. We shall conclude this article by appending two Illustrative Views—the first representing the monkey-driving process had recourse to for the charging of Congreve-rockets; the second the hydrostatic process for accomplishing a similar end, adopted by Mr. Hale

AFRICAN DISCOVERY.—Her Majesty the Queen of Spain has been graciously pleased to transmit to the widow of his Excellency the late Governor Beecroft a diploma, dated March 20th, 1854, constituting him a Knight Commander of the Royal Order of Isabella the Catholic, in consideration of his services as Governor of Fernando Po, Annobon, and Carlaon. The diploma was received by Lord Clarendon from her Majesty's Consul at Teneriffe, to whom it had been delivered by the Spanish Commissioner in the Canary Islands, with a request that it might be forwarded to the family of Mr. Beecroft as a proof of the esteem in which her Catholic Majesty's Government held his long services. Her Majesty in 1844 granted to Mr. Beecroft the Cross of a Knight of the Royal Order of Isabella. Mr. Beecroft, whose services in Africa are well known, ascended the Niger in 1833, when he made a chart of the river, which contains all that is known of the navigation which has excited so much inquiry, and paved the way for the trade and civilisation of that part of Africa. Mr. Beecroft was requested by Lord Clarendon to take the command of the late Niger Expedition: his lamented death deprived them of his assistance, but his valuable information will, no doubt, be long remembered and acted upon by those who were fortunate enough to receive it

THE CRYSTAL PALACE AT SYDENHAM.



THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—VISIT OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH, AND QUEEN VICTORIA AND PRINCE ALBERT.



PROCESSION OF BOATS TO THE CITY OF NAGASAKI.—FROM A JAPANESE SKETCH.

THE LATE EXPEDITION TO JAPAN.

(From our own Correspondent.)

The account published in the Illustrated London News, of the 13th January last, accompanied by sketches of the scenery, dwellings, vessels, groups, &c., appears to have had much interest for the public. You will therefore, perhaps, give them the boat procession, exactly as it was drawn by Oto, the Japanese Interpreter; indeed the page is a tracing from his. You can also give the Imperial Standard, taken by tracing from one of the large Imperial lanterns, which was observed on board the *Winchester* only on one grand special occasion. The officers in charge showed much unwillingness to allow the tracing to be taken. In their opinion it was something sublime and sacred, and it was only when they were well assured that it would always be treated with respect, that they allowed it.

Oto told us that this elegant three-fold device symbolised several things, serving as a kind of "memoria technica." The three large obes represent the three grand religions—Sintoism, Buddhism, and Confucism. The first is the religion of the Kamis—a very important one, for its highly patriotic character, its antiquity, and the number of its votaries. It is, in fact, a kind of here worship. "The Kamis of the first ages," says M. Fraissinet, "were knights errant, who dispensed justice by the vigour of their arms at a time when, as yet, there were neither laws nor magistrates, nor an armed force to make it respected. They crushed the tyrannical power of the giants, the dragons, and the monsters athirst for human blood. Several large towns have derived their names from these lofty deeds. In their temples are preserved the victorious swords of these Herculeses, Theseuses, and Quixotes(?) who have preserved the inoffensive inhabitants of their country, delivering them from the cruel attacks of the Japanese Antaeus, or Procrustes. By an excess of veneration, these people, like the ancients, imagine that these holy relics are inhabited by the souls of those to whom they formerly belonged." These temples are called Miss, and put one in mind of the "Fana" of the Romans.

Mit-so-

no-

chi.k-fu-

go-

no-

Kam.

(rank and title)

水部兎泉寺様

JAPANESE AUTOGRAPH.

Their destination is the same; like them they are always found in the loveliest spots, on the richest soil, near the large towns, surrounded by verdure, beauty, magnificent trees and blooming flowers. You approach by a broad smooth alley between even rows of gigantic cypress-trees. You enter a spacious court, green velvet well spread; several temples may surround this, but the principal one stands in front of you, and sometimes when the mass stands on a slope, you mount by fine granite steps; a large basin, or vase, filled with water for the ablutions, stands near the entrance, and also a large wooden chest for alms. The buildings are strangely constructed by ingenious interlacing and equipoise of well-designed brickwork. When the worshipper arrives, he strikes the large bell three times, to let the gods know he is come, and then burns bits of perfumed wood, vegetable candles, and white paper, the emblem of purity.

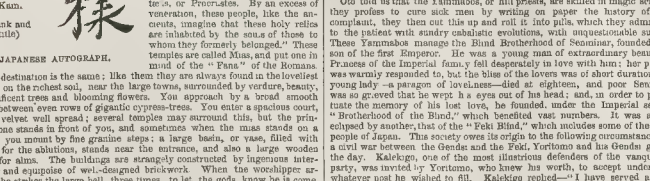
The chief Kami, or Dairi, resides at Miako. He claims to be the lineal descendant of that great Zeumou who consolidated in one nation various erratic hordes, A.D. 660 (which corresponds with the seventeenth year of the Chinese Emperor Hoei-wang). He was the first deified; and after him other heroes, famous for wisdom, courage, or conduct, also received divine honours after death. No doubt our friend at Nagasaki, who was commissioned by the Emperor to treat with our naval Commander-in-Chief, will obtain his apotheosis. I send you his signature, which is read from top to bottom; the last character means "Kami."

We were told that the chief Kami is so highly venerated, that all the others are obliged to visit him once a year, and to pass the tenth month with him. So during this month no other fête is held in the empire: people think all the gods have left their temples for the Mikado's court at Miako.

The Imperial standard of triple lobe symbolises the three annual and three monthly festivals. 1st. The great new year, which lasts a month. 2nd. The feast of spring, which is held on the third day of the third month; it is that of the flowers and (graceful alliance?) the young maidens. 3rd. The feast of the "neighbours," which is generally so decidedly in the "we-won't-go-home-till-morning" style, that one would suppose the Bacchanalian rites of ancient Rome had found their entrance into Japan. The three monthly festivals are the day of the new moon, the day of full moon, and the eve of the new moon.

The Sintoists propose to themselves happiness in this life as the chief good, and have only an obscure idea of the soul's immortality and of rewards and punishments in a future state. Although they do not believe in the transmigration of souls, as most Orientals do, they neither kill nor eat the flesh of useful animals, because they consider it cruelty and ingratitude to do so. Those who concern themselves about a future life believe that the souls of the just go to the thirty-second heaven, i.e., the stage just below the one occupied by the Kamis. The wicked are not consigned to everlasting punishment, but are to be kept galloping about, on foot or on horseback, as long as is necessary for the expiation of their crimes; and their devil is the *fox*—"probably (observes M. Fraissinet), because this animal makes great ravages in their country." It would be a curious investigation to trace out at what time, and how, so flourishing a graft of this portion of Japanese Sintoo theology found its way into the noddles of the squirearchy of Leicestershire, and other "gentlemen of England who live at home at ease." The Sinto lays great stress on purity, internal and external. Purity of heart consists in following the laws of nature, those of reason, and the orders of the magistrate; external purity demands that none should be stained with blood, nor eat flesh, and none must touch, or even see, a dead body. If a man cut his finger he must be impure, and excluded from the presence of the gods for seven days. A workman at a temple, if cut, is quickly replaced. It is still worse if it be a temple of the sun; for, in that case, if a workman's blood stain the edifice, it must be pulled down and begun again. They have a gradual scale of defilement—thirty days for having eaten the flesh of a quadruped; only one hour for fowl, or any bird; one day for having slain an animal, being present at an execution, or found near a dying person. The greatest defilement is the death of a relation, which varies according to the degree of proximity.

Oto told us that the Yammabos, or hill priests, are skilled in magic science; they profess to cure sick men by writing on paper the history of their complaint, they then cut this up and roll it into pills, which they administer to the patient with sundry cabalistic evolutions, with unquestionable success. These Yammabos manage the Bind Brotherhood of Seminary, founded by a son of the first Emperor. He was a young man of extraordinary beauty; a Princess of the Imperial family fell desperately in love with him; her passion was warmly responded to, but the bliss of the lovers was of short duration; the young lady—a paragon of loveliness—died at eighteen, and poor Semmaus was so grieved that he wept his eyes out of his head; and, in order to perpetuate the memory of his lost love, he founded, under the Imperial seal, a "Brotherhood of the Blind," which benefited vast numbers. It was at last eclipsed by another, that of the "Feki Blind," which includes some of the great people of Japan. This society owes its origin to the following circumstance: In a civil war between the Gendo and the Feki, Yoritomo and his Gendo gained the day. Kalekigo, one of the most illustrious defenders of the vanquished party, was invited by Yoritomo, who knew his worth, to accept under him whatever post he wished to fill. Kalekigo replied—"I have served a good master, I mean to rest faithful to him. Yet I am under great obligations to you; it is to your clemency that I owe my life; and it is my misfortune that I am not able to turn my eyes towards you without longing to avenge by your death the woes of my Prince as well as my own. Receive, then, those eyes, which gaze hostilely on you; it is all I can offer you," and he tore out his eyes. Yoritomo, astounded at such magnanimity, loaded him with honours, and the blind General founded the Feki Society for the Blind. These people are taught to maintain themselves by work. They are employed in public festivals, processions, and at marriages. They are dispersed all over the empire; but the General and the principal directors of the society, who exercise great power over the numerous members, live at Miako.



JAPANESE FLAGS.

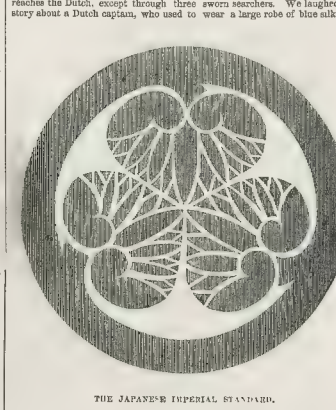
Buddhism teaches the Japanese that the souls of men and animals are immortal, of similar material, and differing only in the nature of the bodies they animate. When the soul of man is separated from the body, it receives, at once, its reward in a place of happiness, or its punishment in "*another place*." The dwelling of the "blest" is called "The Place of Eternal Delights." There are various degrees of bliss, but all so pure that every one is content with his own share. Amida presides here. It is by his mediation, alone, that men can gain admittance. How are men to propitiate Amida? By virtue, and keeping the "law of Siaka." This is comprised in the "Goka," or "five laws." Short enough they are:—*Se Sso*—Don't kill; *Tsou-to*—Don't steal; *Siaus*—Be chaste; *Mago*—Stick to truth; *Onsiou*—Abstain from strong drink. Buddhists believe in a purgatory and transmigration. The first statue of Buddha was introduced into Japan A.D. 550.

The law of Confucius, in Japan, differs from that in China. They call it Sioutoo, or the "Path of wise men." A leading principle in it is that the greatest perfection, and chief happiness of men, consists in the calm delight felt by the spirit in a wise and virtuous course of life. Their doctrine may be comprised in five precepts which are expressed by five monosyllables, viz.:—

1. Dsin—To live virtuously
2. Gi—To do justice to all.
3. Re—Be affable and polite
4. Tsi—Propagate and defend the maxims of a good and wise Government.
5. Sin—Have a pure conscience and an honest heart.

They do not believe in transmigration—they admit neither gods, temples, nor worship, and have nothing to do with the rites of the Sintoists nor Buddhists, except what etiquette demands. They do not burn their dead. They keep the body three days; then put it in a coffin, filled with aromatic antiseptic herbs. When all is prepared, they accompany the dead man to his grave on the hill-side, and bury him there in a very simple, quiet manner. Not only do they think suicide allowable, but they even regard it as heroic and meritorious, when it offers the only means of escape from a shameful end, or the disgrace of falling alive into the hands of a victorious enemy. These Sintoists are supposed to secretly favour Christianity; and therefore they are required to place an image, or at least the name of one of the gods usually adored, in the position of honour, with a vessel of flowers and a censer before it, in each dwelling.

In the Procession of Boats may be observed five bearing the British flag. In the first was the band, in the last the Admiral's suite. The Japanese boats took up their stations in the most perfect order, as represented, every one of which was distinguished by some flag. I send a Drawing of a few of these small flags, which are about a yard wide, a yard and a half long, brilliant in red, blue, black, and white. These denote the different guards and departments:—1st. There is the Guard of the Port, the Customs, Commissariat, Police, Messengers, Naval and Military. The Port-guard keep a journal, in which they enter the names of all persons, and even the least articles which enter and leave the isle. The Governor of Nagasaki inspects this journal once a month. Nothing is allowed to pass without an order from him or the Ottous, except the usual daily imports of necessity; and nothing reaches the Dutch, except through three sworn searchers. We laughed at a story about a Dutch captain, who used to wear a large robe of blue silk with silver lace, *en Louis XIV*. Under its ample folds he conveyed, three times a day, such quantities of contraband goods that two sailors could scarcely get him along. All his officers, and others, did the same, until the Governor gave them a hint to change the style of their dress. The good people of Nagasaki, believing that all Dutch captains must be very stout, were completely mystified when they saw them all at once reduced to the ordinary size. The second guard is the "patrol." All night long you hear them mark the hours by striking two pieces of wood together; they have their boats and flags. There are other guards specially charged with the surveillance of strangers; the principal is the Imperial Guard, kept partly by the Governor and partly by the Prince-governors of the two provinces next to Nagasaki. Its circle of inspection extends about three miles round the town. Then there is the Founeben, or "Guard of all vessels," who have charge of the bay and all adjoining waters. It is composed of eighteen soldiers, having at their disposal guard-boats and rowers. When a foreign vessel enters the harbour, two of these boats, commanded by an officer, station themselves on each quarter. They are relieved every two hours while the vessel remains at Nagasaki, when she goes to sea, they accompany her outside. The coast-guard next take charge of her. Their duty is to see that the junks shall only unload at Nagasaki, and, when they have time, their duty is to try their hands at whaling. Lastly, the Toniban, or *far-seeing guard*, composed of twenty soldiers, who live, with their families, on a hill commanding the Dutch and Chinese factories. They watch the sea with telescopes, and have a staff of light fast boats ready to send to the Governor, if anything unusual is seen.



THE JAPANESE IMPERIAL STANDARD.

One of their highest watch-towers is a most picturesque object when seen from the bay, it is called "the mountain of flowers;" they keep a mass of combustibles there, which the sentinel has orders to light if he sees ten or more sail approaching, or even one Portuguese; or any popular movement in the neighbouring island. All these guards keep up a great degree of emulation among themselves, and they frequently told us, that their business was quite as much to watch each other as to keep their eye on strangers.

On one occasion several officers came up to the writer with a large bundle of the Illustrated London News, and pronounced, several times, with much energy the name "Wellington," making signs that they wanted to see his portrait. After a brief search, the old Duke's face was found. No, no—it was our big ship they wanted to see; they had heard that we had built the largest man-of-war steamer afloat. When the Number of the Illustrated London News containing a fine Engraving of that splendid ship was shown to them they were delighted. "The eyes of the ignorant are more learned than their ears;" and to these people, ignorant of our language, that engraving proclaimed our vast power and progress.

THE PARTITION OF POLAND: THE DISMEMBERMENT AND FIRST PARTITION.

THE dismemberment and first partition of Poland, in 1772, and the final partition and total annihilation of the independence of that country, in 1793, by the machinations of the Empress Catherine II., of Russia, assisted by the Courts of Berlin and Vienna, are among the most disgraceful acts in history. England, whose duty was, as one of the leading nations in the world, to maintain inviolate the sacredness of treaties and the rights and liberties of Europe, looked on with indifference. "I will bribe Austria, I will terrify Prussia, soothe France, and flatter England," said the bold Czarina, in a communication to one of her favourites. Her subsequent actions prove that she did not speak idly or in a boastful spirit. From any other Sovereign such an avowal would have excited derision; but, coming from the mouth of so astute and resolute an intriguer as Catherine, they inspire, even at the present day, the admiration and the wonder of politicians. "It was an ingenious contrivance (says M. Spittler, in his "Sketch of the History of the Governments of Europe") formed in a truly Roman style, and completed accordingly. Not only was a numerous and a free nation to be deprived of its liberty and national existence, but all Europe was to be lulled to sleep. The annexations of Louis XIV. were a trifle in comparison to what Catherine performed in Poland and against that country. But what loud and violent cries were raised against the former, and in what soft murmurs did the voice of truth repeat the ancient law of nations, when there ceased to be no longer any law between Russia and Poland!"

Had Great Britain taken up the cause of that outraged country as she has taken up the cause of Turkey, it is possible that the war now raging in the Crimea might never have cursed the world. The great truth, that "the faults of the fathers are visited on the children of the third and fourth generation," is being felt at the present day. But it is useless to dwell upon a point so painful. The noble manner in which the cause of Turkey was taken up by the Allies, and the zeal with which the war has been conducted, are proofs that England and France will not again suffer a bullying despot to destroy, in his lust of dominion, the nationality of an independent people.

In order fully to comprehend in what way Poland was subjected to so gross an outrage as that perpetrated by the Empress Catherine, it will be necessary to take a summary glance at its internal condition. We seek in vain among the extant nations of the world for a Government precisely similar to that of Poland. In the early ages the country was governed by a race of hereditary Kings vested with almost absolute power. These were succeeded by the "Piasts," who are represented to have been elected from among the nobility, with no power to transmit the crown to their children; but who, nevertheless, long preserved it in their family. The nobles perceiving that the old electoral laws were likely before long to be entirely obliterated from the national archives, unless they exercised some check upon the Piasts, formed themselves into powerful confederacies, and kept the country in a state of perpetual turmoil. At last, on the death of Louis, the last of the Piasts, the nobles boldly restored the long-forgotten laws, and raised to the Polish Throne Ladislaus Yagellon, Duke of Lithonia. With every succeeding reign the power of the nobles increased, until at length, at the time of Sigismund, that body drew up a Charter enforcing the ancient law of election, and compelled the King to sign it. The four principal articles of this important Charter are as follows:

1st. That the Crown should be elective, and that the King should never have it in his power to give it as a succession to any of his infirm.

2nd. That general Diets should be assembled every two years.

3rd. That the Polish nobility should have the right of suffrage in the election of a King. And

4th. That if the King should take upon himself to infringe the laws and undervalue the privileges of the nation, the subjects should be absolved from their oath of fidelity.

On the death of Augustus III., Catherine saw that, by a little intrigue, she could easily exalt herself to the important position of Guardian to the vacant Throne and Umpire in the election of the new King. Her first step was to induce the Courts of Vienna and Versailles to refrain from any interference in Polish affairs; and her next to secure the friendship and confidence of England. These important points gained, Prussia was the only Power whose opposition was likely to be troublesome. Frederick was easily persuaded to enter into her views, and concluded with her a treaty which was highly conducive to the success of her projects, and which contained the following secret article:

It being for the interest of his Majesty the King of Prussia and of her Imperial Majesty the Empress of All the Russias to exert the utmost care and effort to maintain the Republic of Poland in its state of free election, and that it should not be permitted to any one to render the same kingdom hereditary in his family, his Majesty the King of Prussia, and her Imperial Majesty have promised and mutually engaged themselves in the most solemn manner by this secret article, not only to permit no one, whoever he may be, to attempt to divest the Republic of its rights of free election, to render the said kingdom hereditary, or to make himself absolute therein; but also by every possible means and in common council to frustrate such views and designs that have a tendency that way, as soon as they shall be discovered; and even, in case of necessity, to resort to force of arms to defend the Republic from the overthrow of its Constitution and fundamental laws

So dexterously had Catherine managed these "little plots" that, on the formal declaration of the vacancy of the Polish Throne, all Europe looked towards her as the lawful head of the election; and candidates of whatever rank, whether small Dukes or great Kings, were content to abide by her decision. She felt sure of her position, and arranged the business which had been courteously conceded to her in so bold and independent a manner as if the Crowned Heads of Europe were so many Russian vassals. The cutting answer which she returned to the King of Saxony, who made warm applications for the vacant throne, will serve to illustrate the general tone of superiority which she assumed. "As a friend," wrote the Empress to the sanguine candidate, "I should merely advise you not to expose your interests in an affair which in the end cannot possibly come up to your expectations." Several other applications were made; and for each candidate she was ready with a suitable reply. All at once, and contrary to expectation, her choice lighted upon a young man named Poniatowsky—a person of obscure birth, and with whom she had had a scandalous intrigue. Poland was shocked at the proposal. But, as nothing was more necessary to her schemes of aggrandisement than that the throne should be filled by some minion on whom she could depend, the Empress resolved to support her *protégé* at all risks. She accordingly wrote to Count Kayserling, her Minister at Warsaw, desiring him to exert all his influence in behalf of Poniatowsky. One of her despatches to that officer contains the following significant sentence: "My dear Count, pray remember my candidate. I write this at two o'clock in the morning. Judge whether the affair is indifferent to me!"

But, as mere intrigue appeared to Catherine insufficient to ensure the desired success, she contrived to obtain an excuse for bringing physical force to bear upon the question. On the very day, therefore, that the Diet had assembled to discuss the unreasonable pretensions of the Empress, a Russian army entered Warsaw on pretence of preserving tranquillity. Russian agents, disguised as peasants, at the same time mingled with the crowd, ready to support Poniatowsky by their votes. At this extremity the more zealous among the patriots flew to arms. But, alas! for unhappy Poland, the armies of Russia were the masters of the capital. The Diet was thrown into confusion. Count Malakoffsky, Marshal of Poland, in vain endeavoured to clear the room of strangers. Hardly had the last words issued from his lips than sabres were seen to glide from beneath the cloaks of pretended citizens. The instant the orator Mokranoffsky rose to address the people, red coats emerged from dingy vestments, like butterflies out of grubs. Not a soldier had been admitted into the body of the assembly; but now, when the patriots rose to address the civilians, civilians were nowhere to be seen, and the rooms were thronged with soldiers! Mokranoffsky, finding himself surrounded by armed men, and seeing that resistance was useless, bared his breast to his assailants, exclaiming in a voice which even the invaders respected, "If you must have a victim, I stand before you. At least I shall die a free Pole!"

The first sittings of the Diet were thus little better than a succession of brawls. But these unpropitious demonstrations by no means deterred the Czarina from carrying out her intentions. In vain the courtiers by whom she was surrounded represented to her that Poniatowsky was the grandson of a small farmer. "If he were himself a farm-labourer," cried the Empress, "I will have him King; and King he shall be!" In the meantime, fresh armies had been sent to Poland. The whole country was in the power of Russian soldiers. The Ambassador, with a body-guard of some thousands of armed Cossacks, lorded it over Warsaw. Several of the principal nuncios protested against the presence of strangers. Count Branickky assembled the troops, of which, as Crown General, he was Commander; and, in company with Prince Radzivil, prepared to maintain the right of free election by force of arms. Poles and Russians at length met in a pitched battle. But, although the former fought with all the determined bravery of patriots and desperate men, they were signally defeated; and Branickky and Radzivil, together with the beautiful wife and sister of the latter (who, with the true national spirit, had placed themselves in the front of danger in order to encourage the soldiers) were compelled to fly the country.

When peace had been in part restored, the Diet again assembled. On this, as on most important occasions, the meeting was held in an open field, at the distance of about a league from the capital, and was opened by a sermon, of which the text was "Look even out the best and meetest of your master's sons, and set him on his father's throne, and fight for your master's house" (2nd Kings, x., 3. The Primate, having mounted the rostrum, demanded in a solemn, manner whom they would have for King? A great cry burst from the assembled people; and one word, "PONIATOWSKY," decided the fate of Poland

On the following day (Sept. 7th, 1765) the new King was formally proclaimed under the name of Stanislaus Augustus. This announcement was received by the people with the most boisterous demonstrations of joy. Never was a King welcomed to his throne with more enthusiasm than this same Poniatowski, who, a few days before, had been declared an enemy of Poland.

It might have been imagined, after the Russian Cabinet and the Polish Diet had come to an understanding, that all cause for Russian interference in Polish affairs would have been removed. This, however, was not the case. Like the Old Man of the Mountains, whose adventures are detailed in the "Arabian Nights," the Empress clung to the neck of the miserable Poniatowsky; who, imagining in his simplicity, that her favours were marks of particular friendship and esteem, was gradually sinking deeper and deeper into the slough of difficulty and danger. One occasion for interference which Catherine eagerly embraced was a long-pending dispute between the religious factions of the state. The Catholics had succeeded, after "a hot war of words," in causing the Dissidents to be expelled from the Diet; whereupon the Protestants applied to Russia for protection. The Empress gave the required aid—first in secret, but afterwards openly; at the same time fanning the displeasure of the disputants in every possible manner

The Bishop of Cracow, a haughty bigot, loudly protested against these proceedings. The Bishop of Milna, and most of the prelates followed in his steps, and moved for new and stricter measures against the Dissenters. The King, favouring more moderate views, was openly insulted by the fanatical Bishop of Kieff, who in a fit of passion delivered himself of the following unclerical and ungentlemanly speech: "I used formerly to pray to God for your prosperity; my prayer now is that he may send you to the Devil!" This man had already, on a previous occasion, gone so far as to assert "that the King ought to be hanged; and that there were still some men left who were charitable enough to do the nation that service." What a deplorable state the country must have been in, when a subject could thus insult his sovereign, and escape unpunished! In subsequent sittings of the Diet, the frightful laws against the Dissenters, framed by the Romish priests, were ratified. The Dissenters again appealed to the Empress for protection. Thereupon Prince Repnin arrived at Warsaw at the head of a large army, to demand in the name of the Czarina, "not only toleration on behalf of the Dissenters, but a complete equality between them and the Catholics." This demand was met with a furious refusal. The Russians had recourse to arms, and civil war broke out in all its horror. Stanislaus Augustus, fearing that he had incurred the displeasure of the Empress, and desirous of restoring himself to favour, convoked a Diet extraordinary, for the purpose of deliberating on conciliatory measures. But the Bishop of Cracow, the Bishop of Kieff, and others, refused to pay the slightest attention to the orders of the King. On the evening of that day the delinquents were privately arrested by the Russian agents, and sent with their adherents to Siberia. Prince Repnin, in extenuation of this outrage on the Liberties of Poland, addressed the Diet in a manifesto which began as follows:—"The troops of her Imperial Majesty, my Sovereign—friendly to the of the Confederated Republic—have arrested the Bishop of Cracow, the Bishop of Kieff, and others, for having failed in the respect that is due to the dignity of her Imperial Majesty, by questioning the purity of her salutary, disinterested, and amicable intentions in favour of the Republic," &c. This explanation satisfied the King, but was not satisfactory to the Diet, who demanded that the Bishops should be immediately set at liberty. The King, interceding for his people with the Prince, had the mortification to be "snubbed" by that functionary. Once having humbled the King, it was no very difficult matter to humble the Diet. The national archives fell into the hands of the Russian diplomatist; who, at the same time that he was restoring the old laws and inventing new ones for the protection of the Dissidents, managed to let slip unseen into the Code certain clauses of a tendency to overthrow the Constitution, and lay it open to the assaults of the Empress. Stanislaus Augustus was now only a King in name: abandoned by Russia, and mistrusted by his own people, his palace had, within a few months, been converted from a court to a prison. Count Orloff hated Stanislaus, on account of his having once been his rival in the affections of the Empress. He took good care that his resentment should be made known to Prince Repnin, who vented his spite upon the poor King whenever an opportunity presented itself, either in public or in private. The following anecdote, related by Mr. Tooke in his valuable "History of the Reign of Catherine II.," will serve to show to what a degree of subservience the weak Sovereign was reduced:—"One evening," says Mr. Tooke, "when the King was at the theatre, the Russian Ambassador was late before he came. The performers were in the second act, when a bustle being heard in the Ambassador's box, the King sent to inquire what was the matter. Answer was brought that Prince Repnin was come, and was surprised they had not waited for him. The King ordered the curtain to be dropped, and the piece to begin again"

An apparent calm reigned over Europe; Catherine, like a great actress, studying her part in a fearful tragedy, while the rest of the house is wrapped in slumber, meditating amidst the universal silence the most a rocious acts. But the French Minister, the Duke de Choiseul, perceiving that there was mischief brewing for Poland, requested the Sultan of Turkey, who had himself received wrongs at the hands of the Empress, to stand forth and defend the rightful cause. His representations had the desired effect. The sultan at once took part with the Poles, and by his noble conduct averted for a time the blow that was to crush at once the Freedom and the nationality of a great and independent people. Catherine, it appears, did not regret his interference. Her Polish plots were not quite matured, and a victory over the Ottomans would, she felt, so magnify her authority in Europe, that no power would then venture to question her right to incorporate in her dominions a country already overrun by her armies and governed by her Ministers. In the meantime affairs in Poland were hurrying to the climax. All the promises which the Empress had made to the deluded Poles were ruthlessly cast aside. Fresh armies kept pouring into the country, slaughtering and burning wherever resistance was offered. The State papers, passing through the hands of the Russian Minister, had become polluted with barbarous laws. Clauses enjoining submission to Russia, and threatening severe punishment to such as infringed the Empress's commands, striking as they did at the very root of the great tree of freedom, caused the whole framework of Polish independence to totter to its base. The people revolted. The dying sparks of patriotism blazed up. The confederated patriots drove the Russians from the city of Cracow, and assembled in the fortress of Bar (which afterwards gave name to the Confederation), to concert further measures against the invaders. But disaster followed them to the battle-field. The Russians were victorious in almost every skirmish in which they were engaged.

Catherine now began to negotiate with the crowned heads whom she had chosen to be her partners in the spoil she was about to divide. The King of Prussia had long been privy to her cause, and both potentates looked towards Austria for that support which alone would ensure the success of their schemes. So great a fear had Frederick of arousing the suspicions of some wary diplomatist, that he did not venture even to confer personally with the Empress, but sent his son Prince Henry to speak for him. So conscious, too, was the King of the dishonesty of his conduct, that he did not even dare to let it be known that his son was going to St. Petersburg. He pretended that he was going to Sweden to see his aunt; but had secret orders to return quickly by way of Denmark, in order that the Empress, who had been informed of the manœuvre, might invite him to St. Petersburg. In the private conferences which took place between the Empress and Prince Henry the dismemberment and partition of Poland were resolved on. "Catherine and Frederick," says Mr. Tooke, "were equally desirous of undertaking this dismemberment, but they could not do it without a third ally. If Marie-Therese had been the sole mistress of the Empire, they would not, perhaps, have succeeded in making Austria a sharer in so unjust a spoliation." As far as Joseph II. was concerned there could be no difficulty. The care of treating with him was left to Frederick, and, filled with hopes held out by that Sovereign, Catherine proceeded trustfully on her mighty project

In the meanwhile the Russian troops had routed the confederates of Bar, massacring many in cold blood and seizing others. The property of several of the richest nobles was confiscated for the benefit of the Russian treasury. Catherine herself was not too proud to accept the library of the patriot Radzivil, although she declared to Europe that her only desire was to watch over the individual interest of every true Pole, and to befriend in every possible manner the distracted nation which she had taken under her protection. The Poles, imagining their King to be secretly in alliance with the Empress, threw off his authority, and chose for leader a nobleman named Pulaufsky. That General's first measure was to obtain possession of the King's person. For this purpose he entered into a league with three other noblemen. The four conspirators, together with forty Dragoons, disguised as peasants, entered Warsaw by different routes for the purpose of carrying out their project. The King, on returning from supper at a relative's house, suddenly found himself surrounded by men in masks. He received violent blows on the head, and having been lifted on a horse was carried in a state of insensibility to a forest at the distance of about a league from Warsaw. Voices of Russian patrols caused the conspirators to take flight; leaving the King, who had recovered his consciousness, to escape his way in the dark. That night the King's hat was found besmeared with blood; and the people rose to avenge his death. But on the following day the King himself was found, and crowds who had before abused and denounced him gave way to the most extravagant demonstrations of joy. His little incident was of a nature to disturb the self-complacency of Catherine, who had been in hopes that the Poles had by this time become disgusted with their King

At length, in the middle of the year 1772, the Empress saw herself on the point of reaping the fruits of all her intrigues; the treaty of the Neustadt had engaged the courts of Berlin and Vienna to stand by her in her attempt on Poland, and all the rest of Europe were in a state of utter ignorance as to her intentions. Joseph II., on pretence of giving his assistance to the confederates of Bar, marched his armies into Poland. The armies of Russia and Prussia had also respectively advanced upon the northern and southern provinces. Baron Stackelberg, the Russian Minister, thereupon, in the name of the allies, drew up a manifesto to the Polish King and Diet, of which the following is an extract:—

In the midst of that promising state of affairs which was secured by the accession of Stanislaus Augustus to the Polish throne, the spirit of discord seized upon the nation. Citizen armed against citizen; and laws, order, public safety, justice, police, commerce, and agriculture—all are either gone to ruin or are on the brink of destruction. . . . Her Majesty the Empress of all the Russias, her Majesty the Empress Dowager Queen of Hungary and Bohemia, and his Majesty the King of Prussia, find themselves under the necessity of taking a decisive part in circumstances so critical, and their said Majesties have determined among themselves, without loss of time, and with one accord, to take the most effectual measures to re-establish tranquillity and good order in Poland. . . . As they have respectively very considerable claims on the possessions of the republic, which they cannot permit themselves to expose to the hazard of possible contingencies, they have determined among themselves to assert these their lawful claims, which each of them will be ready to justify. . . . Her Majesty the Empress of all the Russias, her Majesty the Empress Dowager Queen of Hungary and Bohemia, and his Majesty the King of Prussia, having determined unanimously their respective rights and claims, and being mutually convinced of the justice thereof, are determined to secure to themselves a just portion of the republic as may serve to fix more natural and sure bounds between them and the three Powers.

This imperiment manifesto was followed by others no less insulting. That of the Court of Vienna, after having informed the republic of the fact of the election of a Governor for that part of Poland occupied by the Austrian troops, exhorted the people to pay implicit obedience to that functionary. The appointment of a day for the taking of the oath of allegiance was referred to; and the people were, in the meanwhile, recommended to behave just the same towards their new Sovereign as if that solemnity had already taken place.

The Prussian, on her part, drew up a manifesto of a similar tendency, but more outrageous. She promised the inhabitants of Prussian Poland the free exercise of their religion and laws, and magnanimously offered them the same privileges as those which were accorded to her own children. Catherine was pleased to style herself the Great Mother of Russia; desiring in return merely the love of her subjects and their strict obedience to each and all of her injunctions. The people were likewise informed that the solemnity of oath-taking would be held in a month from the date of the manifesto. This precious document winds up with a eulogium on the virtues of the Empress, and an injunction that prayers be offered up in all the churches for herself and the Grand Duke.

The King of Prussia's manifesto was perhaps the most audacious of all. It commenced by informing the inhabitants of Prussian Poland "that in the early ages a certain Polish King did unlawfully and violently dispossess the Duke of Pomerania, of a portion of his dominions called Pomalia, together with a large district in New Marck; that the Dukes of Stettin were the lawful and natural heirs of the Dukes of Dantzic; that the latter line being extinguished so early as the year 1295, their territories fell into the hands of the knights of the Teutonic order, from whom they passed into the hands of the kings of Poland; that the House of Stettin was thereby deprived of its rights, and prevented ever after from recovering them; and finally that the House of Brandenburgh are the heirs and universal successors of the aforesaid Dukes

But the three Great Marauding Powers not satisfied with having gained possession of the several Polish provinces which fell to their share, desired to gain for so unjust an annexation the compliances of the Polish King and people. For this purpose a Diet extraordinary was convoked at Warsaw by the Allies, which was to acknowledge to the world the justice of the late nefarious proceedings.

The Poles revolted at the thought of performing so horrible a duty But the armies which ravaged their country drove them to the place of meeting at the point of the bayonet. Rumours were likewise spread about, by way of caution, that unless the Diet obeyed the mandates of the three Sovereigns, their capital would be put to the flames. By means of this and similar threats, the consent of the Diet was at length obtained, and the Polish nation published to the world that avowal (extorted on the rack) which for ever swept away the boundary lines of their most ancient country. Several of the more noble among the Poles, heartsick at so mournful an occurrence, hastened to the Chamber where the King sat, and demanded, in the name of God, what he had done with the country which had been entrusted to him? The King, in his paroxysm of grief and bewilderment, rose from his seat, and, dashing his hat upon the ground, replied, "Gentlemen, I am weary of hearkening to you. The partition of our unhappy country is a consequence of your ambition, of your dissensions, and of your wrangling. It is to yourselves that you ought to attribute your misfortunes. As for me, if no more territory should be allowed to me than could be covered by this hat, I should still, in the eyes of Europe, be your lawful, though most unhappy, King."

By this first partition Poland lost nearly 5,000,000 inhabitants of which Russia acquired 1,600,000, Austria 2,905,000, and Prussia 860,000. The country usurped by Russia had for its limits the river Welle, from its source to its junction with the Niemen and the Dwina, as far as Rieskela, where it empties itself into the Dnieper. Austria took possession of the whole of the left bank of the Vistula, from the salt mines to the mouth of Viroiz, the Palatinate of Belzich, and the greater part of Volhynia; and Prussia, of Ebbing, and the whole of that extensive district formerly known by the name of Polish Prussia.

Such is a brief sketch of the spoliation and first partition of Poland. On a future occasion we shall endeavour to present our readers with an account of the final and still more atrocious partition of that now extinct nation, whose strange destiny has excited, and still continues to excite so much controversy in all civilised countries.

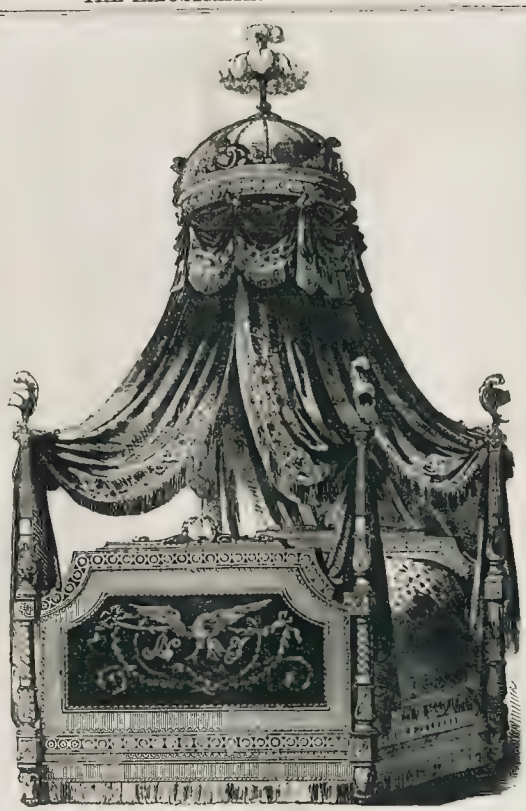
VISIT TO ENGLAND OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH

(Continued from page 409.)

Syrie," burst forth from the bands with which each vessel was provided. The sun shone brightly at 10 a.m., when the squadron left Calais, and everything promised a short and successful cruise; but even in twenty miles of Channel navigation, taking place in an early summer day, there are mishaps and obstacles to which Imperial power must succumb. England has, besides her wooden walls, no stancher defenders than her impenetrable fogs, and one of the densest of these atmospheric protectors descended upon the water just as the squadron approached the English shore, as to give a gentle hint of the perils which a hostile invader of her shores must expect to meet with. The squadron was scattered like the fleet of Æneas, but our English Palinurus was at his post, and slowly and with the greatest care brought his precious charge safely into Dover. The voyage was, however, not without its "hair-breadth 'scapes," among which must be reckoned foremost a narrow chance of getting on shore at the North Foreland. However, the Imperial yacht at about one o'clock arrived safely at her destination. On sighting the Admiralty-pier, which was not until the *Pélican* was exceedingly close to the shore, the spectacle that met the eyes of the Emperor and Empress must have been exceedingly gratifying to both. We could not show them the immense military strength which oppressively pervades everything in France; but we could exhibit thousands upon thousands of happy and well-dressed people densely thronging every approach to the pier, and those who had tickets filling the temporary pier gallery which had been erected for their accommodation. We had, however, a very respectable guard ready, consisting of the Royal Bucks Militia, who had been under arms from an early hour in the morning, and looked exceedingly grave and contemplative in their novel but honourable position. Mr. Payne, the Mayor of Dover, was on the platform, attended by his stout burgesses; and, in another quarter, a brilliant group was formed by Prince Albert, Lord Alfred Paget, the French Ambassador, and her Excellency Countess Walewska. The patience of this distinguished party was most severely tried by a waiting period of an hour and a half, during which Madame Walewska presided with true French grace over a sort of miniature Court; her temporary throne being a camp stool, which some obliging cavalier had provided for her accommodation. Prince Albert curiously examined the militia shakoes, which are a humanised modification of his own celebrated pattern; and occasionally gave an expressive shrug, that might be translated either into a wish that the visitors had arrived, or that the illustrious waiter upon wind and weather had been thoughtful enough to bring a great-coat to shield his gorgeous uniform from the spray with which an eastern breeze was ceaselessly sprinkling the pier. The "White Cliffs of Albion" looked exceedingly brown and shadowy, indicating pretty clearly that the poet had not made his celebrated apostrophe on a day similar to that chosen for the Imperial visit; the ship guns sounded with a muffled report through the fog; and the dismal fog-bells brought to the lady spectators unpleasant reminiscences of rough passages and seasickness. Time and tide wait, it is said, for no man; but man, however great, must wait for time and tide, so our illustrious Prince Consort had nothing for it but to wait patiently, and reflect approvingly on the eloquent and appropriate address which the Mayor and Corporation had presented to his Royal Highness in the early morning. But

Time and the hour sees out the longest day.

Patience had at length its reward; and the Imperial steamer, *Pélican*, loomed spectrally in the offing. The Imperial eagle spread over the quarter, the Royal and Imperial standards at the mast-heads, and the brilliant uniforms on deck, soon told that she bore the long-expected visitors; and a shout of welcome was raised all along the pier, was taken up in the harbour, and was re-echoed from the cliff, which must soon have set the Emperor's mind at ease as to the character of his reception on English ground. As the vessel neared the shore his Imperial Majesty could easily be distinguished, wearing the uniform of a General of Division, and the grand cordon of the Legion of Honour; and beside him stood the Empress, who was in truth an object of the most intense interest to the thousands, male and female, who lined the shore, impatient to bid her a cordial welcome. Her Majesty was most simply attired in a *chapeau de paille*, a grey paletôt, and—rejoice Caledonia—a tartan dress, of a quiet and unobtrusive pattern. We soon saw that the published prints did her Majesty no more than justice—the likeness being most striking, while the grace with which she acknowledged the repeated cheers from the shore completed the pleasing character of the first impression. Behind the Emperor and Empress stood Marshal Vaillant and about a dozen French officers, in brilliant uniforms; and on the paddle-box might be recognised Admiral the Viscomte de Chabannes, whose excellent English speech had made such a favourable impression at the Lord Mayor's Easter dinner. The Viscomte had the honour of commanding the Imperial yacht on this particular occasion, assisted by Captain Smithett, who e efficient pilotage was rewarded in the sequel by an extraordinary mark of Imperial approbation. The light and graceful vessel was soon alongside the steps, the decorated gangway was run out, the cheering reached its climax, and in another moment Prince Albert might be seen handing the Empress on shore, with the combined dignity and grace of which his Royal Highness is so perfect an example. The Emperor followed alone—etiquette, it is presumed, preventing his Imperial Majesty offering his arm to the Countess Walewska, who was most graciously recognised by the Empress at the landing-place. The *dames d'honneur* followed, then the English and French Court functionaries; the whole party proceeding slowly, amid the most deafening cheers, to the Lo d Ward n Hotel, which had been previously magnificently decorated for this important event. Here a well-dressed crowd besieged the various entrances, but watch and ward was strictly kept, and the illustrious visitors ascended without ob-truction to the splendid apartments which had been prepared for their reception. A select few were admitted to the vestibule, amongst whom might be seen the great humourist, Mr. Thackeray, who, on being recognised peeping modestly through the glass-door, was at once invited to enter. As the Imperial party passed upstairs, the Empress seemed pale, as if from recent indisposition; but the Emperor appeared to be in the best health, and was most courteous and affable to everyone who approached him. Luncheon was obviously the next business; and one had been prepared of which the guests partook with great relish and satisfaction.



THE IMPERIAL STATE BED AT WINDSOR CASTLE.

While the Royal and Imperial party were thus refreshing themselves above stairs, the ladies and gentlemen of the two Courts were similarly employed below; but the time so occupied was very short, as in a very few minutes it was announced that the Emperor would receive the Corporation address. For this purpose the large coffee-room was again called into requisition, and was soon filled with the Mayor, Town-council, and half-a-dozen other gentlemen, who, for great occasions like this, may be considered as honorary members of all the corporations of the United Kingdom. The Emperor stood on the dais, at the upper end of the room, and beside him stood the Empress, in her tartan dress; but, for the grey paletôt a magnificent visite of black lace had been substituted. A nearer view only confirmed the favourable impression made by her Majesty's appearance on board ship. Her stature is commanding, her figure fine and graceful, and her features quite of an Imperial style of beauty; a slightly pensive expression agreeably softens their marked Roman contour, and her Majesty's demeanour is entirely self-possessed and queenly. The Empress listened with marked attention to the address, recognised at once the complimentary allusions to herself, and exhibited throughout a lively emotion, and an evident appreciation of the solemnity and interest of the occasion. The Emperor also, ordinarily so impassive, was strongly moved, as might be detected by the nervous play of the nostril; and there was a tone of manly sincerity and friendship in his few words of reply which could at once be distinguished from the ordinary expressionless blandness of Royal responses. Every one in the room felt this; and even the august presence in which we all stood did not prevent a frequent and most emphatic "hear" at points in his Majesty's reply. As in the case of Prince Albert's address, the duty of reading the second document

(Continued on page 424.)

THE VISIT TO THE OPERA.

THE INVESTITURE OF THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH WITH THE ORDER OF THE GARTER, AT WINDSOR CASTLE.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

PARIS, Thursday.

The safe return of the Emperor and Empress to Paris is a source of considerable relief to the pessimists, who were resolved to see in the visit to England a crowd of fantastic dangers, proceeding from the most improbable causes. All is now excitement in anticipation of the Queen's arrival, an event looked forward to with great interest and curiosity.

Il faut souffrir pour être beau is an adage Paris is now exemplifying the truth of. An order has gone forth that, to appear beautiful to the eyes of her Majesty and of assembled Europe, Paris is to have her face washed, painted, and otherwise adorned. Accordingly, woe to the passers-by! You sally forth on your own side of the street; your next neighbour's house is being scraped, white-washed, and plastered; and an *ouvrier* or small boy, in a lime-besprinkled blouse, warns you off the *trottoir* with a wave of his lath. You cross the street, and find your opposite neighbour's house is undergoing the same operation; and so on through every street to the place of your destination, where you arrive more or less dotted with paint and plaster, more or less blind with lime and dust, and considerably agitated from the various narrow escapes from being run over in your traversings, and the subsequent course you have been compelled to adopt, of walking in the middle of the street among the carriages. When the evil arrives at your own house, in addition to the service of danger and dirt you undergo in each outgoing and incoming, you know that, when your next quarter's rent comes due, your *proprietaire* will have added something to the already vastly increased sum you pay, to indemnify him for the misery *you* have endured.

The fact of the departure of the travelling and campaign furniture of the Emperor seems to put a stop to all doubts on the subject of the proposed expedition to the Crimea. His tent, with all the necessary accessories, has been dispatched under the care of a certain number of the most skilful *tapissiers* attached to the *garde meuble*, by the Lyons Railroad.

Most sincere regret has been felt in Paris by the series of misfortunes that has visited the family of M. Ducos, late Minister of Marine. Seized himself with the frightful malady which within the last two months has here made so many victims, putrid sore throat—coming in his case, in addition to inflammation of the veins—he soon expired; and was within a few days followed by his twin children of two years old, both attacked by the same disease, which, in most of the instances where it has appeared, has proved fatal, and, being highly contagious, has seldom been content with one victim, in the houses where it finds entrance. The bodies of M. Ducos and of the second child have been embalmed, and are deposited, with that of the first, in the vaults of the Madeleine, there to remain till the funeral ceremony, after which they are to be conveyed to Bordeaux, to be interred in the family cemetery.

Fate seems to be really unsparing for the navy just at present; Admiral Mackau, and Vice-Admirals Cazy and Dupetit-Thouars, having all been visited with painful and alarming illnesses. It has been remarked also of late that apoplexy and madness have acquired a most distressing frequency: a single and fatal case of the former has just occurred in the person of Mdlle. Boudet, daughter of the Councillor of State, at the age of ninetee

It is reported that the Generals Canrobert and Pélissier are shortly to be named Marshals; and that one of them is, on this occasion, to return to France. At the same time, adds the rumour, General Rolin, Adjutant-General of the Palace, is to receive a command in the Crimea.

The strictest orders have been issued at the Palais d'Industrie and of the Beaux Arts that none but the exhibitors are to be permitted to enter. Various details, however, descriptive of the mysterious splendours collected therein have transpired, especially with respect to the latter temple.

The life-size portrait of the Empress, surrounded by her *dames d'honneur*, by Winterhalter, is not yet quite completed, but is, nevertheless, to take the place kept open for it in the Exhibition. M. Ingres exhibits twenty pictures painted at various periods, M. Gudin as many as sixty, and other well-known painters a proportionate number—many of these having been already exhibited elsewhere. This is all very well for the established reputations, but what space remains for those whose reputations only want the occasion to be established? Great dissatisfaction is, as may be supposed, created by these arrangements, and many highly meritorious works have, of necessity, been excluded, in favour of them.

The new addition to the Palais des Beaux-Arts, in the Avenue Montaigne, is nearly completed. It is destined to contain the tapestries of Gobelins and Beauvais, the Sèvres china, and a Chinese museum.

We learn, with a satisfaction which we doubt not our readers will join in, that M. Billault, Minister of the Interior, has refused the authorisation for the proposed establishment of bull fights during the period of the Exhibition, on the ground of its being opposed to the feelings and morals of the French nation

On the 30th instant is to be performed, at the church of St. Eustache, a magnificent musical ceremony, in honour of the inauguration of the Palais d'Industrie. This is a grand "Te Deum" by Hector Berlioz, directed by himself, with three choirs, orchestra, and organ, and *nine hundred and fifty* performers. Our English organist, Henry Smart, has come from London expressly to join this solemnity, and will, after the "Te Deum," execute various pieces of Handel, on a new organ by M. Ducroquet. At the end of the ceremony, to a grand march, composed by Berlioz, there will be presented at the altar the colours of the various nations, which will be blessed by the Curé of St. Eustache, and twenty ladies of different countries will collect from the visitors a sum destined to go to the benevolent institutions of the third arrondissement.

The Imperial Society of Horticulture is preparing an unusually magnificent exhibition, in the square of the Champs Elysées, behind the Elysée Napoléon. A Swiss châlet, a rustic cottage, a variety of fountains, aviaries, &c., will be added to the habitual attractions of plants and flowers in this fairy garden, where four greenhouses will contain the rarest and most delicate tropical plants, and nine tents the productions of more temperate climates. A handsome iron gate, in the style of the sixteenth century, will give entrance from the grand avenue of the Champs Elysées.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

On the 22nd inst. the fleet, that had arrived at Kiel on the 19th, was still lying quietly in the harbour, the vessels occupying the same position as they took up on first entering. On the 20th Admirals Dundas and Seymour went ashore to pay their respects to General Von Krogh, the military commander of the place, which attention was returned by the latter two days afterwards. At daybreak of the 21st the *Bulldog* left for Copenhagen, but without taking Admiral Dundas, who, it had been expected by many on board the fleet, would have gone up to Copenhagen to wait upon the King of Denmark, as Admiral Napier had done. The *Imperieuse* and *Euryalus*, on leaving Kiel lately, steered direct into the Baltic, and were followed afterwards by the smaller craft, *Arrogant*, *Amphion*, *Cossack*, *Pylades*, &c. A flotilla of sixteen steamers, supposed to be the above advanced squadron, under Admiral Watson, was seen off Stolpmünde, on the Pomeranian coast, on the evening of the 18th instant, 25 miles out at sea. It seems understood that these sixteen gun-boats and corvettes are to enforce the blockade as long as the ice abounds in the Bay of Finland; and that, subsequently, they will be reinforced by vessels of the line, and will then have each a distinct beat assigned to them

Private letters from Courland mention that, at the first news of the re-entrance of the English fleet into the Baltic, all vessels had been withdrawn from the Russian harbours. Libau, which is supported solely by its trade as a forwarding port, which must now entirely cease, will suffer more than most other places. The concentration of troops in Courland, Lapland, and Esthland continues; the garrisons of Revel, Narwa, and Riga are receiving considerable reinforcements.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF SEBASTOPOL.

In our last publication we were only able to give the telegraphic report that the bombardment had begun. Since then letters have arrived which give a number of interesting details regarding the progress of the operations for the first few days.

On the day previous to the commencement of the bombardment, which was Easter Sunday, the Protestant and Roman Catholic services of the army chaplains in the English Camp were most numerously attended. In the French Camp, also, the duties of religion were attended to in the morning; after which, with both French and English, the usual labours of a besieging force went forward, as on other days. An immense quantity of shot and shell was sent up, with one 13-inch mortar and one 84-pounder, both for the batteries on the right attack.

In the afternoon a message was sent down to the Sailors' Camp to tell off the men to their guns, and have everything in readiness to begin the final attack at daybreak. It was represented that one of the Sailors' Batteries still wanted three or four guns; but, in return to this statement, Lord Raglan replied that it was of no consequence, and that the batteries must all be ready to open next morning. At a late hour the troops detached to guard the trenches were ordered to take their rations cooked with them, to avoid the exposure which would be inevitable if they were carrying them in the daytime. The ambulance-cars were also ordered to wait for wounded in the several ravines; and an order was sent down to Balaclava for 600 stretchers for wounded, which, with 200 extra tents for emergencies, were forwarded per rail.

Throughout the night there was very little firing on either side. Beyond an occasional gun to keep up the appearance of war, and take away the slight sense of security which sometimes exists in the trenches, all was quiet. All in the Allied lines knew that the bombardment would commence at daybreak, and so all were full of regrets and forebodings over the change in the weather. It had, indeed, changed in a manner sufficiently severe to excite anxiety, if not mistrust, as to the result of the first day's operation. The wind blew a regular gale; the night was at once dark and misty, while the rain fell in such floods as almost to surpass every sound. Towards morning it was, if possible, still more unfavourable; and, in spite of the rain, the wind was sufficiently strong to leave in all but faint hope that the fleet would be able to share in the struggle of the day. At four o'clock a.m. all the officers who had leave were on the alert, looking up waterproofs and forgotten mufflers before setting out for Cathcart's-hill, to see our opening fire. At this hour nearly all, except the sentries, were asleep, nor was there anything whatever to denote that one of the most bloody struggles that ever disturbed the world, or defaced the annals of civilisation, was about to commence. A heavy mist hung over the sea, and partly over Sebastopol, while both were obscured, every now and then, by the clouds of rain which were driven before the wind. The north side was almost completely invisible, though the mouth of the harbour was clear, and a heavy sea running in broke in a wild line of breakers over the sunken ships. In Sebastopol itself everything was quiet and clean as usual. Where the head of the harbour could be seen two or three large boats seemed crossing it near the land, but no other signs of activity were visible, either in the water or in the town. It was now five o'clock; none of the clocks in Sebastopol could be heard to strike, as the wind was very strong and blowing up the harbour and across the town. Each moment the weather became thicker and more wet, so that in a few minutes hardly any of the town was visible. The grim line of batteries, however, remained well in view, though they also seemed as quiet as inside the walls. In the Malakoff a few soldiers could occasionally be distinguished in the embrasures, and a small party crossed now and then between it and the Mamelon, but this was all

Suddenly, at a quarter-past five o'clock a.m., a gun was fired from our right attack. In a second afterwards, running up and down the line—from the little mounds and hillocks near Inkerman—from the broad commanding positions of Green-hill and Gordon's Batteries—from quiet picturesque ravines, where no one dreamt of guns lurking—high from the rear on steep and lofty ridges, and away down to the left where the French works stretch out—over low marsh lands to Kamiesch—from every point of our lines came a hundred streaks of flame and masses of smoke. For a minute after there was silence, and then the great concussion came rumbling on, slowly mastering both wind and rain, and swelling into a roar that seemed to shake both heaven and earth. The shells and bullets of the first discharge made of themselves a perfect uproar, as they fell like an iron hail full upon the enemy's batteries. Some shot were short, and went bounding towards the works, scattering the earth like water. Some were too high, and passed clear over everything into the town; but the great mass were well aimed and true, and passed full into the embrasures, clearing all before them. The shells burst everywhere about like crackers, and the stunning explosion of the great mortars made themselves conspicuous over every other noise, as the huge bombs screamed through the air, carrying death and destruction into the Mamelon and Malakoff. After this first tremendous volley each gun worked as it could, and a regular file fire of mortars and heavy guns commenced upon the place. The enemy appeared completely surprised. With the first awful salvo a general confusion was observed in their batteries. For three or four minutes not a gun replied—then the Mamelon fired three or four at once, and the Redan and Malakoff also began a slow irregular cannonade. The Flagstaff Battery was also quiet, sending two or three shells, but the great mass of the guns in all the Russian works were silent. Gradually, after a lapse of five or ten minutes, their fire extended; but, before half their ordnance was manned, ours had fired a dozen rounds, so that some of the enemy's guns were struck before they had a shot, and past all manning. It was nearly six o'clock before all their works were in full play, and then each battery, pelting against its assailant, fell to business in earnest. Our mortar batteries in the advanced works and in front of the picket house, with the new French batteries towards Inkerman, appeared to concentrate their fire upon the works round the Malakoff Tower and the Mamelon. Some of the French Inkerman works also fired heavily into the harbour and dockyard buildings. The right flank of Gordon's Battery was also directed against the Mamelon. This was on our right. The centre and left flank of Gordon's Battery engaged the Redan—assisted by the new 68-pounder battery, on its left, the mortars in the advanced works, and the right fire of the Green hill Mound which engaged the Garden Battery. This was our centre. The centre and left flank of Green-hill opened upon the barrack work, supported by a Sailors' Battery of heavy guns, and one side of the French right attack. The other side of the French works fought closely with some new batteries which the enemy have lately thrown up between and in advance of the Barrack and Flagstaff works. The French centre was close, quite close, to the Flagstaff Battery, and their left engaged the Quarantine and Mud Forts

About six p.m. the weather partially cleared, but the rain still fell in torrents. The advantage of the day's cannonade most decidedly remained with the Allies. The Mamelon was almost entirely silenced, and the Garden Battery quite so. The Malakoff appeared to have suffered much. Even the few stones which remained of its round tower were quite swept away, the earthwork much injured, and many of its guns silenced. The new Russian works north of the Mamelon seemed untouched, as did also the Allied batteries opposed to them. The Redan seemed injured, though by no means in a way which lessened its resistance. The fire from this tremendous work still continued as hot as it had been in the morning. The French battery opposed to the Barrack was injured, as was also that opposed to the Flagstaff. Neither of those great Russian works appeared much hurt. On the extreme left the French were said to have done much damage to the right of the Flagstaff, and also to have half destroyed the Quarantine and Mud Forts

The fire of the Allied siege guns gradually ceased as night came on. The mortars, however, did not cease firing; all of them were ordered to maintain the bombardment by firing a shell every ten minutes throughout the night.

The bombardment continued without intermission throughout the night, and the enemy were consequently prevented repairing their damages. The practice of our mortars was perfect. Not a second passed without a 13-inch shell being thrown into the Malakoff and Mamelon. At the close of Monday evening's fire the Malakoff was almost completely silenced; and next morning it replied to our cannonade with only two guns, which were dismounted at eight. For several hours after it did not fire a shot; indeed the Russian fire altogether on the night of the 16th was much slackened. At about four o'clock, however, all the enemy's lines and batteries suddenly sprung into life and vigour. Volleys of from 100 to 150 guns were fired at once from the Redan, the Flagstaff, Barrack, Garden, and Malakoff Batteries; even the Mamelon, which all thought destroyed and untenable, fired five or six guns in rapid succession. Their shot came in upon our works like hail. On every point along our line balls were to be seen bounding and plunging, and shells bursting like fireworks in the air. Never, perhaps, was such a concentrated and destructive cannonade witnessed since the commencement of the siege. All felt that, if it continued two or three hours, our works would be levelled with the dust; as, though both English and French kept up a terrific fire, the enemy, in spite of our utmost efforts, gave five guns in reply to our one. The rapidity and deafening uproar of the fire brought all who were at leisure to the front; and the oldest and most experienced artillery officers augured very unfavourably of our prospect of taking a fortress which could command such a fierce cannonade. Suddenly, and in the midst of such remarks, the enemy's batteries made a dead pause. For nearly a quarter of an hour not a gun was fired. The Allies kept up their bombardment; the French battered the Flagstaff and works to the left. Our shot ploughed into the Redan and Malakoff, and our 13-inch shells burst in regular succession in the centre of the Mamelon; but not five guns did the Russians give in reply. Nearly twenty minutes passed on their side in this state of unaccountable inactivity, when again suddenly the Redan and Flagstaff broke out in heavy volleys, and maintained them for some time. Our long guns ceased firing a little after seven, the enemy's about eight, and then both Russians and Allies resorted to their mortars. The fire of these latter was maintained all night. Every five minutes one of our 13-inch shells was dropped into the Mamelon; and, from the advanced work, at the same intervals, 10-inch were thrown into the Malakoff. The French directed their bombs into the Flagstaff, and our left attack threw them into the Redan. On the extreme left of all the French rocket battery sent their burning missiles in all directions, except into the town; the orders to spare that being still in full force. The enemy replied with mortars from the rear of Malakoff, the Redan, and Flagstaff works; but we were evidently two to one superior to them in such ordnance. This deficiency they occasionally compensated for by the use of their guns, which, when fired in volleys, were by no means to be trifled with.

The advantage of the second day's fire was evidently with the Allies. Whatever was the reason the enemy most certainly did not fight with their usual vigour. We had not destroyed their works—their guns were still good and serviceable, yet still they continued silent under our cannonade during the greater part of the day. The conduct of the enemy was, on the whole, so extraordinary that even the wildest conjectures to account for it gained temporary credit in the English Camp.

Accounts to some the garrison was not sufficient to man all the defences, while others ascribed it to the want of ammunition, which was certainly less probable, as up to the moment of our opening fire the enemy had wasted it in the most reckless manner, and as if their stores of it were inexhaustible.

At daybreak on the 17th the fire was resumed by the Allies and Russians, and for some time with equal vigour on both sides. In spite of the fire of our mortars, the enemy during the past night had managed to repair much of the damage which the Mamelon sustained, and also the works of the Flagstaff Battery opposed to the French. For the first hour of hostilities all the Russian works were fought with vigour and determination; but after that time (about half-past six) the guns round the Malakoff and Mamelon again ceased their cannonade, and from that period, until late in the day, seemed perfectly indifferent to our fire. In the evening, between five and six o'clock, they sent forth a tremendous volley from all parts of their defences. This was done, probably, as a gentle hint that their works were by no means in that state of dilapidation when a general assault would be either easy or safe.

During the whole of the night the fire of our mortars was incessant, and on the morning of the 17th the long guns recommenced with renewed energy; but, in spite of our bombardment, the enemy had evidently been busy during the night, and part of the Flagstaff and nearly all the Mamelon embrasures were repaired. In the former, apparently, no new guns had been mounted, but in the latter were two. The fire was much the same as during the previous day, viz., a well-sustained cannonade from the Allies throughout, and the enemy replying very slackly, except from the Flagstaff and Redan. Occasionally nearly all their works gave forth tremendous volleys, almost simultaneously; but their spirts, though terrific, never lasted above half an hour, after which two-thirds of their fire relapsed into comparative silence. The fighting was principally between the Flagstaff and French batteries, and the Redan and our right and left attacks. The Flagstaff each hour seemed to suffer more and more under the incessant cannonade of the French, and towards evening its fire was considerably slackened. Its fire was not now more than one half of that which it maintained on the morning of the 9th.

The night of the 17th inst. was wild and unfavourable, with continued heavy rain, yet still our bombardment never slackened for a moment. The *Bogatyr*, which was moored off Sebastopol at a long range, also assisted in the fire, by casting loose her Lancaster guns, and throwing shells into the works the whole night. She also fired about fifty Congreve rockets into the works opposed to the French

On the morning of the 18th our siege batteries recommenced, the effects of our assault were still more apparent. The fire of the Flagstaff was evidently slack, even more markedly so than on the previous evening. It scarcely replied one gun to the French three. The devastating traces of the attack were also more apparent. Not only were the lower tier of guns quite destroyed, but the upper seemed in a fair way of following them. Two or three of them were already dismounted, and the earth of the parapets so scattered and torn that the rest of the ordnance appeared as if it pushed out between masses of earth. The Barrack works was also suffering much, and nearly one-third of its embrasures were empty.

A new battery which the English had formed in the advanced trench was completed and opened this morning. The tremendous volley with which it commenced quite took the Russians by surprise. Each day they had been accustomed to see our 10-inch mortars fire from the same part of our works, and doubtless for that very reason never anticipated further molestation. The sudden and continued fire, therefore, of eight enormous guns, in addition to their old friends the mortars, was a complete and unpleasant surprise. At the first discharge one of their guns was dismounted and another injured, and their artillerymen either ran away or concealed themselves, as they were not to be seen. Only one gun was fired in reply, so that for five or ten minutes our battery had nothing to do but blaze away without fear of opposition. After that time the enemy appeared to take heart, and several guns were fired, but it was fully half an hour before they had made anything like a vigorous defence. Then, indeed, the fire they maintained showed that very many of the embrasures which were supposed to be silenced had merely had their guns withdrawn, and these they brought forward and well manned. For about an hour the enemy fought with great determination; but from the first they had no chance of being able to maintain it long. As soon as it was seen that the Malakoff works were determined to engage our advanced battery, one face of Gordon's Battery, mounting ten guns and two mortars, was directed upon it, and the 13-inch mortar battery at the picket-house also threw its shells against the Round Tower. With these, and with the assistance of the four 10-inch mortars near the advanced work, and several cohorns throwing 32-lb shell, a perfect hail was poured into our old enemy. For a time it was well fought; but our immense shot dismounted the guns or cut up the earthworks, while the shell dropping over burst continually among its defenders.

Towards eight o'clock its fire had slackened considerably, and before nine the enemy for that time gave up the contest as hopeless, and such guns as could be used were withdrawn from the embrasures, and our batteries left to do their worst upon the earthworks. During this battery fight the Mamelon, as usual, revived from its state of inaction, and, to the astonishment of every one, put forward five guns and fired them continually. The demonstration, however, did little good beyond drawing on it, when the Malakoff was quiet, the fire of the mortar battery of the picket-house, and under these tremendous bombs it was soon reduced to its former inaction. Our advanced work then continued to fire at the Malakoff, which never offered any serious resistance for the remainder of the day. Every twenty minutes or so two or three of its guns were run forward and fired, but beyond this it was quiet, and seemed to have no more than twenty or thirty men in it.

The daily casualties have been heaviest among the naval brigade, which, though less than a sixth of the force in the batteries, furnishes rather over one-third of our total loss. The average each day has been about 60 killed and wounded, and about 100 French. The wounded are now in brilliant weather taken care of than at the former bombardment. The ambulance ravines in rear of the rear of the 1st parallel in the trenches, in which the wounded are conveyed to head-quarters, and there placed upon the railway-trucks and sent down easily to Balaclava. The cases of amputation and severe wounds remain there in hospital; the others are immediately embarked on board ship.

Our bombardment continued throughout the whole of Friday night (the 13th) with much effect, and next morning the guns again recommenced. The fire of the enemy was slackening more and more each day. There was a slight sortie on the night of the 14th upon the French, who were sapping up towards the Flagstaff. It was instantly repulsed, with a loss of ten or twelve killed to the Russians.

The telegraphic despatches bring down the news from Sebastopol to the 19th inst., but the accounts are very meagre. The French had carried a series of ambuscades in front of the Central Tower. They had also sprung a mine in front of the Flagstaff Battery, which had given them a new parallel, and was successfully joined to the others. From the 12th to the 14th the loss of the French had only been 300 men.

Prince Gortschakoff, in a despatch dated the 19th, states that the fire of the enemy had not been so strong on the 16th, 17th, and 18th, as it was previously.

As regards the movements of the Russian army little information is given. A considerable force of from 8000 to 10,000 men made their ap-

pearance on the 12th on the heights of the Woronzow-road, opposite Balaclava, and it was expected that they would sooner or later strive to effect a diversion by attacking that place. They will find, however, that the place is not so weak as it was formerly. Omer Pacha has moved down there with 15,000 of the Turkish troops recently arrived at Kamiesch. The Turks, who are the troops, are the same fellows who gave such a good specimen of their courage at Eupatoria. At Kadikoi, the weakest garrisoned portion of our lines near Balaclava, 8000 have been posted behind strong breastworks, which the Turks have still further defended by the addition of 20 pieces of artillery. These might be sooner or later sent to that point, if it is in the power of earthworks and guns to do it.

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, April 24, 1855

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B. :—

Before Sebastopol, April 10, 1855.

My Lord,—In accordance with the arrangement made between General Canrobert and myself, the batteries of the French and English armies opened upon Sebastopol soon after daylight yesterday morning.

The weather was propitious. Much rain had fallen in the course of the night, and it continued during the day, accompanied by a tempestuous wind, and a heavy mist which obscured everything; and rendered it impossible to ascertain with any degree of accuracy the effect of the fire, which has been continued with little or no interruption from the commencement, and has been superior to that of the enemy, who were evidently taken by surprise, and, except upon the extreme left, did not respond to the attack for nearly half an hour.

This morning has been hazy, and for some time there was a drizzling rain; but it is clearing this afternoon, and there is again a prospect of fine weather.

The country yesterday was covered with water, and the ground was again very deep. The trenches were likewise extremely muddy, and their condition added greatly to the labours of the men employed in the batteries, who consisted chiefly of sailors, artillerymen, and sappers.

They conducted their duties admirably, and I am sorry to say that the two former, particularly the Navy, sustained considerable loss.

I have not yet received the returns of the casualties beyond the 9th inst., which are herewith enclosed; but the death of Lieutenant Twyford, of the Royal Navy—a most promising young officer, greatly respected by all who has been notified to me; and Captain Lord John Hay—who has taken a most active part in the gallant and distinguished services of the Naval Brigade—was wounded almost at the very moment, I believe by the same shot. I hope the injury he has received is not very serious; but the loss of his assistance, even for a time, is much to be regretted.

The Russians have not shown themselves in any force in front of Balaclava.

The Lord Panmure, &c. I have, &c.

RAGLAN.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED, FROM 8TH TO 9TH APRIL, INCLUSIVE

KILLED.—4th Foot: Private Charles Ship. 44th: Private John Blackshaw. 97th: George Knight.

WOUNDED.—4th Foot: Privates Daniel Cockerton, Thomas Golding, William Norman, slightly. 18th: Private Joseph Hales, slightly. 34th: Private George Sheppard, slightly. 34th: Privates Patrick M'Namara, severely; William Stokes, slightly. 39th: Private William Morgan, slightly. 48th: Private John J. Jones, severely. 88th: Corporal William Palmer, Lance Corporal Matthew Barnes, severely. 90th: Private George Evans, severely. Royal Artillery: Gunner and Driver James Flood and Gunner Davis, severely. Royal Sappers and Miners: Lance Corporal J. Veal, slightly.

J. B. BUCKNALL, Executive, Adjutant-General.

A RETURN OF CASUALTIES IN THE ROYAL NAVAL BRIGADE ON THE 9TH APRIL

KILLED.—Lieutenant Samuel Twyford, *London*; John Glanville, sail-maker, *Wasp*; William Miller, A.B., *Queen*; Daniel Good, Ord., *Queen*; John Bradwell, A.B., *Leander*; Daniel Albion, A.B., *Leander*; Joseph Burrows, A.B., *Queen*; Thomas Dadgeon, A.B., *Queen*.

WOUNDED.—Captain Lord John Hay, slightly; Robert Gardner, A.B., *London*, fatally (since dead); William Jones, sail-maker's crew, *Wasp*, slightly; John Fry, Ord., *London*, severely; Samuel Fisher, Ord., *London*, severely; George Ellis, Ord., *Queen*, severely; Charles Stammers, A.B., *Queen*, severely; Charles Gray, Ord., *Leander*, slightly; Edward Hickes, Ord., *Leander*, slightly; Henry Adding, Captain Mast, *London*, slightly.

CONTUSED.—Henry Lenscock, A.B., *Queen*, severely; James Newby, Ord., *Leander*, severely; Frank Wadham, Ord., *Queen*, slightly.

STEPHEN LUSHINGTON, Captain Commanding Naval Brigade

War Department, April 26, 1855

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Lieutenants Urmston and D'Aeth, Royal Navy, and Steele, Royal Marine Artillery—all valuable officers—have been wounded.

The Royal Artillery has also to lament the death of Lieutenant Lace, who was an officer of much promise; and Lieutenants Sinclair and L'Estrange are among the wounded. The former has sustained several severe injuries, but I am happy to add that there is every hope of his recovery. They are both highly meritorious officers.

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Although the duties have been unusually severe and arduous both by day and night during the week, they have been carried out with the utmost cheerfulness and zeal, reflecting much credit both on officers and men.

The submarine telegraph has been safely brought to the Monastery from Cape Kelegre, and, as soon as it is established at the former place, the engineers will proceed to convey it from the latter to the immediate neighbourhood of Varna, where I hope it may be in a state to act in a week or two from this time

The first division of the 10th Hussars arrived this day at Balaclava.

The Lord Panmure, &c., &c. I have, &c., RAGLAN.

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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE plot thickens with a vengeance—the Vienna Conference is adjourned *sine die*, and the bombardment of Sebastopol still continues, up to the last accounts, without, as yet, any decisive success. Four hundred heavy cannon, more than one hundred mortars—twenty-eight of which are of the largest calibre existing, calculated to throw shells thirteen inches in diameter—hurl ceaselessly, day and night, an iron hail against the forts and towers of the city. One would fancy that a week of this work would make an impression on the rock of Gibraltar; yet the earthen ramparts of Sebastopol have endured it for no less a period, without being seriously damaged. As, however, it appears that the artillery of the Allies is decidedly superior to that of the Russians, it seems clear that only three causes can prevent the ultimate success of the former, at least as far as the south side of the town is concerned. Continual dropping, we are told, will wear away a stone; and when the drops are shot and shell there must be a limit, somewhere, even to the endurance of this stubborn Crimean fortress. The three things that may prevent success are—failure of ammunition; the giving in of the guns themselves from the amount of work laid upon them; and, lastly, though not likely, a successful attack by the enemy on our own position. There is one thing (among many) that I have never been able to understand in our conduct of this great siege, and that is, why we are not now in a position to take Sebastopol to a certainty. I will explain. I suppose it is not to be denied that a cannon shot, fired from a proper distance, must do some mischief to the strongest fortress. A heavy shell does more, with the advantage that the longer the range the greater are its powers of destruction. Now we hear that the Allies possess twenty-eight of the heaviest class of mortar—that which throws a shell weighing nearly 2 cwt. four thousand yards, with an elevation of the same amount. The effect of the mere weight of such a mass of iron descending in a parabola from a height of two miles would be to bury itself in a hard-paved road some six or eight yards. Now, suppose that, instead of twenty-eight of these agreeable instruments, we had five hundred of them. I should like to know how many discharges of such a battery the Malakoff Tower (now understood to be the key of the Russian position) would stand! Is it to be believed that in the last six months the manufacturing industry of the country could not have made five hundred such mortars that the shipping industry could not have carried them to the Crimea—or that now the railway could not carry them up from Balaclava to the trenches?

Exercise is necessary to the well-being of quadruped as well as biped nature. Even the artificial existence of your wife's or daughter's pets, Pompey and Fido—darlings principally made up of nose, ears, and eyes—is menaced by dropsy or apoplexy unless they can get an occasional airing. One day having been taken out for a run in the Park, Fido is missing. That decent-looking man in a fustian jacket, beneath whose carpenter's apron the afflicted beauty is gasping, might tell how the loss occurred. You, Paterfamilias, are not perhaps particularly sorry; but, the female part of your family being of a different opinion, you well know that there is not likely to be much peace in the establishment till Fido is recovered or forgotten, as the case may be. You, therefore, knowing that the well-known Mr. Bishop of Bond-street has what the French call a *specialité* for recovering lost dogs, betake yourself to his shop, explain the matter, and within a few days, at the expense of certain coins, Fido, considerably thinner and altogether improved in health by his forced sojourn in the supposed carpenter's garret, is restored to his mistress. This is what you would have done up to last Tuesday, but you can't do so any more, for on that day the law, speaking by the voice of Mr. Bingham, at Marlborough-street police-court, warned Mr. Bishop in unmistakable language to leave henceforth stolen dogs to their fate. Certainly, when the magistrate told Mr. Bishop that his system of recovering stolen dogs "was a practice fraught with mischief, and tending to encourage the offence which the Legislature has sought to suppress by an Act, in the introduction of which he himself was mainly concerned," he said merely the truth. Theft is increased by every facility allowed to make a profit by it. However, in this case, the magistrate's decision is likely to go hard with the owners of pet dogs; there is little doubt that they will be stolen just as heretofore, but, instead of being recoverable for a moderate amercement, they will be sent out of the country—to France, Holland, or Belgium, where the demand for such articles is brisk.

The Crimean Committee again. This week we have the Duke of Newcastle's evidence, given with a frankness, an absence of anything like fencing with questions, and an oblivion of self, which, under the circumstances less grave, would disarm criticism. No man who reads the Duke's very gentlemanlike avowals can doubt that he was, as War Minister, a hardworking, conscientious, intelligent public servant—one, too, by no means wedded to official routine, but desirous to get information from every possible source, and to act upon it to the best of his not small ability. But the "situation" was too much for him—the tools with which he worked were, like the Ordnance pickaxes, of bad materials, and badly put together. A stern, determined man was wanted, and with a brain and nerve of iron, a sort of administrative Martin Luther; and it is no disparagement to the Duke to say he is not such a man. Yet it is only fair to ask who would have more worthily filled the post. At least the Duke of Newcastle had not the post.

MUSIC.

BEETHOVEN'S "Fidelio," which (as we mentioned last week) was performed at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA on the occasion of the state visit of the Queen and her Imperial guests, was repeated on Saturday evening with better effect, for then the audience were disposed to attend to it. Mademoiselle Jenny Ney fully supported her high Continental reputation by her performance of the character of *Leonora*. She is not handsome; her person is more large and full than consists with symmetry of form, and her features are not regular. But still she possesses a kind of beauty—after all, the best kind—that which is derived from indications of mind. Her face is pleasing from its expression, and her whole deportment evinces great modesty, joined to intelligence and feeling. Her performance of Beethoven's heroine is not marked by striking points, but its truthful earnestness renders it deeply interesting. In this respect, she is entitled to be reminded of the celebrated Madame Schroeder Devrient, who first performed this character in England. Mdlle. Ney, moreover, is a singer of the highest class. Her voice is of the finest quality, and of an extraordinary compass, ranging from the heights of the soprano to the depths of the contralto. She was well supported by Tamberlik, who, in his old part of *Florestan*, acted and sang admirably. The other principal parts were performed by Mdlle. Marai, Formès, and Tagliafico. The Queen visited the Theatre on Tuesday, to witness the performance of "Il Conte Ory."

THE ROYAL OPERA at Drury-lane goes on extremely well. M. and Mdme. Cassier have already gained a large share of public favour, and draw full houses every night they appear. The company, altogether, is efficient; and the performance of the "Barbiere di Siviglia," at this theatre would be creditable to any opera-house whatever. Madame Gassier's *Rosina* is charming; as a piece of acting, full of gaiety and spirit, besides being an admirable display of vocal talent. M. Gassier is as good a *Figaro* as we have ever seen. Bettini is an excellent *Count Almaviva*; and the part of *Bartolo* seldom has such a representative as Signor Fortini. This opera was first performed on Saturday last, and repeated on Wednesday; both nights to crowded houses, and with very great applause.

THE HAYMARKET. A very fair musical company, of which the principal members are Mr. and Mdme. Reeves and Mr. and Madame Weiss, are now performing English operas; or, to speak more correctly, operas in English, at this theatre. They began on Tuesday night, with "Fra Diavolo," which was very nicely performed, and completely successful. Not only is the company good, but there is an excellent orchestra, with all the means and appliances of a regular musical establishment

THE principal concert of the week has been that of the NEW PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY, at Exeter-hall, on Wednesday evening. According to the newly-adopted practice of the society, it was in aid of the funds of the Hospital for Consumption at Brompton; and, from the appearance of the Hall, we may presume that it has been of considerable benefit to that valuable institution. The chief feature of the concert was Beethoven's ninth, or Choral, Symphony, which was carefully and steadily, though somewhat heavily, performed. Master John Barnett, a boy of extraordinary precocity as a pianist, played Mendelssohn's Concerto in G minor with brilliant execution and great taste and intelligence, and was warmly applauded. An airfrom Dr. Wylde's "Paradise Lost," very finely sung by Madame Clara Novello, was loudly encored. In the other parts of the concert there was nothing at all remarkable.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, APRIL 26.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading	Thermometer. Lowest Reading	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches	°	°	°	°			
Apr. 20	30.144	64.4	41.2	50.7	+ 2.7	68	N. & E.	0.00
" 21	30.470	56.2	36.0	43.2	4.0	71	N.E.	0.00
" 22	30.482	49.0	29.7	41.0	— 6.5	75	E.	0.00
" 23	30.482	55.6	31.0	45.8	— 1.0	82	E.	0.00
" 24	30.286	60.0	32.2	46.4	— 1.8	75	N.E.	0.00
" 25	30.121	52.4	45.4	45.4	— 3.1	81	N.E.	0.00
" 26	30.220	54.4	32.2	43.5	— 1.3	84	N.E.	0.00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign — below the average.

The reading of the barometer increased from 30.14 in. at the beginning of the week to 30.47 in. by the 21st; decreased to 30.43 in. by the afternoon of the same day; increased to 30.49 in. by the 22nd; decreased to 30.10 in. by the 25th; increased to 30.22 in. by the 26th; and decreased to 30.17 in. by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.294 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 45.0°, being 2.7° below the average of thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 39.8°, being the difference between the highest and lowest readings of the thermometer on the 24th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 26.8°. The greatest was 40° on the 24th, and the least 12° on the 26th.

The weather throughout the week was fine, but cold, and the sky at times was free from cloud.

Lewisham, April 27, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON. Within the week ending April 21 the births of 916 boys and of 872 girls were registered within the metropolitan district. The average number for the sixteen week of the year for the preceding ten years was 744 males and 728 females. The number of deaths registered within the same week was 1087—a number less than the average for the same week by 31

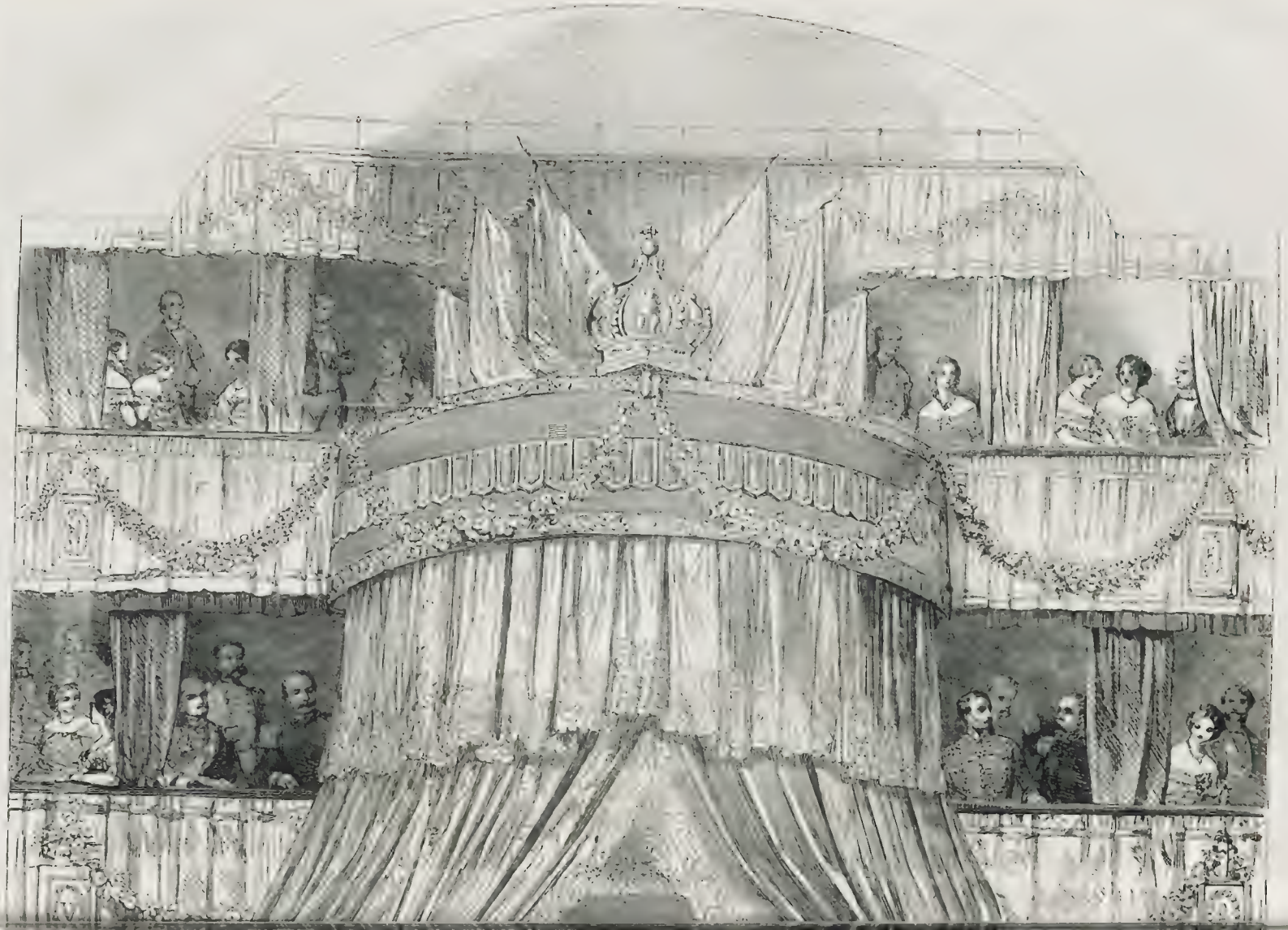
PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK. On Thursday the thirty-first anniversary of the Royal National Life-boat Institution was held at the London Tavern: Admiral the Duke of Northumberland, K.G., President of the Society, in the chair. He was supported by a most respectable and influential company. Mr. Lewis read the annual report, which stated that thirteen additional life-boat stations had been brought into connection with the institution during the past year, besides five new life-boats built in the same period by the society, making a total of fifty life-boats under the direction of the society. The total number of lives rescued from shipwreck during the past year through the direct agency of the life-boats of the society was 122; in addition to which the institution has granted rewards amounting to £510 for saving the lives of 223 other wrecked persons by various life-boats and other means, besides many silver medals and other honorary awards. The total number of persons saved from shipwreck since the first establishment of the institution in 1824, through the instrumentality of the life-boats and other means, was 9222. It appeared that the total income of the society during the past year was £[illegible], while its expenditure on life-boats, &c., was £3672. Various resolutions were passed by the meeting, in acknowledgment of the past exertions to augment the income of the society; and, after a vote of thanks had been passed to the chairman, the proceedings closed

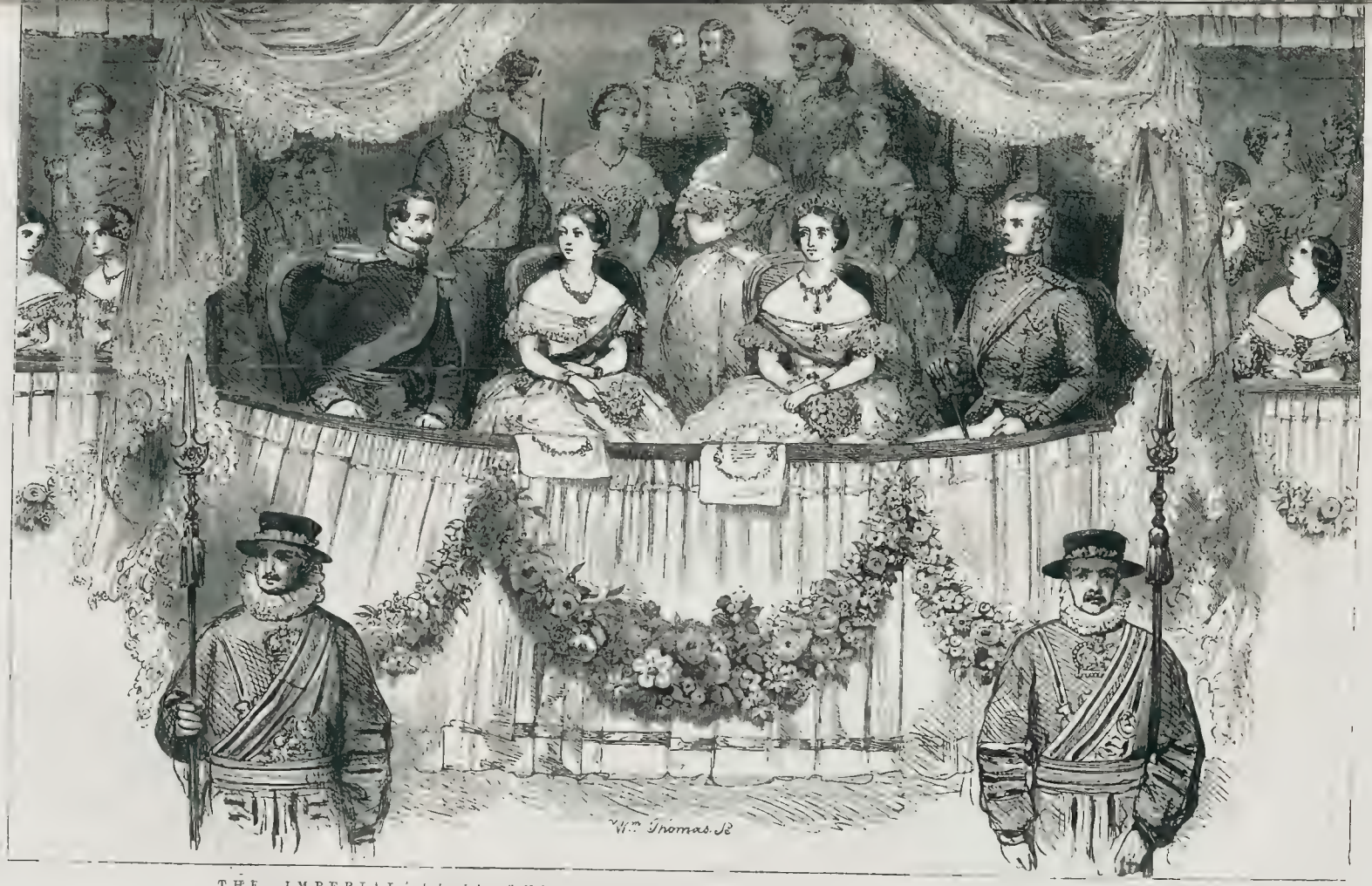
THE THEATRES.

DRURY-LANE.—The artistes from the Théâtre de la Gaîté, in the celebrated piece "Les Cosaques," commenced on Saturday an engagement for six nights, appearing in their original characters. Notwithstanding an extraordinary run of two hundred nights, the piece is simply one of extravagance, and not of dramatic pretension. The Russian occupation of Champagne, in 1814, is the subject; the Cossacks being depicted as the oppressors of the French. An *emeute* in a *café chantant* is the main incident; a barricade is made, and the Muscovites are beaten. This scene, well managed, is very exciting. In the present theatre an addition was made to it; English soldiers being introduced in aid of the French, and as firing on the Russians. The victory being obtained, the Allied forces fraternised in due form, the band playing "God Save the Queen," and the piece concluding upon a tableau. "Les Cosaques" is the production of MM. Alphonse Arnault and Louis Judicis, and was first acted on the 24th of November, 1853. A veteran sergeant, *Duriveau*, admirably impersonated by M. Paul Mesnier, is very amusing, from the dignities assumed, and the constant stiffness which always identifies the wearer. In contrast with this part is that of *Jean Franet*, a provincial soldier, his companion, which, in the representation of M. Alexandre,—is sufficiently comic to be made highly exciting. The company includes some names that are celebrated—Mesdames Lemaqui and Leontine, with M. Gouzet. The audience was numerous, and the *troupe* very successful.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE plot thickens with a vengeance—the Vienna Conference is adjourned *sine die*, and the bombardment of Sebastopol still continues, up to the last accounts, without, as yet, any decisive success. Four hundred heavy cannon, more than one hundred mortars—twenty-eight of which are of the largest calibre existing, calculated to throw shells thirteen inches in diameter—hurl ceaselessly, day and night, an iron hail against the forts and towers of the city. One would fancy that a week of this work would make an impression on the rock of Gibraltar; yet the earthen ramparts of Sebastopol have endured it for no less a period, without being seriously damaged. As, however, it appears that the artillery of the Allies is decidedly superior to that of the Russians, it seems clear that only three causes can prevent the ultimate success of the former, at least as far as the south side of the town is concerned. Continual dropping, we are told, will wear away a stone; and when the drops are shot and shell there must be a limit, somewhere, even to the endurance of this stubborn Crimean fortress. The three things that may prevent success are—failure of ammunition; the giving in of the guns themselves from the amount of work laid upon them; and, lastly, though not likely, a successful attack by the enemy on our own position. There is one thing (among





THE IMPERIAL VISIT. THE STALL BOX AT THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

Sunday, April 29.—3rd Sunday after Easter.
Monday, 30.—Washington inaugurated President of the United States, 1789.
Tuesday, May 1.—Prince Arthur born, 1850.
Wednesday, 2.—Camden born, 1551.
Thursday, 3.—Inv. of the Cross. Columbus discovered Jamaica, 1495.
Friday, 4.—Seringapatam taken, 1799.
Saturday, 5.—Emperor Napoleon I. died, 1821.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,

FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 5.

Sunday	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday	Friday.	Saturday
M h m 0 23	A h m 0 44	M h m 1 1	A h m 1 20	M h m 1 37	A h m 1 53	M h m 2 7	A h m 2 21	M h m 2 40	A h m 2 52	M h m 3 16	A h m 3 34	M h m 3 51	A h m 4 1

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, Louis XI.; Tuesday, Faust and Marguerite; Thursday, The Corsican Brothers. The Maiden of Toledo or, King, Queen, and Knave, Every Evening.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Monday and Wednesday Miss CUSHMAN (last two nights) as ROMEO. On Friday she will appear in a New Play. On Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, Mr Sims Reeves in the Bohemian Girl, with Mr Weiss, Mr Farquharson, Mr. Manvers, and Mrs. Sims Reeves. The New Haymarket Spring Meeting every evening.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch.—The celebrated Miss GLYN as HERMIONE, in the WINTER'S TALE, produced with New and Splendid Scenery, Magnificent Dresses and Appointments. Mr. Henry Marsden, Mr. George Wild, and Miss Fanny Williams, Every Evening.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—On WEDNESDAY NEXT, 2nd MAY, will be repeated Mendelssohn's LOBGESANG, and Mozart's REQUIEM. Vocalists: Madame Clara Novello, Mrs. Lockey, Mr Sims Reeves, and Herr Formes. The Orchestra, the most extensive available in Exeter-hall, will consist of nearly 700 performers. Tickets, 3s., 5s., and 10s. 6d. each, may be secured by immediate application at the Society's sole office, No. 6 Room, within Exeter-hall.

LOVE, the Greatest DRAMATIC VENTRILOQUIST in Europe REGENT GALLERY, 69, Quadrant. Every Evening at Eight, except Saturday.—Saturday at Three. Monday and Tuesday, THE LONDON SEASON; Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, LOVE IN ALL SHAPES, &c.

ROYAL MARIONETTE THEATRE, Lowther Arcade.—PIROMA of the RUSSIAN WAR EVERY EVENING.—The Boys and Band of the Duke of York's School will attend on Monday, at Three, and play National and Patriotic Pieces.—Prices: 2s., 1s., 6d

A PERFORMANCE of ANTHEMS and ORGAN MUSIC will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 3, under the direction of Mr GEORGE COOPER (Organist of St. Sepulchre's, Snowhill, Christ's Hospital, Assistant-Organist of St. Paul's Cathedral and her Majesty's Chapels Royal), who will, preside at the new and powerful Organ recently erected by Messrs. Gray and Davison. The Gentlemen of her Majesty's Chapels Royal, St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, St George's Chapel, Windsor, &c., are engaged. Conductor, Mr SIDLOW. To commence at Eight o'Clock. Tickets, 3s.; Reserved Seats, 5s.; may be obtained at all the principal Music Warehouses. Full particulars at R. W Olivier's, 19, Old Bond-street; and at the Hanover-square Rooms.

MR. ALFRED MELLON respectfully announces that his SECOND GRAND VOCAL and INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT will take place at ST. MARTIN'S HALL, on MONDAY EVENING, MAY 7th, to commence at Eight; on which occasion Signor Belletti will make his first appearance in England these three years, and perform a new Composition for the Double Bass. Madame Adelaide Mill Leonard and Miss Sims Reeves. Pianist, Mr E. Bache. Leader, M. Sainton. The Band will consist of fifty of the finest living instrumentalists, and will perform during the evening Mendelssohn's celebrated Symphony in A Minor; also Overtures by Beethoven, Weber, Auber, &c. Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon.—Tickets, 10s. 6d., 5s., and 2s. 6d., to be had of Mr. Mellon, 124, Longacre; Cramer and Beale, 201 Regent-street, St Martin's-hall, and the principal Music-shops.

INDIA, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, and CAPE of GOOD HOPE.—W. O. YOUNG will dispatch the following fast-sailing A 1 Clipper SHIPS at the dates named as under

Ships.	Tons.	Commanders.	Destination.	Docks. (To Sail.
Matilda Watterbach	1300	J. C. Clare ..	Calcutta	London .. May 7
Queen Queen	650	J. Rogers ..	Bombay	London .. April 27
Stuart Wortley ..	801	T. Thompson ..	Madras	London .. May 25
G. W. Bourne ..	721	W. H. Harding ..	Madras	St. Kath. May 5
Heroes of Alma ..	650	Wm. Freeman ..	Hong-Kong	Westfrella April 25
Planet	442	W. P. Buckham ..	Hong-Kong & Shanghae	London .. May 27
Kensington ..	700	W. Lange ..	Port Phillip	London .. May 19
Granite City ..	807	W. Leask ..	Sydney	London .. May 10
Gallatin	504	Richard Pill ..	Melbourne	London .. May 12
Rockampton ..	493	Robert Bradshaw	Cape of Good Hope	London .. May 25
Meteor	379	J. Brodie ..	Cape of Good Hope	London .. June 5
Sea Queen	415	W. Rowe ..	Adelaide	St. Kat. .. May 15

These Ships have been selected specially for their high-class and fast-sailing qualities, and will be found well worth the attention of Shippers and Passengers. W. O. YOUNG, 54, Cross-street Manchester; 19, Hanover-street, Liverpool; and Sun court, Cornhill, London.

THE IMPERIAL VISIT.

Next Week we shall complete our Illustrations with Views of the Apartments fitted up for their Imperial Majesties at Windsor Castle and Buckingham Palace, including the Emperor's Drawing room. The Empress' Drawing-room. The Emperor's Reception-room. State Bed and Bedchamber, Buckingham Palace. Toilet Tables. Grand Staircase, Windsor Castle, &c. In this Number, also, will appear Views of the

BOMBARDMENT OF SEBASTOPOL,

and several other Illustrations of the Progress of the War.
Portraits of the Plenipotentiaries at the Congress of Vienna.
Memoir of the Emperor of the French, continued, &c. &c.

*** The Notice of the Exhibition of the New Society of Painters in Water-Colours is unavoidably deferred till next week.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1855.

Last week there were still lingering expectations that the negotiators at Vienna meant to succeed in patching up a peace, but this week all such expectations are extinguished. Russia has positively declined to make the concessions required of her. She refuses to abate in any degree her power in the Black Sea, and persists in maintaining it with a view to further aggression. The negotiators are dispersed, to make known the result to their respective Courts, and the decision of the dispute is again referred exclusively to the sword. Warlike operations, too, are extending as the season advances, with great activity. The blockade of all the Russian ports in the Baltic is renewed, and one prize has already been taken. At Sebastopol the bombardment is carried on with great vigour, but with varying success. The Russians are quite as cunning at defence as the Allies are at attack; and what the latter destroy the former quickly repair; and the trial of skill and strength is continued from day to day without as yet producing any conspicuous advantage to either side. As considerable reinforcements are still going from France, as the Sardinian Contingent is about to arrive, as the Turks are increasing in strength and usefulness, we may look forward—if the plan of operations be wise—to a decisive, a speedy, and favourable result. It is, however, no longer likely that the fall of Sebastopol, should that occur, would secure peace. The late haughty rejection by Russia of the terms offered would probably, under such circumstances, lead to extended demands on her, to which she would not readily accede, and the war would go on. Should Sebastopol not speedily fall, or not fall, this also implies a continuance of the war. A year ago it was generally hoped that one campaign would restore peace, though the resources of Russia were then directed by Nicholas. He is gone, the second campaign is begun, and there is no present prospect that it will bring the war to a conclusion. Already it involves the greatest nations on the globe, threatents to drag all Europe into its gulf, and to be of considerable duration.

The crisis in the affairs of Europe foretold by Napoleon seems to have arrived. Enlightened and philanthropic men did hope that the gradual extension of trade and the progress of civilisation would have diffused throughout Europe the sentiments of a common humanity and a common interest, and have prevented the conflict between Cossack and Soldier, between the Sclavonic and Saxon and Latin races, between the Eastern and Western Christianity, between Barbarism and Civilisation, which he predicted. It has, however, come, and must be fought out, to establish fully the dominion of either.

The hopes of the philanthropists, cherished by a long peace, are now entirely extinguished. The ambition of the Czar on one hand, and the disturbed state of Europe on the other, which has filled the apprehensive minds of statesmen with alarm, and has made them more zealous in providing for the preservation of their own power than in checking his aggressions, have brought on a great crisis in national affairs, about which there is no longer any doubt, and there ought to be no longer the least hesitation. We cannot escape from the conflict, and we must put forth our whole strength, under the guidance of the greatest skill, to conduct it to a successful conclusion. Not only reputation, honour, and national greatness, but freedom and safety, are involved in the issue; for no great nation, with many envious rivals, ever lost the prestige of greatness and preserved its freedom and independence.

Modern wars, frequently undertaken for frivolous dynastic or trade objects, have done much to weaken in the public mind the seriousness and solemnity of the great task now imposed upon the nation. The present war, however, though its origin was trivial—a dispute about the precedence of Churches being the small spark that kindled the conflagration—is a war of races, creeds, and degrees of civilisation, and differs essentially from any war between the equally civilised nations of the West that has prevailed in Europe since the destruction of the Roman empire. Unfortunately, what we have hitherto performed is not a good augury for the future. So complete has been the collapse of our whole military arrangements, that an opinion has been promulgated that we are no longer capable of carrying on war. We must prove this opinion to be unfounded. We cannot yet hope always to avoid war, and the independence of no nation is safe which cannot make it good by its own strength. The mistakes and mismanagement which alone have begotten such an opinion must be corrected, for it would indeed be fatal were the neglect and error of our own rulers to produce the opinion that we can no longer successfully wield the sword. We must now fight, and we must fight well. At present this is the paramount duty of the nation, to which all others should give way. We care not what names the statesmen bear who are at the head of our affairs, nor what their rank, family, or station, but they must be men of capacity, man zealous in the great work, men of great comprehension and strong will. If our present Ministers come not up to these conditions—and certainly they have shown themselves rather compromising and careless than high principled and zealous—we must have others. It will be the duty of the people to watch that the national honour and national safety are not sacrificed to personal feelings or factious objects. The crisis is too eventful, the stake at issue too mighty, to be trifled with, and, unless we discard every notion of frivolity in regard to it, we shall be parties to the national destruction.

The late examinations, particularly that of the Duke of Newcastle, by the Committee, have laid open to the public the sad and disgraceful anarchy which exists in our several departments. No man and no Minister seems to know exactly his duties and his responsibilities. The Secretary-for-War clashes with the General commanding the Forces; the Admiralty or the Ordnance knows nothing of what the other department is doing; the Medical department is subservient to all and to none, and has always to go through so many forms that, before the end of a business is arrived at, the beginning is forgotten. For all this there is no excuse, because over all the Military power the Crown is, by the Constitution, really supreme; and if the Ministers who wield, or ought to wield, all the power, fail to introduce a proper subordination into the several departments, and amongst the several functionaries, they are exclusively to blame. George III. insisted, indeed, on maintaining a control over the Army; but Queen Victoria necessarily cedes that control entirely to her Ministers. The public has learned, therefore, from the Duke of Newcastle's examination, with astonishment, that Generals have been appointed to the Army in the Crimea without the sanction of Ministers. Lord Hardinge has done this, it is said, through inadvertence; but in submitting to it, even for a moment, the Ministers permitted the introduction of two authorities, divided the Royal power, and began or continued the anarchy in the military service it was their duty to prevent. It is now necessary that the Royal power over all the military forces should be concentrated in the hands of one able Minister, who, unthwarted by the Horse Guards, the Ordnance, or the Admiralty, and finding willing subordinates—not jealous rivals—in all the departments, should rule despotically, if necessary, over the Army and the Navy. Such a Minister has not yet been found.

Lieutenant-General Woulfe.—This gallant officer, whose death occurred recently, was employed in the Mahratta campaign, 1803-4-5-6, and was present at the attack and defeat of Sindhan Cavalry in September, 1803, near Bundahpoor; at the capture of Berhampoor; at the siege of Asseerghur; at the battle of Argaum; at the storming of Gourighur; and at the siege of Chandore. He took part also in several minor affairs, and was actively engaged in the first Burmese War. For his services in India he received the war medal and four clasps, as well as the clasps for Ava.

The Right Hon. Charles Herbert died on the 24th inst., in his seventy-seventh year, at St. Julian's, near Sevenoaks. A Portrait of the right hon. gentleman, with a Memoir of his long official life, appeared in No. 368 of the Illustrated London News.

Wills and Personalty.—Florance Thomas Young, Esq., £250,000 personalty; Charles Allen Young, Esq., £120,000; Rev. Henry Sey, of Swaffham, £120,000; Lady Astley, widow of Sir Henry Jacob Astley, Bart., £80,000; Thomas D'Oyley, Esq., Serjeant-at-law, £60,000. The wills of Lieut.-Colonel Harry G. Chester, 23rd Fusiliers, at Alma, and of Brevet Lieut.-Colonel John George Champion, 90th Foot, at Scutari, have been proved in London.

The Sardinian Contingent.—We regret to state that an announcement, only too well authenticated, has reached London that the fine screw steam-ship *Cyzicus* was burnt to the water's edge soon after leaving Genoa, with the first detachment of the Sardinian Contingent on board. The troops were saved, as well as the crew, with the exception of three sailors.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

The Fourteenth Conference, which was held on Thursday, lasted two hours. The Fourth Point was discussed.

The counter-propositions made by Prince Gortschakoff were rejected by the Western Powers.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys was to take his departure on Friday.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF SEBASTOPOL.

Although the telegraph brings news direct from the Crimea, no accounts have been allowed to appear of later date than the 18th.

The *Moniteur* of yesterday (Friday) does not publish any despatches from Sebastopol: but the *Pays* states that letters received in Paris announce the regular continuation of the siege, under the most favourable auspices, and with a success more marked than ever.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The steamer *Bombay* arrived at Trieste on Thursday evening, in 124 hours from Alexandria, with advices from Calcutta, March 24, Madras, March 28; Bombay, April 3; Shanghai, March 9; Canton, March 14; Hong-Kong, March 15.

A rupture with Persia is imminent; the Shah openly avows his preference for Russia.

Mr. Murray left Bagdad for Teheran on the 12th of March.

The meeting between Hyder Whou and Mr. Lawrence took place near Peshawer on the 19th of March.

The traffic on the Calcutta Railway exceeds all expectations.

Shanghai and Canton have been evacuated by the rebels.

The Russian frigate *Diana* has been lost in Japan from the effects of an earthquake.

TELEGRAPH FROM THE CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL TO LONDON NOW OPEN THROUGHOUT, AND AT WORK.

It will be remembered that, on Monday last, we stated our belief that, on the 24th instant, the electric communication from Varna to Balaclava, by submarine cable, would be completed.

We can now announce that our anticipations have been verified; and—strange and wonderful as it may seem—Head-quarters, Balaclava, are, as far as possibility of telegraphic communication is concerned, but some few hours distant from the War-office in Whitehall.

This fact, so remarkable in itself as a triumph of science, derives at this moment a peculiar importance from the critical nature of the present operations in the Crimea. A thin wire traversing our stormy Channel, continuous through the vast States of France, Germany, and Turkey, diving beneath the broad Euxine, and climbing again the tall cliffs three thousand miles from home, enables us at this moment to hold almost instant converse with our distant armies.—*Morning Post.*

THE COURT.

The Court has been remarkably quiet since the departure of the Emperor and Empress of the French. The Prince Consort returned to Buckingham Palace from attending their Imperial Majesties' embarkation at five o'clock on Saturday afternoon.

On Sunday the Queen and the Prince, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, the Princess Alice, the Duchess of Kent, the Prince of Leiningen, and the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, attended Divine service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace.

On Monday the Queen and the Prince took a drive in an open landau and four. His Royal Highness rode out on horseback in the morning, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred. In the evening the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Prince of Leiningen, honoured the Princess's Theatre with their presence.

Her Serene Highness the Princess of Hohenlohe Langenburg, accompanied by Prince Victor and the Princesses Adelaide and Feodore, arrived at Buckingham Palace at half past one o'clock on Tuesday afternoon from the Continent, on a visit to the Queen. In the evening the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe Langenburg, honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence.

On Wednesday the Queen, accompanied by the Princess Royal and the Princesses Alice, Helena, and Louise, and attended by the Hon. Caroline Cavendish, the Hon. Flora Macdonald, and Lord Charles Fitzroy, went to Gloucester-house, and paid a visit of congratulation to her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester on the auspicious return of her birthday. The Prince Consort and other members of the Royal family also paid visits of congratulation to the Royal Duchess during the day. In the evening the Queen and Prince Albert visited her Royal Highness, accompanied by the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, the Princess of Hohenlohe Langenburg, and the Princesses Adelaide and Feodore of Hohenlohe, the Prince of Leiningen, and Prince Victor of Hohenlohe.

The galeties of the present season may be expected to commence early in the ensuing month. The Lord Chamberlain announces that her Majesty will hold Drawingrooms on the following days:—Wednesday, 2nd May next; Saturday, 19th May next, to celebrate her Majesty's birthday. Her Majesty will also hold a Levee at St. James's Palace, on Friday, the 11th May next.

The Countess of Desart has succeeded the Viscountess Canning as the Lady in Waiting to the Queen. Lord De Tabley and Mr. R. Ormsby Gore have relieved Lord Rivers and Sir Edward Bowater in their duties as the Lord and Groom in Waiting to her Majesty.

The Duke of Cambridge. His Majesty the Emperor of the French has conferred on his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge the Grand Cordon of the Legion of Honour.

The Earl Granville, who met with an accident by the horse he was driving in a cab stumbling on Constitution-hill, on the 17th inst., has suffered considerably since from the shock, and was prevented from joining his colleagues at the Cabinet Council on Saturday. We are glad to learn that his Lordship is now quite recovered.

Lord and Lady Charles Wellesley, and their youthful family, are at Conholt Park, near Andover, where they have resided since they quitted Brighton. We regret to learn the eyesight of his Lordship is considered irretrievably lost.

Lord and Lady Harry Vane have arrived in town from Naples, after passing the winter months in that capital.

London and Dublin Postal Communication.—On Thursday a large meeting of Irish Members of Parliament and others interested in the promotion of postal facilities between England and Ireland via Holyhead was held at the King's Arms, New Palace-yard, to discuss the provisions of the bill which stood for second reading on Friday evening in the House of Commons. Mr. Henry Vance, member for Dublin city, took the chair; Sir Cusack Roney officiating as honorary secretary. The capital to be appropriated under the bill for the construction of steamers (which will be of a speed and capacity such as have not yet been attempted in the water service between the two countries) is limited to £400,000. The promoters confine the traffic to that of mails, passengers, and parcels; and the only ports between which the vessels are to run are Holyhead and Kingstown. Sir Cusack Roney stated that the total time occupied from station to station, between London and Dublin, would be twelve hours certain, at all seasons and under all circumstances, allowing for refreshment, for the conveyance of trains by horses through the town of Holyhead (as Government would not permit the employment of locomotives there), and for the deposit of luggage on board the steamers, which would be of 2000 tons burden, and of the best possible construction in all respects. Numerous suggestions having been canvassed, a resolution was then agreed to impressing upon her Majesty's Government the importance and necessity of improving, as much as possible, the postal and passenger accommodation, as well by land as by sea, between London and Dublin, adding that by the great advances of late years made by mechanical science the intercourse between the two capitals can be greatly accelerated. A vote of thanks having been conveyed to the Chairman, the meeting then separated, on the understanding that the second reading of the bill was to be supported on Friday evening.

The company of literary gentlemen who lately gave a dramatic representation at the Olympic Theatre, in aid of a brother author, are to appear on Friday, the 11th of May, at the Drury-lane Theatre, by the desire of her Majesty, in the place for preservation in Mr. Planché's "Romantic Idea," to be followed by the pantomime. The proceeds of the evening will be added to the funds of the Wellington College.

New Route to the Continent. The Eastern Counties Railway Company are making arrangements for a very efficient steam packet service between the ports of Harwich and Antwerp this season, the operations of last year having satisfied them of the capabilities of the station for carrying on a Continental traffic. It is intended to put on two first-class passenger boats, which have been built expressly for the North Sea trade, and to confine the service, for the present, to passenger traffic. Among other advantages attendant upon the route via Harwich are—A short sea passage, a saving of about ten hours, a harbour on each coast, accessible at all times of tide, and railway communication direct to and from the ship's side at Harwich

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 402.)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

ROYAL COMMISSION.

The Royal Assent was given by Commission to the following bills, viz., Convention with Sardinia, Purchasers' Protection against Judgments, Lunacy Regulation Act (1853) Amendment, Commons Enclosure, Dean Forest, &c.

The Royal Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Argyle, and Lord Montegle.

The Earl of MALMESBURY, in moving for returns relative to the exportation of horses from this country, suggested that while horses were so imperatively required for the Crimea some check should be placed upon their exportation.

The Militia (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Layard, said that the telegraph had been completed to Balaclava; but the only intelligence received was that it had been so completed.

Sir C. WOOD, in reply to further questions, said, only two messages had been received. The telegraph was not entirely open to Balaclava; but it was so far open that a message had been received from Sir E. Lyons in twenty-four hours.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Roebuck, said that the War-office would communicate with Lord Raglan, requesting him to send every day a report of the progress of operations against Sebastopol.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in reply to Mr. Grogan, said that the stocks of spirits in the hands of wholesale dealers would not be assessed to the new duties.

LOAN BILL.

The Loan Bill was read a second time.

The Customs Duties Bill led to some discussion, but was eventually read a second time.

The Spirit Duties (Scotland and Ireland) Bill was read a second time.

TESTAMENTARY JURISDICTION BILL.

The SOLICITOR GENERAL moved the second reading of the Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill.

Mr. MALINS moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months. He considered that the measure, so far from being an improvement of the present system, was calculated to increase the evils complained of.

Mr. COLLIER supported the bill because it would abolish the Ecclesiastical Courts, which from time immemorial had been condemned.

Sir F. THESIGER opposed the bill.

After much discussion the debate was adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

Lord SHAFTESBURY put a question to the General Commanding-in-Chief with respect to certain irregularities of recent occurrence, which took place at Canterbury, between some young officers of the 30th Regiment. He could not but think that the commanding officers were the parties to blame on these occasions, and it was they who should be held responsible for all such breaches of discipline. He asked the noble Viscount whether he had taken measures to put a stop to such disgraceful practices

Lord HARDINGE regretted very much that habits of practical joking were so prevalent in the Army He had not overlooked the particular instance to which the noble Earl had called his attention; he had thought it his duty to issue a severe admonition on the matter; and should this not be attended with the desired effect, he should go still further, and recommend her Majesty to exercise her prerogative with respect to the offending and culpable parties

Lord WODEHOUSE said, were he Commander-in-Chief, he would hold the commanding officers of the several regiments responsible; and, if this resolution were adopted, he would warrant that no such discreditable practices would be carried on as those which had brought disgrace of late on the military profession.

A long and desultory discussion then took place upon the subject of Church Rates, introduced by the Bishop of Exeter

The Earl of ALBEMARLE moved for a return of the quantity of hemp, flax, and tallow received into this country from Russia and Prussia between the 1st of January and the 27th of April in the years 1854, 1854, and 1855, respectively. The noble Earl inquired whether her Majesty's Government intended, with a view to bring the war with Russia to a speedy conclusion, further to restrict the trade of that country by prohibitory duties, or by any other means

Lord STANLEY of Alderney said, in respect to the blockade in the Baltic, it was found unsafe upon the Continent to insist upon the right of the property in those ports were known chiefly to belong to British subjects, but vigorous efforts had been taken to cripple the trade of Russia

HOUSE OF COMMONS. FRIDAY.

STATE OF THE NATION.

Mr LAYARD gave notice that, on an early day, he would move the following resolutions —

That this House views with deep and increasing concern the actual state of the nation

That, whilst at all times the administration of public affairs should be entrusted to those best qualified to discharge the duties imposed upon them, it is the more necessary that it should be so at a moment of great national emergency.

That the manner in which merit and efficiency have been sacrificed to party and family influences, and to a blind adherence to routine in the appointments to the great offices of the State, and to posts in diplomacy, the Army, and other branches of the public service, is opposed to the best interests of the State; has already given rise to grave misfortunes, threatens to bring discredit upon the national character, and to involve the country in serious disasters

That this House will give its best support to any Ministry which, in the present emergency, shall propose to itself, as its main object, the efficiency of the public service in every branch, and the vigorous prosecution of the war as the only means of securing an honorable and lasting peace.

MR. LAYARD AND ARMY PROMOTION.

Mr. Ewart, Mr. H. Baring, and General Peel commented with great severity upon the speech recently made by Mr. Layard at Liverpool, and upon a letter which he published in the *Times*, charging high authorities in the Army with improper disposal of patronage. The promotions to which Mr. Layard objected were fully explained by General PEEL. With a view to show the inaccuracy of the hon. gentleman's statements, and the injustice of his attacks, he read a correspondence between Lord Hardinge and Mr. Layard, in which the former stated that the assertion was untrue that he had promoted his son at the expense of Colonel Wilson, and that it was useless to hold any further correspondence with one who made such reckless and unfounded assertions

Mr. LAYARD replied to the charges that were made against him; but the statements of the hon. member were more general than specific. He, however, refused to withdraw any of his statements. The hon. member's speech was received throughout with loud expressions of disapprobation.

Lord PALMERSTON severely condemned the language used by Mr Layard in his speech at Liverpool.

The Loan Bill and the Customs Duties Bill passed through Committee.

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) BILL

The Lord ADVOCATE moved the second reading of the Education (Scotland) Bill

Mr. BLACKBURN moved that it be read a second time that day six months, on the ground that the measure did not meet the requirements of the Scotch people.

After a long discussion the House divided, when the numbers were—For the second reading, 210; against it, 171, majority in favour of second reading, 39. The Bill was then read a second time.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The whole of the racing interest of the ensuing week is concentrated on Chester, which has rebuilt its Grand Stand, and will commence its Rooden sports on May morning. The principal event of that day is the Palatine Stakes, for sixteen horses, of which Bellmaster, Capuchin, Lady Palmerston, and Mosquito will probably be "colored." In the Mostyn Stakes we find the names of two winners—to wit, Sister to Broughton, and Alfred; while the Chesterfield Handicap has thirty subscribers. Wednesday will witness the thirty-second anniversary of the Tradesmen's Cup, which has 119 acceptances out of 200 entries. Thomas Parr thinks he has it already in his grasp with the five-year-old Mortimer, 6 st 4 lb.; and Claret, 5 st. 8 lb., is also said to be a certain starter. Joe Miller, 6st. 8 lb., who won it in 1852, and Scythian, 7 st. 4 lb., are also well in; but the same can hardly be said of Neville, who has, including his York penalty, 7 st. 12 lb. The Dee Stakes is the principal event of Thursday, and, as it includes Corcoboe, Marchioness, Blooming Heather, Claret, and Lord Alfred in its entry, some thing very good may be looked for; nevertheless, Rifleman, whom he Middleham admirers aver to be nearly a stone better than his stable companion. It is not very probable that Rifleman, whom "the Squire" believes to have an equal superiority over Claret, will run in this race, but will be reserved for the Derby, for which Rasham is engaged to ride him, in case Nat is not at liberty. On Friday the Grand Stand Cup and the Cheshire Stakes are the leading items of the card, along with the Triennial Stakes, in which Claret, Lord Alfred, and Lady Palmerston are antagonists. What with four days' racing, and steeplechases at Manchester on Monday, the merrie men of Lancashire will not lack May games. The Northumbrians will also have an afternoon of steeplechasing, at Wark, on Wednesday, which will virtually wind up the 1854-55 season of this fading species of sport. The Ascot Cup entry comprises ten—Ratapian, Orestes, and Hungerford representing the "crack" seniors. Andover and Virago the four-year-olds, and Fandango and Nettle the three-year-olds. The last-named filly has been lately purchased by Mr. Palmer, the owner of Goldfinder, for two thousand guineas; but she is generally thought to be become Mr. Merry's. The struggle between this gentleman's Lord of the Isles and St. Hubert for the Two Thousand Guineas Stakes, last Tuesday, produced an enormous amount of betting.

The sale of the yearlings at Egerton, on the May 7th, and that of the Althorp yearlings for May 21st. On Wednesday there will be a very interesting sale of twenty-eight greyhounds, of the Sam, Mocking-bird, Nevile, and Figure blood, at Aldridge's Repository.

NEWMARKET SPRING MEETING.—MONDAY.

Handicap Sweepstakes of 20 sovs. each.—Old Rowley, 1. Folly-o'-the-Day, 2.
Match: 100, h. ft.—Kadir, 1. Physalis, 2.
Handicap Plate of £50.—Falcon, 1. Gossip, 2.

TUESDAY

Coffee-room Stakes.—Pugnator, 1. Nutcrement, 2.
Handicap Plate of £70 —Cock Pheasant, 1. Denum, 2
Two Thousand Guineas Stakes.—Lord of the Isles, 1 St. Hubert, 2
Sweepstakes of 300 sovs. each.—Boro', 1. Pelham, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Selling Handicap Sweepstakes of 10 sovs.—Priestcraft, 1 Thessaly, 2.
Queen's Plate of 100 guineas.—Black Swan, 1. Testy, 2
Renewal of the Swaffham Stakes of 50 sovs each.—Triton, 1 The Poor Player, 2.
Plate of 50 sovs.—Fearless, 1. Vulcan, 2.

THURSDAY.

Sweepstakes of 100 sovs.—De Clare, 1. Paros, 2.
One Thousand Guineas.—Habena, 1. Capucine, 2.
Sweepstakes of 10 sovs.—Welham, 1. Thessaly, 2.
Handicap.—Hothorpe, 1. Nathan, 2.

FRIDAY

Newmarket Stakes —De Clare, 1. Polydore, 2.
Handicap Sweepstakes.—Humbolit, 1. Falcon, 2.
Sweepstakes.—Ceres, 1. Fearless, 2.
Sweepstakes.—Habena walked over.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Although it has been officially announced that the Conference at Vienna is virtually at an end, and that Russia positively refuses to agree to the terms proposed by the Western Powers, there has been no material change in the position of the Consol Market. The new Loan of £16,000,000 has, of course, tended to impart weakness to prices; nevertheless, the fall in them during the past fortnight has not been more than about 2 per cent. At present, as the whole of the Loan has been taken up, we see no reason why the quotations should recede much below their present level—unless, indeed, unfavorable news should reach us from the Crimea. There is now an immense amount of capital seeking employment: money out of doors is becoming cheaper; and a strong impression exists in the City generally that the Bank of England will shortly find it necessary, in order to secure a fair amount of discount business, to reduce its minimum rate to four per cent. In Lombard-street money is easily obtained at that rate.

There was some fluctuation in Consols on Monday, and prices were decidedly lower than towards the close of last week. The Three per Cents Reduced were 87¾ to 88⅛; the Three per Cent Consols, 89⅝ to 89¾; and the New Three per Cents, 88⅞ to 89 Consols for account varied from 89¼ to 89⅝. The Omnium was ⅛ to ¼ prem. Bank Stock ruled at 210 to 211½. Long Annuities, New, 16⅛ ⅛. India Stock, 230; India Bonds, 15s.; Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 10s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 99¾. The market on Tuesday was steady. The Three per Cents Reduced were 87⅞ to 88⅛; the Three per Cent Consols, 88⅞ to 89⅛; Consols for Account, 88⅞ to 89⅛; New Three per Cents, 88⅞ up to 89⅛; New Two-and-Half per Cents, 76 to 74; Long Annuities, 1860, 9⅞ 15-16; Ditto, 1859, 3⅞. Bank Stock, 210 to 211½; New Long Annuities, 16 3-16; Indian Stock, 230; India Bonds, 12s.; Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 10s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 1859, were 99⅞. On the following day Bank Stock was 210. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 87⅞ to 88⅛; the Three per Cent Consols, 88⅞ to 89⅛; the New Three per Cents, 88⅞ ⅛; Long Annuities, 1860, 9⅞; Ditto, 1859, 3 11-16; New Long Annuities were 16 3-16, and the Omnium was ⅛ ⅛ prem.; India Bonds, 12s. to 18s.; Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 10s. prem.; South Sea Stock, 117½; Exchequer Bonds, 99⅞. On Thursday the Funds were very quiet, and the leading quotations for the Three per Cents, both for Money and Time, were 88⅞ to 88⅞, closing at 88⅞. The Omnium was ⅛ to ¼ prem.; and the New Annuity, 16 3-16 ⅞. Exchequer Bills were 5s. to 10s. prem.; Bank Stock, 210 to 211½.

The imports of bullion have been under £200,000, chiefly from New York. As the foreign exchanges show no margin of profit on shipments, little or no gold has been forwarded to the Continent this week. There have been some sales of bar silver at 60⅞ per ounce, partly for India.

Most Foreign Bonds have continued very inactive. In prices, however, no material change has taken place

The following are the returns of the note circulation of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ending on the 17th ult:—Bank of England, £19,097,991; Private Banks, 3,744,615; Joint-stock Banks, 3,032,267; Scotland, 3,811,579; Ireland, 6,657,671; Total, £36,274,005; showing a decrease of £610,183 in the circulation of notes in England, and a decrease of £359,599 in the United Kingdom, when compared with the previous month. The total decrease in the circulation, compared with the 18th of March, 1854, is £2,433,132. The stock of bullion is £2,088,942 less than last year

The business doing in the Railway Share Market has been limited. In the general quotations, however, no material change has taken place. The total "calls" for May amount to £797,180. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Bristol and Exeter, 88; Caledonian, 58⅞; Eastern Counties, 11⅞; East Lancashire, 71⅞; Great Northern B Stock, 123⅞; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 94; Great Western, 63⅞; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 75⅞; London and Blackwall, 7⅞; London and Brighton, 93; London and North-Western, 97⅞; London and South-Western, 81; Midland, 68⅞; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 40; Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford, 13⅞; Norfolk, 47⅞; North British, 28; North Devon B Guaranteed, 6⅞; North-Eastern—Berwick, 70⅞; Ditto, Extension, 12⅞; Ditto, G.N.E. Purchase, 8⅞; Ditto, Leeds, 128⅞; Ditto, York, 48; North Staffordshire, 12⅞; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 25⅞; South-Eastern, 80⅞; South Wales, 26⅞; Vale of Neath, 16⅞

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—London, Tilbury, and Southend, 11⅞; Wilts and Somerset, 8⅞.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Great Northern Five per Cents, 115⅞; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 101; Ditto, Five per Cent Scrip, 5⅞. Great Western Irredeemable Four per Cent, 91; Ditto, Birmingham, 10⅞; Ditto, Guaranteed, Stock, 73; Ditto, Chester Shares, 19⅞; Midland Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 98; Ditto, Bristol and Birmingham Six per Cents, 134⅞; North British, 100; Stockton and Darlington, 16⅞.

FOREIGN.—East Indian Five per Cent, 23⅞; Ditto, Extension, 12⅞; Grand Trunk of Canada, A issue, 6; Great Luxembourg, 1⅞; Great Western of Canada Shares, 11⅞; Hamburgh and Toronto, 20⅞; Madrid (new), 11⅞; Namur and Liége, 5⅞; Paris and Lyons, 39; Scinde, 1⅞ pm.

There has been a slight improvement in the demand for Mining Shares. Brazilian Imperial have marked 2⅞; Cobiaco, 3⅞; Fortuna, 1⅞; Linares, 7⅞; Santiago de Cuba, 5⅞; Tin Croft, 1⅞; United Mexican, 7⅞.

Friday Evening.

In consequence of a report to the effect that Lord Panmure had resigned office, Consols have been flat, and a decline of one quarter per cent has taken place in prices since the opening of the market. The Three per Cents have marked 89⅞ down to 88⅞ ⅞. The New Three per Cents are 88⅞. Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 10s. prem. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares are flat.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—The arrivals of English wheat up to our market this week have been very moderate, and the show of samples here to-day was limited. The amount of business doing was in no way extensive, yet, in some instances, prices were from 5s. to 5s. per quarter higher than on Monday, and a good clearance was effected There was a slight improvement in the inquiry for British wheat, the shipment of which was limited, and the quotations were fully 4s higher. Floating cargoes of grain were steady, at very high prices. There was more doing in barley, and grinding and distilling sorts were the turn dearer Malt changed hands slowly, on former terms We had a good consumptive demand for oats, at very full prices. Beans, peas, and flour, were held for more money. The top price of English advanced to 70s per 280lbs.

ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 1,[illegible] barley, 1,450; malt, 4990; oats, 600; flour, 1140. Foreign, wheat, 4,320; barley, 720, oats, 20,310; flour, 130 sacks.

English Wheat, Essex and Kent red, 64s. to 68s., ditto, white, 71s. to 83s.; Norfolk and Suffolk red 64s to 68s.; ditto, white, 4s to 4s. 1 qr, 72s. 3lbs. to 4s., grinding barley, 37s. to 39s.; distilling ditto, 39s. to 39s.; malting, ditto, 39s. to 43s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 6s. to 70s.; brown ditto, 63s. to 64s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 70s.; pale ditto, 70s. to 72s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 23s. to 25s.; potato ditto, 27s. to 28s.; Youghal and Cork black, 23s. to 25s.; ditto, white, 25s. to 26s.; tick beans, 36s. to 40s.; grey peas, 34s. to 37s.; maple, 37s. to 38s.; white, 36s. to 40s.; boilers, 37s. to 42s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 65s. to 70s.; Suffolk, 47s. to 49s. Stockton and Yorkshire, 45s. to 55s.; per 280 lbs. American, flour, 36s. to 42s. per barrel

Foreign. We continue to have a steady demand for nearly all kinds of seeds. Prices rule as follow.

Linseed, English, sowing, 69s. to 70s.; Baltic, crushing, 60s. to 62s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 63s. to 65s.; hempseed, 45s. to 56s per quarter. Coriander, 20s. to 24s. per cwt. Brown Mustard seed, 19s. to 14s.; white ditto, 8s. to 10s.; Tares, 7s. to 10s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £32 to £35 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £19 to £19 5s.; ditto, foreign, £11 11s. to £12 12s.; rape cakes, £6 10s. to £6 15s. per ton. Canary 19s. to 20s. per quarter. Red clover, English, 60s. to 65s.; white ditto, 65s. to 75s. per cwt.

Provisions.—The prices of provisions remain in the metropolis are from 2½d. to 1d. of household ditto, 8d. to 9d. per 4 lb. loaf

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 67s. 1d.; barley, 35s. 8d.; oats, 25s. 10d.; rye, 38s. 10d.; beans, 41s 5d.; peas, 38s 10d

The Six Weeks Averages.—Wheat, 67s. 11d.; barley, 35s. 8d.; oats, 25s. 6d.; rye, 39s. 6d.; beans, 40s. 8d.; peas, 38s 3d

English Gazette Averages.—Wheat, 98,446; barley, 36,153; oats, 30,137; rye, 117; beans, 4281; peas, 70 quarters

Tea.—The public sales held this week have gone off slowly, and, in some instances, prices have had a downward tendency. In the private market very little is doing, and common sound congou is selling at 2½d. per lb.

Sugar.—Our market has ruled unsteady, owing to the additional duties. West India has changed hands at 2s.; other kinds, 1s. 6d. to 3s. per cwt. above last week's currency. The duties on the latter are 3s. per cwt, so that prices have slightly given way. Floating cargoes of foreign have moved off freely, at very full prices Refined goods have sold somewhat briskly. Brown lumps, 46s. to 48s. 6d.; and grocery, 47s. to 48s. per cwt. The total clearances to the 21st inst. were 3,345,334 cwts, against 1,888,380 ditto to 1854.

Coffee.—For most descriptions there has been only a limited demand. In prices, however, no material change has taken place

Rice.—The market rules flat, yet sales have been concluded on former terms. Mid white Bengal has realized 12s. to 12s. 6d. per cwt.

Tallow.—Our market is rather active, and prices continue to advance. P.Y.C., on the spot, has changed hands at 52s. 6d. to 52s. per cwt.; and 54s. to 57s. 6d. to the end of the year.

Spirits.—The demand for rum has ruled tolerably firm, at 1s. 1d. to 2s. 3d. for proof Leewards, and 1s. 1d. to 2s. for East India. For brandy there is an improved inquiry, and the quotations have an upward tendency. Corn spirits are worth 1s. 6d. proof

Hay and Straw. Meadow hay, £3 12s. to £5 5s.; clover ditto, £3 3s to £5 5s.; and straw, £1 1s. to £1 10s. per load

Wool.—The usual series of colonial wool sales will commence on the 3rd proximo. Our market is heavy, yet scarcely any change has taken place in the quotations.

Potatoes.—The supplies are moderate, and a fair amount of business is doing, at from 75s. to 140s per ton.

Cattle (Friday).—Carts Hartley, 19s.; Hastings Hartley, 18s. 6d.; Holywell, 17s. 6d.; Tunfield Moor, 18s. 6d., Wyland, 19s.; Edna Main, 18s.; Haswell, 19s.; Lambton, 18s. 9d.; Stewart's, 19s. per ton.

Hops (Friday). There is only a moderate inquiry for most kinds of hops, yet last week's prices are nearly supported. The imports are only 16 bales from Rotterdam. Mid and East Kent pockets, £14 to £20; Weald of Kent, £13 10s. to £15 15s.; Sussex, £10 10s. to £12 12s

Smithfield (Friday).—To-day's market was seasonably well supplied, with beasts, most breeds of which sold slowly, at Monday's currency. The show of sheep was good; yet the reaction noted last Friday, at very full prices. Lambs were in full coverage supply, steady request, at extreme rates—viz., 5s. 6d. to 7s. per 8 lbs. We had a good inquiry for calves, the show of which was on the increase, at full quotations. In pigs, very little was doing, on former terms. Milch cows sold slowly, at from £14 to £19 each, including their small calf

Per 8 lbs. to the trade:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; middling quality ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 4d.; prime large oxen, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; prime Scots, &c., 4s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; prime coarse-wooled sheep, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime Southdown ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; large coarse calves, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 6d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 0d.; large hogs, 3s. 0d to 3s. 4d.; neat small porkers, 4s 8d. to 4s. 4d.; lambs, 5s. 4d to 7s. 0d.

Per 8 lbs. to the trade:—Inferior beef, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; prime large ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.; ditto small ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; large pork, 3s. 8d to 3s. 8d.; inferior mutton, 3s. 2d to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; prime ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; small pork, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; lamb, 5s. 4d to 6s. 8d

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24.

WAR-OFFICE, APRIL 24TH.

1st Dragoons: Cornet J. Lee to be Lieutenant.

Coldstream Foot Guards: Lieut. and Capt. and Brevet-Major the Hon. W. P. Scarlett to be Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel; Capt. R. H. White to be Lieutenant and Captain.

3rd Foot: Ensign H. Musgrave to be Lieutenant; C. F. H. Farquharson to be Lieutenant; C. Shuttleworth to be Ensign; J. A. Dunlopdale to be Paymaster

[illegible] Foot: Lieut. J. Lloyd to be Lieutenant Cobham to be Ensign.

[illegible] A. W. G. Saunders, T. Bowen, W. [illegible] Ensign to be Lieutenant

[illegible] Lieut. J. H. Cooper to be Captain; [illegible] Ensign to be Lieutenant.

[illegible] Ensign J. M'Queen to be Lieutenant.

[illegible] Ensign H. B. Hunter to be Lieutenant

[illegible] Lieut. A. Carlisle to be Lieutenant; C. Ashburnham, A. Morgan, G. K. Shaw, K. G. Henderson, and W. B. B. Cooper, to be Ensigns

[illegible] Lieut. R. Bennett to be Captain; E. B. Sprouls and T. L. Twiston to be Ensigns.

[illegible] T. Ryan to be Ensign

[illegible] C. B. Powuall to be Ensign.

[illegible] Ensign W. D. Alderson to be Lieutenant

[illegible] Colour-Serg. D Sullivan, J A. Brock, W. G. Seton, and F. B. Cole, to be Ensigns.

[illegible] Lieut. G. H. Browne to be Captain, M. R. Woodard to be Lieut.

[illegible] Lieut. H R McEwen to be Ensign.

[illegible] Lieut. G. P. C. Bray to be Captain, Ensign J. H. Kick to be Lieutenant.

[illegible] Lieut. A. C. Onslow to be Lieutenant.

Lieut. P Macpherson to be Captain; Ensign [illegible] Brevet-Major A. Cameron to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Captains R. Cox, F. P. Kingsford, F. Miller, G. A. Harriman, and W Coates and R. M. Westmacott (late Captains), to be Majors Lieuts H. Phillips, J. Cameron, J. Ellis, J. Allan, and E. J. B. Hodgkinson, to be Captains, and Sir J. Stuart, G. H. A. Robeson, J. W. Nelson, W. Gurnsey, and H. St. Leger, to be Captains

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

T. COWPERTHWAITE, Manningham, Yorkshire, bobbin turner —S MEADE, Bristol tavern keeper

BANKRUPTS

J. APPLETON, Sommerford-grove, Stoke Newington-road, dealer in flour.—D. HARRIS, Sutherland-place, Sutherland-square, bookseller.—W. A. PUTNAM, Strand, glass and china dealer.—D. CUTTER and T. HUNTER, Regent-street, Westminster, tailors J. LAMB, J. LEWIS, and W. T. ALLUM, Woodhouse, Kirk, cement manufacturers. R PRITCHARD, Bermondsey, hide salesman. J. ALLEN, and E. J. B. HOLMGREN, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, woollen cloth merchants. J. WEBB, Scarborough, Yorkshire, hotel keeper —ANN GRIFFITH, Liverpool, licensed victualler. HENRY WORSLEY and J HEYES, Ilkinbottom, cotton manufacturers.—J. T. and W. P. JOHNSON, Manchester, cotton manufacturers M. BROWN and R. INGHAM, Ravensnall, Lancashire, powerloom stuff manufacturers.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS

A. SHIELDS, Dunfermline, grocer —J. CORMIE, Glasgow, machine maker J. and J. M DONALD, Glasgow, shoemaker.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27.

OFFICE OF CIVIL COMMANDANT, APRIL 26

Royal Artillery. Lieut F. Miller to be Second Captain

Medical Department: Assistant-Surgeon H. Briscoe, M.D., and J. M. S Fogo, to be Surgeons

ADMIRALTY, APRIL 23

Royal Marines: Cadets H. Woodruff, T Brewer, H. L. Bourchier, A. Macintosh, H. T B. Davis, C. W. Carlyon, W Skirling, W. W Allnutt, H. T. M. Cooper, F. P. E. M. Sohn, and W. D. Smith, to be Second Lieutenants.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

J. I. BLOOMENTHAL, Rodney-buildings, Rent-road, lithographic engraver, printer, and account-book manufacturer

BANKRUPTS

A. P. BHAW, Devonshire-street, Bishopsgate-street, printer and bookseller. —W P LOCKWOOD, Wakefield, Yorkshire, chemist and druggist.—J HAWKES, Weston-super-Mare, Somersetshire, builder.—J. G. PRIAGE, Exmouth, Devonshire, wife of the Rev. J. Priage, of same. —J ALLEN, Birmingham, builder T. BROWN, Great Guildford-street, doorkeeper, house and parlour maid.—E. WALKER, Bradford, Yorkshire, the late J. Bird, Esq., Stanton Civil Service.

BOOTH, Bradford, Yorkshire, stuff manufacturer.—W. LONGMAN, Moorfoot, Lancashire, grocer. MARGARET BOLTON, Manchester, Lancashire, power-loom cloth manufacturer—H. O. BOX, Dursley, Gloucestershire, woollen draper and tailor.

BIRTHS.

On the 18th inst., at Hamilton-place, the Marchioness of Stafford, of a daughter.

On the 18th inst., at Stoke Hamond, Bucks, the Lady Julia Bonverie, of a daughter

On the 20th inst., at the Vicarage, Dartmouth, the wife of the Rev. J. Tracey, of a son.

On the 21st inst., at Little Chalmon Rectory, the wife of the Rev. H. R. King, of a son.

On the 18th inst., 9, Edward-street, Portman-square, Mrs. Thomas Sheppard, of St. Vincent, West Indies, of a son.

On the 23rd instant, at Guildford, Surrey, the wife of Alexander Shakespear, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 18th inst., C. P. Moore, M.D., Galbally, county Limerick, to Elisa Mary, second daughter of the late Adam Acton, Hill-park, Rosscrea, Esq.

On the 17th inst., at All Saints' Church, Emsleamore-place, Knightsbridge, H. E Wemyss Ross, of Pitcalnie, Ross-shire, Capt. Ross, only son of the late Admiral and Lady Ross, to Lucy Emma Erskine Wemyss, to Millicent Anne Mary Kennedy Erskine, youngest daughter of Lady A. Hallyburton and the late Hon. J. K. Erskine.

On the 19th inst., at St Paul's Knightsbridge, L. S. W D. Damer, Captain South Staffordshire, only son of the Hon. C. D Damer, to the Hon. Caroline Ida Hall, Hatton-garden, second daughter of Major-General the Lord Rokeby Also, at the same time, F Sutton, Captain Royal Horse Guards, third son of the R. Sutton, Esq., to Evelyn Mary Stuart, third daughter of the Hon. G L. D. Damer.

On the 17th inst., at St. George's Church, Dublin, the Rev. L Brock, of Queen's College, Oxford, eldest son of the Rev. W. Brock, Rector of Bishop's Waltham, Hants, to Ruby Roberts, eldest daughter of T. C. Butler, Esq., of Rosville, county Carlow

On the 19th inst., at St. Paul's, Dartmouth, Devonshire, Lieut. Wm. Watts, late of the Madras Artillery, second son of the late J W Watts, Hawkesdale-hall, Cumberland, Esq.; to Sophia Georgina, youngest daughter of the late J. Bird, Esq., Stanton Civil Service

On the 18th inst., at the Congregational Church, Kingsland, by the Rev. Henry Allen, Lieut. Colonel Alex. Gordon, C.B., of Dundee, to Eliza Jane, third daughter, second Clarmont-square, to Mary Anne, third daughter of George Wagstaff, Esq., of Barkerit-buildings, Holborn, and Douglas-road, Canonbury

Also at the same time and place, Kenton James, eldest son of Kance James Ford, Esq., of Rusholme, Manchester, to Elizabeth Harwood, fourth daughter of George Wagstaff, Esq.

On the 23rd inst., at the British Embassy, Paris, by the Rev. C. D. Marriott, M.A., Lieut. Colonel W. D. F. Patton, 74th Highlanders, eldest son of T. Patton, Esq., of Bishop's Hull, and Stoke Court, Somerset, to Julia, only daughter of Sir H. Elphinstone, Bart., of Cre-place, Sussex.

DEATHS.

On the 13th inst., of consumption, Mr. James Hendson, of the Manor Farm, Little Ilford, leaving a widow and six children to deplore his loss, aged 34

On the 22nd inst., at Brighton, the Viscount Lifford, aged 72

On the 5th inst., at Bath, Sophia Louisa Burke, design or of the late Earl of Listowel.

On the 20th inst., at the Rectory, St. Martin Outwich, the Rev. J. J. Ellis, M.A., F.S.A., for thirty-four years Rector of that parish, and Chaplain to the Merchant Taylors' Company, aged 68

On the 21st inst., in Paris, A. Akers, Esq., of Malling Abbey, Magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant of the county of Kent, aged 56.

On the 12th inst., the Rev. T. U. Gibson, Vicar of Sarton, Westmoreland, aged 36.

On the 24th inst., at Gordon-street, Frank, the infant son of W. H. Lucas.

On the 21st inst., at Southampton, Isabella Caroline, wife of Lieut.-general H. Maxwell, and sister of the late Lord Lurgan.

THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH [illegible] THE PALACE FOR GUILDHALL

DEPARTURE OF THE IMPERIAL VISITORS, IN "THE SWINDERS" STEAMER, FOR BOULOGNE.

London: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by William Little, 198, Strand, aforesaid.—Saturday, April 28, 1855.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 741.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

EXTENSION OF THE WAR.

THE rupture of the Conferences at Vienna has not taken the world by surprise. There were a few people in England, as well as elsewhere, who imagined that injustice might have been done to Russia in the course of the struggle; and that the Czar—not this time the man of the "mild eyes," but the man of the "mild heart" and the peaceable character—would accept the favourable conditions offered to him by Great Britain, France, and Austria. Are these persons at length undeceived? Do they not see as clearly as the rest of mankind that there are no means of negotiating with this all-grasping Power? and that the Sword of Victory is the only argument to which it will listen? If they do not, they are blind to facts and deaf to reason, and may be safely left to their delusion, and to the enjoyment, if any, which it can afford them. There is less chance than ever that their minority will ever grow large enough to be troublesome.

There required a last and unmistakable proof that the real object of Russia in fortifying Sebastopol and Kherson, in keeping up a powerful fleet in the Black Sea, and in invading Moldavia and Wallachia, was not religious but political—that the so-called rights of the Greek Christians, of which the late Emperor Nicholas spoke so pathetically, were a cloak for his hypocrisy, and a pretext for his ambition; and that the business to be done was the conquest of Turkey. The proof has been afforded at Vienna. The Czar has positively refused to diminish the number of his ships of war in the Euxine, although he has no legitimate or honest use for them. He has also refused to consider the Black Sea in any other light than as the joint property of himself and Turkey—a *mare clausum* where he and the Sultan may fight if they please, but where no other nation shall have the right to send even so much as a gunboat. How is it possible for any one to doubt, after this, that Russia wants Constantinople, and is determined to obtain it?

Austria, which long ago adhered to the Western alliance by the pens of her Ambassadors and Ministers of State, will now enter into the struggle with the swords of her Generals. The three Powers have proved, by their diplomatic patience, how unwilling they were to make war, and how desirous they were to give Russia a chance of acceding to honourable terms of pacification. They have now to prove by their military prowess, and by a display of their whole strength and resources, that they are equal to the high duty which they have assumed. We speak of the three Powers advisedly; for it is more than improbable—it is impossible—that Austria will be neutral in such a strife. She will unite herself with France and England, heart and soul, and will bring to the common cause one of the most splendid and best-appointed armies that ever was formed in ancient or modern times. The result of such a struggle may be protracted, but it is certain. If the Emperor of Russia were not impelled by circumstances, occult to Europe, but strong enough to force him to undertake a resistance beyond the measure of his ability, he would even at this last moment seek the means to escape from the increasing perils that surround him. Should his friend in Berlin decide upon coming to his assistance, the result would be the same—inevitable defeat; with this difference to Prussia, that the punishment justly inflicted upon the original offender would fall upon the head of his accessory, and that the next settlement of Europe would leave Prussia a smaller and less dignified kingdom than it found her.

The war will immediately assume new dimensions. It is mischievous to disguise from ourselves its real character. The Allies are not to play at war. It is blood not rose-water that is in question. They have not to act a tragedy with wooden swords, upon a stage, but to perform a tragedy of life and death, with the certainty that all the shame, humiliation, and misery which they may abstain from inflicting upon their foe will be inflicted upon themselves. There must be no more false philanthropy in this business; no morbid sentimentalism, and affectation of an effeminate or emasculated courtesy in sparing this city or that city, or in refraining to inflict all possible hurt and damage upon every port, arsenal, and town of the enemy's territory. The sharper the war the shorter. The more complete the discomfiture of the foe, the greater the chance that the peace, which is the only object that Christian and civilised nations can fight for, will be long and happy. If the British and French fleets had taken vengeance for Sinope; if they had not left of Odessa one stone standing upon another; and if they had visited with a similar destruction every accessible Russian port in the Baltic, as they might have done, it is probable that much of the best and bravest blood of England and France, that has been shed in vain before Sebastopol, would have been spared for nobler uses. Europe ought to know that she has an enemy on whom mercy is thrown away; nay, worse—an enemy who mistakes clemency for fear, and who is encouraged to persist in evil by every act of forbearance exhibited towards him. Alexander II. has hitherto seen the smiling countenance of European diplomacy. The time has come when he must be made familiar with the sterner features of its justice.

Let us hope that Peace, when next she shows her blessed face, will find the nations wiser than they were on the unhappy day when she took her departure from amongst them. The war, if it show to some extent the Civilisation, shows to an extent still greater the Barbarism, of the European system. Whatever may be the individual character of its separate States, Europe, collec-

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—THE RIGHT SIEGE TRAIN MOUNTING MORTARS FOR THE 21-GUN BATTERY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

tively, is not civilised. If it were, there could be no such war as that which the guilty ambition of the late, and the no less guilty obstinacy of the present, Czar have forced upon it. In a state of true and religious civilisation LAW is paramount. The individual who robs or murders, or attempts to rob or murder his neighbour, has an opponent in every citizen. There is no man, however lowly, who may not be forced to lend his aid for the restraint or punishment of the malefactor. All the complex machinery of Government, from the humblest constable in the street and janitor in the prison to the Judge upon the Bench and the Sovereign upon the Throne, and through them to the great body politic which pays and upholds them all, are called upon to exercise their functions, either actively or passively, that a wrong may not be done; or, if done, that it may be punished, as an example and a warning for the future. But in the European community there is no such thing as Law, understood in this sense. Every member of it is free to act in the wrong if he pleases, and every other member is free to aid and abet him in it if disposed to do so; and there is no recognised authority that has the power or the right to interfere. Barbarian Russia attacked barbarian Turkey, whom it thought to be sick and dying; and the bulk of the States of barbarian Europe looked on, undecided whether to take the part of the victim against the aggressor, or that of the aggressor against the victim—either to share in the plunder, or to ask the aid of the conqueror at a future day, when a similar outrage against another State might suit their interest or tempt their cupidity. France and England alone vindicated the title of Europe to rank as an aggregation of civilised communities; by standing forward with noble disinterestedness in the cause of right. In such a cause they would not have stood alone, even for a day, if the public law of Europe had been based on just and immutable foundations. Instead of hesitating which side it would join, every State would have declared against Russia—for the same reason, and in the same interest, that every juryman in London or Paris declares against the thief or the murderer, or, as every honest man declares, against the malefactor, surprised and taken in the act. Had this been, as it ought to be, the public law of Europe, and had such been the responsibility of each component member of the system, not only Austria and Prussia, and Powers that claim to be great and mighty, but the very smallest States, such as Switzerland, Denmark, and Portugal, and even Hamburg and the Hanse Towns, would have come forward with their armies, great or small, their fleets, if they had any, or their quota of men and money, in support of the Universal League against the wrong-doer. Will the Powers of Europe never be able to organise for their mutual prosperity and happiness a league like this?—a league in virtue of which a war between any two or more of its several members will become impossible, or, if possible, only possible for a moment, to be quashed at the outset by the union of all States and Governments against the guilty belligerents. Until a system that shall accomplish this object shall be established Europe will be but half civilised. The auspicious friendship of Great Britain and France—strong enough in themselves to defy a world in arms—offers the means by which such an alliance may be effected and perpetuated. Such an alliance would be worthy of the high name of "Holy." If, in consequence of the present war, and of the incalculable miseries which it will inevitably inflict both upon the innocent and the guilty, the long-tormented and oppressed nations of Europe shall learn wisdom enough to unite with France and Great Britain with such an object, the next Peace will not only be far longer and more solid than the last; but the Civilisation of Europe will be worthy of its pretensions, and will have nothing to fear from Russian or any other barbarism. If such an alliance be not formed, a state of warfare will be, as heretofore, the normal condition of nations professing to be Christian, and peace will be nothing but accident.

MOUNTING A MORTAR.

THE mortar batteries appear to have been pretty well worked during the bombardment, although a portion of them were almost useless on the first day, owing to the wetness of the ground, the rain—which did the Allies good service in preventing the Russians from crossing the Tchernaya—having injured the beds of the mortars. In the 13-inch mortar battery many of the beds were so warped by the rain that they could not be used on the first day of the bombardment. A few hours of dry weather, however, soon put all to rights, as the Russians in front of them speedily found to their cost.

The mounting a mortar must be a work of some difficulty. The weight of those in the 21-gun battery, No. 1, right siege train, represented in the preceding page, varies from 35 to 39 cwts. each. They are calculated to throw shells upwards of 4000 yards.

SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA.—The Government of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha has just promulgated the law of succession for the duchy. It is to the effect that, in case the reigning Duke should die without leaving direct heirs, the succession shall pass to Prince Albert and his descendants, but that the reigning King of England and the heir presumptive to the throne of England shall be excluded. It is further enacted that if, when the succession shall become vacant, there shall be no descendant qualified to succeed, other than the King and heir presumptive of England, the King and heir shall be bound to cause the duchies to be administered by a governor, until a descendant qualified to succeed shall have attained his majority. The appanage of the heir presumptive to the duchies is fixed from his majority at 18,000 florins (about £1800) a year. According to this arrangement, upon the death of the reigning duke, who has no child, Prince Alfred would become the heir presumptive, Prince Albert immediately succeeding.

THE GREEKS AT SEBASTOPOL.—The reports of the night sorties of March last made frequent mention of warriors in Greek costume fighting on the Russian side. The leader of these men—who form a free corps—is Aristides Christoveri, a native of Messembria, on the Black Sea coast. When a boy he was taken to Odessa, and educated at the commercial school there. When a young man he forsook commercial pursuits to take part in the war of Greek independence, and from that time served in Greece until 1854. Last summer, when it became plain that the Allies would not allow Greece to be made the basis of clandestine operations against Turkey, Christoveri, with many other Greeks, made for Bessarabia. He was decorated by the late Czar with the order of St. Anne.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.—The following notice has been issued:—"As a great number of British subjects may be expected to visit Paris during the ensuing summer, and as the places of Divine worship in connection with the Church of England are inadequate to the emergency, the Bishop of London has been desirous that additional means of attending the ordinances of the Church should be afforded to many who might otherwise, in the sight of the French people, spend the Lord's-day in a manner unworthy of their Christian profession. The committee appointed by his Lordship for this purpose have to inform the English visiting Paris between the middle of May and the end of September that the Consent Presbytéral of the Reformed Church of Paris have generously granted the use of their large and fine Church of the Oratoire, Rue St. Honoré, for Divine service, according to the usage of the Church of England, on the 30th of May and the Sundays following, at two o'clock p.m.—evening prayer, with a sermon. The committee have further to give notice that the Holy Communion will be celebrated every Sunday morning, at eight o'clock, in the Church of the Oratoire, the service to close at half-past nine.

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF LOUIS NAPOLEON.

The attempt made on the life of the French Emperor last Saturday evening has been the great topic of speculation in that city this week, and for a while the siege of Sebastopol and the Conferences of Vienna were lost sight of in the horror excited by such an act of villany—the contemplation of the consequences to Europe had it taken effect—and the general satisfaction at its failure. It appears that the Emperor, accompanied by two of his household, Colonel Ney and Colonel Valabrègue, in plain clothes, left the palace of the Tuileries about five o'clock on Saturday afternoon, to take his usual ride in the Champs Elysées, and join the Empress, who had preceded him, and was at that moment in the Alley Dauphine, in the Bois de Boulogne. His Majesty on these occasions is never accompanied by an escort, and was only followed by two grooms at some distance. The weather was fine, and the grand avenue of the Champs Elysées, through which he passed at his ordinary slow pace, as well as the side alleys, was thronged with people, who showed the usual courtesy, and saluted him respectfully. As he approached the Barrière de l'Etoile, and when nearly opposite the well-known place of amusement the Château des Fleurs, a man, apparently about thirty-six years old, of dark complexion, and a little under the middle size, advanced forward from the throngs that crowded the pathway on the right, and approached to within five or six paces of the Emperor. He put one hand to his hat as if to salute his Majesty, who was in the act of replying to the compliment, when he drew a pistol from underneath his grey paletot, deliberately presented it at the Emperor, and fired. At the same moment Colonel Ney, who was on the Emperor's right hand, but riding a very little to the rear, advanced his horse, when the assassin, supporting his pistol on his arm, fired a second shot. At the first report the Emperor's horse shied a little, but it was probably that movement which saved the rider, together with the tremulous motion of the assassin's arm, occasioned by the failure of his first attempt. Neither shot took effect. The second ball is said to have grazed the Emperor's hat, or even passed through it, but this is not known with any certainty. The shots were very sharp, and the report loud enough to be heard on the third floor of the houses on the side of the avenue. The assassin was at once seized by two persons who were working at a house hard by, and who had left the building to have a sight of the Emperor as he passed. He was thrown by them on the ground. A police agent, named Alexander, a native of Corsica, whose duty it is to follow the Emperor when riding or driving without escort, leaped out of the small carriage he occupied, ran to the spot where the assassin was struggling with his captors, and prevented him from drawing another pistol. The police agent took hold of him, and as the other made the most violent attempts to shoot those who detained him, inflicted on him, in self defence, two wounds with a poniard cane. The sergeant-de-ville aiding, the police agent succeeded in mastering and disarming him, but it required all their efforts to prevent him from being torn to pieces by the people. He was hurriedly taken off to the Octroi station at the barrier, which was not far distant, and there shelter from the popular rage until a carriage could be brought, in which he was conveyed under the guidance of the police to the Conciergerie.

After the first shot was fired the Emperor bent his head a little, either by an involuntary movement to avoid the bullet or owing to the horse shying. When he saw the assassin in the hands of the people, and his clothes torn, he called out to spare him. The Emperor did not lose his presence of mind for an instant. He gratefully and gracefully replied by frequently taking off his hat and bowing to the thousand acclamations with which he was at once saluted as he still slowly advanced towards the Triumphal Arch. A messenger had been sent on at a gallop to inform the Empress, who was at the Porte Dauphine (Bois de Boulogne), of what had occurred, and to reassure her as to the safety of her husband. In less than half an hour the Empress returned from her drive in an open carriage, with the Emperor riding close by. The sight was touching in the extreme. Her Majesty was deeply affected; her tears flowed in spite of her; she in vain essayed to dry them, and she sobbed convulsively until her efforts to smile with joy at her husband's escape from the murderer. Evidently she could not subdue her emotion; she leant back in her carriage, and relieved her heart in an uncontrolled burst of tears. Then, indeed, it was that the people who thronged the way gave full vent to the more generous feelings of our nature. The sight of the young and lovely woman unable to restrain the agony of her feelings produced an instantaneous effect; the shouts at once rose from the thousands who beheld her, and hundreds of workmen who were employed on a row of houses constructing near the spot from which the assassin fired hung the half-finished walls, the window sills, or clung to the poles of the scaffolding, and rent the air with their acclamations. Accompanied by these manifestations of popular feeling, the Empress proceeded to the Palace. In a short time the news was spread abroad, and the members of the Imperial Family, the Ambassadors, the Ministers of the Emperor, the high functionaries of State, and the members of the household, besides a considerable number of other persons having no functions under the Government, or in the Palace, hastened to present their congratulations.

The Emperor had previously announced his intention and that of the Empress to be present at the Opéra Comique on the Boulevards Italiens, nearly opposite the Rue Laffitte. He and the Empress, notwithstanding what had occurred, were punctual to their word. They arrived at the theatre about nine o'clock; but long before that hour an immense crowd had collected on the boulevard, from the Madeleine to the Rue Vivienne, to manifest their sympathy at his escape. It is calculated that there could not have been less than 200,000 people of every condition collected. The reception was most enthusiastic as the Imperial carriages, attended by an escort of Guides, drove up the Rue de la Paix and Boulevard until they stopped at the door of the theatre; and on their Majesties appearing in their box the whole house rose and uttered the warmest acclamations. For a considerable time it was found impossible to commence the piece, and during the performance the audience, as if unable to keep down its feelings, rose three or four times to give vent to them. The Emperor and Empress left the house at half past eleven, and even at that hour the multitude still lined the Boulevards; the shouting was enthusiastic, as before, and followed them until they entered the palace of the Tuileries.

The assassin, on his arrival at the Conciergerie, was at once examined by the Prefect of Police, and then by the Minister of Justice. The examination is kept secret, but it appears that the man's name is, according to his own account, Pianori. He professes himself to be a shoemaker from Rome, where he states he suffered much from the French bombardment of that city, and that since then he has sworn a personal hatred to the Emperor, and was resolved to kill him. He is a man of about twenty-five years of age, somewhat under the middle stature. His hair is dark brown, and he wears a beard and moustaches. He is rather fair, with high cheek bones, and the expression of his face has nothing in it to betray the murderer. He was dressed in snuff-coloured trousers, dark brown coat (under this coat he wore another of light blue, meaning no doubt to strip off the brown in the confusion, and attempt escape); and he had new shoes. He wore an ordinary black hat, in which are the words, "Crystal Palace," printed in English. There were signs of blood on the left shoulder of his coat, which it appears originated from a slight wound inflicted by one of the armed police, although it is stated that the assassin tried to stab himself. The dagger in his possession was an ordinary weapon with a tin mounted. Two of the pistols were small pocket weapons; but the third was larger, with a wider bore, and capable of carring a couple of slugs. The wretched man would not speak a single word. He appeared perfectly composed, and regarded those around him with the utmost indifference. A considerable sum of money was found on his person, and various reports are afloat as to his instigators. It is stated that he came over from England, and is an Italian exile belonging to some secret society. One thing is quite certain, the act was premeditated, and his not speaking and nothing being found upon his person would indicate a fear to compromise others, and hence those precautions. The police will not reveal what may take place in the prison, as the object should be to ascertain if the unhappy man has any accomplices.

A M. Danesi, an Italian refugee, who was an acquaintance of Pianori, and in the habit of meeting him at the Café de France, near the Palais Royal, is in custody. Danesi protests his innocence, and entire ignorance of Pianori's projects.

The Archbishop of Paris ordered a "Te Deum" in all the churches on Sunday evening.

It was intended at first that the Sunday papers should not notice the attempt, and it was not till ten o'clock on Saturday night, when the popular manifestation was so enthusiastic and so general in favour of the Emperor and Empress, that the official communication was sent round to them. There can be no doubt that in Paris, among people of all classes, there is but one opinion—that of indignation against the murderer, of admiration at the cool courage of the Emperor, and of tender and affectionate sympathy for the Empress.

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, May 2, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received two despatches and their enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, April 17.

My Lord,—I have the honour to transmit for your Lordship's information a letter from the Inspector-General of Hospitals, expressing his satisfaction in being able to report that the sanitary condition of the army continues gradually to improve, and the mortality from disease to diminish.

The fire of both the French and English armies has been continued upon Sebastopol since I addressed your Lordship on the 14th instant, and, though superior to that of the enemy, it has not produced that permanent effect which might have been anticipated from its constancy, power, and accuracy.

The guns of the Russians have been turned upon some of our advanced works in vast numbers, and in one particular instance the injury sustained by a battery was so great that the unremitting exertions of Captains Henry and Walcot, and the gallantry and determination of the artillerymen under their orders, alone enabled them to keep up the fire and to preserve themselves in it.

In another battery yesterday a shell burst close to the magazine, which in consequence exploded—killing, I am much concerned to say, one man, wounding two most severely, and seven in a less degree.

Both the batteries I have mentioned have been repaired and restored to their original condition.

I enclose the list of casualties that have arisen between the 13th and 15th inst. I have to lament the loss of two young and promising officers, who had only lately joined the army—Lieutenant Preston, of the 88th Regiment, and Lieutenant Mitchell, of the Artillery; and I regret to add that two others have been severely wounded—Captain Green, of the East India Company's Service, who has been employed throughout the siege as an Assistant Engineer, with great credit to himself and every advantage to the service; and Captain Donovan, of the 53rd, who has most zealously served from the commencement of the campaign.

The French blew up several small mines in front of the Bastion du Mât after sunset on Sunday evening, with a view to establish a parallel on the spot. This operation greatly alarmed the enemy, who at once commenced a heavy fire of cannon and musketry in every direction from that part of the town, which they kept up for a considerable time. It occasioned no harm on our left attack, upon which a part of it was directed, and I hope did little injury to our Allies.

Several hundreds of the Russian cavalry and a small body of Cossacks appeared on the low range of heights in front of Balaclava this morning, and remained about an hour, when they retired, the greater portion by the bridge of Tractea. The object of this movement was probably a reconnaissance.

The Lord Panmure, &c. I have, &c., RAGLAN.

RETURNS OF KILLED AND WOUNDED

Officers Killed from April 13 to 15 inclusive. 88th Foot: Lieutenant H. B. Preston. Royal Artillery: Lieutenant R. A. Mitchell.

Officers Wounded from April 13 to 15 inclusive.—Royal Engineers: Lieutenant G. Graham, slightly. Royal Artillery. Assistant-Surgeon H. W. Cockerill, slightly. Royal Engineers: Captain and Assistant Engineer H. Green, H. E. I. C. Service, severely. 33rd Foot: Captain E. W. Donovan, severely.

Non-commissioned Officers and Privates Killed from April 13 to 15 inclusive.—50th Foot: Quartermaster-Sergeant Thomas Clifford, Private Thomas McNamara. Royal Artillery: Sergeant Alexander Jamieson. Royal Sappers and Miners: Private Joseph McAsh. 9th Foot: Private Michael Sheady and William Toby. Royal Artillery: Sergeant John Sutherland, Gunner William Boyd, Gunner James Birch, James Lawley, Henry Mcghehan, and [illegible]. 34th Foot: Private Michael Byrne. 97th: Private James Knight. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade. Corporal Thomas [illegible], Royal Sappers and Miners, Private John Le Patrick.

Non-commissioned Officers and Privates Wounded from the 13th to 15th April, inclusive. [illegible] Patrick Connell, slightly. 4th: [illegible] Allen, dangerously. 50th: Sergeant Thomas O'Brien, slightly; Private Michael [illegible], slightly. 34th: Private Thomas Burke, severely. 63rd: Private John [illegible], slightly. 97th: Private William McLaughlin, slightly. Royal Artillery: Gunner George Warner, [illegible]. Sergeant Alexander Hunter, James Lloyd, severely. Alexander Adams and Alfred Brown, [illegible]. Sergeants William Sinclair and Thomas Tear, severely. William Grant and Thomas Martin, slightly. 4th Foot: Lance-Sergeants John Cullegan and [illegible], slightly. Privates William Campbell and William Turner, slightly. [illegible] and Edwin Draper, severely. 9th: Privates Martin Hagarty, severely; Joseph Lane, dangerously. William Walsh, slightly. 23rd: Private John O'Neill, slightly. 34th: Private Michael Mechan, slightly. 88th: Private Thomas Carter, [illegible]. Private John Cullinane, severely. 97th: [illegible] John [illegible], slightly. [illegible] and George Park, [illegible]. Edward [illegible]. Thomas [illegible] Mathew Cowdy, dangerously; Gunner James Lobert and James Sharp, slightly. James [illegible], severely; George Stewart, Sergeant Angus Clarke, and Gunner William Dick, slightly. Royal Sappers and Miners: Private William Small, severely. 7th Foot: Private William Rowsate, slightly. 34th: Corporal William Ryland, slightly. 33rd: Lance Corporal Denis Long, slightly; Privates William Fowler, slightly, Daniel Larkin, [illegible]. 50th: Private Peter Young, severely. 88th: [illegible]. Private Alfred Hopkins, slightly. 97th: Private John [illegible], severely. [illegible], slightly. 47th: Private James White, slightly. [illegible] and William Barnhill, severely. Sergeant James Lyell, [illegible]. Gunner William Hewison, Joseph Hunting, [illegible]. Royal Sappers and Miners: [illegible], severely. 9th: Privates Joseph [illegible] and [illegible]. Private John Franklin, dangerously. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private Henry Wright, slightly. Royal Artillery: Corporal Francis Wood, severely; Bombardier [illegible], Gunners Joseph Davidson and William [illegible].

A Return of Casualties in the Royal Navy, from April 13 to 15 inclusive.—Killed: Lieutenant Nicholls, L.S.; John Johns, Able, Queen; John Hall, A.B., Leander; John Trino, A.B., Queen; John Woodford, Ord., Wasp; [illegible] Charles Green, Ord., Leander. Wounded: Patrick Flynn, Ord., Leander; [illegible], London; Michael Lansen, Leander, severely; [illegible] Ed. Broughton, A.B., Queen, slightly; Charles Carter, Ord., Wasp; [illegible] Carter, Ord., Wasp, slightly. Contused: John Linnington, A.B., Leander; William Hayward, coxswain cutter, Sidney; William Brandley, Ord., Wasp, slightly; John Keenan, A.B., Leander, severely; William Ash, [illegible]. Queen, severely; [illegible] Arm; Edward Smith, Ord., London; William [illegible] Childs, Ord., Sidney, dangerously; James Woodgate, L.S., Queen; [illegible] A.B., Leander; William Turner, Ord., Leander; Daniel Cordy, A.B., Queen; William [illegible], Ord., and George Hanton, L.S., Leander, slightly.

War Department, May 4, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, April 21.

My Lord,—Omer Pacha having considered it expedient to make a reconnaissance in front of Balaclava, with a view to ascertain what force the enemy had on the Tchernaya, he proceeded at daylight on the 19th inst., by the extreme right of Sir Colin Campbell's position, towards Kamara, with about twelve battalions of Turkish infantry; having in the plan on his left a body of French cavalry and a battery of horse artillery, under General Forey, and two squadrons of heavy cavalry and two squadrons of the 10th Hussars (the whole of which regiments have, I am happy to say, arrived), and half a troop of horse artillery, under Colonel Parihy; these detachments of French and English troops having been placed at his Highness' disposal by General Canrobert and myself.

The enemy showed only a few Cossacks on this side of the river, who remained on a height overlooking Chagouria till driven from it by a few discharges of rockets by the French artillery; and on the other side, behind the village, a mixed force with four guns only was visible.

Omer Pacha did not think it desirable to cross the river, but shortly drew after he had satisfied himself that the enemy were not in strength, and the troops returned to their camp, the infantry covered by the cavalry and artillery. The appearance of the Turkish army was very satisfactory.

The rifle-pits, in front of the advance of our trenches, and of our trenches on the extreme right, were attacked and carried by assault the night before last in the most gallant manner, by a detachment of the 77th Regiment under Colonel Egerton, forming part of the additional force sent to reinforce the guard in the trenches in the evening.

The resistance of the enemy, although obstinate, was speedily overcome by the impetuosity of our troops; and the pit, which it was desirable to retain, was, without the loss of a moment, connected with our approach, and thereby furnished protection to the working party to continue its labours without interruption for a considerable time. At the interval, however, of about three hours the enemy brought a heavy fire of artillery and musketry upon the party in advance of the pit, into which they effectually defended and maintained; but this brilliant achievement was not accomplished without considerable sacrifice of life; and it is most painful to me to have to announce to your Lordship the death of Colonel Egerton, of the 77th, who was unfortunately killed when forming troops for the support of those on the extreme advance, and of that of Captain Lempriere, of the same regiment, who fell in the first affair, in which also Colonel Egerton received a contusion that only incapacitated him for duty for a few minutes; and five officers were wounded, three of them dangerously.

Colonel Egerton was an officer of superior merit, and conducted all his duties, whether in the camp or in the field, in a manner highly to his own honour, and greatly to the advantage of the public; and her Majesty's service could not have sustained a more severe loss, and it is so felt in this army and in the 77th, where he was much beloved, and is deeply lamented.

Captain Lempriere was a very young but most promising officer.

Captain Owen, whose leg has since been amputated, and Lieutenant Baynes, are both most valuable officers of Engineers; as is Captain King, of the same corps, who was wounded two nights before.

Brigadier-General Lockyer, who was the General Officer of the trenches in the night attack; Lieut.-Colonel Mundy, of the 33rd, who succeeded to the command of the troops engaged in the operation on the death of Colonel Egerton; and Captain Coddy, of the 34th, deserve to be most favourably mentioned; and Lieut.-Colonel Tylden, the officer of Engineers in charge of the night attack, distinguished himself [illegible] he has done on many previous occasions—in a remarkable manner. The conduct of the troops was admirable.

I beg to lay before your Lordship the list of casualties which have occurred since the return was made out which I forwarded to you on the 17th

In my despatch of that day, I informed your Lordship that a magazine had exploded in one of our batteries; but I omitted to state that Captain Dixon, of the Artillery, availed himself of the opportunity to evince the coolest judgment and most determined gallantry, by instantly opening a gun upon the enemy, notwithstanding the confusion which the bursting of the shell had occasioned, the number of men who had suffered from it, and the great damage the battery had sustained.

I have the satisfaction to report to your Lordship the arrival of the 43th and Royal Regiments from Corfu, in her Majesty's ships *Leopard* and *Sidon*.

I have omitted to mention in the body of this letter that two squadrons of Turkish cavalry were also in the plain.

I have, &c.,

The Lord Panmure, &c. RAGLAN.

LIST OF KILLED AND WOUNDED

Nominal Return of Officers who have been Killed from April 16 to 19, inclusive. 77th Foot Col C. L. Egerton, Capt. A. Lees, wounded.

Nominal Return of Officers who have died from Apr. 16 to 19 inclusive. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade—Lieut. W. Arden, wounded; Lieut. Hon. A. Gordon, severely; Lieut. T. Trevor, dangerously. 77th Capt. B. D. Gilby, and Lieut. and Adjt. E. M. Mause, slightly. Royal Engineers—Capt. H. C. Crown, and Lieut. C. E. S. Bayne, dangerously.

Nominal Return of Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates Killed from 16th to 19th April, inclusive. 7th Foot Private Thomas Hessiger. Royal Artillery, Gunners Matthew Mc Queen and Jas. Smallen. 7th Foot Private John Brown. 23rd Private John Ryan. 34th Private Patrick Hackett. 41st Private Thomas Dalwell. 48th Private William Curran. 55th Private Michael Lynch. Private Thomas Dalwell. 48th Private William Curran. 55th Private Michael Lynch. Private Thomas Dalwell. 48th Private William Curran. 55th Private Michael Lynch. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade Private Charles Calvey. 23rd Foot Private John Russell. 33rd Private Peter Mooke, and Thos Neville. 49th Lance Corporal Wm. Smith and Private Wm. Cordiller. 77th Private Richard Wilcox, Jas. Jackson, Thomas Kinsle, George Parks, James Leahy, and Alex Stewart. Royal Sappers and Miners Private Sam Evans

Nominal Return of Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates Wounded from April 16 to 19 inclusive. 1st Foot Sergeant John Wallace, slightly. 2nd Private Jas Sebon, severely. 20th Private John Desmond, dangerously (since died). 33rd Private Thomas Doyle, severely. 38th Lance Corporal Michael Quinn, slightly. Private David Hamilton, severely. 41st Colour-Sergeant John Fitzpatrick, dangerously. 77th Private Michael Reynolds, slightly. 88th Private Neil M'Guire, severely. 90th Privates David Pawla and Philip Adams, severely. 97th Private James Pearson, slightly. Royal Artillery, Gunner Henry Adams, Wagner Baker, John Loughery, slightly; Acting Bombardier Peter McDonald, severely. Gunners Wm. Evans, severely; William Ford, George Scotch, Alfred Moss, Richard Griffiths, Wm. Jones, George Kelly, Lancelot Sayford, Thomas Tredford, slightly. 2nd Private Thomas Walker, severely. 23rd Private Patrick Whelan, slightly. 33rd Private Timothy Downey, severely; James Ryan, slightly. 34th Corporal Robert Wilcox, and Private William Mc Donald, severely; Private Jas Bohan, severely. 77th Corporal H. Whitehead, severely; Private Thomas Hessiger, dangerously, and J. Powers, slightly. 97th Private Michael Mahon, severely. Royal Artillery, Gunner Henry Atkins, slightly; Gunner James Moore and Patrick Cassey, severely. Gunner Robert Alexander, Gunner Thomas Mitchell, Private Jas Lamont, Gunner Robert Alexander, Gunner Thomas Mitchell, Private Jas Lamont, Gunner Robert Alexander, Gunner Thomas Mitchell, Private Jas Lamont, severely. 2nd Private Patrick Mahon, slightly. 23rd Private Michael Hardiman, severely. 33rd Private Patrick Whelan, slightly. 34th Private Michael Mahon, severely. 41st Private Thomas Mayhew, severely. 48th Private Michael Sullivan, slightly. 77th Private Jas Campbell and Samuel Garson, severely. 88th Privates P. Haggerty and John Smith, slightly. Royal Artillery, Gunner Henry Adams, severely. 97th Private William Smith, severely. 49th Private Michael Hardiman, severely. Gunner Wm. Evans, severely; William Ford, George Scotch, Alfred Moss, Richard Griffiths, Wm. Jones, George Kelly, Lancelot Sayford, Thomas Tredford, slightly. 2nd Private Thomas Walker, severely. 23rd Private Patrick Whelan, slightly. 33rd Private Timothy Downey, severely; James Ryan, slightly. 34th Corporal Robert Wilcox, and Private William Mc Donald, severely; Private Jas Bohan, severely. 77th Corporal H. Whitehead, severely; Private Thomas Hessiger, dangerously, and J. Powers, slightly. 97th Private Michael Mahon, severely. Royal Artillery, Gunner Henry Atkins, slightly; Gunner James Moore and Patrick Cassey, severely. Gunner Robert Alexander, Gunner Thomas Mitchell, Private Jas Lamont, severely. 2nd Private Patrick Mahon, slightly. 23rd Private Michael Hardiman, severely. 33rd Private Patrick Whelan, slightly. 34th Private Michael Mahon, severely. 41st Private Thomas Mayhew, severely. 48th Private Michael Sullivan, slightly. 77th Private Jas Campbell and Samuel Garson, severely. 88th Privates P. Haggerty and John Smith, slightly. Royal Artillery, Gunner Henry Adams, severely. 97th Private William Smith, severely. 49th Private Michael Hardiman, severely. James Nolan, severely; Lance Corporal P. Kane, dangerously; Private John Greenwood and Patrick Kilkenny, slightly; John M. Brown, Hugh Dougherty, Hugh Dillaway, James Webb, Laurence Dempsey, William Cromey, Francis Bennett, Patrick King, Stewart Taylor, James Tyrrell, George Heurtley, James Sayer, Charles M'Carthy, William Elderkin, Patrick Toohey, Thomas H. Kane, Thomas Jones, William Tracey, Stephen Walker, Patrick Whelan, Henry Hargreaves, Alexander M. Sallam, John Saul, and Alexander Chear, severely. Lord Waterford, dangerously. 88th Sergeant Jas Charles Cassidy, and Andrew Liddell, severely. 90th Privates T. Kelly, severely; J. Nicholson, dangerously. 97th Private Stephen Fanshawe, slightly. Royal Artillery, Gunners J. Weed, severely. Royal Sappers and Miners: Colour-Sergeant Henry M'Donald, slightly; James Dwyer and Peter Tuvell, severely.

A Return of Casualties in the Royal Navy Brigade before Sebastopol, from the 17th to 29th April, 1855.—Wounded John Hooper, 1st, Leander, and George Green, A.B., Rodney, severely; James Smith, A.B., Rodney, severe. John Muller, A.B., Leander, mortally. Drowned W. Arnold, Leander.

DESTRUCTION OF THE FLAGSTAFF BATTERY. At about four o'clock this morning the French made a last attempt to spring their two remaining mines. This time they went completely successful, and Sebastopol and the Allied Camp were alike startled by the tremendous concussion and roar, as both the charges exploded with fearful violence. For a moment or two afterwards there was a dead silence, while the huge cloud of smoke and earth hung like a pall over the Flagstaff earthworks, and then, as the nature of the explosion broke upon the enemy, and as if they feared a general assault was about to take place, all their batteries opened out at once. Never since the commencement of the siege have we witnessed such a cannonade as broke from the Russian lines. From all their batteries the guns were discharged almost in volleys, until the town seemed surrounded with a circle of fire. The tremendous nature of the cannonade elicited a proportionate reply from us, and the alarm [illegible] considerable [illegible] Fields the [illegible] heights, anxious to ascertain the precise fate of the Flagstaff; but, much to my disappointment, I found it was still firing occasionally, though only about ten per cent of its volleys a week ago. In the centre of the work is a gap of about eighty feet long, before which lies a scattered heap of stones and dirt. This is the spot under which the centre charge of 1000 lb. of powder was placed, and it is in where the greatest amount of damage has been done. At the moment of the explosion the guns in the battery were blown away, with half the earth from the upper tier of guns. Of the charges, on the right and left bastion, that under the right failed, but under the left a considerable degree of mischief appears to have been effected. The guns on there are rent and damaged, and of course their guns must have been overturned, and their ways injured. The enemy, it is said, have made attempts to repair it since the mine was sprung, but in vain; but it would be much easier now to throw up a new work than repair the old. While I was surveying it the French had about fifty or sixty guns firing their different batteries pouring their iron hail full into it. remains. From the upper parts of the work some five or six guns were still manned, and attempting in vain to reply effectively. One of these was silenced while I was looking on, but the work up to that moment, while the Flagstaff Battery will cease to exist among the defences of Sebastopol. Every hour it grows weaker, its defenders more exposed, and its guns fewer in number. During the night the mortars continue the work the long guns began, so that it is utterly impossible to attempt repairs with anything like hopes of success. If all the other Russian batteries were in the same state now as the Flagstaff, the Allies would be in Sebastopol before to-morrow.—*Letter from the Camp, April 19.*

LITERARY ASSOCIATION OF THE FRIENDS OF POLAND.—The annual meeting of this association was held on Thursday at the Sussex-hotel, Duke-street, St James's; the Marquis of Breadalbane in the chair. From the report of the past year it appears that lectures have been delivered in various parts of the kingdom, proposing the re-establishment of a Polish kingdom, with the view of maintaining public feeling in favour of the scheme, and of which lectures has already been made manifest by the presentation of numerous petitions to the House of Commons for the restoration of Poland. The report also alluded to the formation of a Polish Legion, and the great aid which the Poles have rendered to the cause of Turkey and the Allies. Considerable assistance has been afforded by the English Government in sending out Poles to serve in the Cossack cavalry regiments in the Turkish service; and it appears that 350 Polish prisoners of war confined in England have lately been dispatched to Schumla, at their own request, to enter the second regiment of Turkish Cossacks. Lord Ellesmere, in moving the adoption of the report, bore testimony to the excellent conduct of the Poles, and their disinterested attachment to their beloved country. The noble Lord expressed a very decided opinion as regards the security of British kingdoms, as a barrier against Russian aggression—a security which was being fall daily more and more by the people of England, and in which Austria, if she knew her own interests, would be the first to concur. The resolution was seconded by the Rev. Dr Worthington, and carried *nem. dis.* The Earl of Harrington moved a resolution expressive of the profound sorrow felt by the meeting, and the friends of Poland generally, at the decease of the late Lord Dudley Stuart; which was seconded by Mr. Monckton Milnes, M.P., and supported in short speeches by Prince Ladislas Czartoryski and M. Pulsky. The resolution was carried by acclamation. A third resolution, advocating the necessity of re-establishing Poland as an independent State, and a barrier against Russian aggression, was moved by Mr. J. Abel Smith, M.P., seconded by Mr. E. Beales, and carried unanimously. Other speeches were afterwards made, and resolutions passed in furtherance of the general purposes of the society, and the meeting did not adjourn till a late hour.

OLIVER CROMWELL'S VETERANS. The last two of the "Ironsides" appear to have been Alexander McCullough, who died more than Aberdeen the time of his death in 1767, aged one hundred and thirty-two; and Colonel Thomas Winslow of Tipperary, in Ireland, who died in 1766, at the extraordinary age of one hundred and forty-six. He held the rank of captain when accompanying Oliver on the famous expedition to Ireland in 1649. But perhaps the most remarkable relic of that period, transmitted to our own times, was the son of one of Oliver's drummers; which son was living near Manchester, as recently as 1843, at the age of one hundred and twenty. This was James Horrocks, whose father, supposing him to have been a drummer boy of the age of ten at the Protector's death in 1658, need not have been more than seventy-five at the birth of the son, so that the case is quite credible.—*Manchester Guardian.* —*From "Notes and Queries."*

NEW FORTIFICATIONS IN BELGIUM.—The Belgian Government asks of the Chambers a vote of 9,400,000 francs on the fortifications of Antwerp, and new works for the defence of the Scheldt. The works of the intrenched camp are to be extended; new batteries are to be raised to command the river; and forts Philippe, Lillo, and Sainte Marie, are to be strengthened. The *exposé des motifs* accompanying the bill for authorising this expenditure declares that the execution of the works is prompted by considerations connected with the defence of Belgian nationality, and the preservation of the country's independence.

MICROSCOPIC WRITING.—Professor Kallano has had executed in Paris some extraordinary microscopic writing on a spot no larger than the head of a small pin. The Professor shows, by means of powerful microscopes, several specimens of elegance and beautiful writing; one of which contains the whole of the Lord's Prayer, executed within this minute compass."

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. B. C., Hoboken, is thanked for his interesting letter. Both Problems and Games shall have due attention.

SIGNOR A., Leamington.—Your stratagem of four Mates admits, unfortunately, of a very compact solution in two.

T. M.—The Problem mentioned is the composition of "A Shagird," or native Chess-player of India, and is considered to be very clever. Place the men carefully as follows, and then, without moving them, find how White mates in three moves. White: K at Q Kt 6th, R at Q 6th, B at K R 8th, Kt at K Kt 7th, Pn at K Kt 3rd and K R 6th. Black: K at Q 4, B at Q 3rd, and P at K Kt 4th.

A CONSTANT READER.—We must refer you for Mr. Bolton's "game" to the Number for March the 17th.

E. H., Norfolk.—Your Solution of Mr. B's Problem was the true one.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 583, by Henricus, T. F., W. S., Mortimer, Mrs. Pilleody, W. G., T. H. of Hayward's Heath, Leon, J. W. S., J. J., Falmouth, Cyprus, Salopian, Sarsfield, W. Cudbury, W. B. of L., J. W. S. of H., are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 584, by Clifton, M. P., Major L. D. D., Omicron, P. T. W., Fitz, Miles, Tess Rico, Alpha, P. G. W., Delta, Essex, Humble, F. R. S., A. G. R., F. R. of Norwich, J. A. M., Pakenham, Yddaw, Chelsonham, Ale Pasha, X. Y. Z., An Old Salt, Stanesgate, are correct. All others are wrong.

*** The length to which our Games run this week necessitates the postponement of many answers to Correspondents.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 581.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R from Q B 7th to B 6th	Kt to K 4th (best)	3. R at K 6th takes Kt (ch)	Any move
2. R to K 6th	K moves (best)	4. R or Kt mates.	

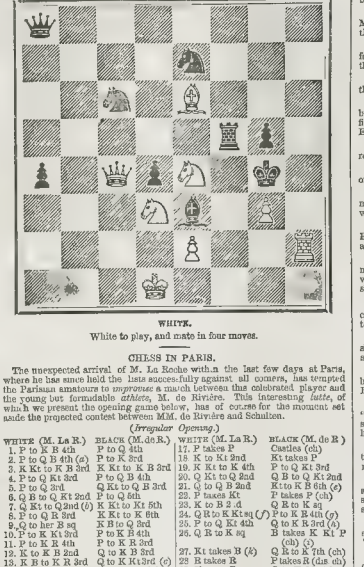
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 582.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to R 2 2nd	Q takes B (best)	3. Q to K 5th (ch)	K takes Q
2. R takes P (discovering ch)	K moves	4. R to K R 5th, and mates next move.	

PROBLEM No. 585.

By Mr G. C. C.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS IN PARIS.

The unexpected arrival of M. Le Roche within the last few days at Paris, where he has since held his head successfully against all comers, has tempted the Parisian amateurs to *improvise* a match between this celebrated player and the young but formidable *athlete*, M. de Rivière. This interesting *lutte*, of which we present the opening game below, has of course for the moment set aside the projected contest between MM. de Rivière and Schulten.

(*Irregular Opening.*)

WHITE (M. La R.)	BLACK (M. de R.)	WHITE (M. La R.)	BLACK (M. de R)
1. P to K 4th	P to Q 4th	17. P takes B	Castles (ch)
2. P to Q B 4th (*a*)	P to K 3rd	18. K to Kt 2nd	Kt takes P
3. K Kt to K B 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	19. K to Kt 6 4th	P to Q Kt 3rd
4. P to Q Kt 3rd	P to Q B 4th	20. Q Kt to Q 2nd	Q B to Q Kt 2nd
5. P to Q 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	21. Q to Q B 2nd	Kt to K B 6th (*e*)
6. Q B to Q Kt 2nd (*b*)	P to Q 6th	22. P takes Kt	P takes P (ch)
7. Q Kt to Q 2nd (*c*)	K Kt to Kt 5th	23. K to B 2 d	P takes Kt
8. P to Q R 3rd	K Kt to K 6th	24. Q R to K Kt sq (*f*)	P to K R 4th (*g*)
9. Q to her B sq	K B to Q 3rd	25. P to Q Kt 4th	Q to K R 3rd (*h*)
10. P to K 4th	P to K P 4th	26. Q R to K sq	B takes Q R P
11. P to K R 4th	P to K R 3rd		(ch) (*i*)
12. K to K B 2nd	Q to K B 3rd	27. K takes B (*k*)	Q R to K 7th (ch)
13. K R to K R 2nd	Q to K Kt 3rd (*d*)	28. R takes R	P takes R (dis ch)
14. Q Kt to K B sq	K Kt to K 5th (ch)	29. K takes P	Q to K 6th (ch)
15. B takes Kt	P takes B	30. K to Q sq	R takes R
16. K Kt to Q 2nd	P to K 4th (*e*)	31. K Kt to K 2nd	R to K B 7th—

and Wins.

(*a*) The usual, and we think the preferable, move is K Kt to K B 3rd.

(*b*) It is obviously expedient to prevent Black occupying with his K Kt the vacant post so conspicuously inviting at the K 3rd; but how to effect this without submitting to some other inconvenience is a problem of no easy solution. P to K 4th is not to be thought of, because the adverse Q Pawn would take it in passing, and it will afterwards prove as troublesome as the Kt himself. Then we turn to K K Kt 3rd, but, by acting thus, White only encourages Black to fall upon Q Bishop at the earliest opportunity, which would lead at once to K R 4th, that might be met with K B P moving a square. As a last resource we hesitate between P to the 4th and P to Q Kt 3rd; the latter is apparently the safer, and, on consideration, each of the two lines will be found equally good. For playing P to Q Kt 3rd, Black may answer at once with Q Q Kt 2nd, following that by Q Kt to Q Kt 3rd, and if the adverse Bishop be sacrificed, he may and advance his K to his 4th; but, secure of a good game, White, doubtless, has to consider that M. La Roche had nothing else but to permit the Kt to advance, as we see he did, and make the best of it.

(*c*) Threatening to advance the K Pawn, and with that the subsequent destruction of all White's defences on the K side.

(*d*) We shall find the assault is now kept up with remarkable ability and fire.

(*e*) Excellently well played.

(*f*) It was indispensably necessary to defend this Pawn, or Black would have sacrificed his Bishop for it the next move.

(*g*) An all-important measure, not alone for the blockade of the enemy's Pawns on this side, but with the visible object of giving the Queen a point of attack from the K R 3rd.

(*h*) After this, White's position is indefensible, adopt what course he may.

(*i*) Considering that M. de Rivière had already sacrificed one gallant officer for the sake of an attack, the immediate sacrifice of a second was a daring act, to be justified only by victory.

(*k*) Had he taken with the King, Black's purpose, doubtless, was to march onward with the Pawn to Bishop's 7th, which would have proved to him a line of attack quite irresistible.

CHESS IN VIENNA.

The following very piquant and instructive game was recently contested by Messrs. FALKBEER and HAMPE, two of the finest players in Austria.

(*Irregular Opening.*)

WHITE (Mr. H.)	BLACK (Mr. F.)	WHITE (Mr. H.)	BLACK (Mr. F.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	17. K to B 3rd	K Kt to K 5th
2. Q Kt to Q B 3rd (*a*)	K Kt to K B 3rd	18. Q B to K 2nd	B takes B
3. K R to Q B 4th (*b*)	P to Q Kt 4th	19. P takes B	P to K B 4th
4. K B takes Kt P	P to Q B 3rd	20. P to K Kt 3rd	K Kt takes P
5. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th		(ch) (*g*)
6. P to Q 3rd	P to Q 4th	21. K takes Kt	P to K R 5th
7. P takes P	P takes P	22. P takes P	P takes P (ch)
8. K B to Q Kt 5th (ch)	B to Q 2nd	23. K to Kt 2nd	Q to K Kt 3rd (*h*)
9. B takes B (ch)	Q takes B	24. Q to Q 2nd	Q R to K B sq
10. P to K R 3rd (*c*)	Q Kt takes B	25. K B to K Kt sq	K R to K B 6th
11. P to Q B 3rd (*d*)	Q to Q Kt 3rd	26. K to B 2nd	Q to K 3rd
12. Q Kt to Q B 3rd (*e*)	K Kt to K B 3rd	27. K R to Kt 2nd	K to K B 5th
13. K R to Q B 4th (*f*)	P to Q Kt 4th	28. Kt to K B 2nd	Kt takes B
14. Q Kt to Q 4th	Castles on K side	29. Kt to K Kt 4th	Kt to K 6th
15. Q Kt to Q sq	P to K 5th (*g*)	30. Q R to K sq	Kt takes Kt (ch)
16. P to Q B 3rd	Q to Q B 3rd (*f*)	31. P takes Kt	Q to Q 3rd
16. K Kt to K 2nd	Q Kt to Q 6th (ch)	And White surrenders.	

(*a*) An opening in which Mr. Hampe is extremely partial, and in the use of which he exhibits great originality and resource.

(*b*) P to K B 4th, followed, on Black's part, by K B to Q Kt 5th, leads to many striking situations, and is perhaps the most lively form this game can take. For other variations see the "German" Handbook" (1843), p. 318.

(*c*) This was an error, seemingly irreparable, for White never afterwards appears to have had time to liberate his men. We believe he should have played K Kt to K B 3rd.

(*d*) Mr. Falkbeer has now a powerful attack, and he maintains it like a master.

(*e*) White's case is too perilous for timid measures. His Pawns are locked up, and it is obvious that, if exposed to the combined action of the enemy's Hooks and Knights, the position of his King cannot long be tenable. For these reasons, Mr. Hampe's predilection, we would at once have sacrificed the Queen's Pawn. By thrusting that Pawn forward on the adverse Bishop, and then playing his own Bishop to K 3rd, he must have prevented the opening of the King's file, and yet have gained time to bring his forces into the field.

(*f*) A fine move, admirably followed up.

(*g*) We have good retrospects, no fear, in Chess, as in other things, during the last few years for a succession of brilliant combinations occurring in a single *partie* is quite a rarity and has upon us all the fresh, stirring influence of some announced novelty. When will our amateurs shake off their apathy and give us something so smart in style, and sound in calculation, as this sparkling little game?

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

It is understood to be the intention of her Majesty to occupy the new mansion-house of Balmoral during the next autumn.

Great preparations are making at Warsaw for the coronation of the Czar as King of Poland. The ceremony is to be performed in June.

The young King of Portugal and his brothers have had an attack of measles, but it is not at all of a dangerous nature. It is said that his Majesty will proceed to Paris to see the Exhibition, and afterwards visit the Courts of Brussels and London.

Lord Goderich has been invited to a public dinner in the Philosophical Hall, Huddersfield, in Whitsun week.

Prince Gortschakoff has renewed the lease of his house at Vienna for six months. From this it is inferred that, if he does not expect peace, he is at least sure that there will be no rupture between Russia and Austria.

The Lord Chamberlain has issued cards for a State ball at Buckingham Palace on the 9th inst.

Admiral Hamelin, the new Minister of Marine in France, is fifty-nine years of age.

The new building connected with the Asylum for Idiots, which Prince Albert has kindly consented to open this summer, is at Earlswood, Redhill, Surrey. There is in the neighbourhood an agricultural school of discipline for boys, which was opened by Prince Albert in 1849.

The annual ball in Paris, in aid of the British Charitable Fund, has been fixed for the 15th inst. It will take place as usual in the Jardin d'Hiver, under the patronage of a number of ladies of rank. On account of the influx of strangers attracted by the Exhibition, it is expected to prove a fête of unusual splendour.

The next anniversary dinner of the Royal Literary Fund will be held on the 22nd inst., the Bishop of Oxford in the chair.

By order of the French Minister of War, the gallery of plans in relief of all the fortified places in France, at the Hôtel des Invalides, will be open to the public during the whole continuance of the Universal Exhibition.

Mr. Baily has finished his statue of the Lord Chief Justice Mansfield, and it is now in Westminster-hall, preparatory to its erection among the other statues in the vestibule of the Houses of Parliament.

Out of six plans presented to a committee formed at Cherbourg for a statue of Napoleon I., to be erected in that town, the choice has fallen on that of M. Levell, an artist of the department.

The electors of Grimsby have invited Sir S. M. Peto to stand for the borough.

Viscount de Nugent was sentenced on the 26th ult., by the Tribunal of Correctional Police of Paris, to two years' imprisonment and 5000f. fine, for having publicly used insulting language respecting the Emperor and Empress.

Mr. Colquhoun, the English Consul at Bucharest, has not yet received orders to resume diplomatic relations with the Wallachian Government.

M. Bonacucti, a member of the bar of Ferrara, has left a fortune of about one million crowns to be employed in masses for the repose of his soul.

An English company has applied for the concession of a permanent bridge over the Rhine, at Mentz, and at the same time that of a railway from Aschaffenburg to Mentz, and from Mentz to Bingen.

The Countess de Neuilly is about to give up her residence in England for a warmer climate. Palermo and Seville have been named in turn as the future home of the ex-Queen.

On Saturday last his Highness Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte met with a serious accident at his residence in Westbourne-grove West. He was ascending some steps in his library to reach a book, when, accidentally slipping, he fell and broke his leg.

Captain Stokes, of the Royal Engineers, has been appointed to command the Engineer Department of the Turkish contingent. He is now on a tour in the manufacturing districts, engaging artificers.

The trial of the Rev. Theodore Parker, for inciting a fugitive slave riot in Boston, has come to nothing—the Judge of the Circuit Court, Massachusetts, deciding to quash the indictment.

Mr. John Steel has completed Lord Jeffrey's statue for the Edinburgh Parliament-house, and is now engaged on one of the late Lord President Boyle.

M. Lamartine, on the conclusion of his four volumes of the "Histoire de Turquie," intends to take a year's rest, and occupy himself with improving the cultivation of his landed property. For the last four years he has set apart fourteen hours a day for work.

The Bishop of Gibraltar has left Malta by the *City of London* transport, for Baleadva, for the purpose of consecrating the ground in which so many of our brave troops lie interred.

M. Laurent, director of the Observatory of Paris, is at present at Brussels; the object of his visit being to concert with the director of the Observatory in that city for the determination of the longitudes of Paris and Brussels by electric telegraph.

Letters from Tripoli, by way of Malta, not only confirm the safety of Dr. Barth, but announce that he was looked for from the interior, at Tripoli, towards the end of May.

Madame Jenny Lind (Goldsmid) will arrive in Paris in the course of next month. Whether she will sing in public or not is unknown, but a concert will be made for her benefit, or her aid for a charitable institution.

Alboni, who has been singing at Lisbon, has arrived in town, after having netted £4000 in three months.

The hotel of the late Mr. Hope in the Rue St. Dominique, Paris, is announced for sale at the upset price of 2,500,000 francs.

M. Isabey, the well-known miniature-painter to Napoleon I. and Louis XVIII., died at Paris on Wednesday, at the age of 88, having been born at Nancy in 1767.

Rossini is now on his way to Paris, where the *gran' maestro* is sure of a welcome worthy of his talents.

The "Address to the People" written by Charlotte Corday, and found upon her person when she was arrested, was sold in Paris the other day for 770 francs.

Proudhon, the Socialist, is engaged upon a work to be called "Considerations upon the Railway System," in which he contends that the companies should be suppressed, and the direction placed in the hands of the State.

Herr R. Luther, of the Observatory of Bilk, near Dusseldorf, has discovered a new planet of the eleventh magnitude, describing its orbit between Mars and Jupiter. This is the forty-first planet of our solar system.

A "grand bazaar" will be held in London next month to promote the movement now making to extend the use of free labour in cotton goods, with a view to the discouragement of slavery in the American States.

One hundred men, selected from the police of Glasgow, Liverpool, and other northern towns, have sailed from Liverpool for Australia.

The House of Representatives of the Illinois Legislature has enacted that a fine of 500 dollars be hereafter imposed on any lady who shall lecture in public in any part of the State without first putting on gentleman's apparel.

The Warrington Board of Guardians have refused to pay the church-rate levied on the workhouse, on the plea that church-rates are unjust.

There is a decrease of fifty-two in the number of applications for licences under the Public-house Act in the city of Edinburgh this year as compared with last.

A hundred years ago the revenue of the Post-office was £140,000; it is now more than a half million sterling. Sixty years ago the mails were conveyed at the rate of three and four miles an hour; they are now conveyed thirty, forty, and fifty miles an hour.

The number of suicides in France in 1853 was 3415; whilst in 1851 it was 3308; and in 1852, 3674.

Prussia is having large purchases of horses made in Denmark, some dealers having received orders for upwards of 3000.

A frightful avalanche detached itself last week from the south side of Mount St. Gothard, and fell down with a tremendous crash into the valley of Tremola. The road, as far as Fonte Tremola, was covered to the extent of 300 yards; and two men, with several horses and carts laden with goods, were buried under the snow.

The British Museum is closed to the public for the annual spring vacation; and will be reopened on Monday next, when the hours of admission will be extended every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from ten till six.

The diplomatic relations between the Court of Naples and the Sardinian Government are becoming less and less amicable. The Neapolitan police refused the other day to allow some Sardinian officers who are bound for the East to land at Naples for a few hours.

The number of British vessels engaged in the northern whale fisheries for the present year is fifty-one, of which thirty-eight are for Greenland, and thirteen for Davis' Straits.

SCENE FROM "THE NEW HAYMARKET SPRING MEETING," AT THE HAYMARKET THEATRE.—"THE LORD MAYOR'S FOOL" INTRODUCING "WESTMINSTER" TO "LONDON."

"THE NEW HAYMARKET SPRING MEETING."

The accompanying Illustration represents the meeting of *London* and *Westminster*, and the interposition of the *Fool*, giving the moral of the scene. The portraits of Mrs. Caroline White, Miss Harriett Gordon, and Mr Buckstone, lend an interest to the picture. The matter of complaint against the City is, that within its walls it fails to encourage the stage, and that people must go as far as Norton Folgate for a theatre. This civic prejudice is old enough to be obsolete, and the rejection of the drama, so that it has to find refuge in extramural establishments is anything but creditable to the intelligence of the authorities. The City of London ought, as a duty, to have a model theatre for the high drama, and might do much good in this way, and find beneficial occupation for funds now wasted. The attention bestowed by the Haymarket manager on the National Standard and its neighbour theatre, speaks much in favour of his liberality. There the drama is at present flourishing in its severer forms, and it is to the metropolitan Orient that we must look for promising indications of a new era. *Westminster*, on the other hand, has an advantage in its various exhibitions, some of which are of a highly original character, and others so unique, that they secure a long run without fear of competition.

"MOTHER GOOSE'S FAIRY TALES."

The scene which we have this week presented has for its subject the contest between Miss Woolgar as *Lively Jack*, and Mr. Paul Bedford as the *Wolf*, in the story of "Red Riding Hood." *Mother Goose* herself, admirably impersonated by Miss Wyndham, forms part of the group, with the heroine so interestingly represented by Miss Mary Keeley. The contest is most perseveringly maintained on the part of Miss Woolgar, who wins the triumph by indomitable and persevering energy. The thorough-going air and spirit which this inimitable actress lends to all such characterisations require the exercise of a peculiar art, melodramatic in its basis, but not to be obtained without prolonged practice. The art demands, indeed, the perfectly experienced actress; yet they are, after all, thankless parts. But Miss Woolgar has, from the beginning, consulted the advantage of the theatre in preference to her own, and has, we believe, as she well deserves, found her private account in it. The public are as much indebted to her for her kindness as for her talent.

Sadler's Wells. The courtesy of visiting each other's houses, now adopted by the managers of our theatres, is one that might be accepted as the test of our present civilisation. Mr. Webster and Madame Celeste make their appearance here, while Mr. Phelps is enjoying the honours of a guest on Mr. Creswick's boards. The favourite Adelphi piece introduced to the Islington audience on Monday was well received. The "Green Bushes" is a stock attraction in the Strand, and its merits are such as to command recognition wherever acted. Madame Celeste's *Miami* is an interesting conception, romantically realised, and one which always displays the best points of this artiste's acting. It touches the feelings with extraordinary power; and, aided by the situations which the dramatist has so adroitly contrived, enforces an irresistible appeal on the sympathies. Madame Celeste evidently aimed on this occasion to commend her art to the judgment of an audience now so long accustomed to the highest drama; and her success was complete.

SCENE FROM THE NEW EXTRAVAGANZA OF "MOTHER GOOSE'S FAIRY TALES," AT THE ADELPHI THEATRE.—"LIVELY JACK" RESCUING "LITTLE RED RIDING-HOOD" FROM THE "WOLF."

THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH STATION AT KALIAKRA CASTLE, KAVARNA BAY.

THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH FROM THE CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL TO LONDON.

THE intelligence recently received of the completion of the submarine line of telegraphic communication across the Black Sea between Varna, on the Bulgarian coast, and Balaclava, the immediate seat of war in the Crimea, has created the liveliest satisfaction amongst all classes in this country; we have, therefore, much pleasure in presenting the above Sketch of the locality on the Bulgarian side, from whence the line commenced, and also a brief statement in connection with this interesting proceeding. It will be remembered that the superintendence of the expedition on behalf of the British Government, was confided, in conjunction with the contractors, to Captain Charles G. Robinson, R.N., who had been already distinguished for his elaborate survey of the west coast of Scotland; and we are happy to learn that his efforts in the present instance have been no less meritorious.

The *Argus* steamer, after a very boisterous passage from England, and various delays in coaling and repairs, left Varna Bay on the 31st March, having made the requisite arrangements with the Pacha at Varna for the safety and protection of the telegraphists and the electric wire, and anchored under Cape Kaliakra, the starting point, in the evening. Captain Robinson, on the part of the Government, and Mr. Liddell, C.E., on that of the contractors, found the Turkish authorities most desirous of affording every assistance; for which purpose they furnished a guard of soldiers to be stationed by the Telegraph-house at Cape Kaliakra. The guard arrived the day after in the *Terrible*, Captain McCleverty, attending on the *Argus*, as well as the *Spitfire*, surveying vessel, Captain Spratt, appointed to pilot her, and proceeding in advance of the *Argus* across the Black Sea, pointing out the best route for laying the cable.

The accompanying Sketch presents one face of an extensive and highly-interesting ruin, standing nearly on the extreme end of the promontory called Cape Kaliakra, or Djelegra. It has, from its commanding position, evidently been a strong fortification, and, it appears, belonged to the Genoese in the 12th or 13th century. The remains of a chapel and wells (now filled up with stones) with the walls of the fortress of great thickness, and built with remarkably strong cement; together with the archway at the entrance, which is approached over a natural narrow neck of rock, not more than forty feet wide, show that it was judiciously constructed; and, as it stands on a rock about 250 feet high, it would appear to have been quite impregnable. The view which we select is sketched from the south; the Telegraph House is being constructed amidst the ruins, on the right—advantage having been taken by the officers of the expedition of the shelter of the old wall for the purpose; and from this the wire rope is buried to the edge of the rock on the western side of the Cape; then the submarine portion commences, leading round the Cape at the distance of about two miles, whence it strikes over towards the Crimea. A curious relic was picked up amongst the ruins in the shape of half a 6-lb. shot, of unique form. Vultures of a large size abound here. No less than thirty-eight were counted in one cluster—one or two were shot. It is added that the point in question is not more than 400 feet in width in any part after once passing through the gateway of the fortress. There are also natural caves (the formation is sandstone), which appear to have answered the original occupants for stabling; more recently sheep have been housed there by the Bulgarians, but the place is now turned to account as quarters for the Turkish guard. Scarcity of water is reported to be the principal drawback to this spot, as there does not seem to be any procurable under one mile and a half; and the ancient wells, which appear well constructed and deep, are supposed to have been supplied from the filtering of the sandstone: this must, however, have been very brackish, or it must have been brought from a distance, and the supply so kept up.

On Saturday, the 7th April, the *Argus* commenced laying down the cable, with *Terrible* and *Spitfire* in company; and the junction took place in the Crimea on the 13th, after some delay *en route*. The event was hailed with the greatest enthusiasm, not only by the Allied armies, but by both officers and men in the sister service, who alike regarded it as a valuable means of accelerating communication with their anxious friends at home; whilst to the respective Governments of France and England the facilities of rapid intercourse thus created cannot fail to be of the most vital importance. It must be felt universally that the success of the operation reflects the highest credit on every officer concerned, and the public will learn with satisfaction that their deserts have been appropriately rewarded.

FINE ARTS.

EXHIBITION OF THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS

WE have heard but one feeling expressed with regard to the present Exhibition (the twenty-first) of the New Society of Painters in Water-Colours, and that one feeling is more than favourable. "This," says the common voice of sensible criticism, "is one of the very best Exhibitions the Society has given us. It is true that many will miss Miss Setchell; and just as many lament that Mr. Webnert is not seen on a larger scale, and in more places; but see how strong Mr Haghe is! he was never stronger; see how good the President is; was Mr. Corbould ever happier? with what additional strength Mr. William Bennett has broken forth; McKewan is very good; Mr. Mole—shall we say it?—is still better; Mr. Absolon supports his well-earned reputation; and Mrs. Margetts, as the representative of ten lady members, is indeed a good example of female excellence in the Fine Arts."

It would be difficult to lounge an hour out more agreeably than in this Gallery. How pleasant is it to range from one agreeable landscape to another—from corn-fields to green lanes; from Killarney to a Border Tower; from Belgium, with Mr. Haghe, to Paradise, with Mr. Warren, from the spirit-stirring charge at Balaclava to the bold flight of Young Lochinvar, with the beauty of the Scottish side of the river Tweed!

The most ambitious artist in the Society is Mr. Warren, the President. His great work properly occupies the leading position in the room. He calls it "The First Sunset witnessed by our First Parents" (No. 82), and his picture has this great merit, that it sets one thinking, and, if it does not supply whatever imagination, aided by Milton, can call up, it gives nature in a grand mood, and the spectator passes on with observing, "This is no every-day performance." The flowers in the foreground are perhaps too large for the distant scenery; but a stretch of fancy may fairly be allowed to an artist who seeks to represent a scene so striking and so suggestive as that attempted, and in a great measure fulfilled, by Mr. Warren. We wish we could say as much of the two common-life courting scenes by the same artist. They are vulgar, and (what is almost as bad) carry with them a certain smack of the studio and the lay-figure.

We have seen Mr. Haghe on a larger scale, but never better or more prolific than he is this year. He haunts you most agreeably in every part of the room. What exquisite interiors has he not given us of St. Peter's at Rome (Nos. 63 and 103)! That girl about to kiss the toe or the Saint—is she not lovely! and is she thinking of aught but the holy office she is employed in? Those monks at the Post-office at Albano (No. 78) are deep in expectation of the news they are to obtain, and of solicitude about the letters they are sending. What a fine convivial air is ever uppermost in that exquisite "Convivial Meeting of the Brewers Corporation at Antwerp"! Who would not wish to see, from the same artist, a picture of a convivial meeting of our great London

PAINTED BY E. H. CORBOULD. *The Village Belle.* FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

brewers—Barclay and Perkins bob-nobbing with Truman and Buxton; Meux seen, a little overcome with liquor, by the side of Reid; while Whitbread maintains a friendly conversation with his pale-ale guests from Romford and Burton-upon-Trent! But, alas! the brewers of London have no such hall as that in which Mr Haghe has placed his Autwerp brewers.

Mr. Haghe's contributions are eight in number—the four we have already referred to, and four small pictures on the two scenes. Very gems of water-colour wealth are those four pictures. Which would we like to select for our own collection? No. 316, "The Fair Reckoner;" No. 323, "Domestic Quarrels;" No. 335, "The Report;" or No. 341, "Work First and Play After"? We had at the Private View a lingering liking for No. 323, "Comfortable Quarters," and have confirmed our liking by a second visit.

Mr. Corbould has two large, and, as usual, well-conceived and carefully-executed pictures. One (No. 229) is entitled "Paul and Silas in Prison at Philippi;" the other (No. 266) is the "Young Lochinvar," to which we have already referred: both exhibit skill in telling a story with great force of colour, and great dexterity of manipulation. Not less excellent is Mr. Corbould's "Milkmaid," here called "The Village Belle" (No. 7)—a girl borrowed from a ballet, and partly from Goldsmith's "Sweet Auburn," with a face of great beauty, and a quilted petticoat that will delight the heart of Mr. Frank Stone. This very pleasing example of Mr. Corbould's pencil we have engraved in our present Number.

In pure landscape Mr. William Bennett will deservedly find the greatest number of admirers. He has made a great advance this year. Now and then he recalls David Cox, and David in his best mood: but he is often more true to himself and to nature. His large view of "Killarney" and his "Tower of Belted Will Howard" are worthy additions to the best examples of English Water-Colour Art.

With the illustrations which we are engraving from a very attractive Exhibition we shall resume our criticisms.

Photographic Institution. The Exhibition of the works of the Photographic Institution, 168, New Bond-street, affords gratifying evidence of the advances constantly making in this important and interesting art. Mr. De la Motte, now appointed Professor of Drawing at the King's College, is extremely happy in his architectural views, more particularly those in the series from the various portions of the Crystal Palace and its contents. That of the "Colossi of Abou Simbel," in the Nineveh Court, is a striking production, and remarkable for the successful manner in which the gradations of light and tints have been realised. This, like other triumphs in the photographic art, is chiefly owing to the skilful application of the discoveries in chemical science, to which important additions are every day being made. Mr. Macpherson's architectural views, bas-reliefs, &c., in Rome (contributed, we believe, by the Rev J. L. Petit), are noble representations of noble objects; executed upon a scale somewhat similar to the far-famed views of Piranese. Mr. Cundall is also extremely happy in his views of Gothic monastic ruins in Yorkshire. Bisson has some admirable views, amongst which that of the "Bibliothèque" of the Louvre is striking from minute perfection in sculptured detail. From the same rich field Mr. Bedford brings several objects, most successfully represented. Mr. Llewellyn's landscape and sea pieces are well known, both for the poetic taste displayed in the selection of the views, and for the skilful manner in which all the difficulties of the art have been overcome in their treatment. Four "Instantaneous Pictures," in which the steam and smoke of a steam-vessel, the ripple of waves, and the sharp outline of surf, of breakers amongst rocks, have been hit off to perfection may indeed be pronounced triumphs of execution. In the Portrait department we find several very successful examples of rendering a colour by first-rate miniature painters, on the photographic basis, by which the crudities of the latter are softened down, and a happy medium obtained between the severity of absolute nature-painting and the ideal of educated art. Altogether the Exhibition is one of great merit, and will amply repay inspection by those who are interested in the development of a new and most important art.

Barker's Picture of Napoleon at the Battle of Bassano.—This fine work happily illustrates a most interesting incident in the life of Napoleon, during his first Italian campaign. Riding over the field, after the battle of Bassano, he and his staff come to the body of a soldier, over which his faithful dog stands disconsolate, and moaning piteously. The great General, turning to the officers of his staff, who were engaged in frivolous conversation, exclaimed, "There, gentlemen! that dog teaches us a lesson of humanity." The words, though few, are pregnant with meaning, and show that, in his heart, the destroyer of nations was not so callous as some have represented him to be. This picture was sent to the Aldermen's room at Guildhall on the recent occasion of the visit of the Emperor of the French to the City, and was much admired by him. It is now on view at Messrs. Hering and Remington's, in Regent-street. The engraving from it, by C. Lewis, which is in a forward state of progress, is an admirable specimen of the art; the etching being executed in a bold and masterly manner.

The Works of the Late John Martin.—Three of the chefs-d'œuvre of the late John Martin, the eminent sacred and historical painter, are now on view at the Hall of Commerce, Threadneedle-street, previously to being engraved; and the crowds which flock to see them sufficiently attest the estimation in which the talent of this surprising artist is held, and give promise of the influence his works are likely to have upon the public of the coming age. The subjects of these great works are "The Last Judgment," "The Great Day of His Wrath," and "The Plains of Heaven"—sublime mysteries which the artist has treated with a boldness of fancy, a grandeur of invention, and a mastery of resource which none but himself could command. At the touch of his pencil, as of a magician's wand, earth and heaven are riven, resolved as it were into chaos, out of which a magnificent structure of his own creation is reared. The subtle philosophy and deep morality which mark all the grandeur of his marvellous creation are not the least important and gratifying evidences of his genius. The size of each picture is 13 feet by 9 feet. The engravings from them—which are to be in the finest line style—are in a forward state, and will be published by Messrs. Leggatt, Hayward, and Leggatt.

The English and French Fleets in the Baltic, 1854. By Oswald W. Brierly. Day and Son.

The memorable naval expedition to the Baltic in 1854 has found an able historiographer in Mr. Brierly. This gentleman, whose previous nautical sketches are known to, and admired by, all lovers of the profession, had the advantage of being the guest of the Hon. Captain Keppel, on board the *St. Jean d'Acre* during the whole period of the campaign, and had therefore an opportunity of being in the first front whenever any gallant exploit or interesting adventure was coming off. Mr. Brierly is a thorough sailor, as well as a fine artist; he loves the sea; has studied it in all its phases and humours; and transfers every fleeting impression to paper with daguerreotype fidelity. Not less clearly does he love his craft—anywhere it be—and the whole family of shipping; every mast and spar and plank is familiar to him; and under his hand a sketch of a ship is an absolute work of art but moving portraiture.

The present handsome publication consists of fifteen large prints (some of double subjects), executed in lithography, four of the best being from the establishment of Messrs. Day and Son, viz., Messrs. T. G. Dutton, R. Carrick, J. Headham, and T. Picken; and finer specimens of lithography we have seldom if ever seen. The subjects are of every variety of character;—now calm, now storm—now the bustle of the ordinary routine of a fleet, now the exciting scene of a naval bombardment; and, in all, the designer's conceptions have been faithfully realized by the engraver. The "English Fleet Entering the Great Belt" is a crowded piece, but without any appearance of confusion the identity of the various ships being well indicated. "The First Provisioning at Sea" is a very animated scene, performed under the influence of a fresh breeze. Of a somewhat similar character, but still more exciting, is the incident of "See ding on board the Admiral's Ship for Letters," the steamer having just arrived. Then we have "A Gale in the Bight"—the ships heavily riding at anchor, in the midst of a boiling foam, the screw-ships easing their cables by steaming a little ahead. "The Meeting of the English and French Ships at Baro Sound" is a very pleasing picture, set forth in a manner which shows considerable knowledge of naval tactics: the former being drawn to an single line, whilst the latter are standing in to the Sound. In "The Fleets Sensitmed—the Screw-ships Getting up Steam" we have an exquisite subject, full of breadth, and remarkable for detail. The sketches of the more important events of the campaign are valuable for their historical accuracy, as well as their pictorial merit. The "View of the Combined Attack upon the Forts of Bomarsund, as seen from the Sea," is most spirited; every ship being at its place and at its work, and colours and signals flying in all directions. The final blowing-up of the forts is terribly grand. Not to enumerate others—the sketches of "H.M.S. *Driver* and the *Esmeralda* off Cronstadt;" of the "Aland Islands, with Revel, Helsingfors, and Sveaborg in the distance;" "Fort Nottich," at Bomarsund," in which the breach made by the English battery, manned by Marines and Blue Jackets from the *Hogue*,—all bear internal evidence of the care and accuracy with which the artist has treated every scene and incident which came under his observation during this exciting summer's cruise. In every respect the present work may be looked upon as one of national interest, equally creditable to the arts and arms of the country.

The Ferns of Great Britain and Ireland. By Thomas Moore, F.L.S. Edited by John Lindley, Ph. D., F.R.S. Nature-Printed by Henry Bradbury. Parts I. and II. Bradbury and Evans

This work is important, not only for the scientific research displayed by the author in an extremely interesting branch of Natural History, but as the first instance of the application of a new and valuable process of imitation and reproduction, called "Nature-Printing." It is known to all that there are several branches of Natural History, and that of Botany especially, in which verbal description is utterly inadequate to identify and ascertain the details of particular objects; and in which drawings themselves, however carefully made, fail to represent the minutiæ of all the parts. If this be true of plants in general, most remarkably is it the case in respect to ferns, the complicated forms and tender organisation of which baffle the most patient and skilful artist; while the slightest error in the representation of peculiar distinction of form and arrangement of parts would be fatal to the objects aimed at, that of portraiture and identification. Attempts have long since been made, and with some success, to obtain botanical pictures by printing from plants themselves, which have been previously flattened for the purpose. But this process necessarily admitted but of limited application, and was incomplete in many respects. Nature-Printing is simply an improvement upon this rude experiment, but an improvement to such an extent as to leave little more to be desired. In this process an exact copy in copper is substituted for the fragile plant itself, and from this copies may be multiplied to the same extent as in copperplate engraving. From this mould not only is the form of the object reproduced with perfect exactitude, but the textural beauty, the hairs, the veins, and other minutiæ of superficial structure are also given with an accuracy of detail perfectly surprising. The plants being represented in relief, as if painted upon paper, and all the parts in their several appropriate colours, the result is a complete substitute for the original specimen. To the botanical student such a means of study must be invaluable.

The art of Nature-Printing, from which so many and important results may be anticipated, was originally adopted at the Imperial Printing-office at Vienna; its introduction into this country is due to Mr. Henry Bradbury, who has shown a just appreciation of its resources and capabilities in the application of it to the delicate subject of Ferns, the difficulties of which he surmounted in a masterly manner, and with an amount of success which cannot well be surpassed.

The text of the present work is supplied by Mr. Thomas Moore, whose little "Handbook of British Ferns" is generally admitted to be the best book on the subject. The general supervision of the work has been entrusted to Dr. Lindley, an additional guarantee of accuracy and completeness in every respect—literary and artistic.

This work is printed in a large folio size, and when completed will be a valuable standard addition to the scientific library.

THE SPIRIT OF MAY.

O, lagging, backward May,
What aileth thee, that thou dost drag so slowly?
Hath Winter craved thee with a grief unholy;
Like her who, legends say,
Wept for the child,
Whose spirit mild
Strove up the Angel-way?*

O, lovely legend old!
O, tender spirit-child, that could not mount
The heavenly star-way on that sweet account!
Thus still its soft cry rolled:
"Heaven's pathway dims,
These dragging limbs
My tear-wet garments hold."

Winter shall weep no more!
Rise thou, unfettered, from the graves of flowers,
Thy poor world-mother hath spent all her showers:
The time of tears is o'er.
To stay thy feet
Earth's pulse shall beat
No longer, spirit-sore.

Arise, and walk in light!
No mortal chain shall bind thee where thou goest:
Into the very heart of love thou flowest
As with a joy-delight.
Life's thorny tree
Grows young in thee,
And blossoms in thy sight.

When Spring and thou must fleet,
Thou shalt be mourned not as we mourn the dead:
We'll think on thee when the young leaves shed
Of roses, memory-sweet;
That stayed awhile
To flush and smile
Under our fainting feet.

And, last, on God's blest morrow,
Our souls shall find thee mid those radiant ways
Where Love falls never upon wintry days,
And Age new heart doth borrow;
Where not a sob
Thy peace shall rob,
And not an angel-sorrow!

E. L. Hervey.

* The beautiful German legend of "The Wet Shroud." A mother weeping inordinately for her lost child, beholds it in a vision, striving vainly to drag its limbs towards that higher heaven where its companions rejoice; its shrond being heavy with her tears.

Education, Science, and Art.—The sum required, according to the fourth part of the Estimates of Civil Services, for the purposes of education, science, and art in the year 1855, amounts to £816,323, being an increase of £92,913 as compared with 1854. Of the sum £381,000 is required for public education in Great Britain; £216,200 for education in Ireland; £79,364 for the Board of Trade (Department of Science and Art); £3858 for the University of London; £7932 for Universities in Scotland; £3266 for the Queen's University in Ireland; £9552 for the Queen's Colleges in Ireland; £3000 for the Belfast theological professors; £56,180 for the British Museum establishment; £47,520 for the buildings of the same, and £1,000 for the National Gallery, including purchases of pictures; £500 for the Royal Geographical Society; and £5400 for scientific experiments.

Mails for the East.—General Post-office, April 1855. In consequence of the opening of the section of railway between Lyons and Marseilles, the conveyance through France of the mails for the British forces in Greece, Turkey, and the Black Sea will be so far accelerated as to allow of mails dispatched from London on the mornings of Tuesday and Saturday (by day mail) reaching Marseilles, under ordinary circumstances, in time for the French Mediterranean packets leaving that port every Thursday and Monday. The regular mails for the British forces will continue to be dispatched from this office every Monday and Friday evening, as heretofore; but supplementary mails will be made up on the mornings of Tuesday and Saturday, containing such correspondence as may be posted or received in London in time for the day mail to France. The same regulations will apply to the correspondence for the transport service in Turkey and the Black Sea, forwarded in closed mails viâ France.—Rowland Hill, Secretary.

The Balance of Power. We have received from Germany a small, but exceedingly well-executed, toy, representing, in lead, the actual position of that most variable of balances, which so much trouble is taken to keep equal—the balance of power. It would delight the heart of any number of those antiquated compositors (where Englishmen always have been, and always will be, found) to see how perfectly horizontal the beam of the magical balance rests at present, how admirably the weights of the see-saw riders at either end are matched. It is true, there are three at one end and only one at the other; but then that one is such a stout and burly, such a dogged, savage Muscovite, that, if you look at him well, you no longer wonder why he holds his own, and why, in very scorn of his firm and polished adversaries, he carries only a quiver with arrows, and his knout. Slim fellows, compared to him, are the three on the other side: an *unarmed* Turk, who faces the grim enemy, but looks as if the sight had made him sick; a wide-hosed Frenchman, examining the brawny Russian through a telescope; and behind the two, standing, an Englishman swinging the lash for the shoulders of the Turkish beast of burden. There are two observers of the sport: a Prussian soldier, with the "waffenrock" and "Pickelhaube;" and an officer, whom the traditional white dress-coat proclaims to be Austria's representative. The toy, said to be by the well-known manufacturer of leaden soldiers—Dubois, of Hanover—is skilfully executed, and admits, in its minutiæ, of more meanings than we venture to attribute to it. Our German neighbours are growing witty; we guess, the best way to show it would be in taking sides.

The damage caused by the overflowing of the river Theiss, in Hungary, after the melting of the snow, is officially estimated at 12,900,000 florins (32,250,000f.).

On March 18th several shocks of earthquake were experienced in Upper Scinde, and at Muttra, Allgurh, Meerut, and Delhi.

THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. XV.)

Lord John Russell has come back from Vienna very much the same as he went, and leaving the war question very much as he found it. Colonel Sibthorp has risen in the House of Commons to ask the expense of this fruitless errand, and is snubbed for his impertinent curiosity by our noble Premier. It will be time enough for the public to ask about the expense when the public shall be called on to pay the bill. And as this period is sure to arrive, the public will have an opportunity for inquiry. It is true the Session may then be very near its close, when money is voted away after midnight, by a somnolent few, whose nods may be either the result of acquiescence or sleep; and, of course, at such a time it would be highly inconvenient to protract the business of the country beyond the period at which Parliament usually separates. Lord Palmerston has so far condescended as to intimate that the job has been done as cheaply as circumstances would permit, and we can only hope that the expense have been framed as nearly as possible in accordance with the principle that a thing is "worth what it will fetch;" for the embassy to Vienna, if estimated by that sound commercial rule, will cost nothing.

All the enemies and some of the friends of Mr. Layard have been complaining of some inaccuracies of detail in attacks he his made on the notoriously bad system of promotion in the Army. The circumstance is certainly to be regretted, because it has given an opportunity to the defenders of "things as they are" to assail with some plausibility the energetic advocate of "things as they ought to be." Considering the very high pretensions which Mr. Layard puts forth, and the confidence which the public have disposed to place in his motives and abilities, it is to be hoped that he will henceforth take none but the surest ground, and not allow his very laudable zeal to outrun his discretion. The credit and character of a man who vigorously exposes the public cause are the property of the public, and the owner of great abilities who is willing to devote those abilities to the general good ought to consider his talents and his reputation as held in trust not for himself only, but for the whole community. I do not mean to say that the real value of Mr. Layard's earnest denunciations of the present system of mal-administration has been impaired by the few errors of detail which have been detected; but party spirit is very fond of availing itself of poetical licence by taking the part for the whole, and pretending to receive any statement as false, because some small portion of some one statement has not been accurate.

Talking of accuracy reminds me of a rather serious complaint that has been made against the abuse of a system which exists of allowing witnesses before a Parliamentary Committee to correct the printed proofs of their own statements. It seems that the evidence taken before the Maynooth Commission has undergone such a thorough process of revision that, in some instances, the result is like that produced on the Irishman's coat, which had been so repeatedly patched that none of the original material was visible. The affair would be more justifiable if the alleged patching of the evidence had been the work of the original owner; but it is said that some of the testimony has travelled as far as Rome, for the purpose of repairs being done to it. The publicity given from day to day to the examinations of the witnesses before the Committee on the misconduct of the war, will happily prevent the success of any ordinary experiment that might otherwise have been attempted. We are saved from the chance of having a mass of evidence in a cooked state some few months hence by the punctuality with which the papers furnish a daily supply of the raw material. Had the motion been carried for making the Committee a secret one, the possibility is that the corrigenda and addenda might have almost entirely superseded the original text of some of the most important evidence.

The case of Buranelli was the subject of a question in the House of Commons, and has been the cause of a great deal being said out of doors, to which, in my opinion, no satisfactory answer has been given. It may be urged that the man is hanged, and it is useless to talk about him now; but, if it is too late to save his life, it is never too late to protest against the mistake, as it seems to me, which has been committed. It seems that some medical evidence bearing on the question of the insanity of the accused was kept back at the trial, and Sir George Grey, having been asked in the House of Commons whether such had been the case, replied that all the facts had been brought under the notice of the Judge, who saw no reason for recommending the prisoner to the mercy of the Sovereign. It is strange that the Home Secretary, who is himself a barrister, does not appear to see the difference between the submission of a fact to the Judge and the submission of a fact to the Jury—the Jury who are the only legal judges of every fact that bears on the trial. If there was any fact that might have influenced the mind of the Judge, it might have influenced the mind of the Jury; and of that possibility in his favour the accused was entitled to the benefit. There would seem to have been some neglect which prevented the calling as witnesses for the prisoner some men of high professional reputation in cases of insanity, who have published a statement declaring that they were prepared to prove that Buranelli was not in a state of mind to be accountable for his actions when he perpetrated the act for which his life has been forfeited. It is but fair to add, that a *post mortem* examination is said to have shown that Buranelli's brain was in a healthy state; but the difficulty still remains that evidence might have been put before the Jury which might have altered the prisoner's fate, and if it was thought desirable to place such evidence before the Judge, it must have been still more desirable that the Jury should have had it brought under their notice. It may be inconvenient to disturb the verdict of a Jury, but this is done continually where property is concerned, and the inconvenience should be more readily overcome in cases where life is in jeopardy. The Jury is a merciful doctrine that a man's life may not be put in peril by a second trial for the same offence after his acquittal, there is no sound reason why he should not have a second trial upon some reasonable ground being shown, if he has been found guilty.

The Jury question still continues to divide the magistrates, to annoy the public, and embarrass the landlords of places of refreshment; all of whom, as the season for locomotion advances, are likely to have their respective dilemmas increased, in consequence of the wilful omission of the framers of the new act to define a *bona fide* traveller. Mr. Paynter, the magistrate at Wandsworth, has just decided that "pleasure-seekers are not travellers," a dictum from which it might be inferred that travelling for pleasure is impossible. To me it would seem that a traveller is a traveller no matter what his object may be; and if he chooses to travel for pleasure on Sunday he is entitled to be served with refreshment. Of course, if the Legislature shall enact that no man shall have any pleasure on Sunday, and attaches a penalty to the fact of being pleased, the law-abiding and puritanical as it would be might be put in force, but the fact of a man's travelling for pleasure cannot deprive him of the character of a traveller: and, as the act makes no exception, he has a right to his food on Sunday. The penalty of £5, inflicted by Mr. Paynter was raised, at the request of the defendant, to £3, to admit of an appeal, by which it was rather absurdly said that "this vexed question will be settled."

There is no more chance that the various sessions throughout the country will agree in the view of the law than that the magistrates individually will be of the same opinion. When a point is found to be doubtful, the only remedy is to settle it by an Act of Parliament—which, by the way, might be as doubtful as that it was designed to explain, as has very often happened. The present practice of leaving the Judges to interpret a doubtful law is only an aggravation of the evil; for Judges are found continually to disagree, as in the instance—well known to lawyers—of an interpretation of a clause in the Vagrant Act which is held to mean one by the Court of Queen's Bench, and the opposite thing by the Court of Exchequer. We might perhaps adopt with effect the American plan, by which, at certain periods, all the Judges meet to decide on doubtful points, and that is recognised as law which is declared to be so on their authority. This prevents the conflict of the Courts, which is often found so embarrassing to those who resort to them in this country; for, though every man is presumed to be acquainted with the law of the land, it is impossible to make the acquaintance as long as there is a direct opposition between the law of the Queen's Bench and the law of the Exchequer.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

In reply to the Earl of Ellenborough,

Lord PANMURE observed that there had been an understanding between the Governments of England and Sardinia that the Sardinian Government would send out a force, accompanied with one month's provisions for the maintenance of that army, and there was an arrangement that the Sardinian Army would be furnished with provisions by the Commissariat General of the British Army, on the terms that they paid for what they received. He had the satisfaction to inform their Lordships that he had received a communication from Sir John M'Neill, to the effect that he felt convinced, not only from the facts before him, but from experience in these countries, that supplies of meat and grain were to be found there, or were at that moment at the disposal of the Commissariat General, for the maintenance of any number of troops that it might fall to his lot to supply.

The Militia (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

MR. WARNER asked whether telegraphic communication had now been established between the Crimea and any part of the Turkish coast and the Principalities, also, what was the date of the last despatch received from the seat of war, and whether a communication had been received from any source whatever relating to the siege of Sebastopol?

Sir C. Wood had to say, in answer to the hon. member's questions, that the telegraph was, they believed, complete throughout, except across the Danube. He had stated three or four days ago that the last date had been already carried from the Crimea to the Turkish coast, and he believed that it was now completed from the English coast to Rustchuk. It was also completed on the other side from Gurgevo forward; but they were not aware whether it had been yet laid across the Danube. The last despatch received from Lord Raglan was dated Sunday; but it conveyed no news. It contained no account whatever of the raising of the siege

THE NEGOTIATIONS AT VIENNA.

MR. DISRAELI. Along the Noble Lord the Secretary of State for the Colonial Department once more among us, I take the liberty to ask if it is his intention to lay any papers on the table respecting his late mission, or to make any statement with regard to it to the House?

Lord J. RUSSELL, who was received with cheers, said: In answer to that question put to me by the right hon. gentleman, I have to state that I do not think it is for me to decide what papers shall be laid upon the table of the House. However, I believe that her Majesty's Government intend shortly to lay on the table of the House the protocols of the proceedings which have taken place at Vienna. They will convey to the House information of the substance of the negotiations that have taken place. Perhaps I may, however, say a few words more without intending to go into any details as to the negotiations. The first meeting of the Conference took place on the 15th March, and the negotiations with respect to the first two of the Four Points lasted until March 26th. Upon the 26th March the Third Point came under consideration. It was then suggested by the Plenipotentiaries of Austria that the Plenipotentiaries of Russia should themselves make proposals calculated to satisfy the exigencies of the occasion. The Plenipotentiaries of Russia said that they had no instructions to make propositions, but asked for time to refer to their own Government. The consequence was that the Conference was then adjourned, and that no meeting for the transaction of business took place until the answer arrived from St. Petersburg. On the 17th April another Conference took place, when the Plenipotentiaries of Russia informed the Conference that they had received instructions from their Government not to take the initiative in any propositions; but that they were ready to hear and discuss any propositions that might proceed from the other side. The Representatives of the Allied Powers then requested forty-eight hours to consider the form in which they should make their proposals, on the 19th April. The Plenipotentiaries of France and Great Britain, supported by the Representatives of Austria, laid their proposals before the Russian Plenipotentiaries requesting forty-eight hours for their answer to these propositions. On the 21st, accordingly, the Allied Powers received an answer to their propositions, totally rejecting them. They had, however, made no proposals to take on the part of that Government which, as they conceived, would be in accordance with the general view which Europe should be united more completely with the minutes of the Ministers of Foreign Europe, and that an end should be put to the present state of the war between Russia and the Black Sea. The Plenipotentiaries of France, Turkey, and Great Britain found the proposals of Russia entirely unacceptable, and refused to consider them in detail. The Plenipotentiary of Austria then said that, although these propositions had been rejected, he trusted that all means of reconciling the belligerent parties by peace were not exhausted. To this the Plenipotentiaries of France and England replied that their instructions were exhausted, and that they had no further powers to consider any other propositions. I then considered it my duty, and the best way in which I could perform my duty, to repair to my own Government and lay before them the whole state of the case with respect to the negotiations at Vienna and the manner in which the Conference had been suspended. The French Minister of Foreign Affairs, two or three days later, having requested the orders of the Emperor, came to a similar conclusion, and I believe he was the last night at Paris, where, no doubt, he will duly inform his Government of what took place in the course of the negotiations at Vienna.

MR. DISRAELI: Before the protocols of the proceedings of the Conference are laid upon the table (which I hope they will be, along with the earliest dispatch), I wish to ask the noble Lord if he has any objection to give us some preliminary papers—for instance, the despatches of the Allied Governments to their Plenipotentiaries at Vienna—which will give us an authentic description of what the Four Points are.

Lord PALMERSTON: I think the protocols themselves will pretty clearly explain what the Four Points are; but if they do not do so, there can be no objection to lay some papers on the table which will explain them. With regard to papers relating to the long course of the negotiations that preceded the Conference, I think there might be some objection to lay them on the table; but we will take care that the House shall be put in full possession of what the Four Points are.

MR. DIRCOMBE wished to know whether negotiations of any kind had been resumed by the gentlemen left behind at Vienna (A laugh).

Lord PALMERSTON: There has been a Conference held since my noble friend left Vienna, at which some proposals were made by Russia which were not considered by any other parties to be calculated to lead to the termination of the war

In reply to MR. BASS, Lord J. RUSSELL said that throughout the negotiations the Turkish Plenipotentiaries were of the same mind as those of Great Britain, France, and Austria

THE LOAN BILL.

On bringing up the report on the Loan Bill,

Sir F. KELLY moved the omission of clause 22, which requires the repayment of the sixteen millions at the rate of a million a year, as soon as peace returns

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER defended the clause, on the ground that it would secure the actual application of an annual sum of money every year to the reduction of the debt

MR. GLADSTONE would support the omission of the clause; though, if peace were restored, he would be among the first to support any plan for the reduction of the debt.

MR. HENLEY thought the only security for repayment of the debt was to have a surplus revenue, and he would, therefore, vote against the clause

MR. LABOUCHERE suggested to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, for the sake of unanimity, he should withdraw the clause.

MR. T. BARING hoped the Chancellor of the Exchequer would do no such thing. He thought the proposition a wise and a statesmanlike one.

MR. J. L. RICARDO opposed the clause, and hoped the Chancellor would withdraw it.

MR. WILSON supported the clause, which he contended made the loan substantially a terminable annuity

MR. DISRAELI considered that a terminable annuity was a very questionable mode of raising money. The House has certainly expressed no preference for such a course, and he hoped, therefore, the Chancellor of the Exchequer would withdraw it

MR. C. GLYN considered that this clause was the first official attempt for many years to form a *bonâ fide* sinking fund, and providing year by year a surplus out of the taxes from which this million would be paid.

After some observations from MR. J. MCGREGOR,

MR. CARDWELL deprecated the idea of the present Parliament pledging the credit of future Parliaments as to the repayment of loans, and he must, therefore, vote against the clause.

Lord PALMERSTON considered the principle under discussion of so much importance that he was determined to take the sense of the House on it.

The House then divided, when the clause was carried by a majority of 210 to 111. The report was then received, and the bill was ordered to be read a third time next day

INCOME-TAX BILL.

The House having gone into Committee on the Income-tax Bill,

MR. HILDYARD moved an amendment on the first clause, to the effect that 1d. per pound, instead of 2d., should be levied on all incomes between £100 and £150. It could make no appreciable difference to the revenue, and it would prove a very important concession to the class whose interests he advocated

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER admitted that the reduction would not be felt on the revenue, but it would cause considerable trouble in the collection of the tax. He would not, however, oppose the amendment.

The other clauses were agreed to, and the bill went through Committee.

NEWSPAPER-STAMP BILL.

The House then went into Committee on the Newspaper-stamp Bill.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER announced the conclusion he had come to with respect to the registration clauses. After giving the matter the best consideration he could, he proposed to allow the existing law on that subject to remain as it was, and to compel all newspapers to comply with the existing regulations, both as regarded registration and security against libel.

By a new clause, the Chancellor limited the privilege of retransmission by the post to a period of fifteen days.

The copyright clauses, brought forward by the Government, gave rise to a lengthened discussion, in which Mr. Whitaside, Mr. Milner Gibson, Lord Lovaine, Lord Stanley, and others, objected to all attempts at copyright as impracticable; while the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr. Phinn contended that at least the principle of copyright. In the end the Government withdrew the clause, leaving newspaper proprietors to the remedy of the existing law.

Mr. M. MILES brought forward a clause to allow the privilege of transmission and retransmission through the post to all newspapers embossed with the penny stamp, and of which the printed superficies did not exceed 600 inches. The clause was supported by Mr. Lowe, Mr. Drummond, and others, and was opposed by Lord Stanley, Mr. M. Gibson and the Chancellor of the Exchequer; and, on a division, the clause was rejected by a majority of 320 to 86.

The other clauses went through Committee, and the report was ordered to be received next day.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

In reply to Earl Talbot, who expressed his doubts as to the efficacy of the new floating batteries, Lord PANMURE said it was entirely an experiment they were making with reference to the possibility of bringing a naval armament into contact with stone walls

The Earl of HARDWICKE, who had on that day inspected two of these ships, thought they would not answer the purpose for which they were constructed. The deck was nine inches thick, and it was originally intended to have plated it with iron, but he apprehended that will a power of floating so defective they had not ventured to carry out that plan, and he was sure that if a shell were thrown on the deck it would go slap through her. The bulwark that was to protect the officers conducting the operations when approaching the enemy's battery was imperfect, and the men at the wheel were also exposed to the fire, because there was nothing to protect them but a twenty-inch plank. The men at the guns below were protected by the iron plates, but the officers who were to conduct the operations were exposed to a greater disadvantage than they would be exposed to on board of an ordinary ship.

After a few words from Earl Grey, the Earl of DERBY said, if he were not misinformed, those five gun-boats had cost something like a sum of £300,000, and before they went further it was important that they should possess all the knowledge and information that could be obtained from the professional ability of his noble friend.

In reply to Lord Vivian, respecting cavalry reinforcements to the Crimea, Lord HARDINGE said, he had had a consultation with his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and he had his Royal Highness's consent that, instead of sending out separate squadrons of each of the regiments serving, it would be better to send out the two regiments, the 1st Dragoon Guards and the 6th Dragoons. The force of cavalry in the East at present consisted of 1300 effective men, and they would be reinforced by about 750 troops, and also by the two regiments coming from India, one of which had already arrived—the amount of which would be about 1000 men rank and file. Thus there would be in the Crimea upwards of 2000 effective cavalry, exclusive of the two regiments he had referred to, if they would be required, and they would be required without doubt. The number of recruits now ready was at least 1000 men, and we had at least 1500 horses between five and six years old.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

In reply to a question from MR. WARNER, Sir C. WOOD said that the Government had that day received a despatch from Lord Raglan, in which it was stated that the Russian army between Mackenzie's Farm and the Belbec had been reinforced by two divisions.

In reply to a question from Mr. Francis, Sir C. WOOD said, the telegraph to the Crimea was not confined to the Government, but it was under its entire control.

In reply to a question from Mr Bright, as to the precise nature of the terms proposed to Russia by the Allies at the Conference, and as to the precise terms that Power offered to accede to, Lord PALMERSTON said that the protocols which he had already said he would lay upon the table contained all the requisite information.

The LOAN Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE MAYNOOTH GRANT.

A great number of petitions were presented against any further grant to Maynooth; after which

MR. SPOONER rose to move the following resolution:—

That this House do resolve itself into a Committee, for the purpose of considering the acts for the endowment of the College of Maynooth, with a view to the withdrawal of any endowment out of the Consolidated Fund, due regard being had to vested rights or interests.

The hon. gentleman impressed upon the House the great importance of his motion, the proper settlement of which involved no less than the peace of the Crown and the tranquillity of the empire. It involved the preservation of the Protestant constitution of the country, which was endangered by the habit into which Parliament had fallen of making continual concessions to those who no concessions would conciliate. He regarded the endowment of Maynooth as a great national sin, which, if persevered in, would, he believed, bring down the wrath of the Almighty on the country. He dwelt strongly upon the fact that the evidence before the Maynooth Commission had been sent to Rome before it had been laid before her Majesty or the Government; and that such gross proceedings as the violation of the law could had taken place with impunity, by giving ecclesiastical titles to the Roman Catholic prelates, even in the evidence taken by the commission. He showed how enormous alterations had been made in the original evidence, to such an extent as that no faith could be placed in the report at all.

Mr. DUNLOP seconded the motion, feeling, as a Dissenter, that Maynooth was a sort of buttress to the Established Church of Ireland.

Mr. P. URQUHART deprecated the promulgation of such topics at such a time

Mr. SCHOLEFIELD contended that if the Maynooth Grant was to be got rid of there was but one way of doing it with fairness and honesty, and that was by sweeping away all religious endowments in Ireland. He therefore moved, as an amendment, to leave out from the word "considering" to the end of the question, in order to insert the words "all grants or endowments for ecclesiastical purposes, whether charged on the Consolidated Fund or annually voted by Parliament, with a view to their withdrawal, due regard being had to vested rights or interests."

Mr. MURDOCH opposed the orig nal motion.

Mr. A. SMITH (Hertfordshire) supported the motion

Mr. BLAND did not think the amendment went far enough, and he should, therefore, say "no" both to that and the original motion.

Mr. HORSFALL supported the motion

Mr. HORSMAN contended that this measure was only one link of a chain of policy which had proved eminently beneficial to Ireland and very honourable to England.

Mr. NAPIER supported the motion. Viewed as a matter of State policy, the experiment of 1845 had failed, and there was but one course open to pursue—retrace their steps, admit the failure, and make compensation to the interests which had grown up under the experiment while it was in progress

The debate was then adjourned until the 6th of June.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

EDUCATION (NO. 2) BILL.

Sir J. PAKINGTON moved the second reading of this bill. He had occupied so much of the attention of the House when introducing the measure, that he had not intended to speak on moving the second reading; but, on consideration, he thought it better to repeat the chief provisions, in order that every hon. member might understand the principles upon which he asked for his vote upon a question of vast importance. His bill proceeded, as regarded all new schools, upon what was called the denominational system; and he deprecated any bitter feelings on the part of any class against a bill which sought the solution of difficulties in the way of National Education which have hitherto proved insurmountable.

Mr HUGHES moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months. So far from believing that this bill would extend education, he believed it would have the contrary effect, for it would endanger the success of the system now in progress, which had been productive of so much benefit, without offering to the public an equivalent which it would be willing to accept.

Mr. R. PHILLIMORE seconded the amendment, as he believed the bill would disentitle the Church of England to be considered the authorised teacher of religion to the country.

Mr. MILES thought the bill introduced by Sir J. Pakington was an essentially religious measure. As the House had three bills before it, he hoped they would all be sent to a Committee up-stairs, so that some amalgamation might take place which might be brought down to the House with every prospect of its passing (Hear, hear).

Mr. DELLWYN could not vote for the bill of the right honourable Baronet, which he thought would have the effect of converting parishes into arenas of polemical strife

Mr. BYNG supported the bill, by which he thought a fair and generous latitude was conceded to all religious denominations.

On the motion of Mr. Adderley the debate was adjourned.

The total number of visitors to the State apartments at Hampton-court Palace during the year 1854 was 203,990, of whom 52,412 went on Sundays. To Kew Gardens the number was 539,164, and of these 169,522 were admitted on Sundays.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

FROM the day of our birth to that of our death there is not an hour during which all human beings are not standing, so to say, upon a precipice. We say, indeed, that man is encompassed by perils; but if we realise—if we were constantly to bring before our mental sight a distinct view of those dangers—it is probable that all but the strongest minds would give way and become paralysed under the impression of that vision. To say nothing of the ills to which our bodily machinery is liable, there are the thousand chances which may, turning unkindly, in an hour ruin our fortune. The merchant is at the mercy of a storm, of a war, of a bankruptcy; some cunning inventor may supplant steam locomotion by gas or electricity, and thence ruin to tens of thousands; the landowner may, indeed, be safe from all calculable chances as long as he retains his estates, but who shall guarantee him against the carelessness of some defunct attorney who may have left a flaw in his title, which, discovered, would send his acres to other owners? Perhaps the fundholder—as not even the boldest sceptic has yet been found to doubt the security of the Three per Cents—is the safest of all; yet even he, though his principal may be safe beyond all doubt, cannot just at this moment feel as all sure that his interest may not be devoured by the Income-tax. The fact is that, independently of the literal chimney-pot which a gust of wind may at any time blow upon our heads, there is an infinite number of metaphorical chimney-pots to which we are permanently exposed; and certainly the *tuile* the most universal in its operation which could fall on our devoted heads was that which we most narrowly escaped last Saturday afternoon. On that day the bullet of an assassin nearly—(indeed, from the closeness of his position when he fired his first shot, and from the coolness with which, nearer still, he repeated his attempt at murder, the escape of his intended victim was almost miraculous)—killed Louis Napoleon. Who can foresee the results had the assassin been successful? Partly from his own great qualities, but even more from fortuitous circumstances, the Emperor of the French is the keystone of the political arch in Western Europe. What would have happened had that stone fallen out? What now depends on the life of one man?

The few words addressed by the Emperor in answer to congratulations on his escape from a deputation of the Council of State have been made the subject of much, I think, unnecessary comment. He is reported to have said that he believed he had a mission to fulfil, and that until that was completed he believed that Providence would protect him. This is said to be blasphemous, even by many whose feelings on such subjects are well worthy of attention; yet, after all, making some allowance for a little overwarmth in improvisation, not inexcusable under the circumstances, and for a certain theatrical tone which seems inevitable in French speechmaking, what does it amount to? Merely to a belief—not, I think, otherwise than humble—that the protection of Providence overshadows those who, placed in a high position, lay out thought, and energy, and life, in the advancement and improvement of those in the social scale beneath them. Is Louis Napoleon such a man? Would he, but a week past, have been saluted by the enthusiastic cheers of the English people had they not thought him so? And you may take my word for it, they are not bad judges, those same English people.

An electric telegraph is now in operation for the entire distance—except one break at the passage of the Danube—between the Camp in the Crimea and London. When the news of its completion first arrived, everybody was saying—"Now, at last, we shall no longer be kept upon the tenter-hooks of anxiety; all that happens, be it good or evil, we shall know at once; and how much must there be to tell during each day's progress of a siege in which the best blood of England is engaged?" The result, from some unexplained cause, has been just the reverse: never have we received so little intelligence from the seat of war as during the last week. What we have have heard is of a mixed character, and may be interpreted as satisfactory or the contrary. At the West-end Clubs opinions are almost unanimous against the success of our army; there it is said that our guns have been reduced, by constant firing, to a useless condition; that there is much dissatisfaction in the Allied forces, especially among the French; that the Russians are mustering on the Belbec in enormous force, and that it is doubtful if we shall be able to hold our own lines against an attack which may be daily expected. In the City and among commercial men generally the feeling is more hopeful. It is considered that though we have not taken Sebastopol, we have destroyed many of the enemy's outworks, and closed in far more nearly upon the body of the place; and that, upon the arrival of the large reinforcements, which may be expected immediately, the Generals will be strong enough to attack at the same time the Russian army in the plain, and to recommence the bombardment of the city. The news from Vienna is certainly more satisfactory than it was. You might as well attempt to hurry an Austrian position as an Austrian Minister, but yet it seems as if the Government of the Emperor Francis would run true at last.

There is one topic even more absorbing than the war—the east wind. It really seems as if, this year, we never should get rid of the English sirocco. Almost without intermission we shivered under it during seven weeks of February and March, and now April passes away under its catarrh-exciting influence. Farmers are beginning to look gloomy, for what can grow with a drying wind and hot sun baking the soil all day and the thermometer below freezing point at night? Grass there is none, and the corn-fields are beginning to look yellow and unhealthy. Luckily the root of the wheat plant, plunging its fibres deep into the soil, is long in being injured by dry weather; a few soaking showers, followed by warm nights, would soon repair the mischief that as yet has been done. It is very much to be desired that another week may not pass away without a change of weather.

Some weeks ago I stated that the tour made by Mdme. Grisi and Signor Mario in the United States during last autumn and winter had not been very successful, and that the American directors of the expedition had not thought it expedient to complete the engagement. I thought at the time certainly that I had good grounds for the assertion; but I am bound to confess, judging from letters of Mdme. Grisi and Mr. Hackett, that I must have been led into a mistake. After this confession, I hope my old acquaintance Hackett will not remain very angry with me.

THE MORNING-LAND.

[See the Illustration engraved upon the ensuing page, from a print entitled "Ein Morgen in Lazenburg."]

THERE is a land, by minstrels sung—
An Orient clime of love and light,
Where smiles the sun, for ever young,
And beauty robes the night;
And still each German brother-band
Names that soft clime the "Morning-Land."

But, smile the sun where'er he list,
A morn of brighter promise lies
Where royal souls keep royal tryst
Beneath life's opening skies:
Where Faith and Love walk hand in hand,
Oh there is Hope's true "Morning-Land!"

The promise of a brightening noon,
The dawning of a nobler day,
When hearts shall beat to glory's tune,
And Austria proudly say—
"By Freedom's breath the earliest fanned,
Be mine the patriot's Morning-Land!"

Oh, foremost in the ranks of those
Who nobly strive, thy banner wave!
Bind, with the lily and the rose,
One garland for the brave;
And, first to lead where heroes band,
Austria, be thine the "Morning-Land!"

E. L. HERVEY.

THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF AUSTRIA; OR, A MORNING AT THE PALACE OF LAXENBURG, NEAR VIENNA.

(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

BARON BEUSTEDT. M. DE VIOLT. M. VON HAMMER, TURKISH INTERPRETER. PRINCE GORTSCHAKOFF. ARIF EFFENDI. EARL OF WESTMORELAND. RIZA BEY. MOND JOHN RUSSELL. BARON PFORDTEN-ESTER. DROUYN DE LHUYS. COUNT BOUL.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

(From our own Correspondent.)

VIENNA, April 28th.

PREVIOUS to the departure of Lord John Russell from this city, which took place on Monday evening, the 23rd instant, there was a thirteenth Conference held on the same day, which, it would appear, simply had for its object the affixing of the signatures of all the Plenipotentiaries of the Powers to the protocol of the twelfth Conference, which is to be kept open as the basis for future negotiations. It was generally understood at the time that this thirteenth Conference was to be looked upon merely as a supplement to the twelfth Conference, and that after this the Conferences were to remain adjourned for some time, as, in the language of Lord Palmerston, "the Russians had declined to accept the terms upon which Great Britain, France, Austria, and Turkey had proposed to settle the Third Point of guarantee, without making any acceptable counter propositions." The world was thus led to suppose that the pending peace negotiations had been brought to a close for a time; and that now ulterior measures would be adopted with all promptitude and energy for the immediate carrying out of the fifth article of the 2nd December, 1854. But the world was mistaken in this respect. The Austrian Government forthwith caused a semi-official article to be concocted by a well-known pen at the Foreign office, and to be inserted in the Austrian Correspondence, to the effect that the Conferences were by no means closed, and would be continued uninterruptedly, notwithstanding the departure of Lord John Russell and M. Drouyn de Lhuys. This officially-inspired writer furthermore announced that these eminent statesmen would make a verbal report to their respective Sovereigns of the progress which had been made in the negotiations thus far, and that, considering the influential position of her Britannic Majesty's Minister for the Colonies in the Government of his country, and the unbounded confidence which the Emperor Napoleon reposes in his Minister for Foreign Affairs, it was hoped that their verbal reports would have the effect of rather (*sic*) furthering the future course of the negotiations at the Conferences. The plain meaning of all this is, the Conferences have arrived at that knotty point, namely, point No. 3, which it is most difficult to cut in twain by diplomatic arts, unless they be supported by some decided success on the field of battle at or near Sebastopol. In the meantime the Governments of Great Britain and France will have time to reconsider whether the minimum of their demands and the maximum of Russia's proffered concessions are capable of reconcilement or not. This was the state of things up to Thursday morning, when it became known that Prince Gortschakoff had requested Count Buol to assemble another Conference, which also took place in the afternoon of the same day. This was the thirteenth Conference. From a source that may be relied upon I learn that this plenary meeting of the Plenipotentiaries, at which M. Drouyn de Lhuys was also still present, amounted to nothing more than a mere conversation, in which as the Russians did not come forward with any positive new proposition They simply threw out some very unacceptable hints, which the representatives of Great Britain, France, Austria, and Turkey felt no disposition whatever to attach the slightest importance to. This Conference, therefore, lasted only two hours, and its chief result was that it proved the correctness of the semi-official article above alluded to in respect of the fact that the Conferences "will be continued uninterruptedly." M. Drouyn de Lhuys left us this morning. He returns to Paris direct Lord John Russell will probably arrive at London on the same day that M. Drouyn de Lhuys reaches Paris. And what then? Is there any chance of France and England seeing fit to reduce their demands for the sake of patching up a peace which would leave Russia still mistress of the Black Sea? Surely not. Taking this negative for granted it may be safely opined that the Vienna Conferences will now remain adjourned for some time, at least until new and more acceptable propositions be received from Russia, or, until events have taken a more decisive character in the Crimea

By the latest advices received from thence by submarine telegraph to Varna, via Rustchuk and Bucharest, dated the 25th instant, we learn that the general position of affairs remained unaltered. The bombardment continued, but the general assault was postponed until further reinforcements shall have arrived. It appears, moreover, that the position taken up by the Russians on the east side of the Kiel-Schlucht or ravine, and out of which the French have not yet been able effectually to dislodge them, is inconvenient to the Allies. And, indeed, if we may judge from the general accounts received here from the scene of war in the Crimea, there appears to be every probability of this sanguinary contest being prolonged for a considerable time to come. Under these warlike auspices our eyes are turned again and again to Austria.

The columns of most of your contemporaries are daily filled with the most absurd reports from hence, about Austria's "continued neutrality," Austria's "wanting to back out" of her engagements of the 2nd December of last year, and such like balderdash. Some sensible writers, whose political judgment is not warped by ineffable self-sufficiency and paltry suspicions, do not hesitate to declare frankly and unreservedly, that Austria anxiously desires to fulfil the high expectations which not only the Governments and the people of England and France, but also the people of Germany at large, have formed of her; but these gentlemen are nevertheless of opinion that the financial condition of Austria is such that bankruptcy stares her in the face, whether she remain neutral, or participate actively in the war; and that, laboring as she is under these fiscal disadvantages, little good is to be expected of her. The same writers, however, speak also of her splendidly-equipped army, consisting of upwards of 600,000 fighting men, who are confessedly brave, well-organized, disciplined, accurate, and provided with an abundance of every imaginable and requisite matériel. But is it to be supposed that this unexampled fine army is to remain inactive and with arms a-kimbo all the summer. And why? Because the Austrian exchequer is supposed to be at low-water mark. Nonsense. Those who entertain this preposterous opinion can have no adequate idea of the immense fiscal and other resources of this country. It is true Austria has great and undeniable difficulties of a financial character to contend with. But, if it comes to the push, her resources are by far more than equal to these. Other difficulties there are, however, of a still graver character, which may render it inexpedient, in the estimation of the Emperor Francis Joseph and his Ministers to pause yet awhile, before extreme measures against Russia be resorted to, and a declaration of war hurled against that monster of political iniquities. I allude to the more than equivocal position of Prussia and the Germanic Confederation. It is obvious that prudence requires that Austria should first come to a clear understanding with these States; and, if I am rightly informed, this is to be done forthwith. The present unsatisfactory result of the Conference will speedily be laid before the assembled Diet of the Confederation at Frankfort, and thereupon Austria will base her demand for the unequivocal and immediate support of the Federal Army, in order to enable her, with perfect assurance, to carry into execution the Fifth Article of the December treaty, in the event of Russia's persisting to decline the acceptance of those just and honourable terms of peace which the Powers represented at the Conferences have proposed to her, with every consideration regard to the general interests of Europe, and to the necessity of maintaining the balance of power in this part of the world. If this demand be refused—and it will doubtless be wise to be prepared for the event—then will probably come to light the military convention which, we are informed, has already been signed between Austria and France, and in virtue of which a free passage of a French army through Germany will be demanded of the Bund by both these Powers. Should this demand be also refused—and this hypothesis is perhaps not less probable than the contrary—the long-dreaded "split" in Germany, which will bring to the test the political sentiments of the German nations. And then it will be seen if their philo-Russian Governments in Germany are in the majority or in the minority. But, be the issue thereof what it may, woe to the lesser States. Their doom will be sealed from that fatal hour, and much "weeping and gnashing of teeth" will inevitably fall to their lot

In thus taking what seems to me the most natural view of things to come, I do not contend that a "crisis in Germany" must necessarily precede a declaration of war on the part of Austria against Russia; for, how can we reasonably expect Austria to take the field against the great northern Colossus until it be clearly ascertained whether the whole of the extensive line of the Prusso-Polish frontier harbours an equivocal neutral, an absolute enemy, or an absolute ally? In either of the two former cases, it would be foolhardy on the part of Austria to attack Russia on her Polish frontiers, without being prepared, also, for all the eventualities that may be expected to take place on the Prusso-Polish frontier. If, then, Prussia and Germany entire, or in part, leave Austria in the lurch, she cannot possibly venture to assume the offensive against Russia, either on this point or in Bessarabia, without the support of an army of at least 100,000 allies—that is, Frenchmen. How such an army is to cut its way through Germany, if Germany oppose it, is another and very grave question. But, in an extreme case, it is thought that Austria may safely rely on the alliance and co-operation of Bavaria, Baden (Wurtemberg?), Hanover, and several other minor States. The days of shilly-shallying are now happily fast drawing to a close; and, whether the Vienna Conferences continue uninterruptedly or not, the future attitude of Austria, as well as that of Prussia and of Germany at large, will soon become clear to all the world. Those States in Central Europe who still indulge in *dolce far niente* hopes of neutrality must necessarily, and ere long, be roused from their self-imposed delusions.

Notwithstanding the foregoing considerations, we must not, however, forget that all hope of peace are not yet at an end. Austria has hitherto done all she could to convince Russia of her determination to compel her—in case of need, even by force of arms—to accept just and reasonable terms of peace; witness her extensive armaments, her powerful army drawn up in battle array on the extreme northern and north-eastern frontiers of the empire, her entire attitude from the beginning of the existing complications to the present hour, her occupation of the Principalities, her treaties with Prussia, Germany, Turkey, and the Western Powers. And yet, every it may be to a peculiar concatenation of influences, Russia, we are told, still doubts the sincerity of these threats, these menaces. Russian diplomatists are, for the most part, possessed of cultivated minds, and greatly appreciate Shakespearian literature. Thus it is that they have become acquainted with the character of *Bottom* the weaver, who was anxious to play the "lion," promising "to roar that it would do any man's heart good to hear him," and, when *Quince* the carpenter suggested that "An you should do it too terribly," &c., *Bottom* promised not to fright the ladies, lest they be all hanged, saying, "But I will aggravate my voice so that I will roar you as gently as any sucking dove; I will roar you an 'twere any nightingale." Now, these astute Russians by the flattering unction to their unsophisticated souls (in which hapless delusion a certain small but *élite* portion of the Austrian aristocracy, who are mailed in Russian sympathies and bedizened with Russian decorations, may possibly confirm them), that the menaces and threats of the Austrian Foreign-office may be as accommodating to circumstances as the roaring of *Bottom* in his assumed character of the lion.

And since all things are possible under the face of the sun, it may chance that Russia, and the philo-Russian Governments in Germany, participate in this preposterous delusion. At all events, if it really exist, you will agree with me in thinking that it should be dispelled, and dispelled it shortly will be. The measures which the Vienna Cabinet is forth with about to take, as explained above, will surely convince Russia, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that when Austria "roars" it is in downright good earnest, and this conviction it is that may yet bring about what most sober-minded, hard matter-of-fact men may be little inclined to believe in—namely, a speedy, satisfactory, and lasting peace.

We hear that General Baron de Hess, accompanied by Generals Cranfield and Letung, the British and French Military Commissioners, will leave Vienna for his head-quarters, in Galicia, on the second of next month It is also stated that the commanders of the various army corps are already ordered to meet the Commander-in-Chief at Lemberg on the 8th proximo; whereupon the latter, accompanied by the British and French Commissioners, will undertake a tour of inspection.

It is also understood that the Vienna garrison, mounting to about 30,000 men, will shortly be removed to the north to join the army on the frontiers, in which case the said garrison of this place will be replaced by other troops, probably coming from the south. The sanitary state of the Austrian army in Galicia is said to be daily improving, but typhus and other fevers are reported to have raged among the troops, especially amongst the cavalry, to a fearful extent. We hear also that a new levy is about to be raised, but of how many men it is to consist is not yet known. "Veritatis simplex oratio est."

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE 80th Regiment is ordered to be held in readiness to embark from Fort George in three divisions for Edinburgh, to proceed thence by railway to Portsmouth. It is expected that the first division will leave on the 7th, and that the whole regiment will have left by the 15th of May.

IN consequence of the numerous attacks that have been made with the bayonet by militiamen when excited by drink, and which, in some instances, have terminated seriously, it has been decided that for the future no person belonging to militia regiments, with the exception of non-commissioned officers, will be permitted to carry or wear side arms (bayonets) when off duty; but the waist or side belt, as the case may be, will be allowed to be worn as heretofore.

DR. M'PHERSON, Inspector-General of the Turkish contingent, has visited Edinburgh to distribute a portion of the very extensive patronage vested in him to the school of medicine there. He officers, on the part of Government, to take into immediate service surgeons, assistant-surgeons, and dressers, on the pay respectively of 25s., 15s., and 10s. 6d. a day. Several students have offered their services.

RANK OF INDIAN OFFICERS.—The following notice from the War-office appears in Tuesday's *Gazette*:—"In order to remove any doubt which may exist as to the rank and precedence of the officers of the Honourable East India Company's service, it is her Majesty's pleasure that officers of the Honourable East India Company's service, whose commissions shall be signed by authorities duly deputed to do so by her Majesty, shall have rank and precedence with officers of her Majesty's regular army, according to the dates of their commissions, in all parts of her Majesty's dominions or elsewhere."

A DETACHMENT of the Royal Marine Artillery, under the command of Captain [illegible], consisting of Lieut. Colonel H. Shaw-H. Hewett, and 1 Major, 3 subalterns, 2 staff officers, 3 sergeants, 1 drummer, with embarked on the [illegible], commanded by [illegible], left Portsmouth on Tuesday, in the steamer [illegible], for passage to the eastward, to join the new mortar-vessels about being dispatched, under charge of Captain Willcox, of the *Odin*, to the Black Sea fleet off Sebastopol. Each mortar-vessel will have six of these valuable and experienced artillery officers.

THE monthly returns of deserters from the Army and embodied Militia, made up to Saturday last, exhibit a marked increase in the number of defaulters to those of the preceding month, the deserters from the regular forces being 279, and those from the Militia, 395; making a total of 774. Of these, 44 are from the Household troops, 14 from the Royal Artillery and Sappers and Miners, 42 from Cavalry Regiments, 5 from the Land Transport Corps, and 21 from the Royal Marines; the remaining 251 are from Infantry Regiments of the Line, and include seven deserters to the enemy from the army before Sebastopol. Of the 395 deserters from the Militia, no fewer than 260 have been reported as absentees from the City of London Militia since the corps was embodied on the 20th of February. There is a short decrease in the number of deserters, strategics, and men discharged with disgrace from her Majesty's ships and vessels during the past month, the total being [illegible] deserters, 48; stragglers, 4; and men discharged with disgrace, 3 (from the *Hastings* 2, and from the *Tribune* 1). Rewards varying in amount from £1 to £5, are offered for the apprehension of any of the above deserters

THE following circular, signed by the Adjutant-General, has been issued from the Horse Guards, respecting the enlistment of recruits:—"In conformity with the order in Council, authorizing the enlistment of recruits between the ages of 24 and 35 years, for the limited term of two years, and for any further term not exceeding one year, the General Commanding-in-Chief, with the concurrence of the Secretary of War, desires it to be notified that all recruits so enlisting will be allowed the same bounty as at present granted to men enlisting for a longer period."

THE General Screw Company's screw steam-ship *Indiana*, No. 147, left Southampton for Woolwich on Tuesday morning, for the purpose of embarking horses for conveyance to the Crimea. She is fitted to accommodate 225, and will also berth a large number of troops. The capacity of her deck renders her admirably suited for the purpose of the horse transport service.

IT is expected that the City of London Militia will proceed to Woolwich early next week. The regiment is still far below its number, although within the last fortnight a large number of recruits have been attested.

IT is intended to distribute, as far as may be practicable, the regiments of Militia on the home service in the following manner, viz., English and Welsh regiments in Scotland, Ireland, and the Channel Islands; Irish regiments in England, Wales, Scotland, and the Channel Islands; and Scotch regiments in England, Wales, Ireland, and the Channel Islands. The several regiments will be rotated periodically, in order to perfect the men in garrison duties of every description. Ten regiments of Irish Militia will be concentrated at Aldershott-heath, on the formation of the Camp.

The demand for seamen for outward-bound vessels from Greenock to the St. Lawrence has been so great that it could not be supplied by the Clyde ports, and about 100 seamen have been obtained from Liverpool to man some of the ships.

A detachment of condemned soldiers have arrived in Algeria, where they are to be employed in making roads, forming forts, draining marshes and other works of public utility.

MUSIC.

DEATH OF SIR HENRY BISHOP.

It is with great pain that we have to announce this melancholy event, which took place on Monday evening last; and it is with still greater pain that we must add that it occurred under very lamentable circumstances—this great musician, of whom his country may so justly be proud, having been reduced to a state of poverty almost amounting to destitution. Several days previously an announcement had appeared in the newspapers intimating that his friends were about to set on foot a subscription for his relief. It stated that they "feel a painful but imperative necessity for publicly stating that this estimable composer is at this moment labouring under pecuniary embarrassment; they feel deeper regret in stating that he is suffering from acute bodily infirmity, without the slightest means for meeting his own immediate necessities, or for making any provision for his two youngest children, a son and a daughter." It was at the same time announced that, in consequence of Sir Henry Bishop's increasing illness, it had been necessary to discontinue the afternoon concerts at the Hanover-square Rooms; but that a concert on an extended scale was to take place at Covent garden Theatre on the 16th of this month, the proceeds to be applied for his benefit and that of his two youngest children. Notwithstanding the deplorable state of his health, a fatal termination of his malady, we believe, was not immediately apprehended; but he rapidly grew worse, till at length he sank under his sufferings—a sad close of so long and brilliant a career!

Sir H. Bishop must have reached at least the age of 69. He was a native of London, and at an early age was placed under the musical tuition of Bianchi, a celebrated dramatic composer of that day. Bishop himself became known as a composer so early as the year 1806, by a ballet called "Tamerlan et Bajazet," produced at the Italian Opera-house. His first English opera, "The Circassian Bride," was produced at Drury lane, in February, 1809; but in April after its first performance the theatre was burnt to the ground, and Bishop's score perished in the flames. From a few fragments of it still extant, particularly the fine duet "I'll love thee," it must have been a work of great merit. "The Maniac," produced the following year at the Lyceum, has always been regarded as one of his best works. In 1810 he was engaged as composer and director of the music at Covent-garden; and then began that long and brilliant series of operas which he produced for that theatre, in rapid and uninterrupted succession down to the year 1824, when his connection with it terminated. That series, commencing with "The Knight of Snowdon," and ending with "Native Land," includes no less than *fifty-eight* pieces. Many of them were too hastily written; some were extravagant, spectacles, and trifling *morceaux de circonstance*; but a great number were works of sterling merit, which were received, not only in the metropolis, but throughout the whole kingdom, with enthusiasm, and obtained for their author the well deserved title of "the English Mozart." Bishop's last dramatic work of magnitude was "Aladdin," which was produced at Drury lane, under unfavourable circumstances. In 1826 Weber's "Oberon" was brought out at Covent-garden; and, to increase the public interest, the famous German musician appeared, as a lion, to direct the performance. The managers of this rival theatre, wishing for something to counterbalance the attraction at the other house, prevailed on Bishop to write an opera for them. He imprudently complied, and produced "Aladdin"—a work on which he exerted all his power but, as might have been expected, its great and numerous beauties were overlooked, and it entirely failed of success.

This was the termination of Bishop's splendid career as a composer for the stage. But he did not sink into inaction. He continued to write many beautiful songs, duets, glees, and other vocal pieces for the concert-room and the chamber, which obtained general popularity, and contributed to preserve among us that wholesome relish for sound English melody which is too much impaired by the constantly increasing importation of works of the foreign schools. The later volumes of Moore's Irish Melodies were also committed to his care; and his masterly arrangements were found immensurably superior to those of his predecessor, Sir John Stevenson. Among other works of his latter days we may mention his contributions to the pages of the Quarterly Musical Magazine, not only original compositions of great beauty, but graceful and elegant symphonies and accompaniments to our finest national melodies.

Of late years Bishop's works have not met with the attention due to them from the British public. The prevailing rage for foreign novelties has led to an unjust neglect of our native artists; but we venture to predict that this neglect will be but temporary, and that at no distant day the name of our illustrious countryman will receive due honour, and his beautiful compositions will be duly appreciated.

(A Portrait of Sir Henry Bishop, with a copious Memoir, appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, No 532.)

THE THEATRES.

SURREY.—Shakspeare has travelled with Mr. Phelps to this transpontine theatre, and on Monday that gentleman enacted on its boards *Othello*, to the *Iago* of Mr. Creswick. A similar experiment was made last year, and its success induced its repetition on the present occasion. Apart from the immeasurable good which this event is likely to bestow on the Surrey audience, by bringing their taste through the medium of artistic acting to the perception of the highest tragic poetry, it is seldom now-a-days than we can have the opportunity of witnessing two leading actors in the same drama. The result was a harmony of effect in the intensity of passion between the Moor and his Ancient that was not only satisfactory to the mind, but strongly exciting. *Othello*, unless potently tempted by a competent *Iago*, is defrauded of motive and purpose, and needs the justification with which the poet intended he should be plentifully supplied. Mr. Creswick's *Iago* is an exceedingly intellectual example of judicious acting. He discards altogether the ostent of villany with which it was the custom to invest the part, and substitutes for it a general plausibility of behaviour that accounts for his deceiving so many into a common opinion of his honesty. Mr. Phelps played *Othello* in his finest manner. By frequent repetition, Mr. Phelps has enabled himself to weigh every syllable, and so to distribute the cadences of every sentence as to insure the best reading of every speech, and accord to the intended sentiment its appropriate expression. In like manner, his points are fairly selected from the general text, and the actor is never guilty of the error of making them to suit his own purpose without reference to the poet's design. It is this consciousness regard to his author's judgment which has given Mr. Phelps the enviable title of a Shakesperian actor, and planted the high reputation which he enjoys on a sure and steady basis. The house was full; the applause was deservedly frequent; and the usual ovation was accorded to the two artists, who had so successfully supported the burthen of the action.

FANCY SALE FOR THE TRINITY ST. PANCRAS SCHOOLS, TO BE HELD AT THE SCHOOLS, MAY 10TH AND 11TH.—With cordial sympathy we direct the attention of our readers to the exertions of the committee, on behalf of the Trinity St. Pancras Schools, the opening of which, on July 9th, 1848, was noticed in our paper. Those schools were founded in order to supply the pressing wants, in point of education, and moral and religious training, of an unusually large proportion of the young who were otherwise liable to grow up in ignorance and vice. The schools, which at first were built in shell-cottages, were appropriated for the additional purpose of a temporary church; and a room used for an infant school, which had been commenced on the May preceding, was also used for a Sunday school. Since progressed time the committee undertook to provide funds for the erection of a suitable church, and with many discouragements and drawbacks, their undertaking was completed by the consecration of the church on the 25th of October, 1850. The church, containing accommodation for 1500 persons, two-thirds free, passed then into the hands of the Church Trustees for the parish of St. Pancras, leaving the debt, which they had contracted for its erection, entirely as a burden upon the committee. The aid which might have been expected, under such circumstances, were, by the depressing influences of the year 1848, rendered much less than doubtless they would otherwise have been, although it has progressed time been cheered under their heavy burden of responsibility by many donations, given in a spirit of Christian kindness; and, among others who came forward with munificent aid, "A Friend" kindly offered to pay £10 upon the 1st of May, 1853, if ninety-nine others did the same, to make an effectual payment, and the idea was happily carried out. The rapid increase in the population of this district, and the demand for education in a poor neighbourhood, demanding a growing expense greatly exceeding the annual subscriptions. Thus the debt commencing with the opening of the school, and increased by the outlay required for repairs and material, weighs heavily upon the management, and renders the responsibility of carrying on the undertaking a work of anxious solicitude, and it is earnestly to be hoped that many well-wishers to a cause of so essential an interest may come forward with such aids as may serve to support and promote the sale undertaken as a measure calculated to relieve the stress by which the operations of the committee are burdened.

It is expected that before the end of the summer the electric communication between Marseilles and Algeria will be complete.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR MAY.

LONGCHAMPS and the fine weather have realised our predictions, and we are, accordingly, in a better position for advising our fair readers as to the choice of summer dresses. Flounces are not so much in favour as hitherto, and dresses can be worn with plain skirts, the patterns being placed crosswise, and lessening towards the waist. They are cut out and placed upon a plain ground for flounces; or they are left altogether upon the ground, and thus form a plain skirt. Almost all the grounds are *à petits quadrilles*, very delicate, and the patterns are of coloured watered bands, and garlands of flowers of soft and very varied shades. Basques seem to be coming up again. The dresses have a disposition that forms the first flounce, and falls over upon the plain skirt. One of the newest robes is the *Robe Neapolitaine*, of all shades. The ground is of taffetas, with a pattern woven in colour, and forming a draught-board; the pattern diminishing towards the top of the skirt. The corsage has three trimmings for the sleeves in smaller *quadrilles*, as well as the front of the corsage and the border of the basque. Other robes are of *vert céladon* upon *vert pré*, *bleu Louise* upon *bleu plus foncé*, &c. They are generally worn with flounces; and in almost all the patterns of the lower part there is black, to contrast with these light colours; or the pattern is *une Grecque*, or *à quadrille*. But when they are garlands of flowers, or sprinkled bouquets, no other shades than those of the flowers are employed. Robes trimmed with garlands are called *Corbeilles de Flore*. Almost all the flounces are trimmed with a fringe. Black taffetas mantles are trimmed with deep Chantilly lace, falling over half the length of the skirt, and crossing in front. This kind is more *recherché*, and is in greater favour than the paletôts with sleeves, which fit closer to the figure.

The most *distingué* bonnets are white. Those of *paille de riz*, with alternated bands of white blonde, will be most worn. They are ornamented with tufts of straw-coloured feathers, shaded rose towards the end. Many white feathers are also worn, with black. Bonnets are as small as ever; but, to make up for it, the curtain falls very far behind the neck. It is proposed to have boots to match the shades of walking dresses; but the innovation is not a happy one. We recommend black or gold-coloured English leather.

We were unable last month to describe the toilette worn by the Empress at Longchamps, but we now supply that deficiency. It was composed of a pearl-grey taffetas robe, ornamented up to the centre of the skirt, with *lisérons* woven in silk of the same shade; upon the front width the embroidery was continued up to the point of the corsage. The corsage was flat, *montant à pointe*, and without basques. It was closed by small delicate pearl buttons, and worked upon the breast with *lisérons*, like the smaller ones. Similar embroidery ornamented the flounces of the sleeves. The collar and the sleeves (called *à l'Imperatrice*, and described by us last February) were in *point à l'aiguille*. A magnificent shawl of Indian gauze, with a white ground, embroidered in relief with flowers and fruit, woven with threads of gold and silver. The bonnet was of *paille de-riz* and bands of blonde; tufts of *muguets des bois* were placed on each side.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Paletot à pointe, trimmed with Chantilly lace, and *quadrilles de velours* above the flounces, and the same for the sleeves. *Robe corbeille de Flore*, upon a Pekin or *gros des Indes* ground, with garlands of flowers on every flounce, and the ground striped

Mantle of black taffetas, trimmed with a fringe, and above with a border of silk *chenille*. Robe of *vert céladon*, with a band at every flounce in lighter green *chine de blanc*.

Collar of *point à l'aiguille* of a new form; one is also worn with skirts, and of which the two points cross in front upon the breast, and are attached by a pin. Robe of taffetas *vert Empereur*, with sleeves of two flounces, trimmed with a *ruche* at each extremity.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR MAY.

THE END OF THE SEASON.

ONE last fond look, James, ere you put
My bit of pink away
Its claret skirts to me recall
How many a glorious day?
The run we had from Gander's-green,
Away to Bradley-gorse,
Two hours and twenty minutes, James,
That pumped both man and horse.
The day we met at Grassvale-end
(I'd mounted Mr. Beck),
We went away, heads up, stern down,
And killed without a check:
And then the day I rode KILDARE
(Of Irish blood the best),
And took that double post and rails,
Which pounded all the rest.
That stain upon the shoulder, James,
Was honourably won,
I put old TRUNOY at a gate
After a three hours' run.
The gallant fellow never paused;
I felt I'd gone too far—
Crash! crack! and over James we went,
And broke the topmost bar.
That was the day I was brought home
By yokels on a gate;
And as you know, James, to your cost,
Three weeks I lay in state.
But oh! the wild ecstatic joy
That played through every vein,
When to the meet at Langley-green
I cantered off again!
The hand-press and the kindly words
That hailed me when we met—
Never till doctors give my Whoop
Shall I that meet forget

When last I wore my bit of pink,
H. M. S. H. had met
To hunt the Emperor of the French;—
(I judged so by the set
Of horse and foot that to Salt-hill
Had flocked the sport to see.)
"If this is hunting," I exclaimed,
"Good day; 'twont do for me."

The daisies pied (as poets sing)
In grass lands now are found;
The pale primroses, yellow-eyed,
In hedgerows do abound.
The bursting buds on every bough
Proclaim the birth of May.
Woe's me! the Hunting Season's o'er!
James, take my pink away.

L.

EASTER SUNDAY AT JERUSALEM.—The usual fighting among the Latin and Greek pilgrims took place at Jerusalem on Easter Sunday, and Turkish soldiers had to be stationed within the Holy Sepulchre to preserve order. The Duke and Duchess de Brabant and several travellers who were at Jerusalem received the extraordinary privilege of visiting the Mosque of Omar, the site of the Temple, which the Mahometans hold to be so sacred that until this occasion all Christians were most rigorously excluded from it. The Pacha of Jerusalem, to protect the visitors from annoyance, had all the guards of the Temple and the Mahometan devotees who reside there put under arrest during the time of their visit. One fanatic, however, escaped from custody and signified his disapprobation of the sacrilege by loud shrieks. The mosque is a most gorgeous edifice, built in the octagon form, covered with coloured tiles, and the dome bears marks of having been gilt. In the centre is a large rock, which is railed in, and considered very holy, and underneath there is a chamber where they show the tombs of Soloman, Elias, and Abraham. The number of Christians who went in was very large; they were all very orderly, and seemed much impressed with the holiness of the ground on which they stood.—*Letter from Constantinople.*

THE IMPERIAL APARTMENTS AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

AS *souveniers* of the visit of their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of the French, we engrave the accompanying Views of two of the principal apartments prepared for the reception of the Imperial guests, at Buckingham Palace. Hereafter we shall also illustrate "the Imperial Apartments" in Windsor Castle.

THE EMPRESS' DRAWING-ROOM

is an apartment in the new front of the Palace, facing the Mall, and situated immediately over the centre archway, leading to the quadrangle. This room is nearly square in its proportions, the ceiling is coved and treated in the polychromatic style. The walls opposite the windows are hung with tapestry about a century old; the ends of the room, on each side the fireplace, are panelled with a neat tint; the looking-glasses are richly framed, and extend from the mantelpiece to the cornice. In each corner of the room is placed a lofty porcelain pagoda, brought from the Pavilion at Brighton, as were also many of the other ornaments in the room, and the chandelier. The furniture is of white and gold, with crimson damask covers.

THE EMPEROR'S, OR YELLOW, DRAWING-ROOM

is at the Pimlico angle of the new range of buildings forming the front of Buckingham Palace. It is an elegant apartment, though somewhat incongruous in its style—partly arranged in its decoration to suit the furniture and ornaments which in most instances had once decorated the Pavilion at Brighton. It derives its name of "Yellow Drawing-room" from the walls being hung with amber-coloured satin damask. The curtains are also of the same colour. The chairs, couches, &c., are white and gold, covered in the same way. The carpet is a deep blue ground, with a yellow and white floral pattern. Two large pagodas fill up the piers between the windows, and two large candelabra occupy the corners. The chimney-piece is of white marble, ornamented with or-moulu and bronze. The niches in the jambs have each a figure of a Mandarin within them, giving the chimney-piece a very quaint appearance. Some exquisite buhl and other tables complete the fittings of this apartment.

BURLINGTON-HOUSE, PICCADILLY.

FEW of the modern historical houses of London have become so celebrated in artistic record as the mansion built for and named from Boyle, Lord Burlington, and greatly embellished and enlarged by his son, Lord Burlington, the architect. It occupies a large space of the ground between Bond-street and Sackville street, on the north side of Piccadilly. The property was purchased last year by Government for £140,000. The house is not well adapted for the purpose to which it was intended to appropriate it, and will, in all probability, be taken down. Meanwhile the premises have been temporarily lent for the Exhibition of Drawings, &c., in aid of the Royal Patriotic Fund, which circumstance, together with the fame of the mansion, hitherto shut out from public view by a lofty wall, will, doubtless, prove very attractive. Hence the present is a fit opportunity for introducing to our readers the architectural beauty of this classic pile, and a few of the celebrities which people its history.

The mansion was originally built for Lord Burlington, by Sir John Denham, then Surveyor to the Crown. Horace Walpole has given currency to the story that Lord Burlington, "when asked why he built his house so far out of town, replied, because he was determined to have no building beyond him." A similar anecdote, however, is told of Peterborough house, Millbank, Northumberland-house, and of other houses on the verge of the spreading town; and it could not have been said with truth of Burlington-house, because Clarendon-house and Berkeley-house were being built to the west of it at the very same time. Walpole's pleasant gossip, although often corrected, was revived a few months since by a contemporary, and made the grand tour of the newspapers as matter-of-fact. The three houses just named are thus mentioned by Pepys:—

20th Feb., 1664-5.—Next that (Lord Clarendon's) is my Lord Barkeley beginning another on one side, and Sir J. Denham on the other

25th Sept., 1668.—Thence to my Lord Burlington's house, the first time I ever was there, it being the house built by Sir John Denham, next to Clarendon-house.

The site was previously occupied by a farmstead. The house built by Denham was plain and well-proportioned, without any architectural display. A print by Kip shows this house in the year 1700, with its quaint gardens, and beyond them *the country*, now covered by Regent-street and Portland place; the courtyard is enclosed by a wall of moderate height, in front of which are planted large trees; and the carriage entrance is through two plain piers. Lord Burlington, the architect, added a new Portland stone front to the mansion; and a grand colonnade, borrowed from a palace by Palladio, at Vicenza. In the centre of the wall was built, in place of Denham's plain gateway, an archway of triumphal design; and there are two semicircular side entrances. Horace Walpole was in Italy when these embellishments were completed, and he thus tells their impression upon him after his return: "As we have few samples of architecture more antique and imposing than that colonnade, I cannot help mentioning the effect it had upon myself. I had not only never seen it, but had never heard of it, at least with any attention, when, soon after my return from Italy, I was invited to a ball at Burlington house. As I passed under the gate by night, it could not strike me. At daybreak, looking out of the window to see the sun rise, I was surprised with the vision of the colonnade that fronted me. It seemed one of those edifices in fairy tales that are raised by genii in a night-time."

The Doric colonnade and gateway are attributed to Colin Campbell, an architect of some skill, employed by Lord Burlington, who, when the designs were made, was but twenty-three years of age: still they were claimed for his Lordship, though he is not known to have urged his own right. Later in life he designed many architectural works which render the eulogy of Pope in his fourth "Moral Essay"—the Epistle on the Use of Riches—which he had addressed to the Earl of Burlington, by no means exaggerated:—

You, too, proceed! make falling arts your care;
Erect new wonders, and the old repair;
Jones and Palladio to themselves restore,
And be whate'er Vitruvius was before.

In Burlington-house the Earl delighted to assemble the leading artists and men of taste of his time; poets and philosophers—the learned, the witty, and the wise. Kent, the architect and landscape-gardener, had apartments in the mansion, where he remained until his death, in 1748. Here Handel resided with the Earl for three years; and here Pope, Arbuthnot, and Gay, often met. The latter poet, in his "Trivia," after

BURLINGTON HOUSE.

THE COLONNADE, BURLINGTON-HOUSE.

amenting the disappearance of the famed structures and stately piles of the Strand, thus refers to the Piccadilly mansion:

> Yet Burlington's fair palace still remains,
> Beauty within, without proportion reigns.
> Beneath his eye declining art revives,
> The wall with animated pictures lives
> Here Handel strikes the strings—the melting strain
> Transports the soul, and thrills through every vein
> There oft I enter (but with cleaner shoes),
> For Burlington's beloved by every Muse.

Sir William Chambers has described the mansion as "one of the finest pieces of architecture in Europe," "behind an old brick wall in Piccadilly." Pennant, however, considers that "the interior, built on the models of Palladio, and adapted more to the climate of Lombardy, and to the banks of the Adige or the Brenta, than to the Thames, is gloomy and destitute of gaiety and cheerfulness."

Lord Burlington died in 1753, when the title became extinct, and Burlington-house passed to the Duke of Devonshire. Several alterations were made in the interior, chiefly under the direction of Samuel Ware The Duke of Portland, Prime Minister to George III., died in this mansion, in 1809, a few days after he had resigned the seals of office. In the western wing were temporarily deposited the Elgin Marbles, before they were removed to the British Museum. In 1814 White's Club gave here to the Allied Sovereigns, then in England, a grand ball, which cost £9489. Among the guests was Alexander, Emperor of Russia

In 1815 Burlington-house was purchased of the Duke of Devonshire by his uncle, Lord George Cavendish, who repaired all those parts of the building erected by Lord Burlington; and, by raising the Venetian windows on the south front (*See the Illustration*), completed the Earl's design for this façade. Lord George Cavendish converted the riding-house and stables on the east side of the court yard into a dwelling, as an appendage to the mansion, and built other stables behind the screen wall. His Lordship also rebuilt the mansion, except the front elevation and some rooms connected with it, maintaining throughout the alterations the decorative character of the preceding edifice. The same nobleman likewise restored the terrace and terrace-steps in the garden, and converted a narrow slip of ground on the west side of the house and garden into the "Burlington Arcade," built by Ware, in 1819: from the rental of which the Cavendish family are said to derive but £4000 a year, though the actual produce (from sub-leases) is stated to amount to £8640. On the east side of the gardens is the high range of buildings called "The Albany;" but all its windows are shut out from view of the gardens.

The state apartments of Burlington-house are on the first-floor. Proceeding eastward from the great staircase, they form a suite of six rooms, richly ornamented and gilt. The ceiling of the saloon was painted by Sir James Thornhill. The great staircase was painted for the Earl of Burlington by Marco Ricci and his uncle Sebastian; the same artists painted the ceilings of the state dining-room, and the south-east ante-room to the great drawing-room. Altogether, Burlington-house merited much of the praise applied to it in 1826—that it was "the only town residence really fit for a British nobleman;" but since that period some noble additions have been made to the mansions of the metropolis. The edifice and grounds are said to occupy about eight acres The south front of the house, which we have engraved, is 180 feet in extent, and the height of it is 48 feet. A ground-plan is given in Britton's "Public Buildings of London."

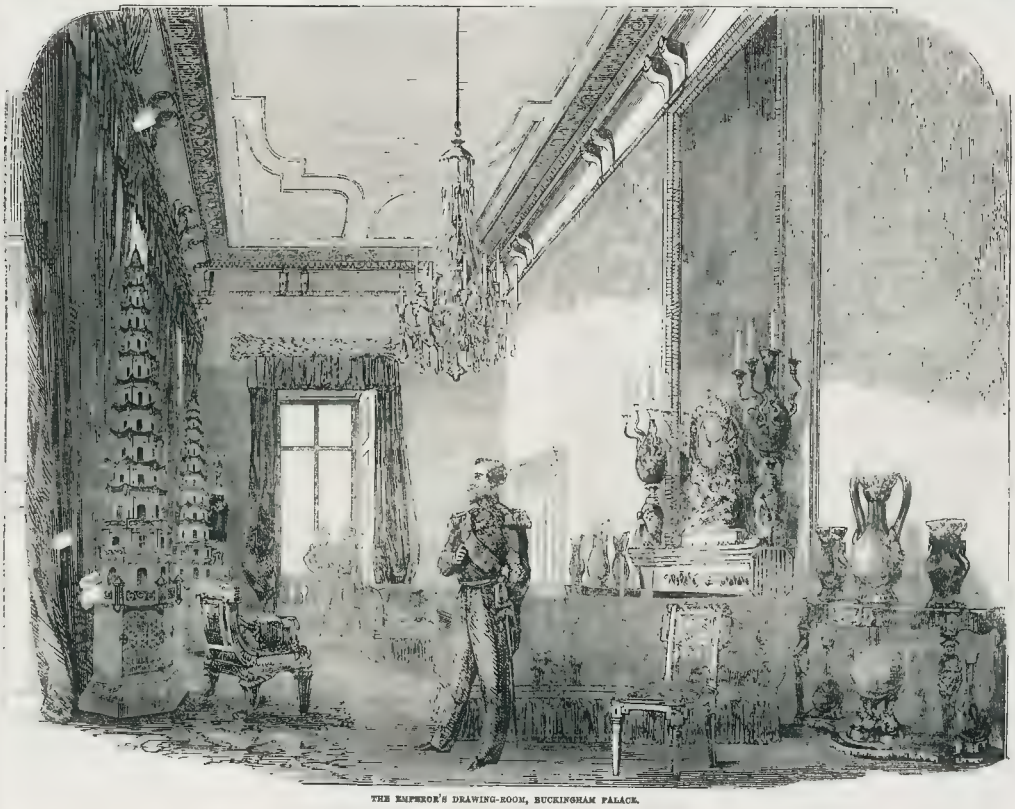
The entrance archway has considerable pretensions to grandeur. Its characteristics are thus summed up in the "Curiosities of London," lately published:—

The archway has a lofty pediment, flanked by the supporters of the Burlington arms, and supported by four rusticated columns, coupled. It is commemorated by Hogarth in a *caricatura* print (1731), inscribed "The Man of Taste, containing a View of Burlington Gate:" on the summit is Kent (served by Lord Burlington as a labourer), flourishing his palette and pencils over Michael Angelo and Raphael; lower down is Pope whitewashing the front, and bespattering the Duke of Chandos in the street. Ralph refers to the front as "the most expensive wall in England; the height wonderfully proportioned to the length, and the decorations both simple and magnificent, the grand entrance is elegant and beautiful; and, by covering the house entirely from the eye, gives pleasure and surprise, at the opening of the whole front with the area before it at once." Any passenger who has seen the mansion through the great gateway from the footpath may appreciate the above effect.

THE ENTRANCE GATEWAY, BURLINGTON-HOUSE.

BURLINGTON-HOUSE, SOUTH FRONT.

THE EMPRESS' DRAWING-ROOM, BUCKINGHAM PALACE.



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Fashionable Chenes and Striped, 27s. 6d. the Dress
Spring Poplins, 7s. 6d. the Dress
Patterns free by post.
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Mantles (in Rich silk or cashmere crape), from 1 Guinea to 8g.
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THE BLACK SILKS AT PETER ROBINSON'S
Are purchased at Spitalfields and French Manufactories,
In Dupatas, Lyons Manufacture, Gros d'Rome, Glacé, Harathea, Poplins, Gros Grains, Ribbons, Satins, Velvets, Crapes, &c.
Elegant Flounced Silk Robes, trimmed velvet, trimmed crape, or plain, from 3 Guineas to 5 Guineas.
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THE PARIS GLOVE WAREHOUSE.
Just imported, 4500 dozen Real French Kid Gloves.
At the New spring Colours
Made by Jouvin and Co., Rue de Paris,
At One Shilling per Pair. Sample Pair and Pattern 14 Stamps
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PARIS GLOVE WAREHOUSE.
BAKER and CRISP
Guarantee every Pair the best made at
18s 9d the Half-dozen, Patent
Not stamped Half-dozen-and-Half Guinea to Seven Guineas,
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MUSLINS, BAREGES, CAMBRICS, &c.
at the Drapery.
Every novelty in British, French, and India Organdie Muslins
French and Swiss Cambrics, commencing 4s. 6d., the full dress
Printed Bareges, 8½d. per yard
French Barege, 1s. 6d. the full dress, worth double
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Every Initial of Christian or Surname beautifully embroidered in Old English capitals, with wreath tastefully worked, at 7s. 6d. per half-dozen, post free.
Every Lady's Christian Name ditto in full, at 1s. 11½d each, worth 4s. 6d., post free.
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FRENCH, SCOTCH, and IRISH EMBROIDERY.
Best Quality Cent less than last year's prices.
Real Scotch and Irish Wove Cambrics, 2s 3d to 3s. 9d. each.
Beautiful French Ditto, 5s 9d to 10s 6d each
6 sewn 7s 6d., 6s 6d., 5s 6d., 4s 6d.
Orders for Patterns, enclosing the amount in stamps, or Post-office orders made payable at Old Cavendish-street
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N.B. Several Thousand Yards of Flounciing, from one to eighteen inches wide, at Half-price. India Long Cloth Petticoats, richly wo ked, at 10s 9d. each, worth one guinea.

SOILED FRENCH CAMBRIC HANDKERCHIEFS at Half-Price. Patterns free by post.
Stock of MULLETT, LUPPONT, and CO., Paris. Fine French Cambric Hdfs, 4s. 6d. per dozen; Fine Hemmed Cambric ditto, 7s. 6d. to the half-dozen; Gentlemen's Fine Cambric, all pure Flax, for Dress Handkerchiefs, from 10s. 6d. half-dozen.—BAKER and CRISP, 221 and 226, Regent-street, London.

THE NEWEST FRENCH and ENGLISH SILKS, at W. W. SHEATH'S, Silk Mercer, 264, Regent-street.
Mille Raye and Check silks (usual width), from 1s. 3½d per yard.
Fancy Poulte striped ditto, (wide width) .. .. 1s. 6d.
Rich Glacés in every colour .. .. .. 2s 6d ,,
Beautiful Brocades .. .. .. 3s 6d ,,
Very Rich Moire Antiques (full lengths) .. .. 4 guineas
Magnificent ditto .. .. .. 4 ,, 4s. 6d per yard
Good Black Gros de Naples .. .. .. 2s. 6d. per yard
Very Rich Black French Glacés (wide width) .. 3s. 11½.
Black Gros Royale, Gros Grains, Maintenons, Imperial, and other Rich Silks for Mourning and Half-Mourning. Patterns forwarded by any post free.
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MODES.—Madame ALINA de chez Madame LAURE (Blanchard des Capucines), Boulevards à Paris, a l'honneur d'informer ses clientes que les nouveautés de printemps le 15 Avril, ou trouvera les dessus ces modes soldures et fleurs de Paris.—3, Princes-street, Hanover-square.

THE FRENCH MUSLIN COMPANY'S MUSLINS are now ready, and there is a beauty in quality, and delicacy in design, which our experience in the trade has never yet seen equalled. We have the advantage of being amongst the earliest opportunity of obtaining the best and the cheapest. Patterns free.
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BUSINESS LADIES, having some means and good shop premises, in first situation of second-class trade for selling, with or without, a well-established business, the rents are moderate, and in the various parts of the Kingdom, may on giving shop only in each of the following districts.—The City (or Holborn), Finsbury, Islington, Marylebone, Westminster, Surrey side, Kensington, or Hampstead, to open a shop stock of £50 average. Apply promptly, or letter, post-paid, to Mr. DAVID, care of Poole's Coffee-house, 179, Fleet-street, London.

PANTHEON HALL OF COMMERCE, Opposite the Pantheon Bazaar.
First Delivery of the
REAL ALPINE KID GLOVES
with the Engine Stamped on the stitching.
PRICE ONE SHILLING PER PAIR.
Latchet Chain attached
In the undermentioned Colours for the Spring Season—

No.		No.	
1	Drab	16	Alma—Copper Brown.
2	Chocolate.	19	Hance
3	Gros Protestant.	20	Tartan—very Light Tan
4	Lavender	21	Myrtle
5	Tan (Gd)—Golden Tan.	22	Crimson
6	Emerald	23	Lilac
7	Citron—Deep Lemon	24	Pearl—Straw
8	Mauve	25	Grey—very Light Brown
9	Raspberry—Sea Green	26	Salmon
10	Rose	27	Aurora—Slate
11	Napoleon—Bright Blue.	28	Pearl
12	Mahogany	29	Rosette d'Espagne—Dahlia.
13	Pelisse—Light Green	30	Adelaide
14	Lilac	31	Maroon—Claret
15	Marron Glacé—Light Brown.	32	Olive
16	White	33	Marron fonce—Dark Brown.
17	Marine—Canary	34	Ruby

AN AGENT WANTED in every town and the appointed Agents in England for the sale of the Real Alpine Kid Gloves already so much appreciated (producing a fortune to numbers of persons, particularly ladies, who have shewn that it offers to them an opportunity to compete with the trade) are now in the hands of the Proprietors.
The Real Alpine Kid Gloves with the Registered Latchet Latchet Chain attached, can only be procured at the sole agent of the sole appointed Agents, Pantheon and Bazaar
PANTHEON HALL OF COMMERCE,
No. 7, 24 and 25, Oxford-street.
N.B. Sample Pairs sent by post, upon the receipt of 14 postage stamps, weight of Gloves, with Latchet Chain attached, enclosing the half-sovereign.

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RUMBELL and OWEN
Forward, Gratis, postage free, to the Nobility and Gentry, Fashions in Made up Trimmed FLOUNCING SILK SKIRTS for the Spring.
Beautifully Luxurious in Copper plate
Address RUMBELL and OWEN,
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Rich Checked and Striped pure Glacé Silks, £1 6s. 9d. the full dress
Silk Skirts, with three Flounces, and ample quantity for bodice, from 2 guineas.
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Ditto Muslins 5s. 9d. the full dress.
Ditto Llama (very fine), 9½d. per yard.
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THE NEW FASHIONS FARMER and ROBERTS, 192 and 193, Oxford-street, offer New Fashions in Silks, Mantles, Manlles, and Shawls, exhibiting the most elegant and recherché designs ever produced, combining the most fashionable Shawl and Cloak Emporium, 171, 173, and 175 Regent-street, Silk & Linen Drapers and Haberdashers.

BABIES' CASHMERE CLOAKS, handsomely Trimmed, 18s 6d.; Hoods, 8s. 6d.; Vaccinations and Embroidered Robes and Frocks, suitable for presents, from 20s., Sets of Baby Linen, from 35s. At MINN'S, the JUVENILE DEPOT, 249 Regent-street, adjoining the Circus, Oxford-street.

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BABIES' BERCEAUNETTES Two-and-a-Half Guineas; Babies' Baskets to match, One Guinea. Valenciennes and Embroidered Frocks and Robes for Christening presents; the same, less expensive, for the nursery. Baby-linen in complete sets, of every quantity.—249, Regent-street (near Madame Tussaud's Exhibition).—Mrs. W. G. TAYLOR (late Halliday)

REAL BALBRIGGAN STOCKINGS. The most quality for walking, at 2s. 6d. the finest, for full dress 3s. 6d. per pair. Made in black, pain, and lace, as well as in the natural cream colour. Under-shirts, drawers, and socks; by the original consignee in England, at 83, Baker-street.—W. G. TAYLOR (late Halliday).

MARRIAGE OUTFITS complete in everything necessary for the Trousseau, as well as the inexpensive things requisite for all classes of Young Ladies. White Dressing Gowns, One Guinea, and Dry Sheets, 10s 6d. Cotton Stockings, 3s. 6d.; Silk Stockings, 5s. 6d. Ladies Fancy Gloves, 1s. 6d. Cambric Handkerchiefs, 3s. 6d. Ladies' Cambric Under-Shirts, 3s. 6d. In the new Premises, 249, Regent-street (near Madame Tussaud's Exhibition).—Mrs. W. G. TAYLOR (late Halliday)

LADIES' RIDING TROUSERS—Chamois Leather, with Black Feet. Rifle Cloth Riding Habits, the skirt lined with Silk, Five-and-a-Half Guineas to Seven Guineas. Young Ladies' Black Merino Habits, Two-and-a-Half Guineas. Young gentlemen's Superfine Cloth Jackets furnished with the Patent Navel Cloth. Outfits complete.—83, Baker-street, near Madame Tussaud's Exhibition.—W. G. TAYLOR (late Halliday).

CABINET FURNITURE, Carpets, and Bedding, may be obtained in profuse variety, for prices defying competition, at HOWITT & CO.'S Gen. 229 to 230, High Holborn

TO the PUBLIC—STAGG and MANTLE, have purchased very largely in SILKS, SHAWLS, LINENS, SILK LINEN, CHINTZES, LACES, &c., during the [illegible] Stagg and Mantle's Establishment, 5, Leicester-street.

EPSOM RACES.—DOUDNEY'S GUINEA DUST COATS (Waterproof), York Tweed, Alpaca, and Irish Poplins, worn naturally by the Queen, Prince Albert, and Royal Family, at 2, Bond-street, 25, Burlington-arcade, and W. Lombard-street. Established 1794.

FOURTEEN Full sized PAPER PATTERNS of Paris Models. Mdme. DELILE, Rue St. Honore, Paris announces that she has been bought by the Queen, Prince Albert, Mantlemaker, Ladies, and Children's, may be had. Price 5s., or, post free 5s. 6d. in stamps, or post order.—Apply to N. T. WILLIS, 161, Fleet-street, London.

GREAT SALE of DRAPERY, SILKS, &c., &c.—RETIREMENT from BUSINESS of Messrs. WILSON SWALE, and SON, 8 and 10, Hanway street, Oxford-street. SPECIMEN and CHIPS from the Remnants of a Stock of £1 SHILLING GIFT for Valuable and Extensive STOCK of the late Firm, consisting of about 40 or 50 pieces, each being offered in the cost of Feed. Prospectuses, with Testimonials, sent on application.

DARING ATTEMPT to FORCE OPEN one of CHUBB'S FIRE and THIEF-PROOF SAFES
"Wadham's Hill, Wolverhampton,
"Sept. 1st, 1854.
"Gentlemen,—Last night some thieves broke into our office, and forced a window frame from our iron safe, which is one of your fire and thief-proof manufacture, and contained a large sum of money, with other valuables. From the diligent combination of the safe, and the appearance of several very strong housebreaking instruments which they had broken in their attempts, and left behind them, it is evident that the thieves spent no efforts in their endeavours to force it open; but we have much satisfaction in informing you that, owing to the great strength of your safe, their labour was entirely defeated.
"We are, gentlemen, your obedient servants,
"T. and S. JONES.
"Messrs. Chubb and Son, 57, St. Paul's Churchyard, London."

CHUBB'S LOCKS, with all the newest improvements. Complete Illustrated Lists, with sizes and prices, will be sent on application.
Chubb and Son, 57, St. Paul's Churchyard, London; 28, Lord-street, Liverpool; 16, Market-street, Manchester; and Horsely-fields, Wolverhampton.

TO INVALIDS.—COOPER'S DISPENSING ESTABLISHMENT, 26, Oxford street London. The preparation of Prescriptions is carried on entirely distinct from the retail business, a department which has gained a celebrity amongst the medical profession throughout the country, and forms a prominent feature in the business. Every ingredient used is of the purest description, and the price consequently under the usual charges. Separate detailed catalogue of Medicine Chests, forwarded free on receipt of a stamp by post.
Portable Medicine Chests for travelling, containing six Cut-glass stoppered Bottles, 18s., Oak Chest containing eleven stoppered Bottles, 25s., with every variety for families, clergy, and travellers, at equally moderate prices.
Portable Baths for bathing the eye, is self-acting, and so simple that it may be used by a child. To all who suffer from weak eyes, produced by reading, writing, or close application to minute work, it is highly recommended. Price 20s., carriage paid. Improved Lavement Apparatus for administering the injection in any one stroke of the piston, thereby preventing admission of air into the bowels, price 25s. Every other variety at prices from 10s. upwards.
W. Harris Cooper, Pharmaceutical Chemist 26 Oxford street, London.

REEVES' MOIST WATER-COLOURS in pans and tubes
113 Cheapside, London

TRELOAR'S COCOA-NUT FIBRE WAREHOUSE,
42, LUDGATE HILL,
Catalogues free.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—STURROCK and SONS TOILET PREPARATIONS may be obtained at their Depôt in the Crystal Palace, Sydenham. Perfumers to the Queen. Glasgow and Edinburgh

THE MINIE RIFLE.—Gentlemen who may desire Military Training with this favourite arm are invited to join the VICTORIA RIFLES. Members exempt from service in the Militia. Range of Shooting-ground (at Kilburn), 600 yards. Address the Hon. Secretary, at the office of the "Court Journal," Strand

REVOLVERS.—Extensive Assortment of the best varieties in Rifles and Pistols; Adams's Patent, Colt's, and various ancient and highly-approved patterns. Gun Barrels, Bolsters, &c., from 7s.—REILLY, Gun-maker New Oxford-street.

SALMON, TROUT, and PIKE RODS, FLIES, and every description of TACKLE of the Best Quality, can be obtained at J. BERNARD B. 4, Church-place, Piccadilly.

TO ANGLERS.—JOHN CHEEK respectfully calls ANGLERS' attention to the largest, best, and cheapest STOCK in London. An Equipment for Trout Fishing, 10s.; Superior Ditto, 21s.; the Best, 40s. New Illustrated Guides and Lists of Prices gratis. 120, Oxford-street.

TO ANGLERS.—CHARLES FARLOW, 191, Strand, Manufacturer of superior FISHING TACKLE, at moderate prices. A Catalogue forwarded Gratis.

TROUT FISHING. The DERBY TROUT-KILLER, post free, 2s.; Salmon ditto, 3s.; Pike Ditto, 3s. 6d.; Trout Flies, 1s. 6d. per dozen; the very best ditto, 3s.; Pike and Hair Fly Lines, 3s. per score yards; Best Salmon ditto, 100 yards, 7s.; Catalogues and testimonials, post free.—SAMUEL WARREN, 31 Friar-gate, Derby.

GLASS SHADES, for the Preservation of all Objects of Taste, Invented by Experience, and Manufactured at Retail Warehouse, 13, Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square. Estimates and Prices of all descriptions of Glass for Gardening forwarded free.

GLASS, CHINA, and CHANDELIERS.—The Largest Collection in London, at the Relish showroom of A. PRATT, FIRST and CO., Falcon Glass Works, Holland-street, Blackfriars: and 88 and 89, Baker-street, Portman-square.

THICK HAIR after ILLNESS. STURROCK and SON'S CHLOROFORM POMADE. Prices 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d. Be careful of imitations. Perfumers to the Queen. Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Crystal Palace, Sydenham.

BREIDENBACH'S WHITE ROSE SCENT is in great perfumes, price 2s 6d. Rose Cold Cream, 1s. Rose Soap, 1s.; Rose Sachet, Rose Water, Rose Pomade. Rose Tooth-wash, musky fragrant—1779, New Bond street.

MAPPINS' "SHILLING" RAZOR, sold by all Cutlers, warranted, good by the Makers, J. MELLIN MAPPIN and SONS, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield, and 67 Mortimer-street, London.

MAPPINS' SUPERIOR TABLE KNIVES and FORKS, warranted, good by the Makers, J. MELLIN MAPPIN and SONS, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield, and 67 Mortimer-street, London.

"LADIES NURSING."—NEW NIPPLE SHIELDS, for taking away all pain in nursing, and immediately curing painful Nipples. BENJAMIN ELAM, 196, Oxford-street. 4s. 6d.; by post, 36 extra.

THE "BABY'S" NEW FEEDING-BOTTLE.—From the "Lancet" "We have seldom seen anything so beautiful as the Nursing Bottle introduced by Mr. Benjamin Elam, 196, Oxford street." 7s. 6d. each.

THE BEST BED for a CHILD is one of FIRELOCK'S METALLIC COTS, 4 feet long, 2 feet wide, with moveable sides and pillars, castors, and brass vases, price 18s including a comfortable mattress.—T. TURLOCK, Iron Bed Manufacturer, 42, Langham-hill, London.

BURTON'S PATENT PREAMBULATORS. —The distinguished patronage, the flattering encomiums, and the increasing demand are sufficient testimonials of the superior excellence of these fashionable, safe, and elegant carriages, for adults, children, and invalids. Propelled from behind by the slightest pressure. Illustrated circulars Shipping orders.—Offices, 104, Regent-street. Manufactory, Bury-place.

BURTON and HARE'S improved INFANT PROPELLER, supported on Steel Springs. These elegant and ingenious Superfine Cloth Carriages furnished with the latest patent improvements. Adult and Invalid Wheel Chairs upon the same principle.—Manufactory, 229, New Oxford-street, London.

WHERE SHALL WE PUT IT? The difficulty is met by T. TROTMAN'S Patent REFLINA CARRIAGES. Infant Carriage Repository, Corner of High-street, Islington. An assortment of Registered Tricycles Perambulators (Gratis) on view.

SCYTHES.—BOYD'S PATENT SELF-ADJUSTING SCYTHES may be had of the Manufacturers, WM. DRAY and CO., Swan-lane, London, and of all Ironmongers and Seedsmen. A liberal allowance to the Trade

GREAT SAVING in the COST of BREAD by the use of WM. DRAY and CO.'S DOMESTIC FLOUR-MILLS. List of Prices forwarded on application to Wm. Dray and Co., Swan-lane, London

BRANDY.—Dr. URE and Dr. LETHEBY have pronounced Brandy of RARE FLAVOUR, present in perfection "a spirit of undoubted purity, peculiarly free from acidity, perfectly wholesome, and decidedly preferable to direct importations from Cognac." Imported gallon, 18s. 6d. per gallon, 54s. per dozen, bottles included.
HENRY BRETT and CO.,
Old Pervival Distillery, Holborn.

UNIVERSAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, 1, King William-street, City, London. Established 1834. Empowered by Special Act of Parliament 5 William IV. cap. 64. Sir HENRY WILLOCK, K.L.S., Chairman; JOHN STEWART, Esq., Deputy Chairman. The successful operation of the Society have enabled the Directors for the last twelve years to reduce the premiums on policies entitled to participate in profits to an average more than forty-five per cent, and during the last four years a reduction of forty-five per cent has been declared. Weekly Board-day, Thursday, one o'clock. MICHAEL SLADE HOPE, Secretary.

THE HONOURABLE ARTILLERY COMPANY of LONDON, the most ancient Corps of Volunteers in England, is OPEN for the ADMISSION OF GENTLEMEN who are willing to give a portion of their time to Military Service
The Corps is recognized by Royal Patents and Warrants from her present Most Gracious Majesty, and her Majesty's Royal predecessors, to train persons in the use of arms, and to the practice of military evolutions and exercises
The Corps possesses a Parade-ground of several acres, a Rifle-gallery 150 feet long, an Armoury-house, Arms, and every facility for efficient military training
The Officers are selected from the Corps, and hold her Majesty's Commission.
Gentlemen under twenty one years of age are admitted as Cadets, but must produce the consent of their parents or guardians
Members have to provide themselves with the Uniform of the Corps.
The expenses of the Band, Arms, Ammunition, &c., are defrayed out of the funds of the Company.
Gentlemen desirous of joining, can obtain any further information on application, by letter, to Mr William H. White, Secretary, 18, Artillery-place, Finsbury.

THE CRIPPLE'S HOME, in connection with FEMALE REFUGE and INFANT NURSERY, HILL-STREET, DOUGHTY-SQUARE
Under the patronage of the Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury, &c. Subscriptions are earnestly solicited, as the funds are inadequate, £300 are immediately required for carrying on its operations. This is the only institution in the Metropolis for receiving and providing Cripples with a Dwellhouse. Here they are being instructed to be skilled business makers. It is entirely hoped that a generous British public will not permit this Institution to be CLOSED from WANT OF FUNDS, or that these poor Cripples shall continue as street beggars, exposed to every description of danger and temptation.
Mr Heath, 52, Montague-square; Miss Broughton, 33, Dorset-square; Mr. Grant, Exeter-hall, will thankfully receive subscriptions.

NELSON MARINE ACCIDENT ASSURANCE COMPANY; for assuring, at small cost and with cash trouble, Emigrants, Passengers, Mariners, and others, from loss of Life and from Personal Injury by Sea mishap or other Accidents at Sea and also the Risks [illegible] Incidental to Railway Journeys (Provisionally registered) Capital, £100,000 in 10,000 shares of £10 each. Deposit, £1 per share. The Directors will not proceed to business until £50,000 is actually subscribed. The habitudes of Shareholders will be effectually limited by a clause in the policies
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Applications for Shares may be addressed to any of the Directors; or to the Secretary of the Company, at the Office of the Company, 6, Old Jewry, London (where prospectuses and every information may be obtained); or to S. J. Thomson, Esq., Secretary at Liverpool, 3, Paradise-row, Paradise-street.

ARTISTS' BENEVOLENT FUND for the RELIEF of DISTRESSED ARTISTS and OLD ARTISTS
The Anniversary Dinner will take place on Saturday, 19th May, 1855, the Right Honourable the Earl of Ellesmere, President, in the Chair.
The Marquis of Breadalbane, R.A. Hardwick, Esq., R.A.
Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P. William Hampstead, Esq.
Sir Robert Peel, Bart., M.P. Thomas Lupton, Esq.
Sir Charles Eastlake, Esq., M.P. Thomas Sidney Cooper, Esq.
Thomas Richmond, Esq. William Collins, R.A.
Thomas Cole, Esq., R.A. Charles Robert Leslie, R.A.
Thomas Creswick, Esq., R.A. Frederick Tayler, Esq.
Sir Charles Eastlake, P.R.A. William Mulready, R.A.
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HER MAJESTY'S BUCK-HOUNDS AT SALT-HILL.—"THE LAST DAY OF THE SEASON."—DRAWN BY JOHN LEECH.—(SEE PAGE 435.)

THE RIGHT HON.

SIR GEORGE CORNEWALL LEWIS,

CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.

SIR G. C. LEWIS belongs to a family who have adopted politics as a profession; but to a family who, at the same time, have worked for the prizes. We find that his father, the once well-known Thomas Frankland Lewis, was in office, like his son, but that his life was a career of wonderful public labour. He procured his Baronetcy from Sir R. Peel, and he was of a family (of Radnorshire) already sufficiently respectable to have obtained county position without that honour. He was member, successively, for Benamaris, Ennis, and Radnorshire, and was always busy, in and out of the House of Commons. He was a "commissioner" of everything and of all sorts of inquiries, for twenty years. He was Secretary to the Treasury in 1827; was afterwards Vice-President of the Board of Trade, was then Treasurer to the Navy—a lucrative office now abolished; and from 1834 till 1839 he was the unpopular Chairman of the Poor-law Commission. We find that his son, now his successor in the Baronetcy, followed precisely the same career; and, with greater parts, has reached higher official honours. He was born in 1806, a date indicating the very gradual growth of his success—even his marriage into that family which has been pronounced "the handsomest family in Europe" not taking place till 1844. Sir George's University triumphs, however, were early. In 1828 he had taken, at Christchurch, a first class in classics, and a second class in mathematics, and, generally, had become known as a distinguished young man. In 1831 he was called to the bar: it is so useful a thing, if the distinguished young man does not turn out a distinguished old man, to be (that favourite aversion of Mr. Henry Drummond) "a seven-years' barrister." In 1835 his political employments commenced. At that period the age of commissions was setting in with that severity which by degrees has ever since been extirpating the "local self-government" that is so favourable to the preservation of abuses. He began with a Commission of Inquiry into the Relief of the Poor in Ireland; and, soon after, or contemporaneously, he was a Commissioner of the famous Whig Inquiry into the Church of Ireland. The results of these investigations are recorded in historic Blue Books, which were references in the party politics of the day; but they are more use fully as well as, for Irish political students, more permanently conveyed in a book which the young Commissioner then published, and which served not only to display his peculiar ability in philosophical analysis of politics, but to obtain for him an excellent character, even in Ireland, as a Liberal.

In 1839 the young Mr. Lewis was appointed a member of that Poor-law Board (not quite the same as that now administering the Poor-law) over which his father so ably presided; and as the appointment was not political, we find that he was not disturbed in his seat by the crash of his patrons, the Whigs, in 1841, for he sat there till 1847, through Sir Robert Peel's great fiscal-revolutionary era. And during this time Mr. Lewis, probably not overworked, but sustaining his administrative fame, found opportunities for that literary leisure which an Oxford first-class man, however his manhood be employed, invariably sighs for: and the result was some review articles, and a book or two, which served—though none of them were of a very popular character—to spread the desirable impression that the humble Commissioner was capable of far greater things.

Shortly before the fall of Lord John Russell, in 1850, Mr. Lewis became Joint Secretary to the Treasury, the post now so ably filled by Mr. James Wilson, and in that office—though he did not remain long enough there to redeem Whig finance from its then reputation for "muddle" he no doubt acquired that familiarity with Treasury business which enabled him to take his present Chancellorship without any of the apprehensions of the novice in State finance.

At the general election of 1851 he lost his seat for Herefordshire. The Tory families had then the facilities for electoral "arrangements;" the Derbyites got in their three men; for, though one of the three was a Whig, he was willing to say what Mr. Lewis would not say—that he had a "general" confidence in Lord Derby, and Mr. Lewis, in the very prime of his life, was relegated to political philosophy. But it was not to be for long. Various eminent men were left out at that general election, like Mr. Cardwell and Mr. Horsman; but such men happen in our days to be scarce; and they soon picked up by alert constituencies, replying to appeared in their places. Mr. Lewis was the last. He contested various places between 1851 and 1853, as seats became vacant, but without success, and he had to wait till 1854 to achieve it the same time the Baronetcy and the seat his father's death vacated. He sits then now for the Radnor district.

As Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir G. C. Lewis must, so far, be considered as successful. That the first Budget of Sir G. C. Lewis is a good one, and the Budget of a sound statesman, we must infer from the fact that it is passing with a speed which is miraculous, considering that it imposes new taxes. Besides this, the Newspaper-stamp Bill—now under discussion in Parliament—will give Sir G. C. Lewis a position of popularity.

Of the literary works of this accomplished gentleman it is not necessary here to speak. His position in the literary world is illustrated in the circumstance that he was for some time editor of the *Edinburgh Review*—which is one of the Great Proconsulates created by the Messrs Longman in the Republic of Letters. Of the five or six works produced by Sir G. C. Lewis, the majority are purely philosophical, addressed to a very limited class. His last, "An Enquiry into the Credibility of early Roman History," a book at all events most memorable as evidencing that a busy bureaucrat can compete, in classical learning, with the insanest of the scholarly German professors, in such a book as one can only expect to find in a library looking out on an Oxford quadrangle, and as one does not read when there. But one of his works—we believe his first—entitled "On the Use and Abuse of Political Terms," is of a character which, were it in an available form, would recommend it to all classes: it is admirably original, profound, and yet practical as applicable to ordinary political conversation; and political students should not overlook it. This book was published (in 1832) by Fellowes, Ludgate street. The later books of the right hon. gentleman are published by the house of Parker and Son.

THE RIGHT HON. THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, SIR GEORGE CORNEWALL LEWIS, BART., M.P.
FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY KILBURN.

THE GUN-WHARF AT PORTSMOUTH.

THE scene illustrated in the accompanying Engraving may be characterised as one of our great reserves for the efficient progress of the war. The Wharf is a large area of ground, partly in Portsea, and partly in Portsmouth; for it fronts the harbour opposite the junction of those towns. Here are the Ordnance Department of the Navy the guns and other weapons offensive and defensive employed on shipboard. That the supply of guns for the Navy is an important matter may be made clear by the following enumeration of guns for a first-rate:—On the lower deck, four guns, each 68-pounders—that is, capable of throwing a ball weighing 68 lbs.—and twenty-eight 32-pounders; on the middle deck, four 68 and thirty 32 pounders; on the main-deck, thirty-four 32-pounders; but lighter guns on the quarter-deck sixteen 32-pounder carronades; on the forecastle, four 32-pounder carronades: making 120 in all.

The number of the cannon and cannon-balls on the Gun-Wharf is truly astonishing. Range after range meets the eye, every gun being placed in exact parallelism with the rest. These guns comprise, not only new ones for ships yet to be built, but the guns belonging to ships now laid up in ordinary. In the latter case, each ship's guns are ranged by themselves, with the name of the ship painted on the first gun of each parcel. Some of these guns are of such vast size and thickness as to weigh sixty hundredweight each. We acknowledge with much pleasure the courtesy of Mr. Steward, the head of the above Department, in permitting our Artist to sketch this interesting scene.

THE GUN-WHARF, AT PORTSMOUTH.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE announcement of the Emperor's final decision to abandon the Crimean expedition is generally hailed with satisfaction here. The measure was never a popular one—the dangerous possibilities to which his person, and, in consequence, the nation, was exposed kept up a constant feeling of uneasiness—an uneasiness which the knowledge of his activity and courage even increased; these qualities rendering it beyond a doubt that no regard for his personal safety would prevent him exposing himself wherever an occasion that seemed to render his presence desirable should present itself. It is said that the persuasions of M. de Persigny have been chiefly instrumental in influencing the Emperor's decision, but an intimate knowledge of Louis Napoleon's character, which is one peculiarly averse to accepting private counsel, induces us to put little faith in this statement, and to believe that his own view of the question, infinitely more than the representations of those about him, has led to his present determination.

The excitement caused by the late attempt on the Emperor's life has by no means subsided, and every fresh detail on the subject is eagerly listened to. A friend of ours, who was walking with an acquaintance, was so close to the intended assassin at the moment he fired as to be able to note the whole details of the event. The face of the Emperor, he states, expressed not the slightest alarm, but extreme astonishment; this expression, however, quickly subsided, and his countenance resumed its usual calm, as he continued his route, amid cries of "Vive l'Empereur!" The friend who accompanied our informant was one of the first to rush on the assassin, and strike him with his cane. Had not the authorities interposed, the man would probably have met a summary punishment from the hands of the crowd. When, at the arrival of the Emperor in the Bois de Boulogne, whither he proceeded to join the Empress, her Majesty learned the danger from which he had escaped, she burst into tears, which it was some time before she found the possibility of controlling. At the theatre the reception given to the Imperial pair was most rapturous; and during the whole of their presence in the house the Boulevard was crowded with thousands of persons waiting to hail their entrance and departure.

It is reported that the Emperor purposes making an excursion to Lyons, to visit the Camp de Sathonay.

Extreme disappointment and inconvenience have resulted, more especially to the foreign exhibitors, from the delay of the opening of the Palais de l'Industrie. There seems but little likelihood at the period now named for its taking place, the 15th instant, it will be in readiness for the ceremony. Hardly any of the cases of merchandise are yet beginning to be unpacked, and a part of the flooring of the build ng which had to be taken up is not yet relaid. The English section is much further advanced than any other in the whole Exhibition. The space allotted to Belgian produce is, owing to its extent and importance, extremely considerable; it is said that this country will figure among the principal exhibitors; in the article of linen it is especially remarkable.

In a few days the Cercle de l'Exposition, established in the Hôtel d'Osmond, Rue basse du Remparts, opposite the Boulevard entrance of the Rue de la Paix, is about to be opened, with every provision for the luxury and comfort of its guests. Among the names of its founders are the well known ones of Méry (the poet and *litterateur*), Dantan (the sculptor), Adam (the composer), Léon Gozlan, Henri Hertz, Vicomte de Ruolz, Comte Avigdor, &c. The Viscomte de Lespine is President of the Club. In addition to some of the finest *salons* in Paris, the Hôtel d'Osmond possesses a beautiful garden, where visitors can dine in the open air. The terms of subscription will be 200 francs for the season, and 60 francs a month. Persons can even subscribe for a fortnight at a proportionate rate.

We are this week rich in literary news for the edification of our readers. A certain number of the members of the Académie have united in the intention of carrying out a *Revue*, to treat of their religious, political, and philosophical views. For this purpose they have selected the *Correspondant*, a monthly journal already existing during the last twelve years, having been founded in 1843 by the Abbé de Cazalès and the Comte de Montalembert. It is now to be principally conducted by the latter, with the aid of MM. de Falloux, de Salvandy, de Vatimesnil, Berryer, and Albert de Broglie. The establishment of another *Revue*, belonging to the Government department, has been contemplated, with the view of counterbalancing the influence of the literary and philosophic publications of the day. With this work were associated the names of Prosper Mérimée, Théophile Gautier, Sainte-Beuve, De Cormenin, Méry, Troplong (President of the Senate), A. de la Guérronière, Granier de Cassagnac, and Louis Veuillot. The plan has, for the moment, been abandoned, but not forgotten; and will, it is highly probable, be later again taken into consideration. M. de Lamartine announces that, on the completion of his fourth volume of his "History of Turkey," he intends taking a year of total repose, and attending only to the cultivation of his property in Burgundy. The health of the illustrious poet and historian, who for some time has been in the habit of devoting fourteen hours a day to his literary labours, renders this retreat indispensable. It is calculated that since the year 1848 M. de Lamartine has published, in the form of books and of articles of various periodicals, as many as forty-seven new volumes, besides a new edition of his former works; the whole producing a sum of about thirteen hundred thousand francs (£52,000). A work of Victor Hugo, "Contemplations," is just completed, and will shortly appear. M. Proudhon has produced a book entitled "Considérations sur l'Exploitation des Chemins de Fer." The volume, which has produced a considerable sensation in the capitalist and financial class, tends to the suppression of companies, and the placing of all the new lines in the hands of Government. Finally, M. Enfantin, of St. Simonian reputation, has put the finishing touch to what is said to be a most remarkable brochure on the Isthmus of Suez. In his voyage in Egypt M. Enfantin carefully studied the question on the spot, and appears even to have discovered the traces of the canal of the Red Sea, cut by the Ptolomies, and filled up by the Kalif Almanzer.

We are happy to learn that Rossini is convalescent from his alarming illness; and, by the advice of his physicians, who desire amusement and change of air, he proposes leaving Florence and coming to Paris. By a singular caprice the illustrious *maestro* refuses to adopt steam in any form to shorten his voyage, and insists upon performing the whole route *en voiture*—a process which, independently of the discomfort, will occupy nearly a month.

PUBLIC MEETING IN THE CITY.—A great public demonstration is to take place in the City to-day, at a public meeting to be held at the London Tavern, on the subject of administrative reform, free from party implication. A circular has been currently distributed amongst the merchants, tradesmen, and traders, in which reference is made to the dangers and [illegible] of a race to which our national name and national position has been subjected by our inefficient and irresponsible system of administration, [illegible] the management of every department of the [illegible] the majority of these [illegible] for the time, all party and personal considerations [illegible] themselves in London.

EXECUTION OF LUIGI BURADELLI.—The execution of this unfortunate man for the murder of Mr. J. Lambert, in Fore-place, took place on Monday morning in front of Newgate; and as usual the terrible scene was witnessed by the sands of persons, including a majority of the greatest ruffians of the metropolis [illegible] of Barnoch, and assisted him up [illegible] the Bible. [illegible] attention to the exhortations of his spiritual adviser. At the foot of the steps leading to the scaffold he appeared somewhat to falter, and Father Gallaz assisted him to ascend. He was then placed under the beam, and surveyed the crowd with a [illegible] and composed aspect, and very shortly afterwards the melancholy preparations were completed, and the drop fell.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

ALTHOUGH there is every reason to believe that Government must have received intelligence from the Camp up to the latest period, nothing is allowed to transpire on the subject; and therefore it is informed that nothing decisive has been accomplished. Our latest news from Sebastopol is still received viâ St. Petersburg and Berlin. For the following meagre items we are indebted to that channel:—

Berlin, Thursday, May 3.

A despatch dated St. Petersburg, May 2, has been received here.

Under date of Sebastopol, evening of the 28th of April, it has the following:—

"The fire of the enemy is moderate.

"Their approaches progress slowly.

"We have erected, at 100 yards from Bastion No. 4, a row of rifle-pits, which have served to form a continuous trench of communication."

In addition to this we have letters from the Camp, which bring down the history of the bombardment to the 21st of April, at which time the firing had very much diminished, owing probably to the want of shot and shells, the consumption of these articles having been on a very large scale. Some idea of the nature of our bombardment may be formed from the fact that during the first six days of it the English trenches alone fired away between 16,000 and 17,000 32 and 68 pounder shot and shell, 7800 13-inch shell, and 4500 10-inch shell; making in all about 2200 tons of shot and 500 tons of powder already expended. The Russian batteries mount 154 guns and mortars, the French 238 ditto; so that between English and French there were used during the week's bombardment about 6000 tons of shot and shell, and some 1500 or 1600 tons of powder. At this rate no one could be surprised at the falling off in the firing. The difficulty of forwarding shot and shell to the Camp appears to be still an obstacle to our keeping up the bombardment long enough without intermission. The railway has been of great service, but it stops short of the distance required. On the 16th the *Tedos* arrived at Balaclava in great haste with shot and shell, but when it came into harbour the captain was told that all his labour was useless, as the accumulation of shot and shell at the Kadikoi terminus was greater than the men could carry away.

The *Monitor* of Thursday publishes a despatch from General Canrobert, dated 16th April, giving an account of the operations of the 13th and 14th, to take possession of the ground upon which the engineers were to make their approaches towards the central bastion. The engineers were enabled to complete their levels. A new parallel was formed. The losses incurred was 40 killed and 117 wounded. The operation to form a new trench at half distance between the third parallel and the salient of the Flagstaff Bastion succeeded very well; on the side of the Malakoff Tower the superiority of the French artillery was also maintained, but without silencing that of the enemy, except in two works of counter-approach on the side of Carcening Bay. The garrison has suffered considerable losses, and the artillerymen of the Russian Navy have suffered especially. The Central and Flagstaff Bastions are seriously damaged. General Bizot, Commander of the Engineers, has died of wounds he received in the trenches.

By the *Niaris* steamer, which arrived at Marseilles on Tuesday, we learn that on the 21st the Russians had abandoned the Carenage Batteries, and that the Flagstaff and Southern Forts and the Malakoff Tower were reduced to silence. On the 19th the Russians attempted several sorties, all of which were repulsed. On the 20th Omer Pacha, Lord Raglan, and the French General Morris, made a strong reconnaissance with 12,000 men in the direction of Baidar, but the Russians did not venture to meet them. On the 21st Iskender Bey made a reconnaissance with no better result. The belief seems to be that the Russians wish to draw the Allies out so far as to enable General Liprandi to attack them under favour of the circumstances. Others affirm that Liprandi's army is much smaller than has been reported. If the report of a Polish deserter may be relied on, the Russians were so much afraid of his being outnumbered by the Allies, in an attack which they were told was to take place on Easter Monday, that every available man was sent out of Sebastopol to his aid; and when we opened fire on the following morning they had only 8000 men in the place. If this be true, it accounts for their silence and for their surprise. For two days they were working night and main to get their men back from Liprandi's army to the town again, where, it is said, they have now 28,000 men. The deserter says, "the place is a perfect hell."

The *Invalide Russe* gives the following particulars of the Russian loss at Sebastopol, from the 9th to the 14th of April:—Killed, 11 officers and 287 subalterns and soldiers; wounded 55 officers and 2672 subalterns and soldiers. Between 3000 and 4000 killed and wounded in six days was a very severe loss; and Prince Gortschakoff's report on the 19th conveys the impression that the casualties were not much less numerous up to that date.

The first detachment of Piedmontese troops arrived at Constantinople on the 21st. The French Camp at Maslak was occupied by 20,000 men, and it is expected that their numbers will be increased to 80,000.

The following letter from a private Correspondent speaks encouragingly regarding the siege:—

(From our own Artist.)

CAMP NEAR SEBASTOPOL, April 20.

I enclose two Sketches of Sebastopol—one from the left, *Maskon d'Observation*, or *Maison Blanche*, as it is sometimes called. At the end of the house, just above the garden wall, may be seen the Telegraph. I also send a View of the Town, from our right near the Victoria redoubt, a little to the left of Inkerman. To the extreme left is represented an explosion of a powder-magazine, which unfortunately occurred when I was making my sketch: two men were killed, and nine or ten wounded. Six thousand Turks, the Chasseurs d'Afrique, and our cavalry, went out yesterday on a reconnaissance; but, I believe, nothing important resulted from it. The firing has slackened very much for the last week; but, I am happy to say, we are pushing on the advanced batteries very vigorously. These works, both French and English, will be armed with much heavier guns; and in about a week or ten days we shall begin again in earnest. Last night we attacked two rifle-pits in our advance. We took them; but the second, which was seventy yards in advance, and quite under the Redan was obliged to be abandoned. We, however, retained the first, but with, I am sorry to say, the loss of several officers, and about 100 men killed and wounded—Colonel Egerton, of the 77th, killed; Captain Owen so severely wounded that he had to have his leg amputated. The weather is again most beautiful.

(Next week we shall engrave our Artist's two Sketches.)

AMERICA

The Mail steam-ship *Baltic*, which left New York on the 18th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday.

A good deal of excitement prevailed throughout the Union, owing to the relations of the United States with Spain, with regard to Cuba. Commodore Macaulay was about to leave Philadelphia, with the home squadron for Cuba, in order to check the boarding of American vessels by Spanish cruisers. The French Legation is reported to have informed the Administration at Washington, that, should hostilities commence between Spain and the United states, France would promptly succour the former. Important advices are reported by the Government at Washington, but their contents had not transpired.

Of the six persons arrested in Philadelphia, charged with recruiting for the British service, two have been discharged, two held to bail in 1000 dollars to answer, and two remain to be disposed of by the United States Commissioner.

A resolution emendatory of the Constitution, allowing negroes the right of suffrage, has been adopted by the Legislature of Albany, by a majority of nearly two to one.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The most important piece of intelligence that has reached Bombay from the North-West Frontier lately is the meeting of Dost Mahomed Khan, the Ameer of Cabul, and Mr. Lawrence, with Mr. Lawrence, the Chief Commissioner of the Punjaub. Mr. Lawrence reached Peshawur on the 11th of March, and waited there some days for the Sirdar. This unexpected delay in the arrival of the Afghan Chief gave rise to various rumours at Peshawur, and it was at last currently reported that he had been stopped in the pass by the Khyberees, plundered of the presents he was bringing for Mr. Lawrence, and sent back to Jellalabad, the mountaineers declaring that they would not permit the Dost to enter into a treaty with the Feringhee kafirs. However, all fears, so far at least as regarded the compulsory return of the Embassy to Afghanistan, were set at rest by the appearance, on the 17th of March of Hyder Khan and his retinue at Hurree Singh's outpost, a spot just within our boundary, and close to Jumrood, a town near the eastern end of the Khyber. On the morning of the 19th his interview with Mr. Lawrence took place. The result of the conference is not yet known, but every confidence is placed in the sincerity of the Dost, and no doubt is entertained of a favourable result.

Meanwhile the Peshawur frontier continues in a very disturbed state. Operations have been undertaken against the Bunsee Khel in revenge for their murderous attack on Lieutenant Hamilton's workmen at Buddebeer. A force has been assembled at Peshawur from which great things are expected. It has been placed under the command of Colonel Craigie, and consists of four mountain train guns, one Company of Artillery, the 20th Native Infantry, four companies of the 4th and three of the 9th, and one squadron of the 16th Irregular Cavalry.

In Cashmere the disagreements between Gholab Singh and his nephew, Juwahir Singh, are reported to have led to several passages of arms between the parties. Juwahir Singh is at Lahore, for the purpose, it is supposed, of consulting the British authorities.

The steam-frigate *Ajdaha*, from Bushire, had arrived, after conveying thither from Bassorah Colonel Mr. Murray, our new Ambassador to Persia. The news she brings is important. It is probable that amicable relations will not much longer be maintained between the British and the Court of Teheran. The Shah makes no secret of his preference for an alliance with Russia, which offers him protection, indemnity, and aggrandisement; and which, moreover, has a considerable force upon his frontier.

Affairs at Canton look more settled: at least for the time the rebels have been driven away from the city. The blockade has been put a stop to; and, by a combined movement of the imperial soldiers and the people, Canton and the forts in its neighbourhood have been freed from the insurgents. On the 6th of March the rebels at Blenheim Reach were taken by surprise, fled precipitately in boats down the river, and for the most part escaped the Imperialists being too well pleased to regain possession of the forts. The other strongholds of the insurgents also fell into the hands of the Imperialists, who are reported to have effected their object by buying up the ringleaders. The Imperialists have made a shocking use of their triumph. The place of execution has been a vast burying-field, where hundreds have daily been put to death, in the hope of striking terror into the minds of the population.

At Shanghai, also, the Imperialists have succeeded in recapturing the city, followed by frightful atrocities in revenge for opposing the Imperial rule. Beyond the mere fact of the capture of the city, little more is known with certainty; but all accounts agree in representing the foul atrocities committed by the Mandarins. Nearly 500 prisoners have been put to death, and some were tortured in the most frightful manner before being put out of the way. Some of the rebel chiefs succeeded in escaping, but the greater number of the ringleaders fell into the hands of the Imperialists.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

JAMES, THIRD VISCOUNT LIFFORD

THIS nobleman died at Brighton on the 22nd ult., aged seventy-one. He was the eldest son of James, second Viscount Lifford, and grandson of Lord Chancellor James Hewitt, on whom the Barony and Viscounty of Lifford were successively conferred. Lord Lifford was born 29th August, 1783, and completed his education at Christ Church, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1804. He was author of a work "Ireland and the Irish Church." His Lordship married, 15th April, 1809, Mary Ann, eighth daughter of Cormelian, first Viscount Hawarden; and leaves two sons and three daughters—viz., James, now fourth Viscount Lifford; John-James, A.M.; Anne-married in 1841 to Sir Edwin Pearson; Sarah, and Anne-Georgiana.

SIR HENRY PYNN.

Lieutenant-Colonel in the British army, Major-General in the Portuguese service, and Knight Commander of several foreign orders, died in London on the 7th ult. During the late war he served in Sicily; and throughout the Peninsular campaigns under the Duke of Wellington—first as H.M. 52nd Regiment, and subsequently in command of the 18th Portuguese Regiment of Infantry, at the head of which he was severely wounded in the Battle of the Pyrenees. For his distinguished services he was rewarded with the Command Medal and two clasps, and the War Medal and five clasps.

WILLS AND PERSONALTY. The Right Hon. Sir Thomas Frankland Lewis, Bart., P.C., late M.P. for Radnor, £14,000 personalty. The Ven Archdeacon Hare, £10,000. The Rev. R. Phelps, Vicar of Yeovil, £30,000 George Snedden, Esq., East Cowes Castle, Hedford-square, £160,000. Robert Lucas Fox, Esq., of Cornwall and Egypt, merchant, personalty in England £45,000; and has left legacies to the Peace Society, Peace Congress, British and Foreign Bible Society, and to several institutions at Falmouth and Penryn.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Prebend:* The Rev. C. Awdry to Cublington. *Rectories:* The Rev. E. B. Hawkshaw to Weston-under-Penyard; Rev. W. Haine to Brampton Abbotts; Rev. J. B. Stuart to Coreley, near Tenbury; Rev. J. Garland to Mordiford; Rev. T. Hutchinson to Ditchling, near Hurstperpoint, Sussex; Rev. H. Taylor to Rampton, near Cambridge; Rev. G. A. Quade to Ashbrittle, Somersetshire; Rev. J. N. Simpkinson to Brington, Northamptonshire; Rev. J. Marsh to Ibberton, Dorset; Rev. J. W. Bird to Polsham, Norfolk; Rev. Lord Hervey, The Hon. and Rev. G. Herbert to Clare, near Ludlow; Rev. R. B. Matthews to Shalford, Surrey. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. W. B. Bennett to Postbury, near Crediton; Rev. R. F. B. Ebrington to Lower Brithem; Rev. G. W. Bridges to Beachley, Gloucestershire; Rev. H. J. M. Bowles to the new church of St. Peter, Framelode; Rev. W. Skene to Sighell, Northumberland; Rev. H. Whittington to Chilcompton, Somerset; Rev. H. S. C. Bisshe to Longthorpe, Northamptonshire; Rev. C. Moberley to Beeston, Yorkshire. The Rev. H. V. Russell to be domestic Chaplain to her Grace the Duchess Dowager of Cleveland. The Rev. H. Williams to be Head Master of the Cambridge Wells School.

TESTIMONIAL. The Rev. Irwin Lloyd, M.A., resident officiating minister of St Peter's Church, De Beauvoir Town, West Hackney, has been presented by the members of his Bible-class with a costly timepiece, as a small token of gratitude for his great kindness and unwearied attention. This is the seventh testimonial that has been presented to him within five years and a half.

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.—On Wednesday evening the annual festival of this institution was held at the London Tavern. The Earl of Cardigan was announced to act as chairman; but, in consequence of his indisposition, the chair was taken by Viscount Ebrington, M.P., who was supported by about 170 gentlemen, principally, if not altogether, from the locality in which the hospital is situated. In proposing the toast of the evening the chairman pointed out the necessity for the charities of London keeping pace with the rapidly-increasing population, which he showed they had by no means done; and, with reference to the locality in which St. Mary's Hospital was situated, he dwelt on the absolute duty of supplies so indispensable a requirement of that large and still extending district. With reference to its usefulness, he stated that since its establishment in 1851 no less than 27,000 patients had been relieved; and in each year the number to whom its benefits were applied was augmented. Unfortunately the means of the hospital, which was wholly dependent on voluntary subscriptions, were quite inadequate to its support. At the present moment a sum of £2400 was required to free it from debt, while the annual expenditure being £6000, the promised annual subscriptions which could be depended on was only £3500. Under these circumstances he must urgently pressed on its supporters renewed efforts in its behalf. The list of subscriptions amounted to about £1400.

HARMONIC UNION.—Handel's "Acis and Galatea" is to be performed at the Hanover-square Rooms next Wednesday, when Mr. Sterndale Bennett's overture "Naiade" and Beethoven's magnificent sinfonia in A will also be included in the programme. The additional accompaniments by Mozart to "Acis and Galatea," which created so much interest when introduced by the society for the first time in England last season, will again be played. Madame Bodersdorff, Mr. Miranda, Herr Reichardt, and Mr. Weiss, are announced as principal vocalists; Herr Molique and Mr. Blagrove filling their accustomed posts of conductor and leader.

SURREY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of the members of this society was held on Friday (last week), at the Town hall, Chertsey—Colonel C. R. Challoner, Vice-President, in the chair. The hall was decorated with various specimens of archæological interest. Mr. G. B. Webb (the honorary secretary) read the names of various ladies and gentlemen who were candidates for membership, and who were accordingly admitted. The chairman having briefly addressed the meeting, Mr. William Focock read an interesting paper on "Chertsey Abbey." The Rev C. Bontell read an elaborate paper upon some "Tiles recently discovered on the site of Chertsey Abbey." Mr. G. R. Corner, F.S.A., read a paper upon "An Anglo-Saxon grant of land made by Alfred the Great to Chertsey Abbey." Thanks were then voted to the gentlemen who had read the above papers. A vote of thanks was also passed to the chairman. The members and their friends then visited Cowley-house, the residence of Cowley, the poet. The site of the abbey was also visited by a numerous circle, who offered their conjectures as to the date of some stone coffins which had been exposed by excavation. At five o'clock a party of about 300 sat down to a collation at the Crown Inn, Chertsey.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 431.)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

On the motion for the second reading of the Loan Bill, Lord RAVENSWORTH contended that the loan would have been unnecessary if the commercial blockade of Russia had been more strictly carried out.

The bill was ultimately read a second time.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES

The Earl of CLARENDON made a statement relative to the result of the Conferences at Vienna, similar to that made by Lord Palmerston and Lord John Russell on a former evening in the House of Commons, and said that the protocols would shortly be laid upon the table. Those protocols would contain not only all the propositions which had been considered by the Conference, but also the arguments by which they had been enforced. As to the course to be now pursued by Austria, he hoped their Lordships would permit him to remain silent; as the Conferences had only been suspended not broken off and Austria had expressed a belief that all means of arriving at a pacific solution of the matters in dispute had not yet been exhausted. Indeed, Count Buol had submitted some terms from the Russian Minister which would have to be considered; for, however faint might be the chance of peace, it ought not, in his opinion, to be disregarded

The Earl of DERBY expressed his regret at this intimation; fearing, as he did fear, that Russia was only amusing the Allies so as to induce them to prosecute the war with less vigour

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE assured the noble Lord that the war should be conducted with as much vigour as if there were no negotiations whatsoever pending.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

BLOCKADE OF WHITE SEA PORTS.

Mr COLIHE asked the First Lord of the Admiralty whether instructions had been issued to blockade the ports of the White Sea; and, if so, when the blockade would be established?

Sir C. WOOD said, the vessels were ready, and would approach the ports they were intended to blockade as soon as possible.

DESPATCHES FROM THE CRIMEA.

Mr. WHITESIDE asked the First Lord of the Admiralty whether, since the laying down of the telegraph, any despatch had been received by the Government from the Crimea by telegraph which had not been communicated to the public?

Sir C. WOOD said it was necessary that the Government should exercise a discretion as to what intelligence should be communicated to the public. It was necessary that the Government should have the power of reserving such intelligence as they might deem it desirable to withhold; at the same time all information would be communicated which it was not thought necessary to confine exclusively to the Government. The substance of every telegraphic message that had been received had been communicated to the public.

Mr. ROEBUCK hoped the Government would send a telegraphic message to Lord Raglan, asking for some information (Laughter).

Mr. PEEL in reply to Mr. Stanley, said, Sergeant Brodie was placed under arrest for preventing a duel, but for behaving disrespectfully to one of the officers of the regiment. He was at the time engaged in preventing a duel, and that, of course, was considered a palliation; and he was discharged without any further notice being taken of his conduct. No reprimand had been sent to Sergeant Brodie from the War-office.

In reply to a question, Lord PALMERSTON said, the army agent was that the Sardinian contingent should take their own Commissariat, and they had prepared vessels for that purpose. One of those vessels (the *Cressus*) had unfortunately been burnt before it left the port, and that perhaps would render them dependent, to some extent, upon our Commissariat stores, but whatever they derived from that source they would pay for as they did for other supplies.

POOR-LAW (SCOTLAND) BILL.

Mr. E. ELLICE moved the second reading of this bill. It did not propose to interfere with the operation of the existing law, or to take away any right which at present existed. Its only intention was to enforce the previous law, to secure to the poor of Scotland, or at any rate a part of Scotland, those benefits which the Poor-law Act of Scotland professed to give them, but which in fact it entirely failed to give them.

Mr. DUNCAN seconded the motion.

The LORD ADVOCATE did not think it was desirable to disturb the settlement of 1844 by a measure of this kind, which he did not think would accomplish the object at which it aimed. He would recommend his hon. friend to leave the matter in the hands of the Government.

After some discussion the bill was withdrawn.

The Sunday Trading (Metropolis) Bill was read a second time.

The Income-tax Bill was read a third time and passed.

Several other Bills on the paper were forwarded a stage; and the House adjourned at an advanced hour of the morning.

HOUSE OF LORDS. FRIDAY.

The Jurisdiction of the Stannary Court Amendment Bill, and the Loan Bill, were severally read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.—MINISTERIAL EXPLANATIONS.

Mr. DISRAELI, on moving that the House at its rising do adjourn until Monday, put a question to the noble Lord at the head of her Majesty's Government in reference to the delay which had taken place in the production of papers bearing upon the recent Conference at Vienna. The House was aware that, whatever might have been the result of these negotiations, whether they had been successful or the reverse—whether preliminaries of peace had been signed or the result had been as it now appeared to be, the papers which had been prepared during the negotiation might have been got ready, so that when the negotiation terminated, and only a protocol or two on the last despatch were to be presented, the papers might have been placed upon the table of the House; so that when the noble Lord who had been to Vienna to negotiate took his seat, the matter might have been fully before the members. He found that that had been the usual course on previous occasions. He had searched the journals of the House for precedents which might guide them in the present momentous crisis. He took the precedent of the rupture of the negotiations of 1796. On the 14th of October in that year the House was informed that the Sovereign had sent the Earl of Malmesbury to France to negotiate a peace On the 20th December it became known to the country that the negotiations had terminated. The Earl of Malmesbury returned to this country on the 28th of December; but before he returned—viz., on the 27th of December—the Minister came down to the House with a message from the Crown, stating the facts of the case, and adding that all the papers connected with the subject should be laid upon the table. On the 29th of December, in deference to the promise given, the Minister placed upon the table of the House the whole of the papers connected with those negotiations, detailing the circumstances which had led to their unsuccessful termination. The Minister on the very day he laid the papers upon the table gave notice for the following Thursday of a motion to take them into consideration (Hear, hear). How had the Parliament been treated? Had there been the same promptitude or the same candour displayed in communicating the facts to the House. The fact was that Parliament had no official information that any negotiation had taken place at all. He wished to know why they had not been laid on the Royal Message, and why the papers had not been laid before Parliament?

Lord PALMERSTON said, the answer which he should have to give would be anticipated by all who heard the question which the right hon. gentleman had proposed, and who were aware of the circumstances of the transaction to which he had adverted. The right hon. gentleman had referred to a case in which, in a war between England and France, negotiations were entered into directly between the two countries—a case in which it was clear that there were no hopes of peace being realized. Finding that there were no such hopes, it became the duty of the Government to appeal to Parliament for renewed means of carrying on the war. If Lord John Russell had gone to St. Petersburg, and the negotiation had turned out so unhappily as it had, the obvious course he would have been more parallel to the right hon gentleman's case than the war. It was still known to everybody that the negotiations with Russia had been conducted by the intervention of the friendly Government of Austria, and it was well known that before the commencement of the war Austria was incessant in her endeavours to bring about a reconciliation of differences. It was only the continuance of those efforts which had led to the Conferences in which the noble Lord the Secretary for the Colonies had taken part. Those Conferences did not lead to a successful issue, but they had not been broken off; and even when the noble Lord left Vienna, and after the Conferences had been adjourned *sine die*, another Conference was called at the request of the Russian Plenipotentiary, who had other terms to propose. The Conference reassembled, and he (the noble Lord) believed that at the present moment the last protocol had not been received by her Majesty's Government or it had, he had been ignorant of the fact. There still existed at Vienna the elements of a Conference. The course which the right hon. gentleman opposite proposed to take might be a very good course if it were the determination of her Majesty's Government that every means of bringing about peace were at an end. If her Majesty's Government had determined not to listen to any further overtures, then undoubtedly the course which the right hon. gentleman would have the Government to pursue—of coming down with a message to Parliament, that every hope was lost, and that peace was impossible—he repeated that, if such were the circumstances, the course proposed by the right honourable gentleman would be the proper one to adopt. Her Majesty's Government had failed in the attempt that they had made, but he (the noble Lord) was not prepared to say that there were no other means open which, through the intervention of the friendly offices of Austria might have the result of bringing about a peace. The case was not parallel, and the statement of the right hon. gentleman himself. A basis of negotiation had been accepted by Russia; and also, to some extent, the interpretation of that basis. The only matter that had been left being the details on which they should be carried out. He (the noble Lord) wished to leave the question in the state in which it was, and not to adopt such a course as that to which the right hon. gentleman and his friends would drive him. The protocols would be laid with the least possible delay upon the table of the House, and it would then be for the House to determine what steps should be taken thereupon. Her Majesty's Government were very desirous to give the House and the country every information consistent with the interests of the country, consistent with any future amicable arrangements; but while, on the one hand, they were determined to continue the contest, should it be necessary, in a manner consistent with the honour, dignity, and interests of the country, so, on the other hand, they would not be the parties to shut the door in the face of the conclusion of an honourable and satisfactory peace (Loud cheers)

In reply to Mr Trench, Lord PALMERSTON paid a high tribute to the professional skill of Lord Dundonald, and said that his plan was still under consideration.

Mr. H. BAILLIE drew attention to the present state of the Militia force; and, in reference to the present management of the war, expressed a hope that Lord J. Russell would cause a close scrutiny into the proceedings of Lord Panmure as he had done into those of the Duke of Newcastle

Mr. F. PEEL gave some explanations as to the Foreign Brigade which it was proposed to raise. Officers were engaged in Germany to raise the men for it, and depôts were formed in Heligoland as well as in this country for their reception.

The motion for the adjournment of the House until Monday was ultimately withdrawn, and it was arranged that both Houses should meet on to-morrow (Saturday), for the purpose of a Royal Commission.

TENANTS IMPROVEMENTS COMPENSATION (IRELAND) BILL.

The adjourned debate upon the second reading of the Tenants Improvements Compensation (Ireland) Bill, was commenced by

Mr. GEORGE, who objected to the measure on the ground of its retrospective character. He was, however, favourable to the principle of granting compensation to tenants for all *bona fide* improvements.

The SOLICITOR GENERAL supported the bill, on the ground that it protected the tenant on principles of natural justice.

After considerable discussion in the course of which Mr. GROGAN moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months, the House divided: the numbers were—For the second reading, 163; against it, 50: majority 113. The bill was then read a second time.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MAY 3.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°	°		Inches.
Apr. 27	30.198	61·1	32·0	43·0	— 5·3	88	E.	0.00
" 28	30.088	61·0	34·0	43·2	— 6·3	84	N.E.	0·00
" 29	30.149	60·6	37·0	42·7	— 7·2	91	E.	0·00
" 30	30.200	56·3	40·0	46·3	— 4·4	90	N.E.	0·01
May 1	30.019	54·9	36·8	43·7	— 7·0	87	N.E.	0.00
" 2	30.000	62·6	37·0	48·5	— 2·6	71	N.E.	0·00
" 3	29.651	67·8	36·2	51·0	— 2·2	85	N.E.	0·00

The reading of the barometer has varied during the week from the highest reading, 30·90 inches, on April 30, to the lowest, 29.57 inches, on May 3, the range being rather more than six-tenths of an inch. The mean for the week, at the height of 81 feet above the level of the sea, was 30·018 inches

The mean temperature of the week was 44·6°, being 1·7° below the average of thirty-eight years

The range of temperature during the week was 36·7°.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 25·12.

The weather throughout the week was fine and dry, the sky being cloudy during the former part, and nearly fair from cloud during the latter half of the week.

LONDON, May 4, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER

HEALTH OF LONDON. Within the week ending April 28 the births of 892 boys and 864 girls, in all 1756 children, were registered within the metropolitan districts In the corresponding week of the ten previous years the average number of births was 1626. The number of deaths was 1122, a number rather greater than in the previous week, but which, when increased in proportion to increase of population, is nearly that of the ordinary number for the last week in April. The public health seems to be approaching a satisfactory state.

CHRIST'S HOSPITAL. A Special Court of the Governors of this hospital was held on Tuesday, for the purpose of considering the report of the select committee appointed on the 19th December, 1854, to inquire whether any—and if any, what—changes were necessary in the constitution, powers, and duties of the Committee of Almoners. The meeting was presided over by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and was attended by an unprecedented number of Governors; among whom were the Duke of Northumberland, the Duke of Cleveland, and many other persons of distinction interested in the welfare of this magnificent endowment. Mr. Russell Gurney moved that the recommendations contained in the report of the select committee appointed on the 19th of December, 1854, be adopted. These recommendations had met with support from the members of the committee nearly as possible approaching unanimity. The present constitution of the hospital consisted of a Committee of Almoners, which had the entire management, involving as it did the most multifarious duties. It was impossible to look at the constitution of this committee and not see that it was exceedingly faulty. It was impossible to find fifty members who had the time to spare for such duties, and accordingly it was found that there was an average of only seventeen attending. There were other defects which the Charity Commissioners had pointed out: among which was one that a much larger number than six should go out at a time, and that they should be in every case subjected to re-election after due notice, which was not the case at present. The principal change which the committee of selection proposed was, that there should be a subdivision of labour—a committee of renters, 16 in number, being appointed for managing the estates and extraneous charities; and the committee of almoners, 24 in number (12 being old committee members), for general purposes. He concluded by moving that certain recommendations of the select committee be adopted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cowper Thomas. Mr Garrard proposed a long string of amendments, of which the main features were that the committee of almoners should be reduced from 48 to 42, whereof 6 members to be chosen by themselves, and 9 by the Court. The Duke of Cambridge spoke strongly in favour of the amendments, which were carried by 117 against 78. An attention proposed by Mr. Russell Gurney was afterwards agreed to, which appeared to give satisfaction to the supporters of the select committee.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL The anniversary festival in aid of the funds of this institution was held at the Albion Tavern, on Wednesday, under the presidency of the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert. Lord Palmerston had promised to preside, but was unable to attend, owing to a Cabinet Council. After the [illegible] and patriotic toasts had been given and drunk with due honour, the chairman gave the toast of the evening "Prosperity to King's College Hospital," and called attention to the [illegible] to which [illegible] Hospital; which [illegible] the metropolis, and the district of St. Clement Danes, might be considered as the uncovered hospital of the central districts of London, extending its aid to upwards of a million of inhabitants of the metropolis. At the same time, it did not withhold relief from Lambeth, and other outlying districts, as might be seen by the books for the last year, in which were entered the names of 27,684 patients. The total number received since the opening of the hospital in 1840 had been 258,[illegible] patients, of whom 17,845 were in-patients, and [illegible] were out-patients, and 6 women attended at their own homes. The hospital required £[illegible] a year for its support, and, as the income was only £150 a year, it was [illegible] dependent upon the benevolence of the public. The chairman proceeded to express in warm and eloquent terms the great benefits of King's College Hospital, of which [illegible] inhabitants of the metropolis. At the same time, it did not withhold relief from Lambeth, and other outlying districts, as might be seen by the books for the last year, in which were entered the names of 27,684 patients. The total number received since the opening of the hospital in 1840 had been 258,[illegible] patients, of whom 17,845 were in-patients, and [illegible] were out-patients, and 6 women attended at their own homes. The hospital required £[illegible] a year for its support, and, as the income was only £150 a year, it was [illegible] dependent upon the benevolence of the public. The chairman proceeded to express in warm and eloquent terms the great benefits of King's College Hospital, of which [illegible] the Chancellor of the Exchequer of the state found himself in at the present moment. The toast having been duly responded to, the Treasurer proceeded to read the list of subscriptions, including £500 from Mrs. Twining; sums of ten, twenty, and thirty guineas from various members of the same family; twenty guineas each from the chairman, Lord Feversham, and one or two others; twenty guineas from Mr. Herbert Ingram, and various smaller donations, amounting in all to nearly £3000.

THE IMPERIAL REVIEW AT BOULOGNE.—In our Journal of last week it was erroneously stated that the Review took place in front of the Marine Hotel, whereas the Hotel was du Pavillon Imperial.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE statue of the poet Campbell was erected in Poets' Corner on Wednesday last. This fine work of art proceeds from the chisel of Mr. W. C. Marshall, R.A., and has been deservedly admired for its poetic conception and careful execution. Its history, too, deserves to be told, for there has been a sad delay in getting it to its present and final locality. When the poet died a subscription was raised for erecting a monument to his memory. The fund started well; good men gave subscriptions of average amounts, and there was a promise of more. In the meantime the committee commissioned a monument from the best man for the purpose, Mr. Marshall, and that true artist, bringing a Scottish heart to render additional honour to a Scottish poet, began a statue of the size of life, with a pedestal containing a bas-relief from the "Pleasures of Hope." The subscription flagged, but Mr. Marshall in no way lated a jot of heart or hope, and by the time the subscription stopped there was the statue in marble, with its appropriate pedestal, ready to be erected. Here was a two thousand pound statue with a four hundred pound subscription to pay for it! But this is not all. We now see a statue designed for a certain place, and almost wholly unpaid for, in want of a further sum of two hundred pounds to cover the fees demanded for its admission into Westminster Abbey. Poor poet—poor committee—noble-minded artist! There is still hope for the Bard of Hope. Will not the Dean and Chapter on this occasion forego the fees? and it was believed under the circumstances (vain thought!) that they would forego. Not they. The matter was taken up in Parliament, and Lord Aberdeen, then Prime Minister, stated in his place that the fees for monuments want to the repair of the building. Thus the matter dropped with both Houses, and the statue was still an inhabitant of the artist's studio—a and spectacle of hope deferred. But better times are coming: there is still a chance. Lord Aberdeen was misinformed. The fees for monuments do not go to the repair of the fabric, but are subdivided as fees, proper and improper, among the vergers, organ-blowers, and other cathedral dignitaries and underlings. The pressure increases, and the once vain thought that a monument would be set up in Westminster Abbey without the payment of the fees has actually occurred in the case of Tom Campbell and his statue. Yes; the authorities of Westminster Abbey have foregone their fees, and the statue of the poet of "Hope" and "Ye Mariners of England" is now in Poets' Corner. Let no one look on this statue (and thousands will look on it for its subject, and its own artistic excellence) without remembering that William Calder Marshall, sculptor, not only made this statue, but really—if we think of the amount of the subscriptions raised—erected it.

Gossip about literature there is none. Authors talk of the Solicitor to the Inland Revenue and the recent debate in the House, and ask—once more—what is news? The answer, wherever we have been, is—a hopeless look and a helpless shrug of the shoulders—much like that which Sir Charles Trevelyan gave so expressively the other day before the Committee on Sebastopol and Lord Raglan. We can defend both look and shrug. Our newspapers in London, as far as literature is concerned, are certainly better than the best of the American press; and we must own (modestly) that the anonymous authors of the articles in our leading daily and weekly papers are writers of such real merit that antiquaries hereafter will be inquiring who wrote this or that article against that Prime Minister—and what man among them was gifted with the prophetic eye of knowledge that he foresaw and foretold the destiny of a colony, the fate of an empire, or the future condition of his own country. We are inclined to concur with a remark passed pleasantly off at a Pall-mall Club not three days ago, that the same curiosity will be exercised in detecting the author of an article in a daily paper that has been exercised with so much skill, and unfortunately with so little success, in detecting the "Junius" of Woodfall's *Public Advertiser*

The engrossing subject of talk (out of politics) is, therefore, not literature, but art. On Monday next the great yearly Fine Arts Exhibition of our country will be thrown open to the possessors of a "splendid" or an unsplendid shilling. Are we to have a good Exhibition this year? or is our annual attraction suffering from the common fate of all things at this juncture? We have ourselves already answered in full these queries. We have told in our Town and Table Talk that the Royal Academy Exhibition promises more than times of war would seem to promise. We shall have a really good Exhibition, and one of the attractions will be a picture sent by an unknown man, which the Academy could not reject, and which the "hangers" of that illustrious body (with all their proverbial hardness of heart) could not refuse to hang otherwise than well. Artists complain, notwithstanding but when are artists without a grievance? The rejected complain loudly; and even the admitted—the favoured forty and the sanctioned twenty have their own little sorrow We hear of the annual dinner—the great customary dinner at which Sir Joshua and Mr. George Jones have presided—that takes place on Saturday, with a true man, Sir Charles Eastlake, in the chair; but there is unfortunately no promise of that other annual dinner which the latent benevolence of our great landscape-painter bequeathed to his brethren of the Academy. Artists within the hallowed precincts of the Academy complain that "poor dear Turner's" bequest of £50 for an annual dinner is still locked up—in Chancery.

We are reminded, and properly at this moment, that the obituaries of the week record the loss of an outsider, and a better artist than many within the precincts of the favoured building. The elder Wilson, not he of Tivoli and Niobe, but the Wilson of our own generation—the Wilson of the sea—John, familiarly Jock, Wilson has just been removed from among us in sight of his favourite element at Folkestone, in his eighty-first year. The younger Wilson—for so we must call him to distinguish him from his illustrious predecessor, and his deservedly well-known son—was an admirable painter of English seas. He was not a Vand'yride—he was not a Huggins. He was a truthful painter of salt water, and of all that the ingenuity of man has made to float upon it. True that he was not a favourite with the forty, yet he will be heard of [illegible] after, when your Yeos and your Westalls are utterly unknown.

While we are writing Mr. Albert Smith is presenting 250 bouquets to 250 of the first admitted to his nightly audiences at the Egyptian-hall. Wednesday last was the millennium of his Exhibition. He has actually gone through 1000 entertainments of Mont Blanc! And there is still (and properly) another chance of his reaching a much greater number of nights. Mr. Albert Smith needs for the success of his entertainment no commendation at the hands of either Press or Parliament. We simply record the fact that in this novelty-hunting age one entertainment has been found to run over four seasons, and repay and reward the skilful caterer who contrived and still sustains it.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The fifty-sixth annual meeting of this society was held in Exeter-hall, on Tuesday. The Earl of Chichester occupied the chair There were also present the Earl of Shaftesbury, Lord Viscount Middleton, the Right Hon. and Most Rev. the Archbishop of Meath, the Right Rev. the Bishop of Winchester, the Right Rev. the Bishop of Melbourne, Bishop Cotton, Lord Harris, Colonel Sir [illegible] Bart., of the Society the same Honourable [illegible] Lecture The former had [illegible] £[illegible] 2s. 5d. and the latter £[illegible] 2s. 3d. As there had been however, a balance of £3292 5s. 9d. in hand at the commencement of the year, the total [illegible] at the society's disposal was only £6621 2s. 2d.

WESLEYAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY. On Tuesday morning the annual general meeting of this society was held at Exeter-hall; Sir Anthony Oliphant, C.B. late Chief Justice of Ceylon, in the chair. In opening the proceedings the Chairman gave a lengthened history of the progress of missionary operations at Ceylon and at the Cape of Good Hope, where he had been previously stationed. The report—which was read by the Rev. Elijah Hoole—stated that the receipts of the past year had amounted to £111,048 14s. 4d. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Cowan, M.P., Mr. Farmer, the Rev. G. Osborne, the Rev. W. Arthur, and other gentlemen.

CAMP OF THE NA

GREEN-HILL BATTERY. STONY HILL. LONG 32-POUNDER. FORT CONSTANTINE. T

BOMBARDM

RIGADE, NEAR SEBASTOPOL.

ADVANCED TRENCHES. ADVANCED TRENCHES. COVERED WAY TO GORDON'S BATTERY. GORDON'S BATTERY.

SEBASTOPOL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE CAMP OF THE NAVAL BRIGADE.

ONE of the first places which strangers inquire after, on arriving at Balaclava, is the Sailors' Encampment. Sanitary commissioners and travellers in search of the picturesque, naval and military amateurs—all are anxious to take a view at Jack's environment in the Crimea. Never was the superior training of a life at sea over one in barracks for enabling men to manage for themselves more visible than in a comparison of the Naval Brigade near Sebastopol with the generality of the soldiers. Some rather striking facts on that head were elicited by the Sebastopol Committee on Monday last. Commodore Hillyar, of the *Agamemnon*, having been examined as to the condition of the Naval Brigade, gave the following evidence:—

The brigade consisted of 1400 men. They were always much better off than the troops, both in the absence of sickness and the more plentiful and regular supply of provisions. Their Camp was six miles from Balaclava. They were supplied from a store-ship, made of an old transport that was dismasted in the storm of November. They at first carried their provisions up to the Camp in arabas and carts; but when the roads became impassable they were carried up by the men. In the first three months they had very little fresh meat and no vegetables. On an average the men were three nights in bed and one out. Their meals were cooked by an arrangement among the messes themselves, so that when the men returned from the trenches they found their dinners or suppers ready cooked for them. The brigade supplied men for the trenches when required, and on the whole they had as hard manual labour as the troops, but not to such an amount. In consequence of using too much salt provisions there was a good deal of scurvy among the sailors; but in December they were better supplied with fresh meat, and obtained a large quantity of oranges. From that time they had been liberally supplied both with fresh meat and vegetables. The greatest number of men the brigade ever had in the hospital was from forty to sixty—the last number when the cholera prevailed. The number of sick afterwards gradually lessened.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF SEBASTOPOL.

THE Panoramic View of the Bombardment which our Artist has given this week is taken from a hill about half a mile in front, and a little to the left, of Catherine's Hill, extending from Gordon's Battery to the left attack, occupied by the French. The group of spectators in the centre are evidently trying to ascertain what progress the Allies are making in the work of destruction. At a short distance on the left lies the Redan fortress, from which a dense smoke ascends, concealing every object in that neighbourhood. To the extreme left lies the fleet of the Allies, ready to co-operate with the land forces whenever the signal is given.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, May 6.—4th Sunday after Easter. Battle of Prague, 1757.
MONDAY, 7.—Richard Cumberland, dramatist, died, 1811.
TUESDAY, 8.—Easter Term ends.
WEDNESDAY, 9.—Corporation and Test Acts repealed, 1828.
THURSDAY, 10.—Theatrical Performances first licensed, 1574
FRIDAY, 11.—Earl of Chatham died, 1778.
SATURDAY, 12.—Lord Strafford beheaded, 1641.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 12, 1855.

Sunday	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M h m / A h m	M h m / A h m	M h m / A h m	M h m / A h m	M h m / A h m	M h m / A h m	M h m / A h m
4 31 / 4 52	5 15 / 5 37	6 6 / 6 33	7 7 / 7 45	8 22 / 9 13	9 53 / 10 38	11 19 / 11 39

MADAME PUZZI'S ANNUAL GRAND MORNING CONCERT will take place on MONDAY, MAY 21, at WILLIS'S ROOMS, King-street, St. James's, when she will be assisted by many Eminent Artistes. Full particulars to be duly announced

MR. ALFRED MELLON respectfully announces that his SECOND GRAND VOCAL and INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT will take place at ST. MARTIN'S HALL, on MONDAY EVENING, MAY 7th, to commence at Eight; on which occasion Signor Rotissini will make his first appearance in England these three years, and perform a new Concertino on the Contra-Basso. Vocalists, Mdlle Louise Cellini and Mr. Stephen Reeves. Pianist, Mr. F. E. Baxbe. Leader, Mr Salmon. The band will consist of fifty of the finest living instrumentalists, and will perform Beethoven's Symphony in C, Mendelssohn's celebrated Scherzo in A Minor; also Overtures by Beethoven, Weber, Auber, &c. Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon.—Tickets, 1s., 2s. 6d., 3s., and 7s. 6d., to the end of Mr. Mellon, 134, Long-acre, Cramer and Beale, 201, Regent-street; St. Martin's Hall; and the principal Music-shops

THE ROYAL PANOPTICON, Leicester-square.—WAR in the CRIMEA, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 3.10; and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 4.10. LIFE in POMPEII, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at 4.15; and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 9.15 Daily: The Grand Organ, at 12.45, 3, and 8.30 The Pyrenean Mountaineers, at 1.40 and 8 The Grand Electrical Machine, at 2.40 and 8.30 The Luminous and Chromatic Fountain, at 4.55 and 9.35. Model of Ancient Jerusalem explained between 12 and 3. Lectures and Demonstrations as usual. Doors open Morning, 12 to 5, Evening, 7 to 10 Admission, 1s; Schools and Children, half price.

CRYSTAL PALACE, Sydenham.—The PALACE and PARK are OPEN to the Public on MONDAYS, at 9.0 a.m.; and on TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and FRIDAYS, at 10.0 a.m., on receiving the Admission 1s.; and on SATURDAYS, at Noon, when the admission is 5s.; and close each day at 7 p.m. Tickets of admission, including conveyance by railway, may be obtained at the London-bridge Terminus, and at the several Agents in London. Trains run to the Crystal Palace Station at 8.5 a.m., and every half-hour from 9.10 a.m up to 6.10 p.m.; and at 4.25, 4.50, 5.25, 5.50, 6.50, and 7.5 p.m., returning from the Crystal Palace station up to 8.10 p.m.

INDIA, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, and CAPE of GOOD HOPE. W. O. YOUNG will dispatch the following fast-sailing A 1 Clipper SHIPS at the dates named as under:—

Ships.	Tons.	Commanders.	Destination.	Docks.	To Sail.
Matilda Wattenbach	1200	J. C. Clare	Calcutta	London	May 7
Stuart Worthy	850	D. Simpson	Bombay	S. India	May 28
G. W. Beazley	721	W H Harding	Madras	St. Kath.	May 5
Hazzi	443	W. P Buckham	Hong-Kong & Shanghae	London	May 27
Kensington	900	W. King	Port Phillip	London	May 15
Granite City	807	W. Leask	Sydney	London	May 12
Adelaide	504	Richard Pill	Geelong	London	May 25
Rockampton	469	Robert Bradshaw	Cape of Good Hope	London	May 25
Meteor	370	J Brodie	Cape of Good Hope	London	June 5
Sea Queen	415	W. Rowe	Adelaide	St. Kath	May 16

These Ships have been selected specially for their high-class and fast-sailing qualities, and will be found well worth the attention of Shippers and Passengers.—W. O. YOUNG, 54, Cross-street, Manchester; 18, Dale-street, Liverpool; and Sun-court, Cornhill, London.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1855.

LOUIS NAPOLEON had scarcely returned to his own country before his life was assailed by an assassin an Italian refugee—a man who has had an asylum in England; and we are at once made aware that men of his stamp can only have been prevented by respect for the sanctity of the asylum they enjoyed from making such attempts on his life, had they found an opportunity, while he was visiting the Queen. We may as a nation, therefore, be grateful that the natural result of the national kindness and *protection* granted to refugees imposed such a restraint on them as to keep entirely away from us the chance even of our being stained by any similar atrocious attempt. Now that it has been made, and we see the class of men who made it, we at once become sensible of the possible risk Louis Napoleon ran even here. Now, we cannot do otherwise than warmly approve of the precautions taken by our Government, unknown probably, to the Emperor, who fearlessly braves all danger—to provide for his safety, though at the time they were supposed by some persons to be unnecessary. Had such an attempt been made here, though unsuccessful, it would have subjected us to endless reproaches We may believe with the Emperor, who declares "he fears nothing from the attempts of assassins;" that "there are existences which are the instruments of the decrees of Providence;" that "he has yet a great mission to fulfil," and "till it be fulfilled he runs no danger;" but, whatever may be our faith, we can have no *à priori* knowledge who has such a mission to fulfil, and we must act according to the maxims of prudence rather than according to a faith, however fervent, without knowledge. By this event all the precautions of our Government are amply justified. Whatever opinions we may form as to the permanency of the laws which dictate the course of society, and as to the insignificance of any individual whose sphere of operation is extremely limited, in relation to the whole of society, no one can doubt that the life of Louis Napoleon has a great European value. Had the bullet of the assassin reached its mark—and it was deliberately and well aimed—it would have created considerable disturbances in Europe. The parties and factions in France, released from the powerful hand which has firmly wielded the national power voluntarily entrusted to it, and the parties and factions in Italy—awed in a great measure by the same strong will—would have burst into new life, and to the war with Russia we might have seen added an intestine war in the West of Europe. We are made aware of the great danger we have escaped by our present safety. The life of the Emperor—strange as this may now seem- is not only the guarantee of the alliance between England and France, but of the tranquillity of Europe. When such probable effects are brought under our notice we may adopt his faith. He is fulfilling a great mission, on which the social peace of Europe and the progress of civilisation mainly depend; and we may believe with him and hope with him that, having such a great mission to fulfil, his life cannot be in danger. Congratulatory addresses from many quarters show how general has been the alarm occasioned by the attempt, and how deep is the interest taken in the preservation of his life. He was expected to bring war in his train, and he has become the guardian of the general tranquillity, whose life nations are anxious to preserve.

Perhaps in consequence of this attack, but perhaps in consequence of the condition of the army before Sebastopol, the Emperor has yielded, we are informed, to the advice of his counsellors, and given up the intention of going to the Crimea. Partly on this account the Funds at Paris rose considerably on Wednesday; but more, we believe, on account of a report, which gains confidence, that M. Drouyn de Lhuys has formed a decided opinion in favour of the proposition made by Austria for restoring peace, and has brought the Emperor over to his opinion. The latter part of the statement is, however, more doubted than the former. Should it turn out to be correct, England, however reluctant, will probably adhere to the same terms. There is no doubt, we believe, that they will be accepted by Russia. An opinion accordingly that France and England will agree to the new proposition is at least prevalent, and gives firmness to our own Stock Market.

On this day a great meeting, called by thirty-seven of the influential men of the City, of all political parties, is to be held, to assert that "the true remedy for the system of maladministration, which has caused so lamentable a sacrifice of labour, money, and human life, is to be sought in the introduction of enlarged experience and practical ability into the service of the State." As this is just now a most interesting subject, and as the meeting is likely to give a direction to public meetings and public opinion throughout the country, it is very desirable that the proceedings should be carefully considered and carefully conducted. The movers properly disclaim "every desire of excluding the aristocratic classes from participating in the councils of the State;" but they protest "against the pretensions of any section of the community to monopolise the functions of administration." Such a resolution will meet with almost universal support; but, moved by one class of men, it may be considered, however erroneously, as an attack on another class—the aristocracy. This is not the object. It is desired more, we believe, to introduce into the administration of public affairs the principle which makes business successful, than substitute the men who carry on business for any other class. The emoluments of successful business are, in fact, greater than the State—to serve which is peculiarly honourable—is required to give for the highest talents which it employs; and men bred up to business, whom, from their success, we should think worthy of trust, would not accept office under the State. What is required, therefore, is far less a change of men than a change in the principles on which men reach office and continue in office. In private life no man succeeds who does not deserve the confidence of the bulk of the persons with whom he has business to transact. Every one has many competitors; and, to succeed, every man must be zealous and diligent in his calling, as well as trustworthy. His reward or his success depends on his own exertions, and those who employ him or do business with him. In administration all these things are reversed. A man is appointed to an office by favour or by affection, and all his rewards, except the little approbation or disapprobation he may meet from the public, are bestowed altogether independent of the persons with whom he transacts his business. The abolition in modern times of the old mode of paying public officers by fees, though recommended by unanswerable reasons, has added to the indifference of those whose rewards are never proportionate to their exertions. A man in office has confederates, rivals, fellow-intriguers for power and higher place, but he has no competitors. This is what must, if possible, be changed; and the principle of competition, throwing open all public situations to merit, and not confining them to birth or property, must be made the guiding principle of administration, as it is of private business. If the meeting, and the meetings which will be sure to follow, keep this object in view, and pursue it with care, they will, we believe, effect a great improvement in the Government. If they should be made the stalking-horses for individual ambition—if they should aim at substituting in office one class of men for another—they will only cause much mischief. In the present critical condition of public affairs we are all deeply interested in their proceedings, and may earnestly hope that they will be guided by good sense and moderation.

THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS, opened to the public on Monday, will be noticed next week, with illustrations.

AT a Court of Aldermen, held on Wednesday, a resolution indicative of the profound sorrow with which the Court had heard of the recent attempt to assassinate the Emperor of the French was unanimously adopted. It was further resolved that it should be presented to the French Ambassador.

THE CITY STATUE TO SIR ROBERT PEEL.—Orders were issued on Wednesday for the removal of the obelisk at the west end of Cheapside—at the point of junction of Aldersgate-street, St. Paul's Churchyard, Paternoster-row, and Newgate-street—that spot having been selected for the statue of the late Sir Robert Peel, by Behnes. It is expected to be up in fourteen days.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

VIENNA CONFERENCES.

Before the departure of Lord John Russell and M. Drouyn de Lhuys there was signed at Vienna a Convention between Austria and the Western Powers, the fifth article of which states expressly that the Four Points of the guarantee (in the form given to them by the protocol of the 28th December) cannot be separated, but must be accepted together by Russia; and that the refusal of any one point of the guarantee by that Power forms (*impliquerait*) a *casus belli*, for all the Powers who have signed the Treaty of the 2nd December.

This Convention is intended to be the basis of an ultimatum which Austria is charged to address to Russia, if after a certain delay (sufficiently marked out by the result of the present operations against Sebastopol) the Conferences of Vienna should not have concluded the signature of the preliminaries of peace.

Austria has made all the preparations necessary for entering on the war; and in case Russia finally refuses, the Emperor will issue a Manifesto, announcing to his people the object of the war he is about to undertake. "We shall then see (Field Marshal Hess is reported to have said some days ago) if the Austrian army, which is supposed to sympathise with Russia, will understand the appeal of its chivalrous Emperor!"—*Letter from Vienna in the Constitutionnel of Friday.*

LAND FORCES FOR THE BALTIC.

Orders have been issued for the line-of-battle ships *St. George*, 120; *Neptune*, 120; *Powerful*, 84; and *Calcutta*, 84, now lying at Spithead, under orders for particular service, to be held ready to embark a division of the French troops from the Encampment at Boulogne to co-operate with the Allied fleet in the Baltic. The Foreign Legion, being embodied and trained at Heligoland, will also furnish about 10,000 men for this service.

IT is rumoured in Paris that a telegraphic despatch has arrived there from General Canrobert, who anticipates an offensive movement on the part of the enemy.

THE COURT.

The Court has been very gay during the week just closed. On Tuesday her Majesty held a Court, and in the evening gave a juvenile ball, at which a great many members of the youthful aristocracy were present On the following day a very numerously-attended Drawing-room was held; and on Thursday her Majesty went in demi-state to a private view of the Exhibition of the Royal Academy.

On Saturday last his Serene Highness the Prince of Lehuingen took leave of the Queen, and quitted Buckingham Palace, on his return to the Continent. In the evening of the same day the Queen and the Prince, accompanied by their Serene Highnesses the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg and Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe, honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence.

On Tuesday the Queen held a Court at Buckingham Palace, at which Lord John Russell was, by command of the Queen, sworn in as one of her Majesty's principal Secretaries of State. The Queen was graciously pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood upon Mr. Alderman Henry Muggeridge and Mr. Charles Dedimus Crossley, the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex. In the evening her Majesty gave a juvenile ball.

Her Majesty will give a State Ball on Wednesday, the 9th May; and a State Concert, on Friday, the 18th May.

JUVENILE BALL AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE

On Tuesday—the birthday of his Royal Highness Prince Arthur—her Majesty gave a ball in the evening to the juvenile nobility and gentry. About 240 invitations had been issued. The juvenile began to arrive at the Palace soon after eight o'clock, accompanied by their parents, and were ushered to the Reception room.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent arrived at half past eight o'clock, attended by Lady Anne Marie Dawson and Baroness de Speth.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, and his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, arrived at a quarter before nine o'clock.

Her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert left the White Drawing room at ten minutes before nine o'clock, and passed into the Throne-room, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, Prince Arthur, the Princesses Alice, Helena, and Louise, the Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Cambridge, the Princess Mary, the Duke of Cambridge, the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, the Princesses Adelaide and Feodore of Hohenlohe, and Prince Victor of Hohenlohe.

The Princess Royal and the other Royal Princesses wore dresses of light blue tulle over a blue silk glacé slip, trimmed with ruches of white blonde and ribbon. A bouquet of white hyacinths. Their Royal Highnesses each wore a wreath of white hyacinths.

The Princess Mary of Cambridge wore a dress with three skirts of pink tulle over a rich pink glace silk petticoat, looped up with bunches of apple blossoms and green lace leaves. Her Royal Highness wore a wreath of apple blossoms and green crape leaves.

The Princesses Adelaide and Feodore of Hohenlohe-Langenburg wore flounced dresses of white tarlatan, trimmed with white silk fringe. The Princess Adelaide wore a garland of pink roses and white lilac; the Princess Feodore a garland of pink roses

The Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred appeared in the Highland dress, which costume was also worn by the sons of the Duke of Argyll and other young Scottish nobles present.

The Queen's band was in attendance in the Throne-room; and soon after the entrance of her Majesty and the Royal circle dancing commenced. A quadrille was formed, in which the youthful members of the Royal family took part.

The festivities were prolonged until midnight.

THE DRAWINGROOM

The Queen held a Drawingroom on Wednesday afternoon at St. James's Palace. It was the second this season, and was numerously attended.

The Queen wore a train of white and gold moiré silk, trimmed with white satin ribbon, gold blonde, and bows of red velvet; the petticoat was white satin, trimmed with gold blonde and bows of red velvet. Her Majesty wore on her head an opal and diamond diadem, and feathers.

The Duchess of Cambridge wore a train of grey satin, trimmed with Honiton lace, the corsage ornamented with diamonds and pearls. The petticoat was covered with seven flounces of Honiton lace. Her Royal Highness's head-dress was composed of a tiara of pearls and diamonds, feathers, and Honiton lace lappet.

The Princess Mary of Cambridge wore a train of rich blue glace silk, festooned with blue tulle, satin ribbon, and bunches of pink roses; the corsage was ornamented with diamonds and turquoise. The petticoat was blue tulle, over rich glacé silk, and was festooned to match the train with bunches of pink roses. The necklace was pearls and diamonds. Her Royal Highness's head-dress was formed of a tiara of roses and stars in diamonds, lace lappets, and white feathers

The Foreign Ministers were first introduced, when several presentations took place. Almost all the members of the Corps Diplomatique, with their ladies, were present. In the general circle the following were among the more noticeable presentations:

The Countess of Erroll, by Lady Agnes Duff.
Viscountess Doneraile, by the Marchioness of Ely
Viscountess Maidee, by the Duchess of St. Albans
Viscountess Ingestre, on her marriage, by the Marchioness of Salisbury
The Lady Ashburnham, on her marriage, by the Duchess of Sutherland
Lady Blanche Lascelles, by the Countess of Harewood
Lady Cecilia Leveson, by her mother, the Countess of Milltown.
Lady Barbara Leveson, by her mother, the Countess of Milltown
Lady Augusta Hay, by her mother, the Countess of Kinnoul.
Lady Emily Hay, by the Duchess of Wellington
Lady Louisa Berry, by her mother, the Countess of Beinore
Lady Harriet Chichester, by the Marchioness of Donegal
The Hon. Philippa Sidney, by the Viscountess Cumberemere
Hon. Mary Amherst, by her mother, Viscountess Holmesdale.
Lady Peto, by the Duchess of Sutherland
Mrs. Gods of Nunnykirk, by the Duchess of Northumberland
Miss Dancombe, by her mother, the Hon. Mrs. Arthur Dancombe.
Miss Rusbout, by Lady F. L.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.—The anniversary of this society was held on Wednesday in Exeter-hall, under the presidency of the Earl of Shaftesbury, who, in opening the proceedings, congratulated the meeting on the fact that, notwithstanding the pressure occasioned by the war, the income of the society exceeded that of any former year, except on the occasion of the Jubilee, and the total circulation of copies of the Scriptures was greater than during any previous year of the society's existence. From the annual report it appeared that the amount received during the year for the general purposes of the society was £84,878, being £6291 more than the preceding year. The amount received for Bibles and Testaments was £59,600, making the total receipts from the ordinary sources of income £124,478. There had been also received £3694 further contributions to the Jubilee Fund, and £7369 to the Chinese New Testament Fund; making a grand total of £136,082. The expenditure for the year was £149,540, being an increase on the payments of £29,872. The meeting was then addressed by the Bishop of Meath, Lord Ebrington, Mr. Wylie, the Bishop of Melbourne, the Hon. and Rev. Mr. Pelham, the Rev. Norman M'Cleod, the Rev. Mr. Farrer, the Rev. Mr. Harrison, the Rev. Mr. Gill (from Karatonga), and Mr. Farmer; and resolutions were passed approving and commending the objects and operations of the society.

REMOVAL OF THE PATRIOTIC FUND EXHIBITION TO BURLINGTON-HOUSE, PICCADILLY.

THE Exhibition of Paintings and Drawings by members of the Royal family, and noble and distinguished amateurs, in aid of the Fund for the relief of the Widows and Families of Officers killed in the Crimea, which during some weeks past has attracted so much attention in the Gallery, 121, Pall-mall, has this week, by permission of the Government, been removed to Burlington-house, Piccadilly, in consequence of the former apartment being required, according to previous arrangement, for the Exhibition of Works by French Artists. Four of the principal rooms and a corridor on the first floor of the noble mansion above named have been allotted to the purpose; and one great advantage resulting to the charitable enterprise from the change is the increased space thus placed at the disposal of the committee, which enables them to display very many contributions which before it was impossible to do. Taking into account the fine proportions and elegant architecture of the rooms themselves, and the excellence of the light, the general effect of the Exhibition is very agreeable and satisfactory.

Of course, among the chief attractions are the contributions by the Princess Royal and the Prince of Wales, and the other Juvenile members of the Royal family. The highest bid for the clever "Battle-field," by her Royal Highness, still continues to be £200; but there are confident hopes of a considerably higher bid before the day appointed for the sale —namely, the 14th inst. We should add that the hall and noble staircase of the mansion are appropriately decorated with trophies of the colours of the Allied armies. The visitors were numerous on the reopening day (Thursday).

Three Views of Burlington-house are engraved at page 436.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

Chester's May Carnival will be succeeded by a very quiet week. The Newmarket Second Spring has tapered away to nothing, and, now that the Rowley Mile Plate has ceased to have any important bearing on the Derby, there is little left to tempt the sportsman down the Eastern Counties on Tuesday morning. As *Alcibiades* Scott so positively declares that Acrobat cannot get beyond a mile and a half, we conclude that the three-mile sweepstakes on the first day will be left to Weatherock and Kaffir. The four fillies in the other 50 sovs. h. ft. race on Wednesday are unknown to fame; and the Suffolk Stakes will not do much towards eking out the sport. On Thursday there is rather an interesting contest, in which some Derby two-year-olds—Ariel, Miss Whip colt, &c.—are engaged; but the majority of the ring will be ere that comparing books within the sound of "Shrewsbury clock" many miles away. Mr. Frail has prepared a very strong list there for Thursday and Friday; but its interest is almost entirely confined to handicaps, as to all present appearance the Salopian Stakes includes no three-year-olds of any pretensions.

The settling for the Two Thousand Guineas has been remarkably easy, and their Chester Cup victory will no doubt have the effect of quite healing the rupture between Mr Howard and his trainer, and of infusing fresh spirit into the stables of St. Hubert. The vassals of Lord of the Isles have also rallied round him; but, like his little rival, he will not easily forget the Newmarket race, and the strokes of the whip which Aldcroft broke over his shoulders. De Clare excited no great hopes by his Newmarket performance; but three weeks more on his Maltese tan gallop will do a great deal for his lusty frame. Bonnie Morn and Crescendo Fillies are now looked on as "forlorn hopes," in consequence of leg infirmities. Wild Dayrell is a steady favourite, but he is comparatively untried, and is trained in the grounds of his owner, who is a gentleman-farmer somewhere in Wiltshire or Hampshire. Nancy's career terminated last Wednesday, on the scene of her first proud triumph, as she broke her leg while running for the Chester Cup race

Lord Exeter's sale is fixed for Monday at Tattersalls, and comprehends three racers and a dozen unbroken yearlings, principally by Midas and Nutwith. *Apropos* of sales, we may remark that the Surplice blood does not seem likely to be valuable, as a trio of his three-year-olds only averaged £17 a piece at the hammer, last Newmarket Meeting.

The 1855 Cricket season may be said to have been inaugurated at that little town on Friday week, by a single-wicket match, the winner of which cleared £425 in stakes and bets. "Opening dinners" are still the order of the day, and the wickets will not be pitched at Lord's for some three weeks to come.

The Prince of Wales Yacht Club sailing match, on Friday, is the only fixture of the week to rouse the interest of our amateur blue-jackets

CHESTER SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY

Grosvenor Stakes.—Eglinsea, 1. Lord Alfred, 2.
Palatine Stakes.—Lady Tutton, 1. Instructress, 2
Chesterfield Stakes.—Courtenay, 1. Pilotto, 2
Mostyn Stakes.—Eglinsea, 1. Pilotto, 2
Sweepstakes 5 sovs each.—Equivoque, 1 Cherry Brandy, 3
Wynnstay Handicap.—Typee, 1. Venison, 2

WEDNESDAY

Skelter —Comfort, 1. Helmet, 2
Chester Cup.—Scythian, 1 [illegible], 2
Scramble.—Questionable, 1. Nuddy, 2
Members' Plate.—Lord Alfred, 1. Lord Feild, 2
Queen's Plate —Eulogist walked over
Triennial Stakes. Field Marshal, 1. Punch-box, 2.

THURSDAY

Dee Cup.—Orzon, 1. Helmet, 2
Welter Cup.—Georgium Sidus, 1. Dalkeith, 2.
Dee Stakes.—Noisy, 1. Lord Alfred, 2.
Marquis of Westminster's Plate.—Jack Sheppard, 1. Orinoco, 2.
Triennial.—Delaine fily walked over.
Sisking Stakes.—Jenny Wren, 1. Punch Box, 2.

FRIDAY

Eaton Stakes.—Alcyone, 1. Roving Betsy, 2
Cheshire Stakes.—Typee, 1. Venison, 2
Grand Stand Cup.—Rumcrestone, 1. Ireland's Eye, 2
Wirral Stakes.—Cherry Brandy, 1
Ladies' Purse.—Jenny Wren, 1. Challow Boy, 2
Triennial.—Lady Tatton walked over.

THE annual dinner of the friends of the Printers' Pension Society took place on Friday week at the London Tavern. The Lord Mayor took the chair: supported by Mr. Sheriff Crosley, Dr Spurgin, and other gentlemen The secretary announced that the subscriptions of the evening amounted to about £[illegible].

A FIRE broke out in the shipbuilding yard of Messrs. John Scott Russell and Co., at Millwall, on Thursday night, in the course of which the newly-built floating battery the *Etna* was totally destroyed.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Although prices of most national securities have not recovered the depression consequent upon the breaking up of the Conference at Vienna, and the amount of business doing in Consols this week has been comparatively small, the market has ruled tolerably firm. The quantity of Stock has not increased; and there has been a most abundant supply of money for commercial purposes: whilst we have to report a very inactive demand for gold on Continental account This arises from the favourable nature of the exchanges, and the improved trade which is now carried on between this country and France, including some parts of Germany. A consumption in the demand for gold is not generally expected, as we have still large supplies of silver on hand to meet any sudden adverse alteration in the exchanges.

The imports of the precious metals have been good; viz., 1,393,624 dollars from New York, £8000 from Lisbon, £176,000 from Mexico, the West Indies &c.; and about £[illegible] from France.

The Consol Market was somewhat inactive on Monday; nevertheless, the quotations were steady The Three per Cents Reduced marked 87½ to 88⅞; the Three per Cent Consols, 88¾ up to 88⅞; the New Three per Cents, 87½ to 88; Consols for Account, 88¾ to 89; Long Annuities, 1859, 3 1-16. The Omnium was done at ¾ dis. to ¾ prem; Bank Stock, 210. Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 8s. premium; Exchequer Bonds, 99½ ½. The New Long Annuities received 3 5-16 Tuesday was characterized as a close Money Market, and on Wednesday Bank Stock was done at 210 to 211½; the Three per Cents Reduced were 87½ to ⅞; the Three per Cent Consols, 88¾ ⅞; Consols for Account, 88¾ ⅞; the New Three per Cents, 87½; Long Annuities, 1860, 3 1-16, Ditto, 1885, 16 3-16; India Bonds were 12s. to 15s. prem.; Omnium sold at ¾ prem. to par; Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 7s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 99½ ⅞. The market on Thursday was active, owing to the Bank of England having lowered its minimum rate of discount ½, or to 4 per cent per annum. The Three per Cents were done as 88⅞ to 89; the Three per Cents Reduced, 87½ to 88; and the New Three per Cents, 88¾ ⅞; the Omnium advanced to ¾ ⅞ prem.; and the New Annuity was 16 3-16, Bank Stock, 211½; Exchequer Bills, 4s to 7s.; and India Bonds, 12s prem.

The business doing in most Foreign Bonds has been limited Mexican Three per Cents, although 50,000 dollars have arrived on account of the dividends have been 20¾ Dutch Four per Cents have realised 101¼. French Rentes, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 93 (exchange, 25f. 15c). Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 85¾; Spanish New Deferred, 18 to 17¾; Spanish Passive, 3¾; Sardinian Five per Cents, 84¾; Turkish Six per Cents, 79 to 79¼ Ditto for the Account, 79¾ to 79½; Ditto, Small, 79¾; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 67¾.

It is stated that a new French Loan of £16,000,000 sterling will be announced about the middle of June. The interest on French Treasury Bonds has been advanced 4 per cent.

There has been a moderate demand for Joint-Stock Bank Shares, the prices of which continue tolerably firm

The Railway Share-market has been in a most inactive state, and a slight general decline has taken place in the quotations The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston, Junctions, 4½; Caledonian, 89¾; Eastern Counties, 11½; East Lancashire, 72; Great Northern, 89½; Ditto A Stock, 79¼; Ditto B Stock, 124; Great Western, 63¾; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 79¼; London and Blackwall, 7¾; London and Brighton, 98; London and North-Western, 97½; Ditto Fifths, 15; London and South-Western, 90; Midland, 68½; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 40; Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford, 13½; North British, 37¾; North-Eastern (Berwick), 76½; Ditto, York, 47½; North Staffordshire, 12½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 36¾; South Wales, 57¾

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Buckinghamshire, 96; Manchester, Bury, and Rossendale, 8.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Great Northern, Five per Cent, 115; Ditto, Redeemable at 10 per cent prem., 10¾; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 101; Great Western Irredeemable Four per Cent, 91; Ditto, Birmingham Stock, 78; Ditto, Chester, 14½; Midland Consolidated Bristol and Birmingham, 135; North-Eastern York H. and S. Purchase, 9¾; South-Eastern, 22¾; South Wales Four per Cent, 95; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 93.

FOREIGN.—Eastern of France, 2½; East Indian Five per Cent, 24¾; Great Luxembourg, 2¾; Great Western of Canada, 18¾; Namur and Liége, 6¾; Paris and Orleans, 40¾; Scinde, 1¾

Mining Shares have nearly realised full prices:—Imperial Brazilian were done on Thursday at 2¾; Cobre Copper, 85¾; Tin Croft, 2¾; and United Mexican, 8 to 7¾.

Friday Evening.

Great inactivity has prevailed in the market for Consols to-day. The Three per Cents were at one period marked 88¾ ⅞, but they have since declined to 88¼ ⅞ The Three per Cents Reduced are 87¾; and the New Three per Cents, 87¾ to 88¼. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares have ruled dull.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday). The arrivals of English wheat up to our market this week have been on a very small scale, and the demand for the same samples to-day was limited but prices ruled steadily, the old qualities realising a shade more money. Foreign wheat was very dull, and the sales were confined to the trade, at about Monday's prices. Barley and malting barley sold slowly, and the transactions were comparatively small, at fully the late advance in the quotations. The demand for barley was far from active, yet prices were well supported Malt sold on former terms. Oats, beans, peas, and flour realised Monday's quotations, with a moderate inquiry

ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 2110, barley, [illegible], malt, [illegible], oats, [illegible], flour, [illegible]. Foreign: wheat, 650 barley, 950 [illegible] beans, [illegible], peas, [illegible], flour, [illegible].

English Wheat, Essex and Kent red, 70s 1 [illegible] white, 77s to 85s. Norfolk and Suffolk red, 70s to 72s; ditto, white, 75s to 78s; grinding barley, 28s 1 [illegible]; distilling ditto, 29s. to 32s., malting ditto, 30s to 32s.; malting malt, 54s. to 58s.; brown ditto, 48s. to 51s.; Kingston and Ware, [illegible] pale ditto, 70s. to 72s.; York and Lincolnshire feed oats, 26s.; potato, 28s. 6d. to 29s.; Scotch and Irish, [illegible] ditto, white, 30s. to 32s.; ditto brown, 32s to 34s.; grey peas, 36s to 38s.; maple, 32s. to 34s.; white, 30s to 34s. beans, 40s. per quarter. Foreign: wheat, [illegible] to 72s. Scotch [illegible] to 58s. Stockton and Yorkshire, 48s. to 52s. per 240lbs. Alnwick 45s. to 48s. per barrel

Seeds.—Linseed has advanced 4s. to 6s. per quarter. All other seeds have sold freely, at full prices.

Linseed, English, sowing, 63s to 70s; Baltic, crushing, 64s. to 68s Mediterranean and Odessa, 66s. to 68s. Hempseed, 48s. to 50s. per quarter. Coriander, 20s. to 24s. per cwt Brown Mustard-seed, 12s. to 14s.; white ditto, 6s. to 10s. Tares, 8s to 10s. per bushel Rapeseed, £35 to £37 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £7 to £7 10s.; ditto, foreign, £11 10s. to £12 10s. per 1000 cakes. Rapeseed cakes, £6 10s. to £6 15s. per cwt. Canary, 65s. to 68s. per quarter. Red clover-seed, 44s. to 48s.; white ditto, 44s. to 72s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6d. to 10½d.; of household ditto, 5½d to 9½d per 4lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average. Wheat, 68s 1d.; barley, 34s. 6d; oats, 25s 2d, rye, 40 1d; beans, 40s. 10d; peas, 39s 2d.

Average of Three Weeks. Wheat, 68s 2d; barley, 30s 10d.; oats, 25s 6d., rye, 39s. 11d.; beans, 40s. 10d; peas, 38s. 5d

English corn and meal sold Wheat, 92 195, barley, 36,950; oats, 20,340; rye, 528, beans, 5476; peas, 836 quarters.

Tea We have had a very inactive demand for all kinds, at barely stationary prices. Common souchong Congoes is freely offered at 1d per lb.

Sugar.—There has been little inquiry for all kinds of raw sugar, at an advance in the quotations of 6d. per cwt. Barbadoes has changed hands at 32s. 6d. to 40s.; Jamaica, 32s. 6d. to 35s.; fine, 36s. 6d. to 38s 6d.; Mauritius, 32s. to 38s 6d.; Bengal, 32s. to 41s. 6d. per cwt Refining sugars have produced very full prices The refined market is steady, at 42s. for fine lumps, and 41s. for 42s. quality. Total clearances to the 28th inst. were 2,179 casks, against 1,587 ditto in 1854

Coffee.—Most kinds have sold slowly. In prices, however, no material change has taken place. The quotations for Ceylon are rather active, at very full prices

Rice.—About 5000 tons have sold at an advance in last week's rates of full 6d. per cwt Patna and Bengal bulters are in moderate request. The qualities consumed are rather [illegible]. Purchasers are confined buyers, at to-day's late rates. English qualities have sold slowly. The Dutch market is rather active, at very full prices In other kinds [illegible] business is doing

Provisions.—There has been a fair demand for P.Y.C., on the spot, at quoted 54s 6d. Other qualities are quiet, at 54s 6d. per 8 lbs.

Oils.—Linseed oil is steady, at 32s. per cwt on the spot, and 32s. 6d. to 33s. for forward delivery. All other oils, including turpentine, are firm

Spirits.—A Government contract for 300,000 gallons of rum has been announced, the market for that article is steady, at full prices Proof brandies, 2s 2d per gallon. The brandy market is firm, at very full prices. In cognac and corn spirits no inquiries on French account

Hay and Straw. Monday hay, £3 15s. to £4 0s; clover ditto, £3 0s. to £5 0s.; and straw, £1 4s. to £1 10s. per load.

Wool. The sales have been continued, and prices show a tendency to advance English wools command very full prices.

Potatoes.—There is more inquiry for the demand, and York Regents are now worth 120s. to 140s.; other kinds, 80s. to 120s. per ton The arrivals have fallen off

Coals (Friday)—Caer's Hardyr, 18s. 6d Heaton, 17s. 9d.; Riddell, 17s. 6d.; Braddyl, 18s. 6d.; Hetton, 20s.; Russell's Hetton, 19s 6d.; Tees, 20s per ton.

Hops Friday. The show of samples is small, and the demand is steady, at very full prices. [illegible] 57 bales from New York [illegible] Kent pockets, £4 10s to £8 12s. Weald of Kent, £4 10s to £8 12s. Sussex, £4 10s to £8 12s. All is sold.

Smithfield Cattle. Notwithstanding a slow sale, the prices of the beasts, in which only a limited business was transacted at Monday's market, ruled firm. The demand for all kinds of sheep was in a very sluggish state, and the quotations had a downward tendency. Owing to the cold weather the lamb trade ruled heavy and prices gave way 4d per Slbs. Calves—the show of which received some additional stock—ruled slowly, at lower prices. Pigs—the supply of which was in very sluggish state, and the quotations had a downward tendency. Owing to the cold weather the lamb trade ruled heavy and prices gave way 4d per Slbs. Calves—the show of which received some additional stock—ruled slowly, at lower prices. Pigs—the supply of which was in very sluggish state, and the quotations had a downward tendency. Per 8 lbs to stick the offals Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 2d.; prime large oxen, 4s 2d to 4s. 4d.; prime Scots, &c., 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; coarse-woolled sheep, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime Southdown ditto, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 0d.; coarse calves, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; prime ditto, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; large pigs, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d. Per 8 lbs. sinking offal, 22s. 2d. to 22s. 4d. Clover hay, 80s. to 90s. Meadow ditto, 70s. to 80s. Straw, 30s. to 36s. Total supply, 8000; cows, 25, sheep and lambs, 7800, calves, 200, pigs, 200 Foreign beasts, 50, calves, 160

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—Our markets have ruled heavy to-day, as follows Per 8 lbs. by imperial measure. Beef, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; prime large ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; ditto small ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.; large pork, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.; inferior mutton, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 6d.; middling ditto, [illegible] to [illegible]; veal, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; small pork, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d. Per 8 lbs. sinking offal.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, MAY 1

WAR-OFFICE, MAY 1

8th Dragoon Guards H. E White to be Lieutenant-Colonel

7th Dragoons Maj. Surg. W. R. Grylls to be Assistant-Surgeon

15th Light Dragoons: Lieut. R. H. H. Jary to be Captain, P. C. Hunt to be Lieutenant

17th. R. Marshall to be Cornet

Coldstream Foot Guards: Capt. the Hon R Monck to be Lieutenant and Captain

Scots Fusilier Guards: W. S Rooke to be Ensign and Lieutenant

1st Foot: Ensigns W Freebern and C. H Probyn to be Lieutenants; G Turner to be Ensign

6th. Capt. J. Lenham, Lieut. J. R. Forster, to be Captains G. E. Billington, H A G Todd, to be Lieutenants

9th A. Lewis to be Ensign

24th Hon H. Moreton to be Ensign

30th Lieut. J. B. Campbell to be Captain, Ensign H A Lilburne to be Lieutenant

38th Maj. J. Campbell to be Lieutenant; J T. L. Colquhoun to be Ensign

44th. J. Milner to be Ensign; Lieut. A Cockburn, Adjutant.

[illegible] Lieut. J. Ball to be Ensign

61th A Platt to be Ensign

72th. H. Brown to be Paymaster

79th Ensign A Otter to be Lieutenant

80th Ass Surg. S. J. Bayfield to be Assistant-Surgeon

[illegible] Lieut. M Warren to be Captain [illegible] Lieut. and W F Gordon to be Captain

[illegible] T H. Green to be Lieutenant

[illegible] Lieut. Tiwas as a Lieut. of Marines, Gab to be Lieutenants, E Utterton and W D. Blomes to be Captains

[illegible] Lieut. C. P. Pasche to be Paymaster

[illegible] Ensign G. W. Wilkinson to be Lieutenant

H. Lloyd to be Ensign

[illegible] W. Stanton to be Ensign

[illegible] Ensign E. W Kent to be Lieutenant; Ensigns J. Dane and R. F. Ledgard to be Ensigns

[illegible] Lieut. T. G. Pennycke to be Lieutenant, Lieut A. T. Ewens to be Ensign

[illegible] H. Hallahan to be Ensign

[illegible] Capt. J P Mac Leathy to be Captain; W T M'Grath and H. R. Morgan to be Lieutenants

[illegible] A Arrow and W T Fraser to be Ensigns

[illegible] Capt. H. H B Rooke and Lieut. H Willmot to be Captains; Ensign H. A. Brett to be Lieutenant; H. Gordon to be Ensign.

[illegible] Assist.-Surgeon G. W. Peake to be Assistant-Surgeon

[illegible] Lieut. H. C Marsack to be Ensign.

[illegible] Lieut J. Blake to be Ensign

[illegible] L. de B Price to be Ensign

[illegible] Lieut. C. E Gibson to be A Quartermaster H W Odlum to be Ensign

[illegible] Capt. W. K. Gray to be Ensign.

[illegible] Lieut. T. M. Heeby to be Captain; Lieut. A. F. B. Wright to be Lieutenant

[illegible] H. R. Peaden, Gent. to be Ensign, Colour-Serjeant C. M'Grath to be Quartermaster

[illegible] Lieut. T Warre to be Lieutenant-Colonel; J. Pringle to be Ensign

[illegible] Quartermaster C. O. Bell to be Ensign and Adjutant.

[illegible] Lieut. J. Wombwell to be Captain; Ensign G W. Clutterbuck to be Lieutenant. A. F. Powys to be Ensign

[illegible] Lieut C. Hewitt to be Captain; Ensign C. J. Urquhart to be Lieutenant.

[illegible] J W Hughes to be Ensign

[illegible] E Henry to be Ensign

[illegible] J. Hunt and T. W. S. Miles to be Ensigns

[illegible] B. H Browne to be Ensign

[illegible] W. Maclean to be Ensign.

[illegible] Major J. A. West to be Major; Lieut R. C Stewart to be Captain; Ensign R. H Brackenbury to be Lieutenant.

[illegible] F White and R Reeves to be Ensigns.

[illegible] Lieut. J. Ward to be Captain

[illegible] W. Kilvert and E. M'D Campbell to be Lieutenants

[illegible] Lieut G. R. Fenwick, W. Alexander and A. O. Tabateau, to be Lieutenants

[illegible] Capt. C Gastin, Lieut. J. [illegible] to be Captains

[illegible] Lieut. Colonel Hewett W Lieutenant W. Williams and J. Mahomed

[illegible] Capt. Hon. L. W Miller to be Captain

[illegible] Brigade, W. Johnson, G. M. L. Pepper, W H Jenkins, to be Ensigns; [illegible] W. [illegible] to be Ensign

[illegible] Major P A Wemyss to be Lieutenant-Colonel

[illegible] Ensign R. C Barnes to be Lieutenant

Land Transport Corps: Quartermaster C Hudson to be Captain of a Division

STAFF.—Brevet-Lieut.-Col. C. P. Pasche to be Major of a Provisional Depôt Battalion

HOSPITAL STAFF.—Staff-Surgeon of the First Class W. Austin, T. Hall, D. Armstrong, and J. H Gibbons, to be Deputy Inspectors-General of Hospitals. Surg. P. Gammie and Staff-Surg. Second Class E. C. Reade to be Staff-Surgeons of the First Class. Assist.-Surgs. Class J. Latich, G. Hyde, and J. H. Hews, to be Staff-Surgeons of the Second Class J. Campbell, Esq., to have the local rank of Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals in Turkey Surg. F. H Brett to have the local rank of Staff-Surgeon of the First Class while employed with the Army in the East. T Littleton, M. B., H. P. Bennett, T O Morrison, C Webster, W. D. Cattle, R. Boxhall, to have the local rank in Turkey of Staff-Surgeon of the Second Class while so employed: G. Coward to be Surgeon to the Forces.

BREVET Lieut. Col W. R Marlow, Royal Engineers, to be Colonel; Capt. J. Leahan to be Major in the Army, Brevet Major J. Lanham to be Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army.

The under-mentioned officers, who have been selected for service with the Turkish Contingent, to have local rank in Turkey while so employed. Capt. W. G. Sutton to be Major; Lieuts. S. Denbeny, T R Hamilton, W. R. Kinnons, to be Captains.

BANKRUPTS

W. WHALEY, Charles-street, Camberwell New-road, builder —W. BAKER, Cumberland-market, licensed victualler.—G. E. NEAL, Finsbury, Kent, innkeeper —J. KENNEDY, Aldersgate-street, City, printer J. SALT, Longton, Staffordshire, timber merchant.—E. WESTON, Dudley, Worcestershire, hosier.—J. MARSDEN, Raleigh heath, Worcestershire, innkeeper.—F W WARD, Tenterden, Kent, innkeeper.—G. RICHARDS, Alder, Somersetshire, innkeeper.—F W HOLMES, Leeds, Yorkshire, wine and spirit merchant. W. JENKINSON Sheffield, paper manufacturer —S MARANI, Salford, Lancashire, cotton spinner.—J. HOLMES, Lancaster, leather

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS

DOUGLAS and BAIRD, Edinburgh, grocers. A. M'BEAN, jun., Dingwall, draper —H. BAIRD Glasgow, grocer —A. TYANSON and Co., Greenock, aerated water manufacturers.

FRIDAY, MAY 4.

WAR-OFFICE, MAY 4TH.

6th Dragoons: Quartermaster J. Marshall to be Ensign

12th Light Dragoons: G Clegham to be Cornet

Coldstream Guards, R. H. Thursby to be Ensign and Lieutenant

7th Foot Ensign F. H. Cole to be Ensign

19th: W I. Rogers to be Ensign

30th Ensign G R Duffin to be Ensign

34th Ensign A. W Adcock to be Lieutenant

41th Brigade H. A. St. John Mildmay to be Ensign, A. Guthrie, M.D., and J. F Longhead, to be Assistant-Surgeons

STAFF Capt. H. A Wellman to be Adjutant of a Depôt Battalion

BREVET Major J. Lardner to be Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army. Baron R. Stritzbrahm to have the rank of Colonel in the Army while employed on a particular service Capt. C. T. Graham to have the honorary rank of Major while employed in the Turkish Contingent. Capts. J Stokes, C. A. B Gordon, the Hon. C. Grimston, R. L. Taylor, to have the local rank of Major while employed on special service in Turkey. Capt. H. Heyman to be Major. Lieut O. B. Forrest to be Captain

HOSPITAL STAFF A H Baker, J Sharp, B. Sellers, A. Winter, C. M. Jessop, R Turner, W. R. Burkitt, T. W. Bowen, J. H. Rowbotham, W. L. Farrant, W. M. Pentreath, A. R Richards, C Barkla, and [illegible] Palatano to be Acting Assistant-Surgeons, J. Stoddy to be Purveyor to the Forces

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, MAY 2

Royal Artillery Cadets T. A. de Moleyn, R. P. Marshall, J. B Richardson, W H. Wardell, F. J. G. Hill R. C. W. Campbell, J. D. Strange, T G Poulden, A. Wyndham, A. J. H Wynne, J. Van Straubenzee, and R. W Shakerley to be Lieutenants; Surg.-Major W. Hogg to be Quartermaster

Royal Engineers, Cadets J. M. H. Maitland, C. E Webber, F R Fosling, A. E. Lockhart, R. Deane, G. W. Stockley, and J. A. Papillon, to be Lieutenants

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED

W. HOLLADAY and J. CLEMITSON, Watling-street, City, warehousemen and manufacturers.

BANKRUPTS

J VERITY, Leicester-street, Regent-street, and Charlton-road-ville, Kentish-town, boot and shoe maker H OPENSHAW, Aldersgate, ship chandler and Custom-house agent —W. HOG, Bishopsgate-street Within, stationer. H. ROBINSON, Broomfield, Sheffield stationer.—H J. BRIDGES, Wandsworth-road, brewer and corn-merchant. J LATHERINA DIXON, Lymington, Hampshire, tailor and mercer. G. E. NEAL, Fenbury, innkeeper.—E STEVENS, Walsall, Staffordshire, draper.—J RICHARD, Boscastle, Cornwall, draper and shopkeeper.—S HODGSON, Great Marylebone street, stationer J LOWE, Derby, silk manufacturer.—G F LILLICRAP, Bishopsgate-street Within, grocer J BURTON and R. E. REES, Gloucester, hops and hop bublers. H H DYER, Boscastle, Cornwall, grocer and draper. J PLATT, Stowmarket, Suffolk, draper and grocer. R MORGAN, Dowlais, Glamorganshire, grocer and baker.—J BELL, Little Bolton, Lancashire, cotton spinner.—J. HOSKIN, Blackburn, Lancashire, carrier and leather dealer —T. BEDDINGS, Chadwell-street Mill, Staffordshire, miller

BIRTHS

On the 16th ult., at Cockfield, Sussex, the wife of the Rev. H. Hawkins, of a son.

On the 25th ult., at the Vicarage, Wilcot, near Marlborough, the lady of the Rev. H. Smith, M.A., of a daughter

On the 26th ult., at High-side, the wife of the Rev. A. Barrett, M.A., of a son.

On the 26th ult., at Cheltenham, Lady Hope, of a daughter.

On the 28th ult., at Eaton-place, the Countess of Rosslyn, of a daughter

On the 21st ult., at Springwood-park, prematurely, Lady Sarah Douglas, of a daughter to Lord [illegible]

On the 29th ult., at Eaton-square, the Lady Gilbert Kennedy, of a daughter

On the 30th January, at Peter Maritzburg, Natal, South Africa, the lady of W. M Collins, Esq., Colonial secretary of that colony, of a son.

On the 30th ult., at Marshall Rectory, Lincoln, the wife of the Rev. H. T Simpson, of a son

On the 28th ult., the Hon Mrs. Caulfield Pratt, of a son

On Friday, 4th April, at Torquay, Devonshire, at the residence of her father, W. B. Ker, the wife of Lieut. Colonel Ker, of a daughter

On the 1st inst., at Merseworth Castle, Viscountess Falmouth, of a daughter

On the 2nd inst., at Eaton-place, the Hon. Mrs. Brand, of a son

Jarvis, Esq., High Sheriff of the counties of York and Peel, the wife of Lewis W. Ord, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 25th ult., at Ebenezer Chapel, Upper Mill, Saddleworth, by the Rev. Simeon Dyson, Mr. Samuel Dobson, eldest son of Wright Hodson, Esq., of Springfield-house, near Huddersfield, to Elizabeth, second daughter of John Hodson, Esq., Brown hill, Saddleworth.

On the 2nd inst., at Lower Tooting, by the Rev. W. Greaves, Mr. Robert Sinclair, New Bank-road, to Elizabeth Margaret, eldest daughter of Mr. Charles Perry, Lower Tooting, Surrey.

On the 26th ult., at Odiham, Hants, T. O. Rathbone, Esq., of Liverpool, to Rosamond Maria, eldest daughter of Lieut.-Colonel Cuthbert

DEATHS.

On the 24th ult., at Blendon hall, Kent, William Hodgson Cadogan, Esq., of Beamishburn Priory, Northumberland.

On the 26th ult., at his residence, Sunbury, Middlesex, William Cobbett, Esq., dearly beloved by his wife and numerous family, in the 79th year of his age

On the 4th ult., by the bursting of a shell, fired from the Russian works at Sebastopol while in the act of directing the construction of a battery, Lieut. E. Hainlington, of the Royal Engineers, son of Lieut.-General Hainlington, C.B., aged 21

On the 26th ult., at Montpelier, Bristol, Sarah Ann Hoare, aged 52, fifth daughter of the late Colonel Hoare, and Member of the Society of Friends

On the 28th ult., at his residence, Cambridge-terrace, Hyde-park, the Right Honourable Sir Frederick Pollock, Knt., Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, aged 77

On the 30th ult., at Ryde, Isle of Wight, Lieut.-Colonel Thomas Bell, late of the 95th Regiment, eldest son of T. H. Bell, Esq., of Cerne Abbas, Dorsetshire

On the 3 ult., at St. Leonard's, Lady Rose, of Hyde-park-gardens

On the 1st inst., at Cheltenham, Sir Thomas Fremantle, Bart., G.C.B., G.C.H., Admiral of the Fleet, Knight of the Grand Cross of the Bath, Knight of the Grand Cross of the Hanoverian Guelphic Order, Knight of the Order of St. Ferdinand and Merit, Knight of the Order of Medjidie, Knight of the Order of Charles the Third, Knight of the Order of Leopold, Knight of the Order of Maria Theresa, Knight of the Order of Sardinia, Knight of the Order of Tuscany, Knight of the Order of Sardinia, Knight of the Order of Tuscany, Knight of the Order of Sardinia, Knight of the Order of Tuscany

THE IMPERIAL VISIT. REVIEW OF THE HOUSEHOLD TROOPS IN WINDSOR GREAT PARK. THE CAVALRY CHARGE (see page 449.)

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 742.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

CRAVENS IN COUNCIL.

HAVE Great Britain and France undertaken a task beyond the limits of their strength? Are they in reality "tottering upon the pinnacle of their greatness"? Have they meddled with a business with which they had no real concern? And is it their duty—such being the case—to withdraw from it as fast as they can, and with the least possible loss of material wealth and moral dignity? Have they already suffered so much that to suffer still more would produce either the perilous exhaustion or the still more perilous exasperation of a people that have not the manly virtues of magnanimity and endurance? If either of these questions could be truly answered in the affirmative, the star of our national fortunes would indeed have culminated; our decline would be more rapid than our growth, and our shame would follow fast upon our glory. But to every one of these questions there is not an Englishman or Frenchman, competent to form a reasonable judgment, who would not answer with a proud and hopeful negative. And far beyond the limits of Great Britain and France;—in every civilised State of Europe and the world; the same reply would be given by every dispassionate student of past or contemporary history, and by every one who had eyes to see and ears to hear the events that are taking place from day to day in the great drama of human life. Whatever the sordid and the craven-spirited may think, England and France do not arrogate to themselves too much in claiming to be at the head of European civilisation. They are, as they assert themselves to be, the two foremost nations of the world—first in wealth, in arts, and in arms, and in everything that exalts humanity. If other States and Empires compete with them, they compete at a respectful distance. Some of their competitors may ultimately reach a point of power and greatness to which no State in the Old World has attained in modern times; but as yet such nations are in the immaturity of early youth, and must yield the place to their seniors, unless these should voluntarily abdicate their functions, or are in reality as decrepit and effete as they claim to be well-conditioned and vigorous. But if Great Britain and France, being in this enviable position, are desirous to maintain themselves in it, and if they do not care to receive at some future, and possibly at no very remote, time the law from barbarians, or from civilised States more virtuous and heroic than themselves, they must keep themselves up to the level of their destiny, whatever the sacrifices it may entail. An inevitable penalty attaches itself to all greatness, whether individual or national. No man and no Empire can continue to be great without continuing to act greatly. To remain great implies a continual struggle;—a struggle in the arts of peace, if circumstances allow of peace; but a struggle, also, in the battle-field, if honour, or duty, or the desire of self-preservation counsel and compel war as the sole alternative.

Yet, obvious as such considerations are, it would appear, if the current rumours of London and Paris are to be believed, that highly influential personages, both in and out of office, in this country and in France, are anxious to have the greatness without the responsibility; and, with this object, are desirous above all things of putting an end to the present war, by the concoction of any kind of compromise that it may please the Emperor of Russia in the infinitude of his condescension to accept. If these rumours be true it especially behoves the people of this country to be on the alert. The retirement of M. Drouyn de Lhuys from the Secretaryship of State for Foreign Affairs in France because he was the friend of an illusory peace, and of unsafe, if not dishonourable concessions to Russia, is a striking proof that Napoleon III. is no accomplice of such suicidal policy, and that he may be safely entrusted with the "mission" in which he has such indomitable confidence, and which he fulfils with such remarkable energy and sound judgment. But in England, where we have no such ruler, and where opinion and power are subdivided among classes and parties, it is the duty of every honest man to watch over the honour of his country as jealously as if it were his own. England can afford to lose men and money; she can afford to make sacrifices far greater than ever she has yet made in any period of her history; she can afford to wage a conflict more desperate than that of the perilous years which closed their cycle in 1815;—but England cannot afford the slightest loss of her national honour and prestige; she cannot afford to let it be known to the four winds of heaven that any antagonist the world can produce is too mighty for her; she cannot afford to let it be seen that she has degenerated; and that, in the struggle provoked by the wanton aggression of a barbarian State, she had the will but not the power to vindicate the right and to punish the wrong. Diplomacy has exhausted concession. The refusal by Russia of the terms offered at Vienna ought to be a proof that further negotiation would be a sacrifice of dignity and honour, unless the demand for negotiation came from the Power whose ambition produced the conflict. In that case, negotiation and battle might go hand-in-hand, without intermission of effort; but in every other, a consent to further negotiation would be a confession of weakness and a moral defeat.

Let ministers and diplomatists look well before them. We are not a nation of cravens. We are not demoralised by the spirit of commerce, or utterly degraded by the genius of "slop" and of "Devil's dust"; though it is but too palpably true that forty years of peace have subjected us too greatly to these influences. If further sacrifices are to be made, the nation will be ready to make them. All that it demands are honesty and decision in its rulers, and the prosecution of the war by the ablest heads and the strongest hands that the country can offer. It has no fear of the result. It is not discouraged; though it is doubtless exasperated by the mismanagement that has been disclosed, and by the

THE BALACLAVA RAILWAY. THE BAZAAR AT KADIKOI. (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

suicidal nepotism displayed in the appointment to high and responsible office by Whig and Tory Administrations. When it recalls the history of the war as far as it has yet gone, it finds nothing to look back upon but Victory—dearly bought, it is true, but still Victory—and Glory. It finds its enemy humbled, crippled, and impoverished; it finds the sympathy and sentiment of all civilised nations upon its side; it finds itself in close and enthusiastic alliance with the only other nation in the world that can claim to be as great and as civilised as itself—and whose alliance is of itself worth a thousand times all that the war has yet, or is ever likely to cost us; it finds that it has, *ad interim*, erased its enemy from the list of Maritime Powers that it has beaten the Russian armies in every encounter which they have dared to accept; that it has invaded and kept possession of the Russian territory; and that it is gradually approaching nearer and nearer to the triumphant completion of the difficult, but not impossible, achievement—the capture and destruction of one of the strongest fortresses in the world. with the existence of which all future peace is illusory and uncertain. And all this, and much more, the two Allies, without the overt aid of hesitating Austria, have been able to effect; and without putting forth a hundredth part of their strength. And is this the time to talk of peace on any terms but those of the surrender of the enemy? If there are any friends of such a peace in the Government of this country, they are traitors to the national cause. Let them come out of the Camp and the Council-chamber. The public heart is sound in this business. It does not complain of the war, but applauds it. What it complains of is mismanagement If to mismanagement there be added treachery, there will be many things besides the conduct of the war which will come under revision on that fearful day of reckoning which is certain to come, and equally certain to be unsparing.

THE BALACLAVA AND SEBASTOPOL RAILWAY.

The following excellent *résumé* of the operations of the Railway and description of the country are taken from a report addressed to Messrs. Peto and Brassey by their chief engineer. It may not be out of place here to state that Lord Raglan has expressed himself with the energy and [illegible] of Mr. Beatty that he directed Mr. Romaine, who is acting (honorarily) as secretary to the Railway Board, to write that gentleman a letter, expressing his Lordship's high sense of his services:

What strikes a new comer most on his arrival here is the immense extent of country covered by the Allied forces. From Balaclava to the extreme right is about nine miles inside the intrenchments, and the length of defence and attacking works is over sixteen miles; so that, instead of being concentrated against a certain point, it is a series of detached batteries against batteries. I mention this to show that a few miles of rails are soon swallowed up in attempting to give railway accommodation to the army.

The whole is composed of lime and sandstone, covered, except where the limestone crops out, with a light, rich, luxuriant soil, varying from twelve to eighteen inches deep, over the surface, which works into a heavy and tenacious mud after rain. The whole face of the country changes after twelve hours' rain from a good hard surface to worse than a newly-ploughed field.

The line commences from both sides of the harbour, and proceeds direct up the valley to Kadikoi, where it turns sharp to the west, round the foot of the hill on which is placed the Sailors' [illegible] Battery, and through the French Camp, thence along the side of the [illegible] Flagstaff at top of the plateau, and about half a mile from head quarters. The line then diverges to the north, and proceeds direct to the Woronzow road; this is about seven miles from Balaclava. There is also a branch about one mile long to accommodate the Third and Fourth Divisions and left siege-train. Before the navvies arrived, Lord Raglan placed at my disposal 200 soldiers of the 39th Regiment, who were employed in collecting stones from the several old buildings and walls between Balaclava and Kadikoi; these were placed on the site of the Railway, to form a base for the rails; and very well they have acted. After twenty-four hours of the heaviest rain I ever saw, the portion of the line on which these stones were placed, with a sprinkling of bilts over them, remained uninjured; whereas the whole surface of the Camp was next door to impassable We have also been so far fortunate as to find a large bed of tolerable ballast close to the road, which has been of great service in making the road travellable over the soft valley as far as Kadikoi and elsewhere, where we had not sufficient stones to form a base.

Beyond Kadikoi there is no ballast, except what comes out of the cuttings, which are in sandstone rock, soft at top, but about six feet down it becomes very hard and compact. Between the French Camp and the Flagstaff there are a few small excavations, unavoidable from the nature of the ground, [illegible] to get out, were easily [illegible] travel on the surface [illegible] tenacious and deep mud.

From the Flagstaff to the Woronzow road, the line follows the surface for upwards of a mile. There are a few small cuttings (sandstone) necessary, from the nature of the ground in this portion; but they will be soon out and ready for laying the road through as soon as the material is advanced that far. The branch to siege train will also be [illegible] surface

As regards the labour furnished by the army, I mentioned that 150 men of the 39th Regiment (afterwards increased to 200) had been placed at my disposal for a short time (from the 27th of January to the 6th of February); they were of the greatest assistance, as far as they went, in forming the line, and were becoming very fair navvies, but, unfortunately were removed before they had time to be of much real benefit to us I took great interest in these men; the officers seemed to take a pride [illegible] their work, and I was almost in despair when they were taken away.

Two hundred Croatians were given me on the 1st of February; they were at first literally useless, except as beasts of burden, and were only employed in carrying stones for the road The want of interpreters who could speak English was also a great loss to us at first; however, by dint of perseverance, we have at last broken about thirty of them to handle the spade and shovel and wheel a barrow The remainder have been and are still engaged unloading the ships, for which they are extremely well qualified.

With the exception of these 200 Croats and 200 sailors lent by Captain Lushington for about ten days, we have had no assistance in labour from the army; indeed, the Quartermaster-General told me from the first that he could not spare any men, and I do not believe he could. The amount of fatigue duty and work in the trenches had fully occupied every available man in the army; and I feel quite certain that General Airey, from whom I have always received the greatest kindness, would have willingly afforded me military aid if he could; but the truth was, until we began to convey goods by rail, and relieve the army of their daily trudge into Balaclava, the trenches were not half manned. From Balaclava to the summit the line has been completed some time; now it is comparatively down hill, and the labour of transport is reduced too mere nothing To give one instance—one horse can now take thirty 18-inch shells from our dépôt at head-quarters to the advanced trenches in one day; before it was as much as ever they could manage, when the weather was fine, to take six 13-inch shells from Balaclava to the dépôt.

The railway was commenced on the 8th of February by the navvies; it conveyed commissariat stores to Kadikoi on the 23rd; and on the 26th of March it conveyed shot and shell to the summit at head-quarters, four miles and a half from Balaclava, which, with the Diamond Wharf branch and the double line from Balaclava to Kadikoi, makes upwards of seven miles of rail laid down in less than seven weeks; and now I approach the most important question of the whole—What has the railway done, and what is it calculated to do?

First, I will give a list of the stores to be sent up to the front daily, as furnished by the Commissariat officer, Mr. Bailey. This is exclusive of the Highland Brigade or cavalry, who have long since made use of the line for getting up their stores.

"*Mem.*—Daily supply of provisions for the front.—

		lbs.
Biscuit, 300 bags, 112lb. each	.. .. ..	33,600
Salt meat, 100 casks, 450lb each	.. .. ..	45,000
Groceries and extras—say	.. .. ..	30,000
Corn—say 500 bags, 150lb. each	.. .. ..	75,000
Hay, 120 bales, 150lb. each	.. .. ..	18,000
Fuel—wood and charcoal—say	.. .. ..	45,000
Total ..	.. .. ..	246,600

"Say, 111 tons daily.

"W. BAILEY."

[illegible] eight the railway has taken up, as nearly as can be, 1000 tons [illegible] shot, 500 tons of small arms, 3,500 tons of Commissariat stores [illegible] upwards of 1000 tons of miscellaneous—viz., [illegible] Quartermaster-General's stores, &c

The bread, salt meat, and groceries Commissary General Filder has not had any arrangements about issuing at head-quarters as yet I have volunteered, time after time, to take everything up for the Commissariat, and at one time it was settled every thing should go by rail, but this was counteremanded. The Commissariat have now at their disposal every day thirty waggons or more, and these might be filled on the average twice a day, sufficient to take up everything in the shape of stores; but the Commissariat men will not work before eight in the morning nor after half-past five in the evening, and the Commissary-General does not seem disposed to take any steps, by inducing them to work later in the evening or earlier in the morning, to make any further use of the railway—in fact, he will not put himself out of the way one step to forward the comfort of the army, as far as the railway is concerned. Lord Raglan is, I believe, quite aware of this, and has repeatedly urged him to the point, but he is impoveable; so that, as regards the food of the men, unless the divisions send down men, and draw their own rations at Balaclava, and get them up by rail on their own account, the Commissary-General will not assist them.

In addition to the amount stated above, we have taken up all the railway materials for extending the line, forage, Commissariat huts for our own people, fuel for engine, &c.; and this, until the arrival of the 65 horses per the *City of Norwich*, was all done by six of our own horses and a Commissariat mule; so that if the success of the railway has not come up to your expectations at home, it is not owing to any want of labour or energy on the part of the expedition; but, in addition to what has been done in reality, it has had an inconceivably great moral effect on the army. It has shown them that everything that can possibly be done to assist them and lighten their labour will be done. It has enabled the siege to open again by the immense quantity of shot and ammunition taken up. It has relieved the artillery horses of the killing journey up hill from Balaclava to the Camp, and enabled them to pick up their condition, which was deplorable in the extreme. It has—I say it without hesitation—been the means of clearing Balaclava of the wretched and filthy Turks who possessed the place and made it a perfect pesthouse, and, by the example afforded by the navvies, has shown the army how to work; and I am convinced that 50 soldiers will do more than double the number would two months ago.

Now, as to what it is likely to do—It will show the army that there are other and better means of transport than ordinary roads; that, without infringing on the prerogative of military men, they may yet derive some assistance from the skill and science of civilians; that a railway—one of the most improved means of transport—can be laid over an ordinary country as easily and quickly as a common road; that an immense amount of tonnage can be removed in one-fifth of the time required on common roads.

I am happy to say that the Royal Engineers are very friendly. I have been of some assistance to them in furnishing them with timber for their gun platforms and other purposes, and they reciprocate this accommodation by giving me every information and assistance they can. Indeed, I may say that every department works cordially with us.

Colonel M'Murdo is organising the transport service into an efficient corps, and I find him a good and energetic man of business.

Now, with regard to the men to be sent home. It will require nearly all the navvies to work the line. There must be a breaksman to each waggon; then we must furnish drivers for the mules supplied by the Land Transport Corps; the remainder will be barely sufficient to maintain the road—in fact, I do not think that a single good navvy can be sent home. The carpenters and smiths are fully occupied, and had I double the number they would not meet the requirements of the army and the expedition. The only men I can dispense with for some time are the masons, a few of the miners might also go home; but they are a very useful class of men out here, where the whole country is rock, and the majority of them can always be advantageously employed in quarrying stone to the Lucknins. Before the *Prince of Wales* leaves with Capt. Raymond matters may take a different turn, but at present I certainly do not see that we can spare many men without seriously crippling the usefulness of the expedition. Captain Raymond has received positive order from Captain Andrews to send home all the ships, except the *Levant* and *Florentinoldi*. These are to remain, the latter is a very handy ship for our purposes, and may yet be exceedingly useful

P.S. Since writing the above I have just learnt that Commissary General Filder has received a positive order to establish an issue department at head quarters, and we take up stores to-morrow

THE ENGLISH BURYING-GROUND.—[illegible] Colonel Egerton, Captain Lempriere, and four soldiers of the 77th Regiment, all of whom were killed in the first attack on the Redan, were interred a little after 10 a.m. [illegible] Lord Raglan, and a very numerous assemblage of Staff and other officers, attended the funeral. They were buried on a gentle declivity, where the hill in front of the head quarters [illegible] Woronzoff road to Sebastopol skirts the burying-[illegible] stone marks the distance—five yards—from the [illegible] market-house, which is seen so often spoken of, is a little way [illegible] out. Formerly the canals [illegible] as part of the Camp took up [illegible] side of the ravine itself, but many objections to this site were discovered, [illegible] selected. The ground is not enclosed, but [illegible] marked the name of the English soldiers. There are nearly a hundred graves here. Nothing can exceed in beauty the magnificent prospect which opens in the rear at this point. It is here that, on ascending the hill from the plateau, a traveller approaching [illegible] would first perceive the city and roadstead of Sebastopol. They [illegible] the feet of the spectator, like a map spread out before him, wh[illegible] on the side and a vast expanse of sea [illegible] complete [illegible] and its lighthouse, the longline of ships off the [illegible] much to the sentry ships on watch before the mouth of the gre[illegible] of the French and Turkish camps, which are all visible at a glance. When there were vineyards and groves in the valleys, and flocks and herds grazing on the hills, and ships gliding in and out of the roadstead, the prospect must have been indeed charming—one of the finest in the world. Now, the several lines dividing the besiegers and besieged—the barriers closing the harbour—the hulless ships, prisoners in their own port—the ground furrowed by trenches, with the bodies lying half in parapets, scattered encampments, French, English, and Russian—the wreaths of smoke from many batteries, and the looming of the [illegible] all these awaken far different emotions than would have been evoked by the same peaceful prospect of former days. Agriculture and the arts of peace have fled, and yielded place to rough war And here was some of war's hard work. Never were nobler hearts, never worthier soldiers, cast in his sphere of duty, than those who had been a midnight march down in the inside [illegible] and who are now finding their last resting-place on this spot. We [illegible] strange feelings, and works wonderful changes in men's [illegible] after day the sudden transition from life to death is seen, and at last the sight fails to produce even a passing agitation in the spirit of the beholder; but there were few, among the many who testified by their presence to the worth of the dead, who were not pleased with deep emotion as they heard the solemn words of the sacred service—"dust to dust" and saw the grave cover all that remained of the gallant Colonel Egerton and the brave soldiers on his side.—*Letter from the Camp, April 24.*

TRIAL AND SENTENCE OF PIANORI. The trial of Pianori, the regicide, took place on Monday The court was very full The most crowded part was the space behind the bench, where official personages and the personal friends of the judges gathered in such numbers that there was scarcely standing room. A remarkable novelty in the physiognomy of the court was the absence of wigs. The President of the present assizes, M Parraccini Lafosse, with whom it was a great honour to be selected to preside on such a court [illegible] sat and solemn. Counsel presenting the app[illegible] right; and, to the bitter disappointment of many hundreds [illegible] had hoped to have a new sensation, the trial was neither [illegible] the material facts, as stated in the *acte d'accusation*, were conclusively proved. The prisoner did not attempt to deny them. Although it was quite clear that he conceals the whole truth regarding his previous lives and his previous life, he gave no hint to the judges regarding the main facts. He admitted he fired his double-barrelled pistol at the Emperor. He could not be sure whether he fired the second barrel, or whether it went off by itself. But he readily admitted that he had fired once. He denied that when he was seized another pistol was found in his hand. Both the others were, he said, in his pocket Two witnesses, however, swore positively that he had drawn the pistol, and was about to fire a third shot, when he was captured The most important fact that came out at the trial, beyond what is stated in the indictment, was that Pianori is a native of Bergamo, and was escaped from the galleys. The President read from the bench two telegraphic despatches from the French Chargé d'Affaires at Rome, the first of which is as follows: "Pianori Senezzo, alias Brizzi Ghellino, aged forty-two years, has two children. He fled after a political assassination in Savoia, in 1852 He took refuge in Genoa. He has often returned to this country to commit fresh crimes." The second despatch is as follows:—"Rome, May 5, 1855. Positive information. Pianori was sentenced to twelve years in the galleys for murder. He is accused as the author of two incendiary fires in 1849." The prisoner positively denied both these statements; and it must be admitted, as he himself observed, that they are far from being proofs that he is the individual who was found guilty of murder in Italy. He admitted, however, after some hesitation, that people did sometimes call him Brizzi Ghellino, and that he was in prison for six months, but he pretended that he did not know what for. With regard to his motives, he repeated what he had said before the Judge of Instruction, that the Emperor, by the expedition to Rome, had ruined him and his family. The jury retired for ten minutes, and returned a verdict of Guilty. The Court sentenced the prisoner to die the death of a parricide. Pianori retired with the gendarmes without betraying the slightest trepidation. A "parricide" is led to the guillotine barefooted, in a black veil, and his right hand is cut off previous to his execution.

The French Minister of Commerce and Public Works has appointed a commission, composed of twenty-four members, presided over by him, and in his absence by Baron C. Dupin, charged to draw out a programme of questions to be submitted to the international Statistical Congress, which is to assemble in Paris this summer.

A funeral service for the anniversary of the death of the Emperor Napoleon I. was celebrated on Sunday, at the chapel of the Tuileries, at which the Emperor and Empress, Prince Napoleon, Princess Mathilde, the high officers of the Imperial Households, several of the Ministers, and some members of the Corps Diplomatique, were present

THE PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.

(*From our Special Correspondent.*)

PARIS, May 9.

SINCE I last wrote to you, the unexpected postponement of the Exhibition has astonished all people connected with it. I was in the Palais de l'Industrie in the afternoon of the 27th ult.; and, although the postponement had been that day determined upon, and the decree signed by the Emperor, nobody had any idea that it was even contemplated. I had seen the Secretary to the Imperial Commission, who talked of the opening for the 1st of May, and of the necessity of closing on the morrow for "five or six days." On the morning of the 28th the vigour of the exhibitors had sensibly slackened. The incitement to extraordinary labours, to overwork, &c., was gone. But, on the following Monday everybody appeared to have arrived at the conclusion that it would be no easy matter to finish, even by the 15th, and had set again to work vigorously. The ten days which have elapsed since this time have sufficed to produce great changes; and, with a moderate exercise of the imaginative faculties, the explorer may now realise to his eyes of the effect that is to burst upon Paris (or rather that section of Paris to which 50 francs are a trifle) next Tuesday. For I am positively assured that, as the tumbler says to his ring of spectators, "this time there will be no mistake." The Imperial Commissioners have even asked the English Commissioners to leave part of their gallery space unoccupied till the 16th inst., that 300 musicians may occupy it on the 15th An address is to be read to the Emperor by Prince Napoleon, some music is to be heard, and the Paris Universal Exhibition is to be declared thereupon—opened! This is the description of the ceremony I have heard from the English authorities here, and I have every reason to believe that it is correct, up to the present time. But between this date and the 15th, the order may be changed. It may even be thought advisable to imitate the procession down the Nave, as formed in 1851 in the Hyde-park Building. I expect that the ceremony will be short, for the English authorities, including Mr. Henry Cole, Dr. Playfair, Mr. Redgrave, &c., were presented to the Emperor on Sunday last, in company with a group of other foreign Exhibition Commissioners.

The principal objects destined for the Nave are already placed, or they are in course of settlement. Our Astronomer Royal's circle and the great naval trophy are advanced. Some groups of French sculpture, and some sculptured altars, are also arranged in the eastern half of the Nave, together with two lighthouse lanterns. The colossal eagle which I noticed four or five weeks ago in the Sculpture-room of the Fine Art Building is in this Nave; also a group, by Cain, representing an eagle and a vulture devouring the remains of a crocodile, and a falling angel a daring conception—finely executed by Ferrat.

In the western half of the Nave I have already noticed some beautiful church ornaments, carved in wood, from Belgium; a large model of a steam-vessel; some German plastic ornaments for churches, some ceramic manufactures, effectively grouped; a splendid bookcase from Bordeaux; and the gorgeous stalls, supported by claret velvet pillars, relieved by plastic figures lightly gilt, of the Zollverein. The Bordeaux bookcase is, perhaps, the finest piece of furniture yet in the Building. In front of it, in full relief, are four boldly-designed figures representing the four quarters of the world; and at one side there is a veiled figure exquisitely carved. The Germans have also displayed some china chandeliers, that look like beautiful pendent flowers. In the English Gallery space Dr. Royal and Mr. Digby Wyatt are pushing forward the arrangement of the Indian collection. The gay Eastern tent is up; and the Bazaar—a faithful copy of Indian architecture—is in an advanced state. The Empress spent some time in this department last Saturday, and is said to have been much amused with the French collection of Indian productions from the Hôtel Bellevue. The Indian collection is entirely gathered from the provinces of our Eastern empire. The photographs are nearly all arranged, and they will do infinite credit to the professors who have contributed. Sir Thurston Thompson's [illegible] drawing from the Royal collection at Windsor [illegible] is the most remarkable, the most dangerous copies of priceless treasures that have yet been produced by means of the photographic process. Hereabouts Hanhart, and Baxter, and others, have already [illegible] their coloured engravings and chromolithographs. Mr. Digby [illegible] has already covered his allotted space with a variety of designs conducted by him to various periodicals

In the north eastern part of the Building, on the ground floor, the French have considerable space devoted to piano [illegible] Lyons silks, cocoons, &c. At this end of [illegible] pianoforte. Their gallery space is [illegible] Lyons silks, the western [illegible] &c. At this end of [illegible] pianofortes, French, English, and [illegible] mixture appears to be the prin[illegible] distribution of our phlegmatic friends. The Zollverein Gallery stalls are mostly finished. Some are even laid out, and covered carefully up till the opening. The Belgian section of the galleries is also in a very advanced state. Here are some excellent photographs from Brussels; some [illegible] from the same city; and not far off stands a Berlin-wool trophy of impressive height.

The American space, both on the ground floor and in the gallery, is [illegible] unoccupied, yet I hear there are eight American Commissioners [illegible] with one hundred exhibitors—facetious gentlemen reverse these [illegible]

The Machinery Gallery is still in a backward state; and it is not presumed that it will be ready for public inspection before the 1st of June; I doubt whether even on that day the machinery will be in motion. The flooring has been so terribly damaged by the heavy packages that it is almost impossible to walk upon it. The floor of the Palace is also in a [illegible]

The Com[illegible] being rapidly completed; [illegible] that the refreshment-stalls are to be loaded with bakes and gooseille on the 15th [illegible] The measures seem to be taken to anticipate the verdicts that are to be solemnly passed on the relative merits of the Western European schools; but I may inform your readers that our English [illegible] astonished our neighbours. They are [illegible] and their landscapes generally are not fogs. I hear that Mulready hits the taste of the Parisian amateurs most completely. Many people are curious to hear what they will have to say about Millais' "Ophelia," and the pre-Raphaelite school generally. I fear they will hastily condemn all that is not shaped in the school of David—all that is not based upon rules painted in black letter! Few will be familiar with the subjects treated. But we have not long to wait. In a few days the Parisian critics will be busy with the art of all nations. May our artists prove lightly [illegible]

THE RIFLE-PITS.—The capture of these ambuscades has been [illegible] of great value, not only on account of the removal of an impediment to the progress of our sap in this direction, and of the annoyance caused by the fire of the Russian riflemen against our countrymen, but also on account of the opportunity it has afforded our men of intercepting the Russian artillerymen in the Redan. The ambuscade first taken, and now connected with our trench, at present forms a miniature bastion, as it were, and from its loophole [illegible] were compelled to close these openings. In turn the enemy [illegible] The work is so close to the Redan, and in such a position, that its guns cannot be sufficiently depressed so as to bear against it. Some men of the 1st battalion of the Rifle Brigade have also placed under cover on the opposite side of the left ravine—near to which, on the right, our zigzag is being formed—and have thus been brought to act in concert with the troops in the advanced trench in right attack. The united fire of these two bodies has for the present almost silenced the Redan: a gunner could not show himself near any of the embrasures but he was at once marked down, and the Russian [illegible] in front of the battery above. This work threatens to be strong and formidable. It assumes at present the appearance which would be given by a number of crescent-shaped ambuscades joined together at the free extremities of their parapets. It will give cover to a large body of riflemen, who will have the opportunity of throwing out a diverging fire of very considerable range. The part of the Redan-hill on which it is placed has a steep incline, which will add to the difficulty of dislodging the enemy from this situation.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

PUBLIC MEETING IN THE CITY.

A meeting of the merchants and traders of the metropolis was held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Saturday last, for the purpose of organising an association to promote a thorough reform in the various departments of the State. One o'clock was the hour appointed for commencing the proceedings; but shortly after twelve the room, which is of a very large size—estimated as capable of containing 1500 persons—was filled to overflowing, and so great was the anxiety manifested to be present that many hundred eager applicants were unfortunately disappointed, not members of Parliament, could not be accommodated. In this state of things the conductors of the movement, with great promptitude and tact, extemporised arrangements for the simultaneous holding of another and a supplemental meeting on the same subject, and the use of the Guildhall having been readily granted by the Lord Mayor for that object, a medium was supplied for the expression of a large portion of the popular feeling which must otherwise have been stifled. On and about the platform at the London Tavern were Messrs. J. I. Travers, J. D Fowles, S. Morley, J. P. Gassiot, W. Tite, M.P., J. Hall, jun., Hutchinson, W. S. Lindsay, M.P.; Norman Wilkinson, F. Bennoch, Samuel Baker, George Bishop, jun.; Johnstone Neale, Captain Scobell, M.P.; Mr. Otway, M.P.; Colonel Thompson, M.P.; Mr. F. Peel, M.P.; Mr. Magoire, M.P.; Mr. Murrough, M.P.; Mr. Swift, M.P.; Mr. Duffy, M.P.; Mr Oliveira, M.P., &c.

Shortly before one o'clock, on the motion of Mr. J. I. Travers, Mr. Samuel Morley was voted to the chair In introducing the business, he said, he had come there because he honestly feared that we were drifting into that state which, if unchecked, must lead us to revolution, and because, in all seriousness, he had no faith in order [illegible] founded on contentment; and he for one was [illegible] peace," when he felt that there ought to be no peace [illegible] been made to know that this movement was a mere trading affair; but they would show that it was something more serious. They [illegible] the public business of the country conducted in an efficient manner. They had been accused of a wish to attack the aristocracy; but there need be no alarm on that head in a country like England, where the great mass of the people are so much attached to the aristocracy. The meeting had not been called to discuss the war, upon the wisdom or justice of which he would not pronounce. Their sole object was to obtain a reform of the present system of Government

Mr. J. I. Travers proposed the first resolution:—

That the disasters to which the country has been subjected in the conduct of the present war [illegible] attributable to the inefficient and predatory irresponsible management of the various departments of the State, and urge the [illegible] a thorough change in the administrative [illegible]

He believed that the country, from one end of it to the other, would endorse the moderate expression of opinion embodied in this resolution. They did not require to look for evidence of the inefficiency and irresponsibility of the Government from without. There was not a living statesman who had not repeatedly in his speeches acknowledged the existence of those evils. It had been asserted that the promoters of that meeting were making an attempt at revolution; but the person who seriously brought such an accusation against [illegible] traders, whose property was like a rock [illegible] on the hill side, and dependent for its safety on the maintenance of law and order, must be no less than a perfect maniac. (Cheers.) Then, again, it was said, their design was to subvert the existing Government. Their object, however, was too great for them to condescend to attack any particular Government or individual in the pursuit of it. They did not blame individuals for the inherent vices of the system; but, on the contrary, would admit that many of those on whom public odium had been cast must unquestionably had had the best intentions, and had only failed from want of [illegible] the impossibility of adapting the system to the exigencies of the moment. The real fault of the present system attached to the [illegible] who tolerated its continuance. Pass a course of th[illegible] movement that, in every constituency of the country, [illegible] was a body of voters on the register who always remained unpolled, and who had it in their power, if they chose to exert themselves at the ballot-box, to make even the present representation of the people available for immediate purposes (Hear, hear); and it was therefore the duty of the city of London, as the centre and metropolis of the country, to exert its influence [illegible] favour to rouse the middle classes to a due sense of their responsibilities [illegible] the present crisis

Mr. J. I. [illegible] resolution; and entered into a long [illegible] to our Government of 1809 [illegible] who might have been [illegible] which the offer was received

Mr. J. D Fowles had great satisfaction in supporting the resolution The country as the present moment felt itself humiliated at home and depreciated abroad—not because its resources were impaired, or the there was any want of that patriotism which had always been a distinguished element in the British character, but because its resources had been squandered, and [illegible] tion. They must apply a remedy, constitutional and effective, to the present state of things. There was no body [illegible] and no particular Government, but an imperfect, a[illegible] a nation [illegible] (Hear, hear). The middle classes knew something of [illegible] business ought to be conducted; and, although they could not profess to be great diplomatists, or to understand all parts of the machinery of the State, they could judge of such matters as the [illegible] of transports, the supply of stores, the regularity with which [illegible] and they could see that there was a lamentable want of foresight in quarters where it ought not to exist

Mr. W. S. Lindsay, M.P., moved the following resolution:—

That the time [illegible] has caused a lamentable a[illegible] of talent, introduction of enlarged experience and practical ability into the service of the State; that the exclusion from office of those who possess in a high degree the practical qualities necessary for the direction of affairs in a great and arduous country is a reflection upon its intelligence and a betrayal of its interests; that, while we disclaim every desire of excluding the aristocratic classes from participation in the councils of the Crown, we feel it our duty to protest against the pretensions of any section of the community to monopolise the functions of administration

After stating that he should have preferred remaining a silent looker-on, the honourable gentleman went on to say that there was no party movement, as they had seen from the fact that Mr. Powles and himself were speaking from the same platform; it was a movement in which both Conservatives and Liberals joined (Hear, hear). All parties felt the necessity of a change; they all felt that they must have a thorough administrative reform that they must see whether the Government of this country could not be made to keep pace with the progress of the people governed. Men of business thought it strange that, while they were able to span England with gigantic undertakings, to construct railways, to tunnel through mountains, to send their ships to every part of the world, the harbingers of peace, civilisation, and Christianity, while they had made England what she was (for to whom did England owe her greatness but to her merchants and her people?) yet, while they had raised her to the high position she justly held among other nations, those who pretended to govern them were not able to manage the affairs of the country. It was said that this movement was not constitutional. It was constitutional; and it was those men who held office under the Crown and abused their sacred trust by giving appointments to particular individuals simply because they were their own relations, who were really acting unconstitutionally (Hear, hear). The merchants and traders of the city of London had no desire or intention to assail the Constitution—they had too much at stake for that. They deeply respected the Constitution and they ardently loved their gracious Sovereign, who was the embodiment of every grace and the pattern of every virtue (cheers); but they were determined to make the Constitution adhere to the Constitution and maintain the dignity and honour of these realms (Hear, hear). A circumstance occurred to him six months ago, which he had never mentioned before but he would do so now, because he felt it to be a duty. He would have had nothing personally to gain by the transfer of his services from Austin-friars to Whitehall or Downing-street, and nothing would ever induce him to accept office but the feeling that he might be of service to his country. Well, six months ago he saw Sir J Graham, and observed to him that those connected with our sea transport appeared to have no books, no order, and no system they did not seem to know what they were about, and could not tell how they were loading goods, or where they were carrying them to. "Now," he continued, addressing the right hon. Baronet, "I don't wish my name to appear at all in this matter; but will you just allow me to leave Austin-friars and come to the Admiralty for a week; and if you let me have the aid of some good men in that department, I will do so, whether I cannot give you a thorough set of books to start with (Cheers). Allow me," he still went on, "to go down to Deptford for you, and see what books you have got there, and I shall

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH FROM THE CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL TO LONDON.—LANDING AND CONNECTING THE WIRE CABLE AT CAPE KALIAKRA.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH FROM THE CRIMEA TO LONDON.

In our Journal of last week we detailed the operation of laying down the electric cable from near Varna to Balaclava, by which means we are now in daily receipt of intelligence from the Camp before Sebastopol. We then also gave a View of the Varna Station, at Cape Kaliakra; and a Correspondent now enables us to illustrate the operation more in detail in the accompany bird-eye Sketch, by Dr J. Johnston, surgeon of the *Argus*. Our Correspondent writes from Balaclava, April 14th:—"We arrived here yesterday, having safely landed the telegraphic cable in the small bay called St George's, where the Monastery so often spoken of is situated. As we were cautiously and slowly approaching the coast, during the previous night, we could see the flashing of the guns around Sebastopol, and occasionally we heard the booming of the heavier pieces of artillery." Of St. George's Bay and Monastery we also annex a view.

Of all the applications yet made of electro telegraphic communication, the most striking is that just effected by the throwing of the longest submarine cable yet made, across the Black Sea, from near Varna to Balaclava, whence it has been further laid down not only to the head-quarters of our army, but to the very trenches before Sebastopol. In the *Builder* of last week it is remarked that "it would not now be difficult, by some little further novelty of invention, to cause the reverberation of the very cannons themselves, as it were, to be transmitted, in the shape of electric vibration, through the 1000 miles of intervening wire, and heard, in still continuous vibrations, finally communicated to some acoustic apparatus in the British House of Parliament." Such is the close co-relationship of forces, that this is literally perfectly possible; and, although it would not be precisely the sound of the cannons which our legislators would hear, it would actually be the vibratory reverberations of that very sound itself, for all sounds are vibratory forces, which reverberate into the electric interiors of material substances, and some recent experiments have curiously illustrated this very point in physical science. At all events, now, we are practically and at farthest only a trifle of time distant from Sebastopol, and there is no physical reason why the public should not know every morning, noon, and night, what is at these very times going on at the seat of war."

The Russian Engineer Todleben. The name of the head engineer at Sebastopol is Todleben. He is thirty-two years of age. His parents are poor shopkeepers in Riga. When the siege commenced, Prince Menschikoff, it is said, asked the then head engineer how long it would take to put the place in a state of defence. He answered "Two months." A young captain, named Todleben, stepped forward and said he would undertake to do it, if he had as many men as he required, in two weeks. He did it in twelve days, and was made Colonel. Since that time he has had the direction of everything in the way of building batteries, defences, &c. The other day the Grand Duke called upon his wife, who is residing in St Petersburg, to congratulate her upon her husband's promotion, for he is now General and Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor.

MONASTERY OF ST. GEORGE, BALACLAVA.

THE BALTIC FLEET.—"THE ARCHER" IN THE ICE IN WINGO BAY.

THE BALTIC FLEET. H.M.S. "ARCHER" IN THE ICE.

WE have to thank a Correspondent in the Baltic Fleet for the accompanying Sketch of the *Archer*, surrounded by the ice, at the entrance of Wingo Sound. The *Archer*, with the *Desperate* under her command, had the honour and good fortune to first enter the Baltic this spring, and has also taken the first two Russian prizes—viz., the *Phœnix* brig, laden with rye, and a small schooner laden with coals, both bound for the Libau. The *Archer* sailed with the Flying Squadron from Deal, and anchored at the mouth of Wingo Sound on the evening of the 31st March. She there got completely surrounded by the ice, which, at the entrance to the Sound, was considerably broken up, but was quite safe to walk on for miles. In the Sound itself the masts of many small ships could be seen over the low sand-hills which border it, and the ice had the appearance of being quite compact all through the Sound. To enable the reader to judge of the lateness of the winter this year, our Correspondent states that the *Archer* arrived at Wingo Sound on the same day last year as in the present, when she found the navigation quite free, and steamers plying up and down to Gottenburg. On proceeding to Elsinore, the drift of ice through the Sound was considered so dangerous that the Flying Squadron had to proceed to Landskrona, on the opposite side, where their reception was most enthusiastic, and where a grand ball was given to the officers. From Landskrona the *Archer* and *Desperate* were dispatched to the Baltic, which they had some difficulty in entering from the ice; but found some reward for their labours in capturing the first prizes of the season in the Baltic.

M. SOYER AT SCUTARI.

M. SOYER had the satisfaction to open his large kitchen on Easter Monday, in the Barrack Hospital of Scutari, in the presence of Lord William Paulet, Brigadier-General, and a numerous staff of military officers, besides a select company of ladies and gentlemen, who formed a jury for the purpose of testing the condiments prepared by him as new diet for the hospital patients. Amongst the visitors were the eminent medical officials from the different hospitals now established on the banks of the Bosphorus, of which there are no less than six. M. Soyer's success has far exceeded his highest anticipations, though prior to his departure from England he felt assured that he should be able to effect some good in the way of ameliorating the diet.

We give M. Soyer's plan in his own words:—

"On my arrival here I first visited, in company with Miss Nightingale, and one of the principal medical officers of this Hospital, all the store-rooms, cook-houses, small kitchens, and provision departments, to learn the rules, regulations, and allowances made by the authorities. Having been initiated upon these points, at a trifling expense I at once organised one of the Turkish kitchens, belonging to the Hospital Barracks. Instead of there being no appropriate kitchen, as was represented to me by several Government employés prior to my embarkation for the East, I found

M. SOYER'S HOSPITAL KITCHEN, AT SCUTARI BARRACKS.

room for culinary purposes, even upon the most extensive scale. I then prepared my bill of fare, according to the provisions allowed, which at all times are of an inferior quality. I carefully made my experiments by means of wights and measures, and produced samples of different preparations forming the new diet. I next submitted these, with specimens of this and the other hospitals of the original diet administered, for public inspection; the result of the comparison of the two systems by tasting each article led his Lordship to write and present me with a testimonial, signed by the medical authorities, a copy of which I herewith enclose. I cannot conclude without returning my sincere thanks to the authorities and officials, who have all rendered me the utmost assistance in my undertaking; and most especially have I to express my gratitude to Miss Nightingale who, from her extraordinary intelligence and good organisation in her kitchen, procured me the requisite materials for commencing, and thus saving at least a week's loss of time, as my model kitchen did not arrive till Saturday last.

"I have commenced supplying several of the wards, to the great satisfaction of my new guests; and purpose, in a few days introducing the system at the General Hospital, thence in the three institutions at Kullalee, under the care of Lady Stratford. Her Ladyship has likewise paid me several visits at the Barrack Hospital, being anxious that my new diet should be fully adopted at all the above establishments, and competent persons left behind me to carry out the system, which is at once simple and economical.

"P.S. As soon as possible I shall start for Balaclava, and from thence proceed to the Camp. I am now only waiting for my new model camp-stove, which is capable of cooking for 200 men every three hours."

The following is the letter referred to above:—

"Scutari Barrack Hospital Kitchen, April 9, 1855.

"I cannot leave the kitchen without expressing to M. Soyer how fully I approve of the good things he has made out of the usual provisions issued for the patients in the hospital; and I could not have believed that difference could have been produced by only arrangement and a really simple art of cooking, and a proper organisation of proportions. (Signed) A. SOYER."

WM. PAULEY, Brigadier General Commandant Troops.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

WHATEVER they may say at Brooke's (by-the-by, the fact that this once-celebrated Club have now but two candidates on their list, while the Travellers' or the Athenæum have their thousand or fifteen hundred aspirants, looks like one of those shadows which coming events throw before them) the meeting at the London Tavern, on Saturday last, was a serious sign of the times—a noteworthy mark of the present tendency of public opinion. It is true that the Barings, the Huths, the Rothschilds were not present, any more than the representatives of the great metropolitan banking firms; but every one knows that the natural tactics of the leading men in any line or profession is not to originate a movement, but to keep themselves in a neutral position until it has acquired a certain impetus, when, without a risk of failure, they may answer to the call which is sure to be made to them, to head the rising party. There is no great gallantry in this course of action, but plenty of selfish, common-sensical discretion, which, as it is by no means forgotten in St. James's, is very sure to be remembered in Lothbury or Lombard-street. But many of the speakers, though of the second rank in City estimation, were such as would rank as merchant princes in any other country; and, even setting aside their financial position, there was that in what they said which should win respect from thoughtful hearers or readers. Here were set of men—merchants, stockbrokers, ship-owners, attorneys—assembled; none of them, assuredly, though there were several high Tories among them, had any aristocratic tendencies or connections; and the object of their assembling was to oppose a system, which, right or wrong, they believed to be of aristocratic foundation. Suppose a similar meeting anywhere but in England—or, indeed, anywhere almost in England except in the City of London—what a deal of treble-X Liberal declamation—of tirades about Lord This's game preserving—of Lord That's son in the Excise—of Lady So-and-so's exclusive dealing—with a sprinkling of references to the Gracchi, to Brutus, or to Washington one would have been compelled to hear! On the contrary, whether from being better informed or better tempered, the London traders on Saturday spoke of none of these things. With the exception of showing some amount of dislike for Lord Palmerston's light way of treating serious matters not, as his best friends will admit, altogether unreasonable—the weight of attack fell, not on the aristocracy, but on the electors—the shopkeepers, tenant-farmers, yeomen, the middle class generally, of England. Is not this blame deserved? Is it not a fact that in almost every borough or county the man of high connections or of local influence has an enormous preponderance at election time over the mere possessor of talent and information? So the House of Commons is constituted—bankers, shipowners, great landed proprietors, cotton-spinners, or their sons or nominees, together with a large infusion of lawyers, who have managed at sessions or assizes to conciliate the good will of a popular attorney or wealthy banker, and who look upon the couple of thousands spent in securing their return as so much money invested on the chance of an Attorney-Generalship, or a seat in Bankruptcy at the least; and, here and there, perhaps a man or two whose brains are his chief claim to membership. It is hard to blame a Minister for choosing in such a medium his subordinates chiefly from the aristocratic classes. In the first place, he knows them usually, and can judge them best; and secondly, they have leisure, which the great City man has not. The great merchants, bankers, railway-men, can't afford to take office, on account of the magnitude of their private concerns; the second-rate people of the same kind are generally not fit for it; the lawyers, indeed, take very good care that no Minister shall ignore their claims, but their zeal for improvement usually ends with their first appointment; and as for the mere men of talent, they are so completely *rari nantes in gurgite vasto* that to Ministerial eyes, perhaps, they may be invisible. One fault in the ordinary governmental arrangements of late years most of the speakers insisted upon, as it seems to us with equal force and justice, of which certainly the Minister of the day must bear the blame—is that of making appointments as if each member of a Government was indifferently fit for every office. Of late, for instance, there has been a regular ministerial country-dance—Diplomacy possessing with the Colonies, the India Board and the Admiralty changing hands, and so on. Now, it may be admitted, for the sake of argument (which is admitting a great deal), that all the Ministers are equally fit legislatively, under the check of Council-board conversation, for all the offices, but it is quite impossible that they should be so administratively. We don't see how possibly a man can be equally good at the Board of Control as at the Admiralty, or as at—for the Foreign-office as for the Home Department, any more than we can believe that the "heavy father" could be prudently translated to the "light comedy business," or the first tragedy lady set to do the chamber-maids.

The trial of the assassin Pianori has come to a conclusion, and the only possible verdict has been recorded. The most important fact that came out, beyond what was stated in the indictment, was, that Pianori was a notorious assassin who had escaped from the galleys in Rome. We read in the daily newspapers that the presiding Judge, M. Partarieu Lafosse, disliking to see a Court of Justice, on a great and solemn occasion, presenting the appearance of an Opera on a benefit night, refused to grant tickets of admission to ladies, to the great disappointm ent of hundreds of fair applicants. Well done, M. Partarieu Lafosse!

The last news from the Crimea is highly encouraging, and the more so because its entire exactitude is now corroborated by a Russian despatch. The French have effected a lodgment in the Russian fortifications. In an ordinarily fortified town this would be the immediate prelude before the reduction of the place; but, from the peculiar character of the Russian defences, it is here only a step in that direction. It is a step, however, and a long one. We may feel assured that the next fortnight will bring us news of the gravest interest. For one, I have much confidence.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.
THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH: My Lords, I rise to give notice that on Monday next I shall move—

"That a humble address be presented to her Majesty,

"To assure her Majesty of our continued support in the prosecution of the most vigorous and necessary measures which her Majesty is engaged in.

"To declare the sincere gratification with which we have regarded the perfect community of counsels between her Majesty and the Emperor of the French, and have seen it so ably established and increasing between the French people and our own—events full of hope for the future to other nations as well as to ourselves.

"To express our admiration of the many deeds of valour by which the Allied forces in the East have illustrated their brotherhood in arms, and our satisfaction that the brave Army of Piedmont is now called on to participate in their actions and in their fame.

"To declare our persuasion that, amidst all their disappointments, the people of this country still retain the generous feelings which led them at the commencement of the war willingly to place at the disposal required from them at her Majesty's disposal; that they will still protect the weak against the aggression of the strong, and that they are not prepared to consent that Russia shall, by increasing preponderance, so control the Turkish Government as practically to hold Constantinople within her grasp.

"To acquaint her Majesty, that while we admit and lament the privations to which war necessarily subjects all classes of the people, we yet venture to assure her Majesty that they would, in so just a cause, bear the privations without complaint if they could feel that the war had been well conducted, that the troops had not been exposed to any hardships which could have been avoided or forefended, and that everything had been done to enable them to achieve decisive success.

Humbly to represent to her Majesty that her people, suffering privations on account of this war, have, as yet, had no such consolation; but, on the contrary, we cannot withhold from her Majesty the avowal of our conviction, that the conduct of the war has occasioned general dissatisfaction, and giving rise to just complaints, and that we respectfully, humbly lay before her Majesty our deliberate opinion that it is only through the selection of men for public employment, without regard to anything but the public service, that the country can hope to be prosecute the war successfully, and to attain its only legitimate object—a secure and honourable peace.

ARMY REFORM.

Lord PANMURE: My Lords, I must inform you that it was my intention to have submitted to your Lordships on Monday next a plan for the consolidation of the civil departments of the army; but, inasmuch as the debate upon the noble Earl's notice is likely to occupy the whole of this evening, I shall postpone my notice until Thursday week.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH: That will be Ascension day.

Lord PANMURE: Then let the notice stand for Friday week

THE CRIMEAN MEDAL.

Lord VIVIAN wished to inquire of his noble friend what had been the cause of the delay in issuing the medals for the battles of the Alma, Balaclava, and Inkerman. The chances of war had carried off many to their last account, to whom this honour would have been a consolation.

Lord PANMURE said that it took some time to prepare the medals; but he was happy to say that they would be ready in a very short time for distribution to the troops. There was also a higher class of honours for the officers who were engaged in these actions, and no one regretted more than he the lapse of time between the period when these honours had been so gallantly gained, and the present period, when they had at last been assigned. He referred to the honour of the Order of the Bath. He knew no reason why the honour instituted in the Crimea, in order to meet that difficulty, he had some time ago written to Lord Raglan to send him the names of the officers whom he considered to be worthy of the honour.

The Earl of MALMESBURY said that there were several medals now in London which had been found on the Russian soldiers, marked "Inkerman." It was evident, therefore, that in the enemy's country these medals could be made sooner than in this country.

Lord PANMURE said, the Russian medals were prepared at the time, and all that they had to do was to insert the word Inkerman on them.

Lord VIVIAN asked if the noble Lord had had time to receive the list from Lord Raglan?

Lord PANMURE said, he might by this time have received it.

The ALTERATIONS (Scotland) Bill was read a second time.

In answer to a question by Lord St. Leonards, the Lord CHANCELLOR said that the delay in proceeding with the Charitable Trusts Bill was owing to the illness of the Lord President of the Council, who was at the head of the Commission.

The Income-tax Bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.
THE STATE OF THE NATION.

Mr. LAYARD asked the Government whether they could give a day for bringing forward his motion on the state of the nation

Lord PALMERSTON said, he could not give the hon. member a day—he must find a day for himself.

Mr. LAYARD said, he would then take an early day on going into Committee of Supply for bringing forward his resolutions.

NEWSPAPER-STAMP BILL.

On the third reading of the Newspaper stamp Bill,

Mr. HADFIELD complained of the limitation of fifteen days, beyond which stamped newspapers could not pass through the post.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER thought fifteen days was sufficiently wide; though, if the House desired it, he would not hesitate to extend the period to thirty days. He might add that, as soon as this law passed, it was the intention of the Government to establish a cheap postage for printed matter generally.

Mr. BRIGHT objected to the retransmission of newspapers altogether. He hoped that the Government would soon consider the question of the newspaper-stamp with a view to its abolition, as it was a great burthen on those paper makers who lived at a distance from the places where papers were stamped.

Mr. CALLY strongly advocated the retransmission of newspapers, as tending to a great diffusion of knowledge. He had opposed the second reading because, though he believed it would diffuse a great blessing through the country, still he could not consent to purchase that blessing at the expense of existing interests. He was in favour of a copyright in news, and in favour of transmitting the largest-sized newspapers through the post, and he now gave notice that, if newspapers of six ounces weight were not allowed to go through the post for a penny, he would divide the House against the third reading.

Mr. BUTT reminded the House that, in the case of monthly mails to the Colonies, thirteen day newspapers would be excluded from the Colonies altogether. He was, therefore, against the limitation altogether—at least a month ought to be allowed for the retransmission.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER had no objection to make the fortnight limitation apply exclusively to the United Kingdom.

Mr. VANSITTART moved that the bill should be read a third time that day six months. He could not find that anybody thoroughly liked this bill, except the right honourable member for Manchester, and nobody in the country wished for it, while the revenue to be lost was much more than the country could afford.

Mr. LABOUCHERE said he had voted against the second reading of the bill purely on financial grounds, and now that the Budget had been laid before them he would certainly vote for the third reading. He was favourable to the privilege of retransmitting newspapers as a measure likely to encourage the best and ablest papers.

Mr. WHITESIDE had intended to move a clause allowing a newspaper of six ounces in weight to go through the Post for a penny. He wanted to know where it had been proved that the Post-office would have more difficulty in carrying six ounces than four. He believed the great object of the present limitation to four ounces was to injure a particular journal. He wished also to know what the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposed to do with reference to the second point to which his attention had been recalled—viz., that unstamped newspapers should be subjected to the same law as stamped newspapers, in reference to registration and the giving of securities. Under the law as it at present stood, a penny-sheet was at liberty to write what it pleased, while the respectable journalist was obliged to find security. The House might depend upon it that no principle of legislation was so unwise and unsafe as this—that, in order to obtain a general problematical good, they were at liberty to inflict a particular injury. For these reasons he felt that he must oppose the third reading of the bill.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, the hon. and learned member had, to say the least, adopted an unusual course in respect to the bill then before the House. When the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in Committee of the whole House, proposed a clause calculated to give a cheap and speedy remedy to those who suffered from the present state of the law in respect to copyright, the hon. and learned member opposed that clause on grounds which he stated, and now he opposed the third reading on the ground that that clause did not form part of the original bill. He, therefore, was not proposed to do any such thing. The Chancellor of the Exchequer stated to the House when he moved it. He also stated that it was alleged that the Government had taken the interest of existing newspapers, but had proposed a measure which would by most mechanical means, by taking into existence a class of new newspapers which would rely upon the property of existing newspapers, injuring their property, and living upon the division of profits. He did not state that he believed, nor did he believe, that such papers would exist to any considerable extent, and he did believe the House, but he said that if such persons were unfortunate enough to arise, and he stated that the present law of copyright possessed by newspapers had proved ineffectual on the particular occasion, it was natural to suppose that the remedy was ineffectual. He, therefore, proposed a clause which would give an effectual remedy. That clause was fully discussed in the House; it met with little support on either side, so that he did not think himself justified in pressing the matter to a division, being satisfied that the effect of such a division would be the rejection of the clause. Under the circumstances under which that clause was proposed and withdrawn, he did not see that its rejection afforded any reason to the House for dissenting from the third reading of the bill. If the fear entertained by certain gentlemen that the bill would call into existence a large class of piratical newspapers should be realised, it would then be in the power of the House to apply a remedy (Hear, hear, hear). A single and short Act would be quite sufficient for the purpose. If the clause he had already proposed, or somewhat similar to it. He would now merely say a few words with reference to a proposition by the hon. and learned member which stood upon the votes, which was an additional clause, altering the law with respect to supplements. The clause was as follows:—"Every periodical publication that shall be printed and published at intervals not exceeding seven days between the two consecutive parts or numbers of such publication, and the weight of which shall not on the whole exceed six ounces, shall be entitled to the said privileges of transmission and retransmission by the Post, if duly stamped with the appropriate stamp for such publication." He (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) understood that clause to be subject to the rule of superficial inches; so that if a newspaper weighed more than six ounces it should be charged on the rule of surface, and if it weighed less, by the rule of weight. But contingencies might arise, in which it would be impossible to apply any rule. How would the honourable and learned member deal, for instance, with the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, which weighed, on the 1st of April last, 4¼ ounces; on the 8th of April, 8¾ ounces, on the 21st of April, 4½ ounces; and on the 28th, 7½ ounces? The honourable and learned gentleman said, he wished to have a satisfactory answer to the question why an additional duty of one halfpenny should be placed on supplements, when the Post-office could carry six ounces as easily as four ounces, and when four ounces were carried for one penny? But by what means would the honourable and learned member be justified in charging, as at present, one penny on a letter which weighed half an ounce, and twopence for a whole ounce (Hear, hear)? Was it not quite fair to establish for newspapers a rate corresponding to that of letters (Hear, hear). There was, however, this great difference in the two cases, that, whereas a newspaper was allowed to transmit 4 ounces for a penny, letters were charged one penny for only half an ounce. Of all the newspapers carried through the post, the average was 1-10th ounce, whereas the average of letters was less than one-fourth of an ounce. Then, with respect to the proposition of the hon. and learned member, that cheap and unstamped papers should be subject to the same laws as others with respect to registration and security, he did not see that it would be at all necessary to impose those conditions upon penny prints, and the like, published by religious and other societies, and which did not contain news.

Lord PALMERSTON stated that the Speaker was labouring under indisposition, and suggested that the bill should at once be read a third time; that the amendments to be discussed on the question that the bill do pass be adjourned to a future day; and that the House should now go into Committee on the Spirit Duties Bill.

Mr. HERBERT said, there could be not one feeling of sympathy for the Speaker; but he thought it would be better that the debate should be adjourned.

Lord PALMERSTON assented to this, and, on the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer the debate was adjourned till Friday

The House then went into Committee of Supply, when a great many of the Civil Estimates were passed.

APPOINTMENT OF A DEPUTY-SPEAKER.

On the House resuming, about eleven o'clock, the Clerk (Sir D. Le Marchant) read a letter from the Speaker, intimating his deep regret that he was still unable to attend the House; no wonder.

Lord PALMERSTON moved that the resolution of the House in 1839, authorising the appointment of a Deputy-Speaker, should be read.

The resolution was read accordingly, and, in accordance with it, Lord PALMERSTON moved that Mr. Fitzroy, as Chairman of Ways and Means, should act as Deputy-Speaker, which was agreed to amidst general cheering.

Several bills were then advanced a stage.

HOUSE OF LORDS. TUESDAY.

The Plymouth and Stonehouse Gas Bill and the Bangor Markets and Public Institutions Bill were read a second time.

The Belfast and County Down Railway Bill, the Chichester, Stour Valley, Southampton, Hampshire Hills, and Great Western Water Bill, which Wales Northern Railway Bill, Newcastle and Carlisle Railway Bill, Vale of North Railway Bill, Dudley and Worcester Railway Bill, and Woolwich Equitable Gas Bill were read a third time and passed.

THE VIENNA PAPERS.

The Earl of CLARENDON said, he had on the table papers relating to the negotiations at Vienna, to which he hoped to add in a few days the protocols of the Conferences which had been held since Lord John Russell's departure from Vienna.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

In consequence of there not being forty members present at four o'clock, the House stood adjourned to Wednesday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.
MARRIAGES (SCOTLAND) BILL.

Mr. HEADLAM moved the second reading of this bill, the object of which, he said, was to give effect to the principles of the Scotch law, which have become obsolete.

The Lord Advocate had no objection to the principle of the bill; but he very much doubted whether it would do what it professed.

Mr. J. ELLIOTT thought the bill dealt with a great subject in a very petty manner. It would not, he thought, would not render the marriages valid, and would therefore form no real check. He moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time this day six months.

Mr. MALINS seconded the amendment.

Lord LOVAINE supported the bill on the ground that it would preserve the morality of the northern poor, and save them from an amount of misfortune which it was almost impossible to imagine.

Mr. DUNLOP supported the bill.

Mr. WALPOLE would vote for the amendment. He thought that the bill would promote rather than check immorality.

After a short discussion the House divided, when there appeared For the second reading, 46; against it, 143: majority against the second reading, 103. The bill was consequently lost.

ECCLESIASTICAL PROPERTY (IRELAND) BILL.

This bill went through Committee, and Thursday was fixed for the third reading

MARRIAGE LAW AMENDMENT BILL

Sir W. HEATHCOTE resumed the debate on this subject, adjourned from the 25th April. The hon. Baronet opposed the bill upon the principle of disinclination of taking upon himself any responsibility of the passing of such a measure, and therefore supported the amendment.

Mr. PHINN supported the bill.

Mr. R. Palmer, Mr Gladstone, and Mr. Spooner, supported the amendment. Mr. Lowe and Mr. Bright spoke in favour of the bill.

Mr. HEYWOOD replied; the House then divided, and the numbers were—For the second reading, 165; against it, 157: majority, 8. The announcement was received with loud cheers. The bill was then read a second time.

The Religious Worship Bill was read a second time.

PRIZE CHILDREN.

A motion for the physical amelioration of the human race has just been made and taken into consideration at the preparatory meeting of the agricultural committee of Givors. Labour is wanting for agricultural purposes, and the physical degeneration of our peasantry is proved by the continually increasing amount of those declared unfit for military service. Doctor Monnaret, a member of the committee, well known for his devotion to everything that concerns the rural population, has paid great attention to this degeneracy of such attributes to the relatively greater mortality of the country over the town in early infancy, and to the desertion of rural labour in after-life for town occupations. Considering that human produce is viewed merely in an industrial light, more important than, and that we ought to take more sanitary care of men than of cattle, he proposes to institute prizes for small proprietors, farmers, farm-servants or labourers, who shall present to the examination of a special jury the finest and best-formed children, between the age of [illegible] years.—*Courrier de Lyon.*

SCARCITY OF HANDS IN RUSSIA. The fine spring weather we have had lately promises well for the crops, but the owners of estates complain sadly of the want of hands to perform the farm work, as the country has been of late so much drained of men for the army. In former years thousands of able-bodied agricultural labourers came down from the provinces of Chaskow, Kaluga, Orel, Neschna, and Kursk, to seek employment. This year but very few have arrived, and they have been all engaged by the Government to assist in the military works of defence above described. The German colonists are best off in this respect. Being exempted from military service, they are permitted to cultivate their lands without interruption. Formerly the Russian workmen came to them to seek employment. At present they are wanted here by the German farmers to assist in tilling the fields of the latter, who are glad to obtain the use of their services under any conditions.—*Letter from Odessa.*

Madame Selvage, formerly a Lady of Honour to Queen Hortense, has just died at Rome, and left all her property to Napoleon III. M. Casabianca, the brother of the Minister, and agent for the Imperial estates in Italy, has received orders to proceed to Rome, and take legal possession of the property.

It turns out that, in addition to the skeleton of St. Felix the Martyr, sent to the Queen of Spain by the Pope, and to that of the same saint which previously existed in a church in Andalusia, there is also one in the Hermitage of the Virgin, near Manzanares.

THE SILENT MEMBER. (No. XVI.)

There is, at all events, one branch of the public service in which the demand for Administrative Reform has been anticipated, and where the right man will be found in the right place—in the person of Mr. Rowland Hill, the Secretary to the Post-office. When I say that he is exactly in the right place I am not sure that I am doing him full justice, for I know no reason why he should not be at the very head of that department, to which he has rendered the most signal services. It is customary to make the office of Postmaster-General a political post, but there seems to be no good reason why the man who has shown the highest ability in the management of the department should not be at the top of it. Unless Lord Canning is an abler man than Mr. Rowland Hill, why should the former occupy the place of Postmaster-General, while the latter acts as Secretary? and why, in fact, should it always be thought necessary to have a gilt top to the staff—an expensive article for show rather than for use—in all our public departments? My attention has been called to this subject by the perusal of an admirable report from the Post-office, which seems to me to bear the stamp of Rowland Hill, though it bears the signature of Canning. If I am doing an injustice to the latter I shall be glad to be set right, but, if the Secretary has had a principal hand in framing the report, I think he ought to have the credit due to the production. It gives a very interesting account of the progress of our postal arrangements, from the earliest period at which they were commenced, and shows how one great idea—the acceleration of the mails—was due to Mr. Palmer, the manager of the theatre at Bath; while another still greater idea—the uniform Penny Postage—is known to have emanated from Mr. Rowland himself; so that the two most important steps in Post-office reform were the work of men who were wholly without official experience. This was pretty sure to be the case under the old system of patronage, which gave appointments in the public service as the rewards of political pliancy; and when the heads of public departments were disposed to awaken rather than to encourage any zeal or ability that might be manifested among the subordinates. It has been the fashion to put down as "troublesome" the clerk who might presume to suggest any improvement in the mode of doing the business he is engaged to perform; and hence there has grown up an apathy among the members of the Civil Service, who have felt a chilling sense of the uselessness of any attempt to stir out of the ruts of routine in which they are doomed to travel. The Post-office may claim the distinguished honour of being the first of the public departments which has begun to set its own house in order before the hands of Administrative Reform have been laid on it. Nor can it be said that the threat of an approaching interference has been the cause of the improvements that have been made, for it is about a year ago that several very important changes were effected in the internal administration of the affairs of the Post-office. Arrangements were some time since proposed by which a more liberal treatment of those employed in the department might be adopted, with a view to encourage zeal and promote efficiency; and it must be said, to the credit of the Treasury, that the means were readily granted for carrying out the objects desired. The report just issued by the Post-office will, I hope, be the precursor of similar reports from other public departments, all of which may be improved by the very wholesome habit of giving periodically account of their stewardship

One would imagine that the House of Commons must be illuminated by laughing gas, so powerful is the propensity to laughter which the men here appear to labour under. It would be disrespectful to the House to refer its continual merriment to the fact that "weak minds are easily amused," and it must therefore be assumed that the Legislature is suffering from fits of involuntary merriment. The most curious feature of the disease is its tendency to break out under the most naturally depressing circumstances, for there are sure to be the greatest number of "laughs" in the House of Commons on those nights when the disagreeable communications, or the still more disagreeable confessions of having no communication to make at all, on the part of the Government, are most numerous. It is, undoubtedly, a peculiarity of the weakest and worst side of human nature to laugh at the difficulties and distresses of others; but the House of Commons cannot so far separate its sympathies from the nation at large as to be able to laugh the more as multiplied as the public disasters are multiplied. I am, therefore, disposed to regard the mirth of the House of Commons under the present gloomy aspect of our national affairs as somewhat hysterical, and the laughter which greets the appearance of Lord Palmerston must be the result of some fearful fascination, connected with the idea that he has something alarming to communicate.

Louis Napoleon has shown his wisdom in the mode he has adopted for bringing to justice the Italian who shot at him. The very short work that was made of the trial of this man offers little encouragement to those who are tempted by vanity to commit a crime which generally gives great prominence and some political interest to the person of the criminal. The exclusion of the crowd of ladies whom a prurient curiosity would have attracted to the Court was another admirable mode of divesting the affair of those accessories which, in the distorted views of some weak-minded persons, tend to alleviate the position of the assassin, and render it one to be endured, if not to be positively desired. The lesson will not be lost, it is to be hoped, on those ministers of justice in this country who sometimes have allowed the bench to be degraded by the admission of privileged friends, including, frequently, a large proportion of what are called "gentlewomen," who come to enjoy the not very gentle or womanly satisfaction of staring at a murderer, or some other notorious criminal. The example which has arisen out of a piece of political expediency will, I hope, henceforth be followed as a matter of good taste; and it will be for the first magistrate who happens to have a great criminal before him to refuse to allow his court to be turned into an exhibition, by permitting the prisoner to be "on view," except so far as the publicity of the administration of justice may require.

Nothing is known at the moment at which I write as to the fate of the criminal, whose antecedents, as they appear by intelligence from Rome, say nothing in his favour. If what has been stated is true, he has more than once committed crimes to which the law attaches the punishment of death; though, in the absence of any reason for his not having been executed, the fact of his being alive may give a *prima facie* validity to his denial of the crimes he is said to have already committed. In our Courts of Law we should require some stronger proof of a previous conviction than a telegraphic message from even such a source of infallibility as Rome, and, moreover, all the numerous hands through which such a message must have passed are not recognised even in Rome as exempt from the possibility of error. This accumulation of guilt by electric telegraph on the head of the attempted assassin is somewhat superfluous, for the crime of which he has been found guilty is quite bad enough to show that he deserves the highest penalty the law can inflict, and to make it an act of grace to spare his life, should such be the course adopted by the Emperor.

The ill effects of the practice of licensing prisoners have been shown, in a minor degree, by the recent insurbordination of the Russians at Lewes, who have been petted and pampered until they have become too idle to work, and too insolent to obey the rules of necessary discipline. At one time it was feared that their position would be reversed, with reference to the prison authorities, at Lewes, who were very nearly being held in captivity by the captives. The little incident that has occurred will, it is to be hoped, remind some of those who indulge in the dissipation of fancy philanthropy that "charity begins at home," and that a taste for alleviating the sufferings of prisoners may be gratified in a very legitimate mode by visiting the gaols, and administering comfort, in various ways, to many of the unfortunate inmates.

DESPATCH FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, May 7, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B

Before Sebastopol, April 24, 1855

My Lord,—Nothing material has occurred since I made my report to your Lordship on the 21st instant.

The Russian rifle-pit, immediately in front of that which was taken on the night of the 19th, was destroyed by a party of volunteers on the morning of the 20th instant. These were headed by Lieutenant and Adjutant Walker, of the 30th Regiment, who is stated to be an excellent officer, and to have conducted himself on the occasion in the most spirited manner. The pit was found to be empty, and, being useless, was immediately levelled and filled in. The enemy did not interrupt the work.

I enclose the list of casualties, which, I regret to say, is heavy. The nearer we approach the place the more loss is to be apprehended. Hitherto it has been less than might have been expected.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c., &c., &c.

RETURNS OF KILLED AND WOUNDED.

Officers who have been Wounded from the 20th to 22nd April, inclusive. 42nd Foot Lieut.-Colonel R. A. Sheerman, slightly

Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates Killed from the 20th to 22nd April, inclusive 17th Foot: Private Charles Elgginson. 41st Private William Maitland 49th: Private Michael Kelly 57th: Private Alexander Graham and Foster Murray. 63rd: Private John [illegible] Royal Artillery Sergeant James Beatty

Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates Wounded from the 20th to 22nd April, inclusive 5th Foot. Private Richard Cave, slightly 19th. Private James Donnelly, severely (since dead). 38th: Lance-Corporal James Mullens slightly, Privates William Atkinson [illegible] Ingram, slightly 41st: Corporals Samuel Allen, severely; James Davies [illegible] John Burke, dangerously, since dead, William Coughlan, severely [illegible] Gerrard, Christopher Morgan, and Martin Rogan, slightly; James Renwick, dangerously. 47th: Privates Patrick Kane, John Henry, John Mahon, Patrick Sandford, Henry Turner, and Robert Skinner, slightly. 49th: Sergeant Henry Gleed, severely 57th: Privates Michael Derrick, slightly; James Barry and John [illegible] severely. 63rd. Private John Treacy, severely. Private Thomas Kemp, [illegible] Private William Fairley, dangerously; Sergeant Alexander M'Clay, [illegible] Private Edward Curtain, dangerously; John Pasfield slightly 77th: Privates [illegible] Nicholls, dangerously. 89th Private Moses Jones, slightly [illegible] Samuel Buckley, slightly. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: [illegible] slightly; Privates Wm. Perkins, Robert Hampston, and John Twigge, slightly; Henry Arritt and Thomas Flynn, severely

Return of Casualties in the Royal Naval Brigade, before Sebastopol, from April 21st to 23rd, inclusive.—*Wounded*: George Hogle, A.B., Rodney, slightly; John Collins, Pilot, London, slightly. *Contused*: Lieut. A. A. Douglas, R.M.A., slightly; Edward Smith, A.B., Leander, slightly; Jeremiah Mooney, Ord., Rodney, slightly, John Gordon, Ord., Queen, slightly

THE RECONNAISSANCE ON THE 21st OF APRIL.

On the morning of the 19th ult. orders were sent to the head-quarters of the Heavy Cavalry Brigade and to the C troop of the Royal Horse Artillery, to be in readiness to turn out at daybreak, and the 10th Hussars (Brigadier-General Parlby, of the Light Cavalry, in temporary command of the Cavalry Division, during General Scarlett's absence) received similar instructions. The Chasseurs d'Afrique and a French rocket troop, for mountain service, accompanied the reconnaissance, and rendered excellent service during the day The Heavy Cavalry Brigade, consisting of the remnants of the 1st Royals, Scots Greys, Inniskillings, 4th (Royal Irish) Dragoon Guards, and 5th (Princess Charlotte's) Dragoon Guards, turned out about five o'clock, and, with the 10th Hussars in advance, proceeded into the plain of Balaclava, the heights over which were already crowned by the Turkish infantry to the number of some 6000 or 7000 men, and before seven o'clock the whole of the troops were in motion towards Kamara. The Chasseurs d'Afrique were in advance, with a line of skirmishers spread out in front of the little expedition. The French Rocket Troop and C Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, and the 10th Hussars and Heavy Cavalry Brigade covered the advance of the infantry; and, as the morning was fine and clear, the sight presented by the troops as seen advancing across the plain from the heights was very beautiful. So little was known about the reconnaissance, that many officers at head quarters were not aware of it till they learnt that Lord Raglan, attended by a few members of the Staff, and followed by only six orderlies, had started to overtake the troops. A great number of amateurs, forming clouds of very irregular cavalry, followed and preceded the expedition. His Excellency the Pacha, who was attended by his Staff, by Bonaparte Pacha (Colonel Cannon), and several Turkish officers of rank, had the control of the force.

The Turks marched in dense columns, bristling with steel, and the sunlight, flashing on the polished barrels of their firelocks and on their bayonets, relieved the sombre hue of the mass; for their dark blue uniforms, with little relieved by facings or gay shoulder-straps and cuffs, look quite black when the men are together. The Chasseurs d'Afrique, clad in light blue jackets, with white cartouch belts, and in bright red pantaloons, mounted on white Arabs, caught the eye, like a bed of flowers scattered over the plain. Nor did the rich verdure indeed require any such borrowed beauty, for the soil produces an abundance of wild flowering shrubs and beautiful plants. Dahlias, anemones, sweetbriar, whitethorn, wild parsley, mint, thyme, sage, asparagus, and a hundred other citizens of the vegetable kingdom spring up all over the plain; and, as the Turkish infantry moved along, their feet crushed the sweet flowers, and the air was filled with delicate odours, which overcame the sweltering atmosphere around the column. Regular patches of long, rank, rich grass, waving high above the more natural green meadow, marked the mounds where the slain of the 25th of October are reposing for ever, and the snorting horse refuses to eat the unwholesome shoots. As the force moved on evidences of that fatal and glorious day became thick and painful. The skeleton of an English dragoon, said to be one of the Royals, lay still extended on the plain, with tattered bits of red cloth hanging to the bones of his arms. All the buttons had been cut off the jacket. The man must have fallen early in the day, when the Heavy Cavalry were close up to Canrobert's-hill, and came under the fire of the Russian artillery. There was also a Russian skeleton close at hand in ghastly companionship.

Not the least interesting part of the spectacle was furnished by the relics of the Heavy Cavalry Brigade passing over the scene of their grand encounter with the Muscovite cavalry. Scots Greys and Inniskillingers, Royals, 4th Dragoon Guards, and 5th Dragoon Guards, all had been there; and the survivors might well feel proud when they thought of that day. These regiments were not large bodies, and some of them, indeed, were not nearly equal in strength to a troop on war footing, for some of their men have been sent away for remount horses (a proceeding which strikes a civilian as rather curious, seeing that the horses might as well, one would think, have been brought up to them), and others of the men who were left have no horses to mount. The 10th Hussars were conspicuous for the soldierly and efficient look of the men, and the fine condition of their light sinewy and showy horses. As the force descended into the plain they exceeded their right flank, and marched towards Kamara, spreading across the ground in front of Canrobert's-hill from No. 2 Turkish Redoubt up to the slope which leads to the ruined village. A party of Turkish infantry followed the cavalry in skirmishing order, and on approaching the village the column immediately in their rear halted, and Bono Johnny proceeded with great activity to cover the high wooded hill which overhangs the village to the right. This they did without resistance, as the few Cossacks in the village had abandoned it after firing a few straggling shots at the advanced skirmishers. One body of them had been so completely taken by surprise that he left his lance leaning against a wall. An officer of the 71st espied it just as the Cossack was making a bolt back for it. They both rode their best, but the Briton was first, and carried off the lance in triumph, while the Cossack retreated with effective pantomime, representing rage and despair.

As soon as the Turks on the right had gained the summit of the hill above Kamara three of the columns advanced and took possession of the ruins, and then drew up on the slope in front of the church. A few men were sent further on towards Baidar, but could see no enemy; and they contented themselves with burning a building which the Cossacks had left standing, the smoke from which led to the belief that a little skirmish was going on among the hills. Meantime the great bulk of the force, leaving three columns halted at Kamara, marched on past Canrobert's-hill, the sides of which are covered with the wigwams of the Russians—some recent, others those which were partially burnt when Liprandi retired last year. They passed by the old Turkish redoubts, Nos. 1 and 2, towards a very steep and rocky conical hill covered with loose stones, near the top of which the Russians threw up a wall of rubbish, about 2½ feet high. A group of Cossacks and some Russian officers had assembled on the top of this hill to examine the strength of the Allies and watch their movements. As the Turkish skirmishers advanced, the French Rocket Troop accompanied them. The Turks ascended the hill with ardour and with great agility, firing their pieces as they advanced, to which the Cossacks replied by a petty fusillade. Suddenly an arch of thick white smoke rises from the ground with a fierce, hissing, rushing noise, and throws itself like a great snake towards the crest of the hill—as it flies onward the smoke disappears and the fiery trail is lost; but in a second a puff of smoke bursts out with a slight explosion on the hill top, and the Cossacks and Russians disappear with precipitation. In fact, the French had begun their rocket practice with great accuracy and success. Nothing can be better for such work as this than these light rocket troops. The apparatus is simple and portable—a few mules, with panniers on each side, carry the whole of the tubes, cases, sticks, fuses, &c.; and the effect of rockets, though uncertain, is very great, especially against irregular and ill-disciplined cavalry. The skirmishers now crowned the hill side, and the generals and officers of the Staff, and numerous idlers and amateurs followed them. The Russians rode rapidly down the hill side, and crossed the Tchernaya by the bridge, and at one or two fords near Tchorgoun. Omer Pacha, Lord Raglan, and the French Generals then spent some time in surveying the country, while the troops were halted in the rear, the artillery and cavalry first, supported by four battalions of Egyptians. At two o'clock the reconnaissance was over, and the troops slowly retired to the Camp; the skirmishers of the French cavalry being followed by the Cossacks at a prudent distance, and exchanging long shots with them from time to time. Before the troops moved off the ground the 10th Hussars filed past Omer Pacha, who seemed very much gratified and pleased at the appearance of men and horses. He then inspected his own battalions, and on the march homeward followed the Turks, moving off in good style to the music of their own bands, to the great distress of those who heard them. Altogether, the reconnaissance was a most welcome and delightful interlude in the dull, monotonous "performance" of the siege.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

Infantry Regiments of the line on home service, and regiments of militia serving in the Colonies, are to be supplied with twelve Minié rifles per company, and militia regiments doing duty within the United Kingdom four per company, for the purpose of instructing the men in the use of that weapon.

It is understood to be the intention of the British and French Governments to send a strong force of artillery and infantry to assist in the operations about to be resumed against the Russian fortresses in the Gulfs of Finland and Bothnia, and the Baltic. It is stated that the expedition will number 25,000 men, France supplying the greater portion; but, as a set-off, the British Government is to increase the naval forces, and to furnish the tonnage for the conveyance of the troops, which will embark sufficiently early to reach the scene of operations before the ice breaks up. The British will embark at Leith, and the French at Brest or Bordeaux.

It is intended to augment the army in the Crimea by two regiments of cavalry of 700 sabres each, and five battalions of infantry, each mustering 1200 bayonets; making a total of 7400 cavalry and infantry. In addition to the above, the horse brigade, siege, and field trains of the Royal Artillery are to be increased; and the line regiments in the Mediterranean and Ionian Islands will proceed to join the army in the East. It has not yet been officially announced what regiments are to be placed under orders for active service; but it is believed that the 3rd Light Dragoons, quartered in Manchester, and the 7th Hussars, at York, will form the cavalry reinforcements, and that the infantry will consist of the 51st King's Own Light Infantry, from Manchester; 50th Foot, from Fort George; 82nd Foot, from Edinburgh; 94th Foot, from Windsor; and the 3rd battalion of the Rifle Brigade (newly raised), from Portsmouth.

The importance of the fleet of screw gun-boats is being daily recognised. It is now determined to increase the number, so that both fleets in the Baltic and Black Seas shall have a squadron of these powerful little "sharpshooters."

Twelve additional companies of the Royal Artillery have been placed under orders to hold themselves in readiness to embark for the seat of war in the East.

An order has been received at the Royal Arsenal to send out immediately to the Crimea 20,000 shells—10,000 13-inch shells, and 10,000 10-inch shells. The order was received at Woolwich within twenty-four hours from leaving Sebastopol.

In addition to Aldershot, which is to accommodate 10,000 men, several other encampments on a minor scale are to be formed; namely, one at Haverfordwest, capable of accommodating 1084 men; one at Exeter, for 2453 men; one at Gloucester, for 2836 men; one at Colchester, for 3292 men; and one at Shorncliff, for 3813 men. These encampments will be appropriated principally to the militia that cannot be accommodated in barracks.

The Foreign Legion.—The Foreign Legion is to be immediately enrolled, and will be organised with the utmost expedition. The men will assemble in Heligoland and at Shorncliff, near Dover; and it is expected that 4000 so embodied will be ready for active service in about six weeks. This appears an incredibly short space of time, but it arises from the fact of there being scarcely a man enlisted who has not already completed three years service in his own country. They are entirely Germans, and are taken principally from amongst the artistical or mechanical classes of the community. The officers, particularly the juniors, are also Germans. Some of the superior officers are English, whose former service has recommended them to the notice of the War Minister. The Baron de Stutte rheim, who is employed to organise the force, is an officer of high distinction; and like Colonel Woolridge, who is to command a brigade, is also one of General Evans's officers, Colonel Kirkock, appointed to be inspector of the force, is one of the late British Legion officers.

Telegraphic orders reached Sheerness on Monday for the gunboats *Cracker*, *Climker*, *Fancy*, and *Bozer* to get up steam and proceed immediately for Portsmouth *en route* for the Black Sea. They all left on Monday between one and two o'clock p.m.

A large supply of the new regulation sword-bayonet has been received into the ordnance stores in the Tower. This weapon is for the use of the rifle regiments; it is intended to supersede the old bayonet, and, when attached to a rifle, the two together will be precisely the same length as an infantry musket with a fixed bayonet; so that the riflemen will be placed on an equality with a battalion soldier when fighting in line or exposed singly to an enemy. The length of the sword-bayonet is thirty inches from the guard to the point; the blade is straight for twelve inches, when it assumes the shape of an ancient falchion, slightly curved, and with edges on either side.

Medicine-chest for the Army.—Messrs. Savory and Moore have just produced a medicine-chest, intended for the use of the Army, which is well worthy of notice, on account of its portable nature, and the comprehensive and orderly arrangement of its contents. The medicine-chest commonly used by the Army surgeons is a bulky, cumbrous affair, and, as in a midshipman's chest, everything is uppermost and nothing at hand. Savory and Moore's new medicine-chest may with convenience be carried on the back of a mule. The compartment which contains the lint, bandages, and dressings, required as a short notice on the field of battle, can be unslipped, and carried with ease to any spot where it may be required; and another compartment contains a lantern which can be fixed by a spike on the ground.

A Brave Bugler.—After the funeral of Colonel Egerton Lord Raglan paid a visit to the hospital of the 77th Regiment. On the way, one of the regimental buglers, named M'Gill, was introduced to his Lordship's notice. The young soldier had particularly distinguished himself on the night of the attack. He was one of the first in the ambuscade, and, having marked a Russian bugler there, he selected him for his antagonist, as if it were his particular vocation to attack a man of his own calling before any other. Although the Russian had the advantage in size, M'Gill knocked him over, and eventually succeeded in securing him as a prisoner. He also carried off his bugle as a trophy; but after a hard struggle, for the Russian warmly contested the own right to this property. This trophy he had now the honour of exhibiting to Lord Raglan, and on being desired to sound some of the notes of the bugle, he at once gave the "Pas de Charge." The instrument has a shriller tone than the English bugle, is small and portable, and has engraved on the bell the Russian imperial arms. In the struggle with the Russian bugler M'Gill inflicted a severe sword wound on a Russian soldier who came to the rescue, and afterwards, having placed his prisoner in safe keeping, remained by his Colonel's side till he fell.—*Letter from the Camp.*

The Revolt in the Ukraine.—Private letters from St. Petersburg confirm the telegraphic announcement of the insurrection of the peasants in the Ukraine; and state, further, that it has already extended to the Governments of Poltowa, Tchernigoff, and Kharkoff. The names of twenty landed proprietors whom the maddened mobs have destroyed, together with their wives and children, have reached St. Petersburg. M. Poletica, one of the richest proprietors in the government of Tchernigoff, was burnt alive in his country house at Belzer.

Present Strength of Russia in the Crimea.—The military correspondent of the *Augsburg Gazette* writes from the Polish frontier that the reinforcements received by the Russian Commanders in the west of the Crimea since the battle of Inkerman bear no proportion to those which have joined the Allies. He says—"Numerically, Omer Pacha's corps alone is almost equal to the entire reinforcements of the Russians. The new Russian troops which have entered the Crimea since the battle just mentioned are the following: the 3rd Brigade of the Thirteenth Reserve Infantry Division, and the two Brigades of the Fourteenth Reserve Infantry Division, forming together twelve battalions, or at most eleven; further, the Ninth Infantry Division, at present near Perekop, and numbering possibly 10,000 men. These and a Greek volunteer battalion make up the reinforcements of the Russian infantry, since the battle of Inkerman, for the remainder of the Second Infantry Corps, regarded by some journals as having marched to the Crimea, and the Division of General Wagner, said by the *Austrian Military Gazette* to be in the Valley of Baidar, are not there, the second corps, in fact, is still in Poland. Before the battle of Inkerman the Russians had no more than 70,000 infantry in the Crimea; at the present moment they should have about 90,000. The cavalry force which has joined the Russian army as at the battle of Inkerman consists of six regular regiments. If we reckon the crews of the ships at 8000, and the Tchernomoreskischen battalions at 6000, the Rifles, Sappers, Engineers, and Artillery at 15,000; and the cavalry, regular and irregular, at 20,000—the Russian army at Perekop, Eupatoria, and near Sebastopol will number about 140,000 men."

SKETCHES FROM THE WAR.

SEBASTOPOL, FROM THE VICTORIA REDOUBT.

We now engrave the pair of Sketches described in our Artist's letter last week. First is a view of Sebastopol, from the sketcher's right, near the Victoria Redoubt, a little to the left of Inkerman. To the extreme left is represented an explosion of a powder-magazine, which unfortunately occurred when our Artist was making his sketch. Two men were killed, and nine or ten wounded.

Among the late details of the first locality, it is stated that the English were engaged in pushing an advanced work beyond the now old-advanced parallel. The zigzags for this advance, from the extreme left of Gordon's Battery and from the right, form the advanced work near the Mamelon, and were within sixty yards of the Malakoff Tower on the right, and on the left within one hundred of the Redan. This is as far as they are at present intended to be taken, and the working parties were forming the parallel across which is to connect the approaches from the right and left.

The second Sketch is from the left, *Maison d'Observation*, or *Maison Blanche*, as it is sometimes called. At the end of the house, just above the garden wall, may be seen the Telegraph.

Our own Correspondent writes:—"Camp, near Sebastopol, April 28.—On Monday evening a Russian powder magazine on the left of the Malakoff (mortar battery) blew up, and the enemy ceased firing for nearly an hour. On Tuesday night an immense deal of musketry was heard on the left; our allies kept it up in order to prevent the Russians from advancing to retake a rifle-pit; but at daybreak on the following morning the firing from the French had nearly ceased, the enemy advanced in overpowering force, and our allies were obliged to retire. The general opinion is, that in about eight or ten days we open fire once more. At present the firing is very slack. Yesterday we had a grand review of Bosquet's Division, 40,000 men, and to-day that of Pelissier's, of about 30,000 to 35,000. Lady Stratford and her daughters were present."

SEBASTOPOL, FROM THE MAISON D'OBSERVATION.

OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

"WAITING FOR THE GUNS."—PAINTED BY J. W. BOTTOMLEY.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

NEVER has the public been more divided about the merits and appearance of an Exhibition than they are now divided about the Exhibition opened to the public in Trafalgar-square on Monday last. If the Private View on Friday was somewhat thinly attended, and the people present somewhat guarded in their words of commendation, the Public Opening on Monday was a striking contrast, from its unpleasant overcrowding, and the marked freedom of the criticisms expressed pretty loudly on the general merits of the Exhibition and the relative excellence of particular works of art. To get near to certain pictures by artists of known reputation was, on Monday last, a difficulty not to be described; to see them was simply an impossibility. The greatest crowds were before Mr. Maclise's "Orlando," Mr. Millais' "Rescue," and Mr. Leighton's "Procession." Mr. Betts is the fortunate owner of the Maclise; Mr. Joseph Arden is the lucky possessor of the Millais, and her Majesty the tasteful purchaser of the Leighton, for the sum of six hundred pounds.

The walls exhibit a fearful increase of portraits, one or two of outrageous dimensions, and, worse still, reveal at every turn a most unfair distribution of the best places. A worse cited never parted. "Hanging Committee" has not been seen since the public began to take an interest in the management of the Academy. The members composing it should be known. The Committee consists of three Academicians, and on this occasion Mr. Abraham Cooper, Mr. Herbert, and Mr. Lee were the three artists entrusted with this responsible and delicate duty. Their own pictures are, of course, in the very best places. This is not unnatural; but what shall we say of men who place on the floor Mr. Faed's "Mitherless Bairn," and hang all but out of sight Mr. Solomon's touching and carefully-painted "Contrast"!

Some of the best of our living artists are, unfortunately, either absentees or exhibitors of works on a very small scale. We allude to S[illegible] Mr. E. M. Ward, Mr. Frith, Mr. Frost, and Mr. Holman Hunt. Sir [illegible] has not even a dog's head. Mr. Dyce is content with a very small study in the

"AN AVENUE IN HATFIELD PARK."—PAINTED BY H. [illegible]

style of early Italian art. The pre-Raphaelites are not in force; indeed, there seems to have been a kind of war against them, and critics who dislike their manner point with a sneer of triumph at their absence, and the revival of true art in the person of Mr. Leighton.

Notwithstanding the alleged inferiority of the present Exhibition over many that we can call to mind, we have endeavoured—and are still endeavouring—to represent some of the finest of its treasures by the art of engraving on wood. It is with pleasure we announce, therefore, that we have now in Fine Arts Supplement in active preparation. In this Supplement we shall engrave not only some of the choicest pictures in the Royal Academy Exhibition, but some of the very best examples of art to be seen in the Water-Colour Societies. We have had every assistance, and no expense or pains will be spared in making our Supplement worthy of the subject and the age.

In the meantime we have chosen two pictures for this week's paper; two that will render no bad foretaste of what is coming, but will supply at the same time marked examples of the injustice rendered to artists by the Hanging Committee. Mr. Jutsum's exquisite "Avenue in Hatfield-park" (No. 1369) is one of the hidden treasures of the Octagon Room; and Mr. Bottomley's carefully-finished "Waiting for the Guns" (No. 793) is one of the cornice decorations of the room devoted to miniatures. Mr. Jutsum has painted a English landscape with a fine eye for the beauties of landscape nature; and Mr. Bottomley has caught an incident in English sporting life with the skill of an true artist and the fidelity of an eager sportsman.

EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

The Fifty-first Exhibition of the Parent Society of Water-Colour Art is one of the very best that the society has had for many years. This was not, indeed, to have been expected, considering what losses by death the society has of late sustained. First, Dewint was removed from our midst, and we missed his Lincolnshire rivers and delightful hayfields; then Prout was no longer a living master in the flesh, and we missed his quaint German market-places, filled with people dressed as quaintly; and now the winter of this year has carried Copley Fielding to Hove churchyard, and the air of the Sussex Downs is no longer to be inhaled in the little gallery in Pall-mall East.

There were yet other causes to lessen expectation. David Cox, that veteran in water-colour art, is no longer young; and last year his works were too blotchy to afford delight; while Joseph Nash, property connected with his well-earned reputation, was lakely, we were told, to leave to younger men his delightful task of peopling Elizabethan interiors with cavaliers and ladies, chambers as old chrpiana, hounds and hawks, and the furniture and accessories true to the time represented.

If these were drawbacks to the success of the approaching entertainment, there were other inducements to make good the shortcomings of the year. Rumour spoke pleasantly of Mr. Topham's great picture, exhibiting delicacy of Andalusia. Mr John Lewis, we were assured, would be found even more exquisitely finished in his details of desert life; and all conversant with art know to what height of perfection he had carried his skill in this particular. Carl Haag was to be on full force; Hunt as funny and grotesquerie as ever; the Frapps would be found in each in his best mood. Gilbert was to exhibit more master-grouping and invention than he had yet evinced. Dodgson and Duncan were more than up to their old water-mark; Jenkins was beyond himself; while out of a new candidate for high reputation would be seen in a Mr Burton, of Nuremberg, who was up to the level, it was said, of Mr. Haghe, at the other gallery.

Nor has Rumour been found a false-tongued idler in the promises she put forth. A very pleasing Exhibition, indeed, is that the fine of the new half-century of the society's existence. Nor do we feel, as we wander from wall to wall, from screen to screen, that there is any want of former favourites. Entering, as we did, thinking of eminent artists now no longer among us, the thought vanished immediately we commenced our survey, and we left the gallery, after a two hours' pleasant inspection, perfectly satisfied with what we had seen, and eager to communicate our delight to those we met.

As we shall very soon have better and ampler occasion to criticise in detail, and to illustrate our criticisms by the art of the engraver, we must be content, for the present, with this general recommendation of a very delightful Exhibition. Some of our old favourites are seen to great advantage. John Lewis's delights in miniatures examples of well-placed, and therefore necessary, detail. His two small contributions from Egypt—"The Well in the Desert" (No 135), and "The Greeting in the Desert"—are not only wonders in microscopic art, but exquisite examples of Egyptian manners and Egyptian scenery. How fine is Alfred Fripp with (No. 120) his "Last Days of Harvest; the Roman Campagna;" that view "in the Bay of Naples," by T. M. Richardson (No 30) is dextrous and satisfactory; how very fine are some of the human heads contributed by Carl Haag; Mr Jenkins's "Hopes and Fears" (No. 265) has proved the property of more than one publisher; the fortunate possessor of Mr Duncan's "Harvest Moon" (No. 50) has been envied its possession by many tasteful collectors

Critics of skill unite in praising Mr. Dodgson's "Beacon" (No. 137) Mr Topham's "Andalusian Letter-Writer" (No. 141) interests a thousand admirers. Mr. S. P. Jackson's "Summer Day on the Coast" (No. 186) is quoted with regret. Mr. Hunt's "Fruit" (No 256) and his "Le Maude Imaginaire" are differently suggestive: schoolboys shudder before the cup of rhubarb, and smack their lips at the grapes and pears. Artists of skill delight in calling attention to his two wonderful representations of Franconian peasantry contributed by Mr Burton (Nos. 191 and 239), and while they censure the former as a little too red, they award to the latter the praise of being very near perfection. Nor must we omit that Mr. Collingwood Smith and Mr. Walter Goodall find and retain their own sensible circle of modest admirers.

FINE ARTS.

EXHIBITION OF THE FRENCH SCHOOL OF ART

The Second Exhibition of the French School of Art in London was opened on Monday last, at the Gallery, 121, Pall-Mall. Taking the collection as a whole, it possesses many points of extraordinary merit, and many features which might challenge comparison with any school in Europe. Indeed, its success in many respects is so distinguished and so indisputable as almost to inspire misgivings amongst the votaries and admirers of other schools, as to a decided superiority in art existing in our friendly neighbours; and this we concede is true in respect to certain fields of art. Without attempting a comparison between the peculiar characteristics of the French school and those of other European schools, we may be allowed a few observations upon the distinguishing merits of the French School *per se*, and the fields in which we consider it exhibits shortcomings.

Those who know the subtle dramatic genius of the French nation will not be surprised to find that, in *pièces de circonstance*, "conversation pieces," and *genre* subjects generally, they take a decided lead of all competitors. Indeed, in the selection and treatment of their subjects in this agreeable branch of art, they not only surpass the Dutch and Flemish schools which originated it; their knowledge of character and of the *finesse* of society being so great, that we become absolutely astonished at the number and variety of their subjects, and the extraordinary earnestness with which they depict comparatively trivial incidents. If in the technical execution they do not always come up to the masters of the Dutch and Flemish schools, the aspect of reality and life which they throw into their works in this class more than compensates for any shortcomings in that respect.

Whilst we admit the decided superiority of the French School of Art in subjects of the class we have mentioned;—that which embraces the greatest comedy of life; we are bound to state—as we stated last year in a notice upon the first exhibition of this School—that in what pertains to the higher emotions, the grander incidents of poetic creation, they fall below many contemporary schools. And this is in nowise surprising. The genius that rules in Painting rules also in the sister Arts; and who will pretend that French Tragedy has ever stood upon a footing equivalent with that occupied by French Comedy and Vaudeville! We think it right to make these few general remarks touching the present Exhibition; because, while we acknowledge that it presents subjects of the first order of merit, it must yet be admitted that where the success is most palpable and indisputable the subject is not of the highest class

In works of the severer school the present Exhibition is very deficient; and of those presented, the principal are tolerably well known to the art-public. Paul Delaroche's picture of "Lord Stratford Going to Execution," in the collection of the Duke of Sutherland, is generally familiar to us by means of the fine engraving published of it. We cannot help observing upon the picture itself that it does not improve upon the engraving. The subject is solemn; the treatment mannered; and, above all, the colouring is sombre and monotonous; depending with all the pigments which usually give warmth and life to a picture. This alone, in respect to such a subject, was an error fatal to success. The "Agony of Christ in the Garden," by the same artist, has many points of merit; but the expression of the face, though intensely painful, is not that which rises the sublime scene.

"The Judgment of Solomon," by Schopin, is a powerful composition in many respects; but it wants breadth and keeping. The figure of the mother of the dead child has always struck us as exaggerated in attitude and *effronté* in aspect; and the colouring, from the preponderance of yellows, greys, and mixed tints introduced, is ungrateful.

Labouchere's picture of "Luther, Melanchton, Crucigar, and Pomeranius, Translating the Scriptures" is well known by the engraving published of it. It is a work of considerable merit: the expression of the faces being admirable but, as respects colour, more especially in the flesh tints, it is deficient.

Horace Vernet exhibits his grand Oriental style and Oriental atmosphere in his clever picture of "Joseph Sold by his Brethren." In "Victoria, a Peasant Girl of Albano," his pencil works in quite a different vein the pure Italian; but with wonderful power, roundness, and success.

The "Francesca da Rimini" of Ingres, notwithstanding much merit of execution, must be pronounced comparatively a failure. Dante's heroine, as she receives the first warm kiss of her hapless lover, betrays none of that trembling agitation which the poet describes. On the contrary, she is cool, insipid, coquettish somewhat certainly in very ordinary *intriguante*; while the hero is commonplace in character and extravagant in attitude. The colouring is cold, and much too hard.

F. Dubufe has an affecting picture—well considered throughout, and well treated in all its points—of "The Family of the Absent Soldier, Reading Prayers." The scene is supposed to be in Normandy, and the family group kneeling over the picture of their absent kinsman which is affixed on the wall above a religious emblem. The expression of all the faces is full of feeling, and the colouring is warm and tender

As we shall have a future opportunity of returning to the Exhibition, we shall close our present notice with a brief reference to some of those works of the genre and domestic class, in which we find the artists of the French school so admirably successful. The great secret of their triumph rests on the fact that all appearance of effort is absent—repose rather than action being their study—and their pencil being rather suggestive than demonstrative. Fermont in merit is the happy vein of Eugene Fichel, who exhibits eleven pieces, the largest of which is "A Conversazione in the Last Century," an admirable amateur concert group. "The Portrait" is an ingenious and pleasing subject—a lady painting a gentleman's portrait: the latter, sitting in a rather formal attitude, dressed in maroon velvet of the olden fashion, evidently contemplates with admiration the intellectual features of the fair artist. "The Duet" and "The Reader" are also extremely beautiful.

Antoine Plassan, amongst nine contributions, has, what may be pronounced a gem, the "Message;" representing a young lady sealing a letter, while her attendant stands respectfully and with demure expression beside her, prepared to go on her errand.

Victor Chavet exhibits only one piece, a very small one, but how full of spirit and nice humour! It is entitled the "Connoisseurs," and represents, with their backs to us, a pair of *cognoscenti* explaining upon the merits of a cab net picture, which they are eagerly taking down from a wall.

Joseph Perre has half a dozen exhibits, of which the "Out Finger" may be especially lauded for its telling effect, without the slightest obtrusion of exaggeration.

François Biard holds a very distinguished position amongst his brother artists, being remarkable also for the versatility of his talent and the dramatic action which he throws into his pictures. The "Pirate" contrasting scene on the deck of a pirate vessel, at the moment of preparing for action and plunder, which it would be impossible for any description to do justice to. The "Poste Restante," and the "Newly Discovered; or, The Dead Knows no Danger," are comic, almost to extravagance; whilst "Henri IV. and Fleurette" is a sentimental subject, charming for its simplicity and general treatment.

WATER-COLOUR PICTURES BY CARL WERNER.—M. Carl Werner, an artist of established reputation and unquestionable merit, has now on private view, by tickets, a collection of his works, at 40, Pall-mall. We had the pleasure of inspecting the collection the other day, and were certainly astonished and gratified at the evidence they afforded of the extent of the capabilities of the landscape artist. Residing and working chiefly in Rome and Venice, it is natural that the artist's subjects should be chosen from those localities; but it is a high testimony to his genius that, in producing them, he has infused them with all the glittering atmospheric brightness which surrounds the objects themselves, and which is not to be found in less favoured lands. Under these circumstances his fine views become absolute realities, in contemplation of which the mind willingly travels to the sites they represent. To this must be added that M Werner's taste for art and architectural remains is very fine; and that in the treatment of every pillar and capital, remains of ancient grandeur, he evinces an appreciating love for his subject. In figure subjects, also, M. Werner is extremely happy. Amongst many exhibited, we noticed particularly a remarkably fine picture of the "Annual Festivity of the Artists in Rome on the 1st of May"—a scene introducing innumerable figures, most of them portraits, engaged in a mimic ceremonial, in which the comic prevails. Of a different character, but no less able in the treatment, is the picture of "Venetian Beauty" in the usual place of resort, round the Column of St. Januario, at Venice. We should hardly have expected, before we saw it, that so much could have been done in intensity of effect through the medium of water-colours. Most of the pictures exhibited—eighty in number—have been already sold; but they will repay the careful inspection of those who take interest in the progress of art.

BISHOP'S "EVENING BELLS."

(WRITTEN ON HEARING THEM ON THE NIGHT OF HIS DECEASE.)

As sun-rays in the chilling wind,
The liquid peals come faint but clear,
An echo of immortal mind,
By memory cherished dear.

As spirit roving in its might,
To burst its shackles vain,
About to take its last long flight,
Was gladder'd once again,

By those frail laurels hardly won,
Yes, oft too dearly bought,
His soul was cheer'd as o'er it shone
The tribute Genius sought.

Then slowly wending back to days
When first the great flame
Inspir'd his sweetest melodies,
They heard those bells again.

The tones which spoke of youth and home,
Of zeal's expectant hours,
When Inspiration, taught by truth,
Expanded all his powers,

And kindled into light the flame
That burn'd in manhood's prime—
May 8th, 1855.

That hid him tune the well-strung lyre,
Apollo's lay divine.

Now on the margin of death's stream,
Where fell the cold flix death,
His boyhood's chime again at e'en
Came sweetly o'er the soul.

We listen'd; but the sounds lull caught
The fading earthly hues;
With something, too, of heaven-fraught
That spoke a language true

Which bid him leave the weary maze
Of the hard-trodden strand;
As upward then he fixed his gaze,
To join the spirit band.

No toiling more! He, too, has left
For that mysterious shore,
Where neither hope nor signs avail—
A labourer here no more.

We give the tear to genius due,
The tribute of undying worth,
And bid a kindred spirit hail
That love-land of immortal birth

CECILIA MARY MEARES

MUSIC.

LABLACHE has reappeared at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA. He was welcomed on Saturday evening last by a crowded audience with every demonstration of the most cordial sympathy. The Queen and Prince Albert were present, and the Royal pair were observed to join warmly in the general applause. Her Majesty has always shown much regard for the illustrious veteran, to whose instructions she owes much of her proficiency in music and her taste and skill as a vocal performer. He appeared in his old and favourite character of *Dulcamara*, the quack-doctor, in the "Elisir d'Amore," in which he used of yore to shake the sides of the audiences at Her Majesty's Theatre. This was his first appearance in it on the boards of the Royal Italian Opera; the *Dulcamara* of this theatre having hitherto been Ronconi, who has not come to England this season. Nothing can be more unlike than the *readings* of the character as given by these two celebrated artists, and yet both are admirable. Ronconi's quack seems a literal copy of the quack of ordinary life; he is the very vagabond—shabby, sharp, cunning, and impudent—whom we can see gulling the bumpkins out of their pence at any English country fair. Lablache's charlatan is more of an ideal personage, and of a much more pleasant and genial description. We on Saturday night he acted the part with all his usual good-humoured gaiety; but there was an evident falling off in his vocal powers, which it pained us to observe. His magnificent organ had lost much of its resonance and volume, and he brought out his high notes with visible effort. We trust, however, that this was only the temporary effect of the ungenial weather; and this seems the more likely from the circumstance that, on Tuesday, when he was to have repeated the part, he was unable to sing, owing to hoarseness. After the heavy losses our musical stage has suffered, we cannot afford to lose Lablache also; and we cling to the belief that he will yet be spared to us for a good long time to come. The "Elisir d'Amore" is admirably cast this season; with Rosio as *Adina*, Cardoni as *Nemorino*, Graziani as *Belcore*, and Lablache as *Dulcamara*. It forms as gay and delightful an entertainment as the Italian comic stage can possibly afford.

The first great novelty of the season—the "Trovatore" of Verdi—was produced on Thursday. Of this celebrated opera—its merits as a drama and a musical work, its performance, and its reception by the English public—we shall have occasion to speak fully next week.

THE ROYAL OPERA at Drury-lane goes on with well-deserved success. Not only the company, but the whole arrangements of the theatre are much superior to what they were last year. The prima donna, Madame Gassier—would be an ornament to the greatest Opera-house in Europe. She is an intelligent, animated, and graceful comedian, and a singer of the highest order. Her husband is a good actor, and an excellent baritone singer; Bettini is a light and agreeable tenor; and Susini, with a powerful bass voice, possesses considerable dramatic talent. The "Sonnambula," the "Barbiere di Siviglia," and "Don Pasquale," have been got up, and performed to crowded houses, with a completeness and excellence sufficient to gratify the most fastidious taste.

This establishment has gained such a hold of the public favour, that it is sure to prosper if it keep within its means, and do not attempt too much. In the first place, we hope the managers will confine themselves to Italian Opera, and not again commit the mistake of bringing a German company as well; and, in the next place, that they will confine their selves to *comic* opera, and eschew altogether the more ambitious productions of the Italian stage. If they have the good judgment to follow this prudent course they will do well. If not, they will only split upon the rock which, by this time, they ought to have learned to avoid.

THE BIRMINGHAM FESTIVAL—the greatest provincial music-meeting in England, is fixed to be held on the four last days of August next. Its arrangements are already in a state of considerable forwardness, and are on a scale of magnitude equal to those of the greatest Festivals of former years. As formerly, the list of vocal and instrumental performers will include the highest talent that Europe can produce; and it is understood that more than one new and original work of great interest will be produced. The Birmingham Festival has peculiar claims to public attention and support. For three quarters of a century it has been the main support of one of the greatest benevolent institutions in England, the Old Hospital of Birmingham; an institution which, since it was opened in 1779, has ministered to the medical and surgical necessities of nearly 400 000 persons, of whom 90,000 have been in-patients. In the course of the last fifty-six years the hospital has been benefited by the music meetings to the extent of £66,460; and the last festival alone (in 1852) yielded to the hospital no less a sum than £4704. The great increase of the working population is rendering the demands upon this noble charity more and more heavy, and it is upon the expected proceeds of the approaching festival that reliance is placed for the means of meeting those demands.

THE STARS OF HEAVEN. Written by MRS. F. VALIANT, and composed by LOUISA M. B. VALIANT.—2. THE STARS OF HEAVEN. Ballad. By the same Author and Composer. Oliver

Above and beyond the claims which these songs possess on the score of graceful poetry, wedded to pleasing and appropriate music, the pieces before us possess an interest that must recommend them to all who have hearts access blie to "melting charity," and sympathies for the less fortunate of their fellow-creatures. The ladies to whom we owe these pretty compositions for the piano and voice have consecrated their talents, and the produce which the patronage of the public may accord them, to two excellent societies: the first, the "Auxiliary City Mission;" the second, the "Southwark Ragged Schools." The "Absent Soldier" is a pathetic and smoothly-flowing melody, set in the key F Major, with a judicious introduction of an accidental natural A repeated (B B), passing into the normal B flat. The second composition, the "Stars of Heaven," is an easy ballad of moderate compass, and well deserves to become a drawing-room favourite. The verses are sweet, effective, and far above the nauseous jumpy, which too frequently is the besetting sin of commonplace song-writers.

THE THEATRES, &c.

HAYMARKET. Miss Cushman on Friday achieved a decided triumph in the part of *Tisbe*, "the Actress of Padua," and heroine of a new version of Victor Hugo's "Angelo, Tyran de Padoue." A triumph achieved in a drama so repulsive to the tone of morality in this country is no small matter, and may be accepted as a test of histrionic genius. The reign of the French writer in this piece was to strip off the mask from respectability, and to degrade it in the presence of the social pariah, as an example of vice made worse by hypocrisy; and thus the mistress-adulteress assumes the dais of virtue, while the lady-wife stands below, convicted of infidelity a criminal protected by the conventions of artificial life. The state of society in Padua, as depicted by the poet, is completely demoralised, and thus a shadow of death is thrown over the entire interest of the play; for all the characters, without distinction, are wretched and guilty. The main structure of the piece is melodramatic. Material incidents and stage properties are its stock-in-trade. Caskets of poison, phials of opiates, jewelled keys, memorial crucifixes, constitute, as it were, the furniture of the action; secret doors, oratories, and mysterious galleries, its scenery. All these are carefully prepared for and effectively introduced, while much of what should be understood as the motive of the drama is left unexplained, and of the grounds of character no interpretation whatever is attempted. How *Tisbe* ever came to believe that *Fredolfo* loved her, how it was that he contrived to establish so close an acquaintanceship, or what occasioned the strong interest needful to its existence,—these were points which the playwright transcended altogether in his haste to get at the situations that were to take the audience by storm. From these remarks the first act, however, must be excepted. Anything better than the introductory scene, in which *Tisbe* relates the story of her vagrant mother, and the simple cross with which she rewarded the compassionate service of the princely child, is not to be met with in the whole range of the drama. Passages of powerful writing are scattered in various parts of the dialogue, to which Miss Cushman gave the fitting prominence; and the last scene rises to a climax in which the sentiment of self sacrifice is made, as it were, to revel in its approaching consummation. Miss Reynolds, in the part of the unfortunate wife, was pleasingly pathetic, and her sorrows even acquired dignity and energy as they reached the crisis of her trial. The piece was, indeed, throughout well acted, well costumed, and scenically pictorial: and, altogether, may serve to "demonstrate," not as *Iago* would say, "this virtue," but rather thickly, that a strong tragic drama, if adequately acted, is not out of place on the boards of "the little theatre." We trust, however, that the next venture of the kind may be more English in its sentiment and manners, more purely dramatic in its spirit and structure, and an original drama not due to a foreign hand, but entirely home made. The house was crowded, and Miss Cushman was most unequivocally, as well as deservedly, applauded for the unwearied exertion that she manifested throughout a long and difficult, and a laborious part.

ADELPHI.—Mr. Wright on Monday made his reappearance here in "Paul Pry"—and was, as might have been expected, enthusiastically received. His performance was distinguished by its ease and vigour; and we never recollect him more happy in his efforts at humour. His engagement is stated to be temporary only; but opinion runs in favour of its permanence. The house was well attended.

SADLER'S WELLS.—Mr. Keeley has, during the week, performed *Wild Meg*, in Mr. Mark Lemon's play of "Sea and Land;" and similar starring engagements are understood to be in progress for the continuance of a brief vaudeville season.

STRAND.—Since our last notice, Miss Glyn has performed at this house with her usual success, *Hermione*, in "The Winter's Tale," and *Lady Macbeth* and *Isabella*, in "The Fatal Marriage" Her engagement is renewed, and several characters are underlined, so that the audience will be able to judge of her in many phases. In all she has hitherto proved uncommonly attractive; and there is every reason to believe will continue to fascinate the admirers of our stern old drama with the beauties of a style formed in the most classical of histrionic schools.

BURLINGTON HALL (SAVILE-ROW).—A new entertainment has been opened here, under the title of "The Gaberlunzie Wallet," in which the speaking part is done by Mr. Andrew Halliday, and the singing *rôles* by Mr. Charles Weston and Mr. William Adam. The music to the songs (which are original) is by Mr. Leo Kerbusch. The songs are rude enough specimens of lyric verse, and Mr. Halliday has much to learn as a lecturer as well as a poet. But there is ability in him to do some things, which experience and acquired confidence will in time enable him to do well, but which he now does indifferently.

On Saturday a deputation of officers of the late British Auxiliary Legion waited upon General Sir De Lacy Evans, at his residence in Bryanston-square, for the purpose of presenting the gallant General with a congratulatory address on his return from the East.

A parliamentary paper issued on Tuesday contains a Treasury minute granting a special retired allowance of £1000 per annum to Sir Will am Burnett, Director of the Navy Medical Department. Sir John Liddell has been appointed his successor.

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE ORIGIN OF CHESS.

BY DR. DUNCAN FORBES.

CHAPTER X, AND LAST.—THEORY AND PRACTICE OF THE SHATRANJ.

SECTION 3RD.—ON END-GAMES AND POSITIONS DRAWN BY FORCE.

We have seen in the last section that in the Shatranj a player lost the game, not only by receiving a checkmate, but by the mere circumstance of his being stripped of all his forces, while his adversary had, however small, remaining. Even with this advantage, we find that in the Oriental game the probabilities in favour of its ending in a draw were still very considerable, and this fact brings to light one of its defects or anomalies—proving at the same time that Chess, like all human inventions, even has been susceptive of progressive improvement. As a ludicrous instance of inconsistency in the Mediæval Game, I may mention that it sometimes ended in a draw, not from an absolute equality of forces, or anything near it; but owing to the peculiar powers and limited range of some of the pieces, these being such that they could not encounter their adversaries. For example, let us suppose (as the books have it) that White remains with his King and a Bishop only; and that Black has, on his side, his King, his two Bishops, and five Queens—the latter all running on a different colour from that of White's Bishop. Well, here the Black has a numerical force equal to two Rooks and a Knight against a Bishop, which last is valued only as one quarter of a Rook; and yet, notwithstanding all this decided superiority, the Black man can draw the game. The White has merely to place his King on some square (near the centre, if possible) of a different colour from that of the adverse Queens, and not within the range of the adverse Bishop of that colour, and then the solitary White Bishop will draw the game by hopping round his own King, setting all pursuit at defiance. Now this anomaly becomes still more glaring when we consider that if, instead of a Bishop, White had a Rook or a Knight, he would have lost the game in the above instance.

In the Oriental MSS. the laws and decisions laid down with respect to drawn games are very numerous; and to detail them in these hasty sketches would occupy too much space and time. It is probable that, as the people of the East have always had a great reverence for authority, when the game reached in any of the situations declared by the old masters as drawn, the higher classes of players would in that instance courteously abandon it as such. In the case of those end-games in which one of the parties might win, though with great difficulty—such, for example, as our Rook and Bishop against Rook—I have nowhere been able to discover that the winning player was restricted to a limited number of moves, as with us. One would think that some such rule would be expedient, unless we suppose that in this case also the players submitted to the authority of the books.

The laws respecting drawn games, as given in the MSS., seem to have anticipated the existence of a plurality of Queens, averaging from two to five on either side. The joint power of the Queens was considerably modified from the circumstance of their being all of the same colour, or of some of them running on black squares and the rest on white. When the Queens ran on the same colour (as we would say) they were said by the Muslims to be "Muwáfik," i.e., "concordant or similar," and when on different colours they were said to be "Mukhálif," antagonistic or dissimilar." The books lay down several rules by the aid of which a player may know whether a pawn, on queening, may prove to be similar or dissimilar to such Queen or Queens as he may already have on the board. Now this fact affords us the clearest possible proof that the Oriental board was not chequered with two colours till at least a comparatively recent period. Had the board been chequered (and the wonder is that it should not have been so), it would be seen at once, without any recourse to rules or calculation, whether the newly-made Queen should prove "Muwáfik," or "Mukhálif." It, therefore, translate the term "Muwáfik," as used in Chess, to denote "of the same colour;" and "Mukhálif," "of a different colour," which rendering, if not strictly literal, has the merit of being correct and intelligible.

Amidst the decisions arrived at by the wise men of the East, with respect to such end-games as are drawn or won, there is only one which exactly agrees with ours, and that is "that a Rook against a Knight is a drawn game in general." A Rook against any piece or Pawn besides the Knight, generally wins, and so does a Knight very often against a Bishop or a Queen or a Pawn. A Bishop or a Queen is a draw against a Pawn—the latter being, of course, supposed to be supported by his King. A Rook and Queen against a Knight and Queen make a drawn game; but if Lady Queen ran on different colours, he who has the Rook wins if he play carefully, for otherwise a game won by its nature may end in a draw, and also a game naturally drawn may, through carelessness, be lost. A Rook and Bishop can only draw against two Queens of the same colour; but a Rook with two Bishops, in such cases, wins. Four Queens, provided two of them run on white squares and the other two on black, win against a Rook; but if three of the Queens be of the same colour and the other different, the Rook draws, even if one or both of the Bishops be on the side of the Queens. This last situation, however, is one of extreme difficulty. Two Rooks can only draw against a Rook and Knight; but, if on each side there be a Bishop in addition, he who has the two Rooks will win.

The following positions are so difficult that the greatest masters have been unable to decide whether they be won or drawn, viz.: A Rook and two Queens of the same colour, against a Knight and one Queen of a different colour, from that of the adverse Queens; according to some, a won game, while others of very high authority declare it a draw. Two Rooks and a Bishop against a Knight, a Queen, and a Bishop may win but many eminent players have pronounced it a draw. It is yet undecided whether a Rook and two Queens of the same colour against the two Rooks and two Bishops be a won or a drawn game. I need not adduce more instances of this kind; enough has been stated in this chapter to show the nature of the openings and end-games of the Shatranj; and I now conclude these last sketches with an example of a drawn game from MS. 16,856, fol. 44 A (White to play and draw):

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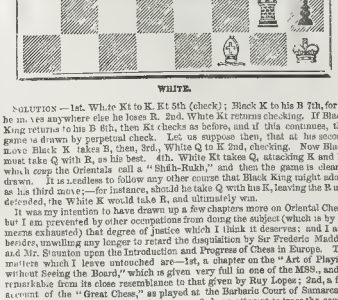


WHITE.

SOLUTION.—1st. White Kt to K. Kt 5th (check); Black K to his B 7th, for if he moves anywhere else he loses R. 2nd. White Kt returns checking. If Black King returns to his B 6th, then Kt checks as before, and if this continues, the game is drawn by perpetual check. Let us suppose then, that at his second move Black K takes B, then, 3rd., White Q to K 2nd, checking. Now Black must take Q with R, as his best. 4th. White Kt takes Q, attacking R and B, which cop the Orientals call a "Shah-Rukh," and then the game is clearly drawn. It is needless to follow any other course that Black King might adopt as his third move;—for instance, should he take Q with his K, leaving the B undefended, the White K would take B, and ultimately win.

It was my intention to have drawn up a few chapters more on Oriental Chess, but I am prevented by other occupations from doing the subject (which is by no means exhausted) that degree of justice which I think it deserves; and I am, besides, unwilling any longer to retard the despatch of Sir Frederic Madden and Mr. Singleton upon the Introduction and Progress of Chess in Europe. The matters which I leave untouched are—1st, a chapter on the "Art of Playing without Seeing the Board," which is given very full in one of the MSS., and is remarkable from its close resemblance to that given by Ruy Lopez; 2nd, a full account of the "Great Chess," as played at the Barbaric Court of Samarcand in the last half of the fourteenth century; 3rd, an attempt to trace the course of the Shatranj from Persia to Arabia and the Byzantine Empire; lastly, a brief account of Chess as played at the present time in various Asiatic regions. For the accomplishment of this last task, however, my materials are very scanty; and I should like to see the research undertaken by some of our countrymen resident in the East, who must necessarily possess better means of information.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NEGRETTE.—Both are mistakes. The famous smothered check-mate, absurdly entitled "Philidor's Legacy," was invented at least three years before Philidor was born, and attributed to Philidor. This was shown long ago, and the masterpiece traced back to Damiano (1512). But the truth is, Damiano had no more to do with the invention than Philidor. As a proof of which we now give the position as it appears in the rare and almost inaccessible work, by Damiano, (1512) "White—*K at C 6th, Q at B 6th, Kt at K 5th.* Black—*K at K Kt sq, Q at Q R 6th, Kt at Q Kt sq and Q Rsq, Pat K Kt 2nd and K R 2nd.*

White to play and mate in five moves.

EDMUND T., Oxford.—Mate cannot be effected in the way you suggest. Look at the Problem on a new.

C. F. H.—It shall have prompt attention.

BOOKWORM.—The question. Who was the personage to whom Greco dedicated his MS? has already occupied the consideration of three generations of the most eminent scholars in Chess literature. We shall endeavour to find room for a few words upon the subject next week.

A. T., St. John's.—To ensure an answer the same week, you must write very early.

J. Stonehouse.—Your solution of Mr Bolton's Problem and that by "A. Stagird" are correct.

V. H. L.—Received with thanks. We shall be happy to see the remainder of the article when you can conveniently send it.

TREVOR, M. Inns.—The annual meeting of the Northern and Midland Counties Chess Association, under the Presidency of Lord Lyttelton, is definitively fixed to be held at Leamington on the 30th, 31th, and 28th of June. For full particulars apply by letter to the Hon. Secretary, the Rev. W. Temple.

KINGSHEIR.—1 No; not yet in the first class, though he bids fair to reach that enviable rank. 2 Your solution is defective.

W. C. T.—1. They shall be reported on next week. 2. The Solutions are correct.

J. Pw.—At the Chapelle—A private communication was forwarded ten days back. We regret not receiving your address.

J. M. M.—Your Problem is thought to be many valuable contributions, and is particularly requested to address all future communications to the office of this journal, instead of directing them to Paternoster Row.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 583, by D. G. Beddan, Dranstanrig, Pedagogue, Lex, R. V., Nemo, A. T., F. H., J. R., Glasgow, are correct.

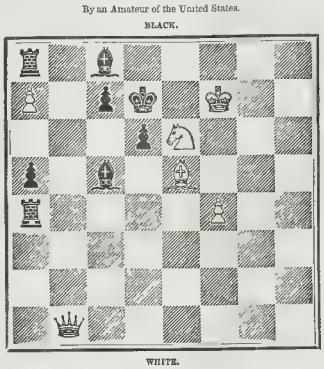
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 584, by Arnold, Bayliss, Sterling, S. J., Falmouth, Monarief, C. W. T., e. P., Oriental, Miles, A. B. C., J. Stonehouse, E. H., Dereom, and others.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 585, by J. A. M., Tolson, Duryon; Mus. Doc., Oxon, R. Addison; J. P., Guernsey; T. X., Bishop Middleham; D. D., Trevor, Templar, A. Z.; J. Stonehouse; Arty, W. W. C., are correct. All others are wrong.

PROBLEM No. 586.

By an Amateur of the United States.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

The following Game occurs in a Match by Correspondence now pending between the BEDFORD CHESS CLUB, OXFORD, and the TRINITY COLLEGE CHESS-CLUB, CAMBRIDGE:

(Petroff's Defence to the K Kt Opening.)

WHITE (Oxford).	BLACK (Camb)	WHITE (Oxford).	BLACK (Camb).
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	16. B takes K Kt	Kt to K Kt 5th (*f*)
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	17. B to K Kt 5th (*g*)	P to K R 3rd
3. Kt takes P (*a*)	P to Q 3rd	18. Q R to Q B sq	Q to Q Kt sq
4. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt takes P	19. B to K 3rd	Kt takes B
5. Q Kt to Q B 3rd (*b*)	Kt to K B 3rd	20. P takes Kt (*h*)	B takes Kt
6. P to Q 4th	P to Q 4th	21. P takes B	Q takes P
7. K B to Q 3rd	K B to Q 3rd	22. K R to K B 4th	P to K B 4th (*i*)
8. Castles	Castles	23. Q R to Q B 6th	Q R to K sq
9. B to K Kt 5th	B to K Kt 3rd	24. K R to K B 3rd	Q to K R 5th
10. Q to her 2nd	P to Q Kt 3rd	25. Q to Q B 2nd	Q to K 8th (ch)
11. Q Kt to K 2nd	P to Q B 4th	26. K to R 2nd	Q to K R 8th (ch)
12. P to Q B 3rd (*c*)	Q Kt to Q 2nd	27. K to Kt sq	P to K B 5th
13. K Kt to K Kt 3rd	Q R to Q 2nd	28. Q R to Q B 7th	P takes K P
14. K Kt to K 5th (*d*)	P takes P	29. K R takes P on	B to K B 4th
15. P takes P	Q Kt takes Kt (*e*)	K 3rd	
		30. R takes B	R takes B

And Oxford resigns.

(a) An interesting variation, perhaps the most at this somewhat *trite début* admits, arises from White now playing 3. K Kt to Q B 4th, when the game proceeds thus:

3 K Kt to Q B 4th	Kt takes K P
4. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	Kt takes Kt
5. Q P takes Kt, &c	

(b) The leading authorities recommend 5 P to Q 4th as the best move.

(c) Attack is often the best defence, and we believe, although we always suggest a variation in a correspondence game with some diffidence, the Oxonians would have improved their own or have impaired their opponents' position by advancing this Pawn a step farther. For suppose,

13. P to Q 4th		Q Kt to Q 2nd	
(This seems to be their best reply. If they take the Q B Pawn, White may win the exchange by first taking off the K Kt, and then playing K B to K 4th)			
13. Q P takes Q B P	Q Kt P takes P, or (*a*)	15. Q takes B	P to Q 5th
	K B takes Kt (best)	16. Q to K R 4th	

(a) If they take Q Kt P, White can take K B P with their Queen, and win easily.)

14. Q Kt to K B 4th | Q Kt takes Kt (best) | (If they capture the Q Kt it costs their Queen at least.)

22 Q R to Q 3rd, and Black has no resource.

(d) Very cleverly conceived.

(e) If they taken with the Bishop instead, the following interesting moves would probably have occurred:—

15.	B takes Kt	16. P takes B	Q Kt takes P

(Taking with the Queen would have involved the loss of an officer, or *gr.*:—

16.	*Q takes P*		
17.	*Q B to K B 4th*	*K Kt to K 4th (best)*	
18	*B takes Kt, &c.)*		
17. Q B takes K Kt	P takes B	21 Q takes Kt (ch)	K to Kt sq
18. Kt to K R 5th	Kt to K Kt 6th (best)	22. Q R to K sq	Q to Q sq
19. Kt takes P (ch)	Kt takes Kt	23. Q to K 2 6th,	
20. K to K Kt 5th (ch)	K to R sq.	&c., &c.	

(*f*) An ingenious counter-move, and especially noticeable, because it constitutes the turning-point of the game.

(*g*) The consequences of sacrificing the Bishop were, no doubt, maturely considered, and the Oxford committee had most probably good reasons for rejecting that move. As far as our own examination of the position goes, however we must confess it appears to us that the sacrifice of the Bishop was a less evil than retreating it. In proof of this we beg to sub-join the following train of play as the probable result of the former and more enterprising move:

17. B takes K Kt P		B takes Kt	

(Have they any better move? If they take the Bishop at once, White may first give check with the Kt at K B 5th, forcing the King to fall back to Rook's sq., and then play P to K B 3rd, winning the Kt, and having afterwards at least as strong a game as Black has. So also if they (Black), instead of taking the Kt, play Bishop to R 5th, attacking the Queen, White has a good reply in Bishop to K 3th, and would come out of the middle the winner of a Pawn.)

18. K B P takes B		K takes B	
19. P to K B 3rd		K takes Kt P	
20. P takes Kt		Q takes P	

(If they take this Pawn with the Bishop, White can win a Piece by merely playing —Q to K Kt 4th (ch) and then *K R to K B 3rd.*)

21. K R to K B 4th.		Q to K R 4th.	

(If Q to K Kt 6th, White will win a Pawn, and acquire a great advantage in position, by playing R to K B 5th*).

22. Q R to K B sq.			

And notwithstanding their lost Pawn we prefer White's game.

(h) They would have forfeited the exchange had they taken with their Queen.

(i) By this time White have lost all chance, and the game has lost all interest.

* *Oddly enough, should Black attempt to defend this by throwing forward P to K R 4th, he would lose his Queen or be mated in three moves.*

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories:* The Rev. G. E. Alexander, to Woodsford cum-Membris, near Daventry; Rev. W. B. Flower, to Crawley, Sussex; Rev. C. A. Griffith, to Berwick St John, Wiltshire. *Vicarages:* The Rev. N. P. E. Lathbury, to Godmanchester, near Huntingdon; Rev. W. B. Grenside, to Malling, near Lewes; Rev. H. W. F. Richards, to Isleworth. *Incumbencies:* To Rev. F. Owen, to Christ Church, Leicester; Rev. F. Rose, to Daulking, near Darlington.

THE REV. W. H. Channing (son of the late Dr. Channing, of America) is announced to preach the annual sermon on behalf of the London Unitarian Domestic Missions, on Sunday, the 20th inst; in the morning, at the Chapel, Essex-street, Strand; and, in the evening, at Little Carter-lane, Doctors' Commons.

ST. MARK'S CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA.—This very elegant structure has at length been completed, and we understand that the Bishop of Jerusalem, accompanied by the Rev Mr. Bowen, arrived on the 20th ultimo for the purpose of consecrating the edifice on the 25th. This building has been erected partly by a grant from her Majesty's Government, and by subscriptions from the residents in Alexandria, assisted by donations from English and other travellers in that country. After the commencement of the undertaking, now some years since, the works were for a long time suspended for want of funds; the outlay required being somewhat beyond the estimate, estimated at £12,000 or £13,000. The material of which it is composed is a yellow stone, brought from Upper Egypt, and presented to the promoters of the undertaking by the Ismail Pacha (Abbas) the pillars and mullions are of Maltese stone. The style of architecture is mixed, though chiefly Arabesque. The height of the building is 40 feet; the length, 90; and the breadth, thirty feet. It is capable of holding from 500 to 600 persons. Previously to the present church being opened, the only Protestant place of worship was the Consular Chapel, which had more the appearance of a barn than of a church. The architect of St Mark's is Mr. J. W. Wild. A view of the church, then in course of construction, was engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for September 26, 1846.

THE OLD TOWN-HALL, LEOMINSTER.

THE picturesque half timbered edifice which has long served as the Town-hall of Leominster, in Herefordshire, has lately been sold, for removal, to make way for a new and more extensive market-place.

This old timber house was erected in 1633, by John Abel, an architect of some note. It is of timber and plaster, and adorned with grotesque figures, in good preservation, supported on twelve oak columns of the Ionic order, upon stone pedestals. The upper portion of the building displays a profusion of carving and quaint inscriptions.

The fine old building was submitted to sale by auction on the 30th ult., by Mr. Edward Russell, who, at twelve o'clock, appeared in the Council-chamber, and was soon surrounded by a numerous company, including the Mayor, the majority of the Council, the Town-clerk (Mr. Thomas Sale), the magistracy, and many of the tradesmen and other inhabitants of Leominster and its neighbourhood. The old pile was put up at £50; and the bidding, which was confined to two or three gentlemen, advanced £5 at a time, until the sum reached £95, at which price it was ultimately knocked down to Mr. Francis Davis, druggist. We trust it will be preserved entire, as one of the few remaining timber structures of old English design.

OPENING OF THE GREAT TUMULUS AT ST. WEONARDS.

CONSIDERABLE interest has been excited in Herefordshire by the opening of one of the large artificial mounds—or, as they are there usually called, tumps—which are scattered rather numerously along the English border of Wales. The magnitude of some of these mounds is so great, that many persons have doubted their sepulchral character, and contended that it (which some also denied) they were artificial they must have been made for purposes of defence, or that they served as a sort of gigantic watch-towers, by which an alarm might be spread over the whole extent of the Border. One of the finest of these mounds is situated in the parish of St. Weonards, about half way between Hereford and Monmouth, on the estate of Peter Richards Mynors, Esq., of Treago, in that parish, who, having some time ago, declared his intention to cause an opening to be made in the mound for the purpose of ascertaining its real character, carried this intention into effect during the Easter week of the present year, under the direction of Mr. Thomas Wright, F.S.A., who was there on a visit at Treago. Among the other visitors at Treago on this interesting occasion were the Lord Bishop of Hereford and his lady and daughter; the Lady Frances Harcourt; Sir Edwyn Stanhope, of Holm Lacy, and Lady Stanhope; Mrs. Stackhouse Acton, of Acton Scott, in Shropshire; Richard Price, Esq., of Norton, Radnorshire; and several of the clergy of the neighbourhood.

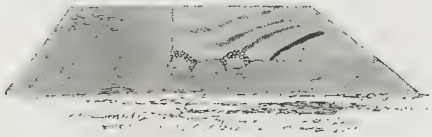
The mound at St. Weonards is situated on the summit of a rather bold hill, in close proximity to the church, as is the case with most of these large mounds on the Border. This latter circumstance is a proof that these tumps were at an early period popular objects of superstitious reverence, which the earlier preachers of the Gospel sought to turn off to another object by building a church near them. The mound at St. Weonards stands less than a hundred yards to the south-west of the church. Its diameter at the base is about 150 feet, and its height about 20 feet, the summit forming a circular platform of about 76 feet in diameter. From this summit we have one continuous panorama of the fine country around, bounded by a circle of distant mountains, presenting the most varied outlines. Beginning with the west, we have first the bold mountain of the Graig, in Monmouthshire; followed by the hills of Garway and Orcop—that of Bagwy Lydiat and the Saddlebow; to the north we have, between us and Hereford, the wooded summit of Aconbury; then the heights of Birch; further eastward, those of Marcle (celebrated for its singular landslip in the reign of Elizabeth), and Stoke Edith, and behind them the distant Malvern; then, in a more eastwardly direction, we have Mayhill, in Gloucestershire, Penyard, and the heights of the forest of Dean, Ruardean, and other well-known spots being distinctly visible, turning then to the south, the hills on the Wye make their appearance, Goodrich, Coppet-hill, the Skirrid, &c.; and, finally, the hill of Llanlody intercepts our prospect in the direction of Monmouth. The edge of the circular platform of the mound is planted with fir-trees, and in the centre stood a lofty poplar, which is said to have been used formerly as the village maypole. For various reasons, the south-western side, where the mound was least encumbered with trees, was chosen for the excavation.

This excavation was begun on the morning of Tuesday, the 10th of April; and a cutting, nearly nine feet wide, at an elevation of about six feet from the ground, and exactly fourteen feet from the summit of the mound, was carried towards the centre. The reason for carrying the cutting no deeper was that circumstances led to the belief that this was the original level of the ground. The accompanying Engraving will give the best notion of the outward appearance of the mound itself, and of the manner in which the excavation was carried on. On the afternoon of Thursday, when the workmen had arrived within fifteen feet of the centre of the mound, they came upon the foot of a heap of large stones rudely built up one over another, and it was then supposed that there was a cairn or mound of stones within the mound of earth; and it was thought advisable to clear away the earth from above before taking up the stones. The cutting was accordingly continued above to a little distance beyond the centre, and the poplar tree was sacrificed. By Saturday evening the earth had been nearly all cleared away, and the stones were found to continue to the centre, but not at all in the form of a cairn. In the centre, however, the stones were found to rise to a greater height than elsewhere, and to present somewhat the appearance of the roof of a vault. On Monday, the 16th, the stones in the centre of the mound were cleared away, and within them appeared a heap of finer mould than that of the rest of the mound, which consisted of very dry sand. This mould also was cleared away to the level of the cutting; but no indications of a sepulchral interment as yet presented themselves. It was determined next morning to sink a shaft in the centre, and this soon led to the discovery of a mass of ashes, about a foot and a half thick and some nine or ten yards in diameter, mixed with pieces of charcoal and fragments of burnt human bones. A piece of the thigh-bone, part of the bone of the pelvis, and a fragment of the shoulder-blade, were picked up here; and it appeared evident that the whole of the ashes of the funeral pile had been placed here on the ground, that a small mound of fine earth had been raised over them, and upon this had been built a rude roof or vault of large rough stones. As a somewhat similar vault, quite independent of the mound, appeared to have existed at the spot where the workmen had first fallen in with the stones, it was now determined to clear those away, and dig down there also; and the result was the discovery of another interment of ashes, also mixed with human bones in a half calcined state. This last operation was performed on Wednesday, the 18th of April; after which the excavations were, for the present at least, discontinued.

The two sepulchral deposits thus discovered are shown in our Engraving of a section through the centre of the mound, in the direction of the excavation. In this cutting, as shown in the Engraving, the manner in which the mound had been originally constructed was also shown in a

OPENING OF A TUMULUS AT ST. WEONARDS, HEREFORDSHIRE.

curious and unexpected manner, by the layers of different sorts of earth which had fallen into the hands of the men who had raised it. When the small mounds roofed with stones had been raised over the deposits of ashes, a circular embankment was first made round the whole, and from this embankment the workmen filled up the interior inwards to the centre. A little way from the outside is seen a dark streak, which defines with tolerable accuracy the form of the first embankment. This is earth of a different kind from that of the mass of the tumulus, and no doubt lies as it was thrown down the inner side of the first bank (perhaps from baskets). Other similar streaks, but not quite so distinctly marked, are repeated as we proceed towards the centre; and, when the mound was more nearly completed, the labourers had made use of a large quantity of loose stones and rubble, which forms a very distinctly-marked layer, like a wide but shallow basin.



SECTION OF TUMULUS

These various discoveries are so far satisfactory that they leave no further room for doubt—first, that the mound at St. Weonards is artificial; and, secondly, that it is a sepulchral monument;—and there is now every reason for believing that this is the case with all the other mounds of the same kind, on the Border. The antiquary and the historian are therefore indebted to Mr. Mynors for having set at rest a *vexata quæstio*. Unfortunately, no relics were discovered, to assist us in determining the people by whom this monument was erected. It belongs, however, evidently to that class which, as they bear no resemblance to anything known to have been made subsequently to Roman times, and as they present no marks of a decidedly Roman character, have been generally classed together as ancient British. Perhaps we may consider it as covering the last remains of some great Border chieftain of the earlier period of the Roman occupation of Britain. It is worthy of being recorded that Roman coins have been found in the churchyard of St. Weonards, which are now in the possession of Mr. Mynors, on whose ancient and picturesque mansion in the valley below this mound looks down. Treago is an early castellated mansion, probably of the fourteenth century, if not a century older, with a small round tower at each corner, and formerly inclosing a little court. When its present excellent and worthy proprietor fitted it up for a modern residence, it was necessary to make great alterations in the interior, but he has preserved as much as possible of the external appearance. Here the ancient family of Mynors has been situated since a period almost contemporary with the Conqueror, in whose train its founder is said to have come to this country; while branches of the same family became owners of the manor of Burghill, in Herefordshire, and of Westbury, in Gloucestershire. John de Mineres, of Treago, was Sheriff of Herefordshire in the 16th Henry III.; and in his old age he was constituted by Edward II. keeper of the Castle of St Briavels, and of the forest of Dean. In the course of several generations, his descendants became connected directly, or by alliance, with nearly all the great Border families; and the present owner of these estates is the representative not only of the Mynors, but of the still more illustrious house of the Baskervilles, which claims direct descent from the Dukes of Normandy.

THE OLD TOWN-HALL, LEOMINSTER.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, TULSE-HILL, NORWOOD.

For some time the inhabitants of Tulse-hill and vicinity have greatly felt the want of church accommodation; to provide which a public subscription has been opened, and the first stone of a new edifice was laid on Thursday week.

Sir Charles Decimus Crosley, Sheriff of London and Middlesex, having kindly undertaken to lay the stone, arrived on the ground at two o'clock, accompanied by the Rev. S. Bridge, Chaplain to the Sheriff; Mr. A. Crosley, Under-Sheriff; and a large number of ladies and gentlemen interested in the cause. The worthy Knight was received by the Committee appointed to carry out the undertaking.

The proceedings commenced with prayers, delivered by the Rev. J. W. Watson, M.A., the newly appointed Minister; after which the stone was lowered, and Sir Charles having spread the mortar, and placed the stone in its position, completed the ceremony.

After an eloquent address from the Rev. Mr. Watson, the Doxology was admirably sung by the pupils of the Westmoreland schools.

The company then adjourned to a temporary building, where they partook of an excellent dejeûner; after which Mr. Nicholson, in eloquent terms, proposed the "Health of Sir Charles Crosley," passing a high eulogium on that gentleman. Sir C. Crosley returned thanks, and, in conclusion, passed a high compliment on their new pastor (the Rev. Mr. Watson), and congratulated those present upon having obtained his services.

After the toasts of "The Pastor," "The Committee," &c., Mr. E. L. Hayward, the hon. secretary, announced the subscriptions amounting to £500, expressing a hope and assurance that the sum still required (£1000) would, through their united exertions among their friends, be soon realised. The company then retired.

The Church—which is in the Early Geometric Decorated style—consists of chancel, with apsidal end; nave, north and south transepts; tower and spire at the north-west angle of the north transept. Spire 88 feet high.

The Church is designed to seat 1000 adults. An organ-gallery is also provided at the west-end. The principal entrance will be on the north side, through the tower door, which will be divided by a stone shaft into two compartments, with heads of tracery, the intermediate spandril being filled with carved diaper work.

The windows are lancet tracered, each being a distinct and original design. The prevailing form adopted in all the tracery is the trefoil, the church being dedicated to the Holy Trinity. The belfry of the tower contains on each side three deeply-moulded and recessed windows of one light, the heads being trefoliated, and the hollow mouldings in jambs heads being filled with the dogtooth ornament.

From an effective cornice, having carved gargoyles at the angles, rises the massive broach spire, with suitable lucarnes, or spire-lights, and surmounted with a suitable wrought-iron vane.

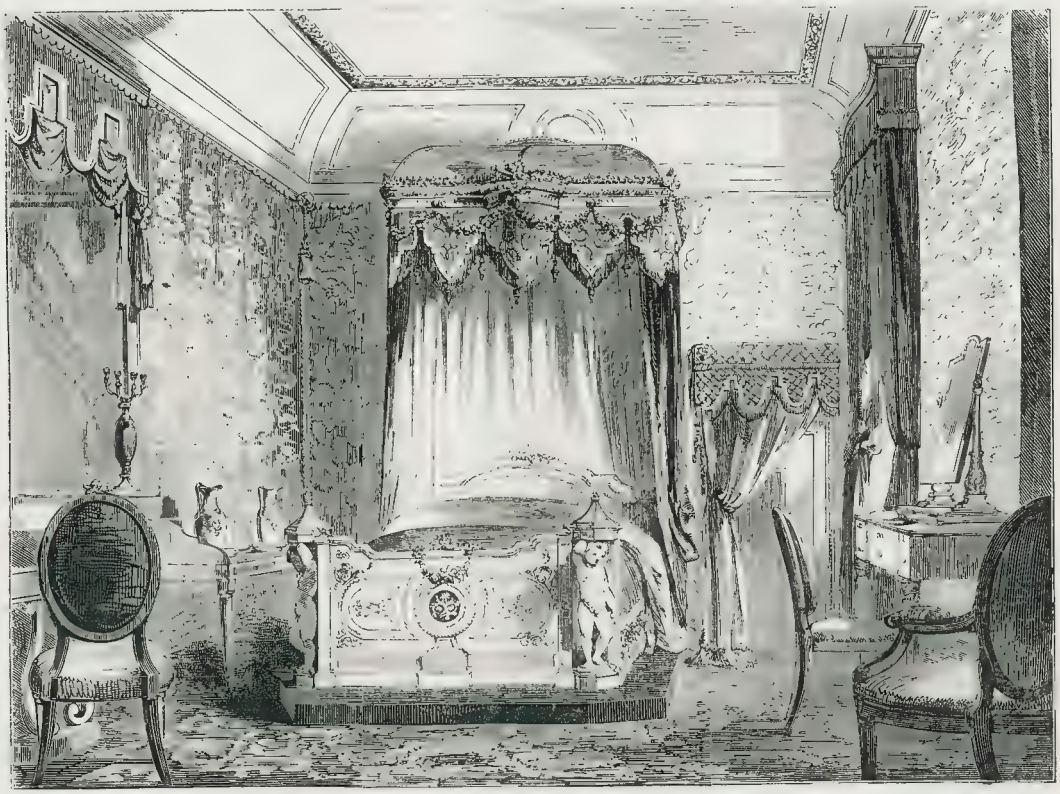
Internally the Church will be covered with a roof of one span (it being desired that no pillars or internal supports should exist), the principal timbers stopping upon moulded and carved stone brackets. The roofs will be open, with ceiling between the rafters, and boarding to receive the slates. The chancel arch will be richly moulded. The pulpit and desk will be of carved oak, and the font of Caen stone, richly carved. The walls are to be built of stock bricks, faced with Kentish rag-stone; and all the dressed masonry will be Corsham-down Bath stone. The foundations are concreted throughout. The parsonage will be of the Early Domestic English style.

NEW CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, TULSE-HILL, NORWOOD.

The total cost of both Church and parsonage, including complete fittings, drainage, fencing, warm water apparatus, gas lighting, and every expense, will be £7500. Taking into consideration the great size, substantial workmanship, and architectural pretensions of the Church and parsonage, and the distance from town, this will probably be the cheapest work of the kind ever erected in the neighbourhood of London.

The whole has been designed by, and is being carried out under the superintendence of, Mr. Thomas D. Barry, of 15, Lincoln's-inn-fields, and Liverpool.

THE EMPEROR'S RECEPTION-ROOM (VANDYKE GALLERY), WINDSOR CASTLE.



THE STATE BED-ROOM, BUCKINGHAM PALACE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

TOILET-TABLE AT WINDSOR CASTLE

TOILET-TABLE AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

THE IMPERIAL APARTMENTS AT WINDSOR CASTLE AND BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

THE EMPEROR'S RECEPTION-ROOM, WINDSOR CASTLE.

This apartment (known to the public as the Vandyke-room) from the beautiful collection of pictures by that celebrated master which it contains, was handsomely refurnished for the Emperor [illegible] tapestries and couches are of white and gold, covered with green and gold damask. The curtains are of the same material, richly trimmed. The handsome pier-tables, with marble slabs, behind which and above rise the pier glasses; some cabinets of exquisite workmanship stand on the site opposite the windows. Three very elegant chandeliers, of cut glass, are suspended from the ceiling [illegible] and fit for the picture of Charles I. on horseback, a visitor could scarcely recognise the room. The carpet is of the richest velvet pile, and of a crimson ground, with a small pattern of oak branches placed in trellis fashion, at the centre of which is the garter surrounding a rose. Mr. Cross, of Wigmore-street, has the chief management of the redecoration here, as also in the other [illegible]

THE STATE BEDROOM, BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

This is [illegible] the Dressing-room. It is a neat [illegible] with blue figured silk. The glass over the mantelpiece and [illegible] are draped with the same material, in the French style. The [illegible] are of the same material [illegible] and lined with the same silk, [illegible] linings, are of white Gros de Naples. The furniture, [illegible] rose-coloured silk. The cabinets, [illegible] wood, beautifully inlaid, and decorated with [illegible] the same beautiful description. The carpet is of [illegible] dark chocolate ground inclining to purple.

TOILET TABLE AT WINDSOR CASTLE.

This table is covered with fine Honiton lace hanging in festoons, and looped up near the top with gold cord and tassels. The festoons have each a deep border, the border or flounce [illegible] of the table is nearly six inches [illegible] The under covering of the table is of white satin [illegible] of old Florida, is enriched by a moulding of pretty design [illegible] surmounted by the initial of the Empress [illegible] from this hangs a veil of beautiful lace, looped up so as to display the glass. It was manufactured at Mr. Cayley's, of Windsor.

TOILET TABLE AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

The next piece of a similar kind which we represent is [illegible] of the Empress's Dressing-room in Buckingham Palace. [illegible] enveloped in beautiful Honiton lace. There is a deep [illegible] be so termed, around the top of the table, hanging in [illegible] glass is oval, with a handsome frame of white and gold, [illegible] upon two bases, upon each of which are seated a winged cherub, very nicely modelled, they are in pure white. This glass is surrounded by a veil of lace, kept out from the frame by an ormoulu rod passing from the side of the table in a graceful curve until it reaches the centre above the glass, where it is a little flat, and sustains the slight fabric hung upon it. The body of the table is covered with rose-coloured silk damask; it is altogether an elegant design, and reflects great credit on Messrs. Holland and Son, its manufacturers.

THE TELEGRAPHIC PLATEAU OF THE ATLANTIC.—The basin of the Atlantic Ocean is a long trough, separating the Old World from the New, and extending probably from [illegible] narrow was probably [illegible] to the [illegible] city band; that there the waters which [illegible] together so as to let the dry land appear and fit the earth for the habitation of man. From the top of Chimborazo to the bottom of the Atlantic, at the deepest place yet reached by the plummet in the Northern Atlantic, the distance in a vertical line is nine miles. Could the waters of the Atlantic be drawn off so as to expose to view this great sea-gash, which separates continents and extends from the Arctic to the Antarctic, it would present a scene the most rugged, grand, and amazing. The very ribs of the solid earth, with the foundations of the sea, would be brought to light, and we should have presented to us, at one view, in the empty cradle of the ocean, "a thousand fearful wrecks, with that fearful array of dead men's skulls, great anchors, heaps of pearl and inestimable stones, which, in the poet's eye, lie scattered in the bottom of the sea, making it hideous with sights of ugly death." The deepest part of the North Atlantic is probably somewhere between the Bermudas and the Grand Banks. The waters of the Gulf of Mexico are held in a basin about a mile deep in the deepest part. There is, at the bottom of the sea, between Cape Race, in Newfoundland, and Cape Clear, in Ireland, a remarkable steppe, which is already known as the telegraphic plateau. A company is now engaged with the project of a submarine telegraph across the Atlantic. It is proposed to carry the wires along the plateau from the eastern shores of Newfoundland to the western shores of Ireland. The exact circle distance between these two shore lines is 1600 miles, and the sea along this route is probably nowhere more than 10,000 feet deep.—*Professor Maury.*

BARNUM'S ELEPHANT.—Passengers who travel by the New York and New Haven cars have a grand chance of seeing the elephant. Going from New York, the cars pass the farm of P. T. Barnum, a mile or so before reaching Bridgeport, Ct. On that farm, [illegible] the railroad, an elephant may be seen every pleasant day attached to a large plough, and doing up the "sul-soiling" in first-rate style, at the rate of about three distinct double-horse teams. The animal is perfectly tractable. His attendant rides him, while a coloured man guides the plough. The elephant is also used for carting large loads of gravel in a cart arranged purposely for him, and in drawing stone on a stone boat or drag, in piling up wood, timber, &c., and in making himself generally useful.—*New York Tribune.*

Numerous arrests of a political nature have been made made at Cesena, Forli, and Ravenna.

DEFENSIVE PREPARATIONS AT ODESSA.—[illegible] months a great change in the outward appearance of [illegible] much so, that persons who were here last year [illegible] Instead of the former commercial bustle and activity, the place is quiet and nearly deserted by cavaliers, who, in dread of a bombardment, have mostly shut up their houses, and retired to the interior of the country, taking with them their families and the most valuable part of their movable property. Not a single merchant ship is now to be seen in the harbour, the numerous workmen employed by the merchants in the corn warehouses are all [illegible] owing to its security and the general insecurity. [illegible] money [illegible] to preserve [illegible] have no confidence in the [illegible] nor do they evince any enthusiasm for the cause of the Emperor. From the number of spies about, they, however, feel and think more than they say, for they are looked on with suspicion, and every word that escapes them is subject to especial examination from the numerous secret agents of the police. This is especially the case with the foreigners resident here, and even the Consuls of neutral and friendly Powers are not exempt from the system of espionage. They [illegible] have an opportunity of looking behind the certain will [illegible] at the so-loudly vaunted patriotism of the Russians might [illegible] is really worth. Even the enthusiastic [illegible] over the enemy [illegible] unpopular [illegible] and even [illegible] when a made-up despatch [illegible] be studied, form a list of losses, the sheer [illegible] amputation of a limb, and when hovering between life and death [illegible] Soldiers are apt to speak their minds freely, and communicate [illegible] lately fled, and think without much fear of the issue in perspective, it being very problematical whether they shall live to undergo once more that we know punishment, to which they have been accustomed all their days.—*Letter from Odessa, April 28.*

A DAY AT THE ALDERSHOTT CAMP.

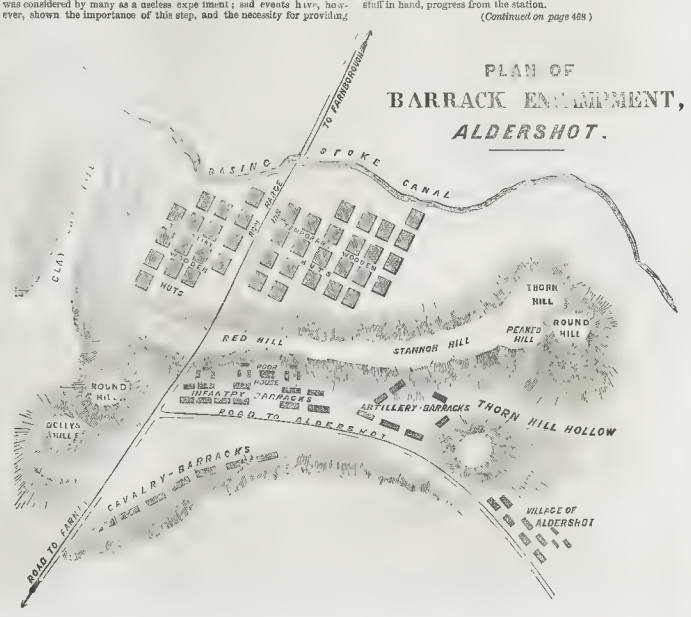
It is but a short time since the formation of a military camp at Chobham was considered by many as a useless expenditure; and events have, however, shown the importance of this step, and the necessity for providing the means of instruction and preliminary practice in the larger operations of warfare.

Forty years' peace had nourished the growth of science and knowledge. We had to some extent become aware that the strength, life, and moral condition of man could only be satisfactorily sustained by attending to those rules of nature which require proper shelter, clothing, food, good water, and an atmosphere unpolluted by animal or vegetable refuse. Notwithstanding our advanced information, the arrangements of the Chobham [illegible] made at the time of the Peninsular War. We have, however, of late been [illegible] of these fine soldiers of all ranks (and [illegible] pomp and glitter of Chobham, [illegible] plain that the majority of them were not killed in the midst of battle, but by the want of forethought and proper management. This consideration causes us to look with an anxious eye to the new Camp at present in progress at Aldershott; and as many of our readers will have a similar feeling, we will give them the following brief notes of a visit to the place.

Mentioning in the first place, that the Camp can easily be reached from two stations on the South-Western Railway, viz., Farnborough and Farnham, we will start by the seven o'clock morning train from Waterloo-bridge station. At that hour the smoke from the thousands of chimneys [illegible] full operation, [illegible] the [illegible] of these various stoves is not satisfactory. We, however, [illegible] and there a [illegible] stream, with [illegible] Hollands Bridge roads (still pleasant in [illegible] We pass Wimbledon, and by [illegible] cheerfully. A City gentleman [illegible] the young lambs, the ploughmen with their teams, and remarks that the crows fly lazily, as if they had already breakfasted.

Passing Kingston—that ancient residence of some of our Saxon Kings—and wishing to reach the Camp from the Farnham station, we, by a slight change in the carriages, go on to Woking, the old town of Guildford, Ash, and thence to the Farnham station: from here to Aldershott Heath is a distance of about three miles. Omnibus and other conveyance is to be [illegible] but, wishing to examine the interesting matters along the road, we, staff in hand, progress from the station.

(*Continued on page 468.*)



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IMPERIAL PRESENT TO THE LORD MAYOR.

The Lord Mayor has been honoured by the Emperor of the French with a very gratifying testimonial of his Imperial Majesty's high satisfaction at his reception by the Chief Magistrate and the Corporation of London.

On the Monday after the Emperor and Empress had quitted England, the Lord Mayor received a magnificent snuff-box, accompanied by the following letter, addressed to his Lordship by the French Ambassador:—

Albert-gate House, April 22, 1855.

My Lord Mayor,—I am commanded by the Emperor to transmit to your Lordship the casket which accompanies this letter, containing a snuff-box bearing the cipher of his Imperial Majesty.

The Emperor is desirous that you may preserve this remembrance of his presence in the city of London as a token of his gratitude for all the attentions you have paid on that occasion.

Accept, my Lord Mayor, the assurance of the feelings of high consideration I entertain for your Lordship

(Signed) The Ambassador of France, Walewski.

The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of the City of London.

The Lord Mayor returned the following answer:—

Mansion-house, April 23, 1855

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur,—I have received with profound gratitude the most splendid souvenir which his Imperial Majesty has desired your Excellency to present to myself.

I shall indeed ever preserve it as a memorial of an event which, I trust, in its present aspect, and in its future effects, will redound to the glory of both our nations, and to the peace and happiness of the entire world.

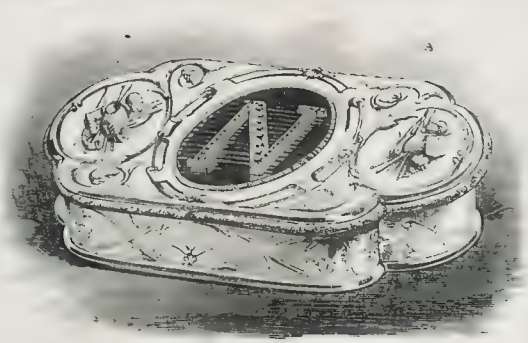
The pleasure with which I receive this token of his Imperial Majesty's remembrance is enhanced by the fact, that the auspicious event it commemorates has occurred during my mayoralty, to which distinguished office I was unanimously elected by my fellow-citizens.

May I pray your Excellency to make these my sentiments known to his Imperial Majesty, and to accept the assurance of the high consideration with which I remain, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, your faithful and obedient servant,

(Signed) Francis Graham Moon.

To Monsieur l'Ambassadeur to his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French.

The superb gift is a gold snuff box, the ornamentation of which is of beautiful design. The lid bears the Imperial cipher "N" in large brilliants, in testimony of "the lively and grateful remembrance which his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French retains of the reception he met with on the occasion of his visit to this great city."



Testimonial presented to the Lord Mayor by the Emperor of the French.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

The Government officials persist in their assurances that the Exhibition will be opened by the Emperor on the 15th of May; but as they were equally confident in assuring the public that the opening would take place on the 1st, there seems to be a good deal of doubt on the matter, more especially as the amount of work which still remains to be done before everything can be in order is so very great. Meanwhile the preparations are going forward rapidly in some of the departments.

In the English ground floor section great progress has been made by the exhibitors of Birmingham wares and furniture. Sims and Sons, and other English firms, have already arranged for the opening. In the galleries the English are equally conspicuous for their advanced state. The strange architecture of India is growing under the eyes of Mr Digby Wyatt; the central tent, gay with the bright dyes of the East, is already fixed. Nottingham is lining her sombre cases with yellow. De la Rue's case is receiving the remarkable combinations of colours loved by Owen Jones. Mr. I. C. Squirin, of New Bond-street, has already fixed his model farm; and against the southern walls various active gentlemen are arranging specimens of English printing and English photography. In the English Engineering Department a long stall of models, of Gravesend Pier, various lighthouses, &c., has been fixed and covered up. Hercabouts, also, Widdey and Co. have arranged the cocoa-nut fibre matting.

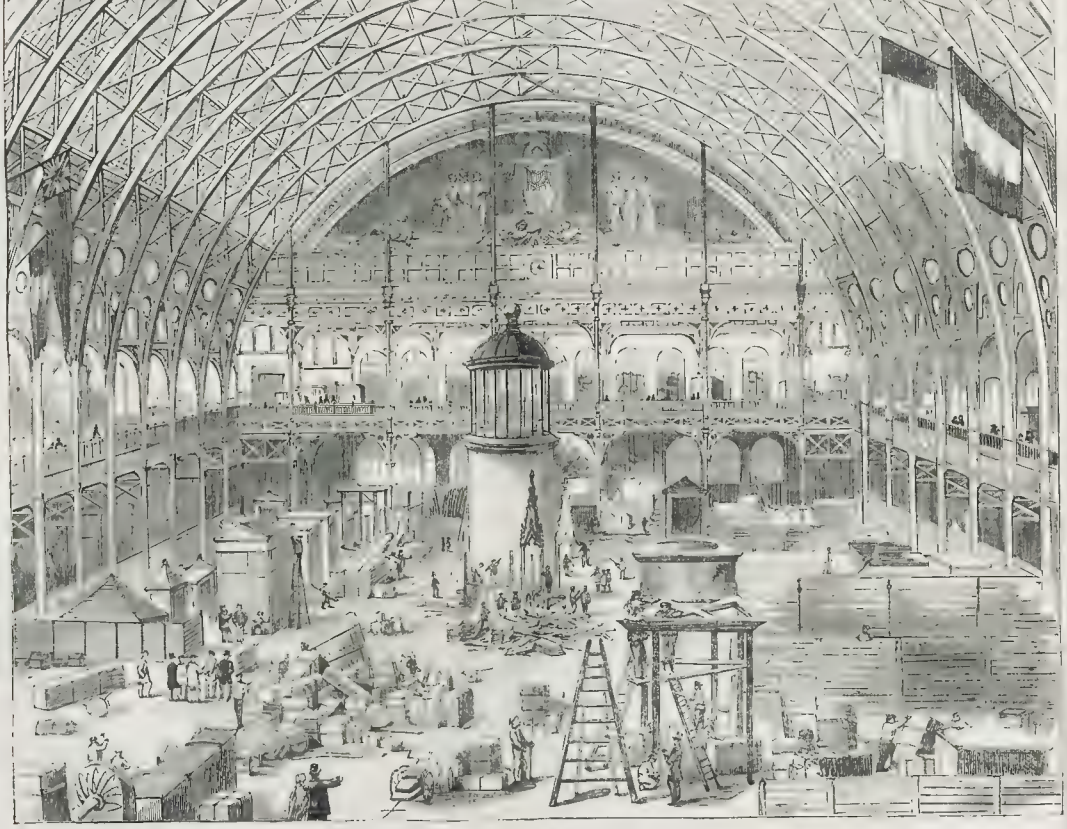
Passing westward through the Belgian and German Galleries space, an activity almost equal to that of England is observable. Already many Belgian stalls are finally arranged, and covered with cloths, to be removed on the 14th inst. only. Bonnefoy and Roux, of Brussels, have arranged an effective stall of carving and gilding against the southern wall of the building. In the German Gallery space there is a Berlin-wool trophy, displaying every possible shade of the remarkable production, from the lightest buff-coloured to the wing of the macaw down to the chocolate ground of the suburban kettle-holder. In the Western Gallery, Spain, Portugal, and Switzerland are hard at work, but display nothing at present. Some activity is now fairly perceptible in most of the French Courts. Counters are being covered with blue calico to show off ceramic manufactures, and a dull green ground pervades the court devoted to plastic ornaments. In this court exhibitors have already deposited some excellent specimens of Parisian taste and skill in modelling. Solon has some well-executed figures in carton-pierre; and there is an exceedingly pretty design, in red material, for gilding, by Vidal, representing an Allegory of Peace. Designs and modelling, indeed, appear to be the department of the Exhibition everywhere most advanced. The Germans are nearly ready with their plasters. In the English Gallery Mr. Digby Wyatt has already arranged his series of designs for various publications, and in the Belgian Gallery space stalls of designs are grouped.

The accompanying View was sketched on the 27th ultimo.

Death of Mr. W. Devonshire Saull. This kind-hearted gentleman (whose name will be remembered in the list of "Gratuitous Exhibitions" of the metropolis), died on the 26th ult., at his house, in Aldersgate-street, in his 72nd year. He was a member of the Geological and Astronomical Societies, and of the Society of Antiquaries: to the latter he communicated, in 1841, some observations on the discovery of some British, Celtic, and Roman remains in the neighbourhood of Dunstable; and he communicated to the Geological Society some observations on a notion of planetary influence on the globe, which were not allowed to be printed. In the *Literary Gazette* his views in regard to politics and religion, as well as science, are stated to have been anything but orthodox. He will, however, be remembered for his liberality in allowing to be visited by the public, on every Thursday, a very interesting Museum, which is thus described in the "Curiosities of London":—"The antiquities, principally excavated in the metropolis, consist of early British vases, Roman lamps and urns, amphoræ, and dishes, tiles, bricks, and pavements, and fragments of Samian ware; also, a few Egyptian antiquities; and a cabinet of Greek, Roman, and early British coins. The Geological Department contains the collection of the late Mr Sowerby, with additions by Mr Saull, together exceeding 20,000 specimens, arranged according to the probable order of the earth's structure. Every article bears a descriptive label; and the preservation of the antiquities, some of which were dug up almost on the spot, renders these relics so many medals of our metropolitan civilisation." We are not aware of Mr Saull's disposition of his museum; but it was understood to be his intention to bequeath it to some public institution, by which means it will be more accessible than it was in his lifetime.

Topographical Explanations.—It may be as well to mention that the large work which is alluded to in the English and French despatches as the "Mamelon Redoubt," is called by the Russians the "Kamschatka Redoubt." The "Kornileff Bastion," which is frequently referred to in the Russian despatches, appears to be the work immediately in front of the ruin of the old Round Tower, and now known as the Malakoff Batteries. The ravine which in the English Camp is known as the "Middle Ravine," or sometimes the "Otchakov Ravine," is always spoken of as the "Karalelnaia Ravine" in the French despatches. The French have given this name to it because, in winding round to terminate in the valley of the South Harbour, it passes by the Karalelnaia redoubt.—*Letter from the Camp.*

The grape disease has again made its appearance in many parts of Portugal. The orange and lemon trees, in addition to the blight with which they have been attacked, have been injured in the roots by a worm which was destroying the trees.

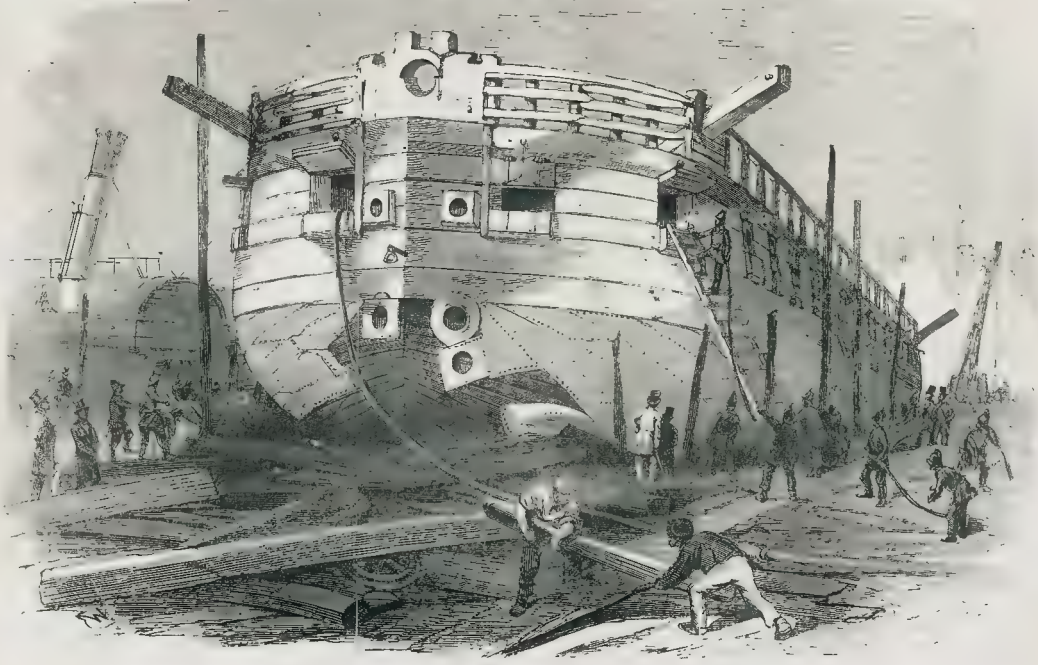


Interior of the Paris Industrial Exhibition Building.

THE FLOATING BATTERY "ETNA" ON FIRE, AT MESSRS. SCOTT RUSSELL AND CO.'S WORKS, MILLWALL.

DESTRUCTION OF THE "ETNA" FLOATING BATTERY.

As we mentioned briefly last week, the *Etna* floating-battery, built by Messrs. John Scott Russell and Co., which was to have been launched on Saturday last, was destroyed by fire on the night of the 3rd instant. The foreman of the battery went over the works as late as a quarter to nine that evening, when it appeared perfectly safe, and that within twenty-five minutes afterwards flames were seen encroling her port side as well as underneath. The fire had been kindled outside, and the flames being exposed to a strong north-easterly gale were wafted through the port-holes into the interior of the battery, and all attempts to check the progress proved ineffectual. The most strenuous exertions were made



REMAINS OF THE FLOATING BATTERY "ETNA," AT MESSRS SCOTT RUSSELL'S, MILLWALL.

collect the various hands together; but, before any one could render the least assistance, the flames rushed between the iron plates of the battery, firing every foot of timber from the stem to the stern; and eventually the heat became so great that the iron plates, 4½ inches thick, started in sundry places, when the flames rose upwards of a hundred feet high, lighting up the east end of the Surrey side of the water. The reflection of the flames was so strong, that it was impossible to tell from a distance on which side of the river the fire was raging, and many of the engines were driven as far as Deptford before the firemen could ascertain the exact seat of the disaster. About eleven o'clock a frightful scene took place, as the ponderous vessel, in a thorough state of ignition, glided off the stocks most majestically into the river, amidst the shrieks of some thousands of people who were in boats at the mouth of the dock. Several persons were so frightened that they jumped into the river, but they were fortunately rescued by the Thames police and watermen. The loss caused by the fire—which is strongly suspected to have been the work of an incendiary—is estimated at from £80,000 to £100,000.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

As may be supposed, the sudden and unexpected changes that have taken place among some of the high functionaries here form the great subject of conversation and interest. A thousand reports and conjectures are whispered about concerning the resignation of M. Drouyn de Lhuys, none of which, however, we feel justified in repeating. M. de Persigny is, we think, likely to be popular in England. His knowledge of the country, the society, and the people, acquired during his residence with the Emperor, when Prince Louis Napoleon his firmness of purpose, his intelligence, and composure of tone and manner—are all calculated to produce a favourable impression on the minds of our compatriots.

The latest intelligence respecting Pianori states that he has already suffered several condemnations in Italy; on what grounds has not yet transpired. He appears to have arrived in Paris better provided with money and clothes than there is any likelihood he could have obtained by his labour, and the pistol used in the attempt was one of considerable value. The sentence pronounced on the intended assassin is what was generally anticipated from the time it was known that he was to be submitted to the ordinary course of jurisdiction. It appears that some of the Senators, on the day after the attempt, went to the Tuileries, to consult with the Emperor on the subject; his reply is said to have been—"Je veux que cet homme soit jugé comme s'il avait tiré sur un plâtrier de la plaine St. Denis." Innumerable, as may be supposed, are the reports relative to the event and its causes. Some assert that the assassin belongs to a vast secret society, different branches of which are scattered through various countries, and that each branch has appointed two delegates for this purpose, designed by the drawing of lots; others, that it is a party in the south that has employed Pianori (or Pianoli). None of these reports are in any degree corroborated by his testimony, in which he has never ceased to assert that his motive in the attempt was to carry out the vengeance he had sworn to perform when the siege of Rome was the cause of the ruin of his family. When in the Conciergerie, a photographic portrait was executed of Pianori, that, by distributing copies wherever there seemed to be any clue to his identification, further details respecting him may be obtained. A providential circumstance, but little known, seems, in some degree, to have contributed to the security of the Emperor on this occasion. The écuyer of the Empress, the Baron de Pierre, being ill on the day in question, the Emperor directed that M. de Valabreque, who habitually attended himself, should follow the carriage of the Empress, in order to fill his place; by this means his Majesty was left with M. Edgar Ney, who rode on his left. On the arrival of M. de Valabreque, the Empress, as if warned by a presentiment, refused to accept his escort, and desired him to return immediately to resume his post. It was within a few paces only of the spot where he took his place on the Emperor's right—the side from which the shot was fired that the attack was made, and there is no doubt but that this circumstance operated materially in falsifying the aim of the assassin.

Paris is beginning to fill perceptibly, but hardly to the degree that was anticipated, for the expected opening of the Exhibition. It appears now highly uncertain whether matters will be sufficiently advanced by the 15th to allow of the event taking place; and, indeed, we suspect that, if the month of May sees it occur at all, it will be the utmost that may be expected. As yet very few season tickets have been taken. The price of entrance during the month of May (?) is to be 5 francs.

The Cercle de l'Exposition is sending round volumes of circulars respecting its plans, views, and intentions, and appealing to the *notabilités* of the capital to aid it in doing the honour to the celebrities of all classes and all countries about to be therein collected. All the *commissaires* sent by their various nations for this occasion have received letters of invitation, gratis, from the club; and furthermore, it has placed at their disposal a set of chambers belonging to the hotel, for the accommodation, free of expense, of such of their compatriots—members of the Cercle—who shall arrive in Paris unprovided with lodgings, until the day after their entrance.

On the 3rd the Emperor and Empress inaugurated the magnificent Horticultural Exhibition in the Champs Elysées—of which we gave our readers a recent account

Preparations are being made for the departure of their Majesties for St. Cloud, to pass the commencement of the summer.

A singular accident occurred a few days since to Madame de Poize, one of the new *dames d'honneur* to the Empress. The horses of her carriage ran away in the court of the Tuileries, and, upsetting the vehicle, broke her leg, and considerably injured both the coachman and footman. It is hoped that the results of this distressing occurrence will not prove very serious.

It is a subject of remark that the nephew of the Duke of Wellington (Lord Cowley) presented to the nephew of the Emperor Napoleon an address of congratulation on his recent escape on the anniversary of the death of Napoleon I.

La Opéra Comique is busily occupied in preparing for representation the new opera of MM. Auber and Scribe—"Jenny Bell." Shortly after is to follow the work of M. Gevaert—"Le Revenant," in one act. At the Jardin d'Hiver is being produced a new plan, in high relief, of Sebastopol with all the latest works; executed by a first-rate modeller, M. Bauerkeller, from an original taken on the spot by M. C. Leger. It is on an extremely large scale; and, from the grandeur of the effect and correctness of the details, is full of interest and instruction. The reopening for the season of the Hippodrome has been a point of general attraction. One of the principal novelties on this occasion is the appearance of three of the Bushman race—two men and a woman—who vie with each other in singularity, hideousness, and the absence of all that most distinguishes the human from the brute race. The exhibition of these extraordinary creatures has produced some curiosity, but has not proved generally popular.

AMERICA.

The mail steam-ship *America*, which sailed from Boston on the 25th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Tuesday. The news by this arrival is meagre and uninteresting.

A despatch from Detroit, dated April 1, says that on that morning the propeller *Oregon*, of Cleveland, about four miles above that city, exploded, killing ten persons, and severely wounding several others. The explosion was caused by a defect in the boiler. The steamer was completely shattered, and shortly afterwards sank. Another steamer—the *William Knox*—from Cincinnati for St. Louis, was destroyed by fire on the 23rd ult., below Louisville. The boats were full of passengers, but all were expected to be saved by a steamer seen alongside.

In the Supreme Court of New York, on the 19th ult., a verdict of 15,234 dols was returned against Phineas T. Barnum, for Crystal Palace shares, bought at the time he assumed the Presidency.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The news from the Allied Camp is unusually barren of incident this week. The letters, which come down to the 28th ult., report that there has been a little skirmishing in the night, a little firing in the day—not much of either, but just sufficient to show that we are still at war, and have not raised the siege. The enemy appear to have everywhere repaired the damage which was done to their works by the late fire from our batteries. On our side, it having been made evident that neither the proximity nor the weight of metal was sufficient to accomplish the desired object of silencing the hostile works, vigorous steps are being taken to remedy the deficiencies. Heavy guns, which were in the batteries of the first parallel, are being removed into the advanced work. Other batteries are being thrown up still further in front. Batteries which at the first bombardment were armed with 24-pounders, replaced at the late fire by 32-pounders, will now be wholly armed with 68-pounders. The late fire has shown, too, where other batteries were required, and some of these are already completed and armed, while others are in progress. The French have also thrown up a new battery on the right, and have added generally to the power of their works.

On some days the fire has been so slack that not more than twenty or thirty round shot have been fired for a whole day from the English lines, and the Russian and French works are said to be equally silent. Our tramway is taxed to its utmost, and each day large stores of ammunition are forwarded. Before the bombardment will again commence, 2000 tons of powder and shot are required at the English works alone, in addition to the daily supply of 150 tons of shot and shell. All the vessels in Balaclava having cargoes of shot have been required to discharge them immediately, and all vessels now using ordnance shot as ballast are also ordered to land them.

One hundred and fifty tons of shot and shell, and one hundred and twenty tons of powder, were forwarded to Camp on the 27th, with twelve more guns, taken from the *Leander*. The latter are six 32's and six 56's. Beyond these facts, and that they were sent to the trenches, when our works were progressing very slowly, there is literally nothing to chronicle connected with the English portion of the siege. On the side of our allies they are said to be pushing on faster, though even they are represented as not keeping pace with the enemy's defensive preparations.

The sanitary reports of the English army are very gratifying. The army now consists of 18,690 rank and file, exclusive of sergeants, drummers, seamen, marines, mounted staff corps, cavalry, artillery, or engineers, under arms, and also exclusive of those on camp duties. If sergeants and rank and file of cavalry, artillery, and infantry were reckoned, still, excluding the remainder of the above, we should have within a fraction of 24,000 bayonets.

General Canrobert, in a letter addressed to the Emperor, dated April 28, thus expresses himself:—

It is with pleasure that I announce to your Majesty that the English army, always so solid, has become as fine and healthy as it was in the first days of its arrival in the East. It is receiving reinforcements in infantry, in cavalry, and in means of transport. I continue to live on the most cordial terms with Lord Raglan, and the two armies continue to be closely united, and count one upon the other.

The general belief is that the Allies were to commence operations on a large scale as soon as the reinforcements have arrived. A telegraphic despatch from the Crimea of the 8th inst. announces that General Marmora had arrived with 4000 Piedmontese troops. The French army of reserve at Maslak was also about to go to the Crimea.

In consequence of alarming rumours from Eupatoria, Omer Pacha had returned from Balaclava, and made a reconnaissance towards Sax. The Russians would not venture on a battle, but an attack was anticipated from them.

THE VIENNA PROTOCOLS.

THE whole of the papers relating to the negotiations at Vienna on the Eastern question are now before the public, but their very great length forbids our giving more than a summary of their contents. They consist of the Memorandum communicated by the Three Powers to Prince Gortschakoff on the 28th December, 1854; and fourteen Protocols, which profess to give the substance of what took place at each Conference. The Memorandum contained a definition of the Four Points—the abolition of the Russian Protectorate over the Danubian Principalities; the free navigation of the Danube; the revision of the Treaty of 1841, with a view "to connect the existence of the Ottoman Empire more completely with the European equilibrium, and to put an end to the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea;" and, lastly, the abrogation of all treaties under which Russia has claimed an official protectorate over the Christian subjects of the Sultan—the latter guaranteeing the religious privileges of the different Christian communities in Turkey.

At the first Conference, which was held on the 15th of March, Count Buol, who had been appointed president, stated that "the bases of peace," as explained in the memorandum, "had been communicated to the Russian Envoy," and that "he was authorised to adhere to all the principles laid down, and was ready to adopt them as a point of departure for the negotiations." Baron de Bourqueney and Lord John Russell then stated the determination of their respective Governments "to pursue the career of sacrifice until the four principles enunciated by the Austrian Plenipotentiary shall have been placed, with all their consequences, in the public law of Europe," and at the same time reserved the right of making such special conditions, over and above the four guarantees, as the interests of Europe might require, in order to prevent a return of the existing complications. Prince Gortschakoff was also desirous to promote peace, and hoped that they had all a common object in wishing to secure a general peace, "a peace which cannot be lasting, or have any practical value, unless it be honoured for both parties." He added that, "if conditions of peace were wished to be imposed on Russia which should not be compatible with her honour, Russia would never consent to them, however serious the might be consequences."

The Russian Ministers (after an ineffectual attempt to obtain the admission of Prussia to the Conference) consented to the complete and permanent abrogation of the treaties formerly existing on the subject of the Principalities between Russia and Turkey; and the future condition of those provinces was to be settled by a solemn act of the Porte, providing for the maintenance of all the privileges and liberties of the Moldo-Wallachians and the Servians, under the amicable sanction of the Great Powers. All exclusive protection was to be abolished, and the Russian Plenipotentiaries showed a singular and laudable, if it were genuine, zeal that the franchises of the people in these provinces should in novise be abridged. The definitive arrangement of a scheme for the administration of the Principalities was referred to a committee, which was to wait for further instructions from Constantinople.

The question of the Danubian navigation was in like manner settled without much difficulty. Russia protested that she had never contested or opposed the commercial freedom of the river, and that the obstacles which had arisen proceeded from natural causes only; to which remark Baron Prokesch drily replied that, although he in no respect questioned the good intentions of the Russian Government on this subject, it unfortunately happened that the results were incontestably at variance with her professions. The arrangement eventually agreed upon provided that the principles established in 1815 with reference to the other navigable rivers of Europe should be applied to the Danube and guaranteed by all the Powers, and that a commission of all the Great Powers should be appointed to take all the necessary steps for opening and protecting the free navigation of the river. Russia agreed not to re-establish her quarantine on the Sulina mouth, and that no fortifications should be erected between the channels of Sulina and St George

On the 27th of March the Plenipotentiaries arrived at the discussion of the Third Point, upon which Count Buol proposed that the Ministers of Russia and of Turkey should, in the first instance, be requested to state respectively to the Conference the means by which they proposed to give effect to this general stipulation. This courteous proposition was assented to by France and England, but declined by Prince Gortschakoff, who stated that he was not in a condition to take the course suggested by Count Buol, and an adjournment was then agreed upon for the purpose of allowing time for Ali Pacha to arrive from Constantinople. M. Drouyn de Lhuys from Paris, and further instructions from St. Petersburg. Austria urged the expediency of proceeding in this interval of time to the discussion of the Fourth Point, and Russia strongly supported this opinion, but the French and English Envoys were ordered by their respective Governments to abstain from discussing the last point until the third had been settled.

On the 17th of April, after an interruption of eighteen days, the Conference resumed, in order to learn the result of the reference to St. Petersburg. Prince Gortschakoff at once declined to accept the offer made him at the former meeting, and to originate any proposal; but he added, that Russia was prepared to take into her serious consideration any means which might be proposed, provided they were not of a nature to infringe on the rights of sovereignty of the Emperor of Russia in his own dominions. Upon this announcement M. Drouyn de Lhuys (who was now present) expressed his regret that, after eighteen days' delay, the Russian Plenipotentiaries had no better course to propose than to make to the Conference; he therefore proposed that the Allied Powers should immediately meet to agree upon a proposition; and he ended by asking Prince Gortschakoff whether Russia would consider her rights of sovereignty infringed if she deprived herself of the liberty of building an unlimited number of ships of war in the Black Sea? To this home question Prince Gortschakoff replied that "Russia would not consent to the strength of her navy being restricted to any fixed number, either by treaty or any other means."

Lord John Russell could not disguise the surprise which Prince Gortschakoff's statement had caused him. The sole object of the surrender of the initiative to Russia was to give her the opportunity of making proposals consistent with her honour. History recorded more than instance of great and glorious Sovereigns having consented to a limitation of their rights of sovereignty in their own territory, being animated with the desire of putting an end to the effusion of blood by a treaty of peace, or of preventing a rupture and the consequences of war. He instanced the consent of Louis XIV to the demolition of Dunkirk, and several other cases drawn from treaties concluded between Great Britain and France, and Great Britain and the United States, with a view of avoiding war. He had hoped that Russia would have voluntarily, and with the view of re-establishing peace, made proposals tending to this end. Since the Court of St. Petersburg had declined to take the initiative on this subject, the chances of success attending the negotiations for peace appeared in his eyes much diminished.

Prince Gortschakoff replied that a Power of the first order could hardly accept the limitations of the nature to which Lord John Russell had alluded, except after having sustained a long series of disasters, and that the case of Dunkirk could in no way be applied to the present position of Russia. As to the diminution of the chances of peace, spoken of by Lord John Russell, he begged him to consider that Russia had only excluded one point from discussion, and was ready to examine all the modes of solution which should be proposed, exclusive of this point.

Aali Pacha held that "the limitation of the naval forces in the Black Sea was the only mode of solution at once practicable and honourable to all parties. Count Buol regretted that the answer of the Court of St. Petersburg was not of a nature to serve as a point of departure for further deliberations. A short discussion followed, and then the Conference broke up.

On the 19th of April it again assembled, when a long discussion took place regarding the best means of "putting an end to the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea." Lord John Russell remarked that of the two Powers which alone command the shores of that sea—"the one, already very strong, continually augments her forces; while the other is weakened by the wars which she has had successively to carry on against Russia. In this state of things England regards the excessive increase of the Russian fleet in the Black Sea as a perpetual menace hanging over the Bosphorus and Constantinople." Count Buol took the same view. As a general theory, to pretend to limit the limit or sea forces of a foreign Power would be to encroach on her sovereign rights; but the case of the Euxine—a closed sea—was an exceptional one. "An indefinite development of the maritime forces of one of the bordering Powers," showed "an aggressive tendency" which ought to be guarded against by the proposed limitation.

Prince Gortschakoff asks the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria if the limitation of the Russian forces in the Black Sea—which Count Buol had admitted to be an exception to a general principle recognised by himself—were, in his opinion, to be accomplished by means of coercion, in case Russia were to refuse to concur in it spontaneously.

In answering this question, Count Buol declares that Austria, for the present, supports the project under discussion, by recommending it to the adoption of Russia, but that, in other respects, he must reserve for the Emperor his master full liberty as to the choice of means by which he may consider it expedient eventually to give his support to this proposition.

On the 21st of April a long discussion took place regarding the means of connecting the existence of the Ottoman Empire with the European equilibrium. To effect this arrangement a clause was drawn up by M. Drouyn de Lhuys, which bound all the Powers to respect the independence and territorial integrity of the Ottoman empire, and to guarantee the common and strict observance of this engagement. On this point Prince Gortschakoff at once refused to attach to this guarantee the signification of a positive or active guarantee of the Turkish territories. M. Drouyn de Lhuys showed that Russia was unwilling to give any real guarantee to the Ottoman empire. What it gave was a mere sham, because "even in the case of a Turkish province being invaded by one of the contracting Powers, Russia, according to Prince Gortschakoff's interpretation, will confine herself to the employment of her good offices," while on the other hand, she admits of no limitation to a fleet which, in the judgment of all the Powers, is disproportioned to the forces of the other riverbordering Power to such an extent as to form a permanent menace against her. On being pressed to explain more fully the views of the Court of St. Petersburg, since it had already rejected the means proposed for the attainment of the Third Point, Prince Gortschakoff read a paper to the Conference, in which he attempted to show that Turkey was exposed to no danger from the naval forces of Russia, and ended by declaring that Russia would not object to a revision of the Treaty of 1841 for the purpose of opening to the military flags of all nations the passage of the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles. That is literally the only concession which Russia announced her intention to make on this subject—a concession, indeed, made at the expense of Turkey rather than at her own. It was followed by another suggestion, of closing the Straits at the pleasure of the Porte; but these schemes were so obviously worthless and impracticable that nothing remained for the British and French Plenipotentiaries but to refuse to discuss them, and to declare that their powers and instructions were exhausted. The Russian Envoy, nevertheless, continued to insist that he had redeemed the pledge of his Government by making several propositions for the solution of the difficulty; but the only value of those propositions in our eyes, and in the eyes of Europe, is the demonstration they contain that Russia will not until she be compelled, consent to give any guarantee for the territorial independence of Turkey the breach of which would constitute an immediate *casus belli* between herself and all the other Great Powers; and that Russia will maintain, as long as she is physically able to do so, that aggressive position in the Black Sea which has been the sole cause of the present war. Count Buol terminated the Conference, as he had opened it, by declaring that, in the opinion of the Court of Vienna, the plan proposed by M. Drouyn de Lhuys and rejected by Russia was complete and effectual, but that the counter-propositions of Russia would only tend to augment the chances of a misunderstanding," and could not be considered as embodying principles proper to be introduced into a complete and general system of policy.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE RT. HON. SIR ROBERT HARRY INGLIS, BART., LL.D., F.R.S., F.S.A.

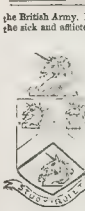
THIS respected and much-esteemed gentleman died on the 5th instant at his house in Bedford-square. Sir Robert was born 12th January, 1786, the only son of Sir Hugh Ingus, Chairman of the East India Company, on whom a Baronetcy was conferred 6th June, 1801. His mother, Catherine, was daughter and one of the coheirs of Harry Johnson, Esq., of Milton Bryan, county Bedford. Sir Robert, who completed his education at Christ Church, Oxford, was called to the bar by the Hon. Society of Lincoln's Inn in 1818. He entered Parliament, in 1824, as member for Dundalk, and sat subsequently from 1826 to 1832 as representative for Ripon. In 1832 he was elected by the University of Oxford, and continued to sit for that learned constituency until his recent final retirement from Parliament. He married, 10th February, 1807, Mary, only child (by his first marriage) of Joseph Seymour Biscoe, Esq., of Pendil, county Surrey, but had no issue. The Baronetcy is consequently extinct.

A Portrait, with a copious memoir of the Right Hon. Sir R. H. Inglis appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for January 21, 1854.

DR. ALEXANDER MELVILLE.

DIED at Montrose, 1st May, aged 71, Alexander Melville, M.D., Surgeon to her Majesty's Forces in the West Indies, and Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. The deceased was son of the late Alexander Melville, M.D., Surgeon in the Royal Artillery, and for forty years Ordnance Surgeon in the Island of St. Vincent. He was lineally descended from the late General Sir David Dalhousie, of Tulyroskie, and Governor of India. The deceased was at the taking of Martinique and Guadaloupe, and served thirty years in

the British Army. He was generally beloved, especially for his watchful care of the sick and afflicted



SIR GEORGE HEAD, KNT.

THE death of this gentleman occurred on the 2nd inst., in Cockspur-street. Sir George, who had completed his seventy-third year, was brother of Sir Francis Bond Head, Bart., and eldest son of the late James Roper Head, Esq., of the Hermitage, Kent, whose father, Moses Mendez, Esq., was son of Fernando Mendez, who came from Portugal, and was physician to King Charles II. Moses Mendez married Anna Gabrella, second daughter and coheir of the Rev. Sir Francis Head, Bart., of Hermitage; and thus the name of Head became the cognomen of his descendants. Sir George Head, whose decease we record, received his education at the Charter-house. In 1808 he held a commission as Captain in the West Kent Militia; in 1809 entered the Commissariat at Lisbon, and, until 1814, served in the Peninsula. More recently he was employed in Canada, Nova Scotia, and Ireland. Sir George gained repute in literature by his "Forest Scenes in the Wilds of North America," and his "Home Tour in the Manufacturing Districts of England." At the period of his death he was Deputy Knight Marshal to the Queen.

WILLS AND PERSONALTY.—The wills of Lieut.-Col. Harry Smith, 8th Regiment of Light Infantry, Scutari; and Major the Hon. Charles Daly, 96th Foot, Crimea, have been proved in London. The Right Hon. Lady Frances Preby, of Eaton-place and Elton, £18,000; Sir Philip Broke, Bart., £35,000; Major George Birch, H.E.I.C., £35,000, within the province of Canterbury; Shakespear Phillips, Esq., of Barlow-hall, and Hertford-street, Mayfair, £80,000; William Brodie Gurney, Esq., parliamentary shorthand-writer, £45,000; James Colman, miller and merchant, of Norfolk, £50,000

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MAY 10.

Month and Day.		Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
		Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
May	4	29.668	50·6	36·6	43·0	− 9·7	82	N.E.	0.00
"	5	29.803	62·2	28·8	43·5	− 9·5	79	N.E.	0.00
"	6	29.914	62·8	36·5	48·7	− 4·3	88	S.W.	0.00
"	7	29.825	60·3	44·9	51·6	− 0·6	76	S.W.	0.07
"	8	29.737	59·6	41·1	46·8	− 5·3	75	W.N.W.	0.00
"	9	29.972	61·0	38·0	44·0	− 8·0	83	S.S.W.	0.10
"	10	29.472	61·8	43·2	51·1	0·4	86	W.S.W.	0.00

Note.—The sign − denotes below the average.

The reading of the barometer increased from 29.67 in. at the beginning of the week to 29.99 in. by the 5th; decreased to 29.85 in. by the afternoon of the same day; increased to 30.01 in. by the 6th; decreased to 29.73 in by the 8th; increased to 29.97 in. by the 9th; decreased to 29.47 in. by the 10th; and increased to 29.49 in. by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 83 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.796 in.

The mean daily temperatures have been below their average values every day from April 21 by quantities varying from 4° to 9½°. The mean daily defect for the whole period is 4½°.

The mean temperature of the week was 46·9°—being 5·9° below the average

The range of temperature during the week was 35·8°—being the difference between the highest reading, 62·8°, on the 10th; and the lowest, 28°, on the 8th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 22·4°; the least was 14°, on the 4th; and the greatest, 33½°, on the 5th

Rain fell during the week, to the depth of two-tenths of an inch nearly

The weather throughout the week was changeable and cold.

Lewisham, May 11, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—In the week ending Saturday, May 5, the births of 865 boys and of 779 girls, in all 1644 children, were registered within the metropolitan districts. The average number for the preceding four weeks of the year from the return of the preceding ten years is 1507. The number of deaths within the week ending last Saturday was 1189; of these 597 were males, and 588 females. The average number of deaths for the preceding two week from the returns of ten years, raised for increase of population, is 1089; and thus 96 deaths occurred last week more than the ordinary rate of mortality would have produced. The numbers of deaths in the preceding two weeks were 1087 and 1132 respectively, so that causes have been in operation inimical to health, the most apparent of which is the continuance of E. and N.E. winds, and low temperature of the air, as shown in our weather table.

ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE. The annual general meeting of the friends and supporters of this benevolent institution was held at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Saturday evening, Sir William Erlington, M.P., in the chair. The room was crowded with distinguished members of the medical profession, anxious to give their support to a benevolent institution of this kind, the necessity of which has been so long felt. The report of the institution for the present year announced that Her Most Gracious Majesty had conferred her patronage on the institution, with the title of The Royal Medical Benevolent College, and also that the College at Epsom was advancing rapidly towards completion, and would be in a fit state to receive the pensioners and students before the close of the year. From the report of the treasurer it appeared that the amount in hand at the last meeting was £20,304; collected since then, £7[illegible], making a grand total of £27,500. The total amount collected since the commencement of the institution, three years ago, £38,269. The expenditure up to the present time, £16,469 17s. 4d.; invested in the funds, £20,000; to receive, £2000; total liabilities, £24,000.—Leaving a balance in hand, clear of all liabilities, of £[illegible].

SCOTTISH AND ENGLISH SCHOOL SOCIETY. The annual general meeting of the members and friends of this society was held on Tuesday, at the institution, in the Borough-road. The proceedings commenced with an examination of the children; and at twelve o'clock the business of the meeting commenced; the Duke of Argyll, one of the Vice-Presidents, in the chair. His Grace, in opening the proceedings, referred to the great progress the schools had made during the last few years, and then dwelt upon the value of the society as the mouthpiece and the [illegible] of important educational principles. The report stated that the [illegible] receipts of the year have been £17,353 18s. 5d., and the expenditure, including a repayment of loan, £15,691 1s. 1d. Several resolutions in [illegible] were unanimously adopted.

THE CHURCH PASTORAL AID SOCIETY. The twelfth annual meeting of this most important society was held in the large room of Exeter-hall, on Tuesday. The Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury took the chair, and was supported during the proceedings of the meeting by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Winchester, the Marquis of Blandford, the Lord Bishop of Melbourne, &c. The platform and body of the hall were much crowded. The chairman having briefly addressed the meeting on the vast amount of good that had resulted from the formation of this society, and the necessity for increased exertions and support to enable the committee fully to carry out its objects, called upon the secretary to read the report, which, after enumerating the instances of aid supplied to clergymen, proceeded to state that the society had, during the last twelve months, sustained great loss by the death of many valuable supporters. The total receipts for the year amounted to £28,173 7s., being a deficiency on those of the former year to the extent of £404. The expenditure for the same period had been £27,235, exceeding that of the preceding year by £436 5s. 8d. The total liabilities of the society were calculated at £42,935—a sum greatly exceeding its available annual income. The Bishop of Winchester, the Marquis of Blandford, the Bishop of Melbourne, the Revs. Canon Miller and Champneys, the Rev. Mr. Magee (Bath), and the Rev. Mr. Barry also addressed the meeting in support of resolutions in furtherance of the objects of the society, which were unanimously adopted.

SAILORS' ORPHAN HOME. The anniversary meeting of this institution, for educating and maintaining the orphan daughters of sailors, was held on Wednesday, in Willis's Rooms, St. James's; Vice-Admiral Sir George Seymour, K.C.B., in the chair. The chairman opened the business of the meeting by observing that the Sailors' Orphan Home was the only charity which provided for the destitute female orphans of the sailors belonging to the mercantile marine. There were 50,000 seamen and marines, and 20,000 sailors in the transport service, in daily peril of their lives, and the greatest consolation they had when exposed to danger was the consciousness that they had friends at home to attend to the interests of their children should death deprive them of their protection. The annual report stated that very eligible premises had been taken at Hampstead, which would accommodate 100 children instead of 50, as therefore. The statement of receipts and expenditure gave the total £1800 6s. 4d. had been received, and £1362 14s. expended; leaving a balance of £437 12s. 4d. The committee had been enabled to lend £250, making the total invested property of the charity £3,329 9s. 10d

SOCIETY OF THE FRIENDS OF FOREIGNERS IN DISTRESS.—The anniversary festival of this institution was celebrated at the London Tavern, on Wednesday—Mr. John Labouchere presiding, in the absence of the Right Hon. the Earl Granville, who was prevented attending by indisposition. A very favourable report of the position and prospects of the society was given, and the subscriptions of the evening, including £100 from Her Majesty, amounted to nearly £1600

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from page 454.*)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

VIENNA CONFERENCE.

Earl GREY gave notice that on Monday next he would move that an humble address be presented to her Majesty to thank her Majesty for having ordered the protocols and papers connected with the Vienna Conference to be laid on the table of the House; and to express to her Majesty their Lordships' regret at the failure of the negotiations in restoring peace; and also the opinion of the House that the terms proposed by Russia were reasonable in themselves, and calculated to secure the attainment of the objects for which arms were originally taken up.

The Affirmation (Scotland) Bill passed through Committee.

The Income-tax Bill was read a third time and passed.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Mr. MACKINNON obtained leave to bring in a bill for making an embankment, and railway on the north side of the river Thames, between the cities of London and Westminster

Sir R. BETHELL, in reply to Sir J. Pakington, said, a bill with respect to Church discipline had been submitted to the prelates of the Church. It would deal with the united Church of England and Ireland as one Church. It would, at all events, be brought in before the third reading of the English Testamentary Bill, which the Government had no intention of abandoning. A Matrimonial and Divorce Bill had been prepared, and would be introduced as soon as the House expressed an opinion on the second reading of the Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill.

Lord PALMERSTON gave notice that on Monday next he should move the suspension of the Standing Orders, in order that the House might proceed to the consideration of Mr. Layard's resolutions on the state of the nation. As it was very necessary that the Metropolis Local Management Bill should be considered, he proposed to take it to-morrow as soon as the Newspaper stamp Bill was disposed of.

In reply to Mr. Bright, Lord PALMERSTON said, that the elements of a Conference still existed at Vienna, and if at any time propositions were made by Russia directly, or by Austria in her behalf, which appeared to promise a successful issue, negotiations might at once be renewed.

THE INDIAN ARMY.

Sir E. PERRY moved for a Select Committee to consider and inquire how the army of India may be made most available for the war in Europe; and to inquire into the steps necessary to be taken, if it should be deemed expedient, to constitute the army of the East India Company a Royal army. It was obvious, he contended, that in time of war we must look to our Indian army as an available source from whence to derive reinforcements.

Sir DE LACY EVANS seconded the motion.

It was, however, opposed by Sir J. Fitzgerald, Col. Dunne, and Mr J. Hogg.

Mr. VERNON SMITH said he thought it would be impracticable to carry out the amalgamation of the two armies. At all events, he contended that this was not a question for a Committee of that House to adjudicate upon; it was one rather for the Executive Government to determine

After some further discussion the House divided, when the numbers were—For the motion, 62; against it, 171: majority against the motion, 109

Mr LAYARD said, as there was a similar motion to that of which he had given notice to come on in the House of Lords on Monday, he would avail himself of Lord Palmerston's kind permission to choose his own time, and select some other occasion for his (Mr. Layard's) motion (Laughter).

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) BILL.

The adjourned debate upon the second reading of the Scotch Education Bill was then proceeded with, after an unsuccessful attempt on the part of the opponents of the measure to postpone the discussion to another evening.

After a speech from Mr. CUMMING BRUCE against the bill, the debate, on the motion of the Earl of DALKEITH, was again adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

The Affirmations (Scotland) Bill was reported with amendments.

The Fisheries (British Islands and France) Bill and the Charitable Trusts (1855) Bill were severally passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

Mr. M. GIBSON gave notice that, on an early day, he would move a series of resolutions similar to those given last night by the Earl Grey in the House of Lords, in reference to the Vienna Conference

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, in reply to Major Fielden, said that no stamp was required on receipt of any sort of military pay.

THE NEWS FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

In answer to Mr. Grogan, Lord PALMERSTON said, the news which the Government had this day received appeared in the evening papers, which gave a correct representation of the matter. He did not think it expedient to give the exact words of the message, as it might lead to the detection of the cipher.

THE MAYNOOTH COMMISSION.

Colonel GREVILLE asked the Chief Secretary for Ireland whether it was true that Mr. O'Ferrall, one of the Commissioners for inquiring into the College of Maynooth, and the two Secretaries to the Commission, have been allowed to peruse and examine and to take memorandums connected with the transmission of the evidence and report to Rome, and the alleged additions and alterations in the evidence without the knowledge or sanction of the Commissioners?

Mr. HORSMAN said, the gentleman alluded to had arrived in London. He read a letter from Lord Harrowby, and entered into a lengthened explanation in mitigation of the charges made against the Commission by Mr. Spooner. He admitted, however, that the evidence was given to Dr. Cullen by one of the Commissioners before it was published, and that it was a great irregularity. No change, however, was made in the evidence.

Mr. SPOONER reiterated the charges he had made during the recent debate, against the Commissioners, and made some strong statements in reference to the conduct of Lord Harrowby, whose letter was in many respects inaccurate

After some further discussion the subject dropped.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

Major REID called the attention of the House to the highly critical state of public affairs, and to the increasing anxiety and dissatisfaction which at present pervade all classes of society; and impressed upon the Government the wisdom of immediately and decisively meeting those consequences which are certain to arise from continual popular demonstrations, by at once introducing such reforms in every branch of the State as are consonant with the intelligence of the age and the just demands of the people.

Lord PALMERSTON said, in forming his Government he was not influenced by family connections, but rather by the distinguished abilities which individuals had displayed in public affairs; and he only regretted that commercial men of the greatest ability and talent were generally so absorbed in their commercial pursuits that it was difficult—indeed impossible—to obtain their assistance. The Government as it stood was, he thought, such as should command the confidence of the public. He was aware that great improvements might be made in various branches of the public service, and the utmost attention was paid to the subject, with a view to their introduction It was intended to abolish the office of Master-General of the Ordnance, and also the Ordnance Board itself. The Artillery and Engineers would be placed under the same authority as the rest of the Army. The civil departments of the Ordnance would be placed under the control of the Secretary for War, as would also the medical department of the Commissariat. The object which the Government had most at heart was to render all the branches of the public service as effective and vigorous as possible, for he felt the war was with a colossal Power who would become dominant in Europe—France and England striking for secondary States—if we should be worsted in the struggle.

Mr. DISRAELI insinuated that Lord Palmerston was himself the author of Major Reid's motion. At all events, the noble Lord had furnished to the House but a meagre and frigid programme of what was done and contemplated by the Government.

NEWSPAPER-STAMP DUTIES BILL.

The adjourned debate on the third reading of the Newspaper-stamp Duties Bill was resumed by

Mr. FACKE, who protested against the measure, as grossly unjust to the dissidents. In towns people could get a penny paper one penny cheaper, while in the country the farmer would have to pay a penny more.

Mr. MAGUIRE advocated the principles urged by the *Times* newspaper.

Sir J. WALMSLEY was opposed to legislating for any one newspaper

Mr BARROW opposed the third reading on the same ground as that taken by Mr Facke.

Mr. M. CHAMBERS supported the bill.

Mr. BENTINCK did not believe the bill to be a spontaneous act on the part of the Government, nor did he think that the majority of the House, uninfluenced by other considerations, would ever consent to pass such a measure. The screw, however, had been applied by the right hon. member for Manchester with success. Members generally were left to their own opinions such a bill never could have been entertained.

The House then divided, and the numbers were—For the third reading, 128; against it, 60: majority, 78.

On the motion that the bill be now read a third time.

Mr. NAPIER moved the introduction of a clause providing that newspapers not exceeding six ounces in weight be transmissible through the post, at the charge of one penny during seven days after the date of publication.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opposed the clause, which was substantially the same as that of Mr. M. Milnes, which had been fully considered and rejected by a large majority of the House.

The clause was negatived without a division.

The bill was then read a third time, and passed.

The Spirit Duties Bill passed through Committee.

The Report upon the Customs Duties Bill was brought up and agreed to

STAMP DUTIES (DRAFTS ON BANKERS) BILL.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER withdrew this Bill, believing that it would operate seriously against banking operations, and would interfere injuriously with commercial transactions.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

Two well-known and welcome faces in London society have just been removed from among us by death—Sir Robert Harry Inglis, and the widow of Sir Humphry Davy. The cheerful countenance of the old baronet was one that invariably reflected the English gentleman of the Sir Roger de Coverley school; and few saw Lady Davy without thinking of bygone times, when (as Mrs. Apreece) she was the centre of a circle of fashion—the lively lady who won the heart and hand of the all-accomplished Sir Humphry Davy. Thirty years and more have glided since Inglis became known as something more than a mere Bedfordshire Baronet; forty and more have passed since Mrs. Apreece was married to Sir Humphry, and six-and-twenty years have passed by since Sir Humphry died and Lady Davy was seen in widow's weeds. Both the Baronet and my Lady lived in and for society; and both delighted in literature and literary men. The dinners of Sir Robert in Bedford-square, and the "at homes" in Park-street of Lady Davy, will long be remembered by all who had the happiness to attend them.

There is a passage in the letters of Mrs. Grant of Laggan, descriptive of Sir Robert Inglis when a young man, that deserves quotation. It was true at the time and it was true to the last:—

There came a young couple here, this winter (Mrs. Grant is writing in 1812), who have been three or four years married, but have no family. The gentleman is Mr. R. H. Inglis, the son of Sir Hugh Inglis, the India Director. He is pious, learned, and elegant, with all that is pleasing and engaging in a young man—and all that is respectable and estimable in an old one. His young wife is lively, sensible, and accomplished, without display or ostentation, which so utterly spoils the enjoyment of all those good things. We met them at Bishop Sandford's, and our acquaintance has since gone on with much satisfaction on both sides. People say Mr. Inglis is the living representation of Sir Charles Grandison. I think he is, indeed, very much the character of male excellence which Richardson wished to draw.

The favourite contemporary English author of Sir Robert Inglis was his old friend Southey.

The last public appearance of Sir Robert Inglis was, we believe, at the annual meeting of the Literary Fund, when he took the chair, and the Council of the Society was taken by surprise. Though certainly annoyed at the proceedings, he did not suffer his usual urbanity of manner to forsake him. There was still the pleasing smile, as if all was passing off to his entire satisfaction.

Three honorary situations are vacant by the death of Sir Robert Inglis—that of a Trustee of the British Museum, of a Vice-President of the Society of Antiquaries, and of Antiquary to the Royal Academy of Arts. Sir Robert was a very influential trustee, and, though he was too apt to be led by precedent, he was always in favour of securing real treasures at any reasonable cost. His successor as Vice-President of the Antiquaries will be, it is said, either Mr. John Bruce or the Rev. Joseph Hunter. As Antiquary to the Royal Academy he succeeded Sir Walter Scott, and will probably be succeeded by Mr. Layard or Lord Stanhope. The office of Antiquary to the Academy is entirely a sinecure, and with no other rewards than a ticket to the private view and annual dinner.

The poor pay which Mr. Marshall has received for his statue of the poet Campbell, to which we directed attention last week, will be better understood by the public when the price is contrasted with the sums received by other sculptors for statues of the same size and material. Chantrey's usual charge for a standing statue, a little larger than life, was two thousand guineas. For the large Watt, in Westminster Abbey, he received six thousand pounds. The elder Bacon had thirteen hundred guineas for his statue of John Howard, and the late Mr. Joseph had eighteen hundred pounds for his statue of Wilkie in the National Gallery. The smallest sum ever given for a statue in marble of any excellence—before this unexpected small pay to Mr. Marshall—was six hundred guineas, the sum (minus a few pounds we believe) which the elder Bacon received for his fine statue of Dr. Johnson. Only the other day Mr. Gibson received five thousand pounds for the statue of Sir Robert Peel in Westminster Abbey. But the Peel pay was a vote of the House, while the Campbell pay was the poor produce of a starved subscription.

Since the Graphic Society stepped eastward our visits have been unfortunately less frequent. The society, however, has lost none of its attractions in its removal from St. James's-street to the London University. The meeting on Wednesday last was particularly good, and we were the more pleased at its success, as one of our own Graphic Correspondents at the seat of war was an important contributor that evening. The sketches by Mr. E. A. Goodall of Sebastopol and its vicinity made for the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS were generally and deservedly admired.

Among the spy reckoning sales of real interest to the English antiquary is one not as yet publicly announced. The very curious collection of Mr Fitch, of Ipswich—known beyond the limits of East Anglia—is to be scattered by the hammer of a London auctioneer

There is no alteration of men and things at the National Gallery. Lord Palmerston has not accepted Lord Aberdeen's legacy of Sir Charles Eastlake and Mr. Wornum. Mr. Uwins is still keeper, and Colonel Thwaites is still secretary. Mr. Uwins has passed three score and ten, and is, unhappily, very infirm; and Colonel Thwaites, though he has resigned office, is still obliged to perform its duties, because my lord Palmerston will not appoint his successor.

A veteran ex-Chancellor, in a speech in Parliament the other night, protested against the contrast that gives rise to our present Lord Chancellor. When Lord Lyndhurst entered public life he found, he tells us, that the majority of the members of the House of Commons had been educated in one of our Universities; now he finds that not more than one-sixth, or, at the most, one-fifth, have been so educated. No wonder, then, that Latin quotations in the House are now so scarce.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—VISIT OF HER MAJESTY.—On Thursday her Majesty, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, the Princess Royal, Princess Alice, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Princess of Hohenlohe, accompanied by Lord Ginnys, General Buckley, Capt. Du Plat, &c., honoured this institution with a visit. Her Majesty having expressed a particular desire that the visit should be strictly private, the preparations made by Mr. Pepper, the resident director, were such as befitted the occasion, and did honour to the taste and judgment which prompted them

ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS.—Everything in Naples is at present extinguished by one great feature—the eruption of Vesuvius. During the whole of yesterday nothing was to be seen but smoke and cloud, which enveloped not only the mountain, but the whole coast, and then swept away in immense volumes towards Capri. In the very centre of the cloud, however, might be seen an ashy sulphurous-coloured plain, which, by a slight difference in the colour, and, by the well marked outline, indicated that it was not all smoke, but that lava was coming out.—*Letter from Naples, May 2*

TESTIMONIAL TO THE REV. J. B. OWEN.—On Tuesday, a superb service of plate, value £1000, which had been purchased by subscription, was presented, in St. Mary's School-room, Bilston, to the Rev. J. B. Owen, M.A., on his resigning the Vicarage of that parish. The subscription originated with the members of his congregation, but was extended, to meet the wishes of his many admirers in the midland counties, who were anxious to join in the expression of their high admiration of the unwearied industry of the Rev. Mr. Owen, for nearly twenty years, in the advancement of religion, education, and morality. A large number of the subscribers and friends witnessed the presentation, which was made by Mr. P. H. Harper, prefaced by an appropriate address The Rev. Mr. Owen returned thanks in an eloquent speech, in which he paid a high tribute to the paramount services of the press in the education and enlightenment of the people, particularly in the district of the collieries.

THE CAMP AT ALDERSHOTT.

(*Continued from page 462.*)

Farnham is a pretty little town, most healthily situated—surrounded on one side by Farnham park, and on the others by extensive hop-gardens. Soon after entering the town a picturesque hostelry catches the eye, on the sign of which is the following:—"Jolly Farmers: the birthplace of W. Cobbett, Esq., M.P." Here that industrious writer was taught by his father to earn his living from almost early infancy.

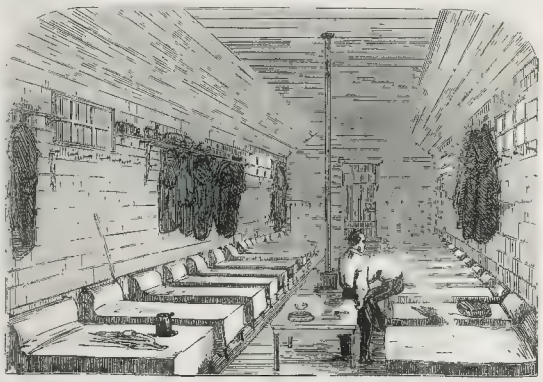
This town was originally called *Fern-ham*, from the fern growing on the heaths adjoining. Here, in 893, Alfred obtained a signal victory over the Danes, who were ravaging this part of the country; and, in the reign of Stephen, Henry de Blois, brother of that Monarch, and Bishop of Winchester—erected, on a hill commanding the town, a castle of great strength and of considerable extent, which is said to have been seized by the Dauphin of France, in his expedition against King John. This castle was demolished in the reign of Henry III, but was subsequently rebuilt by the Bishops of Winchester with greater magnificence as an episcopal palace. During the Parliamentary War the castle was garrisoned by the King; but, being besieged by Waller, the Parliamentary General, it fell into his hands, and was afterwards dismantled and nearly destroyed. At the Restoration the inhabited part was greatly improved by Bishop Morley; it has, since then, been altered, and is still the residence of the Bishops of the diocese. Considerable portions of the keep, &c., are still remaining.

The church of Farnham is now undergoing restoration, and is well worthy of a visit. The chancel is of Transition Norman, and the nave of about the fifteenth century, of fine proportions. Here Cobbett was buried, at his own request, by the side of his father. Leaving the church, and passing the somewhat picturesque Town-hall, we ascend the hill on which the castle stands: remarking that Farnham, from the favourable nature of the soil and the peculiar care taken in the culture of the hop-plant, produces an article decidedly superior to that of any other part of England; and, in consequence, the Farnham growers command a higher price in the market. Behind the castle the park extends throughout a circumference of three miles, and is well stocked with deer and planted with fir and other trees. From hence the road towards Aldershott assumes a wilder appearance, and here and there small cottages are built amongst the heath. The ground, as we go onward, continues to rise, and gives us on one side a bold view of Cæsar's Camp, as the high point of land shown in the right hand of the Engraving of the general view of Aldershott Camp is called in the neighbourhood; and on the other a panorama so extensive and striking, that many would willingly undertake the journey for the purpose of viewing that alone. As we get nearer to Cæsar's Camp, the surrounding scenery becomes more and more desolate; and, directed by a little girl engaged in gathering whins for firing, we mount the platform of the Camp said to have been erected by the Roman General above named. Here is a magnificent view of the country round, having for a foreground the rugged earthworks of the old warriors; and in the middle distance long ranges of uninhabited heaths, on one of which the new Camp is situated. Nothing can be more desolate and solitary than this spot: even the song of birds is scarcely heard. Although this place is named after Cæsar, it seems somewhat doubtful if it is a Roman camp at all. The embankments are very irregular, and of great extent, and may possibly have served as a place of defence during the severe struggles which occurred in this district between the Saxons and the Danes. Camden makes no mention of a Roman station of any importance being near this place. On the north side of this hill there is a large-made mound of earth, which has originally been of a circular form. The springs which abound here have caused part of this earthwork to slip away; it is, however, a matter well worthy of careful examination.

At a little distance, near Red-hill, or Red Field Farm, are several circular barrows. Leaving the hill, and proceeding towards the Aldershott Camp, we discovered a barrow of considerable length, and the visible remains of an undoubted Roman encampment, consisting of a

STREET WITHIN THE LINES OF THE CAMP AT ALDERSHOTT.

INTERIOR OF OFFICER'S HUT.



INTERIOR OF SOLDIERS' HUT.

GENERAL VIEW OF THE CAMP AT ALDERSHOTT, FROM THE FARNBOROUGH ROAD.

square platform, surrounded by three trenches. In the neighbourhood are also traces of a narrow embankment and ditch, which leads in one direction towards Caesar's Camp, and on the other at intervals towards Guildford. This may, probably, in former times have been raised to mark the division of two districts. Compared with this desolate spot, the new Camp presents an appearance of life and bustle; in all directions workmen are busily engaged either in completing huts or in commencing new ones, and, although the wind is strongly rushing over the place, bringing with it clouds of dust, we began to make a careful examination of the residences preparing for 20,000 men; and first let us mention that the part of the Camp shown in the engraved general view will accommodate twelve battalions, or 12,000 men. The huts for eight more battalions have been commenced on a less elevated piece of land, situated at some distance towards the north-east.

The houses for each battalion consist of two rows of soldiers' huts, twenty-four in a row, with 20 feet apart all round; those for the accommodation of twenty-five men are 60 feet long by 21 wide, and 7 feet high to the eaves. Behind the soldiers' dwellings in each battalion are placed the mess-rooms, guard-rooms, cooking-houses, and officers' apartments; the latter are 45 feet by 21; the difference of length between these and the soldiers' being caused by entrances and passages. The remaining space is divided into eight, four, two, or four of which are appropriated to the use of officers according to their rank. These apartments are only 10 feet long, 9 feet 2 inches wide, and at the highest part 8 feet.

The roofs of the houses of both officers and men have been lined at the height of eight feet by a flat ceiling of wood, which, although it may perhaps give more touch to the work, does not improve the ventilation of the place, and, certainly, to our eye, the position of the tunnel of its chimney must cause considerable risk from fire. The boarding of the roofs having been found insufficient to keep out the wet, they have been covered with a layer of felt. Although the cooking-houses and washing places are undoubtedly an improvement on those in use at Chobham, they are in many ways far from being perfect, and experience will undoubtedly suggest several alterations. The drainage is also considered at Aldershott, and is effected by means of glazed pipes, which are passed into the Basingstoke Canal. This, however, only provides for the surface drainage, Messrs. Henning having agreed to deodorise the remainder of the Camp by the use of peat charcoal.

The supply of water has been obtained from wells which, we are told, have been sunk to a depth of twenty-five or thirty feet. At this depth spring water has not been obtained. Caesar's Camp is full of springs of the most pure and delicious water. Would it not have been possible to convey this to Aldershott, instead of sinking the wells, which only afford a comparatively impure supply, one of the necessaries of life? The huts, which form long streets, are occasionally broken by spaces for parade grounds, &c., and by two wide roads, which cross at right angles at the centre of the Camp. We understand that up to the present time no hospital accommodation has been provided, but that it is intended forthwith to provide for the reception of 400 patients, and also a slaughter-house for the Commissariat, in which we trust that the best means will be adopted to prevent danger from the refuse which the drainage is not prepared to carry off. The ground which will be covered with houses is about 500 acres. A detachment of the 97th Regiment has come into the Camp, and began in a very orderly and systematic manner to take possession of their new home. We must, however, for the present, leave the Camp for Farnborough, noting on the road the blackened hills, over which a fire a short time ago extended for several miles. The peeps through the fir-trees, the quiet churchyard near Farnborough, the long line of rail, five miles without a curve, and the grove of trees near the station, particularly if seen with the full moon rising behind, serve pleasantly to pass the little time it may be necessary to wait for the train, particularly if, as is a common occurrence, a number of nightingales add their song to the beauty of the scene.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, MAY 13.—Rogation Sunday. Old May-day.
MONDAY, 14.—Henry Gratton died, 1820.
TUESDAY, 15.—Carver died, 1833. O'Connell died, 1847.
WEDNESDAY, 16.—Oates convicted of perjury, 1685.
THURSDAY, 17.—Ascension-day.
FRIDAY, 18.—Napoleon I. declared Emperor of France.
SATURDAY, 19.—St. Dunstan. Anne Boleyn beheaded, 1536.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 19, 1855.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
Mid'ht	5 0	0 32	1 17	1 58	2 37	3 16	3 56	4 36	5 16	5 56	6 37	7 14	7 52

LONDON SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall.—MR. SURMAN'S ANNUAL NIGHT, on MONDAY, MAY the 21st.—HAYDN'S CRIATION. Preceded by the Royal Birthday Cantata. Principal Vocalists Mrs Birch, Miss G. Hendersen, Mr Sims Reeves, Mr. Wells, Mr. G. Perren, Mr. Bryan, Mr H. Bassett, and Mr Lawler; with Band and Chorus of nearly 800 performers. Conductors, Dr. Bixey and Mr Surman.—Tickets, 5s., 3s., and 2s. 6d. Only Office in the Society, No. 9, Exeter-hall, where may be obtained the Exeter-hall Edition of The Creation, price 6d.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—Patron, H.R.H. Prince Albert. The Lectures and Exhibitions as delivered before her most gracious Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert will be continued during the week, consisting of the PELLERINE (GREEK), Dissolving Views of Scutari the Sefior, Dobson's Illuminated Cosmide, the Microscope illustrating the Voyage across the Atlantic, and the Cities of the United States, and, in addition, on Thursday Evening, the 17th, Dramatic Reading by Mrs Chatterley: "Much Ado About Nothing." Lectures on Songs and Song-Writers, by George Buckland, Esq. Dissolving Views of the War, &c. &c.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENTS-PARK.—The collection of living Animals includes a more recent series of Lions, Lion Whelps, Clouded Tigers, Bleeding Hogs, and other Carnivora, Elands, Elephants, Rhinoceros and a pair of Hippopotami, together with an increase number of Birds, Reptiles, Fish, and other Marine Animals. Admission, 1s.; on Mondays, 6d.

THE FOUNDLING HOSPITAL.—TO-MORROW WEEK, the 20th inst. the ANNIVERSARY SERMON for the Benefit of this Charity will be preached in the Chapel of the Hospital, by the Rev. Dr. GOULBURN, Head-Master of Rugby School, before his Royal Highness the Duke of CAMBRIDGE, the President, and the rest of the Governors and Guardians of the Corporation.—Divine service will begin at eleven o'clock. JOHN BROWNLOW, Secretary.
London, May 1st, 1855.

LONDON, TILBURY, and SOUTHEND RAILWAY.—Commencement to Southend and Sheerness Daily (Sunday included) by the 10.37 a.m. and 5.37 p.m. Down Trains, from the Fenchurch-street and Bishopsgate-street Stations, direct Tilbury pier, thence by the fast steam-packet "Jupiter" belonging to the Star Company, returning from Sheerness at 7.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., and Southend at 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., in time for the 9.45 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Up Trains from Tilbury. Fares to Southend, first class, 3s.; second, 2s. 6d. Return Tickets, first class, 4s.; second, 3s. 6d. To Sheerness, first class, 3s. 6d.; second 2s. Return Tickets, first class, 6s.; second, 3s. 6d. Return Tickets only issued by the 10.37 Down Train, to return the same day by the 6.30 Up Train.
Fenchurch-street Station, May 3rd, 1855.

INDIA, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, and CAPE of GOOD HOPE. W. O. YOUNG will dispatch the following fast-sailing A 1 Clipper SHIPS at the dates named as under.—

Ships.	Tons.	Commanders.	Destination	Docks.	To Sail.
Matilda Wattenbach	1309	J. C. Clare	Calcutta	London	May 12
Hampner	421		Calcutta	London	June 1
Stuart Wortley	860	J Simpson	Bombay	E. India	May 23
G. W Bourne	721	W H Harding	Madras	St. Kath.	May 5
Limnat	412	W P. Backhouse	Hong-Kong & Shanghae	London	May 27
Rational	357	H Clarke	Shanghae	London	June 15
Kensington	900	Wm. King	Port Phillip	London	May 23
Lucania, City	867	W. Lesak	Sydney	London	May 20
Ballotar	504	Richard Fill	Geelong	London	May 23
Northampton	429	Robt. Bradshaw	Cape of Good Hope	London	May 15
Meteor	370	J Brodie	Cape of Good Hope	London	June 15
Sea Queen	415	W. Rowe	Adelaide	St. Kath.	May 23

These ships have been selected specially for their superior class and fast-sailing qualities, and will be found well worth the attention of Shippers and Passengers.—W. O. YOUNG, 34, Cross street, Manchester; 3, Dale street, Liverpool, and Sun-court, Cornhill, London.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1855.

As yet the British public has no quarrel with the aristocracy. The merchants of London who assembled last week, and took it upon themselves to represent the very general indignation which prevails throughout the middle and lower classes against the gross nepotism in all departments of the public service, which led to the too notorious mismanagement of our national affairs in the Crimea, were especially careful not to attack aristocracy as an institution, nor the aristocratic classes as a body. In adopting this course they acted with prudence, as well as with justice. There is no country in the world where there is so high-minded and so useful, and, if we may use a phrase apparently so contradictory, so democratic, an aristocracy as in Great Britain. Three-fourths of the Peerage are not of ancient lineage. The families who came in with the Conqueror are to be found, for the most part, among the untilled gentry; and our hereditary lawmakers are the descendants of men who sprang from the people in the comparatively recent days since Elizabeth and James I., or even since those of Queen Anne. They represent successful lawyers, merchants, soldiers, and sailors; and not the old feudal aristocracy which wrested Magna Charta from King John. As a body the aristocracy of England have in all ages proved themselves the friends of the people; and it is a fact, which cannot be too strongly impressed upon the public mind, that an enlightened aristocracy never can exist but with advantage to the classes below them. Despotism tolerates no aristocracy. Between the Emperor in all the despotic countries of Europe and the great bulk of the people there is no class but the class of functionaries, if we except the army—which is the main, if not the only, prop of arbitrary power. In Russia, in Austria, in Turkey, in France, there is no aristocracy except in name. If it exist at all, it has no power, no function, no collective existence. Despotism tolerates nothing betwixt itself and the people. In constitutional States the case is different; and in England, should the unhappy day ever arise when the aristocracy shall be abolished as an institution, the knell of popular freedom will have sounded; a huge standing army will stand between Sovereign and people; and a military despotism will replace the republican monarchy under which it has been our privilege to prosper for so many generations. But if the aristocracy should be so unwise as to resist the demand for administrative reform, which has been forced upon the country by the mismanagement of the last twelve months, there is no knowing to what height the clamour may rise, and what Revolutions may spring out of opposed and withheld Reforms. To be connected with aristocracy will never in the eyes of sensible men be held as a disqualification for the public service; but sensible men would cease to be sensible if they looked upon aristocratic birth as the only qualification. It is upon this rock that the aristocracy has run its ship, and against which it threatens to split it up, unless it has tact and judgment enough to back out into deep, calm, waters. "*La carrière ouverte aux talents*" was the maxim, by acting upon which Napoleon I. raised France to the highest point of glory and prosperity. In times of peace England might afford to let talent find its career in commerce and the arts—as it did; but in times of war a great nation must open up every department of the public service to the best men, irrespective of their birth, or it will flounder from difficulty into difficulty, and ultimately be overwhelmed in disgrace and disaster. If a mediocre man of the mercantile classes is the competitor of a clever Duke, or a Lord of genius, by all means let the Duke or the Lord win the day; but if the mediocrity is on the side of the Duke—if the Lord be a simpleton or a quack, and the man of business be the man of talent—let the man of business and of genius have the office to which he aspires, though his father may have swept a crossing, or though he may himself have commenced his career as a shoeblack or an errand-boy. It is by the employment of fitting instruments that great private enterprises are carried to successful completion; and it is by similar means, and by no others, that Great Britain will be enabled to face and conquer danger fifty or a hundredfold greater than any which have ever yet menaced her. The aristocracy will not, we believe, be unwise enough to resist a movement like this. On the contrary, we think they will be found in the rank of its supporters, and do justice to themselves as well as to their country, by lending their aid to overthrow the unsafe system by which a narrow section of their body has been compromising the whole, and bringing discredit and danger upon that finely-balanced constitutional system which not only tolerates but demands the existence of an aristocracy, as a necessary element in the general equilibrium.

But, while it is the duty of the aristocracy to look before them, and to act with wisdom in a crisis of no ordinary importance in the history of their country, it is no less the duty of the middle and lower classes to see that they enter into the work of Reform with clean hands and pure spirits. They should ask themselves if they are in all things blameless—if they have not abused the electoral privileges with which they have been entrusted—and if they have not sold themselves for money or money's worth to the aristocratic classes, against whom they are so ready to turn in the day of peril and perplexity. The shameless venality of our Parliamentary system may have done no great mischief in the days of peace. A very inefficient Government may be tolerated without the risk of fatal danger when we have no war upon our hands. In such a time the only boon the country has to ask of successive Governments is, not to govern, but to let it alone, and not interfere with the growth and development of its business. If at such a time a Government thinks itself bound to do some kind of work, to prove its existence, the greatest favour it can do the country is to devote its energies to the useful task of repealing the foolish over-legislation of past times. But in war the case is different. In war, hard, earnest, and wise work is absolutely essential. Hence the breakdown of 1854, at the first tug in the Crimea. But to say that the aristocracy are wholly to blame for the unhappy result is to conceal or shut our eyes against the truth. We do not seek to absolve the aristocracy from the charge of filling the minor—if not the major—departments of the public service with their relatives and dependents; but we would warn those who have commenced an agitation for the reform of this abuse that they will never succeed in their object unless they go to the root of the evil. How can we expect an entirely pure and disinterested aristocracy if we are a corrupt and venal people, and sell our votes, and job and barter for our private interest the trust which we hold for the advantage of the public?

THE cheerful tone of recent communications from the Camp before Sebastopol, and the satisfactory information we receive as to the health of the soldiers, the strength of the works, and the abundance of provision and matériel, would justify a belief that a grand struggle will speedily be followed by a great success. But there are two sides to the picture of war; and throughout the whole campaign Englishmen have been unequal to the accomplishment of the feat of regarding both at once. The army has either been ruined, starved, and dispirited, and about to be driven into the sea; or, reinforced, and flushed with military ardour, was about, on the next day, or the day after at latest to plant its victorious banners on the Star Fort and in the town. "A generous public no cold medium knows." It is now time to try and hit that medium. The speedy rectification of false impressions, by means of the electric telegraph, renders it absurd that the over-sanguine or the over-fearful should continue to promulgate their incorrect or unworthy views of the position of the Allies.

Especially is it most desirable that there should be no mystification upon the subject of the war at the present crisis, when our anxieties are additionally complicated by the intimation that Austria is willing but afraid to make common cause with the Allies; and that France and England may ultimately be left to do the work without her assistance. The situation of affairs before Sebastopol thus becomes at once a question of double interest; and the details of the siege, monotonous and discouraging as they have long been, acquire a great significance. First, as regards the actual capture of the town and great fort, it may be said that the balance of probabilities is now in favour of the reduction of the place, even if the commanders adhere to the bit-by-bit system of destruction which saves blood at the expense of powder. The skilful and pertinacious efforts of the French have weakened and wasted the defences against which they have pushed their scientific attack. Here a bulwark has been crumbled up by their mines, there a battery has been crushed by their cannon. Nor has the cold steel been idle, and the Allies have suddenly wrested, by the strong hand, the murderous rifle-pits from the enemy, and a number of his mortars have been seized, and prisoners taken. He has sought, by a series of desperate onslaughts, to repair his loss, but the Allies have held their own, and he has retreated with thinned ranks and disgraced banners. We have approached somewhat nearer, but whether for a "dreadful close," or only as an instalment of similar progress, is as yet unknown. Opposite statements, which may, however, be reconciled, are put forth, and the generals are described as waiting for reinforcements, in order to storm, and as about to renew bombardment, that the lives of the soldiers may not be needlessly risked. It seems probable that the assault will be given, but not until the reinforcement is complete. That the assault will be successful it would be an insult to the generals and to the soldiers to doubt: the former will not dare to make it unless military probabilities justify the act; and when had the latter fail to reduce probabilities of victory into glorious certainties?

All that can be said, therefore, on the first part of the question is, that the capture of Sebastopol is a matter of somewhat more reasonable expectation than was the case a few weeks ago. But a much larger field of inquiry opens upon the view, when, in the presence of the grand interests which a changed position of affairs may evoke, the Allies are asked how stand the prospects of the war. From the Baltic to the Euxine ranges the material for reply. Suppose that Sebastopol has fallen, and that the Russian forces, retreating for consolidation, and not pursued by the Allied armies, temporarily exhausted with their great effort, unite, and attack—and are, as we may hope and believe they will be, utterly routed. Suppose the recruited Allies achieve the utmost success which the most sanguine civilian who daily takes Sebastopol between his first and second bottle can plan out; that the Russians are unable to maintain themselves in the Crimea; that its inhabitants, duly aroused to the advantages of Constitutional government, form guerilla bands, and slaughter their old masters; and, finally, that not a Russian is seen in arms south of Perekop. Even with this splendid series of glories, this chain of triumph, beginning at Kalamita, and ending at Perekop, Europe will perhaps ask—"*et après?*" Deferring immediate answer, suppose that we can point to a simultaneous action, and show Constrait seething and writhing under the rain of fire from the fleet of Dundas. Then many people will hold that we have answered sufficiently, and that our natural allies—not yet implicated in the fight—are bound to arise and do battle. Others may think that this is a partial view of the case, and that Constrait and the Crimea may be ours, and yet that the bulwark against Russia, for which this war was undertaken, will not have risen appreciably from the soil of the continent—that it is but a barricade *pour rire*—"and if a fox go up, he shall break down their stone wall."

In short and not dogmatically to compress a grand truth into few words—the European crisis is becoming more and more solemn, and those who now shut their ears to earthquake noises, and to the creaking and cracking of the pedestals of Continental thrones, will be bewildered into childish helplessness when the heaving volcano opens into flame. This is a time when a larger and a grander policy than British statesmen have hitherto dared should be initiated. The great European family has now an opportunity of joining its worthier members by a sacred bond, framed, not of diplomatists' tangles, but of two bright gold "strands" the love of Freedom and the love of Truth.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

REPULSE OF THE RUSSIANS.

A despatch from Lord Raglan, of which the following is a copy, announces another defeat of the Russians before Sebastopol, last Thursday morning—

"Sebastopol, 10th May, 1855.

"The Russians made a sortie with a large body of troops on our right advanced trench this morning, but were driven back immediately. A second and similar attempt shared the same fate.

"Nothing could be better than the conduct of the troops who took part in the affair.

"The loss of the enemy was serious."

THE BALTIC FLEET.

The steamers *Conflict*, *Imperieuse*, and *Arrogant*, appeared off Revel on the 29th ult., and notified the blockade, at the same time stating that a term of seven days would be allowed neutral ships to depart with the goods they then had on board, but that from the moment of the declaration of blockade no goods must be taken in—but ballast only. A letter from Hamburg of the 7th inst., says:—

Letters from Riga, read to-day on 'Change, state that four steamers of the Flying Squadron, commanded by Commodore Watson had entered the Gulf of Finland, in spite of the ice, which still rendered the navigation perilous. Some of these cruisers had even shown themselves before Revel. This circumstance is accounted for by the fact that the Russian fleet is blocked up in the ports by ice three or four feet thick, which obstructs their entrance. It was also said that several of these steamers which had thus ventured into the Gulf had been slightly damaged by the floating ice. The steam corvette *Conflict* had succeeded in reaching the Danish harbour of Elsinore, where she is now undergoing repairs. Hitherto, the only mission of these cruisers appears to have been to give chase to the Russian merchant vessels. In the course of a few days the *Bulldog* appeared twice before the neutral port of Libau, and the *Archer* before that of Memel. The Flying Squadron will successively visit all the commercial harbours in the north.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Prince Albert honoured the Society of Painters in Water-Colours with a visit on Saturday last at their Gallery in Pall-mall. In the evening her Majesty and his Royal Highness, accompanied by a distinguished party, honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence.

On Monday her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, accompanied by her Serene Highness the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, visited the Exhibition of the French School of Fine Arts in Pall-mall. In the evening the Queen and his Royal Highness, accompanied by the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg and the Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe, honoured the Olympic Theatre with their presence.

On Tuesday the Queen, attended by the Countess of Gainsborough and Major-General Buckley, visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester, at Gloucester-house.

On Wednesday her Majesty and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg (who had arrived on a visit the previous evening), and the Princess Hohenlohe-Langenburg, visited the Exhibition of the Royal Botanic Society in the Regent's-park. In the evening her Majesty gave her first State ball this season.

On Thursday the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the youthful members of the Royal family, honoured the Polytechnic Institution with a visit.

THE QUEEN'S STATE BALL.

The Queen, on Wednesday evening, gave a State ball, to which a party of between 1600 and 1700 were invited, and for which the whole of the State rooms of Buckingham Palace were appropriated, and brilliantly illuminated. The Royal family were ushered on their arrival to the White Drawing-room. All the other guests assembled in the Picture-gallery and the Promenade-gallery, which, for the first time, was opened for a State ball.

Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary arrived at a quarter to ten o'clock. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge came shortly afterwards. His Highness the Maharajah Duleep Singh was also present.

Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert left the White Drawing-room shortly before ten o'clock, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge, the Princess Mary, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, their Serene Highnesses the Princesses Hohenlohe-Langenburg, and the Princess Adelaide, and Prince Victor of Hohenlohe.

The Queen wore a dress of pink tulle, over pink silk, trimmed with five flounces of white blonde, and ornamented with bouquets of pink roses and white jessamine and diamonds. Her Majesty's head-dress was composed of diamonds and pink roses.

The Queen opened the ball with his Royal Highness the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, at ten o'clock.

The festivities were prolonged until two o'clock on Thursday morning.

The Earl of Clarendon, as Secretary of State for the Foreign Department, intends regularly to hold a grand banquet to the whole of the Foreign Ministers on Saturday next, to celebrate her Majesty's birthday.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The ominous and feverish week which precedes the Derby offers but little inducement to the turfite to leave Tattersall's, except on Tuesday and Wednesday, when Bath, the beloved city of the late King Bladud, will open the doors of its grand stand. On Tuesday we shall have the Three-Year-Old Biennial, which was won last year by Oulston. On Wednesday the Liverpool Hunt Club have some races at Hoylake, and the Tavistock sportsmen have also fixed their field meeting for that day, and intend to follow it up by three steeplechases on the Thursday. Harpenden has also a gathering on Friday, which will not lack attendance from the "great metropolis."

John Scott has come to Leatherhead with his three Derby horses, none of which, with the exception of De Clare, excite much notice. Bonnie Mora is quite out of favour, as there is no doubt that he showed the white feather in his races with Rifle man, Hahena, and Corcubus "the field" is now at the head of the betting, and Mr. Ward stands for the Oaks at half-past three on Wednesday, in consequence of lameness. Scythian, the winner of the Chester Cup, is said to be one of the "Major's Remedy" triumphs. The owner won £11,000 on him, or just half the amount of his winnings in stakes alone during the last fifteen months. If Mort mer had won it is believed that Mr. Parr would have had a balance of £27,000 against the Ring.

The wickets will be pitched at Lord's on Monday, when a one-day's match will be played between two eleven a-sides, with two points allowed on each side; and on Tuesday the Marylebone Club and ground will play the Undergraduates at Cambridge. It is worthy of notice that a five-shilling subscription is at present in progress to place a monument over the remains of William Lilywhite in the Highgate Cemetery.

The boat races in Oxford commence on Monday, and will be continued for several after. ons, ending May 25th. There are said to be fourteen crews at present training, among which Balliol, Exeter, Christchurch, and Worcester have a favourite report. Yacht purchases have been very brisk of i ate and salmon-fishers, especially on the Thurso, have been enjoying prime sport.

NEWMARKET SECOND SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Fifty Pounds.—Testy, 1. High Priest, 2.
Fifty Pounds. Sable g., 1. Afghan, 2.
Sweepstake of 10 sovs.—Merry Monk, 1. Cortez, 2
Suffolk Stakes.—Tumbler, 1. Venison, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Sweepstakes of 50 sovs.—Acrobat, 1. Kaffir, 2.
Handicap Plate.—Pizaro, 1. Cheddar, 2
Queen's Plate.—Bluebeard, 1. Commodore Charley, 2.
Sweepstakes.—Tyne walked over.

THURSDAY

Jockey Club Plate.—Hermit walked over
Sweepstakes for Two and Three Year Olds.—Ceres, 1. Lord Raglan, 2.
£50 Handicap Plate.—Fact, 1. Pastrycook, 2
Sweepstakes for Two-Year-Olds.—Alastor, 1. Iago colt, 2

SHREWSBURY RACES.—THURSDAY

Salopian Stakes.—Sir Cleon, 1. Betty Bayfoss f., 2
Herbert Stakes.—Blossom 1. Romeo, 2
Cleveland Handicap.—Shoreham, 1 Lurley, 2
Longner Stakes.—Tilley, 1. Jewel ff., 2
Queen's Plate.—Rataplan, 1. Chekeer, 2
Stanley Handicap.—Eva, 1. Timothea, 2
Members' Plate.—Cropper, 1. Vingt-un, 2.

Attingham Stakes.—Cropper, 1 Prestcraft, 2
Acton Burnell Stakes.—Usurer, 1. [illegible], 2
Hawkstone Cup.—Vingt-un, 1. Lurley, 2
Shropshire Stakes.—Wildrake, 1 Holly Horse, 2.
£50 Plate.—Whalebone, 1. Master Slender, 2
£30 Plate.—The Lone, 1. Van Dunck, 2.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Owing to the resignation of the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, there have been numerous sales of Stock this week, partly on French account. The supply in the hands of the jobbers has, consequently, increased, and the Consol-market has assumed a dull appearance. There has not, however, been any serious decline in prices—the fall, since the opening on Monday, not being more than about one-quarter per cent. In the present state of affairs, the *Bears* have, as a matter of course, taken advantage of every rumour afloat; but at present, though the assistance of Austria to carry the preliminaries of Russia is still held in suspense, we see nothing indicative of an upward price for most national securities. There has been a fullness manifested in the Stock Exchange for £300,000 Consols and Omnium.

The Consol-market on Monday was heavy. The Three per Cents opened at 86½ ⅞, but gave way to 88⅝, finally closing at 88⅞ to ⅞. The Three per Cents Reduced were 88 to 87⅞, the New Three per Cents, 88⅝; and Long Annuities, 1860, 3⅝ 15-16; those for 30 years being 16⅞. Omnium was down to ⅞ ⅞ prem. India Bonds were 15s. to 16s.; Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 10s. prem., Ex. Bills, 1000, 1s. There was a further fall in prices on Tuesday. The Three per Cents Reduced were 87⅞ to 87⅞; the Three per Cent Consols, 87⅞ to ⅞. Consols for Account, 88⅞; the New Three per Cents, 88⅝ to 87⅞, the New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 78; Long Annuities, 1860, 3⅝ 15-16; Ditto for 30 years, 16⅞. India Stock, 251; India Bonds, 17s.; Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 8s. prem. Omnium, ⅞ prem. On Wednesday, very few sales or purchases took place. The Three per Cents Reduced were 87⅞ ⅞; the Three per Cent Consols, 88⅞ ⅞ ⅞; the New Three per Cents, 87⅞ to 88⅞; Consols for Account, 88⅞ ⅞; Bank Stock, 210½ to 211; India Stock, 250; Long Annuities, 1860, 16 15-16; India Bonds, 17s. to 18s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 8s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 99⅞ ⅞. In the market on Thursday only a moderate business was done in Stocks. The Account passed off tolerably well, although one defaulter was declared. Consols were 88⅞ ⅞ up to 88⅞ ⅞; the prices for May, 30 were 88⅞ ⅞. The New Three per Cents marked 87⅞ ⅞; Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 8s.; India Bonds, 16s. prem.

There have been several large shipments of silver to the East, and about 800,000 dollars have sold for that destination, at 61½d. per ounce. This quotation shows an advance of ⅛d. per ounce upon the previous sale. The imports of bullion have been on a liberal scale, viz., £100,000 from New York, and rather over £300,000 from Australia. The exchanges being favourable, scarcity any shipments have been made to the Continent.

In the Discount Market money is plentiful and cheap, first-class bills being readily discounted in Lombard-street at 3½ per cent.

Most Foreign Bonds have been dull. In prices very little change has taken place.

In Joint-stock Bank Shares have ruled steady, at full pric s: Australia have marked 81; Commercial of London, 20½; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 16⅞; London Chartered of Australia, 20⅞; London Joint Stock, 27⅞ London and Westminster, 43; New South Wales, 34; South Australia, 41. There has been a full average business doing in Miscellaneous Securities, as follows:—Australian Agricultural, 29; Canada Six per Cents, 109⅞, Crystal Palace, 2⅞; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 14⅞; Mexican and South American, 6⅞; Peninsula and Oriental Steam, New, 11⅞; Royal Mail Steam, 69⅞; Scottish Australian Investment, 1⅞; South Australian Land, 9⅞; City Navigation Bonds, 62; Van Diemen's Land, 13; Victoria Docks, New, 9. In Canal Shares very little has been passing at previous rates: Birmingham, 22; Coventry, 209; Derby, 84; Leicester, 59; Loughborough, 37⅞, Neath, 150; Pock Forest, 38; Stourbridge, 265; Stafford and Worcester, 43; Warwick and Birmingham, 20. Water-Works Shares have realized the following rates:—East London, 105; Grand Junction, 68½; Kent, 78½; Southwark and Vauxhall, 89½; West Middlesex, 91; Ditto, New, 16⅞. Gaslight and Coke Companies' Securities have met a dull market:—Brighton, 16½; City of London, 90; Equitable, 83; Imperial, 101; Ditto, New, 20; Ratcliffe, 70; Surrey Consumers, 11; Westminster Chartered, 93⅞. Some transactions have taken place in Insurance Companies' Shares:—Globe Insurance, 108, London, 55; Imperial Fire, 331; Ditto, Life, 18⅞; Law Life, 41; Ditto, Life, 56⅞; Pelican, 47; Phœnix, 85; Rock Life, 2⅞; Royal Exchange, 212; United Kingdom, 8½. Railway-railway Shares have changed hands to:—Waterloo, 8⅞; Ditto, Old Annuities, 1⅞; Ditto, New, 1⅞.

Foreign Stocks have sold heavily, and prices almost generally have tended downwards. The following are the official closing quotations on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Edinburgh and Glasgow, 55; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 17½; Great Northern, 98⅞; Ditto A Stock, 74½; Ditto B Stock, 124; Great Western, 64½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 76½; London and Brighton, 9⅞; London and North-Western, 98⅞; London and South-Western, 69; Midland, 66½; North-Eastern—Berwick, 71½; Ditto, Leeds, 128; Ditto, York, 47⅞; North Staffordshire, 12⅞; Scottish Central, 98½; South-Eastern, 8⅞; South Wales, 28.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—East Lincolnshire, 133½; Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock, 2⅞; Wilts and Somerset, 99½

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 87, Great Northern Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 101½; Great Western Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 94½; Ditto, Birmingham Stock, 73½; North British, 9⅞

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 7⅞ Eastern of France, 35½; Ditto, New, 17⅞; East Indian, 24½; Grand Luxembourg, 7⅞; Great Luxembourg, 2; Great Western of Canada, 20⅞, Hamilton and Toronto, 21½; Western of France, 21½; Zealand, 16.

MINING SHARES have been dull:—Agua Fria have marked ½; Imperial Brazilian, 2⅞; English and Australian Copper, 1⅞; United Mexican, 6½.

Friday Evening

Very little change has taken place in the value of Consols to-day. The business doing is limited, owing to its being "pay-day" upon the Account. The Three per Cents are 88 to 87⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 87⅞; and the New Three per Cents, 88 to 86⅞. Omnium, ⅞ prem.; Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares are dull.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—There has been a moderate arrival of English wheat up to our market coastwise this week. Fresh up to-day, however, the receipts of that grain were small, and the show of samples was limited. Most kinds sent a slow sale, yet scarcely any change took place in Monday's currency. We had a dull market for foreign wheat, the view of which was by no means extensive; at Mon day's prices. Barley sold much changed hands slowly; but no actual decline took place in prices. Good sound oats were steady, at full prices; but inferior parcels were dull, and 6d. per quarter cheaper. Beans, peas, and flour moved off slowly, on former terms.

ARRIVALS.—English: wheat, 1070; barley, 930; malt, 3980; oats, 1410; flour, 690 Irish: oats, 4840. Foreign: wheat, 6790; barley, 700; oats, 8310; flour, 5400 sacks, 8 barrels.

English wheat fetched from 44s. to 70s.; Baltic, crushing, 66s. to 68s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 44s. to 48s.; Egyptian, 48s. to 50s.; Spanish, Carthagena, 50s. to 51s. per cwt. Fine English malting barley realized from 36s. to 40s.; white ditto, 38s. to 40s.; Tares, 8s. 3s. 10s. per bushel. Malt, 70s. to 75s. per sack of two quarters. Kilnded oats, English, 21s. to 22s.; Irish, 20s. to 22s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 20s. to 23s.; potato ditto, 23s. to 25s.; Knapsel and Dun black, 23s. to 25s.; ditto, white, 26s. to 28s.; feed beans, 37s. to 38s.; tick pigeon, 38s. to 39s. maple, 39s. to 41s.; white, 41s. to 44s.; boilers, 42s. to 46s. per quarter. Town made flour, 65s. to 70s.; Suffolk, 56s. to 58s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 52s. to 55s., per 280 lbs. American flour, 38s. to 46s. per barrel.

Oats.—There had been a very big, at full prices. Most other seeds, including cakes, continued to sell slowly.

Hops.—The demand was very dull, and prices had a downward tendency. Fine Kent pockets realized 90s. to 95s.; other ditto, 85s. to 90s.; Farnes, 8s. 8s. 10s. per cwt. Fine Sussex pockets realized from 80s. to 85s.; other ditto, 65s. to 75s.; Farnes, 8s. 8s. 10s. per hundred.

Wool.—Since our last report the business transacted has been extremely inactive, and prices have a downward tendency. Common sorts continue very difficult to dispose of.

Meat.—All prices have been very low. Inferior beasts realized from 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. per 8 lbs. Sheep, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 4d. Lambs, 5s. 6d. to 6s. Calves, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 4d. Pigs, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 4d.

Tallow.—Our market has ruled very quiet, and P.Y.C. on the spot has realized 45s. to 45s. 6d. per cwt. The sales now amount to 1000 casks.

Oils.—Linseed oil is 32s. 6d. per cwt. Most other oils support last week's currency.

Petroleum.—Prices have ruled steadily. Spirits, 36s. to 37s.; rough, 35. 3d. per cwt.

Spirits.—The market is quiet, and prices have a downward tendency. Brown hampers, 4s. 6d.; ordinary grocery, 4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.

Coffee.—Most sorts have sold slowly, at about stationary prices. Good ordinary native has realized 47s. per cwt.

Rice.—There is less activity in the demand; yet the late improvement in the quotations is supported.

Provisions.—New Irish butters are steady, and support previous rates; low and middling qualities are a dull sale. Foreign butter is tolerably firm, but the business doing at Baltic ports for bacon, hams, and lard, at full quotations. In other kinds of provisions very little is doing.

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WRECK OF "THE CRESCENT" TRANSPORT SHIP, IN FRUITON BAY (SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

RETURN OF THE "ENTERPRISE."

The *Enterprise*, Captain Collinson, arrived at Spithead on Sunday evening, after sunset, from the Arctic Regions, China, and Cape of Good Hope. She sailed from the latter station, Table Bay, on the 18th Feb., and St. Helena on the 2nd March. The only news the *Enterprise* has brought confirms the reports which have preceded her arrival, as to the hostile relations between her captain and his officers. It is quite true that all the executive officers of the ship (Commander Phayre, Lieutenants Jago and Parks, and Mr. Skead, the Master) are under arrest, and have been so for terms varying from three years, and Mr. Parks over two years and a half. All the chief executive officers being thus debarred from doing duty, an acting mate (Mr. Wise, of the *Comus* sloop) was sent to assist in navigating the ship home by Rear-Admiral Sir James Stirling, the Commander-in-Chief of the China squadron, who refused to hold a series of courts-martial on that station. The *Enterprise* was commissioned

CAPTAIN COLLINSON, COMMANDER OF "THE ENTERPRISE" ARCTIC DISCOVERY SHIP.

by Captain Collinson to go in search of Sir John Franklin on the 20th December, 1849, in concert with the *Investigator*, Captain M'Clure, but we regret to add, has achieved nothing in the way of discovery of the lost expedition.

Captain Collinson, C.B., of whom we engrave a Portrait, entered the Navy in 1822. He passed his examination in 1831, obtained his first commission in March, 1835, and in the following September was appointed to the *Sulphur* surveying-vessel. During operations against Canton, in March, 1841, he was officially praised for his very skilful and highly meritorious exertions in piloting the *Modeste*. 18, Captain Harry Eyres, to an excellent and effective position near the last fort protecting the approaches to the city. In October of the same year he assisted at the recapture of Chusan, and the storming of the fortified heights and citadel of Chinghae. In June, 1841, he was promoted to the rank of Commander, and in February, 1842, was appointed to the *Plover* surveying-vessel. In the latter part of that year he was promoted for services to Post rank, and nominated a C.B. the day following.

THE CIVIL HOSPITAL, SMYRNA.

We have been favoured with the accompanying View of the Civil Hospital, Smyrna, from a sketch by Mr. Edward Atkinson. For the accompanying details we are indebted to Dr. Septimus Gibbon, Assistant Physician to the London Hospital, and Physician to the Smyrna Hospital.

The large building is situated at the southern extremity of the town of Smyrna, and is entirely detached from all other structures. On the southern side of it is a large open field admirably suited for the erection of a wooden hospital. The Hospital, as shown in the accompanying Sketch, is close by the sea, and consequently well situated for the disembarking of sick and wounded soldiers. The fabric is newly built, well ventilated, and well adapted for an hospital. Few of the wards contain more than twenty beds; but there are open corridors which run through the whole building, and all these corridors are at present fitted with beds. It is estimated that the building will accommodate about 600 patients. At the time we write there are 190 patients in it. Hitherto the Hospital has been partly under the military system, but the management is now essentially civil. The Hospital physicians and surgeons, who have come out from the London Hospital, are unanimous in expressing their disapproval of the military provisions for attending the sick and wounded. Their excellent and able superintendent, Dr. Meyer, arrived last week, and has been indefatigable in completing arrangements for introducing the civil system.

A letter from Smyrna, of April 21, gives the following account of the sanitary condition of the place:—

Fever, you will be glad to learn, is on the decrease; fresh cases occur at intervals, it is true, but deaths are now few and far between. It is not a Mediterranean form that has raged amongst us; but evidently the fever imported from a northern clime; and very similar, if not the same, as the typhus in Ireland following upon scarcity, famine, and want of cleanliness. It has certainly been highly contagious; but the great improvement in ventilation and closing of the ground-floor for patients, better food, and closer watching, have reduced the number of actual cases to below the number an hospital of such a size might fairly expect. The fever had not mitigated its rapacity, however, until it had attacked several of our nurses, and clutched hold of one, Miss Drusilla Smyth, beyond all powers of rescue. She died on Thursday morning, at six a.m., and was buried in the Protestant burial-ground at six in the evening. Though burials had been frequent, this one cast a heavy gloom over all. It was the first victim to untiring self-devotion among the delicate fragile beings who had come with us to show how much stronger a spirit of self-sacrifice is than the strongest muscular frame. The whole of the military at disposal preceded her remains through the tortuous streets and bazaars of Smyrna, and her companions in love and labour, the lady-nurses, followed her to her last resting-place. The Colonel Commandant and the whole of the medical staff, purveyor's staff, and as many wardmasters and orderlies as could be spared, attended in a long and mournful train, two and two. One thing throughout this sad and melancholy duty made a great impression upon me, namely, the death-silence of all the streets as we passed through them. The Turks and Greeks all showed the greatest respect to the ceremony of sorrow, even of those they looked upon with some disgust and suspicion. Miss Aphis, one of the nurses, has had a very severe attack, but is pronounced to be out of danger. For a long time we were very nervous about her. But now everything is so much improved, and our prospects are so cheerful, that we are almost forgetting the past. Our real difficulty is to find a wholesome residence for the lady-nurses. They cannot be in the hospital, and Turkish houses are so filthily drained that they are almost all unhealthy.

After all the pains and expense incurred in fitting up this Hospital, we are now told that it is to be given up. When Smyrna was first spoken about as the site of an hospital for convalescent soldiers, strong objections were made on the ground of its unhealthiness, and its distance from the Crimea; but these were all overruled by Government. It appears that the medical authorities in the East have already come to the conclusion that the Hospital is really too far from the seat of war, and that part of the staff is to leave Smyrna for the wooden barracks about to be erected on the Bosphorus. It has frequently been suggested that the best arrangement would be to have sufficient accommodation at Balaclava and in the vicinity of Constantinople for all those sick and wounded who are likely to be soon restored to health, and for those who are too ill to stand a long voyage, while those who have been disabled so as to be unfit for service should be brought home at once. This we believe is the plan pursued by the French, and we cannot do better than follow their example.

THE BRITISH HOSPITAL, AT SMYRNA.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

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WILLING AND UNWILLING AUSTRIA.

FORTUNATELY for Great Britain and France, and for the cause of European liberty and civilisation of which they have made themselves the champions, they are able to fight the battle without assistance. Perhaps if they had had the aid of Austria and Prussia, it would have been unnecessary to draw the sword; and there is little doubt that, with such aid—which they had every right to expect—the war, if it had begun in 1854, would have ended before 1855. Even at this late period the complete and cordial cohesion of Austria—leaving Prussia out of the question—would diminish the duration of the struggle by increasing its intensity. To that consummation, in spite of delays and procrastination, Austria must march. She is no longer mistress of her actions. It is impossible for her to remain neutral—or, more monstrous still, to take part against the Allies. She is with us, by her pledged honour, by her obvious interest, by her plain duty, by inevitable necessity, by every consideration of right, of sympathy, and of self-preservation. But she is slow, unwieldy, and hampered by obstructions. The leaders of public opinion in France and England should beware of throwing further, and quite unnecessary, impediments in the way of her Government. The work goes on without her, and will. But at the earliest moment in which she can overcome those internal difficulties, that appear small to foreigners who do not understand her position, but which are large, if not formidable, to her own subjects, she will throw her whole weight into the struggle, and perform her part with the dignity that becomes her.

It must not be forgotten that Austria has just emerged from a sanguinary revolution, during which her polished capital rivalled, in the atrocity and horror of the deeds committed by an exasperated populace, the worst horrors committed by the people of the still more polished capital of France in 1789 and 1793. The passions then aroused have not entirely subsided; and demagogues, who would rather that France and England should be defeated, and that Russia should ride rampant over the world, than that their theories of Republicanism or Nationality should not have a chance of spasmodic life during the struggle, are on the watch for events, and take more delight in perplexing and injuring Austria than in serving that cause of liberty and independence which dwells upon their tongues, even if it have no abiding place in their hearts. When the British public hear any such men talking of the nationality—say of Hungary, for instance—let them ask themselves what they would have thought during the lifetime of the late Daniel O'Connell, if an agitation had been fomented in Vienna, or in Prague, in favour o. the nationality of Ireland? if the Government of Great Britain had been denounced by Austrians with every conceivable form and combination of opprobrious epithet as an alien Government—the bitter and implacable oppressor of the Celtic people? And if the Austrian Government, or its Prime Minister, had been unwise enough to countenance and aspire to lead such a movement, what language would have characterised the folly and impertinence—not to say the wickedness—of the attempt? Under such circumstances, how long would peace have been possible between the two Governments? At the present time, neither this country nor France has any concern with nationalities—with the sole exception of Poland—and with that they would have nothing to do if they were at peace with Russia. But if we really desire the aid of Austria—aid which would be invaluable in bringing the war to a speedier conclusion than it is likely to arrive at while she keeps aloof—we should beware how we embarrass her by talking with favour of projects that, if successful, would lead to her dismemberment, and the mere mention of which, in influential quarters, is a source of weakness and embarrassment to her Government.

It should also be remembered that Austria is in a state of pecuniary difficulty. She has immense resources—but they are undeveloped. She has a rich soil, an active-minded and industrious people, with unnumbered facilities for the extension both of her internal and her maritime trade; but she has been kept back by the feudalism happily abolished in 1848 and 1849; and requires time to turn that necessary revolution to its proper uses, and to become something better than a merely military power. Much as Great Britain and France require peace, Austria requires it still more. Great Britain and France can wage this war without the prospect of financial ruin; but it is difficult to see how Austria can bear so heavy a burden without incurring risks in the highest degree perilous. Solvency no less than stability is essential to every Government that desires to be respected and feared. All this should be taken into account before Austria is accused of treachery to the Allies, or of a design, near or remote, to make common cause with Russia. Yet much, if not all, of this is forgotten both in and out of the British Parliament; and Austria—jealous and susceptible, and rendered so by recent revolutions and mob rule—is perplexed with the idea that the Government of England is so weak, and popular passion so strong, that her alliance, which it would cost her so much to give, would not be appreciated, and might be repudiated, in thi country.

Yet, while acknowledging all this, and much more in the interna politics of Austria that is but very imperfectly understood by British statesmen and the British people, we cannot forget that there is a limit to prudence, which overpassed, subjects him who

PEREKOP IN THE CRIMEA.—FROM A SKETCH BY WILLIBALD RICHTER, OF VIENNA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

exceeds it, to the imputation of cowardice. Has not Austria reached that limit? With the fullest appreciation of their many difficulties, and with the utmost confidence in their honour, we believe that the Emperor Francis Joseph, and his advisers, have arrived at a climax, at which further hesitation will not only be dishonourable in itself, and in opposition to their past pledges, and present duty, but more costly and more dangerous than decided action. In Austria there is such a thing as public opinion. It does not find vent in newspapers, because the press is not free; it does not make a loud utterance in society, because the Government is despotic;—but it exists, nevertheless, and must be known to such men as Count Buol, and Baron Bruck, and in all probability to the Emperor himself. That opinion is to a large extent identical with their own, and is in favour of the Allies, and as energetically opposed to Russia, on every point and pretence, and for every conceivable reason, as the public opinion of Great Britain and France. But there is another kind of public opinion with which it is right these eminent and patriotic men should be made acquainted—the public opinion of Europe. If they hesitate longer—whatever the sacrifices which their decision might involve—they will fall in the estimation of the world. Like Prussia, they will lose character and caste. The moral *prestige* which makes nations great and keeps them so, will fail them if that quality which in proper subjection to duty is prudence, but which, in subjection to fear of consequences becomes pottroonery, leads them to hesitate when action is essential both to their honour and their safety. Neutral they cannot be; for their neutrality, or any course of conduct which they might attempt to disguise under that name, would be hostility to the Allies, and nothing less. As such it would be resented; and then the question of "nationalities"—with which France and England have no present right or call to meddle, would be as legitimate a weapon of aggression as a bombshell, a ship-of-the-line, or Lord Dundonald's apparatus, whatever it may be, for destroying Cronstadt and Sebastopol. But Austria will not, we are certain, require any such reminder of the danger of disappointing the just expectations of Europe. If she have been slow to make engagements, she has scrupulously performed them. She has never encouraged the designs of Russia; she has more to lose by their fulfilment than any other State of Europe; and her honour is pledged to unite with the Allies, in a contingency, which doubtless she would like to postpone, but which is fast approaching; and which nothing but the surrender or defeat of the Czar can prevent.

But what would be the position of Austria, if Great Britain and France—as is by no means improbable—should achieve a splendid and decisive victory, while she stood trembling, and inactive? Certainly it would not be a position which the young Emperor would have much pleasure in reflecting upon; or from which Count Buol and Baron Bruck could, as true patriots and wise statesmen, derive either satisfaction or credit. She would forfeit her right to be considered as a first-rate Power. She would afford a proof that the peace of the world could be kept without her aid; and would teach the oppressed, in every part of the Continent, whatever their "nationality," their grievances, or their objects, that the real masters of Europe were France and England. This may be a very desirable consummation for France and England; but how it would conduce to the integrity of the Austrian Empire, to the extension of her resources, to the rescue of her people from the evil effects of past misgovernment, and to her assumption of her rightful place among civilised and prosperous States, it is for the Emperor of Austria and his Ministers to determine.

We have been informed on high authority that Marshal Radetzky is ready to guarantee the tranquillity of Lombardy with only one-fourth of the army now stationed in that province. No fears are entertained of Hungary, for the Hungarian peasantry and people are satisfied with the destruction of the feudal privileges which oppressed them prior to 1848, and are to a man loyal and well-affected to the Emperor; and the Czek population supplies a large portion of one of the finest armies in the world, and partakes the satisfaction of Hungary at the new order of things, inaugurated by the reign of Francis Joseph. What, then, keeps back the Austrian Government? Is it Baron Bruck, the man of one idea? Or is it pusillanimity on the part, not of one but, of many? We cannot believe in the pusillanimity. The machine is cumbrous, but it will move. The men are slow, but they are right-minded and honest. Let them take care that the battle be not won without them; and that the next settlement of Europe be not effected without consultation with those who, like Prussia, have lent no hand in the heat of the struggle, and who cannot expect either honour or advantage if they did not share in the sacrifices.

PEREKOP.

THIS little village is an important point of the Crimea, inasmuch as it is situated upon the isthmus which is the principal entrance to the country. Our View is from an original Sketch by Willibald Richter: it shows the principal portion of the village, with the arrival of a reinforcement of Russian soldiers, Cossacks, artillerymen, &c. The buildings shown are a post-station, and a dépôt for salt, which is manufactured here. On the right is an ancient minaret, on the road leading to Simpferopol: it has a rent caused by a stroke of lightning some years since. The fortress east of the town contains a palace, barracks, a mosque, and a Greek church. We quote the following descriptive sketch of the place from an interesting little volume just published, entitled "The Crimea: its Towns, Inhabitants, and Social Customs, by a Lady, resident near the Alma":—

About two miles and a half from Armanskoi Bazaar is the little village of Perekop, inhabited chiefly by Government *employés* and those connected with the salt lakes in the neighbourhood. The village is entered on the Russian side by a bridge, which crosses a wide and deep ditch cut across the isthmus. It is this ditch which has probably given its name to the isthmus—Perekop, in the Russian language, signifying a ditch cut across the road, or between two seas.

The principal entrance to the Crimea is by this isthmus, which separates the Black Sea from the Putrid Sea, and is about seventeen miles in length and five in breadth; but there is still another, which is now very much used, along the tongue of Arabat. This narrow strip of land, seventy miles in length, which runs between the Sivash, or Putrid Sea, and the Sea of Azoff, is separated from the mainland at the northern extremity by a narrow channel. There are several post stations along this road; and at the southern extremity, where it is joined to the mainland, stands a fortress, which is in a very ruinous state. Not many years ago a bridge was constructed to complete the communication between the Russian mainland and the Crimea, and by this bridge the chief intercourse between the eastern part of the Crimea and Russia is now carried on.

A few years ago several rich and influential men in Russia proposed to form themselves into a company for the purpose of making a railway from Moscow to Theodosia, and the line chosen as the most advantageous was along the tongue of Arabat. This plan was presented to the Emperor for approval; but, as it was his wish that a railway should first be made between Moscow and Odessa, the execution of the company's projected line was postponed.

CONSTANTINOPLE.—DANGEROUS CONSPIRACY OF THE COOKS.

(From a Correspondent.)

WE have hitherto, out of consideration for the Government, left many complaints of mismanagement in the East entirely to Commissioners. We cannot say that we have been quite easy in our minds about many things, but we felt that a complimentary forbearance was due to Ministers. Even now we by no means desire to embitter the Ministerial white-bait dinners, which form so agreeable an official prospect at this season of the year, by any mistimed relation of the horrors to which our heroic fellow-countrymen are bowed down and dispirited at the cheerless hour of dinner in the East. These brave men, however, are subject to no common privations; and, after much and careful consideration, we have come to the conclusion that their miseries must be occasioned by that fiendish cabinet of St. Petersburg, which being unable to overcome Lord Raglan in the field, or Lord John Russell in the council, have resolved on the cowardly expedient of attacking our noble army through its digestion, and destroying it collectively with so mean a weapon as the dinner-knife.

Even while we are writing, their diabolical machinations are ripening daily. Highly-connected Generals, each with a staff of his own and his banker's relations, are now compelled to devour the most impossible and injurious food. By the utter absence of all evening entertainments (another cunning design of our enemies), dinners at Constantinople are unnaturally prolonged, and the cooks have thus full time to effect our ruin. Their ingenuity is diabolical. You may dine at every table in the town for six months running, and you will get the same cloying, insipid food. Some of the Greek cooks in the houses of the natives, still undebauched by European visitors, have now and then ideas pungent and succulent enough, especially about lobsters; but the Franks seldom, indeed, have an opportunity of profiting by them. The native cooks in Frank houses and hotels are soon denaturalised and spoiled. They make spurious French and English dishes, of an appearance and flavour quite astounding. They will introduce you to the strangest and most ill-favoured alimentary acquaintance with the utmost effrontery as an old friend. You will be puzzled by seeing a singular soup under the name of plum-pudding, and a piece of tough fried anything is impudently called roast beef. They will take the longest names out of a *carte* of a French *restaurateur*, altogether haphazard, and apply them in an unblushing manner to any mess whatsoever that they may have thought worthy of an European digestion. This is not surprising. The cooks of our allies the Turks are never employed; and the Greek cook, as well as the rest of that uncomfortable and perplexing people will fast for six weeks at a time, and during the whole of that period never suffers anything but acrid shrivelled little olives and rank caviare to pass his lips. How can such a cynical-minded fellow (they are all men, a plague on them) become a good cook? It is physically impossible that he should ever be able to penetrate the sublime and hidden mysteries of his craft. A cook, to be worthy of that respectable name, should be a smooth, snug, comfortable genius, with a thorough appreciation of the consoling delicacies of the table; with a chaste and correct idea of the "Nice" in all things. He should have a portly and dignified development of apron. He should have an enthusiastic idea of the benefit conferred on a dyspeptic world by his honourable and lucrative profession. He should reverence cooking as an art, beside which that of the most accomplished physician is vanity and vexation of spirit. An air of studious philosophy should brood over the culinary temple where he officiates as high priest and king. Laughter and light talk should be absolutely banished. A cook who comprehends his mission will understand its solemnity and importance too well to allow the absorbing reflection in which he is constantly engaged to be disturbed by irreverent conversation or ideas. He will know that an indigestible dish served at the table of a General may occasion the destruction of his army, by the state of feverish irritation and ill-temper into which the General is thus thrown. Improper food may spoil the negotiation of the ablest diplomatist, by occasioning in him sudden starts of spleen or passion. It may disturb the rest of the harassed courier on his way with important despatches, and render the further prosecution of his journey impossible.

As the Greek cooks of Constantinople must understand the grave responsibilities which rest upon them, we cannot but conclude from their perverse conduct that they are employed and paid by some far-sighted Russian diplomatist, slowly to effect our entire destruction by the constant administration of pernicious sustenance. We would rather not discuss this question, indeed, but the Greeks are very angry just now, and very reasonably so. They are a petulent and brooding race of men; and it is certain that whether this idea may have distinctly presented itself to the minds of the cooks as a body or not they are evidently animated by some earnest and deep-seated feeling of hostility towards us. The unvarying toughness of some preparations issuing from their hands; the constant and nauseous squashiness of others; the dinginess of the plates, the bluntness of the knives, the melancholy inefficiency of the garlic-smelling waiters; the flatness, muddiness, and general impossibility of the wine, added to the excessive charges, would certainly lead any unprejudiced inquirer to the conclusion, that a conspiracy of no common nature has been formed against our gallant army, even in the very country of the Allies whose cause we have espoused. Far be it from us to insinuate any charge of a disagreeable nature against the oppressed Christians in Turkey; but even in the quiet homes of England there are many anxious mothers and fond wives who have viewed with feelings of unutterable anguish the attenuated forms of their gallant sons and husbands, and who have heard those heroes declare with their own lips that their cheeks have grown pale, and their constitutions have been injured, by the dreadful dinners to which they have been compelled to submit during a brief sojourn at Constantinople. In compassion, therefore, to our suffering fellow-countrymen, we trust that our present *debonnaire* and unoccupied Minister will make this important matter the subject of a prompt official inquiry.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—On Friday evening, the 11th inst., at the Royal Institution, a very interesting lecture was delivered by Mr. Henry Bradbury, on the beautiful process recently introduced in this country known as Nature-printing. The splendid work on "Ferns," edited by Dr. Lindley, and printed at the office of Messrs. Bradbury and Evans, has attracted general notice. The principle of Nature-printing, which consists in taking an exact facsimile of a plant by pressure, has been known for many years; and Mr. Bradbury gave an interesting account of the practice of the art in the early days of typography, of its long disuse, and of its modern revival. In Germany it has been chiefly brought to its recent perfection; and during a professional residence in Vienna the lecturer made himself familiar with the process, and has most successfully introduced it in England. The audience at the Royal Institution were delighted to trace this process throughout its various stages, by the exhibition, not of models, but of the actual machinery, including the electric battery, by which the impression of a plant is produced; and Mr. Henry Bradbury's intelligent explanations showed how completely he had mastered this art, and how, at his hands, we may look for its attaining a high perfection in this country. After the lecture, Mr. Bradbury produced, for the gratification of the company, thin electro casts of the impressed plates in the remarkably short space of five minutes.

INDIAN RIVERS.—A very interesting discussion on the capabilities of our Indian empire has been lately originated at the Society of Arts by a paper read by Colonel Cotten, Engineer of the Madras service. Those interested in this question, which, among other points, involves our cotton supply, will find information of the most complete and clear kind conveyed by a model of the water-sheds of India, which Mr. Montgomery Martin has lately presented to the museum of the India House, Leadenhall-street.

AN INCOME-TAX COLLECTOR.—One of the collectors of the Income-tax in a district near Birmingham, has been committed for trial at Warwick assizes, on a charge of embezzling sums of money collected by him on account of the Income-tax. He had returned a number of houses void on which the tax had been collected, but in the subsequent half-year he had paid the amount in full.

THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. XVII.)

LORD JOHN RUSSELL seems to be desirous of making up for lost time—a loss he has lately incurred to a very considerable extent—and has already presented a bill for giving a Constitution to the colony of Victoria. This measure bears as near a likeness as the Imperial Government will permit to a draft sent over from the Colony and agreed to by the Legislative body there: but it is threatened with opposition by Mr. Lowe, on the ground that it does not represent the real wishes of the colonists. Should the member for Kidderminster succeed in embarassing the Administration of which he lately formed a part, by causing this bill to be rejected, he will, no doubt, answer his own purpose by showing how troublesome he can be in opposition, but it is very doubtful whether he will do a service to the colony of whose interests he assumes to be the guardian. The Constitution proposed by Lord John Russell is essentially the same as that which has been framed by the Council, which is the legally recognised organ of the views and interests of the colonists. If Mr. Lowe wishes to reject everything proceeding from that legitimate source, it will be difficult to discover the quarter from which he expects to obtain a measure that will be likely to receive the sanction of the British Parliament. The colonists will not be very grateful to their friend Mr. Lowe for throwing over the proposed Constitution, and failing to substitute some other plan for putting an end to the state of uncertainty and discontent which has long prevailed in Victoria. Supposing that the bill introduced by Lord John Russell does not go the length of doing all that the whole of the colonists might agree to demand, there is, nevertheless, a very great amount of good in the scheme and it might, of course, be subjected hereafter to extension and improvement. If this plan is now defeated, it is most likely that two years at least will be lost before any constitution at all can be given to Victoria; and, considering the unsettled state of the colony, it is impossible to see what might be the effect of this seeming neglect of its interests by the Home Government.

The Committee on the State of the Army in the Crimea has completed the taking of the evidence. Though there has been from the commencement a constant fire kept up against the official witnesses, and the affair has gone on advancing, through the newspapers, in double columns, the progress seemed to be as unsatisfactory as the advance of the Allies has been, until lately, on the walls of Sebastopol. Every one is now expecting anxiously the report, which it is to be hoped will not end in mere noise and smoke, but will be in effect a vigorous assault on the bad system to which so much has been sacrificed. Lord Aberdeen was selected to furnish the subject of the finale to the inquiry, but the result was not very brilliant or satisfactory. His Lordship admitted the great inconvenience arising from the absence of the Master-General of the Ordnance; but he had got over the difficulty in a truly official manner, by appointing a Lieutenant-General to do the duty of the absentee—or, rather, to attempt to do it while the absentee still held the office. In ordinary business, if a merchant has an inefficient or an absent clerk, his place is supplied by another; but in the public service it seems to be quite orthodox to make a new place for a new servant, at an additional salary; so that the public have to pay two officers for the services of one of them.

Great calamities will of course happen in spite of every precaution, but it does seem rather hard that a misfortune should occur in relation to a matter which legislation has especially been employed to guard against. Everybody who has added a few bricks to a garden wall, or changed the position of a copper, will be aware by a demand upon him for fees, that there is in existence a very stringent measure called the Building Act. This would of course be a very wholesome law, if it did all the good it was professedly passed to accomplish; but when one hears of such a frightful casualty as the fall of the Atlas Iron Works, it is impossible not to feel that, in spite of a great deal of inconvenience and expense occasioned by the Act in question, whenever bricks and mortar are to be used, the law is not effectual for the prevention of such alarming incidents as that by which more than a hundred lives might have been sacrificed. We shall probably hear that everything that was done was done in conformity with the established rules of science, and we shall have the great fact of the fall of the building utterly unaccounted for. As providentially no life may be lost, there will be no coroner's inquest, and consequently no inquiry whether the alterations at the works had been effected in conformity with the Building Act; and, if such has been the case, who is to blame for the occurrence of the accident?

It is easy to understand why Lord Palmerston should feel sore with Mr. Layard, but it is difficult to conceive how the Premier can allow himself to descend to those petty acts which render his soreness visible. The refusal of his Lordship to give Mr. Layard a day for the discussion of his motion, with an intimation that "the honourable member must find a day for himself," was quite unworthy of the Premier, who will find that his own day will come, perhaps, before he is prepared for it. Considering how many days are lost by the Legislature, it is strange that there should be any difficulty in finding one for the discussion of a subject in which the country takes a serious interest.

The debate on Lord Ellenborough's resolutions in the House of Lords did not give the public a very favourable opinion of the capacity of the statesmen who took part in it, but the dullness of the affair has been accounted for by Lord Redesdale, who declared that the presence of ladies had paralysed a portion of their Lordships' eloquence. One Peer had positively intended to have addressed the House; but, like the sentimental gentleman in the song, who "rose, but could not speak, for her eye was upon him." His Lordship remained silent under the gaze of the ladies who were permitted to be present. There is no knowing what an amount of brilliant eloquence may have been lost to the pages of Hansard by the attendance of the fair sex in the House of Lords on Monday last; but if I thought that the debates would be curtailed by an extension of the privilege of admission to an increased number of females, I would for once break my silence in the House of Commons and propose the enlargement of the Ladies' Gallery. Lord Redesdale compared the appearance of the House of Lords on the evening in question to that of a Casino—a comparison not very complimentary to the ladies who happened to "assist" at the debate, and whose conduct and manners surely were not such as to warrant the rather odd allusion.

One of the reasons assigned for the infrequency and poverty of the news conveyed by the electric telegraph at the Crimea is the difficulty found by the Government in comprehending the explanatory cipher. If the members of the Administration do not understand ciphers they must find it rather hard, occasionally, to understand each other. In one instance the key is said to have been lost—a sign that it must have fallen into hands as careless or incompetent as those in which the keys of office are sometimes deposited.

ART CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF THE PATRIOTIC FUND.—The drawings contributed by the Royal children to this fund were sold on Monday, according to announcement. The Princess Royal's drawing was purchased for the sum of 250 guineas. The Prince of Wales' brought 55 guineas; and the remaining drawings, by the Princess Alice, Princess Helena, and Prince Alfred, 50 guineas each. The owners of these attractive contributions have considerately allowed them to remain at Buckingham-house, where they will be exhibited during the present season. Independently of the invited, 1000 persons paid for admission at the doors.

TESTIMONIAL.—On the 2nd inst., a handsome silver inkstand was presented to the Vestry Clerk of Hillingdon, at a vestry-meeting attended by the Rev. Benby Porteous Hodgson, the Vicar; the churchwardens, and several influential parishioners. The inks and bears the following inscription:—"This testimonial is presented to Thomas Witts Watford, Esq., by a few of the parishioners of Hillingdon, as a mark of their high appreciation of his valuable services as Vestry Clerk of the parish for a period of fifty years, which he completed on Tuesday April 10th, 1855."

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH, in moving the series of resolutions of which he had given notice, and which we gave last week, said that the country had now been more than a year in a war in which its whole naval and military strength had been called into operation. There had been no failure of courage on the part of our soldiers and sailors, and yet our military operations had been attended with sufferings unequalled, but without being also attended with any corresponding success. He adverted to the topic which apparently weighed upon both Houses of Parliament during the present Session, and traced the lamentable cause to the incompetence of the present Government. The only sound principle, he contended, was that merit should be the passport to office, though he admitted it would expose a Minister to dangers resulting from the jealousy of influential persons, unless supported by public opinion. He was, he confessed, apprehensive at the growth of popular impulses out of doors, and he, therefore, asked their Lordships to neutralise any mischiefs which might thence arise, by themselves guiding the general movement, so that off[illegible] persons should be chosen with an eye to their capacity, and to that alone. The noble Lord then proceeded to comment on the blunder of losing the entrenchment of 16,000 millimen, by an attempt to save some £50,000; on the fact that the services of the Baltic fleet were rendered nugatory by the non-supply of soldiers and gun-boats; that the Asiatic field of action against the Czar had been neglected, and that the attack on Sebastopol had been both ill judged and ill timed—a double blunder—a blunder in diplomacy and a blunder in warfare. The present position of the Russian army as besieging army of the Allies was that it was itself beleaguered between the Russian intrenchments and the sea—unable to take the field, and yet finding it hopeless to take Sebastopol. He considered the Government at home responsible for all the disasters which had taken place, and for the eventual failure of the siege; and the fault, he believed, was more fairly attributable to the mere blame to the system upon which it was sought to be thrown. He supported administrative reform for the same reason as he had formerly opposed the Reform Bill, because he wished to see the ablest men placed in the public service. Their Lordships should recollect that they enjoyed their hereditary rank and privileges owing to the merit of their ancestors, who had won their position, not by favour but by fitness, and he trusted in a great crisis like the present they would act to create the very principle to which they owed their own existence, and place themselves in the van of public opinion.

Lord PANMURE said, the resolutions were a series of truisms and platitudes ending in accusations in which both the persons and the acts impugned were alike vague and indistinct. Viewing the resolutions, however, as a censure on the Government, he would meet them with a distinct negative. As an apology for the mistakes which had taken place he adverted to the forty years of peace which the country had enjoyed, and the insufficiency which not unnaturally followed of our armaments, after all the retrenchments which had been effected. The Government had, however, laboured indefatigably and successfully to place them on a proper footing when a sudden war rendered their services necessary. Considerations of public policy prevented his citing any documents in support of his assertion; but he assured their Lordship that since February the British troops had been constantly improving in health, strength, and efficiency, and were now unrivalled in every quality which could render an army formidable to an enemy. The noble Earl had not advanced a single instance in which insufficient functionaries had been placed in high offices from favoritism, and he could only meet the general charge with an general a denial. The noble Lord proceeded to say that true patriotism would suggest to their Lordships the adoption of a course which would strengthen the hands of Government, and give the army and its General increased confidence in their constitutional directors.

The Earl of HARDWICKE entered in much detail into the conduct of the transport service and the establishment of the blockades, charging the Government with numerous faults, both of omission and commission, and pointing out better modes of procedure for the future.

The Earl of ELGIN defended the Government, whose measures were as yet to a considerable degree untried, and no advantage could, therefore, arise from a mere change in the *personnel* of the Government.

Earl GRANVILLE repudiated the charge of nepotism in the election of public officers. The resolutions exaggerated all the disasters they referred to on the one hand, while they ignored, on the other all the improvements which had been carried out, and all the advantages which had been obtained.

The Earl of DERBY said, he could not allow Ministers to shelter themselves behind the bravery of our armies, who had so gloriously upheld the character of the country in the field of battle. He entered into considerable detail to show that the expedition to Sebastopol was a total and a disgraceful failure undertaken without proper consideration or preparation—undertaken at the wrong time, in the wrong manner, and resulting in placing the army in a situation of being rather the besieged than the besieger. The terrible sufferings in this winter campaign in the Crimea were to be attributed to the negligence and incapacity and want of foresight exhibited by all the public departments. It would be a cruel task for him much regret should the result of the debate of that evening fall on himself the responsibility of forming an Administration; but at the same time he admitted that circumstances had so much changed since the period when he had formerly felt himself compelled to abandon such a task. Amongst those changes he instanced the conclusion of the Vienna Conferences and the extinction of Lord Palmerston's excessive popularity.

The Duke of NEWCASTLE defended the Government of which he had been a member from the censures of the Earl of Derby.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE opposed the resolutions

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY supported the resolutions

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE, in defending the conduct of Government, said they must look merely at the losses sustained by the Allied army in the present war. The Russians had suffered far greater losses than we had done. A few days before the death of the Emperor Nicholas, a return was given, in which showed that no less than 177,000 Russian soldiers had died up to that time. According to a supplemental return furnished some days later, 70,000 men were added to the list, making in all 247,000 men since the beginning of the war

Lord ELLENBOROUGH having replied, their Lordships divided. The numbers were For the motion—present, 71; against it, 16. Majority, 44. The Government then called for proxies, and 66 were produced, Lord Ellenborough did not call for proxies.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

In reply to questions from Mr. M. Gibson and Mr. Layard, Lord PALMERSTON said, he could not give a Government day for the discussion of the protocols of the Vienna Conferences, owing to the great pressure of public business. He had offered a day to Mr. Layard, which he had declined.

Mr. DISRAELI said that in all former cases where similar papers had been communicated to Parliament the Government of the day had invariably made them the subject of discussion of its own accord. If the noble Lord at the head of the Government was disinclined to adopt the precedents he referred to, he might at all events feel it to be consistent with his duty to give facilities to other hon. members to bring forward the discussion

Lord PALMERSTON said, he would not offer any impediment to such a discussion, and any hon. member, by an arrangement with gentlemen who had notices on the paper, might bring forward a motion on the subject. The Government business was very pressing, and he could not, therefore, bring forward an opinion on these papers, but he would be ready to meet any discussion which might be originated by others.

The Customs Duties Bill was read a third time and passed.

METROPOLITAN LOCAL MANAGEMENT BILL.

On the order of the day for the House resolving itself into Committee on the Metropolis Local Management Bill,

Sir B. HALL entered into some explanations with respect to certain changes which he deemed necessary to make in Hobhouse's Act, which is incorporated in the bill

Viscount ERRINGTON moved as an amendment that the further consideration of the bill be deferred till the House has discussed the principles of the bill announced by the President of the Board of Health for the modification of the Act commonly known as Hobhouse's Act, which Act is proposed to be incorporated in the Metropolitan Bill.

After a short discussion.

Lord ERRINGTON withdrew his motion.

Mr. MACKINNON then moved that the bill be referred to a Select Committee

The House divided, and the amendment was negatived by a majority of 131 to 8.

The House then went into Committee, and considerable progress was made before midnight, when the House resumed, and the Chairman reported progress

Lord PALMERSTON said, he would give precedence on Monday to the motion of Mr. M. Gibson with respect to the Vienna Conferences.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

PROXIES.

The Earl of MALMESBURY complained of some irregularities in taking the division on the previous night. He, he said, had been called for without notice, with the result of giving the Ministerial majority, the Opposition being unable to produce the proxy papers on their side.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH gave some explanations, and, after a brief conversation, the subject dropped.

TRADE WITH RUSSIA.

The Earl of ALDERMARLE moved the following resolution:—"That it is the opinion of this House that, in order to bring the war with Russia to a speedy termination, it is necessary to restrict the trade with that country by more efficient measures than any which have hitherto been adopted or announced by her Majesty's Government."

Lord STANLEY of ALDERLEY repeated the explanations which had already been distinctly urged by the Government in justification of leniency heretofore shown towards neutral Powers with respect to the export of Russian commodities. Every exertion, however, would be made to render the strict blockade at all the ports in Russia, having good ground, possible, the direct commerce of that country along the whole extent of her seaboard.

Lord Ravensworth, Lord Wodehouse, Earl Granville, the Marquis of Clanricarde, Earl Grey, the Earl of Derby, and Earl Fitzwilliam continued the discussion

Their Lordships then divided, and the motion was negatived, the numbers being—Contents, 31; non-contents, 47: majority, 16.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Mr. LAYARD announced his intention of bringing forward the resolutions of which he had given notice as an amendment on the motion for Committee of Supply, upon Thursday week.

THE HARDWARE TRADE

Mr. HADFIELD moved that the House should resolve itself into Committee to consider the laws which secured the property of the manufacturers and the wages of the workmen engaged in the fabrication of various descriptions of hardware. The object of his motion he explained to be the extension of the statute of 6 and 7 Victoria, so as to include Birmingham, Sheffield, and Wolverhampton in its provisions

The Marquis of TAVISTOCK said the House having gone into Committee, a resolution framed to carry out the object indicated was agreed to

On resuming, Mr. HADFIELD obtained leave to bring in a bill on the subject.

THE SCREW-PROPELLER.

Capt. SCOBELL moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the circumstances under which the £50,000 compensation voted to the patentees of the screw-propeller had been distributed, with the several recipients. The hon. member related at much length the history of the invention in which he had taken part, of the various claims to which it had given rise, contending for the poor title of Captain Carpenter, who, it seems, obtained none of the [illegible]

Mr. T. BARING gave a different version of some of the transactions alluded to, exonerating the Board of Admiralty, of which he had been a member—from the charge of negligence or favoritism in the allotment of the compensation fund.

Mr. KEATING and Admiral WALCOTT supported the motion.

Sir F. TRESIGER, in opposing it, stated reasons for believing that Captain Carpenter could claim no share in the original contrivance of the screw-propeller which he nevertheless should be assigned to previous inventors, and especially to Mr. Francis Petit Smith.

After some remarks from Sir G. Pechell, Mr. J. G. Phillimore, Sir C. Wood, and other members, the House divided—For the motion, 49; against, 69: majority, 20.

FORMATION OF PARISHES.

The Marquis of BLANDFORD moved for leave to bring in a bill to make better provision for the formation and endowment of separate and distinct parishes. The measure, he explained, would enlarge the powers of the Commissioners, so as to enable them to subdivide parishes in certain cases where the population had increased, and new churches were built, and to give to existing districts a distinct parochial character.

Lord PALMERSTON gave his assent to the introduction of the measure, and, after a few words from Mr. HADFIELD, the motion was agreed to, and leave given to bring in the bill.

Mr. ATHERTON obtained leave to bring in a bill for amending the laws relating to mortmain; and

Mr. COLLIER for a bill amending the law relating to the qualification of justices of the peace.

Sir G. GREY for a bill to amend the law for the inspection of coalmines.

The Spirit Duties (Excise) Bill was read a third time and passed

The Alteration in Pleadings Bill was read a second time

The Sewers (House Drainage) Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

CHURCH-RATES ABOLITION BILL.

On the motion for the second reading of this bill,

Sir W. CLAY commenced in the absence of all the members of the Government; and then proceeded to explain the provisions of the bill. The popular cry was "Are you going to deprive the Church of its stability?—is it the poor man's Church?" By the bill now brought forward, for the first time would the poor man have the benefit of the Church. By the bill he had provided that one-third of the area of churches should be allotted to free seats, and in the new-rents, to supply the place of church-rates: that scarcely could be objected to; for, when it was said that the present Church was the poor man's Church, the whole of a moiety at least of the rents should be appropriated without any reservation for the poor The auditors provided by the bill were to be selected from ratepayers; and reservation was made that churchwardens should be liable to any balance found due on their accounts, and that actions might be brought to recover those amounts by succeeding churchwardens. The honourable member then proceeded in detail to show that the fact of the vast increase of churches that have been built during the last twenty years, and the expenses of which were, to a vast extent, borne by the public, was evidence in favour of the arguments that he had advanced in favour of the bill, and he earnestly urged the adoption of the voluntary system being brought in aid of pew rents. After some further observations the hon. Baronet moved that the bill be read a second time.

Mr. PAGE seconded the motion, and he was sufficient evidence that the public feeling was in favour of the bill, as he found on examination that the number of signatures was not one-fourth of the number of those who signed petitions against the Church Rate Bill of last session. He moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

Mr. L. DAVIES said, the Government ought to come forward and tell the public feeling on this subject, and he told the noble Lord at the head of the Government that he ought to state the views of the Government on the subject. The question was not one of religion, but one affecting the property of the land. He should therefore second the amendment

Mr. COWPER did not think it would be desirable to accept the present bill; although he might not be indisposed that some remedy should be applied to alter the present system, he could not approve of the present bill, and therefore he was compelled to support the amendment.

Mr. LUSHINGTON opposed the bill. It was most objectionable in principle, and unjust both to the Church and the poor, who would be precluded from any free places in houses of worship

Mr. LABOUCHERE supported the second reading. If the bill went into Committee, much of its machinery might be altered, and on that ground he supported the bill.

Lord PALMERSTON did not think that the bill of the hon. member would be calculated to meet with the approbation of both branches of the Legislature. He could not put those places of worship that existed for centuries in the same category as churches that had more recently sprung up. The bill did not contain sufficient provisions for preserving the maintenance of the fabrics of the Church. These churches were the national institutions, and it would not be for the advancement of religion that they should be suffered to decay. Many hon. members had said it was the duty of Government to find out the means which would solve the difficulty (Loud cries of "Hear, hear"). It was all very well and very easy for hon. members to say so; Government had dealt with the question before without any success He was not, on the part of the Government, prepared to bring in any bill this session (Hear, hear), nor could he at present see any means of the settlement of the question. Personally he felt bound to resist its further progress, and vote against the bill.

Lord SEYMOUR regretted the speech of Lord Palmerston, which was in direct contradiction of the assertion of Lord John Russell last session, that it was the intention of the Government to settle the question this session

The House divided, when the numbers were—For the second reading, 217; for the amendment, 159: majority, 58.

The bill was consequently read a second time. The announcement was received with loud and continued cheering

CARLISLE CANONRIES BILL.

Mr. FERGUSSON moved the second reading of this bill, which was to suspend a canonry and to divide the proceeds amongst the four incumbents of the parishes of Carlisle, which were very insufficiently provided for.

Mr. COWPER moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

After a short discussion the House divided, when the numbers were:—For the second reading, 102; against, 98: majority, 4. The announcement was loudly cheered. The bill was then read a second time.

POLISH AND HUNGARIAN VOLUNTEERS.—The *Siècle* says, several chiefs of the Polish and Hungarian insurrections of 1830 and 1848 have, within the last few days, left England and France to embark for Constantinople. Many of them went to the capital at the beginning of the war, and the Ottoman Government accepted their services, but, afterwards, owing to the intervention of foreign diplomacy, declined them. They hope that at present their services in the service of the Porte will not encounter any difficulty, or at all events calculate on being employed in the Anglo-Turkish Legion now being raised by the British Government. A number of the prisoners taken from the Russians at Bomarsund arrived last week at Montpellier, under the command of an officer of the 6th Regiment of the Line, who is to accompany them to Marseilles. These men have been enrolled for the Polish Legion in the service of Turkey, almost every one of them being Poles.

FALL OF THE ATLAS IRON-WORKS.

THE premises of the Atlas Iron-works Company are situate immediately facing the racket-ground of the Queen's Bench Prison, in the Borough-road, and stretch as far as the back of the houses in Newington-causeway. The place was originally built for carpenters' workshops, and was four stories high, being built of timber, covered with heavy sheets of slate, the supports of the roof being long but horizontal girders, braced together. The uprights, it appeared, were too weak for the weight of the metal required in such premises as are used in the engineering trade, although sufficiently strong for the purposes they were originally intended. The building which has fallen was about 90 ft. long and nearly 70 ft. high; the lower floor being used as the drilling and casting-houses. The drying-shops were on the next floor, over which were the carpenters' shops; and on the floor above were deposited all kinds of iron work—the whole being of great weight.

Shortly after two o'clock on Monday afternoon the various workmen, numbering upwards of 100, had returned from dinner, and had taken their respective places at their lathes, drums, and benches, when of a sudden some persons, who were in the top floor, attracted the attention directed to one of the sides rocking to and fro. They raised an immediate alarm, and at once made an attempt to gain the street. Others in the lower floor, also seeing the building move, made an attempt to leave, and fortunately several were successful; but before the whole number could get out, the roof fell in, and in an instant afterwards the top floor fell, and the lower floors, being pressed by the additional weight thrown upon them, also dropped to the ground. As soon as the dust had in some measure cleared away, the exact amount of the injury and the cause became apparent; and the cries which proceeded from the ruins proved that several persons were embedded. Messengers were dispatched to the Stones-end Police Station for the aid of a strong master of police, and Inspectors Moore and M'Intosh, with nearly 100 officers, repaired to the scene, and found men almost in a state of frenzy, rushing about, and begging the officers to allow them to assist in rescuing the less fortunate workmen who were under the ruins. The request was, of course, readily granted, and the police assisted the men in digging the poor sufferers out. The neighbours also showed every willingness in assisting in getting the rubbish away, and, after some time, two men were got out by Mr. Day, of the Fox and Knot Tavern, Cross-street, Blackfriars-road, who removed them in a cab, and they were driven off to St. Thomas's Hospital. The state of the premises having been made known to the authorities of the hospital, and the great number of persons who were buried alive in the ruins, several medical gentlemen connected with the institution proceeded to the scene, in order to render immediate assistance as the men were got out.

Several persons were, by dint of great exertion, removed from the rubbish; and they were found to be very badly cut and injured by the fall of timber and iron work; two were taken to the surgery of Mr. Odling, in High-street, Borough, and Mr. Charles Smith, his assistant, strapped up their wounds. One man had received a contused wound at the back of the head, and the other had his leg severely cut. Tackling having been obtained, and the assistance of some 200 men, the stones, after about two hours, were raised, and a man liberated. He was taken to St. Thomas's Hospital, but he is in a very dangerous condition. Another man, named Joseph Giles, was also extricated, after much time and trouble, with his skull fearfully fractured. A man named James Holden was next brought from the ruins, and was taken by the police to St. Thomas's Hospital. Charles Pryer was likewise got out, with his leg fractured by a millstone falling on it, and he was also removed to the same institution. Another man, whose name could not be ascertained, owing to his being perfectly insensible, was removed to the hospital, but not the least hopes can be entertained of his recovery. A man named John Regan was extricated from the broken timber and forthwith removed to Guy's Hospital. The total number of sufferers taken to St. Thomas's Hospital was seventeen; twelve of whom had their wounds dressed and were able to be removed home, but the other five remain in a very dangerous state

The cause of the accident is said to have been the giving way of a temporary wooden block, which had been substituted for an iron pillar while some alterations were being carried out.

SHIPWRECK OF THE EMIGRANT BARQUE "JOHN."

THE melancholy case of shipwreck took place on the night of the 3rd inst., on the Manacles, off the coast of Cornwall. The unfortunate barque left Plymouth Sound on the afternoon of that day, bound for Quebec, having on board 149 adult passengers, 38 children, and 16 infants, together with a crew, in all, of 19; making the total number of souls on board 222. The passengers were principally from the north of Devon, the great portion of American emigration in the west of England. She sailed at four p.m., on the top of the ebb tide, with a favourable wind off the land; and all bade fair for a rapid and prosperous voyage down Channel. About half-past nine they made the Falmouth light, the captain himself pointing it out to one of the passengers on deck. Just at this time the second mate was trying to sight the Lizard light, and he asked some of the passengers if they could not see the reflection of the light in the sky? They replied they could not; when the captain said, he could not either, but they would see it fast enough when they got there. It was the second mate's watch, and the captain shortly after went below. About ten o'clock the mate came on the poop and asked the passengers if they had seen the captain, and on being asked what he wanted the captain for, he said he (the mate) thought they were a deal too nigh land. Shortly after this the captain came on deck, and what the mate had stated, "that they were getting too close on land," was reported to him. The captain pooh-poohed the report. Soon afterwards some one forward sung out "rocks," and almost immediately the vessel struck with violence, so much so that she bumped over the rock, and then struck with still greater force upon rocks further in. The captain was then distinctly heard to call out, "Run her aground." The vessel then had all sail on her with great way, as she was when the accident happened going eight or nine knots, and though run aground the sea washed her off again, and she ran down the coast for some distance. An attempt was then made to bring her up by letting go her anchor, when she grounded heavily broadside on. Attention was then directed to the boats, of which she had four on board (three on deck and one over the side); the captain, four seamen, and one passenger, jumped into the latter boat and called out to lower; but finding no one answer the call, the captain returned to the deck of the vessel, when the boat was lowered. On her touching the water it was found there was no plug in her, and she was without thowle pins. While they were waiting to cope her, the vessel became unshipped, and drifted astern, and the boat drifted off from the vessel without the captain. The men put their knives in for thowle pins, and the passenger his German pipe for a like purpose, and they pulled out to sea to get round a point of rocks over which the breakers were rolling heavily. When they had weathered this point they pulled for the land, on nearing which they saw a light. Not being able to find a landing-place they called aloud for help, when they were heard by the son of Lieut. M'Lean, of the Coast-guard, who pulled out a place of landing. Immediately the alarm was spread that a vessel had struck on the Manacles. An attempt was then made to pull out some of the Coast-guard boats without success, from the dangerous character of the coast. The passenger who had got on shore was taken by the Coast-guard people in their attempt to put out to assist the vessel, in order to direct them where she lay, those of the ship's crew who got ashore positively refusing to lend even this assistance. Unfortunately the boats could not reach the vessel, and were compelled to return to the shore. They postponed all further efforts till the following morning, when, going further up the coast to a more favourable place of embarkation, they reached the vessel, which was then not above 200 yards from the shore. During the whole of this time—the crew being for the most part intoxicated—not a single effort was made to save the passengers by either captain or crew. Some of the passengers attempted of themselves to get the cutter out; in so doing they stove her bottom, and lost the boat. The tide at the time of the vessel struck was three-quarters ebb, and she sunk she filled with water; but the decks were dry, and if assistance had been rendered at this time all might have been safely landed. The master would not allow the two largest boats to be hoisted out, telling the passengers to be quiet, that they were perfectly safe, as the tide would not flow before daylight, when boats from the shore would come off and take them from the wreck, evincing hereby his perfect ignorance of the tides, a most important matter to attend to; instead of which the tide commenced flowing at one, and before two the sea broke heavily over the vessel, dashing the boats to pieces, each wave carrying its victims into eternity amidst the most terrific shrieks of the rest, expecting every moment to meet the same doom. One hundred and ninety six men, women, and children, were swallowed up, and about eighty saved. The crew, with the exception of the steward, evinced the greatest apathy throughout this dreadful scene, and did not render the slightest assistance to the passengers. When the shore boats arrived, about half-past three

WRECK OF THE EMIGRANT SHIP "JOHN."

or four o'clock, they were the first to try to get into them, with their bags, showing a greater anxiety to secure these than to save the lives of the emigrants. Not a seaman perished.

An inquest was held on the bodies which have come to land, and the jury, in recording their verdict, observed that they considered the conduct of the whole crew, with the exception of a seaman named Elder, most blameable, and expressed their surprise that the ship was not supplied with a signal gun nor blue lights, and recommended that a light should be placed on the Manacles. Against the captain (Rawle) they returned a verdict of manslaughter, and the coroner's warrant was at once issued for his apprehension, on which he has been lodged in the Cornwall county gaol at Bodmin.

THE FOREIGN LEGION, MELVILLE ISLAND, HALIFAX.

We have been favoured with the accompanying Sketch, by Lieut. Bland, 76th Regiment, illustrative of the activity shown in Nova Scotia, in providing auxiliaries for the vigorous prosecution of the war. Of the formation of the Legion for this purpose we have received the following details:—

A few weeks back, one of the members of the Colonial Government was dispatched to the United States, the object of his going being kept secret; but the arrival of the brig *America*, on the 30th of March, with seventy-six emigrants on board, cleared up the mystery. On the morning of that day the Governor, Sir Gaspard le Marchant, went down to the Queen's Wharf, where he was met by the military staff. A Captain Schobel, who came in charge of the emigrants, reported himself and introduced two other officers and a doctor. Seventy-one of them were paraded, and expressed a wish to enter her Majesty's service, the other five sought employment on the railroad or elsewhere. They were then taken up to the Military Hospital and inspected, when, with one or two exceptions, they all passed, and were declared, by the principal medical officer and his staff, to be a very creditable lot of recruits, equal to the average of those raised in England. After the medical inspection they were marched out to Melville Island, where accommodation for 500 men had been provided (at about three days' notice), under the direction of Colonel Stotherd, R.E., and his staff, Captain Barry and Lieut. Walker, R.E. The building in which they are located is a large wooden edifice, formerly employed for the accommodation of French prisoners, and would, on an emergency, hold from 1300 to 1500 men, by means of hammocks suspended one above the other. Although but a short notice had been given, the men were comfortably housed the first night—a cook-house, canteen, engine house, &c., having been previously erected. As large numbers were, and are still expected, our informant states the following officers of her Majesty's 76th Regiment were doing duty with them:—Brevet-Lieut. Col. Lloyd, Capt. Thomas Tydd, Lieut. J. W. Preston, and Lieut. J. F. Bland. The men were progressing favourably with their drill, many of them having served before in the Hungarian and Prussian services.

The situation of Melville Island is remarkably picturesque: and in the summer it is a great resort of the ladies of Halifax, for pic-nics, and lobster-spearing. This latter amusement is carried on by torch-light, at which let no too susceptible young man attend. It appears by the American papers that the Yankees do not approve of the emigrants coming here.

BARRACKS OF THE FOREIGN LEGION, MELVILLE ISLAND, HALIFAX.

FIELD-MARSHAL'S BATON FOR LORD RAGLAN.

FIELD-MARSHAL'S BATON, FOR PRESENTATION TO LORD RAGLAN BY HER MAJESTY.

We have been favoured with an inspection of the Field-Marshal's Baton, intended for presentation by her Majesty to Lord Raglan. The Staff, or Baton, is covered with crimson velvet, powdered with gold lions. The Staff is surmounted by a group of St. George and the Dragon, in solid gold, of exquisite workmanship. The lower end of the Staff bears on a richly-chased gold mounting the following inscription:—

"From Her Majesty Alexandrina Victoria, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B. 1855."

The upper and lower mouldings are richly chased with the rose, shamrock, and thistle. The whole has been beautifully executed by Messrs. Turner, of New Bond street.

The Source of French Bravery.—A young Zouave, who had entered the army as a volunteer, excited the greatest astonishment and admiration amongst the English and French officers by his gymnastic powers. He attempted the most extraordinary feats, and always succeeded. An English captain asked him one day why, gifted as he was with such marvellous agility, he had entered the army voluntarily, when in a circus he could earn ten, nay, twenty-times as much as in the army. The Zouave coloured to the very temples, and in a tone of wounded pride replied, "Because I hope to die a French general, and not a riding-master. The French soldier looks to something besides money." Then, plunging his hands into his side-pockets, he turned round and took his departure; but from that day nothing in the world would tempt him to give any specimen of his wonderful powers before an English officer."—*French paper.*

EMBARKATION OF THE SARDINIAN CONTINGENT FOR THE CRIMEA.

The accompanying Illustration (from a sketch by Chev. Bossoli) represents the embarkation of the Sardinian Contingent from the port of Genoa for the East, and has been obligingly communicated by P. F. Campbell Johnston, who has just returned to England from the Sardinian States, where he has been spending a few weeks examining the state and prospects of that interesting country. The Constitution granted by the late King is being carried out with great success; and, under the able administration of Count Cavour, the welfare of the people and the resources of the country are being gradually developed.

The whole of the Sardinian Contingent (numbering upwards of 15,000 soldiers) will shortly be on their way to the East; and, before the end of the month, will, in all probability, be actively engaged assisting the English and French in their operations in the Crimea, under their able and distinguished leader, General La Marmora, who married an English lady (Miss Bertie Matthew), and whose recent visit to England excited so much interest.

M. DROUYN DE LHUYS.

M. Drouyn De Lhuys, the late able Minister for Foreign Affairs in France—who has resigned, or been requested to resign, office, on account, it is supposed, of his too great love for peace *a tout prix*—was born in the year 1802, at Melun, in the department of Seine et Marne. Although the scion of a rich and noble house, he did not, like so many others in his position, consider himself exempt from the sacred obligation of labour, but put himself in training to become useful to his country and to mankind. He was educated at the College of Louis-le-Grand, and distinguished himself by his quickness and his industry, particuly in reference to rhetoric, for which he gained the prize of honour

The instruction he had received, combined with the position occupied by his family, put many opportunities in his way which many young men do not enjoy. His early *penchant* for rhetoric manifested itself more decidedly in an enthusiastic love of politics and diplomacy; and he was appointed Secretary to the Embassy under the Government of July. He did more than *play* the public man—he devoted himself heart and soul to his vocation He bestowed very little of his time to gaiety—much of it to business. He studied the relations of his native country with the rest of the world; penetrated the secrets of the European Cabinets; and finally, by a laborious apprenticeship, made himself a consummate master of his art.

In 1841 the abdication of M. Jules Desaugiers left vacant the directorship of the commercial transactions of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, which was forthwith confided to M. Drouyn de Lhuys. In the following year M. le Duc de Praslin passed from the Chamber of Deputies to the House of Peers; and the electors of the department of the Seine et Marne were convoked to choose a successor. The new Director of Commercial Affairs presented himself as a candidate, and was immediately elected.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys never sold himself to party, but acted entirely from his own convictions and his own sense of right: and never hesitated publicly to disavow any proceeding which he deemed contrary to the interests and dignity of his country. Up to the revolution of February he sat in the Centre Gauche, amongst the opponents of the unpopular Cabinet which carried with it in its fall the dynasty of Orleans.

M. DROUYN DE LHUYS.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MILLER, OF VIENNA.

After the proclamation of the Republic, upwards of 41,000 voices called M. Drouyn de Lhuys to the Constituent Assembly, in company with M Gilland and three descendants of Lafayette. He subsequently became one of the Committee of Foreign Affairs, and in the sitting of May 24th, 1848, he, in the name of the Convention, presented a paper, of which the following was the burden:—"The National Assembly invites the Executive Commission to continue to take for its motto the unanimous wishes of the Assembly, thus worded:—*Fraternal Compact with Germany; the re-establishment of the Independence of Poland; and the Enfranchisement of Italy.*"

On the election of Louis Napoleon to the Presidency, in 1848, M. Drouyn de Lhuys received the portfolio of the Foreign-office under M. Odilon Barrot, and found that he had to grapple with two formidable questions "There are," said he, "two duties to fulfil—two interests to maintain; on the one side the liberty of a particular nation, and on the other the peace of the world. * * * * * It was necessary to conciliate matters. The case under consideration was essentially a policy of conciliation between contending interests. The thing to be done was to sacrifice something on each side, so to give as much satisfaction as possible to both parties."

We will not dwell upon the expedition to Rome. M. Drouyn de Lhuys, who directed the secret instructions of General Oudinot, acted in this question entirely in conformity with the personal policy of the President of the Republic. He believed it to be the duty of France to re-establish Pius IX. on his temporal throne, in order to prevent the interference of the Neapolitans and Austrians. This policy, although condemned by the Constituant, was highly approved by the Legislative, Assembly. A Ministerial modification took place in June, 1849. M. Dufaure was elected President of the Council, and M. Drouyn de Lhuys was replaced in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by M. de Tocqueville. Re-elected to the Legislative Assembly by nearly forty thousand votes, he resumed his business as Representative, but was a

EMBARKATION OF THE SARDINIAN CONTINGENT AT GENOA.

short time afterwards sent to London as Ambassador Extraordinary. After the taking of Rome, France confined her intervention to occupying the States of the Church; and M. Drouyn de Lhuys, in his character of Ambassador, was at length enabled to enjoy a little repose. In the following year, however (1850), affairs in Greece again called him into action. The French Cabinet demanded explanations from Lord Palmerston; numerous interviews took place between the Ambassadors, which ended in Lord Palmerston's accepting the good offices of France.

An unfortunate misunderstanding having arisen, M. Drouyn de Lhuys was recalled. Explanations were soon after made, however; and, on the 20th of June, Lord Palmerston formally accepted the convention signed by M. Drouyn de Lhuys. The French Ambassador saw with joy the most sincere and complete accord established between the two countries—due in great measure to his own efforts.

In France the political crisis grew more and more threatening. The Legislative Assembly commenced hostilities against Louis Napoleon, which ended in the famous *coup d'état* of the 2nd December. On the 9th January, 1851, the President was again elected, and the same day were published the decrees of the 26th December, 1848, and the 11th June, 1849, which reunited under one commander the National Guards of the Seine and the troops of the first division. The Assembly favoured General Changarnier, and counted on his aid in case of a rupture. His unexpected withdrawal threw them into the greatest disorder. They publicly declared they had no longer any confidence in the Ministry of the 9th of January, and M. Drouyn de Lhuys sent in his resignation

But Louis Napoleon had not the intention of depriving himself of the services of so useful a Minister. After the *coup d'état*, which put into his hands the sovereign power, he named him Vice-President of the Senate, and a few months afterwards Minister of Foreign Affairs, in the place of M. Turgot

We need not recall to the recollection of the reader the numerous despatches sent by M. Drouyn de Lhuys to his diplomatic agents from the commencement of the dispute between Russia and Turkey to the present time Such a relation would comprise a complete history of the Eastern question. However much he may have deserved his recent dismissal from office, it would not only be ungenerous but unjust to deny his merits as a diplomatist.

THE THEATRES, &c.

PRINCESS'

If the often-mooted question whether Shakspeare's plays should be subjected to all the means and appliances for their illustration that modern art can furnish has not hitherto been settled by that supreme and ultimate court of appeal in dramatic law, the playgoing public, we fancy the production of "Henry VIII.," at the Princess' Theatre, will put the question to rest for ever. The sternest believer in the æsthetic simplicity of the "wretched pair of flats" that formed the scenic decoration of the period before Garrick and Kemble, will be constrained to admit that Mr. Kean, in his selection of "Henry VIII." for one of his series of grand historical illustrations, has done nothing unworthy his own fame as a manager, or derogatory to the poetic genius of the poet whom he illustrates. Besides, too, that the period of the action is one especially suited to the display of magnificent decorations, we have the evidence of Coleridge in favour of this being treated as a *show* play; and it is clear from the lengthened and detailed stage directions, the accounts of ceremonies and processions that form part of the original text of "Henry VIII.," and the selection of pompous incidents in its construction, that it was intended as such by Shakspeare himself.

The wars which had so long agitated our fair isle which had extinguished half our noble families and decimated our bold yeomanry—had ceased. The times in which pomps and ceremonies must have been of rare occurrence, and snatched in moments of cessation from rude conflicts, were past and gone. A season of repose had succeeded, and this period was, moreover, marked with social changes, particularly favourable to the growth of luxury, to the encouragement of habits of personal expense, and to the cultivation of the people to a point at which they began, in the certainty of peaceful times, to take a greater interest than ever in the "forms and shows of things."

In selecting "Henry VIII.," we are informed by Mr. Kean, in the prefatory remarks appended to his play-bill, that he has had in view the effect of contrast with the varied character of the subjects he has previously chosen for illustration; and, with the object of rendering theatric effect subservient to strict historic correctness, he has confirmed his own well-trained judgment in such matters by seeking the assistance of gentle men each in their several departments excellent authorities: and there is not, we should think, from the rise to the fall of the curtain, a single scene, dress, or decoration, for which historical authority could not be given. The play itself is excellently adapted for such a purpose, and, as we have said above, was intended for effect, and with this view Shakspeare seems to have crowded into it incidents completely suited to represent pomp and circumstance to the public eye. The curtain rises upon a view of Old Palace-yard: in this scene Wolsey enters, attended by that ceremony and state so familiar in description; and at the conclusion of Act 1, in the banquet at York house, we have the more than Royal splendour in which the proud Cardinal lived placed before us, with the introduction of an incident calling forth that splendour of the masque of which our ancestors were so fond. In the second act, in the passage of Buckingham to execution, we have a show of a more solemn sort—the terror of the glittering axe the dignity of the victim, the expression of popular interest in suffering. In the trial scene a different but grand and dignified ceremonial is placed before us in all its form, shape, and appliances. We have, moreover, in the procession to Anne Boleyn's coronation, and in the incident which concludes the play of the christening the infant Elizabeth, other ceremonies, completing a series of situations, evidently intended to be placed before the spectator's eye with all the means of decoration at the manager's command, however limited these may have been at Blackfriars or the Globe. Nay, so well adapted are these for scenic illustration, that it would almost seem that Shakspeare had foreseen the resources that would be found in Oxford-street in the nineteenth century, although the wildest dreams of the dramatist cannot have anticipated the union of scene-painting, machinery, aerial suspension, and bude-light, that are combined in the vision of *Queen Katherine*; perhaps the most beautiful effect ever introduced upon the stage—an effect so beautiful and dream-like, that it kept the audience entranced and hushed, repressing the customary tokens of applause till the lovely group of floating figures had vanished from their eyes.

Following the indications of the poet, the management of the Princess' Theatre has based upon "Henry VIII." a series of gorgeous illustrations of the architecture, furniture, manners, dress, and customs of the sixteenth century—illustrations more perfect and more correct than have hitherto been presented upon the stage, alike acceptable from their splendour to the uncultivated eye of the humblest spectator, and, from their beauty and correctness, to the artist, antiquary, and historical student.

We have scarcely left ourselves space to criticise the acting of the play, although one circumstance of the performance can certainly not be passed over—we mean the return to the stage, after a long and serious illness, of Mrs. C. Kean. The reception afforded by the audience to this the first of our living actresses, was not an unworthy expression of the estimation in which she is held. The loud, hearty, and continued plaudits which greeted her entrance seemed as much the expression of respect to an accomplished lady as of admiration for a popular actress, and were so marked that Mrs. Kean was completely overcome with her feelings, and could with difficulty go on with the business of the scene. The character of *Queen Katherine* is the one in the play upon which Shakspeare seems to have expended most care: the gentleness, dignity, and womanliness that mark it were admirably represented by Mrs. Kean, who has seldom appeared to greater advantage than in the trial where the dignity of her appeal to the *King*, contrasted with the outbreak of temper with which, irritated by cold endurance, she hastily leaves the Court—and in the dying scene where the patience, continuing to the end, and the still queenlike manner, gradually giving place to physical weakness, exhibited not by violent contortion of face or gasping spasms, but by the wandering eye and hesitating speech, seemed the very poetry of suffering.

The *Wolsey* of Mr. Kean must be ranked amongst the most beautiful and successful of his Shakspearian assumptions. Departing from the cold conventional dignity which has hitherto been taken, we think wrongly, to be the key-note of the character, the idea of the *Priest* seems to be the primary one upon which he has based his conception. The manner of a man habitually self restrained runs through his performance; and, although in the look which he gives *Buckingham* in the first scene you may detect the strong lurking passion beneath the surface, it is only when goaded by the Lords and in the last scene with *Cromwell* when he feels his public career to be finished, that he gives way to the expression of natural feelings all else is calm, courtly, priestly, and restrained. Mr. Kean's delivery of the familiar speeches was perfect in its elocution and touching in its solemnity. Mr. Walter Lacy, in figure and face, looked the bluff *King Hal* to perfection; and as he sat upon the throne seemed a living Holbein.

We must not omit to record that the scene between the *Queen* and the two *Cardinals* has now been restored to the play;—containing, as it does, some of the most familiar and popular quotations from Shakspeare, and affording an opportunity of preventing one of the most beautiful *tableaux* in the play an interior of the period, with all its furniture and decoration, and an artistically-arranged group of *Katherine* surrounded by her ladies. Nor must we forget Mr. Grieve's Panorama of Old London, from Blackfriars to Greenwich, with its fine old ships, bright water, and gay barges, and view of the so often-mentioned old Palace at Greenwich, the scene so much that is interesting in English history.

The success of this revival of "Henry VIII." was great, but not beyond its merits. The crowded audience must have felt that everything that care, good taste, lavish expenditure, and careful research could do for the production of this celebrated and favourite play had been done—that a grand historical drama of a brilliant period had been placed before them in the most complete form; and they were not slow or niggardly in testifying their approbation.

DRURY-LANE.—The amateur pantomime of "Guy Fawkes" was reproduced here on Friday week. It was preceded by Mr. Planché's "Romantic Idea;" and both were acted with indisputable success to a large and highly fashionable audience. Her Majesty and the Royal Family were present. The receipts were applied in aid of the funds of the Wellington College.

OLYMPIC.—Mr. Wigan has been exceedingly fortunate during his management of this theatre in his new pieces. On Monday an original drama in three acts, by Mr. Tom Taylor, was produced with perfect success. Its title is, "Still Waters Run Deep;" and the moral is exemplified in the character of a north country hero, *John Mildmay* (Mr. Wigan), whose usual quiet demeanour misleads his wife and household into the belief that he is "a spoon," but who proves himself in the upshot to be a man of great practical talent. He defeats a swindler, who had plotted the ruin of his domestic peace, with the utmost coolness and courage, and saves the reputation of his wife's strong-minded aunt, who had previously ruined the family. Brought face to face with the former, whom he has to identify as a forger, he compels him to light a cigar with the one that he himself is smoking, while he traces his features, and convicts him of being the guilty party. With the same *sangfroid* and dexterity, he tempts him on to demand a duel, and inflict the horsewhip, whereby the criminal is entrapped into the custody of an officer. The dialogue is equal to the situations—both are thoroughly powerful; and the piece may be accepted, on the whole, as exhibiting masterly skill equally in the construction and composition. Mr. Wigan, as the hero, was admirable, and was efficiently antagonised by Mr. G. Vining, as *Captain Hawkshey*, so that the various collisions between them were effectively realised.

MR. W. S. WOODIN'S OLIO OF ODDITIES. This entertainment commenced on Saturday last, in the Polygraphic Hall, King William-street, Charing-cross, which has been elegantly fitted up for the purpose In libretto, so to speak, does great credit to Mr. E. L. Blanchard, who has excelled his former attempts in many important particulars. In rapidity and brilliancy, as well as in the number of characters, this entertainment is almost unique. The whole, too, is so artistically disposed—every point is so well introduced, and all the parts follow in such exact order, that Mr. Woodin receives as much support from the medium in which he works as the materials themselves require of illustration from his various talent. The action of the entertainment consists of a visit to the Lakes, and the *dramatis personæ* are composed of such individuals as the tourist would be likely to meet with on such an excursion. These are accompanied with a diorama of the scenery, which has been beautifully painted. Eighteen scenes are thus very effectively exhibited; among which are Kendal, Windermere, Rydal Fall, the Slate Quarry, Eskdale in a storm, Keswick, Ullswater, Borrowdale, and Carlisle. The impersonations have been in general well adapted to Mr. Woodin's light and graceful style, which much resembles that of Mr. C. Mathews, and is, in some cases, quite equal to its prototype Mr. Woodin is a dashing member of the "fast" school; and, in the patter and clatter class of song, is excellent His best specimen of this sort of thing occurred in "A Chapter of Crisis," which commenced with a capital portrait of Dr. Johnson as a contrast to more modern professors of the "art deteriorative," and concluded with a Murillo sketch of a boy in the gallery of a theatre, enthusiastically animated and embodied to the life. *Sir Harry Hinton*, *Mr Theophilus Tramroad*, and *Squir Chatterbuck* are the full-length portraits in the first part, but the little bit of *Giles Joskyn* chaffing the Londoner, may be regarded as most effective. There was, also, a grand "impersonation" of *Lady Esther Evergreen*, with a song; and what is called a "daguerreotype" of *Mr. Gustavus Gabbleton*, with a technical memory referable to the cuisine, that have proofs of vitality. In the second part, our memory dwells on *Mr. Cymon Sensitive*, and the gorgeous appearance of *Adèlle Therese*—the make-up of the latter being astonishing. The concluding character is that of *Clinton*, in proper costume, imitating the Senora Perea Nina; with which piece of exaggeration Mr. Woodin brought down his curtain to the unanimous applause of a crowded house.

MUSIC.

THE Concert of the PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY, on Monday last (the fifth of the season) was very fully attended. It was of remarkable excellence, both in the instrumental and vocal departments. The two symphonies were chefs d'œuvre of their respective authors, one was Mozart's in E flat; the other Beethoven's Pastorale. Chopin's beautiful pianoforte concerto in E minor—a piece which has seldom been heard in this country—was played by M. Charles Halle with the utmost perfection of style, expression, and execution. The overture to Wagner's much-talked-of opera, "Tannhäuser," was performed under the direction of the composer, the conductor of the Philharmonic Concerts. It was most carefully executed, and listened to with much curiosity and interest. Opinions were much divided with respect to its merits. Some deemed it, though wild and eccentric, a work of originality and genius, while others condemned it *in toto*. For ourselves, we did not, nor do we now, feel disposed to speak dogmatically. Very one acquainted with music is aware of the uncertainty of hasty opinions, and their liability to be changed by better acquaintance with the subject. We found in this composition some beautiful and striking effects, mingled with (as it seemed to us) much obscurity and confusion, but how far this obscurity may be dissipated by further hearing we do not at present pretend to know. The vocal performers were Mdlle. Jenny Ney and Signor Belletti, who sang with their usual excellence and success

Madame Anna Thillon, who is about to take a final leave of the stage, has begun a series of farewell performances at the Lyceum, of which theatre Mr. Allcroft is now the lessee. The retirement of the captivating performer will be no small loss to our musical stage. She has not been driven to this step by the decay of her powers, or the loss of her attractive qualities. But still she is acting wisely: it is better for performers to withdraw, leaving regret behind them, than to linger on the stage till they become objects of neglect. Madame Thillon gave the first of these farewell performances on Wednesday evening, when she appeared in her favourite part of *Catarina*, in Auber's most popular comic opera, the "Crown Diamonds," which (mainly through the charms of her acting and singing) has long been familiar to the English public. Her performance was as delightful as ever. Her neat and trim figure, comely features, and fresh and flexible voice, showed how lightly the hand of time is laid on her; and she sang with all the brilliancy and acted with the arch and playful grace for which she has ever been distinguished Her success was triumphant; and all the more complete from being achieved entirely from her own efforts: for we must say that she was very poorly supported, and that Mr. Allcroft ought to have made some efforts to muster a more efficient company.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

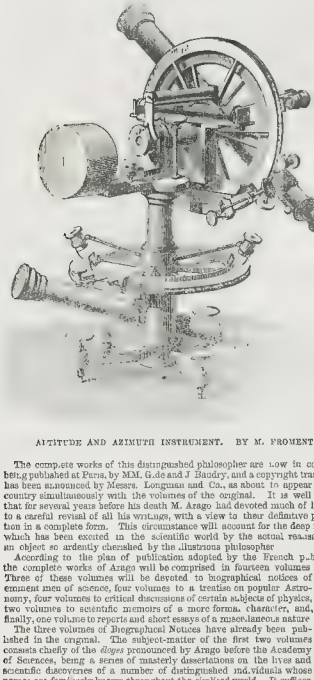
If newspapers were printed by magic, if the composing-stick were a fairy wand, or half-a-dozen cabalistic words sufficed to transform white paper into letter-press and engravings, it might be possible to give in a weekly paper the criticism of all that has happened during the week But as the public *will* buy the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS and as the paper itself is, woodcuts and all, not exactly a flying sheet, the turning it out in a marketable form must take no inconsiderable time, so that the best-disposed journalist cannot pretend to write up his criticisms and details to the facts of the Friday night. This is my excuse for having only now to speak of the amateur performance at Drury-lane Theatre on the 11th I forget what General was complimented, either by his Sovereign, the Speaker of the House of Commons, or somebody who wanted an appointment on his staff, by being told "that he had made past glory doubtful, and future fame impossible." Were I inclined to hyperbolical praise, I would say as much of the amateurs who performed the "Romantic Idea," and *the* Pantomime on Friday night. In the first place, surely never was such an audience collected under the roof of a theatre. The entire pit was turned into stalls—let at first at enormous, and finally at fabulous, prices: fancy £5 being paid for a very narrow chair in the remotest part of Drury-Lane pit! Even more was received (as a favour, too) in several instances. People who usually look for private boxes had to content themselves with the gallery. The Queen, too, occupying with her suite two private boxes in addition to her own, was present from the rising of the curtain till after it fell. That her Majesty was highly gratified was quite visible from her manner, and put beyond doubt by her gracious and graceful expression of approval. For the performers, all I will say is, what they did well at the Olympic, they did better on the larger stage, and that the *luxe* of costume and scenery was such as few people could have expected in a performance got up for a single night. As I have heard it said that such extreme costliness of decoration was hardly justifiable, considering that by just so much the advantage to the charity (the Wellington School) which was to benefit by the surplus would be diminished, I will mention that the managers were treated by every one concerned, from the lessee of the theatre to the furnisher of wigs, with a liberality that almost put an end to the idea of profit. A great deal was done absolutely gratis the fittings of the Queen's box and anterooms, all of the greatest beauty, by Jackson and Graham, for instance; and the hundreds of yards of red cloth for the staircases, lent by the Crystal Palace Company; and finally the flowers, for which the Duke of Devonshire allowed the conservatories at Chiswick to be pillaged *à volonté*. It was certainly a great success, both before and behind the footlights, but successes of this kind are not to be had for nothing; and the getting up of such a night's entertainment, involving the rearrangement of the whole audience part of the house—the lessee continually insulted by their mocked friends when disappointed of places (as they necessarily were, seeing that about three times the number of people that the house would hold wanted to come), the new scenery, the dresses, the ballet, the drilling some sixty or seventy amateur *supers*, must have given the managing committee quite enough fatigue to make them not regret that the thing is over

That rarest of all events, a field day in the House of Lords, occurred on Monday night. A discursive series of motions, introduced in an equally discursive speech by Lord Ellenborough was the cause, the result was a considerable strengthening of Ministers, inasmuch as they had by far the best of the debate (partly because their opponents by no means agreed among themselves), and finally won the division by a very large majority. It is hardly my province to speak of politics, except incidentally. My chief business is to tell you, or rather, to give an explanation, which I have not yet seen done, of an allusion of Lord Lansdowne. Lord Ellenborough, not in very good taste, told a story of the Duke of Wellington having some twenty-eight years ago (when on the East Retford case, the Canningites seceded from the Duke's Government) refused to give Lord Palmerston an answer, on the plea that he "did not choose to fire great guns on small birds;" Lord Lansdowne, in reply, said that he could, if he chose, relate an equally amusing speech of the Duke's, about Lord Ellenborough himself, but would not. It would be a pity that any one should be ignorant that Lord Lansdowne alluded to the Duke having said, in his rough, soldierly way of the then Governor-General of India, *apropos* to his grandiloquent language on the subject of the gates of Somnauth, "Hanged if he isn't a regular Brummagem Napoleon." One circumstance was mentioned by Lord Lansdowne, which, if correct, and he assured the House that he had every reason to believe it was so, gives hope that the drain of the war even on those resources which she is best provided with, must soon begin to tell on Russia. He told the House that the loss of men to that power, since the commencement of hostilities, was stated in official documents to be not less than 240,000! Of course a very small portion of these have fallen in battle; by far the greater number have dropped down, wasted and worn out by fatigue, by hunger, or by disease, as their regiments wound their slow length along the immense plains and morasses of the interior of the empire. They were not the less a serious loss to the Emperor Alexander's military force; and, if we take into consideration the drain of money which must be continually going on—taking it as equal to what France and England are spending on similar objects, it cannot amount to less than seventy millions a year there seems some reason to hope that before long Russia may be compelled by sheer exhaustion to consent to such terms as the Allies may think fit to impose upon her. The real strength of the Western Powers lies in the fact that their command of money is practically unlimited. No doubt taxation presses heavily, yet no one denies that without any thing approaching to run we can support it even in an increased ratio for many years to come; while the credit of the two countries is so good that while there is a five-pound note in any strong-box, it will always be lent on the security of their good faith. This is by no means the case with Russia

It is sometimes good to be an ill-used man. A few years ago churchrate martyrdom was quite a popular method of raising the wind; you had only to refuse conscientiously to pay a levy of one and-tenpence, to go to prison thereupon for a few weeks or months, as the case might be; and when you came out, you found a couple of thousand Consols standing in your name, and an amount of popularity belonging to you which gave you a fair chance, if so inclined, of representing your native town in Parliament. It now appears that it is no bad thing to be ill-used by the Government. It will be in the recollection of most people that Mr. Thomas Kennedy, a Right Honourable Commissioner of Woods and Forests, was, some little time ago, dismissed from his office in a very summary way; and many people certainly thought him an ill used man. It appears by a letter published in the *Daily News* that a magnificent benefactor has made up to him at least the pecuniary loss, by settling upon him an annuity of *twelve hundred a year*. Mr. Kennedy states the fact, but is not permitted to mention the donor's name. The reason for this princely gift is stated in the document conferring it to be the belief that Mr. Kennedy was dismissed from his post "mainly for his inflexible zeal in the discharge of the duties of that office, in promoting the welfare of the country at the sacrifice of influential patronage." Altogether, the transaction is a most remarkable one.

ARAGO THE ASTRONOMER.

IT is an indisputable fact that there is no name so intimately associated with the triumphs of physical science in the present century as that of the late François Arago. This unparalleled reputation of the French savant is due to a combination of various favourable circumstances. While his high intellectual qualities and the importance of his researches on several subjects of physics assured to him a place among the most eminent of his contemporary labourers in the same fields of inquiry, he was no less distinguished by his incessant efforts to familiarise the minds of all classes of society with the brilliant achievements of modern science. He possessed qualifications which, indeed, eminently fitted him for the office of a popular high priest of nature. Endowed with mental powers of essentially a deductive character,—at once acute, eloquent, and enthusiastic,—he enjoyed special delight in unlocking the precious treasures of science, and exposing their varied and exquisite beauties to the admiring gaze of the world. His career in life was also highly favourable to the development of this peculiar bent of his mind. As Perpetual Secretary of the Academy of Sciences, it was his duty to pronounce *éloges* on eminent men, formerly members of that body. It will be obvious, from a cursory perusal of some of these compositions, that they were eminently adapted to the display of Arago's peculiar excellences of style. While lively and dramatic in narration, and always eloquent in his advocacy of the great interests of science, his expositions of scientific discovery are perfect models of chaste and lucid writing. The course of lectures on astronomy, which he was in the habit of delivering annually at the Observatory at Paris, furnished him with a still more appropriate field for the exercise of his talents as a popular expounder of science. These lectures were always listened to with breathless attention, by a crowded audience. With admirable perspicuity, and in a flow of sustained eloquence, he explained the grand phenomena of the celestial bodies, seizing intuitively on every occasion the most salient points of his subject, and bringing home his conclusions to the minds of even persons unacquainted with the technicalities of science with a force of conviction which it was impossible to resist.



ALTITUDE AND AZIMUTH INSTRUMENT. BY M. PROMENT.

The complete works of this distinguished philosopher are now in course of being published at Paris, by MM. Gide and J. Baudry, and a copyright translation has been announced by Messrs. Longman and Co., as about to appear in this country simultaneously with the volumes of the original. It is well known that for several years before his death M. Arago had devoted much of his time to a careful revisal of all his writings, with a view to their definitive publication in a complete form. This circumstance will account for the deep interest which has been excited in the scientific world by the actual realisation of an object so ardently cherished by the illustrious philosopher.

According to the plan of publication adopted by the French publishers, the complete works of Arago will be comprised in fourteen volumes octavo. Three of these volumes will be devoted to biographical notices of eminent men of science, four volumes to a treatise on popular Astronomy, four volumes to critical discussions of certain subjects of physics, two volumes to scientific memoirs of a more formal character, and, finally, one volume to reports and short essays of a miscellaneous nature.

The three volumes of Biographical Notices have already been published in the original. The subject-matter of the first two volumes consists chiefly of the *éloges* pronounced by Arago before the Academy of Sciences, being a series of masterly dissertations on the lives and scientific discoveries of a number of distinguished individuals whose names are familiarly known throughout the civilised world. It suffices to mention the names of Volta, Fresnel, Young, Watt, and Carnot, to be convinced of the interest with which every page of these volumes is replete. Some of these interesting biographical sketches have already been published; but in several instances the new edition has been enriched with notes, which greatly enhances its value. There are other *éloges* contained in these volumes, which have not hitherto been given forth to the world, such as those of Poisson, Ampère, and Condorcet. The first volume of these Biographical Notices contains an interesting sketch of the life and labours of Arago by his attached friend the illustrious Baron Humboldt. When Arago arrived at Marseilles, in 1809, after an absence of three years from France, the first letter which he received was one from Humboldt congratulating him upon his safe return to his native country. Then commenced an intimate friendship between these two distinguished men, which continued without interruption till the death of Arago. The following tribute paid to the memory of the latter by his surviving friend is highly honourable to both parties.

"What distinguished this extraordinary man was not merely the power of genius which produces and fertilises, or that rare penetration which knows how to develop new and complex ideas with the same ease as if they had been long the property of the human intellect; it was also the attractive blending of the force and elevation of a passionate character with the warmest tenderness of feeling. I am proud to think that, by my affectionate devotion, and by the admiration which I have constantly expressed in all my works, I have belonged to him during a period of forty-four years, and that my name will be occasionally pronounced in connection with his great name."

The introduction by Humboldt is followed by an autobiography which Arago drew up before his death, and which is now for the first time published. A translation of this charming little production by Professor Powell has recently emanated from the establishment of Messrs. Longman and Co. Besides containing a graphic account of the author's early education, and of his subsequent adventurous career in Spain and Africa, it reveals to us some interesting views of the state of society in the scientific circles of Paris when Monge, Lagrange, and Laplace were in the height of their fame. When Arago first arrived in Paris, being then a very young man, he was naturally much gratified by the attention which he received from Laplace, having conceived an intense admiration of the great geometrician from a perusal of his works while still residing in the provinces. He confesses, however, that his feelings of reverence for the illustrious author of the "Mecanique Celeste" were rudely disturbed on one occasion when, having been at his house, he heard Madame Laplace, approaching her husband, say to him "Voulez-vous me confier le clef du sucre?"

The biographical notice of Bailly, contained in the second volume, will be read with intense interest. It is well known that the illustrious historian of astronomy, having imprudently involved himself in the political storms of the Revolution, fell a victim to the fury of the populace in the year 1793. In giving an account of the circumstances connected with his execution, Arago points out several inaccuracies which Thiers has committed in his "History of the French Revolution," the tendency of which is to represent the conduct of the populace towards their illustrious victim as odious in the highest degree. Every one who has read Thiers's work must recollect many similar passages in which the author attempts to vilify the multitude whom shortly before he did not scruple to employ as the instruments of his ambition. It must be borne in mind that the "History of the French Revolution" was written subsequently to the year 1830, when its author, having been appointed to a high office in the Government of Louis Philippe, no longer found it convenient to identify himself with the class which had mainly contributed to the Revolution of July. What a striking contrast does the conduct of Arago offer to that of Thiers! Whatever opinion may be entertained respecting the political sentiments of the illustrious philosopher, it is impossible to deny that he was consistent to the end of his career, and that he never evinced the slightest disposition to sacrifice principle at the shrine of self-aggrandisement. The third volume of the Biographical Notices is devoted exclusively to an account of the lives and discoveries of eminent astronomers. The subject-matter of this volume, with the exception of only a very small portion, has hitherto been unpublished. The reader cannot fail to peruse with deep interest the brilliant sketches which it contains, of the intellectual achievements of Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler, Newton, Picard, Roemer, Halley, Herschel, and a multitude of other distinguished individuals.

MM. Gide and Baudry have also published one volume of the "Astronomie Populaire." Of all the works which Arago had prepared for the press this was undoubtedly the one which he regarded with the greatest partiality. A French writer has prettily designated it as "the cherished offspring of his old age" (l'enfant chéri de sa vieillesse). It embraces a complete exposition of the great truths of astronomy, and is written in a style adapted to the comprehension of persons who have not the advantage of any previous training in scientific studies. It may be considered as embodying the substance of the course of lectures on astronomy which Arago was in the habit of delivering annually, with such brilliant éclat, at the Observatory of Paris. The volume which has just appeared is chiefly devoted to an exposition of the sublime truths which have been established by the researches of modern astronomers relative to the magnitudes, distances, and physical constitution of the fixed stars.

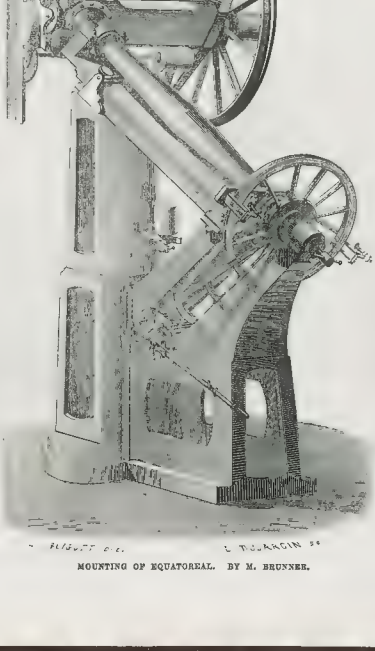
It is impossible, even upon the most cursory glance at the pages of this volume, not to be struck with the fascinating style of the author, and the unrivalled simplicity of the illustrations, by means of which he has rendered the astounding revelations of astronomical discovery easily accessible to any person of ordinary intelligence. The work, when completely published, will unquestionably form the most valuable contribution to popular astronomy which has hitherto appeared in any country. It ought to be mentioned, that the volumes are got up in an extremely handsome style—the publishers, apparently, sparing no expense to render the work in every respect worthy of its illustrious author. The same remark is applicable to the three volumes of Biographical Notices which we have alluded to, as having been already published.

We annex two Engravings, which have been chosen from among the many beautiful illustrations contained in the "Astronomie Populaire." The first represents an Altitude and Azimuth Instrument constructed by the French artist M. Froment. It consists essentially of two divided circles, one adjusted in a horizontal and the other in a vertical position. By observing the heavenly bodies with this instrument, the astronomer is enabled to fix the exact position of the meridian, and to ascertain *the time* with great precision. The Altitude and Azimuth Instrument is of indispensable use in all those great geodetical operations which have been undertaken in various parts of the world for the purpose of arriving at an accurate knowledge of the magnitude and figure of the earth.

The second figure represents the mounting of the great Equatoreal Telescope which has been recently constructed for the Observatory of Paris. The object of this mechanism, which is due to the eminent French artist, M. Brunner, is to give the telescope a smooth and uniform motion from east to west, upon an axis which is parallel to the earth's axis, the velocity of rotation being exactly equal to the apparent diurnal motion of the stars. By this arrangement it will be easily seen that when once a celestial object is brought into the field of view of the telescope, it will remain visible throughout the whole of the interval of its continuance above the horizon; and by this means the observer may examine at leisure its various physical peculiarities. The instrument is surmounted by a revolving dome, having an aperture which enables the observer to direct the telescope to any region of the heavens which he may choose to examine.

The drawings of the equatoreal telescope and the revolving dome are engraved upon steel. The same is true with respect to the representations of solar spots, comets, nebulæ, &c. Charming celestial charts, containing the various constellations generally admitted by astronomers, and including all the stars down to the sixth magnitude, have been constructed from the most recent authorities by the learned editor, M. Barral; and, besides being also engraved upon steel, is adapted to the octavo form of the volume. We might cite, also, an engraving executed from a photographic image of the sun, obtained by MM. Fizeau and Foucault, and a detailed description, accompanied with two engravings, of the ingenious apparatus of M. Foucault for demonstrating the diurnal rotation of the earth.

The greater number of the subjects treated of in the volumes of Scientific Notices have already been given forth to the world from time to time in the annual series of the "Annuaire du Bureau des Longitudes." Many of the have excited deep interest in the scientific world by the ability which the auth exhibits in grouping together under one point of view a number of apparently isolated phenomena. One would be apt, however, to form a very imperfect idea of these admirable essays from a perusal of them as they were originally published in the "Annuaire:" the author having, previously to his death, subjected them to extensive modifications, so as to adapt them to the present state of science. One of the volumes embracing these *Notices* devoted to the subject of meteorology, will shortly be published; and Messrs. Longman have announced that the English translation by Colonel Sabine will appear about the same time.



MOUNTING OF EQUATOREAL. BY M. BRUNNER.

DESPATCH FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, May 16, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, May 1.

My Lord,—I have little to report to your Lordship to-day.

The Russians continue actively engaged in covering their advanced works, and they have constructed a new battery on their left of the Mamelon: troops are constantly in motion on the north side, and there is every appearance of the establishment of a very large camp on the plateau above the Belbec, extending towards Mackenzie's Farm.

No movement has been perceived on the Tchernaya.

I have the satisfaction to acquaint your Lordship that the 3rd Regiment of Buffs has arrived at Balaclava, and that the *Alma*, having the draught of the Guards on board, reached Kazatch Bay yesterday; she has proceeded to Balaclava to-day.

I enclose the list of casualties to the 29th ult. I have, &c.,

The Lord Panmure, &c. RAGLAN.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED, FROM THE 23RD TO THE 29TH APRIL, INCLUSIVE.

Sergeant—49th Foot: Henry Hesdon.

Privates—7th Foot: Thomas Byrne. 14th: Matthew Brierly. 23rd: James Harvey. 30th: Thomas Walsh. 33rd: William Ryan. 34th: Richard Pinkard. 41st: John Cocolly and John Kane. 48th: Thomas Richardson. 49th: John Burke. 63rd: William White. 90th: Thomas Dalton and John Flynn. 63rd: Patrick Donovan. 97th: Michael Crough. Royal Artillery: *Gunner* William Henderson, *Acting Bombardier* James Jones.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES WOUNDED FROM THE 23RD TO 29TH APRIL, INCLUSIVE.

Sergeant—9th Foot: James Moss, severely.

Corporals—9th Foot: Thomas Keating, slightly. 30th: Alexander Cole, slightly. 49th: Thomas Willis, slightly. 89th: William Love dangerously.

Lance-Corporals—30th: Edmund Burke, slightly. 89th: Henry Houston.

Privates—2nd Batt. 1st Foot: Peter Scully, slightly. 4th: George Oakes, severely. 7th: Charles Plith, severely. 9th: Patrick Power, slightly. 14th: William Harrison, mortally (since dead), Patrick M'Govern, severely; William Lock, Thomas Woodhall, and Patrick Leary, slightly. 19th: Edward Dyer and Michael Tolan, severely; and Jas. Johnson, slightly. 23rd: William Taylor, and Lock Haynes, severely. 33rd: Michael M'Guire, slightly. 38rd: Owen Callaghan, severely. 34th: William Gorman and Joseph Mansfield, dangerously; James M'Gowan and George Atchison, severely; John Bosch, Ralph Hinscoe, Thomas Lovejoy, and Christopher Rowton, slightly. 39th: Edward Monson, John Miller, and John Pickett, severely. 41st: Jason Kennedy, dangerously (since dead), Denis Connell, Thomas Davis (since dead), Hugh Thomas, John Sullivan, and Michael Conway, severely; Patrick Kearns, John M'Ready, Patrick O'Halloran, Patrick Tremble, and James Keane, slightly. 47th: James Clancy, dangerously; John Tully, and Patrick Griffin, severely. 48th: Robert Berwick, severely. 49th: Robert Thompson, dangerously (since dead); John Delaney, slightly. 50th: John Taylor, dangerously. 57th: Martin Scaggon, severely; Samuel Hill and John Barfoe, slightly. 62nd: David Ames, George Simpson, and John M'Laughlin, severely; Patrick Mark, slightly. 68th: John Rogerson, severely. 77th: James Powell, dangerously. 88th: Patrick Tobey, severely. 89th: Thomas Dixon, severely. 97th: Peter Hepburn, Joseph Harper, and William Miller, severely. 47th: William Quane and Michael Maloney, severely. 2nd Battalion 60th Brigade: Thomas Parkinson, dangerously. Royal Artillery: *Acting Bombardier* Robert James, slightly; *Gunner* John Mays, severely.

A RETURN OF CASUALTIES IN THE ROYAL NAVAL BRIGADE, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, IN THE WEEK ENDING 27TH APRIL.

Killed—Benjamin Taylor, A.B., *Queen*.

Wounded—Robert Baker, ord., *Queen*, dangerously; William Clarke, 2nd, ord., *Queen*, slightly; John Collins, ord., *London*, slightly; George Bayly, A.B., *Queen*, slightly.

Missing—Lieut. A. A. D. Douglas, R.M.A., slightly; Edward Smith, A.B., *London*, slightly; Jeremiah Mahoney, Ord., *Rodney*, slightly; John Gordon, ord., *Queen*, slightly.

H.M. FLOATING BATTERY, "THUNDER."

WE this week give an Illustration of one of the Floating Batteries in a finished state, four of which are now nearly ready for sea—two are fitting out at Sheerness, and two at Woolwich, for service in the Baltic. Though extremely heavy in appearance, the external forms of these vessels is as good as could be desired for the purposes for which they are intended, a service where neither speed nor beauty of mould is required.

The vessels consist of a perfectly-built and strongly-framed wooden ship, of great durability, encased from the gunwale to a little below the water line, with hammered iron plates of four and a half inches thickness, and considered capable of resisting, even at close quarters, the effects of the heaviest shot. It was originally intended to cover the deck with the same material and of the same thickness; but, from miscalculation as to the weight of this suit of armour, this idea has been abandoned, from the fact of the vessels drawing now without their guns as much water as it was intended they should when perfectly equipped for sea. A wider beam would have overcome these difficulties, and have given space for some novel means of ventilating the vessel when in action. The mooring chains descend from hawser holes below the water line, so that the cable will be out of the reach of shot. They are pierced with ports for fighting twenty-eight guns; but what armament they will carry is at present unknown. In the trial trips they have proved themselves considerably fast, and also capable of towing other vessels; but their effectiveness for the purposes for which they are intended is generally doubted. Their dimensions, &c., are as follow:—Length between the perpendicular, 172 ft. 6 in.; beam, 48 ft. 6 in.; depth of hold, 14 ft. 7 in.; tonnage, 1469; power, 150 horses. The *Thunder* was built by Messrs. Mare and Co., of Blackwall, and the engines by Messrs. Maudslay. Many exaggerated accounts having appeared in the papers respecting the destruction of the *Etna*, the following letter from Mr. Scott Russell, her builder, will throw the best light on the occurrence:

SIR,—As accounts of the fire in my dockyard have been published which may give exaggerated impressions of a calamity in itself sufficiently serious both to the country and to myself, I beg you will do me the favour to give such prominence as you think fit to the following exact statements of fact, which may, I hope, serve to moderate the anxiety of friends on my account and of owners of steam ships building by me, who in distant countries may hear of this calamity without knowing its limits:—

1. No ship was burnt on that occasion, except the steam battery, but that was hopelessly destroyed.

2. Two ships on each side of the battery were injured, but only slightly, so that the injuries of one will probably be remedied in a week, and the other in a fortnight.

3. All the other ships in the building-yard escaped without the slightest injury, including the great ship of the Eastern Steam Navigation Company.

4. The whole of the buildings and machinery of the establishment escaped without injury, and continue uninterruptedly at work.

5. The battery and the other ships now in the yard are covered by the insurances I am in the habit of making for the benefit of those who intrust me with the construction of ships for them to the extent of £100,000. It is, however, true that the loss by the battery is not entirely covered by insurance, as the ships building in the yard at the time of the fire exceeded the amount above stated. But a large proportion of the value is insured.

6. Besides the insurance, the works themselves, and the machinery they contain, are insured to the extent of £100,000.

7. Owners of ships now on the stocks at Millwall should not, therefore, be alarmed for the safety of their property by the exaggerated statements they may have heard; and my own friends will, I hope, allow me, in thanking them for their ready sympathy, to assure them that, excepting the vexation which I naturally feel in losing all the thought and labour it has cost the executive of my establishment and myself to do our work well, and my distress in disappointing the just expectations of our Government that I would execute successfully one of the works destined for the defence of the country, I shall not be a sufferer to any considerable extent. I must add that, but for the successful exertions of the Fire Brigade, of the authorities of Deptford Dockyard, and of the foremen and workmen of Millwall; and, further, for two providential circumstances—the steady direction of the wind towards the water, and the spontaneous launching of the battery while in flames, the consequences could not have failed to have become much more serious.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Millwall, London, May 5. J. SCOTT RUSSELL.

MR. ROEBUCK, M.P.

THE public is always in a hurry: the public which cried out for an inquiry into the administration of the war is now clamouring for that inquiry to come to a conclusion. "Why don't you make a report?" is now the somewhat indignant question addressed to the Sebastopol Committee" which only sat about forty days (to investigate the system that has grown up in ages), and which had yet become too old to be popular. In this phase of popular impatience there is nothing new. When you commence a revolution you cannot expect your public to stand still. The Sebastopol Committee served the purpose of the moment: it is succeeded by a still more elaborate protest against "the system" —the "Administrative Reform Association." Already all men are inquiring—What next? As the originator of the Sebastopol Committee—

the first stage of the new organisation of national reform—Mr. Roebuck becomes an historical personage; and we are the more inclined to watch that hon. and learned gentleman at the present moment, on finding, after a study of his significant career, that he has all his life been leading up to the movement which seems now virtually commenced. For Mr. Roebuck has spent his life in England, in aiding in the abolition of class Government, and we may naturally look for that career being consummated consistently, in participating in an effort to abolish Government *by* a class. Mr. Roebuck has been in Parliament about twenty years. During the whole of that period he has been one of the most active, best known, most popular, and most respected, members of the House of Commons. He has been all that time sacrificing professional honours, literary ambition—all the prizes of the ordinary lives of able men—to the public service—to a conscientious discharge of his duties as an elected deputy of the people. It has been known, he never concealed it from his constituents, that he has always thought that the "popular" member might be most useful in office; and as his means were notoriously not large, he seemed precisely that class of man whom the Sovereign ought to reward for public services by high office. But Mr. Roebuck, with all his ability, all his experience, and a fame for public honesty and political purity singularly high, has never received one farthing of the public money—has never for a day, in all the accidents of political change, held any, even the most subordinate, office. Why? Because Mr. Roebuck, as the independent member and conscientious reformer, was necessarily opposed to the two parties into which the governing aristocracy have ever divided themselves. The life of such a man is, therefore, an illustration of "the system" on which the country is now making war; the country considering that "the system" is an alliance, offensive and defensive, with the Czar of Russia.

Mr. Roebuck is of a family, not noble in the aristocratic sense, but illustrious in the best sense. He is the grandson of the celebrated savant Dr. Roebuck, famous in his time as the partner and co worker of Watt in those great undertakings in Scotland and in Birmingham in which the steam discoveries of Watt were first brought to a business application; and on the mother's side Mr. Roebuck boasts a gentle descent from the poet Tickell, the friend of Addison. Mr. Roebuck now sits in the House of Commons for the place (Sheffield) where his family have been eminent and honoured citizens for many generations.

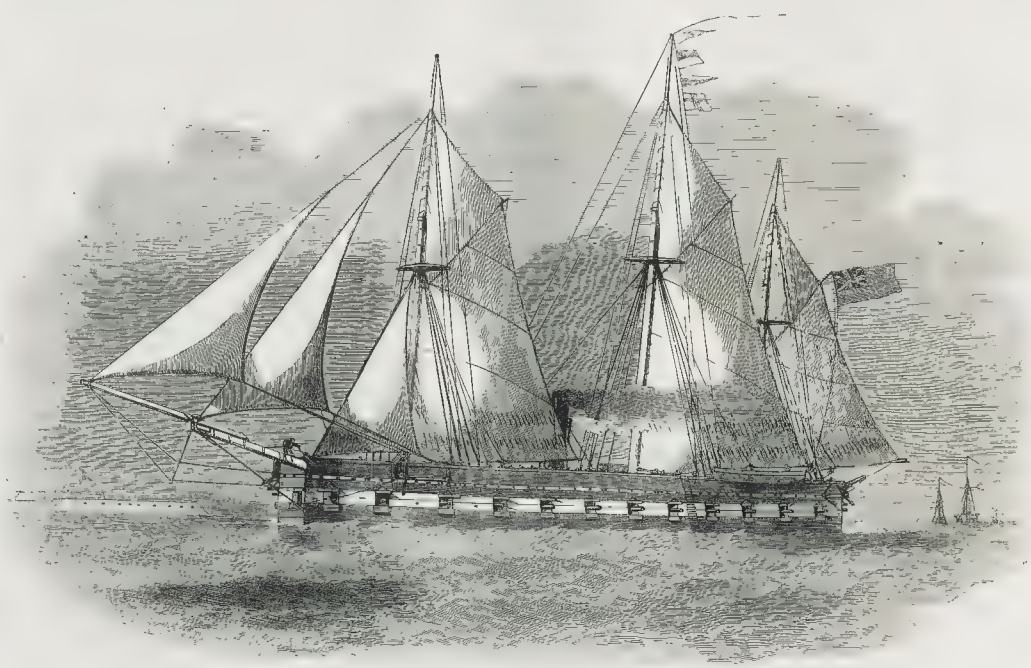
Born in India (in 1801), he was bred in England, and studied the law in the Temple with the intention of practising in the colony of Canada, where his apparently migratory father had eventually settled. But it was a busy and earnest time, in literature and politics in London in 1820-30; and it would appear that the eager and ambitious young student, who had established an early reputation in "advanced" circles, became too interested in the affairs of the mother country to take more than an episodical interest in Canada. The Canadas—ill governed, discontented, undeveloped—were in agitation just then against the views and decisions of the Imperial Parliament; and, wanting a man to do in London what Franklin had done years before for the "Federal Union," they decided upon the young Mr Roebuck's stay in England, by pitching upon him as their agent—at first a subordinate one, subsequently as plenipotentiary. He remained, and went the Northern Circuit; but though the leaders of that circuit—then Brougham and Denman—were strong Liberals, Mr. Roebuck was a marked man as a violent Radical; and, not getting into business, and finding his small presence and thin voice opposed to the progress of a young barrister, he seems to have given himself up to newspaper writing (he was a champion in the days of "the unstamped"), and to very effective Benthamite articles in the new, noisy, and greatly abused, because so very Radical, *Westminster Review*. In the Reform agitation he made himself conspicuous, for boldness of speech and philosophical views of statesmanship; and, when the bill at last passed, he stood for the generally Radical Bath, and was returned second on the poll. He remained in Parliament for five years; and, from the first, took up his peculiar position—sometimes sneeringly defined by his opponents as "Objector-General." He faced every sort of fact in politics, analysed all kinds of men; opposed and lectured Whigs and Tories; headed the rest of the Radicals in plain speaking; and, being still a young man, of no definitive position, and with no obvious aims, he created inside and outside Parliament a mingled feeling of detestation, wonder, admiration, and amusement. In fact, he had become a House of Commons character. But he was as independent with his constituents as with the House; an "unmanageable" man; and not being yet understood, having only reached the stage of unpopularity, he was thrown out of his seat at the general election of 1837, polling only 910 where he had formerly polled 1138

MR. ROEBUCK, M.P. FOR SHEFFIELD, CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL. FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MAYALL.

But such a man could not long remain out. He remained a public man, and took to meetings as he was denied the House. The Corn-law question was coming uppermost—the Colonial question was forcing itself on. Mr. Roebuck understood both; and by the next general election, in 1841, he had reached popularity, had ceased to be regarded as an eccentricity; and even by the Whigs, who availed themselves of his precise but pungent pen in the *Edinburgh Review*, he was coming to be considered as "rising." Bath was in one of its Radical humours in 1841; and the £10 householders returned him and Lord Duncan by a triumphant majority against the Peelite Tories. In that new Parliament Mr. Roebuck made himself more conspicuous than ever. There had been great electoral corruption. He pointed it out; he insisted on inquiry; he demanded committees; he even had members down at the Bar! He made 600 enemies out of the 658 members, but he pleased the public, and made his own courageous independence thoroughly comprehended. From 1841 to 1847 he was an ardent and energetic Reformer. He had got disgusted with Whig shortcomings, and was delighted with the realities of Sir Robert Peel, whom he accordingly warmly supported through all the memorable tariff changes up to Corn-law repeal. But he was moving, all this time, on Colonial Reform, Church Reform, Parliamentary Reform, daily, weekly, monthly, he was doing something to form and bring to a point public opinion on the numerous "shams" he ruthlessly laid bare. All this time he peculiarly preserved his individuality; for though an earnest Radical and a profound politico-economist, he avoided the vulgar inutility of Chartism, and he deprecated the too material influence of the newly-risen Manchester School. He had likewise held aloof from the "Tory Socialist" school of Lord Ashley; and, being opposed at Bath at the election of 1847 by that then and still popular nobleman (now Lord Shaftesbury), he had to yield to the combined influence of aristocratic and philanthropic interests, and was beaten;—the press at the time (thus indicating the high position Mr. Roebuck had attained in national estimation) severely condemning Lord Ashley for opposing such a man.

Mr. Roebuck remained out for two years; but a vacancy occurring in Sheffield, in 1849, by the appointment of Sir Henry Ward to the government of the Ionian Islands, he was returned by that thoroughly Liberal community without opposition, and the feeling at the time was, that a right thing had been done, inasmuch as Mr. Roebuck had been missed in the House of Commons. His health, however, had begun to fail, and during 1851-2-3 he was not much seen in Parliament. His constituents, re-electing him in 1852, generously besought him to retire for a time; and at his farm, in Hampshire, he spent this period in composing a "History of the Whigs," two volumes of which have been published, admirable as a political essay, and certain to live as the picture by an actor of the stormy drama of 1830-5. He was greatly missed again in the Session of 1853, when electoral corruption, exposed at the general election of the preceding year, was again the question, and when there was no man in the House of Commons to force Lord John into the bold cure that the country demanded. Mr. Roebuck reappeared in his place at the latter end of last Session; and, though his health is still infirm to that extent that the House has had to show its indulgence in a manner which was a tribute of its esteem, he has this Session not hesitated to risk his life in insisting upon the exposure of the maladministration of the war. There was not another man who would not have been suspected either of party or personal objects in asking for a committee to inquire into the working of the Government offices in a great war crisis. When he made the motion for the Committee, it was as much as anything else the conviction of his lofty patriotism and stern determination to get at the truth which caused the national cry for an investigation—the House of Commons giving way to that cry against all the entreaties and precedents of placemen. In the chair of the Committee Mr. Roebuck has at least fulfilled the country's expectations formed on its experience of his character; he has been undauntedly earnest in probing, at whatever pain to or exposure of individuals, the whole truth; but that he does this, and has always done this, from a deep sense of his duty as an English statesman, and not from any cynicism or malignity of nature—over and over again charged against him he has shown, by a courtesy, and even kindliness, to the witnesses, which has left all of them, however passionate with the Committee, pleased with the Chairman.

Let us trust that Mr. Roebuck has still many years in which to continue and complete his service to his country; and that under the new system we are about to inaugurate he will be invited by his Sovereign to bring his wisdom and his virtue into her Cabinet.



H.M. NEW FLOATING BATTERY, "THUNDER." (SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—A PAY UNDER FIRE AT THE GREEN-HILL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

A DAY UNDER FIRE.

The men employed in working the guns, as represented in the Engraving on the preceding page, seem to take the matter very coolly. A round shot has just struck the parapet on the right hand, but the sailors are evidently no way alarmed at so every-day an incident. The following extract from a letter, dated "Camp before Sebastopol, April 15," gives a very lively description of a day under fire:—

In my last letter told you that I was going to the trenches. Well, I went, and I had enough of it. But I suppose you would like to hear the whole story, so I shall begin at the beginning. We paraded at a quarter past six p.m. I had a bandsman attached to me, to carry the pack containing lint, &c. As we are not allowed to take down our servants with our breakfasts now, I had to take everything I wanted myself. I accordingly took in my haversack a tin canteen to boil water in, and in it some tea, sugar, butter, and a tot or mug; also, in the haversack, some red herrings, biscuits, rum, and a plate and knife and fork, a little firewood, a candle, and some matches. I also had my wooden barrel, with water in it, slung on the other side, my telescope, cloak, and macintosh. Altogether, I was in heavy marching order. My orders were to stay in the surgeons' hut, and to do the best I could with the wounded. There are four assistant-surgeons in the trenches—one, an artillery man, who goes wherever he is most wanted, a naval man, and two line assistant-surgeons, who stay in the first parallel. The firing stopped for the night shortly after I went down, so I walked over the trenches to see what had been done. I did not think there was much harm, except to the battery in the advanced trench (No. 7), which had been a good deal knocked about—in fact, smashed almost entirely. The artillery surgeon told me he had to go there next day, and I must say I did not envy him. I came back to the hut, and seeing a nice soft board, I took possession, and was soon sound asleep. I got up about six o'clock, when the firing commenced. About seven o'clock in walked the artillery surgeon, with his face bandaged up. He had gone to the advanced battery at daybreak, where he had a number of men wounded, and he had got lit himself. He also said that some one must go there, as the men were being hit every minute. Well, I was rather in a fix. Being senior medical officer, I was of course asked to send some one. Now, I had been told that we were to stay in the hut; and if I sent any one forward, and he got hit, the authorities would have come down on me for so doing, and thus a man got hit, and no help at hand, they would be equally down on me; so I thought the best thing I could do was to go myself. I accordingly went forward, and found that during the short time the other surgeon had been away five new men had been wounded. There are two batteries there, Nos. 7 and 8: No. 7 battery is much the most dangerous. So, after doing what was wanted there, I went to No. 8. The ground of it is composed of gravel and large stones, and, of course, the battery is constructed of the same material. The consequence was that every shot fired by the enemy threw up a perfect shower of stones, some of them very large; and, as they fired at us all day, every one was hit more or less, some very severely: fortunately, although this morning I am black and blue, and my back aches from a large stone that fell on it, I was not hurt. They kept me running between the two batteries all day, and most disagreeable work it was, as in one place there is no cover at all, and in getting into No. 7 there was a sort of channel which we had to run through that was always getting pelted through it. The escapes we had were most wonderful. One time it was almost miraculous. I was leaning on the carriage of a gun that was being run out, speaking to an art[illegible] officer who was pointing it. He had just fallen, the gun was [illegible] the sight, and [illegible] the Russians, but our gun in the battery [illegible] the force of the blow, [illegible] by the splinters every part of the gun [illegible] except, particularly the officer who had me [illegible] the gun. I asked [illegible] Of course we [illegible] the hospital for wounds, where they [illegible] the Russians [illegible] the same place as the first. This is a well known fact, that the enemy [illegible] must be behind a traverse or my shelter. So does every one [illegible] the bombardment, the doctor, who must go to his men, no matter where. To give you an instance of this:—A man got his hand blown off in No. 7. They sent for me at once, as the man was bleeding. At this time there was a perfect storm of shot falling on the unfortunate battery. I had to dart into it the best way I could. When I got there the wounded man was lying where he was wounded, another beside him, and all the rest were snug enough behind traverses and parapets. I had had to go to the unfortunate, and it took me nearly a quarter of an hour to dress the wound, it was such a bad one, and I [illegible] twenty did. This nice work lasted till about [illegible] they had nearly stopped firing, I thought I might go back to the [illegible] and when I got there I found my relief had come; so I started home, [illegible] and very hungry, as I had eaten nothing but some rum and biscuit for 24 hours, cooking being quite out of the question in such a target as the advanced battery. It would be quite impossible to tell all the narrow escapes we had. A shell fell into the middle of us, but fortunately did not burst; we screwed out the fuse and found it was an English one, probably a shell of ours that had not burst, and was returned by the enemy. The noise all day was terrific. The shells from our batteries and the French batteries there, about 300 yards distant, never ceased. We were in a capital position for hearing everything. Their practice was much better than ours. I used to climb up an embrasure and watch our shot, which always went over their battery. This was quite safe, as they had withdrawn their riflemen, and one could always jump into the battery after they fired a gun before the shot came. You saw the flash. Our shot went too high, because the embrasures were too high, and the guns consequently could not be sufficiently depressed. And now you have the experience of a 'non-combatant' of the trenches under fire. I suppose you would like to know how I felt yesterday. Of course, no one can see man knocked down all around him, and getting wounds of which he best knows the full danger, and take it quite coolly at first, but you very soon get accustomed to it. After a bit, the four of us (Sisters) collected in a corner that was well covered, and made ourselves quite jolly. It seems to be all habit, and perhaps, if you could get over it once or twice, you would soon get quite accustomed to being killed. *Letter from the Camp.*

Napoleon III. and Poland. I learn from a private source that, in answer to the address presented to the Emperor by the Poles in Paris, to congratulate him on his escape from Pianori's pistol, his Majesty replied in the following unmistakable terms:—"I am deeply moved by the sentiments expressed in your address. I expected such a manifestation from you. Hitherto I have not been able to do what I could have wished for your country; but the course of events now permits me to hope that I may be useful to you, in continuing the work commenced by him whose heir I am." I am informed that the "embers of the Polish Legion are being fast completed; but there are striking symptoms that the impending Polish movement is to be entirely national, and not confined to the Czartoyski party, which, however respectable and patriotic, is but a party. General Rybinski himself is a democrat, and a dissident from Prince Czartoyski's politics, and for that reason he would not join in the general address, but wrote to the Emperor the separate letter which has met with such a favourable reception. M. Adam Mickiewicz, one of the deputation to the Tuileries with the Polish address, was in 1840 the *Conducteur en chef* of the journal *Le Tribune des Peuples*, founded by Count Branicki, which advocated the insurrection of oppressed peoples throughout the world. From the moment when the news of Count Walewski's appointment to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was known the Poles in Paris felt persuaded that the dawn of a new era had arrived. Walewski was a Pole by his mother's side, and, although brought up in France, he fought and bled in the Polish cause in the insurrection of 1830 and 1831, and was decorated for his distinguished conduct at the battle of Grochow. It may not, perhaps, be generally remembered that after this battle he went to London as a diplomatic envoy from the Revolutionary Government. He then made the acquaintance of Lord Dudley Stuart, and has ever since been a member of the Polish Association.—*Letter from Paris.*

The Austrian Proposition.—Of the last Austrian proposition put forward since the discontinuance of the Conference, for giving effect to the Third Point, a correspondent of the *Indépendance Belge* gives the following, which, if it be correct, is reliable:—"The Austrian proposition for terminating the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea proceeded less upon the principle of a reduction than upon that of equalizing the forces on the seas of Russia and Turkey respectively. It limited the forces of Russia in restoring them to a figure which, it is true, was very little lower than that at which they stood before the war, but it assured to Turkey, by means of the increase of her navy, and by the aid of France and England, her allies, forces constantly equal to those of Russia. Thus it had neither the inconvenience of the absolute principle of *mare liberum*, which, by opening the Straits to the Russian fleet, would have permitted that to exercise a powerful and continuous influence in the waters of Greece and the Adriatic, nor the inconvenience of the principle of *mare clausum*, which would have left Turkey to contend with her own forces against Russia. In fact, it would have opened the Straits only to the fleets of France and England in the proportion necessary to maintain the forces required for the protection of Turkey at the level of the Russian forces which increase her Austria was ready to engage that, if these conditions were accepted by the Western Powers, and rejected by Russia, she would at once take part in the war."

Our Losses in the Crimea. A Parliamentary return, moved for by Mr. Locke King, gives some particulars regarding the killed and wounded in the Crimea since the commencement of the campaign. In the cavalry there were killed 11 officers, 14 non-commissioned officers, and 146 men; in the artillery 6 officers, 8 non-commissioned officers, and 35 men; in the Sappers and Miners (Royal Engineers) 1 officer and 1 man; in the infantry 54 officers, 62 sergeants, 1000 men, and 9 officers of the staff, making a total of killed of all ranks 1360. The total number of wounded was 4540, viz., in the cavalry 31 officers, 24 sergeants, and 181 men; in the artillery, 9 officers, 20 sergeants, and 149 men; in the Engineers, 3 officers, 1 sergeant, and 9 men; in the infantry, 188 officers, 236 sergeants, and 3688 men; together with 22 officers of the staff. Of the 241 officers of all arms of the service thus wounded, 20 died in consequence of the injuries received. The number of horses killed during the campaign was 381, while those which died from other causes amounted to 1466.

The *Milwaukee Wisconsin* reports a sale of 7000 bushels of wheat at 1 dol. 75c. per bushel, and a resale at 1 dol. 85c. a few days afterwards. This is probably the highest price ever offered for such a lot in the west.

LITERARY MISCELLANIES.—No. XIV.

JOAN OF ARC.

There is a well-known German superstition which has its root in our inner consciousness—"Every man has his 'doppelgänger.'" Our second and less familiar self is occasionally revealed to us, suddenly, and in somewhat startling guise; even as by a quick turn of the head we may sometimes catch a profile view of ourselves in a mirror, when a curl of the nostril, or a quiver of the lip, in our reflected image, betrays to us the presence of some passion of whose strange might we were previously unconscious. We startle at this new presentiment of ourselves, because it is not our habit to glance thus sideways at the mirror of our minds. We walk our world-path with one unvarying plodding pace until called on by the exigencies of the rough road we traverse to diverge from our wonted monotonous action: all at once, perhaps a surging stream has to be crossed, or a yawning chasm leaped; it is then that new powers awake within us, and we, who never breasted wave before, now ply our limbs as strong swimmers use; or we achieve, to our own surprise, the strenuous bound which clears the gap. Pausing on the opposite bank, we become breathless—less with the feat itself than with amazement at our suddenly-acquired power to overstep the difficulty. We have all felt this in minor and merely physical emergencies. How much oftener have we experienced a similar feeling when higher calls have been made on our forceful spirits! Women, it may be, feel this truth more convincingly than men. The tendency of woman's education is to keep down the stronger impulses. Many a woman lives and dies unconscious of the finer forces within her; many another has survived to prove or die of them. Of such, history has its records. Let us take but one instance, and a memorable one. Let not the reader startle at the name of Joan of Arc—a hackneyed name, a desecrated name; a name reverenced, worshipped, tradnced, reviled; a name on which has been heaped such cowardly, pitiful, and impious libels as the soul revolts at;—yet a name which to the impartial and diligent seeker after truth, comes out clear as the stars, and beautiful as clear.

Before those with whom all enthusiasm is madness, and all devotion folly, or a myth, we do not stand forward as pleaders for the pious martyr to a great cause—nay, we will grant them her delusions; for Joan was a dreamer. Let them rob her of all outward manifestations of that Divine inspiration in which she herself so devoutly believed: they are welcome to so much. Had Joan believed only in herself; in other words had she simply conceived the vast scheme of freeing France from a foreign yoke by the power of her own strong will and devoted example, the issues would, in all probability, have been different—but her merit would have been the same. The exciting influence of an apparently heaven-directed champion was needful for the guidance and control of the rude but superstitious soldiery of her time! for herself, the force of her own enthusiastic mind was sufficient. "The modest and sweet voices" of her own pure nature were at least no delusions; and such was, in truth, "all the witchcraft that she used." Whatever visions haunted her, such visions were clearly not the cause, but the effect, of that singular exaltation of mind for which she was noted, when the instincts of patriotism, born and fostered within her became roused into overmastering enthusiasm by the wrongs of her country. From first to last of that cruel page of history, the sweet, unsullied, and devoted character of the shepherd-girl of Lorraine shines out like a saving beacon across those waters of Seine on which her pure ashes were scattered. It cannot be said that she ever for one moment played upon the credulity of the age in which she lived... she was the dupe, not the deceiver. While true to others, she was true to herself. At once simple and wise, she never arrogated to herself the power to perform miracles. Her mission, as she understood it, was but to spur a flagging and worn-out cause, to place the crown on the head of one whose hand was too weak or too indolent to grasp it. To the accomplishment of thus much her enthusiasm told her she was equal: that good end once compassed, she craved but to lay down the burthen of all that was in reality foreign to her original nature, and to "return to her mother and her sister, and the care of her sheep." Twice after the crowning of Charles at Rheims did she petition for leave to seek once more the pleasant places of her youth. That her prayer was denied; that she was to be the sacrifice, as she had been the saviour, of her beloved land, was her doom, and not her ambition; for Joan did not assume the attitude of a martyr. When she laid down her arms on the altar of St. Denis, she did so with the full and firm conviction that her inspiration was gone; and she would as soon have thought of mocking that Heaven, in obedience to whose supposed commands she first took her undaunted way to Vancouleurs, as she would for one single moment have acted in opposition to that divine spirit of truth which was with her an instinct as well as it was the chosen law of her beautiful and stainless life.

No greater nor more unjust mistake can be made than that most common one of regarding Joan of Domrémy in the light of a mere campheroine—a creature unsexed by the very character of her pursuit. For an evidence of how little her real nature was in accordance with the arduous task of a national liberator—a task self-imposed through a sense of duty, to which she became vowed at the early age of nineteen—and of how she bore herself in that difficult and thorny path, we have but to turn to the quaint old chroniclers of her time. When, in still earlier years, guarding her father's flocks on the hills of Lorraine, we are told that, far from giving signs of any extraordinary hardihood, she was "so bashful as to be put out of countenance whenever spoken to by a stranger." It was at that early period of her life, when noted chiefly for her tender nursing of the sick, and for her habits of solemn communing with herself in prayer, that, while "held in great subjection" by her family, rumours of her country's wars first reached her. In such a state was France at that time, that, says old De Serres, "even the cattell, accustomed to the larume bell, the signe of the enemy's approach, would run home of themselves without any guide, by this accustomed misery." Driven from her home, in company with her parents, by the fierce Burgundian soldiery, well might she, who knew so well its terrors, exclaim, "war seems no work for me." Yet, to such tasks and such scenes did she believe herself called; and from the hour when that conviction took possession of her mind—and it matters little through what influences she arrived at that conclusion—there was no relenting, no hesitation, no looking back. That second and less familiar self, to which we began by referring, become now all at once born within the solitary girl, or rather was brought out into visible play by the force of the circumstances around her. The sweet and gentle, but steady perseverance, in the rough path towards which she felt herself irresistibly drawn; the modest care for even that reputation, which her own innate purity would otherwise have been insufficient to guard from the breath of slander; the zeal with which she set about reforming the morals of the camp, till even that roughest specimen of soldierhood, La Hire, went grumbling and swearing to mass from first to last, the patient pushing onward towards the great work in hand; each and all are calculated to fill with something akin to reverential wonder the mind, which comes unprejudiced to the contemplation of her entire history. In six short months the work of Joan was completed. That short space of time was sufficient, by the aid of her contagious enthusiasm, to raise the siege of Orleans, and to crown the effeminate and ungrateful Charles VII., at Rheims. From that time it will be seen that her own true self returned to her: and then it was that she sighed

> To return to green Lorraine,
> And be a shepherd maid again.

But it was destined otherwise. She—who, in her first devoted journey towards besieged Orleans, had passed unscathed through a hostile country swarming with the enemy, and had been beset by the superadded danger of falling a prey to the misgivings of her own escort, who, under the impression that she must be a sorceress, were once on the point of hurling her down a stone quarry—was spared to see her work completed; and then to be betrayed by the companion-in-arms she had served, and to be deserted by the King whose throne she had secured, and who left her, without once raising a finger in her defence, to imprisonment, torture, sacrilege, and death. Entrapped, chained like a felon, exercised as a witch, her simple truth of character never deserted her—her clear-headed answers confounded even her torturers. And here it may be said that, however abhorrent was the conduct of her English opponents, they were at least her legitimate enemies. But the persecution by her own countrymen, themselves apostates to every tie which nations hold sacred—faithless alike to their country and their King—was, in all respects, unparalleled in atrocity. Even down to a more recent period, the testimony to her worth comes from the descendants of those very opponents who, while they condemned, yet went weeping away from the sight and the scene of her martyrdom. Lord Mahon, speaking of Voltaire, and of Southey, reminds us that "the shaft of ridicule came from a French, the token of respect from an English hand." Yet even the execrable Voltaire, himself amongst her coarsest and most scandalous defamers, has put on record a just description of her arch persecutor Pierre Cauchon, Bishop of Beauvais, under the title of "l'indigne Evêque, l'indigne Français, l'indigne homme!" We find elsewhere, by the pen of a recent English writer, a worthy tribute to one never yet duly honoured. "Nothing," says this writer, in allusion to her more recent historians, "can be more beautiful or affecting than their notice of Joan of Arc, with the 'voices' she heard in her pleasant days, 'mild and modest, and sweeter than music;' why, then, let drop on such a subject the imputation of insanity. If Joan was bred up amidst visions and superstitions, why charge her with insanity any more than nine-tenths of the globe? Joan was an enthusiast, and credulous, according to her breeding, and she was imaginative of the highest possibilities of all kinds, according to the nobleness of a right enthusiasm. She was a genuine saint, martyr, and most cordial human being; and Voltaire's genius ought to have blushed on every account for being so far led away by an indiscriminate zeal against the errors of creeds and conventional hypocrisies, as to condescend to write his cynical and revolting poem against her noble and affectionate memory."

Affecting, and noble, and beautiful, indeed, is the true reading of the life of Joan of Arc. And it here occurs to us to clear up one point in the account of her trial, where we think that the truth has been generally missed. Her replies to her judges—or rather executioners, for judged she was not—were, in all cases but one, simple and clear, without a suspicion of guile or a shadow of mystification. Once only is she stated to have been "vague and contradictory" in her answers; this was with regard to her first interview with the Dauphin, in the midst of his courtiers, at the besieged town of Orleans. In referring to that part of the interview which bore on the subject of the intended crowning of Charles at Rheims, she is said to have shown some confusion of mind, confounding the imaginary crown of her vision with the real one at Rheims. "In short," says a writer already alluded to, "this was clearly one mainspring of her enthusiasm, or a merbid point in her mind, where judgment and memory had been overpowered by imagination." A little further research, and a little deeper insight into the character of Joan would have thrown a clearer and a higher light on this part of her trial. "The clearness and precision" of her replies on every other point, even those which touched on her supposed visions, are a sufficient warrant for the view we take. In all else but the one subject referred to it will be seen that her answers affected herself alone: in this solitary exception it is evident that she feared to implicate the King. When first questioned on the subject, she refused to answer altogether. It is further stated that "on her trial, Joan listened in silence as long as the sermon turned upon her own character; but it was otherwise when the preacher attacked Charles, 'the man who called himself King.' 'Speak of me,' said the noble-minded enthusiast, 'but sully not the fame of the King; he is good and loyal; he is a Christian—the best in France.'" Yet she, who thought ever of others, never of herself, fell a victim to the treason of her own party—"treason that sits at our feasts, sparkles in our bowls, wears the beard of our councillors, the smiles of our courtiers, the crazy laugh of our jesters—above all, that lies hid under the friendly air of a reconciled enemy" Guillaume de Flavy! be his name an abhorrent sound for evermore to the ears of his countrymen, while that of Joan of Arc is reverenced through all time! "Harsh and pitiless," this traitor is represented, and a terrible retribution awaited him. His doom was to fall by the hand of his own wife. Nicholas l'Oiseleur, too, the foreworn and traitor priest, found a torturing demon in his own accusing conscience. The despicable and wretched man, one out of two alone of the assessors who voted for her being subjected to the tortures of the Inquisition, and who had even gone so far as to betray the sanctity of the confessional, as Joan passed to execution, moved by a deep remorse, threw himself in her way, to own his guilt, and to implore her forgiveness. There, in the public market-place of Rouen, in the midst of a cruel multitude assembled to witness her last agonies, did this suffering "saint and martyr" close her devoted life? Her last act on this side death was one around which hangs a touching and mournful tenderness. As the flames increased, hissing and roaring around their sacrifice, she cautioned her confessor, Martin l'Advenu, bidding him "stand farther from her side," but still hold aloft the cross, that her latest look on earth might fall on the Redeemer's blessed sign! So died Joan of Arc; "in her death the martyr, as in her life the champion, of her country." "It is easy," says Lord Mahon, "to trace the true character of Joan. A thorough and earnest persuasion that hers was the rightful cause—that in all she had said she spoke the truth—that in all she did she was doing her duty—a courage that did not shrink before embattled armies or beleaguered walls, or judges thirsting for her blood—a serenity amidst wounds and sufferings, such as the great poet of Tuscany ascribes to the dauntless usurper of Naples—a most resolute will on all points that were connected with her mission, perfect meekness and humility on all that were not—a clear, plain sense that could confound the casuistry of sophists—an ardent loyalty, such as our own Charles I. inspired—a dutiful devotion on all points to her country and her God. Nowhere do modern annals display a character more pure, more generous, more humble, amidst fancied visions and undoubted victories—more free from all taint of selfishness, more akin to the champions and martyrs of old times."

So France was saved, and Joan was sacrificed. Her country was redeemed: even those of her own blood who had opposed her exertions in that country's cause were won at last to her side, and profited by her devotion. Her parents, present at her success during the crowning at Rheims, shared in her triumph; as did also her noble uncle Durand Laxart, who had been throughout her undoubting friend and true ally. Her two brothers fought by her side, and were ennobled when their sister was no more. Yet she, through whom they were so ennobled, and by whose hand they were made freemen on their native soil—she, who died that her country might be truly said to live, when at last she slept the last sleep of the martyr, was denied through all that wide realm of France even so much as a little earth for a grave!

About one or two o'clock on the morning of the 7th inst., a smart shock of earthquake was felt at Perth, which lasted two or three seconds. After a brief interval, a second shock was experienced of the same duration as the first.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Prince Ernest of Leiningen arrived in town on Saturday night, and is staying at Buckingham Palace, on a visit to her Majesty.

The King of Portugal and the Duke of Oporto, after being present at the Paris Exhibition, intend to visit England and Italy before returning to Portugal.

The Duke and Duchess de Montpensier are to go to Italy in the beginning of June.

The King of Bavaria arrived at Rome on the 27th ult., under the incognito of Count of Augsburg, and on the next day paid a visit to the Pope.

The Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, with the youthful Prince Adolphus, arrived in town on Tuesday, on a visit to her Majesty.

The young Prince Adalbert of Bavaria has arrived in Rome. The Count de Trapani, brother of the King of Naples, has also paid a flying visit to attend the nuptials, that have just gone off very brilliantly, under the auspices of the English and French resident aristocracy.

The French Emperor and the Empress will again spend part of the summer at Biarritz. The health of her Majesty was so much benefited by her residence there last year, that sea-bathing has been again considered advisable. It is said that his Majesty intends inviting several of the august visitors at the Exhibition to accompany him to the new Imperial residence which has been built by his orders.

The health of the King of Prussia continues to improve, but he is still far from entirely restored. His Majesty's medical advisers recommend him to proceed for a few weeks to the Royal residence at Erdmannsdorff, in Silesia, where the fine mountain air will remove, they think, all the ill effects of the late illness.

Prince Albert, as the nearest agnate to the Saxe-Gotha throne, has given his assent to the Constitution of 1852. A similar assent is expected from the King of the Belgians, the King Regent of Portugal, and Prince Augustus of Saxe-Coburg.

The Emperor and Empress of the French have forwarded to Lady Cowley the sum of 2000 francs, towards the ball given by the committee of the British Charitable Fund in aid of the English Poor, on Tuesday last, at the Jardin d'Hiver.

The Czar has just conferred new orders and insignia, enriched with diamonds, upon Prince Gortschakoff III. (not the Commander-in-Chief) and General Dannenberg for their services in the Crimea.

The King of Denmark, accompanied by the Countess Danner, intend to go this summer to Aix-la-Chapelle to use the waters of that place for the re-establishment of his health after the serious illness from which he has lately risen, and which has left him in a very weak state. He has bought a beautiful estate in the Duchy of Schleswig, for the sum of 180,000 rix dollars, and made a present of it to the Countess.

The Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland will visit Cork on Monday next, and will get a public reception from the municipal and military authorities.

Lord and Lady Stratford de Redcliffe, their two daughters, and Lady George Paget, were present at the review of the First French *Corps d'Armée*, by General Canrobert, on the plateau of the Rond Bay before Sebastopol, on the 27th ult.

The French Emperor and the Empress, wishing to reserve to themselves at the Exhibition, the free selection of such articles as they may think proper to purchase, will not accept any offer that may be made to them.

Colonel Sibthorp now lies in a precarious state of health, at his residence in town. His condition is said to be such as to cause the utmost alarm to his friends.

The dignity of Pachs has been conferred upon Iskender Bey by Omer Pacha for his gallant services during the war.

Among the passengers by the last American steamer is the Hon. Augustus Caesar Dodge, of Iowa, the new American Minister to Spain.

Vice-Admiral Kreuger, of the Swedish navy, has invented an iron armour by which the force of the winds can be measured with the greatest exactitude, and by order of the King of Sweden, it is to be exhibited in the Universal Exhibition of Paris.

Dr. George Errington, who has hitherto filled the Roman Catholic See of Plymouth, is appointed coadjutor of Cardinal Wiseman, with the title of Archbishop of Trebizond *in partibus infidelium*.

The late Cardinal Oppizzoni, Archbishop of Bologna, has left all his fortune, amounting to 100,000 scudi (£216,000), to the Banca de Misericordia, a charitable establishment in that city.

Dr. Monro, the celebrated physician in lunacy, is now suffering from that grievous malady, and in such an ill state of health, as to be thought to his bed without hope of recovery.

Governor Brigham Young, of Utah territory, the high priest of Mormonism, delivered a long and impassioned harangue to the Latter-day Saints, at Great Salt Lake City, on the 18th February, denying the right of Congress to interfere with the religion of the Mormons—polygamy, of course, included.

Count Microlawski, a noted revolutionist leader of Germany, prominent in the insurrections of 1848 in Berlin and Baden, is in Halifax recruiting men for the English service in the Crimea.

The King of Sweden has nominated Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War, Commander Grand Cross of the Order of the Sword.

A duel has taken place at Pera, between the principal editors of the *Presse d'Orient* and of the *Journal de Constantinople*, in which the gentleman connected with the former was slightly wounded.

"Our Friends in Hell" is the startling title of a new publication by the Rev. J. M. Killen, of Glasgow.

The Ionian Parliament was opened by the Lord High Commissioner, with the usual formalities, on Tuesday, May 1.

Commodore Vanderbilt has reduced the price of passage in his new line of New York and Havre steamers, for first cabin from 120 dols. to 110 dols.; second cabin, from 75 dols. to 60 dols.

The South-Western Railway Company have done away with open carriages for the excursion trains. The cheapest carriages are now covered over.

A line of electric telegraph is about to be established from Wenersborg, province of Scania, in Sweden, to the frontier of Norway. It is to run along the western coast of Sweden.

The Aberdeen county meeting unanimously agreed to give the usual guarantee of £300 to the Highland Society, so as to have their meeting at Aberdeen in 1856.

A destructive fire took place at Boston on the 27th ult., involving a loss of property to the amount of nearly a million of dollars.

Preparations are made at Dover to receive a first portion of the Foreign Legion shortly expected in England.

The Government of the United States has decided that American vessels sold to strangers, and then bought back by American citizens, cannot receive papers as vessels of the United States.

Complaints are made that the Overland Indian postage via Marseilles is still maintained at 1s. 8d., notwithstanding the reduction which has taken place in the charge for the transit through France.

The picture-galleries of the palace of Versailles are henceforth to be opened to the public every day, except Mondays, from eleven to five.

The Dresden Gallery was shut on the 15th inst., for the purpose of moving the pictures to the new Museum—an operation which will probably occupy several weeks.

The Steam Collieries Association at Newcastle-on-Tyne offer a premium of £500 for the invention of an effectual method for preventing the emission of smoke from the chimneys of multitubular boilers.

The Spanish Government has issued a circular to the ecclesiastical authorities, directing them to suspend the admission of novices into convents until the number and occupation of all the nuns of Spain shall have been ascertained.

The musical festival on the Lower Rhine will this year be held at Dusseldorff, and commence on the 27th inst. Haydn's "Creation," and Dr. Schumann's "Paradise and the Peri," are in the programme.

The Prussian Government is to establish forthwith a submarine telegraph from the Prussian coast to the Island of Rugen, and thence to Ystadt, in Sweden.

Workmen are at present employed in setting out the orange-trees in the garden of the Tuileries. They are about 200 in number, and were planted in the reign of Louis XIV.

The telegraph from Varna to Rustchuk is terminated, with the exception of crossing the Danube near the latter town, which operation presents some difficulty.

The gross receipts for the United States Treasury for the quarter ending on the 31st ult., reached 14,766,000 dollars, while the expenditure of the same period amounted to 16,572,000 dollars.

According to a return just published, the number of soldiers in the Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, and Marines, who have purchased their discharges in the last ten years was 17,322.

All apprehension is at an end of any serious difficulty arising out of what are known in the United States as the "Cuban outrages."

CHESS.

*** Customary Notices to Correspondents are postponed until next week.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 583.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. K to K 6th	Any move.		
2. R or Kt mates			

(Black has a choice of moves, but none by which the Mate can be averted or delayed.)

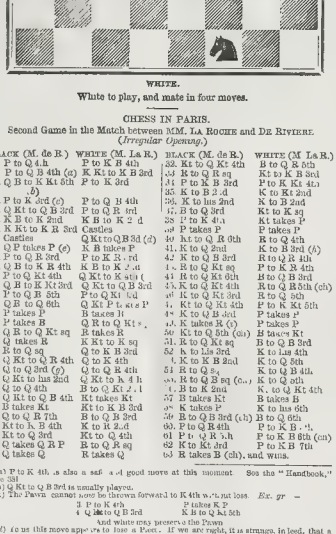
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 584.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. K to Kt 5th	P to KB 3rd (ch) (best)	3. B takes Kt	K takes Kt
2. K to R 5th	K to K 4th	4. R to Q 6th (ch)	K moves
		5. B mates	

PROBLEM No. 587.

By Mr W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS IN PARIS.

Second Game in the Match between MM. LA ROCHE and DE RIVIERE.

(Irregular Opening.)

BLACK (M. de R.)	WHITE (M. LA R.)	BLACK (M. de R.)	WHITE (M. LA R.)
1 P to Q 4th	P to K 4th	32. Kt to Q Kt 4th	B to Q R 5th
2 P to Q B 4th (a)	K Kt to K B 3rd	33 R to Q R sq	Kt to K B 3rd
3. Q B to K Kt 5th	P to K 3rd	34 P to K B 3rd	P to K Kt 4th
(b)		35 K to B 2 sq	K to Kt 2nd
4. P to K 3rd (c)	P to Q B 4th	36. K to his 2nd	K to B 2nd
5. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q R 3rd	37. B to Q 3rd	Kt to K sq
6. K B to K 2nd	K B to K 2 d	38 P to R 4th	Kt takes P
7. K Kt to K B 3rd	Castles	39 P takes P	P takes P
8. Castles	Q Kt to Q B 3rd (d)	40 Kt to Q R 6th	R to Q 4th
9. Q P takes P (e)	K B takes P	41. K to Q 2nd	K to B 3rd (k)
10. P to Q R 3rd	P to K R 3rd	42. K to Q B 3rd	R to Q R 4th
11. Q B to K R 4th	K B to K 2nd	43. R to Q Kt sq	P to K R 4th
12. P to Q Kt 4th	Q Kt to K sq (f)	44 R to Q Kt 6th	R to Q B 3rd
13. Q B to K Kt 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	45. K to Q Kt 4th	R to Q R 5th (ch)
14. P to Q R 5th	P to Q Kt 3rd	46 K to Q Kt 3rd	R to Q 8th
15. Q R to Q Kt sq	Q Kt P takes P	47. Kt to Q Kt 5th	P to K Kt 5th
16 P takes P	B takes B	48. K to Q B 4th	P takes P
17. P takes B	Q R to Q Kt sq	49. K takes R (c)	P takes P
18. Q R to Q Kt sq	Q Kt P takes P	50. Kt to Q 8th (ch)	R takes Kt
19. Q takes R	K Kt to K sq	51. R to Q Kt sq	B to Q B 3rd
20. K to Q sq	Q to K B 3rd	52. K to Kt 3rd	K to Kt 4th
21. Q Kt to Q R 4th	Q to K 4th	53. K to K B 2nd	K to Q 5th
22 Q to Q 3rd (g)	Q to Q R 4th	54 R to Q sq	K to Q B 4th
23. Q Kt to his 2nd	Q Kt to A 4 h	55. R to Q B sq (c...)	K to Q 6th
24 Q to Q 4th	B to Q Kt 2 d	56. K to K 2nd	K. to Q Kt 4th
25. Q Kt to Q B 4th	Kt takes Kt	57 B takes R	B takes R
26. B takes Kt	Kt to K B 3rd	58 K takes P	K to his 6th
27. Q to Q R 7th	B to Q B 3rd	59 B to Q B 3rd (ch)	B to Q 6th
28. Kt to K B 4th	K to K 2nd	60. P to Q R 4th	P to K B 4th
29. Kt to Q 3rd	Kt to Q 4th	61 P to Q R 5th	P to K B 6th (ch)
30. Q takes Q R P	B to Q R sq	62 P to Kt 3rd	P to K B 7th
31. Q takes Q	R takes Q	63 R takes B (ch), and wins.	

(a) P to K 4th is also a safe and good move at this moment. See the "Handbook," page 38!

(b) Kt to Q B 3rd is usually played.

(c) The Pawn cannot now be thrown forward to K 4th without loss. *Ex. gr.*—

3 P to K 4th	P takes K P
4 Q takes Q B 3rd	K B to Q Kt 5th

And white may preserve the Pawn

(d) At this move apparently too late a Pawn. If we are right, it is strange, in fact, that a player so cautious and experienced as M. La Roche should be guilty of such a fault in the opening of a match game, and still more remarkable that his young antagonist, vigilant opponent, should have failed to detect it.

(e) M. de Riviere, instead of so playing, *had attacked the Q Kt with his Pawn*, was no possible means by which his adversary could have escaped the loss of an officer. For suppose—

9. P to Q 5th	K Kt P takes
(He has best play. If he moves the Q Kt the Pawn advances to Q 6th, and wins the Bishop. If he takes Pawn with Pawn, or Pawn with K Kt, the result is obvious.)	
10 Q Kt takes K B	P takes Kt
11 P takes Kt	B takes B
12 P takes Q P	

and white one of the Bishops

(f) Sure this Kt, if attacked, cannot be played advantageously either to K Kt 3rd, or to K B 3rd, his march to K 4th was a bad move, and evidently made without due consideration.

(g) The wish to defend the advanced Pawn was very natural, but we believe something more demonstrative might have been attempted with advantage. For example, Kt to Q Kt 6th, when the game would, no doubt, have been continued as follows

22 Q Kt to his 6th	K takes Q P
23 Q Kt takes B	A Kt takes Kt

(This is best for him. If he take with the Rook, Black answers with Q to her 3rd, and will have a decisive superiority after a few moves.)

24. B takes Q P.

And we prefer Black's game. Note, that at his 22nd move in this variant, Black may play Q to her 3rd *before taking the Bishop*, and still maintain an advantage in position.

(h) He might very hardly have won the two minor pieces for a Rook, but Black's Q P Pawn would probably have cost him a piece after this.

(i) The termination is interesting and very well played, especially by M. de Riviere.

THE FLORENTINE MS. OF GRECO

We have no wish whatever to anticipate the researches of Sir Frederic Madden and Mr. Staunton among the occult treasures of our early European Chess literature. When treating of the writers of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, we may be sure of receiving at their hands complete history and minute description of the beautiful Greco MS. so lately found at Florence. There is one point, however, connected with this MS which, as it evinces a good deal of conjecture at the present moment among our Archæological Chess amateurs both here and abroad, we may be pardoned, perhaps, for clearing up at once. The Florentine MS. contains a dedication* (the first few lines of which are wanting), and a copy of verses addressed "A SUA ALTEZZA SERENISSIME." From some expressions in the dedication, and the following verse in the poetic address—

Gran Signor, che in Lorena invitto regni
E di te fal tremar gli alunni Imperi—

We gather that this "Altezza Serenissime" was a Prince of the house of Lorraine, but of his name, strange to say, there is no mention. Our first impression was that the name must have been lost with the missing lines of the dedication, and that another MS. of Greco, in the Library at Dresden, supposed by some to be anterior, would furnish it. This is not the case; we have been at the pains to procure a transcript of the Dresden work, and, although it enables us to fill up the *lacuna* in the Italian one, and by turning out to be more correct than a very slovenly transliteration of the latter into old French, adds inestimably to the value of the Florentine MS., it throws no light upon the question of the Prince's name. Bearing in mind, however, the date and place of Greco's dedicatory epistle, a reference to the history of the House of Lorraine shows clearly that the Prince in question was no other than Henry Le Gros, Duke of Lorraine. Henry was the eldest son of Charles II. of Lorraine and Claude of France, and was born at Nancy, the 3rd of November, 1563. Upon the death of his father, in 1608, he ascended the throne. He made a solemn entry into Nancy 1610, and died in 1624. His connection with Calabria, to which Greco alludes, was in this wise—after the marriage of Violante, the daughter of Renato, the last Duke of Anjou, with Ferry of Lorraine, Count of Vaudemont, the Duke of Lorraine, considering themselves successors to all the rights of the House of Anjou, even to the kingdom of Naples, quartered the arms of Sicily with their own, and, under other titles, assumed that of Dukes of Calabria. (See Baucourt, "Traité Historique et Critique sur l'Origine et la Généalogie de la Maison de Lorraine.")

* The following is a translation of this ode in a performance, which shows that Greco was not above what Dr Johnson terms "the very lie, of hyperbolical adulation:—

"TO HIS MOST SERENE HIGHNESS OF LORRAINE.

"My Most Serene Lord,

The true and glorious fame of your Highness' heroic virtues has reached even to my ears, once in an immeasurable multitude who behold and admire the sun of virtue and renown from me the doubt which I have had until now as to whom I should dedicate and present this my production, which—not on my account, but for the quality of the subject of which it treats—is not alone incontemptible, and might, therefore, only to be dedicated to a Sovereign Prince like your Highness (it is a treatise (a) on the most noble game of Chess, formerly the invention of a France and valiant soldier, who, enamoured of virtue, to pass his time profitably, discovered, I will not say the game, but this trial of intellect, which afterwards, although in his sole end is to recreate our mind, was called a game. Your Highness will recognise in the book, under the metaphor of the said game, the most illustrious and distinguished virtues, which cause it to be regarded by all the world, and will discern in me also an infinite desire to manifest to your Highness the amount devotion which I, in common with all my province, retain for your Illustrious house, as to our natural Lord and Governor. To your Highness, therefore—a true temple of virtue—the sole mirror of military glory, and the glorious offspring of the most prudent princess of Calabria—I dedicate my production this new volume, in order that you being often charmed as to fine a game may be its perpetual patron and defender against any who may dare to blame so laudable a thing—as much the more rare, as it appears to me only to be commonly found among persons of your distinguished quality. Wishing your Highness every happiness, I reverently kiss your robe.

Your V. S.

Humble and devoted servant,

GIOVANNI GIACCO CALABRESE."

From Nancy, 9th July, 1621.

(a) The whole of the beginning, thus far, is missing in the Florentine MS., and we translate from the old French of the Dresden copy. The remainder, however, is rendered from the Italian of the former.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE *Enterprise* discovery ship, Captain Richard Collinson, C.B., has been taken into the lesser basin, Sheerness, to be stripped and paid off. Nothing official has been communicated to her officers under arrest, who are now prisoners at large, as to whether a court-martial will be held to investigate the charges brought against them.

LORD ADOLPHUS VANE TEMPEST, M.P. for North Durham, who is with his regiment of Guards in the Crimea, having received a hut from his mother, the Dowager Marchioness of Londonderry, immediately on its erection fitted up a large and roomy tent adjoining it, which he furnished with a library of standard works, several periodicals, and three daily papers, and, having a good stock of stationery, he opened it for the use of the men of his company for reading, and writing letters home.

The screw-transport *Simla* arrived at Spithead from the Crimea on Sunday. She had on board 250 Russian prisoners, 12 officers, 150 English invalids, a guard of 47 men, and 15 other military passengers. She left Constantinople on the 27th of April, and Malta on the 2nd May.

THE *Odin*, paddle-wheel steam frigate, and *Rosamond*, paddle-wheel steam sloop, left Sheerness on Saturday last, at 4 a.m., with five of the sea mortar vessels, for the Black Sea. The marine artillery officers and gunners for service in the sea mortar vessels proceeded out in the *Odin* and *Rosamond*.

FOREIGN ORDERS AND MEDALS.—The *Gazette* of Friday week contains new regulations respecting foreign orders and medals, in substitution of the regulations now in force. No subject is to accept or wear a foreign order without the permission of her Majesty, under sign manual, and this will not be given unless the order shall have been conferred for active and distinguished service before the enemy, or unless the subject shall have been employed in the service of the foreign Sovereign conferring the order.

It is reported at Portsmouth that Vice-Admiral of the Red Sir George Seymour, K.C.B., G.C.H., will succeed Sir Thomas Cochrane as Commander-in-Chief at that port at the expiration of the term of commission of the latter officer.

THE Duke of Cambridge, accompanied by Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence, paid a visit to Woolwich Dockyard on Monday afternoon. They went on board the *Thunder* floating-battery, and afterwards to the mortar-boats.

THE six mortar-vessels that arrived at Spithead on Sunday night, from Sheerness, *en route* to the Black Sea, are ordered into Portsmouth, and they have discharged their shot and shell for this purpose. In their passage round they were found to labour very much in a rough sea, and it is now intended to unship their mortars, and send them to the Black Sea by other means—probably on board the *Odin* paddle frigate and *Rosamond* paddle-sloop, which are to accompany the mortar vessels to Sebastopol. Some alteration in the trim of the vessels is also to take place.

In addition to the three regiments of Household Cavalry, there are now only nine heavy and light regiments quartered in the United Kingdom, five of which are under orders for foreign service. The regiments at home are as follows, viz.—Heavy Cavalry: 1st or King's Dragoon Guards, at Piershill Barracks, Edinburgh, under orders for foreign service; 2nd or the Queen's Dragoon Guards, at Dundalk, under orders for foreign service; 3rd Dragoon Guards, at Dublin; 5th ditto Dragoon Guards, at Hounslow, under orders for foreign service; 7th Dragoon Guards, at Dublin. Light Cavalry: 3rd Light Dragoons, at Manchester; 7th Hussars, at York, under orders for foreign service; 15th ditto, at Exeter, ditto; and 16th Lancers, at Cahir. Twelve regiments are in the colonies and two in India, making the total of 23 regiments of Cavalry.

In order to meet the garrison wants of the naval station at Pembroke Dockyard, the Government have determined upon the erection of new barracks at Pater, and the Board of Ordnance have taken the preliminary steps for their construction. The building is to be capable of holding 1000 men, and the site has been selected on the rising ground in the vicinity of Hobbs Point. The barracks are to be fortified, and they will prove another adjunct to the defence of the dockyard.

It is intended to concentrate the Foreign Legion enlisted in British America at Shorncliffe, where also a large number of Swiss volunteers will be encamped. The Poles and Germans will be quartered and disciplined at Helgoland.

SINCE the enlistment bounty was raised to £8 per man, in November last, the recruiting service has gone on very briskly in Scotland, and especially in Glasgow (the headquarters of the 91st regiment), which has of late supplied a large body of fine young men to her Majesty's service. The enlistments in Glasgow alone, for the East India Company's service, during the last four months, have been 243—viz., in January, 64; February, 71; March, 43; and April, 64. It appears from the returns that Scotland is recruiting at the rate of more than 600 per annum, and that if recruiting should go on at the same ratio over England, Ireland, and Scotland generally, a total of upwards of 60,000 men would this year be added to her Majesty's forces.

According to present arrangements, about 9000 troops will occupy the ground at the opening of the Camp at Aldershot, and it is stated that her Majesty, Prince Albert, the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Hardinge, and the Earl of Carlisle will be present on the occasion. It is understood that the following regiments of cavalry, infantry, and militia will be the first troops to occupy the ground; viz., 2nd Regiment of Life Guards, from Hyde-park barracks, 6th Dragoon Guards, Carabiniers, from Canterbury (this regiment will be relieved by the 7th Hussars, from York, and will remain in Camp until ready to embark for the seat of war); detachments from the cavalry depôts at Maidstone, and Brighton, consisting of men belonging to the 8th Lancers, 9th Lancers, 12th Lancers, 13th Light Dragoons, 14th ditto, and 17th Lancers. The infantry will consist of detachments of the 1st and 2nd battalions of the Grenadier Guards, the battalions of the Coldstream Guards, and 2nd battalion of the Scots Fusilier Guards; 51st (King's) Light Infantry, from Manchester; 88th Foot, from Portsmouth; two companies of the 94th ditto, from Winchester; the newly-raised 3rd battalion of the Rifle Brigade, from Portsmouth; and detachments from the provisional battalions and depôt companies at Parkhurst, Winchester, and Chatham. Militia Regiments:—Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Essex Rifles, West Kent, 1st or East Middlesex, 2nd ditto Westminster, and 5th ditto Elthorne Regiment, Tower Hamlets King's Own Light Infantry, and Tower Hamlets Queen's Own Light Infantry, and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Regiments of Fife Militia. These will give in round number, 1190 cavalry, 2500 Guards and infantry of the line, and about 4300 militia; which, added to 500 artillery and 150 Sappers and Miners, will constitute a force of 8540 men. These will be relieved occasionally, until the whole force quartered in England has received a month's instruction in field evolutions.

THE FOREIGN LEGION.—On the 3rd inst. fourteen English officers landed on Heligoland; among them was an officer of the Commissariat and a Paymaster. The natives have conducted, from the very complete outfit of these gentlemen (paraphrase being in some cases included for the benefit of those who are accompanied by their families) that their stay will be somewhat lengthy. All available premises were inspected the day after their arrival, and put into requisition for the accommodation of some coming troops, even to the place hitherto destined to protecting the bathing machines from the rigour of the elements. The amount of force expected is guessed to be between 5000 and 6000 men; for this number of additional mouths large supplies of provisions are announced as on their way. As there was a French officer in company of our compatriots, the notion has obtained both that a short stock allied dépôt is to be formed on that island. Although there is nothing in the above statement to favour the idea of Heligoland being selected as a station for the foreign legion, other news from the south of Germany mentions that recruiting for the English service is going on there *sub rosa*, but more successfully than was at first expected, under the auspices of a *ci-devant* Schleswig-Holstein officer. The Government of the Grenadiers of Germany offers two hundred Land of recruits delivered safe and sound at Heligoland, including keep and travelling expenses. The bounty paid to the individuals by the contractors is stated to be £6 each.—*Letter from Berlin, May 7.*

A MONOGRAPH OF THE TOUCANS, OR RAMPHASTIDÆ.

BY JOHN GOULD, ESQ., F.R.S.

MANY and splendid are the works on ornithology which Mr. Gould has produced, and most favourable has been their reception. Among these works his "Monograph of the Toucans" holds a conspicuous place, both as regards its intrinsic merits, as a contribution to science, and the beauty of the plates, which every eye can appreciate. It is upon this work that we design to offer our observations. At the same time, we cannot in justice refrain from a brief notice of the labours of this eminent naturalist, as evidenced by his various publications: and when we consider that these have been undertaken at his sole personal risk, without other encouragement than that of the more opulent patrons of science, we shall appreciate the moral courage displayed in encountering the heavy pecuniary responsibility necessarily involved in their production. Well is it that these works, costly as they cannot but be, bear within themselves the power to command success,—displaying as they do extensive knowledge, combined with anxious care and attention. Nothing, in fact, can exceed the spirit, fidelity, and beauty of the plates. True to the life, they afford a study to the artist, and constitute for the naturalist a pictorial museum of ornithology.

Passing by Mr. Gould's communications to the proceedings and transactions of the Zoological Society, both numerous and important, we come first to his "Century of Birds from the Himalayan Mountains," which appeared in the year 1832. Encouraged by the success of this first attempt, Mr. Gould commenced a more formidable undertaking, and in due time "The Birds of Europe" was completed. Then followed various Monographs—namely, of the Toucans, of the Trogons, and of the Partridges of America (*Odontophorinæ*), the intrinsic value of which the naturalist will at once appreciate, while to all persons the beauty of the illustrations will be patent. We now come to the year 1838. Hitherto, our knowledge of the ornithology of Australia was limited and uncertain; not, indeed, that the subject had been altogether neglected; but the materials were few, the collection of Australian birds in the museum of the Linnean Society being the most important then extant. An unexplored field invited, but it was not to be rashly entered. Actuated by that zeal which urges an energetic spirit to further achievements, Mr. Gould determined to visit Australia, penetrate as far as desirable into the remoter settlements, and collect and study the objects of nature in their native wilds. After an absence of about two years, he returned to England and commenced his labours upon the "Birds of Australia," in conjunction with a work on the "Quadrupeds" of the same country. Of these splendid publications we shall at present only say that they are, in every point, worthy of the author of the "Birds of Europe."

And here, Mr. Gould, might have "rested on his oars," and enjoyed *otium cum dignitate*; but new spheres of labour opened before him, and at one and the same time he undertook the following works—namely, the "Birds of Asia," "A Monograph of the Humming Birds" (or *Trochilidæ*), and a new "Monograph of the Toucans" (or *Ramphastidæ*.) The two former of these works are now in course of publication. The latter is completed; and it is to this that, on the present occasion, we especially direct our attention.

To persons not conversant with the science of Natural History, a "Monograph"—that is, a detailed description of every species of a given group or family—may appear a task of no very great difficulty; but, in truth, the very contrary is the fact. In the first place every known species must be verified; and this can only be done by careful and repeated comparison: for which purpose, as original specimens are scattered among different museums, both British and Continental, express visits to these treasuries respectively have to be made—and that not once, but many times—in order to clear away doubts, disentangle a maze of confusion, and rectify errors. Then as, from time to time, new, or apparently new, species are brought to light, fresh researches must be made, lest, in some neglected work, an obscure description may have been overlooked, or a duplicate of the species in question be lying perdue in some little-known collection. After all this, follow the scientific results, namely, the rearrangement of the component parts of the group, in conformity with the newly acquired data, and the increase of information. No group of birds more urgently demanded this rigorous investigation than the Toucans; for, although Mr. Gould had previously published a Monograph, which included many new species, he could not but perceive that it was only the embryo of a more enlarged and complete undertaking. But Mr Gould may here speak for himself. "In order (he says) to render this work as perfect as possible, I have obtained access to all the collections of this country, and have also visited and examined the principal museums of the Continent,—in several of which I found some species not contained in the others. Thus in Vienna I first saw the many-banded Araçari (*Pteroglossus pluricinctus*); in Munich, Reinwardt's Toucanet (*Selenidera Reinwardti*), Langsdorff's Toucanet (*S. Langsdorffi*), Wagler's Groove-bill (*Aulacoramphus Waglerii*); in Paris, the Yellow-billed Araçari (*Pteroglossus flavirostris*); while Berlin and Leyden both contained other species not previously known to me." "Just as my first Monograph was brought to a close, that celebrated traveller and naturalist, the late Mr. John Natterer, of Vienna, returned to Europe, bringing with him females of the species of which I found only males at Munich, together with several other new ones, acquired during a sojourn of eighteen years in the Brazils. Unfortunately he did not arrive in London until the last sheets of that Monograph had gone to press; consequently, I was unable to include therein figures of these new species, as well as the many valuable notes, which, in the kindest manner, he placed at my disposal." Mr Gould, therefore, deemed a new Monograph imperative; and some idea of his industry may be conceived from the fact that he has described and figured more that fifty species; whereas only six (and those ill-determined) were all with which Linnæus was acquainted. It was, in fact, only a few years previously to the time of the great Swedish naturalist that actual specimens of the Toucan had been received in Europe. The beaks, however, of these birds, regarded as curiosities, had occasionally found their way to our shores, probably brought over by sailors from Brazil or Surinam, and had occasioned some curious conjectures. The earliest

THE TOCO TOUCAN (RAMPHASTOS TOCO).

record respecting the existence of a species of this remarkable group, now so well known by the common appellation of Toucans, occurs in the 28th chapter of Belon's third book, published in 1555. He there figures the beak of the Toco Toucan, and assigns the bird to the web-footed order, evidently regarding it as a sort of duck. He comments on its size, its transparency, lightness, and beauty; but informs us that he has never seen the bird itself. He suspects, however, that it is one of the *Aves palmipedes*, and therefore places it among birds "*vivants le long des rivières.*"—("De la Nature d'Oyseaux, etc.") Elsewhere ("Portraits d'Oyseaux.") the same beak is figured as belonging to an "*aquatic bird brought from the New World.*"

Among the curiosities of Tradescant's collection the bill of a Toucan was preserved as an object of value, and was described in the "Museum Tradescantum," published in 1656, under the division "Heads and Beaks," as that of the Araçari of Brazil—four inches long, almost two thick, and in shape resembling a Turkish scimitar. Whether Tradescant had ever seen the bird itself does not appear: it is, however, probable, from his terming it the Araçari of Brazil, that he was not altogether unacquainted with it.

The first figure of an entire bird, but so rude that it is impossible to refer it to any definite species, appeared in the "Ornithologia" of Willoughby, under the title of "*Picus Brasiliensis*, the *Toucan* of Margrave, the *Xochitenocotl* of the Mexicans." In this figure ("Ornithol. Libr.," 1676, published by Ray, from "Willoughby's Posthumous Papers") the feet are incorrectly drawn, evidently by a mistake of the artist; for we well know that Willoughby was acquainted with their real conformation, since he not only expressly notices them, but refers to Thevetus, Faber Oviedo, John De Laet, and other authorities.

Subsequently a correct, but very ill-drawn figure of some species of Toucan, probably the Red-billed, was published in Petiver's "*Gazophy-*

THE MANY-BANDED ARAÇARI (PTEROGLOSSUS PLURICINCTUS.)

THE CURL-CRESTED ARAÇARI (BEUHARNAISIUS ULOCOMUS).

lacii Naturæ," under the title of *Toucan Surinamensis* (Tab xliv.) In this figure the toes are rightly arranged.

To these meagre materials but little appears to have been added until the appearance of the "*Systema Naturæ*" of the celebrated Linnæus, in the twelfth edition of which he enumerates eight species; but of these two have nothing to do with the present family; so that six species were all that were really known to him. Gmelin, in his edition of the "*Systema Naturæ*," introduces seven other species; but of these five cannot be identified; one is referable to the *Ramphastos Tucanus* of Linnæus, and hence one alone was the true extent of the addition made by him to the previous list.

Illiger appears to have added another species. Dr. Shaw described a Linnæan species under another name, and Vieillot merely Latinized the French names given by Le Vaillant to three of the species figured in his "Oiseaux de Paradis." Mr. Swainson made us acquainted with three additional species. Dr. Lichtenstein described two others. Dr. Latham does not appear to have added a single species to the group, for his "Blue-eared Toucan" is probably a species previously described.

Wagler, in his "Systema Avium," 1827, added four species, and in Oken's "Isis," added a fifth. His other species, which he supposed to be new, are either described from faded specimens or from specimens manufactured by the bird-mounter—a not unfrequent practice. To these a few species have been more recently added, by naturalists of the present day, but their descriptions are scattered through various publications.

From what we have said, the value of Mr. Gould's labour may be in some degree appreciated.

The Toucans (a word derived from their Brazilian name, *Toca*, *Tuca*, *Tucana*, or *Tucatoco*) were formed by Linnæus into a single genus, to which he applied the title of *Ramphastos*, in allusion to the great volume of the beak (ραμφος—Ramphos). They now constitute a family (*Ramphastidæ*) comprehending several sections or genera, each having its distinguishing characters. All, however, have certain peculiarities in common, which at once distinguish them from every other group. In some respects, indeed, they resemble the Hornbills: for example, in the development of the beak, and its growth from youth to mature age; in scantiness of plumage, and impatience of cold; as well as in general habits and actions; and even in the position assumed when roosting, both sitting with the tail turned over the back. Hence, the Toucans may be said to represent in America the Hornbills in India and Africa. They differ, however, in the structure of the feet, the toes of the latter having the normal situation. Large as is the beak of the Toucans compared with the size of the body, it is in reality very light. Its outer sheathing is somewhat elastic, very thin, smooth, and semi-transparent; and the interior consists of a maze of delicate cells, throughout which the ramifications of the olfactory nerves are multitudinously distributed. The nostrils are basal, the edges of each mandible are serrated, and the colouring of the whole beak is bright, rich, and often relieved by contrasted markings. But these tints begin to fade after death, and become ultimately dissipated. In young birds the bill is much smaller than in adults, but little or no difference is manifested in the colours of the plumage. The eyes are surrounded by a considerable space of naked skin, often very richly tinted. The tongue is very long, slender, horizontally flattened, pointed, and, except at its base, horny; it is fringed or feathered along each side; the feet are strong and zygodactyle; that is, two toes are placed before and two behind, with a broad palm or sole at their junction. This mode of structure well adapts them for grasping firmly, but not for climbing, after the manner of the zygodactyle woodpeckers. The wings are short, concave, and comparatively feeble. The tail is variable, equal and squared, or graduated; it is remarkable for the facility with which it can be retroverted or turned up, so as to lie upon the back. This peculiarity results from a modification of structure in the caudal vertebræ, which enables the tail to turn with a jerk by the action of certain muscles, as if it were fixed on a hinge pin into action by means of a spring. When the retroversion is accomplished, the muscles which caused it become passive, and offer no resistance to their antagonists, which restore the tail to its ordinary direction.

It need scarcely be said that the Toucans possess but indifferent powers of flight; at the same time there is a certain buoyancy in their actions, which might scarcely be expected from them, encumbered as they seem to be with so large a beak. They fly lightly, and hop and flit from branch to branch with graceful ease and address, so much so as to have suggested for one species the appellation of Ariel.

The Toucans are natives of the intertropical latitudes of America, and are strictly arboreal in their habits. They tenant the vast forests, are mostly seen in small companies, and utter from time to time harsh, clattering, or discordant cries. The localities they affect are various. "Some (says Mr. Gould) frequent the humid woods of the temperate regions, while others resort to comparatively colder districts, and dwell at an elevation of from six to ten thousand feet. Those inhabiting the lofty regions are generically different from those residing in the low lands, and are clothed in a more thick and sombre coloured plumage. All the members of the genus *Andigena* (Hill Toucans) are thus distinguished as well as by their bills being strong, heavy, and hard, when compared with those of the true Toucans and Aracaris, all of which have their bills of a more delicate structure, and in several species so thin and elastic on the sides as to be compressible between the fingers." Their food in a state of nature consists of fruits, eggs, and nestling birds; to which, in domestication, are added small birds, mice, caterpillars, and raw flesh. They incubate in the hollows of gigantic trees, and the eggs are said by Azara to be two in number.

Faber was told by Fryer, Alayza, and other Spaniards who had lived long in America, and also by the Indians, that the Toucan even hews out holes in trees, in which to nidify; and Oviedo who remarks that no bird protects herself from the troublesome monkeys with better success—adds, that it is from this habit of chipping the trees that the bird is called by the Spaniards *Carpintero*, and by the Brazilians *Tucatoco*, in imitation, apparently, of the sound it thus makes. We cannot help suspecting some error or confusion in this statement, which is certainly true as respects the woodpecker; but cannot, we think, apply even to the hardest-billed species of Toucan or Aracari.

THE GREY-BREASTED HILL-TOUCAN (ANDIGENA HYPO-GLAUCUS).

"Humboldt states that the Toucan loves to fish on the banks of rivers; and it was doubtless some report of this kind that induced Linnæus to give the name of *Piscivorus* to a species of this family; but I apprehend that in this particular both these celebrated men have been misinformed, for I have every reason to believe that, in a state of nature, fruit is the principal food—the larger species feeding upon bananas and other succulent kinds, while the Aracaris and Toucanets mainly subsist upon the smaller fruits and berries." GOULD.

Prince Maximilian de Wied, who communicated to Mr. Gould many details relative to the species observed by him in Brazil, states that he found only the remains of fruits in their stomach, and adds that they make sad havoc in plantations of fruit trees. He was informed, however, that they steal and eat birds, but never himself saw them in the act. They abound in the vast forests, and are killed in great numbers during the cooler season of the year for the purposes of the table.

"In their manners the *Ramphastidæ* (he says) offer some resemblance to the *Corvidæ* (crow tribe), and especially to the magpies: like them, they are very troublesome to the birds of prey—particularly to the owls, which they surround and annoy by making a great noise, all the while jerking their tails upwards and downwards. The flight of these birds is easy and graceful, and they sweep with facility over the loftiest trees of their native forests." Their feathers, especially their yellow breasts, are used by the Indians for personal decoration.

Azara states that they attack even the solid nests of the white ants

GOULD'S TOUCANET (SELENIDERA GOULDI).

THE GROOVE-BILLED ARAÇARI (AULACORAMPHUS SULCATUS).

when the clay of which these structures are formed becomes moistened with the rain; in this condition they break them up with their beaks, so as to obtain the young ants and the eggs; in fact, he says that, during the breeding season, the Toucan feeds upon nothing else; during the rest of the year he subsists upon fruits, insects, and the buds of trees. Azara talks about the impossibility of their digesting the feathers and bones of other birds forgetting that hawks strip the feathers from their prey, and cast up the bones and indigestible particles.

Edwards, in his voyage up the Amazon, observes that when a party of Toucans alights on a tree, the unusually quiet part of a bird is resumed, uttering the loud cry of Tucano, whence they derive their name; the others disperse over the branches in search of fruit. While feeding they keep up a loud noise chattering and in the intervals mingle with the noisy sentry, and scream a concert that may be heard a mile. Having appeased their appetites they seek the depths of a forest, and there quietly doze away the noon. Few are very easily approached, some of them may be seen sitting quietly upon the branches of some dead tree, apparently awaiting the coming sunlight before starting for their feeding trees. The nests (he adds) of the Toucans are represented in works of natural history as being constructed in the hollow of trees. It may be so in many cases, and with some species, but the only one which we ever saw, and which was of the Toucan, was in the fork of a large tree overhanging the water upon the Amazon

The mode in which the Toucans roost is not a little curious. The perch being taken, they puff out their plumage, particularly the fan over the back, draw the head between the shoulders, close the eyes, and remain in a state betwixt sleeping and waking for a considerable period, sometimes nearly for two hours. If roused with a little commotion, they open their eyes, move a little, and soon relapse again. To this stage of sot tendency succeeds that of true sleep; the bill now begins to turn gradually over the right side, the head is drawn back and turned completely within the plumage of the back; at the same time the pinions of the wings droop, and with the cover of the thighs entirely conceal the feet. The bird now presents the appearance of an oval ball of puff-up feathers, and is well protected against the cold.

With respect to the carnivorous appetite of at least some species of Toucan, we have abundance of evidence. They were seen by Mr. Such often engaged in quarrels with the monkeys, a nest of eggs being, it is presumed, the object of the contention. Their carnivorous propensity has been strikingly displayed by all the specimens which have been kept alive in England. It was noticed by Mr. Vigors that at the approach of any small bird the Toucan becomes highly excited, raises itself up, erects its feathers, and utters a hollow, clattering sound, while the fiddle of the eyes expand, as it intently pries upon the prey on which it seems ready to dart with impetuosity. On one occasion Mr. Broderip tried a Toucan with a live goldfinch. The moment the latter was introduced into the cage, the Toucan seized it with the beak, and the poor little victim had only time to utter a short weak cry, for within a second it was dead, killed by the powerful compression of the strong mandible. The Toucan immediately placed the dead bird firmly between its foot and the perch, stripped off the feathers with its bill, and then broke the bones of the wings and legs, by strongly wrenching them, the bird being still secured by the Toucan's foot. He then continued to work with great dexterity till he had reduced the goldfinch to a shapeless mass. "Ever and anon he would take his prey from his mouth, and by pecking his bill, making quite a peculiar clattering noise, at which times I observed that his bill and wings were affected with a vibratory or shivering motion, though the latter were not expanded. He would then return the bird to the perch with his bill, and set his foot upon it. He first ate the viscera, and continued pulling off and swallowing piece after piece, till the head, neck, and part of the back and breast-bone, with their soft parts, were alone left. These, after a little more wrenching, while they were held on the perch, and mastication while they were held in the bill, at last swallowed, not even leaving the legs or the beak of the bird. The latter part of the work, though it gave him the most trouble, evidently produced the keenest enjoyment. To each morsel he applied his tongue, as he masticated it, chattering and shivering with delight. "I have more than once (says Mr. Broderip) seen him return his food soon after he had taken it into his crop, and, after masticating the morsel for awhile in his bill, again swallow it; this he did whole operation, particularly by the return of the food to the bill, bearing a strong resemblance to the analogous action of ruminating animals."

Light and almost diaphanous as is the bill of the Toucan, its strength and the power of the muscles, which act upon the mandibles, are evident in the wrenching and masticatory processes thus detailed. When taking fruit the Toucan generally holds it on a short time in the extremity of his bill, applying to it, with apparent delight, the pointed tip of the slender tongue; the bird then throws it, by a sudden upward jerk, to the throat, where it is caught and instantly swallowed.

Cuvier (evidently on the authority of Azara) says of the Toucans that the structure of their bill obliges them to swallow their food without masticating it. This is a mistake, even in the instance of the goldfinch, above alluded to, is not correct. The tongue, however, does not assist in deglutition.

The Toucans—previously ranged in only two groups—namely, Toucans proper, and Aracaris—are divided by Mr. Gould into six genera distinguished by well-marked characters.

1. RAMPHASTOS.—The true Toucans have very large and gaily coloured bills, with a glossy plumage black, tail spur. Sexes alike in plumage. Species, four.

2. PTEROGLOSSUS.—The Aracaris, with smaller beaks, a more elegant contour, a graduated tail; the bright plumage green, the colour of the under parts yellow and red, with black. Sexes alike. Species, ten.

3. BEAUHARNAISIUS (Shaw) (Aracaris).—This is an Amazonian genus proposed by Prince C. Bonaparte. The females very dissimilar in colour, dull in the lighter hue of the throat. Species, six

4. SELENIDERA (the Toucanets).—All the members of this group are of small size, when compared with the true Aracaris, have shorter and harder bills, and shorter and less graduated tails. They are, moreover, distinguished by a greenish mass of yellow gamboge on the throat, back, by brilliant orange and yellow ear-coverts, and by a great difference in the colouring of the sexes. Species, six

5. ANDIGENA (Hill Toucans). A genus proposed by Mr. Gould, inhabiting the elevated portions of the Andes. They are well proportioned birds: have larger and harder bills than the *Selenidera*, a thick but lax plumage, and are not banded on the under surface, like the *Aracaris*. The sexes are alike in plumage. Species, five

6. ALLACORNIPHUS (Groove-bills). These birds are distinguished by elegance of form, and a nearly uniform grass-green colouring of the plumage. The feathers composing the latter are long and loose; and in most species the bill is grooved along the sides. The sexes are alike in colour. Species, ten. Total, fifty-one

Of the first genus, the True Toucans, we figure the Toco (*Ramphastos Toco*—Gmel), remarkable for the splendour and size of the bill, which is of a fine orange red, with a large black patch on each side near the tip. The naked skin, round the eye is bright orange. The chest is white, with a tinge of sulphur below, and a slight scarlet margin. Upper tail-coverts, white; under tail-coverts, scarlet; the rest of the plumage, black. Several specimens of this beautiful bird have lived both in the menagerie of the late Earl of Derby and in the gardens of the Zoological Society. It is a native of Cayenne, Paraguay, &c. Prince Maximilian says:—"This species is never found near the coast, but is plentiful in the province of Minas Geraes, and Bahia. It is also abundant in the southern part of Brazil. Those observed in the vicinity of Bahia were very shy, the result of their having been repeatedly fired at by the inhabitants, in defence of their fruit-trees, as well for the purpose of procuring them for the table. Notwithstanding this, however, the desire to feed upon the oranges and guavas induces them to approach very near the town at the season when these fruits are ripening. Very pretty little pewter-flasks are occasionally made of their large and finely-coloured bills."

Of the second group, the Aracaris, the species selected as an example is the Many banded Aracari (*Pteroglossus pluricinctus*). This species was first described by Mr. Gould, from specimens obtained on the Upper Amazon and Rio Negro. It was observed alive in its native wilds by Mr. Natterer, who observes:—"I have seen five or six together in a tree near Villa de Thomar, on the Rio Negro, and readily recognised them, with the assistance of a glass, by their conspicuous beaks. Thus it is found as far north as the Rio Padauiri and Castanha Parana, on the Orinoco. I know from the circumstance of many young being brought to me by the Macunas Indians." The upper [illegible] is black, gradually changing to the tail and throat black; the under tail-coverts, dark red with scarlet, and crosses, with two bold bands of black; bill black, with a broad yellow stripe along the sides of the upper mandible, and a narrow one bounding the of the same around the basal ridge of each; naked skin round the eye, blue.

Of the third group, the Banded Aracaris of the Amazon, we figure the Curl-crested Aracari (*Beauharnaisius vitecinus*). This elegant species was not known in Europe previously to the year 1830. During the last five years, however (as Mr. Gould observes), several travellers have visited the upper tributaries of the Amazon, so that many specimens, as might naturally be expected, have been recently procured. According to Wallace it is extremely local, and confined to that tract of country on the south side of the Amazon, above the Rio Madeira; although Professor Pepping is stated to have found it on the eastern dip of the Peruvian Andes. Mr. Wallace adds that it is gregarious in its habits, and lives in great numbers during the month of July, when certain fruits on which it feeds were abundant. It is called in its native country the Muisito Aracari, probably from its "curled head." Bill black, with a yellow stripe on the upper mandible, and a narrow one on the lower; naked skin round the eye, green, then dark red along the sides. Under mandible, white. Head covered by a jet-black crest, the feathers of which represent the appearance of curled glossy metallic laminæ; each feather being, in fact, so modified in its structure as to form a simple horny strip, of considerable firmness and elasticity. Naked skin round the eye, blue. Upper part of the back, rich lower part, green, followed by a scarlet band, to which succeed the green upper tail-coverts. Cheeks, straw-yellow, dotted with blackish. Under parts, yellow, dashed—especially along the sides—with scarlet.

From the fourth group, the Toucanets, we select as an example Gould's Toucanet (*Selenidera Gouldii*). This species was first figured by Mr. Gould in the "Ioones Avium," from the specimens procured by Mr. Natterer, on the Rio Madeira, Brazil; and who named the species in honour of Mr Gould, in the Proceedings of the Zoological Society, April 11, 1837. Mr Gould has since obtained many specimens from the banks of the Amazon. Still it is one of the rarest specimens of the genus, and is not very often to be found in ornithological collections. Of its habits we know but little, it is described as being black on the upper part of the back, and the chest, are black, the naked skin round the eye green; ear-coverts, pearl-coloured being anteriorly dark orange, and posteriorly straw-yellow; under tail-coverts, pale yellow; throat, orange band edges the black across the back; sides orange; under tail-coverts scarlet; upper plumage below the yellow band dull green; tail tipped with brown. In the female, the head, neck, throat, and breast are reddish brown, and the ear-coverts reddish olive. In both the bill is green at the tip; the upper mandible is black, edged and bounded by straw-yellow; under mandible green at the tip, with a black mark, or bar, and then white

The fifth group, the Hill Toucans, presents us with a fine example, in the Grey-breasted Hill Toucan (*Andigena Hypo-phasma*—Gould). This species was first described by Mr. Gould, from specimens sent over from Peruvian. Like the rest of the genus, it is an inhabitant of the mountains, and is only to be found in the deepest-wooded portions of the Andes, for which elevated and cold situation the full and downy texture of its plumage admirably adapts it, a feature also characteristic of the other species of this genus. The species prefers to the bank of the silvery hairs which pervades the delicate grey spread over the breast and under surface. Bill above red, yellow at the base, where it is bounded by a black band. Tip of under mandible black. Back brown at the upper part, yellow at the lower. Under tail-coverts scarlet. Tail blackish olive, tipped with brown. Wings olive green. Head sooty black; naked skin round the eyes yellow before, passing into green behind

The sixth genus is that of the Groove Bills, characterised by the slender sizes and hardness of the bill, and the green colouring of the plumage. As an example we select the Groove-billed Araçari (*Aulacorrhynchus velentus*). In the peculiarly narrow and attenuated form of the bill, and the deep and decided grooves, along its sides, this species differs from all its congeners. "Its precise habitat (says Mr. Gould) is still unknown to me, but I believe it to frequent the country to the northward of the river Amazon, between Guiana and the Caracas." It is a rare species, and is wanting in many of our European collections The beak has the upper ridge red, the sides black. The under mandible is black, passing into red at its base. Two furrows run along the side of the upper mandible, and one along the side of the under. General color, green with a wash of blue below the eye; throat, white; plumage of both sexes alike.

We may add, in conclusion, that eight or nine specimens of Toucans and Aracaris have been living at different times in the gardens of the Zoological Society. In their manners they were gentle and confident, and evinced no alarm at the close approach of a concourse of bystanders attracted by their novel appearance. With this familiarity they combined considerable playfulness of disposition, and amuse themselves much in the same way as tame blackbirds or magpies in a large aviary. Hence we readily believe the statements of travellers, who assure us that they may be taught tricks and feats like parrots; and that, although utterly destitute of the power of imitating the human voice, they evince, like those birds, a considerable share of intelligence.

THE GRENOBLE MIRACLE.

—Some time ago great noise was occasioned by a pretended miracle on the mountain of La Salette, near Grenoble, consisting of the appearance of the Virgin to a shepherd boy. Two pretends of the diocese of Grenoble, M. Dehon and M. Cartelier, published pamphlets, in which they laboured to prove that there had been no miracle at all, and that the persons whom the boy had supposed was the Holy Virgin was a young female named Lamothre. Mdlle. Lamothre considered herself defamed by these publications, and a few days ago she brought an action before the Civil Tribunal of Grenoble against the two priests, and against M. Redon, their printer, to obtain 20,000f damages. The Tribunal, after making a searching examination of all the facts, and hearing lengthened readings, decided that what the defendants had said with respect to her part in the alleged miracle did not constitute defamation; that they said, besides, nothing which it is true, and that they had sufficient reasons for so believing. It is therefore dismissed the action

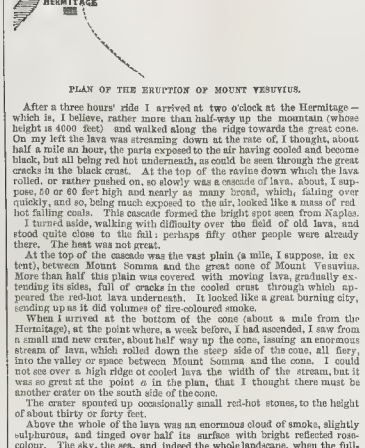
ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS.

(WE have been favoured by two correspondents with the following Letters, describing the recent eruption of Vesuvius)

NAPLES, May 2nd, 1855

THE steamer in which I had taken a berth to Leghorn having delayed to start yesterday, I was detained unwillingly at Naples. The eruption of Cimaer at Russia was not finished, when I observed a fresh eruption and rushing for hats and shawls, and people said one to another "an eruption of Vesuvius!" In the streets carriages were already rolling off to the mountain, and crowds had assembled in those spots whence the eruption could be seen

A slight line of fire down the side of the great cone, a bright spot lower down and just behind the Hermitage, and a great body of rose or orange coloured smoke. Time up the space between Mount Vesuvius and the wall of the old crater (called Mount somma), reflected a rose-coloured stream across the calm bay almost to Naples



PLAN OF THE ERUPTION OF MOUNT VESUVIUS.

After a three hours' ride I arrived at two o'clock at the Hermitage—which is, I believe, rather more than half-way up the mountain (whose height is 4000 feet) and walked along the ridge towards the great cone. On my left the lava was streaming down at the rate of, I thought, about half a mile an hour, the parts exposed to the air having cooled and become black, but all being red hot underneath, as could be seen through the great cracks in the black crust. At the top of the ravine down which the lava rolled, or rather pushed on, so slowly was it motion of lava, about, I suppose, 50 or 60 feet high and nearly as many broad, which, falling over quickly, and so, being much exposed to the air, looked like a mass of red hot falling coals. This cascade formed the bright spot seen from Naples.

I turned aside, walking with difficulty over the field of old lava, and stood quite close to the fall; perhaps fifty other people were already there. The heat was not great.

At the top of the cascade was the vast plain (a mile, I suppose, in extent), between Monte somma and the great cone of Mount Vesuvius. More than half this plain was covered with moving lava, gradually extending its sides, full of cracks in the cooled crust through which appeared the red-hot lava underneath. It looked like a great burning city, sending up as it did volumes of fire-coloured smoke

When I arrived at the bottom of the cone (about a mile from the Hermitage), at the point where, a week before, I had ascended, I saw from a small and new crater, about half way up the cone, issuing an enormous stream of lava, which, somewhat down the great cone of Mount Vesuvius, all fiery, into the valley or space between Mount somma and the cone. I could not see over a high ridge of cooled lava the width of the stream, but it was so great at the point *a* in the plan, that I thought there must be another crater on the south side of the cone

The crater spouted up occasionally small red-hot stones, to the height of about thirty or forty feet.

Above the whole of the lava was an enormous cloud of smoke, slightly sulphurous, and tinged over half its surface with bright reflected rose-colour. The sky, the sea, and indeed the whole landscape, when the full-moon was obscured by clouds, was of a deep and strange blue.

While I looked at this grand sight, another small new crater near the top of the mountain, which had sent forth a large body of lava in the morning, began again to vomit, and sent down a crackling river of fire.

There was no flame that I saw anywhere, nor did any ashes fall. The heat was not great, even close to the lava, which cools so quickly that we could walk upon it, even while it was red-hot underneath. The air was still, and I heard no noise but the crackling of the moving lava, and occasionally a rumbling, as of very distant thunder. The eruption had spread like wildfire through the Neapolitan district; and people came from all day with a body of smoke, which I took to be a cloud. The last eruption was in 1850, and this has been expected for some months. G. C.

NAPLES, May 5, 1855.

AFTER the lapse of now five years, Vesuvius has again burst forth with most destructive violence. It is an event which has been proximately waited and hoped for during the last year, for the stillness of the mountain, and the occasional drying up of the wells, and the shocks of earthquake which have taken place have of late years remote from Naples, have led people to desire an eruption as the lesse of two evils. What if the prediction should be verified that this is the Italian city to be destroyed this year, and that this vast mass of human souls who now live upon a mere crust, should sink into the abyss which is known to exist beneath! To many, then, it was a relief when the chief guide of the mountain announced that as he was ascending on the morning of the 1st May, at half-past four o'clock, he heard, as it were, a discharge of artillery, and saw fire and stones being thrown up from several new openings. This intelligence spread like wildfire through the city, and people came from all parts of Naples to with intense interest for a confirmation of the guide's report. As Sant'Anna was called, thousands were pouring down towards the Mola, Santa Lucia, and other spots whence a good view could be obtained as we turned round by the Swiss guard house, exposed to the shipping, the whole heavens appeared to be on fire. Scarcely any portion of the mountain was visible, for as the wind was rather a Sirocco, the dense swelling clouds were congregated about its summit and its sides, so as to conceal its base, and render the scene as mysterious as it was grand. The flames which were thrown up, too, were only perceptible from their effects, being reflected from cloud to cloud, until the sky appeared to be one mass of flame. In the centre only was visible one spot of fire, and there might be seen a portion of that burning stream which was now pouring down on the devoted country beneath. Not content with the distant view, we resolved the next night on going up the mountain. It was one continued line of carriages, donkeys, horses, and pedestrians, which we joined, and with which we ascended to the Hermitage. Crowds were coming down, having already satisfied their curiosity, with their torches streaming widely in the air; and, shouting or shrieking, or else singing in a chorus of a hundred voices some *canzonetta* in a minor key, added vastly to the moral picturesqueness of the scene. From the Hermitage a road leads over beds of volcanic deposit in the direction of the cone, to the foot of which is, perhaps, an hour's walk. Diverging, however, from this road, we traversed, on the left, what appeared now to be a mass of coke—the deposit of last night. It was still hot. We took up huge pieces of the lava, and the fire glowed beneath us. We threw in paper, or other combustible matter, and kept up a continual flame. At length we came to the edge of a cascade of fire, over which the burning stream precipitated itself into the abyss beneath. It is this point of view we have undertaken to represent, in preference to a more distant one, which, though it might have given a pleasing general effect, would have conveyed no adequate idea of the gorgeous spectacle on the mountain Divided by an imaginary line only from this stream which was flowing down, we looked on the cataract I have endeavoured to describe. A plain of burning coke, some 200 feet wide, was moving on before our eyes, almost touching our feet; until, accumulating in large masses, over it tumbled into the valley beneath. It then, down, we watched the red line in the distance, burning and destroying every thing it met with. A whole plantation of chestnut trees yielded to its power: they twisted, and screeched, and groaned, like martyrs in an *auto da fé*, and then gave signals by a brilliant flame that their sufferings were over. Moving away from this point, we descended a little, by jumping from mass to mass, and crossing channels of fire, until we were in face of the cataract. The noise of the advancing stream was as that of an Alpine flood over a shingly bed—shi-shi-sh; mixed with the continued murmur of the thousands of tons of burning coke which were ever moving on, and tumbling mass over mass. The outer crust here and there became cooled and blackened and then disturbing itself, the burst of heat and light was sufficient. For a moment to blast and scorch us involuntarily we lifted up our hands as if to shield ourselves: but, unable any longer to resist it, were compelled to retire. The figures on the side of the cataract represent our position as we looked into the boiling gulf Clouds of red smoke issued from it, reminding one of Milton's Mammon. Danby has done a group of soldiers, as they are their Majesties and two of the Princesses *in portantini* The Hereditary Prince is on foot; and a crowd of soldiers, policemen, and courtiers are around. After gazing on this wondrous spectacle for an hour or two, we lighted our cigars in the crevices, and started to go up the cone. "This dangerous," said some: "parties have just turned back" But we were bent on seeing it; and, taking a man who was selling pieces of copper which he had incrusted with lava for our guide, we returned to the main path The torches indicate the road by which we ascended. As we began to mount the cone, before and behind us the view was startling. Crossing, as before, the deposit of yesterday, we placed ourselves close to the edge of one of the six mouths which are now opened on the side. one other has opened more in the rear, and is therefore invisible. The main crater was active, throwing out only smoke The next below it threw out red-hot stones and fire. The others were pouring out tons of lava: and the one by which we stood threw out also stones, some of which fell amongst us. The surface around it was red as a heated copper boiler, and destructive indeed were the ingredients which were seething within. As material was thrown out, the noise was like the discharge of distant artillery, and so it continued without interval. Neither pen nor pencil can describe the scene which presented itself on looking back. Two streams of lava were flowing down the cone, their crisped undulations being strongly marked. Down they went, serpent-like, into the valley we had passed through, until, arriving at the cataract we have described, they were hurled over. The form of the whole length of the main stream was that of the letter S, and, until it reached the cataract, measured between one and two miles. The background was composed of red, ruddy looking clouds, which rose from the lava and gave a mysterious aspect to the scene. Above the mountain on the right we have placed the moon, which was eclipsed the first night after the eruption: she is looking down as cold as any Stoic on the ruin that is going on below Torches were scattered about, and so vast was the number that the mountain seemed to be covered with glow-worms. A hundred remarkable points of view presented themselves, but we have selected that which, to our imagination, was the most striking. In short, we can think of nothing else: it dazzles our recollection, as it did our eyes, and were we to live a thousand years we could not forget that wondrous spectacle.

The Second View represents the mountain from an entirely different point. As the first is taken beyond the Hermitage, looking down on the cascade and up to the cone,—this is taken from the bottom of the Valley of Vetrana, in the midst of burning vineyards, and close to the villages of Pollena and Massa di Somma. The mountain, in the foreground, is so elevated that the cone is thrown back, and is perfectly invisible. This locality is on the north side of the mountain; and as the lava has now descended into the plain, we resolved to go with the tens of thousands who were all tending in the same direction. The scene, as we approached nearer and nearer, was more remarkable than we can describe. the roads were full of carriages, jammed so closely together that it was impossible to move on. The windows and doorways of every house we passed were crowded as at a fair. Leaving our carriage at Pollena, a walk of a quarter of an hour brought us to the bed of the winter stream of Vetrana—and those who know Italy know what such a bed and such a stream are. Turning sharp off to the left we came to an embankment of lava of from one to two hundred feet in depth or thickness. As the mass accumulated from one moment to another behind it, gigantic fragments of the outer crust fell off, and showers of liquid lava came pouring down, rolling on to our very feet, and laying the ground in flames behind us. Vineyards were burning right and left, and the axe of woodcutters, now past midnight, resounded in every direction, in the forlorn hope of saving something from the ruin. Soldiers and guards were mingled with the crowd to keep order, to preserve the peace, and to be ready to break down a bridge which might impede the lava, and thus diffuse it more widely. Leaving this spot, we ascended through grounds teeming with the abundant produce of an Italian spring, now trodden under foot, and walking on the edge of a precipice from which we looked down on a river—nay, sea—of fire which flooded down beneath us, we arrived at the spot from which we have endeavoured to give what is a most fair representation of the most marvellous spectacle that the eye can gaze upon. We looked down into the valley 150 feet beneath us, filled in the winter by water, now by boiling red hot lava; the width of the stream being in many parts 200 feet. Supporting ourselves

(Continued on page 488.)

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Monday, last time but one, and Wednesday, last time, Mr CLEMAN in the ACTRESS OF PADUA. Tuesday, by desire, Mr Silas Brown in LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR. Thursday, positively, the New Opera of REITA. Friday, Miss Cushman's benefit. GUY MANNERING. Mag Merrifies, last time. Miss Cushman as Meg. In the New Opera and a New Farce. The NEW HAYMARKET. SPRING MEETING every Evening

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, HENRY VIII. Wednesday, Faust and Marguerite. Friday, Louis XI. And other Fr Entertainments

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE. Shoreditch.—The celebrated actress Miss GLYN will repeat her great character of QUEEN KATHERINE, in HENRY the EIGHTH, EVERY EVENING. Splendid Scenery, Costly Dresses and Appointments. No advance in the Prices

MISS P. HORTON'S ILLUSTRATIVE GATHERINGS Every Evening, at St. Martin's-hall, at Eight o'clock, Saturday Day Performance every Friday, at Three. Stalls, 3s., Centres, 2s., Admission, 1s.

PARIS, its PEOPLE and EXHIBITION.—Prence Blanc—Black Forest Anecdote—Rough Sketches—Kinsa. CHARLES OKEY, Chevalier of the Legion of Honour. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday Evenings, at Eight; Tuesday Morning at Three. Stalls, 2s.; area, 1s.—Regent Gallery, Quadrant.

BIRMINGHAM MUSICAL FESTIVAL, in AID of the FUNDS of the GENERAL HOSPITAL, on the 29th, 30th, 31st, and 32d days of AUGUST next.
Under the especial Patronage of
Her Most Gracious Majesty QUEEN.
His Royal Highness the PRINCE ALBERT,
His Royal Highness the Duke of KENT.
President—The Right Hon. Lord Willoughby de Broke.
Vice-Presidents—The Right Hon. and Hon. Gentry of the Midland Counties.
J. F. LEDSAM, Esq., Chairman of the Committee

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—On FRIDAY NEXT, the 25th of MAY, will be repeated Haydn's CREATION. Vocalists: Mdme Clara Novello, Mr Sims Reeves, and Herr Formes. The Orchestra. Use most extensive available in Exeter-hall, will consist of nearly 700 performers. Tickets, 5s., 3s., and 2s. 6d. to be obtained only by secured by immediate application at the Society's office, No. 6, Room, within Exeter-hall

GALLERY of GERMAN ARTISTS.—The 8TH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of WORKS of WONDERS GERMAN ARTISTS in London is NOW OPEN DAILY, from Ten till Six. Admission, 1s; catalogue, 6d. Gallery, 168, New Bond-street

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS. The Fifty-first ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at the GALLERIES, PALL-MALL EAST, close to Trafalgar-square. Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d.
JOSEPH J. JENKINS Secretary

ADAM and EVE.—This great original Work, by JOSEPH VAN LERIUS, is now on VIEW at 27, PALL MALL, opposite Marlborough-house, from Eleven to Six daily Admission, One shilling

"Travellers and Francs are allied with sincerity. It will be in order to prevent misunderstanding." Extract from Napoleon I., at St. Helena, 1817

PRIOR to its REMOVAL to PARIS, the GRAND PICTURE of NAPOLEON on FIRST in ITALY REBUKING his OFFICERS [illegible] Exhibition 14 till 5 each day, free.—N.B. A copy of Sir Hudson Lowe's policy, and Napoleon's prophecy at St. Helena will be forwarded, post paid, on receipt of two postage stamps

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TO ARTISTS.—To be LET, TWO STUDIOS, situated in the best part of St. John's Wood. They are about 27 feet by 20, very lofty, and with fine light, gas-fittings, stoves &c. May be viewed daily between the hours of Eleven and Four, at No. 8, St John's Wood-road, Regent's park.

PARTNER WANTED to Carry on a Business [illegible] Fancy Goods, Toys, Perfumery, Hair and Fancy Brushes, &c. Apply for particulars to [illegible] Terrace, No. 66, Paris, or 19, Buckingham-street, Strand, London

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£300, more or less, will be given by a Gentleman [illegible] for a satisfactory APPOINTMENT of like Amount Value, varying according to the prospects of future success. Age [illegible] Highest testimonials, and has been in a first-rate Banking-house upwards of eight years. A handsome Premium for a good Foreign Appointment, preferring a military post. The [illegible] may be relied upon.—Address, Alpha, Box A, 150, Post-office, Manchester.

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DARING ATTEMPT to FORCE OPEN one of CHUBB'S FIRE and THIEF-PROOF SAFES.
"Wadham's Hill, Wolverhampton,
"Feb. 9, 1855.
"Gentlemen,—Last night some thieves broke into our office, and made a violent attack upon our iron safe, which is one of your fire and thief proof manufacture, and contained a large sum of money, which was left in it. From the external condition of the safe, and the appearance of several very strong housebreaking instruments which they left behind in their attempts, and left behind them, it is certain that the thieves spared no efforts in their endeavours to force it open, but we have much satisfaction in informing you that, owing to the great strength of your safe, their object was entirely defeated.
"We are, gentlemen, your obedient servants,
"T. and S. JONES.
"Messrs. Chubb and Son, 57, St. Paul's Churchyard, London."
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PATTERNS SENT FREE.
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Beautiful Chintz Colours, commencing at 4s. 6d the full dress
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ROYAL ALPHA KID GLOVE
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PRICE ONE SHILLING PER PAIR,
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6.	Emerald.	23.	Pink.
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BREIDENBACH'S WHITE ROSE SCENT is to great perfection, price 2s. 6d. Rose Odil Cream, 1s.; Rose Soap, 1s.; Rose Sachet, Rose Water, Rose Pomade, Rose Mouth-wash, equally fragrant.—1279, New Bond-street.

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LEADEN COMBS for gradually Darkening the Hair. They are recommended by the faculty as superior to all cosmetics. Securely packed, with directions for use. Free 54 stamps. Sole manufacturer only—Mr. Lucas, Perfumer and Proprietor, T. ARD, No. 1, road-court, [illegible]

LADIES' RIDING-WHIPS, Town Made, with Solid Silver Mounts, 6s. to 8s.; Gentlemen's ditto, 7s. 6d. to 4s. Can be selected from an extensive assortment. JOHN CHEER 139a, Oxford-street.

BIJOU NEEDLE-CASE, containing 100 of [illegible] BRILLED-EYED NEEDLES post-free for 1s. Any lady enclosing Twelve Penny Stamps [illegible] and valuable suggestion to her Work-Box, will receive, by return of post, DEANE, DRAY, and Co., London-bridge. Established A.D. 1700.

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CHEEK'S MYRTLE-GREEN UMBRELLAS, also Napoleon Blue, 14s. to 21s.; Paris Silk, [illegible] improved frames, superior to cotton, 10s. 6d. to 14s. Gentlemen's Silk Umbrellas, 10s. 6d. to 14s. Ladies' Silk Parasols, 7s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. Cheek's Patent Self-Acting Umbrella, 14s. 6d. to 21s. Cheek, 10, Oxford-street, New Lion Gentlemen's Silk Umbrellas, 10s. 6d. to 14s. Ladies' Silk Parasols, 7s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. Cheek's Patent Self-Acting Umbrella, 14s. 6d. to 21s. Cheek, 10, Oxford-street, New Lion Gents.

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Sold by all Chandlers, Grocers, &c., &c.

FLOUR, warranted free from Adulteration. Wheat, for pastry, 3s. per bushel; Seconds, 2s. 9d. Rye, 4s. 6d. Barley, 4s. 6d. Oatmeal, 4s. 6d. Wheat Meal for Brown Bread, 4s. 3d. best fine old coarse bread. Delivered to any part of London (not exceeding ten miles) carriage free.—Address HORENSEY, Royal Laundry, Wellington-road, Stockwell-road, London Farms [illegible]

FARM SUPERSEDED, by using BIRD'S BAKING and FERMENTING POWDER, which makes beautifully light all sorts of pastry, tea-cakes, pie-crusts, &c. Apply to Fortnum and Masons, Piccadilly; Petty and Wood, [illegible] Wolverhampton, London; Hay, Chemist, Great George-street, Liverpool; [illegible] Wholesale, 11, HARD BIRD'S Lane, Birmingham, Wholesale and Retail

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MEDICINE CHESTS in great variety, comprising a large assortment of patterns, at prices from 10s. to £10.—172, New Bond-street, London

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EPSOM RACES.—DOUDNEY'S GUINEA [illegible] CLOAKS (Waterproof Tweed, Alpaca, and Merino), for use, worn constantly by the Queen, Prince Albert, and Royal Children.—17, Old Bond street, 55, Burlington-arcade, and 19, Lombard-street. (Established 1784.)

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HAIR JEWELLERY.—A new and elegant Illustrated Book. Sent free for Two Postage Stamps to any part of the World.—DEWDNEY, Hair Jeweller, 172, Sloane-street, London.

HAIR JEWELLERY.—Artist in Hair.—A. DEWDNEY begs to inform Ladies or Gentlemen residing in town or country, that he continues to execute Hair Jewellery, in the most elegant manner, in gold, HAIR BRACELETS, Chains, Brooches, Rings, Pins, Studs, &c., and forwards the same carefully packed in boxes, at about one-half the usual charge. A beautiful collection of specimens, handsomely mounted, kept for inspection. An illustrated book sent free on receipt of two postage stamps.—Dewdney, 172, Pimlico-street.

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NOTICE OF REMOVAL
KENT MUTUAL LIFE and FIRE INSURANCE OFFICES of KENT SOCIETIES have been REMOVED to their New Premises, QUEEN STREET-PLACE, NEW CANNON STREET, London
Agents wanted in some vacant localities
GEORGE CUMMING, Manager.

SPECIAL NOTICE. Second Division of Bonus. Perpetual Secretary of the COLONIAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY beg to give notice that, in order to secure a right to participate to the extent of Five Years in the Profits to be declared in 1860, Proposals for Assurance must be lodged at one of the Offices or any of the Agencies of the Company on or before 25th May, 1855.
W. P. THOMSON, Actuary. JOHN G. ALTS, Secretary to the London Board. Edinburgh (Head Office): 3, George-street. London: 1, Princes-street, Mansion-house. Branch, 9, St. Helen's-place, Bishopsgate-street. Dublin and Cork, Agents. Branch, 20, Upper Sackville-street, Dublin.
Agents in Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, Singapore, Penang, and Manilla, Ceylon, Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, and in every town of importance in British North America and in the West Indies.
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WANTED a CANVASSER for a LIFE-OFFICE. Salary £100 per annum. A three months trial only will be given in the first instance. A Second Appointment is then to commence and continue for one month's trial only in the Country. Name and address in full, age, with what office before connected, and what business or profession followed, and any further particulars may be useful to assist the advertiser in forming a Judgment. Address, C. F., No. 16, South-street, Strand, Middlesex, Gresham-street. No personal applications will be attended to

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY COMPANY OF CANADA.—NOTICE is hereby given that a CALL of £20s. per Share on the Capital Stock of the Company, in the Shares of this Company has been made, and will be due and payable on MONDAY, the 14th day of JUNE, 1855.
A CALL of £10 will also be due and payable on each of the Certificates of Deferred Debentures, and Deferred Debentures, and on each of the Certificates exchangeable for Debentures of the province of Canada, six per Cent Interest will be charged on the Calls so long as they remain unpaid.
A Call Letter will be sent to each Shareholder for the payment of the Call on his Shares. The Debenture Certificates must be produced at the Bankers, in order that the payment of the Call may be marked upon them.
It is the opinion of paying up in full on their Shares and Debentures.
Interest at the rate of six per cent per annum is paid on all sums received in advance of Calls either on Shares or Debentures.
All payments to be made at the Banking-house of Messrs. Glyn, Mills, and Co., 67, Lombard-street.
By order of the Board, WILLIAM CHAPMAN, Secretary
Offices of the Company, 21, Old Broad-street,
London, 16th May, 1855.

THE HONOURABLE ARTILLERY COMPANY of LONDON, the most ancient Corps of Volunteers in England, is OPEN for the ADMISSION of GENTLEMEN who are willing to give a portion of their time to Military Service.
The Corps is empowered by Royal Patents and Warrants from her present Most Gracious Majesty, and her Majesty's Royal predecessors, to train persons in the use of arms, and to the practice of military evolutions and exercises.
The Corps possesses a Parade-ground of several acres, a Rifle gallery, Drill-room, Armoury-house, Arms, and every facility for efficient military training.
The Officers are selected from the Corps, and hold her Majesty's Commissions.
Gentlemen under twenty-one years of age are admitted as Cadets, but must produce the consent of their parents or guardians.
Members have to provide themselves with the Uniform of the Corps.
The expenses of the Band, Drums, Ammunition, &c., are defrayed out of the funds of the Company.
Gentlemen desirous of joining, can obtain any further information on application, by letter, to Sir William H. Wiles, Secretary, 18, Artillery-place, Finsbury.

NELSON MARINE ACCIDENT ASSURANCE COMPANY, for insuring, as small cost and without medical examination, Passengers, Mariners, and Emigrants, against [illegible] Injury by Shipwreck or other Accidents at Sea, or Injuries and Personal Effects of all Sea-voyagers. Capital £50,000, in 10,000 shares of £10 each, £1 per share. The Directors will not proceed to issue until £50,000 is actually subscribed. The liabilities of Shareholders will effectually limited by a clause in the policies.
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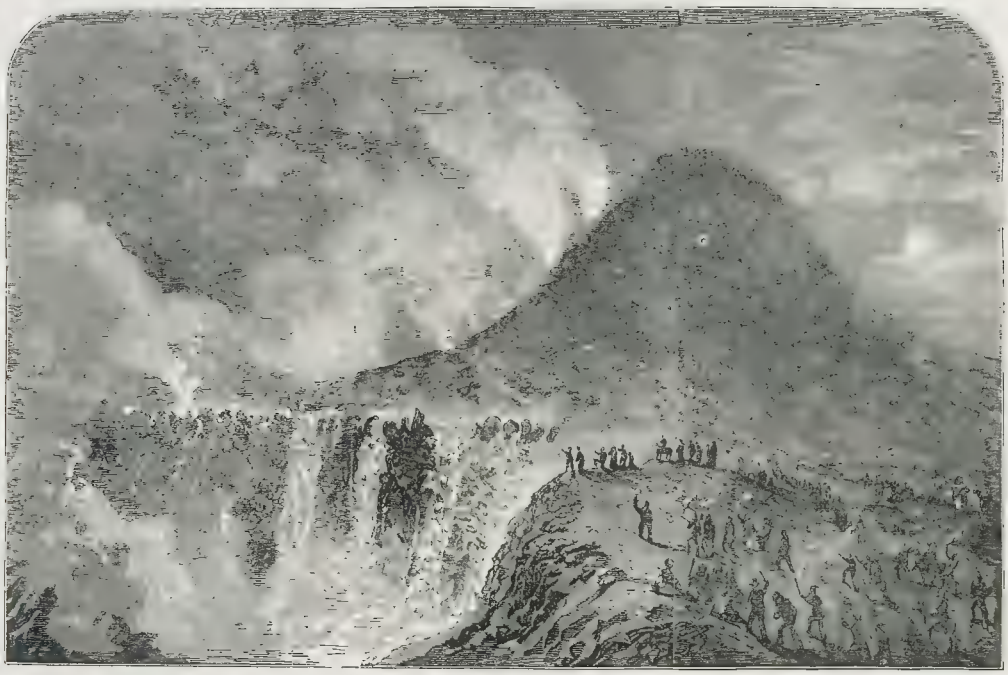
Applications for Shares may be addressed to any of the Directors; [illegible] Secretary of the Company, at the Office, 1, Old Broad-street, where the prospectuses and every information may be [illegible] or to R. J. Thomas, Esq., Secretary at Liverpool, 3, Castle-street, Exchange.

FOR INDIA, THE CRIMEA, ALDERSHOTT, AND TRAVELLERS GENERALLY
PATENT FUSEE CANDLE COOKING LAMP.—Will boil or stew a pound of meat in one hour—boil water, eggs, rice, soup, &c., giving at the same time a most brilliant light; is the most portable, safe, and economical form of portable Lantern.
The Patent Fusee Cand is can be instantly ignited as a lucifer; are made of hard stearine; will keep good for years in any climate.
The cost is having is less than one halfpenny per hour, the weight of the lamp complete—with one canister of candles sufficient to last a month, supposing the lamp to be in use eight hours per day—is under three pounds.
The size of the two together is ten inches broad, ten inches high, and six inches wide, proving it to be the most portable, efficient, and economical lamp that has yet been invented for the army and the public generally.
Sold Wholesale by the Patentee, at 53, Albany-street, Regent's-park, and Retail, by Jenner, and Fulcher and Co., Saint-street, Clerkenwell; imported by Beach, Son, and Nephew, 37, Lime-street, City; Retail by Dutton, Lamp-maker, Lamp-maker, Lamp-maker



ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS, MAY 2, 1855.

(*Continued from page 486.*)

by one of the trees we looked over, and watched the flaming flood rolling down majestically towards the village we had left. Looking upwards, we beheld one continued sheet—a cascade of fire, flame, and smoke, at least 1000 feet in height. We speak in measured terms. It fell into the abyss beneath us and then flowed on as we have described. It is a continuation of No 1. The difference being that this latter view was taken close to the head of the cascade, whilst No. 2 is taken at some little distance, and from below. The dark mountain of Somma, on the left, at times glowed with the reflected light; whilst the right, on which stands the Hermitage, was generally concealed by the vast masses of cloud which the heavy wind swept over it. Right and left are infant currents of lava, destined, perhaps, to increase and commit great havoc. In the foreground are a portion of the multitudes who stood or sat about, gazing intently on the scene; and, whenever there was a grand landslip of lava, shouting with admiration, and almost horror—"Giudizio di Dio!" "Castigo di Dio!" or any other phrase suggested by their highly-wrought feelings. We never can forget that night. At the last moment we have to report that a portion of Masse di Somma has been destroyed; the people are in full flight and there is no indication of the mountain ceasing its ravages.

HENRY WREFORD.

ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS, MAY 4, 1855.

EXHIBITION OF THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, AT GORE-HOUSE, KENSINGTON.

THE HOTEL MUNSCH, VIENNA.

THE Hotel Munsch, at Vienna—the residence of Lord John Russell, during the celebrated Vienna Conferences of March and April, 1855—is a specimen of the grand palatial style of hostelrie of which we only find examples in the great capitals of the Continent. It stands in the Neumarkt, close to the Imperial Palace and the theatres, in the centre of the city, and was formerly known as the Casino. The building is very spacious, built round a square which serves as a court-yard. The apartments are numerous—forming, in parts, extensive suites. The stairs of the principal passages are of stone; the walls are substantial, nearly six feet thick, and the ceilings of all the rooms are domed in brick, so that the whole is fireproof and almost bomb-proof. The Hotel in all its departments is extremely well regulated. There are two dining saloons—one on the principal floor, where the bill of fare is as *recherché* as at the most celebrated restaurants of Paris; the other on the basement, where all is excellent, but more moderate in price. Lord John Russell and suite occupied the whole of the upper part of the building—about thirty-two rooms. In Mr. Munsch English travellers will find an accommodating, agreeable, and, we may add, a *reasonable* host.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE first of the summer exhibitions of this society for the season was held on Wednesday, in the beautiful gardens attached to Gore-house, Kensington, which had been kindly granted to them by her Majesty's Commissioners—it having been found that, of late years, the May meetings at Chiswick have not proved so attractive as they would otherwise have been, owing to the weather not being of that genial nature as to invite a visit to so great a distance from town.

Her Majesty, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, the Princess Hohenlohe, and a numerous suite, visited the exhibition as early as half-past ten in the morning, and the distinguished party appeared much pleased with the whole of the arrangements and the floral and other beauties presented to their view—the fruits and flowers being arranged in two extensive marquees, supplied by Mr. Benjamin Edgington, of London-bridge.

During the afternoon the bands of the Coldstream Guards, the Grenadier Guards, and the 1st Life Guards added much to the general enjoyment, by the excellence with which they performed numerous overtures, marches and other favourite music.

In the floral department, the azaleas were peculiarly attractive, from their great variety of colour, whilst the roses were complete triumphs of horticultural skill. The geraniums were also magnificent, as were the stove and greenhouse plants. The orchids and the fruits were also highly attractive; and, indeed, we do not recollect to have seen better specimens at any former meeting.

Among the attractions of the exhibition was a new Rhododendron (*Rhododendron jasminiflorum*), exhibited by Mr. Veitch, of the Exotic Nursery, Chelsea. We have engraved this extremely beautiful plant. Its form is that of a low shrub, with thick evergreen foliage, and numerous panicles of wax-like flowers of dazzling whiteness. The anthers are of an orange-scarlet, the reflection from which imparts a delicate blush tint to the face of the flowers. The form and texture of the blossom remind one of the favourite *Stephanotis*, or the Jessamine—from the latter of which it derives its specific name. Altogether the plant has a most lovely effect, and it possesses the additional recommendation of a most agreeable fragrance, somewhat resembling that of the auricula. This new Rhododendron is a native of Mount Ophir, in the Straits of Malacca, where it was discovered by Mr. Veitch's indefatigable collector, Mr. Thomas Lobb, growing at an elevation of 5000 feet. Its culture is easy, and it thrives well in the greenhouse.

The following is a list of the prizes, with their value, as given in the various classes for different fruits and flowers:—

[illegible]

The medals granted for the fruits were as follow:—

Fine Apples. 1. S., Mr. Robinson, gardener to Lord Boston. Provisional 2. [illegible] S. P. Mr Clements, gardener to Lord Bolton, Barnet. 5th. Sup. [illegible] Mr Pryor, gardener to W. Forman, Esq., Queen's 5th Sup. [illegible] S. K. Mr [illegible] Hibbs, Isleworth. 5th. [illegible] Fleming, gardener to the Duke of Sutherland, Moss in Quality. 2d. Sup.

Pineapples and Nectarines. S. G. Mr Fleming, gardener to the Duke of Sutherland.

Peaches. [illegible] S. K. Mr [illegible], gardener to the Duke of Sutherland. S. P. [illegible] Robertson, gardener to [illegible] Folly Hybrid.

White Grapes. 1. S. Mr Brady, gardener to [illegible] S. M. P. to S. K. Mr Clements. S. [illegible] Mr Warr, gardener to Wm. Stephens, Esq.

Black Grapes. [illegible] Mr Clements, Black Hamburgh. S. K. Mr [illegible], gardener to W. [illegible]

THE HOTEL MUNSCH, AT VIENNA.

JASMINE-FLOWER RHODODENDRON.

Baker, Esq.; S. S. Mr. Dods, gardener to Sir John Cathcart, Bart.; S. B. Mr. Fleming, gardener to the Duke of Sutherland. S. B. Mr. Mantle gardener to Mrs Oddie; S. B. Mr. Hardy, gardener to Sir N. M. Peto.

Figs. Mr. Bailey gardener to J. S. Crawley, Esq., Brown Turkey.

Cherries: S. S. Mr. Fleming, gardener to the Duke of Sutherland; S. B. Mr. Ingram, gardener to her Majesty.

Strawberries in collection: L. S. Mr. M'Ewan, gardener to the Duke of Norfolk, Eleanor, Bent's Seedling, and Wilmot's Pine.

Strawberries (single dishes): S. K. Mr. Cox, gardener to J. Hodgeson, Esq., Keen's seedling, S. B. Mr. Cockshaw, gardener to C. Mills, Esq., Prince of Wales.

Pineapples: Prize to S. B. Mr. Iveson, gardener to the Duke of Northumberland. Fruit of the Kangaroo-tree.

Miscellaneous: S. K. Mr. Fleming, gardener to the Duke of Sutherland, mandarine oranges in pots. S. B. Mr. Constantine gardener to C. Mills, Esq., grapes in pots.

The most successful exhibitors of plants in the collections were the gardeners to Sir J. Cathcart, Sir Edmund Antrobus, Mr. A. Bassett, Mr. W. F. G. Farmer, and Mr. Giles Child; and among the nurserymen, Messrs. Fraser, Mr. Cutbush, and Messrs. Rollisons.

Of Greenhouse Azaleas the chief competitors were the gardeners to Mr. W. F. G. Farmer, Mr. A. Bassett; Mrs. Webb, of Hoddesdon; Baron Lionel de Rothschild, and Mr. J. Pullbrook, and of nurserymen, Messrs. Lane, Messrs. Fraser, and Mr. Gaines.

Of Cockscombs, the competitors were Mr. C. B. Warner, Mr. H. B. Kor, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Webb, Mr. Barr, Mr. Robert Hanbury, Sir E. Antrobus, and Mr. J. S. Venn; and Messrs. Veitch and Mr. J. B. Jones.

For Heaths, Prizes were awarded to the gardeners of Mr. Bassett and Mr. Phillipps; and to Messrs. Fraser, Messrs. Veitch, and Mr. Cutbush.

For Ivies, to the gardeners of Mr. J. S. Crawley, Mr. A. Rowland, Lady Giles Fraser, and to Messrs. Lane and Messrs. Fraser.

For Greenhouse: To the gardeners of Mr. Windsor, Mr. Dashwood, Mr. J. Simpson, Mr. A. Bassett, and to Mr. Turner, of Slough; Messrs. Dobson, Messrs. Fraser, and Mr. Gaines.

For Cucumbers: To the gardeners of Mr. Turner, Mr. Edward Beck, and Messrs. Dobson.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

Of course the great event of the day has been the opening of the Palais d'Industrie; an event which, but a few days previously, was not expected to occur before the end of May, or even the 1st of June. A raw, cold, wet morning, ushered in the solemnity; despite which from ten in the morning the crowds who had invitation or season tickets, began to assemble at the various entrances, and from that hour (at which the doors opened) till twelve, when they closed, the building kept gradually filling. Being favoured with an invitation-ticket, we were able, during the interval of nearly three hours that elapsed between our entrance and the arrival of the Imperial cortège, to examine at leisure the general effect of many of the details of the interior. At each end of the building, within the arch which forms the centre aisle, is a transparency one representing France, seated on a throne, calling the nations round her; in the other, the principal figure represents Justice, with Art and Science, and various other allegorical figures of the several nations grouped at her feet and on either side. In front of the gallery which runs round the building are inscribed the names of the countries, with their different standards. As yet there is not a single department complete. Here and there certain stalls, if we may so call them, display their contents, wholly or partially arranged as they are to appear, standing amid a wilderness of yet unopened packing-cases. The arrangement of the Centre Aisle is further advanced than the galleries. At one o'clock the sound of cannon announced the departure of the Emperor and Empress from the Tuileries; in about a quarter of an hour they arrived, and were greeted at the entrance by cries of "Vive l'Empéreur!" "Vive l'Impératrice!" Their Majesties were received by the Prince Napoleon and the Princess Mathilde, and proceeded to the dais of crimson and gold erected opposite the principal entrance, where they stood surrounded by the Court, the Ministers, the Senate, the Clergy, the *Représentants*, the Generals, &c., &c., while the Emperor pronounced his discourse. At its conclusion, the band (rather inefficient for the size of the building, which, at the entrance of the Imperial couple, had played "Partant pour la Syrie," performed the overture to the "Muette de Portici," while the Emperor and Empress, followed by the Prince Napoleon and Princess Mathilde, and attended by the whole cortège, made the entire tour of the building, and then departed. The Emperor and Prince Napoleon were in uniform; the Empress, and all the ladies who attended her, in full evening attire. Her Imperial Majesty wore a dress of *vert Islay*, with lace flounces up to the waist, and a *tablier* of white silk or satin, with *boullonés* of white tulle. A diamond tiara encircled her head. She bowed right and left during the whole of the circuit. The Emperor, as he walked round, took a survey of the galleries, but seemed to pay little attention to the salutations of the assembly. After the departure of the Court, the spectators, in the galleries, who had been compelled to keep their places during the preceding time, became at liberty to go over the building, and to visit the Palais des Beaux Arts, opened at the same time.

Various fêtes are in contemplation, principally in the official world, for the season of the Exhibition. It is intended, on the arrival of the Queen, to give three of unusual magnificence at St. Cloud, the English Embassy, and the Hôtel de Ville.

It is not yet certain whether or not the Italian Opera will open during the summer; in the meanwhile it is decided that the Odéon will not close, as it usually does. Mdlle. Georges is to give three representations of her great parts in "Rodogune," "Sémiramis," "Une Fête de Néron," and some others. A great theatrical measure, that of the creation of Imperial theatres in the provinces, especially at Strasbourg, Lyons, Rouen, Toulouse, and perhaps Bordeaux, is decided upon. Tragedy and high comedy are to be performed in them on certain days in the week, and it is expected that the high functionaries in these towns will attend them, to a certain degree official.

The custom introduced into England, of mixing, on all public occasions, the French and Turkish standards with the British, has led to the adoption of a similar usage here, which, on certain occasions, has led to some singular rencontres. At the fête of the inauguration of the statue of Jeanne d'Arc at Orleans, the colours which presided at the burning of the heroine of Vaucouleurs aided to do honour to her memory; and, on another occasion, the Turkish flag has been hoisted at a fête dedicated to the Virgin.

The excessive dearness of living has risen to such a point here that the poorer classes begin to murmur too loudly not to call the attention of Government to the state of affairs. It is expected that ere long certain measures will be proposed to ameliorate them; daily the evil is rising to a greater pitch; and the continuation of the war, to which is added the excessive backwardness of the season, causes much and painful speculation.

It appears that on the evening of the day on which the attempt was made on the life of the Emperor, the Empress received a telegraphic despatch from M. de Turgot, announcing that he had obtained certain information to the effect that the secret societies were contemplating such a measure. It appears by different foreign journals that an anonymous letter to the same effect was sent about the same time to the Pope. Up to the last, no information on this subject could be obtained from Pianori, but some intelligence has been arrived at in Toulouse, which related to the intention of such an attempt on the return of the Emperor from London.

Preparations have been made in the *orangeries* of the Tuileries and the other palaces in Paris, for placing the orange-trees in the open air, but such is the rigour of the weather that it has not yet been considered safe to expose them. The cold baths on the Seine have also deferred opening; and a few days since, a large flock of swallows, having arrived for the season, felt so little encouraged by the state of the temperature to take up their summer residence in the capital, that, after flying round it two or three times, they again took their departure. Fires continue to be kept up in every house, and winter clothing is almost universally worn.

The sudden death of M. Pleyel, the celebrated manufacturer of pianos and himself a distinguished musician, has excited sincere regret in the musical world. Madame Pleyel was the most intimate friend of Chopin, and a host of celebrities in all branches ranked among the friends and admirers of the man and of the artist.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

Another week of inaction has passed before Sebastopol—it least the despatches which come down to the 16th relate nothing of much importance. Various sorties have been made by the Russians, as usual, all of which, we are duly informed, have been "vigorously repulsed;" but no indication is given of any movement into the interior. The letters received by the last steamer from Constantinople give some scraps from General Canrobert's address to the French army, at the review on the 26th ult., which show that something is intended. After mentioning that large reinforcements were about to arrive, he went on to say that they would soon be able to enlarge the basis of their operations. "France and England demand the taking of Sebastopol—it shall be taken. If we cannot enter by the gate, we shall enter by the window."

The most precise information regarding the progress of the siege comes from St. Petersburg. According to the *Invalide Russe*, the fire of the Allies, although described as moderate, caused a daily loss to the Russians of 100 to 175.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

Admiral Dundas left Faro Sound on the 8th inst., in the *Duke of Wellington*, and, with twenty-four other vessels, proceeded to Elfsnabben. The *Driver* steamer, which arrived at Dantzic on the 10th, reports the Gulf of Finland as packed with ice from Revel to Finland, so that all communication with the shore was impracticable.

Letters from Stockholm complain that all direct communication with Finland is cut off by the blockade, so that the mails are now sent by land all round the Gulf of Bothnia, and have to perform a journey of more than a thousand miles, the distance not being a hundred miles in a direct line. The most recent accounts from Finland mention the activity of the Russians in preparing for the defence of the country, and give particulars of the corps that have arrived there from the interior. The Grand Duke Constantine is said to be indefatigable in his exertions to organise the Russian navy, and has drawn up a plan by which all the line-of-battle ships are to be fitted with steam machinery, and ultimately the screw. It is not said, however, where the steam machinery is to be made, or by whom. They cannot now get it from England, and, as the greater part of the English engineers and mechanics have returned home, and those that are still detained in Russia are not adequate to the work—even if they were induced by threats or good pay to work for their country's enemy—it is difficult to understand how the Grand Duke will be able during the present war to transform his dull sailing ships into steamers.

In the meantime he has come down to Sveaborg, where there are half a dozen steam frigates, and it is said to be his intention to proceed with them to sea, to endeavour to pick up some of the ships of the blockading squadron. It is added that each of his steamers will take a line-of-battle ship in tow to cover his retreat if too hard pressed by the English frigates. If this news be confirmed, it will be glorious intelligence for our sailors, who desire nothing better than to catch the Russian ships out of port, and have a brush with them.

TROUBLES IN RUSSIA

The most important intelligence from St. Petersburg is the alleged resignation of Count Nesselrode, caused, it is said, by his opposition to the war party in the Russian Cabinet.

The cautious old Chancellor has, no doubt, good reason to argue in favour of accepting such terms as the Allies have offered. The recent accounts from the Ukraine represent the insurrectionary spirit among the peasantry as very far from being suppressed. In other parts of Russia the heavy requisitions are causing loud complaints, nor is it at all unlikely that the Government may find work enough on a large portion of its army at home, if the disaffection should spread, as is highly probable.

In Poland, on the other hand, where the repressive system has been carried out most rigorously, the Government has all at once adopted the mild method. Letters from Warsaw affirm that measures calculated to give just satisfaction to Poland are impatiently expected there, and that the police has been extremely indulgent; so much so, that people talk freely of public matters at *cafés* and theatres—a thing unheard of before, and which excites the astonishment of all those who know what severity there was before. This, however, may be only a ruse of the authorities for the purpose of ascertaining what the real opinions of the people are, with a view to check any free movement in concert with the Allies.

AMERICA.

The mail-steamer *Pacific*, which sailed from New York on the 2nd inst., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday. The city and state of New York appear to be principally occupied with rival meetings of the friends of temperance and their opponents the retail liquor-dealers and those interested in that trade. The present licenses were to expire on the 8th inst., and would not be renewed. After that date, persons selling spirits in less quantity than five gallons would be liable to a fine of 20 dollars for each offence. The trade were attempting to prove that the prohibition was unconstitutional, and were obtaining legal opinions to that effect. There was to be a great gathering of teetotallers at Boston on the 8th, the main object of which would be to make the enforcement of the new Massachusetts prohibitory liquor-law an easy matter. Governor Gardner was to preside on the occasion, and a strong deputation from New York and other States would participate.

Recruiting for the Foreign Legion of the British service is going on vigorously at Boston, under the direction of the Provincial Secretary of Nova Scotia. Although the agents make no secret of their business, the authorities have not as yet interfered with them.

The citizens of the Kansas territory expelled their Governor, and summoned the different districts to send one delegate each to Leavenworth city, on the 28th April, to select a new Governor, whose appointment the President of the United States was to be requested to confirm. The expelled Governor, the Hon. A. H. Reeder, has been warmly in a public meeting on his return to Pennsylvania.

Mr. Soulé, the late American Minister at Madrid, has been received by his admirers at a public meeting in New Orleans, when, in replying to the resolutions of congratulation on his return, this "diplomatic model man" is reported to have made use of the following sentence:—"I come back to you with a heart undaunted by the fire which the mere mention of my name has lit in the purlieus of provoking in the torpid breast of the crowned cut-throat who rules over France, and with a brow on which the most abject and reckless calumnies have not as yet been able to start a blush."

Colonel Kinney, of the Nicaragua expedition, charged with meditating a breach of the neutrality laws, has been held to bail in a sum of 10,000 dols.

The latest news from New Mexico, consist of accounts of skirmishes between the Government troops and parties of Utah and Apache Indians. It would appear that this Indian war will be both troublesome and costly.

In California a new Nothing convention has been held in Sacramento, at which it was determined to support the nomination of the American party at the next Presidential election; to uphold the Constitution in all its compromises; and to maintain the principles embodied in the Nebraska Bill to their fullest extent.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The steamer *Calcutta* arrived at Trieste on Tuesday morning, in 131 hours from Alexandria.

The Indian mails bring news from Calcutta of the 10th April and from Bombay of the 17th April. A treaty was signed with Hyder Khan at Peshawar on the 30th March, by Mr. Lawrence, containing three articles:—1. Perpetual peace between Dost Mahomed and the English. 2. The English to respect the territories of Dost Mahomed. 3. Dost Mahomed to recognise the territories of the East India Company. There are rumours of hostile preparations against the English. There had been fighting between Golab Singh and his nephew. The Afreedees have been chastised by Colonel Craigie. Lord Dalhousie's health at Ootacamund has greatly improved.

PRESENTATION OF CRIMEAN MEDALS BY HER MAJESTY.

The most interesting sight this generation has witnessed—the distribution of Crimean medals by her Majesty to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and invalided and wounded soldiers returned from the war—took place yesterday forenoon in the Tilt Yard, Horse Guards, with all the pomp and ceremony befitting such an occasion.

In the centre of the parade was a raised dais, or throne. It was two feet from the ground, and was approached by three wide and shallow steps. Her Majesty's chair of state was placed in front, and preparations were made to enable the whole of the Royal suite to occupy their respective positions on the platform. For the accommodation of distinguished and privileged persons, raised seats were erected in front of the Commander-in-Chief's office, the seats being covered with cocoa-nut fibre matting. Her Royal Highness the Princess Mary of Cambridge, the Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Gloucester, and several of the youthful members of the Royal Family, attended by the Earl of Clarendon, occupied the seats; and there were also present in their immediate neighbourhood, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor (Sir Francis Graham Moon, Bart.), the Lady Mayoress, the Marquis of Londonderry, the Earl of Mulgrave, Lord Ravensworth, and a large number of the nobility. The Admiralty, the Treasury, and every other building in the Park, were occupied by crowds of persons eager to witness the ceremony.

Her Majesty's suite entered the Park through the the Horse Guards at eleven precisely: the route taken having been from Buckingham Palace, along the Park-road, through the grounds of St. James's Palace, along Pall-mall, Charing-cross, and Whitehall. As soon as her Majesty entered a Royal salute was fired; and her Majesty, having alighted from her carriage, took her seat on the dais, to which she was conducted by his Royal Highness Prince Albert. After the customary ceremony of marching past in slow and quick time, the line formed three sides of a square facing the dais. The names of the officers, &c., entitled to the decoration—commencing with those of the Grenadiers, next the Coldstreams, and then the Scots Fusilier Guards—were called over by the Deputy Adjutant-General, and each person passing in succession was presented with the Crimean medal commemorative of his gallantry. As each soldier came up, Lord Panmure handed to the Queen the medal to which he was entitled, and the soldier, having saluted her Majesty, passed on.

The first medal was awarded to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. Amongst those who followed were General Sir De Lacy Evans, Lord Cardigan, and Lord Lucan. Captain Sir Thomas Troubridge, who so gallantly fought at Inkerman, was wheeled up to the throne in a Bath chair. Sir Thomas was loudly cheered as he received the medal from the hands of the Queen; as was Captain Maude, who was most miraculously saved from destruction a shell having struck and exploded upon the right shoulder of his horse, which was killed on the spot, a piece of flesh being forced into the eye of the gallant Captain, which has destroyed his sight, portions of the shell in bursting also wounding him in the right arm and leg, but not dangerously.

In less than an hour her Majesty had distributed 500 medals to as many officers and men. At the close of the ceremony another salute was fired, the National Anthem was played, and the Queen and her suite proceeded through the Park to Buckingham Palace, where she arrived a little after twelve o'clock. Her Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal were with her Majesty on the platform.

CURIOUS PROPHECIES ON THE WAR.

THE Rev. Dr. Cumming begs to enclose to the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS the following very curious old prediction, which, in reference to our present position, must interest.

7, Montague-place, May 14

The Rev. Dr. Cumming quoted, in the course of a series of lectures he has been giving in Halkin-street, Belgrave square, the following remarkable anticipation of modern events—and, he said, as of inspired prophecies, but as proofs of early and sound interpretation of inspired prophecy. The following lines he quoted from an old volume of predictions, written in the fifteenth century. In 1453 the Turks took Constantinople. The poet says

In twice two hundred years, I ween,
The Crescent will assail;
But, if the Cock and Bull unite,
The Bear will not prevail.

But mark, in twice ten years, and
Let Islam know and fear—
The Cross shall stand, the Crescent wane
Dissolve, and disappear

The rev. lecturer also quoted from a work in the Augustinian monastery at Rome, entitled, "Ex Genethus mysticis maris, 1575," in which are these remarkable words:—"Before the middle of the nineteenth century seditions will be excited everywhere in Europe; famines, pestilences, and earthquakes will spread desolation over many cities. Rome will lose her sceptre the Pope will be slain by his own people. A prince from the North will overrun Europe; his sword will vigorously defend the church, uphold the orthodox faith, and subdue the Moslem."

These, said the lecturer, were plainly drawn from inspired prophecy. Their fulfilment is evidence of their origin.

[NOTE OF THE EDITOR. Perhaps Dr. Cumming will inform the world of the title of the "old volume," written in the fifteenth century, and further state where it may be seen? Without such information, "the cock and bull," referred to in the "prediction," will be applied, we fear, both by good and by ill-natured readers, to designate the character of the Rev Doctor's communication to our columns.]

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

REAR-ADMIRAL CHRISTOPHER STRACHEY

The death of this gallant naval officer occurred on Saturday, the 5th inst. He was in the seventy-seventh year of his age, and had been above sixty years in the Royal Navy. During that lengthened period he greatly distinguished himself, and received a medal for his services afloat, besides the Order of St. Vladimir, conferred on him by the Emperor Alexander of Russia. In 1803, when commanding the *Alcmene* sloop, while in company with the *Immortalité* and *Cruiser*, he fought a brilliant action off Cape Blanc Nez, and captured a brig and schooner of war. In 1807 he assisted at the defence of Dantzic.

Admiral Strachey was fourth son of the Venerable Archdeacon John Strachey, Vicar-general Ordinary to George III., and younger brother, Sir Henry Strachey, Bart., who created a Baronet in 1801. The Admiral married Mademoiselle Marguerite, daughter of the Chevalier de Roche, of Verdun-sur-Meuse, Knight of the Order of Malta, and leaves, with other issue, a son, the present Leonard Marcus Strachey, Esq., of Bowman, county Gloucester.

WILLS AND PERSONALTY.—The will of the Right Hon. John Wilson Patten, M.P., G.C.B., late Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, the Right Hon. James Wigram, Knight, late Vice-Chancellor, £14,000; Major-General Henry Wm. Adams, C.B. of Aldershott, £18,000; Joseph Levick, Esq., £20,000; William Tyler, Esq., £[illegible]

CHARITABLE BEQUESTS.—The Rev. Sheldon Johnson Jodrell, M.A., Rector of Sedgeford, Norfolk, has bequeathed to the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, £800; Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, £800; Church Building Society, £500; Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, £200; Blind Institution, Norwich, £200; Eye Infirmary, Norfolk, £100; Norfolk and Norwich Magdalen Asylum, £100. The late Mr. John Ward has left £300 to the London Missionary Society, and £200 to the Baptists' Mission, and bequests to the Home Mission, Irish Evangelical, Colonial, Foreign, Missions, Continental and other societies. Jacob Post, of the Society of Friends, left personalty, £16,000, and bequeathed a legacy to each of the places of worship near his residence at Islington, namely, the parish church, Islington Chapel, Baptist, Wesleyan, Irvingites, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholics.

WHAT NEXT? A lady, connected with one of the principal churches in the New Town, Edinburgh, having become enfeebled in health, and unable to leave her bed, felt her liability to join in the public exercises of devotion one of her greatest deprivations. An ingenious friend suggested that she should take a house adjoining the church, and have a gallery persons conducted to her bed. The suggestion was carried into effect, and now in the solitude of her sick chamber she listens to the public ministrations of her spiritual adviser. —*Caledonian Mercury*

EXECUTION OF PIANORI.—Pianori was guillotined at five o'clock on Monday morning, in front of the prison of La Roquette, near Père la Chaise. Although the morning was wet and cold, and although no public announcement of the day of execution had been made, a very large number of people were assembled. Up to a late hour on Sunday night the authorities repeated to him an offer which had been frequently made—that his life should be spared if he would discover his confederates. His only answer was, that he had no revelation to make.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 475.)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

This being Ascension-day no business was transacted in their Lordships' House.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Sir C. WOOD, in reply to Mr. Otway, said, that despatches had been received from Sir E. Lyons with respect to the naval attacks on the forts of Sebastopol, but they contained nothing of any importance; and, in such cases, it was not usual to lay them on the table

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE moved the second reading of the Public Prosecutors Bill.

Lord PALMERSTON, in the absence of the Attorney-General, moved as an amendment that the whole subject, which was one well deserving the consideration of the House, should be referred to a Select Committee

After some conversation, Mr. J. G. Phillimore assented to the amendment, and to the postponement of his bill for six months, with the view of carrying out the suggestion of the Attorney-General.

Mr. DEEDES moved the second reading of the Parish Constables Bill, the object of which was to compel parishes to appoint superintendent constables in counties in which the Rural Police Act was not brought into operation.

Mr. RICE opposed the bill, thinking that such a measure should emanate from the Government

Sir J. TROLLOPE moved that the bill be read that day six months.

Mr. COWPER said, he would support the bill with a view to its being amended in Committee.

After some discussion, the amendment was withdrawn, and the bill was read a second time

The Personal Estates of Intestates Bill passed through Committee

Lord J. RUSSELL obtained leave to introduce a bill to enable her Majesty to assent to a Bill, as amended, of the Legislature of New South Wales, and to grant a Civil List to her Majesty

Mr. LOWE contended that, if the bill passed, it would defeat the very object which it had in view, that of giving a new Constitution to New South Wales, and would in its operation defeat all attempts at good government in the colony. He suggested that all the Australian Bills should be sent to a Select Committee.

Lord J. RUSSELL objected to sending those bills to a Select Committee, thinking that such a course would be unjust to the colony.

Mr. DUFFY and Mr. W. WILLIAMS opposed the bill.

Mr. J. BALL defended the measure.

Lord J. RUSSELL also obtained leave to repeal the acts of Parliament now in force respecting the disposal of the Waste Lands of the Crown in her Majesty's Australian Colonies, and to make other provision in lieu thereof. The two bills were brought in and read a first time.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

Earl GREY postponed his motion relative to the late Conferences at Vienna until next Friday.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ARMY.

Lord PANMURE submitted his plan for the consolidation of the civil departments of the army. He said, on such an occasion it would be difficult for him to bring forward his plan without congratulating their Lordships on the scene which had been witnessed in St. James's-park the this day. It was the first time that the Sovereign of this country had condescended to bestow with her own hand distinctions for military service, not merely on officers of high rank, but on the very humblest soldier, and he hoped that gratifying spectacle would be frequently repeated. It was intended by his plan to abolish altogether the office of Master-General of the Ordnance and the Board of Ordnance. To abolish those offices, it was only necessary for her Majesty to issue her Royal letters patent to that effect; and the only matter which would require the intervention of Parliament was to effect a transfer of the land which was now held by the Board of Ordnance in connection with that department. The noble Lord then proceeded, at considerable length, to state the details of his plan, which was in substance the same as that announced on a former evening by Lord Palmerston in the House of Commons.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH and other noble Lords generally approved of the proposed change.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

Sir M. S. Stewart, Bart, took the oaths and his seat for the county of Renfrew, and Sir J. Ferguson, Bart., for the county of Ayrshire.

Mr. WARD inquired, what progress had been made in the formation of a foreign legion.

Mr. PEEL said that about 13,000 had been enlisted, and that others would be added as speedily as possible.

UNSTAMPED NEWSPAPERS.

Mr. CRAUFURD asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether orders had been sent from London to seize the presses of Mr. Henderson in Glasgow for publishing an unstamped newspaper; and, if so, whether that order was specially against Mr. Henderson, or against any other parties in Scotland?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that proceedings had been taken against Mr Henderson, but his presses had not been seized, nor the presses of any other person.

CAPTAIN CHRISTIE.

Mr FERGUS called upon Mr. Layard for some explanation of a statement he had publicly made, in which he preferred several serious charges against Captain Christie against the late gallant gentleman who was responsible for the filthy condition of Balaclava harbour, that he was upwards of seventy years of age, and was quite incompetent to the discharge of his duties. Several letters had been sent to Mr. Layard, but he had given no answer. Captain Christie had been removed from earth, and neither slander nor praise could reach him, but it was a matter of anxiety to his friends, and he wished to know whether he had received the letters, and whether he had returned any answer.

Mr. LAYARD, after challenging the House not to indulge in the unseemly language which discredited its members when he was last upon his defence, said that when he was living on board the *Agamemnon* he had frequent opportunities of seeing Captain Christie, and his impression was that he was seventy years of age. Mr. Christie, the captain's brother, wrote him an intemperate letter, which he afterwards saw in the newspapers. After publication he considered himself absolved from taking any further notice of it. He afterwards received a letter from Captain Christie, which was evidently written under a mistake, and to which he replied. The honourable gentleman referred to the evidence taken before the Sebastopol Committee in reference to the connection of Captain Christie with the harbour of Balaclava. Turning to Sir James Graham, he said that the right hon. Baronet had remarked, in the course of his evidence before the Committee, in a tone which could not be mistaken, "Captain Christie died of a broken heart." He (Mr Layard) had been accused of being the murderer of Captain Christie. If any one had ill treated Captain Christie it was that First Lord of the Admiralty, of whom it had been truly said that, if you wanted to put a dunce into good hands, you should go there. He warned those gallant officers who rigid to hunt him down, and who said in that House, unwilling to assist in fighting their country's battles, that, though they might consult him, they would never destroy the great movement with which he is identified.

Sir J. PAKINGTON said, the charges made against Sir J. Graham were totally unfounded. He believed that if Mr Layard was crushed, it would be to himself that he would do it.

Mr. BRIGHT defended Mr. Layard.

Sir J. GRAHAM said, he cared little for the remarks of the hon. member for Aylesbury. He felt that a debt of justice was due to the memory of a gallant man. He (Sir J. Graham) was responsible for the appointment of Capt. Christie, who was totally unknown to him, except by reputation. He bore a high and honourable character in the naval profession to which he belonged. Two faults were alleged against Capt. Christie, first that he did not exercise a sound discretion in reference to the transports on the occasion of the storm on the 14th of November; and secondly, that he had made a serious mistake in ordering a portion of Turkish troops, bound for the Crimea, to go to Balaclava instead of to Eupatoria. Such charges had been made, he considered a court-martial, believing that course to be preferable to allowing him to be subject to the ordeal of the Sebastopol Committee. He admitted that when he was before the Committee he looked upon the member for Aylesbury in the face and he said Captain Christie was a broken-hearted man. He hoped the lesson the hon. gentleman had received would not be thrown away.

Mr. Roebuck said that, if Captain Christie died of a broken heart, it was in consequence of being superseded, and ordered to take his trial by court-martial both which acts were those of Sir James Graham

Admiral BERKELEY spoke in favour of Captain Christie

After some further conversation, the subject dropped.

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) BILL.

The adjourned debate upon the second reading of the Lord Advocate's Scotch Education Bill was then resumed

After a protracted debate, the House divided, and the numbers were For Mr. C. Bruce's amendment, 142; against it, 189 majority against the amendment, 7.

The Committee on the Bill was then postponed until after Whitsuntide.

RENFREW COUNTY ELECTION.—Sir Michael Shaw Stewart was elected M.P. for the county on Monday last, without opposition in the room of Colonel Mure

A MEETING of Protestants was held yesterday at the Amphitheatre, Liverpool, Dr. M'Neill in the chair, to discuss the propriety of continuing the endowment of the College of Maynooth.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MAY 17.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barom. at 32° & M	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of Day.	Departure of Temperature from Mean Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rate in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
May 11	29.247	63·0	44·1	48·6	— 3·2	94	S.W.	0·07
" 12	29.750	60.6	37·1	42 7	— 9·0	82	N.W.	0·45
" 13	29.822	54.[illegible]	32·0	40 2	— 11·6	89	S.W.	0·01
" 14	29.445	52.0	38.2	44.2	— 7 7	86	N.	0·38
" 15	29.542	53·1	37.2	43·0	— 9·2	91	N.	0.00
" 16	29.711	61.0	41.0	45·8	— 6·1	87	N.	0·03
" 17	29.872	61.0	37	44·5	— 8·3	88	N.W.	0·01

NOTE.—The sign denotes below the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the Barometer increased from 29.34 inches at the beginning of the week, to 29.81 inches by the the 12th; decreased to 29.33 inches by the 13th; increased to 29.66 inches by the 14th; decreased to 29.53 inches by the 15th; and increased to 29.91 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week at the level of the sea, was 29.716 inches

The mean daily temperatures have been below their average values on every day since April 20, in quantities varying from 4° to 14°: the mean defect for the period averaging 5.7° daily. The effect of this continued cold weather is shown in our health report, below.

The mean temperature of the week was 44·3° being 5° below the average

The range of temperature during the week was 31°, being the difference between the highest reading on the 11th, and the lowest on the 14th

Rain fell during the week to the depth of nearly nine-tenths of an inch

The weather throughout the week was dull and gloomy, and for the most part overcast all the time. On the 11th, at 3h. p.m., a thunder-storm occurred, with heavy peals of thunder and vivid flashes of lightning; and about 4h. p.m., the atmosphere was unusually dark and dense for a short time

Lewisham, May 18, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending May 12, the births of 809 males and of 769 females were registered within the metropolitan districts—in all, 1578 children; the average number for the preceding ten years, in the nineteenth week of the year, are 737 boys and 730 girls. The number of deaths within the same interval of time, in the same districts, was 1183—viz., 616 males and 567 females; the average for the same week of the year, from the records of ten years, are 494 males and 489 females—or together, 974 deaths. In order to compare this number with that of the deaths of last week, it is necessary to increase it in the proportion of the increase of population, and thus increased it becomes 1071, a number less by 112 than the number of deaths; thus showing the effect produced on the public health by this backward spring and cold weather, owing to which about 15 deaths daily have occurred lately above the numbers for the season.

INSPECTION OF THE NEW METROPOLITAN CATTLE-MARKET.—The Right Hon the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir George Cornewall Lewis, visited the New Metropolitan Cattle-market, at Copenhagen-fields, on Saturday. The first market-day for the sale of cattle in the new Metropolitan Cattle-market will be on Friday, the 1st of June. The inauguration will take place a few days earlier

THE City of London lease of the manor of Finsbury, held of the Prebendary of Finsbury, in the Church of St. Paul, for a total period of about 700 years, is about to fall in, and the large rental of Finsbury square, and the adjoining streets, will belong to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.—*Land and Building News.*

SUPPRESSION OF MENDICITY SOCIETY.—On Saturday last the annual meeting of this society was held at their rooms, in Red Lion-square: the Marquis of Westminster, presided, in the chair. After a few introductory remarks from the noble chairman, the report was read. It stated that the results of last year's operations were favourable to the society, the war, the demand for labour, and emigration, having diminished the pressure on its resources. The registered cases of applicants with ticket at the office had fallen from 419 in 1853, to 322 in 1854. The unregistered cases fell from 761 to 601. The receipts of the year amounted to £4244 2s. 11d., and at its close there was a balance in hand, and at the bankers, of £736. The adoption of the report was carried unanimously

ST. JOHN'S HOUSE TRAINING INSTITUTION FOR NURSES, QUEEN-SQUARE, WESTMINSTER.—On Tuesday the seventh annual meeting of this excellent institution was held; the Bishop of London presided, and the Bishop of Oxford and several other influential supporters of the establishment were present. The Bishop of London observed that the institution had made rapid progress during the past year, and that the lawful interest felt last autumn throughout the country in the sick and wounded soldiers in the hospitals at Scutari, had done more to make known the existence and objects of St. John's House than had been done in all its previous history. In the sudden emergency, which the Government had determined to send sisters and nurses to the East, the council placed the St. John's House and its resources at their disposal, and twenty nurses had already gone, and others were preparing to follow them, to the several hospitals in the East. Of those, six were now at Smyrna, four at Scutari, ten at Kululee, two at Therapia, one (the senior nurse) at Balaclava—one had died, and four had returned to England. Besides the extraordinary work abroad, the nursery had also been fully occupied at home. Two hundred sick persons had been attended in the past year, and the most satisfactory reports of the nurses had been received from all quarters. A large number of poor persons had received constant nursing and food; some of them uninterruptedly during the whole of the year. They had also taken charge of the men's cholera ward in Westminster Hospital, day and night, during the prevalence of that disease. The Rev. C. P. Shepherd (the master) read the report of the council, by which it appeared that the house at present numbered forty-two members—viz., four resident sisters, seven associate sisters, twenty-five nurses, and six probationers. The balance-sheet showed that the total income of the house during the past year amounted to £2,638 14s. 11d., of which upwards of £500 consisted of extraordinary donations towards the fund for sending nurses to the East. The total expenditure in the same period amounted to £1041 11s. 5d. The report was adopted.

THE ROYAL ORTHOPEDIC HOSPITAL.—The fifteenth anniversary festival of the Royal Orthopedic Hospital was celebrated on Wednesday night, at the Freemasons' Tavern. The chair was taken by the Marquis of Westminster, vice-president of the hospital, and the company at the cross table included Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., the Rev. Mr. Maskell, Mr. Quarles Harris (the founder of the hospital), Mr Tamplin (the principal surgeon), and other gentlemen immediately connected with the institution. After the usual loyal and constitutional toasts, the noble chairman proposed the toast of the evening—"Success to the Royal Orthopedic Hospital," in a very able speech, seasoned with much humour and many classical allusions The noble chairman concluded the proceedings by proposing the health of Mr. R. Maskell, in acknowledgement of his zeal and assiduity as secretary to the hospital. The subscriptions announced amounted to the sum of £2100.

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to forward, through Colonel Phipps, to Mr. Pepper, the resident director, the sum of £100, as an acknowledgment of her Majesty's approbation of the various entertainments presented on the recent occasion of the Royal visit to this institution. Her Majesty has also been pleased to purchase a photograph exhibited in the institution the same evening the subject being an artistic design representing a soldier who had lost an arm at the battle of Inkerman, and whose child—a little girl of some six or seven years of age—is looking up into his face with an expression of grief at her father's misfortune. The picture conveys the portrait of sergeant Dawson, who, it may be remembered, was promoted for his bravery at the battle of the Alma.

MARYLEBONE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION.—A handsome silver inkstand has just been presented by the members of the Marylebone Literary and Scientific Institution to their President, Mr. Jacob Bell. The presentation took place in the lecture-hall of the institution, at the half-yearly general meeting on Tuesday, the 8th inst., and was witnessed by a crowded gallery of the lady friends of the members. An address, with the names of subscribers, was splendidly emblazoned on vellum by two of the members

SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS The proprietor of this establishment is preparing for this season exhibition a gigantic modelled picture of Sebastopol, the Council of Mr. Danson, from drawings made on the spot, specially for the purpose. An attempt will be made to give the public an idea of the military operations of attack and defence, as now actually carried on by the belligerent forces; and a considerable portion of the wonderful heroes of the Alma, Balaclava, and Inkerman will assist in the mimic sorties and other manœuvres of the siege, which will form the grand feature of the spectacle.

THE HORTICULTURAL FETE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—It appears that the horticultural fete, announced to be held at the Crystal Palace on the 2nd of June, is exciting great interest amongst the florists and private gardeners of all parts of the country. The leading horticulturists, almost without exception, intend exhibiting, and have keen engaged in their best plants for the occasion. There is every reason to believe that this will be the finest show of flowers and fruit that has ever taken place. The prizes range from £30 each, and amount in all to above £1000

BANQUET TO HER MAJESTY'S MINISTERS.

On Wednesday evening the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, according to time-honoured custom, entertained her Majesty's Ministers and a numerous and highly distinguished party of ladies and gentlemen at a sumptuous banquet at the Mansion house. The guests began to assemble in the reception-room at six o'clock, and the arrival of the noble Premier and Lady Palmerston was announced about half an hour later. The banquet took place in the Egyptian hall, which was decorated on the occasion with the flags of England, France, Turkey, and Sardinia, and when the whole of the company had assembled, most of whom were attired in their official costumes, the court-dress presented by the brilliant apartment surpassed in dazzling splendour the imposing spectacles for which these festivals have been so long and justly famed.

Covers were laid for 270, and the company included the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Palmerston, the Duke of Argyll, Sir George Grey, Lord John Russell, Sir Charles Wood, and the rest of the Cabinet; the Foreign Ambassadors and a large number of the nobility, and members of the House of Commons, and other gentlemen

Grace after meat having been said by the Rev. Mr. Moon, the Lord Mayor's chaplain,

His Lordship rose and gave in succession "The Health of her Majesty" and "Prince Albert and the Royal Family."

The Lord Mayor then proposed in terms highly laudatory of their achievements, "The United Fleets and Armies of France and England," with which he coupled "The Health of the Commander-in-Chief and the First Lord of the Admiralty."

Viscount Hardinge and Sir Charles Wood respectively returned thanks on behalf of the two services

Lord Palmerston, in a brief speech in reply to the toast of the evening—"Her Majesty's Ministers, with which his name was coupled, stated that the British army is as perfect in physical power, in spirit, and in every thing that constitutes efficiency, as any British army that ever took the field.

"The House of Lords and the Duke of Argyll" was acknowledged by his Grace in a very able speech

Lord John Russell, in replying to the toast of "The House of Commons," with which he was coupled, took occasion to defend that branch of the Legislature from the charge brought against it by Lord Ellenborough. He was not prepared to say that Parliament had lost weight in the country. He was not prepared to say that it should have lost weight. He thought the representatives of the people ought to preside over public affairs "with that deliberation, with that weight, and at the same time in that spirit which befits the representatives of a free people" and he trusted that they would always do their duty, and that the people would have confidence in them.

Several other toasts were given, and the company separated at eleven o'clock.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

RACING will "rule the court, the senate, and the grove" next week; but great as is the amount of money invested on the Derby favourites, the public interest is nothing equal to that felt in the years when Cossack, Surpliee, Flying Dutchman, Voltigeur, and West Australian were "household words" for weeks before.

On Monday, nine of Lord Spencer's yearlings will be sold at Tattersall's, including six by his Lordship's favourite Cotherstone. The principal features of the sport at Epsom on Tuesday are the Woodcote Stakes for two-year-olds, nearly all of which are "dark;" and the Summer Handicap, for which eighteen have accepted. Among them are Nabob, 8 st. 10 lb.; Hermit, 8 st. 1 lb.; and Vanderdecken, 7 st. 8 lb. On Wednesday, the Epsom Cup, which produced such a noble contest last year between Kingston and Ratapian, has a very great entry. The latter horse is in it again, along with Nabob, Arbitrator, Andover, Virago, Scythian, Knight of St. George, Hermit, Protis, &c. As far as we can hear up to the present date, the field for the Derby will not be very large. The starters and their jockeys will include De Clare (Templeman), Greculus Esurients, or Bonny Morn (Holmes), Noisy (Goater), Lord of the Isles (Aldcroft), Dirk Hatteraick (Marlow), Kingstown (A. Day), St. Hubert (Wells), Oulston (Maton), Flatterer (Bartholomew), Rifleman (Nat), Wild Dayrell (Charlton), Benhams (Clement), and Rotherham (Job Marson). Among the more doubtful division may be reckoned Shoreham, The Cropper, Mouzin, Cymbeline, Claret, Lord Alfred (Osborne), Rambling Katie (Prince), and Rylstone (G. Oates). We have, in fact, strong doubts whether more than twenty, if so many, will answer the saddling summons—a very slight array as compared with former years

On Thursday an uninteresting two-year-old stakes and countless plates will make up a conveniently dull afternoon's sport; and the Stakes, on Friday, does not promise to be a very stirring affair. The scratching of Habena has quite taken the fire out of it; and we are assured that she galloped on Tuesday last as well as she ever did in her life. Her scratching is a mysterious business, and Newmarket was never so unlucky, at any thing, time out of mind, as every one there had backed her. The starters, as far as we can see at present, seem likely to comprise Dame Judith (Alderoft), Marchioness (Templeman), Mosquito (Bartholomew), Bloomsy Blue (Marlow), Lady Tartan (Osborne), Morgan la Faye (Prince), Capucine (Marson), and Nettle (Marlow) Among the doubtfuls are Besika, Antoinette, Cyprinna, Clotilde, and Lady Ann. The performances of the 2000-guinea Nettle are far the best on the list, and she has been heavily backed, although it is rumoured (and her tottering position at Tattersall's confirms it) that she has been a little "off" of late. Morgan la Faye has been highly tried, and ought to be very near winning, if the report of Nettle be true. Capucine is a very light thing, and looks more like speed than a distance. Dame Judith is not much backed as yet; and we fancy that none of John Scott's trio are of a very high order. Capucine's running in the 1000 guinea stakes should make her good enough to win the Surrey Foal Stakes, for which Shoreham and Pugnator will probably meet her.

There are no other racing fixtures on the list for the week, either in England or Ireland; but the Tipperary annual steeplechases will occupy their admirers on Monday and Tuesday, and those at Portumna on Friday. Among the yachting appointments for the week are the sailing-match of the Royal Thames Yacht-club, and the Royal Mersey Yacht-club opening trip, on Saturday; while the Cambridge University commences its one-pair oar races on Thursday. The sister University will be engaged on the same day with a cricket-match to wit, twenty-two of Christ Church against the All England eleven; and those who choose to stroll up to Lord's ground on Monday will come in for a one-day match between the Marylebone club and ground against the St. John's-wood Club.

BATH AND SOMERSET COUNTY RACES. TUESDAY

Lansdowne Stakes.—Van Tromp, 1. Octavia, 2
Three-Year-Old Biennial Stakes. Oulston, 1. Sandbag, 2
Two-Year-Old Biennial Stakes.—Coroner, 1. Stork, 2
Somersetshire Stakes. Typee, 1. Humbolds, 2
Selling Stakes.—Dessa, 1. Prince of Wales, 2.
Members' Plate.—Vingt-un, 1. Vandenhoff, 2

WEDNESDAY

Weston Stakes.—Ceres, 1 Spiral Gate, 2.
City Cup.—Bangham, 1. Triton, 2
Dynham-Park Handicap.—Le [illegible], 1. Vingt Un, 2
Aristocratic Handicap. Royalist, 1. Waterfall, 2.
Sweepstakes of 5 sovs.—Bordeaux, 1. Wave que Peut, 2
Short's Handicap. Novice, 1. Fearless, 2.

TATTERSALL'S.—FRIDAY EVENING.

DERBY.—5 to 2 agst De Clare (1), 5 to 1 agst Lord of the Isles (1), 5 to 1 agst Rotherham (1), 7 to 1 agst Wild Dayrell, Oulston and Rifleman, 10 to 1 agst Kingstown (1), 11 to 1 agst Hermit (1), 14 to 1 agst Dirk Hatteraick (offered), 30 to 1 agst Ryston (1). Protis was taken 5 to 1 agst, and 3 to 1 agst 2

OAKS.—8 to 1 agst Capucine (1), 10 to 1 agst Morgan (1). Nettle was taken 5 to 1 agst, and 3 to 1 agst Derby and Oaks.

All Mr Saunders's horses are scratched for the Derby and Oaks.

THE Victoria Rifles will muster for target practice every Wednesday afternoon during the summer, at their shooting-ground at Kilburn.

THE PREVENTION OF SMOKE IN STEAM-VESSELS.—A highly-satisfactory experiment was tried at Portsmouth on Saturday, by Captain Hall, Mr. Joseph Deaman and the scientific officers of her Majesty's yacht and dockyard, on board the Royal steam-tender *Lifeguard*, with Mr. Prideaux's furnace valves, for the prevention of smoke, which we engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for April 7. The experiments took place in the midst of the [illegible] head, and excited considerable attention. [illegible] the [illegible] the Alma, Balaclava, and Inkerman; it was sent up [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] pressure after one furnace fire out of four was extinguished, showing that the undoubted advantages conferred by these valves in preventing smoke and reducing the temperature of the engine-room are combined without any diminution of the steam-generating power of the furnaces. Upon Mr Prideaux's valve-doors being removed, and the ordinary doors substituted, the thermometer, which had previously stood at 61 degrees, rose to 98; experiments of this kind certainly be regarded as one of the most valuable features of this invention—viz., that during its use the exterior of the fire furnace-door always remains perfectly cool, no matter to what extent the firing in the furnace may be pushed

FETE OF JOAN OF ARC AT ORLE

THE FETES OF JOAN OF ARC, AT ORLEANS.

On Sunday, the 6th of May, great rejoicings took place in the ancient city of Orleans on the occasion of the erection of a statue to Joan of Arc The many historical buildings for which Orleans is noted were decorated in the style of the fifteenth century Architecture, sculpture, eloquence, music—were all put in requisition to do honour to that illustrious amazon of the middle ages, known in England as the Maid of Orleans, but more familiarly spoken of in France as the Pucelle, or "Maid" The fêtes lasted four days; and commenced on the morning of Sunday with a grand musical festival held in the Town-hall, which was brilliantly illuminated for the occasion. In the evening another concert took place on a still larger scale, which attracted upwards of two thousand persons. One of the principal pieces was a beautiful symphony, with a chorus in three parts, which described in a touching manner the career of the beloved Jeanne from the time when she strayed in the peaceful fields of Domrémy down to the time of her victory and cruel death. The violin of Sivori (worthy successor of Paganini) commenced the concert by a composition in honour of the Pucelle; and M. Jules Lefort, one of the chief ornaments of the French Opera, concluded it by a magnificent *cantate* which won for him the applause of the assembled multitude. On the morrow the festivities recommenced with increased splendour. From early twilight the bells of the Tourelles pealed the same music which they pealed in the year 1429, after the capture of the town by Joan of Arc. About noon a mass was celebrated in the cathedral, and in the evening the Historical Cavalcade (of which we have given an illustration) made the round of the city. The gorgeous procession followed the same route as that which had been taken by the victorious troops of the heroine four hundred and twenty-five years ago. The streets were thronged with jubilant crowds, thousands of allegorical illuminations blazed from the houses, while the air was filled with many-coloured fire-balloons and Bengal lights. The cavaliers, who formed the bulk of the procession, were dressed in the costumes of the fifteenth century, and were preceded by torch bearers, bowmen, heralds, pages, and men in armour The principal banners were borne by the descendants of those valiant knights who fought side by side with Joan of Arc, and whose names on that account are so dear to France Dunois was represented by M le Vicomte de Morogues Jean de Brosses, Maréchal de St Sevère, by one of his descendants, a M. de Maussac, Jean d'Aulon the Squerry of the Pucelle, by M de Vathaire, La Hire, by M le Vicomte de Lamurs, Maréchal Lafayette, by M de Fressinet, Olivier de la Saussaye, by his direct descendant, M de la Saussaye, Lieutenant-

INAUGURATION OF THE STATUE OF JOAN OF ARC AT ORLEANS.

THE HISTORICAL PROCESSION.

General Hervé Laurens, by a descendant, &c. After making the prescribed round, the cavalcade returned about midnight to the place whence it had started.

On Tuesday the fêtes were opened by a grand service at the Cathedral, which was decorated in the most gorgeous style. Near the principal entrance hung the shield of Joan of Arc; together with a sword, supporting the Crown of France, underneath which was traced the motto—*Consilio Armisque Dei*. The aisles were filled with oriflammes and the banners of those towns which had sent succour to Orleans. In front of the pulpit stood the banner of the Pucelle—a rich white flag ornamented with golden lilies and a representation of the Saviour seated on a throne, with two angels kneeling; and the inscription "Jesus Maria."

The mass was performed by the curé of Dominus, assisted by a great number of ecclesiastical celebrities, forming a cortège of unusual pomp. "At the end of the service," says a local journal, "M. Dupanloup mounted the pulpit from which so many orators have sounded the glory of the deliverer of France, and preached a sermon so beautiful, so touching in its simplicity, and at the same time so manly and so much to the purpose, that many persons, were seen to turn their heads away to hide tears they were unable to restrain and which they were foolish enough to be ashamed of."

After the sermon, the grand procession to the Fort des Tourelles took place. It was escorted by bands of young girls dressed in blue, and wearing garlands of violets interwoven with gold. Next came the clergy, the civil functionaries of all ranks, in grand costume; then the guests, who had been invited from distant parts to assist at the ceremony; then the descendants of the family of which Joan of Arc was the daughter, the "observed of all observers;" then the torchbearers, the religious communities, charity children, and, lastly, the venerable prelate who had delivered the morning oration. This splendid cortège took three hours in passing through the avenue of breathless spectators. When it arrived at the new monument in the Place du Martroi a solemn stillness prevailed. All at once the awning surrounding the monument was seen to fall slowly, discovering the flowing locks of the amazon, which glistened in the sunshine; till at length the whole statue was disclosed to view, and then the clamour of bells began, and the booming of cannon, drowned in the roar of thousands of voices.

In the evening another grand general illumination took place, which lit up the country round about, and filled the streets with artificial daylight. A grand official banquet was also held at the prefecture, at which all the notabilities of the district were present.

The fêtes were concluded on Wednesday evening, by public games and a ball, which rivalled in splendour even those of the Hôtel de Ville, at Paris.

FETE OF JOAN OF ARC.—ORLEANS ILLUMINATED.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, May 20.—Sunday after Ascension-day.
MONDAY, 21.—First Railway Act passed, 1801.
TUESDAY, 22.—Alexander Pope born, 1688.
WEDNESDAY, 23.—Trinity Term begins.
THURSDAY, 24.—Queen Victoria born, 1819.
FRIDAY, 25.—Princess Helena born, 1846.
SATURDAY, 26.—Oxford Term ends.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 26.

Sunday		Monday.		Tuesday		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
4 32	4 51	5 10	5 32	5 52	6 17	6 41	7 7	7 37	8 13	8 48	9 24	10 57	11 25

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. The Lectures and Exhibition, as delivered before her Most Gracious Majesty and her Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Patron of the Institution, will be continued, commencing with the Telephonic Concert, Dissolving Views of Sinbad the Sailor, Dissolving Views of the Illustrated Classics, the Diorama illustrating the Voyage Across the Atlantic and the Cities in the United States, Lectures on Songs and Song Writers, by George Buckland, Esq. Dissolving Views of the Week, &c., &c.

MONDAY EVENING, 21st.—LECTURE to the INDUSTRIAL CLASSES: HISTORY of a COAL ISLAND, by TREVITHAN SPICER, LL.D.

LUMINOUS and CHROMATIC FOUNTAIN, at the ROYAL PANOPTICON, Leicester-square, at 4 55 and 9.55. The Institution is open—Morning, 12 to 5; Evening, 7 to 10. Schools and Children half-price.

TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED and THIRTY-FIRST REPRESENTATION of LOVE'S ENTERTAINMENT in LONDON.—ONE HUNDRED and TWENTY-FIFTH CONSECUTIVE NIGHT of the PERSECUTED PRIEST, on MONDAY, MAY 21, at the REGENT GALLERY, 69, Quadrant, where Mr. LOVE now appears every Evening at Eight, except Saturday. Saturday at Three.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. The DIORAMA Dissolving Views of the WAR is now Exhibiting Daily at Three and Eight. The Lectures by Mr. Stoneacler. Admission 1s., 2s., and 3s.

THE CHALON EXHIBITION.—SOCIETY OF ARTS.—This Collection of the Paintings, Drawings, and Sketches of the late JOHN CHALON, Esq., R.A.; with a Selection from the Works of ALFRED E. CHALON, Esq., R.A., will be OPENED at the Society's House, Adelphi, on THURSDAY, JUNE 7th. Admission, 1s.

WHITSUN HOLIDAYS.—THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK, will be OPEN to visitors EVERY DAY during Whitsun Week, except SATURDAY, on payment of SIXPENCE each person. The Military Band will commence their performances on Saturday, May 26.

MAINE LAW.—A PUBLIC PRELIMINARY MEETING will be held, by the United Kingdom Alliance, on MONDAY EVENING next, MAY 21, in ST. MARTIN'S HALL, Long-acre. Chair taken at Seven o'clock. Admission free.

JOHN B. GOUGH will deliver TWO ORATIONS in EXETER-HALL, as follows: WHIT-MONDAY, May 28, and THURSDAY, May 31. Doors open each evening at Seven, Chair taken at Eight o'clock. Tickets to the Royal Gallery, 3s. 6d. each; Front Seats and Platform, 1s. each; Back Seats, 6d. each; to be had at 337, Strand, or at the door of the Hall.

UNITED KINGDOM ALLIANCE (Formed June 1st, 1853), for the Total and Immediate Legislative Suppression of the Traffic in all Intoxicating Beverages. A PUBLIC MEETING of the Members and Friends of the Alliance will be held, in EXETER-HALL, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, May 30, 1855, at Six o'clock. The Meeting will be addressed by the Right Hon. the Earl of Harrington, K.C.B., Ackerman Ricard W. Carden, J.P.; Laurence Heyworth, Esq., M.P.; Samuel Bowley, Esq., Gloucester; Richard Hibbitch, Esq., Barrister-at-Law; Samuel Pope, Esq., Honorary Secretary; and several noblemen and distinguished supporters of the movement. Sir Walter C. Trevelyan, Bart., the President of the Alliance, will preside.

Tickets of admission (free) may be obtained at the offices of the Alliance, 41, John Dalton-street, Manchester; at W. Tweedie's, 337, Strand; or at 69, Bishopsgate-street Within.

REPEAL OF THE COMPULSORY NEWSPAPER STAMP.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS
WILL BE
DOUBLED IN SIZE,
AND CONTAIN NINETY-SIX COLUMNS EVERY WEEK
PRICE ONLY SIXPENCE:
AS SOON AS THE NEW LAW COMES INTO OPERATION.
STAMPED COPIES, SEVENPENCE.

Orders received by all Newsmen, and at the Office, 198, Strand, London.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 19, 1855.

THE Government having carried its bill for the settlement of the Newspaper-stamp question on which its predecessors allowed themselves to get into difficulties by the non-enforcement of an existing law—the proprietors and conductors of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS have the honour to announce to the numerous and continually-increasing body of their readers, the measures which they have determined to adopt in consequence of the change. They may take occasion to state that, so far from having any complaint to urge against the Legislature for its interference with the interests of established newspapers, they supported the measure of Sir Cornewall Lewis; and in fact suggested it to the Government as the only compromise which it would be possible to carry through Parliament. For the future the stamp on newspapers will be optional. Those who desire a cheap press, may have it cheapened to the extent of the virtually abolished stamp duty; but without the privilege of transmission and re-transmission by post. Those to whom the postal privilege is essential, will find that the alteration of the law has produced no considerable change, and that almost the only result of the measure is the much-needed disappearance of a great scandal—a law which it was impossible or inexpedient to enforce, and which was daily and weekly set at defiance, in every part of the country.

The proprietors of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, after mature consideration of the subject in all its bearings, have resolved to give their readers a far greater advantage from the new measure than could be afforded by the reduction of the price of their Journal from sixpence to fivepence, which is the utmost reduction they would have been warranted in making by adherence to the letter of the law. Even this small reduction, if made, could only apply to the case of those who did not wish to transmit their papers through the post, and would leave a large proportion of their subscribers in the British isles, and the whole of their subscribers on the continent of Europe, at the Cape, in India, in China, in Australia, in North and South America, and in every place where the English language is understood, or where British trade, curiosity, or love of adventure is able to penetrate, in exactly the same position as before. Instead of minimising in this manner the change to be effected, the proprietors of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS a Journal which may proudly claim to be an "English institution," and which is seen and read, and we hope admired, in every part of the civilised world—have resolved, immediately after the passing of Sir Cornewall Lewis's bill, to increase its size, and to issue weekly, at the cost of sixpence (unstamped) a DOUBLE SHEET, containing thirty-two pages, or ninety-six columns of letter-press and Engravings. In other words, the Double Sheet, instead of being occasional, and charged a shilling, will be published weekly at the price of *sixpence*. The price of the stamped edition for the post will be raised to *sevenpence*. This change will entail upon us a very large additional outlay. The mere extra paper which we shall consume will amount to several hundreds of pounds per week, as any one may calculate. To say that we do not expect our reward for such a large increase of our expenditure would be affectation. We do expect it—in the shape of a largely-increased sale. Our average circulation, with our present single sheet and half supplement, is upwards of 170,000 per week. When our size is doubled, and we have more space at command to make the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS a still more copious and accurate record than it now is—not only of Politics and News, but of the progress of Literature, Music, the Drama, and the Fine Arts—we believe that a sale of a QUARTER OF A MILLION of copies per week will by no means be the ultimate limit to which our popularity and our usefulness will attain. As soon as the new law shall come into operation, we shall commence the new and enlarged series, and hope to prove—no less by the beauty and the quantity of our engravings, than by the general completeness and efficiency of our Journal in every department—that, quality considered, it is in every respect the cheapest newspaper in the world. It is possible that the mechanical arrangements for printing so large an impression may not be so perfectly completed as to enable us to publish a double sheet every week during the first month; but if there should be any hiatus and we should be compelled, in default of these arrangements, to issue only a single sheet and half-supplement, as we do this week, we must beg the temporary indulgence of our readers and subscribers. They may be assured, in such case, that the difficulty will be speedily surmounted; and that, when our mechanical arrangements are finally made, they shall receive the double sheet with the utmost regularity. We do not pledge ourselves never, under any circumstances whatever, to issue a *treble* number, price one shilling. But, with the increased space which will be every week at our disposal by our new arrangements, such circumstances, if they occur at all, will, of necessity, be rare. If we are driven at any time to such an expedient to keep pace with the all-engrossing topics either of peace or war, our readers may be assured that it will be only in case of the absolute impossibility of otherwise recording and illustrating, in a befitting manner, the great events of our time.

THE factitious excitement which was caused by the announcement of the motion brought on by Lord Ellenborough on Monday night, the perilous debate which it initiated, and the majority by which the noble Earl's resolutions were negatived, could occasion little surprise to a calm observer of political events. The insincerity of the whole proceeding has been too apparent to allow the demonstration to take a place even in the history of faction.

The scene in the Gilded Chamber of Peers was a brilliant one, and, to the unthinking part of the audience, we doubt not that Monday afforded as pleasant an evening as could have been obtained in town. The ladies crowded the House to such an extent as to infringe upon positions to which they had no claim, and to draw from Lord Redesdale the excessively impolite remark that they "made the place look like a casino"—an observation which has an increased point for those who know his Lordship's own waiter-like costume. Strangers filled every corner into which they could be crammed, and the highest Legislative Assembly in the world presented much the appearance of an aristocratic theatre on the first night of a new piece. "What came they out to hear?" An earnest, serious, and candid discussion of a topic closely connected with all the dearest interests of the nation? Not they. If this kind of thing had been certain, a handful of Peers would have debated before empty benches and abbreviating reporters. That showy audience gathered, because Lord Ellenborough was going to make a dashing attack upon Government, which, it was thought, would bring up Lord Aberdeen, and because it would be interesting to see the podagraic War Minister baited, and because Lord "Darby" was sure to come out with something smart.

Nor was the distinguished audience disappointed. Lord Aberdeen certainly declined to make sport for the Philistines, but all the rest of the anticipated programme was faithfully given. Lord Ellenborough did make a "dashing" kind of attack, chiefly aimed at Lord Palmerston, who has incurred the Earl's displeasure by his blindness to Lord Ellenborough's fitness to be Secretary at War. With exceedingly bad taste he retailed an alleged story of the Duke of Wellington, who, when Lord Palmerston (to his credit) intimated that he should retire from the then Government if Mr. Huskisson did, made no reply, and justified his silence by telling Lord Ellenborough that he "should not fire great guns at small birds." Lord Lansdowne, later in the evening, said that he also had an anecdote about Lord Ellenborough and the Duke, but he could not tell it. It has, however, oozed out that the Duke greatly approved a squib in which certain political men were described as "horses for sale," and Lord Ellenborough's character was, "all action, and no go." And the Duke said, "Very good, very good—that's just it." Here, at all events, are two solemn facts elicited by a legislative discussion. And then Lord Panmure was duly roused to as severe a reply as that most good-natured personage could find it in his heart to make, and he scoffed at Lord Ellenborough's Oriental "grandiloquence" and his commonplace "truisms." Lord Hardwicke, a retired Rear-Admiral, went into some details which were felt to be too real for the occasion—they stood out, literal and hard, like cut figures against painted theatrical scenery, and Lord Derby restored the debate to its natural tone by a fluent and lively criticism delivered in the manner which, in the old-fashioned times, was called "rallying" upon the conduct of the war; but his allusions to Mr. Layard, whom he admitted to be the representative of a popular want, but with whom his Lordship was in no way connected, were more amusing, especially his announcement that in a supposed firm of "Ellenborough, Derby, and Layard," he (the Earl) was really not a partner. Nor was the Government leader of the Lords, the Earl Granville, less good-humoured. Indeed, to preserve the theatrical illustrations, he "came down to the lights," and played to the stalls. He told us that he was a Gower, and mentioned his aristocratic connexions; patted Lord Carlisle, and, finally, took us into his very drawing-room, by reminding us that three ladies of his household had married into a Protectionist Administration. Now, really, to find living and actual Lords so amusing and affable as this; to get smart little stories from them, mock diatribes, and allusions to the ladies of their families, was quite delightful. And, as for the war, and our 20,000 lost men, who thought of that? or, if anybody did, was it not reassuring to be informed that the Emperor of Russia had already lost 277,000 men? The idea of complaining in the face of a fact like that!

Then the division was equally significant. Does anybody suppose that, though Lord Palmerston alleges that he has "got the Lords," the Earl of Derby could not have made a far more formidable show of men had he chosen? Had the Earl ordered a "whip," would there have been anything like the numerous majority against the other Earl—his noble friend? Would the party managers have been so careless as not to call the proxies they actually had, by which a difference of some sixty would have been made on the division. The Conservative party had no more idea of really supporting the principle which, however awkwardly enshrined, was to be found in Lord Ellenborough's resolution, than—the House of Commons will be found to have when the test is really applied.

It would be waste of time and space to apply ourselves in earnest to such part of Monday's debate as purported to be serious. Lord Ellenborough stated as a proposition, that promotion ought to be given only to those who are fitted for it, and the House of Lords certified that this was very true, just as in Smollett's novel, the doctor soothes the indignant lady with a certificate "that anybody who wilfully kills a child by immersing it in cold water, is guilty of the death of that child." But the Earl himself was compelled, at the close of his address, to make even this proposition palatable, by reminding their Lordships that a large portion of themselves held their exalted position through the merits of an ancestor who had been the fitting man for some place of chosen trust and responsibility. He might have said that nearly all he addressed were in that category, for, with the exception of a few descendants of those whose peerages took their rise in certain interesting favouritisms, every Lord in the House had an ancestor, whose strong hand, sharp sword, skilful management, or legal learning, gained *his* coronet. But how, in any system of logic in vulgar use, does this fact connect the sons or descendants of the "right men" with the proposition of the noble Earl. In fact the whole thing was hollow the criticisms on the war had more or less truth in them; but they were not advanced in earnest any more than the arguments for administrative reform. It was not a war or a reform debate, but a "prepared impromptu" performance, suggested by the present discontent of the popular mind with things as they are.

But how long are such farces to continue? Between the House of Peers on the one hand, and Mr. Milner Gibson and his friends of the Lower House on the other, the character of the British nation stands a chance of being damaged, not only in the estimation of Europe, but in that of the British people. Let the triflers and the cravens beware. The people are in no mood to be jested with by the one or insulted by the other. If the Legislature has not as much earnestness, as much knowledge, and as much virtue as the people, the day of reckoning, which is certain to come, may sweep away many things, merely to mention which, at the present moment, might appear indiscreet and invidious, if not perilous. Just Reforms that are thwarted have an ugly propensity to expand into Revolutions. Is the Government of Great Britain never to reform an abuse until a revolution is imminent?

THE COURT.

The Levee on the 11th inst. was more fully attended than any similar reception since her Majesty's accession to the throne, with the exception of the first, held by the Queen. On the evening of the same day the Queen and the Prince honoured with their presence the amateur performance at Drury lane Theatre for the benefit of the Wellington College.

On Saturday morning her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert visited the Crystal Palace, at Sydenham, accompanied by his Royal Highness the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and her Serene Highness the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg. In the evening the Queen and the Prince, with their illustrious visitors, honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, the Princess Alice, the Duchess of Kent, the Princess of Hohenlohe Langenburg, and Prince Ernest of Leiningen attended Divine service in the private chapel at Buckingham Palace. The Princesses Adelaide and Feodore of Hohenlohe attended Divine service in the Royal German Chapel, St. James's Palace.

On Monday the Prince Consort presided at the Council for the Management of the Duchy of Cornwall, and in the afternoon left Buckingham Palace for Windsor Castle, returning to town about six o'clock. Her Majesty had a dinner party in the evening. In the course of the day one hundred and eight Guards, wounded and disabled in the Crimea, and recently arrived in this country, were inspected by her Majesty in the Grand Hall of Buckingham Palace. The invalids numbered 49 of the Grenadiers, 29 of the Coldstreams, and 30 of the Scots Fusiliers. The Queen was accompanied by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and also by their Royal Highnesses Prince Arthur, the Duchess of Kent, and the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, and was attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting. Her Majesty inspected each soldier present, commencing with the Grenadiers, and afterwards the Coldstreams and Scots Fusiliers; the respective commanding officers and officers bringing the actions in which the invalids were wounded, and the state of the men. After the inspection the invalids were conducted to dinner in the Servants' Hall, which her Majesty and his Royal Highness the Prince visited while the repast was being served.

On Tuesday Count Walewski, the French Ambassador, had an audience of the Queen, at Buckingham Palace, to take leave. Prince Albert rode on horseback, in the forenoon, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, and attended by his Equerry in Waiting. His Royal Highness again rode in the afternoon, with the Duke of Saxe Coburg.

On Wednesday her Majesty and her Royal Highness Prince Albert visited the Exhibition of the Horticultural Society, at Gore House, Kensington Gore. The Queen and the Prince were accompanied by the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, and the Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe.

On Thursday the Queen and the Prince honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence.

On Friday morning the Queen presented medals to the officers and soldiers of the three regiments of Guards, on the parade-ground, in St. James's park. In the evening her Majesty gave a state concert.

Her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, accompanied by her son, Prince Adolph, arrived at Kew, on Tuesday, from Germany, on a visit to her mother the Duchess of Cambridge. Her Royal Highness was attended by her Lady and Gentleman in Waiting, and by Baron Knesebeck.

The departure of the late Ambassador of France is a subject of universal regret in the higher circles. The formal act of retirement was completed on Tuesday by the presentation of his Excellency to her Majesty, for the purpose of delivering his letters of recall. On the completion of the ceremony, her Majesty was pleased to pay the Countess Walewska the gracious compliment of a private interview, for the purpose of bidding her farewell.

His Serene Highness Prince Ernest of Leiningen arrived in London on Saturday night, and is staying at Buckingham Palace, on a visit to her Majesty.

The Countess of Clarendon will be "at home" at the Foreign-office on Tuesday next.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY. Haydn's popular work, "The Creation," will be repeated for the last time this season, on Friday next, 25th May. Clara Novello, Sims Reeves, and Formes, are the principal singers.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

RESIGNATION OF GENERAL CANROBERT.

General Canrobert, in consequence of ill health has committed his command of the army to General Pelissier, but, not willing to leave the seat of war, has placed himself at the head of General Pelissier's division.

The *Moniteur* of yesterday announces that the Emperor has received the following despatch from General Canrobert

Crimea, May 16, Ten a.m.

My shattered health no longer allowing me to continue in the chief command, my duty towards my Sovereign and my country compels me to address you to transfer the command to General Pelissier, a skilful and experienced leader. The army which I leave him is intact, hardened to war, full of ardor and confidence. I beseech the Emperor to leave me a soldier's place (*place de combattant*) as commandant of a simple division

The Minister of War has addressed the following reply to General Canrobert:—

Paris, May 16, Eleven p.m.

The Emperor accepts your resignation. He regrets that your health has suffered; he congratulates you upon the sentiment which makes you ask to remain in the army, where you shall have the command, not of a division, but of the corps of General Pelissier. Hand over the chief command to Du Barail.

DESPATCH FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, May 18

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, May 5.

My Lord,—Since I wrote to your Lordship on the 1st instant, nothing of importance has occurred; the enemy still [illegible] collecting troops upon the high ground on the opposite side of the Tchernaya, in the neighbourhood of Simferopol, and convoys are constantly seen moving in that direction.

The fire from the place upon our trenches has not been heavy; but, which thing, I have some instructions to report to you, as shown in the accompanying return; and I have to lament the death of three promising young officers—Lieutenants Carter, of the Royal Engineers, Curtis, of the 44th, and White, of the 63rd Regiments.

On the night of the 1st inst. the French attacked a kind of counter-guard, which [illegible] had established in front of the central battery.

[illegible] quite unexpected, and it was speedily driven out with [illegible] and there now stand mortars. Our allies have run their work, [illegible] the heavy fire to which they have been exposed, and have established thereon two threes frustrating the efforts made by their adversaries to dispossess them of it on the following day, when a vigorous sortie was repulsed, and the Russians were again great sufferers.

The conduct of the French troops was very brilliant.

The Lord Panmure, &c. I have, &c., RAGLAN.

OFFICERS KILLED FROM THE 30TH APRIL TO THE 3RD MAY, INCLUSIVE

Lieutenants—4th Foot, P. J. Curtis; 63rd, G. J. White; Royal Engineers, J. H. S. Carter.

OFFICERS KILLED FROM THE 30TH APRIL TO THE 3RD MAY, INCLUSIVE.

Captain—1st Foot, Anne Poler; 7th Mounted Murphy; 18th Francis Cheveton and John Edward; 63rd, Patrick Lynch; 97th, Edward Corbett

Lieutenant—77th, Owen Fagan

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES WOUNDED FROM THE 30TH APRIL TO THE 3RD MAY, INCLUSIVE

Sergeants—4th Foot, George Cordell, severely; 77th, William Sheerit, severely; 93rd, James Carmichael, severely; 44th, Edward William Brodie, dangerously; Sappers and Miners, [illegible]

Privates—[illegible] Williams, severely; [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Mulcahy [illegible]

[illegible] Quillinan, severely; [illegible] Edward Tailor [illegible] Hall, severely; [illegible] Fitzgibbon, severely; 30th, William Atkinson, Thomas Ross, severely; 31st, David Bunch, dangerously; Thomas Fahey, severely; Cecil Bryan, Joseph Bolton, slightly.

CASUALTIES IN THE ROYAL NAVAL BRIGADE SUBSEQUENT TO THE 3RD.

Wounded—Pierce Battle, A.B., [illegible] slight.

Hamburg, May 1.

The English fleet has penetrated into the Gulf of Bothnia.

OPENING OF THE FRENCH EXHIBITION.

As early as nine o'clock on Tuesday morning the approaches of the Crystal Palace in the Champs Elysées were thronged by crowds waiting the opening of the doors.

The Emperor and Empress arrived at a quarter past one, and were received at the chief entrance of the building by Prince Napoleon, President of the Imperial Commission of the Exhibition, who afterwards read an address setting forth the origin, progress, and character of the undertaking. The Emperor replied:—

My dear Cousin, In placing you at the head of a Commission that had so many difficulties to overcome, I wished to give you a particular proof of my confidence. I am happy to find that you have so fully justified it. I thank you to thank the Commission in my name for the enlightened and indefatigable zeal it has displayed.

I open with happiness this Temple of Peace, which invites all nations to concord.

Their Majesties afterwards, followed by Prince Napoleon and the Princess Mathilde, placed themselves at the end of the procession and walked through the building. The applause was considerable. The Empress wore a low green bonnet. The ceremony lasted only an hour. Their Majesties left the Palace, and playing "Partant pour la Syrie." There was an immense crowd in the Champs Elysées. The Imperial cortège was magnificent. The Emperor's carriage which contained, besides [illegible] and the Empress, Prince Jerome and the Princess Mathilde—was quite new and was drawn by eight horses. As soon as the Imperial party had left the building, the public were allowed to visit it in all its parts.

POST-OFFICE AND THE UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION IN PARIS.—GENERAL POST-OFFICE, MAY, 1855. The Postmaster-General has received the following notice from the Director-General of the French Post-office:—(Translation): "The public is informed that a post-office will be established in the building of the Universal Exhibition in Paris for the transmission of letters addressed to the Natives of France, and foreigners residing in the neighbourhood of the building, or obliged to spend the greater part of their time there, and persons who, at the time of their leaving home, do not know where they shall fix their abode in Paris, may have their letters addressed to them at the Post-office at the Exhibition. These letters will be kept at the office, and will be delivered to the persons to whom they are addressed, on the presentation of their [illegible] or any other document in which may be sufficient to establish the [illegible] letters should be directed as follows:—A Monsieur —, Bureau de Poste du Palais de l'Exposition Universelle, à Paris." Letters addressed to exhibitors will be delivered in the same way; or, if the particular part of the building in which the exhibitor may be found is stated in the address of the letter, it will be carried to that place by the letter-carrier. Further, the public will find at the post-office of the Exhibition all the facilities afforded in other French post-offices, for the purchase of postage-stamps, the payment of postage, the transmission of money, &c."—RODWARD HILL, Secretary.

NAVAL PRIZE MONEY, &c.—It appears from a Parliamentary paper, published on Saturday last, that the total receipt of naval prize money, bounty, salvage, and other moneys between June 1, 1854, and March 31, 1855, amounted to £71,890, and the total expenditure to £45,715. The amount of balance of £26,175. Of the receipts the sum of £22,557 arose from prize money of the sums of Russian vessels and cargoes captured by her Majesty's ships, and £[illegible] from the amount of prize money, &c., remained [illegible] after the operation of three months. Sums to the amount of £31,580, consisting of freight money, *pendente lite*, of the cargoes on board vessels seized, and of the proceeds of the sales of vessels and cargoes captured by Custom-house officers, and condemned as droits and perquisites to Her Majesty, have been paid into the Bank of England on account of naval prizes by order of the High Court of Admiralty.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Continued with many previous weeks, the Consol Market—though the amount of money business transacted in it has not been to say extensive—has assumed a very firm appearance. The resignation of Count Nesselrode—assumed to belong to the Peace party in Russia—has had little or no effect upon prices, which have steadily advanced, until the Three per Cents have realised 89¼. This shows an improvement, compared with the highest figure on Friday last, of ⅜ per cent. The public have evidently been the largest buyers of stock, and we understand that the supply in the Stock-Exchange has become very small. However, on Tuesday next, a payment of 15 per cent on the new Loan of £16,000,000, sterling, (e.g. £2,400,000, falls due, and a creation of stock to that amount will take place; besides, we shall have an issue of the New Thirty Years' Annuities. Thus, any additional demand upon the jobbers will be more easily met than at present. No doubt, the great abundance of money, the steady increase in the stock of gold in the Bank of England, and the large supply of bullion, have tended to keep up the price of Consols, and to impart considerable confidence as regards the future.

The Foreign Exchanges continue very favourable, consequently scarcely any shipments of bullion have been made to the continent, and nearly the whole of the imports of gold (rather over £500,000, chiefly from Australia and New York) have gone into the Bank of England. In Lombard-street there is a large amount of unemployed capital, and first-class commercial bills are done at ¾ per cent.

There was a fair business doing in Consols on Monday, and the Three per Cents marked 89¼. The Three per Cents Reduced were 88¾; the New Three per Cents, 89¼; and Long Annuities, 15 5-16. Bank Stock was 214½. In Exchequer Bills, 1855, we quote 1 pm. 1854, were 1 pm. Ditto, 1853, 2 pm. Exchequer Bills, 5s to 8s. prem. Exchequer Bonds, 96¾. On Tuesday the transactions in Old National Securities were small. Bank Stock declined from 209½ to 208. The Three per Cents Reduced were 87½ to 88¾; the Three per Cents Consols, 88¾ to 89¼; and the New Three per Cents, 89¼ ⅛. Long Annuities, 1855, 16⅛. India Bonds, 20s. to 18s. prem. Consols for Account were 89¼, and Omnium, ⅜ pm. Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 8s. prem.; Ditto Bonds, £100. The dealings in the Stock Market were tolerably numerous. Bank Stock was 208. The Three per Cents Reduced realised 88¾; the Three per Cents Consols, 88¾; the New Three per Cents, 89⅛ ⅜. Consols for Account, 89¼; Long Annuities, 1860, 8 15-16; ditto, 1885, 16⅛. India Bonds, 20s. to 17s. Exchequer Bills, 5s. to 8s. prem.; Ditto Bonds, 99¼ to 100. Omnium was ⅜ prem. On Thursday, the English Stock-market was rather animated, and the prices took place in the quotations. The Three per Cents, both for money and time, marked 89⅛ to 89⅜. The new Three per Cents were done at 89⅜ to ⅞; and the Three per Cents Reduced, 88¾ ⅞. India stock realised 20s. to 18s. Consols for Omnium took fixed ¾ to 1 prem. The New Annuity was 16⅛; Exchequer Bills, 5s to 8s prem.

It has been asserted that a new loan of £3,000,000 will shortly appear in the market for Turkey, and that money, together with the last loan of £10,000,000, will be guaranteed by England and France. Turkish Bonds have been active, and the price has advanced to 73. Other foreign bonds have been tolerably active. Mexican Three per Cents have realised 21; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 69; Sardinian Five per Cents, 86½; Spanish Three per Cents, 37; Spanish Deferred, 15¾; Dutch Two-and-Half per Cents, 64½; Dutch Four per Cents, 92¼; Russian Five per Cents, 98; Brazilian Five per Cents, 89½. Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 95; Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, 85½.

Joint stock Bank Shares have continued very firm, and the quotations have been well supported. [illegible] Ameriea have realised 64½; London Joint stock, 27½; Union of London, 31; Union of London, 26. Mail Mediterranean Steamship Shares have [illegible]—Canada Bonds have realised 112; Crystal Palace, 3½; Ditto Preference, 4½; London Docks, 99½; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 1¾; North British Australian, 1½; Royal Mail Steam, 71; South American Land, 3¾; Van Diemen's Land, 2¼; Electric Telegraph, 17; Mexican and South American, 6¾. There has been very little doing in Canal Shares, yet the quotations are freely maintained—Birmingham ones have sold at 92; Coventry, 290; Derby, 84; Grand Junction, 49¾; Leicester, 69¾; Loughborough, 57½; Neath, 150; Peak Forest, 86; Regent's, 14¼; Shropshire, 26; Stourbridge, 31; and Worcester, 425. Warwick and Birmingham, 6¾. Railway Shares have marked the following prices:—Berlin, 4; East London, 108; Great Junction, 6¾; Kent, 78¾; Southwark and Vauxhall, 88¾; West Middlesex, 21; Ditto, New, 16¾. Dockyard and Coke Companies Securities have realised:—British Provident, 20; Brighton, 15; City of London, 1; Equitable, 33; Imperial, 111, Ditto New, 20; Phœnix, 2¾. United General, 20. Insurance Companies Shares have realised:—Alliance, 78; City of London, 1; General, 6¾; Globe, 10; Imperial Fire, 204; Law Life, 18¾; Pelican, 45 ex. div. and Bonus; Rock Life, 7¾; Royal Exchange, 1¾; United Kingdom, 4¾. Hungerford Bridge Shares have sold at 7¾; Weekes, 4; Ditto, Old Annuities of £8, 31¾; Vauxhall, 21¾.

Railway Shares have been very firm, and the quotations have had an upward tendency. The following are the official closing prices:—[illegible] Exeter, 97; Caledonian, 62¾; Eastern Counties, 11¾; East Lancashire, 7¾; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 56¾; Great Northern, 92; Ditto, A Stock, 73¾; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 94¾; Great Western, 56¼; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 78¾; London and Blackwall, 7¾; London and Brighton, 99¾; London and North-Western, 100; Ditto, Eighths, 1¾; London and South-Western, 81¾; Manchester Sheffield and Lincolnshire, 36; Ditto, Mixed, 20½; Ditto, Birmingham and Derby, 41¼; North British, 29¾; North-Eastern—Berwick, 79¾; Ditto, Extension, 1¼; Ditto, G.N.E Purchase, 8¾; Ditto, York, 65¾; North Staffordshire, 12¾. Oxford, Worcester and Wolverhampton, 27¾; Shrewsbury and Birmingham, 45¾; South-Eastern, 50¼.

LINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Midland Bra Holm, 99¾; Newcastle and Hereford, 7¾; West Valley.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Caledonian, 99; Chester and Holyhead, No. 2, 8¾; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 59; Great Northern Five per Cent, 117; Ditto, Preferentiable at 10 per cent, 110¾; Ditto, 44 per Cents, 101¾; Great Western 4½ per Cents, 98; Lancashire, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 19¾; North British, 99; Nord, Eastern—Berwick 4 per Cent, 92; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 6 per Cent, 104; South-Eastern (Reading), 28.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, ¼ pm. Belgian Railways, [illegible] guaranteed Five per Cent, 24¾; Grand Trunk of Canada, 7¾. Great Western of Canada, 20¾; Hamilton and Toronto, 23; Namur and Liege, [illegible] Paris and Lyons, 41¼; Royal Dutch, 8¾; Western Pacific, 2 pm. 2¼.

MINING SHARES.—[illegible] On Tuesday Imperial Brazilian were [illegible] Ditto, Cocoas and Cuiaba, 2¾; General, 16; Santiago de Cuba, [illegible] Mexican, 6¾. St. John del Rey have marked 32; and Colorado Copper, [illegible]

Friday Evening.

The Consol-market has ruled steady to-day, and prices have had an upward tendency. The Three per Cents sold at 89¼; the Three per Cents Reduced, 88¾; and the New Three per Cents, 89¼. Exchequer Bills, [illegible] premium. All Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares are very firm.

THE MARKETS.

[illegible] last week's arrivals of English wheat [illegible] have been tolerably good, and the show of samples to-day's last set was very moderate. On the whole the demand ruled steady at Monday's prices. But the sale of the mass by no means free. There was a fair new crop of [illegible] of which some very fine samples sold at quite as much money as [illegible] A steady inquiry for barley and malt, at full currencies. The supply of malt was [illegible] but trade was inactive at late rates. Oats, peas, and flour sold steadily at [illegible] rates. The imports of foreign corn, for one week, were 17,000 quarters, chiefly from Sicily.

ARRIVALS.—English wheat, 3,730; barley, 2,940; malt, 7,830; oats, 440; flour, 1,860. Irish oats, 1,900. Foreign, wheat, 16,790; oats, 19,210; flour, 12,260 sacks, 2 barrels.

London.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 70s to 78s; ditto, white, 77s to 85s; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 70s to 77s; ditto, fine, 78s to 84s; grinding barley, 36s to 38s; malting, 39s to 40s; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 68s to 70s; brown ditto, 65s to 68s; Kingston and Ware, 68s to 70s; Chevalier, 72s to 72s. Yorkshire and Lincolnshire oats, [illegible] ditto, 27s. to 30s; Dunghal and Cork, black, 25s. to 27s; ditto, white, [illegible] 30s. to 32s; and of the highest quality, [illegible] 34s. to 36s; ditto, white, 30s. to 34s; beans, 36s. to 40s; grey peas, 37s. to 40s per quarter. Town-made flour, 65s. to 70s.; Suffolk, 52s. to 54s per sack. Foreign, Red clover seed, English, 50s to 60s.; white ditto, 60s. to 70s per cwt.

Liverpool.—The prices of wheat in the metropolis from 14th to 19th, of household flour, 5s. 6d. to 6s. per sack.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 73s. 4d.; barley, 34s. 10d.; oats, 28s. 11d.; rye, 38s. [illegible]

[illegible] last week.—Wheat, 36,727 bushels; [illegible] rye, [illegible]

Mark Lane.—[illegible] this market, and common sound corn is in fair request. The above [illegible] samples of good, and several vessels have come in with [illegible]

Bristol.—Our market is very firm, at prices fully equal to those obtained last week. Wheat, 70s. to 78s.; barley, 36s. to 38s.; Malt, 68s. to 70s.; Beans, 37s. to 40s.; Peas, 38s. to 40s. [illegible] prices of forage, including crushed sugars, command extreme rates. Hay [illegible] from 70s. to 90s. per cwt. The show is tolerably [illegible]

Cattle.—The demand for most kinds has ruled steadily, at very full prices. Good ordinary has changed hands [illegible]

Price.—[illegible] the cattle market, and about [illegible] Bengal have [illegible] had a dull inquiry [illegible] downwards to 6s. 6d. The latter [illegible] Most other kinds of provisions [illegible]

[illegible] Wednesday, May 16.—[illegible] Wheat, 36,727 bushels; [illegible] rye, [illegible]

[illegible] Wednesday

if their sagacious opinions of those days were now brought up in evidence against them. In process of time, the critics, unable to resist the general voice, were constrained to allow Rossini's claims as an artist. He gradually became a classic, while his successors, Bellini and Donizetti, were treated as he had been before. They, too, triumphed by the irresistible voice of popular opinion; and then the critics were glad to admit that the men whom they had treated so lightly—the authors of the "Somnambula" and "Norma," and "Lucia di Lammermoor," and "Lucrezia Borgia," were men of genius and true artists. In the case of *their* successor, Verdi, the opinion of critics is in a similar state of transition. They have resisted the general voice as long as they could; and, now that they can do so no longer, they are constrained to allow that there must be something in it. Verdi is now talked of, *ex cathedrâ*, with tolerable respect; and his claims to the character of an artist will at length be admitted, as those of his predecessors have been. Of course, the musical Parnassus has many degrees of elevation; and, though Verdi may not reach the height of some who have gone before him, yet he has done enough to entitle him to an honoured place among the worthies of the art.

The "Trovatore" may be regarded as the best work he has yet produced. As a drama it is not equal to some of his previous operas. The story is revoltingly horrible, confused, and full of gross improbabilities. It turns upon revenge in its most atrocious form. A Gipsy woman, put to death by a nobleman on a charge of witchcraft, has a daughter, to whom she bequeaths the task of avenging her death. The daughter steals the *Count's* younger child, and brings him up as her own, instilling into his mind a hatred of his own brother, whom he knows not to be such. The brothers become rivals in love, the reputed son of the Gipsy (who has risen to distinction) being preferred by the object of their passion. The quarrel becomes deadly; the younger brother falls into the hands of the elder, who orders his execution. The Gipsy witnesses the death of her supposed son; and, when the axe has fallen, turns exultingly to the *Count*, exclaiming, "My mother is avenged; you have murdered your own brother!" The lady who is beloved by the rival brothers, unable to save her lover's life, swallows poison.

This black drama, equalling in horror the wildest imaginations of a Parisian melodramatist, is, nevertheless, strongly interesting, and its striking situations and impassioned scenes afford much scope for musical expression and effect. Of these capabilities the composer has availed himself; and the opera, when well performed, never fails to make a deep impression on the audience.

It has, probably, never been better performed than by the company of the Royal Italian Opera. *Azucena*, the Gipsy woman, on whose terrible revenge the whole piece turns, is represented by Mdme. Viardot in a manner worthy of her original genius. Like *Fidès* in the "Prophète," it is a creation entirely her own: full of individuality and truthfulness. She is a true Gipsy, exhibiting the peculiar features and violent passions of her race. Nothing can be more artistic than her singing, though the extraordinary power of her acting throws it into the shade.

Musically speaking, the part of *Leonora* is more prominent. The music of this part is of the most brilliant and arduous kind, bringing into action the whole powers of Mdle. Jenny Ney's voice and execution. This lady is not only one of the most accomplished singers, but one of the greatest tragedians, now on the stage. Tamberlik gives the greatest possible effect to the character of the hero of the piece, *Manrico*, the younger brother; and the elder, the *Count di Luna*, is excellently performed by Tagliafico. The opera has been put upon the stage with even more than usual splendour. Some of Fenwick's scenes are magnificently decorated, and the costumes, decorations, and other accessories, are rich and tasteful.

The accompanying illustration represents a striking situation in the fourth scene of the second act. *Leonora*, believing her lover dead, has resolved to take the veil, and is proceeding towards the chapel with that intent, followed by her female attendants. The *Count di Luna*, at the head of a band of armed men, has issued from the adjoining wood, to carry her off by force, when *Manrico*, suddenly appearing, "like a vision," stands between them. *Leonora* is kneeling, with her arms stretched towards the form of her lover, in an attitude of joyful wonder, while the *Count*, with folded arms, looks on in haughty indignation.

"A NEAPOLITAN FISHER-BOY," PAINTED BY G. A. HURLSTONE, EXHIBITED AT THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

EXHIBITION OF SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS, IN SUFFOLK-STREET.

The "Neapolitan Fisher-Boy," to which we directed attention in our notice of the Exhibition in Suffolk-street, is a very pleasing example of the pencil of the able President of the Society of British Artists. It will be seen how greatly the fisher-boys of Naples differ from our own Hastings and Cromer boys, and from the Boulogne fisher-boys—now so familiar even to the veriest Cockney. Mr. Hurlstone has thoroughly understood the characteristics of the class he has so successfully portrayed. Few English artists have caught more happily the boyish peculiarities of Spain and Naples than Mr. Hurlstone has done. The execution of the picture—though somewhat rough—is in good keeping

SCENE FROM VERDI'S "IL TROVATORE," AT THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

London: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by William Little, 198, Strand.—Saturday, May 19, 1855.

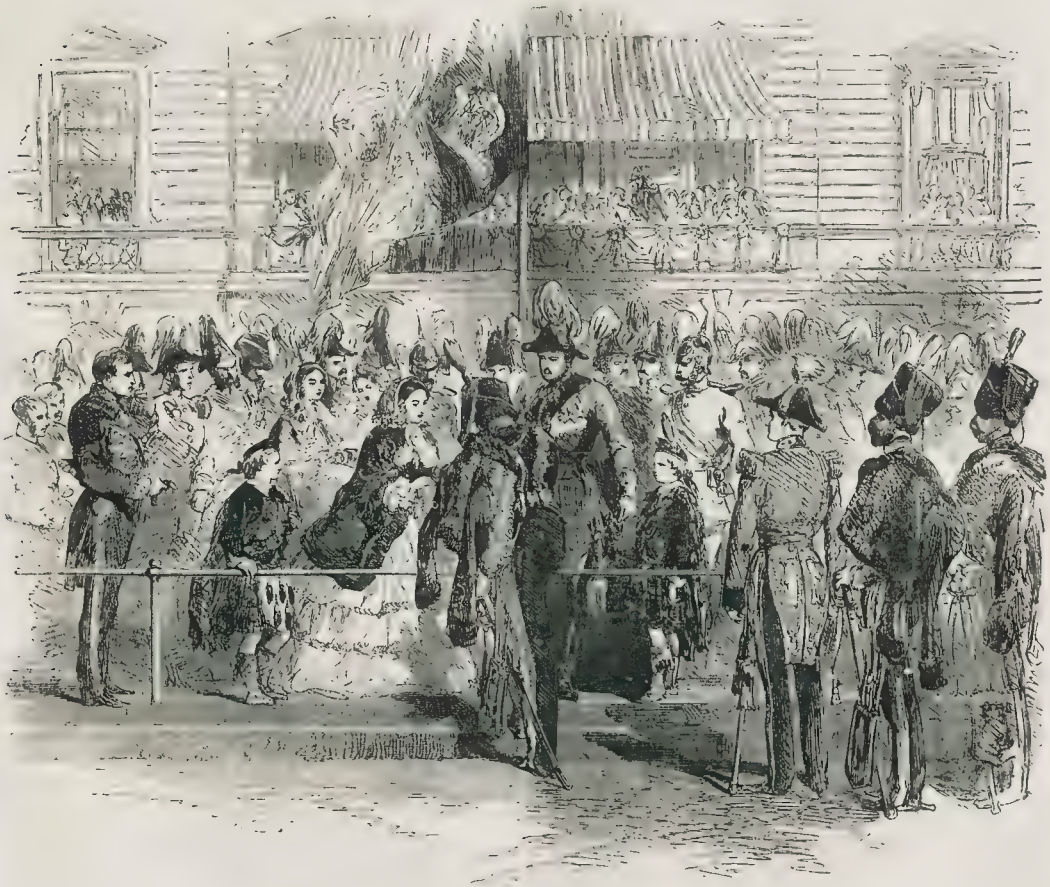
THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 744.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE MINISTRY.

THE great British nation is in a "fix." The arbitress of civilisation—the foremost State in all this breathing world—the coloniser and the mother of States and Empires—the mistress of India, of Canada, and of Australia—upon whose wide dominions the sun never sets—the most populous, the most wealthy, and hitherto the most vigorous and enterprising Empire in the world—is, if we may use another expressive colloquialism, in a "cleft stick." In the cause of right and justice, in support of the oppressed, and in vindication of the public law and morality of Europe, she has entered into a war against a large and powerful Empire, but not so large and powerful as herself. In this struggle her opponent stands alone, and has to bear the tacit or avowed disapproval of every State in Europe, and the still heavier weight of the active hostility of the only Empire in the world that can claim equality with England in art or arms, in moral prestige or in material resources. And yet, notwithstanding all these and many other advantages—the possession of which ought to raise a small nation into the position of a great one, and to make a great nation still more great and glorious than ever—England is in a "fix"—foiled by the arms and bamboozled by the diplomacy of her foe. And who is to blame for this state of things? Is it the people or the army? Certainly not. Is it the Parliament? It cannot be alleged. Is it the Government? We fear, and indeed we know, that the Government is doubtful of the cause that it has taken in hand; that it is not able to lift itself to the level of its duty, or of the destiny of the country; that its members lack confidence in themselves, or in the people whose interests they have undertaken to guard; that they are timid when they ought to be bold; and that they have listened, and are preparing once more to listen, without displeasure, to propositions for peace, where there is not and where there cannot be, peace—and the mere mention of which ought, among a nation of average spirit and courage, to be considered as an insult. It is no longer a secret that the Government is grievously disunited; and that the Premier—the statesman whose name was once a tower of strength in support of the honour of England—sees other means of ending the war than the dictation of peace to Russia; and that more than one of his colleagues are agreed with him. If the people of England were unfortunately of the same opinion, English patriots and true statesmen might well say "Farewell to the honour and glory of England! Our race is run;—our star has culminated; the tale of our greatness is a tale that is told; we must go the way of Greece and Rome, and of other Empires that became effete, and must receive from others the laws which we were formerly able to dictate."

But if the people do not share the opinion of a section of the



DISTRIBUTION OF THE CRIMEAN MEDALS BY HER MAJESTY, AT THE HORSE GUARDS.—(SEE PAGE 506.)

Palmerston Cabinet—if, as we believe, they loathe and scorn it, and are as far in advance in right sentiment as the peace-at-all-price party is in arrear—we may ask how long is such a Government to last? And is not every day that it continues in office a day of peril, which may be succeeded by a day of shame and humiliation?

Far be it from us to say that the Conferences of Vienna ought not to be reopened. If Russia have any proposition to make which is not a sham and a delusion, by all means let her make it at Vienna—if that place suits her better than any other; or at Paris and London, if she really desires to end the war which she has provoked. If Austria, who bids fair to bring upon herself by her hesitation a ruin far more sudden and complete than she could possibly incur by the utmost stretch of boldness and decision, imagines, in her intense dislike of the war, that she has hit upon a compromise which can satisfy the honour of all parties, while it conduces to the permanent security of Europe, by all means let her say her say, and make a clean breast of it. But that the Government of this country, after their bitter experience of the fact that Russia will not and dare not yield except to force, should still persist in clinging to the absurd hope that any good can come of such negotiations, is damaging to the character and the arms of England. It is enough to paralyse the energies and the zeal of our Generals, to discourage the brave men who are fighting in our cause, to ruin us in the opinion of our Allies, and to make Austria and Prussia seriously consider whether it would not be the wiser and safer policy to leave us to our fate and coalesce with Russia. More than all this, it is enough to lead to the belief among our dependants in Asia, and among our rivals in Europe and America, that we reached the climax of our greatness in 1815; that we are but a nation of vain boasters; that we can talk, but cannot do; that we can brag, but not perform; and that we care far less for our honour and our character than for our miserable ease and our still more miserable money.

Let the friends of peace at all price have their say and their day, and see in what result they would plunge us if their efforts were to be successful. Those who have faith in any further negotiations at Vienna might allege—"By all means let us have peace! We had no business with the Turks or with the Russians. Our duty was to make cotton goods, and sell them; to reduce our military and naval establishments, so that the legitimate profits of trade might not be unduly diminished by taxation for the support of those much-consuming, but non-producing locusts—our soldiers and sailors. Let us have peace, by all means. Russia is not vindictive. If she desires the preponderance in the Black Sea, it is natural that she should try to obtain it; and if she wants Constantinople also, let us not forget that Constantinople is a pleasanter residence and a more available and commanding position than St. Petersburg. Why should she not obtain it if she can? Have we not acquired Calcutta, and Bombay, and Madras? Constantinople is not ours. We have no right to it. If the Sultan cannot keep it, that is his affair and that of his people. Are we to right the affairs of the whole world? If France chooses to be such a fool, let her. She will have work enough upon her hands if she undertake the task. But we are wiser and more prudent. The only sound doctrine is that of non-intervention. We have no concern with the affairs of Europe. If Russia, in addition to Turkey, desire to annex Sweden and Denmark, she may if she can. At all events it is no business of ours, though we may pity the poor Swedes and Danes if the scheme succeeds. If Austria desires Piedmont, let her take it. If France determine on the annexation of Switzerland again we say, we have nothing to do with it, except to express an opinion that it is very wrong. Let the United States take Cuba, and let Spain defend it. We shall not interfere. Our duty is to look to our own business, and let other nations look to theirs. As for Russia, it will be time enough for us to take offence against her when the Czar sends a squadron to the Frith of Forth, or menaces Ipswich and Dover. He is not likely to attempt anything so hazardous, for we know, on the authority of Lord Lansdowne, that, much as the armies of England have suffered, those of Russia have suffered still more; that where we have lost one soldier he has lost a hundred; and that all our money-losses are trifles to those which he has incurred, not only in actual expenditure, but in damage to his trade and resources. Besides, should he attack us on our own soil at some future period, even the worm will turn when trod upon, and why not Great Britain?"

It is with shame we confess that such arguments as these are maintained by men who call themselves Englishmen; but what, we ask, would be the result if such cowardly doctrines were to sway the councils of the nation? The merest tyro in history could predicate it. Russia would inevitably obtain Constantinople. She would be the mistress of Europe. England and France would exist in her shadow, and hold their commercial position by her sufferance. With our character would fall our credit, and with our credit our dominion over every part of the world, except within the limits of our own little islands; and it would only depend upon the forbearance of a Power that has never been forbearing, and upon the justice of a nation that has never been just, if we had not to fight for our independence or our very existence upon our own soil.

Even if the House of Commons entertained such sentiments as true Englishmen would despair of the cause that his country has undertaken. Englishmen are not likely to forget that the same power which made the House of Commons can unmake it. But if the Ministers entertain such opinions—or are even supposed to entertain them—it is the duty of the House of Commons to disavow them. If without the sanction of Parliament the Ministers were to make a dishonourable peace—which they may do if they please—impeachment would cease to be an empty word, and the nation would have to proceed to the judgment of criminals of a higher position than it has seen since the days of the Jacobites. It is of no use for Lord Palmerston, or any other Minister, to speak in vague and general terms, and to say that he will agree to no peace that is not "safe, honourable, and satisfactory." The country wants to know upon what terms he considers peace to be safe and honourable; and it will be for the country, not for the Ministry, to decide whether such terms are satisfactory. The Russian view of the Third Point, as disclosed at Vienna, is considered safe and honourable by some persons in the House of Commons; but does any one, except Mr. Milner Gibson and Earl Grey, and a score of persons in, or, it may be, a hundred or two of persons out of Parliament consider it would be satisfactory? The nation has had too much of jocularity and jauntiness on grave matters; and Lord Palmerston must declare once for all his policy and his intentions, so that there may be no mistake in England or out of it—among our Allies, or among our foes. If he do not, he must give place to a bolder and wiser Minister. We may end the present war, and adjourn the next, for a few years, by patching up an inglorious peace; but, in that case, it is probable that when war ends Revolution will begin. But is this the point to which the Ministry is drifting us?

THE RUSSIAN MANIFESTO ON THE NEGOTIATIONS.

Count Resselrode's circular note to the Russian Envoys at the several Courts in that country, giving the Russian account of the Conferences at Vienna, appears at full length, in an extraordinary supplement of the *St. Petersburg Journal* of the 12th inst., in which it occupies six columns. Like all other Russian State Papers, the new document exhibits great skill in evading any discussion of the actual state of things. Mr. Bright himself could not have made out a more triumphant case in favour the peaceful intentions of Russia, and the unreasonableness of France and England, than the old Chancellor has done. The following summary of the line of policy taken by the Court of St. Petersburg will show the spirit in which Count Resselrode's circular has been drawn up:—

The first condition was one of political rivalry. The Emperor regarded it from the most elevated point. He resolved upon it in the interest and benefit of the Principalities, of which Russia has promised to guarantee the prosperity. She has kept, and she will keep, that promise.

The second was united with the general interests of commerce. The Emperor decided in favour of the commercial liberty of all nations.

The third concerned not only the general equilibrium, but it nearly touched the dignity and honour of Russia. It was thus that our august master considered it. The national sentiment of the country will unanimously respond to this decision.

The fourth concerned religious liberty, civilisation, and social order all over Christendom. In the view of the Imperial Cabinet, this condition ought to be placed at the head of any treaty of general pacification, for it is worthy of receiving the sanction of all the Sovereigns in Europe. The Plenipotentiaries of France and England refused, however, to open the question of religious interest until that concerning the navigation of the Black Sea had been settled.

After this observation there remains nothing for us to add to the statement just made.

You are authorised to bring this narrative under the view of the Cabinet at which the Court you have the honour of being accredited. They will decide on which side there was the most desire seriously to arrive at the establishment of peace. They will decide on which side obstacles were raised which have hitherto delayed that salutary work. If it is prevented definitively by the rupture of the Conferences, the impartial opinion of friendly Powers will attest to Russia the justice of acknowledging that she has spared no effort to secure the success of a negotiation intended to realise the desire, profoundly felt, of a general pacification. Europe may count upon the constant and unalterable attitude which the Emperor will know how to devote to that great interest, when the time shall come that Divine Providence will enlighten the consciences of Cabinets whose hostility, implacable even before the mournful holocausts which covered an august tomb, calls upon his Majesty, with arms in his hand, to defend the honour and safety of his country.

THE WAR IN THE BALTIC.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS*)*

THAT there are "cravens in council," and that the war has hitherto been grossly mismanaged, admits of little doubt. Things appear to be mending in the Black Sea, but the little effected last year in the Baltic seems to have produced an impression that our enemy is there unassailable; for we too often hear the question "What can we do in the Baltic?" It is somewhat surprising that this has not been answered; and with your permission I submit the following.

The present fleet under Rear-Admiral Dundas will probably be strengthened by ten more sail of the line, as many more screw gun-boats, and mortar-vessels, and two of the shot-proof batteries. The Aland Islands are admirably suited as a base of operations; and there the transports, stores, and hospitals might be kept and established.

A blockading force of eight sail-of-the-line and a few smaller vessels should be stationed in Baro Sound to watch Sveaborg and Helsingfors; another, of greater strength, at a convenient distance from the west end of Cronstadt—being prepared to meet the enemy should he come out. These two harbours contain nearly the whole of his fleet. Revel might then be bombarded and occupied with ships of sufficient range; and, if advantage were taken of a fog, it might be effected with comparative impunity—our steamers knowing exactly where to pitch shot and shell, while the enemy's batteries could only fire at random in return. Other places could be visited in like manner. This year let there be no half-measures, and the war will soon be brought to a close.

Helsingfors, in consequence of the strong forts of Sveaborg, is a very difficult of access; but, if the shot-proof batteries are found to answer, some of these forts may be successfully attacked, and a position gained from which the enemy should be made to be burned by hot shot or shells from our gun-boats and mortar-vessels.

It would be madness to attempt Cronstadt in the face of those immense forts; but last year it was easily assailable from the north. The fleet would be anchored off the west end of the island, for the double purpose of meeting the enemy should he venture out, and for covering our operations in the north channel, the end of which (towards St. Petersburg) the Russians some years since very obligingly closed up, and have thus added to our security. Here a room for steamers, gun-boats, and transports, to lie in security. The best charts show a depth of three fathoms within a mile of the shore, the intermediate space being a mud bank with from ten to six feet of water upon it. The distance from the water on the north shore to the enemy's fleet, which are moored close together beyond the dockyard and stores, is another mile and a quarter, or two miles and a quarter from the three-fathom mark: that is well within range of our mortar-boats. We should have to contend against strand batteries, and some from the town; but, with an unlimited command of Baltic timber, rafts might be floated on to the mud bank (there is no tides), and sandbag batteries made that will stand more hammering than the stone walls. There would here be no danger from sorties, the enemy's shot being the only thing to guard against, while our supplies and reliefs would be close at hand. The object of the expedition is *to destroy the Russian fleet*. I consider it might be thus burned, together with the dockyard, all the stores, magazines, and the city of Cronstadt, and without any great sacrifice of life on the side of the Allies.

The papers state that 25,000 troops are to be sent to the Baltic. The wisdom of this step might be questioned, for it would be too large a force to act with the fleet, and too small a force to be of use as a body against the Russian troops on shore. Two thousand Marines, with 300 Sappers and Miners well commanded, and kept at the Aland Islands in readiness to embark in half a dozen steamers at an hour's notice, might effect a great deal in the way of destroying telegraph stations, cutting up roads, and surprises, that would have the effect of harrassing the enemy's troops, and keeping the whole of his exposed coast in constant alarm; but this force should never be allowed to remain ten hours in one place, or a strong force of the enemy would be concentrated to crush them. If the war were carried on vigorously in this style, the Russian merchants and nobles would soon change their tone, and oblige the Czar to sue for peace in less than three months; but if we still go on temporising, and *afraid to strike hard*, it may last for years. I am, &c.,

11th May, 1855. A CAPTAIN ROYAL MARINES.

BROWN BESS AND THE MINIE RIFLE.—I had it in my power to give a satisfactory explanation of a point respecting the Guards, which has seemed to me somewhat mysterious. The fresh draughts came on well. Brown Bess and the other soldiers are armed with Minies, the confusion of the two weapons is in one and the same corps seemed damage to their efficiency in battle. Upon inquiry in the proper quarters I find that the men were sent out in purpose with the old musket, because at first Minies were the failed and most effective. In short, of the army that perished during the winter—are in store at Balaclava. Yesterday and to-day detachments of the new arrivals were marched down to the store, and exchanged their smooth-bores for Minies; and in another day or two the whole of the corps will be provided with that formidable weapon. It is intended to distribute the smooth-bore percussion muskets to the Turks, in exchange for their clumsy flintlocks; and I can only hope that in the distribution of those favours the brave and hardy Egyptian troops will have the preference. Indeed, they will well pay if the Egyptian sharpshooters were provided with Minies. They are equal shots, have a decided taste for mischief—more especially as applied to firearms—and with a very little instruction they would soon learn to use their Minie rifles, and keep them in order. Since these dusky troops are our allies, and fight on our side, it is obvious that we should do all in our power to make them as effective as they possibly can be made.—*Letter from Kadikoi, May 7.*

THE PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

PARIS, May 22.

SINCE I last wrote, the Universal Exhibition has been thrown open to the world—or to so much of the world as chose to accept an invitation, price fifty francs, to the inauguration. I do not entirely share the opinions expressed in several Journals on the general arrangements. I allow that the correspondents of English papers—and on this occasion the representatives of the English public—were not well treated: but I am not certain that this ill-treatment can be traced home to the English Committee. It is to be lamented, however; because its result was a want of colour in all the accounts of the opening ceremony sent to London. It is wonderful to me, knowing how little the representatives of the English public saw on the occasion, how they contrived to gather together accounts in every respect so faithful of what took place. For myself, I may state that I was excellently placed to see the backs of the ladies' bonnets in the galleries. By dint of stretching myself forward I could just catch a glimpse of some velvet hangings, which appeared to indicate to the imaginative people round about me the neighbourhood of the Imperial seats. All I did see was the procession round the building, the low dress of the Empress, her gracious smiles and stately steps, and the serious, impenetrable face of her illustrious consort. The Court ladies have been called by one of the London correspondents "an ugly set." Beauty is a matter of individual taste. I like a pug nose, perhaps; well, Tomkins will lose his heart only to a Roman bridge. Jones likes blue eyes—to him they are the only eyes; now I melt under the influence of grey orbs, fringed with black. Therefore, to the eyes of some men the Court ladies who surround Eugénie may be wanting in all the elements of the beautiful. But—well, I leave readers who intend to visit Paris this summer to judge, when they stand before Winterhalter's great picture in the Fine Art Building of the French Empress surrounded by the ladies of her Court. None of these ladies can pretend to the beauty of their Imperial mistress, perhaps; but are they "an ugly set?"

Let us now turn to the Exhibition as it now appears open to the world!

I will refrain from drawing comparisons between certain parts of it—even now—and Pickford's yard! We will pass by the Machinery Gallery, still in progress; pass the Panorama, the Buffet, and the Connecting Gallery, still in progress also, and arrive at the points of the Exhibition which are most advanced. The Nave is now nearly finished. It is crammed from one end to the other with pieces of sculpture; church architecture of all kinds, including two pulpits and at least six altars; war trophies of formidable aspect—the great naval trophy of England; some Saxon china of gorgeous design; a magnificent candelabrum by Osler; a stall of beautiful French glass; a Royal carriage from Brussels; a lighthouse encompassed with Gérome's fine allegorical figures of maritime towns, Elkington's specimens of castings including "Boadicea," by Thomas, R. Bell's "Eagle Slayer"—these and many other things are among the attractions of the Nave. But let the visitor once wander from the Nave where everything is disposed for show, to the Courts on each side, and he will at once see how far the Exhibition is from being completed. The English Courts are perhaps the most advanced of all in the Building; but even these are not quite out of the hands of the workmen. The same with our beautiful Indian Court, where the manufactures indicative of the wealth of our subject princes are displayed; although Dr. Royle has managed to make an excellent show—to cram a gorgeous tent with furniture of Bombay and other work, with crowns and state chairs, and ivory chess men and chess tables—he has still much to accomplish. But then he is no doubt consoled with the view of other countries far behind him. There is the gaudy Turkish Court, for instance, empty! There are Sweden and Norway leisurely nailing up the deal foundations for counters! There are the American authorities snugly ensconced in a deal watch-box, opposite the principal entrance, waiting to begin business! This American delay is accounted for, I am told, by the fact that at the last moment, when the Yankee goods were ready to be sent off, the American Government refused to give the Commissioners a ship to carry them across the Atlantic. This refusal was a mistake, for I believe that the French Commissioners are really irritated by the vacant space which the American allotment still exhibits. Not that these authorities can be in any way pleased with their own countrymen, for, indisputably, the most unfinished half of the General Exhibition is that allotted to French goods. Then, again, this delay is said to be attributable to indecision at head-quarters. Certainly, only a week before the opening day numbers of French exhibitors had not been told where they would be allowed to place their goods.

As yet the great Machinery Gallery, which will certainly present the most original effect of any throughout the Universal Exhibition, and the Connecting Gallery, are unapproachable to visitors, and when I add that in this Connecting Gallery are to be placed a brilliant collection of the wonderful *articles de Paris*, that the Panorama building encloses the collections from Sèvres, the Gobelins, &c., the reader may be left to judge for himself whether or not the time has arrived for his Exhibition visit to Paris. The fact is, the Universal Exhibition will not be fit for inspection throughout before the middle of next month, at the earliest. Those deluded people who, in small groups, are led to pay five francs a head entrance money, must return to their hotel in a state of desperate discontent. I communicate this state of things to your readers with regret, because I fear that it will deter many altogether from their projected visit to Paris. This would be a pity—inasmuch as the Art Exhibition of All Nations is worth alone a long journey. No less than twenty-eight nations have sent in specimens of their modern art. Here is represented the genius of more than two thousand artists, here are collected together nearly five thousand works of art by living men, or men living when France sent forth her invitations to the world. Englishmen should come to see their own school in contrast with those of France and Germany. They will return home, on the whole, satisfied with the manner in which Anglican art has here asserted itself bravely, even in the teeth of Frenchmen who would give it up to ridicule. To this part of the Exhibition I would advise all lovers of art to come at once; it is perfectly ready for their inspection. They will find in the collection no less than 777 English works, 270 from Belgium, 224 from Prussia, 159 from Austria, 131 from Holland, 123 from Spain, and 111 from Switzerland. Even Java and Mexico contribute a painting each; while Peru sends five, although Turkey has mustered only one! The United States have mustered ten painters, who have sent thirty-nine paintings; and two sculptors, who have sent four pieces of sculpture.

The weather continues to be wet and chilly—most unpropitious for the money-takers before the Palais de l'Industrie and their employers. The day after the opening, however, 1700 people paid to the Palace, and 737 to the Fine Art Building.

RUSSIAN LOSSES.—Lord Lansdowne stated in the House of Peers last week that the Russian loss since the commencement of the war had been 200,000 men. Other accounts give further details. In the month of January last a report was presented to the Emperor Nicholas, stating the loss of the army at 187,000 men, including those who died under the severity of the long campaign and of sickness. A new report was presented to the Emperor Alexander in April, fixing the total loss of the army to March 31 at 250,000. In this report special stress was laid on the effect of the bayonets, and some disastrous incidents were particularised. It was stated that an entire company had perished under the snows between Odessa and Perekop, and another between St. Petersburg and the south. An entire battery had fallen in the same manner, with the men and horses. The guns were found after the thaw, and are again in use. It is calculated that the addition to the Russian army to be made under the last ukase will consist of about 200,000 men. Twelve in a thousand is the ratio, and the area includes the most populous governments of the empire.

"WILD DAYRELL," WINNER OF THE DERBY, 1855.

EPSOM RACES.—THE DERBY DAY.

THIS great race has fully shared in the universal dulness which has pervaded the Turf ever since its regular military supporters, some five or six hundred strong, received their marching orders for the Crimea. At one time, however, it seemed as if its seventy-sixth anniversary would be one of unusual interest, owing to the heavy betting which had taken place about some five or six of the favourites. These hopes proved fallacious, and one by one the objects of them were scratched, till at last John Scott had (as in 1850) not one starter out of his lot of fourteen, and the field sank to twelve. In fact, Nat, Templeman, Rogers, Whitehouse, Bumby, Charlton, and Wells, found their horses taken from under them by the fortune of war, and were merely present as spectators! The history of the defunct favourites is easily told. Greculus Esurienes has been infirm and done his work very irregularly all this spring, while Bonnie Morn has been both lame and curvish into the bargain. De Clare was therefore the only crack the Whitewall stable had left, but he broke down so palpably towards the end of last week, that he was friendless on Monday, and scratched on Tuesday. Cruiser, who would have been John Day's horse, was equally unfortunate about three weeks since; St. Hubert could not stand his preparation more than a fortnight or so after his Two Thousand Guineas race; and his companion, Oulston, was scratched for pretty palpable reasons to those who had watched the money market at Tattersall's. As if to complete the chapter of accidents, Rifleman, who had been doing comparatively well the whole spring, and been very highly tried, was found to be so lame on Monday, that Mr. Osbaldeston at once announced at Tattersall's that he would not start; and thus the "Squire's" fondly-cherished hopes of a Derby victory have come to an end—most probably for ever. All these casualties are hardly to be wondered at, as the spring has been dry beyond precedent, and horses need sinews of iron to train every anything but a tan-gallop. The friends of Lord of the Isles were very sanguine about their horse till Wild Dayrell was seen in the Paddock, and then their courage began to give way. Nothing could be finer than the condition in which this beautiful monster (for we know not what else to term him) was brought to the post by his private trainer, and it certainly seemed a foregone conclusion the moment the sheets were removed from his back. The anxiety to see the horse was immense; but his temper was so perfect that he did not take the slightest notice of his enthusiastic auditory. His trial (8 lbs. to Jack Sheppard) was not thought a very high one when it first came out; but Orinoco's running on the previous day greatly enhanced its value. With the exception of Flatterer and Lord of the Isles, the remaining eleven were very ordinary-looking, although Rylstone was the *beau-ideal* of a clever hunter. Fobert swelled the throng with three, and was confident (as he is always is) about Dirk Hatteraick, who looked dull, and very little, if any, improved. Lord of the Isles also seemed by means in the same form as he was when he won the 2000 Guineas; while Little Brownie hardly bore out the high private character which he brought from Beverley with him.

The start was made without the slightest difficulty; and at the brow of the hill the Lord of the Isles (who laid next the rails) had a slight lead. At the mile-post Kingstown went resolutely to work, Wild Dayrell waiting quietly at his quarters, and brought the lot along at a very strong pace to the distance, where these two and The Lord were the only ones left in the race. Alfred Day worked hard at his horse, and Aldcroft brought The Lord again at the Stand, but only to lose the second place by a head, as Wild Dayrell was never caught after the distance, and won "hands down" very easily by a length. Flatterer was fourth, and Corcebus and Courtenay next, thus putting at defiance all Fobert's calculations as to their stable companion Dirk. Little Brownie ran gamely till within a quarter of a mile from home, when the pace became too good for him, and Job Marson's whipcord was of no avail. The winner was very steadily ridden by Ralph Sherwood, who was bred at Epsom; he has been in Mr. Popham's service of late, and has ridden the horse in all his gallops. One or two other jockeys of higher standing had been engaged; but Sherwood had done his duty so thoroughly at home by the horse, that Mr. P. determined not to displace him in favour of any one—a piece of kind feeling which met with its full reward. It is incorrect to say that he is not a regular jockey, as he has always been bred to the profession, and ridden for his father's stable, besides winning some good prizes in France last year. The stakes amount to £4925 net, which is about £1000 less than they were in 1854: Alfred Day was second, in Mr. Hill's colours—the same fate which attended him in 1850, when Voltigeur, another home-trained horse, was successful. It is a fact, that on this occasion, he was promised the whole of the stake if he won, and it was singular ill-luck to be pitted against an animal of such remarkable size and power. The audience on the Downs was hardly so great as it usually is, and unusually apathetic, until Wild Dayrell was led back *from* scale, when they raised a shout, which for heartiness we have seldom heard excelled, except on a Yorkshire race-course. Winners and losers seemed for once to agree, that, true to the great maxim of the hour, they saw "THE RIGHT HORSE IN THE RIGHT PLACE." Subjoined is a return of the sport:—

TUESDAY.

Craven Stakes.—Chicken, 1. Ellermire, 2.
Woodcote Stakes.—Lawn, 1.
Epsom Summer Handicap.—Escape, 1. Hercules, 2.
Horton Stakes.—Sextus, 1. Bordesax, 2.
Manor Plate.—Orinoco, 1. Eulogist, 2.
Heathcote Plate.—Comfort, 1. King of Trumps, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Carew Stakes.—King of Trumps, 1. Lathewood, 2.
Derby Stakes.—Wild Dayrell, 1. Kingstown, 2. Lord of the Isles, 3. Flatterer, 4.
Great Exhibition Plate.—Tom Brice, 1. Eulogist, 2.
Epsom Cup.—Rataplan, 1. The Nabob, 2.
Epsom Town Plate.—Orinoco, 1. Duke of Lancaster, 2.
Dunton's Stakes.—The Novice, 1. Nestor, 2.

THURSDAY.

Four-year-old Stakes.—Marc Antony, 1. Tom, 2.
Two-year-old Stakes.—Sugar-Cane, 1. Bubble, 2.
Grand Stand Plate.—Veteran, 1. Cossey, 2.
Cobham Plate.—Duke of Lancaster, 1. Old Rowley, 2.
Queen's Plate.—Ellermire, 1. Nell Gwynne, 2.
Selling Stakes.—Allington walked over.

FRIDAY.

The Oaks.—Marchioness, 1. Blooming Heather, 2. Capucine, 3. Eleven ran. Nettle fell.
Members' Plate.—Radulphus, 1. Chisel, 2.
Betwa Plate.—Rosalin, 1. Radulphus, 2.
Foal Stakes.—Escape, 1. Herald, 2.
Derby and Oaks Stakes.—Novice, 1. Usurer, 2.
Foreign Visitors' Plate.—Professor Airy, 1. Corin, 2.

NATIONAL SPORTS

THE great racing problem of the year is at last most satisfactorily solved in favour of a country squire (Mr. Popham, of Littlecote, Wilts), who has, we believe, never owned race-horses before. Owing to countless breakings-down and scratchings, only twelve horses came to the post—the smallest number that has ever been seen there since the Duke of York won thus race with Moses in 1822. The winner is full sixteen one, and most capitally furnished to boot. In short, there was but one opinion among racing men in the paddock, viz., that such a magnificent animal has hardly trod the turf during the present century. Neither he nor Kingstown is in the St. Leger, and hence, at this present moment, that race seems anybody's, and will, no doubt, bring out a very large field.

The Manchester meeting will be quite a Triton among the minnows during the ensuing Whitsun week, and has as usual a strongly filled list. Ellermire has a 5 lb. allowance in the Produce Stakes, for which Lord of the Isles carries 7 lb. extra: her old Catterick opponent Lady Tatton also meets her on equal terms; and Lady Palmerston, Vandal, and Lord Alfred are in the race—the two latter with 3 lb. allowed. The Sapling Stakes has no name of note among its 29; but the Union Cup has a great entry of 74, which is headed by Andover, 8st. 12lb. On Thursday the principal features of sport are the Two-Year-Old Stakes, the Chesterfield Handicap, and the Tradesmen's Cup, for which 29 have accepted. The Salford Borough Cup, on Friday, has 28 acceptances; and the meeting promises on the whole to be one of considerable spirit. The other fixtures are Redditch on Monday and Tuesday; Coggeshall, Wye, and Cardiff, on Wednesday; and Southwell, the North Herts Yeomanry Meeting at Royston, and Confy Castle, on Thursday. The Portland Plate and Eglinton Stakes for the ensuing Doncaster Meeting close on Tuesday next; and we hear that the Newmarket Second Spring Meeting is to be abolished, and the Craven and First Spring limited to four days, and commence on the Tuesday.

Cricketers are now in full force for the season, and the weather is beginning to invite not a few spectators to the "tented field." Whit-Monday will be celebrated at Lord's by a match between the North and South of England; and on Whit-Thursday the Surrey v. England issue will be tried at the Kennington-oval. The water diversions of the week will comprise a four-oar race between crews of the London Unity Club, who will row from Wandsworth to Lambeth at 5 p.m. on Tuesday. Leads has fixed its Regatta for the same day; and on Friday the Burkenhead Model Yacht Club have their opening trip. St. John's has left off at the head of the river, and hence "the willowy Camus" must "murmur with delight" that her coxswain is not incompatible with the acquisition of the highest University honours.

There will be some sales of interest at Tattersall's next week, among which may be reckoned the Maresfield yearlings (nine in number, and principally by Collingwood) on Monday; and the five Doddington-hill yearlings on Thursday. A stud of twenty Vale of Aylesbury hunters will also come to the hammer on Thursday, as well as some greyhounds of the Sam, Foremost, and Redlamite blood from the Cardington country. Lord Spencer's yearlings did not sell as well as usual last Monday, as the Cotherstone blood is rather going out of fashion; but hunters have of late fetched very great prices. A stud of twenty-eight, last week, averaged 170 gs., the top price being 420 gs.

THE Duke and Duchess of Brabant, at their late visit to Jerusalem, were admitted to enter and examine the mosque of Omar, built on the second site of the ancient temple, mentioned in Scripture. Hitherto no Christian had ever obtained leave to enter this Mussulman building.

"WILD DAYRELL," THE WINNER OF THE DERBY.

WE engrave a portrait of Wild Dayrell, who so easily carried off, to use the expression of the late Lord George Bentinck, "the blue ribbon of the turf," on Wednesday last. He won the Derby by two lengths easily.

Wild Dayrell was bred by F. J. Popham, Esq., of Littlecote-hall, near Hungerford, and in the paddocks attached to a baronial seat celebrated in heraldic history. His sire is Ion, son of Cain; and his dam Ellen Middleton, daughter of Bay Middleton, a former winner of the Derby, for whom the late Lord George Bentinck gave no less a sum than £6000. Wild Dayrell stands 16 hands 1 inch high; and is dark brown in colour. The horse was trained in Mr. Popham's own park, by Rickaby, his private groom. Since the winter of last year he has been ridden in exercise by Robert Sherwood (son to Mr. Sherwood, trainer, of Epsom), who steered him in his victory on Wednesday last. The triumph of this horse will (as Mr. Dorling, of Epsom, truly remarked) dispel many of the delusions which people entertain regarding the turf. The horse, a good one, was bred by a gentleman, trained in his own private park, and ridden by his private jockey. Yet he won! Mr. Popham, though for many years an ardent admirer of the sports of the field, has not until last year, when Wild Dayrell won a race at Newmarket First October Meeting, been engaged in racing matters. We believe that Earl Craven is a part proprietor of the horse. The field, twelve in number, is the smallest which has started for the Derby for nearly a quarter of a century.

MAY-DAY IN THE CRIMEA. A blue sky, dotted with milk-white clouds, a warm but not too hot sun, and a gentle breeze fanning the flattering canvas of the wide-spread streets of tents, here pitched on swelling mounds covered with fresh grass, there sunk in valleys of black mould, trodden up by innumerable feet and hoofs, and scattered broadcast over the vast plateau of the Chersonese;—it is enough to make one credulous of peace, and to listen to the pleasant whispers of home, notwithstanding the rude interruption of the cannon before Sebastopol. This bright sun, however, develops fever and malaria. The reeking earth, saturated with dew and rain, pours forth poisonous vapours, and the sad rows of mounds covered with long dank grass, which rise in all directions above the soil, impregnate the air with disease. As the atmosphere is purged of clouds and vapour, the reports of the cannon and of the rifles become more distinct. The white houses, green roofs, and the domes and cupolas of Sebastopol stand out with tantalizing distinctness against the sky, and the ruined suburbs and masses of rubbish inside the Russian batteries seem almost incorporated with the French intrenchments. The French on the left are indeed too near the enemy's lines; they are exposed to constant annoyance and loss by frequent volleys of hand-grenades and cohorns, and their works are interrupted by little series of a few yards—out and back again. On the extreme right, however, the English works towards the Round Tower are in advance of the French works towards the Mamelon. On our proper left we can make no considerable approaches in advance of our actual works up to the Redan in consequence of the deep ravine before our batteries. The ravine winding from the right between the two attacks sweeps down below the Green-hill, with a precipitous ascent on the Russian side, towards the Redan, and a gentle rise up to the Green-hill. The French approach towards the Round Tower is obstructed by the Mamelon, which is due south of it, and we cannot approach much nearer towards the Round Tower, working from our right, till the Mamelon is taken. The distance from the Mamelon to the Redan is about 550 yards. From the Round Tower to the sea (of the harbour) behind it the distance is about 1700 yards. The French are now within a few hundred yards of the Mamelon, and our advanced parallel, which is connected with theirs, inclines forward of their line towards the Round Tower. Although the Mamelon is pierced for eleven guns, there are not apparently more than five guns mounted; but all the embrasures are screened. The Russians have been checked in their attempts to advance upon our right towards Inkerman; and, as I have said, the French on the left towards the sea have pushed their lines inside the old Russian outworks; but the centre, protected by the Garden Battery, Road Battery, Barrack Battery, and Redan, still offers considerable difficulty to an approach, and presents a very strong position. Not only must we have ample guns and ammunition to fight the Russian batteries again, but we must be prepared with a siege train and material to move up to the heights inside the town, commanding the fleet and the northern forts and batteries, as soon as we get into the south side, which must be entered by hook or crook—by the window, if not by the door, to use the idiom of General Canrobert. At present there is an interregnum—nothing to report—nothing to write about except the movements of guns and waggonloads of shell, the arrivals of horses and detachments of men, or the events of the racecourse.—*Letter from the Camp, May 1.*

NO FLINCHING.—I see, from some late publications, that our friends at home begin to waver—the news of the siege of Sebastopol, even the evacuation of the Crimea, is talked of. Those who talk so lightly of these things have but little idea how dear to us is the ground we stand on; how speaking of the majority of the army—we have centred all our wishes, staked all our hopes, on the event. People at home have paid for the war; politicians at home have jobbed with it—may God forgive them what man can never pardon! But the blood and tears have a higher claim to that ground. They have hungered, and starved, and bled on it and for it. At whosesoever door the fault may lie, it is not their fault that they have not conquered the Crimea. They have freely given their labour and more blood than world suffers for the conquest of two such provinces—they are willing to give more. They are told that to force the lines of the Tchernaya would lay 3000 of them bleeding on the grass; they say, "Lead us on!" They are told that if French and British storming columns are led against Sebastopol, that 10,000 of their number must fall before the intrenchments can be taken. Still, all they demand is the permission to go on. Surely those at home that waver and talk of retreat, or grumble at the expense of war, one half of which is of their own jobbing, should take an example from the officers and men whom they have sent out to fight their battles. If the armies are not tired of the war—if the armies do not despair of success—what pretence have those at home have for complaining of the burdens of war, or grumbling at its want of results?—*Letter from Kadikoi, May 7.*

THE ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS.—THE BED OF LAVA IN THE VALLEY OF SOMMA.

THE ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS.

NAPLES, May 12th, 1855.

THE drawing which accompanies this short description is a continuation of the scenes represented in the two former sketches of the Eruption of Vesuvius. It is the lowest part of that river of fire which, having its source in the craters opened in the side of the cone of Vesuvius, has flowed through the valley of Somma, fallen in one mighty sheet full one thousand feet in depth, and, after a course of nine or ten miles, is now devouring houses and vineyards. The front view of the lava gives a precise idea of its formation, and of the mode of its advance. It is, in fact, a bed of burning scoriæ, moving ever on, gradually and irresistibly—tumbling and rolling forwards piece by piece rather than flowing, though that term would have correctly described its movement at the source. The cone is hidden from the view by the great height of the lower part of the mountain. The stream in the upper part is that wonderful cascade which falls a thousand feet into the abyss below; and the grounds on the right are those through which we passed on our road to the table-land facing the cascade. On the left, on an eminence, is a villa, belonging to the Marchese St. Angelo, which, however, is removed from the line of danger. The moment that we have seized for taking our View was when the Cardinal Nunzio Sforza visited the ground that was threatened by the lava, and implored the Almighty to stay the scourge. There was a vast concourse of foreigners as well as Italians present; and whilst to the eye the coup d'œil was remarkable, to the feelings it was deeply interesting and painful to watch the anxiety and grief which had taken possession of the minds of the poor "contadini." Here they had been born, here they had lived and worked, and now were those pleasant scenes being swept away by that irresistible power whose hand no man can stay. The Cardinal is on the left, with his mitre and crosier; his clergy are around him, and below him are groups of country people on their knees, weeping and praying, in full confidence in the power of the Cardinal's intercession. Since that occasion this stream of lava has progressed rapidly, sometimes at the rate of ninety palms (270 inches) an hour. Rising above the banks of the river course it has spread far and wide over the country—in some places forming a bed of a thousand palms in extent. It has swallowed up houses, and covered fertile vineyards; and in three separate diverging streams is now pouring down on St. Jorio (near Portici), on St. Sebastiano, Pollena, and Massa di Somma. A bridge has been knocked down by a company of Sappers some distance below the mass of scoriæ in the View; and houses, also, are being removed. No words can adequately describe the consternation of the people, as no pencil can depict the terrific grandeur of the spectacle.

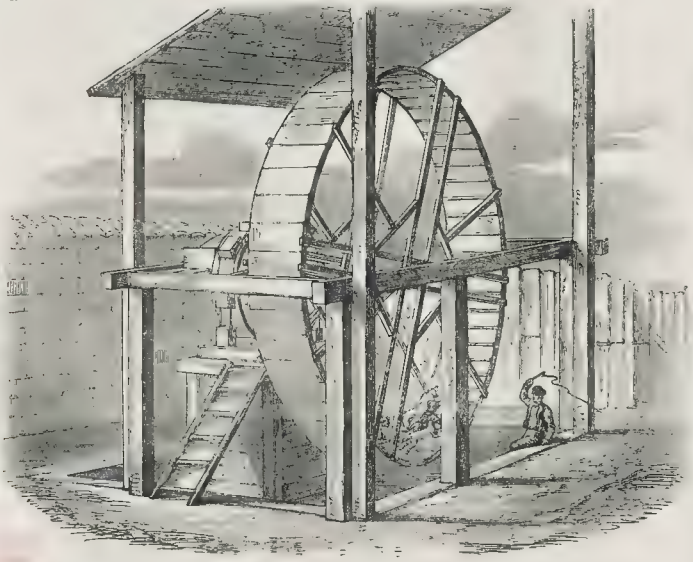
I send you a precise Sketch, taken on the spot, of the bed of lava as it descends from the mountain. It is doing here so much damage and exciting such an intensity of interest that I may over-estimate the interest which an English public may feel on the subject. HENRY WREFORD.

WATER-WHEEL AT VALPARAISO.

THIS ingenious method of raising water from deep wells, by the means of dogs, has now, for a number of years, been the only way of supplying all English and foreign men-of war and merchantmen, as well as almost the whole town of Valparaiso, with water.

The water is raised from the well by wooden buckets, emptying themselves on a table, from which, through pipes, the water is conveyed to launches, into casks and buckets, and delivered to its various quarters.

The wheel raising the buckets is driven by eight dogs, belonging to Don Juan Augustine Vives: they continually run upwards, with perfect ease; only four of the dogs work at a time; and when one is tired he jumps off, and another takes his place.



WHEEL FOR RAISING WATER AT VALPARAISO.

REAR-ADMIRAL SEYMOUR.

THIS gallant officer was born on the 3rd of December, 1802, and is the third son of the late Rear-Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, Bart., K.C.B., one of the most distinguished officers of the long war. He is the nephew of Lieut. Richard Seymour, R.N., who, as First Lieutenant of the *Amazon*, 38, was killed in action with the French frigate *La Belle Poule*, of 40 guns, on the 13th of March, 1806. He entered the Navy as first-class volunteer on the 5th Nov., 1813, on board the *Hannibal*, then commanded by his father; and was present at the capture of *La Sultane*, a French frigate of 44 guns, in March, 1814. From the years 1816 to 1818 he studied at the Royal Naval College. He afterwards joined in succession, on the Mediterranean and Home stations, the *Rochfort*, 80, flagship of Sir T. Fremantle; *Ganymede*, 26; the Hon. Robert C. Spencer;

REAR-ADMIRAL SEYMOUR, SECOND IN COMMAND OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

Glasgow, 50; *Camelion*, 10; *Seringapatam*, 46; *Revolutionaire*, 46; and *Apollo* yacht, under the respective commands of Captains the Hon. A. Maitland, Wm. J. Mingaye, Samuel Warren, the Hon. Fleetwood Pellew, and the Hon. Sir C. Paget. In the last-mentioned ship he held the rating of midshipman. On the 12th September, 1822, he obtained his commission, and became attached, on the 1st July, 1824, to the *Sybille*, 48, Captain Samuel J. Pechell, employed in the Mediterranean. On the 6th of December, 1824, he attained the rank of Commander, and in that capacity was appointed, in August, 1825, to the *Camelion*, 10 guns; and in August, 1826, he was advanced to Post rank. His subsequent appointments were to the *Menai*, 26, and *Volage*, 28, on the South American station, whence he returned in 1829. In June, 1833, he was appointed to the *Challenger*, 28—in which ship he was wrecked on the coast of Chili, May, 1835; and in 1841, to the *Britannia*, 120, bearing the flag of Sir John Ommanney in the Mediterranean. In September, 1841, he joined the *Powerful*, 84, which ship was paid off early in 1842; and, in January, 1846, the *Vindictive*, 50, with the flag of Sir F. W. Austen, Commander-in-Chief of the stations of North America and the West Indies, where he remained until the year 1848. In November, 1850, he was appointed to the command of the Ordinary, at Sheerness, with the superintendence of the dockyard there; and in September, 1851, entered her Majesty's dockyard at Devonport, as Superintendent, with the rank of first-class Commodore. In March, 1854, he received the appointment of Captain of the Fleet, under the command of Sir Charles Napier, and resumed his duties in Devonport Dockyard in December following, which he has now resigned as second in command of the Baltic Fleet.

We are indebted to Mr. Julian Brewer, of Plymouth, for the accompanying Portrait.

"THE ABDICATION OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS."—PAINTED BY A. JOHNSTON. EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

"ROMEO AND JULIET."—PAINTED BY E. H. WEHNERT. EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

THE ABDICATION OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS

Mr Johnston, always an agreeable painter, has found the subject of his single contribution to the walls of the Royal Academy in the page of Scottish history. The abdication of Mary Queen of Scots is a situation particularly adapted to the purposes of art, and Mr Johnston has wrought as if he was aware that much was required of him. The face and figure of the lively and ill-fated queen contrast most admirably with the martial figure of the harsh and brutal Lord Lindsay. Other thoughts with [illegible] vacillation passed through Mary's mind, and these Mr Johnston has sought to embody.

Mary, for the first time, became agitated, for she remembered the evening of Rizzio's murder, when Lindsay stood beside the gaunt form of Ruthven, instigating him to the commission of that deed in words with fearful oaths and imprecations. Lindsay swore that unless she changed the deeds which they desired he would sign them himself with her blood, and sheathe them in her heart.—*Lives of Scottish Worthies.*

NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

The Exhibition of this year has among its many works of excellence a very striking group painted by Mr Wehnert from "Romeo and Juliet," Act iii. Scene 5, wherein Romeo leaving the chamber of Juliet says:—

"Farewell, farewell! one kiss, and I'll descend."

The pleasing picture reveals its advantage. Mr Wehnert's skill in composition and his knowledge of the rarer resources of his art.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS. Monday.

The Charitable Trusts Bill, on the motion of the Lord Chancellor, was referred to a Select Committee.

The Customs Duties Bill and the Spirit Duties Bill were both read a second time.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP BILL.

The Earl of Shaftesbury moved that this bill be read a second time, with a view to its being referred to a Select Committee.

Lord Redesdale thought the measure in some respects objectionable, as tending to encourage meetings for religious worship in private houses, neither of a strictly public nor private character, and which might lead to many improper practices. He should not, however, oppose the second reading.

The measure was then read a second time.

INCENDIARISM IN THE NEW FOREST.

The Earl of Malmesbury called attention to the extraordinary state of the New Forest during the last two winters. There had been a series of incendiary fires, destroying the timber and forests, and spreading into the adjoining counties, doing serious damage to many properties, his own amongst the rest. Between January and May, 1854, there had been no less than twenty fires, and twenty-three cottages had been burned down. In spite of this the number of keepers had been reduced, and foreign Germans employed in the forest had been dismissed. This was a very serious state of things in a country which still remained in the wild state which had existed for centuries, and he thought the Government had been extremely supine in taking adequate measures of protection.

Earl Granville believed the noble Earl's description of the state of the beautiful district to which he alluded was perfectly correct. There could be no doubt that the extremely dry state of the ground, caused by the protracted drought, had much facilitated the operations of incendiaries, and led to greater destruction than would otherwise have taken place; but it had been found a matter of extreme difficulty to discover the guilty parties in these cases. Three persons suspected of participating in these offences had been apprehended and committed for trial, and the evidence was now under the consideration of the Attorney-General, with whom it would rest to decide whether they should be brought to trial.

The Intestacy (Scotland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday.

Sir J. Graham gave some explanations respecting the court-martial ordered upon the late Captain Christie, and admitted some errors of facts in the former statement on that subject.

Lord Palmerston announced that he should, on Friday, move the adjournment of the House until Monday, the 4th of June, for the Whitsuntide recess.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

In reply to several queries from Mr. S. Herbert, who intimated that the course which himself and his friends would pursue with regard to Mr. Milner Gibson's proposed motion depended upon the answer,

Lord Palmerston said that the Government did not consider the means of pacification exhausted—that Austria was still furnished, under the consent of the Allies, with the means of bringing about a peace; that the Conference were suspended, but not closed; and that the most favourable consideration would be given by the Government to any propositions made through Austria by Russia for a pacific purpose, although they would never consent to any terms of peace which did not satisfy the House, and secure the objects of the war.

Mr. Gladstone remarked that the replies just given conveyed the assurance that negotiation had not yet ceased; and, under these circumstances, urged an appeal to the member for Manchester to postpone his motion. Having been interrupted in the course of his remarks by Mr. Roebuck on the point of order, Mr. Gladstone concluded by moving the adjournment of the debate.

Mr S. Herbert intimated his intention of opposing Mr. Gibson's motion, if then urged to a division.

Lord H. Vane, as the intended seconder of the motion, also expressed his persuasion that a postponement would be proper.

Mr. Disraeli submitted that, before the motion was withdrawn, the House had a right to expect a more explicit statement from the Government as to their intentions. At present the Ministerial announcement amounted only to a vague declaration that the means of peace were not exhausted, but furnished no such ground of expectation as to prevent the Legislature from discussing the subject at once. When he baffled Envoy first returned, the Minister might with either have made an appeal for forbearance, pleading the existence of still pending negotiations, or might himself, according to precedent, have invited a debate upon the pacific Conference. Neither of these courses was followed, but the protocols were laid before Parliament, as if to challenge discussion. Insisting upon the right of independent members to criticise transactions thus presented, and remarking that Lord Palmerston had previously seemed rather anxious to facilitate a debate which the country also was eagerly anticipating, Mr. Disraeli attributed the postponement which was now in prospect to some mysterious and sinister operations of the Prime Minister.

Lord Palmerston justified his conduct as having been uniform and consistent throughout. When the Conferences were suspended he had a record of the proceedings before Parliament as a matter of right, but had always declined himself to invite a discussion on them, because it might have been thrust upon the door to all further hope of peace. But, at the same time, he could not shirk such a discussion, which involved the question of confidence in his Administration. His wish for delay at the time arose from no apprehension that the debate might be inconvenient to the Government, but that it would be prejudicial to the country. All chance of a negotiation being brought to a successful issue must be destroyed if that House took the management out of the hands of the executive, and prescribed beforehand the basis on which they should treat, and the conditions on which peace could be accepted.

Mr. Bright, on behalf of the Peace party, disclaimed all partisan associations and all indirect objects, their single purpose being to obtain an honourable peace. If he could obtain an assurance from the Government that the Conference were still actually alive, and that no opportunity for making peace would be let slip, he was willing to adjourn the discussion, trusting that in a fortnight the Ministers might be prepared with some satisfactory and definitive information.

Mr Roebuck contended that nothing either in the circumstances that had occurred or in the Ministerial speeches that had been made, gave any new complexion to affairs since Mr. Gibson first announced the terms of his motion; which, accordingly, he saw no reason for postponing

The Marquis of Granby wished to know distinctly whether any new propositions for peace were now offered or under consideration?

Lord J. Russell recapitulated the incidents of the last Conferences in which he took part, and adverted to the communications that had subsequently been exchanged between the Russian Envoys and the representatives of the Western Powers. Austria, he remarked, still declared that the means of pacification were not exhausted, and had shown herself throughout the negotiations willing to act with the Allies, but reluctant to propose terms which would involve her in actual hostilities with Russia. As matters stood, he expected that Austria would make some final propositions, which, if rejected, must terminate the Conferences; and, if accepted, would re-open the negotiations under far more favourable auspices than heretofore.

Sir J. Fergusson contended that no fact had been stated or reason alleged by the Government to warrant their asking the House to suspend proceedings so deliberately entered upon.

Sir G. Grey repeated that the Government ought to have anticipated discussion when they published the protocols of the Conferences. After the production of those documents, he thought himself at liberty to bring forward his motion. In deference, however, to the appeals now made, he consented to postpone it until after the Whitsuntide recess.

This course, after some further conversation, was adopted, and the debate stood adjourned accordingly.

The orders of the day were then rapidly disposed of, principally by adjournment, and the House rose a few minutes before eight o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

Lord Lyndhurst asked Earl Grey what course he meant to pursue in respect to his motion for Friday?

Earl Grey said not say. He had not yet heard any sufficient reason for postponing it.

Lord Lyndhurst asked if the negotiations were still pending at Vienna?

Earl Granville said the Conference were not closed. The Government were still open to receive any propositions which might be made by any of the Powers engaged in those Conference; and they were also still open to decline any terms which they might not think sufficient.

Lord Lyndhurst wanted to know whether negotiations were or were not going on? Whether any propositions had been made by either of the Four Powers? If so, whether they had been rejected, or whether they were still under consideration? Whether, if they were under consideration, the Government would make up their minds to state within what period they would be decided on? Surely these were reasonable questions. The propositions might be under consideration for twelve months. He had never heard anything so vague as the noble Lord's answer.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Tuesday.

The early sitting of the House was chiefly occupied in Committee on the Metropolitan Local Improvement Bill, in which considerable progress was made. The Chairman, at four o'clock, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Friday.

THE WAR.

Mr. Disraeli called attention to the discouraging language and demeanor of the Government on the previous night, and said that, in consequence of that conduct, the House ought not to adjourn for the Whitsuntide holidays without receiving some more specific information from the Government, which might be expected to throw a gleam of light on the honour of the country, on its position and future prospects. Last Session the House was muzzled as to the position of affairs, lest mischief might follow; and the result of its silence was that we had drifted into a disastrous war; and if it was to remain silent, it might be that, before the holidays were over, we might find that we had drifted into an ignominious peace. He, therefore, resolved to ask the House to express an opinion; and he would therefore lay a motion on the table on Thursday next, expressive of its wish that her Majesty should be supported in war until a satisfactory peace should be brought about consistent with the honour of the country. The member for Aylesbury had given notice of a motion for Thursday, which was of importance. He had no right to ask that member to postpone his motion; but if it were disposed to do a fluctuating day, Mr. Disraeli would still attempt, before the adjournment, to ascertain the feeling of the House.

[The following are the words of the resolution, which was laid on the table at a late hour on Tuesday night:—"That this House cannot adjourn for the recess without expressing its dissatisfaction with the ambiguous language and uncertain conduct of her Majesty's Government with reference to the great question of peace or war; and that, under these circumstances, the House feels it a duty to declare that it will continue to give every support to her Majesty in the prosecution of the war, until her Majesty shall, in conjunction with her Allies, obtain for this country a safe and honourable peace."

Mr. Layard said, he should certainly give way to the motion of the right hon. gentleman.

Lord Palmerston said that the scene was well acted, and did much credit to the actors. He would be ready to meet the motion, but he denied that there was any ambiguity in the language of the Government. He believed the silence of 1853 had done much towards the chances of accommodation, for it had kept Austria as a friendly Power anxious to bring about a restoration of peace. They had not, however, relaxed for one moment in making every exertion to carry on the war with the utmost vigour. As to any fear of a dishonourable peace the country had nothing to fear as long as the present Government remained in office, for they would listen to no terms which would not be honourable to the country, safe for the future, and calculated to carry out the objects for which hostilities had been commenced.

The matter then dropped.

DIPLOMATIC ESTABLISHMENT.

Mr. Wise then moved the following resolution:—"That it is the opinion of this House that the complete revision of our diplomatic establishments, recommended in the report of the Select Committee of 18 on official salaries, should be carried into effect."

Mr. Ewart seconded the motion, suggesting the establishment of some test of qualification for diplomatic employment.

Lord Palmerston admitted the importance of the subject, but said that several of the recommendations of the Committee had been carried into effect. He did not think they ought to be all of them carried out, and instanced the recommendation that the highest salary should not exceed £5000 per annum—a sum much too limited for an Ambassador to Paris, Vienna, or Constantinople. He begged, however, to assure the hon gentleman that every reduction would be made in those appointments consistent with the public service. As to the suggestion for submitting candidates for diplomatic service to examination, he had to state that on the previous day it had been agreed to in Council that there should be examinations of candidates for some departments of the public service, and it should be considered by the Government whether the same system should not be extended to diplomatic candidates also

Mr. W. Williams thought the explanations of the noble Lord unsatisfactory. The United States obtained as good diplomatists as England at less than half the cost.

Mr. R. Phillimore hoped Mr. Wise would be satisfied with the explanation given by Lord Palmerston, and withdraw his motion.

Mr. Vincent seconded the motion, and thought more care ought to be taken than had usually been taken in the appointment of Attachés.

After some observations from Sir E. Perrott, Mr. Otway complained that all those appointments in the diplomatic service, leading ultimately frequently to Ambassadorships, were conferred almost exclusively on the sons or near relatives of Peers. He lamented the case of the promotion of Mr. De Ros, one of the heads of people of less influence, in order to disprove the assertion that those diplomatic appointments were made according to fitness.

Mr. Wise said he would withdraw the motion, satisfied with the discussion to which it had given rise.

Mr. H. Baillie objected to the withdrawal of the motion; and the House thereon divided, when the motion was carried by a majority of 112 to 57. The announcement of the numbers elicited loud cheers.

THE BALLOT.

Mr H. Berkeley moved for leave to bring in a bill to cause the votes of the electors of Great Britain and Ireland to be taken by way of Ballot at Parliamentary elections. The question of this system was never more called for than at a moment of disaster like the present, in order to give the people an opportunity of rescuing the nation from the disastrous position in which the governmental system of Parliament. Every popular measure, if it was allowed to pass through Parliament at all, was so mangled in Committee as to be worthless; and this was the case with the Ballot bill when they recollected that the majority in its favour at a general election surpassed all others in corruption; and, by means well understood, the aristocracy succeeded in obtaining a majority of the seats. The hon. gentleman having quoted Bentham, David Hume, Lord Brougham and Bentham, and Mr. Disraeli, as authorities in favour of the ballot, concluded by submitting his motion for the adoption of the House.

Mr Fellen seconded the motion, and referred to the intimidation which had been practised at Blackburn as a proof that some change in the law was necessary.

Lord Seymour contended that members of Parliament ought not to be made in a secret manner, and that voters ought not to be protected more than any other class, in a country where everything was public.

Mr. Gordon, Mr. P. O'Brien, Mr. Bland, and other hon. members supported, and Mr. Bentinck opposed the motion.

Lord Palmerston also opposed the motion, as he thought secret voting incompatible with the constitutional principles of the franchise, and opposed to the feelings of the majority of the people.

The House then divided, when the motion was lost by a majority of 62; there being ayes, 160; noes, 218.

Illegal Enlistment.—There have been one or two deserters from the French lately. They have crossed the Tolmarsh Valley, at its narrow part near the Inkermann ridge. It is difficult to imagine what motives can actuate these men, as they can hardly look for better treatment than they receive in their own Camp. A day or two since a soldier of our own 50th Regiment, having a horse with him, was taken up by the French picket in this neighbourhood, and sent to head-quarters on suspicion that he was going to desert. He stated that he had lost his way, and was only purchasing some things for his master at Aerkerch. It was difficult to understand how he could have wandered so far past his division without discovering the mistake. A few days previously a serjeant of the Italian contingent, who had been sent to the pickets of the line, went over to the Russians, near the same locality. He not only robbed his master of a horse, but also of some twenty Napoleons, and other property. Could there not be an understanding between our allied armies, that thieves and such criminals should be mutually given up on proper evidence of their guilt being afforded? Certain international laws are made to provide for such cases, and an arrangement of the kind would be equally advantageous on both sides, between consenting armies. The robberies at least, if not the desertions, would cease, perhaps, with the knowledge that they could not be committed with impunity.—*Letter from the Camp, May 8.*

A Domestic Tragedy in Wisconsin.—At Beloit, Wisconsin, on the night of the 23rd ult., the wife of a citizen of that place awoke and saw a man with a dark lantern in the bed-room, and awakened her husband with her cries. As he sprang from the bed the intruder fired a pistol, the ball just missing his head, and burying itself in the pillow. Snatching a double-barrelled gun from the wall, he discharged both barrels at the intruder. The contents of one barrel entered the man's head and the other his body, killing him instantly. Leaving the body where it fell, the gentleman and his wife proceeded to the nearest neighbour, told him what had happened, and induced him to return with them to their house. Imagine the feelings of the neighbour, himself a man universally esteemed and respected, when he recognized in the mangled body of the robber his own son

Toronto.—Perhaps the most remarkable growth of any city in the province is that of Toronto, the capital of Upper Canada. As it is now about to become a great commercial emporium, it is evidently destined before long to exceed all other Canadian cities in population, and to rival them in commercial wealth and importance. In 1801 its population was 336. In 1830 it had only reached 2860. Since then its progress has been so rapid that at the close of 1854 it was upwards of 45,000. The import customs duties of Toronto were £5060 in 1840; £63,303 in 1852; £156,026 in 1853; and £173,884 in 1854. In 1849 the value of exports was only £35,000, in 1854, £1,446,168 —*Sir Cusack Roney's Report of the Great Trunk Railway Company of Canada.*

A band of forty ruffians has appeared in Lower Albania. They attacked a party of travellers on the road from Salonica to Georgia; murdered six, and stripped the remaining nine of all they had about them.

The Egyptian Museum at the Louvre, which is to be opened on the 1st of June, has been increased considerably of late by the various objects collected by M. Mariette, in his late excursion in Egypt. The addition, in vases, pillars, inscriptions, &c., amounts to 1500 objects.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

Finsbury.—A very crowded meeting of the inhabitants of the borough of Finsbury was held at the London Mechanics' Institution, Southampton-buildings, in Chancery-lane, on Tuesday evening, to co-operate with the movement now on foot on the subject of Administrative Reform. Mr. T. S. Dunscombe, M.P., one of the representatives of the borough, took the chair. The chairman expressed the heartiness of his concurrence in the attempt that was now being made to supersede the present system of administering the affairs of the nation, and was prepared to go even further than the course put forward by the committee formed at the meeting which took place in the City a short time back. Mr. W Wilks moved the first resolution:—"That, in the judgment of this meeting of the inhabitants of the borough of Finsbury, the disasters of the Crimean expedition are in a great measure attributable to the incapacity of her Majesty's Ministers, the corruption of the House of Commons, and the general inefficiency of the public service—the results of the undue influence of the aristocracy in the councils of the Sovereign." Mr. Jacob Bell seconded the resolution, which was put to the meeting and carried amid loud cheers. Mr. W. Shaen moved the second resolution:—"That, while the only efficient remedy for the principal evil of the State is the adoption of the suffrage, and the protection of the voter by the ballot, the meeting heartily sympathises with every genuine movement in opposition to oligarchical government, and especially tenders its thanks to Mr. Layard for his independent and courageous conduct in the House of Commons" (Loud cheers). Mr. Shaen addressed the meeting in support of the resolution, which, having been seconded, was also carried. In the absence of Mr. Epps, seconded by Mr. Lloyd, it was agreed that the substance of the foregoing resolutions should be embodied in a petition to the House of Commons in support of Mr. Layard's motion, and that the chairman (Mr. Dunscombe), with his colleague in the representation of Finsbury, be requested to promote the adoption of that motion by speech and vote, and that a copy of the above resolutions should be transmitted to Mr. Layard. Several other gentlemen having addressed the meeting, a vote of thanks was given to the hon. chairman, who briefly acknowledged the compliment, and expressed his determination to use his utmost endeavours to further the objects of the meeting and place the administration of the country on a substantial footing. The meeting, which was characterised throughout by the greatest good feeling towards the movement, then separated.

Birmingham.—A meeting was held at Birmingham on Monday evening, to pass resolutions on Administrative Reform. The following was the first resolution:—"That this meeting entertains a strong and earnest conviction that the disastrous and disgraceful condition in which England has been placed in the conduct of the war with Russia, is mainly attributable to the inefficiency of the executive and the defective system of conducting the business of the nation; and that this state of things is the natural result of the systematic postponement of merit to family and personal influence in the selection of Ministers and other public servants." The speakers represented various classes, some being working-men and others county magistrates. Mr. Muntz, M.P., moved a resolution in favour of the "tests of merit and fitness" in public appointments, and spoke at some length in support of the resolution. Referring to the House of Commons, he said:—Let the nation take care that there are honest and competent men in places of importance, by sending proper men to the House of Commons; if the constituencies did not do this, why he found as much fault with the democracy as the aristocracy (Hear, hear). If honest and independent men had been sent to Parliament, the Foreign Enlistment Bill would never have been passed; instead of which Government was supported in it by men who had the fear of a dissolution before their eyes. The Sebastopol expedition was a mistake. The motion of Milner Gibson he could not support; it was a Manchester doctrine—peace at any price; and although no man more sensible of the horrors of war than he was, he could not condescend to patch up a peace of a character degrading to the country (cheers). The consequence of that would, moreover, be a renewal of depredations by Russia at an early period (Hear). Mr. George Dawson at great length discussed the "evils of our present system." The aristocracy he denounced as greedy, rapacious, selfish, and grasping. After several other speeches, a committee was appointed, and the meeting dispersed.

Gloucester.—A public meeting was held in the Shire-hall, Gloucester, on the 18th inst. (the Mayor in the chair), to consider the evils arising from the disgraceful state of the public departments, and the best means of remedying them. A letter of apology for absence was read from Admiral Berkeley, M.P., in which he says, "I am quite alive to the necessity of reforming or rather eradicating the evils. At the same time, I greatly regret that so much exaggeration and so many false statements have been made within and without the walls of Parliament on such subjects. Truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, should be the polar star of all parties who utterly despise those who, for the sake of a momentary party triumph, notoriety, or popularity, ever lose sight of it." It was resolved to form a branch association, to co-operate with the London Administrative Reform Association, and a petition to Parliament was adopted. Mr. Price, M.P., then addressed the meeting at some length He supported the movement, but expressed no doubt as to whether the people of this country were really in earnest. If they trusted a little more to themselves and less to others they would be enabled more successfully to deal with those difficulties than by the exclusive reliance on the overrated ability of this man or that. There was another danger which occurred to his mind, and against which he thought they ought to take especial care to guard. He had said that this should not be a party movement; he would also add, let it not be a class movement.

Lincoln.—In compliance with a requisition to the Mayor (T. J. N. Brogden, Esq.), signed by nearly 400 householders, and comprising the names of the leading inhabitants of all parties a meeting was convened in the Theatre, at seven o'clock on Monday, to consider the propriety of aiding the movement in favour of Administrative Reform. The Mayor occupied the chair, and the meeting was the largest and most influential of any held for a long time past in that town. The Mayor, in opening the business, drew attention to the fact that though there were 500,000 people in this kingdom, the members of the Government are, with one or two exceptions, all the relatives of some five or six families, that enjoy the monopoly of ruling. He did not believe that the intellect of the nation concentrated in those half-a-dozen families. Resolutions in favour of the movement were passed unanimously.

Great Yarmouth.—On the 17th inst. an influential meeting of the inhabitants of the borough was held in the Town-hall, Mr. Hammond in the chair. Mr. M'Cullagh, Mr. D. A. Gourlay, Mr. Ferrier, Mr. W. N. Burroughs, Mr. Cheny, Mr. James Jackson, Mr. C. Barron, and Mr. J. Cobb addressed the meeting, and resolutions were passed pledging it to promote by every legitimate means the object contemplated by the movement.

Railways in Canada.—The debt of Canada is about £4,870,000 sterling; £3,050,000 of it have been created for the construction of railways through the province. In exchange for this creation the Government has become the first mortgagee, to the same extent, on the lines in favour of which provincial debentures have been issued.—*Sir Cusack Roney's Report of the Great Trunk Railway Company of Canada.*

Attempt to Sound Niagara River.—A gentleman who has been trying the experiment of sounding the river below Niagara Falls writes as follows:—Another attempt was made we thought, on Tuesday, of about 50 lb. weight, attached to a No. 11 wire—the latter carefully suspended, so as not to impede the fall of the weight. I then let the weight fall from the bridge, a height of 225 feet; it struck the surface fairly, with the point downwards, and sank to some depth, but we was not longer out of sight than about one second, when it made its appearance again on the surface, about 100 feet down the stream, and skipped along like a chip, until it was checked by the wire. We then commenced hauling on the wire, which made of the iron bender like a ball, when a cake of ice struck it and ended the sport. I am satisfied that no metal has sufficient specific gravity to pierce that current, even with the momentum acquired by a fall of 225 feet. The velocity of the flow, when sinking, must have been equal to 1.4 feet per second; and, consequently, its momentum near 5000 lb. Its surface opposed to the current was about 50 superficial inches. The will give an idea of the energy of that current, at the same time, but at the Titan forces that have been at work to scoop out the bed of the Niagara river.—*New York Herald.*

The Bullion Robbery.—A robbery took place last week on the way from London to Paris, which was executed and perpetrated by persons who were acquainted with the contents and the mode of the consignments. A quantity of gold, in bars and American coins, amounting to between £13,000 and £14,000 had been deposited in three boxes, which were separately consigned to Paris from the bullion brokers, Thomas, Bell, and Spellmans, and were taken in the mail train of the South-Eastern Railway, which set off from London at half-past eight o'clock on the evening of Tuesday, the 15th instant, to Folkestone; whence they were to be taken viâ Boulogne and the Northern Railway of France, to Paris. When delivered in Paris, it was found that the three boxes had been opened and plundered, and then re-hooped and re-sealed. It is rather remarkable that the depredators left the boxes, between £6000 and £7000 worth of gold—it is conjectured, because they had not materials at command to supply what might have been the deficiency in weight. They had filled up that box with worthless lead, and the two other boxes were supplied with a quantity of shot sufficient to represent in weight the amount of gold abstracted from them. The French as well as the English police are engaged in the very serious affair.

Another chapel has just been uncovered at the Church of St. Eustache, namely, that of St. Louis, King of France. He is represented in four pictures: in prayer, bringing to Paris the holy crown of thorns, on his death-bed, and ascending to heaven.

As some masons were effecting repairs in a house in the Rue Mercière, in Lyons, they surprised in its nest, where it was apparently expiring of old age, a swallow, having round its neck a chain bearing a little silver plate, with the following words engraved on it:—"Ludovicus Margarita Sdalis, 1748."

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, May 21.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship, by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, May 8, 1855.

My Lord,—The enemy assaulted our advanced parallel on the right attack on the night of the 5th inst., and some actually got into the trench; but they were speedily driven out and replaced with the utmost gallantry by the detachments occupying it, of the 30th and 49th Regiments, under Captain Wilkinson and Lieut. Gubbins, of the former, and Lieut. Rochfort, of the latter—who, unfortunately, was severely wounded; and I regret to have to add that seven valuable non-commissioned officers and men were killed and wounded on the occasion.

On the same night Captain Arnold,* of the 4th Foot, was wounded and taken prisoner, whilst posting the advanced sentries on the left attack. The loss of the services of this officer is greatly to be lamented. He had done his duty unremittingly, and in the most spirited manner, throughout the operations of the siege.

I inclose the return of casualties to the 6th inst.

I have heard that six ships, having on board Sardinian troops have arrived in the Bosphorus.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

P.S.—I have the satisfaction to announce to you the arrival of the first detachment of the 12th Lancers.

The Lord Panmure, &c.

OFFICERS WOUNDED FROM THE 4TH TO THE 6TH MAY, INCLUSIVE.

Lieutenant.—49th Foot: G. Rochfort, severely.

OFFICERS MISSING FROM THE 4TH TO THE 6TH MAY, INCLUSIVE.

Captain.—4th Foot: W. T. Arnold, taken prisoner, and supposed to have been wounded.

NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED FROM THE 4TH TO THE 6TH MAY, INCLUSIVE.

Corporal. 49th Foot: William Kent.
Privates. 14th Foot: Patrick Callaghan, George Walker. 18th Daniel Walpole. 47th: John Forsyth, Andrew Ash, Patrick Creighan. 49th: Henry Nicholson. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Thomas Turner.

NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES WOUNDED FROM THE 4TH TO 6TH MAY INCLUSIVE.

Sergeants. 30th Foot: Thomas Delaney, severely. 47th: Daniel Ford, severely.
Corporal. 49th Foot: Mark Griffith, severely.
Lance-Corporals. 30th Foot: James Dwyer. James Dwyer, severely.
Privates. 3rd Battalion, 1st Foot: David Buchanan, slightly. 7th. David Norman, Philip Guest, severely. 23rd. Thomas Lent, slightly, David Jones, severely, William Brown, dangerously. 30th. James Martin, slightly. 34th: John Day, severely. 41st: Patrick Mara, severely; Thomas Woodrough, dangerously (since dead); William Worrington, slightly; John Williams, slightly. 49th: Richard Edwards, Frederick Courtney, Peter Farquhar, William Jones, Patrick Lacy, severely, and Elisha Lewis, severely. Rifle Brigade: John Nash, Patrick Nail, Michael Rogers, Thomas Tracey and John Williams, slightly. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Patrick Dwyer, slightly. 88th. Robert Steele, dangerously. 95th: John Jackson, severely. Thomas Brennan, dangerously; William Johnson, slightly. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Arthur French, slightly.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES MISSING FROM THE 4TH TO THE 6TH OF MAY, INCLUSIVE.

Sergeant. 49th Foot: James Robinson.
Privates.—30th Foot: Patrick Driscoll. 49th: Patrick Bannon.
TOTAL—9 rank and file, killed, 1 officer, 2 sergeants, 35 rank and file, wounded 1 officer, 1 sergeant, 2 rank and file, missing.

War Department, May 24, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:

Before Sebastopol, May 12.

My Lord,—I do myself the honour to acquaint your Lordship that General de la Marmora, with a portion of the Sardinian Contingent, arrived off Balaclava on the night of the 8th inst., and he came up to head-quarters the following morning.

The very unfavourable state of the weather since the 6th has prevented any material part of the force being landed; and it has been found necessary to send the vessels that brought it, and which could not be got into the harbour to Kamiesch Bay, until it should moderate.

Five troops of the 12th Lancers landed on the 9th from the *Himalaya*, which performed the voyage from Alexandria to Balaclava in ninety-four hours.

The enemy made two serious assaults upon our most advanced parallel of the right attack on the night of the 5th; but were on each occasion most nobly met and repulsed with considerable loss.

The arrangements of Colonel Trollope, who had charge of the right attack, and Lieut.-Colonel Mends, were most skilfully and effectually carried out by judicious; and Captain Turner, of the Royal Fusiliers, and Captain Jordan, of the 34th Regiment, are reported to have done their duty in the most gallant manner.

They opened a powerful fire on our trenches on the following night, and exposed their columns to a heavy musketry fire from the troops on duty. They did not, however, reach the parapets, nor indeed come very near them.

Last night a very determined sortie was made upon the advance of our left attack. The enemy moved two columns from the Woronzow road. Our advanced sentries having slowly retired, the guard of the trenches was prepared to receive them, and consequently drove them back in the most determined manner. A few Russians only got into the parallel, and five were left dead outside.

The conduct of both officers and men was admirable, and it is with deep concern that I have to report the death of Captain Edwards, of the 68th Foot, and that of five men

I have also the pain of saying that the wounded amount to thirty

Owing to the great quantity of rain which has fallen during the last few days, the service in the trenches has again been most arduous and severe upon our men, who deserve all praise for their energy and untiring perseverance.

I enclose the return of casualties to the 10th inst.—I have, &c., RAGLAN

The Lord Panmure, &c.

OFFICERS WOUNDED FROM MAY 7 TO 10, INCLUSIVE.

Major.—2nd Battalion 1st Foot: T. M. Hyme, contusion in left breast
Lieutenant.—34th Foot: H. M Lawrence, slightly.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED FROM MAY 7 TO 10, INCLUSIVE

Sergeant.—57th Foot. John Magee
Corporal.—88th Foot: John Downie
Privates.—34th Foot: Francis Murray, Thomas Kennedy. 88th John William Kennedy. 95th Michael Kennedy. 20th: Thomas Forney. 41st James Fitzgibbons. 47th. Thomas Bussey. 68th Thomas Dowd.

NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES WOUNDED FROM MAY 7 TO 10 INCLUSIVE

Sergeant.—[illegible] Wm Griffith, severely
Corporal.—[illegible] Kelly, slightly
Privates.—[illegible] and Hinagan, severely, John Sheehan, slightly. 34th: Patrick Lynch, slightly. 41st: John Goode (and severely. 50th: James Gregan, severely. 77th John Perry, John Bates, dangerously. 88th: William Burke, slightly. 2nd Battalion, 1st Foot: Richard Cannon, Edward Faithful, slightly. 19th: Joseph Murgatroyd, severely. John Redgunds, slightly. 41st: R. Colgan, slightly. 47th: James Shapland, severely. 68th Richard Gaffney, Charles Cummings, severely; James Brien, slightly. 1st Battalion Foot: Joseph Adkins, slightly. 7th. John Mooney, John Berry, William Pilsbury, Anthony Mansfield, severely, George [illegible] slightly. 30th Patrick Bray, severely. [illegible] Henry Richardson, slightly. 34th James [illegible] ller, John Dwyer James Murphy, severely. 41st: John Davis, severely 47th: Philip Woodhouse, severely. 49th: David Redgrave, severely. 88th John Griffin, severely: Patrick Doherty, slightly: James Schaff, dangerously. 90th: James Jordon, severely. 2nd Battalion, 1st Foot Patrick Lally, severely. 7th: Robert Clements, severely. 88th Martin Thomson, dangerously. John Hawkey, slightly 41st [illegible] Driscoll and [illegible] Grady, slightly; Martin [illegible] and Patrick Lowry severely 47th: Thomas Connors, severely. 49th: John Kelly, severely. 88th James Conroy dangerously (since dead); John Donohoe, slightly; William [illegible] dangerously, and Michael Cummins, slightly. 95th: John Carmichael

Gunners.—Royal Artillery: James Walsh, severely; Wm. Cook, dangerously.

CASUALTIES IN THE ROYAL NAVAL BRIGADE, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, OF MAY 10

Rocket. Henry Hill, A.B., *Queen.*
Howitzer. Aaron Jolly, cord., *Queen*; Robert Hart, ord., *Queen*, severely; James Reynolds, ord., *Queen*; John Mason, ord., *Queen*, slightly.

ENGLISH PRISONERS IN RUSSIA

The following is a list of some of the English prisoners at Voronetz, in Russia, who have been relieved from funds supplied by her Majesty's Government for this purpose through the obliging intervention of the Danish Minister at St. Petersburg.

The publication of this list must be satisfactory to the families of the persons mentioned.

Foreign-office, May 11.

RANK AND NAMES OF THE ENGLISH PRISONERS OF WAR TO WHOM CLOTHING, &C HAS BEEN ISSUED BY H. CHRISTOPHERSEN, ESQ.

Troop Major Hugh Crawford, 4th Light Dragoons
Sergeant-Major John Lincoln, 13th Light Dragoons
Sergeant Henry Alderson, 11th Light Dragoons
Corporal Joseph Armstrong, 4th Light Dragoons.
Privates—Joseph Chapman, James Donnelgan, and Denis Driscoll, 4th Dragoon Guards James Bagshawe, James Bolton, Robert Farquharson, Charles Fredericks, Thomas [illegible] Mitchell Gribbon, and Samuel Parkes, 4th Light Dragoons; William Bird, John Beaven, Patrick Horan, and Richard Palfreyman, 8th Hussars; Henry Parker and William Pilkington, 11th Hussars; John McCann and Charles Warren, 13th Light Dragoons; and James McAllister, 17th Lancers.
Gunner—Royal Artillery: Alexander Wilson
Sergeant-Major—44th Foot: Francis O Neill.
Sergeants. 23rd: George Newman. 49th: John Savage. 57th: James Connanly.
Corporals—7th: Thomas Edwards; James Walsh. 23rd: Richard Clarke, William Hill
Privates—Coldstream Guards: James Kerby. 4th Foot: John Parker. 7th Robert Argue, Robert Brickhan, Thomas Kelson, Atkinson Neil-son. 30th: Patrick Murray, Terence Lynch. 23rd: John Birch, George Cumber, John Crooke, John Gething, William Lancaster, Edward Mandeville, Charles Williams 33rd: William [illegible] 44th: John McCarthy. [illegible] (Fusiliers): Alexander Maccandie. 47th: Denis McDonald, James Lithgow, James Wiltshire. 50th: John Callaghan, Patrick Thomson. 55th Martin Graham, Michael Mahoney 62nd: Laurence Gleason. 68th: James Bywater, [illegible] Lister, James Stabler. 77th: Christopher Border, James McGuire. 97th Patrick [illegible] George Littlefield. 88th Michael Kelly

Sailor—Royal Navy John Campbell.

Land Service—Frederick Appleton, William Barrett, William Bell, August [illegible] Dellett, Henry [illegible] William Fuck, James Howers, Arthur Franks, John [illegible] Frederick [illegible] cook, John Housleyp, John Jumper, Alexander Little, John McCauger, William [illegible] Page, George Platt, John Richardson, Charles Rivers, John [illegible] Daniel Shrubsall, Joseph Sharper, Edward Wells, John West [illegible] Joseph Bellamia, Joseph Jefferents, Francis Sellumson, Zachariah [illegible] Thellnes.

Total Amount of Articles Distributed:—53 caps, 59 coats, 62 trousers, 143 shirts, 49 stocks, 58 boots.

Expenditure	..	..	..	£s 814 42
Remain in Cash	..	..	..	.. 30 3 8
Total Received	..	..	..	.. 916 0

FRANCIS O'NEILL, Sergeant-Major, 44th Regiment.
S. LINCOLN, Troop Sergeant-Major, 13th Light Dragoons

ROYAL LITERARY FUND.

The anniversary festival of the friends of this institution, established to administer assistance to authors of genius and learning, who may be reduced to distress by unavoidable calamities, or deprived by enfeebled faculties or declining life, of the power of literary exertion, was celebrated at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday evening. The chair was occupied by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Oxford, supported by the Archbishop of Dublin, the Bishop of St. David's, Mr. Buchanan, the American Minister; Mr. Monckton Milnes, M.P., Sir A. Alison, Bart., Dr. M'Bride, Principal of Magdalen-hall, Oxford; M. De la Pierre, the Belgian Consul-General; Sir R. W. Jodrell, Bart., Colonel Gibson, the Rev. Arthur P. Stanley, Sir J. G. Hubbard, Archdeacon West, Rev. Professor Stacey, the Rev. Dr. Russell, the Rev. Dr. Parkinson, of Manchester; the Rev. E. Stokes, Christ Church, Oxford; the Rev. J. Moseley, Magdalen College, Oxford; the Rev. T. B. Morel, the Rev. G. Pottinger, the Rev. Austen Lee, Rev. Henry Alford, Professor Perowne, King's College; Rev. J. R. Morris, Rev. J. Fenwick, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge; Rev. Peter Neate, St. Peter's College, Cambridge; Rev. Dr. Major, Rev. J. Major, Sir Denham Norreys, Mr. Alderman Spiers, and about 120 other friends of the institution.

Dinner over, and the usual loyal toasts having been given, with all the honours, the Chairman gave "The Church," coupled with the name of Archbishop Whately, than whom there was no more distinguished ornament of literature. The right rev. prelate had always placed aside a tithe of his profits, as a literary man, in aid of that institution, so that, by inspecting the accounts of the literary Fund, they could pretty well calculate the progress which Dr. Whately was making in his literary labours. He looked upon literature and Christianity as indissolably united, and no man had done more for the promotion of either than his right rev. friend.

Archbishop Whately, in returning thanks, said that if his contributions to the society had not been, in a past year or two, as previously, it had arisen from the fact, not so much in a diminution of the sale of his works, as the expense of re-printing; but he hoped yet to prove of some benefit to the society. He looked upon the Queen and the Church as an integral portion of their constitution; and, in alluding to the Church, he spoke of it in its general sense, and not as confined to that portion to which he had the honour to belong. It had always been his desire to reconciliate the greatest confidence and union between the people of Ireland, and also between the Churches of England and Ireland, and if anything he had written could conduce to that event he should have felt at least he had done some good in the sphere of life to which God had called him.

The Right Rev. Chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening—"Prosperity to the Royal Literary Fund, and health to its noble President, the Marquis of Lansdowne"—expressed his regret that the noble Marquis would not be present that evening, as just prior to the festival a letter had been received from that noble Lord, stating that he could not attend, but as a token of his sympathy enclosing a cheque for £25. He need say but little in proposing this toast, inasmuch as they all knew the object of the institution, it being to aid the suffering members of the literary profession. That profession was peculiarly in want of occasional assistance, because success was so uncertain, however valuable the work of the literary aspirant. He was happy to say they lived in a time when they depended not on the patronage of kings and princes, but on a liberal public, but at the same time they lost those rewards and perquisites which kings used to bestow upon them in former times. That patronage had created considerable evil, in fettering the independence of the writers; and they had to guard now against the influence of the present system of patronage, lest writers, by flattering the prejudices of the multitude, should depress rather than elevate the character of our literature. It seemed an independence of literary men such an institution as this was very beneficial, as no person could read the heart-breathing autobiography of Haydon without comprehending the difficulties and temptations with which genius was surrounded. It therefore became those who had the means to make a provision for the evil days of their poorer brethren, as the prizes in literature were but few, and the blanks very many. He had had an opportunity of examining the record of this society, and could bear testimony to the ability, integrity, and faithfulness with which the affairs were conducted. He considered that one of the great features of the institution was the secrecy with which all relief and assistance was conferred on the members of the literary profession, for such was the modesty and delicacy of feeling of genius, that it would rather struggle against any difficulty than that its woes should become known; and the world in gift lose the brightest emanations of talent, or the most erudite results of research, if those who required their assistance felt that, in the days of prosperity, they could be pointed out as having formerly received a pension from the society. If they wished to foster literature, they would encourage that modesty of genius, and cordially join with him in drinking to, and aiding the prosperity of the institution. He therefore called upon them to drink to the "Prosperity of the Royal Literary Fund, and the Health of its Noble President, the Marquis of Lansdowne."

"The Historians of England" was responded to by Sir Archibald Alison, who pointed out that all history showed that it was only when France and England were united the advance of barbarism upon Europe had been repelled and kept in check.

A variety of other toasts were given, including "The Literature of Europe and America;" to which Mr. Buchanan, the American Minister, replied.

The collection of the evening amounted to rather more than £300; including £100 from her Majesty, £25 from the President (the Marquis of Lansdowne), £10 10s. from the Chairman of the evening, &c.

NEWSVENDERS' BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—The general meeting of this praiseworthy institution was held on Monday evening, at the Freemasons' Tavern—Mr. Charles Dickens, the president, in the chair. The chairman, after stating the objects of the institution, forcibly recommended it, and expressed his satisfaction at the manner in which it was managed. He then drew a humorous picture of the newsvenders' business, showing how admirably they managed their's fairs, in contradistinction to the way in which matters were conducted in other places. From the excellent way in which this society was conducted he had every hope of its success; but if Mr. W. Hall had been appointed to carry on the distribution of newspapers simply because his great-great-great-grandmother had done so, he should have very little hope indeed (Laughter). Again, if he (the chairman) received papers two or three years ago, with all sorts of publications which he did not want, and if his staff could do no more than stand on their heads, or "over" all the street posts upon their beats, instead of distributing papers, while some juvenile Janet had their oilskin "portfolio," he should have also very little hope (Laughter). Some time ago they had a strike of cabmen, which caused a great deal of inconvenience; but he could assure them, as an idea of their usefulness, a cab strike would be a mere trifle compared to the importance of a suspension of the labours of the distributors of news (Laughter). Their calling had become of vital interest to the community in the assistance which it rendered to the diffusion of that mighty engine—the terror alike of all humbugs and despots—the press (loud cheers); and that calling had now become more useful than ever. He remembered the period when the sheet of the *Times* would have hardly furnished one night's curling paper for a young lady's hair—particularly if she was possessed of anything like a tolerable crop; and he had watched its growth up to the present day, when every one must admit that a morning's *Times* would make a moderate sized carpet for a dining room (Cheers and laughter). Looking then, at the developments of its power, without speculating upon the future, he thought that the newspaper trade should, in justice to itself, rise also in influence and position (Hear). It rested with themselves entirely whether they made their desires should be realised, and whether they should obtain that support from each other and from the public which he believed their exertions deserved. Mr. Coles, the secretary, then read the report, which was of a gratifying character—it having been added to their funded stock during the last year. Mr. Herbert moved, and Mr. Wyld seconded, the adoption of the report, which was unanimously agreed to. Mr. Thompson, in a humorous speech, proposed the thanks of the meeting to the press for the valuable assistance which it had rendered them. On looking over the list of subscriptions he found that more than two-thirds came from the press. He was glad of that, and was also happy to say that they were enabled to distribute the influence of that mighty engine over the world. Carried unanimously. Mr. C. D. Walter moved, and Mr. W. Wright seconded, another resolution:—"That the thanks of the meeting are due, and are hereby given, to those proprietors of newspapers and other friends who have liberally contributed to the funds of the institution." Carried unanimously. Votes of thanks to the committee and to the chairman were then agreed to.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

ADDISON depicts a newsmonger of Queen Anne's time who, in a death of news, was invariably observed to turn extremely thin. If any newsmonger of Queen Victoria's time is similarly affected, we may easily depict his present appearance—his hatchet-shaped face, and his living skeleton of a figure. Gossips by nature and habit have as much difficulty in obtaining news as the authorities at the Stamp-office have in defining what is news. Authors have all but ceased submitting manuscripts to publishers; and no Royal Academy Exhibition of the last five-and-twenty years has done so little for engravers as this of 1855. We cannot hear of a good book that is likely to appear in print; or of a good picture that has opened the pocket of a print publisher. One of the most eminent and liberal of printsellers has been heard to declare that the Royal Academy does not contain a single picture that deserves to be engraved. This is a hard judgment; but we know in what way publishers pronounce on what is good. Ben Jonson's "bookseller" was the type of a still-existing class:—

Then that make't gain thy end, and, wisely well,
Call's a book good or bad, as it doth sell.

If a print publisher could foresee a fair profit in any picture, he would at once declare that "here we have a very fine work of art; one, Sir, that deserves to be engraved; one, Sir, that I shall entrust to Mr. Cousins or Mr. Atkinson—to the best engraver of our day. I spare no cost, Sir, when I can really see a repaying picture."

The last mail from India returned to this country the two most distinguished antiquaries that India possesses—Colonel Rawlinson, of the Bombay Infantry; and Major Cunningham, of the Bengal Engineers. The Colonel has been pursuing his studies in Persian antiquities (he was Resident at Bagdad); and the Major has, it is said, completed the work on which he has been long engaged, "The History of the Successors in the East of Alexander the Great." Each, with Indian liberality, has brought for presentation contributions of moment to the British Museum.

Who is to be the successor at the Antiquaries of Sir Robert Inglis will be settled this week. Mr. Hunter was first thought of, then Mr Layard; but the election will fall—if the Council have their way—on Mr. Edward Hawkins, the Keeper of the Antiquities in the British Museum. An honour of this kind—it is that of one of the Vice-Presidents—is eminently due to Mr. Hawkins. We are not sure that the selection will satisfy some of the noisier members of that learned body; but it will satisfy the public (as far as the public cares about the choice), and will reflect credit on the Society itself.

The more intimate friends of the late Mr. Lockhart are raising among themselves a subscription sufficient to erect a monument at Drybargh Abbey over his remains. Lockhart is buried next to his illustrious father-in-law. The monument will be in modest keeping with the tomb which protects all that is mortal of Sir Walter Scott. It will be a kind of altar-tomb of granite, with a profile medallion in bronze on the top of the author it seeks to commemorate. The chief subscribers are the Earl of Ellesmere, Dean Milman, Mr. Richard Ford, Mr. John Murray, Dr. Ferguson, and the Rev. Dr. Wellesley. The medallion is entrusted to Mr. Steell.

India has been contributing its fair share to the subscription for raising a statue in Edinburgh to Christopher North. The subscription now amounts to more than £1300. This will be sufficient, it is said, thanks to Mr. Steell's hearty co-operation—to erect a statue in bronze a little larger than life, that will do justice to Wilson, and satisfy his many admirers. It is only within our own time that "the life to come in every poet's head" included a portrait statue in bronze in a public thoroughfare. Poets crept into Westminster Abbey by a kind of good-natured indulgence, now they are maintained there, and find as many admirers among thoughtful visitors as kings and statesmen.

There is a passage in one of the *Tatlers* a paper attributed to Addison—that is curiously true of our own times. He tells us of a vagrant politician who delighted in retailing intelligence on one of the benches in St. James's-park. "This newsvender of the day told us, with a seeming concern," says the *Tatler*, "that by some news he had lately read from Muscovy, it appeared to him that there was a storm gathering in the Black Sea which might in time do hurt to the naval forces of this nation. That for his part he could not wish to see the Turk driven out of Europe, which he believed could not but be prejudicial to our woollen manufacture. He then added that he looked upon those extraordinary revolutions which had lately happened in those parts of the world to have risen chiefly from two persons who were not much talked of, and those, says he, are Prince Menzikoff and ———." What we quote is from No. 155 of the *Tatler*, of the 6th of April, 1710. Is it not true of 1855? Is not the name of Menzikoff a remarkable coincidence? Only substitute cotton for woollen, and Mr. Bright and Mr. Gibson will admit its extreme applicability to the present juncture of affairs

The great historian of the Peninsular War has told us for the first time—in a delightful volume just issued of selections from his "History"—who his authorities were for some of the more striking and disputed statements in his work. His chief authority, we now learn, was the Duke of Wellington himself. The Great Captain was always ready to answer any query that the historian put to him, and the historian had the good sense to profit by such promptness and liberality. If anything was wanting to stamp Napier's "Peninsular War" as a standard work, the fact that the Duke was a contributor to its accuracy is more than sufficient to satisfy that want. Oddly enough, we know—but not from Napier—that the Duke never read Napier's history; and this not from any discourtesy to a man he esteemed, but from a desire to avoid controversy.

While we are writing that there is no news a bit has reached us that merits publicity. The new edition of Dean Swift's works, which Mr. Murray for some time has announced without the name of any editor, will now appear with the name of Mr. John Forster as editor. Mr. Forster's admirable articles on De Foe and Sir Richard Steele point him out as an quarrelsy the man peculiarly fitted for the task of editing Swift. A really good edition of the Dean's works is much wanted. Sir Walter Scott's edition is in nineteen volumes, and is now a costly work. Its original price was £8 11s., and its present auction price is still dearer. Sir Walter did good service to Swift; but he retained too many idle notes, and left very much for others to do. Many of the notes are sadly out of place; and the journal to Stella, which requires and deserves the most careful illustration, is all but barren of the assistance which every reader must wish to obtain. Mr. Forster's edition will be in ten volumes, and will comprise all of Sir Walter Scott that is worth retaining

MR. HOPE'S LIBRARY.—At the sale of the valuable library of the late Mr. William Hope, at Paris, the manuscripts which fetched the highest prices were:—A missal in folio of the sixteenth century, with 26 beautiful miniatures, and richly bound, 5500 fr.; a Prayer-book, 8vo, on vellum, 144 leaves, and 13 miniatures, 950 fr.; another, written for Madame de Chaulnay, 8vo, on vellum, of 401 pages, 8 miniature and ornaments, [illegible] with the arms of the enlightenment Le Couteux upon it, 805 fr.; and a other, said to have belonged to Charles VII. and sold for 99 fr. in 1776, 325 fr. Among the books were the "Galerie des Peintres Flamands, Hollandais, et Allemands," Paris, 1792, three vols. folio, proof engravings, 855 fr.; full-length portraits of the personages of the Court of Louis XIV., under the title of "Memoires et Mesdames à la Mode," folio, 390 fr.; "Roland Furieux," translated by Gaussin, Paris, 1775, four vols. 4to, bound in morocco, with proof engravings, 820 fr.; and "Lettres de Madame de Sévigné," Paris, twelve vols., in India paper, bound in green morocco, with Mr. Hope's arms on the cover, with a turnsach volume, containing 1500 portraits and views, 1260 fr. The sale fetched an aggregate sum of 38,800 fr.

The French Minister of State has addressed a circular to the Prefects, calling their attention to the fact of companies of strolling players being about to go through the country for the purpose of performing at different theatres during the absence of the regular performers. The representations of such companies are forbidden, as, from their stock of plays being exempt from any actual, they may play pieces dangerous to morality and to public order.

* Intelligence has since been received of the death of Captain Arnold.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE CRIMEAN MEDALS BY H

ESTY, AT THE HORSE GUARDS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

DISTRIBUTION OF WAR MEDALS BY THE QUEEN AT THE HORSE GUARDS.

HER Majesty's intention to distribute medals for service in the Crimea to all such officers as could be assembled for the purpose, and to a portion of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers from every regiment engaged in the campaign in the East, was announced as an event requiring little preparation except the necessary orders from the Horse Guards and Admiralty for the arrival in town of the officers, soldiers, and seamen entitled to receive the Crimean Medals. But when her Majesty's gracious intention became known, the desire to witness and take part in the ceremony became as deep and as general among all classes of the metropolis as the sentiment of admiration for the valour and fortitude of the brave army of the East. Parliament itself desired to lend its sanction to the scene; and at the last moment galleries and stages of enormous extent were constructed at every point overlooking the Parade in front of the Horse Guards. The House of Lords and the House of Commons were accommodated in galleries erected on the Park side of the Parade, looking towards the Horse Guards. On the opposite side of the Parade, and attached to the Horse Guards, were two large galleries, one on each side the archway—that to the north being devoted to the families of the officers participating in the ceremony, and the southern gallery being appropriated to members of the Government and their families and friends. Among the occupants of the latter gallery were Viscount Palmerston, the Duke of Newcastle, Mr. Gladstone, M.P.; Sir G. Grey, M.P.; Mr. F. Peel, M.P.; the Duke of Argyll, the Marquis of Clanricarde, Mr. Bankes, M.P.; the Earl of Minto, Mr. Cowper, M.P., &c.

Between these two galleries a capacious balcony, projecting from the lower central windows of the Horse Guards, and handsomely festooned with scarlet cloth, was constructed for the members of the Royal family. Extensive flights of seats were also erected at the south end of the Parade, near the residence of the First Lord of the Treasury, and at the north end along the Admiralty Gardens; while the roof and stone balconies of the Horse Guards, the Admiralty, the Treasury, and of every house commanding a view of the spectacle, were crowded. The stages and galleries were all covered with crimson cloth; and when, between nine and ten o'clock they became filled with a brilliant assemblage of beauty and fashion, clad in the gayest hues of spring, the picture had received one of its most charming accessories. But that which gave unparalleled magnificence to the spectacle was the scene upon the Parade near the Horse Guards, where were assembled hundreds of officers of every rank and of every arm in the service, wearing the full uniform of their regiment, with all the stars, medals, ribbons, crosses, and orders which they were privileged to wear. Among the earlier arrivals was General Sir De Lacy Evans, whose breast was a blaze of decorations. Officers in uniform, whether belonging to the Line or Militia, were admitted without tickets within the Parade and the loose pelisse of the Hussars, the picturesque cap of the Lancers, and the scarlet and gold of the Line, were agreeably diversified by the gay semi-Oriental uniform of the Nizam's Irregular Cavalry (worn by Brigadier Mayne), the light-blue and silver of the East India Regular Cavalry, and the manly and serviceable dark-blue uniform of the Land Transport Corp (represented by Captain Mayne, now on recruiting service), whose Robin Hood style of bearer excited no little attention. There was a numerous assemblage of officers of Militia and Yeomanry, whose dress was puzzling from its novelty and diversity. The general uniform of the Militia regiments was scarlet and silver, to distinguish it from the gold and scarlet of the Line; but officers of Militia rifle regiments, of Militia artillery regiments, and of the Royal Navy, were not wanting to vary the monotony of scarlet; nor must we pass over without a line the useful dark grey uniform of Colonel Deedes, M.P., the Major-Commandant of the East Kent Yeomanry Cavalry. Whatever may be the merits or demerits of scarlet in the battle-field and in campaigning, it is certain that upon holidays and festivals there is no more splendid uniform in the world than that of English military officers. Let the reader, then, imagine the effect of this glorious contrast and combination and of colour seen from every point of the Parade under a brilliant sun, and he will admit that we have "filled in" a striking background to our picture.

The central object of the Parade, towards which all eyes were turned, was the Royal dais, lined with crimson cloth, situated about fifty yards from the Horse Guards. It contained a handsome gilded chair of state for her Majesty, and a smaller chair for the Prince Consort.

The chair was placed so that her Majesty, when seated, faced St. James's-park, and ample space was therefore afforded for the movements of the troops in the large area between the dais and the railings of St. James's-park. Right and left of the Royal dais, was a double line of centries Thousands of ladies and gentlemen were admitted by cards to pass the line of sentries who obtained a more or less complete view of the ceremony The future of the day's proceedings which was, perhaps, the least satisfactory was the small space left behind the barriers for the general public, who have shown such noble English feeling with regard to our army and the prosecution of the war, that their claim to consideration is undoubted, and would, no doubt, have been recognised, but for the unavoidable necessity of securing sufficient space for the evolutions of the troops. The crowd outside the barriers, along the Mall, and at every point from which anything could be seen was so vast, and the pressure so dense, that Hyde-park would hardly have sufficed for the display.

At nine o'clock four flank companies of the Grenadier Guards, two of the Coldstream Guards, and two of the Fusilier Guards, marched upon the Parade with their bands, and took up the position usual on Birth days. The front line also consisted (at right angles to the infantry) of the first squadron of the Life Guards, the first squadron of the 2nd Life Guards, the first squadron of the Royal Horse (Guards Blue, and the first squadron of the 6th Dragoon Guards (the senior regiment of the Foot Guards (namely, between them and St. James's-park) were drawn up the non-commissioned officers and men who were to receive medals, and also detachments who witnessed the spectacle as representatives of the regiments in the Crimea. Those who were to receive medals were placed on the left flank the officers being drawn up in three ranks in front of their respective corps. The regiments were arranged, according to their numbers, from right to left. About half-past nine the band of the Royal Marines marched through the Horse Guards from Whitehall, followed by the officers and seamen of the Royal Navy and the officers and men of the Royal Marines, who were to receive medals. The sailors, when they emerged from the archway into the centre of that distinguished military throng, looked somewhat taken aback, but soon recovered a joyous kind of composure, which they maintained throughout the ceremony. They took up a position on the right of the dais, near the Admiralty.

At ten o'clock the cheering of the populace in Whitehall announced the arrival of the Duke of Cambridge who immediately took the command of the Parade. His Royal Highness wore the uniform of a Lieutenant-General, with the Ribbon and Star of the Garter, &c. Shortly afterwards the Royal carriages arrived, with the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, and other juvenile members of the Royal family, who took their places in the Horse Guards central balcony, with her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, her Royal Highness the Princess Mary of Cambridge, &c. The General Commanding-in-Chief, Viscount Hardinge; General Lord Gough, Major-General the Earl of Lucan, Major-General the Earl of Cardigan, Major-General Wetherall, Major-General the Hon. J. Scarlett, Major-General Torrens; the Minister of War, Lord Panmure, who wore a blue ribbon with the Order of the Thistle; the First Lord of the Admiralty, Sir C. Wood; Admiral Berkeley, &c., were ready to receive her Majesty, who entered the Parade from Whitehall precisely at eleven o'clock, amid the cheers of the multitude and the thunder of cannon. Her Majesty was accompanied by Prince Albert, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Hohenlohe, and attended by the Duchess of Sutherland and a brilliant suite. Her Majesty, who wore a lilac and white dress, green velvet mantle, and white bonnet, lined with green velvet. Prince Albert wore the uniform of a Field Marshal, while the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and another Royal visitor wore the white uniform of the Austrian army. The Queen courteously acknowledged the cheers of the multitude, as "God Save the Queen" pealed out from the bands of the various regiments which assisted at the parade.

The distribution of the medals immediately commenced, after an evolution which may be termed a kind of *coup de théâtre*. The various recipients of the medals were, as we have stated, formed in line in rear of the Foot Guards. The Duke of Cambridge ordered both lines to form four deep, and then the rear line, passing through the front line, marched until it arrived at a distance of 100 feet from the dais, when the word "halt" was given. The recipients of the medals then formed in line, and her Majesty stood face to face with her brave soldiers of the Crimea. The Sailors and Marines formed in line on the left of the Guards. A murmur of applause ran round the countless assemblage when the rear rank, and, if wounded, at that battle. These particulars were read out by the Adjutant-General for the information of the Queen and Court. On her Majesty's right stood the Minister for War, who handed the medals successively to her Majesty, which her Majesty handed to the men who received them and displayed. The first person who received the medal was his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and a shout rang out from the multitude which alike expressed the public sense of the Royal Duke's desert and a consciousness of the high satisfaction which it must have afforded the Queen to see in the van of that gallant body one so nearly allied to her in blood and friendship. The same Colonel Macdonald, the Duke's Aide-de-Camp, Major-General the Earl of Lucan, Major-General the Earl of Cardigan, who was greeted with loud cheers. Major-General the Hon. J. Scarlett, with their respective staffs, and the Cavalry in the order of their regiments. The Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, and Royal Sappers and Miners, under Lieutenant-General Sir J. Burgoyne, G.C.B., followed. Then came the officers and men of the three regiments of Foot Guards, under his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. Next advanced the infantry of the line, under Lieutenant-General Sir De Lacy Evans and his staff, with Major-General Torrens and his staff.

It is impossible to describe the mingled sensations of admiration and pity which went like an electric thrill through the vast multitude as they saw that line of heroes, whose gaunt and pallid forms, scarred features, and maimed and mutilated limbs, told alike the story of their bravery, and of their nearly endless and heart-rending suffering and privation. Many of those who hobbled upon crutches or walked painfully with the assistance of a stick wore upon their arms the emblems of mourning for some brother or near relative, now reposing on the hillside at Balaclava, or in the hospital graveyard of Scutari. Up every one of the wounded, whether soldiers or officers, her Majesty said some kind word, or asked some gracious question. Many of the poor fellows were almost overcome by their emotion and by the sweetness of her Majesty's condescension, and many a moistened eye upon the Royal dais bore witness to the intense sympathy that exists between the Palace and the Camp. A few of the private soldiers appeared to lose their self-possession for a moment on finding themselves thus brought into the very presence of the "divinity that doth hedge a King;" but for the most part the brave fellows exhibited a simple gratitude and manly self-respect which did them infinite honour.

Three officers, whose wounds rendered them unable to walk, were wheeled past her Majesty in Bath chairs. Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Thomas Troubridge, of the 7th Fusiliers, who lost both his feet in action, was the first of these maimed heroes. The Queen, leaning over the chair, handed Sir Thomas his medal with the most gracious gesture, and conferred upon the delighted officer the post of Aide-de-Camp to her Majesty. Captain Sayer, of the 3rd Fusiliers, was also compelled to receive his medal from his wheeled chair, and her Majesty's sympathy was here also manifested with the liveliest grace. Another gallant sufferer, Captain Currie, of the 19th Foot, was scarcely able to walk the length of the dais, even with the aid of a pair of crutches; and his helpless condition and severe sufferings deeply excited the sympathy, not only of the Sovereign, but of his comrades in arms. When the Highland regiment passed before the dais the band changed the tune to the "Blue Bells of Scotland," and "Where have you been at Gretna Green?" Such fine stalwart fellows were some of these Highlanders that one might have thought that the finest men of the regiment were also the bravest, or that they had been selected as much for their physical prowess as for their valour. As the men received the medal they passed towards the line of sentries on the Admiralty side, where they became the objects of eager but respectful curiosity. Upon many faces the lines of suffering yet remained, and here and there might be seen traces of that resentful rightness of face, that fierce and sullen despair in their dark eyes, which those who saw them lying in their blankets in the hospital at Scutari have depicted with such graphic power

When the soldiers had passed before the Royal dais, the Royal Navy and Marines, under Vice-Admiral Dundas, presented themselves—the gallant Admiral being the first to receive the medal from the Queen, the band playing "Rule Britannia." The soldier had, according to regulation, satisfied the necessities of the service by touching his hat to the Sovereign; but Jack took his off ere he approached the dais. The regular officers of the Royal Navy having passed the dais, then came the turn of the midshipmen, smart gallant little fellows, who, in all the glory of white kid gloves, received such an honour from the hands of their Sovereign as middies never received before. The commander-in-chief of Malta appeared that any man had been wounded, the inquiries of the Queen were made with an earnestness and sympathy which appeared to be highly relished by the rough, but honest tars. The marines brought up the rear; and no body of men better deserved to participate in the honours and distinctions of such a day.

The distribution of medals having been brought to a close, the detachments from the depôts of various regiments in the Crimea who had been allowed to witness the ceremony, but who have not seen service yet, marched to the rear of the Guards and formed there. The Guards, who all wore their new scarlet tunic regimentals, then marched past and saluted the Queen, which brought to a termination the imposing pageant. The Royal carriages drove up, the bands again played "God Save the Queen," and her Majesty left the ground amid the cheering of the people, returning to Buckingham Palace by the Centre Mall.

After the parade the non-commissioned officers and soldiers who had received medals were formed in line and marched to the Queen's Riding-school, Finsbury, where a substantial repast was prepared for them, and the sailors, marines, and marine artillery. During the dinner her Majesty, leaning on the arm of Prince Albert, and accompanied by the Prince of Wales, and other members of the Royal family, paid them a visit. A party of seamen and marines also enjoyed an *al fresco* entertainment at the Admiralty Gardens.

The following are the names of those who were honoured with the Crimean Medal:—

OFFICERS OF THE ARMY.

Lieutenant-General his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge.
Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Troubridge.
Lieutenant-General Sir De Lacy Evans, K.C.B.
Major-General the Earl of Lucan.
Major-General the Earl of Cardigan.
Major-General the Hon. J. Scarlett.
Major-General Torrens.
5th Dragoon Guards—Captain Robertson, Lieutenant Gunter.
5th. Captains Swiftsh. Ker, Hopkins, Blunt, Flint, Lieutenant Chulloch
Royal Dragoons—Captain Halnsell, Sykes; Lieutenants Hartopp, Cruse; Veterinary-Surgeon Pettit
2nd Dragoons—Captain Sutherland, Lieutenant Freedegrast
4th Light Dragoons—Captains Hume, Fitz, Lieutenant Booth, Assistant-Surgeon Crighton.
5th Dragoons. Lieutenant White, Cornet Anderson.
8th Hussars—Cornet Reidy
11th Captains Dallas, Travelyan, Cornet Silver
13th Light Dragoons—Lieutenants King, Mannell, M'Lean; Cornet Greatrex.
17th Lancers—Colonel Lawrenson, Captains Hartopp (late), Morgan (late), and Lieutenant Woodwell (late).
Royal Artillery: Lieutenant-Colonels Lake, Gardner, Irving, Rowan, Tresse; Majors Forster, Mawle, D'Aguilar, Turner, Franklin, Blakeney, Vellerton, Radbury, Barslow, Yates; Captains Youngsmith, Grant, Fraser, Vernon, Tassell, Richards Dashwood, Brandon, Havilland, Brodie, Morris, Lieutenants Hamilton, Fraser, Tucker, Watson; Assistant-Surgeon Gilborne.
Royal Engineers: Captains Cliff, Lovell, Ravenhill, Lieutenants Lempriere Phillips Stokes
Grenadier Guards: Lieutenant-Colonels Bradford, Maitland; Majors Tipping, De Horsey Cameron; Captains Burgoyne, Stern; Quartermaster Lilley, Surgeon Nicoll
Coldstream Guards: Colonel the Hon. G. Upton, Newton, Lieutenant-Colonels Lord Fitzroy, Lord Inverkeith, Wilson, Brown-Major Fielding; Captains Baring, Lord Bingham, [illegible] Chas. Stopford, Frederick, Colonels Dyschatt, Berkeley, Hall, [illegible] Captains Fane, Hodge, Dauer, Sandys, Lord Fitzmaurice, [illegible] Surgeon Hearn.
[illegible] Prevost.
[illegible] Lieutenant-Colonel Sir T. Troubridge; Captains Rose, Tryon, Butler, Carpenter, Keville, Curry, Fitz Gerald, Watson; Lieuts. the Hon. A. Crofton, Blaney, M'Henry
14th Foot. Captains Maycock.
17th Captains Earle, Brinckman.
19th: Captain Swinburn.
19th Lieutenant-Colonel Uniett; Captains Barrett, Clay, Morrison, Currie, Jennings; Lieutenants Unett, Thompson, Mitford
19th. Captains M'Neill, Lee.
2nd Lieutenant Colonel Haines, Brevet-Major Rolleton, Lieutenant Stevens
22nd Captains Bulmer, Rathorne, Sayer, Granville, John Clarke
26th Major Lindsell, Brev t-Major Wakefield, Captain Orlebar
26th Brevet-Majors Rose, Fakenham, Dickson, Bagley, Captains O'Brien, Harcourt, Falkner; Assistant-Surgeon Fyffe
33rd: Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Gough, Captain Nugent; Lieuts. Sirce, Greenwood, Owens, Keswick.
34th Captain Page
38th: Captains Crauter, Beswick, Glester; Quartermaster Doherty
39th: Captains Newport, Wilson, Agnew, Dixon.
41st Captains Meredith, Hugh, Bush, Stewart; Assistant-Surgeons King, Abbott
47th Lieutenant-Colonels Tulloch, Cameron; Brevet-Major Campbell, Captains Wilkinson, Whatley, Paymaster Mullinen
49th Captains Mackilchrake, Streatfield; Brevet-Major Browne, Lieutenant Bradford
50th Major Vesey, Captains Fane, Waldy, Llewellyn; Lieutenants Waldy, Wilkins.
51st Lieutenant-Colonel Haly, Brevet-Majors Sankey, Loddie; Captain Phillips.
54th Captains Astley, Corban, Hooker; Lieutenant Cobbl.
55th Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Maxwell, Major Weare, Assistant-Surgeon Noot
57th Lieutenant Colonel Powell (late Major of the 57th Regiment).
58th: Colonel Warren, Major Coakes, Captains Blissett, Armstrong, Barnston, Marsh, Ensign Hand, Hume, Brown; Lieutenant Tweedie.
59th Captain Copeland, Lieutenant Buller, Assistant-Surgeon Scott
62nd: Lieutenant-Colonel Tidwell, Major Harris; Captains Bamford, Fairlough, Cockburn John; Surgeon Watt Assistant-Surgeon Flower.
68th Captains Morant, Stover, Seymour, Fitzroy; Lieutenants Light, Cator; Assistant Surgeon Johnston
71st Captains Bannerhassett, Smith
77th Lieutenant-Colonel Stratton, Captain Carden
79th, Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, Captains Maitland, Miller, Cunningham, Freme, Muir; Paymaster Cortes
80th: Major Brown; Captains Cresse, Haynes, Riley, Henning, Lieutenant Rod.
84th Captains Phillips, Nicoll; Lieutenant Cresswell
90th Captain Sulse, Lieutenant Irby
92nd: Lieutenant-Colonel Hay, Captain Dawson, Lieutenant Chaplill, Assistant-Surgeon Hume
93rd, Lieutenant-Colonel Hume; Captains Charlton, Garrard, Morgan, Lieutenants Bazalgette Smith, Brooksby
97th, Captain Annesley.
97th Brigade: Lieut.-Colonels Bradford, Hereford; Majors Hardinge, Elrington, Majors Lane of Errol, Elliot, Captains Inglis, Nixon, Warren, Butler, Hoarcher, Ross, Lieutenants Hammond, Deedes, Lindsay
Staff, Unattached, &c.: Lieut.-Colonel Hon. J. Macdonald, Brevet-Major Mayne, 1st Regiment, Major Walker, 7th Dragoon Guards; Lieut.-Colonel Hon. Fitzroy Somerset, Colonel Jeffreys, Parkhouse 2nd 11; Captains Clifton, Carpenter, 7th Dragoon Guards; Cavalry, unattached; Major Nasmyth, Kane, East India Company's Service, Lieut. Colonel Evelyn, Turk service.
Medical staff: Drs. Dumbreck, Farrer, Deputy-Inspectors-General Lord Boundes, Staff-Surgeons, Darcey, Mitchell, Stewart, Assistant-Surgeons
Acting Commissariat Clerks: Le Maitre, Brown
Chaplain: Rev R. Hopkins

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES.

1st Royal Dragoons: Private Samuel Woodwards (wounded).
6th Dragoon Guards: Corporal Schofield (wounded), Corporal Cope Parks, Farrier Innis
8th: Corporal K. Malone (wounded), Privates Carney, Wilkins.
7th Private C. Stockwell.
9th, Dragoons (Scots Greys), Private Alexander Turner (wounded). Charles Adam, Robt Hunter
6th (Inniskilling) Dragoons: Sergeant-Major Alexander Shields (wounded), Private James Waite (wounded), Michael Hooker (wounded), John Brown
4th Light Dragoons. Sergeant David Gilliland (wounded), Privates Thomas Moon (wounded), William Simpson, Healey Stratton.
11th Hussars: Private Mcdonald, Saddler Twohey
13th Sergeants Sam Breese (wounded) John Kilvert (wounded), Corporal Clark Privates Michael (wounded), Walker (wounded)
13th Light Dragoons. Privates Mountain, Gibbons, Keene (wounded)
17th Lancers, Corporals Thomas M Gee (wounded), William Lee Blamock; Private John Yates (wounded)
Coldstream Guards, 2nd Battalion Sergeant-Major Talbott (wounded), Sergeants Thomas Austin (wounded), Robert Harvey, William Talbott, Corporal Frederick Hedges (wounded), Privates William Scrutton (wounded), John King (wounded), John Simmons, Thomas Ward, John Burt (wounded) Emanuel Barnard (wounded), Samuel Hibbard, William Barnell (wounded), John Hay (wounded), Peter Burtwood (wounded), Walter Robinson, Joseph Hawkins (wounded), James Hadley, James Lacey William Goworthy (wounded), Frederick Sheldrake (wounded), William Nicholls (wounded), William Gould (wounded), James Ashkerbe
Scots Fusilier Guards, 2nd Battalion, Sergeants Richard Rye and John Crear, C. C. Moulton; Privates William Joy, William M'Laughlin, Thomas Walters, William Robertson, James M'Kay, William Boyd, James Wyatt, Benjamin Drummond, Jonathan Kitt, Alexander Hannah, Duncan Menzies, Elijah Hobone (sick), Peter Grimmond, Charles Sidney Peter Raffil, John Pye, George Biddlecombe, George Watt; Drummers James William Jaggs
Royal Regiment. Lance-Sergeant J. Roberts, Privates Patrick O Donnell, John Manning, Daniel Brown
6th King's Own: Corporal Peter Dunn, Lance Corporal James Ponton, Privates John Connelly, Jesse Quell
Royal Fusiliers: Sergeant Thomas Sarjeant (wounded), Privates Thomas Court (wounded), James Mooney (wound.d), William Barnack, (wounded)
8th: Sergeant B Cogill, Privates H Smith, J Cogill, Thomas T Madigan
19th: Sergeant B Daly (wounded), Privates J O'Callagan (wounded), J. Hicks, J. J
26th Corporal M. Smith, Privates J. Adams (wounded), J Stokes (wounded), W. W (wounded)
33rd Fusiliers: Corpors. Lawson, Privates Bradshaw (wounded), Lyons, Talbot.
3rd. Corporal S. Lock, Privates T. Owens (wounded), J. Hoarky (wounded), Edwards (wounded)
38th: Privates Patrick Fitzgerald, William Carey, John Edwards, William Wheed
8th (detachment): Sergeant John Taylor, Corporal Michael Walsh, Private Robert Nolan
33rd (Duke of Wellington's): Colour-Sergeant William Mason (wounded), Sergeant William Kennedy (wounded), Corporal Thomas Carney (wounded), Jeremia Crowley (wounded) William Burton (wounded)
38th Colour-Sergeant James Stone (wounded), Corporal William Goodall (wounded) Privates Isaac Kile (wounded), James Stone (wounded)
41st Corporal Elijah Thomas, Lance-Corporal Robert Welsman (wounded), Private Martin Trainton (wounded), Neale O'Connell (wounded)
2nd Corporal Fox, Privates Lyal (wounded), Thomas Such (wounded), Robert Lawson.
47th Lance-Corporal George Rogers (wounded), Privates William Carney (wounded) Daniel Mooney (wounded), Henry George (wounded)
49th: Sergeant William Spooner, Privates Daniel Redwood, John Ryan, James (wounded).
47th. Lance-Sergeant Charles Cross (wounded), Lance-Corporal Thomas Wood (wounded), Private James Sadler (wounded), Thomas Such (wounded)
Sergeant Robert Cross, Corporal John Cunningham (wounded), Privates Cooper Lance-Corporals Robert
Colour-Sergeant Cornelius Wrenn, Privates George Young, James Ladd, Hutchinson
50th Privates John Foster Edward Fox (wounded), John Farrell (wounded), Daniel Hudson
57th: Corporals J. Keeling (wounded), H Smith (wounded), Private W. Noble (wounded)
62nd, Sergeant W. Prouse (wounded), Privates Denis Hagan, James Gaffey, W Rawlin.
68th Light Infantry: Privates Patrick Reid (wounded), John Boden
77th Sergeants-Major Robert Southgate, Corporal Charles Dillon (wounded), Private Samuel Brown, Matthew Cromwell, Charles Yellop
79th Highlanders: Sergeant John M'Even, Privates Alexander M'Donald (wounded) James Anderson (wounded), Charles Borthwick
Sergeant O'Brien (wounded), Privates Martin Day (wounded), Patrick Sullivan (wounded), Thomas Sullivan (wounded)
91st Light Infantry (detachment): Privates John Hall, John Thompson, John Bell
93rd Highlanders, Sergeant Alexander M'Donald (wounded), Privates Erwan, J. Fraser, Hanson (wounded), Patrick Mulany (wounded)
Sergeant Thomas Jones (wounded), Corporal William Chase (wounded), Privates Bannon (wounded), Patrick Mulany (wounded)
7th Corporal Daniel Madden, Privates John Holbrook, Henry Sergeant, Charles Fry
2nd Battalion 19th Brigade: Corporal William Muggridge (wounded), Privates Edwards Palmer (wounded), William Carolles (wounded), T. Dulihan (wounded)
2nd Battalion 19th Brigade: Colour-Sergeant Henry Gaskin, Sergeant James Jones Private John Tricom
Royal Artillery Sergt-Major J. Hains, Quartermaster-Sergt W. Brown, Staff Wheelwright Carriage, Sergeant-Farrier John Philips, Colour-Sergeants Thomas Hanson and William Bombardier William Crawford (wounded), John Hurgreaves, Thomas Sadler, Richard Williams Crowe (wounded at Inkerman); Corporals Clifton, Lapellope, William Wade Richmond Webber, Lambertine, Robert Coy, Alexander Macdonald (wounded in trenches); Gunner Henry Lindsell, Drivers William Coachman, David Pinkey; Gunner Hugh Elliott, Robert Lawkins (wounded at Inkerman), Gunners and Drivers James Hughes, James Bagshaw (wounded at Inkerman), Joseph Holmes, William Lowe (wounded at Inkerman), Joseph Holmes, William Thomas Phillips, Alexander Thompson, William Dixon, High Hellery, Charles Hanson (wounded in the trenches), Henry Bush, John Davis, Henry Silver, John Prosey (wounded in the trenches), John E. Hoot, George Gubbs, Bombardier Peter Macmicken

ROYAL NAVY.

Vice-Admiral J. W. Deans Dundas
Captains G Graham, late of the Rodney; Lord G. Paulet, late of the Bellerophon; C. Ewart, late Commander of the Trafalgar, A. F Kynaston late in command of the Leander, the Lincoln; H D Rogers, late Commander of the Audacious, R C Hamilton of the transparent, Lord R. Russell, late of the Vengeance; H F. Greville, Trafalgar
Commander W. H. Hotham, late Lieutenant of the Agamemnon; J. N Normin, late Trafalgar (severely wounded); W. H. Bridge, late Lieutenant of the Vengeance; Thomas Jones, late Lieutenant of the Firebrand; John W D Mansfield, late Flag-Lieutenant
Major Wilcox, Royal Marines, Agons Gaudin, served in the Battle of the Trafalgar
Lieutenants G Taylor, late of the Arethusa; H. W. Willkinforce, late of the Trafalgar
John M. J. Bolton, late of the Arethusa; G. A. Hamilton, late of the Arethusa; J. Ball, late of the Tarrell (severely wounded); H Rogers, late of the Arethusa; T Barrett, late of the Hero; W. L. Wilson, late of the Vengeance (wounded); H L. Rudder, late of the Vengeance; the Hon. H Carpel, late of the Britannia; J. F. Griffiths, of the Bellerophon; W. R. Sandys, Bellerophon; A. Hoskyns, late of the Samson; W. C. Anderson Sans (wounded), J. Robinson, late of the Trafalgar; W. Waynouth, late of the Sanspareil; Sullivan, late of the Agamemnon; Lord Lyttelton, late of the Spitefuli; Lord E. Cecil, late Leander; the Hon. H. W. Chetwynd, late of the Sphynx; J. Berkeley, Vengeance
Second Masters Mr. C. Parkinson, of the Sanspareil, (wounded); Mr W. H. Fawcett of the Vengeance
Masters Mr J. W. Lambe, late of the Trafalgar; Mr. G. T. Nicholas, Retribution.
Midshipmen Mollyneux, of the Bellerophon; the Hon. Maurice Wingfield, late of the Leander, F. H. Floco, late of the Sealpelopon, W H M. Mulvaney, Sanspareil, A. G. A. Sanspareil, B. E. Sandys, Bellerophon, F. Edmund Fitz Roy, late of the Trafalgar, Sirling, Coldstream Guards, late of the Britannia; N S T Digby, late of the Britannia
Mr J. T D Brownrigg, M D, late of the Sanspareil
Surgeon: Dr W. Graham, late of the Vengeance; Dr. H T B Beveridge, late of the Samson.
Assistant-Surgeon Mr R Creighton, Trafalgar.
Paymaster Mr W Hamilton, late of the Albion, R C Hawes
Engineers: Mr. E. T. H. Bird, late of the Terrible; Mr R. C Reynolds, late of Agamemnon
Clerk Mr C. K. Foulkes Bellerophon
Boatswain Mr J. Starling, late of the Samson.
Gunner Mr Cyber, armourer; J. S. Cobb, carpenters crew
Bellerophon: H Bridge, chief quartermaster; J. Rowe, second captain of forecastle.
Dawe, armourer; R. Pearce, sailmaker's crew
Sanspareil: T Brown, chief quartermaster; W. Foat, J. Mooney, E. Pengelley, leading seamen
Arethusa: Thomas Thorne, gunner's mate (wounded); William Mann Charles W. George Lawrence, leading seamen
Hero: John James Garland, admiral's coxswain, John Goulding, John Beard, seamen; James Gobbie.
Trafalgar: Frederick Melson, captain of afterguard; Jacob Jillard, James Willis, Robert Payne, leading seamen
Britannia: Charles Brooks, admiral's coxswain; Daniel Coakley, gunner's mate; Mc Lumey, John Kane, able seamen
Trafalgar: John James, captain of forecastle, Joseph Ridley, Charles Smith, leading seamen, Joseph Day, able seaman.

ROYAL MARINES.

Captains W. H. March (severely wounded) E. P. Usher; Lieutenants F. H. Cox M'Arthur, F. G. Ryan, Francis Walton
Chatham Division: Colour-Sergeant Edward Smith, Lance-Corporal William H Privates Frederick Hesen, James Schooling, William Cimpson, James Jackson, George Osborn, Charles Goff (wounded)
Forces on board Prince Regent: Corporal William Chase; Privates Timo Samuel Barnes, William Bish, George Wood
Woolwich Division: Corporal Patrick Farrell; Privates William Robinson, Wm Waverly, John M'Cann Jun, William Midgley, John E. Richardson, Robert Woods, Ch Robinson (wounded), John M'Elroy (wounded), John Hunton (wounded), Robert (wounded), Joshua France (wounded), Robert Wilcox (wounded), and Joseph Sc
Artillery Companies Sergeant William Rigney, Bombardier Michael Flynn; Gunners Samuel Sir th, Edward Tiebs, William J. Hewlett, Robert Kennedy, John McIlulah.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

LAST week I had to chronicle the rare occurrence of a field-day in the House of Lords; this week has given us the incident of a "cross" in the House of Commons. The sort of thing has happened before, but not with the unblushing completeness of Monday night. The disappointment of the crowds of people who hurried over early dinners so as to get down to Westminster in time to hear what they anticipated would be the great debate of the Session, and then found that the matter had been arranged out of court, was comical, and reminds one of what happened in former days, on the unexpected break-up of Lord North's Government. On that occasion there was a crowded house. Every one expected a long debate—it ended hard—and the members sent their carriages away. To the surprise of every one, instead of showing a bold front to the attacks of his adversaries, the Premier calmly informed the House that he and his colleagues had resigned in the afternoon, and thereupon moved the adjournment, which—as there was no business before the House except the intended badgering of a Ministry which had caused to exist—was forcedly carried. "There is some good in being in the secret, gentlemen," said the ex-Minister, as he passed down Westminster-hall to his carriage, addressing the discomfitted groups who were peering out through the rain in the vain hope of arresting some errant hackney-coach. Certainly so decided a cross as that of Monday night was never not fought; but, as members of all parties were implicated in the transaction, the tendency is to treat the matter rather as a good joke than otherwise. Whether the character of the House of Commons stands the higher for such jokes is a question.

An eruption of Vesuvius, exceeding in severity any that has occurred for a great number of years, was, at the last accounts, still continuing. In these days hardly any occurrence gets the honour of serious treatment; where our fathers shuddered we prefer to laugh—just as they listened to Siddons, and our predilections incline to Keeley. So, instead of those emotions of terror and sublimity which so great a convulsion of nature would have excited in the minds of the spectators in former days, now the sensations experienced appear to be principally those of amusement. Vesuvius in its fury is looked upon in the light of a popular performer: people order their carriages, and drive to Castellamare, or scramble to the Hermitage or the Somma, just as they would go to the opera, or the Fen Carino, with a grateful sense of the advantage, never absent from the Neapolitan mind, of not having to pay for their seats. If eruptions could be had to order, no doubt the Sorrento Railway Company would get one up every year, for they are making much money of this one by running trains, filled with the curious, every quarter of an hour to Portici. The art of advertising is not much known in Naples, or the walls would doubtless disappear beneath posters, composed on the Vauxhall or Cremorne model, as thus—"Immense attraction!!! Grand Eruption! Floods of Lava—Destruction of Vineyards—probable overwhelming of Castellamare! Tickets for the grand stand to be had at the office. Refreshments by Messieurs Cocchi and Rocchi," &c. It may be as well to remark that in one respect the eruption seems to have been hitherto almost harmless: we have heard of little, if any, loss of life.

In answer to a question relating to the mysterious engine proposed by Lord Dundonald to be employed in the destruction of Sebastopol and Cronstadt, Lord Palmerston has said that, although he could say nothing positive, it appeared to him that the difficulties of its employment were almost unconquerable. One cannot guess what may be the exact nature of Lord Dundonald's invention; but no very deep science is requisite to know that there exist explosive mixtures compared with which gunpowder is as harmless as a child's toy, and which, introduced, even in small quantities, within a hostile fortress, would by their explosion absolutely pulverise the most solid ramparts. Probably the most active agent of this kind which we are acquainted is that which chemists call chloride of azote (a combination of chlorine gas and nitrogen) which has hitherto been only procured in the form of very small globules, of an oily liquid. The explosive force of this substance far exceeds that of any other known. Almost anything—even a bare touch by a piece of metal sets it off; and a globule no bigger than a large pea will blow a hole in a thick table. A pint bottle of this agreeable fluid would certainly blow Sebastopol "into the middle of next week," if a man in a balloon could drop it into one of the batteries. It is only a question if it would not also blow the Allied armies and the Crimea itself into the Black Sea. But then who could, or would, make a pint bottle of it?—or, supposing it made, and the city containing the manufacturer's laboratory to have escaped the dangers of the process, who is to take charge of it, or carry it where it is wanted? Many people think that Lord Dundonald's plan has some reference to the use of balloons. If so it would not be the first time that balloons have been used in warfare: they were successfully employed by Dumouriez for the purpose of reconnoitring, I think, before the battle of Jemappes.

A long letter, signed Verbena, has appeared in the *Times*, setting forth in very lively terms the amount of crowding, pushing, bustling, struggling, inflicted and undergone by ladies and gentlemen who attend the Drawing-rooms at St. James's. No doubt it is very bad, but the English people have themselves to thank for it. It is hard to conceive for what earthly reason, unless out of kindness to the milliners, half the people who attend Drawing-rooms do so. To say that the object is to show respect to the Queen appears to me simple nonsense. The fact is, the English have a mania for going to Court. In foreign capitals, our Ministers are plagued out of their lives by applications from all sorts of people "to be presented." Quantities of applications are made, as I happen to know, after every Drawingroom, at the Chamberlain's office, for certificates of presentation. Of course there are no such things, but the reason of asking for them is the notion that no one can be presented at a foreign Court unless he or she has first undergone the operation at home. The consequence of this singular anxiety to bow or curtsey to the Sovereign is, that a thousand people are almost squeezed to death, where the two or three hundred who appeared at St. James's in former times could move about in comfort.

THE LATE "O." SMITH'S LIBRARY.—The library of this well-known comedian (whose real name was Richard John Smith) was sold, by auction, by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, of Piccadilly, last week—the sale occupying three days. Few among the frequenters of the Adelphi Theatre, where the deceased gentleman's impersonations of diableries and human atrocities have alternately horrified and amused, would have supposed that, in his private pursuits, the laborious student and assiduous "collector" were combined. Evidence of this, however, is furnished by the catalogue of his library, which contains upwards of 1000 articles, chiefly books, the selection of which is alike creditable to the good taste and discrimination of the late possessor; while the careful manuscript notes and occasional illustrative drawings by his hand bear testimony that his books served not as mere furniture to his shelves. The collection was not one of rarities, but consisted mainly of useful books. A few of the more remarkable were the following, viz.:—Lot 212, collections for a dramatic every-day book, formed by the late Mr. Smith, and entirely in his singularly neat and beautiful autograph, sold for £8. Lot 313, dramatic autographs, consisting of letters of David Garrick, Mrs. Siddons, and many other dramatic celebrities, sold for £4 2s. 6d. Lot 483, Percy Society's publications, sold for £5. Lot 582, a set of Shakspeare's works, sold for £6 2s. 6d. Lot 558, a collection of materials towards a history of the English stage, by the late Richard John Smith, Esq., 25 vols., sold for £31. Lot 559, a manuscript and printed collections relative to the English stage, compiled by the late Mr. Joseph Hazlewood, 9 vols., sold for £35. Lot 608, Garrickiana, a collection of engravings to illustrate the life and theatrical career of David Garrick and his contemporaries, in two atlas folio volumes, sold for £95. Lot 610, a series of Hogarth's works, sold for £12 10s. Lot 871, Theatrical Curiosities, a large collection of engravings, mounted in a volume, sold for £7 7s. Lot 872, Title-pages, a very large and interesting collection, presenting examples by Faithorne, Cross, Dorigny, De Bry and others, in two vols., sold for £5 12s. Lot 876, Wilkinson (J.) Theatrum Illustratum, memorials of ancient playhouses and modern theatres, copiously illustrated, by the late Mr Smith, sold for £8. After the books were sold some curiosities and personal relics of the late owner, but presenting nothing remarkable—amongst them (lot 994) knife used in playing *Shylock*, by the late Edmund Kean, sold for 12s.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. K., Manchester. We have received but one of the Games, and shall be glad to have some other specimens.

J. T., Tottenham.—The Solutions of 581 as given by us is perfectly correct omitting the superfluous letter (that White's set move); and if Black take the Rook, as you suggest, he is obviously mated next move.

A. F., Florence.—Your letter of the 28th ult., and the subsequent enclosures, have duly arrived. The translations are admirably done.

J. C. BAYLESS.—1. It shall be submitted to the author, and we hope may prove incorrect, as it always a pity to find a clever Problem in other respects, admitting of a commonplace Solution. 2. We have no recollection of receiving any correct Solutions of yours which were not noticed.

A. K., Lambeth. Now under consideration.

M. M., Cayras, F. Deason of Bruges, J. B of Bridport, W. Grimshaw, H. Turton, C. M. J. C. F. E., and Mr Kling are thanked for the Problem received.

IOTA.—An early reply will very much expedite the arrangements and oblige us.

W. W. S.—If, in playing a game two steps, it pass over a square commanded by an adverse pawn, your opponent may take it with his pawn, as if you had played it only one step. That, of course, he cannot do that and make another move also.

S. S. T., Nottingham.—You mean the German "Handbuch" of Williams and Nergate, the foreign booksellers, and the other work named of Mr. C Stoot, publisher, Kingsway-street, Charing-cross.

C. W., Sunbury. Your Problem is not quite up to the standard. 2 The Solutions are correct. 3. We are too much driven for space to reprint the position you ask for.

H. F., Penzance.—Simply because Black would have repeated his King's Rook 2nd, and then have won the game.

C. G., Ashwell. We have no room at present for the Solution, or it should be given W. C. C., Stretham.—No, it shall have attention. No 7 is below par.

GUESTS STEPHEN, E. L. B.—The Solution of the "Smothered Mate," which Lucena gives is 1 Q to K 6th (ch), K Kt to K B 7th (ch), 2. Kt to K 8th (double ch), 4. Q x R Kt 8th (ch) 5. Kt to K B 7th—Mate: and in the modern version of this beautiful strategem the Pieces are so arranged that they admit of no other.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 585, by Absolon, Yldiaw, J. F., Guernsey; E. H., Norwich, S. T., Falmouth, C W. Sunbury, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No 586, by Arty, Yldiaw, J. F., Guernsey, E H., Norwich, Addison, C. E. B., Dublin; Ernest, M. P., Sepulchus, Philip, P. R. S., Alexander, C. P., J. T. H., W. O., W. C. O., Streatham, C. F. Q., J., Homeseeker, F. H. of Norwich, Hyacinth Lorenzo, Belfast, Edmonton, Peter-Familias, Dogberry, Cantelphum, D. D., Bumbledy Artilleryman of Woolwich, Modicus, Dot, Argus, T. F. G., are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 585.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK
1. Q to Q B sq	Q to K Kt sq	3. Q to K B 4th (ch)	P takes Q
2. Kt from Q 3rd to K B 2nd (ch)	B takes Kt	4. R to R 4th—Mate	

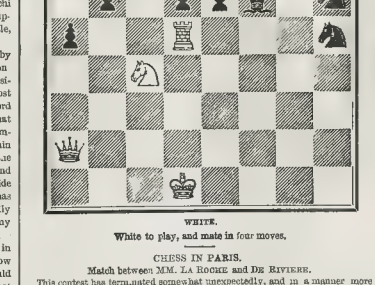
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 586.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to Q Kt 5th (ch)	P to B 3rd	3. B takes R	R takes R.P(best)
2. Q to Q Kt 8th	R takes P (ch) (best)	4. B to K Kt 5th	Anything
		5. Kt mates	

PROBLEM No. 588.

By Mr. H. TURTON

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS IN PARIS.

Match between MM. LA ROCHE and DE RIVIERE.

This contest has terminated somewhat unexpectedly, and in a manner more satisfactory, perhaps, to the *amour propre* of the combatants than to the expectations of the public, who are not generally very fond of negative issues. Neither of war or sport. The conditions of the match were, that the first who won seven games should be declared victor. After each party had scored six, just when expectation was on tiptoe for the decisive struggle, the belligerents, considering that one game was an insufficient test of superiority, agreed, by mutual consent to draw stakes and count the battle drawn. No one can blame them for this arrangement: the match was of their own making, and they had an undoubted right to conclude it as they pleased. We can hardly believe, however, that either will now rest content until the question of supremacy is fairly determined, and have no doubt that another match, of a larger number of games, will take place on the next occasion of M. La Roche paying a visit to the capital.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE THIRD GAME PLAYED:—

(Irregular Opening.)

WHITE (M. La R.)	BLACK (M. de R.)	WHITE (M. La R.)	BLACK (M. de R.)
1 P to K B 4th	P to Q 4th	31. K to his 2nd (f)	K to B 2nd
2. P to Q B 4th	P to K 3rd (a)	32. K R to R R sq	Kt to K Kt rq
3. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q B 4th	33. K R to his 5th	K to his 2nd
4 P to Q Kt 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	34. Q R to K R sq	K to Q 3rd
5 Q B to Q Kt 2nd	P to Q 5th	35. Q to her 3rd	B to Q 2nd
6. P to K Kt 3rd	P to K B 4th	36. Q to her 2nd	Q R to Q B 2nd
7 Q Kt to Q B 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	37. K R takes P	R takes R
8. Q Kt to Q B 2nd	K Kt to K 5th	38. Q takes B	Q takes Q
9. K B to K Kt 2nd	P to Q R 4th	39. B takes Q	P to Q Kt 4th
10. Castles	K B to K 2nd	40. B to K R 8th	B to Q B sq
11. P to Q 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	41. Q B to K R 4th	P takes P
12. K R to K sq	Castles	42. P takes P	R to Q Kt sq
13. P to K 4th	K B P takes P	43. K to Q 3rd	R to Q Kt 7th
14. P takes P	P to K 4th	44. K B to K R 3rd	R takes Q R P
15. P to K B 5th (b)	Q to Q B 2nd	45. Q B to Q 8th	R to Q R 6th (ch)
16 K Kt to K R 4th	K Kt to K sq	46. K to Q 2nd	R to Q R 7th (ch)
17. Q to K R 5th	K B takes Kt	47. K to Q 3rd	B to Q R 5th
18. Q takes B	Q to her sq	48. P to K B 6th	B to Q B 7th (ch)
19. Q to K R 3rd	Q Kt to K 2nd	49. K to his 2nd	B takes K P (discovering ch)
20. P to K Kt 4th	Q to her 3rd		
21. Q R to Q sq	Q R to his 3rd	50 K to B sq	B to Q 6th (ch)
22. Q B to Q R 3rd	Q R to Q B 3rd (c)	51. K to Kt sq	B takes Q B P
23. Kt to K 3rd	P to Q Kt 3rd	52. P to K Kt 6th	P to Q 6th
24. Kt to Q 5th	K R to K B 2nd	53. P to K Kt 6th	P to Q 7th
25. Q to K Kt 3rd (d)	P to K Kt 4th	54. B to K Kt 4th	Kt takes P
26. Q B to his sq (e)	P to K R 3rd	55. B takes Kt	B to Q R 8th (ch)
27. P to K R 4th	K Kt to K Kt 2nd	56. K to R 2nd	B to Q 4th
28 K to R 2nd	K Kt to K B 3rd	57. K to Q 8th (ch)	K to Q B 3rd
29. P takes K Kt P	P takes P	58. K takes B	
30. Kt takes K Kt (ch)	Q takes Kt		And Black resigned.

(a) If the Pawn be taken, then would follow

3. P to K 4th	P to Q Kt 4th
4. P to Q R 4th	

and, in a few moves, White regains a Pawn, and acquires an advantageous position.

(b) Nothing could have been gained by capturing the Pawn, since Black might always win another by its turn by K Kt to K Kt 5th, &c.

(c) To enable him to play the Q R Pawn without imprisoning his Rook.

(d) Daring and hazardous as it may seem at first sight, we should certainly in White's place have taken the Q. Pawn with the Q. Rook, and we err egregiously in our estimation of his skill if he sacrifice M. La Roche would not have gained an almost decisive superiority. For example, suppose—

25. Q R takes Q P	K P takes R

(The result of Black taking Kt with Kt is so obviously in favour of White, that it hardly needs to be shown.)

26 P to K 5th	Q to K R 3rd

(If he play Q to her 2nd, White answers with P to K 6th, and wins easily. If he retire the Queen to her Kt sq, White simply takes Kt with Kt, checking, and then captures the Queen's Rook.)

27. P to K 6th	B takes P (best)	30 R takes R	R takes Q
28 Kt takes Kt (ch)	K R takes Kt	31. R takes B—	
29 Q takes Q	B to Q 3rd	With a won game.	

(e) It is pretty evident, from the last move made on each side, that the idea of sacrificing the Queen's Rook either did not present itself to the players, or that they saw some objection to the manœuvre which we have overlooked. If our view is correct, the Queen's Pawn might have been taken now with as much advantage as before, and the capture would certainly have imparted more vivacity and interest to the combat than the comparatively tame move made.

(f) This was done probably from apprehension of Black's playing his Kt to K Kt 3rd, but we should have preferred moving K Rook to his sq, and if the Kt were then marched to Kt 3rd, K R to R 6th would have proved a very troublesome rejoinder.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The King of Portugal has recovered from the measles. He was to set out for France on the 20th

The reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha arrived at Brussels on Saturday morning last.

A public meeting was held at Sydney on the 22nd of February, over which Sir W. Denison presided, when £6000 was subscribed towards the Patriotic Fund.

The journey of the Empress-Dowager of Russia to Berlin will take place next month. Her Majesty is to go by Warsaw, Myscowitz, and Breslau. The King of Prussia is to receive his sister on the frontier of his states, to which point, it is thought, the Emperor will conduct her Majesty.

General Canrobert has been nominated a Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour.

Mr. Phinn, Q.C., M.P. for Bath, and Counsel to the Naval Department of the High Court of Admiralty, has been appointed to succeed Rear-Admiral W. A. B. Hamilton as Second Secretary to the Admiralty.

The Royal family of Sardinia has sustained another loss. The Duke de Genevois, the youngest-born child of the King, died last week.

In consequence of the death of Admiral de Mackau, there are now only two full Admirals in the French service—Admiral Parseval-Deschênes and Admiral Hamelin, both promoted on the 2nd December, 1854.

The foundation-stone of the new museum at Oxford will be laid by the Chancellor of the University (the Earl of Derby) at the approaching commemoration, on June 20.

M. Fané, Officier d'Ordonnance of the French Emperor, has carried out to the Crimea a new plan of operations, concerted between the Emperor and Marshal Vaillant.

The Prince Regent of Baden is about to contract a matrimonial alliance with the Princess Louisa, daughter of the Prince of Prussia. The Princess was born in 1838.

The Emperor Alexander has just sent to Baron de Jomini, the well-known writer on military tactics, a very flattering letter, and a valuable gold snuff-box, having his Majesty's portrait on the lid, and enriched with diamonds.

Dr. Kerndt, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Leipsic, has been sent to Paris by the Saxon Government, to make detailed reports on the different articles in the Exhibition

Professor Rosini, the author of the novel "La Monaca di Monza," died at Pisa on the 16th, at the age of eighty.

M. Roger, who is at present on a professional tour in Germany, has been engaged for one year by an American *impresario*, for £3000 (300,000 fr.)

M. Godard left New Orleans in a balloon the other day, travelled 310 miles in six hours, landed his passengers at Fort Gibson, Mississippi, and then resumed his voyage.

Lavigne, one of the oldest *pensionnaires* of the Académie Impériale de Musique, and the predecessor of Nourrit and Dupré, died a few days ago at Pau, his native town. He was much distinguished at the Opera for his fine tenor voice from 1808 to 1826.

G. V. Brooke, and Miss Fanny Cathcart have arrived at Melbourne, and are creating a great sensation

The Scientific Congress of France will assemble at Puy on the 16th September next to hold its 22nd session.

The "Requiem" of Mozart is to form a part of the programme at the approaching Birmingham Festival.

In pursuance of the resolution adopted on the 12th April by the Diet of Frankfort, the King of Hanover has annulled all the electoral laws of 1848 relative to the Chambers and the Provincial States.

The barracks which were formerly occupied at Versailles by the Guards of Louis XIV., have now received the inscription "Hôtel des Cent-Gardes."

A return moved for by Sir John Shelley, M.P., shows that the total net cost of the Victoria-street sewer amounts to £54,968.

The telegraphic line between Genoa and Nice was inaugurated on the 17th, and opened to the public on the following day.

During the period of the Exhibition the grand waterworks at Versailles will play every other Sunday afternoon

The proposition made by Austria to the Diet, to suppress all the gaming-houses at the different baths in Germany, is likely to be adopted.

Arrangements are about to be made for issuing passports, free of charge, to continue in force for one month, to all British subjects visiting the Paris Industrial Exhibition

A hogshead of hardware, in which revolvers and pistols were concealed, was seized by the authorities at Hull on Wednesday. It was at the Humber Dock, ready for shipment in the *Hamburg* steamer.

The recruitment of men for our "Turkish Contingent" is proceeding with success. Eight hundred horsemen arrived on the 10th at Smyrna.

Two shocks of an earthquake were felt at Nismes on the 14th at half-past ten at night, the second being the stronger one.

Preparations are now in progress, in the garden of the Palace of Versailles, for the exhibition of horticultural produce, which is to commence on the 27th.

The latest advices from Port Phillip announce shipments of gold from London to the amount of £401,500.

The exhibitors in the Palais de l'Industrie complain that the full price of admission (3f.) is extorted from their workmen and assistants engaged in unpacking and arranging their goods.

The Russian steam fleet in the Caspian Sea has been recently increased by four vessels, the *Astrabad*, *Count Wrontschenk*, *Ural*, and *Kura*.

In consequence of the want of water in Liverpool, it has been found necessary to make arrangements for watering the streets with salt water. The supply of fresh water from all sources, is 45,000,000 gallons a week, whereas no less than 60,000,000 is required.

All vessels loading guano at the islands of the Mexican Republic are prohibited from shooting birds on them, under a penalty of fifty dollars for each offence.

The Canadian Legislature have sanctioned, by a large majority, the additional grant of £900,000 to the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada.

Cronstadt has been declared in a state of siege. No person can hereafter enter the place without a special permission from the Governor.

Workmen are at present employed in erecting light constructions for the great cattle show which is to take place in the Champ de Mars, Paris, from the 1st to the 9th of June.

The tide of emigration still continues to flow from the north of Scotland to Canada. One vessel left the city of Aberdeen last week for Quebec with 350 emigrants. The total number from that quarter during the last two months amounts to about 5000 persons.

The railway from Genoa to Lake Maggiore will be completed towards the end of June, by the opening of the section from Oleggio to Arona. Genoa will then communicate directly with Switzerland and Germany.

On the 16th of February the Council of Victoria voted £20,000 as a contribution from the colony to the Patriotic Fund.

At New York great difficulty is experienced in obtaining seamen for the Navy, notwithstanding the bounty now given.

Up to the end of last year more than 1000 tons of rich copper ore were extracted from four or five different places near the Cape of Good Hope.

The rush of travellers from the United States to Europe this season is unprecedented, steamers and sailing-vessels being out full complements of passengers each trip.

The trial of the prisoners for high treason, taken at Ballarat, commenced on the 22nd of February.

On Saturday morning, between twelve and one o'clock, the *Fortune*, an emigrant vessel, on her passage from Liverpool to Australia, was driven into Dundrum Bay, with 290 passengers on board. Only two lives were lost.

The Paris Exhibition of the Fine Arts, which may now be considered complete, contains 5528 works, from 2004 artists

There are in the City of London 44,239 rateable houses, and in the metropolis generally, 386,324 houses.

There has been a total failure in the Newfoundland spring seal fishery. Letters from the colony give a deplorable account of the wretchedness and misery of a very large portion of its inhabitants.

The Australian clipper *James Baines* arrived in the Mersey on Sunday evening, from Melbourne, having made the voyage out and home, including detention, in five months and ten days.

A monument to the Genoese that fell in the Italian war of independence of 1848-1849 was inaugurated with great pomp on the 12th, in the Municipal Palace at Genoa, by the Syndic and the Municipality, in the presence of the staff of the National Guard and deputations from the army and navy.

NEW GRÆCO-ROMAN ROOM, JUST OPENED AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

This apartment, which will form one of the attractive novelties to the Whitsuntide visitors, occupies the basement under the new room entitled the "Third Græco-Roman Saloon." The apartment was not originally designed for exhibition, and is, therefore, less dignified in its proportions, and less sumptuous in its decorations, than the galleries on the principal floor. Deficiency of space, however, has led to its present appropriation to a portion of the "Græco Roman" Collection—a term applied to those sculptures of a mixed class, which, though dating from the period of the Roman Empire, and found chiefly in Italy, were executed generally by Greek artists, and in many instances copied, or but slightly varied, from earlier Greek models.

The objects exhibited in this room are miscellaneous monuments of subordinate rank to the ideal and historical statuary preserved in the galleries above, but by no means less interesting as illustrations of the arts, religion, and social life of the Greeks and Romans. All the articles are classified, with a view to facilitate comparison; and titles are attached to them, to explain their original application, and record, when known, the locality of their discovery. They are disposed in the following classes:—

I. Vases; II. *Patera*, or bowl; III Labra, or basins; IV. Candelabra; V. Representations of Animals; VI. Votive Human Feet; VII. *Trapezophora*, or table-supports; VIII. Sun dial; IX. Fountains; X. Masks; XI. Sculptured Discs, originally suspended as architectural ornaments; XII. Altars, XIII. *Cippi*, or low square columns; XIV. Bath-chair; XV. Architectural Fragments, and Models; XVI. Inscribed Pig of Lead.

THE MANGOSTEEN (GARCINIA MANGOSTANA).

THE MANGOSTEEN.

The production of this delicious tropical fruit, lately accomplished in the stove of the Duke of Northumberland, at Sion house, is considered by those conversant with the difficulties attending the labour as one of the greatest triumphs of modern horticulture; this being, we believe, the only successful attempt made since the introduction of the plant into England, in 1729. The ripe fruit exhibited last week at Gore-house, was one of four produced by a tree sent over by Dr. Wallich from the Calcutta Botanic Garden in 1853; since which time it has received the unremitting attention of twenty-two years, before crowning the exertions of its cultivator with fruit.

The botanic name of the tree is *Garcinia Mangostana*, in the Malayan language, *Manggostana*; and it is originally a native of the Moluccas Islands, whence it has been transplanted to various Islands of the Indian Archipelago. We engrave the tree, and an enlarged Illustration of the fruit and leaves. The former, when at its full growth, rises to the height of about twenty feet; having an extremely straight, tapering stem, with numerous horizontal branches, bearing large oval shining leaves, seven or eight inches long. The appearance of the tree is somewhat formal, owing to the great regularity of its growth, and the straightness of the stem and branches. The flower resembles a single rose in form and colour; and is succeeded by a round fruit the size of a small orange—its colour being chocolate-red; with a shell like the pomegranate, filled with a soft juicy pulp, of exquisite flavour, which has been described as between that of the strawberry and grape, or peach and grape; and it is esteemed one of the richest fruits in existence. The specimens from Sion-house have been pronounced by connoisseurs fully equal to those of tropical growth. Dr. Garcin says (*Philos. Transact.*) the Mangosteen is esteemed the most delicious of East Indian fruits, and a great deal may be eaten without any inconvenience; it is the only fruit which sick people are allowed to eat unsparingly; it is given with safety in almost every disorder, and we are told that Dr. Solander, in the last stage of a putrid fever in Batavia, found himself insensibly recovering by sucking this delicious and refreshing Mangosteen.

FRUIT OF THE MANGOSTEEN, PRODUCED AT SION-HOUSE.

It is to the care and skill of Mr. Iveson, head gardener to the Duke of Northumberland at Sion-house that this successful result of exotic fruit culture must be mainly attributed; but though the practicability of fruiting the Mangosteen in this country has been established, the same result must not be often expected, owing to the great difficulty and expense attending its accomplishment

REVIEW OF THE HON. ARTILLERY COMPANY, ON HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY.

REVIEW OF THE HONOURABLE ARTILLERY COMPANY.

On Saturday the Hon. Artillery Company, of which Prince Albert is the Colonel, assembled to the number of about 300, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. H. Fitzroy, M.P., and Major Reed, M.P., on their grounds in the City-road, for the purpose of commemorating the birthday of her Majesty by firing a royal double salute; on which occasion the vast area in front of the armoury, on which the union-jack conspicuously floated, was crowded with a large and fashionable company. The corps mustered about two o'clock, when, having been formed in line, it went through the usual evolutions, which lasted nearly two hours; after which a *feu de joie* was fired from thirty-one guns. A great many gentlemen connected with the Army were present, who congratulated the Lieutenant-Colonel on the efficiency of the company. The corps afterwards dined in the large room of the armoury, when the health of her Majesty was drunk with every demonstration of respect; and the other usual loyal toasts followed.

NEW COSTUME OF THE HON. ARTILLERY COMPANY.

MADAME BOSIO.

MADAME ANGIOLINA BOSIO was born at Turin, and at a very early age displayed remarkable talents for music. She was sent to Milan to pursue her studies, and for seven years was a pupil of Maestro Vincenzo Cattora. Such was her rapid progress in vocalisation that an engagement was made with her for the opening of the Teatro Ré; and her first appearance on the stage was in Verdi's opera, "I Due Foscari." Her success was unquestionable, and offers of engagement poured in upon her from all parts of Italy. Madame Bosio accepted a contract for the Imperial Theatre at Verona, where her lyric qualifications began to be more developed, particularly in Mercadante's "Bravo." From the sunny south she travelled to the north, having been engaged as prima donna at Copenhagen. At the Court Theatre, in the Danish capital, she created a sensation in the "Sonnambula," and in Verdi's popular operas. The climate proving too cold and trying, she was compelled to decline a lucrative engagement of three years from the Danish directors; King Christian VIII. and his Queen, however, loading her with Royal presents prior to her departure. On her return to Italy she was immediately engaged by Senor de Salamanca, afterwards Minister of Finance, and one of the original backers of Persiani, in the London Royal Italian Opera undertaking for the Circo. It was here that Mdme. Bosio had to contend with the reminiscences of one of the most florid and accomplished vocalists of any age or country, the celebrated Mdme. Persiani, but Mdme. Bosio's fame gradually gained ground. She was eventually tempted to visit the French capital, in 1848. Her health was not good, during the stormy days of the Republic; and although her pure style attracted the attention of amateurs, her dramatic powers were not at that time sufficiently strong for the exacting Parisians. The Havannah operatic managers came into the field, and tempted Mdme. Bosio to quit Europe. At the Tacon theatre she achieved triumph upon triumph, ap-

MADAME BOSIO, OF THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

pearing in succession in Meyerbeer's "Roberto il Diavolo," and "Gli Ugonotti;" in Donizetti's "Lucia," "Lucrezia Borgia," "Anna Bolena," "Don Pasquale, "Elisir d'Amore;" in Bellini's "Puritani;" Verdi's "Macbeth," "Attila," &c. For three years Madame Bosio travelled and sang in the North and South American States—following in the wake of Jenny Lind, and yet commanding her position as an exponent of the pure Italian school. In 1852 Madame Bosio was engaged by Mr. Gye for the Royal Italian Opera, Covent-garden, and since that début she has gradually risen in public estimation. Her career is too well known to require the repetition of notices of the operas in which she has appeared; but, in addition to the parts already enumerated as appertaining to her répertoire, Rossini's "Semiramide," "Matilda di Shabran," "Count Ory," "Mosè;" Spohr's "Jessonda;" Verdi's "Rigoletto," "Ernani," "Luisa Miller," may be specified. After the London season, Madame Bosio, for the last three years, has been alternately the prima donna at the French Imperial Opera in Paris and the Italian Opera in the same capital. As an interpreter of the florid school of vocalisation Madame Bosio is now probably without a rival.

MUSIC.

THE management of the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA is distinguished by remarkable activity this season. The attraction of the "Trovatore" is undiminished; it continue to be repeated to immense houses and with unabated applause. But this has not prevented Mr. Gye from bringing forward other attractions of the highest kind. Mario has reappeared—and Grisi, too, notwithstanding her formal adieu to our stage last season. Mario appeared last week in the "Puritani," and Grisi this week in the "Favorita." The great tenor is greater than ever. Last year his voice showed symptoms of decay. It had fallen off both in strength and quality; and was so uncertain that, during the whole season, he exposed the public to a series of teasing disappointments. His reappearance excited great curiosity and interest. The theatre was crammed in every part. The audience received their old favourite with the most cordial welcome; and soon found, to their agreeable surprise, not only that every trace of decay or weakness had disappeared, but that he sang better than he had done for years. He looked robust and vigorous, and his voice had not only regained the power and flexibility, but even the exquisite freshness, of his early days. Nay, more, it was generally felt and remarked that in some things he was positively improved that he sang with a higher degree of artistic refinement and finish than he had ever exhibited before. The delight of the public, accordingly, exceeds all bounds, and Mario is an object of greater enthusiasm than ever.

In regard to Madame Grisi, it seems to have been thought necessary to prepare the public for her reappearance after her "farewell performances" of last season, and the high prices paid for boxes and stalls under that impression. A semi-apologetic announcement, accordingly, was put forth, to the effect that circumstances having prevented Madame Grisi from retiring to her residence at Florence this year, the directors naturally sought to induce her to reappear on the Covent-garden boards; that they were at first unable to prevail on her, and applied to another distinguished artiste to undertake her parts; that, having failed in this, they again applied to Madame Grisi, who at length agreed to sing for ten nights. With this preparation, the great prima donna appeared on Thursday (as already mentioned) in one of her most attractive characters. As might have been expected, there was no cause for apprehension. The public were delighted to welcome their old favourite. There was an immense house, and she was received with a tumult of applause. Grisi looked extremely well, and her voice was as rich, sweet, and mellow as ever. We may expect, therefore, to have another series of "farewell nights" as brilliant and exciting as those of last year.

THE ROYAL OPERA at Drury-lane, after having been suddenly closed, without notice or explanation, and having remained shut for eight or ten days, has been reopened by Mr. Smith with the same company of performers as before, including the attractive Madame Gassier and her husband, but with an unprecedented reduction of prices. The pit and upper boxes are only a shilling, the dress-circle half a crown, the stalls four shillings, and the galleries sixpence. Cheapness is a good thing, but it may be carried too far. We greatly doubt—supposing the house to be filled every night—whether such prices will afford a good company of vocal performers (who cannot be obtained at a cheap rate), a sufficient orchestra, chorus, and all the accessories essential to the establishment of a respect able musical theatre.

MR. ELLA, the able director of the Musical Union, has just concluded a series of six lectures at the London Institution, which have excited much attention and attracted crowded audiences. The general subject of the course was the power of music. The lecturer took a review of the history of the art, analysed its various classes and styles, and traced out the sources of its influence on the mind and the feelings; illustrating his observation by ample specimens of ancient and modern music, performed by a select choir from the Royal Italian Opera, Miss E. Birch, and Miss Lascelles, principal vocalists; and Mr. Kuallmark and Mr. Ella himself at the pianoforte. The first lecture treated of devotional music, from the days of the Hebrews and the Greeks down to the present time, with illustrations from the works of Palestrina, Luther, Mozart, Mendelssohn, &c. The subject of the second lecture was secular vocal harmony; including the Italian and English madrigals of the 16th and 17th centuries, and the more modern glees and part-songs. The third lecture was on the subject of pastoral music; and the fourth, fifth, and sixth were devoted to dramatic music—the topic which afforded the greatest variety of discussion and illustration. On all these subjects the lectures were rich in historical research, sound and refined criticism, orig.nal remark, and interesting anecdote. Their style evinced the accomplished man of letters as well as the learned musician; and they were delivered in an easy and agreeable manner. Their reception was such as must lead to their repetition on other occasions.

A *soirée musicale*, under the direction of Signor Nappi, took place at the New Beethoven Rooms, on Tuesday. Madame Escott, Miss Ransford, and Signor G. Regondi, were among the artistes engaged; and the concert, which was well supported, went off with considerable spirit.

DEATH OF MR. TRAVERS, THE TENOR. We regret to announce the decease of Travers, the English tenor, who expired last Sunday, at Kensington, after a lingering and painful illness. He was only in his thirty-eighth year. No artist was more respected in private circles than this lamented singer. He was born in Liverpool, and was not originally destined for the stage; but the great success of his cousin, Miss Emma Romer, so many years the prima donna of National Opera, first prompted Mr. Travers (whose real name was Romer) to pursue his musical studies, nature having given him a fine voice. He went to Milan, and sang at several theatres in Italy prior to his début at Drury lane Theatre. His sister, Miss Annie Romer, afterwards appeared at the Princess's Theatre as a vocalist. Her career was also cut short by an early death. If English opera occupied the position, to which the abilities of our composers and singers entitle it, when compared with Continental establishments devoted to the lyric drama, Mr. Travers would always have commanded a foremost place. The last time he was heard in public was at the Music-hall in Store street, where, at the outbreak of the war, he produced his entertainment of "Nelson," which he illustrated with remarkable vigour by his admirable rendering of Dibdin's nautical ballads.

LORD LONDESBOROUGH has issued cards for a conversazione on Monday at his residence on Carlton-house-terrace, as President of the Numismatic Society.

GENERAL SIR DE LACY EVANS.—A Bust of this Veteran, from life, has just been completed by Mr Pepper, of Brighton. The work is the result of a "shilling subscription," raised at Brighton, and is to be executed in marble.

SOCIETY OF ARTS. THE TRADE MUSEUM. At the weekly meeting of this society, held on Wednesday evening, a paper was read by Professor Edward Solly, F.R.S., "On the Mutual Relations of Trade and Commerce," as inaugural of the opening of the nucleus of a trade museum, which the learned professor has been for some time past zealously and actively engaged in collecting under the auspices of the Society, in conjunction with the Commissioners for the Great Exhibition of 1851

AT meetings of the Electric Telegraph and International Telegraph Companies, held on Tuesday, the shareholders sanctioned the bill proposed in Parliament for consolidating the capital of the two companies, and for obtaining further powers in connexion with the present company.

BAL MASQUE AT DRURY-LANE. Monsieur Jullien gave a *bal masqué* on Wednesday night at Drury-lane Theatre. The pit was boarded over and carpeted, and a profusion of flowers, statues, and coloured lamps, added to the gay dresses of the masqueraders, imparted a fairy-like and brilliant effect to the whole. The masqueraders assembled in a great variety of fanciful and grotesque costumes. An excellent band was in attendance, and, owing to the judicious arrangements of Mr. Smith and his assistants, the utmost order prevailed throughout the evening. The boxes and galleries were crowded with spectators

THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. XVIII.)

"THOSE who live in glass houses ought not to throw stones," is a maxim which seems to have been forgotten by some of those who have lately amused themselves by hurling all kinds of abuse at Mr. Layard. A few of the scenes in which honourable members have lately figured have been worthy rather of the hustings at a contested election than of the House of Commons. It is true that Mr. Layard has by some inaccuracies laid himself open to attack; but his enemies have overshot their own mark by the indiscriminate volley of vituperation for which he has been made the target. Whatever may be the weight attached by the Legislature to a shower of derisive "cheers" or an avalanche of empty "Ohs," the English nation has an objection to seeing a man cried or laughed down, even when he is in the wrong; and, as Mr. Layard happens to have been a great deal in the right there is still less chance of success for those who are desirous of overwhelming him with unmeaning clamour. Perhaps, however, these desperate tactics have been adopted from a consciousness that any more legitimate mode of attack would only be followed by still more signal failure. This view of the case receives some confirmation from the very unfortunate result of the attempt made by Sir James Graham to assume the high moral tone in dealing with the dispute between the House of Commons and Mr. Layard. Sir James Graham has taken rather a melodramatic part in the business; for, while under examination before Mr. Roebuck's Committee, the late First Lord of the Admiralty turned, with a look of stern significance, upon Mr. Layard, and declared that "poor Captain Christie had died a broken-hearted man." This is not very far from accusing Mr. Layard of having persecuted the unfortunate officer to his death—and, indeed, Sir James Graham implied as much by asserting in the House of Commons that he had yielded too much to clamour by ordering a court-martial on Captain Christie in consequence of what Mr. Layard had said of him. The parties in this melancholy discussion seem to have agreed to take issue on the question, "Who caused Captain Christie's death?" and, at the outset of the dispute, the murdered man is laid by Sir James Graham at the door of Mr. Layard. This state of things does not, however, last very long; for a letter in the *Times* of Monday, transfers the melancholy burden to the door of the Admiralty, where it is of necessity allowed to remain, as Sir James Graham is compelled to admit that Captain Christie was sacrificed before he had been made the subject of any imputation by Mr. Layard. It is very unfortunate for the high moral party in the House of Commons, that one of its most respectable members, one whose honour and character have been the admiration of successive Parliaments for nearly forty years, has been obliged to admit that he has made a mis-statement quite as flagrant as any that have brought down the howls of the lower branch of the Legislature on the head of poor Mr. Layard. Of course we shall hear of the impossibility of anything like wilful misrepresentation on the part of an individual so high in the political world, and of such vast official experience as Sir James Graham. There would be no objection, perhaps, to taking the charitable view of the matter, and putting the most favourable construction on the erroneous statements of the late First Lord of the Admiralty, but it is hardly fair to ask for an acquittal of Sir James while calling for a condemnation of Mr. Layard. The young and ardent politician may be excused for any inaccuracies committed in the warmth and zeal of his denunciations of a bad system; but it is not so easy to pardon the errors of fact of the cool and practised statesman, who has learned caution, and should have acquired the habit of scrupulous accuracy during a long career in the highest public employment. The House of Commons will, of course, shelter Sir James Graham under the plea that the most truthful are liable to mistake; and the country may, perhaps, be disposed to accept the plea, if it is one of which Mr. Layard is also to be allowed the benefit.

It is strange that Sir James Graham should complain of no opportunity having been afforded him to set himself right, for if unfairness has been practised towards him, he must feel that the example of unfairness in dealing with a mistake has not been set by Mr. Layard. When a member of the House of Commons finds his explanations received in Parliament with all kinds of unmeaning interruptions, it is not unnatural that he had rather address the public through a letter in the *Times* than make a vain attempt to make his voice heard above the din with which he is liable to be assailed in the House of Commons. If he had attempted to reply to Sir James Graham's erroneous statements in the House it is not unlikely that a chorus of "Ohs," and an obligato accompaniment of other still more discordant sounds, might have drowned the voice of the speaker

The confidence of the public in the earnestness and sincerity of some of those who profess to have the interests of the country most at heart will not be much increased by the scene that was acted on Monday night, when Mr. Milner Gibson was induced to withdraw a motion, the result of which had been looked for with the greatest anxiety. Amidst the vacillation of those who pretend to the greatest zeal for the public good, there is something to be thankful for in the boldness with which Mr. Disraeli determined to bring matters to an issue. Even supposing his object may only be to damage the Ministry, we may in this instance reverse the usual practice, and, instead of taking "the will for the deed," we may accept "the deed," which is of real value, for "the will," which may be of a more dubious character

The Colonial affairs, and especially those of Australia, are in a condition to require all the energies and all the tact of the ablest Colonial Minister. In Melbourne the dissatisfaction seems to be such, that juries will not convict in cases of rebellion even on the clearest evidence; and the Government, rather than continue to submit to the humiliation of defeat, has postponed the prosecution of the Ballarat rioters. It is a sad symptom when the administration of the law is thwarted by the citizens themselves; but such is the present condition of the colony of Victoria. In the face of this state of things, there is a small party led by Mr. Lowe, the member for Kidderminster, who would risk the further embittering of the feelings of the Colonists, by opposing the Constitution Bills, which have been sent home for the approval of the English Government. It is all very well to say that the bills do not represent the feeling of the Colonies, but they have been framed by the only recognised organs of Colonial opinion—the Legislative Assemblies of New South Wales and Victoria. It would be satisfactory to know what Mr. Lowe and his adherents would propose to accept as an expression of the feeling of the Colonies. Perhaps the honourable member would be satisfied with a string of resolutions passed at a meeting of diggers armed with revolvers; but, until the local Government is violently overthrown, and mob law or lawless anarchy established, the only mode of getting at the wishes of colonists is through the legitimate channel of their authorised representatives. The Legislative Assembly may, and no doubt does, need reform; but if the Colonies are to have any Constitution at all within the next five years, it is better that the British Parliament should consent to give what the Colonies have asked through the medium of their constituted authorities.

Many people have heard, more or less vaguely, of the alleged ill-treatment of Mr. Kennedy, who was dismissed from a lucrative appointment in the public service for having shown too much zeal in the discharge of his duties. He is now only a bold man who undertakes to reform The office he holds, and it is not surprising that under the present—let it be hoped expiring—system, the would-be reformer will be sacrificed. Mr. Kennedy's patriotic exertions have, however, met with sympathy in some private quarters, for, in addition to the annuity of £12 a year granted on him by a friend as a compensation for the loss of his public employment, Professor Lindley has dedicated to him the following terms

"To the Right Hon. T. F. Kennedy, lately one of her Majesty's Commissioners of Woods and Forests and Land Revenues, who endeavoured to reform a public department in which unskilful management has been most disastrous, this edition of a work on the principles of cultivation is inscribed, as a mark of respect for high official character and ill-requited public services."

This is almost as remarkable a testimony as the annuity of £1200.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE five 60-gun screw-ships at Spithead are understood to be destined for the Black Sea, instead of the Baltic, calling at a French port to embark troops for the Crimea

DR. MORTIMER GLOVER, late of Newcastle-on-Tyne, having been appointed by the Government to the Civil Medical Staff, has left London for Scutari.

IT is expected that the huts and stables for cavalry and artillery horses at the Camp of Aldershott will be ready for occupation by the beginning of June; and it is stated that about 5000 men, [illegible] regular infantry, 400 cavalry, and 300 artillery and sappers and miners will march to the heath about the 12th of the month. The permanent camp to be constructed of brick, and which will include the field battery, smithies, and artisans' workshops—has been commenced

THERE are at present only four regiments of infantry, besides the two newly-raised battalions of Rifles, quartered in the United Kingdom, the whole of which are under orders for foreign service. The 1st, King's Light Infantry, returned from India last autumn, and the 29th, the 50th Foot, at Portsmouth, the 94th Foot, returned last autumn, at Windsor and the Tower; the 96th Foot, returned last month from India, at Dublin; the 3rd battalion (newly levied), Rifle Brigade, and 3rd battalion (newly levied) Rifle Brigade, at Portsmouth

THE *Enterprise* discovery-ship, Captain Collinson, from Behring's Strait, was paid off on Wednesday last. The inquiry into the charges preferred against her officers, who have been suspended from duty and placed under arrest for periods exceeding two years, has been, by order of the Lords of the Admiralty, intrusted to Vice Admiral the Hon William Gordon. It appears that, after duly examining the officers under arrest, which terminated on Wednesday we [illegible] the Admiral, acting the part of a grand jury, has ignored the [illegible] result is, that no court-martial will take place on these officers officers referred to have been granted Admiral's leave of absence, and two of them have been promoted.

A LETTER from Corfu of the 5th inst. gives a flattering account of the successful treatment of the sick and wounded in the Ionian Islands, under Dr. Barry, Deputy Inspector-General [illegible] ment, and sparing supply of medicines. It says "On the 1st of February last 468 patients were landed at Vido. Of these, 290 have recovered, fit for duty; 22 had died; 159 remain under cure, 17 of whom alone were confined to their beds. Of the 290 recovered [illegible] the Crimea, when the 48th Regiment went up on the 14th ult., by her Majesty's steam-frigate *Leopard*. The medical establishment for all those people consisted of one staff-surgeon, second class, and three assistant surgeons. This number has been reduced by one of the assistant-surgeons."

ORDERS have been received at Gibraltar from the War Office, directing that all the women and children of the several corps of the line doing duty there are to be sent home to England by the earliest opportunity, as it is confidently anticipated that all those regiments are shortly to be relieved by the militia, for service with the expeditionary army in the Crimea, under the command of Lord Raglan, and further, that all those men who may be considered by their respective medical officers unfit for active field duty, will be allowed to volunteer their services in the capacity of hospital attendants, &c.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF WESTMORELAND.

JOHN FANE, present Earl of Westmoreland, and British Ambassador at the Court of Vienna, is the eldest son of the tenth Earl by Sarah Anne, only daughter and heiress of Robert Child, Esq, of Osterley park, Middlesex. The remaining issue of this marriage were five children, of whom two, the Lady Sarah Sophia and the Lady Augusta, survive, the former being the present Countess of Jersey, and the latter the widow of the Right Honourable Sir Arthur Paget

The present Earl was married, in the year 1811, to Lady Priscilla Anne Wellesley-Pole, third daughter of William, third Earl of Mornington; by whom he has issue Lieut. Col. Francis William Henry Lord Burghersh, the Hon. Julian-Henry-Charles, and the Lady Rose Sophia Mary

His Lordship succeeded to the Earldom in the year 1841 His present titles are as follows—Earl of Westmoreland and Baron Burghersh in the Peerage of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, General in her Majesty's Army, Colonel of the 56th Regiment of the line; G.C.B., and Knight Commander of the Military section of the same order; Knight Grand Cross of the Guelphic Hanover; Grand Cross of the Red Eagle of Prussia, of St. Ferdinand and St Januarius of Naples, of St. Joseph of Tuscany, of Henry le Lion of Brunswick, Knight of Maria Theresa of Austria, one of her Majesty's Privy Councillors, and Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of Vienna. His Lordship has also received military decorations for the campaigns in Spain and Portugal, and the Russian medal for the campaign of 1812 in F[illegible]

His Lordship was educated at Harrow and Cambridge, and while yet only nineteen years of age he left the University (having entered the Army), and repaired to Germany with the view of pursuing his studies in military tactics. Two years afterwards -namely, in the year 1809, as Captain in the 23rd Regiment (the Welsh Fusiliers) he served in the expedition to Hanover, in the capacity of aide-de-camp to General Don; and from this period until after the campaign in France, and the surrender of Paris in 1814, he was constantly engaged in active service In the year 1806 he was sent as Assistant Adjutant-General to Sicily; was on board Admiral Sir J. Duckworth's fleet in the action at the passage of the Dardanelles, and the destruction of the Turkish fleet, lying off the Castles; was present also in the action before Constantinople, at the island of Prota, and at the re-passage of the fleet through the Dardanelles Shortly afterwards he filled the post of Assistant Adjutant-General to the forces, under Major General Wauchope, and was present at the first storming of the town of Rosetta, and in the retreat, and subsequently in the second attack and siege of that place, with the forces under Major-General Sir W. Stewart. In 1808 he served in Portugal as Assistant-Adjutant-General in the army commanded by Sir Arthur Wellesley, in the affair in the front of Obidos, and in the battle of Roliça and Vimeiro. In 1809 he served as extra Aide-de-Camp to Lord Wellington (whose affectionate friendship and esteem he enjoyed and retained to the latest hour of the life of that illustrious hero), and was present at the battle of Talavera. In 1810 he was with the 3rd Dragoon Guards, in the campaign in Portugal, including the retreat to Torres Vedras, the battle of Busaco, and advance to Santarem; in this year he gained his Majority, and in 1812 his Lieutenant-Colonelcy. In September, 1813, he was accredited as Military Commissioner to the head quarters of the allied armies under Prince Schwarzenberg, in Germany. His Lordship served in the campaign of 1814 in France, including the battles of La Rothière and Brienne, up to the advance of Paris, and battle of Paris, and the occupation of that city. In consideration of these services, on his Lordship's return to England he was appointed Aide-de-Camp to the Prince Regent, and Colonel; and was named Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Turin. In the succeeding year, his Lordship having joined the Austrian army at the battle of Tolentino, and in its advance upon Naples, he signed, in conjunction with General Bianchi, who commanded the Austrian army, the military convention of Casa Lanza, by which the Kingdom of Naples was restored to its legitimate Sovereign, King Ferdinand. In the year 1822 he became Privy Councillor; in 1825 he rose to the rank of Major-General; in 1838, to that of Lieutenant-General and K.C.B; and in 1854, to the rank of a full General. In 1839 his Lordship was appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Naples. In 1841 he was appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Berlin; and, in the course of his official duties, he negotiated the post, he signed, after a protracted negotiation, as mediator, the treaty of peace between Prussia and Denmark on the 2nd July, 1850—Baron Schleinitz and Baron Usedom being the Prussian Plenipotentiaries on this occasion; and M. de Reedtz, Baron Pecklem, and M. de Scheele, the Plenipotentiaries of Denmark From the Court of Berlin, Lord Westmoreland was promoted to that of Vienna, in consequence of the retirement of Lord Ponsonby. Between the departure of Lord Ponsonby from, and the arrival of Lord Westmoreland at Vienna a kind of interregnum had existed at the British Embassy, which capital, during which Arthur Magennis, Esq. officiated as Minister Plenipotentiary. Since Lord Westmoreland's accession to this present important post, it is worthy of note, and of great credit to his Lordship, that he has entirely succeeded in re-establishing that cordial amicable bond of union between England and Austria together in those bygone times that filled all some of the brightest pages in the history of both countries

Eminently distinguished, however, as his Lordship has been throughout his military and political career, he has been no less successful in cultivating the arts—to the study of which he has devoted himself, it may be said, *con amore* from his earliest years, with the greatest and most unswerving assiduity. Under the tuition of some of the most celebrated professors, both at home and abroad, his Lordship has made his favourite study of music, and the world well knows how deservedly Lord Westmoreland occupies a high rank among the first amateur musicians in Europe—an amateur whom many a professional would be proud to emulate. Seven operas, a vast number

(*Continued on page 512.*)

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Miss HELEN FAUCIT, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, in THE LADY OF LYONS; Claude Melnotte, Mr. Barry Sullivan. Mr. Sims Reeves and the Operatic Company in the New Opera of BIANCA; or, The Queen of Hartlebury, on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday; with the NEW PARLA and the NEW HAYMARKET SPECIAL MEETING.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Under the Management of Mr. Charles Kean. On MONDAY, and During the Week, will be presented HENRY VIII., preceded by Away with Melancholy.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. The DIORAMA illustrating Events of the WAR is now Publishing Daily at Three and Eight. The Lecture on Mr. Coppard's Diorama, 3s., 2s., and 1s.

LOVE, the First DRAMATIC VENTRILOQUIST of Europe, at the UPPER HALL, 69, Quadrant, Regent-street, Every Evening at Eight o'Clock, except Saturday; Saturday at Three. Piano, Miss Julia Warnum.

ADAM and EVE.—This great original Work, by JOSEPH VAN LERIUS, is now on VIEW at 57, PALL-MALL, opposite Marlborough-house, from Eleven to Six daily.—Admission, One Shilling.

MUSICAL UNION.—H. R. H. Prince Albert, Patron.—TUESDAY, MAY 29th, WILLIS'S ROOMS. Half-past 3 Quartet, 79, in D, Haydn; Trio in G, Piano, Mozart; Beethoven, Dussek Quartet, E minor, Spohr. Solos, Pianoforte, Artist, MM. Sainton, Cooper, Hill, Piatti, Goffrie, Carrodus, Webb, Pagani, Pianist Halle. Visitors Tickets to be had of Cramer, Beale, and Chappell and Olivier, Bond-street. J. ELLA, Director.

MR. BRINLEY RICHARDS' CONCERT, at the Hanover-square Rooms, THIS EVENING, June 8, at Half-past Eight, by Madame Clara Novello, Miss Hassard, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Bodda, Herr Delisch and Mr. Tom Thomas, and Signor Belletti. Conductors, Mr. Benedict and Mr. Brinley Richards. Stalls, 7s. Reserved 10s. 6d. to be had of the Musicians; and of Mr. Richards, 4, Torrington-street, Bloomsbury-square.

MESSRS. H. and R. BLAGROVE'S GRAND CHAMBER CONCERT at HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 4, at Half past Eight o'Clock precisely. Miss Dolby and Mr. Sims Reeves. Mr. H. Blagrove will perform Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto. "Le Tremolo du Berlot," with a new duet with Mr. Richard Blagrove (very well a popular in the Concertina), Mayseder's first Morceau de Concerto and the Fantasia on the "Prophète" and "Huguenots," Concertant, for Violin. Stalls, 7s.; tickets, 5s. and 3s.; to be obtained of Messrs. Blagrove, 71, Mortimer-street.

HEREFORD MUSICAL FESTIVAL, for the BENEFIT of the WIDOWS and ORPHANS of the CLERGY in Dioceses of Hereford, Gloucester, and Worcester, will be held in the Cathedral and Shire Hall on AUGUST 21st, and Three following days.—G. Townshend Smith, Conductor.

BIRMINGHAM MUSICAL FESTIVAL, in aid of the FUNDS of the GENERAL HOSPITAL, on the 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st days of AUGUST next.

Under the special Patronage of
Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN,
His Royal Highness the PRINCE ALBERT,
Her Royal Highness the Duchess of KENT,
Patroness.—The Right Hon. Lord Wiloughby de Broke,
Vice-Presidents.—The Nobility and Gentry of the Midland Counties.
J. P. LEDNAM, Esq., Chairman of the Committee.

CONCERTINA CLASS.—Mr. PERCIVAL WATTS, Pupil of Signor Giulio Regondi, begs to announce that his CONCERTINA CLASS meets every MONDAY EVENING, at Eight o'Clock, and will continue to do so during the season.—For Terms, apply to Mr. Percival Watts, 5, Fitzroy-square.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—The largest assortment of OPERA-GLASSES of the best quality, sold at CALLAGHAN'S, Optician, 45, Gran Russe-street, Leopoldstadt, Sole Agent in Vorjahrlicher, Vienna. N.B. A few second-hand Opera-Glasses.

PARIS EXHIBITION (Class 12, Group 4) and EXHIBITION of 1851.—MARTIN'S ELASTIC BODICE is the most perfect substitute for Stays ever invented. Can be sent by post. Price 21s. Published "Art of Dressing." Martin, Wells-street, Oxford-street (late 504, Oxford-street). A prospectus free. Retail of all Drapers.

HOOKHAMS' LIBRARY.—Established 1794. SALE SILVER BOOKS. The best and cheapest Circulating Library for Families, Book Societies, and Clubs in Town or Country. Full particulars on application.—15, Old Bond-street, London.

WESTBOURNE COLLEGE, Bayswater-road, was opened on the 23rd April, 1855, as a School for the Sons of Gentlemen, under the patronage of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London, Winchester, and Lincoln, the Right Hon. Sir James Stephen, President, &c. &c. The ceremony of the Ball in Opening of this Institution is POSTPONED until next month, when an Inaugural Lecture will be delivered, and all interested in the Success of the College will be invited to attend.

The following Noblemen and Gentlemen have kindly consented to be present at the Ceremony:—Rev. Charles Mackenzie, A.M., Prebendary of St. Paul's; R. J. Ward, Esq., A.M., Inn Court; Rev. F. H. Bullock, A.M., King's College; Rev. J. Smith, A.M., English Literature and Literature; Adolphe Bagon, Esq., French—Herr Seyffarth, Ph. Doc., Oriental Languages; Rudolf Sieg, Doctor, Drawing; Frank Mori, Esq., Vocal Music.—Mr. W. J. Hall, Writing; and Mr. Cramer, Gymnastics and Dancing. The Hall will be open on Wednesday, 23rd inst.

The Fees are Eight guineas a Quarter and Entrance, including all the Instruction. There is an entrance-fee of Guineas; and a charge of Guinea per annum for Stationery. Arrangements are made for the Instruction of Pupils in Music, at a moderate charge.

MAURICE A. M. PRINCE, Principal.

NAVAL EDUCATION.—SOUTHSEA, Portsmouth.—YOUNG GENTLEMEN are prepared for the Navy, Royal India Company's Naval Service, &c., by Mr. THOMAS BRAN, R.N., late Naval Instructor of H.M.S. Ganges.

The course of Education, besides having especial reference to the Navy, includes also preparation for the Military Profession, Mining, Engineering, &c., and comprises the ENGLISH, LATIN, GREEK, and FRENCH LANGUAGES, HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY, MATHEMATICS, NAVIGATION, NAUTICAL ASTRONOMY, CHEMISTRY, STEAM, &c.

The following have passed for Naval Cadets at the Royal Naval College, and entered her Majesty's service from Mr. Bransom's Establishment during the past six months:—

	First Appointment.	
Mr W. Farquhar	..	H.M.S. Malacca.
Mr. D. Livingston	..	Euryalus.
Mr C. Wodehouse	..	Arrogant.
Hon H. H. Molyneux	..	Britannia.
Mr H. Loraghy	..	Calcutta.
Mr W. Dixon	..	Nankin.
Mr J. J. Pringle	..	Monmouth.
Mr W. S. Gordon	..	Orion.
Mr W. H. Hornby	..	Cossack.
Mr F. Edwards	..	Royal George.
Mr C. Keating	..	Majestic.
Mr H. Stephenson	..	Tartar.
Mr C. M. Dundas	..	Russell.
Mr J. A. Sells	..	Cornwallis.
Mr A. L. Bell	..	Mamelon.
Mr A. L. Clarkson	..	Hawke.
Mr M. S. Osborne	..	Tartar.
Mr G. E. Price	..	Majestic.
Mr H. J. Purdie	..	Powerful.
Mr C. H. T. Bassett	..	Hawke.
Mr W. Brown	..	Bek.
Mr H. Nesbitt	..	Prince.
Mr J. Ayre	..	Ajax.
Mr H. Grove	..	Duke of Wellington.
Mr J. W. Wood	..	Hawke.
Mr H. Tomlinson	..	Russell.
Mr J. Ward	..	Pembroke.
Mr A. W. Warry	..	Centaur.
Mr B. Ralph	..	Resistance.

Mr J. Bransom.

In addition to the above, the following passed for Naval Cadets on the Rosstown:

Hon. H. L. P. Maude.	Mr. F. Phillips.
Mr. A. Shelley.	Mr. H. Moffatt.
Mr. J. Denis.	Mr. A. Ramsayne.
Mr. J. Sandeman.	Mr. T. Ward.
Mr. W. Poynder.	Mr. J. J. C. Small.
Mr. J. Bransom.	

Clarence Parade, near the Castle, Southsea.

TO LITERARY GENTLEMEN, Editors of Newspapers, &c.—Any GENTLEMAN fully qualified to fill the Editorship of a Provincial Newspaper, or to take the Sub-Editorship of a Metropolitan Journal, in one of the largest towns in a manufacturing and commercial district, may hear of a Situation by addressing Messrs. Sutton and Co., Bow-churchyard.

SOUTH-EASTERN of FRANCE RAILWAY. Any Holders of the remaining Scrip Certificates which have not been converted into Shares of the Lyons and Geneva Railway are hereby apprised that, in consequence of the Calls overdue, and the disregard of former notices, the London Agency intends, after the 31st of May next, to cancel such Scrips as Bearer Shares, to forfeit for conversion, and they are the only to be disposed of. The Scrip Certificates of the first 41 shares, but will nevertheless be allowed to convert the Scrip, bearing a letter in the last of May next, after that date, provided the party who shall present the Scrip Certificate for conversion shall be considered to have waived the privilege hereby announced to him.

CHARLES PONS, Secretary.

7 Capel-court, London, May 15, 1855.

LAW LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. Fleet-street, London, May 10, 1855.

Notice is hereby given, that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Proprietors of this Society will be held at the office, Fleet street, London, on FRIDAY, the 8th day of JUNE next, at twelve o'clock at noon, pursuant to the provisions of the Act of Parliament, for the purpose of the Assurance Fund of the Society in respect of the seven years ending on 31st of Dec. last. And notice is hereby further given, that a second Special General Meeting will be held at the 8th hour and place, on the following Friday, and 15th day of June, for the purpose of confirming the resolution which shall have been agreed to at the previous meeting, and which shall be recorded in the Book of the Deed of Settlement. And notice is hereby further given, that any proposition that have been assured by the Society for two whole years may, at the production of his policy and of the last receipt for the premium thereon, be present at such meeting. At each of the said meetings the chair will be taken at twelve o'clock precisely.

By order of the Directors,
WILLIAM SAMUEL DOWNES, Actuary.

THE HONOURABLE ARTILLERY COMPANY of LONDON, the most ancient Corps of Volunteers in England, is PREPARED to ENROLL MUSKETEERS who are willing to give a portion of their time to Military Services.

The Corps is empowered by Royal Patents and Warrants from her present Most Gracious Sovereign and her Royal predecessors, to train persons in the use of arms, and to the practice of military evolutions and exercises.

The Corps possesses a Parade-ground of several acres, a Rifle-gallery, an Armory, an Armory-house, and every facility for efficient military training.

The Officers are selected from the Corps, and hold her Majesty's Commissions.

Gentlemen under twenty-one years of age are admitted as Cadets, but must produce the consent of their parents or guardians.

Members have to provide themselves with the Uniform of the Corps.

The expenses of the Band, Arms, Ammunition, &c., are defrayed out of the funds of the Corps.

Gentlemen desirous of joining, can obtain any further information on application by letter, to Mr William H. White, Secretary, 18, Artillery-place, Finsbury.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.—Persons wishing to invest Savings or Capital, are invited to [illegible] Shares in this Society, [illegible] Bank of Deposit, a Savings Bank, or as a means of acquiring freehold land for building purposes. There is perfect security for the investor, as there is no personal liability, and no subscription paid to the Society will be drawn out under the rules, at ten days' notice. The taxing of land is quite optional, and including the plots is not compulsory. The plan of the Society is applicable to all classes of the community, from the Shareholder who pays 5s. per month, to the holder of completed shares, the cost of each being £24 to £6. The shares are transferable. Premiums from £5 to £100, have been conferred upon a £30 share, for Highgate, Chelsea, on the Society's estate. The profits of the Society, after keeping up the Reserve Fund, are appropriated annually amongst the members. For the financial year ending December 31, 1854, forty per cent. bonus was paid or placed to the credit of all the members. Five per cent interest, payable half-yearly, one month after Lady-day and Michaelmas, is guaranteed to be due for completed shares and to the holders of shares in progress, provided they pay a year's subscription in advance; thus £7 7s. 6d. is the amount to be paid for a completed share, and a vacancy made of requiring the freehold formalities in counties. Prospectuses, with the Rules, can be obtained at the Offices, and of the Trustees, Members of the Executive and General Committees, Plans of Estates, may be had of

CHARLES LEWIS GRUNEISEN, Secretary.

Offices, 33, Norfolk-street, Strand, London.

QUILTED EIDERDOWN PETTICOATS, 21s. 6d. each. Old Book in exports Walk every description of Ladies' Quilted Petticoats for all seasons. Eiderdowns Quilts and Imperia Coverlet Manufactory, 30, Maddox-street, Hanover-square.

THE NEW FASHIONS.—FARMER and ROGERS beg to announce the arrival of the New Fashions in SHAWLS and MANTLES, and are now exhibiting the most elegant and recherché Shawls, from 1 guinea to 50. Silks, owing to the great depression of trade, well worthy the notice of their numerous patrons. The Cloth and Cloak Emporium, 171, 173, and 175, Regent-street. India Shawls Bought and Exchanged.

THE NEW COLL BROCHE. The largest and most beautiful assortment of this elegant Parisian novelty, shawls on parure, and Nouveautés of every description in Lace and Silk, at very reduced prices, will be found at HILKING'S, Mantle Mart, 108, Regent-street, Corner of Princes-street, Hanover-square.

THE SYDENHAM TROUSERS, 17s. 6d.—[illegible] Trousers, 17s. 6d., Waistcoats, 7s. 6d., and guide to self measurement, sent free of the Sydenham Trousers, and every other description of gentlemen's and youths' clothing. [illegible] Sydenham Lodge, Adelphi, Strand, Sydenham, Kent, 29, Ludgate-hill, London.

TROUSERS.—A good fit in this garment can be seldom obtained.—R. GRAVES, Sydenham Trousers maker, [illegible] Ludgate-hill, offers a perfect fit, and style, is enabled to assert, without fear of contradiction, that the Sydenham Trousers are more perfect than any other person in London. The characteristic of his fitting is a gentlemanly style with perfect ease for lounging, walking, or riding. A well-assorted stock of the newest designs to select from.—4, Grange, 318, High Holborn.

S. W. SILVER and CO., OUTFITTERS, CLOTHIERS, CONTRACTORS, and MANUFACTURERS of Outfitting Clothing, WATERPROOF CLOTHING, and the various INDIARUBBER APPLIANCES.

LADIES' PALETOTS, Cloaks, Dressing Gowns, Boys' Clothing, Waterproof Clothing, Indiarubber Goods, Shirts, Hosiery, Gloves, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Portmanteaus, Carpet Bags, Dressing Cases, Dressing Bags, Razors, Strops, Brushes, Combs, Sponges, Soaps, Perfumery, Toilet Requisites, Medicines, Leeches, Lancets, Surgical Instruments, Trusses, Bandages, Crutches, Medical Galvanic Batteries, Medicine Chests, Medicine Glasses, Medicine Measures, Medicine Spoons, Medicine Boxes, Medicine Bottles, Medicine Corks, Medicine Stoppers, Medicine Labels, Medicine Tubes, Medicine Pipes, Medicine Syringes, Medicine Pillboxes, Medicine Pillbox Cases, Medicine Pillbox Boxes, Medicine Pillbox Bottles, Medicine Pillbox Corks, Medicine Pillbox Stoppers, Medicine Pillbox Labels, Medicine Pillbox Tubes, Medicine Pillbox Pipes, Medicine Pillbox Syringes, Medicine Pillbox Pillboxes, Medicine Pillbox Pillbox Cases, Medicine Pillbox Pillbox Boxes, Medicine Pillbox Pillbox Bottles, Medicine Pillbox Pillbox 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(Continued from page 510.)

of compositions of a sacred character, and numerous minor musical pieces, together with several literary works of great merit, bear ample testimony to the vigour and fertility of his mind, and to the industry and power of his pen. Amongst the latter may be enumerated, "Memoir of the Early Campaign of the Duke of Wellington in Portugal and Spain, by an Officer Employed in his Army" (Murray, 1820); "Memoir of the Operations of the Allied Armies under Prince Schwarzenberg and Marshal Blucher, during the Latter End of 1813 and the Year 1814" (Murray, 1822); "A Letter Addressed to the Right Honourable the Speaker of the House of Commons, on the Claims of the British Roman Catholics, containing a Correspondence between Pope Pius VII. and the late King of Naples, with a Copious Appendix" (Murray, 1827).

As a patron of the arts, Lord Westmoreland has been quite as conspicuous, and it is mainly to his efforts that the British nation is indebted for the establishment of a National School of Music. He saw that many a genius lay unnoticed and unknown through the want of opportunity of development, while those who emerged from obscurity were compelled to struggle through a path beset with such difficulties and troubles as might damp the spirits of the boldest. Lord Westmoreland (then Lord Burghersh), deeply impressed with the immense advantages that would accrue, both to the cultivation and to the cultivators of the art, from the establishment of a public school of music, resolved to remedy the existing defect, and the Royal Academy of Music stands forth as the result of his labours, and of the zeal and sympathy with which he devoted himself to the improvement of the condition of the British artist.

The private and social life of Lord Westmoreland precisely realises the character of the English gentleman. Kind and charitable, even to a fault, scarcely a day passes that some one cannot bear testimony to the overflowing hospitality of his board. Courteous in manner, and gentle in disposition—an affectionate husband and father—he enjoys the esteem and reverence of all who know him, and exercises a moral influence over the circles in which he moves, which no other attainments could possibly confer.

THE RIGHT HON. EARL OF WESTMORELAND, BRITISH MINISTER AT THE COURT OF VIENNA.

THE EXPEDITION TO KERTCH.

GENERAL GORTSCHAKOFF's despatch, announcing that the expedition which had sailed from Balaclava for Kertch with 10,000 troops on board had returned, was quite correct. One object of the expedition is stated to have been the interception of Russian convoys, which, instead of arriving in the Crimea by Perekop, were shipped at Taganrog, disembarked at Kertch, and thence conveyed by carts to Simpheropol and Sebastopol. The greatest pains were taken to keep the intended movement secret; nor were any of the Correspondents of the London papers allowed to accompany the expedition. The infantry was chiefly composed of French troops, the whole British force mustering about 2800 men, with 780 horses and transport animals. Sir George Brown was entrusted with the command in chief of the expedition. Colonel Cunninghame accompanied as Quartermaster-General, and Major Halliwell and Captain Barnston as Deputy-Assistant-Quartermaster-Generals to him; Captain Field, R.A., as Deputy-Assistant-Quartermaster-General to that branch of the service, and Lieut.-Colonel Brownrigg as Assistant-Adjutant-General, with Lord Burghersh specially attached. The horses were shipped partly on the 2nd; and early on the 3rd the Highlanders embarked.

Lord Raglan accompanied Sir George Brown down to Balaclava, and witnessed the embarkation going on. A strong party of marines accompanied the expedition. The French troops embarked at Kamiesch on the night of the 2nd, and the following morning Col. Cameron accompanied the expedition as Brigadier of the Highland Brigade, and acted as second in command. The four companies of the 2nd Battalion Rifles, attached to the Highland Corps, were the only troops of the Light Division attached to the expedition. Each soldier had 50 rounds in pouch, and 100 per man in reserve. One waggon for rockets attended the battery of artillery. The commissariat had fourteen days' provisions with them. Every man had his orders from the doctor what to do in case of being wounded: beds were got ready, and the chests arranged to receive them; and all were ready and anxious for what was expected, would prove a hard-fought action.

The expedition was to land at a small bay about ten miles from Kertch. Their first endeavours were to have been directed to an attack by land and sea on Fort St. Paul, lying about eight miles from Kertch, a fortress mounting twenty-one guns. It was intended to march along the shore and attack it in rear, whilst the fleet bombarded it in front. After having dismantled this place, they were to proceed on to Kertch, destroy the depôts of reserve stores stationed there by the enemy, and open a road into the Sea of Azoff.

The squadron, consisting of about forty sail, with nearly 12,000 men on board, arrived at the rendezvous, lat. 44.54, lon. 36.28, on the morning of the 5th inst.; when it was suddenly summoned to return by an express steamer, which left Kamiesch on Friday night or Saturday morning with orders from General Canrobert. These orders were, it is reported, sent by the French General in consequence of a communication from Paris, which rendered it incumbent on him to concentrate the forces under his command in the Chersonese. It is not to be wondered at that this abrupt termination of an expedition which, from its secret character, was doubtless intended to effect important services, excited feelings of annoyance and regret among those who expected to win honour and glory and position. Admiral Bruat could not venture to take on himself the responsibility of disregarding orders so imperative and so clear, and Admiral Lyons was not in a position to imitate the glorious disobedience of Nelson. All the officers engaged, French and English, experienced the bitterest disappointment when they heard the orders to go back to Kamiesch. The feelings of the men have been loudly expressed since their return. It is rumoured that the Emperor directed all the troops to be concentrated for some important operation which is to be undertaken forthwith; but it is scarcely probable his Majesty knew the expedition had actually sailed, and was close to the place where, as it is believed, they were to act, at the time the orders were dispatched.

The Russians were quite aware of the proceedings the Allies, because they must have seen the flotilla cruising along the south coast of the Crimea to the eastward, and for miles the blue sky was seamed with streaks of black smoke from the steamers, which even at the rendezvous were visible from the land. Those on board the ships which were the furthest at sea could easily make out the land. A high peak rising out of the sea to the north was visible to the whole squadron; two or three smaller elevations at no great distance could also be seen distinctly; and there is no doubt but that the low land itself could have been discovered from the tops of the men-of-war at the rendezvous.

Kertch is said to have been the place where Cæsar penned his pithy despatch—"Veni! Vidi! Vici!" We may certainly say we came, and saw, but we cannot complete the sentence. There is not the least question but that the expedition would have done all that could have been achieved by conduct and courage, had it been permitted to accomplish its object.

The accompanying View of Kertch is from an original sketch by Willibald Richter, of Vienna: it is taken from the heights of the Museum; the pair of griffins flanking the view were disinterred from one of the tumuli shown in the distance, and stated to be of the time of Mithridates. We append some interesting details of Kertch from the lady's little book on the Crimea, quoted last week.

At the entrance to the peninsula of Kertch are still to be seen the remains of a ruined wall and ditch, running across the isthmus from north to south, which are supposed to have served as a defence to the ancient kingdom of the Bosphorus.

On approaching Kertch one is struck by the immense number of tumuli, similar to those met with all over the steppe, and which, from their appearance and form, are considered to be of the same origin. Every year search is made in one or more of these tumuli; and many vases, coins, and golden ornaments, distinguished for elegance of form and beauty of workmanship, have been disinterred. Statues also have been found in these tumuli, sculptured in the purest white marble, and in a style worthy of the best days of Grecian art. Many of these now ornament the Museum at St. Petersburg, while others are allowed to be retained in the Museum at Kertch, near where they lay so long concealed.

Kertch, which, thirty years ago, was a miserable village, has of late years become a handsome town, whose importance is rapidly increasing, and whose inhabitants amount now to about seven thousand. The streets are wide, and well paved; and the handsome houses, arcades, and pillared edifices, built of a beautiful white stone (of which there are several large quarries in the neighbourhood), give it quite an imposing appearance. The Governor's house, the Custom-house, and several large magazines, are built on the quay, which terminates in the walls of the Lazaretto, at the entrance to the Strait of Yenikali. Unfortunately the water is so shallow at Kertch that vessels cannot approach the quay, but require to anchor at a considerable distance; nevertheless merchants find it more profitable to load their vessels at this port than to risk the shallow water and frequent winds of the Sea of Azoff. Extensive fisheries have been established all along the coast, at which multitudes of sturgeons and herrings are taken. From the roe of the former caviare is made in great quantities; the latter are salted, and taken into the interior of the country, or else exported.

Every year commerce is increasing: rich merchants are establishing themselves there; and everything leads one to suppose that, ere long, Kertch will become a large commercial and flourishing city.

KERTCH, FROM THE HEIGHTS OF THE MUSEUM.—FROM A SKETCH BY WILLIBALD RICHTER, OF VIENNA.

LANDING SHELL AND CASE-SHOT AT THE ROYAL DOCKYARD, WOOLWICH.

SHIPMENTS FOR THE WAR.

THE Royal Dockyard at Woolwich has, for some time past, presented a rapid succession of incidents which afford better evidence of the activity with which the War is being provided for than can be found in the vice voce assurances in other quarters. Our Artist has sketched a pair of these busy scenes

Our first Engraving shows the Landing of Case-shot and Shell, in which operation the labour of convicts is employed. As the shells arrive they are carted off to the Arsenal, to be filled with the explosive material, and are then reshipped for the seat of war.

Next is the operation of shipping or getting on board the Horses of the Royal Artillery for the Crimea. As the transports arrive the horses are shipped as speedily as possible. Large flat-bottomed boats, capable of containing twelve or fourteen horses, are employed for the purpose of conveying them from the shore to the vessel moored in the Thames. The manner of raising on board, and lowering into the hold, with the fittings, &c., have already been represented in our Journal. The average number of horses the transports are calculated to convey is bout 200 to 300, with a sufficient number of men to attend to them.

WAR MATERIEL FOR THE CRIMEA. The port of La Joliette decidedly assumes an exclusively military aspect. The bustle occasioned by the incessant arrival of the immense war materiel, destined for the East, increases every moment. Large sheds have been erected there to receive the provisions, provender, and the thousand packages and cases continually warehoused and embarked. The quays are covered with innumerable operatives, engaged in making stalls for the conveyance and accommodation of horses, in repairing casks brought back empty from Kamiesch and Constantinople, and which are to be again filled with the wine and brandy necessary for our soldiers, &c. Close to the sheds are seen mountains of coal. The timber of the north and the boards imported from America are piled in enormous masses, and undergo on the spot all sorts of transformation. In the meantime, long trains of artillery waggons arrive on the quay, where they deposit muskets and ball-cartridges, packed up in boxes barrels of gunpowder, &c. Here and there are heaps of projectiles, which lighters are constantly conveying on board the steam-transports. There are at present accumulated on the quay no less than 25,000 shells of the largest size, and 6000 bombs of 142 lb. weight. At the extremity of the port near the Lazaretto are drawn up in several imposing lines, and ready for embarkation, upwards of 200 large siege guns, howitzers, and mortars, besides a number of smaller field howitzers and mortars, which are to be carried by mules. The whole of the maritime station of the railway is literally covered with those formidable implements of war. The neighbouring stores contain about 10,000 loaded shells and enormous quantities of gunpowder. If to these be added the long files of vehicles of the waggon train, the ambulances, and the carriages of the engineering department, one may form an idea of the magnificent spectacle offered by our new harbour, which is actually encumbered with shipping chartered by Government.—*Courrier de Marseille.*

SHIPPING ARTILLERY HORSES FOR THE CRIMEA. FROM THE ROYAL DOCKYARD, WOOLWICH.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The state and prospects of the Exhibition are the principal topics of interest here for the moment, and at present these do not seem to be in a very flourishing condition. It has been found necessary to dig beneath the centre of the building, which operation is now going on; and from this, or some other cause, a cloud of fine white dust constantly floats in the atmosphere, spoiling the dresses of the visitors, and necessitating that nearly all the objects already unpacked for exhibition (which is the smallest proportion of the goods) should be covered up to prevent their sharing a similar fate. Besides this, the few stray embassies that have shown themselves since the opening ceremony, have already produced such intense heat in the galleries, that the visitors, who were hardly warm enough outside, have found it impossible to remain in the upper parts of the Building, and have been compelled to seek refuge from the stifling atmosphere by descending to the lower. The administration, provoked at being compelled to admit the exhibitors gratis, avenges itself by causing them the utmost possible inconvenience. The building is now surrounded by a wooden paling; it is only through a single angle of this that the exhibitors are permitted to enter, and, having passed this first boundary, they are compelled to make a long circuit to reach the only door open to them, but the difficulties are not ended here. Getting in necessitates the ulterior step of getting out; it is only through a limited number of doors that this privilege is accorded; and, as no means are taken to indicate these *sorties*, the hapless prisoner may be compelled nearly to make the tour of the building before he can succeed in escaping. In addition to this, the Company and the exhibitors are at issue on another point. As most of the latter are tradespeople, who are obliged to occupy themselves with their affairs, and who cannot consequently attend their stall in person, they consider that their delegates, charged with the superintendence thereof, should have the same privilege as themselves, and be admitted free; this right the Company refuses to acknowledge; so that the difficulties and complaints arising from these differences, become daily more complicated and louder. So general, in short, is the discontent and dissatisfaction relative to the state of affairs, that the shares which the holders of expected to negotiate most advantageously, after the opening, have fallen considerably, and are likely to continue to fall, unless the Company comes to a better understanding of its duties, and of the interests of itself and the public.

At the Palais des Beaux Arts, matters are much better organised This exhibition may now be viewed in a complete state, so that people have at least their money's worth. As yet the high price of entry has prevented any considerable influx of visitors; and, indeed, but few, except foreigners and provincials, have yet attended either Exhibition.

In front of the eastern façade of the Palais d'Industrie, has just been placed an equestrian statue, life-size, in bronze, of the present Emperor. The work has been executed by Jean Debay: the figure has considerable merit, and the likeness is striking.

On Friday took place the funeral of the Admiral Mackau, in the Madeleine, in the vaults of which the body is to remain till it be transported to the family burying place in Normandy. By the death of Admiral Mackau but two admirals remain in the French Navy, Parseval-Deschênes and Hamelin—both promoted to the post on the 2nd Dec., 1854.

Fresh improvements are in contemplation for the embellishment of the Bois de Boulogne. There is an idea of boring an Artesian well; and it is said that the Emperor finds that the lines of perspective of the Place de la Concorde and the Tuileries are so unfavourably affected by the present position of the Obelisque de Luxor, that he purposes having it removed to the Bois.

On the 19th took place the inauguration of the Cercle de l'Exposition, in the Hôtel d'Osmond. The Princess Mathilde visited the establishment in the afternoon.

The question of the dearness of provisions has become so urgent, that two commissions of inquiry have been established to examine into the matter in all its bearings. One of these is especially charged with the subject as regards the *ouvrier* class, and is employed in making out reports thereon

It appears that Redschid Pacha—who vehemently rejects the suspicion of being opposed to the French influence in the East—entertains the idea of shortly visiting Paris.

Horace Vernet is employed on a picture for the Tuileries, representing Napoleon I. in the midst of all the Generals who perished on the field of battle during his campaigns, namely, Desaix, Caulaincourt, Lasalle, Duroc, Espagne, Morand, Auguste Colbert, Letort, Lacoste, d'Hautpoul, St. Hilaire, Montbrun, and Gudin. Besides these are the Marshals Poniatowski, Lannes, and Bessières.

Among the private exhibitions about to be opened this season is one of a series of curious and interesting objects sent from Jerusalem and the East, with a variety of photographs, representing the principal monuments of the Holy City.

A book, which can hardly fail to find many readers, appears highly *apropos* for the proceedings of the moment. This is the "History of Alexander of Russia," by M. Léonzon Leduc; who, having made a long sojourn in Russia and Finland, under circumstances calculated to enable him to procure much valuable information, may be considered as an authority worthy of all attention.

The troop of comedians of the King of Sardinia are commencing a series of representations in the Italian Opera house, commencing by Silvio Pellico's tragedy of "Francesca di Rimini." At the Odéon is shortly to appear what is said to be a very remarkable production, by M. de Pellaert, a Belgian officer, who has already composed the words and music of "Louis de Mâle," a work of very considerable merit—the new piece is entitled "L'Amour par Ordre." Madame Marie Cabel is playing in "Jaguarita," the last effort of Halevy: the music is very good, but the libretto particularly weak, and the character not suited to the talent of the charming singer.

AMERICA.

The mail steam-ship *Africa*, which left New York on the 8th inst., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday. The New England Know-Nothings are rapidly developing their policy with reference to the Slavery question. In Massachusetts a Free-Soil platform has been adopted with remarkable unanimity. In New Hampshire the State Council recently adopted resolutions protesting against the repeal of the Missouri compromise, and against the Fugitive Slave Law and the Nebraska Act, and pledging the party to resist the further extension of slavery. In reference to this subject there is evidently growing uneasiness.

The liquor excitement is increasing rapidly throughout the States. In all the cities and large towns liquor dealers have organised associations to test the legality of the prohibitory law before the courts. As yet there is not the slightest diminution of the traffic.

Havanna dates to the 1st inst have been received by way of New Orleans. Nothing important had transpired since previous advices. The *San Jacinto*, Com. M'Cauley's flag-ship, was to leave on the 2nd on a cruise. Capt. M'Culloch, who was arrested and tried with the unfortunate Estimpes, had been released from confinement. General Concha has carried his feelings of vindictiveness towards the memory of the late Ramon Pinto so far as to refuse the request of the family of the deceased to permit his remains to be deposited in one of the niches of the Campo Santo. It was expected that the blockade would be raised on the 1st instant.

A correspondent of the New Orleans *Bee*, writing from the city of Mexico, states that Santa Anna was so seriously ill that he was not expected to live. His malady was an affection of the head and throat, causing a state of stupor. There was a rumour to the effect that Santa Anna and his Cabinet are disposed to sell Lower California.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

Another week of sorties from Sebastopol, which the Russian despatches describe as "small and successful," while the accounts from the Camp speak of them as having been "successfully repulsed." A rumour has prevailed of a serious engagement having been fought between the Russians and the Turks, near Baladava, in which the latter stood their ground for eleven hours, when the arrival of the Allies turned the fight into a victory over the Russians. The report wants confirmation, but our letters from the Crimea do not come farther down than the 12th; and although Prince Gortschakoff professes to give a regular bulletin of every important affair, he might not be willing to mention a mere battle with the Turks, more especially when the Russians happened to be beaten.

The letters from the Camp are full of complaints, on account of the Kertch affair, but hopes are entertained of some new movement against the enemy which shall outweigh that of the failure. The French reserve army from Maslak was expected soon, when the force of the Allies would be strong enough for any enterprise. Even at present the army before Sebastopol is much stronger than is commonly supposed. On the 8th inst, the French cavalry were inspected by Canrobert and Raglan near the English head quarters. They number between 400 and 500 active horsemen, all, both men and animals, in good hard-working condition. On the 9th the Turkish cavalry were reviewed, and in point of discipline and efficiency made a highly favourable appearance. There were only about 800 of them, but the men were stout active fellows, clean, and well equipped; the horses small, but high spirited and in fine condition. There was one regiment of Turkish Dragoons, and one of Lancers. Both went through their evolutions slowly, but with great precision and good order. A few days previously the English cavalry was inspected on the heights above Kadikoi. The Light and Heavy Brigade, united with the 10th Hussars, who had recently arrived, and muster 650 sabres, made a total force of about 1400 men. The 12th Lancers, part of whom had already landed from the *Himalaya*, muster 560 sabres. So that we shall now be able to show at least 2000 effective horsemen; and these united with the French and Turks, would make a very respectable figure in a pitched battle.

Omer Pacha arrived at Eupatoria on the 14th inst., and a kind of semi-council of war was held. It was said that Lord Raglan was about to send his extra baggage to Constantinople; and that a force of English and French would take the field instantaneously, but this rumour has not proved correct. It seems probable, however, that the present state of inaction will not last much longer. A French army, it is said, will move straight upon the Tchernaya, and force Tchourgoum at the bridge. Thus far there is little doubt; a force of English infantry would accompany, as Tchourgoum is not more than five miles from our lines at Baladava, and the Woronzow road communicates directly with it. Further than Tchourgoum none of our troops but the cavalry could move; but the French, it is supposed, would probably advance into the plain beyond Tchourgoum; and, leaving the mountain road by Mackenzie's Farm on their left, force the passage of the road through Baidar. From thence it would be necessary to storm the heights between Mackenzie's Farm and Baptcheseral, when they would at once be in possession of the main road which, running from Simpheropol through Baptcheseral enters Sebastopol between the heights of Inkerman. By this road the formidable position now held by the Russians, above the caves at Inkerman, would be turned from the rear, and the complete investiture of the place from the north side would follow as a matter of course. An Allied force would of necessity hold Tchourgoum to secure the communication and cover the rear of the French while advancing. Our own and the French troops on the southern heights of Inkerman would prevent any attempt to place an army between ourselves and the French advancing by the north road. If at the same time an onward movement was made from Eupatoria by Omer Pacha, it is very possible that his advance might be unopposed, or at least not opposed with a sufficient force to check his march.

The accounts relating to the bombardment contain hardly any intelligence. Several new batteries have been constructed, from which great things are expected. The French have almost completed one of heavy guns and mortars, within fifty feet of the Flagstaff Battery. From the regiment which they still maintain in front of it they are enabled to annoy the enemy with incessant musketry. The Flagstaff is now said to be entirely *hors de combat*. It will not stand four hours after the French open fire. The Russians are in the meantime endeavouring to ward off the effect of this misfortune by constructing another work still stronger, close in the rear of the Flagstaff, and more on the sea. It is not, however, expected that this will be able to offer any long resistance with the Flagstaff in the possession of the French.

The new plan of campaign is said to be of General Pelissier's conception, he having announced to the troops that an attack would soon be made; and, from the known character of that officer, it is taken for granted that it will be something very daring, and more approaching what is termed the *grande guerre* than anything as yet witnessed in the Crimea. It is not probable that his plan has been communicated to many, consequently any idea as to its nature must be vague. It is, however, surmised that his intention is to make a bold attempt to cut off the Russian army from Sebastopol, drive it into the interior of the country, and establish himself on the ground now occupied by them, to do what the Russians attempted to do at Inkerman.

Intelligence from Constantinople states that the French divisions, under the command of Generals Aurell and Herbillon, left that city on the 11th and 13th for the Crimea. The Cavalry Division, under the orders of General d'Allonville, was to leave on the 16th, and the Imperial Guard and General Regnault St. Jean d'Angely, on the 16th. The destination of the army of reserve is kept secret, it having sailed with sealed orders.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Presse* states that preparations are being made in Bourgas, Varna, and Baltschik for a powerful squadron, which is to act against some place on the north-western coast, either Odessa or the fortress of Akermann.

A SORTIE GALLANTLY REPULSED.

The determined manner in which the Russians attack the besiegers almost every night, notwithstanding the warm reception they invariably receive, shows that they feel the advances of the enemy to be coming too close for them to resist much longer. A brief description of a sortie which took place on the morning of the 10th inst., and the way in which it was repulsed, will give some notion of what these nightly attacks are. The previous evening appears to have been highly favourable for such an enterprise. A sudden change had taken place in the weather, which had became both stormy and wet. As the night was pitchy dark, the English sentries were advanced beyond their customary posts, to guard against a surprise. At one o'clock the weather seemed during its work. Nothing could be seen for the rain and darkness, and nothing could be heard for the howling of the wind. Suddenly both wind and rain ceased; but the darkness was still intense. One of the outsentries thought he heard something unusual in the direction of the Redan, and, instead of rushing in, with or without firing his musket, as our sentries too frequently do, he with the utmost coolness and judgment tried to discover the cause, before giving an alarm. He communicated his suspicions to two other sentries who were stationed near him; and after a short deliberation they all advanced in the direction of the noise, creeping cautiously along the ground. As they approached the Russian works the noise as of many men moving about, though not advancing, was distinctly heard. The steps appeared to be about a hundred yards off; but it was impossible to distinguish anything, suddenly the sound ceased. The three sentries were in doubt what to do; but eventually one of them returned to the advanced work to report what they had heard, and alarm the covering party. The instant the sentry had made his statement the trench guard was aroused—the man formed up in strict silence—the weapons looked to, and each detachment, under the command of its officers, proceeded to its appointed post. Orders were issued that none were to fire until the general command was given.

Colonel L. Yea, of the 7th, was field officer in command of the whole party. A brigadier general was in command in chief of all the troops in the trenches, but he was stationed with the reserve. In the meantime the two sentries, who had remained in advance, waited quietly for some further indication of the enemy's presence. After about a quarter of an hour's anxious expectation, the head of a body of men, advancing quickly and cautiously, was distinctly heard. One of the sentries instantly returned to report it, the other remained at his post until the enemy were within forty yards of where he lay. He then began retreating, keeping close to the ground, neither going on too fast, nor suffering the enemy to overtake him. When within a stone's-throw of our trenches the Russians stopped; our sentry quietly entered our works and pointed out their precise position. All our troops preserved a strict silence, and so quiet were the enemy that it was almost impossible to say that they had not altered their plan, and proceeded in another direction. A few minutes passed in this manner, and then in an instant fifty shots were fired into our lines at a distance of six feet. It seems that, when the Russians halted, they lay down on their bellies, and crawled forward unobserved until within a musket's length of our trenches, when a number of them fired and sprang upon their feet. Our men were in no way taken by surprise. Their positions were already assigned, and they lay so close under cover that only two men were struck by the enemy's volley one man killed on the spot, another dangerously wounded. The Russians, who had first risen, made an attempt to rush into the work under cover of their fire, which they believed had taken us entirely by surprise: but nearly all who tried were shot or bayoneted. The rest of the party, which now seemed about 1000 strong, commenced a heavy fire, but it was totally inefficient against our troops, who were sheltered by the breastwork. Our fire, on the contrary, was cool and well sustained, and at the short distance told with murderous effect on the crowds of Russians. They fell on all sides, while we scarcely lost a man. After a few minutes the enemy became confused, and fell back in disorder. It appears, however, to have been only a momentary panic, as, after retreating a short distance, during the whole time of which they were skirmishing, they returned to the charge, and, with the utmost coolness and daring, moving more to the left, tried to storm the breastwork at another point. In this they were as unsuccessful as in their first attempt. The troops reserved their fire until the Russians closed, and giving one tremendous volley prepared to receive them with the bayonet. But so severe was the effect of their volley that the enemy seemed paralysed. Their officers tried to lead them on, but the men, though they fired fast, seemed disinclined to follow. They were wavering last, when a second force of Russians, about 500 strong, came upon the field. The reinforcement made no fresh effort to force our trenches, contenting themselves with skirmishing to cover the retreat of the attacking party. The English never quitted their breastwork, but fired with deadly accuracy into the enemy, who were trying to remove their killed and wounded. While effecting this they suffered a severe loss from our fire, which, from our very sheltered position, they were quite unable to return—at least with any effect. After about a quarter of an hour's skirmishing in this manner the enemy fell back and got under cover of the Redan.

As usual, the instant the attack was repulsed and the Russians clear off, their batteries opened fire upon the portion of our lines on which the sortie had been made. They poured in heavy volleys of round shot, grape, and shell. The heavy dark sky which lowered over everything, seemed a perfect aurora Borealis with the incessant flashes of the guns. This retaliation was fully expected, and all our troops lay down until the iron hail had passed. Only one man was killed by a round shot. No other was even wounded. In about half an hour the cannonade ceased and except an occasional gun from the enemy, or a large mortar from ourselves and the French, all Sebastopol and the Allied trenches were wrapt in perfect silence.

Our whole loss from this sortie was three men killed and thirteen men wounded—two of the latter very dangerously. The Russians are said to have had at least 150 men put *hors de combat*

Our own Correspondent says:—"Those officers who were present assure me that the conduct of our men was admirable. They behaved splendidly."

NEW AGGRANDISEMENT OF RUSSIA

According to letters from St. Petersburg of the 11th, Russia has profited by the troubles of the Chinese Empire to effect an easy extension of her frontiers in Southern Siberia. Means have been found to induce four Mongol Khans, long subject to China, to ask that their lands may be annexed to the Russian Empire. The Mongolians in question are miserable tribes, without agriculture, arts, or even towns, and well understand that they cannot hope to maintain a position of independence. Of course this request could not be refused, and the Khanates, late the possessions of China, are now annexed to the Czar's dominions.

A PERSIAN VICTORY.

The letters received from Constantinople this week bring the particulars relative to the late irruption by the Khan of Khiva into the Persian territory, the capture of the Khan himself and his son, and the subsequent rout of his forces by the Persian troops. It appears that the Khan, towards the end of March, and at the unconcealed instigation of Russian agents, collected an army of some 35,000 men, mostly composed of contingents furnished by Turcoman chiefs of the Khanat, and with these crossed the Persian frontier and laid siege to Mervi, a town of considerable strength to the south-west of the Oxus. The place was but weakly garrisoned, and, like those of nearly all Persian towns, its mud-wall fortifications were in the last stage of dilapidation and neglect. The little force within the town, however, aided by the male population, manned the defences and kept the Khan and his hordes at bay. He, therefore, invested the place, resolving either to starve it out or to take advantage of any piece of treachery from within which might tend to divide the strength of the defenders. During this state of affairs the Khan left his tent to make a tour round the besieged town, and in his absence some of the Turcoman chiefs, having reflected on the probable consequences of a Persian war to their own people, plotted his assassination and that of his son, who likewise accompanied the expedition. Accordingly, during the following night, a party of the conspirators burst into his tent, and, having poignarded the father and son, cut off their heads, and then served several of his chief officers in the same way. The next day they paraded the whole force, on becoming acquainted with the fate of its leader, disbanded, and in a state of alarmed confusion fled Khivawards, to the tune of *sauve qui peut*. The garrison of Mervi, strengthened by some reliefs which had just come up, followed the disorganised bands, and after slaughtering a large proportion of them, took some two thousand prisoners. The heads of the Khan, his son, and the murdered officers were then forwarded to Teheran, accompanied by the Turcoman chiefs whose treachery had led to such a result, and the heads were received with the greatest éclat. Rewards and honours were heaped upon the chiefs by the Shah, and the heads were on the point of being, according to Eastern custom, exposed on the gates of the city, when our new Minister, Mr. Murray, interfered, and prevented a deviation from this last part of the barbarous ceremonial. The Shah then awarded to the heads of the Khan and his son a royal burial; and after a vast amount of rejoicings at their great victory, the Court and the rest of the capital subsided into their usual dullness. The affair is said to have excited a strong anti-Russian spirit both in the mind of Nezer-ud-deen Shah himself and the people generally, and in this way may be productive of good.

THE CRESCENT AND THE CROSS.

DR. CUMMING presents his compliments to the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, and begs sincerely to thank him for his obliging kindness in giving insertion to his extract and communication.

Dr Cumming received the curious lines in his communication with many other analogous, and in so far interesting, incidents connected with the war, which he referred to as fragments of truth apparently drifted from an original, or as happy artic pations of recent events. The eight lines in question were sent from a clergyman, a correspondent of Dr. Cumming, in a letter, in which he says: "These lines were copied by a brother clergyman from an old book of predictions, dated the fifteenth century, in the possession of a gentleman living at Chard, in Gloucestershire."

On writing to his Correspondent a few weeks ago, requesting the exact date of the volume, it appeared—from the letter not reaching him that he had changed his Curacy, and probably gone to another part of the country. It was suggested that Dr. Cumming should send the lines to the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, or *Notes and Queries*, in order to ascertain thereby their real origin and date. Having taken in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS from its commencement, and being aware of its great literary connection, he determined to send his curious lines to that Journal, under the persuasion that some of its correspondents more learned in such researches than he is would cast light on them.

It seemed to him doubtful if the three national names (the Bear, the Bull, and the Cock) were so early applied to Russia, England, and France; though whether the lines be forty years or four hundred years old the anticipation would be equally remarkable. The Turks have a tradition among themselves that four hundred years from their capture of Constantinople ends their encampment in Europe. This may be the origin of the prediction in the lines already given. The subject has no intrinsic value beyond its singular accuracy, if old, as an anticipation of the future—either based on conjecture, or on traditional remains of truth, or as a reflection and interpretation of prophecy higher than man's, but in any case having no claim to any higher inspiration than human.

May 23.

MEETING AT LORD PALMERSTON'S.—A meeting was held this afternoon at the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury in Downing-street, which was numerously attended by all sections of the Liberal party in the House of Commons. Being a private meeting, we are unable to give a detailed account of the speeches delivered, but Lord Palmerston's explanations were considered most satisfactory, and his refutation of the insinuations brought against the Government was most complete. The meeting was subsequently addressed by Messrs Lowe, Bright, and Layard, Lord Robert Grosvenor, and Sir James Graham. A cordial feeling of confidence in the Government was manifested throughout the whole proceedings, and the greatest unanimity prevailed. —*Globe of Thursday.*

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 502.)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

NEWSPAPER STAMP DUTIES BILL.

Lord CANNING moved the second reading of the Newspaper-stamp Duties Bill.

Lord MONTEAGLE opposed the measure, resting his objection to it mainly upon the present financial state of the country.

The bill was read a second time

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

THAMES EMBANKMENT BILL.

On the order for the second reading of this bill,

Mr W. PATTEN moved as an amendment that the bill be read a second time this day six months.

Lord LOVAINE seconded the amendment.

Sir W MOLESWORTH, on the part of the Board of Health, objected to the bill altogether, until the Board should have an opportunity of considering it.

After a few words from Mr A. PELLATT, the amendment was agreed to, and the bill was consequently lost.

THANKS IN PARLIAMENT AND CORPORATION REFORM.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE asked the First Lord of the Treasury, if it was his intention to bring in a bill during the present session to enable Jews to sit in Parliament: also, on what day the long promised bill for the Reform of the Corporation of the City of London will be introduced?

Lord PALMERSTON said there was no intention to bring in a bill on the Jewish Disabilities question this session. A bill was in preparation in reference to corporation reform.

Mr. DUNCOMBE gave notice that immediately after the recess he should call attention to the anomalous state of the representation of the city of London.

MR. DISRAELI'S MOTION.—PROSECUTION OF THE WAR.

Sir W. HEATHCOTE gave notice, that he should move as an amendment to the motion of the right hon. Baronet the member for Portsmouth, the insertion of the following words, after the word "hostilities"—"and satisfied, declaring the desire that the communications which are in progress may arrive at a successful issue."

Mr. LOWE gave notice that, on Mr. Disraeli's motion, he would move the following amendment:—"That this House, having seen with regret that, owing to the refusal of Russia to restrict the strength of her navy in the Black Sea, the Conferences of Vienna had led to the continuance of hostilities, feels it to be its duty to declare that, by that refusal the means of coming to an arrangement on the third basis of negotiation having been exhausted, this House will give its best exertions to carry out the successful prosecution of the war.

Mr. DISRAELI then rose, in a very full house, to move the following resolution:—

That this House cannot adjourn for the recess without expressing its dissatisfaction with the ambiguous language and uncertain conduct of her Majesty's Government in reference to the great question of peace or war; and that, under these circumstances, this House feels it a duty to declare that it will continue to give every support to her Majesty in the prosecution of the war, until her Majesty shall, in conjunction with her allies, obtain for this country a safe and honourable peace.

He said, he had for some time—watching with deep anxiety the conduct of this country in reference to the great question of peace and war, and particularly during the Conferences of Vienna—imbibed an opinion which had filled him with deep anxiety. He had noticed, on the part of the Government, language so ambiguous, conduct so uncertain, that he believed the circumstances demanded the attention of public men alive to their responsibilities. It had been said that her Majesty's servants were engaged in confidential negotiations on the subject of the war, and the appeal for respite was of course irresistible. At length the protocols were laid upon the table of the House, and he presumed that the Government would have taken the opportunity of laying before the House what was intended to be done in reference to the matter, and would have stated frankly, precisely, and explicitly what Government intended to do, more especially as public feeling was in such a state that it became the duty of the First Minister to lead it on a subject of such surpassing magnitude (Hear). A member for a great city—one of her Majesty's Privy Council—placed on the paper a notice of an address to the Queen. He hoped that if the First Minister had been enabled to screw up his courage to present an address to his Royal Mistress, it would have been of a different character from that proposed by the right honourable gentleman the member for Manchester—that it would have contained declarations of an entirely different character: and one of the objects was to extract from the Government to-night an intimation to that effect. He had no idea that the discussion on that motion would be abandoned. The country, and indeed the House, were, by a well kept secret, baulked of a discussion in a matter of the most momentous importance since the peace of 1815 (Hear, hear). Believing the conduct of her Majesty's Government was to be viewed with suspicion and distrust, and that the conduct of that Government would be ruinous, if not watched with vigilance, he had framed the motion on which he was now addressing the House. In reference to the conduct of her Majesty's Government as to the question of peace and war, he maintained that their language was ambiguous, and their conduct uncertain; and he should call upon the House to arrest a course which must, in its results, prove more disastrous to the country. Having stated something in opposition to a sarcasm levelled again at him that he had made an arrangement with Mr. Layard, and paid a high compliment to the abilities and patriotic intention of that gentleman, Mr. Disraeli proceeded to say that he should not go back to the passage of the Truth, or to any circumstances of that kind; but he should limit his criticism to events of more recent date, beginning with the installation of the present chief Minister of the Crown, which had been styled "a glorious epoch in the history of this country." Having reviewed at some length the antecedents of the present Administration, the right hon. gentleman referred to a question put by Sir J. Graham to the head of the Government as to the conditions on which peace was to be sought, and to the foreign policy of Lord Clarendon in general. The noble Lord (Lord Palmerston) stated that the foreign policy of Lord Aberdeen's Government would be followed out thoroughly; but very shortly afterwards the Plenipotentiary returned bodeless, and a motion was placed upon the table by the right hon. member for Manchester, which affirmed that the propositions of Russia were reasonable, and that some blame attached to the Government for refusing them. If had been positively stated that the noble Lord the Secretary of State for the Colonies who held a more prominent position in that House than he at present enjoyed—was in favour of such a peace; whereas he had always been the bold advocate for a decisive struggle with the colossal power of the Russian empire. He did not think that the appointment of the noble Lord the Plenipotentiary was a very happy one, inasmuch as he had been distinguished by his strong and inflammatory denunciations of the power and ambition of Russia. Altogether, the antecedents of the noble Lord rendered him incompetent for negotiating peace with Russia. He thought very little of the noble Lord's power as a diplomatist. The right hon. gentleman then referred to the part his Lordship acted in connexion with the "Secret Correspondence," and quoted passages from his despatches, in which he contended he made fatal admissions as to the Protectorate of Russia. The noble Lord at the head of the Government said that he would not agree to make an ignominious peace, and that the man who would do so should be an outcast. But peace could be made without that House, and it was therefore imperative that the policy of the Government should be fully known. He denied that the war could be carried on with this morbid state of negotiations, and he also denied that all the country had to do with the war was to make expeditions and to raise taxes. The discontent which prevailed was owing to the fact that there was diplomacy and war existant at the same time. The right hon gentleman concluded a speech of nearly three hours' duration by denouncing this subterfuge of negotiation and Ministerial trifling.

Mr. BARROW seconded the resolution

Sir F. BARING then submitted the following amendment:—

"That this House, having seen with regret that the Conferences of Vienna have not led to a termination of hostilities, feels it to be a duty to declare that it will continue to give every support to her Majesty in the prosecution of the war, until her Majesty shall, in conjunction with her allies, obtain for this country a safe and honourable peace.

The right hon. Baronet said it he did not like to meet the resolution with a direct negative, for that he would be misconstrued by foreign countries. He denied the assertions of Mr. Disraeli, defended Lord John Russell, and trusted that negotiations would be resumed.

Sir W. HEATHCOTE said, that he would support Sir F. Baring's amendment, if he assented to the additional words he proposed.

Mr. K. SEYMER said, he did not think the moment well chosen for a party movement. The year was not yet ripe, but the proceedings of last Monday had greatly hastened its maturity. He supported Mr. Disraeli's resolution

Mr. WILKINSON supported the amendment.

The Marquis of GRANBY and Mr. R. PHILLIMORE spoke in opposition to the resolution.

Mr. GLADSTONE was opposed both to the resolution and Sir F. Baring's amendment. He, however, argued in favour of the amendment suggested by Sir W. Heathcote. He defended the expedition to the Crimea, and denied that it had been entirely unsuccessful, for while, in August, 1854, Russia refused to accept the Four Points, in the month of December following the Emperor accepted those very propositions as a basis of negotiations which he had so strenously refused before. Looking at the question at issue as one only of terms, how did it stand? Russia had agreed to the First and Second Points and part of the Third Point. The Fourth would be agreed to at any time. The only matter to be settled now was as to the limitation of the power of Russia in the Black Sea. When a member of the late Government he was in favour of limiting the naval power of Russia in the Black Sea, but he now thought that such a proposition implied a great dignity and power in Russia. He was of opinion that the Russian proposal to give to Turkey the power of opening and shutting the Straits was one calculated to bring about a settlement. As regarded the position of Russia now, he challenged any powerful opposition in case in the whole history of the world in which the political objects of war had been more completely gained without the prostration of the adverse party. He felt that he would be guilty of a fearful responsibility if he did not raise his voice to beseech the House to pause before they persevered in a war so bloody and so decimating, while there was a chance of returning to the condition of peace, dignity and honourable peace.

Lord J. RUSSELL replied to the arguments of Mr. Gladstone, and contended it was essential to the interests of Europe that the power of Russia should be considerably curtailed

On the motion of Mr. WHITESIDE the debate was adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

PEACE RESOLUTIONS.

Earl GREY rose to move the following resolutions, viz

That an humble Address be presented to her Majesty, to thank her Majesty for having ordered the protocols of the recent negotiations at Vienna to be laid before us. To inform her Majesty that this House deeply deplores the failure of the attempt to put an end by these negotiations to the calamities of the war in which the country is now engaged; and to express our opinion that the proposals of Russia were such as to afford a fair prospect of concluding a peace by which all the original objects of the war might have been gained, and by which her Majesty and her allies might have obtained all the advantages which can reasonably be demanded from Russia

The noble Earl introduced his motion by a speech of considerable length. He informed the House that as far as more than 500,000 lives had been already sacrificed, and about £50,000,000 of our money expended since the war commenced. He contended that we were incurring a grave responsibility in sending the present hostilities when a opportunity was offered for arriving at an honourable peace by a renewal of negotiations upon the counter propositions submitted by Russia.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

THE CRIMEAN MEDALS.

In answer to a question from Mr. Stafford, Mr. F. PEEL said that 2000 medals were in the hands of Hunt and Roskell, for delivering to those soldiers who had returned to this country from the Crimea, and were not present at the ceremony on the 18th instant, and would be forwarded to them by the firm he had mentioned. He might take that opportunity of also informing the House that arrangements had been made to send 8000 medals per fortnight to the Crimea for distribution there; and further, that those soldiers who received medals on the 18th would shortly receive certificates in which not Hunt and Roskell, in order to obtain their clasps, to which they might be entitled.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

Mr ROEBUCK said, Sir, there is a report abroad that the Conference at Vienna has been dissolved. I wish to ask whether the Government have received any intimation of such a renewal?

Lord PALMERSTON: All I can say is, that no confer nce has been held since the last reported in the papers; and before any fresh conference is held, the English Minister at Vienna must receive authority from the Government at home to attend it

Mr. GIBSON thought the noble Lord's answer was not generally understood. The noble Lord stated, some days since, that the Conferences were not finally concluded, but that they had been suspended, Lord Westmoreland retaining full powers. He wished to know whether those powers had been withdrawn.

Lord PALMERSTON replied, that those powers had not been withdrawn. Lord Westmoreland still possessed them.

MR DISRAELI'S MOTION—ADJOURNED DEBATE.

Mr. WHITESIDE resumed the debate, and announced his intention of supporting the resolution of Mr. Disraeli, the right hon. Gentleman the member for Buckinghamshire. He pointed out at considerable length what he considered inconsistencies between the speeches of Mr. Gladstone and Lord John Russell, contending that no parliament could be unanimous under their joint councils. He contended that hon. members had no alternative but to declare to the Queen that it was their firm purpose, as it was the determination of the country, to prosecute the war, because the embassy to Vienna had proved futile and abortive. The Government said tauntingly to the Opposition "We have done all we can. Why don't you tell us what we are to do?" He (Mr. Whiteside) would reply, "Very well, if you will change places with us, so we will" (Hear, hear, and Laughter).

THE Sardinian Corps in the Crimea, while commanded by the Sardinian General only, will be ready to co-operate with either the English or French armies, according to reconcerted arrangements.

A PRUSSIAN SPECTACLE.—This morning, at an early hour, the two bronze statues of York and Gneisenau, two heroes in the great war of Prussian liberation from a foreign yoke, that have within the last few days been erected on either side of the well-known statue of Marshal Blucher, near the Opera-house, were divested of the canvas and have hitherto concealed them from sight. The only inauguration that they have received consisted in the parade that the King held in the forenoon of four regiments of infantry, three of cavalry, and one of artillery, beside a battalion of rifles and a company of pioneers. These were all troops of the Guard, and form the greater part of the garrison of this capital. Those who are acquainted with the locality of the beautiful avenue of limes and horse-chestnuts leading from the Brandenburg Thor up to the Royal Schloss will imagine the beauty of the spectacle as seen this morning under the animating and exhilarating influence of the first genial weather we have had this spring. The cross road way on one side of the street was occupied by cavalry drawn up in line; on the other by infantry in column, with the artillery ranged round the Pariser Platz, and along the chaussée leading to Charlottenburg. As a sight few things could be prettier; the uniforms and accoutrements without reproach for good taste, for cleanliness, and general smartness; but, nevertheless, the whole thing impressing the spectator with no martial feeling, and suggesting no connexion of ideas between this military display and the possibility of actual war.—*Letter from Berlin, May 21.*

HOSPITALITY OF ILHAMY PACHA TO BRITISH OFFICERS IN EGYPT.—On the occasion of the late passage of her Majesty's 10th Hussars and 12th Lancers through Egypt, his Highness Ilhamy Pacha, son of the late Viceroy, Abbas Pacha, retaining a lively impression of the hospitality intended for him by her Majesty, last year, on the occasion of his Highness' visit to this country, and which was so unhappily cut short by the death of his father, invited the officers of both regiments successively to entertainments. To the 10th Hussars his Highness gave a fête champêtre in a magnificent tent pitched about three miles from Cairo. The English Consul-General invited one or two other gentlemen were invited to meet the officers; and nothing could have been more agreeable to us the party, enhanced as it was by the striking novelty of the scene. The 12th Lancers were invited to a more formal entertainment, in the nature of a dinner, prepared in the state apartments of his Highness's Palace of the Abbasieh, contiguous to the Cavalry Barracks in which these regiments during their stay at Cairo were quartered. The party consisted of Colonel Pole, commanding the 12th, and of two-and-twenty of the officers, to meet whom there were present her Majesty's Consul-General; M. le Chevalier Huber, the Austrian Consul-General; and the representative of Sardinia at Cairo, together with several other gentlemen of distinction. The French Consul, M. de la Pute, was expected, but, having been unfortunately taken unwell, was compelled to send an excuse at the last moment. Colonel Pole, in a brief speech, proposed the health of his Highness, which was drunk with three times three in true English fashion. The Austrian Consul-General, on behalf of his Highness, returned thanks, and proposed "Colonel Pole and the officers of her Majesty's 12th Royal Lancers, with success to the gallant cause they were about to join." The company shortly afterwards retired to the grand saloon, a most magnificent apartment, to enjoy the chibouk. Some of the guests, attracted by pastimes of a more European character, betook themselves to the billiard-room, where they amused themselves till eleven o'clock, when they separated, all evidently much pleased with his Highness's urbanity, and with the graceful reception they had experienced. To their great surprise, the officers found that his Highness is perfectly versed with them all very well in English, and that their familiar friend the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS formed one of the sources of intelligence and recreation of an Oriental palace.

A ROYAL CONFIRMATION.—On Saturday the Princess Louisa, the daughter of the Prince and Princess of Prussia, was confirmed at the Royal Palace at Charlottenburg. There are three points in which this ceremony here differs from confirmation in this country; in the first place any prince of Prussia is competent to administer the rite (that clergyman alone always officiates who has himself instructed the catechumens, and himself derives a considerable portion of his income from the fees and presents made by them); secondly, the young persons to be confirmed deliver in previously a written confession of faith drawn up by themselves; and thirdly (a custom confined almost exclusively to the members of the Royal family), all the preceptors and preceptresses that the young scion of royalty, about to enter upon membership with the Church, has ever had, are invited to be present at the ceremony, and the subsequent domestic festivities.—*Letter from Berlin, May 21.*

THE MILLIONS OF CHINA.—It is said that there are now one hundred Evangelical missionaries in China, and that the five ports accessible to them have a population of ten millions. This gives to every missionary an average of one hundred thousand of the population of the five ports, and of four millions of the whole population of China. That is, the five ports are as well supplied with Christian Ministers as the city of New York and its suburbs would be with no more than five preachers of the Gospel; and the whole of China is supplied as the Empire State would be, with but one Christian Minister to its entire population.—*American Paper.*

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

RIFLE-PITS IN FRONT OF THE MAMELON, MALAKOFF TOWER, &c.

WE have engraved the large View upon the ensuing pages from a sketch made by Lieutenant (now Major) Bredin, of the Royal Artillery, who transferred the scene to his sketch-book immediately before leaving the Camp at the Crimea. The respective localities are indicated beneath the illustration

The Russian Rifle-pits, of which we have of late heard so much, are formed for the purpose of keeping down, drawing off, and, if possible, of silencing the fire from the parallels of the Allies, which would otherwise be directed at the embrasures of the garrison. The soil being very stony, the pits are not dug deep, but the excavated earth and stones are thrown up in front, and make a rough breastwork, which at the crest is rendered neater by layers of sand bags; small interstices being left between them, through which the Riflemen take aim and fire.

We quote a few details of sharpshooting in the Rifle-pits from the letter from the Camp, dated April 27th:—

I was sent out to the rifle-pits on Tuesday (the 24th), but the Russians were very shy that day, and gave very few chances. I had a regular duel with a Russian in the nearest rifle-pit to us (250 yards). In about half an hour he gave up firing; and, as I had put about four shots out of seven through his loophole, I thought I must have hit him. I left a numerous of mine in my company to watch him. Very soon the Russian (who, by the by, was a splendid shot) fired again, and put the ball right through Private ——'s cap, because he did not bob his head when he saw the smoke. They began to fire 68 pounds at us in the rifle-pits from a great gun in the Redan, 700 yards from the pit I was in, and, with two men loading rifles for me, I bullied them so much that they were half an hour loading the gun, for I had a very sharp corporal watching the gunners with my telescope, and directly they appeared I fired into the embrasure. As soon as I saw the gun was loaded, I made the men lie down close under the parapet till they fired. The shot came close over our heads. The same thing went on again; but they only fired four shots at us altogether, and did no harm.

SPRING MEETING IN THE CRIMEA.—THE RACES AT KARANI.

THE Fourth Grand Crimean Spring Meeting took place on the 27th ult., in front of the Guards' detached camp, Karani. In many respects it was the most successful meeting that has yet been held. Most favoured also because there could not be a purer sky—the sun could not be brighter nor the air more balmy. And as at home, on the days of our great national festivals, the seeing people start for the races is an integral and important part of the ceremony—so was it here. On that day the most outrageous novice in Camp would have seen at a glance that something extraordinary, something to be looked at and conned over, and never to be forgotten, was going forward. There was a grand exhibition of the countenances of all nations, and a choice collection of bat horses in front of Oppenheim's store. Brown Maltese, and our own Ionians, tied cases of sherry and champagne, and tins of ready-cooked hams and tongues, to pack-saddles laid on unwilling backs. Then the road up to Karani was covered with baggage animals, carrying provisions of a kind not included in the rations issued to her Majesty's forces in the East, and on all the roads from the different camps crowded officers on horseback, some proceeding at a walk, some ambling, and some galloping along at a rattling, victorious, and irresistible pace. From the heights occupied by the French there came powerful, well-groomed horses, with a deal of bone and more flesh, and men with blue or green coats, and scarlet trousers of the most unobjectionable width. Our own encampments sent forth ambling nags and ponies of Eastern breed, and, mounted on them, men habited in the scarlet shell-jacket whose charms increase now that its days are numbered. Others there were that braved the heats of a Crimean April in those neat little fur coats which were issued at the eleventh hour, and which, if not spoiled in short or lost on the march, will do good service next winter.

The low hills which in part hide Karani were covered with men and horses. In front, on the course, people were still busy, for it is a law of nature that a race-course is never to be completely completed. The Guards detachment dressed up for the occasion, stood in little groups among the tents, and the sentry, who passed in front, conjured up visions of St. James's Palace and the steps of the Duke of York's column.

In most respects, however, it was very little resembling to the places and scenes hallowed to the lovers of "the turf." There was no crowd of unprofessional spectators—there was hardly any rabble. There were no young men in hack-chaises and four taken up by subscription, resolved to be as great an annoyance as they could. There were no mysterious hampers under the care of gentlemen in livery. No booths, and no gipsies; no gentlemen cruising to supply you with a "kreck card of the races." From first to last, and from the last, inquisitive spectators were doomed to ignorance as to "the names and ages of the horses:" and though the colours of the riders fitted by, they were indistinctly realised, and soon forgotten. Some rain would in have been intensely realised, and soon forgotten. There were no young men in hack-chaises and four taken up by subscription, resolved to be as great an annoyance as they could. There were no mysterious hampers under the care of gentlemen in livery. No booths, and no gipsies; no gentlemen cruising to supply you with a "kreck card of the races." From first to last, and from the last, inquisitive spectators were doomed to ignorance as to "the names and ages of the horses:" and though the colours of the riders fitted by, they were indistinctly realised, and soon forgotten. Some rain would in have been vermin that crawl over an English race-course. One great feature of a race—the gipsy parties—were not wanting. On a high hill on the right of the Guards' camp, and in front of the open space, there were a few old baggage ponies, quitted the honesty and fashion of Karani half a dozen of lineal descendants of the heroes that conquered at Marathon and bled at Thermopylæ, and of the gallant tars who by the glorious work they did at Salamis immortalised the wooden walls of Athens.

But the bell has been rung, and the first race has commenced. The appearance of jockeydom makes men bet—they can't help it; but the settlements are not likely to be attended with serious consequence. There is no fear of defaulters, for hardly any bets exceeding five shillings are offered and accepted. A favourite horse is always worth a crown; and bets to that amount are freely offered and taken; and, as the horses draw near the winning-post, there is the usual excitement, and when yellow has won by half a length, then follows the usual hurr, which may be resolved into the pretty conceit, "I knew he'd win." There is more music, and more riding about, and another ring of the bell, and another race; but it soon becomes apparent—what indeed already became apparent at each one of the former meetings—that the trial of speed of horses of unknown parentage, whose place is not found in the stud-book, is but a secondary consideration—a mere excuse for a sort of Corso at Karani an open-air conversazione—a meeting of "Friends in Council," and on horseback, in true Tartar fashion. The approaching hurdle-race excites a special interest of the own; and while the hurdles are being fixed, those who have friends in the Encampment are invited to luncheon, which, for the air is remarkably bracing, they greedily accept, if they have breakfasted at an early hour, or decline, if on that particular morning they happened to be in a hurry and worth a fasters. In the hurdle-race, which everybody is eager to see, some of the hurdles are ridden over on purpose to vex the stewards, and there is a good deal of laughing, because it is supposed that the stewards must feel great vexation at is their bounden duty to do so. But, after all, the whole affair begins to flag. Some young men, addicted to pleasure, are moving restlessly in their saddles. The Turks in the valley have turned in ever so long since, but the French band on the hill, and the Highland bands of Sir Colin Campbell's Camp are still playing against one another. The moon is up, and sheds her pale light on Balaclava plain; and in the tents and huts a deal of eating is going on, and much talk about the races and the hunt, and the grand French review before Lord Radcliffe. Such was the fourth Karani Meeting, on the 18th day of the New Siege of Sebastopol.

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE CRIMEAN MEDAL PRESENTATION.—A gentleman from the London Stereoscope Company, of 313, Oxford-street, had the honour on Tuesday last of submitting, by request, a Photographic View of this highly-interesting ceremony, at Buckingham Palace, for her Majesty and Prince Albert's inspection. The view is taken just at the moment her Majesty is presenting a medal to a midshipman; and it also embraces many thousands of persons, including the immense throng which lined the roofs of the Horse Guards.

THE ARTISTS' ANNUAL FESTIVAL AT ROME took place on the 5th inst., at a picturesque spot in the Campagna, overlooking the Tiber, called Castel Gandolfo, *alias* Fidene. Omer Pasha, his Sardinian Majesty, Rubens, and other distinguished characters, appeared in the masquerade, amongst black Sultans, mediæval warriors, and courtly cavaliers; a select band of whom, headed by the president of the festival, met King Louis of Bavaria at the confines of the Fidenate territory, and escorted him from the Ponte Sabato to the festive scene, where his Majesty after having been decorated with the arbatical ribbon and order of the *macro-lanoico*, or farthing—sat under a great Chinese umbrella supported by the motley dignitaries of the palette and chisel, witnessing, like a benevolent *paterfamilias*, the varied entertainments

LUCY STONE, the strong-minded Bloomer, and advocate of woman's rights, entered into bonds on the 2nd instant. She was married—but only under protest—to a Mr. Blackwell. She has reserved a right to be "a completely independent and separate individual," and her husband consents.

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—ENGLISH AND FRENCH PARALLELS, WITH RU

CRIMEAN SPRING ME

FRENCH. RUSSIAN REDOUBT.

RIFLE-PITS, IN FRONT OF THE MAMELON AND MALAKOFF TOWER.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

—RACES AT KARANI.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, May 27.—Whit Sunday. Dante born, 1265
MONDAY, 28. Whit Monday. William Pitt born, 1756.
TUESDAY, 29.—King Charles II. restored, 1660.
WEDNESDAY, 30.—Ember Week. Pope died, 1744
THURSDAY, 31.—Anne Boleyn crowned, 1533
FRIDAY, June 1.—Action between the *Chesapeake* and *Shannon*, 1813.
SATURDAY, 2. Gordon Riots commenced, 1780.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 2.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
10 55	11 21	11 49	Tide	0 11	0 33	0 51	1 13	1 34	1 55	2 14	2 35	2 56	3 16

MONTI'S LECTURES on ANCIENT and MODERN SCULPTURE.—The FIRST of these LECTURES, in compliance with the express desire of the Subscribers is POSTPONED till WEDNESDAY, May 30. Tickets to be had at Messrs. F and D Cubitt's, Tall mall East.

MR. BENSON has the honour to announce that his ANNUAL CONCERT will take place at the NEW BEETHOVEN ROOMS, on MONDAY EVENING, JUNE the 4th, 1855 In the course of the evening some Glees and Madrigals will be performed, and also a Selection from the Works of Sir Henry Bishop To commence at eight o'clock Tickets to be had at the Musicsellers; and at Mr. Benson's residence, 47, Gloucester-street, Belgrave-road, Pimlico.

HERR ERNST PAUER has the honour to announce that he will give a Grand EVENING CONCERT, with the Full Orchestra of the celebrated ORCHESTRAL UNION, under the direction of Mr Mellon, at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 1855, to commence at Eight o'clock precisely, when he will be assisted by—Vocalists: Miss Pauline Krall (from the Imperial Opera, Vienna), Miss Dolby, and Herr Reichardt. Conductors, Mr Alfred Mellon and Herr Ernst Pauer. The members of the Highly-distinguished London Deutscher Männer Chor have kindly consented to perform on this occasion Selections from Mendelssohn's "Antigone and Œdipus." Herr Ernst Pauer will play Hummel's Concerto in A flat; and his new Symphony in C minor will be given for the first time.—Stalls, half-a-guinea; Tickets, 7s. each, may be had at the principal Music Warehouses, and of Herr Ernst Pauer, 23, Adrol place West, Tavistock-square

THE LUMINOUS and CHROMATIC FOUNTAIN, 100 feet high, DAILY at the ROYAL PANOPTICON, Leicester-square, at 4 55 and 9 55. The Institution is open—Morning, 12 to 5, Evening, 7 to 10. Admission, 1s.; Schools and Children, half-price.

WHITSUN HOLIDAYS.—The ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK, will be OPEN to Visitors EVERY DAY during Whitsun-Week, except SATURDAY, on payment of SIXPENCE each person. The Band of the First Life Guards will perform (by permission of Col. Parker) on every Saturday until further notice

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1855.

THERE was a time—but it is long since past—when the diplomacy of England was one of her strongest points; but, for the last thirty, if not forty, years our diplomacy has been at so low an ebb, that it has been a common remark in all well-informed political circles on the Continent, that in that department Great Britain did not shine; and that no Ambassador was so easily overreached as an English one. But in Russia diplomacy has been a stronger weapon of offence and defence than armies and navies. The Czars have notoriously gained more power, territory, and influence by negotiation than by battle; and why this difference? Simply, because in England we jobbed diplomatic appointments as we jobbed everything else; and, because in Russia, diplomacy was studied as an art, and success in it rewarded by the highest prizes and honours which it was in the power of the State to bestow. Mr. Wyse, who brought before the House of Commons on Tuesday night a motion upon the subject, drew greater attention to what he considers the undue expense of our Diplomatic Staff from Ambassadors and Ministers Plenipotentiary down to Consuls and Vice-Consuls—than to the jobbery displayed in the appointment of their officials. The expense, great as it is, is not in reality the main grievance. Our Ambassadors and Ministers, far from being overpaid, are underpaid for the duties which they are expected to perform—duties in the highest degree delicate, difficult, and important. We will not join in the vulgar outcry against Ambassadors as being merely spies of a superior class, or as men whose business it is to cheat others, but not to be cheated themselves. Ambassadors have nobler duties. The highest functionary of this class should not only be the dignified representative of the wealth, the power, and the honour of the country; but he should be trained in all the arts and qualifications of statesmanship; should be a sound lawyer, an astute and patient and wary special pleader; a man fit to lay down and maintain the highest and noblest principles of action; but fit also to split the straws of logic, to detect a quibble, or to gain a triumph by means of one, if he had an opponent whom he had no other means of defeating. He should be a man all eyes and ears—with a memory to retain, a judgment to sift, and a genius to appreciate, evidence. He should, above all things, be a patriot and a man of honour and intelligence; but, in addition to all this, he should be courteous and urbane, of prepossessing manners, and of generous hospitality; so that all classes of people—his countrymen or strangers—should say of him (whatever might be their differences of opinion on points of policy) that he worthily, agreeably, and splendidly, maintained the reputation of his country. Such qualities as these are not often united, and, when found, are not to be bought for slight and insufficient reward. But Great Britain does not go the right way to work to obtain the services of the best qualified, by natural gifts and by long training, to do honour to themselves and advantage to the State in their arduous and dignified career. The diplomatic service is a huge job from beginning to end. The working men in it, the men who ought to be encouraged and promoted, are miserably underpaid; while the great prizes fall to the lot not always of the most able, but of the most highly connected. Why should young men—whether aristocrats or plebeians—remain in the position of *attachés* to our Embassies without receiving salaries for their services? Surely it is not consistent with the dignity of this Empire to accept gratuitous service? And if dignity be not compromised by such an arrangement—or want of arrangement—it is surely inconsistent with sound policy to employ servants whom we do not openly reward for their services; for we may be assured that, in the long run, such services are the most expensive, as well as the most inefficient. Lord Palmerston opposed the motion for an inquiry into the subject; and Mr. Wyse was weak enough to abandon his motion in deference to the Premier's wishes. But there were other persons in the House who had decided opinions on the urgency of a general inquiry into this branch of the service; and Mr. Wyse's motion, in spite of Mr. Wyse and Lord Palmerston, was carried by a majority of 112 against 57. Thus the House of Commons is pledged to one out of the many subdivisions into which the Administrative Reform may be classed. It is the first, but not the last, or the least important; and if this House of Commons do not take it up in earnest, the next will. Perhaps, too, the advent of a new House of Commons is not quite so distant as a large number of existing members of Parliament—certain not to be re-elected—imagine and wish it to be.

THE spectacle afforded by the ceremonial of Presentation of Medals to the Heroes of the Crimea was not only the most beautiful but the most deeply interesting of all the scenes which war has conjured up among us. Yet the last three years have produced many pageants of an extraordinary character. No one who viewed them will ever forget the majestic sea-processions with which the Sovereign of these islands led forth her grand fleets to the ocean. The departure of regiment after regiment of her gallant soldiers was marked by the assemblage of enthusiastic crowds, and by farewell greetings from Queen Victoria. The Camp at home is in the recollection of all. Later have come the stately hospitalities with which the ruler of France was welcomed to England; and all these spectacles have arisen out of the demands, or the expediencies of a warlike crisis. But no sight had been afforded to us which combined a brilliant military array with a scene of a gentler nature, until the other day, when the Queen received and rewarded her wounded soldiers, and sent them from her presence in all the pride of appreciated service and loyalty.

Details of this interesting ceremonial will be found elsewhere. Its effect upon the army, and upon the classes who will hereafter form the army has been most beneficial. The Queen's kind letter to the wounded in hospital, and the assurance that her sympathies were with them, did much good, as did her Majesty's visits to the sick and disabled. This personal distribution of the badge of honour completes the charm. To have given the silver token in the ordinary manner would have been nothing. The soldier who had merely had to push his way up to a bureau, who was coldly scanned by a clerk, and cross-questioned against the entries in a huge ledger, and finally received his medal, would have gone away with his pulse but slightly quickened, unless with impatience at the ordeal. But to call that soldier to the Royal muster-ground, with all the ensigns of his profession around him, and to lead him up to the presence of his Royal mistress, to receive her smile, her thanks, and her sympathy, together with the testimonial of his service, was to awaken in him all that the sentiment of chivalry can inspire; and to let the people see (we only wish that the arrangements had permitted the humbler classes to witness more of the ceremony) that the common soldier who has received sabre cut, bayonet stab, or wound from a ball, in fighting for his country, will, when the time comes, be called forward by his Sovereign to receive public honour, was a course at once noble and prudent, and one of which the effect has already proved most advantageous.

The effect that was produced upon the soldiers themselves was evident to all who were near enough to the Royal dais to detect the expression of feature. Some of the men went away with the manly composure for which the British soldier is celebrated, others with the ordinary and natural look of gratification. More sensitive natures were there: and over some faces was spread the flush of unmistakable pride, while the eyes of others actually filled with tears, at the kindly look and word of the Queen. After the ceremony, and when the first excitement had passed, a young soldier who had been decorated met a gentleman to whom he was known, and, after displaying the medal, added, with intense heartiness, that, if one thing could have been managed—if the "old folks at home" could only have been brought to see the Queen give that medal to him with her own hand, he would gladly have returned to the Crimea the next day, though it were to die in the first charge upon the Russians. And this was, no doubt, the feeling of hundreds, and one which will be found to have been contagious, and to have spread with electric rapidity through the ranks. Upon the classes from which recruits are taken let the officers charged with that duty tell the influence of that Friday's scene, and say whether the recruiting has not received a stimulus which is not less remarkable than desirable.

We shall not be accused of desiring to propagate the war-spirit, or to encourage the lust for conquest and carnage. But it is scarcely possible even for a peacemonger not to see that at this time war is a necessity, and even he will hardly deny that what a great nation has to do should be done in the boldest and most efficient manner. A new and oppressive levy is at this moment calling forth the hordes of Russia for military enrolment—one man in twelve is demanded—and the enormous force thus to be procured will be rolled down upon the Allies with all the recklessness of those in whose eyes human life is as nothing How the Russian soldier is made a recent traveller has thus described: "The order for the levy has reached the lord. The selection is not made at random, nor by lot. The lord, assisted by his steward and servants, decides upon the hero. His way to glory is marked out for him the lord knows nothing about him, but has nothing to oppose to the representation of his servants. The unhappy man is dragged from his home, his wife, his children; one-half of his head is shaved from back to front, he is riveted up in heavy chains with the gang of his comrades, and away he is marched to the military dépôt." Against an enemy who can renew his ranks in this fashion, and who vaunts of the successes of this very war, in the teeth of the fact that the blood of a quarter of a million of his soldiers has been already wasted in the fray, it is something more than expedient that rulers who have no such infernal power, and who can but call upon freemen to array themselves in the ranks, should call in their best voice, and urge their best incentive. To animate those who are already in the struggle, and to gather to their aid those who are needed to reinforce them, what better thing can be said, what better promise can be held out, than that their deeds, both of strife and endurance, shall be watched by their grateful country, and be rewarded, in that country's name, by their admiring Queen. This, and the still dearer assurance that for the loved ones of those who may fall in the battle of liberty, the Queen and the nation unite to provide, are all that England can offer to her citizen-soldier beyond the ordinary recompense of his service. But we have that faith in the British nature which induces us to believe that this will be amply sufficient; and that, if Providence is pleased to decree that for months, or even years to come, freemen and slaves are to join for the death-grapple, there will be no want of noble fellows who, having manfully done their duty, will present themselves from time to time before their Sovereign to receive at her hand the Order of the Crimea.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE PROJECTED CAMPAIGN IN THE CRIMEA.

From an article in the *Constitutionnel* of Thursday, it appears that the recall of the expedition to Kertch, was in consequence of a new plan of campaign, suggested by General Pelissier and approved of by the Emperor, which rendered the occupation of that place comparatively unimportant. Speaking of the proposed campaign, it says:—

The Generals-in-Chief have considered it necessary to summon together all their forces. The reserves of the Camp of Mailly have proceeded to the Crimea. General Pelissier has therefore now under his orders 120,000 effective men; Lord Raglan has 30,000; and, adding to there the 15,000 Piedmontese, the Egyptian division of 10,000, and the 35,000 under Omer Pacha, the whole makes up a total of 210,000 combatants. It will be therefore seen that in leaving 80,000 men to continue the siege and to cover its operations, and a sufficient corps to protect Eupatoria—the fortifications of which have been considerably extended and strengthened—the Generals-in-Chief will still have at his disposal 100,000 men and 200 field-pieces to attack the Russian army and strike a decisive blow. It may be readily comprehended that, in such a situation, and on the eve of important events, the Generals-in-Chief should wish to have at hand all their disposable forces, and that they should have regarded an attack on Kertch as without importance, as compared with what the return of fine weather will allow them to accomplish. This explains the recall of the expedition to Kertch, which had drawn 10,000 picked troops from the Allies, and taken away means of transport which had become necessary.

THE VIENNA CONFERENCES.

A telegraphic despatch from Vienna states that a Conference will be held to-day (Saturday) between the Austrian, English, French, and Turkish Plenipotentiaries; and another on Monday, at which Prince Gortschakoff and his colleague will be present

The *German Journal* of Frankfort quotes letters from Vienna of the 20th, from which it appears that the Austrian Cabinet had not, up to that date, received any official communication of the note of Count Nesselrode of the 30th ult., addressed to the German Courts, and promising them the observance of the two first points by Russia, on condition of their persisting in their neutrality. The correspondent adds, that Count Buol is about to repeat this want of courtesy by issuing an Austrian circular to the German Courts, in which he will show that not only the first two points, but the others also, are of the utmost importance to German interests.

A MILITARY REVOLT IN SPAIN.

A military revolt took place at Saragossa on the 22nd inst., by some Carlist soldiers belonging to a cavalry regiment shouting through the public thoroughfares, "Long Live the King!" The Queen's troops were immediately ordered out in pursuit, but the result is not known. An ex-Carlist chief, who entered the Queen's service after the Convention of Bergara, deserted with sixty men of the garrison. Navarre and the Basque provinces are tranquil.

THE COURT.

After a succession of brilliant hospitalities in London, the Court has left town for a few days for the Isle of Wight.

The State Concert on Friday se'nnight was followed on Saturday by a Drawing-room, to celebrate her Majesty's Birthday, at which the attendance of ladies and gentlemen was very numerous.

On Monday her Majesty held a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace, at which the Earl of Clarendon and Earl Granville had audiences of her Majesty. In the afternoon the Queen visited the Duchess of Gloucester at Gloucester-house; and in the evening her Majesty had a dinner party, the company at which included the Duchess of Kent, the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg and the Princess Adelaide, Prince Ernest of Leiningen, the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, Viscount Torrington, and Major-General the Hon. J. Scarlett.

On Tuesday Prince Albert left Buckingham Palace, attended by Captain Du Plat, at a quarter past eleven o'clock, for the purpose of inspecting the works in progress for the Camp at Aldershott. The Queen left Buckingham Palace, at twenty minutes past two o'clock in the afternoon, for her marine residence, in the Isle of Wight. Her Majesty was accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, the Princesses Alice, Helena, and Louisa, Prince Arthur, and Prince Leopold, and their Serene Highnesses the Princess of Hohenlohe Langenburg and the Princess Adelaide and Prince of Hohenlohe. The Royal suite consisted of the Marchioness of Ely, the Hon. Beatrice Byng, Major-General the Hon. Charles Grey, the Master of the Household, Major-General Buckley, and Mr. Gibbs. The Royal party was escorted by a detachment of Carabiniers to the private station at Nine Elms of the London and South Western Railway. The Queen made her departure by a special train. Her Majesty stopped at Farnborough station, where she was joined by Prince Albert, who accompanied the Queen to Osborne, where the Royal party arrived at a quarter-past six o'clock

On Wednesday her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent arrived at Osborne on a visit to the Queen

The Marchioness of Ely has succeeded the Countess of Gainsborough as the Lady in Waiting to the Queen. Lord Waterpark and Mr. F Cavendish have relieved Lord Camoys and Major-General Berkeley Drummond in their duties as the Lord and Groom in Waiting to her Majesty.

THE BIRTHDAY DRAWINGROOM.

The Queen held a Drawingroom in celebration of her Majesty's birthday, on Saturday afternoon last, in St. James's Palace. The Court was attended by about sixteen hundred ladies and gentlemen. Her Majesty and Prince Albert, with the Princess Royal, arrived from Buckingham Palace, attended by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting, and escorted by a detachment of the Life Guards, soon after two o'clock. The great officers of State received the Queen and the Prince, and attended her Majesty to the Royal closet. The Duchess of Cambridge, the Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Princess Mary, and the Duke of Cambridge were present, and were received by the Vice-Chamberlain. The Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, the Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe, and the Prince Ernest of Leiningen, were also present.

The Lord Chancellor arrived in state at two o'clock, wearing his gold robe, and attended by his Serjeant-at-Arms, and the Purse and Train Bearers. The other Equity Judges present—viz., the Master of the Rolls, Vice Chancellor Kindersley, and Vice-Chancellor Page Wood—also appeared in their gold robes. The Speaker of the House of Commons arrived in state, wearing his gold robe, and attended by the Serjeant-at-Arms, the Chaplain, and the Secretary. The day was observed as a Collar day. The Marquis of Lansdowne, the Marquis of Exeter, the Earl of Aberdeen, and Earl Spencer, wore the Garter and the Collar and Star of that most noble order. The Earl of Aberdeen also wore the Collar of the Thistle. The Duke of Atholl, the Marquis of Breadalbane, the Earl of Elgin, and Lord Panmure wore the Collar and Star of the most ancient Order of the Thistle. The Earl of Listowel, and other Knights, wore the Collar and Star of the Most Illustrious Order of St. Patrick. Viscount Palmerston, Viscount Hardinge, Viscount Combermere, Viscount Gough, Sir George Grey, Sir John Burgoyne, and a number of other Knights Grand Cross, wore the Collar and Star of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath. Viscount Falkland and Lord Adolphus Fitzclarence wore the Collar and Star of the Hanoverian Guelphic Order. Lord Campbell, the Lord Chief Justice of England, wore his Official Gold Collar of S S. The Ministers and gentlemen in office wore the full dress official costume, and all the officers of the household of the Queen and the Prince appeared in the full dress household uniform

His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury delivered an address of congratulation to her Majesty on the auspicious return of her birthday.

The Queen and the Prince then entered the Throne room, accompanied by the Princess Royal, the Duchess of Cambridge, the Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Princess Mary and the Duke of Cambridge, the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, the Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe, and Prince Ernest of Leiningen. The ladies and officers of the Royal household took their usual stations near the Sovereign and on each side of the throne.

The Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Princess Alice, the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe, and Prince Ernest of Leiningen, honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence in the evening.

The illuminations in the evening were very brilliant. Viscount Palmerston's, the Marquis of Breadalbane's, the Duke of Wellington's, and Viscount Canning's mansions were conspicuous. The club-houses and theatres were, as usual, radiant with loyal and patriotic devices. The entire facade, as well as the dome and minarets, of the Royal Panopticon, Leicester square, was covered by a series of gas lanterns, exhibiting the three colours now so popular

His Serene Highness Prince Ernest of Leiningen left the residence of the Duchess of Kent, Clarence-house, St. James's, on Monday evening, to join the fleet in the Baltic.

The Countess Colloredo has issued cards for a grand ball at Chandos-house, on Wednesday next.

The Countess of Derby had an assembly last evening (Friday), at the new family mansion in St James's-square. The reunion was brilliantly attended.

The Earl De Grey, as President of the Institute of British Architects, had a conversazione at his mansion in St. James's-square, on Friday, of the members of the various literary and scientific institutions in the metropolis.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

WILLIAM FRANCIS SPENCER PONSONBY, LORD DE MAULEY.

This nobleman died on the 16th inst., at his residence in St. James's-place, aged sixty-eight. He was the third son of Frederick, third Earl of Bessborough, by Lady Caroline Cavendish, his wife, eldest daughter of the third Duke of Devonshire. For many years antecedently to his elevation to the Peerage, he had a seat in the House of Commons—first for the borough of Bodmin, and subsequently for the county of Dorset. His politics were always Whig. In 1838 he obtained the Barony of De Mauley, a title adopted from the circumstance of his wife being one of the coheirs of the ancient family of Mauley, which established in a writ of summons to hear and decide on the early as A.D. 1295. Lord De Mauley married, 8th August, 1814, Lady Barbara Ashley Cooper, only child of Anthony, fifth Earl of Shaftesbury, by Barbara, his wife, daughter and heir of Sir John Webb, Bart.; and had by her, who died 8th June, 1844, two surviving sons, and one daughter—viz. Charles Frederick-Ashley Cooper, present Peer, who was born in 1815, and is married to the fourth daughter of the late Earl of Bessborough, the Hon. Ashley George John Ponsonby; and Frances-Anne Georgiana, Lady Kinnaird.

WILLIAM RASHLEIGH, ESQ. OF MENABILLY, CORNWALL.

MR. RASHLEIGH, of Menabilly, formerly M.P. for Fowey, died on the 14th inst., at his seat in Cornwall, in the 79th year of his age.

The Rashleighs, of Menabilly, are a younger branch of the ancient family of Rashleigh, of Rashleigh—descend from John Rashleigh, Esq., who was M.P. for Fowey 31 and 39 Elizabeth, and erected the mansion at Menabilly, the beautiful seat at which the family have continued ever since to reside. The gentleman whose decease we record succeeded to the estates at the death of his uncle, Philip Rashleigh, Esq., M.P., whose collection of minerals formed the most splendid cabinet of that description in Europe.

Mr. Rashleigh married twice: first, Rachael, daughter of William S[illegible] house, Esq., of Trehana, by whom he had no issue; and, secondly, Caroline, daughter of Henry Hunnam, Esq., of Ivychurch, Wilts, by whom he leaves with other issue, a son and heir, the present William Rashleigh, Esq., of Menabilly, formerly M.P. for South Cornwall, who is married to the Hon. Catherine Stuart, sister of Lord Blantyre.

WILLS AND PERSONALTY.—The will of the most Hon. Maria, Dowager Marchioness of Downshire, was proved in London, under £10,000 personalty: Jack Perry, Esq., of Wymondham-house, Norfolk, £30,000; Sir George Head, £7000 personalty; Rev. John Allen, M.A., Dinwiddie, £14,000; Henry Parker Collett, Esq., Yeovil, all £30,000; Charles Prickett Rigbold, silk merchant, Cheapside, £120,000; Henry Lee, attorney-at-law, Coventry, £40,000; Thomas Stead Carter, Esq., of Holdham, £30,000. The wealthy William Williams Hope, Esq., formerly of Paris, but late of Rashleigh and Trevorrick, by his will bequeathed all his real and personal estate to Venus Hodgkinson Crosby, of Dover; and by a codicil has left £20,000 to Melanie Claudine de Vermeux, of Paris; and £15,000 to Amelie Chancellor Sassen, also of Paris, and other legacies of less amount.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MAY 24.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading Barom. at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°	°		Inches
May 18	29.674	63.0	36.7	49.5	— 3.7	80	S.W.	0.09
" 19	29.[illegible]	67.2	42.7	54.3	+ 0.9	77	S.	0.00
" 20	29.[illegible]	68.5	46.2	57.0	+ 3.9	76	S. & E.	0.00
" 21	29.[illegible]	5[illegible].6	49.3	45.8	— 8.2	94	N.	0.01
" 22	29.[illegible]	61.9	44.2	51.6	— 4.8	83	N. & S.	0.00
" 23	29.[illegible]	60.9	42.3	50.1	— 6.4	80	S.E.	0.00
" 24	29.7[illegible]	70.0	1[illegible].1	54.6	— 0.9	85	S.S.W.	0.00

NOTE.—The sign - denotes below the average and the sign + above the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.07 in. at the beginning of the week to 29.81 in. by the morning of the 20th; increased to 29.91 in. by the afternoon of the same day; decreased to 29.41 in. by the afternoon of the 21st; increased to 29.82 in. by the 22nd; decreased to 29.73 in. by the 24th; and increased to 29.78 in. by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.858 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 51.6°, being 2.19 below its average value.

The range of temperature during the week was 33.3°, being the differences between the lowest reading of the thermometer, 36.7° on the 18th, and the highest, 70°, on the 24th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 21.7°. The greatest was 27.3°, on the 24th, and the least 13.3° on the 18th.

The weather throughout the week has been fine and dry, and the sky partly covered with cloud.

Lewisham, May 25, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—During the week ending May 19, the births of 1[illegible] were registered within the metropolis—1[illegible] of these, 800 were boys, and 656 girls; the average numbers for the twentieth week of the year, from the records of ten years, were 736 boys and 7[illegible] girls. The number of deaths registered in the week was 1143: of these, 670 were males, and 473 females. The number last week was 1678, so that a very slight improvement in the public health has taken place; they still, however, show a mortality above the average. The number of deaths due to the 20th week of the year is 1088. The deaths returned last week are 55 in excess of the number ob[illegible] by calculation. Small-pox exhibits a sudden increase; the deaths from it, which were 15 and 28 in the two previous weeks, rose last week to 45. The disease appears to prevail in Shoreditch more than in any other part of London.

THE SONS OF THE CLERGY.—The two hundred and first anniversary of the above corporation was celebrated on Wednesday by the usual religious ceremonial in St. Paul's Cathedral. In the evening the friends of the institution assembled in Merchants' Hall. A sub-scription dinner ball of the charity was made. The amount raised by the annual subscriptions, legacies, &c., during the year, was upwards of £4000, which was the largest amount ever contributed, with the exception of the year 1853.

MAINE LIQUOR LAW.—On Monday night a public meeting, respectably attended, was held at St. Martin's-hall, convened by the United Kingdom Alliance for the Total Suppression of the Traffic in Intoxicating Liquors. Sir Charles Douglas, Bart., M.P., in the chair. At their movement Alderman Sir R. Carden occupied the chair. The Rev. J. Hanson, the Rev. Jabez Burns, D.D., and other gentlemen, having addressed the meeting, a resolution in furtherance of the objects of the meeting was adopted, and also a petition to both Houses of Parliament, praying for the enactment of a law absolutely prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors in this country.

INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE ENLARGEMENT, BUILDING, AND REPAIRING OF CHURCHES AND CHAPELS.—A meeting of this society was held at 7, Whitehall, on Monday last, when its Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury took the chair. Twenty-six prelates had before them eighteen applications for assistance, received since their meeting in last month. Aid was granted from the funds of the society towards the following objects:—Building churches at Ruislip-cum-Ickenham, in the parish of Pres, Salop; Coven, in the parish of Brewood, Stafford, and Pitsea, Essex. Towards rebuilding the churches at Scropton, Derby, and Little-on Drey, Wilts; and towards enlarging, &c., churches at [illegible] in the Salop, St. John the Baptist, Stamford, Sibsey, Lincolnshire, Lingfield, Surrey; Snetisham, Norfolk; Rode, Suffolk; Westerton, near Dunstable, Chilmark, near Salisbury; and Colmworth, Huntingdon.

PEACE SOCIETY.—The thirty-ninth annual meeting of the Peace Society was held at the Finsbury Chapel, Moorfields, on Tuesday evening. Mr. C. Hindley, M.P., who was called to the chair, said the expenditure already incurred of 80 millions of money on the present war, and the sacrifice of nearly half a million of lives, ought to be sufficient to convince the people that war is a great curse, and ought, by every means, to be avoided. After trying to show that Russia is right and England wrong in the proposals for peace, he concluded by impressing upon the meeting the great advantages which would result from the universal acceptance of the principles of the Peace Society. The resolutions were afterwards addressed by the Rev. Dr. Davidson, the Rev. Dr. Burns, and other gentlemen, in favour of peace, and in condemnation of the course pursued by the Russian Government. The meeting dispersed at 10 p.m.

SOCIETY FOR ENGLISH CHURCH MISSIONS TO THE ROMAN CATHOLICS.—The annual meeting of the members of this society was on Tuesday held at the Hanover-square Rooms; the Right Hon the Earl of Shaftesbury in the chair. The report stated that the income of the society, from its formation, in the summer of 1853, to the 31st December of the same year, was £964 13s. 5d. The income in the year 1854, was £1622 2s. 3d., and for the first four months of 1855, £620. A considerable portion of the above was the result of sermons and meetings in London, Brighton, Bristol, Oxford, Cambridge, Hull, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and several smaller places. A far larger annual sum was required to carry on the present work of the society, and to respond to the many pressing calls from clergymen in different parts of the kingdom for missionary agency and Scriptural aid. The report was adopted, and a collection made in aid of the funds of the institution.

BURFORD'S PANORAMA OF SEBASTOPOL.

MR. BURFORD has just completed a Panorama of Sebastopol, and the ever-memorable battle-field which now surrounds it, executed upon a scale of magnitude, and with an elaborateness of detail, worthy of the subject. It was exhibited on private view on Thursday and yesterday, and will be opened to the public on Monday.

The View is taken from the centre of the vast plateau occupied by the Allied armies, on the south side of the city, overlooking the gorge which separates the English from the French works, and which terminates in the Military Harbour. Immediately beneath the spectator, looking in the direction of the gorge in question, is seen the formidable redoubt the famed Three-gun Battery, manned, and at work, executed upon such a scale as to give a life-like idea of the science and labours of siege operations. Thus, while the guns are being loaded and fired, the sentinels are being relieved, and there men leaning against the parapet, peering through glasses at the operations of the enemy; in another place a poor fellow has fallen, wounded by a splinter from the top of the parapet, which one of the enemy's balls has just struck; already at hand are seen advancing the fatigue party, with the stretcher or bier, preparing to remove the hero's body from the field. Looking beyond this grim episode of war, we trace the outline of the "approaches" which hem in this side of the besieged city; and the light and scattered smoke arising from which shows that the sappers are not inactive; whilst further, in the middle distance, are clearly defined the Malakoff tower and Battery, the Redan Battery, the Flagstaff Battery, and the whole line of earthworks which the besieged have so skilfully thrown up—chiefly in the interval between the occupation by the Allies of their position south of the town, and the opening of their fire. High above this sparkle the white walls of the churches and other build ngs of the town itself; and beyond these frown—though, by the aid of distance, mildly—the redoubtable Forts Alexander and Constantine, and the a few redoubtable Wasp Fort. In short, the whole of the details, both city itself and its defences; and of the offensive work of the Allies, is held out in a manner which cannot fail of rendering the operations of the ingenious gentleman publicly known to all who will give themselves the trouble to examine them by the aid of the published "Description."

Turning now gradually round to the right, towards the east and south, we observe the bold gorge of the Tchernaya, which effectually shuts out of view the northern side of the town; the bold mountains range beyond, tipped with silvery brightness; then the ravine which shuts in Balaklava, and lastly Kamiesch Bay, the landing-place and "base" of operations of our French allies. The general surface is dotted with tents of the Allied armies, and groups of soldiers of all arms and nations; and in portrait stand the two commanding generals, with their respective staffs, the figures being painted with great life and realness of effect by Mr. Selous.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Although the actual money business transacted in national securities this week has been by no means extensive, the market has ruled active, and prices have steadily advanced; the Three per Cents having touched 94½. The principal causes of the advance in the quotations are the favourable nature of the late accounts, the large arrivals of bullion, and the rapid increase of gold in the Bank of England, together with the prospect of money becoming cheaper. Another cause—which, it is supposed, will induce holders to invest in Consols—is the prevailing impression in the city is the issuing a notice to the effect that the interest on Exchequer Bills, to be renewed on the 11th of June, will be reduced from its present rate of 2½d. per day to 2d. This reduction, which is equal to 7s. 7d. per annum, will effect a saving of about £30,000 per annum in the public expenditure; and the future rate will, consequently, be £3 0s. 10d. per annum. The advices from the manufacturing districts are more favourable than for some time past, and it is generally thought that there will shortly be an increased demand for accommodation. This would to most desirable, as the Reserve in the Bank of England is now over £10,000,000; and the stock of bullion is upwards of £18,000,000 [illegible] amount of capital is now unemployed in Lombard-street, notwithstanding that first-class bills have in some instances been discounted as low as 2½ per cent.

The shipments of the precious metals have been trifling; but the imports have been very extensive, about £300,000 having arrived from Australia, leaving £600,000 on passage—£96,471 from the West Indies, and £120,000 from New York. As nearly the whole of these imports are now directed to the Bank, next week's returns will no doubt show a further excess in the supply of gold.

The Committee of the Stock Exchange have resolved that, on and after the 16th of June, efficient transactions shall cease on Saturdays at one o'clock, instead of two o'clock, as at present.

On Monday the Consol Market was firm; prices, however, were scarcely improved. Reduced, 94 ⅞ ⅛; Consols, 94 ⅞ ⅛; the New Three per Cents, 94 ⅞ ⅛; and Consols for Account, 94 ⅞. Long Annuities, 18⅝, were 18⅝. India Stock rose to 2[illegible]; and the Bonds, realised 2[illegible] prem. Exchequer Bills, 4s. to 7s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 100. There was a steady market on Tuesday, and prices fluctuated—the Three per Cents for Transfer having realised 94½. Bank Stock was firm, at 209½. The New Three per Cents marked 89½ to 90½. Long Annuities, 18⅝. India Stock, 2[illegible]; and the Bonds, 2[illegible] prem. Exchequer Bills, 10s. to 15s. prem.; Bills, Advertised, 4s. to 7s. Bank Stock opened at 209. Consols were quoted at 94 ⅞ ⅛ [illegible] when the Three per Cents were down at 91½, after marking 94½. The Three per Cents Reduced were up to 94½; and the New Three per Cents, 90½. Long Annuities, 18⅝. India Stock was 2[illegible] prem. Exchequer Bills, 10s. (March), 10s. to 15s. [illegible] Exchequer Bills, 100. The Stock Market was dull on Thursday, most of the speculators [illegible] of the decision of the war in the House of Commons. Consols [illegible] 90½ ⅞. The New Three per Cents realised 90½ ⅞; and the Three per Cents Reduced, 89½ ⅞. Exchequer Bills, 10s. to 15s. prem.; and India Bills, 10s. to 2s. prem. Consols, 2[illegible] prem. The Long Years' Annuity marked 18⅝.

All Foreign Bonds have been in good request, and prices have steadily improved. Dutch Five per Cents have sold at 101½; Mexican Three per Cents, 22½; Spanish New Deferred, 18⅝; Turkish Bonds, 78; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 64; Dutch Four per Cents, 92¼; Sardinian Five per Cents, 87½; Brazilian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 95½; Portuguese Four per Cents, 48⅝; Venezuela Three-and-a-Half per Cents, 18½; Russian Aprs Six per Cents, 84; Russian Five per Cents, 95½; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 96½.

The total coin delivered at the Bank of England during the week ending the 14th inst. was £36,935,000, showing a decrease in the circulation, compared with the previous month of £63,000; and a decrease, compared with the end of April, of £[illegible].

Joint Stock Bank Shares have been very firm, and prices have had a tendency [illegible].

The Market for Railway Shares has been firm, and the quotations have had an upward tendency. The following are the official closing prices on Tuesday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 22½; Ambergris, Newcastle, and Boston, 7 [illegible]; Cheltenham, 62½; Dublin and Belfast Junction, 12 ½; Anglesea, 15; Eastern Counties, 11½; Great Northern, 92; Ditto, A Stock, 77; Great Western, 67; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 73½; Leeds and Bradford, 109; London and North-Western, 1[illegible]; London and South-Western, 85; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 30½; Midland, 71; North British, 30½; North-Eastern, Berwick, 74; Ditto York, 48½; North Staffordshire, 9; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 22½; South Devon, 13; South Wales, 52.

LINES LISTED AT FIXED RENTALS.—East Lancashire, 134; Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock, 2½.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Great Northern Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 102; [illegible] Stock (Great Western), 74; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 107. South-Eastern (Reading), 23; Waterford and Kilkenny [illegible] per Cent, 1[illegible].

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 7⅞; Dutch Rhenish, 8⅞; Eastern of France, 3⅞ ex div.; East Indian Five per Cent, 2⅝; Grand Trunk of Canada, 9⅝; Great Central of France, 12½; Great Luxemburg, 2⅞; Great Western of Canada Shares, 21½; Lyons and Geneva, 14½; Namur and Liege, 6⅞; Non-Guaranteed, 36⅞; Western of France, 3⅞.

Mining Shares have been firm:—Copiapo, 23; Santiago de Cuba, 5⅞; Linares Mexican, 8⅞.

Friday, Evening.

There has been a good business doing in Consols to-day, at a steady advance in the quotation. The Three per Cents have touched 91½ ⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 89⅞ ⅞, and the New Three per Cents, 90½ ⅞. Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares are very firm, and dearer.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—Very moderate supplies of English wheat have been received up to our market this week coastwise and by land carriage; and the show of samples to-day in market was limited. On our side, in the direct way at all, in some instances prices rather had been met on Monday the advance being 2s. per quarter, and on the Russian was fixed. Upwards of 30 cargoes of foreign wheat arrived in the week. Hitherto, English wheat, in all quite as dear as last week, fetter parcels meet a dull inquiry. In oats a better show of samples, we distributed for [illegible] which sales, in fact, quite dear. Malt was lower. Barley supply and sale [illegible] demand. Beans, peas, and flour were steady at [illegible]

AVERAGES.—English: wheat, 19[illegible]; barley, 3[illegible]; oats, 1[illegible]; rye, 1[illegible]; beans, 4[illegible]; peas, 4[illegible]. Foreign: wheat, 3[illegible]; barley, 1[illegible]; oats, 3[illegible]; rye, 1[illegible]; beans, 3[illegible]; peas, 3[illegible].

[illegible]—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 70s. to 78s.; ditto white, 75s. to 80s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 70s. to 77s.; ditto, white, 76s. to 78s.; rock beans, 38s. to 41s.; grey peas, 37s. to 41s.; maples, 40s. to 42s.; white, 40s. to 44s.; boilers, 42s. to 47s.; pigeons, [illegible]; tares, [illegible]; English, 10s. to 16s.; Kingston and Wareham, 60s. to 70s.; Chevalier, 70s. to 75s.; [illegible] Cork, black, 36s. to 37s.; ditto, white, 36s. to 38

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 745.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE WAR AND THE PARLIAMENT.

THE debates which took place in the House of Commons, on Thursday and Friday last, have already lost much of their interest. Important as they were, the occupation of Kertch and Yenikale, and the lines of the Tchernaya, have thrown them into the shade. It is with the sword of the soldier, not with the tongue of the orator or the pen of the diplomatist, that the great business of the world is to be settled. If things go right in the battle-field, it is of little consequence how parties and factions may squabble at home; but if there be gloom in the Camp and want of success by land or by sea in the distant theatres of our operations, the strife of parties in the Legislature at home will grow in bitterness and in importance. So it has ever been, and so it will continue to be until the day possibly not far distant—when the war shall be brought to a close by the signal discomfiture and humiliation of Russia, and the assertion by the victorious fleets and armies of Great Britain and France of the Supremacy of Right over Wrong, and of Civilisation over Barbarism.

But things have "taken a turn," both in the Camp and the Council. In the hour of their triumph it should not be forgotten that the brave soldiers of the Allies never, even in the midst of suffering, and privation, indulged in the gloomy anticipations too prevalent in England. They steadily refused to disbelieve in failure—and asked for nothing but for an opportunity to measure their strength against the foe. After long and inevitable delays, the opportunity has presented itself; and the new campaign has been inaugurated, like the old, with a signal victory. From the first landing of the Crimean expedition in the Bay of Kalamita to the date of the latest telegraphic despatch from head-quarters, the Allies, in every combat, provoked or accepted by the enemy, have achieved a brilliant, though in some cases an infructuous, success. Public opinion was not slow to recognise their bravery; and the enthusiasm of all classes expected achievements still more brilliant, and results still more decisive, whenever the occasion was afforded them. These anticipations have been partially realised; and the operations that are immediately to be, or have already been, attempted, will prove that the public have not expected too much from the heroism of Englishmen and Frenchmen. The seizure of Kertch and Yenikale, and the defeat of the Russians on the lines of the Tchernaya—events which were almost simultaneous—not only reflect the highest glory upon the Allied arms when considered without reference to ulterior results, but lead irresistibly to the inference that a great and decisive battle will ere long be fought on the outside of Sebastopol. Of the result of that battle the immortal memories of the Alma, of Balaclava, and of Inkerman, forbid us to doubt. The complete investment of the fortress, which is certain to follow a victory achieved by our arms, will seal the fate of Sebastopol, and wrest from Russia something better than the word of the Czar or his signature to a treaty. Such are the events of which, from day to day, the public may expect to hear the commencement and progress, if not the close. In comparison with them, all the Parliamentary palaver of London, and all the unmeaning courtesies of the Conferences of Vienna are of small account. They are dwarfed by the heroism and obscured by the glare of battle. The cause has been put to the issues of combat, and logic is idle if it cannot add force to the cannon-ball, or give courage to the combatants.

But, notwithstanding their relative unimportance, the proceedings which took place in the British Parliament on the motion of Mr. Disraeli, and which will be resumed on one of the many motions awaiting the consideration of the House on its reassembling after the Holidays, cannot be slurred over by those to whom the character of our public men is dear, and who desire that the institutions of England should be not only the pride of Englishmen, as they have hitherto been, but an example to the world. It is par of the reason for the present satisfaction of the public that, in the great councils of the nation, as well as in the battle-field, things have "taken a turn;" and that the Minister who only ten days ago spoke of renewed negotiations at Vienna as possible, and even desirable, has, under the spur of Opposition, spoken out in a manner consonant with public sentiment, and with the dignity and responsibility of his position. Lord Palmerston, having been compelled to declare himself—though it might have been wished that the compulsion had been unnecessary—has definitively refused the consent of his country to the reopening of illusory, and under the circumstances dishonourable, negotiations. He has come out of the region of vague and cloudy phraseologies into the wholesomer atmosphere of plain speaking. So much the better for the Minister, for the Parliament, and for the cause which the Allies have undertaken. Mystification in France or England is strength to Russia, in her outlying bulwarks in Germany. The bolder the speech of the British Government, the greater the hold it has over the timid and the wavering in Germany or elsewhere. If we think the alliance of Austria to be desirable—the way to obtain it is not to talk "soft sawder" and listen to absurd attempts at compromise, but to speak out at home, and to fight hard in the Crimea. The occupation of Kertch is worth a thousand conferences under the presidency of Count Buol; and one vigorous resolution of the House of Commons is worth a "whole wilderness" of protocols.

We have no desire to dwell upon the composition of the majority which rejected the motion of Mr. Disraeli. Whatever may have been the impulse or the objects of the leader of the Opposition in bringing it forward, its result has been of service; for it led to

THE CRIMEA.—TOWN OF KARASU-BAZAR, BETWEEN KERTCH AND SIMPHEROPOL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

the removal of the ambiguity which it asked the House of Commons to condemn. Whether Mr. Disraeli calculated on such a consummation it is bootless to inquire; yet it cannot be denied that the motion had been rendered necessary by the apparent if not real collusion between the Premier and Mr. Milner Gibson and the friends of peace at all price, which was exhibited on the preceding Monday. Another result, which possibly neither Mr. Disraeli nor any one else anticipated from the motion, was the contribution to the history of our time which it elicited from the mouth of Mr. Gladstone. Lord John Russell was no traitor either to his party or his country, in breaking up the Aberdeen Administration. Mr. Gladstone afforded a proof, in his dreary though clever speech, that the man who caused his retirement from the councils of his Sovereign was a public benefactor. How Mr. Gladstone can have reconciled it to his conscience to have remained for one hour, or the fraction of an hour, the member of a War Ministry, is inexplicable to the minds of plain men. To expert casuists like the right hon. gentleman, the thing may seem defensible; but to straightforward people, without mental crooks in their composition, it cannot but appear extraordinary that Mr. Gladstone and his coterie should have deemed it consistent with their duty to remain in office during the continuance of the war. With such men in the Cabinet of the Earl of Aberdeen it is not surprising that the war was starved, that council was distracted, and that the country was brought to the very brink of peril and disaster—if not of disgrace. Mr. Gladstone's revelations have sealed the fate of the Peelites as a party. As individuals they may yet, after the restoration of peace, do their country good service. But as a party they are defunct, both in peace and in war; and will form part of no future coalition—unless, perchance, Mr. Bright should become Minister of War, and Mr. Milner Gibson First Lord of the Admiralty. Of a Cabinet of this calibre Mr. Gladstone might be the Premier; if his modesty did not prompt him to serve under Mr. Bright—the real chief and leader of that class of politicians who would rather win peace by submitting to evil than by resisting the evil-doer.

KARASU-BAZAR.

KARASU BAZAR, the second town of the Crimea, contains a mixed population of about 15,000 inhabitants, including Russians, Greeks, Tartars, Armenians, and Jews. Like many other towns in the peninsula it abounds in ruins and monuments of antiquity. It has been almost entirely rebuilt since the Russian invasion; and in many instances not owing to any scarcity of building materials, but to barbarous spite—the tablet-stones have been taken from the graves of the once honoured Tartar families, and made into walls for the houses of their conquerors. Karasu-Bazar is one of the cheapest and best markets in the Crimea; its principal articles of trade being leather (chiefly morocco), pottery, hardware, tallow, soap, fruits, corn, and vegetables. "The streets of Karasu-Bazar (says a recent traveller) are dirty and ill-paved; and the shops on each side, defended from the heat of the sun by rude verandahs on wooden pillars, are much more picturesque than elegant. Here, as in most Eastern towns, separate districts are allotted to the different kinds of merchandise: in one place the shops are full of whips, belts, slippers, and pouches, ornamented with bright red and yellow morocco; further on nothing is visible but woollen goods; to which succeed stores of coarse earthenware; which again give place to cooks and bakers—each having his own peculiar district. Karasu-Bazar possesses the largest corn-market in the Crimea; and the price of wheat, corn, and barley all over the country depends much upon the weekly returns of the current price in this town." In the suburbs of Karasu-Bazar, stand one of those splendid villas which mark the progress of the Empress Catherine II. through her newly-acquired provinces, and which sprang up, as if by magic, at every place where she halted. Every town which she intended to honour with her presence was duly informed of that important event; and the inhabitants—not out of love for their conqueror, but out of dread for the Russian General who had secretly ordered it to be done—worked like galley slaves night and day till they had erected a splendid mansion for her reception. Several of these palaces were destroyed after the departure of the Empress; but others, like those of Karasu-Bazar, were too hideous to a wealthy Greek—were preserved as memorials of the Imperial visit. They usually consisted of a state bed-room, with a bath adjoining, a chapel, a hall room, reception-rooms, and apartments for her suite. In the neighbourhood stands a mountain of a curious shape, which rises perpendicular on either side, and a table-land on top, accessible only from one direction. Here the Tartar chiefs and population were accustomed to meet in council during important crises. The surrounding country is picturesque, and is watered by the river Karasu, or Black River, which gives name to the town. The View engraved on the preceding page is from a sketch by Wilhbald Richter

THE FIRST KERTCH EXPEDITION.—The story told in official circles is, that the first expedition set out stark in the evening. About ten o'clock the same night General Canrobert received a despatch which recommended him to keep his forces together, to undertake nothing for the moment, and to send for the division in the Maslak camp at Constantinople. On the receipt of this despatch General Canrobert thought that he was not justified in allowing a force of 10,000 men to remain detached from his army, occupying ships which would be of great use in transporting the Maslak division to the Crimea. He went to Lord Raglan and expressed to him an opinion that the expedition to Kertch should be recalled. Lord Raglan did not agree with him, and consequently the order was not then given. But at two in the morning General Canrobert received another despatch from Paris stating that orders had been given for the immediate embarkation at Constantinople of the reserve division. He became then so strongly impressed with the necessity of having all his transports, that he took upon himself to send off a peremptory order to Admiral Bruat, with an order to return to Balaclava. He only informed Lord Raglan of what he had determined to do when the steamer was gone.—*Letter from Paris.*

PUBLIC OPINION IN DENMARK.—His Royal Highness Prince Christian of Denmark has returned from his visit to St. Petersburg, highly delighted, it is said, by the enthusiastic reception he met with, and no doubt decorated with the portrait of some Russian saint set in diamonds, while his suite have had golden gifts showered upon them; and these facts are furthermore said to cause great rejoicing on our Russo-democratic circles; for it is not touching to see a petty prince of Holstein-Glucksberg affectionately embraced by the grand Imperial family of Russia! Is it not elevating to see the heir to the throne of Denmark honoured with the intimate friendship of the Russian Court! Is is not tranquillising—nay, promising—as regards the future, that the great Eastern Power does not withdraw its grace and favour from Denmark, notwithstanding the naughty Western Powers have drawn water, meat, and vegetables from our ports, and have landed their sick on our coasts! The superabundant demonstrations made last year by General Hansen and Admiral Bille have borne fruit. But we feel called upon to declare that the Danish people does not participate in this delight. The Danish people thinks that, however great may have been Prince Christian's grief at the death of the late Emperor, or however lively his joy at the accession of the present, these personal and private feelings ought to have given way to the consideration which he, as elected heir to the throne, owes to the Danish people, to the fear of wounding its feelings, of exposing it to misinterpretation as regards its opinions, and of compromising its position and that of his future kingdom in relation to those Powers whose friendship and confidence it is ever its true interest to possess, but more especially at the present moment. The Danish people begins to entertain some doubts as to whether it did not carry its *insouciance* and its docility too far, when it opened the way to the throne to a Prince whose qualities and tendencies were equally unknown to it—as to whether it has not by so doing sacrificed a great, honourable, and safe future for a degraded existence, externally dependent and internally weak, vacillating and torn by discord. If the literary *coterie* of the Danish nobles, as is the case with their organ *Thjodenhavnsposten*, will fall down and worship "Holy Russia," and send up ardent prayers for her success, while endeavouring to raise up (though within a narrow circle) brilliant expectations as to her eventual triumph over the godless West, it becomes necessary that we should from time to time give utterance to the fact, that the friends of Russia in this country are not the friends of the people.—*Fædrelandet, the Organ of the Liberal Party in Denmark*

The gross revenue of Canada for 1854 was £1,522,027. In 1849 it was £513,431; in 1850, £704,324, 1851, £842,184; 1852, £1,153,026; 1853, £1,320,659—it will thus be seen that the revenue of the province has tripled in six years.

A decree in the *Moniteur* admits alcohols distilled in Algeria from the daffodil to be imported into France free of duty.

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, May 28, 1855

Lord Panmure has the s day received two despatches, of which the following are copies, and their enclosures, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, May 15.

My Lord,—Since my despatch of the 12th instant nothing has occurred worthy of being reported to your Lordship.

The fire has been very slack, and that of the enemy has been directed towards the French works rather than against those of the allies.

The remainder of the 12th Lancers has arrived, and will be disembarked to-day.

All our means are devoted to the landing of the Sardinian troops, which the bad weather had prevented on the arrival of the first.

I have found it necessary, in some instances, to land artillery horses at Kazatch Bay, to avoid further crowding the harbour of Balaclava.

I enclose the return of casualties to the 13th instant inclusive.—I have, &c., RAGLAN.

OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND PRIVATES KILLED, FROM THE 11TH TO THE 13TH MAY, INCLUSIVE

Captain.—66th Foot: R. L. Edwards

Corporal.—49th: James Campbell

Privates.—3rd Battalion 1st Foot: Patrick Cloonan, Wm Styles, George Wakefield, Richard Hunt, 4th: John Brett 19th: John Hermon, 50th: Thomas Radford, Robert Ashby, John Simmons, William Tailey, Owen McGrew

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES WOUNDED FROM THE 11TH TO 13TH MAY, INCLUSIVE

Colour-sergeant.—49th Foot: Michael Hampton, slightly

Sergeant.—41st Foot: Joseph Hoy, slightly

Corporals.—68th: Edward Ralph, Thomas Gilmanno, severely. 89th: Michael Lambert, severely

Privates.—2nd Battalion 1st Foot: Patrick Carey, severely; Patrick Cassidy, slightly. 4th: Luke Mayhew, slightly. 7th: George Fleming, severely. 19th: Thomas Ash, Edward Pointing, severely. 23rd: William Jenkins, Richard Weston, severely. 31st: Georg Williams, Patrick Kelly, severely; William McGuffey, slightly. 34th: George Falwell, Alfred Whitaker, George Ashton, dangerously. 47th: Peter Michael Formby, severely. 48th: Timothy Sullivan, slightly. 56th: William Martin, severely; Samuel Smith, Thomas Smith, dangerously. 68th: Thomas Woodward, slightly. 49th: Nicholas Horigan, dangerously; Michael Mullins, slightly. 55th: Thomas Carey, Charles Hamilton, slightly. 88th: William Perrin, Patrick Doyle, Ker Wheeman, Richard Bailey, James Hilton, John Brennan, James Davidson, William Bean, Robert Sandys, William M'Donald, severely; Mark Walsh, James Mahey, Jam Duggan, Thomas Duff, William Wadkinson, Bartholomew Joyce, dangerously. William Ellis, Charles Ross, Thomas Crimmins, Benjamin Campbell, slightly. 89th: Joseph Green, severely. 97th John Bowland, Charles Shanahan, severely

MISSING FROM THE 11TH TO 13TH MAY, INCLUSIVE

68th: *Private* Robert Woolley

Total 1 officer, 11 rank and file, killed, 2 sergeants, 41 rank and file wounded, 1 rank and file missing

Before Sebastopol, May 15.

My Lord,—I have the honour to enclose a letter from the Inspector-General of Hospitals, forwarding the weekly report on the sick of the army under my command. I deeply regret to have to draw your Lordship's attention to the fact that cholera has reappeared here, that many more have died, and that fifty-two men were yesterday labouring under the fatal disease.

The troops had been free from it for several months, and I was in hopes that we should have had no return of it.

General Canrobert informs me that it had never ceased to prevail in the French army in a greater or a less degree.—I have, &c., RAGLAN

The Lord Panmure, &c

War Department, May 30, 1855

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:

Before Sebastopol, May 19

My Lord,—I do myself the honour to enclose the list of casualties that occurred between the 14th and 17th inst.

For the last two days there has been hardly any firing on either side. Large convoys have come into Sebastopol from the northern side, but there has been no movement of importance

The heat has been very oppressive since Wednesday.

I deeply regret to have to report that I have just received a letter from General Osten-Sacken, in answer to an inquiry I addressed to him on the subject, informing me that Captain Arnold, of the 4th Regiment of Foot, who was wounded and taken prisoner on the night of the 5th, died that same night.—I have, &c., RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c.

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED, FROM THE 14TH TO THE 17TH MAY, INCLUSIVE

Corporal. 1st Foot, Daniel Sullivan.

Privates. 3rd Foot: Charles M'Carthy. 17th: Michael Flaherty. 34th Simon Rushey 38th: John Murdoch 46th: Sampson Small 49th: Brigader Thomas Hall

NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES WOUNDED, FROM THE 14TH TO THE 17TH MAY, INCLUSIVE

Sergeant.—18th Foot: Nicholas Hunter, slightly

Privates.—1st Foot: William Berry, severely. 4th: M'Gowan John Smith John Lynn, slightly. 4th: James Lavelly, dangerously, Andrew M'Thorsin, slightly. 7th John Eaton, severely 14th Alfred Flanagan, severely. 18th: James Malin: Patrick M'Guire, slightly. 38th: John M'Coakor, slightly. 46th: James Mullins Thomas Wells, Richard Higgin, slightly 50th: Matthew Ridge, dangerously. 68th. Thomas Duff, William Watkinson, both since dead. 88th: James Quin, dangerously 89th Brigadier James Lord, severely. Job Lacey, slightly. Royal Sappers and Miners: Benjamin Houghtinon, severely; R Willis, slightly

CASUALTIES IN THE ROYAL NAVAL BRIGADE, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, ON THE 17TH MAY

Wounded. George Gamble, A.B., *Leander*, dangerously, Philip Henry Hammond, ord. *Queen*, severely

War Department, June 1, 1855

Lord Panmure has received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, May 19, 1855

My Lord,—I have the honour to enclose the copy of a letter from Captain Montagu, of the Royal Engineers, prisoner of war, dated Simpferopol, April 28, 1855, transmitting a list of British prisoners who died either there or on their road from Sebastopol

I beg to forward this return in duplicate

Your Lordship will see with satisfaction that the British prisoners, who are sick in the hospital at Simpferopol, receive equal, if not greater, attention than the Russian soldiers from the authorities, and are constantly receiving presents from visitors. I have, &c., RAGLAN

The Lord Panmure, &c

Simpferopol, April 28, 1855

SIR,—I have the honour to enclose the accompanying list of prisoners who died either here or on their road from Sebastopol. There are some others dead; but Thomas Verry, 8th Hussars, who furnished me with this list, could not remember the names of the rest. I have, &c.,

H. MONTAGU, Captain Royal Engineers

To Major-General Estcourt, &c.

I have been given to understand that the prisoners who are sick in hospital have received equal, if not even greater, attention than their own soldiers from the authorities, and are constantly receiving presents, &c., from visitors. There are five or seven men who will be sent the first opportunity to Odessa, for the purpose of being forwarded to England, they being incapable of serving again

RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND MEN, PRISONERS OF WAR, WHO DIED BETWEEN THE NUMBERS FROM 1ST TO 28TH DAY OF APRIL, 1855

4th Light Dragoons: Troop Sergeant-Major William Fowler, Privates Thomas Fletcher, James Nicholls, and George Lane. 8th Hussars: Corporals William Day, 7th Corporal William Hunter, Private John Berry. 13th Light Dragoons: Troopers William Howarth Private William Bates. 17th Lancers: Corporal Joseph Cobb, Privates Thomas Hobbs, Robert Tye, William Kirk, and Alfred Jenny. 7th Foot: Private James Green. 23rd Foot: Corporal Michael Hogan, Privates Edward Buckingham, John Cooper, and Andrew Hudson. 41st Foot: Private Thomas Hurst. 55th Private John Wolf. 77th Sergeant Thomas Hobson, both Privates Edward Mason, Benjamin Binder. 97th Private Charles Fox. 95th Private James O'Connell

ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN PRISONERS.

War Department, May 29.

Lord Panmure has received the following returns relative to English and Russian prisoners.

Camp before Sebastopol, May 1

RETURN OF OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND MEN, OF THE ARMY, SERVING UNDER FIELD-MARSHAL LORD RAGLAN, TAKEN PRISONERS BY THE ENEMY.

Corporals.—49th Foot, Michael Hogan. 17th Lancers: J Chadwick.

Privates.—4th Light Dragoons: Thomas Fowler, Thomas Fletcher, James Nicholls, and George Lane. 8th Hussars: Corporals William Day, 7th Corporal William Hunter, Private John Berry. 13th Light Dragoons: Troopers William Howarth Private William Bates. 17th Lancers: Corporal Joseph Cobb, Privates Thomas Hobbs, Robert Tye, William Kirk, and Alfred Jenny. 7th Foot: Private James Green. 23rd Foot: Corporal Michael Hogan, Privates Edward Buckingham, John Cooper, and Andrew Hudson. 41st Foot: Private Thomas Hurst. 55th Private John Wolf. 77th Sergeant Thomas Hobson, both Privates Edward Mason, Benjamin Binder. 97th Private Charles Fox. 95th Private James O'Connell

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The troops had been free from it for several months, and I was in hopes that we should have had no return of it.

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Total British Prisoners

Officers	19
Non-commissioned Officers and Men	180
	199

NUMBER AND LIST OF RUSSIAN OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS TAKEN PRISONERS BY THE ARMY SERVING UNDER THE COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL LORD RAGLAN

Russian Officers	15
Russians	917
Tartars	87
Poles	87
Jews	3
Total	791

COUNT WALEWSKI'S CIRCULAR

The *Moniteur* of last Saturday contains a circular despatch of the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, addressed to the Legations of the empire, in which he shows that the proposals made by Russia at the Vienna Conferences are utterly worthless, as she does not offer to give up anything which she has not already lost; whilst, on the question of supremacy in the Black Sea, that Power offers no guarantees whatever for the future security of Turkey; but, on the other hand, would seek to gain advantages by extending her naval power even beyond those waters on which, at the present moment, the fleet of the Czar has no influence, or even an existence. In the following passage he points out clearly and conclusively the dangers arising from the position which Russia has hitherto held at Sebastopol:

Exclusively bordered by the coasts of the two neighbouring States, and interdicted to the naval forces of other Powers, the Black Sea had become a closed sterna, where adversaries, unequal in force, were alone in presence, and where the weaker was at the discretion of the more powerful. A form dable fortress contained within its citadels and roadstead an army always ready to embark, and a fleet always ready to take them on board and put to sea. This warlike display, unnecessary for defence, had but one possible destination. It constituted a permanent menace against the capital of Turkey, and the mystery which surrounded it increased a peril which at the slightest symptom of unrest alarmed the whole of Europe

The terms of peace, as he proceeds to show, will be of no value, unless they are founded on a secure basis, which the Russian proposals would certainly not give:—

Constrained in spite of efforts, which history will appreciate, to have recourse to arms, France and England owe it to themselves, and also to Europe, not to lay them down until their work shall be accomplished. It is necessary that the peace which they shall have obtained shall be followed by a secure repose

Would such security be the consequence of either of the two combinations recommended by Count de Nesselrode? In a word, would these two systems put an end to the preponderance of Russia in the Black Sea? The first, that based on the principle of the complete and unqualified opening the passages of the Bosphorus and of the Dardanelles, involves the abolition of a rule which the Ottoman empire has always considered as its safeguard, and which, since 1841, has become part of the public law of Europe. At present Russia, who refuses to reduce the number of her vessels, in alleging the exigencies of her honour and the prerogatives of her sovereignty, does not hesitate to apply to the Sublime Porte for the abdication of its independence in its internal waters—in the great artery which passes through its capital. She claims a new passage into the Mediterranean—that is to say, the means and the pretext of augmenting, in vast proportions, her maritime development; and, in compensation for these advantages, she confines herself to giving her consent to forego a passage for the future entering a sea which they would find neither a port of refuge nor an arsenal of supply. In order to exercise the surveillance, the right of which would be indirectly conceded to them, France and England would be obliged to impose on themselves for ever the most onerous service. If, when the Russian Government shall make of great weight—that peace, if concluded on such conditions, would be delivered to the hazard of the first incident that might occur; and that the very object of the presence, necessarily interrupted, of the French and English fleets in the Euxine would already have ceased to be a guarantee of peace. That would in fact, be a proof that Russia would require to be again kept within bounds; so that her preponderance would not have ceased to exist, and the object of the third guarantee would have been frustrated

Would that object be better attained by the adoption of the system developed, in the second line, by Prince Gortschakoff and M. de Titoff? The Straits, it is true, would remain closed; but the *statu quo* which existed before the war would be re-established—the Russian navy would be repaired, without control, behind the fortifications of her ports and, when the sultan would regard an aggression as imminent, then only would he be authorised to give the alarm to his allies. The reply to that appeal would be another war, which would prove, at the same time, the want of foresight of the Western Powers, and the regenerated strength of the enemy whom they are combating at present

AUSTRIA AND THE WESTERN POWERS.

The *Augsburg Gazette* publishes the following as the text of a note addressed by M. de Walewski, the new French Minister of Foreign Affairs, to the French Envoys abroad. It is dated 9th May —

SIR,—I hasten to prevent, by explicit declarations, any erroneous interpretation of a series of facts, so as to enable you to contradict any wrong bearing given to them.

You are aware that when Count Buol, after a declaration of the Russian Plenipotentiaries which we might have regarded as sufficient to authorise us to regard the Conferences as broken off, adjourned the reassembling of the Conferences, he nevertheless expressed the desire to endeavour to find in a new combination a means for realising the Third Point. The Vienna Cabinet did not hesitate to declare its firm intention to maintain the alliance of the 2nd December when it submitted to France and England propositions which they examined with the great desire to find them satisfactory

Unhappily their good intentions failed, as it was impossible to make an arrangement, founded on such a combination, agree with what their dignity demanded, and the legitimate right which they had made it their mission to assert in the general interests of Europe. It appeared, in fact, to the Cabinets of Paris and London, that the interpretation of that point which is the most important of all, and in reality the sanction of the three others, as proposed by Austria, responded neither to their expectations nor to the sacrifices they had made.

If the Cabinet of St. Petersburg had accepted the ultimatum proposed by the Court of Vienna peace would have been re-established on weak foundations, the inefficiency of which would have led in the future to dangers which it was the duty of the Allies, from the beginning of the crisis, and after the great efforts made by the Allied Powers, to be banished for ever.

Such are the motives which have induced us not to adopt the plan proposed by the Austrian Government. Those motives are so evident, they are so fully justified by the position of the Western Powers, that we do not doubt the Court of Vienna will appreciate them in their true meaning

The alliance of the 2nd December is not, therefore, brought in question. It is, on the contrary, the earnest desire of the Government of the Emperor, and of the Government of her Britannic Majesty, to strengthen and develop it, and no doubts can exist at Vienna on the subject. It is important, Sir, that you should express yourself clearly in this sense, and explain that, if the situation has undergone a modification, it arises solely from the fact that the Russian Plenipotentiaries, after have adopted the Third Point in principle, afterwards refused to admit its practical consequences. WALEWSKI.

RUSSIAN PATRIOTIC FUND.—The Empress of Russia has directed a bureau to be opened at the Winter Palace, St. Petersburg, where will be received in her name gifts of money, provisions, lint, &c., intended for the succour of the combatants at Sebastopol. Count Wielhorski Matuschkine is about to leave for the Crimea to superintend the distribution of these presents. The *Journal de St. Petersbourg* says that every Russian in the empire longs to take a place amongst the defenders of Sebastopol; but, as that is not quite practicable, they can show the ardour of their patriotism by liberal donations to this fund.

MAINE LAW IN CANADA.—The *Toronto Leader* says that the Governor-General cannot give his consent to the Prohibitory Liquor Bill. His instructions are "to reserve for the signification of the Queen's pleasure every bill of an extraordinary or unusual nature." A large number of the citizens of St. John have signed a petition to her Majesty praying for the disallowance of the Act preventing the importation, manufacture, or traffic in intoxicating liquors.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN LORD ABERDEEN AND LORD RUSSELL.

(From the Appendix to the Fourth Report of the Sebastopol Committee).

LETTER FROM LORD JOHN RUSSELL TO LORD ABERDEEN.

Pembroke-lodge, Nov. 17, 1854.

My dear Lord Aberdeen,—I said the other day that I would speak to you upon the subject of the personal arrangements connected with the War Department. I believe, however, I can put the matter more clearly in writing.

I will treat the subject in its two points of view:—First, as to the efficient arrangements for the new department, with a view to the general efficiency of the public service; secondly, as to the immediate requirements of the great war in which we are engaged.

In the first point of view, I have already said that I do not think that a Secretary at War can be maintained together with a Secretary of State for War. Sidney Herbert has, in the fairest and handsomest manner, said nearly the same thing.

I have also told you, however, that I do not think the War estimates ought to be brought forward in the House of Commons by a person of rank and position inferior to a Secretary at War. It is of great importance, when questions relating to the discipline or promotion, favour or punishment, of officers and soldiers, are brought forward in the House of Commons, to have a Privy Councillor or Minister, either in the Cabinet or next in rank to the Cabinet, to satisfy the House of Commons upon points which are determined by military officers sitting at the Horse Guards.

But even supposing that, in time of peace, with a man of the high authority of the Duke of Wellington Commander-in-Chief, an Under Secretary of State might suffice for the House of Commons, such is not the present state of affairs. Every new arrangement will be sharply criticised. There are several men in the House of Commons who are well qualified to lead the opinion of the House on matters of military administration; authority and experience, and high official rank, are therefore required in the organ of the Government on military affairs.

The discussions which have taken place in the public press upon the discipline of the army lead to the same conclusion. A Cabinet Minister, with a public support, is required to encounter objections to our present modes of trial for military offences, and, if necessary, to improve those modes.

I come, therefore, on this head, to the conclusion that the Secretary of State for the War Department must be in the House of Commons.

From the other point of view the prospect is equally clear.

We are in the midst of a great war. In order to carry on that war with efficiency, either the Prime Minister must be constantly urging, hastening, compelling the military preparations, or the Minister of War must be strong enough to control other departments. Every objection of other Ministers, the plea of foreign interests to be attended to, of naval preparations not yet complete, and a thousand others, just liable in the separate heads of departments, must be forced to yield to the paramount necessity of carrying on the war with efficiency of each service and completeness of means to the end in view.

This great duty may be performed, as I have said, either by the Prime Minister, or a Minister acting in a department. We have examples of both.

Lord Godolphin, in the first way, supported the campaigns of Marlborough; Lord Chatham, in the other, guided the operations of the Seven Years' War.

In the present case, it seems to me that the last example is the most applicable.

If, therefore, the first considerations here presented lead to the conclusion that the Secretary of State for the War Department must be in the House of Commons, the other considerations point to the necessity of having at that office a man who, from experience of military details, from inherent vigour of mind and from weight with the House of Commons, can be expected to guide the great operations of war with authority and success.

There is only one person belonging to the Government who combines these advantages.

My conclusion is that, before Parliament meets, Lord Palmerston should be intrusted with the seals of the War Department. With respect to other arrangements, I can feel no doubt that your influence with your colleagues would induce them to acquiesce in such a distribution of offices as you might think most advantageous for the Crown and the country.

I remain, my dear Lord Aberdeen, yours very truly,

J. RUSSELL.

LETTER FROM LORD ABERDEEN TO LORD J. RUSSELL.

Blackheath, Nov. 18, 1854.

My dear Lord John. The letter which I received from you yesterday, just before the meeting of the Cabinet, contained a proposal so unexpected, and which may have such important consequences, that you will not be surprised if I am unable, at the first moment, to express a decided opinion. But, as any suggestion made by you deserves the best attention, and as you do not call for an immediate answer, I will give the subject the most mature consideration, and will let you know the opinion I may form.—Ever truly yours,

ABERDEEN.

LETTER FROM LORD JOHN RUSSELL TO LORD ABERDEEN.

Council office, Nov. 18, 1854.

My dear Lord Aberdeen,—I did not expect any immediate answer to my letter of yesterday, and I think it quite right that you should have time to reflect.

I wish, however, that before you decide you should show my letter to the Duke of Newcastle. It was my intention, in writing the letter to avoid throwing any blame upon him; indeed, I think he deserves very great credit for the exertions he has made, but he had the authority required for great or great a sphere, and has not been able to do all that might have been done with larger powers of control. I remain yours, very truly,

J. RUSSELL.

LETTER FROM LORD ABERDEEN TO LORD J. RUSSELL.

Downing-street, Nov. 21, 1854.

My dear Lord John,—I have shown your letter to the Duke of Newcastle, and also to Sidney Herbert. They both, as might have been expected, strongly urged me to adopt any such arrangement with respect to their offices as should be thought most conducive to the public service. Unquestionably this is the first object: but, on full consideration, I entertain great doubts whether, in the present state of affairs, your proposal would prove advantageous or desirable. It is mainly founded on the assumption that Herbert ought not to move the estimates next session in the House of Commons. Now, I fully agree with you in thinking that the office of Secretary at War, as at present constituted, cannot be maintained together with a Secretary of State for the War Department. It is also perfectly true that Herbert expressed a similar opinion in the House of Commons; but I think he spoke of this as a permanent arrangement, and that he offered to continue his own services as long as they could be useful, especially with reference to the duration of the war.

It is quite clear that an Under Secretary of State could not with any degree of propriety move the estimates; but, looking at the present state of things as temporary, I do not see why a Privy Councillor's office should not in future be considered, charged with all the financial concerns of the army, and with no impropriety moved the estimates. If this should not be the case, your proposal would involve the absolute necessity of the Secretary of State for War always being a member of the House of Commons. This, I think, would be objectionable in principle, and might be inconvenient in practice.

I can scarcely imagine that the House of Commons, being assured of the temporary nature of the present arrangement, would insist upon the suppression of the War-office in the first year of the war, bringing greatly increased labour and responsibility. In the meantime, therefore, and until a final arrangement shall take place, Herbert might continue to move the estimates, and I should think that he would do so with the acceptance of the House, in which, I believe, he is deservedly popular, and ably to the duties of his office.

Your proposal being founded on the supposed impropriety of Herbert moving the estimates, and, the consequent necessity of the Secretary of State for War being in the House of Commons, would render the removal of the Duke of Newcastle from his present office unavoidable; but, although you would regard this as the inevitable result of an official arrangement, it is not to be supposed that it would be considered in this light by the public, or indeed by any impartial person. The dislocation of the Government would be so great, and the reason assigned for it apparently so inadequate, that it could only be considered as a mode of substituting one man for another. Although you may be far from entertaining any such desire, the transaction could receive no other interpretation. In justice to the Duke, I do not think that his colleagues, without very strong grounds, would wish to place him in such a position.

Now, with respect to Palmerston, I do not know whether he is aware of the burden you are disposed to lay upon him; but, if not, I should greatly doubt his inclination to undertake it. Palmerston, within a few months, is as old as I am; not without disparaging his inherent vigour of mind, he possesses no immunity from the effects of age. When I look at the laborious and complicated duties discharged by the Duke of Newcastle and by Herbert, and anticipate others which must shortly be added to them, I think I could not honestly advise the Queen to intrust Palmerston, or any other man, with so great a responsibility.

I said in my former letter that your proposal was unexpected by me, because my strong impression had been, from various conversations, that you greatly preferred the nomination of the Duke of Newcastle to the War Department, instead of Palmerston, which had been canvassed at the time in the press and in the House of Commons. But I suppose that I must have been mistaken in this respect. It is useless, however, to enter into the qualifications of different men, for as I do not perceive the immediate necessity for the abolition of Herbert's office, and the extinction of his functions, I cannot consider the proposed change as imperatively called for.

I do not know that we gain much by a reference to the times of Lord Godolphin or Lord Chatham. Godolphin, as Prime Minister, undoubtedly gave great assistance to the Duke of Marlborough in the War of Succession; and Chatham, as the head of a department, may almost exclusively have originated the war measures of the Government. It would be absurd if I were to pretend to take any active part in the preparation of military details or the direction of military measures, which I can only very humbly assist and promote. But, after all, instead of referring to these old times, perhaps it is more to the purpose to recollect that in our own day the greatest, the most glorious, and by far the most successful war ever carried on by this country, was directed by Lord Castlereagh and Lord Bathurst, under the superintendence of a Minister who was certainly not very warlike in his character, although he lived to see his threatened march to Paris carried into effect. During the last years of this great struggle the War Minister was in the House of Lords, while Palmerston, as Secretary at War, although not in the Cabinet, moved the estimates in the House of Commons. Ever, my dear Lord John, sincerely yours,

ABERDEEN.

LETTER FROM LORD J. RUSSELL TO LORD ABERDEEN.

Chesham-place, Nov. 23, 1854.

My dear Lord Aberdeen.—I have just received your answer to my letter of the 17th. I have not hitherto spoken to Palmerston on the subject, but on his return I shall communicate to him our correspondence, and consult with him upon it.—I remain, yours truly,

J. RUSSELL.

LETTER FROM LORD J. RUSSELL TO LORD ABERDEEN.

Pembroke Lodge, Nov 28, 1854.

My dear Lord Aberdeen.—As Palmerston's return is delayed, I will take the opportunity of answering your letter of the 21st instant, which I received on the 23rd.

You begin by saying, that my proposal is mainly founded on the assumption that Herbert ought not to move the estimates next session in the House of Commons. This is a mistake: my proposal was founded on a combined consideration of the official arrangements for the new department, with a view to the general efficiency of the public service, and the immediate requirements of the great war in which we are engaged.

It is obvious that the last of these two objects is the greatest, and that the adjustment of official arrangements may and should be made subordinate to the immediate requirements of the war.

In respect to the first head, I am happy to see there is no irreconcilable difference between us. You agree with me that the office of Secretary at War, as at present constituted, cannot be maintained together with a Secretary of State for the War Department. You also agree with me that an Under Secretary of State could not, with any propriety, move the estimates.

You only differ with me in the opinion I expressed that the change ought to be made in the estimates of next year. I had thought that Herbert might hold the office of Paymaster—such as I held it from 1830 to 1834, and such as Macaulay held it from 1846 to 1847—and thus be connected with the War Department without moving the estimates.

Had you asked my opinion concerning the distribution of offices, this is the stage on which I should have made

You, looking upon the present state of things as temporary, think that Herbert might continue to move the estimates, as Secretary at War, and that he would do so with the acceptance of the House, in which he is deservedly popular.

Although I am opinion that the House of Commons would expect, after six or seven months' deliberation, a final arrangement of the War Department, yet the difference between us is not so great that I could not yield to your wish and the decision of the Cabinet upon this part of the subject.

I will only say, therefore, that I see no objection, in principle or in practice, to a rule that the Secretary of State for the War Department should, like the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary at War, be always a member of the House of Commons.

I come to the second part of the question.

Here you meet me *in limine* by saying that the transaction would be considered only as a mode of substituting one man for another, and that, in justice to the Duke of Newcastle, you do not think that his colleagues, without very strong grounds, would wish to place him in such position.

Now, I had understood that your Administration was founded on the principle of doing what was best for the public service, without regard to the self-love, or even the acquired position, of individuals. The Duke of Newcastle would, I think, be the last man to wish for an exception to this rule in his favour.

Your next objection is to Lord Palmerston's age; but when I see the vigour of his mind and body I cannot attach much weight to this argument.

You say next that it was your strong impression, from various conversations, that at the time of the separation of the War Department I greatly preferred the nomination of the Duke of Newcastle to that of Lord Palmerston. You are mistaken in this respect. But it is true my opinion fluctuated very much, and it was only determined by the strong wish which I understood had been expressed by the Duke of Newcastle to complete in the War Department the preparations he had so well begun. I thought it due to him to presume in favour of his efficiency.

I come, therefore—having clear of the ground of all these obstructions—to the real question.—"What are the requirements of the great war in which we are engaged?"

Setting aside all historical references, both on your part and mine, I think it is clear, either that the Prime Minister must be himself the active and moving spirit of the whole machine, or the Minister of War must have delegated authority to control other departments.

Neither is the case under the present arrangement. I will give you an instance but too pregnant with warning.

Early in October I wrote to the Duke of Newcastle on the subject of transferring the 97th Regiment, then at the Piræus, to the Crimea. He informed me, in answer, that he had wished to do so, and that he had also wished to send between 2000 and 3000 men, the draught of various regiments, to the Crimea.

Now, why was he not able to carry his intentions into effect? Because he could not remove the obstacles put in his way by other departments, and because the Prime Minister did not at once overcome those obstacles.

At a much later time the 97th was moved, and it is only to-day that I see, by a telegraphic despatch from Lord Stratford, dated on the 8th instant, that the *Orinoco* (which conveys that regiment) had left Constantinople for the Crimea.

But in the meantime Lord Raglan had reported that he wished he had been able to place in the position of Balaclava, on the 26th October, a more considerable force; and also that, on the 5th of November, the Heights of Inkerman were defended by no more than 8000 British Infantry. What can be done by a single British regiment was seen on 26th of October, when the 93rd alone saved the position of Balaclava by their firmness and gallantry. Had 5000 more been at Lord Raglan's disposal on the 26th of October, and the 5th of November, how much more fruitful, though not more glorious, might have been these memorable days.

The Cabinet has, it is true, in its recent meetings, done much to repair omission; but a Cabinet is a cumbrous and not perfectly instructed for carrying on war; it can furnish suggestions or make a decision upon a measure submitted to it, but it cannot administer.

What you want, therefore, I must repeat, is a Minister of War of vigour and authority. As the welfare of the empire and the success of our present conflict are concerned, I have no scruple in saying so.

Keep up, if you think right, as a temporary arrangement, a Secretary at War; make it clear that it is temporary; that is to say, only to last till more complete consolidation can take place; but let Parliament and the country be assured that you have placed the conduct of the war in the hands of the fittest man who can be found for that duty.

I remain, my dear Lord Aberdeen, yours, very truly,

J. RUSSELL.

LETTER FROM LORD ABERDEEN TO LORD J. RUSSELL.

Downing-street, Nov. 20, 1854.

My dear Lord John,—There are two or three points in your letter, received yesterday, to which I think it as well to advert without further delay, in order that, before you see Palmerston, the whole subject may be placed in a condition to be fully understood.

I am glad that it is no longer necessary to enter into any consideration at present of Herbert's position. I agree with you in thinking that, in consequence of the creation of a Secretary of State for the War Department, the office of Secretary at War must be modified; but I am still of opinion that a Privy Councillor's office may be constituted, by the occupant of which the estimates should be moved, and who should control the whole expenditure and financial concerns of the army. Regarding Herbert's present situation as temporary, I need say nothing further respecting it; but I must altogether demur to your declaration, that you see no objection, in principle or in practice, to a rule that the Secretary of State for the War Department should, like the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary at War, be always a member of the House of Commons. Such opinion, if adopted, I think, would manifestly be at variance with the public interest. It is probable that it might very often be desirable to appoint a military man for the office of Secretary of State for the War Department, and it is equally probable that such a man might be found in the House of Lords. Officers who, by long service and merit, have received the honour of a peerage, might be the persons of all others whom it would be the most important to select for this office, and it is difficult to conceive why a seat in the House of Lords should operate as a disqualification.

I think that the office ought to stand upon the same footing as that of the First Lord of the Admiralty, who may be either a peer or a commoner, as the public interest may require.

You complain that the Duke of Newcastle has not a sufficient control over the departments with which he is in contact, and that he does not possess a delegated authority sufficient to enable him to perform his duties satisfactorily. I do not exactly know what is meant by a delegated authority, but I apprehend that he possesses all the authority with which he, or any other person, could properly be invested.

The instances you adduce of this want of control are wholly inapplicable, and fail to establish the fact. You say that you wrote to the Duke in October, and recommended him to send the 97th Regiment to the Crimea, and that he wished, and has wish to have done so, as well as to send 2000 troops then ready for embarkation. You conclude, therefore, that he did not do it because he could not remove the obstacles put in his way by other departments, and because the Prime Minister did not at once overcome those obstacles. Now, allow me to say, that before a Prime Minister can remove obstacles he must be informed of their existence; and if it was imagined that he possessed any such power, it might easily have been put to the test by calling upon him to exercise it.

In this case, however, it is yet easy to say what the Prime Minister or any one else could have done. The Duke of Newcastle wished to send the 97th Regiment from the Piræus to the Crimea, and proposed to Clarendon to do so. Clarendon protested against it, and said that the tranquillity of Greece depended upon the regiment remaining at Athens. The Duke, I think, very properly, at the time, acquiesced, and subsequently sent a weak regiment to replace the 97th at Greece.

The obstacle to sending the 2000 men across from Lord Raglan himself. When the Duke informed Lord Raglan that he had this number of recruits to send him, Lord Raglan replied that these last sent were so young and unformed that they fell victims to disease, and were swept away "like flies." He preferred, therefore, to wait. I do not know what a Prime Minister could have done in such a case; but I must submit that in all this there is no evidence of any want of authority on the part of the Duke.

After all, I think your letter plainly reduces the question to the simple issue of a personal preference, and the substitution of one man for another.

In answer to my suggestion that some consideration was due to the Duke on the part of his colleagues, you say that you understood the Administration was founded on the principle of doing what was best for the public service, without regard to the self-love, or even the acquired position, of individuals. Undoubtedly this was the case; and I fully agree in thinking that the Duke of Newcastle would be the last man to wish for any exception to this rule in his favour.

But I must observe that, at the formation of the Government, no such office as the War Department was contemplated; and when, subsequently, the Colonial office was divided, no objection whatever was made to the choice of the Secretary appointed by the Duke; nor, as far as I am aware, up to this moment, to his management of the office.

Now I think you will admit that, although another person might, perhaps, have been preferred on the first constitution of an office, it is a very difficult thing to displace a man who has discharged its duties ably and honourably, merely in the belief that another might be found still more efficient. Undoubtedly the public service must be the first object; but, in the absence of any proved defect or alleged incapacity, I can see no sufficient reason for such a change—which, indeed, I think is forbidden by a sense of justice and good faith.

You say that I made an objection to Palmerston's age, but this is not quite correct. As my acquaintance with Palmerston commenced very many years ago, I perhaps know as much as any one to see his vigour of his mind and body; but when I mentioned his age it had reference to the notion of intrusting him with the duties now discharged by the Duke of Newcastle and by Herbert. It would be a delusion to suppose that any man, old or young, could attempt such a task with advantage to the public. At the formation of the Government I proposed to Palmerston to take the Admiralty, but he preferred the Home-office, and, as he told me himself that the Foreign-office had become too much for him, I felt certain that he would never think of undertaking the business of the two offices in question.

On the whole, then, believing that any change like that proposed would be of doubtful advantage to the public; feeling very strongly that it would be an act of injustice and injustice towards a colleague, and, thinking also that all such changes, unless absolutely necessary, only tend to weaken a Government; I must repeat that I could not honestly recommend it to the Queen.—I am, my dear Lord John, very truly yours,

ABERDEEN.

LETTER FROM LORD J. RUSSELL TO LORD ABERDEEN.

Pembroke Lodge, Dec. 3, 1854.

My dear Lord Aberdeen,—I have not seen Lord Palmerston, nor heard from him; but, after your last letter, I have no hesitation in saying I revert to my original opinion, and must propose to the Cabinet that the office of Minister of War should absorb that of Secretary of War, and that the office should, for the present at least, be held by a member of the House of Commons. I remain, yours truly,

J. RUSSELL.

THE NEW CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION FUND.—A bill has been prepared, of which the following is a correct scale, of the New Civil Service Superannuation Fund: 20-60ths after ten years' service; 1-60th for each additional year's service. Contributions for salaries under £100 per annum, 1 per cent; above £100 per annum, 2½ per cent. After twenty years payment of superannuation fund no further payment to be made, and men to retire on receiving sixty-five years of age; if a married man die in harness, his widow is to receive one year's pay, provided he has been in the service twenty years.

THE SARDINIAN CONTINGENT IN THE CRIMEA.—Upwards of 10,000 have landed. They are, to all appearance, a splendid body of men, and have every appearance of having come from a military State. The long chasseur, with sinbulance, knapsack, commissariat officers, and all other military equipments; they fetch their own rations, which are supplied to them by us, and altogether they have a martial and soldierlike bearing which promises very fair to be of use. Their cavalry are large, light men, mounted on good and strong horses. Their infantry are composed of strong and serviceable-looking men, and show an amount of discipline highly satisfactory; but, above all, the most picturesque in dress, and manner are their officers. They are dressed in green, with a kind of Swiss hat similar in shape to an English yeoman's hat, and ornamented with a large bunch of green feathers. It is placed on the head in a most jaunty style. Their arms are rifles with 800 yards' range, and with sword bayonets; they are said to be clever shots. They march at a fearful pace, amounting almost to a trot, and India very hardy; they have landed almost every day, and are encamped in different places. They are cheered most lustily by our men, who seem to have a pleasure in welcoming them as brothers in arms to the Crimea and its sufferings; this is responded to by both officers and men most cordially.—*Letter from the Camp, Sloy, 16.*

NO-POPERY RIOTS.—A serious disturbance occurred at Vigevano, Piedmont, on the 20 ult., occasioned by a procession in honour of the Immaculate Conception, which was received with disapprobation, by a large portion of the population. To groans and hisses succeeded missiles of the softer kind, whereupon the members of the procession, who, it seems, had been informed of the intended demonstration, drew heavy bludgeons from under their hooded cloaks, and set upon the assailants. The latter surrounded themselves in the Café Gioberti, but were disabled, and all the furniture of the coffee-house was destroyed. In the meantime a party of soldiers arrived, some arrests were made, and order restored. In the evening the anti-popery party assembled to revenge themselves by breaking the windows of the Bishop's palace and seminary; but the public force was on the alert, and no further mischief occurred.

MAILS FOR AUSTRALIA.—GENERAL POST-OFFICE, May, 1855.—Arrangements have been made for the conveyance of mails to Australia twice in every month, during the remainder of the present year, by clipper ships from Liverpool, the dates of which have enabled into a contract with the Postmaster-General for this service. The mails for Australia will be made up in London on the evening of the following days, viz.:—June 4, June 19, July 4, July 19, August 4, August 20, September 4, September 19, October 4, October 20, November 4, November 19, December 4, December 19. The packets will, in each case leave Liverpool on the succeeding days. All letters and newspapers for New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Van Diemen's Land, and New Zealand, to be forwarded by these packets, unless addressed to be sent by any other opportunity. The packet rates of postage will be chargeable on letters so conveyed, but newspapers will not be liable to any postage. Thus postmasters and postmistresses direct them to forward letters to Liverpool or cross post, will send in the same manner letters, &c., posted at their offices, addressed to Australia.

OPENING OF THE FIRST RAILWAY IN SWITZERLAND.

THE turning of the first turf of a Railway with a silver spade, the depositing of it in a mahogany wheelbarrow, and wheeling it off "in a most graceful and easy manner," is a proceeding which has, from frequent repetition in England, become so familiar as to be regarded but little more than adding one more mesh in the vast net-work of Railways which covers the face of Great Britain.

But in Switzerland! known to us as a succession of mountains, valleys, and lakes—as the ideal dwelling-place of what poets love, and artists would fain imitate—"A Railway in Switzerland," indignantly exclaims the belle of the travelling carriage, with just as much romance as is possible after a London season, "it would be too cruel." "Make your mind perfectly easy," says Paterfamilias, "the thing is impossible." And, doubtless, many

OPENING OF THE BERNE AND GENEVA RAILWAY.

LAUSANNE, FROM THE ENGLISH CHURCH.

who have ascended Mont Blanc, under the able guidance of Mr. Albert Smith, or who have actually penetrated to Chamouny and Monte Rosa, have their minds so impressed with seas of ice, and mountains of snow, raging torrents, and impassable ravines, that the chances of a railway in such a country, and the Thames in a state of combustion seem to balance one another in the scales of impossibility. Besides, Swiss peasants and châlets, and Castles of Chillon, and poetical remembrances, and no less lovely realities, do not agree well (how should they?) with curves and gradients, and navvies and time-tables; nor can the whistle of the locomotive exactly harmonise with the yeodle of the goatherd and the "Ranz des Vaches."

But reality steps in to upset romance. Much of the above is imaginary. There are districts in Switzerland where railways can be made as easily as in England, and where travellers, who have long known that peasants in Arcadian costume no more pipe simplicity's reed, save on the bonbon boxes at Fortnum and Mason's, may find some identity between Swiss châlets and castles in the air. Even poor William Tell has been much scoffed at of late; so far, indeed, have sceptics carried conviction that the pippin which the long-drawn bow displaced from the filial head may soon be ranked with the mythological apples of the ancients.

But to the Swiss Railway. The scheme of lines now being carried out under the auspices of the Company of the Western Railways of Switzerland purposes to connect Geneva with Berne, by way of Morges, Yverdun, and Morat. The portion of this enterprise of which we have to record the successful completion is from Yverdun to Bussigny—a village twenty miles distant from that town, five miles distant from Morges, and four from Lausanne. The opening was inaugurated on Tuesday, May 1, by a trial trip; the passengers being a deputation from the Conseil d'Etat, the members of the Administrative Body, and about 200 gentlemen interested in the event, inhabitants of Geneva, Lausanne, Yverdun, Morges, &c. The weather was most propitious; and the trip was accomplished to the great satisfaction of all whom it concerned, and to the vast astonishment of crowds of peasants who, attracted by the novelty of the scene, occupied the bridges and prominent points along the line. At Yverdun a cold collation was served, a military band was in attendance, toasts were given, and many were the congratulations exchanged on the success which had attended the excursion. The work is expected to be finished to Morges in a few weeks, and the branch to Lausanne in about four months; until which time omnibuses ply from the two towns to Bussigny.

The Company's Engineer-in-Chief is Mr Charles Vignoles; the Resident Engineer, his son, Mr. Henry Vignoles. The iron work, station-fittings, and rolling stock, have been supplied by Messrs. Fox, Henderson, and Co. The carriages were made by Messrs. Pawell, Brussells; and the locomotives in the shops of the Société St Leonard, Liége.

The traveller arriving at Yverdon, by way of Neuchatel, will not be sorry to exchange the diligence to Lausanne for the first-class railway carriage, since the high road offers no attraction to those who admire dust and tedious hills. But the great interest in this line arises from its connecting the two last lakes which form its termini—Neuchatel with its historical associations of Grandson and Charles of Burgundy

BERNE AND GENEVA RAILWAY.—THE POUDRIERE VIADUCT OVER THE VENOGE RIVER.

BERNE AND GENEVA RAILWAY.—STATION AT YVERDUN, ON THE LAKE OF NEUCHATEL.

and Geneva, whose natural charms, unsurpassed by any Swiss lake, are assisted by that sanctity of genius which has made it loved and hallowed. We think of Davy, Sismondi, and Rousseau, and the brilliant sceptic whose conscience built an altar to the Power his will would have denied. Then we pass to Coppet, whose fir plantation marks the resting-place of the statesman Neckar, and his more famous daughter. Lausanne calls up the historian of Rome writing his last page, and the great actor with the Roman mind; whilst Vevey, with its quiet church, reminds us of our own unsettled history and the strange race of which Ludlow and Broughton were the types. Then Montreux and Clarens, the Rocks of Meillerie and the Castle of Chillon. Light and shade, pathos, and sublimity—how they all blend together, suggestive of that mind which has made them famous and linked its immortality with their own.

We have already stated that the line of railway will probably extend to Geneva from Morges, and to Berne from Yverdun. The former line, as proposed, runs at no great distance from the lake at any one point, and passes near numerous thriving towns and villages.

The projected extension northwards, as originally laid out by Mr. Robert Stephenson, was to follow the natural valley of the country by Soleure to Basle on the Rhine. But, to conform to the wishes of the Canton of Berne, the Company have had new surveys made by their Engineer-in Chief, Mr. Charles Vignoles, with a view of effecting a junction at Berne with the railway now in execution from that town to Basle. The proposed line skirts the lake of Neufchatel for some distance, and leaves it for Paverne, from which point two directions have been considered—one, the more practicable, by the beautiful town and lake of Morat, famous for the defeat of the Burgundians; the other, through a mountainous and difficult country by Fribourg. The former has finally been adopted. It should be remembered that from Geneva to Lyons a railway is in course of formation; while the whole line from the latter town to Marseilles has lately been opened; so that the line to Geneva from Morges is alone wanting to form a communication between the interior of the country and Southern France. Basle, on the other hand, will soon be connected to Berne; so that, finally the rails—touching the latter town at one end and Geneva at the other—will fill up the gap in the iron highway through Europe.

The accompanying Engravings are from sketches by an English resident at Lausanne. They comprise a view of that town; one of Yverdun Station on the opening day, and of a wrought iron lattice bridge over the river Venoge. This bridge was manufactured by Messrs. Mare and Co., of Blackwall

THE INFANT CHURCH IN SOUTH AFRICA.

TOWARDS the close of last year (Nov. 22) was laid the corner-stone of an English Episcopal Church, in the village of Riversdale, South Africa, with

ENGLISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH BUILDING AT RIVERSDALE, IN SOUTH AFRICA.

impressive ceremony, by the Rev. W. E. Belson. The proceedings of the day commenced with evening prayer at two o'clock, in the Dutch Reformed Church. Notwithstanding that it was harvest time a large congregation assembled. After service a procession was formed to the site of the new Church, chanting the 132nd Psalm. At the entrance to the ground an arch, formed of poles covered with evergreens and flowers, had been erected; whilst the gaiety of the scene was enhanced by a display of flags and other devices. The Civil Commissioner of the division read the usual document, and placed it, together with some coins, in the wall of the building. The stone was then lowered into its position and the appointed service was continued by the Rev. J. Baker The 100th and 149th Psalms were sung remarkably well by the choir, which had been previously instructed by Captain Painier. The meeting was addressed by the clergy and others present; and a collection was made amounting to £21 8s. 7d. After the ceremony sixty of the school children were regaled with tea and cake; and the little festival was kept up until a late hour.

The site of the new church—which is the gift of the Dutch Reformed Church—is beautifully situated, being at the top of the principal street, on the north side lie the fine range of the Zwarte Berg mountains.

The church, of which we engrave a sketch, is in the Early English style. It will accommodate about 170. The estimated cost of the building is £1300: a further sum will be required for the inclosure of the churchyard, and some of the necessary interior furniture, as font and communion service. Many friends in England have contributed towards the edifice; but, owing to the enormous price of labour and materials, a considerable sum will be required to complete the church. The congregation are, both by giving money and voluntary labour, helping themselves; and entertain the hope that still more of their brethren at home may testify their sympathy with the Infant Church in South Africa by contributing of their substance to the work they have undertaken. Messrs. Hoare, 37, Fleet-street, have kindly consented to receive subscriptions, which should be paid to the "Riversdale Church Building Fund."

INDUSTRIAL DEMONSTRATION IN IRELAND.

THE incident here illustrated occurred recently at Mulla, Tullamore, in Ireland, the seat of Thomas Sadlier, Esq. For the last four years Mr. Sadlier has sought to procure employment for his tenantry and others, by the extensive manufacture of peat charcoal into many useful products; more particularly with a view to the preparation of a sanitary agent; and in these endeavours he has been eminently successful. At the commencement of the war the Government required for the military hospitals abroad large quantities of the above material. To execute within a specified time one of these orders, the proprietor had many difficulties to contend with, arising from limited time, inclement weather, and the present difficulty in procuring labourers. In this emergency, however, the country people for several miles round, turned out with their carts and horses, and volunteered their gratuitous services. With this aid the supply was ready in time, and the charcoal was carted in procession from the factories to the railway station, a distance of five miles, amidst the waving tastily-arranged banners, bearing appropriate devices and mottoes, and with exulting shouts and the joyous sound of music.

In the evening Mr. Sadlier gave a suitable entertainment to the whole party, and dancing and festivity were kept up till an early hour.

The demonstration originated in a twofold object: the remembrance of the fatherly interest and care bestowed on his tenantry by the respected Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, the late Dr. Sadlier; and the anxious hope that the workers might contribute in some degree to the comfort and health of their brothers now serving in the Crimea.

DEMONSTRATION AT MULLA, TULLAMORE.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

VISITATION OF THE ARCHDEACON OF MIDDLESEX

Archdeacon Sinclair held a visitation of the London Clergy at St. Paul's Church, Covent-garden, on Wednesday morning. There was a very large attendance. Prayers were read by the Rev. Henry Hutton, the Rector, but the usual sermon was dispensed with. The Archdeacon, on taking his seat, proceeded to the delivery of his Charge, which had reference mainly to the subject of preaching. In inquiring into and exposing some of the errors by which preaching was rendered ineffective, the first general error he mentioned was want of faith in its efficacy. It was with great concern that he heard preaching disparaged, and unmeaning praise bestowed for their short sermons on those who preached. Such unseemly popularities not only discouraged the clergy, but prevented the hearers from profiting by the ministration of their instructor. The next general error was that of overloading and omitting certain qualifications which the work of preaching required. Among these were command of language and readiness of expression. That readiness of speech was far from unattainable. It was in early life comparatively an easy acquisition, and at a later period he had known individuals who, by great efforts and assiduous practice, had surmounted the difficulties presented by a hesitating and reserved or studious habits. Another qualification for a preacher was such an acquaintance with at least the elements of modern science as an intelligent congregation would expect in their teacher. Bishop Butler made that the Christian preacher was to give instruction from the pulpit in geology, optics, or astronomy; but it was by no means safe for him to be silent, lest his ignorance of physical science should be betrayed into an exposure detrimental to his pastoral influence. This remark applied still more decidedly to mental science, and, in particular, to the philosophy of morals. The most authority in ethics was, unquestionably, the Bible; but in it little the principles of this science were nowhere reduced to a system. Precepts and maxims scattered by Divine authority were to be found in rich profusion throughout its pages, but no theory of morals was expressly taught. A theory was no doubt implied, but it was indispensable to discover and comprehend it. In this most important proof the clergy derived valuable assistance from the writings of Christian philosophers, to whose [illegible] he was wont to turn for aid in the treatises on morals, comprehending and elucidating the whole subject. In turning over the popular sermons of the day, however, they were not unfrequently chargeable with a degree of entire ignorance of the contents of such standard works; that his ideas upon morals were confused and illogical; in some cases his assertions, if strictly and logically carried out, would lead to conclusions he was not aware of, and which he knew better. He would be most anxious to disavow; and, upon the whole, that his language implied a theory not in harmony with our best moralists, or with the Sacred Writers, when studied carefully and philosophically. Referring to the composition of sermons, the Archdeacon strongly deprecated hasty preparation, inappropriateness of subjects, and especially archaical and antiquated phraseology. Nothing, he said, could be more vexatious than to hear a young preacher [illegible] ideas which he seemed to be his own, not in the language of good society in the preeding day, but in that of Hooker or Jeremy Taylor. No doubt the style of these great writers was excellent. It was admirably adapted to the taste of their contemporaries in the time of Queen Elizabeth or of Charles I.; but it was for that very reason wholly inappropriate to the time of Queen Victoria; and as it would be preposterous to cloth our persons in the habiliments of the Plantagenets or Tudor period, so it was also impossible to clothe our thoughts and sentiments in an equally antiquated garb. Another fatal error in preaching was that of underrating the capacity of the people. The understandings of the poor, though not so cultivated, were probably not inferior to that of the preacher himself. They had common sense, and were often quite as shrewd and intelligent as their betters. Though their command of words might be small, they were by no means totally wanting in ideas. Their vulgarities of speech, slight them as they might, were often rich in argument and imagination. To address grown persons, therefore, because they were men, in terms adapted to childhood, was a grievous blunder. They saw through it, condescension, and were indignant. They discovered the just ridicule of the preacher, and despised it. The Archdeacon then concluded:

The clergy of the Archdeaconry occupy a conspicuous position. You have opportunity of addressing the individuals most remarkable for wealth, rank, talent, and influence in the kingdom. A majority of the laity are your parishioners. The Church of England, opposed to superstition and bigotry on the one hand, and to infidelity on the other, is the chief guardian of universal Christendom. The advancement of the cause of Christ's Holy Catholic Church depends, under God, upon the branches of our Anglican communion in the several quarters of the world; and in this widely influential community your position is most important. The effective discharge of your ministerial duties, not of preaching only, but of them all, would, by God's help, Christianise and evangelise the heart and centre of the British Empire." The Archdeacon then dismissed the clergy with the benediction.

Preferments and Appointments.—*Rectories.* The Rev. J. Aston to Toddenham, near Moreton-in-the-Marsh. The Rev. [illegible] champ to Widerton with Wickmere, Norfolk. The Rev. [illegible] Kilcolman, diocese of Killaloe; the Rev. E. R. [illegible] Slaughton, Norfolk; the Rev. P. C. Scott to Ilmington, Warwickshire; the Rev. H. B. Ward to Spreyburn, Lincolnshire; and the Rev. R. B. Stopper to Colton. *Vicarages:* The Rev. J. Burkitt to Killoe, diocese of Kilmore; the Rev. W. B. Greenside to Melling, near Lancaster; the Rev. J. Kynaston to Billingborough, Lincolnshire; the Rev. A. T. Hudson to St. Peter's, Burnley; the Rev. G. F. Williamson to Selston, near Mansfield; the Rev. G. S. Simcocks to Hankerton, near Malmesbury; and the Rev. I. C. Lennon to Langford and Farington, Berkshire. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. J. Hollins to St. Clement's Church, Bristol, and the Rev. E. B. Sim to Bas entiwaite, near Keswick.

New Episcopric for Borneo.—A new see for Borneo has been constituted, and the Rev. Dr. Francis T. McDougall, who has been for some time a chief missionary in the island, has been appointed the first Bishop, with the title of "The Bishop of Labuan." The Bishop Designate is a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, and practised several years as a medical man. He held for a considerable time an important hospital appointment in connection with King's College Hospital. When Dr. McDougall is consecrated there will be thirty colonial bishoprics in connection with the Established Church of England.

New Church in Lambeth.—On Wednesday morning the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of St. Andrew's District Church, Lambeth, was performed by Admiral Lord Ridalesdale (in the absence of the Earl of Shaftesbury), in the presence of the Bishop of Sierra Leone, the Rev. J. [illegible], M.A., Rector of Lambeth; the Rev. Joseph Brown, M.A., Rural Dean; the Rev. [illegible], Vicar of St. Mark's, Lambeth; the Rev. [illegible], Lambeth; the Rev. [illegible], Lambeth; the Rev. [illegible],

THE PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION

(From our Special Correspondent.)

PARIS, MAY 30.

THE Emperor's day—Sunday last was a complete success. For the first time since the opening day there appeared to be life in the affair; and I was often reminded of some of the lively scenes of Hyde-park in 1851. The *Moniteur* declares that upwards of 80,000 persons visited the Palace in the course of the day; but the general idea is that this estimate is a great exaggeration. To approach reality it is considered necessary to divide the above number by two! However, the Emperor's experiment was a complete success. It opened the Universal Exhibition to all classes just in time. Had this liberal measure been delayed much longer, the Parisians would have become sulky, and would have refused to take advantage of the invitation. Already the unfinished state of every part of the Exhibition, the horribly wet weather, the non arrival of expected crowds of visitors with pockets heavily lined, and the clouded political horizon, has damped the Parisian ardour. People had begun to whisper about that the affair would be a gigantic failure. The most significant proof of general disappointment was the heavy fall in the demands of lodging-house keepers. Single rooms, for which greedy proprietors had been asking fifteen francs per night, were soon eagerly let for seven or eight francs. A few more days passed in gloom would have sufficed, I fear, to create a panic among Exhibition speculators. The Emperor, therefore, issued his decree at the right moment. The effect was magical. All the dreams of early spring returned to the imaginative restaurant keepers of the Boulevards and the Champs Elysées, and the fine weather came at the same time to brighten their happy visions. Sunday opened auspiciously: the day was beautiful; the stall-keepers of the Champs Elysées were determined to array all their attractions before the crowds expected, at an early hour, at the Palace gates. Troops of horse soldiers, regiments of infantry, and strong bodies of police, indicated the official belief in a coming throng. Well, the throng came; but it was never a dense, fighting, savage crowd. Orderly strings of gaily-dressed working men and working women bearing recently-pomatumed children, or supporting tenderly antiquated friends or relatives; careless fellows in blouses, slouching along with their pockets deep in their pockets; dapper young shopmen, with the Sunday hat knowingly perched upon the side of the head; groups of the Line affectionately linked arm-in-arm,—all strolled onward, chatting cheerfully by the way. At the great northern entrance the click of the turnstiles was telling all day long the number of persons who were taking advantage of the Emperor's invitation. A point often remarked, also, was the absence of that dragooning system which had wearied the few five-franc visitors the Company had managed to entrap.

Within the Building the effect was curious. The Nave resembled that of our Crystal Palace on a shilling day, with modifications. There was more variety in the hues exhibited by the French crowd. In the first place, about every third man was a soldier; then the white caps trimmed with rainbow ribbons, worn by the workwomen; the blouses; and the tendency to showy colours exhibited by the wives of the *bourgeoisie* all tended to relieve the dullness of the black coats. Then, seen in groups and near, the French people exhibited more enthusiasm than our people mustered. Everything was *enthousiasté* or *charmante*. The huge trophy, raised by England in the eastern part of the Nave, was, of course, an object of special attention; and it was really curious to watch the mixed feelings with which hundreds of Frenchmen peered into Dr. Royle's Indian tent. They were inclined to admire the Bombay and other wondrous work of the East; they could not remain wholly blind to the beauties of the gorgeous Eastern fabrics before them, but, their geography being often at fault, they did not feel satisfied that, in admiring heartily, they would not be placing the Indian artist-workman almost on an equality with the manufacturer of the *article de Paris*. Then how astonished were hundreds of Parisian workmen with the silversmith's work in the English section of the galleries! How eagerly, also, crowds gathered about the single Australian case, placed upon the Gallery of the South-Eastern Staircase, in which wonderful nuggets are most temptingly exhibited. I noticed that, on this day, a soldier walked round and round the case throughout the day.

An important fact became evident to the masses of Frenchmen on this free day—a fact which they would have been slow to credit on any but ocular demonstration viz., that their part of the Exhibition is the least advanced of any. Even yesterday, when I went carefully over the various Courts upon the ground floor, those against the north wall continued to exhibit only deal counters, varied only by deal packing cases. The visitor who crosses from this dreary region, still in the hands of carpenters, and dexterously avoids the labourers who are wheeling loads of very clay into the very central spot of the Palace (where a fountain is in course of erection), may enter the English Section, and see everything—with the exception of a few fabric and Shef field stalls—in order. I would also recommend the English reader to remark the difference in the distribution of space—as arranged by the French, and as adopted by Mr. Richard A. Thompson, our General Superintendent of space, in the British department. The French have cut their space into passages—with uniform alcoves on both sides—the monotony of which is perfectly distressing. You are continually expecting to arrive at some great Court—some wonderful effect—but your experience disappoints you wofully. Now the English space is broken up into courts and open spaces, which present to the visitor some new general view at every step. There can be no comparison between the two arrangements. English exhibitors have reason to thank Mr. Thompson for the happy manner in which he has used the space confided to his judgment.

Still visitors to the Paris Universal Exhibition must fast and remain thirsty while they remain in the building, unless they can patronise the liquorice-water which a gay cocoa-merchant carries about the Building in a fountain splendidly covered with red velvet, and capped with the tricolour.

It is said that the Machinery Gallery will be opened on Friday, but I doubt the correctness of the rumour, inasmuch as this gallery is still in a most unfinished state. It would be a pity to let the public see it before the machinery is in motion; and I expect that this point of progress will not have been attained within a fortnight hence. This part of the Exhibition will be the most remarkable, because the most original of any; and, when it is finished, and steam is working a hundred ingenious machines upon the banks of the Seine—where the visitor can wander out of the Palace by the southern door into a spacious refreshment gallery traverse the Panorama, bright with Imperial manufactures, and stroll along a gallery flanked on either side by brilliant stalls, exhibiting the graces of Parisian workmanship, he will be able to pronounce a final verdict upon this Universal Exhibition, but not till then. Meantime we must patiently wait the convenience of the authorities. I should advise intending visitors still in England not to start for some weeks yet. The affair will be a great success after all, if the Government take it in hand as they did last Sunday.

RUSSIAN REINFORCEMENTS. On the 15th instant a very large force was observed to be marching along the coast road, to join the army on the heights north of Sebastopol. By reports from some of the ships we learn that 50,000 troops were moving in this direction. It is quite evident, from the much greater extent occupied by the encampments, and particularly the increase in the number of the field batteries, that very considerable reinforcements have arrived. It was supposed, when first notice was given of the approach of so large a force, that an attack was contemplated, and instructions were given for the troops guarding the trenches to be constantly on the alert. Some of the divisions in front were also kept under arms for a great part of the night. Nothing unusual, however, occurred. The following day (May 16) several large convoys of corn and forage were seen on the north heights. At one time there could not have been less than 400 country arabas, each drawn by two oxen, on the high ground near the encampment. A little below, and to the west of Star Fort, is a large commissariat depôt. In addition to some very large sheds, covered by red-tiled roofs, which have been observed to be storehouses, and a little on one side of them, are two huge heaps of sacks, probably containing corn. They are piled up in a pyramidal form. To these stacks a line of 140 arabas were conveying similar sacks, and as each cart was relieved of its load, it passed away in another line with equal regularity. A number of men could be noticed busily employed in arranging the sacks, and connecting them with the pyramidal stacks, as fast as they were deposited on the ground. Higher up the hill, and to the east of the Star Fort, another line of arabas moved from the direction of Mackenzie's Farm, and were lost to view as they passed behind a prominence on the brow of the slope. They were bringing forage. In a third place were collected a large number of arabas, drawn up in regular rows, and stationary, and, as far as could be judged by the telescope, laden with gabions. Perhaps they might be intended to remain there, and be brought across at night.—*Letter from the Camp.*

THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. XIX.)

MOST of us are familiar with the scene in Sheridan's comedy of the "Rivals," where the footman, when complained of by his master, consoles himself by violently kicking the page. This sort of thing seems to be in course of imitation by the upper servants of the public, who being convicted of incapacity, are now turning round on the unfortunate underlings, who are being kicked with very little mercy and not much discrimination, on all sides. The mismanagement of the War Department by the incapabilities at the head of it, has called forth the energies of Lord Panmure, who, it is said, proposes to reform the establishment over which he presides, by dismissing every one belonging to it, without respect to any qualifications that any individual may possess. This seems such a very unreasoning mode of dealing with a difficulty that, if my authority had been one less likely to be correctly informed than the *Observer*—which lays claim to a sort of demi-official character—I should not have believed that the War Minister would have made such a fearful onslaught on his subordinates as to have discharged them all at once. It is true that they are all "eligible to reappointment;" but it would be better that those who may have performed their duties diligently and faithfully should not find themselves liable to be turned off. It is something like hanging a man for the pleasure of cutting him down again, to deprive a public servant of his functions merely to restore him to his former condition.

Everybody will admit the necessity for reform of the Civil Service, but it seems as if the old error would be committed in this case as in so many others, of beginning the reform at the bottom instead of at the top. If the clerks appointed the heads of departments, it would be a sound principle to commence the war against the present system with an attack on the clerks; but, as the chiefs have the appointment of the underlings, it is on the chiefs that the assault should be made. Purity and efficiency cannot exist permanently in the lower branches of the public service while the upper branches are corrupt and incapable. The most sweeping alterations or improvements amongst the inferior grades will soon lose their effect if the chiefs are to be exempted from the touch of Administrative Reform. "Like master, like man," is found to be a true saying, but the "man" does not impress his own qualities on the "master" by whom he is employed. If, therefore, we would have efficiency in the underings, we must have efficiency in the superior grades of the Government offices; and it is little better than mockery to make stringent regulations applicable to those youths who seek to enter the public service, unless measures are taken to secure efficiency in the higher ranks. These reflections have occurred to me, as they will have occurred perhaps to many others, after reading the Order in Council prescribing new regulations for those who are candidates for Government employment. Certain examinations are to take place, which will be all very well if the public have full confidence in the examiners. Much, however, is to be left to the heads of departments, in all of whom the public will not have confidence, because those heads are a part of the very system which public opinion has condemned. If there is no appeal against the decisions of these heads of departments, but if they are permitted to exercise an irresponsible authority, a system of favouritism will spring up far more fatal to the hopes of ability and worth than even the practice of promotions by seniority, which, with all its faults, was still incapable of being made an engine for keeping merit back, though doing nothing to help it forward. Routine, which allows all to advance according to some fixed principle, though it be a faulty one, is preferable to a system under which, in violation of every right principle, the undeserving may be promoted above the man of worth.

One of the best means, perhaps, of obtaining a good body of public servants is to treat them with fairness at least, if not with liberality; and, while insisting on a faithful discharge of duty, it is unjust to refuse to listen to a well-grounded complaint.

The members of the Civil Service have for some years been remonstrating against the treatment they experience in having a large sum taken from them every year to provide what is called a Superannuation Fund, but which fund is diverted altogether from its proper purpose, and is applied to the general requirements of the State. Every civil servant has to pay, in addition to his income-tax of seven per cent, a superannuation charge of five per cent—so that twelve pounds are deducted from every hundred he is supposed to receive. This five per cent is nominally taken to provide for the possibility of some future superannuation allowance, but it has been calculated that one per cent would be amply sufficient for the purpose; and, consequently, every civil servant is mulcted of four per cent more than any other class of the community for the expenses of Government. If it is right that the civil servants bear this extra burden, by all means let them bear it, but let the principle be allowed, for it is a piece of dishonesty to take five per cent for a purpose upon which only one per cent is expended, while the balance is otherwise applied. Surely it is little better than obtaining money under false pretences to say to the civil servants of the country, "Your possible claim for superannuation requires a contribution of five per cent from your income," when it is a fact that only one-fifth of the sum is really necessary, and the remaining four-fifths are put into the pockets of the public, whose share in the burden of taxation is to that extent unfairly diminished. The weight has at least become so oppressive, that it is no longer endured with patience, and redress has been sought from two or three successive Chancellors of the Exchequer, who have promised to attend to a claim the justice of which it has been impossible to deny. Notwithstanding the high moral tone adopted by these gentlemen, their promises to rectify a piece of gross unfairness remain to this day unperformed. The subject has, however, been taken up by Mr. Macartney, an independent Member, who gave notice that, if the Government did not do justice to its servants, he would introduce a measure to redeem the country from the imputation of picking the pockets of those whom it employs. This has had its effect, and a bill is said to have been prepared by which the evil complained of will be mitigated, if it is not altogether remedied.

The appointment of Mr. Phinn to the Second Secretaryship of the Admiralty has been cavilled at, on the ground that a great naval man is needed to write letters in a style of courtesy which a correspondence with naval officers requires. It used to be the general impression that a blunt straightforward manner was best suited to the nautical taste and character; but if our seamen, or rather our naval officers, are not to be addressed in any but the pink-note-paper mode of correspondence, they must be an altered, if not a greatly improved, class. Mr. Phinn, however, will no doubt throw a sufficient amount of the *suaviter in modo* into his correspondence to make it palatable to those who ought to attach the first importance to the *fortiter in re*. If there should be any difficulty on the subject a "Polite Letter-Writer" might be added to the library at the Admiralty, and thus the only objection raised by cavillers to Mr. Phinn's appointment would be removed.

If the art of polite letter-writing is necessary to an Under Secretary, it must *a fortiori* be indispensable to a Secretary of State, and the lately-published correspondence between the Earl of Aberdeen and Lord John Russell will enable the public to judge how far these statesmen possess the quality of epistolary elegance of style. If the best letter-writer makes the best Minister, neither of the two noblemen would rank very high, if he were to be estimated by the specimens that have recently appeared. Perhaps Lord John Russell meant the bitterest things under the fairest phraseology, but both he and his correspondent have displayed more of the wish than the ability to use language as an instrument for concealing thought. The real meaning of the writers peeps out in many parts of their letters when the words were evidently designed to convey a different sense to the persons to whom the communication is addressed. That Lord John meant more or less than he said is pretty obvious from the fact that he left Lord Aberdeen's Government because the War Minister ought to be in the House of Commons, and he has joined the Government of Lord Palmerston, whose War Minister is in the House of Lords. What Lord John Russell really wanted was to get rid of the Duke of Newcastle; but, as he was not candid enough to say so in direct terms, he must remain under the imputation of inconsistency, for, by his written letters, it is shown that he quitted one Cabinet on the plea of a certain change being necessary, which change has not been carried out in the Cabinet to which he now belongs. If this is the dilemma into which public men may get themselves by polite letter-writing, it would be better for their reputation if that correspondence were somewhat less distinguished for its politeness than for its plain speaking, for no graces of style will compensate for the absence of honesty and truth.

THE FORTIFICATION OF KAMIESCH. The last despatches from the Crimea announce that the fortifications intended to protect Kamiesch advance rapidly towards completion. The curious mechanicity of a fortified place created in the immediate vicinity of a besieged town, and during the siege itself, is not without precedent, and one of the most remarkable is, without doubt, the construction of Santa Fé by Ferdinand and Isabella, while they were besieging Granada in 1491. According to Madoz, Santa Fé was built in eighty days. In John Bigland's "History of Spain" we find the following:—"The Moors flattered themselves that the approach of winter would compel the Christians to raise the siege, but the measures which they saw them adopt soon destroyed this hope. Ferdinand, in order to protect his soldiers from the inclemency of the weather, had a vast camp of barracks solidly constructed with stones and mud, and covered with tiles, and in a short time this camp assumed the appearance of a town surrounded by distinct and regular streets. The promptitude with which this construction was completed, and its extent and importance, proved to the people of Granada the perseverance of the Castilians." To return to the fortifications of Kamiesch, the announcement that the reinforcements will only surprise those who may have forgotten that prudence is one of the surest elements of success in war, and that it must always accompany the valour which achieves that success. The propriety of fortifying the Bay of Kamiesch was long since decided on, and at the commencement of the present year the Emperor called the attention of the General-in-Chief to this important object. The severity of the weather, however, and the more pressing exigencies of the siege operations, did not allow the works being commenced as soon as was wished. Thanks to the arrival of the numerous reinforcements lately received by the Allied army, it is now carried on with great activity, and will be soon completed. Kamiesch is at the present time a French port, the importance of which will increase with the extension given to the operations in the Crimea. It was therefore essential that we should secure the possession of it by defensive works, which henceforth leave the enemy no possibility of disputing it with us. *Monitour.*

OUR NATIONAL VICE.—Day after day, evening after evening, you may see soldiers carried in at the main guard upon stretchers in a state of helpless and beastly intoxication. Daily, not now alone, but for a long time past, the guard-room has its occupants furnished from this source, and daily almost it consigns to the wards of the hospital a proportion of the men put under arrest. But the number placed under arrest is no criterion of the number who are habitually intoxicated, or of the number thence deducted from the roll of service and thrown upon the hands of the medical officers. It will be easily understood that among such cases many are those of convalescent soldiers lately restored to the ranks, and who, while drawing large arrears of pay, are more than usually subject to the influence of ardent liquors. But this is not the whole of the matter. The spirits which are retailed to them in the town of Scutari are the lowest and most noxious product of the country, and are adulterated to an extent which makes them poisonous. It is so much the custom of military officers to assume drunkenness as the inseparable accident of a soldier that no sort of attempt has been made to check it. A few a very few—of the whole number who are daily put, sickness get punished; no summary measures are adopted with the rascally Greeks or Armenians who vend the liquors. It is one instance where the responsible persons fold their hands and shut their eyes, and find in the limited quality of their own intellect consolation for the degraded *morale* of inferiors committed to their superintendence out of that charmed and blissful circle where military creeds whee upon one everlasting pivot. Among all, whether residents or strangers, who are witnesses of the fact this spectacle of men to all appearance dead, some frothing at the mouth, as in apoplexy, continually borne, corpse-like, from the boozing den to the barracks, is universally a subject of remark.—*Letter from Scutari, May 17.*

A COALING STRIKE. The strike of the numerous bodies of colliers employed at the pits surrounding Bristol still continues without present prospect of adjustment. The men, however, conducted themselves quietly on Saturday evening last, when some serious rioting occurred at Nailsea. Some detachments, about seven miles from Bristol. One man, named Ridgers, was so mercilessly beaten and kicked that he was left for dead, and had to be carried home in a state of unconsciousness. These disturbances continued till day-light, and, when the men dispersed from more extensive [illegible]

A SUBMARINE RAILWAY.—The *Boulogne Gazette* says:—"There is once more a serious intention of uniting France and England by a submarine railway. The latest project is that of Dr. Payerne, who, with 40 subaqueous tunnels (of which he is the inventor), 1000 sailors and harvest, 4,340,000 cubic yards of material, and £10,000,000 sterling expenses, would undertake to construct a tunnel, by means of which the Strait that separates the two countries would be distributed in 30 minutes. The position of the tunnel would be a double, nearly parallel with that of the electric telegraph, and contiguous to it, as being the lowest part of the Channel, as well as that where the [illegible] is [illegible]."

ENGLISH GARDENS IN THE CRIMEA.—In about a month's time there will be immense crops of English vegetables growing in the vicinity of the Fever hospitals in Turkey and in the Crimea, for the use of the sick, as well as a crop of vegetables and grasses in the neighbourhood of Balaclava and Sebastopol. Mr. Page, the seed-merchant, of Southampton, who has been selected by the Government to stock the English possessions in the Crimea with herbs and vegetables, states that the whole of the immense stock of seeds he sent out in the *Medway* will be up in about three weeks after they are planted. The seeds of those vegetables which grow quickest were sent out in the largest quantities.

THE MOUNTGARRETT PERRAGE.—This celebrated "romance in real life" is not yet concluded. The Court of Exchequer has unanimously granted the application of the plaintiff (Mr. P. S. Butler) to proceed with his bill of exceptions in relation to the rejection of evidence on the last trial. The case now goes into a court of error.

The *Univers* says that the French caravan of pilgrims has "happily terminated" its excursion to the Holy Land. On the difficult, they embarked in good health to return to Europe.

Thirty-one emigrant ships have left Liverpool for all foreign parts during the present month, with an aggregate number of 11,577 passengers on board; of whom 8756 were for the United States.

The vine disease has already made more havoc in Portugal than it made last year in all the month of June; and it threatens a year of almost next to no wine.

THE RAMAZAN.

THE annual Turkish fast called Ramazan commenced on the evening of the 16th ult. at set of sun. The observances were of the usual kind. The mosques were illuminated with all the skill for which the Orientals are famous, and during all the nights the voice of muezzins and rejoicing was heard in the lanes of Stamboul. The fast falling as it now does, in the summer months, is most oppressive to the strict observer, who will not touch a drop of water or inhale a whiff of tobacco during the fourteen hours which elapse between the rising and setting of the sun. The observance is doubtly onerous at present, as large bodies of Musulmans are now employed by European Governments and individuals, who insist on continuous labour during the greater part of the day. The men engaged in baking bread and roasting coffee for the Allied armies, and even the workmen employed in the service of the Turkish fleet and army, are obliged to exert themselves during the whole length of a summer's day without rest or refreshment. However, all Musulmans insist on quitting their toil an hour before sunset, so as to be in readiness when the sound of cannon announces the hour of deliverance from their long hours of abstinence.

Our Artist at Constantinople has accompanied his Sketch of the Ramazan with these details:—

Wandering about a few nights ago, in the suburb of Tophana, we entered, with two friends, the inner yard of the mosque, the interior of which we could perceive was brilliantly illuminated. We ascended the steps, and could see very well the interior with the chandeliers, throwing a subdued light on a score of prostrate faithful; when the son of a Turkish priest looking upon us with a rather indignant countenance, made us desist from our curiosity, lest it should be deemed an intrusion. Children were playing in the yard; cake and sugar-plum sellers were vociferous; and this glimpse of every-day street life presented a strange contrast with the devotional scene within the mosque.

The characteristics of the month of Ramazan (the Mohammedan's Lent) are thus described:—

The day is passed, by the rich at least, in sleep, or in total idleness. Every Moslem, with the exception of travellers, children, and invalids, is forbidden to taste food or drink, to smoke or take snuff, from sunrise to sunset, and very their wretched do they look, squatting on their divan or at the door, without favourite pipe in their mouths, and having no other occupation than counting

THE GRAND REVIEW OF THE FRENCH TROOPS AT CONSTANTINOPLE, BY THE SULTAN.

their beads. As the Turkish month is lunar, the Ramazan runs through every season in the course of thirty-three years; and, when it occurs in summer, the labouring classes suffer severely from exhaustion and thirst. "I have seen the boatmen," says Mr. Turner, "lean on their oars almost fainting; but I never saw one who met with any one who professed to have seen an instance in which they yielded to the temptation of violating the fast." The moment of sunset is, of course, eagerly looked for: it is announced by the firing of cannon. It might be imagined that the first act of the hungry and thirsty would be to eat and drink; but numbers of Turks may be seen, their pipes ready filled, and the fire to light them in their hands, awaiting the welcome signal, every other gratification being postponed for that of inhaling the fragrant weed. The night is passed in devotional forms and revelry. All the mosques are open, and all the coffee-houses; the latter are crowded with Turks, smoking, drinking coffee, and listening to singers and story-tellers. The minarets are illuminated, and the streets are crowded with the faithful.

REVIEW OF THE FRENCH ARMY OF RESERVE.

The Review of the French Army of Reserve, at Maslak, by the Sultan (of which our Artist has here given a Sketch) previous to its embarkation for the Crimea, took place on the 13th of May. So far as the troops were concerned, the spectacle was a splendid one. The various regiments were in first-rate condition, and performed evolutions common on such occasions with admirable precision. The Sultan seemed very much pleased with the appearance and movements of the two regiments of Carabiniers. The only drawback on the affair was the want of a good attendance of spectators. Nobody in Stamboul or Pera knew that the review was to take place; and our official people, instead of making as much noise about it as possible, contrived to keep it almost a secret. The result was that not only were there hardly any Turks present, but that only a few of even of the 300 or 600 French, English, and Sardinian officers at present in Constantinople were there. Considering how good an opportunity the Review at Maslak offered of impressing the Greek and Turkish population with a proper sense of the power of the Allies, it seems strange that no advantage should have been taken of it.

The Cavalry Division, under the command of General d'Allonville, left Constantinople for Kamiesch on the 15th; and the Imperial Guard, under General Regnault St. Jean d'Angely, on the 16th. We shall, no doubt, hear of their doings in the Crimea before long.

Now that the French army has left Constantinople, another army of reserve is about to be formed in the neighbourhood of that city. The last accounts from there say that General Vivian was about to organise in the Plain of Unkiar-Skelessi an army of reserve of 25,000 men, composed of the Anglo-Turkish Legion now in course of formation, and of Turkish regulars. The superior English officers belonging to the Camp would have their head-quarters in the Russian palace of Buyukdere.

THE RAMAZAN, IN THE MOSQUE OF TOPHANA.

GRAND REVIEW OF THE FRENCH TROOPS AT CONSTANTINOPLE, BY THE SULTAN.

LITERATURE.

Moredun: a Tale of the Twelve Hundred and Ten. By W. S. Low and Son

When a certain Mr. Ireland—once a notorious, but now an almost forgotten personage—fabricated a play, and attempted to palm it upon the public as a lost and recovered work of Shakspeare, he contrived to throw our literary world, for a short time, into no small commotion. By a cunningly-devised story, supported by manuscripts and other articles of evidence, ingeniously concocted, he found means to gain believers and to enlist partisans. Numbers on both sides joined in the fray; and, so long as the work itself remained unknown, the controversy respecting its genuineness was hotly carried on. At length "Vortigern" was acted, and there was an end of the matter. The play itself proved, in every line, that it was an impudent forgery, and sank at once into insignificance and oblivion.

We have now another literary forgery of a similar kind, which must have a similar fate. Some six or eight months ago a Frenchman, named Cabany, brought forward a story of the discovery of an unknown romance of Sir Walter Scott, the manuscript of which had fallen into his possession, and which he was about to give to the world. The story was improbable enough; but, as the members of Scott's family and his friends who would have been able to judge decidedly of its truth, were by this time dead, it could not be positively contradicted. Several of Scott's surviving friends showed that it was most unlikely that Scott should have written such a work or should have disposed of it in the manner related by this M. Cabany. But it is well known that truth itself is often improbable—that "le vrai n'est pas toujours le vraisemblable," nobody could deny that the story *might have been* true, however strange it appeared. To the arguments of those who impugned its truth on the score of improbability, it was not difficult to find at least plausible answers; and the skirmishing that has been going on in the columns of the London and Paris prints has excited much curiosity about the book, and served the purpose of an advertisement. But its publication puts an end to the controversy. There is no use in saying a word more about the truth or falsehood of the story told by its self-styled discoverer, when a copy of the book itself proves beyond dispute that it is a barefaced and contemptible counterfeit. It is quite unnecessary, therefore, to take any notice of the long controversial introduction prefixed to the book, beyond saying that, though signed by the Frenchman, Cabany, it is evidently the production of some Scotchman—probably the writer of the book; and that the fraud is aggravated by the insolent and abusive style employed in its justification.

As to the book itself, it is beneath criticism. There are many clever copies which have something of the spirit of the original; but this "Moredun" has not a grain of merit—even considered as an imitation. From the first page to the last it does not show the faintest spark of the genius of Walter Scott. Several pieces ascribed to Shakspeare have given rise to controversies which last to this day "Titus Andronicus," for instance, and "Pericles." Few have ventured to contend that these pieces are entirely from the pen of Shakspeare; but many maintain that they have passages of power and beauty which undeniably show the master's hand, and this *partial* authorship is explained from the circumstance of his having been the manager of a theatre. But in "Vortigern" there were no such indications; and, therefore, it was at once and unanimously set down as altogether spurious. Had "Moredun," however, feeble, as a whole, contained here and there a trait of beauty or strength, or humour, akin to the genius of Scott, such things might have afforded grounds for ascribing to him the authorship of the whole: for, in his case, there could have been no divided authorship. It might have been said that the book was an early work, when his powers were not matured, or a late work, when his mind was in decay. But, on either supposition, it would have had some mark of individuality—something characteristic of the author. Even in the weakest of Scott's known works—even in "Count Robert of Paris," or "Castle Dangerous"—we still have a great mind before us, although it be a mind in ruins. But in "Moredun" there is nothing of the kind. We find a bald and mechanical mimicry of some of the most palpable peculiarities of his manner—peculiarities which have been copied by other imitators with far greater dexterity and success—and these are the only things that remind us of Scott for a single moment. We do not insist on anachronisms, or deviations from historical accuracy; these were often committed by Scott himself, though redeemed by his surpassing excellences. But here there is no redeeming point. The story of "Moredun" is commonplace, and void of interest; the characters are mere lay-figures, not (like Scott's) men and women of flesh and blood; cold abstractions, not living and breathing individuals whom we learn to know and sympathise with, as if they were realities. Scott's style, though careless, is always fresh and vigorous, and often rises to the highest eloquence. The style of this book is uniformly flat and vapid, and often affected and turgid. The attempts at humour are vulgar, and without a vestige of Scott's geniality.

The publication of "Moredun," in that, has given it its *quietus*. No evidence, however ingeniously got up, can stand against the intrinsic evidence of utter worthlessness.

Wine: its Use, and Taxation. An Inquiry into the Operation of the Wine Duties on Consumption and Revenue. By Sir Emerson Tennent. Madden.

In France and England, where the climate, owing to the influence of the Western Ocean, and particularly to the great body of water called the Gulf Stream, that is continually flowing from the Torrid Zone, is much warmer than the other parts of Europe equally far to the north, the grape ripens in the open air tolerably well in favourable seasons much to the north of 48°. In England it sometimes comes to perfection in 52°; but, as the rule, no wine is made from grapes north of 48°; and this parallel of latitude marks the line beyond which the grape cannot be successfully and extensively cultivated. Every country, however, every degree of latitude, is peculiarly favourable to the production of some particular commodities. Nearly every zone produces those which are essential to the continuance of man on the earth; while the products that contribute in a less degree to his welfare, but are convenient, agreeable, and useful—like tea, wine, coffee, silk, cotton, and gold—are found or produced only in some limited and comparatively narrow districts. All these, however, being equally acceptable to man in almost all conditions and all places, the production of them in limited districts is as plain a command issued by nature for the inhabitants of these districts to exchange these various products of one another, as the effects of cold and rain constitute a command to use shelter and clothing. That these districts are inhabited by different nations, and have different manners, customs, and government, does not alter the command. The want—be it of wine, of gold for money, or of clothing—is common, and can only be gratified permanently and continually by mutual exchange. Violence and rapacity, which are sometimes had recourse to, put an end to production, and gratify the want of a few for the moment. Mutual exchange gratifies it perpetually, and extends the want—it grows by what it feeds on—

A bounteous plenty is the robe,

and—

Trade is the golden girdle of the globe.

No individual, like Robinson Crusoe, is now to be found, compelled to make for himself every thing he needs. Each one produces only some small part of what he and what others use—he is a book, cloth, corn, government—and buys the bulk of everything he consumes from others. This takes place—as their food is to shelter and clothing in winter, and take food when they are hungry—in obedience to the commands of nature, and these commands are not limited by political boundaries, though given by means of climates, zones, and degrees of latitude. The mutual exchange essential to the welfare of all the inhabitants of London, who could no more live without having recourse to it than they can fly, and equally essential to all the inhabitants of our country, is also essential to the welfare of the inhabitants of different countries. What, everywhere good for individuals must be good for nations. Acting, however, in ignorance of this great natural ordinance, political communities, under the influence of superstition or national enmity, have laid heavy restrictions and prohibitions on their trade with one another, and without knowing what they were doing have impeded division of labour, the progress of general opulence, welfare, and civilisation. For a long period England, very ignorant and very jealous of neighbours now her fast friends, was conspicuous for her restrictive, mischievous, and prohibitory legislation directed against them. Trade with remote countries was encouraged, and hence it came to pass that England had and has more trade with the yet comparatively few inhabitants of the United States, possessing a climate similar to that of Europe, then with the whole of Europe. With it her trade as a whole is probably less than the trade of the inhabitants of England, one with another. These two facts show that political prohibitions and restrictions are exclusively the cause why trade with our neighbours is so small. One important part of our old restrictions and prohibitions was a heavy duty on wine the produce almost exclusively of Europe to the south of 48 deg. It has been as high as 15s. 3d. per gallon on French wines; but is now 5s. 9½d. per gallon on all wines, except those made at the Cape of Good Hope. Originally imposed on a luxury from political motives—a much heavier duty than at present was formerly imposed on tea—the Wine-duties are now continued as a source of revenue, though wine is by no means the use of wine. It is strictly limited to the immediate effects of the Wine-duties on our revenue, and so strictly limited, that it does not include in its examination any, much less all, the events contemporaneous with the changes on the Wine-duties, such as the reduction on the duties on other commodities, and a general reduction in price, which have prevented the reduction in Wine-duties from leading to a largely increased consumption. We therefore consider the principal conclusion of his book, which all his remarks tend to support—viz., that the present duties on wine, of about 5s. per gallon, are the very best to promote consumption and secure a large revenue—to be deduced from insufficient data. It is exclusively drawn from a restricted view of the Wine-duties, without taking any other classes of facts into consideration; is consequently erroneous; and, if adopted, would be mischievous. It would be useless now, however, when such a strain exists on the national resources, to controvert it at length, and advocate a reduction of Wine-duties; and we must, therefore, content ourselves with expressing our dissent from the author's elaborate conclusion, and our conviction that a great reduction of the Wine-duties, whenever the Legislature has the opportunity and the courage to carry it into effect, will be a great social, moral, and pecuniary benefit.

The tendency of Sir Emerson Tennent's mind—from occupying an official position, and from long association with the Protectionist party gives a bias to his work. On the Committee which sat to inquire into the effect of the Wine duties, he endeavoured to elicit information unfavourable to reducing them. He is the author of a plan of high duties. But after the reader is put on his guard against Sir Emerson's tendencies, and his erroneous conclusions, he may study the book with great advantage. The mere fiscal history of our Wine-duties was never so well written. The various and successive changes made in them in modern times, and the effects of these changes, were never so well described. To our statistical literature the book is a valuable addition, and it is full of useful information. It supplies evidence of the general decrease in the consumption of alcoholic liquors in Europe in proportion to the population consequent on the increased consumption of coffee, tea, and other non-alcoholic drinks. The upper classes throughout Europe or France, as well as in Britain and Ireland, or Holland and Belgium, and probably in Germany, drink much less wine than formerly. In France, the consumption of wine by the lower classes is increased. With abundant evidence of increasing sobriety, there is really very little occasion for the exertion of Temperance and Total Abstinence Associations, though they are likely to claim the credit of an improvement which does not originate with them. The localities favourable to particular wines, and the narrow spots, rigidly bounded, on which alone some of the most valuable sorts will grow, are by the author amusingly brought under notice. The same species of grape produces Hock on the Rhine, Duoelas in Portugal, and Sercial in Madeira. The Madeira grape produces at the Cape of Good Hope a wine vapid, earthy, and almost worthless. In only one valley of Madeira can Malmsey be produced, and only on one farm of the Cape is Constantia made. The famous Johannesberg, on the Rhine, is made exclusively from the grapes that grow on the south side of a single hill at Steinberg, from the vines of single gardens. A single farm of about eighty acres is the sole spot that will produce the costly Clos-vougeot (a famous French wine); and a spot still less, only six acres wide, is all that is the only place where Romanée Cinto can be made. Mont Rachet, another famous wine of the Côte d'Or is the produce of a space almost as limited, and yet it is distinguished into three kinds of unequal goodness; and no art can make vineyards, divided only by a ditch, and apparently alike in soil and situation, produce the same wine. In general, however, the fascinating part of the subject, which has engaged the attention of many agreeable writers, is not so well treated of by Sir Emerson Tennant as the fiscal and statistical parts. In this latter and limited sense the work is the most complete, while it is much condensed, that has ever been published on the wine trade.

THE ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS.

The present eruption of Vesuvius is similar to the one of 1786, which, in Ansldo's "Sketches of Vesuvius," is described as the thirty-first eruption, and the stream of lava taking its course. In the eruption in November, 1785, when several small craters broke out on the north side of the great cone facing the ridge of Somma. In January, 1786, the eruption greatly increased, and the lava, issuing from a rent near the small craters, flowed along the Atrio del Cavallo into the Fossa Vetrana, and at the commencement of the ravine, between the Canteroni (the ridge on which stands the Hermitage) and the ridge of Somma, it fell over a perpendicular precipice sixty feet in height, forming a cascade of molten lava—glowing and red as iron from the furnace. Proceeding down the Fossa, or ravine, it continued the little Chapel of the Madonna della Vetrana, forced a passage through it, leaving the side walls standing, and serving as sides or channel to the glowing torrent. After running several hundred yards down the Fossa, it ceased to flow, and the inhabitants of the country lower down were relieved from all fear of injury. The present stream is also taking the course of two of the immense streams of lava which poured down the mountain in the great eruption of 1631, and desolated a vast extent of country. Those two streams destroyed part of the villages of Mosse, St. Sebastian, Madonna dell'Arco, and St. Jorio; and these same villages—with their beautiful gardens, vineyards, and splendid villas—are, by the last accounts, all threatened with destruction.

A letter from Naples, dated May the 16th, says:—"Vesuvius has now nearly done its bidding, and seems disposed to rest from its labours. I speak of course comparatively, for it is still active—still forms a magnificent spectacle from the capital. The cascade of lava, the most wonderfully beautiful in the world, is now a blackened mass; and, contrasted with its late brilliant appearance, strikes one as if it had been arrested by some fell disease which had converted it into this stiffened, discoloured, dead mass. The fear of any further damage is now, I think, removed, and has been for several days. There was a suspension of the flow of lava for about eighteen hours. The surface of the stream, in this time, became hardened, and whatever new material issues from the crater flows over the old lava, and has scarcely strength to reach so low down as the older stream. It rather has a tendency to flow sideways at the apex of principal branches, and if it does so may destroy some chestnut trees or vineyards. It is consolatory to be able to state that not one life has been lost, though many have been in danger, from mere foolhardiness, from walking over ground where no other person had been, or peering into fissures vomiting fire and smoke, for no other earthly reason than to be able to say that they had done it. The foreign journals, I see, have killed many unfortunates prematurely; and even here, at Naples, common report has put many *here de combat*, but beyond two or three casualties which have been sent to the hospitals, I have heard of nothing more. The reason is, undoubtedly, that this eruption has sent forth lava rather than blew up vast rocks. As to the material loss which the landholders on the line of the stream is have suffered, it is nothing compared with what it might and must have been had it not been for the temporary suspension and cooling of the lava; whole townships must then have been swept away, and a blackened waste appeared where once were smiling vineyards and pretty 'well-got up' villas."

Exports and Imports. The Board of Trade returns for the month ending the 30th of April, shows an increase of £320,679 as compared with those at about the same period of last year. The increase, however, has been chiefly in goods of the character of raw material, such as oil and seeds, and the yarns of cotton, linen, wool, and silk, and consequently indicates an improved feeling among the Continental and other foreign manufacturers, rather than any particular activity on this side. Cotton manufactures shut, a good total, but haberdashery, hardwares, saddlery, metals, &c., still show the absence of revival in the trade of the Colonies and the United States. With regard to imported commodities, the principal feature consists in the smallness of the quantities of foreign grain and flour. Of salted provisions the consumption has been large. Coffee, cocoa, sugar, spices, tobacco, and spirits have likewise been extensively used. Tea shows a diminution, which has brought the quantity taken thus far during the year down to the limit of the first four months of 1854.

Trade with the Black Sea.—During the past week a large number of vessels have arrived at Hull from Constantinople, Odessa, and Kertch. The receipts of Russia at this port from the Black Sea exceed in quantity those of the corresponding periods of former years, when we were at peace with Russia.

The Indian Department in the Paris Exhibition.—The parties in charge of this portion of the great industrial display have contrived to employ both Indian English employés and the Parisian public. French attendants are employed in the Indian department on Sundays, and the English set at liberty to solve nise the day as their consciences dictate.

FINE ARTS.

THE ARUNDEL SOCIETY.

The publications for the sixth year of this society consist of a third series of eight engravings by the Dalziels, after Mr. Williams's drawings from the frescoes by Giotto in the Chapel of the Arena at Padua, and a continuation of "A Notice of Giotto and his Works in Padua," by Mr. Ruskin. The artistic portion of the contribution is executed in the same satisfactory manner which marked its predecessors. When completed, the series will prove of the highest interest and advantage in promoting a knowledge of the growth of modern art in the earlier stages of its history.

We, however, we half with satisfaction this attempt to revive the creations of genius of a bygone age, but whose influence will survive to all time, we cannot help wishing that the critical matter which accompanied them were more in harmony with the feelings which we think they should properly inspire. It is as the founder of modern art that Giotto has always claimed to be considered; and his works are interesting and valuable as affording the earliest *indicia* of the distinctive life principles which characterised that art. To study them well and profitably, one must be imbued with a congenial spirit, having shaken off the trammels of Byzantine mannerism; and, if we rightly understand them, we must rejoice at each innovation—certainly not rebuke it by contrast with exploded dogmas. Yet this is not the spirit in which Mr. Ruskin deals with his subject. No veneration for time-established renown restrains his critical propensity; no magic of the artist's master-pencil can awe him from the attempt to find fault with what does not exactly meet his peculiar predilections, and which, perhaps, he does not exactly comprehend. As a whole, these "notices" are disparaging of the fame of Giotto, and exactly upon those points wherein his chief merit has always been held to consist. The qualities which essentially marked the style of Giotto, as distinguished from almost all who had gone before him, were inventive power, a bold resistance of the arbitrary types and methods of the Byzantine and Romanesque schools, and a highly poetical method of treatment evinced in the introduction of natural incidents and dramatic action in the motives. It may be added that these frescoes in the Arena Chapel are of importance, as being the earliest extant specimens of the development of this aspiring genius in the new line in which he was so soon followed by innumerable successors throughout Italy. But it is for these very peculiarities that Mr. Ruskin finds fault with Giotto, he considers them evidences of a heterodox spirit, unworthy of grand ecclesiastical art, and repugnant to the established formulæ of dark and forgotten ages. Hear what he says of a charming feature which distinguishes the fresco of "The Presentation in the Temple." It is an error, by the way, at starting, to describe Giotto as the head of "the Naturalistic School;" that distinctive appellation not having been introduced till nearly three centuries afterwards—namely, on the downfall of the grand Historical School, the foundations of which he laid. Nevertheless, thus writes Mr. Ruskin of this masterly composition:

> This design is one of those which are peculiarly characteristic of Giotto as the head of the Naturalist. No painter before his time would have dared to represent the child Jesus as desiring to quit the arms of Simeon, or the Virgin as in some sort interfering with the Prophet's earnest contemplation of the child by stretching her arms to receive him. The idea is evidently a false one, quite unworthy of the higher painters of the religious school; and it is a matter of peculiar interest to see what must have been the strength of Giotto's love of plain facts, which could force him to stoop so low in the conception of this most touching scene. The child does not, as will be observed, merely stretch his arms to the Madonna, but is even struggling to escape, violently raising the left foot.

This one passage would be sufficient of itself to illustrate the bias of the critic's mind, and to show how entirely he and his subject are at variance. We need not wonder at his other strictures, which are of a nature to denude the same famous Giotto of the robes of honour with which till now he has been arrayed. Thus, of "The Massacre of the Innocents," we are told:—

> Of all the series, this composition is the one which exhibits most of Giotto's weaknesses. All early work is apt to fail in the rendering of violent action; but Giotto is, in this instance, inferior even to his successors, but to the bodies of the miniature-painters of the thirteenth century; while his imperfect drawing is seen at its worst in the nude figures of the children.
>
> "The Baptism of Christ" is unusually complete; Bargarello type to the advantage of the latter. Giotto's rendering of the story of "The Wise Men Offering" cannot be felt to be heroic. "Christ, in the Temple," is the least powerful of all the series, and several little defects in detail are passed over in it. In "The Young Christ in the Temple," Mr. Ruskin says:—"Giotto has fallen considerably below his usual standard." What that standard is we are not informed, nor what the grade in the order of merit conceded to him, after allowance made for numberless errors of omissions and commissions. "The faces appear to be cold and hard, and the attitudes are as little graceful as expressive either of attention or surprise. The Madonna's action, stretching out her arms to embrace her son, is pretty, *but on the whole the picture has no value.*"

With this we close the operation of comparing notes with Mr. Ruskin touching the merits and claims of Giotto. Of Mr. Ruskin's fertile imagination and extraordinary memory we have had occasion to speak at some length at different periods. Here is a "flight" concerning Angels which may be worth preserving among the canons of modern criticism:

> There is noticeable here, as in all works of this early time, a certain confidence in the way in which the angels trust to their wings, very characteristic of a period of bold and simple conception. Modern science has taught us that a wing cannot be anatomically joined to a shoulder; and in proportion as painters approach more and more to the scientific, as distinguished from the contemplative state of mind, they put the wings of their angels on more timidly, and dwell with greater emphasis upon the human form, and with less upon the wings, until these last become a species of decorative appendage—a mere sign of an angel. But in Giotto's time an angel was a complete creature, as much believed in as a bird; and the way in which it would or might cast itself into the air, and lean hither and thither upon its plumes, was as naturally apprehended as the manner of flight of a chough or a starling. Hence Dante's simple and most exquisite expression of an angel, "Bird of God;" and hence also a variety and promptness in the expression of the movements of the heavenly hierarchies by the earlier painters, ill replaced by the powers of foreshortening, and throwing naked limbs into fantastic positions, which appear in the cherubic groups of later times.

"The Departure" and "The Return." By Mr. Solomon.

Mr. Solomon's two clever pictures, "The Academy Departure" and "The Return" (familiar to visitors to the Royal Academy Exhibitions during the last two seasons), are of a nature to enlist the domestic sympathies and to afford a useful and encouraging lesson; and we are not, therefore, surprised to find that they are already in the hands of the engraver, with a view to publication. Mr. W. H. Simmons is the engraver to whom they have been entrusted; and, previously to the commencement of his labours, the pictures are now temporarily on view at the rooms of Messrs. Colnaghi and Co. "The Departure" represents the outset in life of a young lad destined to seek his fortunes in Australia. The scene is the interior of a second class railway carriage, where, nervous, ill at ease, yet manfully struggling against the home regrets which rise in his bosom, the poor stripling is accompanied by his sorrowing mother and sister to the port where he is to join his ship. The incident is a touching one of every-day life, told with admirable power and feeling. In the picture of "The Return" we find the lad, now advanced in years to dawning manhood, seated in a first-class carriage; his mate's uniform telling us of his honourable service and well-earned promotion. Two other figures complete the group; one, that of a comfortable and evidently wealthy old gentleman of the olden school, who listens with interest to the young man's account of his adventures, and his plans for the future; the other that of the old gentleman's fair-haired, blue eyed daughter, who, like another Desdemona, treasures up each word which falls from the young hero's lips, and who is evidently destined to become his guiding star in the future voyage of life. The lad's mate's uniform telling us of his promotion since it was exhibited, and with manifest advantage. We have no doubt these pictures will become popular.

M. R. Monti's Lectures on Sculpture.—M. Raphael Monti delivered the first of a series of lectures on sculpture, on Wednesday, at his studio in Great Marlborough-street, before a select and attentive audience. After some general introductory remarks, the lecturer confined himself in this discourse chiefly to the sculpture of the ancient Egyptians and Assyrians, which he illustrated with numerous well-executed diagrams. In his next lecture, M. Monti will treat of the art of the Indians, as exhibited in their numerous remains.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE Lords who preside over our learned London societies have just fulfilled the yearly honours of their predecessors in a manner very becoming to the position of each. Thus Earl de Grey has been entertaining the Institute of Architects in St. James's square, with his fine Vandykes, and something new as well, bearing immediately on architecture. Thus the Earl of Ellesmere has been entertaining the Geographical Society with his Orleans acquisitions, and maps, and other matters relating to recent discoveries in geographical knowledge. Thus Lord Londesborough has been entertaining the Numismatic Society with his own collections acquired since their last annual meeting. At each gathering everything went off most satisfactorily. This is cheering. Our nobility are now attending to learned studies. We have already named three noblemen particularly suited to represent the institutions over which they preside; nor should we forget that Lord Wrottesley is the President of the Royal Society, and Lord Stanhope the President of the Society of Antiquaries.

We renewed our knowledge, during the present week, of that part of the British Museum to which Whitsun visitors are admitted, and were pleased to see at every turn fresh evidence of the interest which the skilled mechanic is taking in the treasures there assembled for the information of the world. The galleries and compartments were thickly crowded with labouring men, accompanied by their wives and children. There was less noise, greater curiosity, and less touching than we remember on any other occasion of the kind. We saw more guide-books in the hands of young men—and, better still, a more constant and sensible reference to them. Every facility for seeing the Museum, accompanied with due security from fire, should most certainly be afforded to the people. Nor are the authorities inactive to this portion of their duties. On Saturdays, from twelve till five, during the months of June and July, the Museum is now, for the first time, open to the public. This is to meet the Early Closing movement—and a very good meet it is. What is Mr. Franks about—or rather, what are the Trustees of the British Museum about, that the Collection of Antiquities relating to this country, make as yet so sorry a display in the room set apart for their exhibition? Mr. Franks is a most excellent public servant, admirably suited for the position he has been selected to fill. There is no fault with him. The Trustees already possess a fine collection of good things, meriting display. A room, with cases and titles, into which the public are admitted, has been lotted out for their exhibition, and yet, after three years' waiting, we can see nothing more than a scanty settlement of things only sufficient to provoke a smile. Surely the fault is with the Trustees. An exhibition of Mediæval Antiquities, such as the country has in its power almost to impromptu, would be found one of the leading attractions of our great Museum, and should therefore be set about and completed forthwith.

We must be late in the field (our readers will know why) in giving our opinion upon the literary merits of the novel called "Moredun," which M. Cabany has attributed (we use a light expression) to Sir Walter Scott, and Mr. Sampson Low has now published. We took an active part in canvassing the authenticity of the MS, and ended our controversy with M. Cabany by allowing the work to stand, not on its attributed importance, but upon its own literary merits—feeling (with the public generally) that Sir Walter's hand was not to be mistaken.

If M. Cabany was deceived the public has not been deceived: the published "Moredun" (so the world of London letters has pronounced) is *not* the work of the author of "Waverley." Its real author is not a "Great," but a 'Little Unknown."

The last week has witnessed two literary announcements, one of which is sure to be received with pleasure by hundreds of thousands we might say millions—of persons in England and America; and, indeed, wherever the English language is spoken or English genius appreciated. The second is almost equally sure to be welcomed with gratification by a smaller and more select circle. The first is a new work by Mr. Charles Dickens, in shilling parts, with illustrations by Hablot Browne—to make its appearance in November: the second is a new volume of poems by Mr. Alfred Tennyson.

The muse of the Poet Laureate has produced a volume called "Maud and other Poems." The name is not happy, inasmuch as it is provocative —

> Is there a poet much hemmed [be-Mouxed] with beer,
> A Maudlin poetess, a rhyming peer?

So sings Pope; but Mr Tennyson is essentially a poet, and we have no fear of receiving maudlin poetry his muse. We all remember (it occurred in our own time) the unhappy title of "Poetic Vigils," said to have been printed "Poetic Virgils," and the "Prose and Verse" of a real wit which a cockney compositor or a good-natured friend reduced to "Prese and Worse."

Theodore Hook's cottage at Fulham, modestly sitting under the shadow of the trees of the Sée of London, that skirt the Thames where our noble river is last seen in her pastoral character, is on the eve of destruction, and the hammer of the auctioneer is scattering while we write the parterres and upland lawns of Winbledon, which the late Mrs. Marryat (that liberal supporter of all our Horticultural Exhibitions) formed and decorated with a true relish for Nature in her happiest mood. Associations vanish from before us too rapidly. What cannot Time destroy?

Where's Troy and where's the Maypole in the Strand!

Time, the genius of improvement, and the march of commerce are fast removing some of our interesting associates in the environs of London. Other associations will grow up; but we must regret many that are irrecoverably gone.

There is an addition to the objects of interest preserved in Greenwich Hospital, which deservedly attracts a crowd of thoughtful spectators. In a glass case, close to the case containing the coat which the heroic Nelson wore when killed, is now to be seen the few, but suggestive, remains of the ill-fated Franklin and his followers. Here are silver spoons, broken watches, a few gold and silver coins, and other metal trinkets, known to have formed part of the outfit of Franklin and his friends. Some bear crests and ciphers, and all seem to speak of hunger and endurance—of bold enterprise and heroic daring. Before these last memorials, from eyes unused to tears, tears have been seen to fall.

As we are to have a new volume of poetry, so are we to have a new and solitary Engraving. Mr. Moxon is to give us the "Maud" of Tennyson; and Mr. Graves is to publish, on the 18th of June, a large and excellent engraving by Atkinson, from Sir Edwin Landseer's picture of "The Great Duke Revisiting Waterloo, in Company with the Marchioness of Douro"—the present Duchess of Wellington. Our readers will remember the picture, and Mr. Atkinson has wrought (so say judges) with a vigour and refinement uncommon of late years on our English school of engraving.

DISCOVERY OF RELICS IN THE GLASGOW CATHEDRAL.—A discovery of a very interesting character was made in Glasgow Cathedral a few days ago. While the workmen were removing the flooring from the spot lying exactly between the two eastmost columns on the south side of the choir, they came upon two stone slabs, under which a long sheet of lead was exposed to view. Removing this lead, a long narrow stone-pit grave was found filled with fine sand and dust; and when this was partially cleared away, the skeleton of a full-grown man was seen, lying with the head to the west. This spot joins the site upon which stood the high altar of the Archiepiscopal Church of Glasgow, and which must in Roman Catholic times have been a sanctuary sanctorum. The idea that these are the relics of some ancient "Father in Israel" is strengthened by many circumstances. Amongst the débris was found pieces of strong brown silk, and to some of the leg bones this material was found adhering in several folds, showing that it had been wrapped round them, and rendering it plain that the whole body had been swathed in a similar manner. In addition to these silken bands, another material was found, of much more elaborate texture, possessing apparently of a line of fringing or trimming, in which the representation of flowers, exquisitely worked, is still quite visible. Neither wood nor lead had been used to enclose the body, nor was the stone coffin of a character similar to those which have been found in other parts of the cathedral, and are still shown in the crypt.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

DERBYON.—Your Solution of the elegant Problem we extracted from Lucena's work is he true one.

S. W.—To appreciate the extreme beauty and difficulty of such a stratagem as the "Indian Problem," a good deal more knowledge of Chess is required than you possess. When you have advanced beyond the rudiments of the Game, you will understand that it may be one of the easiest things imaginable in a given position to make a few moves, while to do so in four, may cost a shrewd brain some days of hard study.

C. F. H.—Very acceptable. Many thanks for your attention.

HINDOO, Cambridge.—You will find it impracticable, if Black play *K to K 5th* on his second move.

M. T., Guernsey.—The "Chess-Player's Handbook," published by Bohn, price 5s.

C. F. H., 79, Corvan, Beta, Yoklaw, Emily, Victoria, J. M., Shoeburn, G. J., Cornwallis, and many others.—Your attempt to solve the last Problem, you each fail to observe that, if the White Queen be played to Q B 5th or Q 7th, Black may take it, *giving* check, and thus evade the mate.

F. B. C., New Jersey.—The collection of games played in the matches at New York have safely reached us, and the best shall appear forthwith.

ANON., Hayes. In Problem No 587, Mate cannot be effected as you propose, if Black for his 2nd move play P to K 3rd.

L. H., Jun. Problem No. 584, Black for his second move advance the P to K B 4th, White plays 3 K to K Kt 6th, 4 B takes Kt, and 5 B to Q 4th—Mate.

P. S.—I identically he can.

W. C. M. MACATOR, T. F. G.—A true bill, as we found on looking over the game when it was in type.

H. J. E. A.—All these acceptable. The last shall be noticed next week.

T. M., Hackney.—The most attractive feature in the coming meeting at Leamington will be the novel one of handsome prizes being given for competition among the leading Chess clubs; and another, hardly less so, the proposed Match by Electric Telegraph, to be played by five players at Glasgow against five at Leamington. Altogether, this gathering seems likely to be by far the most interesting which the Northern and Midland Chess Association has ever held.

OXON.—1 There is no copy of Verel's "Letters on Chess" in the library of the British Museum. 2 They were originally published in Venice, 1776.

ALPHA, G. W., SHREWSBURY, BALLIOL, NEWTON, R. P., M. G. W.—Under examination.

HIT OR MISS.—Acceptable, though certainly giving promise of something better, when the Author has acquired a little more experience.

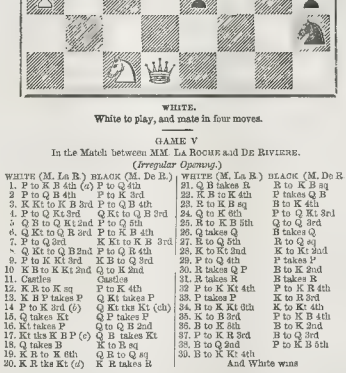
ERNEST TELEMACHUS; A. B., Cambridge.—The Programme of the forthcoming Grand Chess Meeting at Leamington will be ready, we are told, at the beginning of next week. You had better apply immediately to the Committee, through the Rev. W. Temple, of Leamington.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 587, by Rugby-boy, L. S. D., Bayliss, D. D., Mrs. Pilliboy, F. R., B. A., J. Stonehouse, W. C., Oneniphrus, Andrew, Philip, Burgess, Cossack, M. P., Miles, Phil, W. T. W., Perseus, H. T. M., G. F. G., Camillo, Tooby, Victoria, Alleyne, Coventry, Percy, C. W., Sunbury; Mysore, Gaberlunzie, H. F. O., Benjamin, Omega, D. D., F. M., are correct. All others are wrong.

PROBLEM No. 589.

This clever adaptation of a position published by us some years ago, which then admitted of a twofold solution, is by C. M. INGLEBY, M.A., of Birmingham.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

GAME V

In the Match between MM. LA ROCHE and DE RIVIERE.

(Irregular Opening.)

WHITE (M. La R.)	BLACK (M. De R.)	WHITE (M. La R.)	BLACK (M. De R.)
1. P to K B 4th *(a)*	P to Q 4th	21. Q B takes R	R to K B sq
2. P to Q B 4th	P to K 3rd	22. K R to K 4th	P takes Q B
3. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q B 4th	23. R to K B sq	B to K 4th
4. P to Q Kt 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	24. Q to K 6th	P to Q Kt 3rd
5. Q B to Q Kt 2nd	P to Q 5th	25. R to K B 5th	Q to Q 3rd
6. Q Kt to Q R 3rd	P to K B 4th	26. Q takes Q	B takes Q
7. P to Q 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	27. R to Q 5th	R to Q sq
8. Q Kt to Q B 2nd	P to Q R 4th	28. K to Kt 2nd	K to Kt 2nd
9. P to K Kt 3rd	K B to Q 3rd	29. P to Q 4th	P takes P
10. K B to K Kt 2nd	Q to K 2nd	30. R takes Q P	B to K 2nd
11. Castles	Castles	31. R takes R	B takes R
12. K R to K sq	P to K 4th	32. P to K Kt 4th	P to K R 4th
13. K B P takes P	Q Kt takes P	33. P takes B	K to R 3rd
14. P to K 3rd *(b)*	Q Kt ths Kt (ch)	34. R to K Kt 6th	K to Kt 4th
15. Q takes Kt	Q P takes P	35. K to B 3rd	P to K B 4th
16. Kt takes P	Q to Q R 2nd	36. R to K 8th	B to K 3rd
17. Kt ths K B P *(c)*	Q B takes Kt	37. P to K R 3rd	B to Q 3rd
18. Q takes B	K to B sq	38. B to Q 2nd	P to K B 5th
19. K R to K 6th	Q B to Q sq	39. B to K Kt 4th	
20. K R ths Kt *(d)*	K R takes B	And White wins	

(a) Close openings are very instructive, and they often lead to combinations of peculiar interest and beauty; but, we must confess, that even this match they are all the better for being enlivened now and then with some of the softer and more easy debuts. In the present contest the want of variety in the order of the games is particularly observable, and one cannot help thinking that a sparkling "Mazin," a brilliant "Evans," and a dashing "Allgaier" thrown in occasionally, would have been as great a relief to the players themselves, as they would prove to the amateur who seeks amusement in fighting these battles over again.

(b) If he played—

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
14. Kt takes Kt	Then B takes Kt	15. K R takes P	Kt to K 4th
15. P to K 3rd	P takes P	&c., &c.	

(c) Q B takes Kt, followed by Kt to Q 5th, would have been at least as good play as taking the Pawn.

(d) Better far, we believe, to have taken the Kt with the Bishop.

*** NOTE ON THE SECOND GAME OF THIS MATCH.

From want of space when critiqueing the second game, we were compelled to abridge very considerably the annotation prepared, and, instead, to remain from any detailed analysis of the terminating moves. This latter circumstance occasioned us to overlook an important error which has since occurred both to us and to two or three Correspondents—namely, that M. La Roche, who lost the game after a very hard fight, had the victory in his hands even at the very last move of all. The position, it will be remembered, after Black's 42 moves, is as follows:—Black *K at his Kt 3rd, B at Q B 3rd, Ps at K R 2nd*, and *Q R 4th*. White, *R at K 4th, B at Q 6th, Ps at K R 4th, K R 5th*, and *Q 2nd*. At this crisis White, M. La Roche, played *P to K R 7th*; whereupon he represent took the Bishop, bleeding, and of course won easily; but had White, *instead of advancing that Pawn, only moved his K A Pawn to K 5th, giving check*, we believe it would have been impossible for Black to avoid immediate defeat.

CHESS IN NEW YORK

The following is the final game of a match recently played in the New York Chess-club, between Messrs. PERRIN and LOYD:—

WHITE (Mr. L.)	BLACK (Mr. P.)	WHITE (Mr. L.)	BLACK (Mr. P.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	12. P to Q 4th	B to Q 3rd
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	13. B to K Kt 5th	Q takes K B P *(n)*
3. P to Q B 3rd *(a)*	P to Q 4th	14. R takes Kt	P takes B
4. K B to Q Kt 5th	Q B to K Kt 5th *(b)*	15. Q takes Q P (ch)	K to his 2nd
5. Q to Q R 4th *(c)*	B takes Kt *(d)*	16. Q to K 4th *(o)*	Q R to K Kt sq (ch)
6. B takes Q Kt (ch)	P takes B	17. K to B sq	Q to K R 6th *(p)*
7. Q takes P (ch)	K to his 2nd *(e)*	18. R to K Kt sq	R takes R (ch)
8. P to K 5th *(f)*	P to K 4th *(g)*	19. K takes R	K to K Kt sq (ch)
9. P ths K B P *(h)*	Q to Q B sq *(i)*	20. Q to K Kt 4th	R takes Q (ch)
10. P takes B *(k)*	Kt to K B 3rd	21. P takes R	P to K 5th
11. Castles *(l)*	K to K B 2nd *(m)*	22. P to K B 4th	P to K 6th

And White resigned the Game and the Match; the score at the termination being:— Perrin ... 5 | Loyd ... 2 | Drawn 1

Notes, by Mr. C. Stanley, of New York.

(a) This is a more attacking opening than it appears, and requires very careful answering by the second player. It will be seen what trouble Black got into by departing from the leader track.

(b) Black plays monotonously. He should have taken K P, notwithstanding White's obvious reply of Kt takes K P.

(c) An excellent move, gaining a Pawn and position.

(d) A daring move, which ultimately won the game.

(e) Apparently a sad position for Black's K.

(f) Threatening to win the Queen.

(g) The sacrifice of this Pawn, was far better than merely moving it to K B 3rd, which would have materially hindered the development of Black's game.

(h) Threatening mate.

(i) His only move to prevent loss.

(k) Observe that this Bishop had been *en prise* during five moves, and White had always stronger moves at his command than taking it. He dare not delay the capture any longer.

(l) The source of all his subsequent difficulties.

(m) Black feels much relieved.

(n) Black preferred this mode of play to that of offering an exchange of queens by playing Q to K sq, in preference to Q takes P. He goes in for a vigorous counter attack.

(o) This move, obvious as it is, is fatal.

(p) The winning move.

A CHESS ENIGMA.

(The following slight but not inelegant effusion was produced a short time ago at the table of a distinguished Baronet in Lincolnshire, and has never, we believe, been published.)

> Say, Cottesmore Hunt, for thou canst say,
> Spite of thy valorous boast,
> How oft my *first*, with chill dismay,
> Has stopped thy scarlet host.
>
> When twilight steals o'er dale and hill,
> And pales the golden vest,
> My *second* loves to linger still
> Beside the ring-dove's nest.
>
> Though, motionless before my *whole*,
> Offenses have marred the wood,
> I never raised the poisoned bowl,
> Nor shed the regal blood.

"HENRY THE EIGHTH," AT THE PRINCESS' THEATRE.

Or those unparalleled revivals, with spectacular accessories, for which Mr C. Kean has made his management of this theatre so celebrated, the tragedy selected for the present season being the magnificent dramatic chronicle so historically treated by Shakspeare, under the title of "King Henry VIII.," is perhaps the most significant and noteworthy. The prologue to this stately drama is illustrative of its quality. Here are a few lines:—

> Be sad as we would make ye: think ye see
> The very persons of our noble story
> As they were living: think you see them great,
> And followed with the general throng and sweat
> Of thousand friends; in each Queen, in a moment, see
> How soon this mightiness meets misery.
> And if you can be merry then, I'll say,
> A man may weep upon his wedding-day.

Changes of fortune, such as the prologue describes, are the great argument of this sublime production. *Henry* himself is, as it were, the presiding providence, whose right to do wrong is never questioned by his victims. Each and all bless him in their deaths, and recognise his justice under the strangest antecedents; nay, seem sincerely to confess for him the strongest affection. What has befallen them may be their misfortune, but never can be his fault. There is, in fact, a despotism recognised in the circumstances of the time—a dispensation and over-ruling of all things for a providential purpose—an end justifying the means a destiny to which the apparently self-willed King is as subject as the meanest of his serfs. There is a religious revolution in progress, the interests of which transcend and overwhelm all other considerations. This idea it is which elevates the theme of these marvellous scenes, and makes us not only tolerate the oppression we witness, but justify it. Human dignity is not consulted; but an inexorable decree that levels all distinctions of merit, and drives the wisest into error, is tacitly acknowledged.

In this gallery of illustrious victims one in particular excites our profoundest pity. Thoroughly Christian in feeling, calmly confident of her rectitude, and its recompence hereafter, *Katherine*, the holder of a queenly station, is, without any fault of her own, degraded from her just pre-eminence by the caprice of an unfaithful husband. But her moral elevation is maintained, and she preserves her character in the midst of all mutations—a constant, loving woman; a forgiving saint; a pious martyr, a wronged, a suffering, and a dying wife; conscious not alone of her innocence, but of her greatness, and superior to injury. Of this lofty character Mrs. C. Kean is one of the best representatives on the modern stage: and, in her idiosyncrasy, has many qualifications for its adequate rendering. To her performance of it on this occasion an added interest pertains. She has not appeared on the boards for a year and a half, owing to severe indisposition, and her return is a matter of congratulation to her friends and the public. In testimony of the occasion, and from personal regard, the foremost and fairest of her actresses, putting aside individual vanity, consented to act as her maids of honour, and filled the stage with beauty and reverential homage. This was to appear indeed as a queen, and the proud artiste felt her position, and realised the character as few have ever done before. Owing to the arrangement of the play, also, Mrs. Kean had special opportunities. The scene between the Cardinals and the deposed Queen is restored, and afforded space for the manifestation of feeling into which the actress poured a pathetic soul full of touching grandeur and religious resignation. By an admirable contrivance in the fourth act, the Dream of *Queen Katherine* was realised, and a vision of angels descended, gliding on a sunbeam upon her slumber in actual presence with the most beautiful effect. This scene forms the subject of our illustration. The death of the Royal martyr was truthful and fine. Nor must we omit, on revisiting the performance, to praise as it deserves the acting of Mr. Kean in *Wolsey*. In the costume of the character he took advantage of all that could improve and dignify the appearance, and in the conception carefully avoided the mannerism of his predecessors, and brought out several new and admirable points. Throughout, it was remarkable for its finish and precision. The subdued pathos of the third act, commencing with its meditative mood, proceeding with the startling passages of the great man's fall and utter ruin, and ending with his prostration and repentance, has never been exceeded. The peculiarities of Mr. Kean's style—the tone, the gesture, the abrupt action—all aided the solemn impression. It is unnecessary to repeat that the whole of the play is elaborately acted. The veteran Mr. Cooper, who appeared for the occasion as *Griffiths*, in the dying scene of *Queen Katherine*, assisted the serious tone of the last moments of the majestic sufferer, carefully preserving the picturesque of the situation while the celestial messengers visited her sick couch, with their friendly suggestions of final recompense in a happier world. Nothing, we may add, can be more excellent than the grouping of the different accessories to this as to every scene, and the general accuracy and beauty of the pictorial illustrations. Mr. Kean has evidently consulted every available authority, and reproduced the world of the age in which the important action of this grand historical drama took place, in order that he might, as he states, as far as possible, "render the stage what it should be—a true and perfect mirror of history and manners." Many of the scenes are taken from old drawings (to be found in the Bodleian) by Von Den Wynyrede and Holbein, &c. To the first we are indebted for the views in a panorama of London, and the old palace of Greenwich, where Queen Anne Boleyn resided at the time of the christening of the Princess Elizabeth whether the Lord Mayor and City Council in their state barges go in procession to witness the Royal ceremonial. To the same artist we owe the scenes of the old Palace-yard, and of King's Stairs, Westminster, with which the drama commences. To Holbein is due the design for a chimney-piece in the palace of Bridewell, where the Queen was visited by Wolsey and Campeius. The "Vetusta Monumenta" supplies the scene of the Council Chamber in the first act. A gorgeous scene, representing the festival given by Wolsey, and the masque conceived for his surprise by the monarch, is drawn more from the fancy of the artist, but he has followed the authority of Cavendish with the utmost closeness. The processions are admirably introduced; that of Queen Anne's Coronation was signally effective; the carriage of Miss Heath, who sustained the character with much beauty, was excellent. The number of set-scenes has rendered one of the contrivances of the French stage necessary. Folding curtains, of magnificent velvet, are occasionally let down while the requisite scenic arrangements are being made. This production, with that of "Louis XI.," restores to the excellent company of this theatre the opportunity of testing their talents in the masterpieces of dramatic genius. In both parts—that of the French Monarch and the ambitious English Cardinal, Mr. Kean, in particular, has proved to the public and his critics that he is not only a really great actor, but a consummate master of his art.

CEREMONY OF "THROWING THE DART."

THE visit of his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland to the city of Cork, last week, was the occasion of the observance of an interesting municipal custom, which our Artist has pictured in the accompanying illustration.

On Wednesday morning, his Excellency and suite, accompanied by a distinguished party, after visiting the Sailors' Home, proceeded to the Custom-house and entered the Cork, Blackrock, and Passage Railway steamer *Victoria*.

The scene of the quays at either side was strikingly picturesque. The ships lying in both channels of the river, were gaily decorated with flags and streamers. Their decks, masts, and rigging were crowded with persons anxious to see the Viceroy, and as he made his appearance a deafening cheer arose from the vast assemblage. The steamer *Victoria*, which conveyed his Excellency and the parties who accompanied him in the ex-

SCENE FROM SHAKSPEARE'S PLAY OF "HENRY THE EIGHTH," AT THE PRINCESS' THEATRE—THE VISION—QUEEN KATHERINE'S DREAM. -(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

cursion was decorated for the occasion. The excellent band of the 15th Regiment of Foot was in attendance.

A Guard of Honour of the Cork city constabulary, with a troop of the 16th Lancers, attended the Viceregal cortége as it entered the steamer, Precisely at half past ten o'clock the steamer was loosed from its moorings, and moved along from the quay, while the Royal salute which was fired was scarcely heard amid the loud cheers. Her Majesty's steam-tender *Adsice* followed the Viceregal steamer. The *Prince Arthur* river steamer also followed with a large company of citizens, and the Harbour Commissioners' steamer *Queen* also accompanied.

The Mayor was surrounded by his Excellency the Lord-Lieutenant and suite; the various Consuls resident in Cork; and the Corporation; who vociferously cheered the ceremony. His Excellency remained on the gangway a considerable time, in company with Captain Clarke, Harbour-Master; Mr. Fagan, M.P.; and Lord Fermoy, and made several inquiries regarding the harbour.

During the return, Mr. R. L. Stopford, who had made the accompanying Sketch of the ceremony for the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, had the honour of submitting the same to the Lord-Lieutenant, who expressed himself much pleased with the representation.

As the steamer passed Blackrock Castle, the flag which streamed from its summit was lowered, and a salute was fired. The steamers proceeded down at a moderately-rapid rate to Haulbowline Island, where his Excellency and a large company landed, and were received by a guard of honour of the 16th Lancers, with the General (Mansel) and staff. The guard-ship in the harbour fired twenty-one guns. His Excellency, accompanied by several distinguished personages, was conducted by Mr. Eide, the superintendent, over the entire stores, which are at present well filled with every requisite for the navy. Having concluded his inspection of Haulbowline his Excellency proceeded in the Admiralty barge to Spike Island Convict Dépôt, where he remained a considerable time.

Soon after his Excellency's embarkation, Mr. Hugh Cole, of Queenstown, Admiralty Chart Agent, having been introduced to his Excellency by the Mayor, presented to him a fine chart of Cork Harbour, with views of Queenstown, Haulbowline, and Spike Island, accompanied by a suitable address

His Excellency and the Viceregal cortége in the Admiralty barge, rejoined the steamer, at Haulbowline, shortly before two o'clock, when the steamer proceeded to sea, and having arrived at a point commencing the outline of the Poor-head on the left, and the Old-head of Kinsale on the right, the Mayor and civic authorities proceeded to assert the corporate jurisdiction over the harbour by the customary formality of throwing the dart. For this purpose, the Mayor having robed himself in his scarlet cloak, with the official chain, &c., on his neck, proceeded to the bow of the vessel as soon as it had reached the extreme mouth of the harbour, when the dart (an arrow about four feet in length) having been handed to his Worship, he threw it into the water, amidst cheers from the councillors and other persons present.

CEREMONY OF "THROWING THE DART" BY THE MAYOR OF CORK.

"MARCHIONESS," WINNER OF "THE OAKS," AT EPSOM, 1855.

"MARCHIONESS," THE WINNER OF THE OAKS.

Owing to one of those lucky accidents peculiar to the Turf, the "Marchioness" carried off the Oaks on Friday the 25th ult. Nettle, the favourite and certain winner, unfortunately fell; the rider, Marlow, sustaining considerable injury. The mare is by Melbourne, sire of West Australian; her dam being Anizelli, daughter of Touchstone, winner of the St. Leger. In 1854 she ran at Doncaster, as a two-year-old, and was defeated by a head in a contest with Saraband. On Friday week she carried off the Oaks, to the great delight of her owner, Mr. Rudson Read, Mr. John Scott, her trainer, and Templeman, her rider. She is engaged in the Doncaster St. Leger, and other races.

The Marchioness may be described as a fine mare. During a previous trial, her trainer had no confidence in her abilities—but the Oaks is an uncertain race. Very long odds could have been obtained against the victor at starting.

SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

The season at this popular place of entertainment commenced on Monday, for which occasion the proprietors have prepared a large Model Picture of Sebastopol, illustrated by the aid of a very numerous body of invalided troops, who have returned from the actual seat of war, and here give living effect to the siege of Sebastopol in Surrey. Thus they form the *dramatis personæ* of the mimic fight, in sorties, repulses, attacks, and manœuvres; and such sight-seers as recollect the living spectacle of the Battle of Waterloo, at Vauxhall-gardens, many years since, can form some idea given to the effect of the Picture-model exhibited to the holiday-keepers, on Monday last. The lake and grounds of the Surrey Zoological Gardens have served for celebrated scenes from nearly all parts of the world; but neither of its former spectacles has approached in current interest this Picture of the Siege of Sebastopol, aided by the pyrotechnic resources peculiar to the establishment; and long and loud was the applause of the mimic defeat of the Russian enemy.

The gigantic picture-model has been painted by Mr. Danson and assistants, from maps, plans, and drawings, and sees voce information. It shows the town of Sebastopol, and the most prominent localities of the Siege.

In the extreme north the country stretches to the mountainous district beyond Eupatoria: a little in front of this high range of mountains are the memorable heights of the Alma. In the middle distance are the Allied fleets blockading the harbour, across the mouth of which a line of sunken ships extends from Fort Constantine on the north to Fort Alexander on the south side. The Wasp and Telegraph Batteries, and the North Star Fort, on the north side of the harbour, which is also defended by Forts Constantine and Catherine, are also shown; and on the south side are Quarantine Fort and buildings, Fort Alexander, the Battery of Sebastopol, Fort Nicholas, and Fort Paul. At the right hand extremity of the Great Harbour is the Navy Baking-house, with other buildings, and above it is the Inkerman Lighthouse. The celebrated Malakoff Tower and outworks, and the Redan and Barrack Batteries, are conspicuous; in the middle distance to the right is the Garden Battery. In the centre the town of Sebastopol is seen, whence rises prominently the Cathedral. To the right are the Admiralty and the Docks; and still nearer, to the left, are the Round Tower and Battery, the Flagstaff (or Mik) Battery and the loophole wall which surrounds a portion of the town. In the centre of the foreground is the Victoria Redoubt; near which a party of sailors and navvies are filling gabions and sand-bags, placing fascines, and otherwise employed in assisting the Sappers and Miners to form a mortar battery. On the right are the English batteries and field-works, with the encampment of the British Army, and, on the left, the French are seen in position. In the foreground are the Russian out-works, a fac-simile of two heavy 13-inch mortars, a Lancaster gun, and a furnace for making red-hot shot.

In the Descriptive Key to the Model it is stated that the men who represent the English and French Soldiers, Zouaves, Russians, Artillery-

PICTURE-MODEL OF THE TOWN AND FORTS OF SEBASTOPOL, AT THE SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

men, Sailors, Navvies, &c., have mostly served in the Crimea; who, having been disabled for future active service in the field, and discharged with suitable pensions, are yet able to take part in the mimic war.

In addition to this large Picture, there are in various parts of the Gardens Dioramic Views of Cronstadt, Helsingfors, Revel, Odessa, Eupatoria, Cathcart's Hill, and Balaclava, cleverly painted by Mr. F. Phillips; all which aid the interest of the gigantic Model.

MUSIC.

Grisi's performances are as attractive as ever. Her *Norma*, on Tuesday, drew an immense house, and was received with all the old enthusiasm. We have reason to understand that her engagement, which is only for ten nights, will not be prolonged, as she is then, with Mario, to proceed on an expedition to the provinces, arranged by Mr. Beale.

The production of Mr. Henry Smart's new opera, "Bertha, or the Gnome of Hartzburg," has been delayed in consequence (it is said) of the indisposition of Mrs. Sims Reeves. It was announced for Saturday last, and again for Tuesday, and postponed without any notice to the public. It is a light, comic opera, and not a piece of German *diablerie*, as its title would lead one to suppose.

The Philharmonic Society's Concert of Monday last (the sixth of the season) was, on the whole, a good and successful performance. Its most remarkable feature was a manuscript Symphony, by Mr. Cipriani Potter, written many years ago expressly for the Society, and performed at the time, but subsequently too much neglected, for it is a work of a high order, and worthy of a place among the works of the great foreign masters. It was most warmly received by the audience, and will not, we hope, be again lost sight of. The other orchestral works were Mendelssohn's Scottish Symphony, Beethoven's overture to "Leonora," and Spohr's overture to the "Berg-Geist." Beethoven's Violin Concerto was most magnificently performed by Sainton, and applauded with enthusiasm. The vocalists were Mdlle. Bohloltz Falconi and Herr Formès. Mdlle. Falconi is an accomplished singer, and was completely successful in both her performances—a beautiful Siciliana, of Pergolesi, and the bravura air "Non mi dir," from "Don Giovanni."

The English Glee and Madrigal Union have begun their morning concertsat Willis's Rooms. The first took place on Monday, and was attended by a large and fashionable audience. The members of the society, Mrs. Endersohn, Mr. and Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Hobbs, and Mr. H. Phillips, were assisted by Miss Phillips, Mrs. Beale, and Messrs. Foster, Cummings, Beale, and Thomas. They gave an excellent selection of English glees and madrigals, both ancient and modern, which were much applauded. By constantly singing together, these performers have acquired a purity and finish of style not surpassed in the most high and palmy days of glee-singing.

Mr. Benson's Annual Concert.—Mr. Benson has announced his annual concert to take place on Monday, June 4th, at the New Beethoven Rooms. The vocalists engaged for the occasion are, besides Mr. Benson, who will sing some of his most admired songs, Miss Poole, Miss Birch, Miss Milner, Mrs. Lockey; Mr. Francis, Mr. Land, and Mr. Lawler. The instrumental performers are Mr. Lindsay Sloper, who will preside at the pianoforte, Mr. H. Cooper (violin), Mr. Dando (viola), and Mr. Lucas (violoncello). The names of some of the best glees and madrigals of the late lamented Sir Henry Bishop appear in the programme, and there can be no doubt that the concert will prove attractive and successful.

THE THEATRES, &c.

Haymarket. Miss Helen Faucit commenced on Monday a limited engagement with "The Lady of Lyons." A new play is also underlined, in which Miss Faucit will sustain the heroine. It is entitled "Love's Martyrdom," and is from the pen of Mr. John Saunders.

On Wednesday, a new farce was produced. Its title, "Only a Halfpenny," indicated the eccentric nature of the piece; to which Mr. Buckstone, in the character of *Mr. Stanley Jones*, gave the most comic effect. The halfpenny in question has been lent to a young lady in an omnibus, to make up a fourpenny fare; and *Mr. Jones* as the conductor, proves the opportunity, to make further acquaintance with his beautiful debtor. Neither the young lady nor her maid has the proper coin forthcoming, and every other is systematically rejected by *Jones*, who has learned from the *sombrette* the position of domestic affairs. *Hewrietta*, the heroine, is about to be married to the holder of her father's acceptance, as the readiest means of honouring the bill. Of course, *Jones* makes himself sufficiently disagreeable until he gets possession of the document by purchase, and sets the lady free to claim her for himself. Mr. Buckstone's costume and characteristic extravagance maintained the audience in perpetual good-humour. The farce is indebted to a French original, entitled "Histoire d'un Sou," by M. Clairville and Lambert Thibout, lately produced at the Palais Royal. It was eminently successful.

Adelphi. Whit-Monday was signalised by the return of the wandering stars to this theatre—Madame Celeste, Mr. B. Webster, and Mr. and Mrs. Keeley. "Janet Pride" was repeated, and received with the usual favour.

Astley's.—The talents of Mr. Stocqueler have been engaged by Mr. W. Cooke for inaugurating the summer season with a new spectacle. The playwright takes us back to the times of the eighth Henry and to the field of the cloth of gold, the grandeurs of which it has fallen to the lot of Mr. W. Cooke to reproduce. A tournament is introduced, which occupies not only the stage but the circle; and the scenery throughout has been newly painted. These, with the general action of the piece, contribute to present to the audience situations of magnificence and terror remarkably picturesque and exciting. Some of the set-scenes, such as a forest with reposing brigands, and many of the architectural illustrations, are first rate as examples of stage efficiency; and the occasional ballet interludes are spirited, characteristic, and elegant. The drama is in three acts, and entitled "England and France in the Days of Chivalry." It has evidently been the aim of Mr. Stocqueler to reflect the present in the past; and it must be confessed that he has executed his design with ability and taste. The equestrian feats in the ring still continue to be surprising, and novel effects have been introduced. The horsemen have not only to ride, but to practise the jugglery of balancing-cups and balls, during the rapid career of the steeds—tricks which were capitally managed by Mr. J. Cooke and Mr. Bridges. The house was crowded.

City of London.—Mr. Charles Mathews is announced as "a star" at this theatre. This engagement will go far to test the capacity of these East-end audiences for the appreciation of the fashionable and light drama. Their reception of the more severe and classic kind of theatrical composition has already been satisfactorily approved.

Cremorne Gardens.—This popular place of amusement was opened for the season on Monday last. Among the additions is a triumphal arch, emblematical of the union of England, France, and Turkey, and the superb mosque of Mahomet II., which is ornamented in close imitation of the choicest specimens at Constantinople and Cairo, its outline being that of the great Christian Church of Santa Sophia.

Some of the Continental journals announce that the King of Sardinia and the King of Wurtemberg will visit the Emperor of the French this summer.

The Grand Council of Ticino, in its sitting of the 22nd ult., passed a bill concentrating all authority over ecclesiastical matters in the hands of the State, without any intervention on the part of the ecclesiastical power. The Archbishop of Milan and Bishop of Como had previously protested against the bill.

Education in England.—Common Things.—Two Blue-books have just been published on this subject. The first contains copies of all minutes of the Privy Council on Education, arranged in chronological order, extending from the 3rd of June, 1839, to the 19th of January, 1855. The second, a thick volume of 765 pages, contains minutes of the Committee of Council on Education, correspondence, financial statements, examination papers, and reports by her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools for the year 1854-55. The two most remarkable of these reports, perhaps, are those of the Rev. H. Moseley and the Rev. W. H. Brookfield. Mr. Moseley does not consider that the present subjects of elementary instruction are the best, insomuch as religious knowledge, reading, writing, arithmetic, English grammar, history, and geography, under the form in which they are usually taught in schools, tend but little to the development of the reasoning powers, or the exercise of the intelligence of children, and are but poor expedients of general education. He urges, and has urged for many years, the teaching of that kind of knowledge dignified by the name of the "science of common things," so powerfully advocated by the Lord Ashburton, but does not disguise the great difficulty of introducing this as a branch of elementary instruction, doubting, as he does, whether the whole of the training schools could furnish one master possessing enough for the purpose of that kind of scientific knowledge which must be at the basis of it. Mr. Moseley thinks the science of chemistry the best adapted to this end, one great characteristic of which is, that, with whatever is to be reasoned on and understood, there is always associated something that is to be done.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

A really original idea is a rare thing, but a rarer still is a successful imitation. Crystal Palaces are no exception to the rule. Ours—that of the year 1851 in Hyde-park—was a grand success, in spite of Colonel Sibthorp; while the Dublin one had only a negative sort of prosperity, and that at New York was a really remarkable failure. The Universal Exhibition at Paris, from which so much was expected, and which we were told would unite all the beauties and magnificences of former similar undertakings without any of their defects, has as yet only emulated its American rival. It began ill, with that worst fault in business matters, unpunctuality. So incomplete was its condition at the time which many months before had been announced for its opening, that that ceremony was forcedly delayed for a fortnight. The original plan was so ill-considered, that at quite a late period it was found necessary to add an immense wing, or rather tail, to the building, stretching for nearly a quarter of a mile along the bank of the Seine, not at all ornamental in itself, and adding nothing to the *coup d'œil* of the main edifice, from which indeed it is entirely disconnected. Even now, a fortnight since the opening day, the Palais de l'Industrie proper, is in a great measure a mere wilderness of bare stalls and unopened packing cases, while the great gallery just mentioned, called the *Annexe*, and the Gallery and Pavilion des Panoramas, like housemaids in the forenoon, have not yet had time to make themselves fit to be seen. There is some excuse to be found for the semi-detached position of so many important parts of the entire construction which is so injurious to grand general effect, in the fact that these parts are only meant to be temporary, while the Palace proper (not by any means a crystal one, being for the most part of massive stone) is to be permanent, and looks like it. There is one fault to be found with the Palais de l'Industrie, hardly less serious than its incompleteness, and that is that, owing to what in England we should call the police arrangements, but may be more properly styled in France the military ones, nobody can go there without getting into a passion. One of the greatest comforts in our Exhibition of 1851 was that, once inside the doors, you might do what, and go where, you pleased. In Paris it is just the reverse: there are dozens of fierce little men, in moustachios, whose chief object in life seems to be the preventing you from going where you want to go. *On ne passe pas* is the expression most frequently used within the building, and the responsive *sacr-r-r-e*, or other more highly flavoured expletives the next. Perhaps the British damn is even more audible though less frequent, for the practice of their railways where, somehow or another it seems as if the best intentioned voyager could never do anything right, has accustomed our lively neighbours to this kind of dragooning so that they obey the not very conciliatory orders of *la force publique* with a lamb-like meekness of which the true Briton accustomed to argue the point of right of way with good-tempered policemen, or to menace Sir Richard Mayne or Inspector Pearce with a letter to the *Times*, has no idea. Still, with all its mismanagements, all its shortcomings, there is even now much that is grand and much that is beautiful within the walls of the Palais de l'Industrie. The Fine Arts department, which, with the exception of some sculpture, was wanting in our Exhibition, is here a remarkable point of attraction, and it is satisfactory to be able to say that the works of English artists worthily sustain a comparison with those of their foreign brethren.

The keepers of hotels and lodging houses in Paris are just now in a dreadful state of mind. It cannot be said that the rents they ask are in general what may be called low; but it, according to their views, the entire human race would want to come to Paris all at the same time on some particular day in May, they very generally turned out their old *locataires* to make room for the expected influx of foreign Croesi. Alas for the hopes of man! the month of May is passed, and Paris is very little fuller than usual. The provincial persist in staying at home, waiting till the Exhibition shall be completed in good earnest, while the few hundred foreigners, chiefly single men, who have thus early found their way to the Boulevards, are very far from supplying the place of the families whom extortionate charges have driven to Brussels or the Hague.

The war has already done us one good service—it has for ever put an end to the notion that a great nation, even with the security of an insular position, can afford to neglect her army. A very few years ago it was the opinion of many people that pageantry—the finding sentinels for the Royal palaces and providing a nice little review in Windsor-park for the amusement of any foreign potentate who happened to be passing that way—was the sole use of our army while at home, and that its other more active employment might be safely handed over to the police or the yeomanry. According to these philosophers, some thirty or forty thousand men, just to keep Kaffirs and Canadian sympathisers in order, and to be able to spare a few regiments on an Indian campaign, just sufficient to enable the Queen's officers to claim the credit of the results earned by the Company's troops, was all that was necessary. Nobody thinks so now; the most peace-loving admit that before the war our military establishments had been allowed to sink below what prudence, or even the instinct of self-preservation would have prescribed. We all know that we must henceforth keep up a large army; and we have also learnt that, in order to make that force thoroughly efficient, we must give it a sort of training different from that which it would get from regimental drilling in barrack-yards. In many ways the Camp at Aldershott may exercise a most beneficial influence on the future of the British Army. A thousand things will be easily learnt there, which it would be almost impossible to acquire on the restricted space of a drilling ground, and with the restricted numbers of a regiment, or even of a brigade. Twenty thousand men are an army, and the mere assembling of such numbers, and the manœuvres they will go through, must teach many a useful lesson both to men and officers. Without going through the hard ordeal of actual warfare, the former will become more self-reliant; they will learn how to hut themselves, to build ovens or fireplaces, to cook, in short, to do for themselves more comfortably and completely; while the latter will become accustomed to all the intricate arrangements necessary in moving large bodies of men, and in the system of keeping those men well fed, well clothed, and well tended in case of wounds or sickness. It seems that there are few things in the execution of which practical experience is more useful than in the manœuvring of considerable armies. The Duke of Wellington is reported to have said that if 70,000 men were marched into Hyde-park, he did not think there were a dozen officers in the British Army who could get them out again. This defect consequent on want of experience, is likely to be removed by the institution of the Camp at Aldershott. There all the strictly military arrangements—such as parade-grounds, out-works, hospitals, &c.—will probably be made in the best manner; but it is farther to be hoped that the authorities will not forget the old adage, that "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." When twenty or thirty thousand Jacks are collected together, all from eighteen to forty years old, the all-work-and-no-play system has a worse effect still—it is apt to make Jack morose, quarrelsome, and drunken. Cricket, quoits, foot-ball, and such manly games are sure to be popular, and their organisation may be safely left to the regimental officers; schools, too, there are sure to be in sufficient numbers. But there are other means of amusing, civilising, and even to a certain extent educating, the men, which ought not to be neglected—means which the French, at their camps in the neighbourhood of Boulogne, by no means neglect; and I think in these matters we can hardly do better than follow their example. The writer of an interesting letter in the *Daily News* tells us that, on visiting the Camp at Honvault, one of the first things that struck his eye was the theatre of the Camp. This was a well-constructed building, capable of holding five hundred persons, in which performances took place three times a week. Then there are fencing-rooms, dancing-rooms, grounds arranged for gymnastics, and, above all, very cheap reading-rooms being "two or three covered waggons, provided with windows and seats, where the soldiers can read amusing books and newspapers at the price of one franc per month." Most truly does the writer of the letter to which I have referred add "A few such travelling waggon-libraries for Aldershott would pay the speculators well, and at the same time prevent much drunkenness and crime."

Everything looks well in the Crimea. If General Pelissier continues to display the same activity and enterprise which he has given proof of during the few weeks he has held the chief command, he will earn for himself a great name in the feet of the Allied armies. The taking of Kertch is a great blow struck at Russian power in the peninsula: their armies are now menaced on three sides: in front, by the main body of the Allies; on the right, by Omer Pacha, at Eupatoria; and on the left, by Sir George Brown, at Kertch and Yenikalé. It is also satisfactory to know that at the same time there is even increased activity on our parts in forwarding both men and stores to the seat of war.

THE "COCK AND BULL" PROPHECY ON THE WAR.

(*To the Editor of the* Illustrated London News.)

Sir, I fear that many antiquaries will be puzzled by the hoax quoted by the Rev. Dr. Cumming from an old volume of the fifteenth century, forming a prophecy in which appear as national emblems the words "Cock" and "Bull." These emblems are not once mentioned in Shakespeare; and both the *Gentleman's Magazine* (1811, p. 219) and Mr. Markham's "History of England" (vol. ii., p. 324) say that the term "Bull" cannot be traced beyond Queen Anne's time. The former says that Swift was the originator of the appellative *John Bull*, which, though known before his days, was not in general use; and the latter, more likely to be correct, refers it to Dr. Arbuthnot, the author of that immortal satire, the "History of John Bull." For more upon the subject in question I would refer your readers to a paper of "Notes on Antiquarian Research" given in the number of the *Freemasons' Monthly Magazine* (Routledge) for May, 18[illegible].

How the word "Cock" arose as an emblem of France is obvious: it stands to reason that it must be as ancient as the Latin tongue, for Gallus may represent either a Gaul or a Cock. Doubtless the lion is the old emblem of England, and this device was placed by Sir John Vanbrugh with a "Cock" on Blenheim-house. If a "Bull" was our old national emblem it would not have been superseded in this instance by a Lion. I have reason to know that Mr. Albert Way, a very high authority on all matters of antiquity, believes that "Cock" and "Bull," as symbols of France and England, are as old as the days of Shakspeare; but may there not be on this doubtful point two opinions? Until Dr. Cumming gives the title of this old book, saying whether it is in MS. or print, and where it may be seen, I, and many antiquarian readers who peruse with pleasure your columns, must remain incredulous. The following squib of 1683, at Vienna, is amusing:

Tria Miranda!
Omnes Christiani arma sumant contra Turcam,
Praeter Christianissimum in
Omnes filii ecclesiæ bellum contra Turcam parant,
Praeter Prunugentium
Omnia animalia laudant Deum ob partem de Turcis victoriam,
Praeter Gallum.

With many apologies for encroaching on your columns,
I beg to remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
May 2, 1855. An Antiquary

Numismatic Society. On Monday evening Lord Londesborough, as President of the Numismatic Society, received the members of this society at his mansion in Carlton house-terrace; to meet whom his Lordship invited several distinguished Fellows of the Royal Society and the Society of Antiquaries, and Members of the Royal Academy. The visitors exceeded 300 in number, for whom Lord Londesborough had provided a rich entertainment in his own *recherché* museum, to which were added many valuable contributions. One of the most curious and striking was a selection from the Anglo-saxon remains very recently discovered by Mr. G. Hillier, in the Isle of Wight. They consist of silver gilt fibulæ, and other ornaments of the female costume; two crystal balls in silver settings, with loops; and a silver-gilt spoon, also found in the graves of women; swords, spears, knives, shield-bosses, and numbers of small circular buttons. The interest of these discoveries is second only to that of the Faussett collection of Saxon antiquities; of the latter, proof engravings were exhibited. Some Roman vessels in glass offered rare examples of the perfection to which glass-making had been brought by the Romans. Most of them were brought from the Rhine by Mr. W. Chaffers; but a splendid basin, with ribs on the external surface, technically termed "pillar moulding," exhibited by Mr. Joseph Clarke, was found at Takely, in Essex, in a sepulcral deposit. Among the numismatic attractions, Mr. Bergne's fine Roman large brass coins, a series from Julius to Postumus, and all in the best preservation, took the first place. There was also exhibited a series of coins of the Roman Emperors, in large brass, as well as a remarkable collection of patterns for the English coinage of the age of Charles I. and the Commonwealth. Among the Mediæval works of art was an enriched ivory *chapelle*, or shrine, from Germany, containing figures of the Virgin and Child, and a series of sculptures of the legendary history. There was also a rare display of gorgeous jewellery, and table ornaments and utensils, of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Mr. Morris Moore's newly-discovered painting by Raphael (the subject the contest between Apollo and Marsyas) excited much attention. The original sketch is said to be preserved in Italy. Altogether, the rare character of the articles exhibited, and their illustration of the art of remote periods, rendered this *conversazione* one of the most interesting *réunions* of the season.

The City Statue of Sir Robert Peel.—The workmen are now employed preparing a place in the centre of the open space adjoining the north west corner of the Bank of England, at the junction of Lothbury and Princes-street, for the obelisk, which now stands at the west end of Cheapside, on the site of which the City statue of Sir Robert Peel, by Behnes, is to be placed.

The Children of the Royal Domestics.—Her Majesty having discovered that a large proportion of the children of the domestic and other servants at Buckingham Palace are very much neglected in the matter of education, has commandeered that premises in Palace street, Pimlico, should be fitted up as a school. Mr. Charles Dodd, a gentleman of tried ability in his vocation, has been appointed master. The whole of the expenses will be defrayed by her Majesty. The number of scholars of both sexes, at present eligible for admission, is 66. An evening school will also be established for such of the elder children as may be prevented from attending in the daytime.

ROYAL THAMES YACHT-CLUB.

The first match of the season of this distinguished club took place on Saturday last. The *Prince of Wales* steamer was chartered to convey the members of the club to witness the match, accompanied by several of the yachts belonging to the different clubs: among them Lord Alfred Paget's new yawl, the *Alma*; Mr. Bartlett's new cutter, *Glance*; Lord Vane's *Lotus*, the *Bianca*, *Chymena*, *Ino*, *Novice*, *Irene*, *Minnie*, *Snow Flake*, *Midge*, and *Sea Serpent*.

The day was delightfully fine, alike suited to the spectator and the yachtsman, and left neither anything to desire in the way of recreation.

There were three prizes for competition, amongst the same number of classes, the first two of which were very handsome silver dergues, value £100 and £50, and the third a silver punch-bowl, value £30. The distance intended to be sailed was from Erith to the Nore Light and back, but it was found necessary to shorten it.

The following came to their stations at the starting place:—

First Class.—Exceeding 35 Tons.

Station.	Name.	Tons	Port.	Owner's Name
2	Marina	48	Cowes	W. J. Foster, Esq
3	Amazon	42	London	Alfred J. Yates, Esq
4	Avalon	33	London	[illegible]
5	Napoleon	48	London	Harmsen [illegible] Esq
7	Sophia	35	London	Thos. [illegible] Esq
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	29	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible] and not exceeding 20	
[illegible]	[illegible]	12	London	Joseph Pearson, Esq
3	[illegible]	15	Southampton	Wheeler, Esq.
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

There was a fine whole-sail breeze from the eastward, and, consequently, heavy work to do from the moment of starting to that of rounding, save only that of laying through about two reaches.

A little before noon preparations were made for the start, which was effected at 12h. 5m. 10s. It was an excellent one, all the vessels being away well together. The *Napoleon* sprang her mast early in the race. The *Sophia* and *Avalon* deserve the praise of first having their topsails set. The *Marina* was first of her class with the lead when they fairly got under way, followed by the *Amazon*—but the former appeared to be able to carry more cloth than she had upon her. Like the *Avalon*, she is very stiff.

(*Continued on page 536.*)

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—On Monday, June 4, Miss HELEN FAUCIT will appear as JULIET. Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, Mr. SIMS REEVES and the Operatic Company in the new opera of BOHEMIA. On Wednesday and Friday a new Fairy COMEDY, MOVE'S MARTYRDOM, ONLY A GALL CHENNY, every Evening.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE. Under the Management of Mr. Charles Kean. On MONDAY, and during the Week, will be produced HENRY VIII., preceded by Away with Melancholy.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE.—Proprietor Mr. John Douglass. Glorious Success of the Young Tragedian Mr. CHARLES VERNER and Miss GLEN, who will appear every Evening. Mr. WRIGHT, of the Adelphi, on Monday next. No advance in prices.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent street. The DIORAMA Illustrating Events of the WAR is now Exhibiting Daily at Three and Eight. The Lectures by Mr. Stocqueler. Admission 1s., 2s., and 3s.

ADAM and EVE.—This great original Work, by JOSEPH VAN LERIUS, is now on VIEW at 57, PALL-MALL, opposite Marlborough-house, from Eleven to Six daily. Admission, One Shilling.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The Fifty-first ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at their GALLERY, 5, PALL-MALL EAST, close to Trafalgar-square. Admittance, 1s.; catalogue, 6d.
JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The 31st ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the Society is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 52, Pall-mall, near St. James's Palace, DAILY, from Nine till Dusk.—Admission, 1s.; season ticket, 5s.
JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

HEREFORD MUSICAL FESTIVAL, for the BENEFIT of the WIDOWS and ORPHANS of the CLERGY of the Diocese of Hereford, Gloucester, and Worcester, will be held in the Cathedral and Shire Hall on AUGUST 21st, and Three following days. Conducted Small. Tickets 7s., Oxford street.

BIRMINGHAM MUSICAL FESTIVAL, in AID of the FUNDS of the GENERAL HOSPITAL, on the 29th, 30th, and 31st days of AUGUST next
Under the special Patronage of
Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN,
His Royal Highness the PRINCE ALBERT,
Her Royal Highness the Duchess of KENT
Patrons—The Right Hon. Lord Wodehouse de Breke.
Vice-Presidents—The Nobility and Gentry of the Midland Counties.
J. P. LEDSAM, Esq., Chairman of the Committee.

MISS MESSENT and Mr. BRINLEY RICHARDS' CONCERT will take place at the Hanover-square Rooms, on FRIDAY EVENING, June 8, when they will be assisted by Madame Clara Novello, the Misses Messolina, and Miss Dolby, Herr Reichardt, Mr Sims, Mr John Thomas, Signor Bettelini, and Signor Bettesini. Tickets 7s., reserved seats, 10s. 6d., to be had at the Music Publishers; of Miss Messent, 4, Blenheim-street, Manchester-square, and of Mr. Brinley Richards, 4, Torrington-street, Russel-square.

MADAME BASSANO and Herr WILHELM SHEE ANNUAL GRAND MUSICAL CONCERT will take place at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on MONDAY JUNE 11, commencing at Two o'Clock; when they will be assisted by Madames Clara Novello, Gassier, Weiss, Steffani, Madame Bassano, Kraft, and Madame Bassano. Messrs Reichardt, Formes, Weiss, Lemmens, Zerr, Paque, Pilet, and Wilhelm Kuhe. Conductors—Messrs Goldwick, Lohmeyer, Berger, and Kuhe. Tickets, 10s. 6d.; stalls, 5s.; to be had of all the principal Music sellers and of Madame Bassano, 24, Clifton-road, St. John's-wood, and of Wilhelm Kuhe, 76, Margaret street, Cavendish-square.

ROYAL SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS. Lessee and Sole Proprietor, Mr. Cremer. Director and Manager, Martin Agnetism. Godfrey's unrivalled Band. Grand Spectacle of the Siege of Sebastopol, in which the various characters are represented by a party of our wounded soldiers from the Crimea. For full particulars see bills of the day.

ST. MARGARET'S MANSION, on the Banks of the Thames, near Richmond.—Persons desirous of viewing this magnificent Mansion, prior to its sale in the City Arms in Mar., on the 28th of June, by direction of the Executive Committee of the CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY, are requested to apply for Cards to the Secretary, at the Society's Offices, No. 33, Sackville-street, Piccadilly, or to Messrs. Chinnock and Gunnington, No. 1, Vere-st., 28, Regent-street, Waterloo-place. The Mansion and Grounds may be seen between the hours of Twelve and Five o'Clock, daily, and may be reached by three stations on the Great Western Railroad—namely, Richmond, Isleworth, and Twickenham; by the Richmond Steamers, and by omnibus.

TO be SOLD by AUCTION, at LUCAS'S REPOSITORY, on THURSDAY, JUNE 14th, 1855, a MALE FEMALE SHINCEROS, caught in the Wilds of Assam, and just arrived from Calcutta. They are splendid specimens of their kind, and are young, healthy, and rapidly growing. On Sale by private treaty (since last; after which date (to prevent disappointment) no private arrangement will be entered into.—Apply to Messrs. H. Cash and Co., Repository, Liverpool.

AT MR. MECHI'S ESTABLISHMENTS, 112, Regent-street, and 4, Leadenhall-street, may be purchased the finest assortment of British Manufactures in DRESSING CASES, WORK BOXES, WRITING CASES, DRESSING BAGS, and other articles of utility or luxury suitable for presentation. A separate department for Papier Mâché Manufactures and Bagnelle Tables, Table Cutlery, Razors, Scissors, Penknives, Strops, Paste, &c. Shipping orders executed for merchants and captains. An extensive assortment of superior Hair and other Toilet Brushes.

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A LADY'S ARCHERY EQUIPMENT for [illegible]

[illegible] Edward, Esq. [illegible]
Egerton, J. Esq., add. [illegible]
Fitzwilliams, Mr., add. [illegible]
Fowler, John, Esq. [illegible]
Gibbs, Sir Joseph, Bart. [illegible]
Ditto, add. [illegible]
Gunnington, Lord, Esq. [illegible]
Gray, Robert Alex., Esq. [illegible]
Grosvenor, Hon. Robert [illegible]
Grey, Henry, Esq. [illegible]
Hawkins, R. Esq. [illegible]
Hewson, Henry, Esq. [illegible]
Stewart [illegible]
Grimaldi, E., Esq., add. [illegible]
Gregory, John, Esq. [illegible]
Groves, H. E., Esq., add. [illegible]
Grey, Henry, Jun., Esq. [illegible]
Gurney, Hon. R. [illegible]
Gurney, H. E., Esq. [illegible]
Hargreave, J. Esq. [illegible]
Harman, John [illegible]
Ditto [illegible]
Harwood, Mr. [illegible]
Hewer, C., Esq., add. [illegible]
Hoare, J., Jun., Esq. [illegible]
Harris, Wilmer, Esq. [illegible]
Hulme, Odin, Esq. [illegible]
Johnstone, A., Esq. [illegible]
Jones, E. H., Esq., add. [illegible]
Ingsford, Thomas Esq. [illegible]

Also the following sums, to be specially devoted to the purchase of Beds or furniture:

Hale, Ford, Esq. [illegible]
Hall, Mr. [illegible]
Poole, Brothers, Messrs. [illegible]
Rogers, Arnold, Esq. [illegible]
Salmon, Mrs. Fredrick [illegible]
Sandham, George [illegible]
Shaskin, Mrs. [illegible]
Wright, Thos. A. Esq. [illegible]
Wurzer, Edmund, Esq. [illegible]
Wright, Joseph, Esq. [illegible]
Wilson, James, Esq. [illegible]
Wright, Mr. R. [illegible]
Wright, Mr. Thomas [illegible]
Watson, Mrs. [illegible]
Wilkes, Mr. [illegible]
Yates, Thomas, Esq. [illegible]

Also the following sums, to be specially devoted to the purchase of Bedsteads, Bedding, &c.:

Hale, Ford, Esq. [illegible]
Hall, Mr. [illegible]
Poole, Brothers, Messrs. [illegible]
Rogers, Arnold, Esq. [illegible]
Salmon, Mrs. Fredrick [illegible]
Sandham, George [illegible]
Shaskin, Mrs. [illegible]
Wright, Thos. A. Esq. [illegible]
Wurzer, Edmund, Esq. [illegible]
Wright, Joseph, Esq. [illegible]
Wilson, James, Esq. [illegible]
Wright, Mr. R. [illegible]
Wright, Mr. Thomas [illegible]
Watson, Mrs. [illegible]
Wilkes, Mr. [illegible]
Yates, Thomas, Esq. [illegible]

ST. MARK'S HOSPITAL for FISTULA and DISEASES of the RECTUM, Gray's-inn-road.
The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor
John Masterman, Esq., M.P.
Chairman of Management—George Lucas Sandoman Esq.
Deputy Chairman—John Griffith Smith, Esq.
Honorary Physician—John Rumpfelds Lond., Esq., M.D.
Honorary Surgeon—Frederick Salmon, Esq., F.R.C.S.
At a Meeting of the Committee of Management of this Charity it was resolved to discharge all pecuniary liabilities against the Hospital, and to accompany which finished capital was required to be sold, the Committee trust up to the exertions of the friends of the Hospital and the benevolence of the public for the income required to maintain its present complement of twenty-four beds. The Committee now publish APPEALS for aid, convinced that there are thousands of persons in Christendom who, if acquainted with the invaluable benefits of the Institution confers on the poor sufferers, and the saddest of afflictions, would deem it a privilege to contribute in much needed and ample aid.

The Committee acknowledges with much thankfulness the exertions of the Stewards and friends of the Charity at the late Anniversary Festival, and have great pleasure in announcing the following contributions

Addington, Samuel, Esq.	£5	5	0	Kingsford, Charles, Esq.	2	2	0
An Old Friend	50	0	0	Little, add.	1	1	0
Lechmere Society, contributed in small amounts from relieved patients and their friends	53	13	2	Lucas, Mr. T., Esq. add.	1	1	0
Allard, Edwd., Esq.	1	1	0	Landell, W. W., Esq.	5	0	0
Bennett	1	1	0	Lamond, W. O., Esq.	1	0	0
Barnard, Hills, Esq.	1	1	0	Llewellin, R., Esq.	1	1	0
Blackmore, Humphrey, Esq., add.	1	1	0	Lotinhouse, John, Esq.	1	1	0
Barnes, Hearn, and Co., Messrs.	10	10	0	Ditto, dem.	1	1	0
Bodd, Dr., Executors of	10	0	0	Lockombe, Charles, Esq.	2	2	0
Bellairs, Capt., add.	1	1	0	Morton, H. Ed., Esq.	1	1	0
Tyson, H. L.	1	1	0	Masterman, John, Esq.			
Bell, W. F. Esq., add.	1	1	0	M. C. Treasurer	10	10	0
Lamb, Sir Chas. M.	10	10	0	Morris, William, Esq.	1	1	0
Ditto, Hon. Mrs.	10	10	0	Mason, Mr. Chas.	1	1	0
Ditto, Lady	10	10	0	Morgan, Rev.	1	1	0
Bedford, Edwards, Esq.	1	1	0	Ditto, Rev. James (stat. tam. Hart, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor)	1	1	0
Bates, Mr. Thos.	1	1	0	Mitchell, Mr. Chas.	1	1	0
Ditto, add.	1	1	0	Ogden, W. B., Esq.	1	1	0
Bell, Mr. Robt.	1	1	0	Owen, Mrs. John, Esq., add.	1	1	0
Bell, Mr. Jas.	1	1	0	Newton, Chas. H., Esq.	1	1	0
Campbell, Henry, Esq.	10	10	0	Ogden, W. B., Esq., add.	1	1	0
Cochrane, John, Esq.	2	2	0	Owen, Mrs.	1	1	0
Carey, W. H., Esq.	3	3	0	Phillips, Rev. Chas.			
Ditto, add.	2	2	0	Phillips, Rev. Chas. (subscriber to the Treasurer of	105	0	0
Cadwallader Charities, Trustees of	50	0	0	Parsavalon, J. P. de, Esq.	1	1	0
Cooper, Miss	10	10	0	Pearson, Mr. Thos.	1	1	0
Ditto, add.	1	1	0	Peacey, Mr. Thos., add.	1	1	0
Crosby, Sir Chas.	5	5	0	Pearson, Mr. Peter, add.	1	1	0
Sheriff and Steward	5	5	0	Rivas, H., Esq.	1	1	0
Coates, Jas. R. Esq. Steward	5	5	0	Robertson, R. H., Esq.	1	1	0
Contributions in Box at the Hospital	12	18	8	Roupe, Maj.-Gen. add.	1	1	0
Cartwright, Francis, Esq.	10	10	0	Ross, Captain	5	0	0
Ditto, William, Esq.	10	10	0	Russell, C. D., Esq.	1	1	0
Ditto and Sharman Esq.	10	10	0	Sandoman, Thos. G., Esq.	10	10	0
Ditto, Joseph, Esq. Steward	1	1	0	Sandoman, Geo., Esq.	1	1	0
Ditto, A., Esq.	1	1	0	Sandoman, Geo., Esq. add.	1	1	0
Ditto, W. Esq.	1	1	0	Smith, C. Esq.	1	1	0
Cuthbert, W. Esq.	1	1	0	Sowell, B. L. Esq.	1	1	0
Cumberland, W., Esq., add.	1	1	0	Sibellin, J., Esq.	1	1	0
Cox, Miss add.	1	1	0	Scrogue, Lam., Esq.	1	1	0
Cuthbert, Mr. Richard	1	1	0	Steel, Robt., Esq. add.	1	1	0
Dalton, Miss	1	1	0	Sedgwick, Tom, Esq.	1	1	0
Ditto, Miss Eliza	1	1	0	Sparling, S., Esq.	1	1	0
Devonix, A., Esq.	2	2	0	Sampson, Geo.	1	1	0
Ditto, Mr.	1	1	0	Sampson, Geo., Esq.	1	1	0
Ditto, Mrs.	1	1	0	Taylor, Mr.	1	1	0
Edgelow, J. Esq., add.	1	1	0	Ellis, Thos.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas.	1	1	0	Turton, Jos., Esq.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Thomas, Mr.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Tudor, Matthew, Esq.	21	0	0
Ditto, add.	1	1	0	Tudor, Theodosius, Esq.			
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Steward	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Vinney, T. Esq.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Woodall, J., Esq., add.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Williamson, R., Esq.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Walsy, S. J., Esq.	2	2	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Wallace, Mr. Jas.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Welch, Edw., Esq., add.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Welch, Thomas, Esq.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Walker, William, Esq.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Wright, R. T., Esq., add.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Whitbread and Co.			
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Messrs.	10	10	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Wheskin, Mrs.	2	2	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Wright, Thos. A. Esq.	2	2	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Wurzer, Edmund, Esq.	2	2	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Wright, Joseph, Esq.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Wilson, James, Esq.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Wright, Mr. R.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Wright, Mr. Thomas	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Watson, Mrs.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Wilkes, Mr.	1	1	0
Ellis, Mr. Jas. (Steward)	1	1	0	Yates, Thomas, Esq.	3	0	0

JAMES FULLER WHINES, Secretary
St Mark's Hospital, City road, June 1, 1855.

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The celebrity which this article obtained when the letters patent were first granted has since grown and increasingly increased, and the exertions of the Patentees have been directed to justify this confidence. In comparison with every attempt, it is proved to exhibit the result has been that numerous imitations have been produced, and the inventors satisfied, by the sale of inferior goods, to realize a larger immediate profit.

Under these circumstances, S. Mordan and Co. are induced to issue this publication, and to recommend to purchasers of pencil-cases, that they only guarantee those as which bear the name "S. Mordan and Co." are genuine.

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The superior quality of the lead used in the pencils, where only necessary when Cumberland Lead Points are purchased for refilling the pencil-cases. Measured by W. T. Cooper, 26, Oxford-street; in Pots, 1s. 1d. and 2s. 6d

PARTNERSHIP.—The Proprietor of a Business connected with the Fine Arts is desirous of meeting with a Gentleman to join him in extending it. The connections are of the high

(*Continued from page 534.*)

All eyes were turned to the two cracks, which have been so often engaged in honourable emulation—the *Phantom* and the *Thought*. There were some doubts expressed by those on board the steamer as to which got the lead; but it was evident that, although there was no want of alacrity on the part of the former, the latter went away while the *Phantom* was reaching over to the northward. Scarcely half a dozen boards had been made, when the *Phantom* weathered the *Thought*, and became the leading boat of the whole fleet. Some remarkably pretty sailing, reflecting the greatest credit upon all engaged, succeeded. The *Thought*, *Amazon*, and *Marina*, were close together, tack upon tack. In the early portion of the race the *Cormorant* drew away slightly, but was soon overpowered by her splendid rival. In Northfleet Hope the *Phantom* was full half a mile ahead; next was the *Amazon*, then the *Thought*, *Marina*, and *Vampire*; but shortly after this the *Marina* went to windward of the others into the second place, and the *Amazon* gave place to the *Thought*. The *Prince of Wales* arrived at the Chapmanshed at a little after three, when a gun was fired for the third class to round a boat there, and immediately afterwards the *Vampire* finished her downward cour-e *solus*. The tide at this time had run out, and with the breeze so straight a dead noser, that it was considered unnecessary to prolong the exertions of the crews against wind and tide, and the club steamer was anchored two miles above Southend pier, for the yachts to round, which they did, viz.:—

	h. m. s.
Phantom	2 29 15
Marina	2 35 9
Thought	2 39 50
Amazon	2 40 0
Avalon	2 43 0
Sophia	2 50 0

Running sails were now substituted for those which had been used in beating down, and soon the *Phantom* was lost in the cloud of canvas accompanying the race. The *Amazon* carried away her topmast below Gravesend, or, it was thought, might have shown a better figure in the race. The conclusion was as follows:—

	h. m. s.
Vampire	5 23 0
Phantom	5 41 0
Marina	5 43 30
Thought	5 50 10
Avalon	6 0 0
Amazon	6 3 45
Sophia..	6 12 0

The plate was accordingly awarded by Lord Alfred Paget. Mr. S. Lane receiving the £100 prize; Mr. W. J. Foster, the £50 prize; and Mr. C. Wheeler, jun., the £25 prize.

The presentations having taken place with the accustomed congratulations and honours, the club steamer returned to Blackwall and London in good time. The band of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue) was in attendance during the day, and played several of the most popular airs in their usual excellent style. A good cold collation was supplied by Mr Watts; and the whole affair gave the greatest satisfaction to all.

ROYAL THAMES YACHT-CLUB.—THE "PHANTOM" AND "MARINA."—CLOSE OF THE MATCH.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR JUNE.

The Chantilly Races, as usual, drew together all that Paris can boast of in the way of elegance and beauty. The greater number of bonnets at the races of Friday (last week) were of *paille de riz*, or *d'Italie*, with *feuillages d'eau*, drooping on the neck. Flounced robes, which we imagined to be losing favour, are, on the contrary, almost exclusively worn, with patterns at the bottoms of the flounces; the stripes are still worn lengthwise, and widening, and narrowing on nearing the upper part of the flounce.

Among the most remarkable toilets, we observed a robe of grey pearl taffetas, with five flounces, bordered with fringe gauffrée. Upon the shoulders a Cashmere shawl, with a white ground, and rather low border of *roses* entwined with infinite taste; bonnet of *paille d'Italie*, set off with bunches of black grapes and tufts of wild roses the curtain of white taffetas, and still very long.

We observed that the basquines were worn very long, and almost invariably trimmed at the bottom, with two flounces placed one above the other, and meeting those of the robe, even when there are but three on the skirt. We doubt, however, as to whether the fashion will last long for summer toilets, which require to be lighter. Next we noticed a robe of *moiré antique bleu Louise à basques*, trimmed with three rows of fringe; the corsage somewhat open in front, showing a collar of Brussels lace, coming up to the neck, and forming a sort of breastplate beneath. The *attachés* of the same stuff as the robe, and also trimmed with fringe. The skirt was without flounces. Bonnet of *paille d'Italie*, with tufts of white feathers upon the *fausse*, and one beneath with roses, mingled with the blonde. India Cashmere shawls, with black ground and golden embroidery.

The Empress wore, a short time since, at the Horticultural Exhibition in the Champs Elysées, a robe of ash-grey taffetas, with three radiating flounces, white and pearl grey; there were also three flounces alternating with three other flounces of black Chantilly lace; the corsage of the robe was ornamented with the same flounces and laces. The bonnet was of black *gros des Indes* covered with lace, mingled with flowers and *jasmoir*; a large Cashmere shawl trimmed with deep black lace, crowned with a row of *frange à clochettes*. This toilet was worn as Court mourning.

Among the Chantilly toilets we noticed a robe of Scotch taffetas, white, green, and black, the skirt had three flounces trimmed with a fringe *ton pond*, of the same shades. The corsage, high and close, was *à basques* very long, and *à brettelles*, the ends hanging and crossed before and behind; mantelet of black crape, *ruche* of ribbons. A rose coloured bonnet completed this simple toilet.

We hope ere long to describe the new summer stuffs, which, however, up to the present time, have not appeared. We have seen some robes and muslins of light shades, with silken draperies of brighter colours.

The Illustrations.—Lyons poplin robe, with stripes of black satin, and with three flounces; sleeves also trimmed with three flounces of a similar pattern, but closer. *Corsage à basques*, trimmed in front with straps of lozenge-pattern galoon of the same shade as the robe and the stripes. Sleeves. English lace; cap trimmed to correspond, with flowers, and ends of ribbons of black velvet. Bonnet of *paille d'Italie*, flat crown, and flowers trailed with foliage. Taffetas mantelet, with trimmings of gimp, separated by a little *ruche*; first row of fringe mounted on a square, and separated so as to form a sort of scarn, this first row falling upon the head of a second square which bears the last fringe.

Mantelet irrodge of black taffetas, trimmed with a splendid Chantilly lace, beneath which hangs Oriental lace: an ornament of *passamenterie* is also placed above the lace, upon the cuffs and front of the mantelet.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR JUNE.

NEAR SEBASTOPOL.—THE MIDDLE OR "WHITE HOUSE" RAVINE.—(SEE PAGE 540.)

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

PARIS, Thursday.

A few fine warm days deluded poor Paris into the illusory belief that the long-expected spring had decided to come to town from the far-off lands where it has so long extended its sojourn. No such thing. After passing three or four days in the capital whether dissatisfied with the state of the Exhibition, the dearness of provisions, the expense of lodging, no one can tell—but suddenly it took wing and fled without stating whither it has gone, or when it intends to return. The sun-blinds, awnings, and venetians are wound up; parasols are once more replaced by umbrellas; summer toilets are being discarded for that nondescript style of costume that consists in a mixture of the materials of January and July; and, were it not for shame, fires would be allowed to sparkle on many a hearth. We begin to suspect the fact is that the Exposition de l'Industrie has monopolised the whole of the caloric intended for the consumption of the metropolis:—*Ah! voila de la chaleur si vous en voulez!* So intense is the heat of the building, that not only the spectators are hardly able to make the round thereof, but several of the exhibitors have been forced to beat a retreat. The German silk manufacturers have hung curtains over their wares, to prevent their colours being destroyed, and the fabricators of Lyons have refused to display their productions at all until the jury shall have examined them. Some robberies have already taken place; among others a splendid tazza, mounted with onyxes, exhibited by a manufacturer of Oldenburg. The Company having resisted every attempt made to induce them to give one day gratis for the *courier* class, the Emperor, in a late visit, stated his intention of paying the expenses of this day from his private funds. An arrangement was therefore entered into that every *courier*, on presenting a certificate from the *Commissaire de Police* of his *quartier*, should receive a permanent ticket for all the Sundays, commencing with the month of June. Since this, however, it appears that there is great question of the establishment of a Government measure for declaring the *Exposition Universelle* an institution of public utility, and taking it into its own hands, indemnifying the Company, according to the most liberal calculation of expenses: in this case, the entrance, with the exception of certain reserved days, would be gratis. It is reported that for this indemnification, the daily sum of 5000 francs will be allowed.

All the temporary establishments arranged in the Champs Elysées about the Palais, have, as yet, proved more or less failures. Nevertheless a variety of new private exhibitions are being prepared; amongst others, is to figure that of the pictures of the democrat painter, M. Courbet, whose productions, especially a female figure "La Baigneuse," excited so general (if not so favourable) a degree of attention in the annual exhibitions of paintings two years since.

The arrival of the young King of Portugal causes a good deal of interest. It is expected his Majesty will remain about three weeks—three persons of the Imperial household are attached to his person. The *salons* of the Prince Napoleon have been prepared to receive the Royal guest with due honour; and from the time of his arrival the Prince will commence a series of weekly receptions, in which the Princesse Mathilde will do the honours to the ladies invited. It is said that a ball will be given at the Hôtel de Ville on the occasion of his Majesty's visit; and there is also a talk of a fête at St. Cloud. It appears almost certain that, between the visits of the King of Portugal and Queen Victoria, the Emperor and Empress will pass a short time at Biaritz.

In the Bois des Vincennes twenty eight acres of trees have been cut down to establish the foundation of an hospital, about to be erected there, we believe, for civil not military invalids.

The scaffoldings which concealed the new buildings of the Louvre are being removed on all sides. The extreme rapidity with which these works have been executed has, in certain parts, given rise to defects injurious to the general appearance of the building as viewed from the quays. Some of these are irremediable; others, the Emperor—who has followed the course of construction with unceasing interest—has declared must be remedied. In the new part, where the junction take place with the old gallery looking on the quay, the roofs are much higher than those of the part previously existing; and these he has decided shall be destroyed, and replaced by Italian galleries—which, he considers, will produce a much better effect. It appears that the estimate originally given in for the cost of the labours to be executed in this work amounted to the sum of twenty-seven millions of francs, and that there has already been expended on them nearly forty millions.

A variety of experiments are being tried, under the surveillance of the Government, more especially at St. Denis, to prepare bread that, while possessing all the necessary qualities for nourishment, can be sold at a lower price. It appears that these have succeeded to the extent of reducing the cost a sous per kilogramme (2lbs.), but it is expected further experiments will produce more important results.

An hotel in the Rue de Penthièvre, Faubourg St Honoré, has been hired for the reception of the Aldermen of the city of London; the Lord Mayor will be accommodated at the Hôtel de Ville.

The great theatrical attraction of the moment is the *troupe* of the King of Sardinia at the Italian Opera-house. The star of the company is the celebrated Ristori, an actress whose extraordinary combination of tragic and comic powers, to which is added the gift of beauty (the latter a little on the wane), has rendered her name familiar all over Italy for years past. Never was reputation less usurped. Madame Ristori may be said to stand alone, bearing with ease her double sceptre. Passion, energy, sentiment, unite with sadness, finesse, and gaiety: the *Ringue toscana*, *bocca romana*, enchant with their full melody; and every look, every gesture, has its grace and meaning. One or two of the actors have also considerable merit.

SPANISH TROUBLES.

To all appearance Spain is as far as ever from a state of internal peace and security. The Carlist party taking advantage of the opposition which the bill authorising the sale of church property has excited among the clergy, has been busily at work in the army, and the result is that several regiments have revolted

The Madrid journals of the 24th ult. contain a Royal decree by which the captaincies-general of Aragon, Burgos, and Navarre, are declared in a state of siege. They also contain telegraphic despatches from Saragossa, Calatayud, Navarre, and Burgos, received in the course of the previous evening, and giving an account of the measures taken for putting down the military risings. The first three merely state that the local authorities, at the head of military forces were still in pursuit of the insurgents; the last says that a detachment had fallen in with a band of seven military insurgents at Villadiego, and had captured one man, all its seven horses, and nearly all its arms. General Bedoya had been nominated to the command of the troops sent from Madrid to act against the insurgents. Extraordinary powers have been demanded of the Cortes by the Spanish Ministry. These consist in authority to *interner* any individual whom the Council of Ministers may regard as dangerous to public order; and, further, to suppress any newspapers whose hostility shall be deemed dangerous to the powers that be.

The *Espano* of the 23rd states, on the authority of letters from Rome, that the Papal Court considers the carrying into effect of the bill for the sale of ecclesiastical property a violation of the concordate, and that it consequently contemplated breaking off relations with Spain, and publishing protests against the measure.

The cry of the Carlist band is "Vive la Religion: death to heretics!"

SARDINIA AND THE POPE. The Convents Suppression Bill, with the amendments of the Senate, has been adopted by the Sardinian Chamber of Deputies, by a majority of 26 to 23. At Turin public expectation is on the tiptoe to know how the Court of Rome will act. If an excommunication should be determined on, the country is prepared to bear it.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

At last there is an end to Prince Gortschakoff's stereotyped phrase that "nothing of importance has occurred on other points of the peninsula." The second expedition to Kertch was more successful than the first one, having taken possession of that port and Yenikalé without opposition apparently. The expedition, under Sir George Brown, arrived off the Strait of Kertch on the Queen's birthday; and the troops having landed and ascended the heights while several steamers went up to the town, the Russians, seeing that it was useless to resist so strong a force, blew up their fortifications, destroyed a large quantity of army stores, and fled. According to Vice-Admiral Bruat's despatch from the Sea of Azoff, the magazines destroyed by the Russians at Kertch contained 360,000 sacks of corn, 160,000 sacks of oats, and 100,000 sacks of flour. On Thursday a despatch was received from Lord Raglan, dated the 29th of May, stating that Sir George Brown reports, on the 28th, that the troops continued healthy; that five vessels laden with corn had run into Kertch, ignorant of the place having been taken, and were captured, and that the number of guns taken by the Allies exceeds 100. A foundry near Kertch, where shot, shell, and Minié balls were manufactured, was also destroyed by Sir George Brown. One source, therefore, whence the defenders of Sebastopol have received their supplies of ammunition, has been taken from them; the Russian means of carrying on a communication between the Crimea and the main have been cut off; and the Allies command all the principal ports of the Sea of Azoff—Taganrog, where the iron of Siberia and the ordnance manufactured in the Ural are shipped, and the rising grain depôts of Berdiansk and Marianopol.

The occupation of Kertch closes the Sea of Azoff and the whole south eastern portion of the Russian empire; the entire Circassian coast is cut off; and the contest is carried on within the contracted limits of a peninsula where the numerical strength of the enemy cannot be brought to bear against us, and where it becomes every day more difficult to support a large body of troops and to secure a line of retreat. The Russians will soon, in fact, have no base of operations but the burning steppes behind the river Salghir, which cannot be crossed by large bodies of men in the height of summer without severe loss, and cannot in any manner be occupied or defended. According to all experience of war, the Russian army in the interior of the Crimea must be in a position of great embarrassment, for its movements are confined within a small peninsula, having only two, or at most three lines of road for the arrival of supplies or the withdrawal of troops; and even the lines of road by the tongue of Arabat and by the bridge over the Putrid Sea will be interrupted by the Allies, if the steam gun-boats in the Sea of Azoff succeed, as they are likely to do, in forcing the passage of Genitchi, between Arabat and the mainland.

If the telegraph is to be trusted, the occupation of Galatz has been decided on, to be followed by an attack upon Ismail and Reni. Whether this latter movement is intended as a preliminary to the invasion of Bessarabia, does not appear. The occupation of these three towns would give the Allies the command of the Lower Danube, and would enable them to liberate the grain trade of the Principalities—a most important step at the present moment, when food is so dear in England and America.

Simultaneously with the important successes at Kertch, the French have distinguished themselves by another desperate attack upon the outworks of Sebastopol, in which they have been victorious, although at no small cost. In a despatch from General Pelissier, dated the 23rd May, he says:—

The enemy had formed between the Central Bastion and the sea a large place d'armes, where they intended assembling considerable forces, in order to make important sorties against us. On the night of the 22nd we attacked these works, which were defended by almost all the garrison. The combat was very severe, and lasted almost the whole night. We have taken and occupied the half of the works, and I hope to be able to announce to you to-morrow that the remainder were taken the night before.

In the second despatch, dated ten o'clock at night on the 24th ult., General Pelissier says:—

We have happily completed last night the capture of the works attacked the previous day, and we occupy them. The enemy, who in the first attack suffered enormous losses, yielded more easily. Ours, though severe, have been less than them. The anniversary of the birthday of her Majesty Queen Victoria was cordially celebrated to-day with our Allies.

The *Moniteur* of Monday published the following despatches received by the Minister of War from General Pelissier, containing some further particulars:—

CRIMEA, May 25, 10 p.m.—To-day we have occupied the line of the Tchernaya. The enemy, who were not in force, offered little resistance in disputing the ground, and retreated rapidly into the hills. We have definitely established ourselves in the works, carried during the nights of the 22nd and 23rd. An armistice was agreed upon for burying the dead, and we were enabled to form an estimate of the enemy's losses. They must be about 5000 or 6000 men killed and wounded

May 26, 10 p.m. The enemy has not made any demonstration, either in front of the place, or against our lines on the Tchernaya. The works of fortification at Kamiesch are progressing. The sanitary condition of the army continues good.

This victory completes the attack made on the night of the 2nd of May. On that occasion, as our readers will remember, the French carried a portion of the external Russian works, but a considerable intrenchment remained between the Central Bastion and the Quarantine Fort, which was taken in the successive nights of the 22nd and 23rd ult. Prince Gortschakoff, in a report relating to the attack on the 22nd, merely states that the Russian forces had "300 men "in driving back the enemy." but, in fact, they did not drive back the French. General Pelissier expressly reports that his troops are definitively established in the work, by which we understand that the line of Russian counter-approach is turned against the place, and forms part of the fourth parallel of the attack. The French are also constructing and arming new breaching batteries within 100 metres of the place. Instead of the sorties directed by the Russians against the lines of the besiegers, we have now, therefore, advanced into a portion of the works of the enemy, and on all points a steady progress has been made

On the following day (as will be seen from the above despatch), the 25th of May, General Pelissier reports the occupation of the valley of the Tchernaya. During the whole of the winter the Allies have been intrenched on the southern side of that little stream, and defended from attack by the steep cliffs which inclose the valley. The Russians held and fortified in like manner the northern bank, on which lie the ruins of old Inkerman. Their guns in position commanded the valley, and sometimes reached our encampment on the other side. As long as they occupied those heights in force it was impossible for the Allies to descend to the river; and, as we are informed that the river is now within our lines, it must be inferred that the forces which commanded it from the opposite side have been withdrawn. Indeed, General Pelissier states that "the enemy, not being in force, made very little resistance, and speedily retired to the mountains." But, if we understand this expression correctly, it would appear that no considerable portion of the Russian army remains between the Tchernaya and the mouth of the Belbek, and that the Allies may consequently are long occupy the heights north of the river, and complete the investment of the town. The telegraphic despatch is not quite clear on this point; but the occupation of the valley of the Tchernaya would seem to imply the possession of both sides of the valley, without which the temporary possession of the low ground would be of no utility.

AMERICA.

The mail-steamer *Atlantic*, which left New York on the 16th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday last. The political news relates chiefly to the progress of the Know Nothing party, which appears to be stronger in the interior than in the seaboard States.

The *Illinois* had arrived at New York with Californian advices to the 17th of April, and 1,916,380 dollars on freight. The brig *Venta*, with Colonel William Walker and about 150 of his followers, was to have sailed for Nicaragua. The mines were yielding largely, and every day brought reports of new discoveries. Merchants, mechanics, and clerks who, in times past, had been intent on following their professions in San Francisco and other cities, were flocking to the mines to try their fortunes at gold digging. The *Golden Age* was ashore near Panama. The passengers, mails, and specie were saved.

News from Mexico to the 5th inst. had been received. Santa Anna, who, according to previous accounts, was so seriously ill that his life was despaired of, had proceeded south at the head of a body of troops to do battle with the insurgents. An addition to the navy had been made by the purchase of the propeller *Benjamin Franklin* and the bark *Catherine Augusta*. A report was current in Mexico that a large number of troops in Sonora had pronounced against the Government. Well authenticated accounts of the discovery of rich gold placers located in the neighbourhood of San Francisco, about eight days' march from Acapulco, are publ shed.

INDIA AND CHINA.

By the arrival of the Overland Mail we have received news from Calcutta to the 23rd of April; Bombay, the 1st of May; and Hong-Kong, the 15th of April.

The latest intelligence from Burmah is rather unfavourable to the prospects of peace. Reports have arrived at our frontier station from the capital of the occurrence of another palace revolution, which has terminated in unseating the King, and elevating the heir-apparent to the throne.

The peace of the north-west frontier beyond Peshawur has been again disturbed by the restless and predatory tribes, whose hereditary vocation is plunder. On a recent occasion a small force was sent to chastise the Buser Keil Afreedies, but they effected nothing, except the burning of some stacks of wood intended for the Peshawur market. Another expedition has started for the Meeranzie valley, at the end of April, consisting of 2000 or 3000 horse and foot, light Punjabee troops, accustomed to mountain warfare, with a good complement of artillery. Major Edwardes, the Political Agent, accompanies the expedition, which is under the command of Brigadier Chamberlain, one of the heroes who has been trained to generalship at an early age in the wars in which we have been engaged for the last fifteen years.

Rajah Goolab Singh and his nephew, Juwahir Sing, threaten to settle some long-existing differences between them by a recourse to arms, and as this will be an infraction of the treaty of Mooltan, entered into by Goolab Sing with the British Government in 1846, the Governor-General has directed a watchful eye to be kept on the movements of Goolab Sing's troops, resolving not to espouse the cause of either of the chiefs, unless the other should disobey the orders of Government.

From Shanghai, the latest dates are to the 9th April. All was quiet there; and the troops having been withdrawn towards Nankin, the country round was resuming its former tranquillity. At Canton political affairs remain much as before; but, as the pirates, who have been driven from their stronghold near Whampoa, are now scattered over the province in detached parties, trade has not yet resumed its course, and but little business has been done either in exports or imports. An expedition, consisting of the *Hornet* and *Bittern*, with boats from the *Winchester*, *Spitfire*, and *Spartan*, had been dispatched against them, which destroyed ten junks, and about ninety men. Of those who got on shore, the majority were hunted down and killed by the villagers

Sir John Bowring was daily expected from Siam, and would then proceed to Japan, with Sir James Stirling.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The settling for the Derby and Oaks has passed off comparatively well; and the King, with the exception of two leading speculators, have kept their ground. Mr. Popham originally stood to win £10,000, to £150 on his horse, but had allowed several of his friends to go shares with him in it; while the jockey is said to have won £1400, and another of the fraternity who rode in the trial more than twice that amount. The balance against Mr. Davis on both these races was £15,000, so that he has escaped better than he usually does. The field for the Oaks was as moderate as it always is; and the winner, who had been coughing, was very lightly thought of both by trainer and owner. Nettle looked pretty well, and the way in which she and Marlow fell over the ropes seems quite unexplained. A subscription of £400 has already been raised for the latter, who, although he has been in the saddle for a quarter of a century, had won a Derby, Oaks, and St. Leger, besides several other great races, during the last seven years, had scarcely anything to fall back upon. It is not yet known what the chances are of his riding again next year, and it is a strange turn of fortune which takes so good a jockey off the turf, so soon after Butler and Robinson. The Jockey Club lost another member last week in the aged Lord Charles Manners, who was faithful to Newmarket Heath as long as he could sit on a horse. He was always a keen sportsman, and in his early Peninsular days only escaped from a mounted French picket by the daring style in which he rode at a brook. They had not been trained in the Vale of Belvoir or been wont to cross the Whissendine Brook, with the Quorn.

Racing men will have a busy week of it. On Monday, Mr. Greville's two leviathans will be solid favourites, but although the highest blood in England courses in their veins, they are not at all likely to come up to what they were last year. A better bet for Rataplan, Lord Ashtown, and a costly collection of industry are among the number. Ascot will occupy from Tuesday till Friday, and it is a fact, although the publication of some odd odds seems to the uninitiated well-nigh impossible, that, if Her Majesty from giving her usual race sanction at Windsor, the Royal cortège will proceed on Tuesday and Thursday, from Buckingham Palace, by railway to Staines, and meet their carriages there. Tuesday has eight events on its list. Riflemen of those Derby withdrawal (must things are told) is in the Welcome Stakes, along with Para and Flatterer; while the Ascot Derby has a very weak entry with Paguator, Strood, Hazel, &c. The Ascot Stakes is likely to produce a good race, and Hungerford, 8st. 8lb.; Vandal, 8st. 4lb.; Blanchard, 7st. 7lb.; Mortimer, 7st. 4lb.; Vandal, 8st. 4lb.; and Hospodar, 7st. 8lb., are all backed. The acceptance of the latter has rather surprised turfites, as he was thought to be only a mile-and-a-half horse. We are told that Pantomime, 6st. 12lb., is not likely to be far off. Hebena, Roman Boy, Shoreham, Dirk Hatteraick, Corcebus, and Claret are all in the Three year-old Triennial; and Victoria, Fly-by-Night, Bird in Hand, Fazzoletto, Polmoodie, and Sugarcane in the Two year-old. The Vase has nine entries, among which we find Rataplan, Pandango, Tumbler, Hebena, Oulston, and Noisy. On Wednesday the Fernhill entry (half a mile) includes Para, King Chat, Sugar-cane, Flyaway, Flatterer, and Queen's Head; and Jetty Treffz, Star of Surrey, Bridecy, and Punchbox will probably be ready to oppose Mentor's winning of the "Fifth Ascot Triennial" three seasons in succession. The Coronation Stakes has a very inferior lot of fillies in it; but the Hunt Cup includes some of the quickest horses of the day in its fifty-two, among whom Foxhunter, 6st. 11lb., is very lightly weighted

The Gold Cup will be the great feature of Thursday. Rattle is not in it, as he is specially reserved for the Goodwood Cup, and there is an impression that Virago is below the mark, and will not go. Andover's appearance over such a long course seems problematical; we expect the field to be confined to Pandango, Rataplan, Tumbler, and Oreste, or Hungerford, and we should not be surprised to see them run home in that order. Nettle is in it, but is not backed as yet. Bonnie Mora and Cavalier seem likely to have a struggle of it in the St. James's Palace Stakes; Hebena (6 lb. allowed) has every nothing to meet in the Chesterfield Stakes, and Fly-by Night, The Czar, Queen's Head, Warlock, Polmoodie, Wandering Willie, Sugarcane, and Dramatist (several of them with 5 lb. penalties) form a strong phalanx in the New Stakes. Friday's racing has at present no interesting feature, and the meeting would be quite as strong without it.

The "All England" cricketers have regularly taken the field, and will be at Neath, in South Wales, on Monday, and at Cirencester on Thursday At Lord's, on Monday, the Marylebone Club and ground will play the gentlemen of the Surrey Club and county—each side to have two players allowed; and, on Thursday, the first-named, without their two players, will go to Oxford to play the Undergraduates.

Aquatic Clubs are also beginning to be more active. On Monday the Nelens Club have pair-oared races at Mortlake, and on Thursday the London Model Yacht Club will have a first class match on the Thames Friday will also be a field-day among yachters, both on the Thames and Mersey as both the Royal London and Royal Mersey have sailing matches for first and second-class yachts.

MANCHESTER RACES—WEDNESDAY.

Trafford Handicap.—Dame Judith, 1. Mystic, 2.
Produce Stakes.—Ellermure, 1. Vandal, 2.
Union Cup.—The Rasty Bird, 1. Orestes, 2.
Sapling Stakes.—Heir of Lynne, 1. St. Dunstan, 2.
City Plate.—Dear Me, 1. Bourgeoise, 2.

THURSDAY.

Corporation Stakes.—Ellermire walked over
Two-year-old Stakes.—Rowena filly, 1 Van Dunck, 2.
Tradesmen's Cup.—Sancelot, 1. St. Andrew, 2.

FRIDAY

Welton Stakes.—Rowena filly walked over
Salford Borough Cup.—Ry. stone, 1. Eulogist, 2
Grand Stand Plate.—Syren, 1. Bourgeois, 2.
Two-Year-Old Selling Stakes.—Rowena f, 1. Swallcliffe, 2

THE RUSSIAN LOAN.—The *Hamburg Correspondent* contains a letter from Warsaw, of the 23rd, which says:—"The very slight hopes entertained of the re-establishment of peace have been very disadvantageous to the quotations of the Russian loan of fifty millions. Yesterday it fell from 92 to 91, and to-day it is still lower, without finding purchasers."

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, MAY 31.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barom. at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°	°		Inches.
May 25	29.780	51·0	44·0	61·6	+ 6·6	80	S.E.	0.00
„ 26	29.852	52·0	46·3	64·4	+ 9·2	75	E.	0.00
„ 27	29.718	72·5	53·5	62·4	+ 6·9	88	N.N.E.	0.11
„ 28	29.770	56·6	46·8	50·8	− 4·6	95	N.	0.06
„ 29	29.854	57·2	41·2	46·8	− 9·6	84	N.	0.00
„ 30	29.880	53·2	39·0	43·8	− 12·6	81	N.	0.14
„ 31	29.899	48·3	40·1	42·9	− 12·3	100	N.	0.70

NOTE. The sign − denotes above the average and the sign + below the average.

The reading of the barometer has varied but little during the week. The highest reading was 29.88 inches, on the 30th; and the lowest 29.44 inches, on the 31st. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.770 inches.

The mean daily temperatures during the first part of the week were 7·6° in excess, and during the latter half were 9·8° in defect. The range during the week was 21·7°.

The mean temperature of the week was 56·2°, being 2·3° below the average value.

The range of temperature during the week was 44°, being the difference between the highest readings on the 26th (88°) and the lowest on the 30th (42°).

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 16·1°. The greatest was on the 27th, and the least on the 31st.

Rain fell abundantly on Thursday, to the depth of 0.7 inches, and during the week to the depth of an inch nearly.

The weather during the first three days of the week was fine, and the sky tolerably free from cloud; the rest of the week was dull and showery, and the sky almost overcast.

For the month of May the mean reading of the barometer at the level of the sea was 29.861 inches; and the range 0.770 inches. The mean of all the highest readings of the thermometer by day was 59°, and of all the lowest by night was 39·7°; the mean daily range of temperature during the month was therefore 19·3°. The highest reading during the month was 72°, on the 26th; and the lowest, 38·2°, on the 3rd; the range of temperature during the month was therefore 33·8°. The mean temperature of the month was 48·6°, being 4·6° below the average value. The mean temperature of evaporation for the month was 47·9°. The mean temperature of the dew point was 43·9°. The mean degree of humidity was of complete saturation being represented by 100). And the fall of rain for the month was nearly two inches.

Lewisham, June 1, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending May 26 the births of 856 boys and 767 girls, in all 1622 children, were registered within the metropolitan districts. The average number for the 21st week of the year, for the previous ten years, was 1399. The number of deaths registered within the same interval of time and space were 1000, under twenty years of age; 154 at twenty and under forty; 396 at forty and less than sixty; 199 at sixty and under eighty; and 52 at ages exceeding eighty years: in all 1187 deaths—600 were males, and 587 females. The average number of deaths for this week, from ten years' records, and increased proportionately to the increase of population, is 1046. It appears, therefore, that 141 persons died last week more than would have died according to the ordinary mortality in the first week of the year. There is no decrease in the high rate of mortality which has lately prevailed in London, and which seems to be mostly owing to the long continuance of cold weather, accompanied with the north and east winds.

THE BRITISH BENEFICENT INSTITUTION.—The sixth annual festival of this institution was celebrated on Wednesday at the London Tavern; His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge was in the chair. The amount collected was about £850.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.—A numerous meeting was held on Tuesday night at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, with the view of establishing a branch association for the purpose of co-operating with the Central Reform Association. Mr. Ellington occupied the chair, and the meeting was addressed by that gentleman, Mr. Murough, M.P., Mr. Webber, and others.

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, CHARING-CROSS.—The performances at the Haymarket Theatre on Friday next, the 8th inst., are announced for the sole benefit of the above excellent charity. The bill includes the play of "As You Like it," with Miss Helen Faucit as *Rosalind*, and Mr. Harry Sullivan as *Jaques*; to be followed by the new farce of "Only a Halfpenny," a ballet, and the "Two Bonny Lasses." With such attractions, the result will, doubtless, be highly beneficial to the funds of the Ophthalmic Institution, which is much in need of pecuniary assistance.

MAINE LIQUOR LAW.—On Monday night a public meeting, respectably attended, was held at St. Martin's-hall, convened by the "United Kingdom Alliance for the Total Suppression of the Traffic in Intoxicating Liquors throughout the United Kingdom," in aid of their movement. Alderman Sir R. Carden occupied the chair. The Rev. J. Hanson, the Rev. Jabez Burns, D.D., and other gentlemen, having addressed the meeting, a resolution in furtherance of the objects of the meeting was adopted, and also a petition to both Houses of Parliament, praying for the enactment of a law absolutely prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors in this country. On Wednesday night the "Alliance" held a public meeting in Exeter-hall, the body of which was well filled, in aid of their movement. Sir Walter C. Trevelyan occupied the chair; and, with the Earl of Harrington, Alderman Harrison (of Wakefield), and Sir R. W. Carden, addressed the meeting in support of the principles of the association. A resolution, declaring "that the traffic in intoxicating liquors, as common beverages, is inimical to the true interests of individuals, and destructive of the order and welfare of society, and ought therefore to be prohibited," was carried by a large majority, in preference to an amendment moved by Mr. Forster declaring the attempt to enforce temperance by prohibitory enactments to be unwise, and an unjust interference with sacred individual liberty.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—On Tuesday, Mr. Simpson, as president of the institution, gave his annual *conversazione* in Great George-street. Notwithstanding the powerful competition of the French Exposition, Mr. Charles Manby, the indefatigable secretary, succeeded admirably in assembling a large collection of mechanical novelties of the most striking character; and a very interesting collection of paintings and sculpture—among them Mr. Lucas's portraits of the engineers at the raising of the Britannia tube, and a fine marble bust of Professor Faraday, by Noble. The theatre of the institution was newly arranged for the occasion; the working models being placed upon successive stages, or wide steps, rising from the area. The ventilation was also more successfully accomplished than in any former year. Among the more attractive novelties was an adaptation of Foucault's method of illustrating the rotation of the earth. A working set of Mather's earth-boring machines, and the American invention of Dr. Brown were exhibited; as were also Mr. William Smith's new arrangement for laying down submarine telegraphs, Siemen's regenerative steam-engine, Reid's glass balance, Burleigh's patent switch, Hansen's water-meter, How's cutter for levelling bars. Symon's magneto apparatus, the Atlantic telegraph plan, M'Adam's numbering-machine, Colonel Colt's revolving pistol, a working model of a double basin, Berdan's quartz-crushing machine as now arranged for Australia, and working successfully; Berthon's patent collapsing life-boat, Clifford's plan for unlashing and lowering ships' boats, Ogilby and Moore's invention for iron launches in compartments of the West African coast, Godbaldt's patent duplex gas-burner, Hoare's engineer's slide-rule, Norton's distance-indicator, How's sailing vessel, Swiss drawing instruments, remarkable for their beautiful workmanship and economy of price, exhibited by Mr. Barlow, &c. The company was extremely numerous throughout the evening, and included the representatives of science, art, and literature; and the *conversazione* was one of the most brilliant meetings of the institution.

THE SUNDAY TRADING BILL.—A meeting of the inhabitants of the parish of St. Clement Danes was held in the Vestry-hall, Fleet-street, on Wednesday evening, for the purpose of taking into consideration the bill now before Parliament for the suppression of Sunday trading. Mr. Murchwarden Child in the chair. Mr. Gassiot, after remarking upon the prevalence of Sunday trading in the parish, which he observed, never would be abated until the closing of shops was rendered compulsory, moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting is of opinion that the bill now before Parliament for the suppression of unnecessary Sunday trading is calculated to prevent to a great extent the employment of persons engaged in shops and otherwise on the Sunday, and thereby to secure to them opportunities for both moral and bodily relaxation, and will, if passed into a law, contribute greatly to the promotion of the social order throughout the metropolis." Mr. Tomlinson seconded the resolution. Mr. Biggett, while he supported the bill, would very much like to see the British Museum and the Crystal Palace open on the Sunday. Mr. Oliphant approved of what had fallen from the last speaker, and moved the following amendment:—"That this meeting expresses its satisfaction that a bill has been introduced into Parliament to prevent trading on Sunday within the metropolitan police district; and is of opinion that such legislation is calculated to improve the moral, social, and religious condition of the people." The amendment was negatived by 40 votes to 26. An amendment deprecating legislative interference was also lost. The original motion was agreed to; and, after adopting a petition to Parliament, the proceedings terminated.

SHIPWRECKED MARINERS' SOCIETY. The sixteenth annual meeting of this benevolent institution was held at Willis's Rooms on Wednesday. The Right Hon. Lord Henry Cholmondeley, M.P., who presided, expressed his warm attachment to the society, and avowed his assurance that the interest was as much thought of the length and breadth of the land, the more universally it would be appreciated. The report stated, among other things, that the number of ships wrecked during the year the storms that swept the coasts of the United Kingdom were truly appalling, and exceeded in violence any that had been known in the memory of the oldest man. The number of casualties among the shipping was equally unprecedented. During that short period 420 vessels were wrecked, stranded, or foundered, with the loss of upwards of 1000 lives; and the immediate effect, especially the east, presented a scene of excitement beyond description. The awful gales in the Black Sea had also been the occasion of fearfully swelling the list of the recipients of the charity and the number of ships wrecked reported at Lloyd's had been multiplied to the large number of 1350, with the loss of upwards of 2000 lives; 987 of which, with 1049 lives, appear by the Annual register of shipwrecks to have been lost on the shores and in the seas of the United Kingdom. Relief had been afforded to 3546 shipwrecked persons, including mariners and fishermen, shipowners, to assist in replacing their clothes and boats; and to 2306 widows, orphans, and aged parents; making together a total of 5852 persons relieved between the 1st January and 31st December. The number of mariners and fishermen annually relieved by the society from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per annum now exceeded 40,000; while 2804 vessels carried its distinguishing flag. The society had during the past year handed over all its lifeboat establishments to the Royal National Life-boat Institution, as they hoped thereby that the work would be better carried out by one institution in London devoted to the object, and working energetically under the patronage of the Government; and it had been agreed that the work of encouraging exertions to save life on the high seas or coasts of our Colonies should be carried on by the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, which during the past year had awarded fourteen silver medals and £93 in pecuniary rewards for heroic exertions in saving life, making a total of five gold, forty silver medals, and £962 10s. given since 1851, for assisting at the saving of 1060 lives.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY. The annual dinner of the society was held at Willis's Rooms on Monday, when the chair was taken by Sir Roderick I. Murchison, in the absence of the Earl of Ellesmere, the retiring President, and of Admiral Beechey, the President Elect, both of whom were unhappily unwell. Upwards of a hundred distinguished men and their friends supported the chair, among whom were several distinguished travellers and men of science.

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.—Yesterday (Friday) morning the annual meeting of the members of this society, which has effected so much good, especially during the last few years, in bringing to justice persons of various classes and stations in life who have been guilty of cruelty to animals was held at the Queen's Concert Room, Hanover-square; the Marquis of Westminster presiding. The Lord Mayor, as Chairman, in opening the proceedings, alluded to a very brilliant and enthusiastic meeting recently held in Paris under the presidency of the Vicomte de Valmer, in aid of the objects of the society, and mentioned several cases of cruelty which had been successfully prosecuted during the past year—amongst others, one at Wakefield, where a man inveigled a cat into his house and bit off its nose; one at Brighton, where the proprietor of the baths was convicted for working a horse in a terrible condition; and another at Ashby, where an unfortunate cock was pinned down and most cruelly tortured. The noble Lord passed a high eulogium on Mr. Middleton, the secretary, as well as upon Mr. H. R. Forster, who conducted the general affairs of the society. The appointment of this gentleman had produced the most invaluable results. The powers entrusted to him had been wielded with great judgment, and at the same time, with great activity, and he had no hesitation in saying that the society had been a great gainer by that gentleman's accession to office.

WORKING-MEN'S COLLEGE.—A general meeting of the members of the Working-men's College was held at the Hall of Association, Castle-street, on Thursday evening, being a kind of réunion at the close of the third term. The attendance was very numerous. The Rev. F. D. Maurice, Principal of the College, presided, and observed that the largeness of the attendance on so bad an evening proved the interest which the pupils took in the institution. The accounts he received of the progress of the different classes were satisfactory. The number of pupils remained about the same as at the close of the previous term, but the attendance at class was steady. The idea of a similar institution for working women had been considered, and he believed that something still larger than was originally contemplated would be wrought out of it. He was glad to find that they (the working men) entertained higher and better notions about the education of women than many above them in society did. The Principal called on the several teachers who were present to state the condition and progress of their several classes, which they did in very approving terms. The Rev. Thomas Hughes read a paper on the objects of Working Men's Institutions, which he said sprung up about the same time, and from the same necessity, as the new Administrative Reform Association. He considered that the new association was wrong in decrying as it had done birth and ancestry, and paying too exclusive a regard to mere success in the pursuits of wealth, whilst the aristocracy were equally wrong in regarding merit as a mere question of opinion. It was the duty of the working men to remain spectators for the present, and meanwhile to educate themselves to the level of those above them.

LOSS OF LIFE AT SOUTH LAMBETH WATERWORKS.—Shortly before eight o'clock, on Wednesday, an appalling accident took place at the reservoirs of the South Lambeth Waterworks, adjoining the old House of Correction on Brixton-hill. The reservoirs, four in number, occupy an area of nearly four acres, and are some 22 feet in depth, 700 feet long, and 200 feet broad, the water being supplied by pipes of large dimensions from Thames Ditton. While about thirty men were engaged striking the centres from the completed arches, removing the scaffolding, &c., almost without any warning, about twelve or fourteen of the arches gave way and fell to the bottom of the reservoir with a loud crash, burying beneath them the men who were at work; some twenty labourers, who were levelling the earth outside on the top of the reservoir, also falling with the mass. The shock occasioned by the fall alarmed the whole neighbourhood; and the most prompt measures were taken to extricate the sufferers. Although nearly 200 labourers were engaged in the task, it was eleven o'clock before the whole of the parties were got out. Four of them, unhappily, had been crushed to death; seven others were found to be severely injured, and were at once sent to Guy's Hospital.

THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY.—At a meeting of the special committee appointed by the College of Chemistry to close its affairs, on account of its transfer to the department of Science and Art at the Board of Trade, Lord Ashburton presented a testimonial from the Council to Dr. Hofmann, and also a piece of plate, as a personal testimonial from some of Dr. Hoffman's friends.

ART-CONTRIBUTIONS.—BURLINGTON-HOUSE, PICCADILLY.—Within the last few days the committee have paid £1000 as a further instalment to the Patriotic Fund—making in all £2320. On Saturday last the committee were favoured with the gratuitous services of the band of the Scots Fusiliers, and upwards of 1200 persons paid for admission. The "Crystal Palace Choir," owing to some very interesting drawings which it contains, proves very attractive. The association have been kindly promised the gratuitous services of the bands of the Blues on the 9th inst., and of the 2nd Life Guards on the 12th.

CITY BUSINESS ON SATURDAYS.—The movement in favour of terminating business hours on Saturdays at two o'clock, continues to meet with additional supporters, and promises finally to include every class of traders. On Tuesday last it definitely received the sanction of the Stock Exchange, the committee, by accordance with the wishes of the members, having resolved last week, that from and after Saturday, the 16th June, business shall officially terminate at one o'clock, and the house be peremptorily closed at two o'clock (being two hours earlier than on other days of the week), a notice to this effect was posted on the Stock Exchange on Tuesday afternoon.

ENGLISH PRISONERS AT BALACLAVA.—Mr. Upton leaves for England with his wife and family in the course of the week. He is the son of the Mr. Upton who fortified Sebastopol. At the taking of Balaclava he remained quietly, and gave himself up as a prisoner to the English. It is a purely nominal thing, as he goes about everywhere, accompanied generally by his three sweetly pretty girls. These little things, who are constantly about, dressed in round hats and little jackets, ride with two pet dogs, put one more in mind of England and home than anything I have seen out here. A rather amusing anecdote is told of them. They were the other day out for a walk, when a soldier, who did—as I did—stop to meet them; in astonishment at seeing three prettily-dressed English-looking children, he stopped and asked them who they were, when the eldest replied, with the greatest gravity, "Please, sir, we're prisoners."—*Letter from the Camp, May 10.*

NEW GUN CARRIAGE.—Letters from Munich, of the 26th, give an account of the experiments lately made at Ingolstadt, in the presence of the King and the whole of his staff, on a new gun-carriage, invented by Duke William of Wurtemberg, which were considered perfectly satisfactory. Although the carriage is constructed entirely of forged iron, it weighs two cwt. less than the common 6-pounder gun-carriage, and therefore requires less manual labour to detach it from the tumbril, and can be placed in position with greater celerity. But the chief feature of the invention is that the gun is placed beneath the axle, by which means the chances of upsetting the gun, from the inequalities of the field, are greatly reduced, as the centre of gravity is placed much lower than in the gun-carriages at present used in the artillery. The last experiments are to be made in the presence of Prince Luitpold, the head of the Bavarian artillery, on his return from Italy in a few days, and the invention will then be introduced generally.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

VISCOUNT STRANGFORD.

PERCY CLINTON SYDNEY SMYTHE, sixth Viscount Strangford in the Peerage of Ireland, and first Baron Penshurst in that of the United Kingdom, was the eldest son of Lionel, fifth Viscount Strangford, by his wife, Maria Eliza, eldest daughter of Frederick Philipse, Esq., of Philipsburg, New York. He was born the 31st January, 1780, and was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated, and obtained the gold medal in 1800. He succeeded his father in 1801 as sixth Viscount, and became attached to the diplomatic service of his country in 1803, and displayed in it much ability. He was successively British Minister in Brazil and at Stockholm, and Ambassador at Constantinople and at St. Petersburg, and, in 1828, he was again in Brazil on a special mission. The Viscount was, however, not only distinguished as a diplomatist, but also as an author and a poet. His interesting biography, and spirited verse translations of Camoens have made that great Portuguese bard gracefully and agreeably familiar to the English public. Lord Strangford's work has enjoyed deserved popularity, and now fairly ranks among our classic versions of foreign authors. Viscount Strangford obtained his British peerage by creation in 1828. He was also a Privy Councillor, a G.C.B., a G.C.H., a Grandee of Portugal, and a Knight of the Portuguese Order of the Tower and Sword. His Lordship married, the 17th July, 1817, Ellen, youngest daughter of Sir Thomas Burke, Bart., and widow of Nicholas Browne, Esq., of Mount Hazel, co. Galway, by whom (who died the 26th May, 1826) he had issue three sons—of whom two survive—and two daughters, viz., the Marchioness of Ormonde, who died in 1852; and Mrs. Baillie. Viscount Strangford died on the 29th ult., at his residence, 68, Harley-street, Cavendish-square. He is succeeded by his elder son, now the seventh Viscount; who, as the Hon. George Sydney Smythe, is well and creditably known in Ministerial and Parliamentary life; and in literature, also, as the author of "Historic Fancies," and other works.

GENERAL LORD C. S. MANNERS

LORD CHARLES SOMERSET MANNERS, a General in the British Army, was the second son of Charles, fourth Duke of Rutland, by his wife, the Lady Mary Isabella, fifth daughter of Charles, fourth Duke of Beaufort. He was born on the 24th of October, 1780. His military career began very early in life, for he entered the Army before he was nineteen years of age, as a Cornet in the 10th Dragoons. He served during the Spanish campaign of 1808, and was present at the cavalry engagement at Benavente. He accompanied the expedition under the Earl of Chatham, to whom he acted as Aide-de-Camp, to Walcheren, and he assisted at the siege of Flushing. In 1811 Manners was appointed Aide-de-Camp to the Duke of Wellington, and was on duty at the Staff and in command Madrid in 1812, when he was entrusted with the command of the 3rd Dragoons, which he had till the war closed in 1814. Manners won much fame at the battles of Salamanca, Vittoria, and Toulouse. The medal and two clasps he received bear testimony to his gallant conduct in those glorious engagements. Lord Charles was, in 1817, appointed Aide-de-Camp to George IV; and for a short time he was Colonel-in-Chief of the 11th Hussars; but he returned to his favourite corps, the 3rd Dragoons, as Colonel in 1839, and he retained that command till his death. In politics Lord Charles Manners was a Conservative. He represented Cambridgeshire in two Parliaments previous to 1835; and since that he sat for North Leicestershire uninterruptedly up to the last general election, when his declining health caused him to retire. He was succeeded in the representation by his nephew, the Marquis of Granby. Lord Charles, in recognition of his military services, was nominated, in 1838, a Knight Commander of the Bath. He had then the Cornetcy, which he obtained in 1798, risen through all the intermediate grades to that of Colonel, which he attained in 1854.

General Lord Charles Somerset Manners died on the 26th ult., in London, shortly after arriving from the Duke of Rutland's seat, Belvoir Castle, Leicestershire. He was never married

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM MACBEAN, K.C.B.

THIS distinguished officer, Colonel of the 92nd Foot, died at Brompton, on the 25th ult. He was born in 1782, the son of the late Colonel Macbean, of the 6th regiment, and grandson of Lieut.-General Macbean, R.A. He had been sixty years in the Army, and during that long period saw much service. In 1798 he was engaged against the Irish rebels, and was present at the battle of Vinegar-hill and the capture of Wexford. In 1808 he landed in Portugal, and thenceforward took an active part in the Peninsular campaign, having received a cross for his services in command of the 16th and 24th at Busaco, Salamanca, St. Sebastian, and Nive.

Sir William was successively on the Staff at the Cape of Good Hope, in the East Indies, and in Ireland. In 1830 he was created a Knight Commander of the Bath, and was made Colonel of the 92nd. He was one of the General Officers having rewards for distinguished services.

LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR GEORGE CHARLES D'AGUILAR.

THE death of this gallant officer occurred on the 21st ult., in Lower Brook-street. Sir George was born in 1785, the son of S. D'Aguilar, Esq., of Liverpool, and entered the Army in 1799. For eight years he served in India during the wars of Scindiah and Holkar, and was wounded at the assault on Bhurtpore in 1806. Subsequently he took part in the Walcheren expedition; and was at Sicily, in the Greek Islands, and on the east coast of Spain. In 1813 he joined the Duke of Wellington's army in the Pyrenees, and was present at the occupation of Paris. He was for eight years Adjutant-General of the Army in Ireland. At one period he was employed in China. He received the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Bath in 1825, and was given the Colonelcy of the 23rd Foot in 1851.

He married, in 1809, Eliza, second daughter of the late Peter Drinkwater, Esq., of Irwell-house, co. Lancaster, and had issue.

JOHN HEATON, ESQ., OF PLAS HEATON, CO. OF DENBIGH.

THIS respected gentleman, who died on the 14th ult., within two days of his sixty-eighth birthday, was the representative of an ancient family long seated in the Vale of Clwd, Denbighshire. The first of the house who settled in Wales was a follower of Henry Lacy, the great Earl of Lincoln, Constable of Chester, and had a grant of the Lordships of Rhos and Rhyvoniog from Edward I. Mr. Heaton, the subject of this notice was Chairman of Quarter Sessions for the county of Denbigh during the last twenty years. In 1854 he received from the magistrates and inhabitants of that county a handsome testimonial, as an acknowledgment of his public services. Mr. Heaton was twice married: first, to Elizabeth, sister of Wilson Jones, Esq., of Hartsheath Park; and, secondly, to Anne-Eliza, eldest sister of Lord Hesketh. Of the issue of these two marriages the survivors are seven sons and five daughters.

THE NEW CHAPEL just erected for CONGREGATIONAL DISSENTERS, at Philimore-terrace, Kensington—Rev. J. Stoughton, Pastor—was opened on Wednesday last, when sermons were preached by the Rev. T. Murney and the Hon. and Rev. R. W. Noel, to very full congregations. Between the services about 300 ministers and friends sat down to an elegant collation laid out in a tent in the grounds of Mr. Charles Bennett, Woolsthorpe Lodge, named from the birthplace of Sir Isaac Newton, who resided at Kensington. Suitable speeches on the occasion were made by Mr. T. Chambers, M.P., Mr. Apsley Pellatt, M.P., Dr. Morrison, Rev. T. Stratten, &c. The collections made amounted to £265. The chapel is a fine architectural composition in Roman-Corinthian, chiefly from the Portico of the Pantheon at Rome. The exterior is stone. Accommodation is provided for 1200 adults. The architect is Mr. A. Trimen. This chapel exhibits one of the greatest efforts yet attempted in London in connection with the Dissenters, whether having regard to the architectural design, to the general dimensions, or to the materials employed in its construction. The entire cost, including the purchase of ground and organ, is £7000.

THE QUEEN AND THE TWO GALLANT SAILORS.—At the anniversary dinner of the British Beneficent Institution, on Wednesday last, General Sir James Macdonald—the hero of Hougoumont—related, in returning thanks for the Army, the following incident that occurred during the presentation of the Crimean medals by her Majesty:—"When (said the veteran) that gallant officer, Sir Thomas Troubridge, was wheeled to the dais on which her Majesty sat, the Queen personally hung him with the medal which he had so dearly won, declared to him that from that moment for the rest of his life he was her Aide-de-Camp. In making that declaration her Majesty expressed her deep sympathy for the misfortunes of that gallant man by dropping a silent tear—a tear which ought to be encased in glass and placed in our national museum (Immense cheering). I may be permitted to mention another incident. When one of our gallant and glorious British tars approached to receive his reward, the medal by some accident dropped to the ground. It was picked up and presented to him by the Minister-at-War, on which the gallant tar said he would much sooner have received it from the hands of the Queen. Her Majesty immediately desired it to be replaced on the dais, and then took it up and presented it to the gallant fellow, whose feelings may be better imagined than described at this mark of her Majesty's favour."

THE NEW ROUTE TO THE CONTINENT, via Harwich and Antwerp, from the high speed of the vessels employed—the run between the two ports (137 miles) being frequently accomplished in ten hours—and the economy both of time and money it offers, is rapidly increasing in favour. In future the boats will leave Antwerp at nine a.m., arriving at Harwich by daylight, and in time for a special train due at Shoreditch at 10.30 p.m. This alteration—which has been made in order to work in connection with the trains direct from Berlin, Leipsic, Brunswick, Hanover, Cologne, Brussels, &c.—will bring the Prussian capital within forty hours of London!

NEAR SEBASTOPOL.—AMBULANCE WAITING FOR THE WOUNDED.

SKETCHES OF THE WAR.

We resume our Artist's Sketches before Sebastopol, with a picturesque scene of the Watering-place, from the Middle, or, as it is sometimes called, the White House Ravine, from the building on the right of the picture, which is occupied for Commissariat stores. In the foreground is the Well and Watering-place, with picturesque groups of French soldiers—Zouaves, &c.; and on their way down the ravine, towards Sebastopol, is the night relief, which generally musters between two and three thousand men (*See front page*).

Next is a View of an Ambulance waiting for the Wounded: in the distance is seen the Green Hill. This lonely spot is near the Valley of Death—of which we have also received from our Artist a sketch full of the poetic melancholy which the name implies. We shall engrave this sad scene in a week or two.

The next Illustration is from a Correspondent in the Camp before Sebastopol, who sent it as a specimen of Russian art—"a grotesque picture (he says), which I observed suspended above an embrasure in one of the enemy's batteries, which guard the Sebastopol road at the head of the Dockyard Creek. The subject seems to intimate that the Russian gunner can enjoy the ridicule of his enemies as well as his neighbours." The scene is sketched as seen through a telescope directed on the works in Sebastopol.

Our own Artist accompanies his sketch of the next Illustration with these particulars:—"I had commenced a view of the town of Sebastopol from the Green-hill Battery; but, having had several shots fired at me from the Russian rifle-pits, with rather unpleasant precision, I thought it advisable to defer the washing-in of the effect in my water-colour sketch until some more favourable opportunity, when the attention of the Russian sharpshooters might be directed to some other object; for, I assure you that the sound of a rifle-ball is anything but pleasant to the care of an amateur." The accompanying scene is the result of this somewhat perilous enterprise. It shows the town, sketched from the battery, with piles arms, a working party, &c.

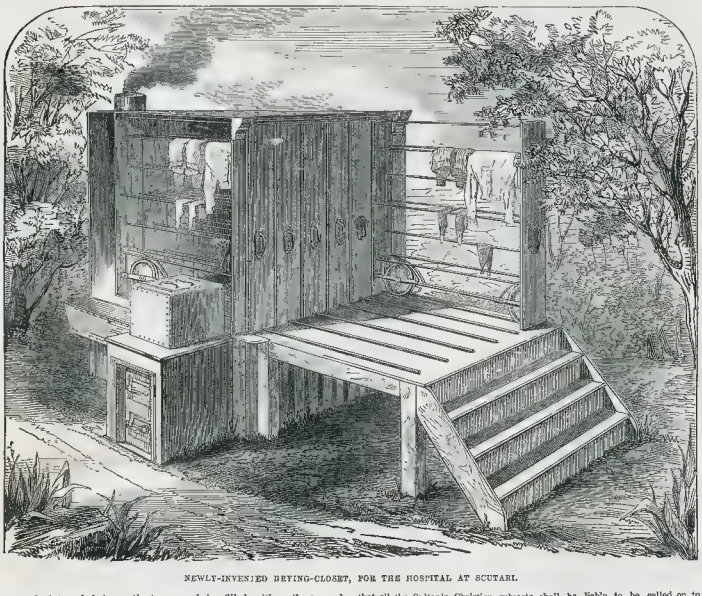
The lowermost Illustration on the next page shows the spot at Balaclava, where the linen, &c., are washed for the General Hospital.

HOUSE IN SEBASTOPOL, SEEN THROUGH A TELESCOPE.

NEWLY-INVENTED DRYING-CLOSET.

This Closet has been recently forwarded to Scutari, for the convenience of the sick and wounded in the Hospital. Its cost has been defrayed by the munificence of Miss Burdett Coutts, who has made her self acquainted with its capabilities to the most minute details, and has sent an engineer to Scutari with it, to superintend the working of it for a time. The Closet consists of six "horses" of galvanised iron, inclosed in a double case of corrugated

SEBASTOPOL, FROM THE GREEN-HILL BATTERY.



NEWLY-INVENTED DRYING-CLOSET, FOR THE HOSPITAL AT SCUTARI.

ron; the intervals between the two cases being filled with earth or sand, to prevent the external radiation.

Its capabilities were previously tested before Miss Burdett Coutts, when it was shown that 1000 articles of linen can be thoroughly dried in twenty-five minutes by means of this contrivance. The working temperature is 240 deg. The waste heat from the furnace heats the water in the boiler of 100 gallons capacity. There is also the convenience of a washing-trough and a wringing-machine attached. The whole apparatus is portable, and easily fixed in any situation.

This Closet was made from a suggestion by Lieut. Tracey; the entire management being left to Mr. Jeakes, of Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, under whose energetic direction it was completed and got ready for trial in sixteen days.

THE NEW TURKISH ARMY.—The *Journal de Constantinople* publishes the Imperial *hatt*, by which the Christian subjects of the Sultan hitherto excluded, by jealousy of religion and race, from the profession of arms, are called to take part in the military service of the Empire. The proclamation starts from the point, that all the subjects of the Sultan are alike, and without exception cared for by their Sovereign. It is next intimated that measures are taking for consolidating the bases of the Ottoman State, for carrying out administrative reforms, and for giving legal guarantees for the welfare of all. It is under these circumstances that the regulations respecting the military service of the empire come under revision. The fact that the Mussulmans at present perform the military service, while the *zakat* belongs to all, is presented as an anomaly which it is time to abolish. Accordingly, it has been resolved, with the advice of the high dignitaries of the State, that all the Sultan's Christian subjects shall be liable to be called on to serve in the army, as they are already bound in duty to do; that those enrolled shall form a military contingent; and that those who do not serve in person shall pay, in addition to the ordinary taxes a special impost, to be called the Djidjeye, or indemnity. It is said, further, that owing to the great numerical superiority of the Mussulman population, and their habit of carrying arms, the Christian portion of the Sultan's army will always be smaller than that composed of the same elements as at present. The rules under which these measures are to be carried out will be published in special firmans. In the meanwhile the enrolment will commence, both in Asia and in European Turkey, the soldiers so raised to be entitled to all the rights which may hereafter be established more definitively for the benefit of the Christian army. Those soldiers who give proof of capacity and merit will be raised to the rank of officers. In this way the burden of military service, which has hitherto weighed exclusively upon the Mussulmans, will be alleviated, and the other classes of the population of the empire will be admitted to the honour and glory of serving the State and the country.

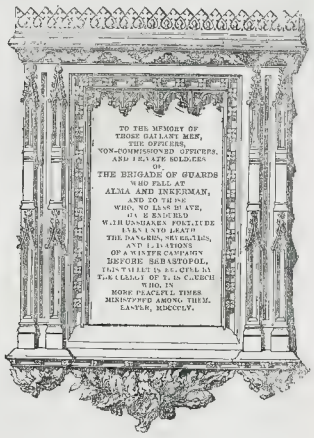
THE RUSSIAN OVERLAND TRADE. The transport of goods between St. Petersburg and Kowno has, in consequence of the blockade of the Bay of Finland, attained a magnitude that affords employment to some thousands of carriers, waggoners, &c., and it is computed also to 30,000 horses. In addition to this amount of traffic the number of troops marching from the capital westwards often make the roads impassable for private travellers for half a day at a time. The unconscientious conduct of these *kibitka* drivers, as regards the goods committed to their care, has given rise to so many complaints, that the Minister of the Interior has found himself compelled to issue special police instructions with reference to these gentry. It was notorious that they not unfrequently threw away to the road-side goods entrusted to them to convey, or purposely left them at railway stations or in private houses, not to say pawned them. *Letter from Berlin, May 26.*

MONUMENT TO THE GUARDS AT WINDSOR.

A NEAT tablet, of Gothic design, has lately been erected in the Church of the Holy Trinity at Windsor, to the memory of the officers and soldiers of the Brigade of Guards, who fell at the battles of the Alma and Inkerman.

The Church of the Holy Trinity was erected ten years ago, in part for the accommodation of the Household Troops quartered at Windsor; and here the whole of the Brigade of Guards have frequently attended Divine service. Hence arose the proposition to erect this tablet; and the accompanying representation of this memorial will, doubtless, be very interesting to the remains of that gallant brigade, when this number of our Journal reaches the Crimea, as a token of homage to their bravery, and sympathy with their sufferings.

The Household Brigade generally have a kindly feeling towards the Church of the Holy Trinity. The officers of the 1st and 2nd Life Guards have selected it as the church in which to place tablets to the memory of two of their brother officers who have died in the course of the last six years (Lord William Beresford and the Hon Captain Bertie). The non-commissioned officers and privates of the same regiments have also placed here a tablet to the memory of the Rev. John Hawley, in testimony o



TABLET JUST ERECTED IN HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, WINDSOR.

their regard and esteem of his zealous ministry among them when they were quartered at Windsor. These circumstances are highly gratifying, indicative of the feeling of attachment of the Household Brigade towards the church.

The tablet has been designed and erected by Mr. White, of Vauxhall-bridge-road.

A BERNE journal states that Colonel Dickson had arrived there for the purpose of concluding contracts for the formation of an Anglo-Swiss Legion. Colonel Salzberger, of Thurgau, is said to have undertaken to organise this legion, in which duty he will be joined by Colonel Funk, who commands the artillery of Berne. These officers will each command one of the two regiments, which will be placed under the orders of an English General. The advantageous conditions offered to the soldiers are the same as those given by the recruiting officers at Longwy and Thionville—viz., 180f. bounty and 1f. 50c. a day pay.

M. CHARLES BAUDIN who has acted as Chargé d'Affaires here since the departure of his Excellency Count Walewski retains his post as First Secretary to the Embassy.

WASHING ESTABLISHMENT FOR THE GENERAL HOSPITAL AT BALACLAVA.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, June 3.—Trinity Sunday
MONDAY, 4.—Kingdom of the Netherlands divided, 1831.
TUESDAY, 5.—St. Boniface.
WEDNESDAY, 6.—Weber died, 1826.
THURSDAY, 7.—Corpus Christi.
FRIDAY, 8.—Astley's Theatre burnt, 1841.
SATURDAY, 9.—Lilly the Astrologer died, 1681.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 9.

Sunday.		Monday		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m	M h m	A h m
3 37	4 0	4 24	4 48	5 12	5 39	6 8	6 37	7 6	7 41	8 15	8 52	9 28	9 59

LOVE, the FIRST DRAMATIC VENTRILOQUIST of Europe, at the UPPER HALL, 69, Quadrant, Regent-street. Every Evening at Eight o'Clock, except Saturday; Saturday at Three. Piano, Miss Julia Warman.

CATERHAM RAILWAY COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given that the next ORDINARY MEETING of the Shareholders of the Caterham Railway Company will be held at the office of the Company, Hibernia-chambers, on MONDAY, the 25th day of JUNE next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon precisely. J. SYKES, Secretary
Hibernia-chambers, London-bridge, May 30th, 1855.

DAIRY MANAGEMENT. See No. 5. FARMER'S CLUB.—AGRICULTURAL MAGAZINE Sixpence post-free.—G. T. THOMASON, 10, Upper Thames-street; and all Booksellers.

WESTBOURNE COLLEGE, Bayswater-road, Hyde-park. Under the patronage of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London (Visitor Winchester, and London) Sir James Stephen, K.C.B. President, &c. &c. The Half Term will commence on WEDNESDAY, 6th JUNE. Prospectuses may be obtained on application. Fees: Six, Seven, or Eight guineas a Term. Entrance-fee, Two guineas; Stationery, One guinea a year. C. MACKENZIE, A.M., Principal.

LONDON HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL, 32, Golden-square.
Patroness—H. R. H. the Duchess of CAMBRIDGE.
Vice-Patron, The Duke of Beaufort.
President—The Right Honourable the Earl of Wilton
Chairman—The Right Honourable Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P.
A GENERAL MEETING of the Friends of this Hospital will be held at WILLIS'S ROOMS, King-street, St. James's, on WEDNESDAY, 6th JUNE, 1855, at Six o'Clock, p.m., the Right Hon. Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., in the chair. Several gentlemen are expected to attend and address the Meeting

INDIA, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, and CAPE of GOOD HOPE—W. O. YOUNG will dispatch the following fast-sailing A 1 Clipper SHIPS at the dates named as under:

Ships.	Tons	Commanders.	Destination.		Docks.	To Sail
Borderer	421	W. Good	Calcutta	..	London	June 15
Wm. Miles ..	854	J. Creighton ..	Calcutta	..	Liverpool	June 15
Martin Wortley ..	890	J. Simpson ..	Bombay	..	E. Ind. a	June 6
Planet	442	W. P. Buckham	Hong-Kong & Shanghae		London ..	June 5
Delphin	388	G. Murray ..	Hong-Kong & Whampoa		W. India	June 17
Balmoral	357	A. Clarke ..	Shanghae	..	London ..	June 20
Kensington ..	900	W. King ..	Port Phillip ..	..	London ..	June 10
Maid of Judah ..	663	J. Stevenson ..	Sydney	..	London ..	July 11
Ashlotar	504	Richard Pill ..	Geelong	..	London ..	June 5
Centurion	656	W. Edwards ..	Sydney	..	London ..	June 20
Sea Queen	416	W. Rows ..	Adelaide	..	St. Kath.	June 5
Northampton ..	469	Robert Bradshaw	Cape of Good Hope		London ..	June 6
Meteor	270	J. Brodie ..	Cape of Good Hope		London ..	June 15
Ocean Gem	392	E. Robinson ..	Cape of Good Hope		London ..	June 25
Edith	319	F. B. Harry ..	Agoa Bay	..	London ..	June 20
Clifford	300	H. Davis ..	Mosse. Bay	..	St. Kath.	June 15

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"The Devil's Bridge, Pass of St. Gothard." ..	W. Collingwood Smith.
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THE BALTIC FLEET, 1855.—We have the satisfaction to announce that on Saturday last Mr. J. W. Carmichael, the celebrated marine-painter, formerly of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, sailed for the Baltic, to sketch the Events of the War for the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. The Sketches by this distinguished Artist as they are received will be engraved in our Journal, so as to present a Series of Illustrations of the Operations of the coming Campaign in the Baltic.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1855.

THE Austrian Government is not pleased at the publication by the British Parliament of the protocols of the late Conferences at Vienna. Count Buol, in a circular to the Austrian Plenipotentiaries at the various Courts of Germany, persists in stating that the negotiations for peace cannot be regarded as terminated; and Lord Palmerston, in urging the withdrawal of Mr. Milner Gibson's motion, based his plea for Parliamentary silence on the same pretext. Count Buol, who sticks to protocols, "like grim Death," states that "Austria has resolved to recommend *confidentially* to the serious consideration of the Courts of Paris and of London new propositions, in which she thought to find a loyal and complete fulfilment of the Third Point of guarantee, and which *his Majesty the Emperor deems of a nature to be presented to the St. Petersburg Cabinet as an ultimatum.*" After scolding the British Government for breaking through the reserve which Count Buol thinks the case demanded, and for publishing what he deems ought not to have been published, he concludes by informing the representatives of the Emperor that "as yet Austria does not express *any* opinion upon the situation of affairs;" but that shortly it will break silence and explain itself fully to the German Diet at Frankfort. Fortunately the question has removed itself out of the pale of diplomacy—at least, for the present. For the future, the policy which Austria may be pleased to adopt with reference to the war against Russia is a matter of more concern to herself than to France and England. The Allies—with an alliance cemented in the sanguinary fields of the Alma and of Inkerman—are able to fight their own battle. They would be glad of Austrian aid; but they are in a position to do without it. If Austria plays the coward;—if she hate Russia, but is afraid to strike her;—if she allows timidity to sway her councils when boldness would best become them, on her own head will fall the retribution. She will not harm England or France; she will not save Russia from humiliation; but she will bring upon herself calamities that no foreign foe could inflict upon her, and open an account with her own subjects which she will have to wipe off at far greater expense and far more fearful hazard than she could have incurred by any display of vigour against Russia. If any State of Europe has reason to dwell with complacency upon the possible defection of Austria from the cause of the Western Powers, it is the gallant little State of Sardinia. There was a deluge after Metternichism, which Metternich foresaw; and there may be a deluge after Buolism and Bruckism, which neither Buol nor Bruck may be clear-sighted enough to discern. Austria is, indeed placed in a perilous dilemma by the war; a dilemma so great and so perilous that nothing but the highest courage and the promptest decision can save her from evil consequences. Take which side she will she is confronted with a danger and a difficulty. If she take part against Russia by actual hostility, the foreign armies, which in an unfortunate hour she degraded herself by calling to her rescue against the insurgent Hungarians, will, in all human probability, be employed to excite her Hungarian and Sclavonian populations to rebellion. Russia knows that there are such men as Kossuth and Mazzini in existence—and, in case of need, will not scruple to employ them, if she can discover no better or more readily available means of weakening her enemy. On the other side, if Austria boldly throws in her lot with Russia, the Allies will be unwise indeed if they, also, do not make use of the question of "nationalities," beginning with that of Poland, to see how far it will carry them, and what damage it will inflict upon the enemies of European freedom. The predicament of Austria would in this respect be bad enough in itself, without the additional evil of a neighbour and rival so tricky, and in reality so hostile, as Prussia—striving against her for the preponderance in Germany, and ready to take part in any project that might aggrandise the dynasty of Brandenburg at the expense of that of Hapsburg. Such are but a few of the difficulties that beset Austria; but, as happens among individuals, so it also happens among States and Empires—boldness and honesty to do the right, irrespective of consequences, cuts the knot that no skill and prudence could untie. It is in desperate circumstances that genius and greatness declare themselves; and if there be either genius or greatness in the Councils of the Emperor Francis Joseph, or in his own breast, Austria will even now at this, the eleventh hour, defy Russia by act and deed, as she has already defied her by her diplomacy. To have been saved from dismemberment by the armies of the late Emperor Nicholas is humiliation enough for a great empire like Austria to endure in a century. She cannot afford to add to it such humiliation as would be involved by her withdrawal from the Western alliance, after the part she has taken in the late negotiations.

THE Sebastopol Inquiry has unearthed a great many curious things; but perhaps a correspondence which has just been published, as part of the illustrations to the "System" which has so signally superseded the British Constitution, is about as instructive as any disclosures yet obtained. The number of letters is small, though the principal epistles are somewhat lengthy. The writers are the late Premier of England, and the late Leader of the House of Commons. The subject is the alleged incapacity of the Duke of Newcastle for the all-important office which he lately held. The difficulty is the doing justice to the nation concurrently with behaving kindly to the Duke. The result is (we need hardly say) that the Earl and the Lord prefer to sacrifice the interests of the country. The moral is—but perhaps that may be left to the sagacity of the readers.

There is nothing new in the facts which are thus elicited. Months ago the affair itself was the subject of debate in both Houses; and the country "thought its own thoughts" about the men who had stood by their order so scrupulously as the late Premier. And now it is probable that the still graver and darker revelations recently made by Mr. Gladstone, on behalf of himself and his own clique in the late Cabinets, will engross the attention of the nation, and this minor intrigue will pass unheeded. When a retiring Minister deliberately informs us that, while he and certain colleagues were professing to manage the war in the way most consistent with the honour of England, they were really conducting it in the way least injurious to the interests of Russia, we take the black confession *en masse*, and scarcely care to inquire into the means by which this patriotic scheme was carried out. Yet, as the Duke was one of Mr. Gladstone's party, and as the Earl of Aberdeen was another, this retention of an official whom the Whig Lord declared, and the Peelite Lord admitted, to be unequal to his office, was a victory on the side of the Russians in the Cabinet. The large question arising out of Mr. Gladstone's speech on the Disraeli motion is too important to be discussed incidentally, but it is most desirable to note how the Newcastle affair connects itself with the misfortunes of the Crimean campaign.

Lord John Russell appears perfectly to have understood the real views of his colleagues, and, with a certain degree of shrewdness, to have foreseen that, ultimately, the terrible war in which we had engaged would be found a Frankenstein to its creators. He, therefore, seems to have been inclined to "make stock" for the time that he saw was coming. When the late Government should be accused of playing with the war, it would be well to have it on record that a portion of the Government, at least, had had an awakened conscience on the subject. We sincerely wish that a worthier view of Lord John Russell's protest could be taken; but it would be an insult to common sense to affect to see sincerity in a demonstration which, upon a matter of such awful importance to the country as the due prosecution of a great war, went no further. We know the end of the story. Lord John Russell, in his place in the House, told us that, having protested against the Duke of Newcastle holding office, he took the advice of friends, and did not press the matter. *Liberavit animam!* How thrice fortunate is the nation whose ruler can absolve himself of responsibility so pleasantly. A few neatly-rounded paragraphs addressed to a noble friend and the work is done. The process is only paralleled by that of Mr. Micawber, who, when in the financial straits, always sat down and recorded in writing his extreme unhappiness and disgust with society, and rose with a kind of conviction that he had wound up his affairs.

The opinion of Lord John Russell was that the Duke of Newcastle ought to retire, and that Lord Palmerston ought to take his place. He assigns divers small reasons for this view, and a large one, and characteristically argues the minor reasons best. The grand justification for taking the War Department out of inefficient hands, and consigning it to others supposed to be vigorous, is treated very gingerly by both noble Lords; but the Earl of Aberdeen, in whose retentive memory a certain Palmerstonian phrase about "antiquated" imbecility may have abided, was eager to remind all whom it might concern that, if age were to be taken into account, "Palmerston is within a few months as old as I am." Both of the conscript fathers honoured the year 1784 by condescending then to come into the world for its government and guidance. But Lord Aberdeen does not deal with Lord John's proposition so much on the ground that Lord Palmerston was too old for the work, as on the assumption that nobody could do the work at all the logical corollary being that it might as well be left undone by a nice willing person, like friend Newcastle, as by anybody else. And this logic appears to have convinced Lord John Russell, or at least the "friends" who advised him, not to stir further in the business.

There are many undeniable propositions and much general good sense in Lord John Russell's protest, and this, we humbly venture to submit, makes the case rather worse for him. For an aristocratic logician he has been strangely content to avail himself of a plea which we hear chiefly from the very humble classes. No mistress of a household who has had occasion to point out the blunders of a domestic, but will remember to have been met with an answer, which to the culprit seemed to convey an extenuation by no means so apparent to the complainant. "Well, M'm, do you know that all the time I was doing it, I thought, somehow, that it was wrong." When the hour comes for demanding of Lord John Russell how he can justify his having continued to co-operate with those who were, by their own confession, wronging the trust reposed in them by their Sovereign, he will rise and urge that honourable gentlemen have only to turn to the Sebastopol evidence, and read from his own letters evidence that he knew all the time that it was wrong. How small the difference between the servants of the Crown and the servants of the cheesemonger!

One other suggestion has been prompted, less by the perusal of these letters than by reconsideration of the part played by Lord John Russell at the time they were written. It is thought that his Lordship, with all his abstract reverence for Lord Palmerston and all his notorious devotion to that nobleman's interests, could not discern in Lord Palmerston's antecedents or character any especial reason for his becoming Premier—especially, when another statesman of extraordinary merit was ready for the office. But it was evident that Lord Palmerston's talents and energy could not be left in the Home Department—anybody could receive deputations on Beer Bills, and correct the blunders of country magistrates. The nation wanted Palmerston for use, and would have him. It might be better, Lord John is supposed to have thought, that the war should be handed over—technically and officially—to Lord Palmerston, and that he should be so placed that the wishes of the nation might seem to be met than that the unreflecting and peremptory public should call him to the office of Premier. Palmerston, as War Minister, might remain so, in the event of changes; but from a less responsible post a change must lift him, and might lift him too high. If this were the idea, and Lord Aberdeen detected it, and therefore retained the Duke of Newcastle in place until change came and Lord Palmerston went up to the top of the tree, this was another victory of the Cabinet Russians.

So wags the world. Every week brings us some new evidence of the disinterested motives of those who are good enough to watch over our destinies, and of the system on which they work. But every such exposure, melancholy in itself, tends to good; and for this reason it is well that all possible publicity should be given to the Newcastle correspondence between Lords Aberdeen and John Russell.

THE NEWSPAPER-STAMP. In consequence of unexpected delays in the House of Lords, the bill introduced by Sir G. Cornewall Lewis, on behalf of the Government, for the abolition of the compulsory stamp on newspapers, has not yet passed through Committee. As the third reading will, in all probability, not take place till near the middle of June, and as the law will only become operative in fourteen days after it receives the Royal Assent, no changes announced or contemplated by the newspaper press, in consequence of the measure, can be legally carried into effect for some weeks yet to come; possibly not before the first week in July.

THE CHURCH-RATE ABOLITION BILL.—The House of Commons is to go into Committee on this measure on Friday, the 8th of June; and Mr. Follett, M.P., has given notice that he will move that the bill be committed that day six months.

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL has instituted a series of pecuniary fines varying from half a crown to half a sovereign, to be inflicted on his subordinates who are guilty of errors that endanger the safety of registered letters while passing through the post.

The Royal Agricultural Society have issued the programme of their intended proceedings at Carlisle, commencing July 19.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SEA OF AZOFF. ONE HUNDRED AND SIX RUSSIAN VESSELS DESTROYED.

The following intelligence has been received from the Secretary of the Admiralty:

"A telegraphic despatch has just been received at the Admiralty with the intelligence that on the 22nd of May, on the appearance of the Allied squadron before Berdiansk, the Russians burnt four war steamers and considerable stores of corn

"On the 23rd the forts of Arabat were bombarded and the powder magazines blown up.

"One hundred and six merchant vessels have been destroyed, and only one small Russian steamer remains in the Sea of Azoff

"Admiralty, May 31, 1855, 6.15 p.m."

The dates in this despatch are evidently wrong, as the one received by the French Minister of Marine states that these transactions took place on the 26th and 27th ult.

The *Times* has received the following telegraphic message from its correspondent in the Crimea:—

VARNA, Thursday

On the 24th of May the French made a reconnaissance across the Tchernaya with 35,000 men, and established a camp at Tchorgoun

Two thousand men of the Turkish Contingent have arrived.

The French have taken 1000 oxen at Kertch

At present there are twenty-four steamers of the Allies in the sea of Azoff

The *Osterreichische Zeitung*, under date of Constantinople, May 24, has the following:—

One hundred thousand Allied troops are about to attack the Russians at Inkerman

Eighteen steamers are cruising in the Sea of Azoff

VIENNA, May 30.

It is rumoured that the Grand Duke Constantine has resigned the office of Grand Admiral of the Russian Navy. The Peace party in St. Petersburg has regained the ascendant, and it is said that a new note is to be sent to the German Powers

Eight thousand Piedmontese troops have already arrived before Sebastopol, and about 7000 more are daily expected. Lord Raglan's force is now calculated at 50,000 men. The Turkish forces number 40,000 encamped near Balaclava, and 25,000 Turks and Egyptians, who commenced to arrive on the 15th, in exchange for the 10,000 who re-embarked some days before for Eupatoria. The French army numbers 115,000 men Thus the whole force of the Allies before Sebastopol amounts to about 200,000 men. It is said that for field operations about 91,000 of these will be detached consisting of 60 000 French troops, 20,000 Turks, the whole of the Sardinian troops, and a part of the English army. These statistics are drawn up from data supplied before the starting of the Kertch expedition. If the reports be correct, they seem to indicate that the Kertch expedition is in the main English, and therefore under the complete control of Sir George Brown; while the prevalence of the French force in the army (as reported) for operations in the field, would seem to indicate the probability of its being placed under the control of a French commander

THE COURT.

The Whitsun holidays have been passed in comparative retirement by the Court at Osborne. On Saturday last the Queen and Prince, accompanied by Prince Alfred, the Princess Helena, Princess Adelaide, and Princess Feodore, went to Parkhurst Barracks, where her Majesty inspected the depôt battalion, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Jeffreys.

On Sunday her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Princesses Alice, the Duchess of Kent, the Princess Helena, Princess Adelaide, and Princess Feodore attended Divine service at the parish church at Whippingham. The Rev George Prothero officiated

On Monday her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by the Marchioness of Ely, the Hon. Mary Seymour, Major-General Bouverie, and Captain De Paut, embarked in the *Fairy* for Portsmouth. The Queen and Prince, on arriving in the harbour, went on board the *Centurion*, transport screw-steamer, and inspected the arrangements for conveying the detachment of 17th Lancers [illegible] to rail for the Crimea in the evening. [illegible] Prince Consort went on board the new Royal yacht, and returned to Osborne about half past six o'clock

On Tuesday the Duchess of Kent took leave of her Majesty, and left Osborne for London. In the afternoon the Queen, accompanied by the Princess Helena, drove to Ryde. Prince Albert embarked in the Royal yacht *Fairy*, and went to see the new works constructing at Bonchurch Point

On Wednesday the Queen and the Prince walked in the grounds

On Thursday the Court returned to town, arriving at Buckingham Palace about six o'clock

Yesterday (Friday) her Majesty gave her second State Ball this season. The Hon. Mary Seymour has succeeded the Hon. Beatrice Byng in the Maid of Honour in Waiting

FASHIONABLE ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Countess Bernstorff gave a delightful juvenile ball, on Saturday afternoon, at the residence of the Prussian Legation, on Carlton-house-terrace. The *fashion* was honoured with the presence of their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, and their Royal Highnesses the Grand Duchess Hereditary of Mecklenburg-Strelitz and Prince Adolph of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. The young Prince Adolph appeared in the Highland costume.

The Countess Colloredo gave a magnificent ball on Wednesday evening, at the residence of the Austrian Legation, Cumberland-house. The Countess was honoured with a brilliant attendance. Several members of the Royal family and nearly one of the most distinguished representatives of the fashionable world were present.

The Duchess of Beaufort gave a grand ball on Tuesday night, at the family mansion in Grosvenor-square. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge honoured the *réunion* with his presence.

The Countess of Derby had an assembly on Thursday evening, at the family mansion in St James's-square. The party was most numerously attended

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady Anne Harris Douglas and the Honourable George Cowper, went to Frogmore on Wednesday, and returned to her residence, Clarence-house, St. James's, in the afternoon

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge dined with the Third Guards Club, at Grillion's Hotel, on Monday last.

FRENCH PLAYS.—The estimable comic actor, M. Levassor, will commence a short series of French Plays and the Mazurka Recreations at Compiègne, at the St James's Theatre, on Wednesday evening.

SCARCITY OF MEN IN RUSSIA.—In the present dearth of soldiers, which is beginning to be most sensibly felt, the Emperor has favourably listened to a proposal made by the Governor-General of the Caucasus for embodying the irregular corps of Tartars and Bashkirs inhabiting the provinces of Orenburg, Samara, Wiatka, and Perm. Count Perofsky is empowered to organise and embody the nomadic hordes of the Bashkirs and Tartars of the Steppes into regular military corps, giving each family thirty dessiatines of land belonging to the domains of the Crown.

A SIGN OF RETURNING PROSPERITY.—At the Bradford Borough Court, the other day, the night superintendent of the police force told the magistrates that during the last fortnight there had been more drunkenness in the street, and more drunken people brought to the police-station, than during the three months previously. The Mayor inquired, "How do you account for it?" "Trade must be mending," said the officer

The principal features of the Board of Trade for the month ending the 30th of April exhibit a considerable decrease in the employment of tonnage This decrease, however, has been relatively felt to a greater extent in foreign than in British shipping, a further corroboration being thus afforded of the fact, that British vessels have the preference whenever there is a full supply of both.

LAW VACANCIES. The appointments vacated by Mr. Phinn, the Second Secretary to the Admiralty, are:—Counsel to the Admiralty, Judge Advocate of the Fleet, Recorder of Devonport, Counsel to Post-office on Western Circuit, and to the Royal Forests in Hampshire. The first appointment is worth £500 per annum.

Monsieur Gonard left New Orleans in a balloon, and travelled 310 miles in 36 hours, landed his passengers at Port Gibson, Mississippi, and then resumed his voyage.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

A very extensive business having been transacted in Consols this week, both for Money and Time, prices have further declined nearly one per cent. This improvement in the quotations was, in a great measure, resulted from the large imports of the precious metals, and the favourable accounts from the Crimea, specting the progress of the Allied arms. In the Stock-Exchange there has been an increased demand for money, arising from the settlement in the Consol and Railway Market; but, at the Bank in Lombard street, the applications for accommodation have been limited in number and extent. That money will become cheaper, is evident from the great accumulation of capital in the Bank. To get rid of a portion of it, numerous large purchases of Stock have been made on account of the institution and many of the Bulls are apprehensive that the Stock will be forced upon the market at a unfavourable period. The South Sea Company has withdrawn some large sums hitherto lent by it

Arrangements have been completed of gold to the Continent, but some large purchases of bar silver have been made on German account, at 61½ per ounce The imports have been again [illegible] £171,000 from Australia, and not less [illegible] from New York. Several vessels with gold on board are now due from Sydney and Melbourne

On Monday Consols were very firm The Three per Cents marked 91¼ up to [illegible] the Three per Cents Reduced, 91; the New Threes per Cents, 91½ to 91¾; Bank Stock was 209½; India Stock, 235. The Omnium was worth 3½ to 4½ prem. Long Annuities, 18⅝, 16⅝. Exchequer Bills, 12s. to 17s; Ditto, Advertised, 7s. to 9s. prem There was a steady market on Tuesday, and the Three per Cents for the Account, were 92½—the Three per Cents Reduced being quoted at 91¾; the Three per Cent Consols, 91¾ to 92¼. India Stock 234 to 236; Bank Stock, 208½ to 209½. Long Annuities, 1860, were 3 15-16; Ditto, 1885, 16⅝ 11-16. Omnium marked 4¼ prem. Exchequer Bills, 16s to 20s. Ditto, advertised, 6s. to 8s. prem. The Market was firm on Wednesday:—Consols for Account were marked 92¼ to 93¼; the Three per Cents Reduced, 91½ to 91¾; the New Threes per Cents, 92¼; and the Three per Cents, 92¾ to 92¾. Long Annuities, 1860, 3⅝; India Bonds, 18s; Exchequer Bills, 16s. to 17s.; Ditto, advertised, 6s to 8s. prem; Omnium, 4¾ ¾ prem. On Thursday there was not quite so much activity, and prices showed a tendency to recede: Consols were 92¾ ¾; and for the Account, 93¼ ¼ to 92¾ ¾. New Three per Cents were 92 to 92¼; and Reduced, 91¼ ¾. Bank Stock, 210 to 208½; Omnium, 4¾ prem.; and the New Annuities, 16 13-16. Exchequer Bills, 18s. to 19s. prem

There has been considerable excitement in the market for Turkish Bonds, at a material advance in the quotations. They have marked 88¾. Buenos Ayres Six per Cents Have been [illegible] Ditto Bonds, 3¾; Mexican Three per Cents, 22¾; Russian Five per Cents, 106; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 99¼; Spanish Three per Cents, 38¾; Ditto, New, Deferred, 19¼; Sardinian Five Ditto Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 64; Ditto, Four per Cents, [illegible] Five per Cents, 99¼; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 87¾; Venezuela Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 28; and Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, [illegible]

All British Stocks have continued very firm in price, and rather extensive transactions have taken place in them. Australasia, 85¾; British North American, 85¾; Commercial, 31; English, Scottish, and Australian, Chartered, 18¾; London Chartered of Australia, 22¾; Ditto, New, 5¾; London Joint-Stock, 7¾; Union and Westminster, 44¼; Oriental, 30¾; South Sea, [illegible] Ditto, Old Annuities, 73¾; Union of London, 28¾ Miscellaneous [illegible] Canada Six per Cent Bonds, 113¾; Great Indian Peninsula, 5¾; Preference, 4¾; East and West India, Docks, 119¾; Land [illegible] General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 14; Netherlands Land, Improvement, and Railway, 2¾; Ditto, Land and Mineral, 3¾; Peninsular and Oriental Steam (New), 12¾; Royal Mail Steam, 74¾; South Australian Land, 5¾; Van Diemen's Land, [illegible] Shares have marked 104 prices:—Birmingham, Oldbury, [illegible] 203; Derby, 84; Loughborough, [illegible] 60; South [illegible] and Worcester, 42¾. There was a moderate amount of Railway Shares: East London have realised 103; Great London, 68¾; Ditto, 7¾; Hammersmith and Chelsea, 10¾; West Middlesex, [illegible] Ditto, New, 16¾; Ditto, 3 prem Gaslight and Coke Company Shares have been steady as to price, but the business transacted in them continues limited:—Brighton Provisional, 20; Brighton, 15¾; City of London, 90; Imperial, 112; Ditto, New, 30; Surrey Consumers, 11; Westminster Chartered, 41 ex div Insurance Companies' Securities have been heavy, yet we have no change to notice in the quotations. Bridge Shares have ruled nominal

The Transactions in the Railway Share market have been rather extensive, and prices, generally, have had an upward tendency. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS. Aberdeen, 24; Bristol and Exeter, [illegible] Caledonian, 64¾; Chester and Holyhead, 15¾; East Anglian, 16¾; Eastern Counties, 12¾; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 59; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 20; Great Northern, 93; Great Western, 68¾; Lancashire and Yorkshire, [illegible] Lancaster and Carlisle, [illegible] London and North-Western, [illegible] London and South-Western, 8[illegible] Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, [illegible] Midland, [illegible] North British, [illegible] North Eastern, [illegible] North Staffordshire, [illegible] Scottish Midland, 69; Shrewsbury and Chester, [illegible] South Devon, 13¾; South Eastern, 63¾; Vale of Neath, 20;

LEASES ERASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock, 2¾; Midland Bradford, 8¾; South Staffordshire, [illegible]

PREFERENCE SHARES. Aberdeen, Seven per Cent, 8¾; Eastern Counties, Five per Cent, No. 1, 1 prem.; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, Four per Cent, 6¾; Great Northern Five-and-a-Half per Cent, 102; Ditto, Five per Cent [illegible] 8; Great Western Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 98; London [illegible] Six per Cent, 137; Midland Consolidated Six per Cent, [illegible] Eastern—Berwick, Five per Cent, 93; Ditto, Tyne, 5¾; Ditto, Yorkshire, [illegible] Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 103; South Devon, [illegible] 24; West Cornwall Railway Six per Cents, 15

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 8; East Indian Five per Cent, 24¾; Great Trunk of Canada Guaranteed, 93; Great Central of Ireland, [illegible] Indian Peninsula 5¾; Great Luxembourg Shares, 3¾; Great Western of Canada Shares, [illegible] Lyons and Geneva, 16; Paris and Lyons, 24¾; Royal Danish, [illegible] Sambre and Meuse [illegible]

[illegible] Have been very [illegible] Copper, [illegible] Lah and A. Strahan Copper Smelting Company, [illegible] Ditto, 16; Rhymney Iron, 20¾; Ditto, New, 6; Santiago de Cuba, [illegible] United Mexican, 6

Friday Evening

There has been a steady market for Consols to-day. In prices very little change has taken place. The Three per Cents are 92¾ down to 92[illegible] Three per Cents Reduced, 91¾; and the New Threes per Cents, 91¾. In [illegible] Bonds and Railway Shares a fair business is doing

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—Very moderate supplies of English wheat have been received up to our market this week, consequently, and by just arrivals. Although the foreign supplies in to-day's market were in fair extent, the demand was rather inactive, yet, from the firm tone on the part of the factors, very little change took place in the quotations. There was a good show of foreign wheat. Selected qualities were tolerably firm, at full prices. [illegible] Barley ruled heavy, and the prices in favour of buyers. Flourings [illegible] Malt [illegible] Oats. We had a slow sale for Oats, the value of which was lower. [illegible] Beans [illegible] Peas [illegible] The imports of foreign oats being large, the trade was [illegible] per quarter lower than last Friday. Linseed, and Rapeseed Monday's quotations

Average Prices.—English wheat, 39s. 10d.; barley, 18s.; malt, 36s. 7d.; oats, 19s.; flour, 37s. 1d.; rye, 29s.; Danish and Russian wheat, 31s. 6d.; barley, 20s.; oats, 18s. 6d.; flour, 28s. 6d.; rye, 29s.

Imports.—Wheat, Essex and Kent red, 70s. to 78s.; ditto, white, 72s. to 87s.; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 70s. to 78s.; ditto, white, 72s. to 87s.; Scotch, 40s. to 43s.; grinding barley, 34s. to 36s.; malting ditto, [illegible] malting ditto, 37s. to 38s.; Lincoln and Norfolk, [illegible] 65s. to 70s.; brown ditto, 62s. to 64s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 70s.; Chevalier, [illegible] 40s. to 42s.; Lincolnshire and Yorkshire feed oats, 26s. to 28s.; potato, 27s. to 29s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 24s. to 26s.; ditto, white, 25s. to 28s.; tick beans, 38s. to 40s.; gray peas, 37s. to 40s.; maple, 40s. to 42s.; white ditto, 41s. to 44s.; boilers, 42s. to 45s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 65s. to 70s.; country ditto, 52s. to 55s. per 280lbs.; American, 38s. to 40s. per barrel

Wheat.—There only a moderate business doing in this market. Prices, however, [illegible] supported. Cargoes are to hand fully [illegible]

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent red, 70s. to 78s.; ditto, white, 72s. to 78s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 62s. to 63s. Hempseed, 42s. to 43s. per quarter Coriander, 20s. to 24s. per cwt. Brown Mustard-seed, 12s. to 14s.; white ditto, 8s. to 10s Tares, 6s. to 7s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £39 [illegible] per ton of 20 quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £12 to £12 10s.; ditto foreign, £11 10s. to £12 10s.; rape cake, £6 6s. to £6 10s. per ton

Foreign.—Wheat, Prussian, 36s. to 38s.; ditto, white, 36s. to 37s. per quarter

Flour.—Weekly average.—Wheat, 72s. 1d.; barley, 34s. 11d.; oats, 26s. 2d.; rye, 41s. 7d.; beans, 42s. 2d.; peas, 40s. 3d

Tea.—Weekly average.—Wheat, 72s. 1d.; barley, 34s. 11d.; oats, 26s. 2d.; rye, 41s. 7d.; beans, 42s. 2d.; peas, 40s. 3d.

English Grain sold last week.—Wheat, 111,575; barley, 17,[illegible] oats, 13,[illegible]; rye, 2[illegible]; beans, 2270; peas, 488 quarters

Tea.—There is more doing in our market and prices have an upward tendency Congou [illegible] per lb. Souchong, 2s. 3d. per lb. The deliveries are good.

Sugar.—For all kinds of raw sugar we have to report a firm market, and the qualities are the turn dearer Bonding cargoes of foreign are in request, and held for more money Refined goods are selling steadily, at from 47s. to 48s. per cwt. The supply is by no means extensive

Coffee.—The business doing in our market is by no means extensive, yet prices are firmly supported. Good ordinary not ex Ceylon is worth 47s to 47s 6d per cwt

Rice.—The demand for all kinds has become very limited, yet we have no change to notice in the quotations

Provisions.—Irish butter is dull in sale. A few parcels of fine Waterford have changed hands at 86s to 100s. per cwt. Foreign parcels are dropping, and English have given way 2s per cwt. In bacon very little is doing and the rates have given way quite 1s. per cwt. All other kinds of provisions are a dull inquiry

Tallow.—The demand is very inactive, owing to the increasing stock; and P.Y.C. on the spot may be purchased at 56s. 6d per cwt Rough fat, 3s. 8d. per 8lbs

Oils.—Linseed oil is steady at 38s. per cwt. on the spot. Most other oils support last week's quotations. Turpentine is tolerably firm, at 34s. to 36s. for spirits; and 8s. 9d to 9s. [illegible] for rosin

Wool.—The public sales having been brought to a favourable close, holders of wool are firm, but the demand has not improved

Potatoes.—For the time of year the supplies are large, and the demand is inactive, at prices varying from 90s to 155s per ton The samples come to hand in good salable condition

Spirits.—There is a good business doing in rum, at very full prices—Proof Leewards, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d.; East India, 2s. 3d. per gallon Brandy is selling on fairer terms; but the spirit has declined to 10s. 3d. cask

Hay and Straw.—Monday hay, £3 0s. to £5 10s., clover ditto, £5 5s. to £6 6s.; and straw, £1 4s. to £1 6s. per load

Smithfield (Friday) [illegible] and all kinds of hops are set ling at fully last week's prices. The show of sing[illegible] the week's imports are 225 bags from New York, 116 from Hamburg, and 18 from Antwerp M and and East Kent pockets, £14 to £20 Weald of Kent, £[illegible] £19 to £12 10s. per cwt [illegible] Chester Mam [illegible] Hop[illegible] per ton

Smithfield (Friday).—The supply of beasts in [illegible] very limited, owing to which, and a demand having sprung up for shipment to France, [illegible] was firm, at an advance in the quotations old [illegible] on Monday of from 2d [illegible] The principal Beasts were worth 4s. 6d. per 8lbs The sheep [illegible] We had a very active inquiry for sheep, which was much, at 4d per 8lbs. more money The best old Downs sold at 5s. 4d. per 8lbs. [illegible] trades sold briskly, at a rise of 2d. per 8lbs; and there was a good demand for calves, the prices of which had an upward tendency. In pigs, very little was doing Milch cows were steady, at from £14 to £19 10s. each, including their calves

Per 8 lbs to sink the offals Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 4d to 3s 6d; second quality ditto, 3s. 8d to 3s. 10d, prime large oxen, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d; prime Scots, 4s. 4d to 4s. 6d; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d, second quality ditto, 4s. [illegible] prime large ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; coarse and inferior calves, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d; prime small ditto, 4s. 4d to 4s. 6d.; large pigs, 4s. 2d to 4s. 4d.; neat small porkers, 4s. 8d to 4s. 6d., lambs, 8s. 6d. to 7s.; suckling [illegible] 20s.; and quarter old store pigs, 18s. to 24s each Total supply—Beasts, 700; sheep, 5[illegible] calves, 2[illegible] and lambs, 6400; calves, 240; pigs, 380 Foreign, beasts, 50; sheep, 340; calves, [illegible]

Newgate and Leadenhall (Friday).—There was more doing to-day, and prices were on the advance:—

Per 8 lbs, by the carcass:—Inferior beef, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 4d.; middling ditto, 3s. 6d to 3s 10d.; prime large ditto, 4s. 0d. to 4s. 2d; ditto small ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; large pork, 3s. 4d to 3s. 6d.; inferior lamb, 3s. 4d to 3s. 6d., middling ditto, 3s. 8d to 4s. 0d.; prime ditto, 4s. 2d to 4s. 6d.; veal, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d., small pork, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. lamb, 5s. 2d to 6s. 8d.

JOSIAH HASKETT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, MAY 29.

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, MAY 23

[illegible] Lieut. J. Campbell to be Second Captain and Adjutant of the Royal Ta[illegible]

[illegible] Brothers: Second Captain [illegible] be Captain; Lieut. R. Warren to be [illegible] Lieut. H. Wilkes [illegible] Brevet-Col. H. Scallan to be Colonel, Capt. H. W. Lugard to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Second Capt. H. Grant to [illegible] Lieut. Col. J. J. Bury to be Second Captain, Brev-Col. F. H. Baddeley to [illegible] Capt. W. C. Hedden to be Lieutenant-Colonel, Second Capt. [illegible] Lieut. H. H. Stuthard to be Second Captain

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED

J. ROSKIN, Backburn, Lancashire, carrier.

BANKRUPTS

[illegible] DEAN, Lincoln-place, Trevor-square, Knightsbridge, [illegible] C. K. SANDERSON, Sedgeberrow, Worcestershire, Brewer—

THE "GEYSER" AND "ARCHER" OFF RIGA.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

TWELVE months ago the people of England were eagerly waiting the news of some great naval exploit in the Baltic. About the end of May a rumour prevailed that Sir Charles Napier had bombarded Cronstadt, but, like many other rumours, it proved to be without foundation. This year the movements of the Baltic fleet are not watched with so much interest as they were in 1854—public attention being mainly directed to the Black Sea, so that if any signal victory should be won by Admiral Dundas, it will take the country by surprise.

In the meantime, although no great enterprise has been attempted, the blockade in the various ports in the Baltic has been strictly maintained. On the 7th of May the squadron off Riga commenced proceedings by capturing eight Russian merchant vessels. These ships were receiving their cargoes on board outside of the bar of the Duna, the river that runs up to Riga, probably to enable them to get out to sea quicker than they could have done had they to cross the bar loaded. They appear to have felt secure from any attack; for the shore boats continued to bring goods on board after the English steamers were in dangerous proximity. At last, but just too late, the signal was made on shore, warning them of the peril of their position. Whether it was misunderstood was uncertain; but, instead of putting back into the harbour, the Russian masters stood out to sea, running, as it were, into the very jaws of the lion; for a little manœuvring effectually cut off their retreat, and the vessels were all taken. They are said to be worth £17,000 or £18,000, which will prove by far the best prizes taken this war, if they are condemned. There is no doubt they were going to try and run the gauntlet. Whether the lawyers will be able to save them or not remains to be proved.

The disposition of the fleet has hitherto been somewhat similar to that of last year, Nargen being the head-quarters, while the screws watch Helsingfors and the mouth of the Gulf. This duty has been performed by the *Esk*, *Cossack*, and *Amphion*—diminished by *Imperieuse* and *Tartar*, sent home for repairs, on account of serious damages in running foul of each other. The *Archer* and *Geyser* have been guarding the Gulf of Riga, assisted by *Basilisk* and *Desperate*; and, including the prizes already mentioned, have sent home, upon reference to the Admiral, some twenty vessels, filled principally with flax, hemp, linseed, oil, and rye, which will give the captors about £30,000. There are a few Russian, and, of course, good prizes. All the others are principally neutral, and clearly took their cargoes in after the announcement of the blockade. The Dantzic mail routine has fairly commenced. The *Driver* has taken the two first turns, and the *Vulture* conveys this mail. The contract steamers have also commenced their weekly visit from Elsinore with bullocks and vegetables, and right good they are. Nothing as yet has gone up the Gulf of Bothnia. The surveying-ships have been busy in surveying the northern shore; and the *Merlin*, accompanied by *Euryalus* and *Magicienne*, was lately engaged examining the neighbourhood of "Borgo," an anchorage between Helsingfors and Cronstadt.

The Admirals are said to keep a dignified and discreet reserve, and nothing is known of the future movements. At the same time a steady and systematic progress is making in rendering the ships ready and efficient, and even if the strongholds are not attempted the ships will not be idle, but will have all their resources constantly employed against the enemy in some shape or another, and the gun boats will be of great assistance in enabling the fleet to reach everything on shore. Last year a constant run of vessels took place between Helsingfors and Abo on the one hand and Cronstadt on the other. Such a state of things will hardly be permitted this year, as the blockade is to be much more strict.

Captain Vansittart, in the *Magicienne*, who has been on a cruise round the Gulf of Finland, having reached as far as Seskar (some twenty-five miles from Cronstadt), reports that all the towns and villages on the coast are entirely manned (nautically speaking) by women and children, all the males having been taken to strengthen the different garrisons. All the male inhabitants of Hogland have been taken away by the Emperor to man the gun-boats; and it is rumoured that the intention of the Admiral is to take possession of the island, and there build an hospital. It is a fine healthy island, and well adapted for that purpose—Faro being too far away, should any casualties, either from sickness or an engagement, take place. There is a large trade going on between Stockholm and the Aland Islands, and it is thought that on the arrival of Admiral Baines some of the small steamers under his command will be sent to the Gulf of Bothnia to impede communication. The islanders of Nargen appear, from the English money they obtained last year, to have thriven well. Additional huts have been raised; increased accommodation provided for washing clothes; the children look better fed and certainly better clothed; and all seem much pleased at the reappearance of their old friends the English.

According to all accounts, the Russians, far from idle during the last six months, have endeavoured to make as secure as possible all points liable to be attacked. At Riga, for instance, they have sunk huge masses of rock and immense stones in the channel, so as to render the approach to that place very difficult, if not impossible. The entrance to Revel is also defended by a quantity of large iron-spiked piles driven firmly into the ground, and so arranged that no gun-boat whatever, not even one of the smallest, can pass between any two piles without striking.

Another not unimportant fact is, that the Russians have succeeded in removing the greater part of their fleet, which was, during the whole of last summer, shut up in Sveaborg, from that place to Cronstadt; the few ships left behind are completely dismantled. It is supposed that this movement was effected *after* our fleet left the Baltic last year, and *before* the communication between Sveaborg and Cronstadt was completely cut off by the ice. There are also some very strong earthworks erected at Sveaborg.

On the 22nd of May the fleet was still at Nargen, near Revel, with the exception of the flying squadron, which was cruising off Hogland, and the *Duke of Wellington*, which left Nargen on the previous Tuesday, on account of having small-pox on board—the number of cases being 24, namely four officers and twenty men. The Commander-in-Chief went in her, leaving Admiral Seymour in command. The vessels exercise daily, firing at targets, only five miles from the enemy's guns. The officers of the different ships go on shore every day on the island of Nargen, to play cricket and walk about; but strict orders have been given by the Commander-in-Chief that no depredation is to be committed on the island, such as setting fire to trees, or molesting the inhabitants, who are mostly Swedes. Communication is kept up with Revel by means of small boats, but they are not allowed to bring anything from there beyond their own common necessaries, which consists of some black bread, barley, and rye; therefore the only thing that can be procured on the island is milk. The vessels hired by Messrs. Ranalls and Deacon expect to make a good harvest this year by carrying provisions to the fleet. They have sent invoices to the different ships, but the charges on everything being 150 per cent, they will perhaps be disappointed. It was reported that, on the return of the Commander-in-Chief in the *Duke of Wellington*, the fleet will go to Hogland, or Nyborg, have a look at Cronstadt, and then return by the arrival of the troops to attack Sveaborg. The season is now sufficiently far advanced to commence operations, and not leave things to the last moment. Such a magnificent fleet as we now have in the Baltic should not return to England this year without materially weakening the coast defences of the Russians. The inhabitants of Revel were in great alarm, and the troops in constant fear, expecting the fleet to commence operations against the town. Soldiers in disguise were sent to Nargen to observe the movements of the fleet, therefore they know as well as ourselves all that goes on, and every new arrival. Thirty thousand men are quartered in Revel. The ladies and children have taken to the country, and every house-owner has been compelled to lay in provisions for six months.

A Wismar ship, the *Betsy*, was brought to Elsinore on the 19th ult., in charge of a prizemaster; she had been captured on her way from Riga to Sheerness, with a cargo of rye. It was understood that she would be followed by ten other vessels that had been taken by our cruisers while sailing under a variety of German flags.

The *Basilisk* arrived off Memel on the 19th ult., bringing with her as a prize the Russian sloop *Emma Helene*, laden with salt, which she had captured off the island of Ezsel. In addition to this sloop the *Paul Friedrich*, *Betsy*, and *Johanna*, all from Mecklenburg, are mentioned as having been captured and sent to England. The crew of the *Paul Friedrich*, which was on board the *Emma Helene*, was set on shore at Liberty; that of the latter vessel has been transferred to the *Basilisk*.

The garrison in the town of Polangen (the place nearest to the Prussian frontier) is just now very inconsiderable. The Cossacks who hitherto have formed the border guard have been withdrawn; and only 100 men, part Hussars, part Buschkiirs, have taken their places. A communication, however, is established between this handful of men and a strong body of infantry and artillery stationed further inland, and maintained by a chain of squadrons of Hussars reaching as far as Libau and beyond it. Libau itself has no garrison at all.

An English vessel was wrecked last autumn on the Russian coast between Libau and Polangen; the crew were saved, but, instead of being made prisoners, were permitted to return home. It has caused no little unpleasant feeling in those parts that not many days back an English vessel of war approached the spot where the wreck lay, and, after firing a few blank shots to warn off interference, sent a boat's crew to set fire to the remaining timbers. They succeeded in perfectly destroying what remained of the hull.

Memel has again been visited by fire. On the 18th ult. a fire broke out close to the post-office, and was not extinguished till after it had destroyed three dwelling houses and much injured a fourth. In a town so large, a proportion of which still lies in ruins from the late conflagration, this misfortune is doubly felt, from the difficulty of the now houseless occupants finding shelter anywhere.

The following passage from a letter received from an officer on board one of the vessels blockading Riga gives some particulars regarding the capture of prizes on the 7th and 8th of May:—

H.M.S. *Geyser*, off Riga, May 8th.

On the evening of the 7th inst., while in company with the *Archer*, we observed a sail, and on nearing her observed another. We dropped a boat to take the first, and proceeded to the second, on coming up with which we dropped another boat, and went in chase of a third. We took (in all) three on the night of the 7th. The *Archer* boarded one, but she was not detainable. On the morning of the 8th we steamed off the port of Riga and forced six vessels to come out; the remainder, being within gunshot of the batteries, we could not get at. They manned all their guns on shore, and hoisted a red flag as a signal for all vessels to weigh, as they were going to fire.

RUSSIAN SISTERS OF MERCY.—Of the Sisters of Mercy who have left St. Petersburg for the Crimea—96 in all—at least 63 are stationed in and about Sebastopol; of the latter number, at least half are in the town itself, and at the different surgeons' stations. The letters received in the capital from them, and those around them, portray in very lively colours the amount of carnage which the fire of the besiegers causes the Russians. It appears that the wounded are for the most part removed to the north side of the fortress and thence to the interior; but, from the frequent want of means of transport, and, on the other hand, from the inexpediency of moving those severely wounded, their numbers in the town become extremely unmanageable. The great distance from their sources of supply makes it impossible to convey to the troops, much less to the sick, all the necessaries they require: the article of which there was the least deficiency was tea, so essential to the comfort of a Russian; but of sugar there was a great lack, so that even the officers were obliged to be allowanced. Leeches cost a silver rouble a piece. The descriptions of the scenes these pious females passed through after every more important affair are fearful. That of March 24th is more particularly mentioned, on which occasion 600 wounded were brought in for treatment in twenty-four hours. From the number of amputations and other serious operations, in which they assisted the surgeons, they frequently had to stand on a floor an inch or two deep in blood. The visit paid by two of the ladies, accompanied by a priest, to the Malakoff Tower, and their celebrating Divine service there under the fire of the enemy, partakes of the romantic. After climbing the hill, and entering the fortress, where they found the soldiers and sailors assiduously occupied in returning the incessant fire of the enemy, they reached the tower, now destroyed, where the deceased Korniloff formerly had his quarters. After passing through a casemate occupied by the sailors, they attain a long, deep, dark corridor, with a row of oaken columns on each side. Here mass was celebrated; the chants and other sacred songs were not omitted; all the necessary paraphernalia was at hand, having been brought thither from a church that had been destroyed; and, after a sermon from the Pope, they carried the church vessels in procession round the bastion with tapers in their hands, the enemy firing all the time! They subsequently went out on the ramparts of the fortress and were shown the lunette, Kamschatka, and the two chains of sharpshooters opposed to each other, but yet so near that, as the soldiers there say, they might eat their broth out of the same plate. According to all accounts the bullets of our rifles are doing much more havoc than the balls of our cannon.—*Letter from Berlin, May 26.*

ENTHUSIASM FOR THE WAR IN NEW SOUTH WALES.—The following is an extract of a letter from Sydney, New South Wales, received by a gentleman in London, dated March 6th, 1855:—"The news of the sanguinary affair at Inkerman has excited the most extraordinary degree of enthusiasm and sympathy throughout the colony. A public meeting was held at the theatre to receive subscriptions in aid of the Patriotic Fund. Very large sums were put down, commencing with the contribution of Daniel Cooper for £1000, and £500 a year during the continuance of the war. Several of the banks gave £500 each, and a great number of private individuals subscribed sums varying from £250 to £100. The city was subsequently divided into districts, and collectors appointed to each:—— ward being assigned to myself and ——. In our perambulations through this very limited area we collected in three days about £3500. I believe that the aggregate of the subscriptions raised in Sydney will be little short of £30,000. This is certainly a gratifying proof of the truly British sympathies by which the people of the colony are influenced, and, I think, affords an unequivocal argument that, whatever temporary causes of discontent may exist between it and the home authorities, its loyalty is unimpeachable."

A CLEVER RUSE.—The manner by which the soundings which have enabled Admiral Lyons and Admiral Bruat to plan the successful attack on Kertch is curious. A British naval officer, whose name is not yet probably known, captured a vessel having on board a private carriage belonging to the Russian Governor of Kertch. With this "material pledge" in his possession, he sent a polite message to the Governor, stating that the English cruiser was unwilling to deprive him of his private property, and would have great pleasure in restoring the carriage to its former owner. The offer was accepted, and the ship's boats entered the Bay of Kertch, with the vehicle on board, sounding as they went. By this means it was ascertained that there was a passage for the small steamers to within a short distance of the coast, and the Governor's carriage made a track for the British fleet.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 746.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1855. [WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS, 1s.

EXEUNT AUSTRIA AND THE FOUR POINTS!

AUSTRIA has clung to the Conferences to the last moment, and to the last shred. But Time has at length put an end to them, and to her intervention as a peace-maker. These windy and empty shams collapsed on Monday last; and Count Buol—the Austrian Gladstone—the expert special pleader—the glib of tongue but the unwise of counsel—has been temporarily deprived of the opportunity of splitting straws for the bewilderment of plain men. Within the limits of his own *Chancellerie* he may continue to indite vain words and quibbles to the representatives of his master in the petty Courts of Russian Germany. In this capacity he will do little mischief, though he may cause every true Austrian to blush, that the destinies of so fine an Empire should be confided, even partially, to such incompetent direction. It is, of course, free to Austria to essay some new effort; and to reappear in the arena of diplomacy with fresh proposals. But it is also competent to England and France to decline any further parley, except with Russia direct, and on the express demand of that Power. Whether the English Ministry has the determination to assume such high ground remains to be seen; but we think it is evident, from the dreary history of these infructuous negotiations, that Viennese diplomacy has had its day; and that nothing is to be gained by any further deliberations under the auspices of such men as Buol and Bruck, or any other Austrian statesman now in office. Whatever course the British Government, in the excess of its courtesy to such a great and independent Power, may think fit to assume, the British people—whose opinions are not represented by Mr. Cobden or Mr. Gladstone, or by any other member of the hybrid Peace-at-all-price and pro-Russian party in the House of Commons, or by such degenerate Peers as Lord Grey (who ought to receive a diamond snuff-box, or the Order of St. Vladimir, at the least, from the new Czar)—has made up its mind that Austria is out of court, and that Russia herself must ask for peace before peace be again debated.

There was a time when Austrian assistance, boldly and honestly rendered to the Allies, might greatly have shortened, if it had not altogether prevented, the war. But that time is passed. Austria either did not see her true policy, or, seeing it, had not courage to pursue it. She and the Four Points must therefore stand aside, and let the real business of the world proceed as it is proceeding, and will proceed—in the Baltic and the Sea of Azoff. The Four Points are virtually defunct. Events have gone far beyond them; and the next attempt at drawing up terms of pacification will probably include Six Points, if not Seven. Point Five will be Indemnification by Russia for all the expenses incurred by France, England, Turkey, and Sardinia, in the prosecution of the war; Point Six, the restoration of the Crimea to its ancient owners; and Point Seven, the re-establishment of Poland. If the successes of the Allies and the obstinacy of Russia should lead to Point Five, Point Six will follow, and Point Seven may perhaps not lag very far behind its legitimate predecessors. How such a rearrangement of the map of Europe would suit the views or the interests of the Emperor Francis-Joseph, and his timid counsellors Buol and Bruck, it is for them, and not for the Allies, to consider. But if Austria does not at once cast in her lot with the victorious masters of the Crimea, of the Baltic, of the Black Sea, and of the Sea of Azoff, she need expect no deference or consideration, in the hour of triumph, from those whose conquest she impeded. As yet she makes no sign. She is afraid to declare herself neutral; for such a confession would be too degrading. She is afraid to declare herself the friend of Russia, for that would let loose upon her a couple o. avalanches which she knows to be impending and trembling over her head; and she is afraid to declare herself for the Allies, because they have not been strong enough to take Sebastopol, and annihilate the Russian forces in the Crimea. In one sentence;—she is afraid to take the course which she knows, and feels, and has over and over again admitted, to be the rightful one, lest the Allies should prove to be the weaker in the struggle, and she should thereby incur the vengeance of the Power which saved her from Kossuth in the day of her peril and extremity. Meantime she will, according to Count Buol, adopt what he calls "an expectant policy;"—that is to say, she will wait till she sees who is to be the winner. Unhappy Austria! She has thrown away a noble opportunity. She has discouraged and disgusted her friends, and given strength to her enemies—external and internal—and must bear the penalty that, sooner or later, will be exacted from her—by fate, by necessity, and by justice. Her policy is to be "expectant;" but she is pretty certain to suffer much that she does not expect, but which people out of the boundaries of her own dominions can see, if she cannot.

Yet, in considering the position in which Austria—even more blameable than her unworthy neighbour of Prussia—has managed to place herself, we would ask, how it is that Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, and all the other benevolent philosophers who speak with such horror of the miseries inflicted upon the world by the Demon of War, have no denunciations to throw at the heads of Austria and Prussia? Against Russia who provoked hostilities by her wicked ambition and rapacity—they have not a word to say. Against Austria—who, by adopting a bold policy at the commencement of the disputes, might have prevented the firing of a single gun, or the loss of a single life—they have nothing to allege. But against their own country, and against France—who have taken up arms to prevent the peace-breaker from riding rampant over all Europe—they allege all imaginable crimes. Mr. Glad-

CONSECRATION OF THE BURIAL-GROUND AT SCUTARI, BY THE BISHOP OF GIBRALTAR. (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

stone draws pathetic pictures of the unutterable cruelties of war of its antagonism to the Christian spirit—of its murders—of its robberies—of its ruthless destruction of all that civilised and religious men hold dear; but he applies none of his blame to the aggressor. He and his Quaker friends heap all the odium upon the States who resist the evil-doer, and launch no blame against the evil-doer himself. We suppose Mr. Gladstone and his new allies pay the policerate. Let them do so no longer, if they have faith in their own doctrine, that Russia is right and England wrong in the present struggle. In the commonwealth of nations, if their arguments be good for anything, the policeman is as bad as the murderer, and the judge and executioner are both as execrable as the assassin. But others out of their pale can denounce war with as much zeal and sincerity as they can. The so-called "Peace-Party" have no monopoly of their detestation of it. All Christian and sensible men detest war; but, unlike these one-sided and fallacious reasoners, they do not shower their sympathy upon the aggressor, and confound in one common denunciation not only the Power that invades the right but the Power that defends it.

Let the constituencies of Great Britain put a mark upon the pro-Russians. Like Austria, they help to prolong the war which they dislike; but, unlike Austria, they lower the reputation of England in the eyes of the world. Austria can damage her own reputation; but that of England is beyond her reach. Mr. Gladstone, Sir James Graham, Mr. Cobden, Earl Grey, and their followers, have more power; for their words are supposed to be those of influential statesmen, and not only encourage Russia in her obstinacy, but cause foreign nations to be doubtful both of our power and of our determination. A Parliament unanimously resolved to fight it out with Russia to the last extremity would be of more value in putting an end to the war than an army of 100,000 men. The people of England have other duties to perform than those of tax-paying and finding heroes for the struggle. It is their duty to mark such men as Mr. Gladstone and other pro-Russians, and exclude them from the next Parliament. It is by no means too soon to consider that part of the question. It is time for the constituencies to stir, and to take means for being more worthily represented. A dissolution of Parliament may not be so distant as one-half of the members of the present House of Commons desires; and, when it comes, the people will be untrue to themselves, if they allow a single pro-Russian to be elected to that assembly.

CONSECRATION OF THE BRITISH CEMETERY AT SCUTARI.

Within the past month another burial-ground has been formally added to the cemeteries of Scutari, already immense, owing to the predilection which the Turks of Europe preserve for being buried in Asia—that quarter of the world in which are situated the holy cities, Mecca, Medina, Jerusalem, and Damascus. Every one who has read the charming romance of "Anastasius" will recollect how picturesquely the author has described these dreary realms. "So long and so busily," wrote the author, many years since, "has time been at work to fill this chosen spot—so repeatedly has Constantinople poured into this charnel-house almost into her own contents—that the capital of the living, spite of its immense population, scarcely counts a single breathing inhabitant for every ten silent inmates of this city of the dead. Already do its fields of blooming sepulchres stretch far away on every side, across the brow of the hills and the bosom of the vallcys. Already are the avenues which cross each other at every step in the domain of death so lengthened, that the weary stranger, from whatever point he comes, still finds before him many a dreary mile of road between marbled tombs and mournful cypresses ere he reaches his journey's seemingly receding end; and yet every year does this common patrimony of all the dead to decay still exhibit a rapidly-increasing size, a fresh and wider line of boundary, and a new belt of young plantations, growing up between new flowerbeds of grave." The increase has continued to the present day; but the addition we have now to record has associations of redoubled gloom in this new cemetery being demanded by the necessities of war.

The ceremony of consecration took place on the 16th ult. by the Bishop of Gibraltar, the Right Rev. Dr. Tomlinson. There was little preparation for the occasion, and it was scarcely known in Pera; but our Artist chanced to pass in his way to visit a sick friend at Scutari. On the spot where the service was read by the Bishop was a platform raised about two feet from the ground, upon which was placed a desk provided with the book of prayer, at the foot was a small cushion, and near it an armchair, there being the only accommodations prepared for the ceremony. The several persons having assembled on the ground, a procession was formed by the clergy, in their canonicals; followed by about thirty nurses from the British hospital at Scutari, a few officers, and about a hundred soldiers in arms. The college having walked round the ground allotted for the cemetery (half of which is already filled with graves), the several persons grouped around the platform, which the Bishop and his assistant ascended, to read the impressive consecration service. There were few spectators of the scene; scarcely a dozen of the convalescent soldiers, who, a few minutes after the ceremony was over, might be seen crowding the cafés and wine-shops of Scutari. Had the consecration been publicly announced, it would, in all probability, have been attended by thousands from Stambul and Pera; and the assemblage would have greatly added to the impressive character of the scene. As it was, its scant simplicity would have surprised the Turks, whose religious ceremonies approach the pomp of spectacle.

Towards the centre of the group who took part in the ceremony might be recognised Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, who was evidently much impressed by the solemnity of the occasion, and the sad reminiscences which it gave rise. Amidst the nurses surrounding the clergy might be seen Lady Redcliffe and her daughters.

In our Artist's sketch nothing is seen of Scutari; but the magnificence of the distant view is brought into vivid contrast with this new home of the dead. On the left lies the Sea of Marmora, busy with ships, steamers, and men-of-war. In the opposite direction extend the heights of Galata, and far in the extreme horizon may be discerned the tower of that suburb. Among the other interesting objects shown in the View are Seraglio Point, the points of St. Sophia and Achmet's mosques, cypresses, and the square tower of the Old Seraglio; the broken line was admirably set off by the pale pink tints of the setting sun

"Too Wide Awake for the Britishers."—When the *Driver* was sent in to Balaklava Port, to serve the vessels lying there with the official notice of the blockade, she found among others an American barque called the *Sammy Appleton*, of Boston, U. S., a fine craft of about 900 tons register, whom she also served with a warning to clear out within six days. A day or two afterwards the *Driver*, being out cruising, fell in with this very same American, and an officer of the *Driver* was sent on board to examine the ship's papers. They were found perfectly in order, whereupon the officer demanded to see the bills of lading. The American captain objected to this, and began to make difficulties, which caused the suspicion of the British officer, so he insisted on their production, which was at length complied with, and from which it appeared that the *Sammy Appleton* had just landed at Balaklava Port 50,000 rifles and 10,000 revolvers, besides about 100 cwt. of cotton, as the ostensible part of the ship's cargo. "Oh! oh! you have been landing rifles, have you, my friend?" quoth the Lieutenant. "Now we'll just search your hold; and taking the carpenter of the *Driver* with him, as is usual in such cases, he proceeded to examine and ransack the hold of the American ship, but without finding anything suspicious. "You may thank your stars, my man," said the Lieutenant to the Skipper, when the search was concluded, "that I found no arms on board your vessel; for had there been one single rifle more than the number of barrels on board, you would have been nabbed, as sure as my name is ——." "Ah, I calculate I was too wide awake for you Britishers this time," said the Yankee, chuckling with delight; "and I reckon I'm on the sale side of the hedge now." Nothing could be done, and the *Driver's* boat shoved off. I may add that the *Sammy Appleton* entered the Sound on the 15th of March, and arrived at Balaklava Port on the 12th of April.—*Letter from Memel.*

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

PARIS, Thursday.

Summer has decided on paying us another visit; how long she means to remain, if she intends starting again in a day or two, or taking up her abode for the season, of course we cannot pretend to say; but, wisely profiting by the proverb that tells us to make hay while the sun shines, Parisians and foreigners alike turn the sunshine to account, and the streets boulevards, gardens, and promenades, are alive with *flâneurs*, native and imported, and Paris looks even gayer than is its wont to do in June. A hint *en passant*. Stranger, you who wish to behold this city of sights, this paradise of idlers, for itself, come not in "the season," when the sunshine is like that of the North Pole, visible at midnight, and confines itself to *salons* and theatres; come in May or early June, when the Parisian lives out-of-doors, and every street—let alone the Tuileries, Champs Elysées, Luxembourg, &c.—boasts some verdure, some shade, some gusts of lilac-breath some hint of the country, something to brighten and freshen the especially dingy and dirty aspect it has been wearing for so many months: for, apart from the great places and thoroughfares contained within a comparatively small limit, the rest of this mighty metropolis presents anything but a *riant* physiognomy.

The King of Portugal is greatly fêted here. It is said that a splendid réunion is to take place in his honour—at St. Cloud, if the weather be favourable; at the Tuileries, in the contrary case.

It is, we believe, decided, or nearly so, that the Palace of St. Cloud is to be offered to Queen Victoria during her stay: the Elysée was the residence first intended for her, but it appears that the Emperor, considering the situation of St. Cloud much more likely to suit the tastes of her Majesty, in affording her constant opportunities and considerable space for enjoying air and exercise, has been led to the latter choice. The Empress, we are told, takes the utmost interest in the preparations in progress of this reception, and superintends them in person. Her Imperial Majesty has ordered a *coiffure* in diamonds, which she purposes presenting to the Queen.

The King of Sardinia is also expected in Paris, and it appears now but little likely that the Emperor and Empress will be able to execute their plan of a visit to Biarritz, as was proposed.

Since the price has been reduced, the influx of visitors to the Exposition Universelle has enormously increased. The erection of an immense fountain, and planting round holland, which is to be continually watered, within the glass roof, will, it is hoped, prove some safeguard against the intense heat, which is so much complained of; though the latter plan will have the effect of making the lower compartments of the building extremely damp—a disadvantage from which many of them suffer already. If these means be found insufficient, it is probable that the project of a Belgian Dr. Van Hecke—will be adopted for establishing a means of ventilation. There is little diminution of the discontent felt against the Company of the Exhibition, and new grounds of complaint daily arise. Among other summary proceedings on the part of the *employés*, that of declining to give change is one. Last Sunday—the fine-weather day—two acquaintances of the writer, going to other, put down a franc; the money-taker immediately slipped it into the box and compelled them to pass on despite their remonstrances, minus the twelve sous due to them. When, on the occasion of one of his late visits, the Emperor expressed his intention of defraying the expenses of the fête day, for the benefit of the *ouvrier* class, the Company made objections to the arrangement commencing so soon as the Emperor proposed, stating that the first of the occasions, being still in the month of May, would expire then of the full receipt of some of their five-francs days. His Majesty immediately replied that that difficulty should be obviated, as he would indemnify them according to the measure of their most profitable day since the opening of the Exhibition. It appears that the Prince Napoleon pays the utmost attention to the complaints made by the exhibitors, and endeavours, as far as possible, to remedy the evils they represent.

On Monday took place at the Champs de Mars a magnificent review, before the King of Portugal. The troops from Versailles, St. Germain, and nearly all the garrisons within a few leagues of Paris, were assembled to take part on the occasion; and, the weather being beautiful, the affair went off brilliantly.

Horace Vernet, whom the Paris journals reported as having gone to Frohsdorff, to paint an equestrian portrait of the Duke de Bordeaux, has not yet left Paris for that purpose, in consequence of being retained as yet by his numerous works in hand. It is stated as a positive fact that the Comte de Paris has definitively given in his adhesion to the *branche aînée*.

Negotiations have been going on to arrange that the post of *première dame d'honneur* should be held by the Duchesse de G——, whose name, besides that of her late husband, was one of those most conspicuous at the Court and in the exile of Charles X.; and a place about the person of the Empress was designed for her daughter. The Duchesse has, however, declined, on the plea of her health having for some time been precarious.

Nothing can exceed the brilliant triumphs of Mdme. Ristori, the star of the *troupe* acting at the Italian Opera. From the beginning of these representations her popularity has been gradually growing; but in Alfieri's tragedy of "Mirra" it has reached its height. Mdme. Ristori is, in this chef-d'œuvre, no mere actress, nor does she resort to any of the stage-tricks or stage-aids supposed here and elsewhere to be necessary to stage-effect. She is the woman, not the tragedian; she loves and suffers; she *feels*—not feigns—remorse, horror, passion, despair, jealousy; all these work their traces on her face, whose muscles are not masked with paint and lurid; she carries the audience—breathless, palpitating—through every shade, every cadence, of growing horror, till her death sets loose their emotions in tears and cries. Rarely, indeed, has a French public manifested the enthusiasm with which this great tragedian has been received; and long will the impression she has made on it be remembered. It appears that, by *ordre supérieure*, M. de Rouvière is to be engaged at the Théâtre Français, to play in the "Hamlet" of MM. Alex. Dumas and Paul Meurice.

THE CARLIST INSURRECTION.

A telegraphic despatch from Madrid, of June 2nd, announces a signal defeat of the Aragonese Carlists on the 31st ult. Disposing his force in five columns, General Gurrea made a sort of battue of the enemy, who was stationed in some broken ground called Los Valles. A number of Carlists were killed, and the routed remnants gave themselves up in great numbers. The General expresses his conviction that the Carlist insurrection in Aragon will speedily be at an end. Three of the chiefs were taken or killed. One of these fought hand to hand with a Major of the Carabiniers and wounded him, but was himself slain. This is an important blow; the more so, at this particular moment, that it will probably act as a check upon the Carlists in other provinces, who will be less disposed to take the field now that the staunchness of the troops, the loyal feeling among the Nationals, and the little they can expect from the nation in general, has been proved by recent occurrences in Aragon.

The *Gazette* of June 2nd contains an Royal order, authorising the provincial deputation of Toledo to raise, in case of necessity, bands of musketeers for the defence of the province, and to purchase 800 muskets for the National Guard.

The Government has applied to that of Portugal to send the Carlists there resident, who have approached the frontiers, into the interior of the country.

The Government has ordered the Ecclesiastical Seminary at Toledo to be closed. Within its walls, a few days ago, cries were uttered of "Viva Carlos VI."

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

A telegraphic despatch from Lord Raglan announces that the bombardment of Sebastopol recommenced on Wednesday afternoon. In a day or two we shall probably hear of some result

The main interest of the news from the Crimea this week relates to the proceedings in the Sea of Azoff, where the flotilla of the Allies has gained signal successes. In the despatches from General Raglan, Admiral Lyons, and Admiral Brunt, which will be found in another column, full particulars are given of the taking of Kertch. Since the date of those despatches we have only the meagre reports received by telegraph, but they are explicit enough as to the leading facts. After taking possession of Kertch and Yenikalé, the fleet proceeded to Genitchi, landed a body of seamen and marines, and, after driving the Russian force from the place, destroyed all the depôts and vessels laden with corn and supplies for the enemy. In this affair one man only was wounded. On the 26th ult., the Allied flotilla having appeared before Berdiansk, the enemy set fire to four of their steamers and to some large storehouses. On the following day the Bay of Arabat was visited, but no vessel was seen. The fleet exchanged a brisk cannonade with the forts, and one of its shells blew up a powder magazine. Altogether, the enemy has lost, in four days, an immense quantity of provisions, four war-steamers, and 240 vessels employed exclusively in provisioning the troops in the Crimea

The *Oest. Deutsche Post* of Vienna, in the following passage, takes a rather collected view of our successes in the Crimea from that which Mr Cobden gives in his speech of Tuesday night:

The conquest of Kertch and of Yenikalé is perhaps more important than the occupation of Perekop would be. It was long thought, but erroneously, that the Russians received all their reinforcements by the isthmus of Perekop, and that the only way to the progress of the campaign in the Crimea that the Allies have discovered that the Emperor Nicholas had caused bridges to be constructed over the Palus Meotis, by means of which the Russian army received the greater number of its reinforcements and its supplies of provisions. When masters of the Sea of Azoff, the Allied vessels will without difficulty be able to destroy these bridges which connect the fetid lagoons of the Gulnpe Mare. The consequences of that conquest will soon be felt by the Russians. It is more particularly the cavalry concentrated in the Crimea that will be the first to suffer. Their number is estimated at 40,000, exclusively of the horses of the artillery. The quantity of forage required for so large a number of horses was drawn almost exclusively from the south eastern part of Russia. The closing of this road will soon compel the Russians to reduce the force of their cavalry, which now gives them so great an advantage over the Allies.

The whole of the correspondence between the Governors of Kertch and the military authorities, together with the archives of the place for many years, were found floating in the harbour by a midshipman of the *Royal Albert*, and are safe in the possession of the English. From these it appears that the want of provisions was much felt in the Crimea, bread having risen to double its former price. A letter was found from the Russian Commander-in Chief, ordering the immediate preparation of a hospital for 16,000 sick and wounded—a proof that the Russians expect not only an unhealthy season, but a bloody campaign.

Accounts from Simpheropol and Karasu-Bazar, which lies nearly half-way between the former town and Kafia, state that the families of the Russian employés and soldiers are abandoning Taurida, under the pretence of the deficiency of provisions, but in reality from a fear that the whole of the Crimea will be conquered. Letters from St Petersburg state that for some time past orders have been given not to send any more troops into the Crimea, in order not to cause too much difficulty in providing supplies for them, and also in order not to sacrifice there all the picked troops of the Russian armies.

A despatch from General Pelissier gives some details of the brilliant victory on the 22nd and 23rd ult. On the night between the 21st and 22nd the French attacked the Russian ambuscades situated on their extreme left, in front of the Central Bastion. The Russians made an energetic defence, and the works were taken and retaken five times. On the morning of the 22nd the enemy's artillery forced the French to retire; but the night following our allies attacked the works again and carried them. The loss of the French amounted to 600 killed and 2000 wounded; that of the Russians was estimated at 1500 killed and 6000 wounded. General Pelissier states that 1200 dead bodies were given up to the Russians during a short truce which he granted

Two days after this victory the Allies took possession of the heights of the Tchernaya, the enemy making no resistance. The occupation of these heights is an immense progress towards the complete investment of Sebastopol, which may now indeed be regarded as a doomed city. The enemy are driven to a still greater distance from the besieged place. They are reduced to act on the defensive, and have begun a series of offensive operations which, according to all probability, will soon lead to a pitched battle.

The *Vienna Wanderer* contains an interesting article on the late proceedings in the Crimea, and the change which is likely to take place in the operations of the Allies:—

It appears evident (says the *Wanderer*) from the events which have lately occurred in the peninsula, that the conquest of Sebastopol will be no longer left to the chances of a storm, but that every strategical combination will be adopted, the better to ensure success.

As soon as the Allies have firmly established themselves in Kertch, Arabat and Tchenikalé, they will probably become points of operation, as both are exposed to continuous attacks by land and by sea. The distance between these two points from each other is somewhat over four German miles (about eighteen English), while the tongue of land lying between Arabat and the southern coast does not exceed three German miles (about thirteen English) in width.

The communication between Arabat and Genitchi, the narrow tongue of land which runs up from Arabat to the north coast of the Sea of Azoff, separating the Putrid Sea—can easily be stopped, without the assistance of any land forces, and for this purpose a couple of ships would be amply sufficient, and it is a question whether the Black Sea fleet does not possess a sufficient number of gun-boats and light vessels to enable the Allies to advance up the Putrid Sea as far as Perekop, and cut off all connection between the Crimea and the main land.

A great number of roads, having different directions, stretch from Kertch and Yenikalé—some leading to the south, some to Sampheropol, and Sebastopol, and some to Eupatoria and Perekop; but the most important of them all is the one which passes over Karasu Bazar, and connects Theodosia with Simpheropol. This road is the best kept, and passes through the finest districts, skirting the north of the Taurian mountains. Should the Allies be successful in passing rapidly along this road, as seems to be their plan, the Russian forces will find themselves shut up between two armies, with no line of retreat open to them but that which was followed by the Allies in their first advance into the Crimea. The importance, in such a case, of the position of Eupatoria is at once evident to all.

The distance between Sampheropol and Sebastopol, with Baktchesarai in the middle, is between eight and nine German miles (about twenty-nine English miles); and in this district, most probably, a great battle will take place, for the retreat from Kertch is a sufficient proof that the Russians do not feel themselves sufficiently strong to divide the forces which are concentrated there, in order to meet an advancing foe. All these ideas are based upon the assumption that the Allies have a sufficiently strong cavalry corps, and that baggage trains and field artillery are ready at command; for, as the expedition moves further from the coast, they can no more count upon the support of the ships, and the force employed must not number less than from 30,000 to 50,000 men

DRIVING BACK THE RUSSIANS.

The advance against Tchorgun took place at daybreak on the 20th ult., and the object was secured without any loss to the Allies. The French troops, in the course of the previous morning, had struck their large tents, and substituted the small *tentes d'abri*, and soon after midnight commenced to leave their several encampments for the purpose of forming and concentrating near to the entrance of the plain. Just before daybreak on the 20th the advanced body were within a thousand yards of the square redoubt on the side of the hill to the north of the opening, forming the valley of Tchorgun. The cavalry occupied a position on the plain, and the reserve of French and Ottoman troops stretched back as far as Balaclava.

General Canrobert commanded on the field; but General Pelissier superintended the operations from a projecting height on the right flank, near the Canrobert redoubt. The force altogether comprised about 20,000 men, and included the division of British cavalry, a Sardinian division, and about 5000 Turks. Daylight no sooner exposed the approach of the Allied force than the enemy ran in all directions. The large redoubt was attacked at the point of the bayonet, just as the first tints of morning were visible; but, contrary to all expectation, the guns had been all removed. A few detachments alone guarded the work. On pushing up the hill to a shelving plain where the enemy had cut a series of zig zags and intrenchments, it was equally found to be abandoned. The troops which had

retired made a slight opposition from the side of a neighbouring height, but a few discharges of shells and grape compelled them to fly. At the same time that this transpired on the left of the Tchernaya, other troops had advanced on the right, and gained possession of the low mamelon and ridge commanding the village itself. No opposition was offered, and a few rounds of grape and some shell were discharged into the woods above the village to complete the disorder of the troops who were escaping. The enemy kept up a very active fire from the batteries on the spur of the Inkerman mountain, but the shells usually burst half way in the air, and the shot, though falling as far as the redoubt near Tchorgun, failed to do any execution. Some prisoners were taken, and also a number of horses, and some sheep and cattle. Such was the hurry in which the troops quartered in the village had escaped, that many had left portions of their dress behind, and in a few instances articles of considerable value. It is stated that part of the force quartered during the winter at Tchorgun had only been lately withdrawn to the intrenched position of the army of the north, and that some of the troops had left immediately after the departure of the expedition towards Kertch.

After fully reconnoitring the heights around Tchorgun, and also the line of hills in a direction towards Inkster Mackenzie, on one side, and Kamiesh, on the other, the French General withdrew his main body to the Chersonese side of the Tchernaya; occupying, however, with his outposts the high points near the opening of the valley of Tchorgun, and commanding possession of a portion of the river. It is an important advantage gain, for the present, the supply of water: and, moreover, this advance is one step in the direction to which the future movements of the several armies will be carried.

Several Cossack vedettes made their appearance during the day, and it was reported that the enemy was collecting a force up on Telorgun, the whole of the Bakchava valley, and the low rounded hills separating it from the Tchernaya valley, are now included within our position.

THE WAR IN CIRCASSIA.

Simultaneously with the news of the taking of Kertch, Genitchi, and other Russian strongholds on the Sea of Azoff, we learn that the Russian army on the Circassian coast is thoroughly disorganised. At the commencement of the year the only garri-ons retained in that country were Anapa and Soujak-kale, or Novorossiisk. Regarding the latter place, a recent number of the *Invalide Russe* contained the following statement:—

Since the telegraphic despatch from Sebastopol of the 12th, a report, dated from Taman of the 6th, has been received from General Kilmoulin on the effects of the bombardment of Novorossiisk by the Allied fleets on the 14th of March last. General Kilmoulin had inspected the fortifications of Novorossiisk and of Anapa, and found them in good order, and the troops full of courage and ready to receive the enemy. The former place has received but little [illegible]

A letter from Odessa, of the same date, gives a rather different picture of the state of things in the Russian fortress. It says:—

Before the war began, our letters from Novorossiisk used to arrive in three days; they are now two months coming round by the wearisome land route. According to our last accounts, General Serebriakoff, who commands there, intended to give up the station and evacuate the fort. The garrison is kept incessantly on foot, and harassed out of life by the mountain people, who swarm round it like bees.

And now, from Constantinople, we learn that at a military council, held at Erzerum on the 2nd of May, the Turkish Commander-in-Chief proposed certain measures, which were unanimously accepted. It appears that the army of Batoum is to march along the coast of Circassia, and, after laying siege to Soujak-Kale, to advance against Anapa, and from there cross over to the Crimea. The head-quarters of the army, consequently, had shifted to Sohum-Kalé, where all the Abaza chiefs between Sotcha and Tchircokesh had already arrived. The mountaineers pledge themselves to furnish a force of 40,000 men, to be actively employed when the army takes the field.

The latest despatch from the Crimea brings the welcome intelligence that the Russians have abandoned Soujak Kalé and concentrated their forces at Anapa, which they will soon be forced to surrender. The following are the despatches referred to:—

Semastopol, June 3

Everything is going on satisfactorily.

Orders have arrived from Circassia with the intelligence that Soujak-Kalé is evacuated on the 26th May. The Russians had burnt the principal buildings, and abandoned many guns and six mortars, having first rendered the [illegible] useless.

The enemy is said to be concentrating at Anapa, and to be [illegible] [illegible] Sea shore. The fort on the road between Soujak-Kale and Anapa is also evacuated.

In addition to the above encouraging news, recent letters from the East state that General Mouravieff, Commander-in-Chief of the Russian detachment of the Caucasus, is in great want of reinforcements, that to supply their lack he is attempting to raise troops by voluntary enlistment from among the Armenian population; and that he is at the same time endeavouring to negotiate a suspension of hostilities with Schamyl.

THE BALTIC FLEET

On the 28th ult. the fleet was at anchor some eighteen miles from Cronstadt. It consisted of thirteen sail of the line, two frigates, eight gunboats, and two or three paddle steamers. The steamers were all out foraging, and had taken a great many coasting-vessels, of little value, except the *Magicienne* and *Mercure*, which, in many, captured four vessels, having on board provisions of all sorts—such as flour, sugar, &c—which they value en masse at £9000. Whenever our vessels appear in the neighbourhood of any part of the Russian coast the indefatigable enemy is always on the *qui vive*, and down comes artillery, cavalry, and riflemen, who open fire the moment they see the slightest hope of damaging us. The *Dragon's* boats got rather too near on one occasion. Fortunately no one was hurt, though they opened a pretty warm fire on them. The *Orion* has been in to reconnoitre. She reports that the Russian fleet in Cronstadt consists of six line of battle ships, ready for sea; six nearly so; thirteen apparently fitted as floating batteries, and eight steamers of a large size, besides gun-boats, which could not be counted. The scout steamers keep among a swift coasting-vessels in tow. The French squadron, which had left Kiel, was daily expected to join the English fleet. The fast Russian steamer, which was so saucy last year, has not shown herself as yet.

AMERICA.

The Cunard steamer *Asia*, which left New York on the 22nd ult., arrived at Liverpool last Saturday night. The political news is not of much importance.

A correspondent of the New Orleans *Delta*, writing from Tampico, under date of April 30th, says that the commercial relations between the United States and Mexico are far from satisfactory to the Americans, and that the United States' Minister, the Hon. James Gadsden, has protested to the Prime Minister of Santa Anna against the numerous special concessions which Santa Anna has granted to certain European houses for the introduction of seven or eight cargoes of foreign dry goods on the Pacific coast, at thirty per cent less than the rates by the established tariff.

The latest dates from Venezuela are up to the 1st of May. President Monagas had sent a message to Congress complaining of hostile measures adopted by the Government of New Granada in extending its jurisdiction over Venezuelan territory, or, at least, over territory in dispute between the two Republics, and Congress had invested the President with dictatorial powers, authorizing him to raise an army of 50,000 men, call out the national militia, and negotiate a loan of 4,000,000 dollars to carry on a war against New Granada.

The *New York Herald*, referring to some news it publishes from Great Salt Lake, says:

Colonel Steptoe has failed in bringing to punishment the Indian murderers of Captain Gunnison and party, solely through the duplicity of the Mormons, who, it appears, take every opportunity to impress upon the minds of the savages the idea that the Mormons and the Americans are two distinct peoples. This is done with the ulterior design of forming a league against the United States' authorities in case of any attempt by the Government to abridge the power of the Mormon leaders. It is reported that Colonel Steptoe has declined the Governorship of Utah Territory, and that Chief Justice Kinney has been offered the appointment.

There is no later news from California than that received by the *Northern Light*. The question of dividing the present territory of California into three distinct States—to be called Califo nia, Colorado, and Shaston—has been discussed in the Legislature. It was stated, that if the decision were accomplished, the introduction of slavery would not be permitted.

A very important despatch from Sir George Grey has said before the Legislative Council of Canada on the 14th ult., in which the whole of the Imperial property in the colony is made over to the provinces, with the exception of such of the Ordnance lands at Quebec, Montreal, and Kingston as may be required for military purposes, the Imperial Government still intending to retain these posts in its own hands, as a nucleus for the defence of the country.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from page 539.*)

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The Public Libraries and Museums Bill, and another bill of the same kind for Ireland, passed through Committee.

MAYNOOTH COLLEGE.

Mr. Serjeant O'Brien resumed the adjourned debate on the Maynooth question. He remanded the House that the British Government had taken away the means of educating the Irish Catholics, and had forced them to endow seminaries of education in France, and other places on the Continent, all of which were confiscated by the French Revolution. As British subjects, therefore, they had lost property which their own Government had forced them to invest in another country. He contended, therefore, that the present Maynooth Grant had something in it of the character of restitution. He deprecated the renewal of these discussions as calculated to embitter the feelings of large bodies of the community towards each other.

Mr. Whiteside entered into a lengthened narrative of the origin of Maynooth, and maintained, on the authority of several Roman Catholic authorities, that the education given in that institution was little more than a name. He argued farther that the head of the College, contrary to their promise, had established Jesuitism in the College, and that the books in Maynooth library and the publications of the Maynooth professors inculcated doctrines abusive of Protestantism and contrary to law.

Mr. Keogh excited some amusement by showing that Professor Murray, whose writings had come under the censure of Mr. Whiteside, had very probably drawn down upon him the wrath of the hon. and learned gentleman by expressing in the same work a contemptuous opinion of Mr. Whiteside's talents, calling him a "Parliamentary vestiary." He admitted that the institution was faulty, and required amendment, and he for one would most willingly join in the attempt to reform its abuses; but Mr. Newdegate did not propose reform; he wanted to abolish it altogether. If so, he wished to know where the Roman Catholic clergy were to be educated? No one could suppose that the Catholic religion would be extinguished if this motion were carried. There must, then, be a Catholic priesthood; and how were they to be educated?

Mr. F. Chambers contended that Maynooth, as at present constituted, was an Unconstitutional institution; and that to abolish it would be more favourable to the liberties of the Irish Catholic Church. He was satisfied that those who were opposed to the continuance of Maynooth were the best friends of the Irish people.

On the motion of Mr. Maguire, the debate was adjourned till Wednesday, the 27th inst.

HOUSE OF LORDS. THURSDAY.

Lord Lyndhurst called the attention of the Government to the number of offences committed lately by ticket-of-leave men, and expressed a hope that something would be done to protect the public from what appeared to him to be an evil full of danger to society.

The Lord Chancellor said that the subject was for some time under the consideration of the Home Secretary.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY BILL.

The Lord Chancellor, in moving the recommitment of the Cambridge University Bill, entered into a detail of the amendments which he proposed to introduce into the measure, which, in the main, would meet the views of a learned deputation that had waited upon him lately—and also those contained in a petition recently presented from the members of the University upon the subject.

Lord Lansdowne said that the amendments proposed were of so exclusive a nature as to require further consideration. While approving of some of those amendments, he disapproved of others.

The Bill was then gone into Committee, the discussion of the clauses occupied the remainder of the evening.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. THURSDAY.

Mr. Monsell (in reply to Colonel Duncombe) said that, during the present week, there would be accommodation at the Curragh (Ireland) for 8000 men, and all the stores necessary for that purpose had been forwarded from the Tower.

PROSECUTION OF THE WAR. ADJOURNED DEBATE.

The debate was resumed by Mr Roebuck, who hoped that the war would be carried on vigorously, so that we might obtain a speedy and an honourable peace. When Sir J. Graham was a member of Lord Aberdeen's Government, he was an advocate for the prosecution of the war; and he was anxious to know what, up to the closing of the Conferences at Vienna had induced him to change his mind. Honourable members would all remember the determined course the right hon. gentleman took, and few would forget his memorable speech at the Reform Club, in which he alleged that we were to protect Christendom against Barbarism, on the ground mainly that Russia was standing in defiance to Turkey. Well, we went to war; and, after some time, a coalition was made very imperfectly by himself (Mr Roebuck) which led to the breaking up of Lord Aberdeen's Administration. The hon. and learned gentleman, having reviewed the conduct of Sir James Graham, asked whether Europe would have been safer, or the Turkish empire better, if we had desisted from the war when the Russians retired from the Principalities? On the contrary, Humanity and Civilisation would have incurred a great disaster by such a step. Was it true that one single object for which the war had been set on foot had been attained? If no object had been attained, then to have desisted when we had once commenced would have brought degradation upon the country; we should have had peace, but it would have been a dishonourable peace, and we should have been weaker than when we entered upon the war (Hear, hear). Adverting to Lord John Russell, he maintained that he held language at the Conferences of Vienna which was unworthy of an English Minister, and had sided with despotism in an attempt to take from an independent people the power over their own concerns. If the words "Poland, Hungary, and Italy" had been whispered in the ears of Austria, she would never have played fast and loose as she had done, but would have trembled before the spirit which had been raised up against her (Cheers). He believed the time would come when these three words would become the watchwords of freedom in Europe. He objected to the playing fast and loose which had been adopted by the English Government. The people of England had been dragged into war by their rulers, and he did not understand how those men who sent out to English Generals that the only reply for Europe was to take Sebastopol, and to destroy the Russian fleet, could, in the months of April, May, and June of the present year, recommend that England should disregard her honour by retiring from the war. He did not believe that the noble Lord at the head of the Government was of this mind, and he hoped he would continue in a calm, bold, straightforward course, holding a determination to cripple Russia.

Mr. S. Herbert next addressed the House in a speech similar in tone and character to that made by Sir J. Graham on Tuesday. The right hon. gentleman quoted despatches written by Sir J. Graham when at the head of the Board of Admiralty, in which that right hon. Baronet recommended the bombardment of Odessa, the capture of Kertch, and the operations in the Sea of Azoff which had since taken place.

Mr. Drummond said that the right hon. gentleman and the late First Lord of the Admiralty were, it appeared, in favour of the war when it commenced, but were now so strongly in favour of returning to peace. He (Mr. Drummond) took exactly the contrary view. He deprecated the war at the commencement of hostilities, but he was now prepared to contend that there was no other course left the Government but to proceed with the war with all the vigour possible. This was a people's war, for the people led away by the many false reports about Russia, hounded on the Government to declare war, which the Government had not the manliness to resist. The people must now pay the consequences of this war. Two things would fortunately come out of this war: the one was that Russia would be an end to the Mahomedan power, and the other was that France would surely be the master of Constantinople (Ironical cheers and laughter).

Sergeant Shee said that the first proposal offered by Russia was the best for our Government to have accepted—that was, for the opening of the Straits and the Bosphorus to the flags of all nations, accompanied with other arrangements, to enable those ships to be provisioned and maintained for all purposes that might be required.

Mr. Alcock attributed the disasters in the Crimea to the want of precautionary measures on the part of our Government. He considered, too, that the failure of the Conferences at Vienna was owing to the want of success of the Allied armies against Sebastopol.

Sir H. Willoughby said that although he could not see any hopes of peace, he yet could not assent to an amendment which stated that all means of peace had been exhausted.

Sir W. Clay justified the course of policy pursued by the Government.

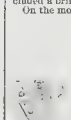
Lord R. Cecil thought that the ultimatum of the Allies at the Conference at Vienna was not such as could have been accepted by Russia, and was the more laudable as coming from a noble Lord who profess[illegible] to have for his object the maintenance of the honour of that country. He believed that whenever peace might be concluded it would be upon some terms quite out of the proportion to the expense incurred.

Mr. Bright said, it was impossible to divine what were now the objects of the continuance of the war. They were, indeed, vaguely told by Lord Palmerston and Lord J. Russell that the war was for the maintenance of the liberties of Europe and the preservation of civilisation from the barbarism of Russia. This sort of justification should not be accepted, and therefore he now asked—as we were not going to war for the purposes of conquest—what was it that we were continuing the war for? If the security of Turkey were the only object in view, it might be attained in various ways without the fearful sacrifices of blood and treasure which this country was making. The slight difference between the Russian propositions and those of the Allies could not justify the prolongation of the war; more particularly as, between the two sets of proposals, those made by the Allies appeared to be the worst. The issue the House had to try was, whether, under these circumstances, the Government was right in breaking off the Conferences, and he had no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that it was not justified in doing so, and it was by no means surprising that Sir James Graham, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. Sidney Herbert—three of our most distinguished statesmen—should have broken away from a Government so rash and so reckless as that which now was in power. The hon. gentleman concluded a brilliant speech amidst general cheers.

On the motion of Mr. F. Scott the debate was again adjourned.

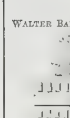
OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

LADY ROBERT SEYMOUR



This venerable and estimable lady, who had completed her ninetieth year the 7th April last, was Andalechia Clarissa, the younger daughter of William, fourth Viscount Chetwynd. She was the second wife of Lord Robert Seymour, second son of Francis, first Marquis of Hertford, to whom she was married the 2nd May, 1808, and who died on the 23rd Nov. 1831, leaving issue by this her second marriage, the present Viscount Chetwynd, (by marriage) Mr. Serjeant Goulburn, and Lady Robert Seymour's nephews. Her Ladyship's demise occurred on the 3rd inst., at her house in Portland-place. Her loss is greatly deplored by all who knew her: to the poor of her parish and neighbourhood it will be irreparable, for her charities were very extensive: her residence, in Portland place, being in fact the source of almost unbounded relief to the distressed.

W. B. MAY, ESQ.



Walter Barton May, Esq., of Hadlow Castle, Kent, was the representative of two very old Kentish families—the Bartons, of Hadlow, and the Mays, of Tong. Among other estates, he succeeded his father, in 1825, in the property at Hadlow, near Tunbridge, then called "Court Lodge;" and, with the spirit of a Beckford, and a wish to rival the palaces of Fonthill, the new possessor erected there a beautiful castellated structure, with a tower of stupendous height, which forms a striking feature of that part of Kent, and may be seen from many miles distance. To this marvellous piece of masonry Mr. May gave the name of "Court Lodge Castle;" but it has become more familiar to the public and more generally known as "Hadlow Castle." The interior of this mansion presents a magnificent display of Gothic taste and skill. Mr. May, whose devotion to the study and reproduction of the architecture of the Middle Ages formed the principal occupation of his life, was no less remarkable for his amiable disposition, his quaint and agreeable manners, and his great benevolence and hospitality. He married, in 1822, Mary, only daughter and heiress of John Potter, Esq., of Fair-hall, Kent, by whom (who survives him) he leaves issue a son, and a daughter. Mr. May's only sister, who also survives him, is the present Lady Twysden, the wife of Sir William Twysden, Bart., of Royden-hall, to whom she was married the 24th March, 1831, she being then the widow of the Rev. John Bonnett Pain, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge. Mr. May's demise, which is deeply and generally lamented, occurred rather suddenly at Hadlow Castle, on the 31st ult.

THE DEAN OF CHRIST CHURCH

The Rev. Thomas Gaisford, D.D., Dean of Christchurch, died at the Deanery, Oxford, on the 2nd inst. Dr. Gaisford was a divine of great learning and of literary distinction. His life was mainly spent in the University of Oxford. He took his degree third B.A. in 1801, as Grand Compounder and that of M.A. in 1804, and he was appointed one of the Public Examiners in 1809. He was made Regius Professor of Greek in 1811, and in 1826 Prebendary of St. Paul's; and also Prebendary of Lincoln. In 1831 he was constituted Dean of Christ Church, and had the degree of D.D. conferred on him by diploma in the same year. The Very Rev. Dean was also a Delegate of the Press, Fellow of the Royal Academy at Munich, and a corresponding member of the Royal Institute of France. Dr. Gaisford has appeared at the bar of many classical works, printed at the University press; he held the highest position as a Greek scholar, and his death leaves a blank in that department of literature which will not easily be supplied.

Dr. Gaisford was in his seventy-seventh year. Although rough in manner, and somewhat of a strict disciplinarian, he was really a kind and amiable man, and his many sterling qualities caused him to be much beloved in his College. The Dean entertained a deep-rooted attachment to the University, and to the Church in one sense more earnestly manifested than the former and to advance the latter. He was also a great friend and patron of poor students.

WILLS AND PERSONALITY.—The will of the Right Hon. Montagu Bertie, Earl of Abingdon, Lord Norreys, and Baron of Rycote, was proved in London, under £10,000 personalty: Lieut.-General John Woolfe, H.E.I.C., £7000 personalty; George Billes Greenough, Esq., F.R.S., F.G.S., £10,000. Rev. Hugh John Blacker, Esq., F.R.S., Dover, £40,000: John George Fearn, Esq., £60,000; Charles Oakfield, Esq., Hornsey, £60,000; Charles Veasey, Esq., Huntingdonshire, £30,000; Rev. W. Peart, Windsor, £30,000.

A Skirmish off Kertch. As we anchored a most exciting scene was taking place towards the westward. One of the enemy's steamers run out of the Bay of Kertch, which was concealed from our view by the headland on which Pavlovskaya and the battery of Cape Ilarion are situated, and was running as hard as she could for the Straits of Yenikalé. She was a low rakish-looking craft, like a man-of-war, and for a long time it was uncertain whether she was a Government vessel or not. The gun-boat dashed after her across the shallows, and just as she passed the cape, two Russian merchantmen slipped out and made towards Yenikalé also. At the same moment a fine roomy schooner came bowling down with a fair breeze from Yenikalé, evidently intending to sail her consort and despising very likely the little amphibious which pursued her. The gun-boat Pos[illegible] and passed the first merchantman, at which she fired a shot by way of making her bring-to. The forts at Kertch instantly opened, and most after shot splashed up the water near the gun-boat, which still kept intrepidly on her way. As the man-of-war schooner bowled down towards the Russian steamer, the latter gained courage, slackened her speed, and lay to, as if to engage her enemy. A sheet of flame and smoke rushed from the gun-boat's side, and her shot flying over the Russian tossed up a pillar of water far beyond her. Alarmed at this taste of her opponent's quality, and by the sudden fearfulness of her terrific armament, the Russian at once bore to flight, and the schooner wore and bore away for Yenikalé again, with the gun-boat after both of them. Off the narrow straits between Yenikalé and the sand-bank, which forms the opposite land, a great number of gun-boats and small craft were visible, and, as the English gun-boat ran up towards them, a Russian battery opened on her from the spit on which the town is situate. One of her consorts, however, which had followed her early in the chase, was now close at hand, and the gun-boats dashed at their enemies, which tacked, wore, and ran in all directions, while the gun-boats chased them as a couple of hawks would hurry a flock of larks. The action with the forts became very sharp, and the Russian forts on the sandbank began to take part in the unequal contest. Sir Edmund Lyons, however, soon sent off the light steamers and disposable gun-boats to reinforce the two hardy little fellows, and the French steamers also rushed up to the rescue. The batteries on the sandbank were not silenced without some trouble, but at last they blew up their magazine, and the forts at Yenikalé followed their example. The gun-boats kept up a running fight along the coast till it was dark. At about half-past six the batteries on the bay of Kertch ceased firing, the Russians blew up their works, and abandoned the town. Dark pillars of smoke, tinged at the base with flame, began to shoot up all over the hill sides. Some of them rose from the Government houses and the stores of Ambalaki (where we landed), which were set on fire; others from isolated houses further inland; others from stores which the retreating Russians must have destroyed in their flight. Constant explosions shook the air, and single guns sounded here and there continuously throughout the night. Here ship lay idle on a sandbank on the city; a bombshell on flames lighted up the sky on the right, and obscured the pale moon with volumes of inky smoke—*Letter from Kertch, May 2.*

A Young Veteran.—A letter from St. Petersburg says:—"Captain Vernlev lately made his appearance in the drawing-rooms of the capital, and has excited much attention from the fact that although he is only twenty-three years of age, he has twenty-four years of service: 1st, he has been eight years in the army; 2nd, he has served six months at Sebastopol, and as, according to an order of the Cabinet of the Emperor Nicholas, each month's service there is to count as a year, his six months are equivalent to six years, which gives fourteen years in all; 3rd, he wears the order of St. Anne and of Vlad mir, the cross of the order of St. George, and has a sabre of honour, which reckons for ten years more, and in that way he makes up the twenty-four years. Strange to say, although this officer has been in twelve series, he has never received a wound."

A Hint to Parents.—Mr Chadwick, speaking of the female school-teachers of the Government Schools of Art in his last pamphlet, says:—"The females have been so far advanced in mental power and influence as to have been lost to the service by matrimonial engagements obtained with exceeding rapidity. To avoid these losses planner candidates were selected for training; but they, too, have obtained preference as wives to a perplexing extent."

THE HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION IN THE CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM (EAST NAVE).—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY NEGRETTI AND ZAMBRA.—(SEE PAGE 582.)

THE FOUNTAINS AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY NEGRETTI AND ZAMBRA.—(See p. 5[illegible])

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, June 10.—1st Sunday after Trinity.
MONDAY, 11.—St. Barnabas. Roger Bacon died, 1294
TUESDAY, 12.—Trinity Term ends. Wat Tyler killed, 1381.
WEDNESDAY, 13.—Battle of Marengo, 1800.
THURSDAY, 14.—Battle of Sangrassa, 1809.
FRIDAY, 15.—Magna Charta signed, 1215
SATURDAY, 16.—Duke of Marlborough died, 1722.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 16, 1855.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M.	A. M.	M.	A. M.	M.	A. M.	M.	A. M.	M.	A. M.	M.	A. M.	M.	A. M.
h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.	h. m.
10 28	11 2	11 35	11 50	Mid'nte	0 22	0 54	1 15	1 38	2 1	2 21	2 43	3 4	3 22

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Under the Management of Mr. Charles Kean.—On MONDAY, and during the Week, will be presented HENRY VIII., preceded by AWAY WITH MELANCHOLY.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Miss HELEN FAUCIT in the new Play of LOVE'S MARTYRDOM, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. On Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, Mr Sims Reeves and the Operatic Company, in the new Opera of BERTA. ONLY A HALFPENNY every evening.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Shoreditch.—Proprietor Mr John Douglass. Unprecedented success of the great musical entertainment, the glorious WRIGHT, of the Adelphi. Miss H. A. POWER, of the Lyceum, and Mr. CHARLES WERNER. Adelphi Pieces, with Adelphi effects, including the immense favourite, "Harvest Home." Prices as usual

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.—The DIORAMA illustrating Events of the WAR is now Exhibiting Daily at Three and Eight. The Lectures by Mr Beccmeller. Admission 1s., 2s., and 3s

LONDON SEASON BY DAY.—SATURDAY next, at Three, Mr. LOVE in his New Entertainment called "The London Season by Day." Mr. Love appears every Evening at Eight, except Saturday—Saturday at Three UPPER HALL, EGYPTIAN GALLERY, 60, Gresham-street, Bond-street.

W. S. WOODIN'S OLIO of ODDITIES, EVERY EVENING, at 10 p.m., at the POLYGRAPHIC HALL, King William-street, Strand. Private Boxes, £1 1s.; Stalls 3s.; Area, 2s.; Amphitheatre, 1s. Box-office open from Eleven to Five

ROYAL PANOPTICON, Leicester-square.—The ORGAN. Mr. W. T. BEST begs to inform his friends and the public that he is NO LONGER CONNECTED with this Institution as Organist

PANORAMA of SEBASTOPOL is NOW OPEN at BIFFORD'S, Leicester-square, showing the Fortifications—the Attacks—the Encampments of the Allied Armies—the Camp and Pleasure-Grounds, Dobachi, and the Country for miles surrounding country. The BATTLE of the ALMA, and the HERNESE ALPS, are also open. Admission 1s. each.

ROYAL SURREY ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.—Danson's Colosseum, Picture of Sebastopol, Extensive Menagerie, Marine Aquarium, Godfrey's unrivalled Band. Grand Spectacle of the Siege of Sebastopol, in which the various characters are represented by a party of our wounded soldiers from the Crimea. For full particulars see bills of the day

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK.—The collection of Living Animals includes a magnificent series of Lions, Lion Whelps, Crouched Tigers, Hunting Dogs, and other Carnivora, Llamas, Elephants, Rhinoceros, and a pair of Hippopotami; together with an immense number of Birds, Reptiles, Fish, and other Rare Animals. The band of the Life Guards will perform (by permission of Colonel Lake) every Saturday afternoon, weather and further notice. Admission, 1s.; Monday, 6d

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall. Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—On FRIDAY NEXT, the 15th of JUNE, Last Performances of Mendelssohn's ELIJAH. Vocalists: Mdme. Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mrs. Lockey, Mr Lockey, Mr. J. A. Reeves, and Herr Formes, with Orchestra and a fully 300 performers.—Tickets, 3s., 5s., and 10s. 6d. each, may be secured by immediate application at the society's sole office, 6 Exeter, within Exeter-hall

MUSICAL UNION. H.R.H. Prince ALBERT, Patron.—TUESDAY, JUNE 12, Mozart Trio, W. ULRICI, HOLMES.—Quartet in C, Mozart, Trio in Bb Op. 97, Beethoven, Andante and Scherzo (Pianoforte Quartet), in E, Op 31, Mr Hallé, Mr. Sainton, Mr. Hill, Mr. Piatti. Pianoforte, Mr. Hallé. Vocalist, Mdme. Pauline Viardot Garcia. Stalls 10s. 6d.; tickets, 7s. 6d. Tickets had at the principal Music Shops, and of Herr William Ganz, 50, Frith-street, Soho-square

HERR WILHELM GANZ'S GRAND MORNING CONCERT will take place on THURSDAY, JUNE 14th at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, when the following artists will perform: Mdme. Pauline Viardot Garcia, Mdme. Sherrington, Mdme. Lockey, Mr. Weiss, Mr. Sims Reeves, Herr Reichardt, Herr Formes, Herr Meyer, the Hungarian Brothers Deloffre, Pierre Hurt, the Brothers Lennox, Lorenzo, Lucas, Pischek, Chaudon, and Richard Blagrove. Stalls, 10s. 6d.; tickets, 7s. 6d. Tickets had at the principal Music Shops, and of Herr William Ganz, 50, Frith-street, Soho-square

HERR CARL DEICHMANN'S ANNUAL MORNING CONCERT will take place at the Hanover-square Rooms on SATURDAY, June 16, to commence at Three o'clock. Vocalists: Madame Clara Novello, Mdme. Emilie Ketll (from the Imperial Opera, Vienna), Signor Tamberlik and Signor Belletti. Instrumentalists: Pianoforte, Herr Ernst Pauer; violin, Monsieur Prume and Deichmann; violoncello, Mr. Paque; harp, Mr. Oberthür; Mesdames Pauer and Deichmann. Conductors—Messrs. F. E. Bache and Francesco Berger. Reserved seats, half-a-guinea; tickets, 7s. each, may be had at all the principal Music Warehouses, and of Herr Carl Deichmann, 6, Maddox-street, Regent-street.

BIRMINGHAM MUSICAL FESTIVAL, in AID of the FUNDS of the GENERAL HOSPITAL, on the 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st days of AUGUST next.

Patron—His Imperial Majesty
Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN.
His Royal Highness the PRINCE ALBERT.
Her Royal Highness the Duchess of KENT
President—The Right Hon. Lord Wilmot Horton
Vice-Presidents—The Nobility and Gentry of the Midland Counties
J. F. LEGHAM, Esq., Chairman of the Committee.

CRYSTAL PALACE, Sydenham. The PALACE and PARK are OPEN to the Public on MONDAYS, at 9 o'clock, on TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS, and FRIDAYS, at 10 o'clock, on which days the admission is 1s., and on SATURDAYS, as usual, when the admission is 5s., and close each day at 8 p.m. Tickets of admission, including conveyance by railway, may be obtained at the Low-Level Station, Cannon-street, and at the several Agents in London. Trains run at 9 a.m. and 9 10 a.m., and from Sydenham from 10 10 a.m. to 6 0 p.m.; and at 4.35, 4 50, 5 50, and 6.50 p.m. Return from the Crystal Palace Station up to 8 40 p.m.

SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS The Fifty-first ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN, at their GALLERY, 5, PALL-MALL EAST, close to Trafalgar-square. Admittance, a catalogue, 5d.
JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

MONTI'S LECTURES on ANCIENT and MODERN SCULPTURE.—The THIRD of these Lectures will be delivered on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13th. Subscribers' and Single Night Tickets to be had at Messrs. Colnaghi's, Pall-mall East.

ST. MARGARET'S MANSION, on the Banks of the Thames, near Richmond.—This magnificent Mansion is to be sold, prior to its Sale at the City Auction Mart, on the 26th of June, by a portion of the Revenue Commissioners of the CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY. To be had of the Secretary at the Society's Offices, No. 33, Cornhill-street, Strand, and of Messrs Chinnock and Galsworthy, the Auctioneers, 38 Regent-street, Waterloo-place

THE TWENTY EIGHTH PUBLIC DRAWING The CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY, at the Office, Quarterly Meeting of the Members of the Society, on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, at 11 o'clock, Twenty-Eight Allotments for One Hundred Acres of Freehold Land, in the Parishes of Chipstead, Coulsdon, and Farleigh, Surrey, Wimborne, Dorset, and Ingatestone, Essex, of the Annual Value taken up to the time of the drawing will be included therein. First Class, a freehold estate, Rh. 66, Inclosure Commissioners' Allotment, 3 acres, 3 roods, 36 perches, for occupation. Plans, 12 Northumberland-street, Strand, London. CHARLES LEWIS GRUNSEN, Secretary

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1855.

THE renewed discussions on the several War and Peace amendments before the House of Commons have occupied the principal part of the week. The speeches on the first two nights were chiefly delivered by small men; but there were exceptions, and the principal exception was Sir James Graham, who had pledged himself to vindicate his own conduct in regard to the war, and did so, in his own fashion, to a large, attentive, but contemptuous audience. In good truth the spectacle was not a pleasant one; and if any man in that House had a hostile feeling towards Sir James—whose unsparing tongue and unhesitating adroitness have made him foes in his time that man could scarcely have desired more humiliation for his enemy. To see that tall imposing figure rise, nearly in the centre of the House, and in proximity to the professedly anti-national party, Sir James's new allies—to hear all that painfully elaborate yet ineffective special pleading, and the dismal tones with which the speaker sought to infuse the feeling of discouragement which he evidently experienced, was quite triumph enough, if any one was present to whom such a triumph could be acceptable.

Sir James Graham arose for his own vindication, and, we regret to say, abundantly proved his complicity in the acts of Mr. Gladstone and the other members of the Russian party in the late Cabinet. This English Minister, too, had watched over the dignity and honour of Russia; this English statesman declared that he was at a loss to understand the objects for which the war was being carried on. He thought that Russia had offered large concessions; and he considered that we had no claim, after a fierce and bloody struggle, to look to any other object than that we had originally proposed to ourselves, and asked for in a peaceful manner—in a word, that Russia ought to be placed in no worse a position, after involving Europe in a frightful war, than she would have occupied had she bated her arrogance, and conceded the requisitions of the Allies. Such is the doctrine of the Peelites, and, unhappily, they were for many months in a situation which enabled them to act up to that doctrine, and to carry on the war in accordance with its spirit.

He drew out a sheet of paper on which he had jotted down what he conceived to be the concessions of Russia, and he compared them with her original claims. Never was a broker's catalogue drawn up in a smaller spirit, or with more pretentious putting forward of the meanest details; and there was an impatient sensation pervading the House, as it was thus trifled with. Russia, he said, had originally insisted that no other Power should interfere between her and the Porte. Now, three other nations were mixed up in the negotiations—there was a grand concession. We hardly like to write the words, it seems so improbable that the effrontery of a Russian partisan could carry him so far in an English House of Commons; but our readers, if they refer to the report, will find that Sir James Graham described this as Russia's first concession. The three nations armed, and two of them rushed into the fray, defied and defeated Russia, and dictated terms to her, and we are called upon to regard it as a concession that she listened. The next is almost more outrageous. Russia had demanded that the Turkish Ambassador should sue for peace, either at St. Petersburg or the head quarters of the invading army. Well, as Turkey did not sue for peace at all, and drove the invading army out of the invaded territories, Russia agreed to meet her at Vienna; and this is represented as another important concession for which we are to be duly grateful, and which helps to make the continuance of the war unrighteous as well as unnecessary. Then came a third; but it appears to be so akin to the second, that it looks as if the broker, in his zeal to make out a long list, had put in the same item under two heads. Russia had refused to negotiate with Turkey because the latter was not acknowledged as one of the European family, or comity. Now, the Turks having shown they they can beat their beloved brethren very soundly—as at Silistria and elsewhere Russia has no objection to recognise the relationship. Next, Russia had demanded a material guarantee, and had seized the Principalities as such; but here was a great concession—she had been beaten out of her guarantee, and therefore demanded it no longer. But the most important concession of all is to come. Russia, before the war, had fleets in the Baltic and the Euxine. Now they have been destroyed by the suicidal hand of Russia herself; and, added Sir James, "I do not think we shall ever hear any more of Russian naval strength in these waters." Never, of course. If peace were proclaimed to-morrow, Russia would not think of building a single new ship in three years' time she would not have one more than at present. Is it wonderful that the House of Commons murmured impatiently as the ex-Lord of Admiralty insulted it with such sophistry?

But Sir James had other articles in his catalogue. Bomarsund had been a "practical lesson" to Russia. It was so—and perhaps the unhappy inhabitants of the Aland islands, whom Sir James's Government left to the revenge of the Czar, can tell what effect that lesson produced when our forces were withdrawn from the Baltic. The poor Aland people, whose children have been actually transported wholesale, by way of punishment to those who supplied the Allies, will testify to the value of the "lesson." Then there was the mouth of the Danube. Sir James spoke on this with his usual want of candour, and talked of the obstructions which had arisen at the Sulina mouth. The fact is—first, that Russia cheated us in the neatest manner (and in a way which reflected the highest honour upon our vaunted diplomatic servants), when the arrangement was originally made by which she was left in charge of the Danubian outlet; and, secondly, she wilfully blocked up the Sulina mouth, partly that Odessa might benefit by the trade which ought to have ascended the river, and partly for military reasons, now evident enough. Well, we forced the passage, relieved the port, and burned the quarantine; and now Russia is ready to concede the care of the mouth of the river to a Commission, in which England is to have a voice—the voices of her guns having wrought that much conviction. And then Sir James, summing up all these marvellous concessions, proceeded to argue that any attempt at limitation of the Russian preponderance was improper. Being confronted by the awkward fact that such limitation had been proposed by himself and colleagues, he explained we beg attention to the juggle—that it was certainly proposed, but not as an ultimatum;—that is to say, Russia was at liberty to reject it, without incurring the risk of a suspension of the negotiations. In the auctioneer and broker spirit, Sir James had thrown it out, "Something for a bidding, gentlemen, say something: let us say a limitation." Only that this was to be a Dutch auction, and the demand to be lessened perpetually until it became low enough to please the Czar.

Such was the vindication of Sir James Graham! Ought not England—and, indeed, Europe—to be deeply thankful that the insin erity and petty cabals of the Peelite party made it impossible for them to continue in office, and that the war has, at all events, been rescued from the hands of those who can feel, act, and speak like Gladstone and Graham?

We have left ourselves but little space to comment upon the speech of Mr. Cobden that arch-agitator, who now condemns agitation; that prince of demagogues, who, having served his own purpose in stirring up the passions of the crowd, disparages the popular intellect which he formerly extolled, and reads lessons of Conservatism in favour of that aristocracy against which, at one time, he was delighted to hurl his denunciations. Mr. Cobden sees through coloured spectacles. All that his country does is wrong; even the capture of Kertch and the events which have so rapidly followed it—so fertile in results—in the highest degree beneficial to the cause of the Allies, he affects to treat as "a little expedition to the Sea of Azoff;" as one which will "afford no renown to our armies;" and as little better "than our marauding expedition last year to the Gulf of Finland." Mr. Cobden, however, seems to have parted company, to some extent, with his friend Mr. Bright. The Damon and Pythias of Peace-at-all-price have a point of difference between them. Mr. Bright would not fight under any circumstances, unless human nature should at extremity get the better of his religious doctrine; but Mr. Cobden has informed the world that, if the Russians were besieging Portsmouth, he would cease talking and set to work, and that, if he could not take his place in the field, he would work for his country in the hospital. The people of England would rather fight Russia in the Crimea than at Portsmouth, and that is a difference between Mr. Cobden and his countryman which is not at all to the credit of Mr. Cobden's sagacity. To judge from the peroration of his elaborate and amusing speech, he will not support a war against 60,000,000 of people at a distance of 3000 miles; but he would aid the war against the same number of people if it were waged at seventy miles from London. Luckily we are all not Cobdens. If we were, we should incur a very serious risk of soon becoming Russians.

A FRIEND of the Maine Liquor Law, who signs with the name *tant soit peu* inappropriate—of "Malthouse," forwards us some statistics, to prove that the operation of the Sunday Beer Bill has been to diminish sensibly the number of persons brought before the magistrates of the six large towns of Liverpool, Leeds, Bolton, Sheffield, Paisley, and Leicester. The figures may be as our Correspondent puts them; but they do not support his proposition that the *only* way to put a stop to drunkenness unfortunately the national vice in the British islands is to put difficulties in the way of the poor man's obtaining liquor.

Mr. Malthouse says—and we quote his sentiments at full length, that he may have the benefit of all the publicity we can give him:—

> The great source of crime, poverty, vice, and profligacy is intoxicating drink, at its our public-houses, our lunatic asylums. A Sunday Beer Bill, by prohibiting the sale on certain hours during which vice and crime. A bill closing public-houses at ten on Saturday night till Sunday, would do still more good; and a law prohibiting the traffic entirely, or a Maine Liquor Law, would accomplish in England, same as in Maine—make the gaol to let! Pauperism, crime, rags, and poverty would become *rara avis in terris*. The money now spent in liquor would be thrown into the channel of trade. The man who spent all his earnings at the Cat and Fiddle would buy good food for himself and family, good shoes, hats, coats, &c., &c.; give his little boys and girls a good education, and fit them to take their place in society as men, and not things; it would thus create a demand that would double the number of workmen now in England could not supply; and we should have to send to America and to Australia and bring back again the sons and daughters of Old England who had been driven to a foreign land to earn a living which there was not for them in England. This temperance reformation is no Utopian dream, but a reality

Our Correspondent, like many other well-meaning men who agree with him, may be right in his objects, without being right in the methods by which he would obtain them. The ease by which alcoholic liquors may be obtained, and their cheapness, are not found all over the world to act as incentives to drunkenness. In France, in Germany, and in Italy there is no license required for the sale of wine, beer, or spirits. Any person may sell them—grocers, bakers, barbers—whoever pleases to add that traffic to any other, or to devote himself entirely to it. Neither are there restrictions upon the days or hours at which he may vend his commodities. Every day till midnight he may keep his shop open; Sundays are no exception; and the Continental Governments would as soon think of putting a restriction on the use of water as on that of wine. And yet there is no drunkenness. Frenchmen, Italians, Spaniards, and Hungarians are all as notoriously sober as Englishmen, Scotchmen, and Irishmen, of a certain class, are notoriously the reverse. It follows, therefore, that there must be some other reason for undue indulgence in stimulating drinks than the mere facility of obtaining them. The English man finds it difficult to get drink, and he becomes drunk, while the Frenchman, who has no legal or legislative difficulty in procuring any alcoholic beverage that he pleases—either on Sunday, or Monday, or any other day—does not, as a rule, indulge to excess. He uses wine as a friend; while his counterpart in this country "put an enemy into their mouths to steal away their brains." The advocates of a Maine Liquor Law should explain this before they advocate a policy of repression. Suppose a league were to be got up to endeavour to prohibit the use of cold water as a beverage, what would the ultra Teetotallers say of the abominable tyranny of any majority that should succeed in it? They may depend upon it, if we cannot eradicate drunkenness by education and improvement of the moral tone of society, we shall never eradicate it by law. These men should have more faith in the principle of freedom, and all the more because their repression, if successful at all, would be one-sided; and would operate as a penalty against the poor, and leave the rich unscathed to do exactly as they pleased. The teetotal Earl of Harrington may find beef or mutton necessary to his existence; and a ploughman or blacksmith may find beer essential to his health, and strength, and constitution: but suppose the blacksmith—smitten with a crotchet—should find out that beef was not good for the Earl; that mutton might do him mischief;—and that his Lordship ought to live well on bread and onions? Would the Earl tolerate the interference? We rather think not. These worthy people make a mistake. The Maine Liquor Law is unsuited to this climate; and interference with the freedom of the poor has already been carried somewhat too far. Free-trade in light wholesome French wines would do more to diminish drunkenness than all the attempts to shut up public-houses which have ever yet been made in this country.

MEMORIAL OF THE LATE PROFESSOR EDWARD FORBES.—A subscription has been opened for erecting a monumental tablet at St George's Church, Isle of Man, and a scholarship in the Douglas Grammar School (open to the whole island), in memory of Professor Edward Forbes

LETTERS from Constantinople by the last mail speak of the Sultan having in contemplation to visit France about the middle of August.

LORD STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE gave a grand dinner on the Queen's birthday. "He made a speech (says a French letter) very warlike against Russia, and highly complimentary to the Emperor of the French, and a little French alliance."

THE office of Counsel to the Admiralty, vacated by Mr. Phinn's appointment as Second Secretary to the board, will be filled by Mr. Atherton, Q.C.

THE COURT.

The Court has remained in London during the past week, and the Royal race meeting at Ascot, for the first time for several years, has wanted the attend invariably attending her Majesty's presence

On Saturday his Royal Highness Prince Albert went to Sydenham, to inspect the Horticultural Show at the Crystal Palace. The Queen and the Prince took a drive in the afternoon; and in the evening her Majesty honoured the Royal Italian Opera with her presence. The Prince Consort presided, on the same evening, at the annual dinner of the officers of the Grenadier Guards, at Grillion's Hotel, and afterwards joined her Majesty at the Opera

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, and the Princess Alice, the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, and the Princesses Adelaide and Teodora of Hohenlohe, attended Divine service in the private chapel of the Palace. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated, and administered the holy communion.

On Monday Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, went to Eton for the purpose of hearing the speeches of the Eton scholars. On the return of the Prince to London her Majesty and his Royal Highness visited the Duchess of Gloucester at Gloucester-house. In the evening the Queen had a dinner party, the company at which included the Duchess of Kent, the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg and the Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe, Count Persigny (the French Ambassador), the Duke and Duchess of Athol, the Marquis of Ely, Earl Spencer, the Earl and Countess of Clarendon, Viscount Torrington, Viscount and Viscountess Folkestone, the Right Hon. Sir Richard Isambard, and Major-General Sir Frederic Smith

On Tuesday the Queen and Prince Albert went to Gore-house, Kensington-gore, to inspect the Exhibition of Works of Ornamental Art. Lord Stanley of Alderley, President of the Board of Trade, was in attendance. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness dined at Aldershot the afternoon, and in the evening honoured the Princess' Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday the Queen held a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace. The Earl of Clarendon, Lord Panmure, Viscount Palmerston, and the Earl Granville, had audiences of the Queen. In the afternoon her Majesty, accompanied by the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg and the Princess Adelaide, took a drive in an open landau, the Prince Consort attending on horseback. In the evening the Queen had a dinner party, the company at which included the Duchess of Kent, the Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and the Duke of Cambridge; the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg and the Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe; the Marquis and Marchioness of Abercorn, the Marquis and Marchioness of Headfort, the Earl of Howth, the Earl and Countess of Durham, Lord John Russell, Lord Panmure, and Lieut.-Colonel Berkeley (Scots Fusilier Guards)

On Thursday the Queen and her illustrious guests took a carriage airing during the afternoon.

The Duchess of Wellington has succeeded the Marchioness of Ely as the Lady in Waiting to her Majesty. Lord De Tabley and Sir Frederic Stovin have relieved Lord Waterpark and Mr. F. Cavendish in their duties as the Lord and Groom in Waiting to the Queen. Lieutenant-General the Hon. Charles Grey has relieved Major General Buckley in his duties as the Equerry in Waiting to the Queen, and Captain the Hon. Dudley De Ros has relieved Captain Du Plat as Equerry in Waiting to Prince Albert

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester took a carriage airing on Wednesday, and paid visits to the members of the Royal family, at their respective residence

The Prince and Princess Doria Pamphili have arrived at Thomas's Hotel, Berkeley square, where they intend remaining some weeks.

The Countess of De by gave a grand ball on Wednesday evening, the company being invited to meet the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary.

ROYAL VISIT TO PARIS. The approaching visit of the Queen of England to their city begins now to form a topic of interest in the gossip of the Parisians, and, indeed, at all the towns along the line of route. Preparations for the reception of her Majesty and the Prince Consort have been already commenced at Boulogne, where they are to occupy an extensive suite of apartments at the Hotel Brighton—at which establishment it will be remembered Prince Albert stayed during his visit to Boulogne last year, as did also the Kings of the Belgians and the King of Portugal. The apartments destined for the especial accommodation of her Majesty are at present in process of redecoration; for, it is said the Queen will stay at Boulogne a day or two, and be present at a grand review of the Army of the North. The superior will of course come from Paris to receive her Majesty. There are to be very gay doings, and most of the houses adjacent to the hotel are already let to families of distinction.

Letter from Boulogne

DURING Prince Albert's visit to the Flower Show a very spirited photographic likeness of him was taken in three seconds by Mr. Nugent, the artist, who has succeeded to the office held in the Palace by Mr. Delamotte. His Royal Highness, who seemed much pleased with the impression, took it away with him.

REORGANISATION OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.—The following are some of the arrangements already completed:—Mr. Thomas Howell has been appointed Director-General of Contracts; Mr. John Robertson, late Deputy-General, now one of the Income-tax Commissioners, will be Director-General of Stores. No appointment has yet been made to the office of Director-General of Army Clothing, but Mr. George Du ho ne Ramsay will be Assistant Director-General of this department. Sir John Burgoyne will retain his office of Inspector-General of Fortifications; and Mr. Monsell remains Clerk of the Ordnance

THE PRESS AT GIBRALTAR.—According to a new ordinance, no printer will be able to print any publication not previously examined and licensed by the Governor's Secretary, under a penalty of 100 dollars, to be levied by distress and sale of his goods and chattels, if not instantly paid.

EXTRAORDINARY MOUNTAIN ASCENT.—One day last week two married ladies from the neighbourhood of Windermere, accompanied by a gentleman from Keswick, commenced a tour from the latter place at two o'clock a.m., and under a strong north-east wind, attained the summit of Saddleback to witness the rising of the sun. Here snow was observed six feet deep. After taking a little refreshment, they descended on the east side, passing Skiddaw House, through the forest; thence into the Earl of Lonsdale's liberties, and on forward to Peckbridge. Thence they ascended the south side of Saddleback, and down Scales Fell to Scales. There they rested about four hours, and then proceeded to High-row; afterwards to Brundholm Wood, passed Greta Bank, and back to Keswick.

DUTY ON STAGE-COACHES.—A deputation of the metropolitan and provincial stage-coach proprietors waited on the Chancellor of the Exchequer, at his official residence, Downing-street, on Tuesday, relative to a modification of the mileage duty at present levied on stage-coaches. The deputation was introduced by General Wyndham, M.P., and was supported by the presence of Lord R Grosvenor, M.P. and several other members of the House of Commons. Mr Brasfield, secretary to the committee of the Stage-Carriage Association, in explaining to the right hon gentleman the objects of the deputation, stated that, considering the present state of the revenue, a reduction of the duty one-third would be satisfactory. Mr. Williams, M.P., stated that, both in Lambeth and in the district of the Regent's-park, the public were greatly inconvenienced by the withdrawal of the omnibuses. Lord Robert Grosvenor confirmed all that had been said in reference to the hardship of the tax, as did Mr. Cowper, M.P. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply, stated that he had taken a note of the prayer of the deputation, and of the grounds on which they urged it; but could not at present give them any definite answer upon the subject

A FRENCH SWINDLER.—At Lambeth police-office, on Wednesday, Monsieur Peter Christian, *alias* Edward Redissant, *alias* Resser, with a hundred other *aliases*, was brought up from Horsemonger-lane prison, and placed at the bar before Mr. Elliott, on premises of twenty charges of unpaid robbery On taking his place at the bar the prisoner—who was fashionably dressed, and who is a remarkably showy and good-looking young man—folded his arms, and with the most perfect efficiency stared at his victims, who at the time completely crowded the court; and it was remarked by many that a more impudent rogue, not even the renowned Captain Johnson—who had swindled the poor old lady, Mrs Stewart, out of several thousand pounds' worth of property, on a promise of marrying her—never stood in that position. When told by the magistrate that there were reasons to believe that he had not given his right name, and asked to give his correct name, his reply was—"If they have got my real name what is the necessity of asking me for it?" Some person in the body of the court here made a remark in an under tone of voice about the insolence of his manners, upon which the prisoner, turning to him, said, "Hold your tongue!" The prisoner here passed the fingers of both hands through his ample crop of jet black hair, and singed it in the most perfect coolness. The charges against the prisoner were very numerous:—From Miss Oliver's, St. John's-wood, he had taken plate and a writing-desk. He had his addresses to Miss Rosa Griffiths, and made her a present of the writing-desk. From Mrs. Langton, Camberwell, he stole a bottle, a Church of England Service, a piece of crochet work, and seven valuable books. From Mr. Weir's, Camberwell, he stole some wearing apparel, and left, as he did elsewhere, a trunk full of firewood. From Mr Vigors', Finsbury, he took, while staying there for half an hour, a gold watch, chain, seal, two gold bracelets, two gold rings, and various other articles—amounting to £18, leaving the usual box of firewood. To the house of Mrs. Laurence, a widow lady at Camberwell, he "brought" a Church Service and Bible, and took away from it an eight-day skeleton clock. Several other charges were also brought forward, but the evidence being incomplete he was remanded.

A Parliamentary Return shows that there are at present twenty private reformatory schools in England and Scotland, certified by Government, and capable of containing about 1600 children

PROFESSOR SCHLAFHAUBE, OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ****

A SKETCH FROM THE LIFE.

LARGLY runs the tide of human life—
There is no effort in our German land—
Of what avail are ceaseless moil and strife?
Is there not Time? Why move, if we can stand?
There is no object the wide world can show,
Worth English hurry, sweat, and sore distress;
Let the moons wane and wax, and come and go—
And let us Germans doze in happiness.

Why should we turn and spin in frantic haste
When we have seventy years to live and dream?
Through cloud and vapour speed is perilous waste:
Anchor the ship, there's fog upon the stream;
And let us sit and smoke the live-long day,
With deep-drawn whiffs, and drink the fattening beer;
Gazing on earth, or on the wreathlets grey
That curl above the pipes we love so dear.

Pipes! blessed pipes! There were no good on earth
Without tobacco. Give us that, and peace;
A little sunshine, and the children's mirth.
We ask no more! And if our wealth increase
Like growing corn, why let it! We are glad!
But trouble us, oh men of other climes,
No more with whistling steams, and efforts mad,
That make us languish for the ancient times.

Perish the Sultan! What is he to us?
Let Russia flourish! Why should we complain?
Are we th' avengers? Work thy pleasure, Russ!
And let us smoke and sleep—and smoke again!
Firm as a rock let Germany endure;
Not like a rocket, blazing from the west;
Japan in Europe slow, but very sure.
Oh give us pipes and peace, and let us rest! C. M.

Dresden, April, 1855.

FINE ARTS.

EXHIBITION OF THE WORKS OF J. J. CHALON, R.A. A collection of pictures, drawings, sketches, &c., by the late J. J. Chalon, R.A., with the addition of a selection from the works of A. E. Chalon, R.A., has just been opened at the rooms of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, &c., in the Adelphi. On former occasions the Committee of this Society have devoted the use of their rooms to the display of the collected works of individual artists—Etty and Mulready to wit; and the exhibitions thus produced have been viewed with great interest by the public. Chalon, though a man of considerable ability in his way, was not an artist of the class of either Mulready or Etty; and the present collection, though curious in some respects, is not of that importance which justly attended the works of those eminent artists viewed as contributions to the British school. The selections from the works of A. E. Chalon, however, in a different and more attractive style, help to fill up what would otherwise be a meagre display; and, taken as a whole, this collection of some 300 pieces will not be viewed without instructive results. J. J. Chalon was a very industrious artist, and was constantly producing something—landscapes, sketches of society, scenes from romances and plays, and portraits, with now and then an attempt in the higher walks of art; but he appears towards the end of his career to have painted with less carefulness and finish than in earlier periods: and some of the productions resulting are so crude that it would have been better for his fame to have left them in the studio, or in the private collections to which they belonged, than to have brought them out for re-exhibition in association with other works which are really meritoriously executed. Amongst the latter things in this collection we may mention: "Mademoiselle Bauque's first sight of the Wetel Sisters," apparently an early work, and one of some ambition, in which breathes something of the wild savageness of Salvator; "A View from Richmond-hill—Autumn," sunny, and richly coloured; "The Severn, from Clifton," and "Great Marlow, from a Gravel Pit"—capital land scapes, genuine in material and colouring, and happily free from affectation. "Paris in 1818," "The Serpentine during the hard Winter of 1823, and other group-pictures of this class, are chiefly curious as examples of bygone costume Amongst the works of A. E. Chalon we particularly notice, as good of their kind, a highly-finished Portrait of the late Princess Charlotte, the property of her Majesty; and "An Imaginary Marriage of Two Living Dwarfs," a composition of portraits, painted for the late Marquis of Lansdowne, and now the property of Miss Giffard. The large picture of the Christ "And Herod and his men of war set him at nought and mocked him, and arrayed him in a gorgeous robe"—is ambitious in treatment, and has merit in points. But there is a weakness in the principal figure which deprives the work of the importance the subject is entitled to.

M. MONTI'S SECOND LECTURE ON SCULPTURE.—M. Monti delivered his second lecture on Ancient and Modern Sculpture on Wednesday evening, at his atelier in Great Marlborough street. Having previously disposed of Egyptian and Assyrian sculpture, he now came to Indian sculpture; which was remarkable for the display of a rich fancy, and a wide and varied application of natural objects, in the elucidation of allegory. This portion of the discourse was rather mythological than purely artistic; and comprised explanations of the various Indian deities, and their attributes; beginning with the four-faced Brahma, and his paternal connexion with the lotus. Several diagrams of effective groups from Ellora, and other places, were then produced. After which M. Monti exhibited a curious bas relief of Buddha, which he supposed to be of about the fifth century, before the Christian era (and therefore about contemporary with the Parthenon), and which showed that at this early period Indian art had arrived at a very high rank. Then came, in rapid succession, specimens from Java, Burmah, China (in clay), Mexico, and Peru (in clay), which closed the review of Indian sculpture. The sculpture of the Etruscan families, whether settling in Greece, or various parts of the Mediterranean, and which preceded and led to the great achievements of pure Greek art, were then considered; the illustrations being taken from remains at Naples, Herculaneum, the temples of Ægina, &c. M. Monti appears to have studied the history of his subject with great care and fulness; and the style in which he treats it is lucid and attractive.

THE Lord Advocate of Scotland has been for some time engaged in preparing for the press a memoir of the late Lord Cockburn, with sketches and sketches of the distinguished contemporaries of the deceased judge, especially those with whom he maintained an intimate correspondence. This work is already spoken of as likely to prove not at all inferior, as the interest of its lively and varied materials, to the life of Lord Jeffrey, by Lord Cockburn himself.

A DEPUTATION from the printers of Paris waited last week on Prince Napoleon, and obtained permission that, during the period of the Exhibition, notices, advertisements, prospectuses, catalogues, plans, guides, and other printed papers connected with the exhibitors, and to be distributed in the interior of the Exhibition Palace, may be printed on unstamped paper.

IMPORTANT COPYRIGHT CASE.—SWEET AND OTHERS V. BENNING. This action, which, in the form of a special case, was argued on Tuesday and Wednesday last, in the Court of Common Pleas, by Mr. Lush for the plaintiffs, and by Mr. Hutt, Q.C., and Mr. Peter Burke, for the defendant, involves a very serious question as to what is really the kind of copyright that now exists in articles in newspapers and periodicals, and how that copyright may be protected. The Court has reserved its judgment

ONE of the Aides-de-Camp of General Pelissier is Prince Polignac, son of the Minister of Charles X

DOVER SAILORS' HOME.—The foundation-stone of an appropriate building destined as an asylum for sailors was laid at Dover on Wednesday, by the Right Hon. F. Bouverie, M.P.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

MR. RUSKIN has just put forth a sixpenny pamphlet of "Notes" on some (to him) of the principal pictures exhibited in the rooms of the Royal Academy. He is bitterly critical. The Academicians obtain an undue share of his abuse. The best picture in the Exhibition is, in his eyes, Mr. Millais' "Rescue," in which, perhaps, many will be found to agree; and the next best Mr. Cope's "Royal Prisoner," in which he surely must stand alone. After these he apparently places Mr. Lewis's "Armenian Lady." He pooh-poohs the President; condemns Maclise; thinks very little of Stanfield, still less of Roberts; sees no nature in Creswick—very much that is not praiseworthy in Ansell; must own nonplace Wilkieism in Mr. Faed; and an utter absence of poetic feeling in Herbert. His admiration is confined to a flower piece by Miss Mutrie, to a moorland scene by Mr. Inchbold, and to some other smaller transcripts of rural and every-day nature by comparatively unknown men. He does not condescend to notice Mr. Hart; but sees a future of good in Mr. Leighton. "It seems to me probable," he says, "that Mr. Leighton has greatness in him, but there is no absolute proof of it in this picture; and if he does not in succeeding years paint far better, he will soon lose his power of painting so well." Mr. Ruskin is to continue his remarks from year to year, so that he is likely to have every brush, and perhaps every mahlstick held up against him. He is to do with his name to it what Dennis did in literature in the same way a century and a half ago. This dreaded satirist has much good sense, as indeed Dennis had, and he has all the asperity of that "tremendous" critic. We can fancy him before a picture, much like Dennis with a new tragedy or epic before him:

And stares tremendous with a threatening eye,
Like some fierce giant in old tapestry.

He is likely to become as great a terror to painters as Churchill certainly was to players.

Lord Strangford's death has created a second vacancy in the list of the Vice-Presidents of the Society of Antiquaries. His Lordship's successor is not yet even named. Mr. Hawkins, of the British Museum—eminently distinguished for his knowledge of English coins and English caricatures—succeeded the late Sir Robert Inglis, as we announced some time back that he was likely to do.

The removal of Lord Strangford from among the living, reminds us that the last literary exertions of his Lordship were directed to the discovery of materials for the life of an ancestor of his, well known to all the readers of English history, poetry, and painting, of the reign of Charles I. We allude to Endymion Porter, of whom too little has been preserved. He was a fine cavalier with a love of all that is beautiful and noble. We have had the pleasure of conversing with Lord Strangford on the subject of Endymion's life, and know that his materials deserve publication; but in what state of forwardness the biography was left we have yet to learn.

A contemporary, whose weekly gossip has of late been more than usually uninteresting, has thought fit to correct that passage of our column of Talk, in which we announced that a monument was about to be erected, by private subscription, over the grave of Mr Lockhart. Our contemporary adds nothing of moment to our intelligence, while he does not tell all that we told. In one passage we can correct our contemporary, while correcting ourselves. Who is the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ellis, said to be so active in promoting the subscription for the monument? No doubt, Sir Henry Ellis, the Principal Librarian of the British Museum, whose distinctions should be well known to every literary man; but who is not a Privy Councillor, and therefore not a Right Honourable.

An author of note, recently appointed Chancellor of the Exchequer, and therefore by virtue of his office "The Right Honourable," has just been evincing the interest he continues to take in literature and education generally The new Treasury Minute on the cheaper transmission of books by post bears evident proof of Sir George Lewis's pen. The *present* rate of postage for books is sixpence per pound, or fraction of a pound; and for Parliamentary books and papers one penny per quarter of a pound. On and after the 10th inst., by the new Treasury warrant of regulation, all works of Literature or Art, and all maps on canvas or paper, will be charged at the same rate as Parliamentary papers are charged at present—viz, one penny for four ounces, or fraction thereof, up to a pound; and then twopence for each additional half-pound, or fraction thereof. When the postage amounts to fourpence, the book sent may be printed, written, or plain. Of course, certain necessary and easy conditions are attached. The postage must be prepaid, and not in money, but in stamps, affixed to the book or map transmitted. Nor is this all. The packets must be open at each end, and must not contain any written letter, or communication in the nature of a letter. The size (an important consideration) is limited in length, width, and depth, to two feet. Of the working of this, we will give a few instances. On and after the 10th of the present month John Doe or John Roe (when so inclined) may send from the Land's End to John o' Groat's the following books at the following fair and reasonable charges:—Kelly's "Post office Directory," 2s. 4d.; Murray's "British Classics" (a thick octavo), 8d.; "The Clergy List," 10d.; "The Law List," 6d.; Bell's "Annotated British Poets," 3d.; "The Army List," 2d; "The Navy List," 2d.; "Bradshaw," 2d.; the "A B C Guide," 1d.

Death has removed from among us that ministering angel which stood sixty years since by the death bed of Robert Burns, and in honour of whom his last and almost his best song was written. We allude to Jessy Lewars, for such was sixty years since her maiden name, of whom Burns sung so deliciously.

Then art sweet as the smile when fond lovers meet,
And soft as the parting tear—Jessy.

We remember to have seen her—not in her prime, but when she still retained that soft agreeable voice and winning eye, which won from a true poet a deathless name. For a hereafter Jessy Lewars is as sure as Petrarch's Laura or Walton's Sacharissa, and certainly surer than "Granville's Myra," unless Pope's allusion may preserve that otherwise perishable name.

Greenwich is not remarkable for retaining any of its old houses, and now the last has gone. Eastward of the Crown and Sceptre, and still facing the river, antiquaries have certainly seen and lovers of whitebait might have seen, had they chosen—a capital example of an old house of the reign of Charles I., when domestic architecture was struggling between the Elizabethan building and the style imported by Inigo Jones. It was called Crowley house, after Sir Ambrose Crowley, for whom it was built has long been in a tumble-down condition, and is now no more. We missed it the other day, and found others who missed it. It attracted of Greenwich and "The Fortunes of Nigel."

The Special or Charter Committee of the Royal Literary Fund have made their report; and the counsel consulted (Mr. Sergeant Merewether) has given his opinion that the proposals of the committee cannot be carried out by the present corporation, by the present charter, or by bye-laws made under it. The recommendations of the committee are much to the point. The principal ones are these:—1. "That henceforth the administrative body of the society should have the power of granting revocable annuities to distressed men of letters and scientific writers, to the extent of a certain limited proportion of the income derivable from the society's real property or vested funds;" and, 2. "that henceforth the same administrative body shall have the power of granting relief by way of loan." These and other recommendations have been made in the wise and manly belief that a Literary Fund Society possessed of realised property to the amount of (in round numbers) thirty thousand pounds; possessed of a landed estate yielding two hundred pounds per annum; and further supported by Royal patronage, and by annual donations and subscriptions from the public, should endeavour to conform itself to the spirit and requirements of the time. In this belief, a special general meeting of the members of the corporation has been summoned to meet at Willis's-rooms on Saturday, the 16th of June, at two o'clock.

THE PALACE OF INDUSTRY, OR FREN

EXHIBITION BUILDING, AT PARIS.—(SEE PAGE 583.)

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, June 5, 1855.

Lord Panmure has received two despatches and their enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B:—

Before Sebastopol, May 22, 1855.

My Lord—Adverting to my despatch, No. 251, of the 14th April, I do myself the honour to lay before your Lordship the copy of a letter which I have received from Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, with its enclosures from Commander Prest of the *Hawalyan*, bearing testimony to the exertions and valuable services of Captain Gell, of the East India Company's Service, Acting Quartermaster-General, in conducting the 10th Hussars and 12th Lancers through Egypt, and in superintending the embarkation of those regiments at Alexandria.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

To Lord Panmure, &c., &c., &c.

Royal Albert, off Sebastopol, May 10, 1855

My Lord—I have the honour to enclose for your Excellency's information copy of a letter from Commander Prest, of the *Hawalyan*, calling my attention to the praiseworthy exertions of Captain Gell, of the Honourable East India Company's Service; and as her Majesty's Consul at Alexandria, and Colonel Pole, of the 12th Lancers, both bear testimony to this officer's valuable services, I shall feel greatly obliged if your Excellency will have the goodness to bring his conduct under favourable consideration in the proper quarter.

I have, &c., R. LYONS, Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

His Excellency Field Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., &c., &c.

Her Majesty's steam-vessel *Hawalyan*, Kurtach, May 7, 1855.

Sir,—I trust that you will not think me presuming if I endeavour to place before you some of the merits of Captain Gell, Hon. East India Company, the Deputy Assistant-Quartermaster General, conducting the transit of the 10th and 12th Regiments of cavalry through Egypt, and superintending their embarkation.

Colonel Pole and Parby are more capable than I can be of bearing testimony to his services, but I beg to add my witness to the zeal, great energy, and consummate tact by which he obtained a maximum of work from a people notoriously inert, and thus made my portion of the embarkation very simple, that no casualty of any kind has occurred in getting from the shore into pontoons and alongside the several ships more than 1000 horses, is attributable to his foresight and prudence. I respectfully submit that it may prove advantageous to the service if his exertions be brought to the notice of Lord Raglan.

I have, &c., BEN. P. PREST, Commander.

Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief.

CRIMEAN ARMY FUND

Before Sebastopol, May 22, 1855.

My Lord,—I have the honour to lay before your Lordship the copy of a letter which I received a short time ago from the Hon. Algernon Egerton and Mr. Thomas Tower, who succeeded Mr. Jervoise Smith and Mr. Gwyn in the duty of distributing all that was sent out by the Crimean Fund for the use of the British Army.

I cannot speak too highly of the exertions of all these gentlemen. Their courtesy, their kindness of heart, and their unceasing desire to gratify the wishes of all, are above all I can say in their favour, and they carry with them the grateful acknowledgments of every officer and man, who are equally sure on with myself to bear the amplest testimony to the manner in which they have fulfilled their onerous task, despite of fatigue, weather, and every possible inconvenience.

I have, &c., RAGLAN

The Lord Panmure, &c., &c.

Crimean Army Fund Agency, Kadikoi, May 8, 1855.

My Lord,—We have the honour to report to your Lordship that the operations of the Crimean Army Fund, of which we are the honorary representatives in the Crimea, have now closed.

In announcing this officially to your Lordship, we beg to express the hope that our endeavours to carry out the thoughtful and generous intentions of that association towards our noble and gallant countrymen in the Crimea have in some slight degree promoted the public service, and have not interfered in any respect prejudicially to the organisation of an army which we so love and admire.

We cannot conclude our mission without thanking your Lordship, the Quartermaster-General, and the authorities for the kind countenance and support which we have received from the very commencement to the termination of our efforts but most grateful task.

Your Lordship will allow us to speak most highly of the quartermasters of regiments, with whom we have been thrown in such frequent contact.

We have, &c., (Signed) ALGERNON EGERTON.
THOMAS TOWER.

To Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief.

War Department, June 6, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received two despatches and their enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:

Before Sebastopol, May 26, 1855.

My Lord,—I have the honour to report to your Lordship that a portion of the Allied armies took up a position yesterday on the side of the Tchernaya, the left of the French resting under a redoubt established upon the edge of the ridge overhanging the valley, and opposite the Inkerman heights; the right extending beyond Traktir; and the ground more to the right, beyond Chergouni, being occupied by the Sardinian troops, aided in their advance by the 10th Hussars and the 12th Lancers and the Horse Artillery, under Colonel Parby.

Omer Pacha at the same time moved forward to the low heights in front of Baraklava, and thus afforded support to the French divisions before him. These were commanded by General Canrobert, who pushed forward across the bridge of Traktir, and drove the enemy, who were not in great numbers, off, and, having cleared his front, he withdrew to this side of the river, where he now remains.

Sir Colin Campbell advanced the Royal Marines from the high ridge on our extreme right to a point commanding the old Baidar road, and Colonel Parby, with the regiments I have mentioned, reconnoitred the country on the immediate right of General La Marmora's position, and patrolled along the Woronzow road, in the direction of Baidar.

The appearance and bearing of the Sardinian troops are highly satisfactory, and I anticipate the greatest advantage from their addition to the army under their gallant and distinguished leader, General La Marmora, whose zeal for the service and earnest desire to co-operate with us, I am happy to have so early an opportunity of acknowledging and recording. Nothing of importance has occurred in the British trenches since I wrote to your Lordship on the 19th inst.

The death of Colonel Egerton, of the 77th, on the 22d of the 19th ultimo, [illegible] your Lordship in [illegible] the receipt of the report of the conduct of the [illegible] under him; and it is only a few days ago that I had [illegible] his zeal and fidelity. I [illegible] to him of the [illegible] and he had highly [illegible] his duties.

I deem it an act of justice to a most deserving officer to bring his conduct under the notice of your Lordship.

I enclose the returns of casualties to the 24th instant. Your Lordship will regret to see that Lieutenant Williams, of the 17th Foot has been severely wounded.

I have the greatest pleasure in announcing to your Lordship the brilliant success which attended an attack by the French army of some unburdened on the Lead of the Quarantine Bay, and in front of a cemetery near it. The attack was made on the night of the 22nd, and the operation was completed on the following morning. The enemy had collected a very large force on the first [illegible] to resist our Allies, but, notwithstanding, the French were [illegible] by their brilliant gallantry and determined resolution, to maintain themselves in the pits at the head of the bay on the 23rd, and on the 24th to creep, [illegible] with less resistance on the part of the Russians, who are stated to have made and lost very severe [illegible].

The French were necessarily exposed to a very heavy fire, and were assailed by vastly superior numbers. The achievement has been published redoubtedly, therefore, I shall [illegible] it [illegible] with satisfaction by their [illegible].

An expedition, composed of British, French, and Turkish troops, sailed for Kertch on Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning, and I hope soon to be able to announce the landing of the corps, and the [illegible] of Kertch. It is commanded by Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown, and has been conveyed in English and French ships, under the command of Admiral Sir E. Lyons and Admiral Bruat, whose exertions to carry out this [illegible] have been most conspicuous.

The 21st Regiment has arrived from Corfu.

I am authorized to have to report that Major-General [illegible] has been compelled by the failure of his health, to leave the army. He has been [illegible] the discharge of his duty since he joined this army, during which [illegible] and unknown, and persevered in taking his turn in the trenches [illegible] driven by illness to withdraw. I regret the loss of his services exceedingly.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c., &c.

RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED FROM THE 18TH TO THE 24TH MAY, INCLUSIVE.

Sergeant. 34th Foot: James Flaherty.

Privates.—41st Foot: William Mullins, slight. 47th: Thomas Murphy. 55th: John Moran, John Jukes, Charles Howe. 68th: William Hardyman. Royal Sappers and Miners: Neil Campbell, Richard Wales.

Total 9 killed.

RETURN OF OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND PRIVATES WOUNDED FROM THE 18TH TO THE 24TH MAY INCLUSIVE.

Lieutenant. 17th Foot: R. Williams severely.

Lieutenant. 41st Foot: Michael Sweeney, dangerously.

Corporals. 17th: William Mitchell, severely. 57th: James Barnes, severely.

Lance Corporal. 38th: Owen Burham, slightly.

Second Corporal. Royal Sappers and Miners: William Swan, severely.

Drummer.—1st: James M'Mahon, severely.

Privates. 1st: Henry Bromley, John M'Donald, Peter Scales, severely. George Davidson, James Stewart, Thomas M'Donald, slightly. 2d: William Cross, severely. Cornelius Brown, severely: John Peoples, Peter Jackson, slightly. 17th: Edward Hopkins, slightly. 38th: John Jones, James Gordon, severely. 47th: Patrick Dempsey, severely. 55th: John Wood, Robert M'Adam, slightly. 57th: John William Connor, Thomas Burke, slightly. 68th: William Hyde, severely. 77th: Michael Ryan, Patrick Neville, slightly. 97th: John Mullins, severely. 68th: James Kennedy, dangerously; Patrick M'Mahon, severely. 88th: William Clarke, severely. 97th: James Lewis, William Reid, Timothy Sullivan, severely. Royal Sappers and Miners: Michael Sullivan, severely. 88th: John Hagarty, slightly. 90th: James Fields, severely. 97th: John Dennis, slightly. Rifle Brigade: William Mahon, severely. Royal Artillery: Thomas Mills, slightly. Royal Marines: John C. Weeles, slightly. Royal Sappers and Miners: George Wood, slightly.

Total 48 wounded.

RETURN OF CASUALTIES IN THE ROYAL NAVAL BRIGADE, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, FROM THE 18TH TO THE 22ND MAY.

KILLED.—Private Lay, coxswain's mate, gunn.

WOUNDED.—Midshipmen, Bell, Queen, slightly; Thomas Smith, A.B., Queen, slightly; John Armold, A.B., Leander, slightly; John Smith, A.B., Leander, severely.

Total—1 killed, 4 wounded.

Before Sebastopol, May 26, 1855.

My Lord,—I have the honour to enclose the fortnight confidential reports of the Generals of Division and Brigade to the 20th inst.

I have likewise to transmit, for your Lordship's information, a letter from the Inspector-General of Hospitals, showing the extent of the cholera to the latest period.

I earnestly hope that the disease is not gaining ground.

The Lord Panmure, &c. I have, &c., RAGLAN.

Before Sebastopol, May 24, 1855.

My Lord,—I have the honour to enclose a return of the daily progress of cholera in the army in the Crimea, from 19th to 23rd May, inclusive.

Your Lordship will notice by this return that the disease has moderated in severe, and that the mortality is one-third less than it was during the preceding seven days, though I cannot say that the number of attacks has diminished in proportion, or that the disease has been circumscribed by narrower limits; on the contrary, I think it, if anything, more generally diffused, as cases have occurred in every division.

At Balaclava several admissions into the General Hospital there have taken place from the Sardinian Contingent, from the Land Transport Corps, and from ships in the harbour, which have swelled out our rate of both admissions and deaths.

The removal of the Buffs and the 48th Regiment to higher and drier ground has been attended with good results.

Great attention is paid to the sanitary condition of the camps, and to all matters that it is thought may tend to excite the disease.

The attention of medical officers has been drawn to the subject of cholera belts, and I have reason to believe that the whole army has been supplied with them; and if not, the supply in store is ample enough to meet the demand.

I have, &c., J. HALL,
Inspector-General of Hospitals.

Field Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B., Commanding-in-Chief.

CAPTURE OF KERTCH

Admiralty, June 6, 1855.

A despatch, of which the following is a copy, has been received from Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart, G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of her Majesty's ships and vessels in the Mediterranean and Black Sea.

Royal Albert, Straits of Kertch, May 26, 1855.

Sir,—I have great pleasure in the hope you to inform the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the Allied forces are masters of the Straits of Kertch, and that they have in the Sea of Azoff a powerful steam flotilla, of light draught of water, capable of cutting off the enemy's supplies, and harassing him in all points, and, moreover, that the means are at hand for sending in a sufficient number of gun-boats of the lighter draught, if it should be found desirable to do so.

My letter of the 22nd inst., No. 396, will have informed their Lordships that an Allied expedition, consisting of 15,000 men of all arms, and five hundred artillery, were then on the point of leaving the anchorage off Sebastopol, for Kertch, and my message by electric telegraph will have announced the complete success of that expedition; but it is my remains for me to give an account of our proceedings for their Lordships' information.—

The fleet, which consisted of her Majesty's ships named in the margin,* and a French fleet of nearly equal force, under the command of my [illegible] Admiral Bruat, assembled off Kertch early dawn on the birthday of her Majesty, the Queen, and both armies and navies confidently anticipated a successful celebration of that auspicious day. The fleets steamed rapidly up to Kamish, where the army landed under cover of the guns of the steam-frigates, and immediately advanced the heights without opposition, while the steamers of light draught of water pushed on towards Kertch and Enikale; and the enemy, apparently taken by surprise at the rapidity of these movements, and at the imposing appearance of the expedition, blew up his fortifications on both sides of the straits, mounting not less than fifty guns (new and of heavy calibre), which have fallen into our possession, and retired after having destroyed three steamers and several other heavily-armed vessels, as well as large quantities of provisions, ammunition, and stores—thus leaving us masters of the entrance into the Sea of Azoff, without our having sustained any loss whatever.

As the disembarkation was unopposed, in consequence of the fire of the steam-frigates having arrested the advance of the enemy, there was no field for the gallantry that animated every one in the expedition; but the duties they had to perform were very arduous, and I should be doing my service to him and to my own feelings if I were not to say that no Commander-in-Chief was more ably assisted than I am by the Captains and those under their command, one and all following the valuable example of the senior and talented second in command, Rear-Admiral Stewart, and they could not possibly do better. There was, however, an incident during the day that called with the admiration of both fleets, and which deserves to be particularly noticed. Lieutenant M'Killop, whose gun-vessel, the *Snake*, was not employed like the others in landing troops, dashed past the forts after an enemy's steamer, and although he soon found himself engaged not only with her but also with two others who came to her support, he persevered, and by the clearness and extreme rapidity of his fire, counteracted the escape of all three, and they were consequently destroyed by the enemy, and the *Snake* had not a shot hurt, though she passed through the vessel.

Yesterday Admiral Bruat and I accompanied the combined steam flotilla, named in the margin,† into the Sea of Azoff, and dispatched them, under the orders of Captain Lyons, of the *Miranda*, on the interesting and important service they have to execute.

I find the expedition has been deferred but a short time longer, there would I have been [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible] which had been [illegible] by the [illegible] during the week [illegible]

[illegible] It appears that the enemy did not succeed in destroying the chain bridge at Kertch or Enikale, so that about seventeen thousand tons remain, which will be available for our steamers.

It will be evident to their Lordships that the map of operations which I have has the honour and happiness to depict be to them could not have been brought to so satisfactory a conclusion if the most perfect understanding and the most hearty good will towards each other had not prevailed throughout the Allied fleets and armies.

I am, &c., Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

The Secretary of the Admiralty, London.

Admiralty, June 6, 1855.

With reference to the above despatch Lieut. Henry Frederick M'Killop will be promoted to the rank of Commander, so soon as he shall have completed the sea time required to qualify him for that rank.

Medical the Master of War has just received (June 6) from General the Admiral of the Squadron of the Mediterranean the following despatch:

On board the *Montebello*, May 26, 1855.

Sir,—Just as I had the honour of [illegible] to you by the [illegible] of May [illegible] a second expedition to Kertch has been resolved on.

The embarkation commenced on the evening of the 21st, left on the 23rd, and disembarked on the 24th, at Kamish Bourna; and on the 25th we occupied Yenikale, after having passed Kertch, and taken the batteries in the neighbourhood of Ak-Bounna. On the 25th Admiral Lyons and myself entered the Sea of Azoff, and dispatched a squadron for Berdiansk and Arabat, at sent out in the night, and was composed of four French and two English vessels. The so complete success of this expedition, in which our troops, led by General d'Autemarre, displayed their habitual ardour, is due also to the rapidity with which it was undertaken; in all of which undertakings I ought to acquaint you with the most complete and cordial co-operation of Admiral Lyons.

From the first day, and after having moored, the disembarkation of the French commenced with order, under the direction of Captain Jurien de la Gravière, the chief of my staff.

After being assured of the proximate with the expeditionary corps effected a landing, I advanced with the *Leplace* to reconnoitre the batteries of Ak Bounna, the powder-store of which the Russians had lately blown up.

The enemy, seeing that they were on the point of being turned, did not hesitate to blow up several others of them, and evacuate these post one.

A very short time afterwards an English gun-boat of light draught of water was directed against Yenikale, to cut short the progress of a Russian steam-vessel which was attempting to make for the sea of Azoff. A serious engagement immediately commenced between these two boats, in which the batteries of Yenikale also took part. I brought up the *Fulton*, whose guns were quickly directed towards the theatre of the struggle, while she was exposed to a very brisk fire. I ordered the *Mogiere* to assist her, and Admiral Lyons, on his side, supported the cannonade. However, the Russian vessel, which we knew carried the treasure of Kertch, escaped, leaving in our hands two craft, laden with valuables and a part of the civil and military archives, which, in the confusion of the Russians, taken suddenly both by land and sea, become such that they soon gave up a too long resistance, and did not even take the trouble to carry off the wounded that had been brought from Sebastopol. In the course of the day they had set on fire some considerable magazines which they possessed at Kertch.

At last, having evacuated Yenikale, they set fire to a magazine, which contained nearly 60,000 lb. of powder. The concussion was such that several houses were destroyed, and vessels at ten miles' distance felt it.

The enemy has lost 100,000 sacks of oats, 300,000 sacks of corn, 100,000 sacks of flour.

A foundry of guns and gun-carriages has been destroyed.

The steam-vessels have been sunk by the Russians themselves; thirty transports have been destroyed, and the rest have been taken. About 300,000 lb of powder have been destroyed in the several explosions. The guns that have fallen into our hands number from sixty to eighty, and are very fine and of large calibre.

BRUAT.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

The Hon. Board of Ordnance invite tenders for constructing temporary Barracks in Colchester for 3000 men.

The Floating Batteries.—It has been ordered that the side-propeller screws of these vessels are to be dispensed with, and a greater pitch, equal to 5-8ths more, given to the centre screw-propeller, experiments of late having proved beyond all doubt that a greater rate of speed will be obtained thereby. The *Gladiator*, now fitting out in dry dock, will take from sixty to seventy tons of fuel, and fourteen days' provisions for her crew.

On Saturday a fine addition was made to our Navy by the launch of the *Renownée*, 36-gun ship. The *Renownée* was originally constructed as a sailing-vessel, the steam auxiliary screw not having then been introduced into the Navy; but, by slightly altering a part of her after-body, it has been effectively applied, and she is now a most efficient warsteamer.

The *Rosamond* is under orders for the East. She will take with her in tow two mortar-vessels for the Black Sea. Twelve mortar-vessels are ordered to be fitted immediately, to be attached to Admiral Dundas's squadron, in addition to the gun-boats already belonging to it.

The French Floating Batteries. Another of the French division of iron-screw floating batteries has been launched. Four out of the five of the French contingent are now afloat; but they are far behind, and will scarcely be ready for service before the end of June, on the contrary that is, the four remaining (the fifth having been burnt) are nearly ready for sea, two of them are in actual commission, Capt. Montagnac, one of the most gallant and intrepid officers in the French Navy, and a member of the Admiralty Board of Works, has been appointed to the command of the French division of floating batteries.

The embarkation of the A Troop of Royal Horse Artillery, under the command of Captain Phillipps, took place on Saturday, on board the Peninsular and Oriental Company's screw steamship *Nile*. The embarkation was in every respect as perfect as could be. The Artillery, men, horses, and guns, were all on board, and the gangways removed, when the sky, which up to that time had thought was not little the morning of saturday that the Artillery and troops served with all parts of the vessel, and the many flock, the waters of which always retain a regular height, which is highly advantageous in the embarkation of horses, enabling the animals to be easily walked on board. The troop appeared in excellent marching order, and the horses are all of a first class character. The *Nile* left for the Crimea on Sunday.

On Saturday a trial was made of the steam-power of the screw steam-ship *Rattler*. Steam was got up in a very short time. She made from 16 to 18 revolutions per minute with a pressure of 31 lb. on the square inch, and made 7½ knots in a fresh breeze. During the whole trial there was no pinning of the boilers, nor anything wrong. The trial has proved that the ship, with proper trim, is fully capable of doing all that was originally anticipated of her.

A further alteration has taken place in the dress of the Royal Foot Artillery. The design was approved of by the Queen on Saturday last. The new cap is to be small in size, but similar in point of shape to that worn by the Horse Artillery. The cow-tail of black hair is to display the novelty of having the white feather, royal arms, &c., on the side, instead of in the front. There is to be no bead. A scarlet bag is to flow from the top. The new design possesses for the soldier one desideratum, viz., that of lightness.

The *Retribution*, 28, paddle-wheel steam-frigate, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral of the Blue Robert Lambert Baynes, with his entire squadron, left the Nore on Saturday morning, at 9 30 a.m., for the Baltic, the gun-boats and mortar-vessels preceding the squadron the day previous.

There are large Government orders for sword-cutlery and bayonets in Birmingham, but the insubordinate and irregular conduct of some of the workmen employed in the trade greatly impeded the execution of Ordnance contracts. Messrs. Hodgington and Lawrence are under engagement to supply Government with 1000 bayonets per week; but they and all other contractors are at a loss how to obtain no less than 10,000 bayonets with the Board of Ordnance.

The Sardinian Rifles.—An incident occurred to-day which threw a strange, and to us at present, light upon their manner of making war. While the cavalry pursued the Cossacks to the river, the Sardinian Rifles advanced from a ridge in a position commanding the ford, and then from the valley of the Tchernaya. They had hardly done so when our own Hussars and Lancers, returning from the pursuit, were descried on the distance. The Sardinians, who appeared to be the commanding officer of the various ranks that are united in their camps, mistook them for enemies, and prepared to receive them as such. Colonel Cadogan, who is attached to their contingent, remonstrated, as, when he had seen the Sardinians, he offered to attack all regiment in the strange cavalry. He did so; and, finding that he at least could not deceive them in the uniform, he pointed out to his countrymen the strange position in which their allies were placed, and turned them aside, so as not to interfere with the arrangements of the Sardinians. This done, he hastened back; but, to his amazement, when he reached the spot, he found the Rifles were gone. He was yet undecided what to do or in which direction to proceed in search of the fugitives, he heard a step behind. Ten minutes up he found himself face to face with the commander of the mounted corps. Colonel Cadogan at once told the Sardinian officer he was holding to fear, that the cavalry in front were English. "So much the better," was the careless reply; "then we can make common cause against them." Colonel Cadogan at once told the Sardinian that the cavalry in front were English. He did so; and, finding that he at least could not deceive him in the uniform, he pointed out to his countryman

NOTES OF THE WEEK

THERE is a perspective in time as well as in space. Just as material objects dwindle into points or disappear altogether when removed to a distance from us, so a political act or a speech in Parliament may in March raise a storm in the lobbies, yet be forgotten in June by all but some half-dozen assiduous students of Hansard. There is hardly a member of the House of Commons of any note who has not two or three times—in the opinion of half the world, including many of his best friends—by some unlucky speech or vote, "regularly done for himself." But no animal dies so hard as your politician. He has his roll in the mud of abuse; and, in a month or two, gets up again, Antæus like, rather the better for his tumble. Peel killed himself politically half a-dozen times at least; Disraeli's suicides are almost past counting—yet is he alive and well at this hour. Mr. Layard, if we may trust the obituary of the Clubs perpetrated, not long ago, one of the most complete acts of self destruction on record; yet is now not much the worse for it. Yet, in spite of these encouraging examples, I cannot help thinking that Mr. Gladstone will not easily get the better of his suicidal act—his pick in Mr. Hubner Gibson's motion. "Doctor, the Thames fly from us!" Pitt is reported to have said to Vansittart, in consternation at the secession from the Ministerial banner of the ever-faithful band of Scottish members; and now, when Lord Elcho inflicts no gentle castigation on Mr. Gladstone, be sure the clouds are dark over the heads of the Peelite party. It is not pleasant to be told by a hitherto constant supporter that "if anything could tend to render the prospect of peace more remote, it was his right hon. friend's speech." At least, there can be no doubt now that the charge of lukewarmness in conducting the war brought against Lord Aberdeen's Government, must have been substantially correct. Perhaps the best speech which the debate has yet given us was that of Sir E. B. Lytton, on Monday night.

The past week has been fertile in news from the Crimea—news all of the same precise complexion. Within the last few days, the sea of Azoff is ours. The military road constructed on the borders of the Putrid Sea, by which Russia could always, even if Perekop was closed to her, introduce men and material into the Crimea, is ours. More than a hundred cannon, much provisions and military stores, are ours. Hundred merchant vessels and cargoes are captured or destroyed. All these are great facts, and cannot be without influence upon the result of the war. Yet the most important fact of all, that which gives the most substantial ground for the belief that at no distant period we may welcome an honourable peace is, that in these days war is money, and that, no power on earth can carry on a long war without a long purse. It isn't a chivalrous view of the subject, but we may rest assured that, in the power of raising unlimited sums, possessed by England and France, even more than in the skill and gallantry of our troops, we shall find the means of loosing the knot whose folds are now pressing on the energies of Europe.

Last Saturday was a great day at the Crystal Palace. Two attractions—the flower show, and the "first performance" of the upper set of fountains—drew a great crowd to Sydenham. As nobody, except the holders of season tickets, was admitted, the result must have been very satisfactory to the shareholders. For once in a way this is well enough, but it is to be hoped that the directors do not mean in future to restrict admission, whenever any peculiar attraction is provided, to the holders of season tickets. It looks like it though, for the same rule prevailed on Monday, when Milne Alboni sang, but did not. A guinea in these hard times is a good deal of money; yet there are plenty of single men who would not object to pay so much for an afternoon's drive, and must any more than for a stall at the opera, but the family-man, who wants to take his wife and two or three daughters, is absolutely excluded by the price. I am convinced that a five-shilling admission on extraordinary occasions, when more than the average amount of entertainment was to be obtained, would be more advantageous to the company; and certainly it would be fairer to the public. The gardens are now in extreme beauty, and every day makes it clearer that there is, at least, in summer time—is the real attraction of the place.

Not alone are the Crystal Palace shareholders revelling in the novelty of fine weather, a continuance of which a clear sky and a high barometer seem to promise. Days of soaking rain, unseasonably cold, to the thirsty soil, followed by warm, growing weather, make at this season a mighty difference in the promise of the harvest. The number of weather came too late to redeem entirely the hay crop; but we may now begin to hope that the produce of corn may not be much inferior to that which the bounty of Providence accorded us last year. Such another harvest would be a complete set-off against the cost of the war. Altogether things look hopeful, though it is well to remember the old proverb, "That we mustn't holloa till we are out of the wood." Otherwood is the Crimea and the Baltic. In the former we have met with success, which seems to presage greater events. One great cause of fear that yet is in that quarter, lest disease, pestilence—cholera perhaps, or plague—should come in with the hot weather. That scourge averted, it would seem that we have little to fear. Nearly two hundred thousand French, English, and Sardinians, armed and fed as never army was before, ought to go anywhere and do anything. But even the taking Sebastopol, immense as the effect of such a success would be, would not equal the results that might be expected from the striking a great blow in the Baltic. If Cronstadt should fall!—the chances are heavy, indeed, against such a conquest, yet it is possible. This, indeed, would be a victory—one that would at once enable the Allies to dictate what terms of peace the, please.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, EXETER-HALL.—The final performance of "Elijah" takes place on Friday next, the 15th.

HARMONIC UNION, HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS.—The programme for the next concert, which takes place on Wednesday evening, includes Cherubini's overture, "Faniska;" Weber's air, "Through Conflict by Temptation;" Beethoven's magnificent Eroica Symphony, Mendelssohn's Garden Ballad, and Beethoven's "Rose of Athens." In the latter work Miss Lucas and Mr. Weiss are engaged as principal vocalists. The band will, as usual, be led by Mr. Blagrove, and Herr Molique will occupy a post as conductor.

A FIELD-DAY IN FAIRY LAND. This afternoon and evening the place, which for months past bore the same uniform aspect, assumed features different from those we were accustomed to see, and became thereby a place of renewed interest. The hill tops were covered with tents, and in the evening with long rows of blazing fires. Baggage and ammunition wagons crossed the plain, and traversed the ground, which, late on the same occasion of a reconnaissance, was for us forbidden ground. Herds of the horses of our Cossacks were driven out and fed luxuriantly upon the grass and young corn, which up to the present had been allowed to grow undisturbed, because the real enemy in it grew lay within range of our batteries, and beat as the opening of the Cossack videttes, and their continuing in driving in men and horses, bidding us follow in awe. The state of the ground between the Tchernaya bridges and the Tchernaya shows at once that the Russians never had a serious intention of defending this their look-out position. Small numbers of troops only have been quartered in or traversed this part of their late territory. The grass is in full growth, on the banks of the river there are willows and trees, and here and there a few earth-huts, or the blackness of a spent fire, show that some detachments of troops have now and then occupied small camping grounds. The vegetation on the side of the hills at what we found on our arrival, when we first landed in the Crimea, abundant and odoriferous. Flowers, bright blue, purple, and yellow, actually covered the ground; little plots of poppies shine in the distance like fields of red ochre; the brushwood in the valleys and dells will rose shrubs in full bloom, and some wild herb or other, as we have found the grass, or shed the faint colour of the peach. Add to this, the fresh breeze, the sun was tempered by a fresh breeze, and you will understand that our first advance against the Russian position had all the features of a field day in fairy land.—*Letter from the Camp, May 26.*

Prince Menschikoff, after a short stay in the Russian capital, has set off for Finland.

The grand review in Paris on Monday, in honour of the King of Portugal, went off exceedingly well. The Garde de Mars was overall. Numbers of well-dressed ladies took their places on the terraces and in boxes and cars.

MUSIC.

GRISI goes on triumphantly with her farewell performances—certainly *bona fide* farewell performances this time. She seems to be cruelly exerting herself to aggravate the regret which will be felt for her final departure; for she is acting and singing with the power and beauty of her most palmy days. Her performance of *Lucrezia Borgia* on Monday was a display of tragic grandeur and pathos which no other representative of the character has ever been able to approach.

On Thursday (last week) Tamburini, after a retirement of three years' duration, reappeared in the part of *Don Giovanni*. It has always been admitted that Tamburini has for many years been the greatest—indeed the only *Don Giovanni* on the stage. Since he retired various eminent performers have essayed the part, and every one has been a failure. They have all been measured by Tamburini's standard, and all have been found wanting. Perhaps the knowledge of this fact has been his inducement for returning to the scene of his former glories. Much expectation was excited by his return; and, in the part of *Don Giovanni*, expectation was not disappointed: for, though it was at once perceived that his voice was but the ghost of what it had been, yet, as the beau ideal of the high-born and high-bred Spanish libertine, he still stood alone and unrivalled. He was, consequently, received with much of the warmth of former days. In his next character, however—the *Duke Alfonzi*, in "Lucrezia Borgia," which he performed on Monday—he was less successful. His vocal defects were more conspicuous, because less redeemed by dramatic excellence; and his reception, we regret to say, was positively cold. We are sorry that this great performer has been induced, after leaving the stage, to return to it at his time of life. He adds another to the many proofs that such a step on the part of a veteran is always an unwise one. On his part the step has by no means been a matter of necessity, and the sooner he retraces it the wiser he will be.

THE production of Mr. Henry Smart's new opera, "Berta; or, the Gnome of Hartzberg," at the HAYMARKET, on Saturday last, was an occurrence calculated to excite reflections both pleasant and painful, pleasant, that we have yet among us, even in the decayed state of our musical drama, composers able to enter the lists with those of any country in Europe; and painful, that such composers have not a single theatre, in the greatest city in the world, where anything like justice can be done to their works. When we say, as every one must do, that this opera was poorly and lamely got up, we impute no blame to the Haymarket manager. On the contrary, Mr. Buckstone showed good taste in accepting a work of so much merit, and produced it as well as his means and resources would allow. But it is in an *opera-house* that an opera must be performed; not in a theatre, where music is only one and a subordinate object. The announcement, however, of a work by a composer of Mr. Smart's reputation attracted an audience not only large, but musical, who were capable of discerning the merits of the piece, notwithstanding the imperfections of its performance.

"Berta," in spite of its title, is a comic opera, in two acts, without a grain of German *diablerie*. The libretto, by Fitzball, has good points, and affords room for musical effects; but its plot is excessively complicated, and so confused as to be sometimes unintelligible. A detail of its incidents (as the attempts of some our daily contemporaries have shown) would be tedious and unreadable. There are two rustic lovers, *Michael* and *Berta*; the damsel an arrant coquette, who torments her unfortunate swain by her ambitious dreams and capricious airs. A good-natured *Baron*, the lord of the village, who has returned incognito after a long absence, undertakes to cure *Berta* of her failing, and thus bring about the happiness of the lovers. He sets about his self-imposed task in a somewhat unconstitutable way. He mingles, as a mysterious stranger, among the holiday makers at a fair, persuades the superstitious *Michael* that he has supernatural knowledge, and promises to gain for him, by some magical spell, the affection of *Berta*. He then gets *Michael* involved in a charge of theft, and thrown into prison, while he declares himself to be the long absent *Baron of Hartzberg*, announces his intention of choosing a wife among the maidens of his native mountains, and designates *Berta* as the object of his choice. Thus the little flirt's ambitious dreams are realised; but her heart is now awakened, and clings to her poor lover in his dungeon. She obtains access to him, and (with the *Baron's* secret connivance) they escape together to the mountains, where they take refuge in a ruined castle, supposed to be haunted by a *Gnome-King*, who is the subject of a fearful tradition. Here the *Baron* appears before them and in the semblance of the *Gnome*, and *Berta's* courage and constancy are sorely tried, but she stands the test, and the *Baron* is convinced of her unchangeable love for *Michael*; whereupon the ruin is transformed into a splendid banquet hall, filled with wedding guests, and the lovers are united. The foundation of this story is good, but the playwright has reared upon it a mass of extravagance and absurdity, which would be an obstacle to the success of the opera, were it ever so well performed. The music, however, is charming. It belongs to the pure and classical school of dramatic composition; is full of fresh and expressive melody, constructed with masterly skill, and rich in beautiful orchestral effects. The principal characters (the two lovers—are admirably sustained by Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves. Weiss, the best baritone singer on our stage, personates the *Baron*; and a comic couple, introduced to enliven the piece, are very fairly acted and sung by Mr. Farquharson and Miss H. Gordon. So far there is nothing to find fault with, but the effect of the music was almost destroyed by the discords of an orchestra that could not play, and a chorus that could not sing. We felt for the poor composer, assisting at the martyrdom of his own beautiful conceptions. How differently they would have sounded at the Opéra Comique! Its intrinsic beauties of the piece, nevertheless, triumphed over the defects of its performance. The principal singers exerted themselves greatly, and the chief airs and duets were applauded, and some of them encored. Several of these pieces are so pleasing and graceful that they cannot fail to become popular, both in the concert-room and in the private musical circle. Next week we shall engrave a scene from this successful opera.

THIS is the height of the Concert season, and many more of them take place every day than it is possible to notice. On Saturday, the 26th of May, at the annual concert of Mr. F. Chatterton, the eminent harpist, considerable interest was excited by the appearance of a young pianist, Miss Martie Spinny, a girl eleven years old, who made her début before a London audience, and whose brilliant performance of a fantasia by Beyer was much and deservedly applauded. Mademoiselle Hermann, a young performer, lately arrived in this country, gave a *soirée musicale* at the rooms in Harley-street, on Monday. Her lady is not only a singer, but a pianist, and on this occasion displayed extraordinary excellence in both capacities. She has a beautiful voice and a brilliant finger; and her singing, as well as her pianoforte playing, be-peaks the highly-accomplished artist. She was assisted by several of our best performers; and this concert (which was attended by a crowded and fashionable audience) was one of the most elegant entertainments of the season.

THE THEATRES, &c.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE. What are called "single-handed entertainments"—together with their modifications, two handed and three-handed—are as popular in Paris as in London. There are French Albert Smiths, Lowes, and Woodins, as well as Leech's. Among these, M. Levasor and Mdlle. Julie Teissaire hold a distinguished place. On Wednesday evening both these highly finished artists appeared at this theatre in their favourite "Soirées et Matinées Récreatives et Comiques." We fear that the pieces chosen for the occasion are of too slight a character to suit exactly our sterner British taste. A "deux pas de bonheur" serves to illustrate the moral that we frequently go abroad to seek the happiness that we might find at home. A certain *Sir George*, charmed with a song, travels over the Continent in search of the singer, and ultimately discovers his invisible charmer in the person of *Betty*, his own ward, who had all along been the companion of his tour. The idea is pretty, but the interest feeble. We require stronger fare. In this piece was added a vaudeville, called "Le Bas Bleu," in which M. Levasor assumes many disguises, and ultimately succeeds in detecting the young lady from her studies and disposition to single-blessedness. Some songs were capitally well sung by both performers, and the success of the entertainment will, we think, principally depend on these.

MARYLEBONE. On Wednesday Miss Edith Heraud will perform at this theatre, for one night only, the character of *Pauline*, in the "Lady of Lyons." The performance is for the benefit of an orphan family.

SHREWSBURY SHOW. This ancient pageant will be enacted at Shrewsbury, upon a grand scale, on Monday next.

CREMORNE GARDENS. The first of the three summer meetings of the Royal West London Horticultural Society takes place, on Thursday next, in these gardens. Upwards of [illegible] gold and silver medals are to be competed for. A brilliant show is expected.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

On Monday last a special general court was held at the Trinity-house on Tower-hill, at which Prince Albert was unanimously re-elected master.

The Emperor Alexander, yielding to the wishes of the Empress Dowager of Russia, has forbidden the Grand Dukes Michael and Nicholas to return to the Crimea.

Prince Ernest of Leiningen has left Berlin for Dantzic, whence he will proceed to join the Baltic fleet, in which he is to serve.

Letters from Italy attribute a political purpose to the journey of the Archduke Maximilian (brother of the Emperor of Austria), now travelling in the Peninsula.

Prince Albert presided, on Saturday evening last, at the annual dinner of the officers of his regiment, the Grenadier Guards of Foot Guards, given at Grillion's Hotel, Albemarle street.

The King of Prussia was to proceed to the Rhine provinces on the 8th, accompanied by the Prince of Prussia, and, after visiting several Rhenish towns, return to Sans Souci on the 15th.

It has been decided that the Queen of Spain shall not go this year to La Granja, on account of the unsettled state of the country. For the same reason the Duke and Duchess of Montpensier will prolong their stay in Paris. It is not decided whether the Court will return to Madrid or continue at Aranjuez.

Baron Von Usedom is suffering from a severe kick he received from a horse at Epsom races, and from which he is only slowly recovering.

It is reported that the Empress Dowager of Russia will arrive in Berlin on the 24th inst.

The *Indus*, which arrived at Marseilles on Monday, brings, among other passengers, Lord and Lady Haddo, and the Hon. Master Gordon, from Alexandria, from Ceylon, the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Colombo.

The Czar has conferred the Order of St. Anne, with the insignia in diamonds, on Baron de Chazal, Aide-de-Camp of the King of the Belgians.

The Earl of Albemarle's son, Lord Bury, has entered on his legislative functions as a member of the Council of Canada.

The King Regent of Portugal attended an exhibition of cattle at Sacavem, on the 27th ult., and was himself an exhibitor of bulls bred by his Majesty.

The Duke de Montpensier has offered his services to the Spanish Government, and declared that he will devote his life to the defence of the Queen, the dynasty, and liberal institutions.

Sir Moses Montefiore is on his way to Jerusalem, where he intends founding a large hospital for Jews.

The Bavarian Government has taken possession of the vast estates belonging to the Leuchtenberg family, which it purchased some time back for 3,000,000 florins.

Chief Baron Pigott has arrived in Dublin. His health has been materially improved by a brief residence in a more genial climate.

The Emperor of Russia, anxious to raise funds to relieve the soldiers and sailors who have had house property injured at Sebastopol, has ordered the sale of two hotels at St. Petersburg, belonging to the Admiralty.

Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer, the late Minister at Florence, on relinquishing that appointment, obtained his retiring pension, and is now in Paris.

The young King of Portugal is grandson of Auguste Eugène Napoléon, Duke de Leuchtenberg, son of the Empress Josephine, widow of Don Pedro, and daughter of Prince Eugène Beauharnais, who was the brother of Queen Hortense, and mother of Napoleon III.—is the cousin of the Emperor of the French; as he is, through his father, a nephew of Prince Albert, Consort of the Queen of England.

Jung Bahadoor, the Nepaulese who visited London some years ago, has set out on an expedition against Tubet.

The Bey of Tunis died on the night of the 1st June. His successor and cousin, Sidi Mohamed Bey, ascended the throne without this sale.

The Hon. F. H. F. Berkeley has postponed his motion for a Committee to inquire into the operation of the Sunday Beer Act to June 26.

Rechchid Pacha is living in retirement at his splendid palace, the late acquisition at Buyrdhun, on the Bosphorus, and his Vienna mission, it appears, is adjourned *sine die*.

Mr. Mechi, of Tiptree-hall, announces his intention of becoming a candidate for Maldon when a vacancy occurs.

The *Moniteur* of Saturday contains decrees confirming seven promotions to the rank of Officer, and eighty-five nominations to that of Knight in the Legion of Honour; as well as the grant of 300 military medals, made by the Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the East.

Baron Manderstrom, the Swedish Secretary of Foreign Affairs, has been appointed Ambassador to Vienna, the appointment has not been made in a pecuniary negotiations of importance.

Sir Ralph Abercromby departs in a few days to resume his diplomatic duties at the Hague, after a short leave of absence.

A contract has been entered into between the Ottoman Government and M. Samuel Osborne for the establishment of a submarine telegraph to unite the Dardanelles to Egypt.

M. Mavrocordato is likely to resign, in consequence of the complaints made by the Western Powers of the insufficiency of the measures taken by him to repress the Greek brigands.

Mr. Cope, the Governor of Newgate, has resigned his post, and retires on an annuity of £500 per annum for life.

Mr. H. Pilley, emigration agent at St. John's, New Brunswick, has been appointed Commissioner for the Fisheries of British North America, at a salary of £1000 a year.

Madame Stoltz is about to enter into an engagement with the Imperial Theatre of Rio Janeiro, on the terms of 400,000 f. [illegible] and a house and carriage.

Zephaniah Williams, the Newport Chartist, who was transported with Frost and Jones to Australia, has made an accidental discovery in Tasmania of a bed of yellow ochre of very superior quality.

The Photographic Society has appointed a scientific committee to investigate the permanency of photographs, the causes of fading, and the phenomena of the fall; and it is the intention of this committee to publish the result of their experiments from time to time.

A party of two hundred Mormons, mostly Welsh and English, arrived in Pittsburg on the 10th of May, on their way to the city of the Latter-day Saints, in the valley of the Great Salt Lake.

The *Volkslot*, published at Munich, states that a large number of ornamental medals for actors, bearing the portrait of the late Czar, have been received from Berlin, ready for immediately distribution.

The Queen has been pleased to grant the sum of £50 annually, for the purpose of being given in rewards for the encouragement and promotion of the education of the people of Victoria College, Jersey.

Already no less than 5000 members of Continental choral societies have taken a leading part in the celebration at Lille on the 17th.

The amount raised for the various objects of the Free Church of Scotland for the year ending March 31, 1855, was £368,050 9s. 3d.

The little republic of San Marino having refused to give up some political refugees claimed by the Pope, a diplomatic "tempest in a teapot" is the consequence.

The workmen employed at the Old Hatton and South Hetton Collieries have been on strike during the last week.

A bill nullifying the Fugitive Slave Law passed to a third reading in the Massachusetts Senate on the 16th ult.

In London there are now about 42,000 tons of shipping entered outwards for Australia.

A Legislative Session of the Belgian Chambers was closed on Saturday last.

The carpenters at the Curragh Camp have struck for higher wages.

It is said in Berlin that a treaty of alliance between Sweden and the Western Powers is again on the *tapis*.

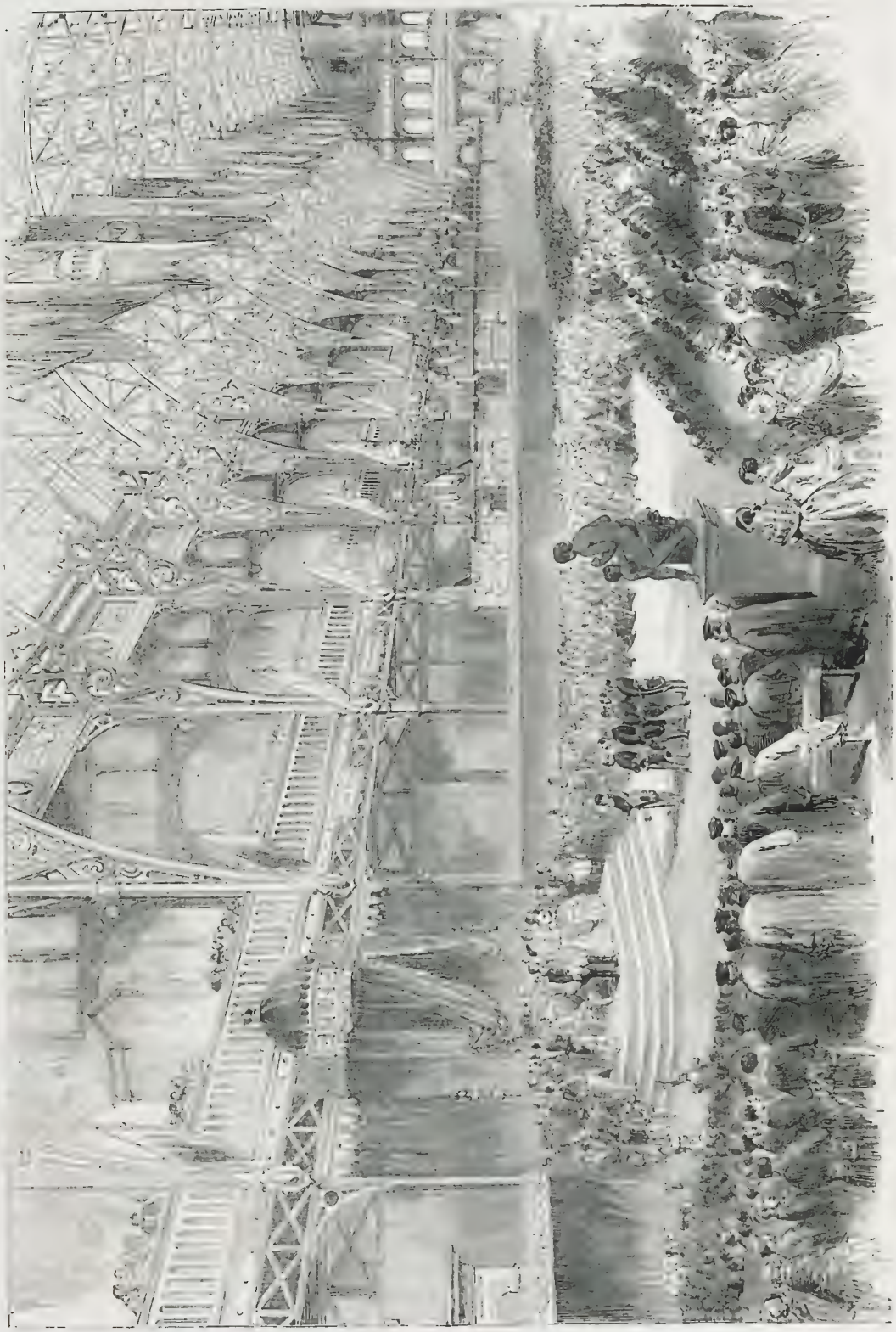
Madrid and Lisbon will soon be united by a line of electric telegraph, which will pass by Badajoz.

The six new steam-frigates building for the United States' Government are reported to be progressing as rapidly as possible.

Mr. Hunter, the Assistant Postmaster at Cork, has been committed for trial to answer a charge of embezzling a letter containing the sum of £33, the property of her Majesty.

The reports by the *Asia*, from America, confirm the accounts brought by the previous steamer of the satisfactory prospects of the grain crops throughout the Western States.

The *Journal de St. Petersbourg* contains a bitter complaint that Easter Monday was chosen for reopening the attack on Sebastopol. This comes well from a party who [illegible] the day of Inkerman.



OPENING OF THE PALACE OF INDUSTRY AT PARIS, BY THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH. (see p.

HER MAJESTY'S STATE BALL. THE GRAND STAIRCASE AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE

The Queen gave a (second) State Ball at Buckingham Palace on Friday [illegible] extra. A *buvet-pas* was prepared for the Q[illegible] picture-gallery and the other rooms we[illegible] beautiful shrubs and plants in flowe[illegible] lu chandeliers, filled [illegible] our of the Foot Guards was on duty in front of the Pa[illegible] of the regiment.

The company be[illegible] Palace soon after nine o'[illegible] assembled in the [illegible] The Duchess of Cambridge and the P[illegible] tended by Lady Suffield and Major Home P[illegible]rves. The [illegible] Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg Strelitz [illegible] attended by Lady Caroline [illegible] and Baron Lübe. The Duc [illegible] was attended by his Equerries in Waiting. The Maharajah Duleep Singh was attended by Sir J. Login.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert, and the Royal Family, accompanied by the Princess Adelaide of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, were conducted by the Lord Chamberlain, and other officers of the Royal household, from the White Drawing-room to the Ball-room.

The Queen wore a dress of white tulle over white silk, trimmed with bunches of lilac and white lilacs, with green leaves and rosettes of green satin ribbon, ornamented with diamonds. Her Majesty's head-dress was composed of lilacs to correspond with the dress, and diamonds.

The Duchess of Cambridge wore a white glacé silk dress, trimmed with point-lace, with three deep flounces of point-lace, each flounce trimmed [illegible] The stomacher ornamented wi[illegible] and [illegible] diamonds. Her Royal Highne[illegible] diamond [illegible]

The Princess Mary of Cambridge wore a dress of white tulle over a [illegible] white glacé silk petticoat, trimmed with bunches of grapes and green and gold grape leaves. The body trimmed to match, and ornamented with [illegible] lace pearls and diamonds. Her Royal Highness's head-dress was formed of bunches of grapes, with green and [illegible] and diamond ornaments.

[illegible] Majesty and the Prince, and the Royal circle, were followed by the [illegible] company into the Ball-room, where the Queen opened the Ball [illegible] Excellency Count Persigny, the French Ambassador.

Quadrille bands (Mr. Laurent's and Mr. John Weippert's) were stationed in the Ball-room and the Throne-room.

Refreshments were served to [illegible] Majesty's guests in one of the principal State apartments during the evening, and the supper was served in the State Dinner-room, the gold plate which decorated the tables being relieved by a choice assortment of flowering plants.

We have engraved the Grand Palace Staircase: it is oblong in plan, being longer from north to south than from east to west. From the Great Hall the ascent is by a flight of marble steps to the first landing, whence the stairs turn to the right and left; a flight, in continuation of the central one, being continued up towards a room called the Garter-room not used, however, on Ball nights, and therefore the stairs are completely hidden by flowers of the greatest beauty being placed upon them. The balustrades, of the most exquisite workmanship, are of or-moulu, and, from the richness of their detail and [illegible] to the [illegible] A moulding smal[illegible] balustrade is carr[illegible] at a height parallel to th[illegible] on a blue ground. Bel[illegible] tation of various-coloured marbles, most exquisitely imitated, above it the wall [illegible] to imitate dove-coloured and [illegible] marbles. Portrait[illegible] III and his Queen, George IV., W[illegible] IV. and Queen Adelaide, the Duke of Kent and Sussex, Prince [illegible] of Cumberland (now King of Hanover), and the Duchess of Kent, [illegible] are long bas-reliefs of the Four [illegible] runs round the upper part [illegible] in the standards of which are paintings by Townshend, emblematic of the Seasons. A domical light of engraved glass completes the whole. In the arches are bas-reliefs of Cupids sporting amongst acanthus foliage. The architectural details are beautifully relieved with colour and gilding, and produce a charmingly rich and pleasing effect.

The *tout ensemble* of the Grand Staircase on the o[illegible] of the State Balls is extremely magnificent. T[illegible] men—for nearly all are in uniform, [illegible] present wearing sober-coloured Court dresses—mingled with the endless [illegible] of the colours of the ladies' dresses, the quaint gaudy costumes of the Yeomen of the Guard, the nodding plumes and brilliant equipments of the Gentlemen at Arms, with the gold-embroidered dresses of the Pages, added to the Polychromatic decoration and gilding of the architectural features of the Staircase, heightened also by flowers, produce an effect of rich colour almost impossible to describe.

THE SILENT MEMBER. (No. XX.)

The Vienna Conferences are at length announced to be finally closed; and for the first time, they have done something which which the people of this country will be satisfied. The last meeting was distinguished by an announcement from Count Buol which affords a by no means brilliant specimen of the logical abilities of some of our model diplomatists. The Count intimated that, "having engaged to find elements of accommodation and having failed to find any elements of accommodation, he had fulfilled his mission." If to fail in an object is the same thing as accomplishing an object, the Count may, of course, congratulate himself on his success in having made a failure. Upon this principle the Conferences may be said to have realised all they intended to effect; for, having undertaken to negotiate a peace, and not having negotiated a peace, they have—in a diplomatic sense, which seems to be very different from common sense—won all they desired. It is to be hoped that we shall hear no more of these Vienna Conferences, which may henceforth be buried under the weight of their own protocols. We shall, however, be reminded of them once more, by something still heavier than even the protocols, in the shape of the bill we shall have to pay for our share of the expenses.

The Total Abstinence question has had an airing in Exeter Hall, and a little wholesome ventilation will be useful to a subject which ought to be looked at with the aid of a little more enlightenment than has hitherto been mixed up with it. The champions of what is called the Temperance cause are very well-meaning men; but they look at their favourite object too entirely from one point of view, and they resolutely refuse to see anything but the evils of the present system. That which is in itself harmless should be left to the fullest freedom of choice, though it may be true that directly the line is overstepped where harmlessness ends and mischief begins the law may oppose a barrier for the protection of society. If drunkenness is an evil, let it by all means be punished in proportion to the harm it inflicts; but the fact of drunkenness being evil is no reason why that which is in itself harmless should be prohibited. The advocates of prohibition are in the habit of pointing to other matters with which legislation has interfered, and which are said to be harmless in themselves; but it is not true that the objects which have been instanced in proof of this position are of themselves innocuous. The advocates of the Maine Law allege that it is quite as reasonable to shut up houses of refreshment as it has been to pass a law for the closing of betting-houses. But the two cases are by no means identical,—for betting is an evil in itself, a *malum in se*; while a glass of beer may be a good thing in itself; and if nobody were allowed to purchase one, it would become a *bonum prohibitum*. There is no doubt that drunkenness is the monster vice of the age, but the cure must be accomplished by other means than those of driving the disease inwards, and taking for granted the fact of evils, which would be the case if the open sale of liquor were to be suppressed, and a fraudulent trade were to be established. A law that the common sense of society would revolt against ought never to be imposed, for it will surely be violated in some shape or other, and it not only is the law brought into odium or contempt, but the community is demoralised by evasive practices.

Among the minor delinquencies of the present day is the mischievous habit of picking flowers in the grounds of the Crystal Palace. A love of flowers seems in itself a very harmless profession, and there does not appear much criminality in taking a single flower from a well stocked parterre, but the directors have found it necessary to bring several fair offenders before the magistrates. Prevention is always better than cure; but more especially is it desirable to warn rather than to punish a class of transgressors against the law who have in fact no criminal intention, and who do not think of the mischief they are doing. The evil is certainly one that ought to be checked, but the circumstances scarcely justify a charge of wilfully damaging a plant, when the will is clearly to become possessed of a flower, and not to damage property. If the servants of the company were to be vigilant in preventing the evil, and if requests to the public not to pick the flowers were to be conspicuously placed about the grounds, the necessity might be avoided of having to bring before the magistrates a class of persons, chiefly females, who have had no dishonest intent, and whom it is hardly fair to place in the degraded position of criminals.

It is gratifying to observe that Lord Brougham is again at his post in the House of Lords, using the most earnest exertions to continue the amendment of the law, which has already been purged of so much that was bad by his untiring zeal and unequalled ability. A few days ago he inquired into the causes of the very heavy exactions of fees from the suitors in the County Courts, which it is quite a mistake to regard as tribunals in which justice is cheaply administered. The County Courts are a vast improvement on the old system, as far as debts of moderate amount are concerned, for when those debts were sued for in Westminster-hall, the expense of litigation was such as to make the amount in dispute an item of insignificance, when compared with the cost of obtaining it. The result used to be that law was avoided as ruinous; but now, although a vast number of small debts are sued for in the County Courts, the fees are felt as a cumbrous tax on the administration of justice. Several shillings must be expended at the very outset of the prosecution of even the smallest claim, and when the amount is very small, the costs frequently exceed the debt sought to be recovered. The only really cheap tribunals are the Metropolitan Police Courts, where two shillings paid for a summons constitute the whole expence of proceeding; but where, unfortunately for the humbler classes, the civil jurisdiction is so limited that even a common claim for wages cannot be enforced, and whence applicants are continually sent away to the County Court with an intimation that the Magistrate has no power to assist them. It is, undoubtedly, in some respects advisable that the criminal and the civil jurisdiction should be kept distinct from each other, but it is idle to boast of having brought justice home to every man's door, until either the Police Courts have jurisdiction in civil cases, or the County Courts are made sufficiently cheap for the poorer class of suitors. The County Courts have certainly aided in bringing home justice to many a door; but if the article is brought home it has to be paid for rather heavily before delivery. The fees taken in the County Courts are far more than sufficient to pay the expenses incidental to the establishment of those tribunals, and the entire excess is so much improperly abstracted from the pockets of the suitors. It may be difficult to adjust very nicely the balance between the sum to be taken from the public and the cost of administering the law; but it is very easy to make a much nearer approximation between the two than has hitherto existed. Another of Lord Brougham's proposals for Law Reform has for its object the saving of a very large number of persons every year from lengthened and often wholly undeserved imprisonment. In these days of national excitement on the subject of the war which absorbs almost every other question—one is apt to lose sight of much that, at other times, would excite very serious interest. The liberty of the subject is usually regarded as one of the very highest objects of respect, and yet we are allowing it to be trifled with annually to a very considerable extent; for, out of 28,000 persons committed to prison in 1855, no less than 6300 were, by discharge or acquittal, shown to be innocent. It will of course happen unavoidably that some charges should be made which, from various causes, cannot be sustained, but, supposing this to be an inevitable evil, is the duty of legislation to mitigate as far as possible a mischief which cannot be entirely remedied. This is the purpose which Lord Brougham has in view; and he has accordingly been urging the Government to adopt certain reforms in the criminal law by which persons who are in prison may be brought to a speedy trial. This desirable end he is endeavouring to attain by promoting a measure which will give magistrates power to deal with a great number of small offences, and also by an act of Parliament for causing sessions to be held more frequently in the course of the year, as well as adding to the number or rather to the frequency of the circuits of the Judges. Now that the Superior Courts are freed from more than half their former labours by the institution of the County Courts, it must really be a matter of satisfaction to the Judges of the former to be enabled to earn more conscientiously their large salaries by an increased amount of public utility, which the reforms of Lord Brougham would afford them the luxury of practising.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN 200 FEET ABOVE THE RIVER THE WEEK ENDING 9TH SUNDAY, JUNE 3.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 32 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°			Inches.
June 1	29.725	62.0	45.1	47.9	— 8.6	71	S.S.W.	0.10
" 2	29.478	64.0	38.2	49.5	— 7.3	83	S.S.W.	0.00
" 3	29.838	64.2	39.8	50.1	— 6.9	80	"	0.00
" 4	29.854	69.3	45.2	56.8	— 0.2	67	"	0.01
" 5	29.752	71.0	49.0	57.7	+ 0.4	51	"	0.00
" 6	29.708	84.5	54.2	69.0	+ 12.1	74	S.S.E.	0.00
" 7	29.392	68.5	54.0	57.4	0.8	91	N.E.	0.07

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average and the sign + above the average. In the column headed "Direction of Wind" the direction of the wind is given as it is indicated by the vane, without any reference to the actual force of the air is expressed by 100.

The reading of the barometer increased from 29.72 in. at the beginning of the week to 29.93 in. by the 2nd; decreased to 29.83 in. by the 3rd; increased to 29.86 in. by the 4th; decreased to 29.67 in. by the 5th; and increased to 29.85 in. by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the level of 32 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.844 inches.

The mean daily temperatures have varied during the week from 49° below to 12° above their average values. During the period they were below, viz., from May 26th, to June 4th, the average defect was 7.9° daily.

The mean temperature of the week was 55.6°, being 1.8° below the average value.

The range of temperature during the week was 37.0°; the difference between the lowest and highest was 31.0°.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 19.7°; the least was 7.8°, on the 1st; and the greatest, 30.0°, on the 3rd.

Hail fell during the week to the amount of one-tenth of an inch.

The weather during the week has been remarkable for great changes of temperature—extremes of heat and cold having both been experienced.

Lewisham, June 8, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

Health of London.—During the week ending last Saturday the births of 1487 children were registered in the metropolis. Of these, 714 were boys, and 773 were girls. The average number of corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54 was 1405. The population of London, during that week, was 2,363,000. The number of deaths registered in the week showed a decrease of about 100 on the deaths registered in the preceding weeks; and is partly attributable to the fine weather which prevailed during the greater part of the week. The average number of deaths, corrected for the increase of population, is 1,000 for those of persons of all ages. There is no unusual mortality from epidemic diseases; small pox was fatal in 21 cases, scarlatina in 18, hooping cough in 41, and diarrhœa in 16 cases.

Civic Entertainment to the Judges.—On Saturday evening an entertainment was given by the Lord Mayor, in the Mansion-house, to her Majesty's Judges.

Royal Society.—On Thursday the following candidates were elected into the Royal Society:—Arthur Connell, Esq., William Farr, Esq., William Louis Ferdinand Fischer, Esq., Isaac Fitzwilliam John Hamilton, Esq., John Hawkshaw, Esq., James Lake, Esq., A. Follet Osler, Esq., M.D., Charles B. Vignoles, Esq., Charles Wheatstone, Esq., Robert Wright, M.D., Alexander Wallace Williamson, Esq., Thomson Wilson, Esq.

Administrative Reform.—A public meeting was held at the Lose Tavern, Fulham-road, on Wednesday night, for the purpose of giving effect to the views enunciated by the Administrative Reform Association. Mr. W. F. Lloyd, a magistrate, was called to the chair and made some preliminary observations, denouncing "the system of wire-pulling." He said no doubt a valuable lesson was now taught to public meetings against Lord Palmerston, the Prime Minister. Hegretably received Lord Palmerston, and knew that a truer English Minister never presided over the Queen's Councils. He was just, generous, and a gentleman—very valuable qualities. No one could deny the immense benefits given to all branches of the service since his accession to power. Lord Palmerston could not change the administrative system, nor the instruments he was obliged to employ. It was the duty of the people to speak out. Dr. Truman moved a resolution pledging the meeting to support the resolutions carried at the meeting in the City. Mr. Lane moved a resolution to the effect that the Executive was merely the delegated instrument of the people's will to originate and carry out such measures as would prove advantageous to the country, and that the valuable selection from the aristocracy, including both Whigs and Tories, tended to deprive the nation of the assistance of able men in the management of its affairs. The resolution was seconded by Mr. A. B. Richard, and carried. The Rev. Dr. Wilson, Dean of the College of Preceptors, and other gentlemen, addressed the meeting, which did not conclude until a late hour.

St. Martin's-in-the-Fields Library and Reading-room for the Working Classes.—The third festival of this institution was held on Wednesday evening, at the Northern Schools, Castle-street, Longacre. There were about 400 working men and their wives present, and Lord Radstock, the Dean of Hereford, Rev. T. Jackson, Rev. F. D. Maurice, Dr. Lockhart Robertson, Mr. T. J. Farnivall, and a number of friends of the working classes, partook of the feast. Lord Ashley, Earl Grosvenor, Viscount Goderich, and Lord Ossulston, sent letters of regret at not being able to attend. The Rev. H. Mills, the Vicar of the parish, presided. The company sat down to tea at about half past seven, and amused themselves for some time looking over the handsome books presented by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Bishop of London, Miss Coutts, Sir Walter Trevelyan, Sir Henry Dunkinfield, the late Vicar, and others. When the library became crowded a large number of the guests adjourned to the School of Art and Design, fitted upon the floor above, which had been originally designed as a night school for children, but was converted into a School of Design for Girls, last month, when it was opened under the auspices of the Duchess of Sutherland. Here a number of drawings by the artisans were exhibited, which showed considerable talent and accuracy, soon after eight o'clock the whole company adjourned to the boys' school room, which, with one of the committee-rooms, was fitted up for 750 guests, and gaily decorated with flags. The visitors, however, were so numerous that between fifty and one hundred had to return to the library, where they had tea served, and amused themselves with singing glees while the festival was going on below. The Vicar said grace before and after tea, and then gave a concise history of the Library, which, he said, had been in operation for three years, and had not been so fully supported as he expected by the working classes. There were, however, 129 members, and if that number were increased it would soon become entirely self-supporting. The building provides education for 124 adult men; instruction in the School of Art for 50 adults and children; evening recreation and instruction for 120 in the Library; and a Life Assurance Branch Association numbering upwards of 8; without speaking of the Sunday-schools, evening classes, and other institutions connected with it. He thought he might assume that the building he had had the satisfaction of seeing grow up among them in one of the worst places of the parish might now fairly be looked on as an institution that had struck its roots deep, and was calculated to exercise a wide influence for good upon the neighbourhood. Several resolutions were afterwards moved and seconded by Lord Radstock, the Dean of Hereford, Rev. John Lawrell, Rev. E. T. Yates, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Churchwarden Stobbs, Mr. Warrington, and others; but the most striking speech of the evening was by a Mr. Parker, a working man in a coach-factory in the parish, who astonished the company by quoting Aristophanes, Æschylus, and Sophocles; and then, as he expressed himself, "stripped himself of his names" by saying that he had learnt all he knew of them; first, by attending a lecture of Professor Browne, at that Library, on "Attic Tragedy;" and then by buying translations of the Greek poets, which he had read with delight and avidity. The evening passed over with great gratification to all; and at the close a vote of thanks to the Vicar and committee was passed by acclamation.

The Omnibus Trade.—Owing to the high rate of mileage duty and the advanced price of provender, several of the omnibuses in the principal thoroughfares have been taken off the road during the last few months, to the great inconvenience of the public. In 1852, 1848 omnibuses were licensed; last year, only 1160. Fifty omnibuses used to ply between Chelsea and Hoxton, but now only 26; on the Stoke Newington and Bath-road cross-route the number of 12 has been withdrawn; and so in like manner in other neighbourhoods.

Preservation of Life from Shipwreck.—On Thursday a meeting of the Royal National Life-boat Institution was held at the Society's house, in John street, Adelphi, his Grace the Duke of Northumberland, K.G., President of the Society, in the chair. A report of the proceedings of the Institution stated that it was in consideration of their prompt conduct in going off to the assistance of the crew of the fast Yarm, which was observed during a heavy gale of wind to have drifted on the House bank, on the Tees's dire coast. Also, a reward of £2 10s. to a boat's crew for their laudable exertions to get out of three persons who were upset from a boat near Cape Clear, on the coast of Cork: two men, unfortunately, perished in the attempt. Other rewards were granted. Some life-boat cases were also mentioned, and the Institution has saved 110 lives during the past year. It appeared, never, since that upwards of 1100 persons had been rescued from shipwrecks on our coasts in the same short period. The institution earnestly appeals to the public for support to enable it to carry on its laudable and successful operations in the cause of humanity.

The Sunday Beer Bill.—On Saturday last a numerous and influential deputation of licensed victuallers and others interested in the repeal of the Sunday Beer Bill of last Session waited upon Sir William Molesworth, at his residence in Whitehall-place. Mr. Foster, president of the General Victuallers' Defence Society, said that the deputation had waited on the purpose of asking Sir William Molesworth to present the petitions of various numerous and signed petitions for the repeal of Mr. Patten's measure, which, in its effects, had proved a great hardship to the public, and the trade. Mr. Foster having pointed out the grounds the complaint, was followed by Mr. Dobie, chairman of the English Association, who detailed the hardships which the bill inflicted upon the class which he represented. Several other members having remarked on the working of the Act, Sir William Molesworth in reply, promised to present the petitions. He would see Sir George Grey, the Home Secretary, on the subject, and in the meantime would give his best attention to the matter which had been laid before him.

LORD GODERICH AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.

During the late Whitsuntide holidays, the Liberal electors of Huddersfield entertained Lord Goderich, at a banquet in the Cloth Hall of that town on Saturday, June 2. It was the first occasion on which the most influential body of electors had had an opportunity of meeting their new member. In the evening a public meeting was held in the Philosophical Hall, when Lord Goderich, in a long and able address, gave his views on the present position of foreign affairs, and the course he had pursued in Parliament during the two years he has been the representative of Huddersfield. Nearly 2000 persons were present.

Lord Goderich, in a survey of the present state of home politics, he contended that the conduct of Government with regard to the war, He agreed with Mr. Layard that the Government of Lord Aberdeen was not alone responsible for the warlike ending to their want of a decided policy. "I think (said his Lordship) this war has been occasioned, not by a love of peace, but by timidity in the counsels of the nation. Now, that we were at war, however, he thought that we ought not to make peace unless upon such terms as were likely to secure the honour of England and the safety of Europe. Having disposed of the war, he passed on to the next great question of the day, Administrative Reform. He was glad to see that Government was beginning to solve some one of the important questions of the matter.

But, after all, it is not merely the Government that whose something to do in this matter; we have all of us, whether to do; constituents in this country, and the representatives, have much to do with the question. We are tired of being trifled with under pretence of reform, and now we last old service satisfied. It has been said, at the exigencies of party, and at the request of intimate members of Parliament. Now, let me tell you this, that I desire to have administrative Reform, to have these changes made, not in the carrying on the business of the country, and of appointing men to discharge the duties of a country's service, we must ourselves be prepared to take the necessary steps in our Parliament, and our constituencies, if we expect to have a Parliament to which we can look for a Ministry. (Cheers.) Now, I am told that the most absolute, the most independent, the most important one of the Ministry is Sir Charles Wood, and he is a Liberal, and a Reformer.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The principal event of the week has been the successful maiden appearance of John Scott's crack two-year-old, Fly-by-Night, by the Flying Dutchman, to whom two other Derby favourites—Bird-in-Hand and Polmoodie (a very elegant creature)—ran second and third. He is a low, lengthy, and very powerful colt, not unlike his sire about the head, and quite as heavily engaged as his unfortunate half-brother, Gracious Ransom, who has a large cut on the near side, which sadly interferes with his training. The unexpected defeat of Hebburg, whose party were very confident, was also another "great fact" on the Vase day, and Claret cleared her at the Stand with the utmost ease. It is quite evident that the mare has run some pounds below her real form. Oulston, a very ugly lop-eared animal, out of Alice Hawthorne, won the Vase very cleverly; and taking a line through Rataplan, who forced the running from end to end, he must be so good if he pulls better than Kingstown. He sprung at once to 3 to 1 for the St. Leger, which at present looks like a match between him and Hillsman. The public were sadly disappointed at the defeat of the old horse, who has always been a great favourite with them. Corcobus has passed out of Frank Jaxo's, Dawson's stable; and it is said that Blooming Heather will not improbably become one of Sam Rogers's stable companions. Oaks defeat, by a bad mare like Marchioness, does not enhance her value. The *on dit* is, that the Oaks winner was only backed in the stable for £25 by the gentleman in whose name she ran. Marlow, the jockey, is said to be progressing favourably; and it seems that it was not owing to his own extravagance, but to an unfortunate mortgage in which all his savings were invested, that his friends felt it their duty to open a subscription for him. Hoopoder completely failed in his attempt to go two-and-a half miles in the Ascot Stakes; and, after nearly pulling Aldcroft over his head in the first three-quarters of a mile, got completely beaten before they rose the hill, and walked in last of all. The public never believed in his power to accomplish a long distance; but such is their confidence in the Orland stable (who quite thought so from his private performances with Fandango) that they made him first favourite. Mortimer's mean appearance was sadly against him, and lookers on considered that his most appropriate sphere would be a light water art instead of a racecourse. However, his owner knew better, as he had tried him to be quite as good as he was at Chester, and booked victory as certain. Lord Clifden had a turn in the Hunt Cup with Chalice, a daughter of old Crucifix, who has greatly improved under Isaac Day's care.

The racing calendar is not much to invite the sportsman in its pages for next week. Monday will, however, be an afternoon of considerable interest at Tattersall's, as the Royal stud yearlings will be brought to the hammer. They number about thirteen or fourteen, and include a sister to Frantic, and a sister to Gripshot. Ten of Mr. Crevilder's colts on Monday averaged 136 guineas each, which was made up by final bids of every kind from 455 guineas (the price of the colt by Orlando out of Little Fincal), down to 12 guineas, so that the great prices of last year are not at all likely to be realised by Mr. Godwin's four legged protégés. A large kennel of Clumber spaniels, &c., are also advertised by the Messrs. Tattersall for sale on the same day, and Day Middleton, who is now rising 23, and several of Lord Clifden's mares, &c., will be sold at Stockbridge before the Thursday's races in the following week. The race-meetings on the last for next week are Hampton Court on Wednesday and Thursday; and Newton, which is now under Mr. Blake's auspices, on the same days; neither of them big with events of more than passing interest. *Apropos* of hunting, it is credibly reported that Sir John Trollope is to hunt the Cottesmore country in future.

The willow is being wielded in earnest at last. Clark and his eleven are taking their rest for a week, but on Monday the Marylebone Club and ground play the county of Sussex, at Lord's, and on Thursday the gentlemen of England encounter the gentlemen of the Marylebone Club on the same ground. We fear that we shall see very few public school matches there this year, as head-masters are very unaccountably setting their faces against them, and wish them always to be played in their school grounds. The Marylebone Club the week past Surrey in one innings, by four-and-twenty runs; Haygarth contributing 97 to the score before sherman reached his stumps

On Tuesday the Oxford University sculls will be rowed for; and Saturday is appointed both for the Glasgow Flag Regatta and the Ranelagh Yacht and Sailing-match. The latter will be sailed off Battersea reach, and a £10 silver cup will be the prize of the first of the year. The Henley Regatta will be made on Saturday. Its prizes are valued at £136, the silver sherry not included; and comprise cups of every value from 100 guineas to 12 guineas, for all kinds of competitors, from eight-oar crews to sculers

ASCOT RACES.—TUESDAY.

Trial Stakes—Corcoran, 1. Early Morn, 2.
Seventh Ascot Triennial Stakes—Fly-by-Night, 1. Bird-in-Hand, 2
Sixth Ascot Triennial Stakes.—Claret, 1 Clonalde, 2.
Ascot Inclosure Stakes. Ingratiate, 1. Hazel, 2
Ascot Stakes—Mortimer, 1. Mistletoe, 2
Her Majesty's Gold Vase.—Oulston, 1. Rataplan, 2
Wokingham Stakes. Hatterer, 1. Fanny, 2

WEDNESDAY.

Fifth Ascot Triennial Stakes.—Wickedness, 1. Hebburg, 2.
Fernhill Stakes.—Flatterer, 1. Queen's Head, 2.
Royal Hunt Cup.—Chalice, 1. Grouse, 2
Sweepstakes of 15 sovs. each. Contention, 1 Redemption, 2
Coronation Stakes —Alcyone, 1. Miss Fairstar, 2
Hurdle Race of 100 sovs.—Catsnapper, 1. Octavia, 2
Her Majesty's Plate Saucebox, 1. Venison, 2

THURSDAY.

Prince Stakes.—Paletot, 1. Vexation, 2.
Visitors' Plate. Sheenum, 1 Lot, 2.
New Stakes.—Milton, 1. Polmoodie, 2
Gold Cup —Fandango, 1. Rataplan, 2
Sweepstakes.—Adventurer, 1. Quinz, 2
Windsor Castle stakes.—Professor, 1. Affghan, 2

A FORAGING EXPEDITION NEAR KERTCH. The Highlanders, in little parties, sought about for water, or took a stray peep after a "cut keep sake" in the houses on their way to the wells, but the French were ever before them, and was the property of a Russian officer, who had been killed in the last sortie. The houses were clean outside and in—whitewashed neatly, and provided with small well placed windows, which were barely adequate, however, to light up the rooms, which were small, and very low-roofed, but the atmosphere inside was more oppressive and disagreeable: it seemed to proceed from the logs of fire, bread and vessels of fish all which were found in every house. Each dwelling had outhouses, stables for cattle, pigs, poultry, and rude agricultural implements outside. The plunder was admirably described by Virgil, and a reference to "Adams' Antiquities" will save me a world of trouble in enlarging the minority of the foraging party, described at home. The furniture was all smashed to pieces; the Lens and daisies, captives to the bow and spear of the Gaul, were cackling and quacking piteously as they were carried off in bundles from their homes by Zouaves and Chasseurs. Every house we entered was ransacked, and every cupboard had a pair of red breeches sticking out of it, and a blue coat inside of it. Vessels of stinking oil, bags of sour bread, and of flour or bran, wretched clothing, old boots, tools ripped up for treasure, the hideous pictures of saints on panelling or paper which adorn every cottage with lamps suspended before them, were lying on the floors. *Imprès* dressed themselves in faked pieces of cloth dresses or aged finery lying perdu in old drawers, and danced about the gardens. One house, which had been occupied as a guard-house, and was marked on a board over the door, "No. 7 Redoute," was a scene of especial confusion. Bayonets were actually fled in great disorder, for their great-coats and uniform-jackets still lay on the floors, and bags of the black bread filled every corner, as well as an incredible quantity of old boots. A French soldier, who, in his indignation at not finding anything of value, had with great wrath devastated the scanty and nasty-looking furniture, was informing his comrades outside of the atrocities which had been committed, and called upon them to avenge such an outrage in the world. "Ah, Messieurs, Messieurs! ces brigands, ils ont volés tout!" No doubt he had settled honourably with the proprietor for a large bundle of living poultry, which he carried in his knapsack, and which were offered to us on very reasonable terms. Notwithstanding the great richness of the land, little had been done by man to avail himself of its produce

THE ASCOT CUP, 1855.—(FROM "THE LADY OF THE LAKE.")

THE ASCOT RACE-PLATE.

The Ascot Prizes, which have been contested for during the week, in design and manufacture fully sustain the great advancement in this branch of art which we have had the satisfaction to record with each successive year of late. They are picturesque and poetic in character, and present strange contrasts with the old Race-cups—mostly imitated from poor Italian or pseudo-classic models. In these days our artists mostly borrow the subjects from history or poetry, and, catching inspiration from the author, work out his design with the aids and accessories of characteristic detail; and his design, being transferred to the artisan, is wrought with spirit and exquisite finish, so as to rival the finest school of metal-work. A few evenings since, at the *conversazione* given by Lord Londesborough to the Numismatic Society, how strange was the contrast between the assemblage of early German plate and the Race prizes of our own day: the one quaint, curious, and grotesque in form; and the other simple and natural in outline, yet presenting an equally fine specimen of working in metal with that of the remote period.

Two of the three Ascot prizes for the present year are groups illustrative of modern poetry. First, is the *Queen's Gold Cup*, manufactured by Messrs. Garrard, goldsmiths to the Crown, from a design and model by Mr. E. Cotterill, whose equine compositions we have so often had occasion to commend. His present work is a group of statuettes in silver, in illustration of Burns's masterpiece, "Tam o'Shanter." The subject is old and familiar, but Mr. Cotterill's treatment of it is novel and striking. "Tam," mounted on "Maggie," has just reached the "keystane," in time to escape, but not without losing her tail, of which the vengeance of the carline, is represented in the act of depriving the old mare. Poor "Maggie" could scarcely have gone a yard or two further; and the artist has most successfully portrayed an animal who has done her best, and can do no more—a more instructive position than that of a race-horse at the winning-post.

The Ascot Cup has also been manufactured by Messrs. Garrard, from a design and model by Mr. W. Spencer. The subject is an incident from Sir Walter Scott's "Lady of the Lake:" during the games at Stirling, which James the Fifth attended, the exiled Douglas appeared and joined the sport, an unbidden guest. He had been declared victor in every trial of strength and skill, when a noble stag was let loose, intended to be pulled down by the Royal hounds; but Luffa darted from her master's side, and, like him, soon gave evidence of her superiority. The indignant huntsman, in revenge, struck the dog, when Douglas, with one buffet, laid him stunned at his feet. Then

> Clamoured loud the Royal train,
> And brandished swords and staves amain;
> But stern the Baron's warning "Back
> Back, on your lives, ye menial pack!
> Beware the Douglas."

This group is throughout a masterly composition.

The Royal Hunt Cup has been manufactured at the establishment of Messrs Hunt and Roskell, gold-smiths to the Queen, from a design and model by Mr Alfred Brown, whose graceful productions we have often engraved. The present Prize differs altogether in its character from either of the preceding groups. It is a candelabrum of pure silver, and consists of the twisted stems of vines supporting sockets for lights. Upon the rocky base is seen a combat between two dogs and a wolf; the wolf has disabled one of his antagonists, but the other has seized him by the throat. This superb piece of table-plate is admirable for its bold and simple design and high finish.

THE ASCOT ROYAL HUNT CUP, 1855. THE QUEEN'S ASCOT GOLD CUP, 1855.—(FROM "TAM O'SHANTER.")

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA.

The attachment of his Imperial Majesty to field sports and the chase is well known: his closely-knit frame and activity eminently qualifying his Majesty for these enjoyments. On the 28th ult., according to the well-informed Correspondent of the *Times*, "his Majesty the Emperor went capercailzie shooting in the Styrian mountains. As is his wont on such occasions, he wore the costume of the country, which consists of a loose "pike-grey" coat with green facings, a grey and green waistcoat, black leather shorts, ribbed white stockings, and half-boots. If to this is added a green hat, ornamented with the tail-feathers of the cock of the woods and the beard of a chamois, you have the complete costume of the Imperial "Jäger" as he descended from the train at the foot of the Semmering."

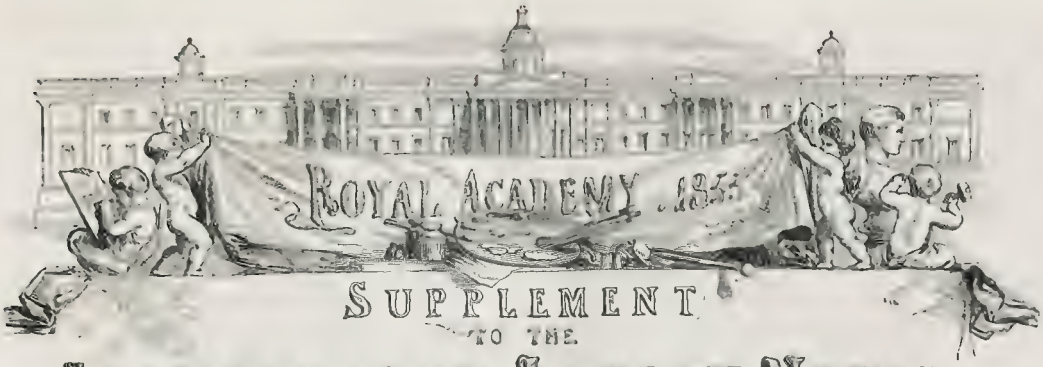
THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA, IN HIS "JAGER" OR STYRIAN COSTUME.

The accompanying Portrait is from a print recently published in Vienna.

The Imperial Contest.—Under this title, Messrs. Jaques, of Hatton-garden, have just issued a Game, which has, at least, the attraction of novelty to recommend it. The antagonism of the game, which is played upon a board marked at right angles, as in chess, is indicated by the designation. The Emperor and his soldiers occupy the centre square; the Allies—namely, the English, French, Turks, and Austrians—lining the four sides, which are uniformly stamped with a crescent, symbolical of the Ottoman Empire. The "contest" is carried on by mutual aggression, and not by a mere defence, as in other games of an analogous kind. The Emperor endeavours to reach the remote squares, by moving in straight lines; which the Allies strive to prevent, by a general system of circumvention. The game is obviously based upon mathematical principles, and its balance of strength is pretty evenly maintained. Although simple in its laws, and of easy and immediate acquirement, it is in the power of neither side to win without considerable strategy; and hence, as a preliminary study to the more recondite game of chess, the "Imperial Contest" merits the attention of young people, besides being useful as a mental exercise.

Lord Raglan and his Little Lady Friend.—A little girl, Christiana Benson, daughter of the late Mr. Benson, of Annan, sent three pairs of wristlets to Lord Raglan in December. They were characteristically acknowledged in the following letter:—"Before Sebastopol, April 22, 1855. Dear Miss Christiana,—I received only last night your little note of 20th Dec., forwarding to me three pairs of very nice wristlets. Although the winter is over, and the weather is generally fine, yet occasionally there is a very cold wind, and wristlets are still most acceptable, and add materially to one's comfort. I shall wear those you have so kindly bestowed upon me with the greatest of pleasure; and I shall ever remember with pride and satisfaction the little girl whose feelings of benevolence dictated so useful an offering. Yours, very gratefully, Raglan.—Miss Christiana Benson, Ecclefechan, Scotland."

Ancient Possessions of the "Lords of the Isles."—On the 30th ult. the estate of Kilmuir, as it has been called, in the north end of the Island of Skye, was sold in the Parliament-house, Edinburgh, to Captain Fraser, of Kilduckie, at the upset price of £30,000. This estate comprises the most valuable portion of what remained of the once kingly possessions of the Lords of the Isles.



SUPPLEMENT TO THE

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

No. 747.] SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1855. [VOL. XXVI.

ART EXHIBITIONS OF 1855.

WE this week redeem our promise, and devote a Supplement to the three leading Art Exhibitions—viz., the Royal Academy of Arts, the Old Society of Painters in Water-Colours and the New Society of Painters in Water-Colours.

Our range of selection is, indeed, large—the three Exhibitions from which our Engravings are made, including 2228 works of art, contributed by more than 1000 different artists.

The difficulty of selection from so large a range, is, indeed, great; but the difficulty is still greater than many will at first imagine. By some publishers it is thought (very foolishly we are sure) that an engraving of a picture in so popular a paper as the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS would interfere with its sale as a separate engraving. Then the rules of the Royal Academy will not allow a picture to be copied—even at daybreak—while it is within the walls of the Academy, and the painter himself (mind this!) is only too anxious to have his labours made known to the tens of thousands who have no chance of ever visiting the Academy. This harsh and foolish rule is confined to the Academy; no other Art Exhibition in London has so unmeaning an exclusion. And this rule as respects the

BRITOMART UNARMING."

A[illegible] [illegible]ly harsh. Some of your best artists reserve their [illegible] strokes to their treatment, and are naturally unwilling, [illegible] to see their drawing to be made from what they consider [illegible] unfinished work. As young blood is admitted into the Academy, this most unnecessary regulation will surely be rescinded.

In spite of a rule so useless and unmeaning, we have this week [illegible] in preserving to our readers five pictures from the [illegible] Academy Exhibition: two by two of the most distinguished of the Academicians—Mr. Maclise and Mr. Creswick; and one by a very distinguished Associate—Mr. F. R. Pickersgill. The remaining two are by very able and still improving artists—Mr. Ansdell and Mr. Faed—already established favourites with critics and connoisseurs, and—almost better still—with the public at large.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

We have heard three remarks made about the present Exhibition that have much good sense to recommend them. First, that the Exhibition is but ill supported either by talent or numbers; second, that portraits prevail more largely than has been seen since the death of Sir Thomas Lawrence; and, third, that the hanging of the pictures has been in several remarkable instances (to which we shall have occasion to refer as we proceed) manifestly unjust.

Of the fifteen hundred and fifty-eight works of art exhibited, only one hundred and sixty-four have been contributed by members of the Academy—and these are hung in every instance in the best places—on the line. It will be said by some within the walls of the Academy that this small part of the Exhibition is the Exhibition itself; but this is very far from the case. True it is that, with a very few exceptions, all the best works have been contributed by members of the Academy; but not less true is it that some of the very worst, and those among the best hung, proceed from this favourite body.

The rules of the Academy allow a member to exhibit not more than [illegible] works of art. This year only three members, and those three portrait-painters, avail themselves of this privilege. These three are Mr. H. W. Pickersgill, Mr. Frank Grant, and Sir William Ross. The next most prolific contributor is another portrait-painter, Mr. Boxall, who [illegible] seven portraits. In the next great number, the landscape-painters vie with the portrait-painters. Thus Mr. Lee (a hanger) sends [illegible] landscapes, and Sir John Watson Gordon contributes six portraits; [illegible] Mr. Jas. Cooper, an Associate, sends six landscapes and cows; and Mr. Thomas Jones Barker, another Associate, contributes six miniatures. From Mr. Creswick we have (we are happy to think) five most excellent pictures. Others contribute four, three, and two works of art, while eight send only one each, and twelve are absentees.

Among the members who are absentees we may mention all the architects—Barry, Hardwick, Smirke, and Cockerell; one sculptor—the elder Westmacott; and five painters—viz., the two Landseers, Mulready, Chalon, and Cooke. In the list of Associates we miss, with regret, Mr. Alfred Elmore and Mr. Lance Stone. We can ill spare the rich Italian banditti [illegible] of the one, or the momentary thoughts and unuttered sighs of the other.

Our readers who live remote from London, and who have no opportunity of examining the Exhibition for themselves, will thank us for a general notion of the arrangements of the rooms. In the East or Great Room, the places of honour on the line are given to Mr. Maclise's "Orlando;" Mr. Herbert's "Lear and Cordelia," Mr. Hart's "Captivity of Lord Bacon," Mr. H. W. Pickersgill's "North Sea Breeze on the Dutch Coast," and a scene from Spenser," by Mr. F. R. Pickersgill. These are the first pictures that engage attention when viewed from the Centre Room. As we follow *the line* a little nearer and still more intently, other pictures of merit, but of less dimensions, are observable. Thus here is a female head (Beatrice) by the President, Sir Charles Eastlake; another female head (Christabel) by Mr. Dyce, two small Websters, a charming Augustus Egg, a little Leslie, two small Friths, three Copes of reasonable [illegible] and average merit, and a small John Lewis that more than repays the minutest examination. Above these the portraits engross all the available space. Over Mr. Maclise's "Orlando," a "Yeomanry Officer on Horseback," of the size of life, scowls on the canvas of Mr. F. Grant. Over Mr. Herbert's "Lear and Cordelia" is seen a full-length of "Joseph Robinson Pease, Esq.," of Hesslewood, East Yorkshire, painted by Sir John Gordon, and presented to Mr. Pease, as the Catalogue informs us, by his friends and neighbours." Over the "Tyrant of Fadan," by Mr. Hart, hangs a full-length of "Colonel Haldyard, painted for the Town-hall of Stokesley; and over Mr. Pickersgill's "Britomart" is seen "Mr. Gladstone" at full-length, in the robes of the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer—those very robes which Mr. Disraeli surrendered to him [illegible]. Between these conspicuous full-length's are several [illegible] portraits of much greater merit, some by Mr. Grant, [illegible] by Sir John Watson Gordon; Mr. Desanges standing his ground [illegible] among them all.

Stepping westward, we enter the "Middle Room;" and here, on each side of the west door are hung two scenes of maternal gratitude—one by Mr. Hook, the other by Mr. Millais. Mr. Hook's picture is called "The Gratitude of the Mother of Moses for the Safety of her Child;" and Mr. Millais's is entitled "The Rescue." The Scriptural incident is well known—the infant Moses rescued from a watery grave. Mr. Millais's is a scene from everyday life—the rescue by a London fireman of a real Biggabottom—of a family of infants, and the expressive gratitude of the mother at the restoration of her children. The central spot, on the north side, is occupied by Mr. Hart's "Othello and Iago," crowned by a admirable full-length portrait of "Sir Peter Laurie," by Mr. Grant. Other pictures in position in this room that arrest attention may be few [illegible] "The Nearest Way in Summer Time," by Mr. Creswick and Mr. Ansdell (Engraved in this Supplement, p. 545); one "Scotch Gamekeeper," by Mr. Ansdell (another feature in our paper of this week, p. 540); two clever Scottish Kirk scenes—one by Mr. Phillip, the other by Mr. Stirling; a fine head of the "Bishop of Mauritius," by Boxall; and one not less fine, by the same artist, of "Mr. Rendel, the [illegible]." Mr. Lee's excellent and suggestive twin picture of the "Life [illegible] of the Sea," "Duke of Buckingham of the Villiers Family," and [illegible] "Contrast;" Mr. Johnston's "Abdication of Mary Queen of Scots," Mr. Glass's "Prairie Scenes;" Mr. Sant's "Fortune-Teller;" Mr. F. Goodall's "Arrest of a Peasant Royalist;" Mr. Herbert's portrait of "Horace Vernet;" "A Fruit Piece," by Mr. Lance; [illegible] "Decameron;" Mr. Horsley's "Scene from [illegible] Legend of Archdeacon Sinclair," by Mr. Horsley; and a half-length of "Edwin Landseer," by Mr. F. Grant.

In the West Room, four very large pictures engross, and not improperly, every [illegible] of [illegible]. Two are of Royal Academicians, and two are by outsiders. Mr. Roberts contributes a grand "View of [illegible] Jerusalem;" Sir Charles Eastlake exhibits a noble picture of the "Entrance of St Sebastian." The outsiders are Mr. Leslie and Mr. [illegible] of [illegible] being seen to advantage in his "Cimabue Procession," the picture being lent by Her Majesty at the (private view), the latter not disadvantageously in "Aaron and Hur holding up the hands of Moses [illegible] Israel fought prevail." The centre of the south side is worthily filled by Mr. Sant's "Eda" a child with flowers, much in Sir Joshua's manner. The South Room is dedicated, as of old, to Miniatures, Drawings, and Engravings. In the department of miniatures Sir William Ross, Mr. Thomas Jones Barker, Mr. Corbould, Mr. Wells, and Mr. Gullick are seen in honourable [illegible]. The place of honour is given to a full-length, by Mr. Moira, of "Don Pedro V., King of Portugal." Immediately above hangs a drawing of Lord Lyndhurst, by Richmond. The chief novelty in this room is a very clever portrait, by Millais, of Mr. John Leech, the doctor of Punch as an artist, and manly in his look withal, though described in the Catalogue as *Mrs.* John Leech.

The North Room is set apart, as formerly, for the reception of an ill-assorted mixture of architectural drawings, flower-pieces, and surplus oil-pictures. No one work of art arrests the eye.

From what we could see in the Octagon Room, the general arrangement may, like very pictures—looked very much as of old. We were chiefly pleased during our short stay in this room by the careful attention given to each picture by a distinguished member of the Charity Commission.

The den devoted to Sculpture presents a remarkable appearance. We have only one portrait statue, and that in the background. While the centre is occupied by a group in marble called "Child play—the children of Herbert Ingram, Esq.—a graceful and playful composition by Mr. A. Munro, conceived poetically, and carved with a very delicate chisel.

Our first illustration this week of the state of art in England is from the Royal Academy Exhibition, and is one of three pictures contributed by Mr. H. W. Pickersgill, A.R.A. He has selected his three subjects from three sources extremely rich in artistic material—from the New Testament, the "Pilgrim's Progress," and the "Faërie Queene." The first (341) is entitled "John Sendeth his Disciples to Christ;" the second (324), "Christian Conducted by Charity, Prudence, Piety, and Discretion into the Valley of Humiliation;" the third (16, and our subject), "Britomart Unarming and Discovering Herself before Amoret, whom she has rescued, and the 'Jolly Knight' she has subdued." All these pictures exhibit a conscientious, and in many respects a successful, seeking of what is lofty and beautiful in art. But Mr. Pickersgill is nearer to Spenser and Bunyan than he is to Scripture. What a truly Spenserian picture has he brought before us! How lovely in her female strength, and in her own half-concealed beauty, is the gentle Britomart! How sweet a damsel has been rescued in Amoret! That Knight on the left of the composition is a sort of a realisation of Sir Philip Sydney. Those Cupids that lift the helmet from the heroine are in the best manner of Italian art—or what is just as good, in Stothard's manner. That Cupid on the ground playing with the Knight's long lance (for which the picture is too small) is happily suggestive of the love combat that has occurred. How exquisitely has Spenser painted Britomart for the pencil of Mr. Pickersgill.—

> With that, her glistering helmet she unlaced:
> Wide flow'd her golden locks, that were unbound
> Still in a knot, unto her heels downe traced,
> And, like a silken veile, in compasse round
> Around her shoulders fell on the ground downe.
>
> * * * *
>
> Such when these knights and ladies all about
> Beheld her, all were with amazement smit,
> And every one gan grow in secret doubt
> Of this and that, according to each wit:
> Some thought that some enchantment fayned it;
> Some that Bellona in that warlike wise
> To them appeared, with shield and armour fit:
> Some, that it was a maske of strange disguise:
> So diversely each one did sundrie doubts devise.
>
> *Spenser's Faerie Queene*, Book iv., Canto 1.

It is said by Spenser himself that the poet's wit surpasseth painter's far in picturing the parts of "beauty dayne;" but Spenser, had he seen Mr. Pickersgill's composition from his great poem, might have admitted, without compliment, that the painter of Britomart and Amoret had done something to lessen the justice of his remark.

Our second Illustration is taken not from the page of poetry, but from the autumn life of many a Scottish Highlander. For this characteristic and clever example of what other artists can accomplish in the manner of Sir Edwin Landseer, we are indebted to Mr. Ansdell. It is one of two pictures meant to be hung together, as each assists the other. It is called the "Scotch Gamekeeper" (498); and its companion is called the "English Gamekeeper." One is a leading attraction in the Middle Room; the other a leading attraction in the West Room. Critics are divided which to prefer. Some incline to the greater variety of game to be seen in the Scottish picture, and some prefer the whole execution of the English composition to that of its Scottish companion. Nationality has perhaps something to do with this. John Bull likes his own Yorkshire or Norfolk gamekeeper; and Saunders his own Highland man from the moors of Sutherlandshire and the mountain passes of Argyllshire. How unlike are the two keepers; yet how true is each to his own country. There is a bulldog bearing about Bill Tatler, the Lancashire keeper, in Squire Thornhill's employ; and an indescribable but characteristic peculiarity about Duncan McDougal McGregor who sees after the Inverness-shire estates, which McDonald of that ilk has recently rented for £2000 (English) to a leading member of the Stock Exchange. Our third subject is also from Scotland, and by a Scottish artist. Mr. Ansdell is a native of Lancashire; but Mr. Thomas Faed, the able artist of that touching picture, the "Mitherless Bairn," (see page 541, is a Scot by birth, and a true-hearted Scot in feeling. Mr. Faed has found his subject in that Foundling Hospital of Scottish song, called "Whistle Binkie." The author of the "Mitherless Bairn" is Mr. William Thom, and here is the song itself:—

THE MITHERLESS BAIRN.

> When a' thier barnies are hushed to thier hame,
> By aunty or cousin, or freeky grandame,
> Wha stand last and lanely and sairy foolorn?
> 'Tis the poor dowie laddie—the mitherless barn.
> The mitherless bairnie creeps to his lone bed,
> Nane covers his cauld back, nor haps his bare head,
> His wee hackit heelies are hard as the arn,
> And hilless the lair o' the mitherless barn.
>
> Aneath his cauld bed wi' sad dreams hover there,
> O' hands that used kind to be in a dark grave!
> But morning brings clutches, a' reckless and stern,
> That jo'es na the locks o' the mitherless barn.
> The sister who sang o'er his sadly reaved bed,
> Now rests in the mools where their mammie is laid:
> While the father toils sair his wee bannock to earn,
> And kens na the wrongs o' the mitherless barn.
>
> Her spirit that passed in the hour of his birth
> Still watches his lone, lorn w[illegible] doings on earth.
> Recording in heaven the breasks they earn
> Wha cowhively deal with the mither less barn.
> Oh! speak him na harshly; he trembles the while
> He bends to your bidding, he bends to your smile
> In their dark hour of anguish the heartless shall learn
> That God deals the blow for the mitherless barn.

Fail not to observe with what touching truth Mr. Faed has contrasted the modest, ill-clad mitherless bairn, half afraid to enter, lest he should hurt the chicken that picks the crumbs before him) with the well-conditioned boy of the same age that stands full fed and slick before him. Mark the comfortable female face, that tells its own story so quietly, in the woman seated on the left of the composition; nor omit to remark how truthful is the expression on the face of the old deaf woman, who is still lending a willing ear to the untold but expressive tale of the child who enters hungry and half-uncertain of his reception. The painting, too, in point of execution, is very beautiful; nor is the observation which we heard made before it by one competent to judge without its full significance—"Here is a work that will survive." And yet this picture is shamefully hung: to see it you must have recourse to your knees. This is wrong—it is fairly worth any half-dozen pictures above it. How is this? Is it that we have the old envy of Wilkie's genius once more among us? Our readers may not remember the story to which we allude. Wilkie's first picture exhibited in London was "The Village Politicians," his second "The Blind Fiddler." He was then a lad raw from Scotland, contriving to live without getting into debt, on eighteen shillings a week. His first picture attracted, and retained attention. His second was certain to raise his reputation. Something must be done. He was to be "killed" quietly. His "Blind Fiddler," now a leading remnant in the Vernon Gallery, was hung between two of Turner's recent freaks—"Ulysses Deriding Polyphemus" and "Vapour," and "The Blacksmith's Forge." But the mischief was [illegible] rendered to the picture. The story is only [illegible] to be [illegible] Academy, as the product [illegible] of "The Blind Fiddler" is injurious to the same body, and to the living Commissioners of the Academy—Messrs. Herbert, Cooper, and Lee, who hung it in the [illegible] Of a picture so full of permanent beauties, it is passing strange that the artist obtained for it—For "The Village Politicians" Mr. Vernon received from a dealer four hundred guineas; and it has since passed into other hands at an advance of one hundred guineas. We may safely [illegible] tell that it has not yet reached its maximum quotation.

Our *fourth* Illustration is from Mr. Maclise's fine, but single contribution. He has found his subject in Shakspeare—in "As You Like It," and the particular passage he has sought to illustrate is as follows—[illegible] may add that we have enlarged the quotation in the Catalogue, and corrected it:—

> *Rowland.* Young man, have you challenged Charles the Wrestler?
>
> *Orlando.* No, fair princess, he is the general challenger: I come late in as others do, to try with him the strength of my youth.
>
> *Celia.* Young gentleman, your spirits are too bold for your years: you have seen cruel proof of this man's strength: if you saw yourself with your eyes, or knew yourself with your judgment, the fear of your adventure would counsel you to a more equal enterprise. We pray you, for your own sake to embrace your own safety, and give over this attempt.
>
> *Rosalind.* Do, young sir; your reputation shall not therefore be misprised: we will make it our suit to the Duke that the wrestling might not go forward.
>
> *Orlando.* I beseech you, punish me not with your hard thoughts, wherein I confess me much guilty to deny so fair and excellent ladies anything. But just your fair eyes and gentle wishes go with me to my trial; wish me fortune; if I fall, there is but one shamed, that was never gracious; if kill'd, but one dead, that is willing to be so. I shall do my friends no wrong, for I have none to lament me; the world no injury, for what I have nothing—only in the world I fill up a place which may be better supplied when I have made it empty.
>
> *Rosalind.* The little strength that I have, I won'd it were with you.
>
> *Celia.* And mine to eke out hers.—*As You Like It*, act. i., scene 2.

The scene in Shakspeare is laid on the lawn in front of the *Duke* Palace, and the point of time chosen by the artist is that when *Orlando* is about to engage with *Charles*. The characters introduced from the left to the right of the spectator, are *Dennis* (servant to *Oliver*), *Oliver* (son of *Sir Rowland de Bois*), *Jaques* (the *Duke's* associate), *Touchstone* (a courtier), *Duke Frederick* (the usurper), *Celia* (daughter to *Duke Frederick*), *Rosalind* (daughter to the banished Duke), *Touchstone* (a clown), *Orlando* (son of *Sir Rowland de Bois*), *Adam* (servant to *Oliver*). Lords, and attendants. In the centre of the composition is the *Duke*; on his left is the slim but lithe *Orlando*; on his right the confident but strong-built *Charles*. As the eye runs from the *Duke* to the two competitors, we can all but hear distinctly from the lips of the athletic wrestler, "Come, where is this young gallant that is so desirous to lie with his mother earth?" and, while the words are reaching our ears, we watch the young David of the scene, and look with earnestness on the lovely faces of *Rosalind* and *Celia*—one of the sweetest groups to be seen on modern canvas. Are we sure of the result of such unequal contest? *Orlando* certainly is. The eyes of *Rosalind* and *Celia*

> Rain influence and adjudge the prize

Charles must fail. It would be easy to write a chapter on the fine realisation of a scene in Shakspeare. How admirably is *Touchstone* conceived. With what poetic feeling is that rainbow of hope distantly, but modestly, introduced over *Orlando's* head. But we must allow our engraver to speak for M. Maclise, and our readers to follow up what we have only in part suggested. The picture was painted for a lady, *Charles* is, therefore, not a Hercules, or a Figg, or Broughton, or Deaf Burke, or Dutch Sam—but just what he is, apparently more than a match for the slim built *Orlando*. The lady is Mrs. Betts; and the house, on the lawn of which the scene is laid, is a modern Elizabethan building—Preston-hall, near Maidstone—a kind of painter's anachronism perfectly justifiable. We must add that the picture, in point of colour, is warmer and richer than is usual with Mr. Maclise.

Our fifth illustration (p. 539) is one of those twin compositions of two distinguished artists working on one canvas, that has of late years become extremely fashionable, and, we will add, what is not often the case with things fashionable, extremely sensible as well. The first to revive the fashion of other schools were Sir Edwin Landseer and Sir Augustus Callcott; these were followed soon after by Mr. Sydney Cooper's cows and Mr. Lee's landscapes. Then came Creswick and Frith, and Creswick and Ansdell—of both pairs thus working conjointly we have choice instances in the present Exhibition. Never did Beaumont and Fletcher work more happily together than Mr. Creswick and Mr. Ansdell have wrought together in that truly English scene, "The Nearest Way in Summer Time" (No. 440). Of story there is not much to tell. The scene is, however, are of the most pleasing nature, and the objects introduced are of that country-life character which never fails to find admirers. "The Nearest Way in Summer Time" is, in Messrs. Creswick and Ansdell's eyes, that taken by a waggon, waggoner, and horses through a streamlet impassable in the spring, and only rendered passable by the recent droughts of a sunny summer. The drought, however, has not been of a sufficient duration to lessen the green-like hues of trees in a transition state between May and June, while there is water enough to cool the horses' feet, and to show us what the stream must be like after a week of April showers. Most marvellous in point of execution is this choice specimen of our English school of painting. The horses all but walk from out the canvas—the trees all but move—the spectator begins to feel the very air of the picture upon his cheek. No wonder then that in rooms crowded as those of the Royal Academy, spectators are found delighted to linger about a landscape of which Gainsborough could have applied the arrangement and general colour, but not the details or the full results.

With this fine example of the joint labours of Mr. Creswick and Mr. Ansdell, our Academic illustrations for the week must end. We give, however, in our present Supplement, other Illustrations from the two Societies of Painters in Water Colours, but, we dare not to interrupt our criticisms on the Royal Academy, we shall transfer what we have written about them to that portion of our Journal in which they appear.

The largest, and certainly one of the finest, landscapes in the collection is the "Rome" (594) of Mr. Roberts, R.A.—

> Rome! thine imperial brow
> Never shall I
> Yet behold in mortal glow,
> I have had thy sake
>
> Thou hast the sunset's glow,
> Rome, for thy dower,
> Flushing tall cypress bough,
> Temple and tower!

Such is the quotation which Mr. Roberts has given in illustration of his noble picture of a Sunset over Rome. How very imperfectly it fulfils what his fine picture embodies. It is impossible to stand and muse before this grand panorama of the great capital without calling to mind the Consuls, and Cæsars, and Popes, and Painters, who have done so much for the long glories of the majestic city. From the point of view chosen by the painter we have modern Rome—nobly represented by St Peter's on our left—and ancient Rome, with its Coliseum, Pantheon.

and crumbling ruins on our right. The yellow Tiber flows at our feet. The fine lines of Dyer at once occur to the poetic mind:—

> The Dome of
> At dead of night, 'mid his cloud-built bears
> Aghast the voice of Time, disparting towers
> Tumbling all precipitate down dash'd,
> Rattling around, loud thundering to the moon.

Sitting in front of this fine picture, which adds importantly to the well-earned reputation of Mr. Roberts, Gibbon might have conceived his history of the "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," which he tells us was first thought of amid the ruins of the Eternal City.

After the Roberts the next great landscape of moment is the "St. Sebastian" of Clarkson Stanfield, to which Lord Hardinge thus gracefully referred in his speech at the Academy dinner:—

> When I saw it the failing light would not enable me to inspect it so closely as I could have wished; but I should refer to the excellent description by the artist in that admirable and noble picture as a proof of the skill of the British artillery, and the steadiness of the British infantry. In the storm by which that place was captured they could not find a breach, and they remained twelve feet below the parapet. They could not get upon it, and they set fire to the ruinings of the convent which burnt like a gridiron. It was impossible to descend, and the men were so steady that they lay down while the artillery, at five hundred yards, fired two feet over their heads. For two hours this continued. The infantry were reinforced, the artillery kept on firing, and when a breach was made the men started up, resumed the attack, and carried the place.

The point of time chosen by the artist is that when the British troops, under Wellington, took possession of the heights and convent of St. Bartholomew. The Duke is in the foreground, looking across the water at the important operations that are taking place against the lofty fortress which towers to the skies before him. All with man is activity and life. Yet the sky is tranquil, and but for man, tranquillity is everywhere. This fine picture is to be viewed in two lights—as a landscape, and as an historical composition. It is noble as both, and is in every respect a suitable pendant to the scene before Gibraltar, by the same artist, where the ship approaches that noble fortress, carrying to St. Paul's the dead body of the heroic Nelson.

Mr Stanfield's other contributions are two in number—"Ilfracombe, North Devon" (87), and "The Zuider Zee—Dutch Boats entering Harbour" (142): a species of composition for which he has long been famed, and in which he has no rival of any name but Mr. Edward Cooke.

In the same rank of excellence with the large Stanfield and the large Roberts, we confidently place that masterpiece of Mr. Creswick's—at "The Neuk at Way in Summer Time," to which we have end as our [illegible] picture, both by the pen and the pencil. But this is only one of Mr. Creswick's four contributions. The other three are called "Morning the Mouth of an Eastern River" (50); "Afternoon—the Same Place" (94), "Common Scene in Surrey" (202); and "A Welsh Hill" (315). All these exhibit the best qualities of this thoroughly English painter.

Mr. F. R. Lee, generally a pleasing painter, though [illegible] too cold in his colours, is not seen this year in full force. He has six pictures in all:—"A Devonshire Mill" (154); "Sight from Clifedon, looking towards Maidenhead, on the Thames" (1[illegible]); "Pines on the Banks of the River Taw North Devon" (219); "The River Awe Argyllshire" (356); "Cattle on the Banks of a River" (422); "The Taw Vale, North Devon" (624). In the Cattle scene he had the assistance of Mr. Sidney Cooper; and has, consequently, wrought as if more was expected from him. His sketch from Clifedon is unusually hard.

No artist evidently delights more in green lanes and chequered shades than Mr. Richard Redgrave. He sees Nature always in a solid aspect. He has no love, apparently, for any other period of the year than spring. Of his three pictures—"The Spring" (88)—

> Deep and still that gliding stream
> Beautiful to our doth seem,
> As the river of a dream.—

"The Bird Keeper" (240); "The Source of the Stream" (347)—we prefer the last. It is one of those green delights that perpetuate spring in the depths of winter.

We wish we could say as much of any one of the four pictures which Mr. Witherington's rank as a Royal Academician has enabled him to hang too prominently before us. He is a careful but cold painter. A chill runs through the spectator at the very first sight of a picture by Mr. Witherington.

Of Mr. E. W. Cooke's four contributions we prefer the largest—"A North-Sea Breeze on the Dutch Coast—Scheveling Fishermen Hauling the "Pinck out of the Surf" (269). Here we have the right salt-water smack, and a stirring scene rendered with exquisite life and motion. Scarcely less true is "Scheveling Sands—Low Water, Tide making in" (323), by the same artist. Of a different character is "Venice—Fish arrived" (344); and still more different is "Winter—A Scene on the Fens of Huntingdonshire, old Draining Mill—now disused" (61), a marvellous piece of dreary nature that creates a shudder.

Mr. F. Danby delights, as formerly, in lake scenery, evening lights, and dead calms. His contributions are called "A Party of Pleasure on the Lake of Wallenstadt, in Switzerland" (46); "Evening—In the Rosy Time of the Year" (287); "Dead Calm—Sunset at the Hight of Enmouth" (566). These are hardly up to the mark of his earlier efforts in the same line. A younger Danby (T. Danby) sends "The Poet's Hour" (237).

> Hark! how the sacred calm that reigns around
> Bids every fierce tumultuous passion cease,
> In still small accents whispering from the ground,
> A grateful earnest of eternal peace.

Hardly up to the mark of Gray's description, but poetic and pleasing.

The titles of Mr. Sidney Cooper's six pictures will convey to his admirers an excellent notion of what he has been about. They are called "Cooling the Hoof" (75); "A Group in an Interior" (172); "Autumn Showers" (310); "Cattle on the Banks of a River" (422); "A Way over the Fells" (525); "Haymaking Season" (566).

> On summer's day, fragrant hay
> So sweetly scents the breeze

In No 422 our English Cuyp has called in Mr. Lee to his assistance, and has, therefore, wrought in his best mood.

We wish we could praise Mr. Pyne's "Florence—from San Miniato" (1140); but there is little to admire in it. It is poor in conception, and weak in point of execution. Mr. Pyne is more at home when he is painting, not for the Royal Academy, but for Suffolk-street.

Mr. Carmichael will please more admirers than his Newcastle friends with "View of Heligoland, where the Foreign Legion will embark" (44)—

> The meteor flag of England
> Must yet triumph in pain,
> Till its foes's trodden down, the despot, and
> And the slave of Russia's chain.

We have seldom seen him happier.

Mr. Anthony has been to Stratford-on-Avon, and has painted "The Close of an Autumnal Day" (23) in that poetic spot. His motto is from Tennyson:—

> Sweet after showers, ambrosial air,
> That rolls east from Lebanon with gloom
> Of cedar, over Damascus and
> And moistens with [illegible]

Mr Anthony should have chosen the grandeur of Shakspeare than of Mr Tennyson. The point of view is not good, at some of the details are extremely happy.

Mr. Linnell always a faithful worshipper of nature, has in "A Country Road" (542), displayed his well-known peculiarities of touch and tone. No artist has a finer relish for English scenery than Mr. Linnell; but he is apt to get mannered, and to see nature after his own fashion, and not as she is.

To Mr. Jutsum and Mr. Bottomley we have already done justice in the Landscape department of the Royal Academy; therefore little remains for us to note except a clever scene by young Mr. Carrick—"Borrowdale, Cumberland" (606), evidently painted on the spot; and a highly-finished view of "Rouen Cathedral and its Market-place", from the pencil of Mr. S Read, to whose taste and skill our pages still continue to be indebted. Mr. Read's "Rouen" is a marvel in water-colour art.

This mention of Mr. Read's successful picture reminds us that we must hasten return to the two Societies of Painters in Water-Colours, from whence we have to derive our remaining illustrations of the week. To the facile hand of Mr. Louis Haghe (whose reputation is more than European) we are indebted for the "Post-office at Albano," No. 78 of the New Water-Colour Society, and most deservedly looked upon as one of the leading attractions of that agreeable exhibition. What wonderful contrast in the heads of those monks! What varied thinking they reveal! Would that the art of engraving on wood could do justice to them in point of colour. But it is not easy in any material to represent Mr. Haghe's marvellous command of the resources of his art.

From the New Society to the Old is an easy and agreeable walk. Here we have the advantage of seeing Mr. William Collingwood Smith, Mr. Joseph Jenkins, and Mr. George Dodgson in their happiest moods, and the advantage, moreover, of transferring to our pages an example of the skill of each. To Mr. Collingwood Smith we are indebted for the view of "The Devil's Bridge in the Pass of St. Gothard" (No 28); to Mr. Jenkins we owe "En Route" (No. 244), one of the choicest treasures of the screens; and to Mr. George Dodgson we are obliged for "The Beacon" (No 137).

We shall continue our illustrations and resume our criticisms in an early Number.

MR HORSLEY'S FRESCO IN THE CORRIDOR OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

(*To the Editor of the* ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

To depicture the [illegible] of the Number of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, Mr. Horsley [illegible] Satan Touched by Ithuriel's Spear will [illegible] Eve; the artist has not followed the poet [illegible] in what he has done. As regards the *attitude* of Adam and Eve, Milton says:—

> [illegible] yet he lighter sleep on hand so slept,
> [illegible]

[illegible] Fuseli, in his picture of "Satan [illegible]." Other artists (Turner, for example) also depicted them thus; and it remains for us to [illegible] that Mr. Horsley's composition would have been improved by a closer rendering of the poet's meaning. But, as it is, he has represented Adam—by the side of Eve, certainly, yet in "embracing" in a half-sitting posture, as though taking an uncomfortable nap, and not as if he were enjoying a sleep which, although "airy-light," was sound and refreshing, and should be contrasted by the painter with the "troubled repose" of Eve. Fuseli's picture denotes this deep sleep of Adam; and the beautiful grouping of the figures of our first parents fully realises the "[illegible]" of the poet.

In the second place, Mr. Horsley has not followed Milton's description of the place where Adam and Eve "embracing slept." The painter represents them as lying on the open hill; the poet places them in "their humest bower," beneath a "shady arborous roof," and says, that—

> On their naked limbs the flowery roof
> [illegible]

Milton has given such a minute description of this bower, with its "roof of thickest covert" which "was fit to [illegible] Nuptial Bower," and which and paved with odorous [illegible] flowers, that the painter entirely omits it, manifests great inattention to the subject he has undertaken to illustrate; and this inattention becomes the more remarkable when, as in the present case, the picture is set forth as a model one, and intended to illustrate the masterpiece of one of the world's greatest poets, and to adorn a corridor of (what is meant to be) one of the world's architectural glories.

Exception might also, perhaps, be taken to the introduction, in the fresco, of the serpent. It is subsequent to the scene of the picture, that the "subtlest beast of all the field" is spoken of; and, in placing him near to the sleeping Eve, Mr Horsley would seem to have been again inattentive to Milton's description; for the poet distinctly says, that, to Adam and Eve's bower,

> Bird, beast, insect, or worm, durst enter none.

I remain, Sir, yours truly, CUTHBERT BEDE, B.A.

NELL GOW'S OAK.

A VISION.

> THE sun had set, the air was still,
> And slowly closed the day;
> No breezy sound came from the hill,
> Nor murmur from the Tay:
> I musing gazed upon the Oak,
> Beneath whose branches high,
> Nell Gow from slumbering silence woke
> The soul of melody.
>
> Deep darkness like a curtain came,
> I closed my weary eyes;
> Around the tree shot sparks of flame,
> Like stars in wintry skies.
> Each acorn cup appeared a lamp,
> Each bough a harp was made
> With goss'mer strings; and over all
> Beat Nell's immortal shade.
>
> A breeze crept up from Murthly woods,
> And swept the airy strings,
> Till music wailed, her mountain floods,
> From all their secret springs;
> And while the cadence ebbed and flowed,
> Clouds sympathising wept,
> The trees their topmost branches swayed,
> And faultless measure kept.
>
> Soon through the hazy southern gloom
> With halo round his head,
> The shade of Burns approached—to whom
> The minstrel homage paid.
> The poet, musing, caught the strains,
> And gave to sound sublime
> The immortality of words,
> To charm through endless time.
>
> I heard the stately solemn air,
> That fires the patriot's soul,
> And, [illegible] deep despair,
> And crowns the social bowl.
> I saw the secret whisper breathed,
> I heard fond passion's vows,
> And then a spray descending wreathed
> The bard and minstrel's brows.
>
> I know not when the music ceased;
> I woke, but all was still,
> The golden glory of the east
> Was gilding Birnam hill.
> The Duke of Athell I awoke,
> As he would honoured be,
> To guard with care that sacred oak—
> Great Nell's immortal tree. B.

PRESENT TO THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.—The directors of the Crystal Palace have caused to be prepared two volumes, elegantly bound in [illegible] morocco, containing a series of photographic views of the progress of the Crystal Palace, from the raising of the first column on the 5th of August, 1852, to the opening on the 10th of June last year. The views were all taken by Mr P. Delamotte, the late photographer to the Crystal Palace, but at present head drawing-master to King's College. There are among the collection, [illegible] of the finest and most successful, specimens which the photographic art has yet produced. This splendid work is intended to be presented to the Emperor of the French, as a memorial of his visit to the Crystal Palace.

THE ELECTRIC CLOCK AT LONDON-BRIDGE TERMINUS.—On the 1st November, 1852, the system of sending time-signals hour by hour from the Royal Observatory at Greenwich to various telegraph stations came into successful operation. Certain hour signals were required by the South-Eastern Railway Company, and the remainder were passed on to the Electric Telegraph Company, for distribution along their system. The interchanges of connexions for these purposes were accomplished by a commutator carried by the great clock at the London terminus. The next step in the system was to show time to the shipping in the Downs by the drop of a ball at Deal, caused by a [illegible] signal sent from the Greenwich clock at one p.m. On the 3rd of March last a [illegible] was placed over the North Kent platform, having [illegible] as they arrive in London; and since that date it has faithfully shown Greenwich mean time, which is sent to it, second by second, from the Royal Observatory.

A LONDON EARTHQUAKE. In 1842 an absurd report gained credence among the weak-minded, that London would be destroyed by an earthquake on the 17th March (St. Patrick's Day). This rumour was founded on certain doggerel prophecies one pretended to be pronounced in the year 1203, and contained in Harleian Collection (British Museum), 980 b. folio 319; the other by Dr. Dee, the astrologer (1598, MS. in the British Museum). The rhymes, with these "authorities" inserted in the newspapers, actually excited some alarm, and a great number of timid persons left the metropolis before the 17th. Upon reference to the British Museum, the "prophecies" were not, however, to be found; and their forger has confessed them to have been an experiment upon public credulity.—*Curiosities of London.*

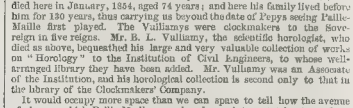
THE GAME OF "PAILLE-MAILLE," AND THE STREET OF PALL-MALL.

"THE Mall," in Saint James's-park, not many years since, was commonly regarded as the place where the game of "Paille-maille" was first played in England, and whence the Park-avenue was said to have taken its name. Strutt calls it "the game of Mall," and thus favours the above notion; but, in "the spanious street between the Haymarket, N.E. of St. James's-street, S.W.," we have preserved the entire name of the game—*Pall-Mell*. Charles II. caused the Mall in the Park to be made for playing the game, which was a fashionable amusement in his reign; but it was introduced into England much earlier, and was played in the Park when the original alley had grown into a street, and taken the name of the field—game for the use of his eldest son, Prince Henry: proving the Mall in the present street to have existed as early as the date of the above King. In a Crown survey, referred to by Mr. Cunningham, we find "Pell Mell Close," partly planted with apple-trees (Apple-tree Yard, St. James's-square, still exists); and in the above document are also named 140 elm trees, standing on both sides of Pall Mall Walk; and Faithorne's plan, 1658, shows a row of trees on the north side; and the name of Pall-Mall, as a street, occurs in the rate books of St. Martin's in the Fields under the year 1656. Pepys mentions the game as played in the Park "2nd April, 1661; to St. James's-park, where I saw the Duke of York playing at Pele-Mele, the first time I ever saw the sport." It is described by Blount as "a game where a round bowle is with a mallet struck through a high arch of iron (standing at either end of an alley), which he that can do it at the fewest blows, or at the number agreed on, wins." A drawing of the time of Charles II., engraved in Smith's "Antiquities of Westminster," and of late in John Carter's "Westminster," shows the above arrangement for playing the game.

THE GAME OF PAILLE-MAILLE.

The name is derived from *Pulla*, a ball; and *Maglia*, a mallet; the implements with which the game was played. Of these, a set was discovered in the spring of last year, upon one of the playing places, as thus described in the "Curiosities of London," lately published:—

> In 1854 were found in the roof of the house of the late Mr. B. L. Vulliamy, No. 63, Pall-mall, a box containing four pairs of the mallets, or mallets, and one ball, such as were formerly used for playing the game of Pall-Mall upon the site of the above house, or in the Mall of the St. James's-park. Each mallet is 4 feet in length, and is made of lance-wood, the head is slightly curved, and measures outwardly 5½ inches, the inner curve being 4½ inches; the diameter of the mallet-ends is 2½ inches, each shod with a thin iron hoop the handle, which is very elastic, is bound with white leather to the breadth of two hands, and terminated with a collar of jagged leather. The ball is of box-wood, 2½ inches in diameter. The pair of mallets and a ball, here engraved, have been presented to the British Museum by Mr. George Vulliamy.



BALL AND MALLETS FOR PLAYING THE GAME OF PAILLE-MAILLE.

It should be added that M. Vulliamy was born in the above house, and died here in January, 1854, aged 74 years; and here his family lived before him for 130 years, thus carrying us beyond the date of Pepys seeing Paille-Maille first played. The Vulliamys were clockmakers to the Sovereign in five reigns. Mr. B. L. Vulliamy, the scientific horologist, who died as above, bequeathed his large and very valuable collection of works on "Horology" to the Institution of Civil Engineers, to whose well-arranged library they have been added. Mr. Vulliamy was an Associate of the Institution, and his horological collection is second only to that in the library of the Clockmakers' Company.

It would occupy more space than we can spare to tell how the avenue of elms in which Paille-Maille was played, rose into a stately street, from three or four houses at the east end of the line of road in 1560; how a century later it became celebrated for its taverns—one of which, "Wood's at the Pall-Mell," was a haunt of the gay old Pepys; and how the place became a noted duelling-ground. Dr. Sydenham died there in 1689, at his house next "the Golden Pestle and Mortar," which sign remained to our day over an apothecary's shop upon the north side of the street. Another old sign, "the Golden Ball," has lasted to our time; but "the Golden Door" and "the Barber's Pole" have disappeared. Of Sydenham's residence here, Cunningham relates an anecdote told by Mr. Fox to Mr. Rogers, that Sydenham was sitting at his window, looking on the Mall, with his pipe in his mouth and a silver tankard before him, when a fellow made a snatch at the tankard and ran off with it. Nor was he overtaken (said Fox) before he got among the bushes in Bond-street, where they lost him.

Nell Gwyn lived in 1670, "on the east end, north side;" and from 1671 to her death, in 1687, in a house on the south side, with a garden towards the Park; and it was upon a mount in this garden that "the impudent comedian" stood, to hold her "familiar discourse" with Charles II., who stood "on ye green walk" under the wall. This scene, as described by Evelyn, has been cleverly painted by Mr. E. M. Ward, R.A. The site of Nell's house is now occupied by No. 79, Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. Eastward of Nell Gwyn's lived Sir William Temple, the diplomatist, Robert Boyle, and Bubb Dodington; and on the south side, Doctor Barrow, and the Countess of Southesk, the celebrated Countess of De Grammont's Memoirs. In Marlborough-house lived the great Duke of Marlborough; and in a house in front of the mansion Sir Robert Walpole. Of Schomberg-house, Nos 81 and 82, built for the great Duke of Schomberg, the centre and the west wing remain. What a host of celebrities have tenanted this mansion. The bas-relief of painting, over the middle doorway, was placed there by Ashley, the painter. Its past tenants are—Messrs. Harding, the silk-mercers, reminding one of "fair Pall-mall" of Gay's time:—

> Shops breathe perfumes, through sashes ribbons glow,
> The matted arms of ladies and the beau.—Trivia, book ii.

Defoe describes the Pall-mall of 1703 as "the ordinary residence of all strangers, because of its vicinity to the Queen's palace, the Park, the Parliament-house, the theatres, the chocolate and coffee houses, where the best company frequent." However, the street became early noted for its taverns, which we consider to have been Pepys's "houses for clubbing." The first modern club-house was No. 86, opened as a subscription house, called the Albion Hotel, and now the Office of Ordnance. From the removal of Carlton house, in 1827, "the sweet shady side of Pall-mall," as Captain Morris called it, has almost become a line of club mansions, in their architectural character resembling Italian palaces, and some of their decorations aspire to the higher art of classic sculpture.

"SCOTCH GAMEKEEPER."—PAINTED BY R. ANSDELL.—EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

THE MILLER'S DAUGHTER, PAINTED BY T. FAED—EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

KUGLER'S ITALIAN SCHOOLS OF ART.*

The taste for the study of art—its history, its schools, and its principles—is but a thing of yesterday. Half a century ago the works of high art amongst us were few, and were looked upon rather as curious relics than things to be understood and admired. The amateurs and connoisseurs of those days scarcely knew the names of the great artists whose works they collected, because it was the fashion to do so, and little or nothing of their genius, their labours, the periods at which they lived, and the influence which their example exerted upon the progress of art. At length the dispersing of some of the principal Continental collections, in the spoil of which England has taken a lion's share—the influence of travel, and the aids afforded by the labours of one or two distinguished connoisseurs—labours undertaken more for love than profit—began gradually to exercise an influence upon the public mind, and gave it an appetite for enjoyments of a refined class previously beyond its ken. The result is seen in the large sums now given for pictures as compared with the miserable prices which they formerly fetched; in the elevated position acquired by the artist; and even in the improved taste displayed in the production of many articles of costume and domestic use.

Still, however, whilst the healing influences of art have been making all this progress, there have been few reliable aids afforded for the education of the community in the subject. The lectures of the professors of the Royal Academy have been exclusively addressed to artists and professed students, and the technical mysteries of the art have been kept jealously within the precincts of the studio: in a word art-producers have disdained to confer on what regards their calling with the public, upon whom they depend for the reward of their labours; and yet are so unreasonable as to expect the latter to admire, or purchase without admiring, what they do not understand.

A text-book of art for the use of general readers has long been a desideratum, which Dr. Kugler's "Handbook" will go far to supply. The rapidity with which, in its English form, it has passed through two editions and arrived at a third, is convincing evidence as to the large numbers of the community who have been craving for authentic counsel in this charming study. The author's research and industry are undoubted; his opportunities of arriving at facts have been considerable: and he has treated the subject with a coolness and a fervour, and yet with a succinctness and a clearness of style, which commands, without tiring, the attention. If we hesitate to award the work the highest meed of praise, and to declare that it fulfils all our requirements of such a work, it is on account of a certain tinge, or bias, which we observe occasionally in the author's mind in reference to the genius and growth of art, in which we do not always concur. The author is a German, and, justly proud of the strenuous exertions now in progress in his country for the revival of art, he is apt to look with eyes too exclusively German upon Italian art; appears sometimes not to appreciate its really grander features; and certainly underrates the influence—an influence paramount above that of all others—which this art exercised upon the art and civilisation of Europe.

Dr. Kugler, at the very outset, in the preface to his second edition, asserts a position for Germany as the modern regenerator of the arts, which we are not prepared to admit. After stating that the first edition of his "Handbook of the History of Painting from the Age of Constantine to the Present Time," appeared in 1837, he goes on to observe:—"Ten years that have since elapsed have changed, in many respects, not only the opinions of the author, but the standard of knowledge respecting art and its history generally. At the time to which we refer we were standing, though almost unconsciously so, at the close of a period which may be said to have commenced with that work exercising so important an influence on the minds of artists, and known by the title of 'Herzen's Erguissungen eines Kunstliebenden Klosterbruder's' (Anglice, 'Heart Outpourings of an Art-loving Monk'). Our schools of painting, embodying that tendency of art to which the denomination of 'romantic' has been given, were celebrating their last triumphs. A general poetic interest, and the valuable results of a wide spread dilettantism, had diffused to us the rich world of art belonging to the middle ages. The researches of critical knowledge had begun to elucidate the history of those ages, and Rumohr's 'Italienische Forschungen,' though the immediate result of the prevailing tendency, had gone far beyond it."

It is here implied—first, that the regeneration of art in Europe has been mainly due to Germany; secondly, that the impulse of this movement was given by the "Heart Outpourings of an Art-loving Monk," and its end accomplished by the publication of Dr. Kugler's "Handbook." A fit comment upon this modest pretension is found in a few words in the note of the accomplished editor of the English edition: "granting (says Sir C. Eastlake) that the writers of Germany had great influence on the revolution in art referred to, still it appears rather bold on the part of the author of the present work to date such a change from a single book." To which may be added that, although Germany was late in receiving the influence of the revived art of Italy, other European States—France, England, and Spain—had acknowledged, and practically proclaimed, its principles at a much earlier period;—long before the "romantic" art of Germany had "celebrated its last triumphs." Whether Germany has even yet received this inspiration is a question we will not discuss at present, though we have our misgivings.

Nothing shows the predilection of the author, in his national idiosyncracy for the *status quo ante* the revival for the glimmering and doubtful remains of ancient art lurking in obscure recesses in the byways of Europe, in preference to the fresh and vigorous art of Italy, consequent upon the revival, than the disproportionate space which he (or rather his coadjutor, Dr. Burckhardt) devotes to the late Roman, the Byzantine, and the Romanesque periods—themes extremely interesting and fruitful in themselves, but which have little to do with Italian art as it is known amongst the moderns.

The period of the Revival, according to the leading authorities, is commonly dated from the time of Cimabue; although recent discoveries, as recorded in Ottley's large works, the "Italian School of Design" and the "Early Florentine School," and some other publications, clearly establish that there were men imbued with the pure spirit of art, struggling on towards excellence, long anterior to the time of that renowned artist. However this may be, Cimabue's claims are so pre-eminent that he may still, with much reason, be cited as the founder of the modern school of Italy. At any rate he is entitled to distinguished and honourable mention in any work treating of the history of art in that country; and the perception of the distinguishing features of the effete old art and the vigorous revived art must be weak which would allow of placing the record of the deeds of this great master at the tag end of the chapter on Romanesque Art; reserving for his pupil Giotto the place of honour at the head of the book on the "Second Stage of Development." Yet this has been done by Dr. Kugler. And here again is a claim on the part of German art, to which we feel bound to demur. Speaking of the creative power evinced by the new art, the author writes as follows:—

> Above all it became necessary that the creating artist should appear more definitely in his own individual character. It was from his *consciousness* only that the relation between the earthly form and the unearthly spirit could be made evident; only when the representation was the result of original conception could the spiritual meaning be freely expressed.

Thus the end in which the perfection of art was to consist was again thrown far in advance, and only to be attained after many successive eras of development. Thus, too, was at first necessary that a *subjective* tendency should establish itself exclusively; that the separation above alluded to should be distinctly defined before the alliance of the opposing principles could be attempted. This new subjective tendency appears now united with a style of representation, the intellectual direction and order of which correspond strikingly with that of Northern art, and which, on that account, may be denominated Germanic. Certain indications even show that the North (where this style was developed half a century earlier) exercised some influence upon the development of the same in Italy. This may be concluded from Italian sculpture, which, somewhat sooner than painting, accepted the Germanic principle of form. Another means of influence was also, as we have suggested, contributed by the circumstance of Naples being governed by a noble French house. Regarded, however, in a broader light, we may consider this metamorphosis in style as one of native origin, founded on the same causes which led to it in the North, and received by a religious results. In this also we find the consummation of the purely mediæval artistic life, and of the Germanic spirit generally speaking. Those essential features in which the Italian-Germanic and the Northern-Germanic style correspond, are less of an outward and material, than of a moral, nature. They are based upon a mode of conception, which, disregarding the accidental, kept only the simple and strictly essential. In view; that mode of conception, in short, which is generally characteristic of the feeling of the period. This is why, in some instances, Giotto and Wilhelm of Cologne are seen to approach closely together, though, in other respects, the two schools are, as we have shown, so widely sundered.

In all this there is an attempt to claim affinity between German and Italian art of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, which never existed, and the pretending to which argues a disregard of the special favouring circumstances under which art was imported into and nurtured in the Italian peninsula. What names can German art put forward as contemporary with, or half a century anterior, to the great masters of the Early Florentine School? What trace of influence of German art acting upon Italy can the most devoted champion of the "Vaterland" suggest? As to the supposed sympathy between Giotto and Wilhelm of Cologne, and the inference sought to be deduced from it, it may suffice to remark that Giotto died forty years before Wilhelm established himself at Cologne; while Giotto's great master, the creative spirit of this new order of art, quitted the field of his labours nearly forty years previously—making a difference of upwards of seventy years between the close of Cimabue's career and the commencement of Wilhelm's. Those who wish for ocular evidence of the achievements of German art, at the period when the art of Italy was at its zenith of power and greatness, may contemplate with advantage the contributions of German art recently made to the National Gallery. It is with reluctance that we enter upon discussions of this sort, touching the claims of the arts of neighbouring nations, but the question has been forced upon us by the author of this work in such a way, and under such circumstances, that we could not avoid meeting it.

If we complain that the founder of the Florentine school was uncereminiously and unfairly treated in being brought in as a joint of the tail of the Romanesque school; with no less reason are our old associations and prejudices in connection with the great names of Italian art disappointed, when we find the great crowning genius of that school denied the high place and honours to which we have always considered him entitled. In a work of five hundred and eighty pages, a hundred and twenty of which are devoted to the quaint remains of Byzantine and Romanesque art, a dozen pages only are vouchsafed to Michael Angelo. The tone too is cold, even disparaging; showing that, however just in the abstract, German notions of Italian art are not in harmony with those derived from inspiration under an Italian sky. We are told that Michael Angelo, "like Leonardo, *led the way* [be was the closing figure in the grand procession] in accomplishing the perfection of modern art, and shone as *one of its brightest lights*." His masterpiece, "The Last Judgment," is very unceremoniously criticised. "It must be admitted," the author writes, "that the artist has laid a stress on this (the terrible) view of his subject—and this has produced an unfavourable effect upon the upper half of the picture. We look in vain for the glory of heaven, for beings who bear the stamp of Divine holiness, and renunciation of human weakness; everywhere we are met with the expression of human passion, of human efforts. *We see no choir of solemn, tranquil forms, no harmonious unity of clear grand lines produced by ideal draperies*; (!) instead of these, we find a confused crowd of the most varied movements, naked bodies in violent attitudes, unaccompanied by any of the characteristics made sacred by holy tradition. Christ, the principal figure of the whole, wants every attribute but that of the judge *no expression of Divine majesty reminds us that it is the Saviour who exercises this office*."

The suggestions as to the essential requisites for the treatment of this grand subject—"choirs of solemn, tranquil forms," "ideal draperies," and all—we leave without comment. It will be for the reader to decide between Michael Angelo and Kugler upon these points, which concern the highest resources of creative art. But, when the author denies divinity of character and appropriate expression to the face of the Saviour, we must observe that he differs from many of those who have hitherto criticised this great picture, and who seem to have discovered in that face an admirable mixture of compassion and sorrow with the sternness of the judge; whilst the left hand, slightly elevated, interposes, as to screen from his sight the execution of the terrible sentence he is denouncing. To account for these discrepancies in opinions and feeling, we may observe that Dr. Kugler does not appear to have had any long and ripe personal acquaintance with the great works of the Italian school in their native atmosphere. Speaking of the composition of his "Handbook," he says:—"It consisted of materials gathered together partly for my own information, and partly as notes for public lectures. Several tours, and *one especially to Italy, undertaken shortly before*, had enabled me to give to these materials, for the greater part, the *freshness of personal observation*."

Of the St. Peter's at Rome, that wonder of the modern world, we are told:—"It must be admitted that this work is not entirely free from the effects of a capricious taste; but the disposition of the whole is so singularly grand, that, had not the general effect of the building been injured by later additions, *it would have ranked among the most sublime works of modern architecture*."

These passages are sufficient to indicate the medium through which the student will have to view Italian art, who does so by the light of German criticism. Apart from these drawbacks the work, as we said before, is one of great value and interest: the amount of facts contained in it is surprising, and the descriptions of the principal works of various ages are full, luminous, and often eloquent. Not the least meritorious portion of the contents, however, are the notes by Sir Charles Eastlake, who sometimes very judiciously qualifies the opinions of his author.

The work is illustrated by upwards of one hundred engravings, after the works of the old masters (drawn on wood by George Scarf, jun.) which, though necessarily small, are executed with remarkable skill and neatness, and considerable appreciation for the spirit of the originals.

To the present edition has been added an "Essay on the First Century of Italian Engraving," by F. Turner Palgrave, which shows the result of careful research into all the best authorities on the subject (principally Bartsch and Ottley); and which will prove a useful Handbook for amateurs.

* "Handbook of Painting: the Italian Schools. Translated from the German of Kugler by a Lady. Edited, with Notes, by Sir Charles L. Eastlake, F.R.S., P.R.A. Third edition. John Murray.

Engineers of the Britannia-Bridge.—Mr. Lucas has just completed a picture which will prove of interest as a record of the completion of one of the greatest engineering works of modern times—viz., the Britannia bridge on the Chester and Holyhead Railway. It represents the conference held previously to the floating of one of the tubes of the bridge: a simple, business-like group of a dozen energetic, calculating, hard-headed individuals, discussing the order of proceedings on that memorable occasion. Amongst the more notable personages included in it are Robert Stephenson, the engineer of the works (for whom the picture has been painted); Admiral Moorsom, chairman of the Chester and Holyhead Railway; G. P. Bidder, C.E.; Joseph Locke, C.E.; I. K. Brunel, &c. The famous Britannia-bridge is seen a little in the background. The picture is now on view at Messrs. Graves and Co's, Pall-mall; by which an engraving of it will shortly be published.

LITERATURE.

The Illustrated Book of French Songs. From the Sixteenth to the Nineteenth Century. Translated and Edited by John Oxenford, Esq. H. Ingram and Co.

All good judges, who may have disparaged French poetry, have ever made an exception in favour of its lyric, and even of much of its dramatic, effusions. But whatever other beauties it may boast, it is songs are the very bloom of it. We speak of the literary view of them in praising them thus; for there is not the same unanimity, nor, doubtless, the same ground for it, respecting the general musical merits of French songs. Yet even this—the worst part of them on the whole—even the music is highly prized by those at least for whom it was intended—the French themselves; and we have scarcely a right to exact from any national performance an extra-national popularity. We remember the coarse metaphor which Frederick the Second of Prussia employed to deprecate the vocal music of France; but, if he was a great critic in the arts of war and statesmanship, which is by no means an indisputable point—his authority does not bear the same crushing sway upon subjects of taste; to which remark we may add another, viz., that some of the most successful productions of the French Erato and of the French Thalia have appeared since the death of Frederick. We believe, besides, that he alluded not to the song-music itself so much as to the prevalent national style of singing it,—which is certainly very peculiar, generally shocks a stranger, and is sure to excite great disfavour if it does not give the highest delight—there is no medium.

Of the literary merits, however, of French lyric poetry, we can, in the main, speak with very different confidence. In this and in the dramatic form the muse of France has left its chief masterpieces and obtained its most signal triumphs. Next to the tribune—where the tribune is free, where it is practically and really accessible to every orator throughout the community—the two kinds of literature we have mentioned are the most important. Everybody remembers old Buchanan's remark about one of them—"Give me the writing of a people's lays, and I will give you the making of their laws,"—in his day, a profound saying, which was based even then on experience, but which a thousand wonderful instances of subsequent history have illustrated and verified. The Spaniards drove the Moors out of their country while chanting the patriotic ditties of their bards. In our own age Tom Moore's Irish "Melodies" exercised no small influence on political events. But the rhapsodies connected with the French Revolution, and subsequently with the glory of Napoleon and with the martial memories of the Empire, are the nearest to our purpose. Few cases in all history could better elucidate the social and political power of the lyric muse, or this great fact that what an entire nation sings is often of far more moment than what its rulers may proclaim or even do.

Independently, then, of the merits which may characterise a people's songs, there is much instruction and much interest attached to a study of them. He who thoroughly enters into their spirit enters into that of a community in all its broader and more permanent tendencies; he will, for instance, intuitively catch and perceive the sentiment which dominated some vast epoch; will appreciate or estimate that sentiment in its exact nature far more readily and surely than some of learned philosophic disquisition would enable him to do. Therefore, in the case of such a people as the French, the national song literature affords a rich and remunerative mine of study. But, why not this study in the original? It is not ignorance of the language which alone prevents thousands from indulging their wish in this respect, and from paying attention to an object the attractiveness and use of which are so obvious. Where are they to find specimens of each class and division of a nation's ballad-productions, collected into one view? An English reader possessing that sufficient knowledge of French which is undoubtedly very common amongst us, would have plenty of time for glancing through, and for studying a convenient book like Mr. Oxenford's, and yet might not have time, nor indeed patience, for collecting, in by-way and cross-way, from many scattered publications, old and new, the samples which that gentleman has not only thus brought together but classified in their natural demarcations.

Had this "Book of French Songs Illustrated" not been so extremely entertaining in the perusal, and indeed so unusually pretty in appearance, we might not have deemed it necessary thus, in our very first comments, to insist on the grave value which it possesses. But since it is a gift-volume, as bright and beaming as any Annual, Keepsake, or festive miscellany that ever graced upon a drawing-room table, we were afraid that its fancy might, according to the well-known way of the world, do some unjust damage to its equally real qualities of intrinsic worth. People will not, if they can help it, allow other men or thing to have credit in an eminent degree for two good qualities of a dissimilar kind. Once they have granted that such a one is a fine gentleman, it goes to his heart to be asked to allow that he is also a solid thinker. Why were they not told so, thus at an earlier moment? They could have then set him down as a very useful and correct prosser, &c. In general, to give a person a striking reputation for any one line of work is to taboo him from every other. Sheridan make a speech! Sheridan succeed in the House of Commons! Nonsense! Has he not succeeded on the stage? Bulwer write a comedy! Did he not write such and such novels? *His* line is narrative, &c. The feeling or prejudice is common and so common, in truth, that we deemed it wise to mention at once the serious merits of the work before us as a *gift*-book, lest its glitter as a volume, being the more obvious particular, might cause its character to be mistaken, and might make people suppose it to be among books what a mere fop is among men.

Having disposed of this point, we will add that in the study of songs, with that view which has been already adverted to—we mean with a view to the more sure and delicate appreciation of a nation's peculiarities and prevalent sentiments—foreigners reading such songs translated into their own tongue have a great advantage over persons belonging to the nation in question. These last reflect least on the very characteristics which most strike the foreign reader. What is the most peculiar to ourselves excites in us, of course, the least share of attention; but in others, by the light of the comparisons thus suggested, the largest share. And even the little peculiarities of phrase occasionally forced upon the translator, serve to project from the common level of human emotion the minor differences of national genius.

For many and various reasons, in short, this convenient collection of French songs, rendered into English, is a desirable addition to our literature. We may mention that wherever the lay translated is more than a literary production and may be regarded as also a historic fact, on account either of the effect it produced or of the events with which it is associated—as all these cases, we say, the original is subjoined to the version made by Mr. Oxenford. We are disposed to think that the reader who collates the two in these instances, and who, after perusing the words of the author, examines the words of the translator, will agree with us in admiring Mr. Oxenford's performance, and in assuring him, according to the well-known pun we have made upon a term used by our neighbours, that he is not a "traducer" of the poets whom he thus in part naturalises to the north of the English Channel.

The origin of French lyrics is remote, and may be ascribed to the eleventh century, the era of the Norman Conquest; and it is no easy task, by means of samples, to give any survey of a national career of poesy which extends over such a time. Nor, in truth, is all this attempted by Mr. Oxenford. But his specimens are, nevertheless, opened from a very early date, and come down to Beranger's songs and those of living writers.

He has divided his collection into five grand classifications, the motives for which he satisfactorily explains. The first comprises "songs of the effeminate;" the second, "bacchanalian songs;" the third, "revolutionary, or patriotic songs;" the fourth, the "epicurean class;" and the fifth, the "comic and satirical."

Every author introduced is duly mentioned and recorded, *narrative of tradition*, in foot-notes—birth, death, date, or other circumstances being given, *ad calcem paginæ*.

The most charming illustrations lavishly adorn the pages; and care has been taken to exclude from the number of poems thus presented, such as happen to be disguisted by their pre-eminent grossness, despite of any genius, for English tastes. Such is the publication which we have the pleasure of introducing to the notice, and recommending to the favour, of our readers.

Gwen; or, The Cousins. By A. M. Goodrich. J. W. Parker

No one will read these volumes without instruction and amusement—instruction from the consideration of the motives of the actions which agitate the social state, and amusement from the lively and stirring incidents with which the story is worked out. There are scenes in the *dénouement* of the story equal to any found in the best of our modern novels. Of the persons brought on the scene, it is not too much to say, that while very little departing from the ordinary types of character as met with in the world, the minute working of principle is so accurately shown that we seem to recognise "the Cousins" among our familiars: and wonderful as are the incidents of the story, admit them to be the just and necessary results of the causes to which they are traced.

SCENE—LAWN BEFORE THE [illegible] T TO ENGAGE WITH CHARLES, [illegible] —PAINTED BY D. MACLISE, R.A.—EXHIBITION OF [illegible] ACADEMY.

"BELTED WILL'S TOWER, NAWORTH."—PAINTED BY WILLIAM BENNETT.—EXHIBITION OF THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

"BELTED WILL'S TOWER, NAWORTH."

A very plea[illegible] and therefore well-executed, picture, called "Belted Will's Tow[illegible]" is from the careful pencil of Mr. William Bennett, and is deservedly [illegible]garded as one of the best landscapes to be seen on the walls of the New Water-Colour Society. The artist has chosen not to show so much the peculiar architecture of the castle, as its particular position and the glorious trees by which it is surrounded. What he has attempted he [illegible]. Some of those trees, and the progenitors of all, have seen [illegible]

"[illegible]riors paced the keep,
And bugles blew for Belted Wi[illegible],

as the present Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland and the proprietor of the Castle of "Belted Will" sings touchingly in some exp[illegible]ve verse contrasting the present with the past condition of his hereditary seat. This Castle of Belted Will is Naworth Castle, some twelve miles to the north-east of Carlisle, and now within sight of the railway traveller who passes from Newcastle to Carlisle. It is deservedly regarded as one of the best examples in the north of the castle of a border baron. A fire in the year 1844 unhappily destroyed much of its antique character; but the restoration has been completed under the careful eye of Mr. Salvin—by far the best restorer of Mediæval castles that this country has seen.

Naworth Castle was built by two noble families in the north of England, the Dacres and the Howards, and is accessible only on the south. The celebrated inhabitant of it was Lord William Howard, long familiarly known in the north as "Belted Will;" but since Sir Walter Scott wrote known wherever English poetry is read by the same designation. There is a secret pleasure in transcribing Sir Walter's portraiture in words of this border chieftain:—

Costly his garb, his Flemish ruff
Fell o'er his doublet, shaped of buff,
With satin slash'd and lined;
[illegible]away his boot and gold his spur,
His cloak [illegible]ll of Poland fur,
[illegible]wined;
[illegible]Parchmen felt,
Hung in a bron[illegible]nd studded belt.

He was the grandson of Henry Howard, the poetic[illegible] son of Thomas Howard, the fourth Duke of Norfol[illegible] brother of Tho[illegible] Howard, Earl of Suffolk, father of the infamous Countess of Ro[illegible] and Somerset—the same [illegible]rl of Suffolk who built Audley End. His uncle, also a Howard, was that Earl of North[illegible]pton who built what is now Northumberland house, at Charing-cross. Belted Bill Howard was born in 1563 and died in 1640. His place of burial unknown; his portrait is still to be seen at Castle Howard.

SKETCHES ON THE SUTHERLAND COAST,

THE HERRING FISHERY, AND SUTHERLAND EMIGRANTS

The coast of Sutherland, from Brora, a pretty little village with a few skiffs engaged in the white fishing during the summer, and one or two herring-boats, by which the inhabitants make their autumnal fortune, is placed where the Dornoch Firth opens into the North Sea. About fifteen miles further north stands the gigantic Ord of Caithness—a granite precipice rising sheer up of 1200 feet above the sea—covered along all its front with sea-fowl of every species, including the skua-gull, whose wings have a stretch of eight feet, and which makes terrible devastation among the herrings, when, on moonlight nights, the shoal rises to the surface. According to the old oyster-dredging song—

> The herring loves the merry moonlight,
> And the mackerel loves the wind,
> But the oyster loves the dredging song,
> For he's come of a gentle kind.

The Ord of Caithness forms the boundary between Caithness and Sutherland, and the space between it and Brora forms the northern sea coast of Sutherland. The country towards the shore is tolerably fertile to the distance of a mile or so, when it rises into a chain of heathery hills, speckled with sheep, white and black. The sea-shore is stony, and studded with formidable rocks—not of very great dimensions, but many not visible at high water—rendering the coast exceedingly dangerous, especially as the most magnificent surf I ever saw breaks on all the rocks like a thunder-peal, throwing its sparkling surf some ten feet into the air, when it is carried away in a white mist by the north-east gale.

About three miles from the Ord of Caithness, on the Sutherland side, the range of hills breaks, in steep declivities, into one of the prettiest glens in the Highlands, down which the Helmsdale water comes impetuously brawling and foaming over the water-worn rocks which impede its headlong progress. This river forms the harbour of Helmsdale. At the top of the harbour, where the fresh and salt water join, a very handsome bridge spans the stream in one bold arch. The town is a cluster of houses stretching back to the foot of the adjacent hills. There are two piers, the north, the longer; the south acting as a breakwater, when the wind blows hard, as it sometimes does, as I can verify by personal experience. On the northern pier the boats lie three or four abreast nearly up to the bridge. On a space set apart women and girls, to the number of perhaps one hundred, or, in busy seasons, to double the number, perform shouting and joking in English and Gaelic, with their dresses besmeared with the filth of the herrings, and their arms bare to the shoulders.

The delectable progress of gutting the herrings, as they are flung by large wooden spades in glittering masses to the pier. To the outward boats, over the inward, lines of broad planks are laid down, and persons, generally Highlanders, hired for the purpose—run along this shaking bridge, bearing on their sturdy backs large creels of herrings. There is a plank for going, and another for returning; and the cargoes are unloaded, gutted, salted, and barrelled by a distinct set of practitioners, so that the four processes go on together. Unfortunately, there is a dangerous bar about twenty feet from the mouth of the harbour, over which, as an old voyager wrote, "the sea breaks both high and strange." If the wind blows a gale into the harbour, the boats at sea try to run close-hauled, and get under the lee of Tarbetness, a long and bleak promontory, forming the southern termination of the Dornoch Firth, and crowned with a lighthouse, which is of unspeakable advantage to the herring fisheries and the coasting trade.

There are two classes of herring-boats, which abound all along the Sutherland and Caithness coast, in pretty equal proportions. Buckie-boats, and what are called the Celtic boats. The former are only about half the size of the latter. They are strongly built of hard wood, their cutwaters and sterposts rise perpendicularly from the water, while the keel descends a good eighteen inches from the bottom, which is made very deep; the mast, at least, the largest of them when high and dry, standing full five feet from the sand. They carry two masts, the taller of which is not one half the height of that used by the Celtic boats. I have often admired the firmness with which the mast is stepped in the bows. As it approaches the small deck (which forms a diminutive forecastle, the shelter of which keeps the provisions dry, by breaking the spray which comes in white showers over the bow)—as it approaches this deck, the round form of the mast gradually changes into a square, of larger dimensions than the round, and is firmly stepped in a block of wood clinched to the bottom of the vessel. The sails are spread fore and aft, both on the foremost mast and the lower sprit-sail mast, which is stepped right in the stern, and useful in going about. The spread of canvas of the buckie boats is about one-third of the unmanageable lug-sail used by the Celtic boats, raised with vast toil upon a yard about twelve feet long, while the length of the mast is fully thirty feet. These boats are very flat, measuring about three feet, or a little more, when high and dry, from the shingle to the sand; the keel being only about an inch from the projecting sides, and invisible in shallships; and, though broad-beamed, have no hold on the water. They go very fast before the wind; but are forced to get down their immense lug with vast toil, and often great danger, as soon as the crew perceive the wind shifting against them. After about half an hour's labour they manage to reduce their sail to smaller dimensions. They can make but little way to windward; and when a leeward sea comes upon the broadside every surge heaves them some ten or fifteen feet towards the rocks, where, if the boat be once dashed, all is over.

But it is time for me to proceed with my herring-fishing expedition. I chose a buckie-boat, where the fishermen spoke a patois of Aberdeenshire, of which I could make out just here and there a word; while, in a Celtic boat, the men generally speak Gaelic, and, as they never go to sea except in the herring time, cannot be depended on as sailors. The night was most favourable. The moon was bright, and at its full—the harvest moon—shedding a silvery lustre, which illuminated the whole sea for miles, and showing the undulating hills of Sutherland and the mighty brow of the Ord of Caithness. Our skipper rubbed his hands, while a gentle breeze from the south, ruffling the surface of the long swell, just kept the sails "asleep." A large fleet of herring-boats stole like phantoms over the sea. They gradually scattered, but to no great distance from each other; and our crew, of course, began to prepare their nets. The "drift" of nets consists of from 16 to 26, according to the means of the proprietor of the boat or boats. Each net is sixteen fathoms long and four deep; the upper side of the net is lined with buoys, generally of inflated seal-skin, and the lower with plummets of lead. In the meantime, the skipper, standing in the bows (and standing beside him), looked keenly ahead. Presently, he made me understand, partly by words and partly gestures, that we were approaching the "bank;" and in about ten minutes—in which he had all his crew, fine stalwart fishermen, were in a state of intense excitement—the skipper suddenly pointed ahead, and exclaimed distinctly enough, "The shoal!" I looked, and saw in the moonlight a dark appearance, which extended on each side and ahead further than I could see. It was evidently what the skipper called it, "a big shoal." In a few minutes we were sailing over herrings. I was told to look over board, with my hands on each side of my eyes, when I saw a sort of glimmering, faint and indistinct, as I judged about two feet from the surface, immediately the process of shooting the drift began. One man held the buoy-side, the other the lead side; two others supplied the nets from a large heap; and in about ten minutes, or something more, the long line of nets were riding behind us, the sails having been kept partially filled, so as to impart a gentle motion to the boat, while the drift slowly followed it. It sometimes, but seldom, happens that currents, formed perhaps by a recent storm, or by the motion of the tide, entangle the nets, which causes terrible confusion and frequent cutting of the drifts, even when heavy with herring—a serious loss to the proprietors. These entanglements cause bickering and quarrelling, which sometimes end in bloodshed, as the current brings two boats—the nets of both of which are entangled with each other together. Mr. Hugh Miller, now editor of the *Witness*, and one of the greatest geologists in Europe, gives, in his first most amusing book, "Scenes and Legends of the North of Scotland, or, the Traditional History of Cromarty"—a curious legend of the consequences which ensued from the crews of two boats, with their nets entangled and drifted together, putting the knives intended for cutting the nets, to a totally different purpose. They fought leaning over the respective gunwales of the boats. Blood was spilt, unfortunately, in the sea, and the offended herrings, which had been particularly numerous the year before, deserted the Firth, and did not return for seven years.

But to return to the shoal, the boats, and the drift. The boat had not advanced her own length over the shoal when the first buoy sank. Immediately the hauling in commenced, and the herrings, shaken from the meshes, came tumbling into the boat like a shower of silver. The light of the moon materially increased the effect, and the silver shower was continued until the whole drift was drawn, and the contents emptied into the boat. The luminous effect playing over the surface of the heaps of herrings only lasts for about thirty or forty seconds. The fish is one which dies almost immediately after its being taken from the water—hence the proverb, "as dead as a herring." Drift after drift was shot and hauled with equal effect, and at length the boat had obtained its full cargo, and was deep in the water—the rest of the fleet appearing to be as well loaded as ourselves. There was plenty of work for the extra hands that day; and landing, gutting, and packing occupied nearly twice the time that they had done the day before. The herring is well known to be a very changeable fish. The shoal will appear in a night and disappear in a night. There will be one season in which they do not make their appearance at all, and another in which a succession of cloudy nights materially injures the fishing. This, however, seldom happens. Of all the months in the year, June, July, and August are likely to be the sunniest, and those in which the moon shines the brightest, and the greatest number of nights. Sometimes a great shoal comes on shore, pursued by their natural enemies, whales and porpoises. A case of this kind is related by Mr. Hugh Miller, in his "Traditions of Cromarty:"—"There is a tradition that shortly after the Union a shoal of many hundred barrels, pursued by a body of whales and porpoises, was stranded in a little bay of Cromarty, a few hundred yards to the east of the town. The beach was covered with them to the depth of several feet, and salt and casks failed the packers, when only an inconsiderable part of the shoal was cured. The residue was carried away by the neighbouring farmers for manure, and so great was the quantity used in this way, and the stench they caused so offensive, that it was feared that disease would ensue. The season in which this took place is still spoken of as as the Harst (or Harvest) of the Herring Drove."

Before I quit this interesting subject, I shall subjoin some statistics touching the herring trade in all its principal features, for which I am indebted to that excellent and very copious work, "Anderson's Guide to the Highlands." It is fair to state that the Messrs. Anderson acknowledge that the following statements were copied from the *John o'Groat Journal*, published in Wick:—

The account sets out with a state of the fishery in 1829 and 1840. The apparent falling off latterly is owing to the resort of so many boats to Helmsdale:—

STATISTICS OF THE HERRING FISHERY ON THE NORTH-EAST COAST OF SCOTLAND.

	1829	1840
Boats belonging to Wick, engaged in	4[illegible]	[illegible]
Boats not belonging to the district	1[illegible]	[illegible]
Total number of boats	[illegible]	[illegible]
Fishermen	[illegible]	3,[illegible]
Curers (only 91 regularly entered in 1840)	[illegible]	[illegible]
Women, chiefly occupied in gutting the fish	2,[illegible]	2,[illegible]
Coopers ...	[illegible]	[illegible]
Carters ...	[illegible]	1,[illegible]
Other labourers	1,7[illegible]	1,[illegible]
Seamen in coasting vessels for carrying away herrings ...	3,2[illegible]	1,250
Total number of persons employed	11,780	7,938
Total of barrels cured	112,698	63,495

QUANTITY OF HERRINGS CURED AT FISHING TOWNS ALONG THE COAST.

	Barrels
Peterhead ...	39,000
Fraserburgh ...	54,000
Banff ...	24,000
Cullen ...	5,000
Findhorn ...	8,000
Cromarty ...	7,000
Helmsdale ...	28,000
Lybster ...	32,000
Wick ...	106,000
Thurso and Tongue ...	22,000
Orkney ...	48,000
Shetland ...	38,000
Berwick ...	[illegible]

The cost of a boat without a fit of nets, is about £120. The fisherman generally receives from 9s. to 10s. a cran or barrel, for the herrings, and a crew four in number—when proprietors of the boat, sometimes make £20, £30, and even £50 per head. The wages allowed for about two months' service, from the middle of July to September, are from £8 to £9, and a peck and a half of meal a week. Poor widows and girls are employed to gut and pack, at about 4d. per barrel. They make from 20s. to £3 per season. Whisky is consumed amongst all, to a most enormous and demoralising extent.

After a further tour in Sutherlandshire, I returned by Helmsdale; and, walking down to the pier, I saw—it was at the close of September—the usual débris of a successful season: broken barrels, broken oars, torn canvas, and a miscellaneous quantity of the rubbish which continually encumbers the pier of a northern sea-port town. The boats—the proprietors of them despairing of another herring—lay dancing on the undulations which proceeded from the heavy swell on the bar, by the jetty; while, on the other side, half a dozen or more Dutch galliots were taking in their cargoes of herrings. The square heavy mould, the massiveness of the timbers, and the side-boards which keep flat bottomed vessels from going to leeward, are their great characteristics. It is extremely rare that these schooners—many of them of 200 tons burden—are lost; they ride over the seas like ducks, their broad bluff bows dashing the spray aside in the most contemptuous fashion. The Dutch sailors, who are almost as square built as their ships, are, nevertheless, most excellent seamen. They are canny enough to construct their rigging and arrange their sails so that they can set them and lay them down without going aloft. There were a number of them lounging on the pier, walking about or sitting on casks, in their clumsy sea-boots and nor'-wester hats.

But a widely different class of people were grouped together upon the pier, no less than Sutherland emigrants: stalwart men, with strong features, broad flat bonnets, Sutherland tartan plaids, and the watchful and faithful collie, wondering where on earth he had got to; the married and the young women wore the usual homespun garments of the Highlands; while, on their heads, the matrons wore the cutch, and the maidens the emblematic snood. During the day the number of emigrants increased, and the whole of the population of the town turned out to bid them farewell. There was an emigrant ship lying in Cromarty, and their destination was Canada. The passages of all, and maintenance of all down to the shepherd dogs, had been paid by the Duke of Sutherland, and their transport guaranteed, to patches of land and cottages in a district, where a number of the Sutherland Highlanders were settled before them. The scene before me was unspeakably affecting. The nervous, agitated looks of the men, the restlessness which they manifested, the constant moving about, the continually opened and continually broken-off conversations, all showed the agitated nature of their feelings. The grief of the women was loud and utterly unrestrained. They clung to their relatives whom they were leaving—never, perhaps, to see more—with frantic energy, kissing each other on the forehead, the lips, the cheeks, and the hands; while the children clung to their mothers' skirts, utterly bewildered, and weeping in sympathy with their mothers. Every reference—and their overflowing hearts could not refrain from them—to the cottages in which they were born, to the little patch of land which they cultivated, to the loch, to the burn, to the glen, and to their friends at home brought forth a fresh burst of wailing. Several women fainted, and were carried in that condition into the boat—which, by the way, was a very good one—where they soon recovered.

I applied to the skipper, who was a Helmsdale man, to give me a passage for a small consideration, to which he readily agreed. I happened to mention that my destination was Tarbert, and that his was Cromarty. "Look," he said, "at those thin, fleecy clouds rising from the sea to windward; they will gradually turn to heavy clouds, and towards dusk there will be a furious gale, with drenching rain and hail." This was pleasant news for me, but I felt it still more for the poor women and children, and said so. "As soon," he replied, "as the first gust comes over the sea, and the first pelt of rain comes driving forth, I will spread a spare tarpaulin, under which they can creep and keep each other warm." "And when," I rejoined, "do you think the gale will break up?" "It will begin," he said, "at sundown, and break up at sunrise." I observed, "I suppose you will not think of doubling Tarbetness?" "What do you say?—double Tarbetness in such a night! Every man, woman, and child in this boat would be dashed to pieces upon the rocks before the surf had time to drown them. No, no; the wind will blow about south-east—that is from a point where the Moray Firth opens to the ocean—it will strike us on the larboard bow, so that I shall have to put in two reefs. Were it dead ahead, I would put it in three, for then it would be task for tack against it; but as it will be, according to my judgment, we may keep a pretty good full, but still close hauled, till we run for under the lee of the Ness, where I can land you in a safe creek in the rock."

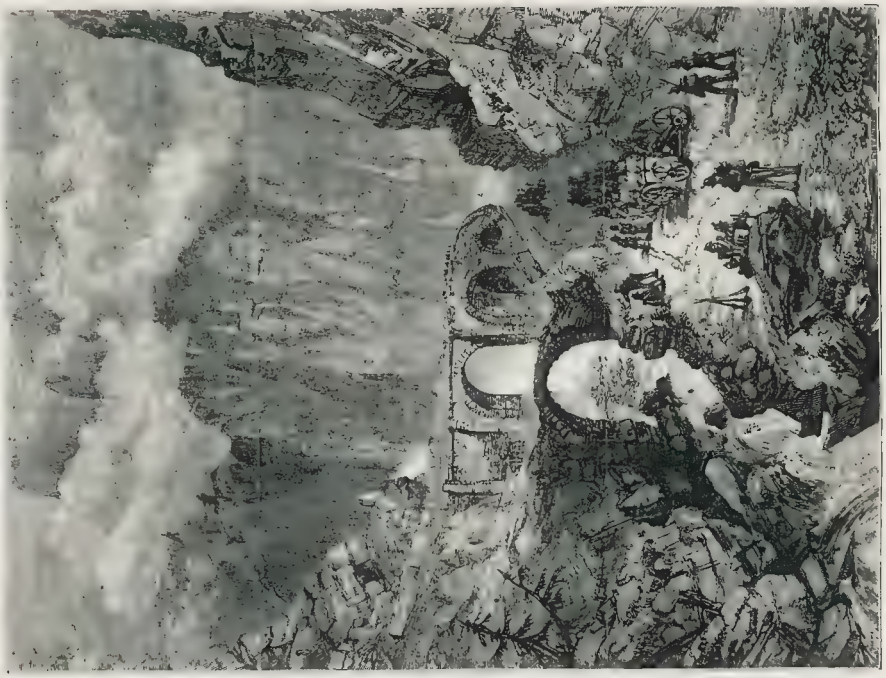
And now the time was come for our departure. There was immediately apparent a sort of revulsion of feeling amongst the emigrants and their relations on shore. It seemed to me that the actual departure had turned the thoughts of both from the hills and the glens—the rocks and the rivers of the Highlands—to the fertile district to which they were going, and where many of their friends had gone before them, and had written them home good news, so that by a universal impulse a loud cheer was raised both from boat and pier, and in which the stalwart Dutchmen joined; and glasses of whisky were drained first, as in duty bound, to her Majesty and the royal family—then to those we leave behind us." "To those we'll find before us." The piper then struck up the most beautiful, and, at the same time, most melancholy pibroch ever composed—I cannot spell the Gaelic name but the meaning is, "We return no more." A light and pleasant breeze from the shore carried us merrily across the long swell of the bar and for about half a mile on our course, when it dropped into a dead calm, and left us heaving upon the long swell of the North Sea. Presently a light whale-boat issued from the harbour, and a reverend old gentleman, of a most patriarchal appearance, the Cathechist of the parish, stepped on board, and the emigrants all clustered round him, using the most endearing expressions to him, when, waving his hand to them, and taking off his hat—at which cuff went every brand bonnet—he poured forth in Gaelic a most eloquent and exciting prayer. The women melted into tears, and the men were evidently moved. The prayer was not long; but I never heard anything delivered with such intense fervour. When he was on the point of leaving, the shaking of hands with all the parishioners—men, women, and children—was so cordially given, and continued so long, that the worthy skipper began to look a little impatient, to windward; besides, another pretty strong puff from the land which had sprung up was likely, he said, to last a half-hour or more, so that, when the worthy Catechist had got into his whale-boat, he put up the helm, crowded all sail—which was not scanty—and went, at a very fair rate, down out to sea. "We must make as road an offing as we can," he said, "with this puff;" and we did carry it with us so as to take us at least three miles from land. According to the skipper's prediction, as the sun approached the horizon, the light fleecy clouds became one black one, ominous, spreading just from the quarter he had indicated. The head of the boat was now turned to north-east, so that the tempest might fall upon our starboard bow. This course would take us out of our way to a certain degree, but, as our skipper had said, it would fall, the compass, I had no apprehension. Presently down came the tempest in its wrath, preceded by several furious gusts, which, while they lasted only about three minutes each—tossed the boat over on her gunwale. But soon came the gale in earnest, with the driving rain and hail, and the "sea horses," as sailors call breast-high breaking surges, came down upon us in their fury. The boat, under three reefed sails, behaved admirably, tossing her bow over the breaking seas, and plunging down into the troughs. Her keel was often half out of the water. This fierce contest with the elements lasted two hours and a half, during which we made no headway, but, owing to the excellent qualities of our craft, made no leeway; then there came a lull, with a breaking in the clouds: the rain continued, but the hail abated. The sea got less furious, so that the head of the boat was turned again towards the land—breaking sea still assailing on the starboard bow, but, as I mentioned, with diminished strength, and now we made good way, one reef shaken out, and the motion of the boat becoming decidedly more easy. Presently, on rising on a sea, we could catch a glimpse of the Tarbetness Light, but still to windward. The skipper told me that three hours more would bring us, with another tack out to sea, under the lee of the Ness. We beat up—the sea still abating to within three miles of the Light, then turned the head of our craft out to sea, going as fast through the water as on the other tack, and, in two hours and a half, made a mile and a half of direct heading. Our course was then again turned landwards, which brought us parallel to the lighthouse. Another short tack seaward brought the lighthouse fairly under our lee; while the corresponding tack gave us, what sailors call, a "good berth." Presently we were in comparatively smooth water; and the poor emigrants—who, man, woman, and child, had been prostrated with severe sea-sickness—began to rally, and the men to hold on to the rigging for fear lest they was still heaving considerably, and the women to creep out from under the tarpaulin, gradually to recover their health and spirits. They were dreadfully depressed, however, when they could see no "big ship," and were told by the skipper that this was not Cromarty; but he consoled them by assuring them that they would be there by to-morrow afternoon—using the same phrase to them as he had used to me, that the storm would commence when the sun went down, and would stop when the sun arose. Cheered by this assurance, they took out their cakes of oat-bannocks and home-made cheese, and very good whisky, of all of which we all partook very heartily. The Celts had their hard biscuits, dried herrings, and Helmsdale gin, on which we made merry; while my friend the skipper—to whose seamanship and knowledge of the coast we owed our lives—preferred with us the "mountain dew" and home-made cheese; and, in the words of the old Scotch song, slightly paraphrased:—

> To wlang at the bannocks of oat (not barley) meal.

And now most of us went to sleep, for, as may be conceived, we were thoroughly done up. Some time after dawn, however, we were awakened by the skipper, when we found ourselves in a snug little cove in the rocks, where the undulating waves were of quite a harmless nature, and where I discerned a rugged enough ravine; up which, however, I soon made my way, and was presently installed in the comfortable quarters of the house of a half pay Captain, who lived with a maiden sister, who forms his only society. There is not another house in the weary waste of bog and rushes with which, for miles around, my friend's dwelling is encompassed. Certainly there are the two lighthouse keepers and their wives, and their children, and the fishing village of Portmahomack, which, during the herring fishery, is much frequented by French luggers, and Dutch doggers; and the Captain's Jack-of-all-trades is not unfrequently seen on his master's Shetland pony, with a hamper, which appears light when he arrives and enters a certain public-house, and heavy when he departs. By the means of the Jack-of-all-trades, shetland pony, and the hamper, my friend the Captain is enabled to put upon his table the choicest champagne, delicious-tasted brandy, and excellent hollands, racy of the juniper.

A. B. R.

"THE POST OFFICE AT ALBANO." PAINTED BY LOUIS HAGHE.—EXHIBITION OF THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.



THE DEVIL'S BRIDGE, PASS OF ST. GOTHARD."—PAINTED BY W. COLLINGWOOD SMITH.—EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

"EN ROUTE."—PAINTED BY JOSEPH J. JEN[illegible] IN WATER[illegible]

"THE BEACON."—PAINTED BY GEORGE DODGSON—EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

A[illegible]
W[illegible]
All th[illegible]

And soon a score of fires, I ween,
From height and hill and cliffs were seen,
Each with warlike tidings fraught,

Each from each the [illegible] caught,
[illegible] each they glanced to signal,
As stars arise upon the night.

NAPOLEON III., EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH.

(Continued from page 399.)

1808 TO 1830.—INFANCY, YOUTH, MANHOOD.

Charles Louis Napoleon Bonaparte was born in Paris on the 20th of April, 1808. Foresight the most inquired could scarcely have presaged the coming fate and future history either of his family or of himself. At the hour of his birth his father was a King—King of that small but opulent territory which, scarcely a century before, through its commerce and the bravery of its people, had had a place of honour among the most powerful States of Europe. His uncle, the Emperor Napoleon, who had conquered the admiration of mankind even more by his commanding genius than by the might of his armies, was at that time at the very height of his dazzling greatness. Thrones were filled, or on the eve of being filled, by the various members of his family; and the extent of his actual territorial sway is recalled by the fact that, at the birth of this young Prince, salutes in honour of the event were fired throughout the western continent of Europe, from the Hague and Hamburg in the north, to Rome in the south; and in the east as far as the banks of the Danube. The Emperor had already commenced his aggression on the nationality of Spain; and, a few weeks after, another uncle of the newly-born was proclaimed King of Spain and the Spanish Indies; thus completing the chain of conquest which had merged the nationalities of half Europe in the paramount sway of the French, and had created so many rivalries in the blood of one illustrious man. In the subsequent history of this young Prince are comprised the atonement of his family for the faults of that great man, and the tribute paid by France and the world at large to his virtues.

The Prince Charles Louis Napoleon was the third son of Louis, the King of Holland. His mother, Hortense Beauharnais, like others of the female members of the Bonaparte family, was the subject of studied calumny by the Emperor's enemies; but time has done justice to her virtues and accomplishments, of which the memory is enhanced by her noble dignity in adversity. Of the two elder brothers, Napoleon Charles was born in 1802, and died, at the Hague, in 1807. The second, Napoleon Louis, was born in 1804; and in March, 1805, he was baptised by the Pope, who was then still a prisoner in France. The Emperor himself held the infant at the font, and gave him his names; and the document nullifying the legality of his birth was deposited in the archives of the Senate, as according to the law of inheritance established on the formation of the Empire, he was in the direct succession to the Imperial Crown. Of the Prince—whose early death in the arms of his younger brother will afterwards be mentioned—it is recorded that he was of remarkable manly beauty, and that his qualities of mind and of character were of a very high order. He married, in 1827, his cousin Charlotte, the second daughter of Joseph Bonaparte, by whom he had no children.

In accordance with the custom established by Napoleon, of appealing on all great occasions, by means of a universal vote, to the will of the nation, the succession of these two young Princes to the Imperial Throne, in the event of the Emperor or of his brother Joseph dying without heirs, was adopted by more than three millions and a half of Frenchmen. The infant Prince, Charles Louis Napoleon, was the first child of the Imperialised race whose name was inscribed on the family register of the dynasty confided to the care of the Senate. He was not baptised until the 10th of November, 1810. The ceremony was performed by Cardinal Fesch, the Emperor was his godfather, and the Empress Marie Louise his godmother. Already the mother of Hortense had been divorced, and the Queen of Holland had seen with pain in the new marriage the prospect of direct heirs to the Emperor, which would deprive her sons of their hope of the succession. The great fact of to-day, compared with her maternal fears at that epoch, is itself one of the most solemn and striking incidents in the history of the Napoleon family.

The Emperor Napoleon was much attached to these two infants. Their prattle and play were his recreation; nor did the birth of his own child diminish his affection for them. In the midst of the gravest affairs—of plans and discussions which were to change the face of empires, his relaxation was to send for these boys, who were seated at a little table by themselves, at his side, when he was breakfasting, or at other repasts that were not matters of etiquette. He incited them to talk, and bestowed much pains on the formation of their infant minds: among other things, he was accustomed to make them repeat the fables of Lafontaine, which he explained in a manner suited to their young capacity.

But now came the period of reverse: the recoil of Europe on her conqueror; battles lost; peace rejected with the obstinacy of oblivious pride, or the magnanimous courage of despair; abdication and banishment—all that sublime drama traced by the prophetic and avenging finger of Fate—a story which the young Prince was then too young to comprehend, but from which he was destined to suffer and to profit.

The first exile of Napoleon did not necessarily involve the proscription of his family. On his return from Elba, his own child torn from him by the jealous Austrians, his heart yearned the more for the little companions of former days. When they were brought to him all the tenderness of his affection was shown with an intensity that might have disarmed the calumniators of his personal character could they have witnessed it; and he remarked with joy their growing beauty and ability. But the events of the Hundred Days involved his family in the second exile, which followed Waterloo; and, although he was destined never more to see those children whom he had loved so well, the young Princes ever cherished with a filial affection the memory of their uncle; and the present Emperor certainly had much of personal feeling to conquer ere adopting, as he afterwards did, so strong a respect for the character and institutions of this country.

A sentence of perpetual banishment was pronounced against every member of the Napoleon family, without distinction of age or sex. The ex-Queen Hortense, with her children, was of course included. The sad story of French ingratitude to the illustrious man who at least had made France a sharer in the criminal ambition which was the ground of his punishment, is too familiar. The rage, the insults, which the Emperor himself could scarcely escape, were even extended to the most innocent members of his family. Writing the night before her departure from Paris, the mother of Louis Napoleon says:—"I am compelled to quit Paris, whence I am suddenly expelled by the Allies. Weak woman though I am, with my two children, yet so much feared, that the enemy's troops are stationed on the road we must traverse, ostensibly to protect us, but in reality to make sure of our departure." She was not quite just in this view. During the journey, accompanied by an Austrian officer named De Wilna, she was stopped at Dijon by a detachment of *gardes du corps*, by whom she was menaced and insulted. One of them endeavoured to seize her, and declared that she was his prisoner. "Madame is under the protection of Austria," cried M. de Wilna. The *garde du corps* paid no attention, and actually seized the ex-Queen by the arm to hinder her departure. M. de Wilna succeeded in disengaging her; and the two children having been rescued and pushed into the carriage with their mother, they succeeded in escaping. It happened, singularly enough, that the next day the ex-Queen was in a position to return the service thus rendered. It was at Lons-le-Saulnier, and there the people made a violent demonstration against the Austrian officer. The Queen appealed to them urgently on his behalf, and saved him from their rage.

The life of these two children and their mother was for some time to come a continued wandering. Geneva, Aix (in Savoy), the Grand Duchy of Baden, Bavaria, Augsburg, Rome, were successively the places of their brief residence; until, finally, the ex-Queen determined on inhabiting Arenenberg, in the Canton of Thurgovia, on the Swiss shore of the Lake of Constance. Here were passed the next few years of the life of Louis Napoleon Bonaparte.

The ex-Queen had the good qualities of the Empress Josephine, and more—she had the beauty and indescribable fascination of her mother, with a proud spirit, a strong firm character, and a deep sense of her duty to her children; a consciousness of the responsibility of her charge that approached her in character to the Roman matron of old; and, like some of those wondrous women, she trained and tempered her sons that they might be equal to their destiny, whatever of good or of evil might be in store. The means were not wanting, although the personal wealth of the family was so much diminished. The first preceptor of the young Prince Louis was the Abbé Bertrand; and he afterwards pursued his classical studies under M. Lebas, son of one of the deputies to the Convention of that name, and since Professor at the Paris Athenæum. During their residence at Augsburg the young Prince, like his uncle, distinguished himself at the Gymnasium of that city by his unusual aptitude for the exact sciences. He became a proficient not only in the dead languages, but also in some living ones; and he also received lessons in chemistry and physics from a M. Gaspard, who was at the time at the head of a manufactory in Switzerland. In all the merely physical accomplishments of a cavalier and a soldier he made rapid progress; he was extremely skilful in fencing, and as a marksman; and he also acquired that practice which has made him one of the most graceful and commanding horsemen of his age. He also became an expert swimmer—an accomplishment which twice in his life was of good service to him.

Naturally enough, the Prince's attention was early turned to the military profession. He studied it in theory and practice. It happened that there was a garrison at Constance, a regiment of the Baden army, and here he took his first lessons. Soon after he was allowed to take part in the camp of Thuna, in the Canton of Berne, where the Swiss held an annual meeting for artillery manœuvres, under the direction of an old soldier of the Empire, General Dufour. Here he went through all the exercises, and shared all the mimic hardships of the regular soldier—bivouacking with the men, eating the common bread, and, compass in hand, performing all the duties of an artilleryman. At other times he went with these pupils of General Dufour on excursions in the mountains, walking twelve leagues a day, with the havresac on his back, and sleeping in his tent at the base of some glacier.

Two anecdotes are told of Louis Napoleon at this period of his life which denote a courage of no common order. It appears that he was in the habit of making solitary excursions on horseback in the mountains near his mother's residence. On one of these occasions his attention was attracted by cries of alarm proceeding from a crowd of peasants. The horses of a carriage had taken fright, and were madly rushing towards a precipice. The coachman had been thrown off his box, and in the carriage (an open one) were a lady and her two children screaming with fright, and in terror at impending death. The young Prince, who was at some little distance, spurred his horse into a gallop, cleared every obstacle in his way, and arrived just in time to grasp the bit of one of the horses and turn them, at the very moment when they were about to dash into the abyss. The lady and her children were saved from a terrible death, and the Prince was hailed with passionate applause by the people.

On another occasion (it was in the winter, and when the Prince had scarcely reached his twentieth year), being on a visit with his aunt, the Grand Duchess Stephanie of Baden, he was walking on the shores of the Rhine, accompanying the Grand Duchess and his two cousins, the Princesses Josephine and Marie of Baden, and many personages of the Court. They were talking of the old chivalrous gallantry of the French character, and the Princess Mary was lamenting its decline. Louis Napoleon as warmly defended the claims of the present age, maintained that the French were not degenerate in that respect, and that in all times women who knew how to inspire devotion were sure to receive it. They had arrived at the confluence of the Rhine and the Necker, where, in winter especially, the waters are turbid and furious. As they were walking slowly along, the wind blew a flower from the hair of the Princess Marie into the foaming river.

"There!" cried the Princess thoughtlessly, "there would have been an admirable opportunity for a cavalier of the old order!" And she pointed to the flower already borne away by the current.

"What! a defiance?" said the Prince. "Well, I accept it."

And, before any one could stop him, he leapt, as he was, into the stream, amidst the terror of the ladies and the others who were of the party. The Prince, who was a good swimmer, strove valiantly against the eddies which at that point are very strong, sometimes disappearing altogether from view; but at length he conquered, and his friends saw him reappear, holding in triumph the precious flower, with which he soon regained the bank.

"There is your flower, my fair cousin! But, for Heaven's sake," he added, laughing and shaking his dripping clothes, "do not let us talk any more of your chevaliers of the old school."

An heroic imprudence, thus manifested, explains some incidents in the subsequent career of this young man, which only inspired ridicule in a society from which the spirit of chivalry had certainly departed.

1830 TO 1836.—THE ITALIAN INSURRECTION.—MILITARY SERVICE IN SWITZERLAND.—FIRST ESSAYS IN LITERATURE.

Although the immediate cause of the Revolution of 1830 in France was the effort of Charles X. to abrogate some of the most prominent, if not the most valuable, of the guarantees of political liberty contained in the Charter, there existed, deep in the heart of the nation, a sentiment of mingled shame, indignation, and remorse at the events which immediately followed the final defeat of Napoleon in 1815. There was a wide-spread feeling not so much in favour of the Bonapartes as against the military invasion that had restored the Bourbons. We can now read the French mind of that epoch by the light of the eight millions of votes for the present Emperor; but even his most ardent champion will scarcely be prepared to advance that, had the King of Rome been presented to France in 1830, she would have chosen him Emperor with the same unanimity that, two-and-twenty years after, raised his cousin to the Throne. The time was not yet ripe for such an event. The younger branch of the Bourbons had a right to be tried, they had identified themselves—it matters not from what motives—with the first Revolution, and a kind of logic demanded that they, in their turn, should be permitted to essay the difficult task of guiding it to its legitimate end. If Louis Philippe was chosen by a clique, he was afterwards accepted by the nation; and it is at least questionable whether the interests of the Bonaparte family were not better served by thus exhausting the popularity which otherwise would have attached to the untried and the unknown.

The King of Rome—or, as he was usually termed, the Duke of Reichstadt—having been consigned by Austria to a kind of civil death, Joseph Bonaparte, the ex-King of Spain, as the head of the family, addressed to the Chamber of Deputies from New York a kind of protest on behalf of the Imperial rights of his nephew.

While Joseph Bonaparte was thus watching over the pretensions of the son of Napoleon, where was the son of Louis—he who was destined twenty years later to obtain for those pretensions, inherited by himself, the sanction of eight millions of Frenchmen? He was about to take the first active step in his eventful life. At the age of two-and-twenty, a young Prince, proscribed and restricted in his career, might be pardoned if he displayed more enthusiasm than judgment at such a crisis. If older and wiser heads than his were carried away by the excitement of that extraordinary epoch, it is not surprising that he should have regarded the Revolution of July as a reversal of the sentence pronounced by united Europe on his uncle in 1815—as the *coup de grâce* of the Holy Alliance, and of all the territorial spoliation in which the members of that honourable confederacy had indulged. During this period of excitement, he was at Rome, whither he and his mother had gone to spend the winter. The revolutionary fire had spread to Italy, and an insurrection against the Pope was in preparation. Louis Napoleon, obeying his instincts—and at that age the motives to action are little else—lent himself to the movement, which was organised by a conspiracy extending throughout the Peninsula. Before matters were ripe, however, the secret transpired, and Louis Napoleon was obliged to fly from Rome. At Florence, he joined his elder brother, Napoleon Louis Bonaparte, who but a short time after died of fever in his arms, and the two Princes at once responded to an appeal made by the patriots of the Romagna. Even at this early period he had the habit of acting without announcing his intentions. Thus it was that his mother received the first news of his having lent his name to the Italian insurgents, after he and his brother had irrecoverably committed themselves. In his letter to Hortense, announcing the event, he said:—"Your affection will understand the motives of our determination. We have contracted engagements which we could not do otherwise than fulfil. Could we remain deaf to the voice of the unfortunate people who call upon us? We bear a name which implies a duty!" Eighteen or nineteen years later, this personage, President of the French Republic, sanctioned and persisted in the occupation of Rome by French troops, for the express purpose of restraining the same revolutionary spirit. If one must approve the change which time and experience had wrought, one cannot the less admire the enthusiasm, the courage, and the self-devotion of the youth of two-and-twenty, who, at the dictation of a sense of duty, and from sympathy for an oppressed people, took arms in the defence of what he believed to be a holy cause.

The present Emperor of the French, then, and his elder brother, at about the epoch when their uncle Joseph was demanding a vote by universal suffrage to choose between Louis Philippe and the "young Astyanax of modern Troy," pining to death in the cold atmosphere of Austrian etiquette—those two brothers were drawing the sword in behalf of the independence of Italy, crushed under that same Austrian yoke. Who has not some escapades of youth to remember, if not to atone for? Who does not smile rather than blush, if those earlier adventures have been inspired by some magnanimous folly? The enterprise in which the two Bonapartes were engaged was at the moment a hopeless one; yet we must not forget that, some eighteen years after, one of their cousins was a chief of a successful insurrection on the same spot, and one of the rulers of a (short lived) Italian Republic. The attempt of 1830 was a total failure. Austria was too strong in Italy; the Italians too prone to factions and divisions. Yet Louis Napoleon Bonaparte acted with a promptitude and energy worthy of a greater cause and a grander scene of action. It is observable that in all his acts and writings the spirit of his uncle may be traced, as if he had been predestined to take up the work at the point where it was wrested from the former, and to fulfil it on the original plan. His military movements in this petty insurrection were an unconscious imitation of the tactics of the great Napoleon. He sought by rapidity and boldness to break the local power ere the alarm could be given and reinforcements arrive. He assembled a few men, and with one cannon—which represented his whole artillery force, and which he had himself put in serviceable order—he set off to take possession of Civita Castellane. But alas, this young ardour was thrown away. His movements, like greater and more important acts of his subsequent career, had been adopted without consulting any one. Probably it was *mal àpropos*; at all events, it displeased the insurrectionary chief, who filled the office of Minister of War for the insurgents; and the young Prince was ordered to retire. He proceeded to Bologna, from whence—the Austrians having strengthened their forces—he was speedily obliged to retire to Forli, and afterwards to Ancona. The Italian insurrection was virtually at an end. The two Bonapartes, however, gained laurels from the patriots. General Armandi, writing at the time to their mother, said—"You have reason to be proud, Madam, of being the mother of such sons. Their whole conduct under these painful circumstances, has been a series of acts of courage and self-devotion." The General adds "that history will remember them"—a prophecy which at the moment seemed somewhat absurd, but of which subsequent events have brought about the fulfilment; for assuredly posterity will pursue with avidity the earliest traits of a man whose subsequent career has been so remarkable. During this retreat the elder of the two brothers died in the arms of the other at Forli; and Louis Napoleon himself, overcome by chagrin and grief, fell ill of fever at Ancona. Here his life was also in danger from the vengeance of the Governments he had successively striven to overthrow.

His mother fled from Rome to his aid. Above all, he must be concealed from the police. Her maternal instincts inspired her with the means to deceive them. Concealing her terrors, and simulating security, she gave out that he had escaped into Greece, while all the while he was under her own care, in a house a few doors from that of the commander of the Austrian troops. Finally, by means of an English passport and a disguise, she conducted her son through the Austrian troops until they crossed the French frontier.

Louis Napoleon was suffering severely from fever. The Queen took the resolution of proceeding direct to Paris, notwithstanding the law of banishment still in force. She desired to rest a few days only in the capital that the health of the Prince might be recovered, and then to return to Switzerland. She alighted at the Hôtel de Hollande, close to the Napoleon Column in the Place Vendôme: the column was then still minus the statue of the Emperor, which had been removed by the vulgar vengeance of the Restoration; and the Queen, in choosing this particular spot, could scarcely have been ignorant of the powerful impressions that moment, of the sensations inspired by the presence of the nephew, after fifteen years of proscription, in face of the monument which the national gratitude had raised to the uncle. The French Government believed that the Prince and his mother were at Corfu; and the astonishment of Louis Philippe and his Ministers was great when the King received from the ex-Queen a letter dated from her hotel, frankly avowing their presence in Paris.

To M. Casimir Perier, the Prime Minister, who came to see her in the course of the day, she exclaimed, "A mother! I had but one means of saving my son—to enter into France. I know the risk we run. My life and that of my child are in your hands: take them if you will."

But although the law rendered at least the son, as one of the Imperial family, liable to the penalty of death, the day for such sanguinary policy was past. The Government was not the less bound to guard against the effect that might be produced by the presence of the heir presumptive of the Imperial title at a period of such excitement. Clemency and courtesy were among the virtues of Louis Philippe; he had himself too much suffered in proscription to be capable of persecuting those unfortunate Princes.

M. Casimir Perier at once met the wishes of the Queen. He undertook to procure from the King a permission for a week's sojourn, solely on the score of the Prince's state of health, and on condition that their presence should be kept a secret. This was an engagement with which the most perfect good faith it was difficult to keep. The presence of the Queen and her son transpired; the papers spoke of it. It happened to be the 5th of May, the anniversary of the death of the Emperor Napoleon, and the column on the Place Vendôme was covered with garlands. The greeting Louis Napoleon, prostrate with fever, received on his return to his country, was the cry of the people in honour of his uncle and that graceful tribute to his memory. France was at that time too much excited to permit of any sentimental weakness on the part of the Government. The permission to remain rested on the condition of secrecy, and although there was not the slightest suggestion that the parole had been broken, the ex-Queen was almost instantly requested by Casimir Perier to quit France without delay.

[illegible] the dilemma; and the Prince, still [illegible] was put in a carriage, which at once left for [illegible].

In England they remained some weeks. During this period Louis Napoleon, recovered from his illness, applied himself to the study of [illegible] institutions and manners, and personally investigated the various sources of our industrial and commercial greatness. In this respect, [illegible] followed the example of most foreigners who visit our shores; but he was destined to turn in subsequent years all the knowledge thus acquired to the profit of his own country, as well in his earlier writings [illegible] his administration. He was at that time well received in England.

Early in August, 1831, the Prince and his mother returned to their residence at Arenenberg, on the Lake of Constance.

He had already, to a certain extent, made himself "talked about." Whatever his character or his capacity, it was evident that he was animated by a spirit of enterprise, and that he did not resemble either his father or his uncle Joseph. The cousin legitimate titles of the "Citizen King" precluded at the time all serious thoughts of a return of the Bonapartes; but it was remembered that the Emperor himself, before the birth of the King of Rome, had organized the son of his brother Louis as his probable heir, and that the marriage with Marie Louise had been looked at jealously by the Queen Hortense as an infringement on his presumptive rights. The death of the elder of the two sons of Louis had brought the younger still nearer to the sympathies of the Bonapartists in France, while at the same time it naturally attracted the attention of the governing [illegible] Europe. Still, in the then state of public feeling, the last thing thought of was that this young man could ever succeed to the Crown, or become the executor of the system of the Emperor Napoleon. On the other hand, his insurrectionary escapades in Northern Italy had been hailed with fraternization by the democratic and republican party. They saw in him what the hopes of their fathers had made of the First Consul: he was to be the liberator of oppressed nations; and thus, if liberty had been crushed by one Napoleon, she would be avenged by another. The Poles, ever panting for a restoration of their nationality, had responded to the tocsin sounded in Paris, by an insurrection gallantly sustained and repressed with difficulty. The eyes of [illegible] were turned on the young Prince Louis Napoleon as a fit man to lead forward at its head. On his arrival at Arenenberg, after the events recorded, he received a letter from Count Platen, General Skarzewicz, and other chiefs of the Polish national party, urging him to declare himself. "To whose direction," they said, "could our enterprise better be confided, than to the nephew of the greatest [illegible] of any age? A young Bonaparte appearing among us with the tricolor flag, would produce a moral effect of which the consequences are incalculable. Come then, young hero, hope of our country, trust to [illegible] Cæsar and his fortunes, and, what is still more precious, the destinies of freedom. You will merit the gratitude of your brethren-in-[illegible] and the admiration of the universe!" And the letter was accompanied by an offer of the Crown of Poland, should the national [illegible] be crowned with success.

[illegible] and revolutionary ardour of the Prince was inflamed [illegible] events of the hour. Although he refused the proffered [illegible] on the ground that he belonged to France, he determined, notwithstanding the tears and entreaties of his mother, to fight as a volunteer [illegible] on the ranks of the insurgent Poles. The taking of Warsaw stopped him on his way to the scene of action. All these proceedings indicate that the Prince, at this period, had more enthusiasm than judgment; but the proof they afford of a certain magnanimous courage ought to have protected him from imputations cast on him at a subsequent period, when it became the interest of the French Court to render him ridiculous.

[illegible] more effort the Prince made to commence a career of action ere resigning himself to seclusion and study. He wrote to Louis Philippe, asking to be permitted to serve his country in a military capacity; and claiming to be allowed to enjoy the title and rights of a French citizen, of which the Law of Banishment, promulgated, under the Restoration, against the Bonapartes—had deprived him. Louis Philippe took no notice of this letter—which, to the men of that day, who saw France in the Chamber of Deputies, and could not comprehend the dumb justice meditated by the people towards the memory of their great man, appeared the absurd and unreasonable escapade of a dreamy [illegible], possessed of an extravagant and disproportioned ambition.

Secluded and studious in his retreat on the shores of the Lake of Constance, the Prince terminated the first active period of his earlier life.

To a period of infructuous, if not pernicious, action, now succeeded [illegible] reflection and literary production. His uncle is said to have [illegible] a romance, and an ultra-revolutionary effusion, under similar circumstances. Louis Napoleon's efforts were more *igneux*—more pronounced in their tendency. He wrote, not from vanity, but because his [illegible] was full of impressions it desired to throw off. Three publications rapidly followed each other—"Political Reveries," followed by a project of a Constitution; "Two Words to M. Chateaubriand on the Duke of Berry;" and "Political and Military Reflections on Switzerland." Even were these little works taken by themselves, with no interest derived from the age and position of the writer, they would [illegible] attention by their intrinsic merit. Political wisdom, the result of [illegible] science, could not be expected from a young man of twenty or three-and-twenty; but these publications evidence a large and liberal spirit, [illegible] habit of observation and reflection rarely found in persons of that [illegible] The more remarkable in one whose first manly [illegible] had taken the shape of intemperate and ill-calculated political [illegible]. One of the best men of that day—Armand Carrel—said of these early works of the Prince, that they announced a good head and [illegible] character, and that there were in them profound observations [illegible] studies and a great sympathy with a new era.

[illegible] the Prince received from the Swiss Government [illegible] title of citizen, which gave him certain rights without [illegible] naturalization. The death of the Duke of Reichstadt, [illegible] constituted Louis Napoleon the "young hope" of the Bonapartists. In June, 1834, he received a captain's commission in [illegible] regiment of the Canton of Berne.

Towards the close of the year 1835 a project was formed to marry the Prince to the young Queen of Portugal, then recently raised to the [illegible] Louis Napoleon declined the proposed honour [illegible], and expressed astonishment at being as having been written so [illegible] attempt at Strasbourg.—"Several journals," [illegible] Prince, "have added the report of my departure for Portugal [illegible] the hand of Donna Maria. However flattering [illegible] as to act of mine, of which I am aware, has [illegible] the slightest foundation for it. I might even add that, notwithstanding the deep interest which attaches to the destinies of a people [illegible] have just conquered their liberties, I should refuse the honour of sharing the throne of Portugal should it happen that I was thought of [illegible] connection with it. The noble conduct of my father—who abdicated in 1810, because he could not associate the interests of France [illegible] those of Holland—is not forgotten by me. My father proved by his [illegible] example how preferable is one's country to a foreign [illegible]. In fact, I [illegible] from my infancy to cherish my country as [illegible]. I could not yield to any consideration on the interests of France. Persuaded that the great name I bear will not be for ever a cause of exclusion in the eyes of my countrymen, seeing that it recalls fifteen years of glory, I calmly await, in a free and friendly country, the hour when the people of France will recall to her bosom those who in 1815 were exiled by twelve hundred thousand foreigners. This hope, one day to serve France as a citizen and as a soldier, fortifies my soul, and is worth in my eyes all the thrones in the world."

Of course the foregoing was an "aside" to the French nation; but the writer's faith in himself and in his ultimate destiny is not the less apparent in every line. In the blaze of his after-success one is apt [illegible] that at that epoch all Europe thought his Imperial pretensions [illegible] (or, we be him) did not think of them at all. His pertinacious adherence to his fixed idea was not the less logical. The "fifteen years of glory" constituted a "great fact;" and a Bonaparte, at some epoch or other, was sure to rise to the top, if only to show that France for ever rejected the "twelve hundred thousand foreigners."

(To be continued.)

JOACHIM SANDRART,

THE VASARI OF THE NORTH.

One of the most obscure and intricate subjects is the wandering of the Germanic nations into Hungary in the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth centuries. *Sebenbürgen*, or the Six Boroughs, is to this very day the name of Transylvania, marking this Teutonic exodus. Through all Hungary at that date we find a triparite division of labour; the soil was mostly cultivated by the Slovnic and Daco Roman aborigines; the Magyar conquerors were the military rulers and landlords; while the most cunning artificers of the towns were, as they are to this day, mostly Germans.

The goldsmith craft was the great school of art at that time. In the pocula of the festive board, and in the treasures of the sacristy—whether the candelabrum that enlightened the mass, or the crosier that glittered in the hands of the prelate—the goldsmith showed the creator of artistic power that was in him. From a family of these goldsmiths settled at Gieula, in the plain between the Theiss and the Transylvania Carpathians, sprung Albert Dürer. No one who reads the autobiographical memoir of this artist (A.D. 1524) can doubt that Albert's grandfather, who was settled at Gieula, was one of those Flanders men who, quitting the Lower Rhine, peopled the banks of the Maros with an industrious race that subsists to this day; and, it seems, we find that Albert's cousin Nicholas, after the return of the family to Germany, settled in Cologne, and was still called by the name of Unger, or the Hungarian.

Albert Dürer was the Alpha of the high art of Germany, who inaugurated the marriage of reason and art; although it was some time before the Byzantine hardness and curious frosty minuteness of the schools of Augsburg and Nuremberg were melted into ease and nature by the grandeur and glowing power of the bright and luminous era of the Southern *cinque cento*. Gradually the works of the great Italian masters became known through Germany; and before the breaking out of the Thirty Years War, Germany was covered with palaces built in the style of the Renaissance, and filled with choice works of art from the south of the Alps. At length, in the fatal year 1618, the Thirty Years War began; palaces were burnt down, and artists driven into exile. Painting flourished in the security of Italy, Spain, and the Netherlands, but took to flight from Germany; "and it was in vain," says Sandrart's biographer, in his quaint language, "that Adam Elzheimer, of Frankfort, attempted to seize the fugitive goddess by the coat."

Greater success both as an artist and encyclopedic writer on art was destined to attend the renowned Joachim Sandrart, whose gigantic labours, persevering genius, and felicitous juxtaposition with the most renowned artists of his own time, have procured him a place which cannot be filled up, and which entitle him to be called the Vasari of Northern Art—if one dare apply an imitative cognomen to a genius of so original a character, and the possessor of accomplishments so extensive, that it is only the circumstance of the best edition of his work being in so ponderous a form, so uncouth a German dialect, and so obsolete a type, that has prevented him enjoying that popularity with the general public which he decidedly has possessed with the hunters after recondite *delice literorum* for a period of nearly two centuries. The prodigious folio now lies before us in all its amplitude of volume, and although, perhaps, not the most skilled of literary epicures, we are not ashamed to be a voracious *helluo librorum*. How our eyes water at the sight of the title-page, "Die Teutsche Akademie," at the top, in big letters, not to mention the little feible at the bottom, being a view of the patrimonial residence of the ingenious Joachim, who, although an artist, has no objection to have it known that he is a *Laird*; nor must we omit to mention that the atmosphere for several feet around us is perfumed with a most delicious exhalation of an antique musty character from the book of the man who was the cicerone of Rubens in Holland, and who had Guido, Albano, and Pietro da Cortona for his friends in Italy.

In the end of the fifteenth century, or beginning of the sixteenth century, the great-grandfather of the subject of our memoir, John Sandrart, was Captain of Archers, in the service of Pope Alexander the Sixth, and, being knighted, had given to him by this notorious scion of the House of Borgia the Signiories of Scala and Fay. But who was his son does not appear. Certain it is that John Sandrart, the father of Joachim, married a Frenchwoman, Antoinette Cordeau, of Valenciennes: the fruit of which union was the renowned Joachim, who, according to his faithful and minute biographer and pupil, was born between the hours of three and four o'clock in the morning of the 12th May, 1606.

At an early age Sandrart discovered his taste for drawing and engraving; and in 1621, three years after the breaking out of the Thirty Years War, when only fifteen years of age, he was sent to study engraving under the well-known Peter Isaac Sadler, whose work, a thesaurus of history and heraldry, may still be seen occupying a conspicuous place in the catalogues of our Bohns, Nutts, and Quarritches. Sadler resided in Prague, which, a few years before, was in the heyday of its political, literary, and artistic importance. Its presses teemed with an active Protestant literature; its University, dating from the fourteenth century, was frequented by students from all parts of Germany. All the wealthy nobles of Bohemia had built palaces which, in a decadent state, still adorn this capital; the decoration of which, in the Italian manner, kept up the artistic atmosphere of the place; and when a Bohemian speaks of the splendour of Prague, it is always to the seventeenth century that he looks back. Here Sandrart, surrounded with much that was capable of forming his taste, devoted himself to the subsidiary art of engraving; but Peter Isaac Sadler, discovering his ingenuity, advised him to renounce the graving tool, and take to palette and brush; which advice the young stude followed.

It was to Holland that Sandrart now directed his steps; and, settling at Utrecht, he became a pupil of Gerard Honthorst, whose works, under the cognomen of Gherardo della Notte, were, even in his lifetime, well known south of the Alps. At this time the fame of Rembrandt was not yet full blown. Rubens and Vandyke, as inhabitants of the Catholic Netherlands, belonged to a school distinct from that of Holland, and the swarms of Dutch landscape and conversation painters had not yet come up. The natural bent of Honthorst's genius was towards the [illegible] and with the Church as an employer, who can doubt of his success? But in a Protestant country, where pictures were needed as mere articles of luxury, to adorn the rooms of wealthy merchants, conversation pieces—or, as it is called, *genre* painting—became a manufacture of a natural growth. The service of the Church had hitherto rendered art somewhat remote from daily life; but, in Holland, the growing wealth gained in commerce—a Protestant ritual that excluded the accessories of art, and the development of a new mine of interest in the reflection of social life during a most picturesque phase of costume—vigour in landscape and still life—remoteness from Italy, and comparative ignorance of what the Italians had done—all conspired to make the Dutch school what Hume, with singular felicity calls it, a school opened upon the seventeenth century. Gerard Honthorst was, perhaps, the most eminent of those Dutchmen that led the way. He is, in fact, a bridge or pier that connects the grand Catholic school of art with the miniature conversation pieces of the Dutch; for, preserving figures of the size of life with the characters of the grand school, he, at the same time, began to seek subjects in the times and manners of the period in which he lived.

Rubens, during his lifetime, was not indifferent to art in Holland, the culmination of which in the middle of the seventeenth century took place rather after his death than during his life, and it afforded him pleasure to become acquainted with a rising class of painters who were, as far as intention went, as faithful to nature as the Pre-Raphaelite Hemings, and much more fulsome than they in that perspective and chiaroscuro without which nature cannot be truly imitated. "But, as his (Rubens') wife sickened and died, he took a tour into Holland, in order to forget his grief, by visiting the numerous excellent artists residing there, of whom he had heard so much; thus he came also to Utrecht to visit Gerard Honthorst, who received him well, and showed him all that was doing; among other things, a Diogenes, who, by clear daylight, was seeking an honest man in the crowded public place of Athens. The invention of this picture pleased Rubens, but he saw at once that it was by a young student of painting, several of whom were then in the room. On which Rubens asked which of these young men it was; and Honthorst answered, 'This young German,' pointing to me: on which Rubens, praising my essay, encouraged me to persevere. When he further wished to visit Abraham Bloemhart and Cornelius Polemberg, and others, Hourthorst was, from sickness, unable to accompany him: he, therefore, asked Honthorst to send me with him, which commission I executed to his great content. After Honthorst had given him a banquet, he travelled further to Amsterdam and other parts of Holland, where he saw through whatever was praiseworthy; in which trip I willingly waited on him as on an artist who could, by his counsel and conversation, give me an insight into my profession; and thus I accompanied him to the borders of the Brabant. I might have a great deal to say of him in this journey, but, to cut short, I found him perfect in all virtues, and had in great consideration by persons high and low. Among other things on this journey, he praised Honthorst's manner, especially in his portraits. He visited also Polemberg's intelligent little figures, which are accompanied by ornamental landscapes, ruins, and animals, on which account Rubens ordered several for himself."—*Sandrart, Vol. II., Book III., Cap. 15.*

Charles I.'s accession to the Throne of England had now taken place, and he was sorely perplexed between his love of high art and his horror of Prelatry. Gerard Honthorst having been sent for by this picture-pilgrim Prince, he selected Sandrart from his pupils to accompany him; and when Honthorst had returned to Holland, Sandrart remained, and became a favourite of the King. Sandrart was thus in London during the golden age of English dilettantism. "It must be said," said one of Sandrart's anonymous biographers and pupils, "to the praise of all English princes and lords, that they delight in virtuous studies, particularly painting, so that when they hear of masterpieces of art, they send to the most distant lands with ready money to purchase them."

Sandrart dwelt with delight on the art-treasures of England, and spoke with enthusiasm of the Arundel marbles and gardens, with the treasures of the gallery, including the choice works of Hans Holbein, and the portraits of Erasmus and Sir Thomas More. "It was pleasant and instructive to the young artist were the palace and gardens on the Thames, of his second patron the Duke of Buckingham, which were soon after dispersed, but most of the pictures of which were in Sandrart's old age (i.e., our Restoration period) again mostly gathered together in Prague by Ferdinand III., to replace the old Prague collection, which had been carried off to Sweden by Konigsmark, in the Thirty Years War. But of all the pictures that Sandrart saw in England, none seems to have made a greater impression on him than Titian's "Christ at Emmaus," which adorned the Gallery of Manuscripts, in Whitehall Palace, and of which he appears frequently to have spoken to his pupils in his old age.

The murder of the Duke of Buckingham, and various other circumstances, after this period cast a gloom over the lives and prospects of the artists seeking Court employment; and this, combined with a desire to see the masterpieces of Italian art, led Sandrart away from the foggy climate and lowering political atmosphere of England, across the Alps, to the [illegible] and marble palaces of Venice, little more than [illegible] Veronese and Balthazar Longhena had, in painting and architecture, carried the decoration of the city to the most exuberant picture of palatial splendour. Sandrart copied the famous supplice, painted for the refectory of the Servi, which is still a great ornament of the Academia of that city—a picture which, with its companion at Paris, may show neither passion nor devotion, neither the grief of a Magdalen nor the seraphic tranquillity of a St. Cecilia, but which, with its city splendour, its sumptuous architecture, its brilliant figures, and festive movement, is certainly the most poetic expression that human genius ever lent to joyous luxury.

At Bologna and Rome, Sandrart examined the works of the great artists then living—Guido, Albano, Guercino, Domenichino, and Pietro da Cortona, and made a particular acquaintance with the last two. "Guido," says Sandrart, "in his old age, was a man of great pomp and expense and luxury, being fond of parties, of music, and, having lost large sums at cards, high prices were given him for his pictures, which were not to be got out of his hands except through his card companions; so that his debts in Bologna, where he lived, were about [illegible] crowns." And Sandrart informs us that when he died, in 1642, he left nothing but a little furniture, with a quantity of begun and half-finished pictures. "I mention this," says Sandrart, "not to diminish the praise of Guido, but as a warning to other young artists."

The Italian portion of Sandrart's great work is invaluable from the circumstance that, although Vasari flourished after Raphael, under the wing of "Il nostro Gran-Duca Cosimo," and has produced a work which is immortal, from being the fullest repertory of information relative to the greatest artists, of many of whom he was contemporary, and of others earlier, he received authentic traditional information from his seniors—yet there was much of the best of the Italian school in the end of the sixteenth and beginning of the seventeenth century, which he never lived to see, and which gap Sandrart, by his opportunities and his industry, helps to fill up, but which want of space prevents us from attempting to reproduce in an English shape.

Sandrart's chief ally in Rome appears to have been Pietro da Cortona, an artist whom personal regard and relish for a bit of fun induced him to speak of as "Pietro da Cortona, Coronat dei Pittori"—an altitude in art which Pietro managed to attain somewhat too literally by his decoration of ceilings, particularly that of the Barberini Palace; but the best of house painters, and on canvas at less a servant of decoration. To Pietro da Cortona is one of the signs of the termination of the great age of sentiment in Italy, and of the imitation of the mechanical qualities of the Venetians, without their higher powers. Pietro, in 1655, agreed to accompany Sandrart to the north; but the French attack on Bavaria, which Richelieu had combined to further his projects, along with the business at the Barberini Palace, threw obstacles in his way. However, he begged Sandrart, if he returned to Italy, to let him know, and he would go to meet him as far as Venice. Sandrart, therefore, alone undertook the journey across a country ravaged with war, and, arriving at Frankfort, found it closely besieged by the Imperialist General Count Gallas, with 13,000 men under him. To be within sight of the spires of Frankfort, and not to enter, was too tantalising for so active and enterprising a spirit as Joachim; so, traversing the Croat camp, with great danger to himself, he, at daybreak, presented himself at the gate of the great assistant of the guard, and was admitted to his home.

But we must now proceed rapidly through the other phases of the life of this most active and meritorious artist. The hot continuance of the Thirty Years War appears to have hindered him settling in Germany; and, transferring himself to Amsterdam, he appears to have [illegible] himself in painting, and in collecting the masterpieces of Rembrandt, Douw, Brawer, and their numerous other contemporaries, whose excellence given its renown to the Dutch School, and of whom personal intimacy enabled Sandrart to give traits which confer on his memoirs a value far overlooking that of Houbraken, De Piles, and others, who, living after the school, picked up their information second and third hand.

But a circumstance now recalled Sandrart to Germany, the [illegible] although convoked to the public tranquillity, yet rendered Sandrart [illegible] of the castle and lands of Stockau, near Ingolstadt. [illegible] soon after, however, with the mortification of [illegible] overrun with French troops, and of Sandrart seeing with his own eyes, from the towers of the neighbouring town of Ingolstadt, in which he sought security, his mansion burnt to the ground. With the Peace of Westphalia, which soon after followed, the clouds that had hung over Germany were dispersed; and now commenced the tranquil, happy, and unchequered period of Sandrart's life. In 1649 he was at the Congress of Nuremberg, assembled to carry out the provisions of the Treaty of Westphalia, and, compounding courtier and painter, was admired for the politeness of his manners, for the fluency with which he spoke German, French, Italian, Latin, Low Dutch, and English. Having painted Maximilian, Count Palatine, and other leaders of the close of the Thirty Years War, he became known to the house of Austria, and afterwards was employed by the Emperor Ferdinand III. to paint a full length of him. In 1672, being then sixty-seven years of age, he took a second wife, and, removing to Nuremberg, became President of the Academy there; and in the city abounding in associations with the life and works of the most genial of his predecessors Albert Dürer—Sandrart, in full possession of experience, pecuniary ease, sufficient leisure, and the devoted admiration and assistance of his pupils, began that gigantic work which will transmit his name to a distant posterity as the author of (with all its faults) the most complete encyclopedia of art that has hitherto seen the light, mingled with historical and biographical matter which cannot be superseded. Sandrart lived to see the accomplishment of this great work—of the critical portion of which we may give an account and subject to some analysis on a future occasion, in connection with a review of the similar labours of others who, not content with the practice of art, have investigated its first principles.

THE NEAREST WAY IN SUMMER TIME.—PAINTED BY F. CHESWICK, R.A., AND R. ANSDELL.—EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY

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"THE PIRATES."—PAINTED BY F. BIARD.—FROM THE EXHIBITION OF THE FRENCH SCHOOL OF ART.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

PARTNERSHIPS WITH LIMITED LIABILITIES.

The principle of Free-Trade is now firmly rooted in the national mind. Experience has tested its soundness, and those who were its bitterest opponents now frankly acknowledge its utility and wisdom. The Legislature, however, has not yet removed all impediments to its extension, for many duties still remain—protective in some cases, prohibitory in others; but, perhaps, the most remarkable and injurious exception to the rule of unfettered action in business is the restriction imposed on the employment of capital in the formation of mercantile partnerships. It is an obvious truth, though one that has received too little attention, that money constitutes one-half of every bargain; and while we proclaim the principle of freedom in the purchase and sale of commodities, it is absurd to deny a corresponding liberty to the use of the instruments by which alone sales and purchases can be effected. Government has at length pledged itself to erase this blot on commercial legislation, and the Vice-President of the Board of Trade has given notice of his intention to submit a measure to Parliament for legalising partnerships with limited liabilities. This system, though new to the present generation of Englishmen, is of very ancient date on the continent of Europe, and has existed in France from the time of the Middle Ages, under the title of "La Société en Commandite"—mention being made of it in the most ancient commercial records, and in the earliest mercantile regulations of Marseilles and Montpellier. In the vulgar Latinity of the Middle Ages it was styled Commenda, and in Italy Accommenda. In the statutes of Pisa and Florence it is recognised so far back as the year 1160; also in the ordinance of Louis le Hutin, of 1315; in the statutes of Marseilles, in 1253; in those of Geneva, in 1588. In the Middle Ages it was one of the most frequent combinations of trade, and was the basis of the active and widely-extended commerce of the opulent maritime cities of Italy. It contributed largely to the support of the great and prosperous trade carried on along the shores of the Mediterranean; was known in Languedoc, Provence, and Lombardy; entered into most of the industrial occupations and pursuits of the age, and even travelled, under the protection of the arms of the Crusaders, to the city of Jerusalem. At a period when capital was in the hands of the nobles and clergy, who, from pride of caste or canonical regulations, could not engage directly in trade, it afforded the means of secretly embarking in commercial enterprises, and reaping the profits of such lucrative pursuit without risk; and thus the vast wealth which would otherwise have lain dormant in the coffers of the rich became the foundation, by means of this ingenious idea, of that great commerce which made princes of the merchants, elevated the trading classes, and brought the commons into position as an influential estate in the Commonwealth. Ducange defines the system of limited partnership in these terms:—"Societas Mercatorum quâ uni sociorum tota negotiationis cura commendatur, certis conditionibus;" that is, a society of merchants, in which the entire management of the business is commended or entrusted to one of the partners on certain conditions. It was always considered a proper partnership, societas, with certain reservations and restrictions; and in the ordinance of Louis XIV., of 1673, it is ranked as a regular partnership; and in the Napoleon Code of Commerce it is classed in the same manner.

At the head of this system in Italy was the Florentine House of Medicis. Speaking of this family, Philip de Commines says:—"Their agents and factors are in such high credit under colour of the name of Medici, that what I have witnessed in Flanders and England may appear to others incredible. I have seen a person called Gerald Quanvese, almost wholly supporting King Edward IV. in England, when engaged in civil war in his kingdom; he supplied the King at different times with one hundred and twenty thousand crowns, and made but little profit for his master; however, he did at length recover all his advances. I have seen another, named Thomas Portunary, who became guarantee between the same King Edward and Charles Duke of Burgundy on one occasion for fifty thousand crowns, and on another for eighty thousand." As a proof of the opulence of this family, Mr. Roscoe states, in his "Life of Lorenzo the Magnificent," that from the time of his grandfather Cosimo de Medici to the year 1471 they had spent the enormous sum of 663,755 florins in the erection of buildings and the carrying on of public works for the accommodation and embellishment of the city of Florence. The value of the ancient florin, or *Fiorino d'oro*, was about two shillings and sixpence; but it must be remembered that money was greatly more valuable in the fifteenth than it is in the nineteenth century, so that the outlay of the house of Medici was most princely. This wealth they acquired by the system of limited partnership. They had the confidence of the nobles and clergy, who placed their funds in their hands, and reaped the benefit of their sagacity and experience. All classes were benefitted by this active dispersion of capital, which permeated all the markets of trade, instead of lying barren, or being heaped up in the markets of interest; which, indeed, would have been a most hazardous experiment, as the Canon Law absolutely prohibited usury, even to the extent of the smallest fraction, by most severe penalties.

Some ten years since a very instructive volume on this subject was published anonymously, but it is now known that the author was an Englishman, long resident in Holland, and engaged in the Dutch trade.* It gives the following clear and simple explanation of the system:—

> Partnerships *en commandite* or *in commendam*, that is limited partnerships, when the contract is between one or more persons, who are general partners, and jointly and severally responsible, and one or more other persons, who merely furnish a particular fund or capital stock, and are thence called *commanditaires*, or partners *en commandite*, the business being carried on under the social name or firm of the general partners only, composed of the name of the general or complementary partners; the partners *en commandite* being liable to losses *only to the extent of the funds or capital furnished by them*, but their names must not appear in the style or firm of the partnership; nor must such partners interfere in the business of the partnership (though they may assist in its deliberations), under the penalty of being considered general partners, and of becoming personally responsible for the debts and engagements of the firm.

Experience, which is ever correcting speculative theories, is the true test of utility and security; and, if the system of limited partnership be judged of by that standard, a verdict must be pronounced in its favour. The rapid rise and prodigious extension of industry in the United States are mainly to be attributed to this plan of uniting small capitals, feeble when divided, but strong in their concentration. In the year 1813 there was not even a solitary dwelling on the spot where the factories of Lowell now stand. During the last war between America and England the water-power there afforded by the falls of the Merrimack and Concord rivers first tempted speculation in that locality; but it failed, being undertaken by only two persons, whose means were inadequate to the enterprise. In 1826 the two factories that had been established passed into the hands of a company formed on the *commandite* principle; and from that day to the present the whole district has flourished. Lowell is now the metropolis of the cotton manufactures of the United States, and in due time may rival Manchester. King William of the Netherlands adopted the principle of limited partnerships in Holland, Belgium, and Java, when the general pacification of Europe took place in 1815. He himself became a *commandite* partner with Mr. John Cockerill in the iron works of Seraing, which rapidly became most lucrative. At the close of the war he had only three merchant-ships at Rotterdam, and two at Antwerp; this was the whole of his commercial navy fitted for long voyages; he soon raised it to 300, each of 1000 tons burden; and Java, which, under the government of Sir Stamford Raffles, showed a deficit in the revenue of £833,333 6s. 8d., rose, in a few years, under this monarch's rule, to a net income of £1,333,333 6s. 8d. If space permitted, additional evidence might readily be adduced, in the modern enterprises of Switzerland, France, and Italy, to recommend the system of partnership with limited liabilities.

Who among us are its opponents? The very wealthy firms, who are already in possession of colossal capital and credit, which enable them to carry out the most gigantic enterprises, and reap enormous profits. Against them competition is vain, and they are, in a practical point of view, monopolists, however loudly they may proclaim the principle of free trade in commodities. They resist the association of moderate capitals, which, united, might raise up a host of rivals in the market of production; though it is the interest of the nation that all impediments should be removed which obstruct the progress of industry. If a man who possesses a moderate competency embarks in trade, he perils his last shilling and his last acre; that risk he fears to encounter; but, if his liability were limited to a fixed sum, he would be disposed, for the benefit of his family, to invest it in business under the management of those whose judgment, experience, and honourable character entitled them to confidence. Money, says Lord Bacon, is like manure—it is valueless until it is spread. Now, the junction of small capitals, like the junction of small rivulets, invigorates the processes of productions, as the accumulated volume covers and fertilises a wider area, and by this union a space is covered which otherwise must remain void and barren. It is not long since that an application was made to Parliament to allow a steam navigation company to be established on the principles here recommended, to traffic between Canada and Liverpool; the Board of Trade had encouraged the project, but when it was brought into the House of Commons it was rejected on the opposition of members who were connected with the Cunard and Collins lines, both of which are actually receiving a subsidy—the former from the British, the latter from the United States Government. These gentlemen profess to be Free-traders, and were returned to Parliament on that principle; but they *protected* the monopoly from which they have derived enormous profits for many years, and a rising colony was deprived of the opportunity of developing its resources.

Of the nature of the Government scheme we are ignorant; for, although two bills have been printed—one entitled "The Partnership Amendment Act," the other, "The Limited Liability Bill"—it is said they have been withdrawn that some modifications may be introduced. We are, therefore, precluded from giving any decided opinion on their merits or demerits. The former, however, as printed, permits persons to lend money on loan without becoming partners, but clogs the freedom of the parties, which ought to be the vital principle of these enactments, by a variety of irksome conditions. Both borrower and lender must register the amount, their names, places of business, a full description of them, and the rate of profits to be derived from the loan; although it is plain that the rate of profits ought to be determined by the success of the business, as is now the case in all companies which have a fluctuating dividend, dependent on the enlargement or contraction, the greater or less prosperity, of their transactions. If the borrower become bankrupt, the claims of the lender are postponed to all other creditors receive twenty shillings in the pound.

The Limited Liability Bill embraces both existing and future companies. The former may adopt the new plan, provided they have a nominal capital of not less than £20,000, and three-fourths in number and value of the shareholders consent to its adoption. As regards future companies, they can only obtain the privilege where the nominal capital amounts to £20,000, in shares of not less than £25 each, of which twenty per cent must be paid up. Insurance companies are excepted. Every company is to be wound up, when three-fourths of the capital are lost. They are to have a seal, and the name of the company is to be painted outside the premises. We have already confessed ourselves unacquainted with the changes that are to be made; but as these bills are *enabling* bills, and profess to be based on Free-trade principles, we must protest against withholding the privilege until the responsible firm—that is the firm liable for the whole of their property—put down a capital of £20,000, since this is no boon to small traders, but a mere aristocratic indulgence. The pernicious hand of Government should not interfere in arrangements of this character. Either establish the principle fully and without restrictive exceptions, or let the measure be abandoned.

* "Partnership en Commandite." London: Effingham Wilson.

The French Government and the Exhibition.—The Exhibition Company are, it is said, to be relieved of all trouble and apprehension touching the fate of the undertaking, by the Government. The French are great sightseers when the sight is to be seen gratis, but when even the modest sum of a franc is exacted to visit the Exhibition of Manufactures, and the same to be admitted to the Exhibition of Fine Arts, the majority of the French visitors would certainly have assumed a form vanishing one of the two. The Emperor has therefore resolved to indemnify the company, and place the undertaking under the Ministry of State, when the public will be admitted *gratis*.—*Letter from Paris.*

"THE PIRATES," BY FRANCOIS BIARD.

M. Biard is an artist of decidedly dramatic genius. Invention and expression are his forte. With a fertile imagination, and an eye for "effect" in whatever field it may present itself, he subjects display endless variety—now serious, now comic, now serio-comic; and the realisation of the idea in all is complete and masterly. In the picture which we engrave and which forms part of the present year's exhibition of paintings of the French School, we have an incident of surpassing interest and animation, such as one has found described in the pages of Cooper, and other nautical novelists, and which one has read with eager avidity and suspended respiration:—a pirate ship in a tropical climate, waiting for its prey, while the crew are artfully luring into their clutches. At the side of the ship we behold some of them disguised: one with a bonnet and parasol, another as a female hanging on the shoulders of a well-dressed gentleman, the respectable-looking master with his speaking-trumpet under his arm—all earnestly hailing the American clipper, which, unsuspecting their real character, is nearing them. Every man of this vile crew is armed to the teeth, and all except the prominent actors are crouching to the deck for the sake of concealment until the word is given for the murderous attack. One fellow standing on a cask is playing very innocently on a fiddle; and a knowing-looking lad sits perched up with a book in his hand pretending to read obviously to help in keeping up the delusion that it is "all right" and pleasant on board. A broken spirit-chest shows that strong drinks have been pretty freely resorted to to bring up the courage or excite the ferocity of the ship's company. All who view this picture, after admiring the general dramatic effect, and the skilful grouping, will be struck with the great variety thrown into the expression of the faces, in which, however, the type of villany and brutal sensuality still prevails as the only living principle. The general effect of atmosphere and *locale* also are well rendered; M. Biard having, we believe, had much personal experience of sea-life.

François Biard is a pupil of Revoil, school of Lyons. He received the second-class medal (genre) in 1828, the first-class medal in 1836, and was made Chevalier of the Legion of Honour in 1838.

"THE PIRATES."

Slow sailing at ease on her fearless way,
With but half her broad canvas unfurled,
A right queenly vessel, she holdeth her sway
On the throne of the watery world.
Say, what should her brave hearts of treachery know
On the waves where their fathers rode free?
Or how should they dream of a lurking foe
Mid the joys of a Tropic sea?

Yet, mark! where the dimpling billows leap
At the touch of her glancing keel,
A pirate rides dark like a storm o'er the deep,
And his umbers are bristling with steel!
With a hail and a cheer, like a friend well met,
He follows, like fate, on her lee,
And the shouts of his band, on her ruin set,
Ring wild o'er the Tropic sea!

O, guardian sun of the Tropic sky,
Glance bright on each cutlass grim!
The pirate is cunning, the pirate is sly,—
But thou art too keen for him.
In spite of his masking, in spite of his guile,
Betrayed by thy glance shall he be;
Where his blood-thirsting weapons reflect back thy smile,
Mid the grace of a Tropic sea.

The crew of the pirate may rest where they lie—
All vainly they crouch on the deck:
Like a bird the glad ship spreads her wings to the sky,
Faster-speeding, she holds them in check.
Borne afar on the breath of the freshening breeze,
She is flown—she is safe—she is free!
And the billows laugh round where she dances at ease,
In the light of the Tropic sea!

E. L. Hervey.

Earthworks and Masonry.—We have been unable to enfilade the Russian works to any extent, owing to the ravines and the skill of the Russian officers. The great object of the attacking engineer is to place the line of his batteries at right angles to the prolongation of the faces of the batteries of the enemy, and by that means to obtain an enfilading fire. The Russian engineers have frustrated this object in the present instance by the judicious position of their defences. The prolongations of the faces of the Redan, of the Garden Battery, of the Flagstaff, of the Round Tower, and of the redoubts to the east, terminate, with few exceptions, in ravines, or run at right angles to positions inaccessible to us. Hence our fire has been "direct," and has lessened the advantages usually derivable from a choice of ground on the part of the besiegers, and the points of attack are so widely extended, that the Allies have not been able to obtain any considerable amount of concentrated fire. It must be remembered that earthworks, however admirable for the purpose of immediate attack or defence, are unsuited for permanent defence. They are in a constant state of "breaking down," decay and decadence are their inseparable conditions; and, if we were to retire from Sebastopol to-morrow, and if the Russians were to leave their works unrepaired, a winter's snow and rain, and the action of the weather, in a few months, would soon destroy the works which now represent the aggressive force of four nations and the defensive power of one. It is probable, therefore, notwithstanding the changes bestowed upon earthen works, that if the Allies were to break up their camp to-morrow and leave the Russians to themselves, they would find, on returning in a few years, that the ones of the present works would be represented by solid stone, and that the Redan and Mamelon would be crowned with redoubts of masonry. It is in consequence of the rapidly decaying property of earthwork, that our labours have been so great—they are like a London house, there is always something or other to be done, lesser made good, repairs effected—they cannot be let alone for twenty-four hours. The action of shot and shell upon the earthwork accelerates the destructive influence of the weather and of time—sandbags are knocked to pieces in a moment, fascines of the willow and twig kind becoming rotten in sun and rain, and parapets fall down and ditches are filled up by the iron shower more rapidly, but not more surely, than by the rains of heaven.—*Letter from the Camp, May 21.*

Russian Foolhardiness. A Russian exhibited remarkable coolness in the performance of a very daring, and, as far as could be understood, unnecessary, act about eleven o'clock on the morning of Saturday, the 19th last. The man alluded to walked out of a trench on the side of the Mamelon Vert, running nearly parallel with the ravine between the Mamelon and Frenchman's-hill. He was completely enveloped in a white covering, of some or other such material, his head being wrapped round with it as well as his body. The object seemed to be to render himself as conspicuous as possible, for, as the sun was shining with a strong glare at the time, the contrast with the grass and dark ground was very marked. The upper part of his body was first seen, but as he walked coolly on to the open ground he became fully exposed to view. When first observed he could not have been more than five hundred yards from the boys, at the right of the advanced works, towards which his back was turned; but the men in this trench did not seemingly perceive him, as they did not fire. A party of men and officers, however, about two hundred yards further off along the advanced work saw him at once, and discharged altogether about thirty shots at him from their rifles. The first few bullets fell short; but, the range being altered, the remainder were observed to kick up the dust on all sides of him. The white gentleman of the Mamelon took no notice, beyond looking round twice; he neither hastened his pace, bent his body, nor in any way evinced a desire to elude the hasty messengers which were sent to arrest his progress. Six or seven minutes elapsed before he was again under shelter of the works. As there was a covered way at no great distance, along which he could have passed in safety, this extraordinary exposure was certainly voluntary, or, if forced, must have been as a punishment. Perhaps it was done for a wager!—*Letter from the Camp.*

The Fortresses of Germany.—A letter from Berlin in the *Constitutionnel* says:—"The Austrian Government has again proposed to the Diet of Frankfort to vote a credit of 8 million and a half of florins for the completion of the fortresses of Ulm and Rastadt. With the credit of the same sum voted last year, the expense already entailed has been up to this time twenty-nine million of florins. The Prussian Government will not, it is said, give its assent to this proposition, except on condition that the federal fortresses on the north-eastern and south-eastern frontiers of Germany be also put in a proper state of defence."

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

LAW OF BLOCKADE.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE wished to ask whether there was any objection on the part of the Government to state the exact words used by Captain Watson of the *Inconstant*, upon declaring the Baltic blockade upon the 28th April? and also whether it was true, as had been reported by the Russian Government, that the Government of this country intended to change the principle upon which they had hitherto acted with reference to blockade?

Earl GRANVILLE said, there was no foundation whatever in Captain Watson's statement for the reason which Russia had put upon it.

The Roman Catholic Charities Bill, and the Weights and Measures Bill were each read a second time.

The Newspaper-stamp Bill passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

NEW FRANCHISE.

Major REED, for 26th June, gave notice of a motion for a bill to extend the elective franchise to all persons assessed for Income-tax, and not otherwise qualified

THE CONFERENCES AT VIENNA.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Duncombe, stated that a Conference was to be held that day at Vienna, at which the representatives of the Four Powers were to attend, and from which the result anticipated by the Government was that all negotiation was at an end for the present. The actual conclusion arrived at in this meeting, however, could not be formally notified until a late hour that night or next morning.

THE WAR.—ADJOURNED DEBATE.

The order of the day having been read for resuming the debate on Sir F. Baring's motion, and Mr. Lowe's amendment,

Mr. M. GIBSON reopened the discussion. He had listened to the speeches of the leaders both of the Opposition and of the Government, and, though both seemed to agree in the prolongation of the war, he had been unable to discover that any definite views as to the terms of peace or the ultimate object of that war. He recollected that an eminent political writer, speaking on one occasion of two well-known Reviews which were always appearing each other, he thought, in the same, and they reminded him of two opposition conveyances that were always running against each other, raising a cloud of dust, or bespattering each other with mud, but which were, nevertheless, travelling the same road, and would both arrive at the same destination. Among the various propositions offered to the House on the subject, he expressed a preference for the resolution moved by Mr. Lowe, as presenting a better prospect for the speedy termination of the war. The amendment suggested by Sir F. Baring he considered vague and unmeaning in its tendency, leading to a blind and implicit trust in the Government as to the great question of peace and war. To the proposition of Mr. Lowe he objected because it shut the door against negotiations, and pronounced an absolute, and, as he believed, a premature and uncalled-for repudiation of the offers made by the Russian Emperor as a basis for some satisfactory treaty of peace. If the Government were predetermined not to accept these terms, whose tenor had been long anticipated, the mission of Lord John Russell to Vienna was nothing more than a costly and empty farce. But upon examining the nature and effects of the terms proposed on different sides, he pronounced his view of the political contingencies and national antagonisms that might hereafter supervene. Believing that all attempts at a permanent settlement were illusory, he advised the country to rest content with the results at present achieved, observing that already the invading troops had been repulsed, and all peril of aggression on the part of Russia against Turkey for the future removed. The Turkish territory being now secured, he condemned the persistence in a war of indefinite extent, pursued in the vain desire for military glory, and for which no termination could be foreseen, except in the total extinction of one party. In view of the basis much the best, declaring that, as a permanent arrangement, the suggestion of making the Black Sea a *mare clausum* was preferable to that of permitting in the observance of the old Ottoman tradition, the free navigation of a *mare clausum*. The right hon. member then traced the external relationships of the Porte through the several phases they had undergone for many years, contending that the aggressive power which threatened the independence of Turkey had not always arrived from the East, and that the idea of providing for her security by rendering Russian aggression impossible was based upon a barter and compromise view of the political contingencies and national antagonisms that might hereafter supervene. Believing that all attempts at a permanent settlement were illusory, he advised the country to rest content with the results at present achieved, observing that already the invading troops had been repulsed, and all peril of aggression on the part of Russia against Turkey for the future removed. The Turkish territory being now secured, he condemned the persistence in a war of indefinite extent, pursued in the vain desire for military glory, and for which no termination could be foreseen, except in the total extinction of one party. In view of the basis much the best, declaring that, as a permanent arrangement, the suggestion of making the Black Sea a *mare apert

THE PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.—"DUTCH BOATS RIDING OUT A GALE OFF THE DOGGERBANK."—DRAWN BY E. DUNCAN.—(SEE PAGE 583.)

THE PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION—THE EXECUTION OF PHILIP, KING OF FRANCE—PAINTED BY L. W. DESANGES.—(See page 584.)

THE HORTICULTURAL FETE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

(*See the Engravings at pages* 548, 549.)

THE Horticultural Fête which, on Saturday last, attracted so large a concourse of fashionables to the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, had, in connection with it, many legitimate and some unique inducements for the visitors. In the first place, it was celebrated on the finest site for such a gala in the world, the sylvan Penge-hill overlooking an amphitheatre of rich, highly-cultivated, and picturesque scenery, such as could hardly be found anywhere else in Europe. Then, when we remember that for all previous exhibitions of rare flowers the most gorgeous receptacle had been one of Mr. Edgington's excellent marquees, it must be conceded that a Crystal Palace costing a million and a half of money formed a right royal temporary home for the gay and brilliant children of the garden or the hothouse collected in such vast numbers on this auspicious occasion. But the Fête of Saturday last had, besides all these attractions for the multitude, a truly English one for the philosophic observer, who, according to Dr. Johnson, looks on mighty London with a collective glance, and, without troubling himself with its details, pronounces it is the mass the greatest seat of wealth, intelligence, and political and commercial vitality in the world. We have often heard of the great shilling public, and a great shilling crowd may be collected almost anywhere; but here, at the bidding of Sir Joseph Paxton, a great *guinea* public awoke from its aristocratic lassitude, pouring itself in thousands upon thousands into the great conservatory which forms the triumph of his professional career. Thirty thousand people to get up one fine morning in one great city, and pay a guinea each to see a flower show, was an event which could not have happened anywhere out of London, and the fact says more for the pecuniary resources of the capital of the world than could be conveyed by the most laboured statistical table that ever emanated from the muddled brain of political economists. There they were, bustling each other, as if at the pit door of a theatre, every man looking as if his cheque for a thousand or so would not cause the slightest surprise at his banker's; every lady—the elder ones rustling in costly silks and satins, the younger revelling in all the taste and gaiety of the French toilet, and the brilliant English bloom which is at once their national peculiarity and their birthright. Sir Joseph waved his wand, and London sent forth its great guinea public, thirty thousand strong, to see his fruits and flowers at Sydenham.

When the gentlemen of the Imperial Court who accompanied the Emperor and Empress of the French on their recent visit to England first saw the Crystal Palace they exclaimed with one voice, "What a place for a fête!" It is said that the heads of our Gallic neighbours are always running in fêtes or revolutions; but any one who saw the Palace and grounds on Saturday must have come to the same conclusion. The weather, which, as a general rule, makes it a point to frown on flower shows, had been most threatening for the whole of the previous week. There is no knowing how many times Sir Joseph must have exclaimed with Dr. Darwin, being of course intimate with "The Loves of the Plants":—

> Winds of the north! restrain your icy gales,
> Nor chill the bosom of these happy vales!
> Hence in dark heaps, ye gathering clouds, revolve!
> Disperse, ye lightnings, and ye mists dissolve
> Hither, emerging from yon orient skies,
> Botanic goddess, bend thy radiant eyes;
> O'er these soft scenes assume thy gentle reign,
> Pomona, Ceres, Flora in thy train.

That the words were exactly the same we will not undertake to pledge ourselves; but the sentiment must have been identical, and the invocation, happily for the fortunes, was successful. On Saturday morning Boreas and Eolus had their unruly servants well in hand, and during the remainder of the day the weather was as fine as could be wished for. The authorities of the Brighton Railway had all their iron steeds ready by twelve o'clock, snorting, puffing, and impatient to be off; and the same hour found their roomy station filled with fashionably-dressed company—every man, woman, and child indomitably determined to get off by the first train. But the officers were accustomed to scenes of this kind; they had only very recently had their Derby Day, they knew to a very little boy the exact number that each train would hold, and inexorably slammed the doors at the proper moment, deaf to the entreaties of several fat ladies who were anxious to try their agility by jumping into the carriages when the train was in motion, and who would most probably have fallen under the wheels had the functionaries been less determined. Trains were subsequently run every five or ten minutes, during the earlier part of the day, with admirable regularity; and the result of good arrangements and good discipline was that about twenty thousand persons were conveyed to Sydenham and back without the slightest accident. An immense number also availed themselves of the beautiful road through Dulwich, filling the territories of Mr. Bowmer with elegant private equipages, to the great pecuniary advantage of the traffic department; and the result of keeping these two lines of communication so actively in use was that, at one period of the day, the interior of the Palace contained a greater number of fashionable visitors than when, honoured with the presence of Majesty, the prayers of the Church, and the musical direction of Signor Costa, the Chairman of the Company inaugurated the undertaking in an exceedingly eloquent oration.

The Flower Show itself was unequalled in the number of specimens exhibited, their rare beauty, and the admirable arrangement of the different classes, which the capabilities of the Building permitted the managers to achieve. The moment to see it in its full glory was about two o'clock, when the company had all arrived, and before the musical attractions had caused them to scatter in various directions. For the accommodation of these precious gems from Flora's casket, the two naves, a portion of the transept, and the long open corridor facing the terrace had been laid under contribution; and on every side the eye was dazzled with a perfect sea of colour, and the sense almost oppressed with the fragrant odours of the products of every clime. The splendid azalia—fit ornament for regal vestibule—glowed literally in piles upon the stands; and the stalwart cactus in all its varieties bristled in its best attire, attracting crowds of spectators, by the strange forms which its skilful cultivators had caused it to assume. The pelargoniums were of unusual extent and variety, but looked hardly more gay and brilliant than the parasols and costumes of the young ladies, with whom they seemed to be especial favourites. But who except the initiated will dare to venture far into the mysteries of horticultural nomenclature? We must confess to having always looked up to the whole tribe of gardeners with a sort of peculiar reverence, as men of prodigious learning, who, not content with producing flowers beautiful enough to excite everybody's admiration, were learned enough to give them names which added the charm of mystery to their natural graces of form and colour. The orchid family—numerous as that of a Welsh curate, but far more gaily clad—was well represented; and the innumerable tribe of geraniums contributed delicate little gems that sparkled in every convenient corner. The rose—the queen of flowers—the theme of the poet in every clime, and the chastened inamorata of the nightingale in the sunny land of Hafiz—sent representatives fit, though few—the breezes of the last month having been too rough in their wooing for the delicate texture of its corolla. Modest pansies twinkled in trim order; while the gaudy calceolaria flared like a rich burgher's wife in all the splendour of summer finery. Beauty there was in abundance—grace of form, glow of colour, and, here and there, delicacy of fragrance; but there was one drawback in our admiration—they were nearly all strangers to the land; flaunting haughtily, like the Norman courtiers of old, to the exclusion of our native Saxon flowers. Would it not be possible to get up an attractive show of the indigenous *floras* of Great Britain? Who that has ever wandered over the mountainous districts of the three kingdoms does not remember being struck with the gorgeous yellow of gold, and crimson, and purple, which bountiful Nature had thrown over their hardy surface? Have we not our roses—not the deep-tinted regalities of Provence or Tuscany—but our own modest moss-rose, the beauty of the cliffs, delicate in hue as a young virgin, inexpressibly tasteful in form, and with an odour which might fitly form the atmosphere of Paradise? There is the honeysuckle, too, on which many a noble mind has poured immortal verse, and which, humble and modest as it looks, is the blood relation of the grand azalia. The tulip is our own also, beauty by race and pedigree; and what flower has a more remarkable history? Have not kings negotiated, great cities agitated, great merchants become bankrupt, and mighty nations been stirred to their lowest foundations, and all about tulips? Has not the production of a new colour been a European event; and is not the production of a black or blue flower still the philosopher's stone, the quadrature of the circle, the perpetual motion, of all enthusiastic gardeners? Is the mountain daisy, the honoured theme of Nature's true poet, to be ever left to languish in obscurity?—

> The flaunting flow'rs our gardens yield,
> High sheltering woods and wa's maun shield;
> But thou, beneath the random bield
> O' clod or stane,
> Adorns the histie stibble-field,
> Unseen, alane.

Many, nearly all the plants which now form the pride of our conservatories originally decked the wild prairies, or were fostered on the banks of the mighty rivers of America. We have not, it is true, the warm sun or luscious soil of those latitudes, but our meadows teem with floral varieties, our hills are covered with many-coloured heaths, and our old-fashioned cottage gardens nourish many a flower, that, if nurtured with half the care that is lavished on the gaudy strangers, would soon rival them in a beauty of their own. Be it remembered that as our birds, although wanting the brilliant plumage that dazzles the eye, have yet the song that fills the soul, so our island flowers, albeit paler in hue and less luxurious in growth than the proud exotics, have the fragrance that charms the sense, and is of itself worth whole rainbows of gaudy colour. Our friend Sir Joseph is a man of strikingly original mind, and can soon see whether or no a suggestion has any value in it. Who knows but he may yet give us a Show of British birds, parentage, and nomenclature?

When the gay crowds of Saturday last had feasted their eyes on the wonders of the conservatories, there was another treat yet in store for them—the playing of the fountains, decidedly the greatest novelty that could be offered to an English public. The old Dutch gardeners, it is true, that came over with William III., gave us plenty of water in their horticultural arrangements; but, unhappily, it was all in the shape of stagnant fishponds, and was a terror and a nuisance, instead of a decoration. The East is the birthplace of fountains, where the rare, much-prized, bubbling well of the desert gladdens the eyes of the Bedouin of Sunnam luxuries. The Greeks learnt to make them from the Asiatics, and the Romans from the Greeks, although greatly cramped in their construction by their ignorance of the first law of hydrostatics. When the Goths poured like a torrent over the fair fields and queenly cities of Western Europe—as the Russians will now if we permit them—down went the fountains, like every other thing that spoke of refinement and civilisation—statues, temples, books, and pictures. Then, after a long and dreary pause, Louis XIV., having almost conquered Europe, and being in want of a sensation, spent six millions in making a grand revival at Versailles; and ever since the *Grande Roue* have been the type, the *ne plus ultra*, of ornamental waterworks. The Crystal Palace Company promised in their prospectus that they would eclipse Versailles; but they certainly have not done so as yet, nor, judging from the appearance of their still incomplete works, are they ever likely to do so. The display of Saturday was from the upper range of fountains; and, as far as it went, had an exceedingly pleasing effect. The jets were of a fair altitude, had a steady and continuous flow, and the play was kept up for nearly an hour without intermission. But they were merely so many gigantic squirts all going together, without the sea and river gods, the Tritons, and other poetic forms that give such infinite and grotesque variety to the *Grande Roue*. At Versailles the visitor wanders through endless park-like alleys, surprised at every turn by some new device in water, their beauty and extent culminating as he goes along, until at last he comes to the great "Basin of Neptune," the triumph of the artist, where the sovereign of the deep, enthroned in the centre of a vast platform, keeps court, surrounded by the lesser marine deities, and all pour forth in an innumerable variety of jets and streams; in short, a complete and beautiful design in water, which could hardly be realised by those who never saw anything beyond the monotonous upright projection of the fluid which formed the display of Saturday last, and seems to be the only thing contemplated in the general design. The Sydenham fountains then will not eclipse Versailles; our French friends need not fear the fielding of their watery laurels; but they will form a very important addition to the other attractions of the place, and, being the only thing of the kind in England, may possibly draw enough of visitors on their own account to justify the enormous expense of their erection and maintenance. Their gala days, it is true, will be limited in number, for there is nearly one-third of every summer in this country in which the suggestion of artificial waterworks, as an amusement, would be considered an exceedingly unkind "cut" by the patrons of that truly English institution, the waterproof umbrella; but, when the day is very hot, and the company very numerous, and pipes all in order, and the aquatic purveyors sufficiently liberal in their supply, there is reason to hope that the fountains at Sydenham will form a welcome addition to the amusements of its fashionable visitors.

Then we had music, sounding brass and tinkling cymbal, from Mr. Schallehn and his troupe, the mild peal of a small organ from a distant gallery, and the sparkling performance of young Arthur Napoleon on Collard's splendid piano in the Transept. The unruly crowd that surrounded the little player encountered, it is true, not only the brilliant tone of the instrument, but nearly the young prodigy also *in propria persona*; but this of itself proved the attraction, as in the time of the Jenny Lind fever, when the people who were crushed and torn to pieces in the lobbies were as enthusiastic in their praises as those who had succeeded in getting in and hearing the syren. Lastly—and what English merrymaking would be complete without it?—we had the well stocked refreshment gallery with its luxurious edibles, its sparkling champagne, and its widely-distributed bitter ale. Thousands upon thousands of the visitors flocked to the hospitable arms of the brothers Staples, and were there cherished with a care that was truly fraternal. Every one was fed, and no one went away dissatisfied, except that pleasant few who form the drones in every gathering, and to whom nothing is satisfactory but dissatisfaction. The viands were good and abundant, the wines were good, and the charges—although not quite so low as under the Company's management, when £30,000 worth of food was sold without leaving a shilling of profit for the shareholders—were such as no reasonable person could complain of—time, place, and circumstances considered. The substantial revelry of this department finished the amusements of the day, after which the company departed as best they might—thousands to take their patient stand in the long queue that led to the railway, and their more aristocratic fellow holiday-seekers to the excellent Mr. Bowmer, to claim as their own one of the 7000 elegant private equipages which, during the day, had been entrusted to his care.

CLASS I.—Thirty Stove and Greenhouse Plants, grouped for effect, in or out of flower: 1, Robison and Sons, Tooting, 30*l.*; 2, Veitch and Son, Exeter and Chelsea, 16*l.*; 3, James May, gardener to — Collier, Esq., Dartford, 10*l.* Two extras: C. Peed, Norwood, and James Morris, Bromley, 7*l.*

CLASS II.—Twenty Stove and Greenhouse Plants in flower: 1, James May, gardener to — Collier, Esq., Dartford, 30*l.*; 2, Mr. Green, gardener to Sir C. Antrobus, 20*l.*; 3, Messrs. Fraser, Lea-bridge-road, 10*l.* Extra prizes: G. Harter, gardener to A. Bassett, Esq., 6*l.*; Messrs. Pamplin and Son, Lea-bridge-road, 6*l.*

CLASS III.—Twelve Stove and Greenhouse Plants in flower: 1, G. Dods, gardener to Sir J. Cathcart, Bart., 18*l.*; 2, — Carson, gardener to Mr. W. F. Farmer, 12*l.*; 3, — Frost, gardener to Mr. E. L. Betts, 8*l.* Extras: W. Cutbush, of Barnet; W. May, gardener to Mrs. Lawrence; R. Dingle, gardener to Mr. A. Lawrence; W. Carmichael, gardener to G. C. Tugwell, Esq.; William Taylor, gardener to J. Costa, Esq.

CLASS IV.—Six Stove and Greenhouse Plants in flower: 1, Thomas Williams, gardener to Miss Trail, 10*l.*; 2, Osman Rhodes, gardener to J. Philpott, Esq.; 3, E. A. Hamp, gardener to Mr. James Thorne, 6*l.*; 4, C. Girdler, gardener to Miss Wilson, 3*l.*; 5, G. Clarke, nurseryman, Brixton-hill, 2*l.* Extras: G. Brush, gardener to Mr. F. Tritton; C. Smith.

CLASS V.—Twenty Variegated Plants: 1, Veitch and Son, nurserymen, Exeter and Chelsea, 7*l.*; 3, R. Franklin, gardener to Mrs. Lawrence, 5*l.*; 3, G. Young, gardener to William Slane, Esq., 4*l.*; 4, J. and C. Lee, nurserymen, Hammersmith, 3*l.*

CLASS VI.—Ten Plants with fine foliage: 1, Veitch and Son, Exeter and Chelsea, 5*l.*; 2, Robison and Son, Tooting, 3*l.*; 3, — Oubridge, gardener to James Foster, Esq., 2*l.*

CLASS VII.—Twenty Orchids of exotic species: 1, J. Mylam, gardener to G. Reed, Esq., 30*l.*; 2, B. S. Williams, gardener to C. E. Warner, Esq., 20*l.*; 3, L. Hume, gardener to R. Hanbury, Esq., 10*l.* Extra: S. Woolley, gardener to R. B. Ker, Esq.

CLASS VIII.—Twenty Orchids of exotic species: 1, Veitch and Son, Exeter and Chelsea, 30*l.*; 2, Robison and Sons, Tooting, 20*l.*

CLASS IX.—Twelve Orchids of exotic species: 1, Peter Bassett, gardener to R. S. Holford, Esq., 18*l.*; 2, J. R. Scrooder, Stratford-green, 12*l.*; 3, M. Clarke, Hoddesdon, 6*l.*

CLASS X.—Six orchids of exotic species: 1, S. W. Carson, gardener to F. W. G. Farmer, Esq., 10*l.*; 2, G. Dods, gardener to Sir John Cathcart, 6*l.*; 3, — Green, gardener to Sir E. Antrobus, 3*l.*

CLASS XI.—One orchid, single specimen: 1 and 2, Veitch and Son, Exeter and Chelsea, 3*l.* and 2*l.*; 3, S. W. Carson, gardener to W. F. G. Farmer, Esq., 1*l.*

CLASS XII.—Twelve Greenhouse Azaleas: 1, Green, gardener to Sir E. Antrobus, 20*l.*; 2, J. and J. Fraser, nurserymen, Lea-bridge-road, 15*l.*; 3, G. Clarke, nurseryman, Brixton-hill, 10*l.*

CLASS XIII.—Six Greenhouse Azaleas: 1, S. W. Carson, gardener to F. W. G. Farmer, Esq., 10*l.*; 2, W. Taylor, gardener to J. Costa, Esq., 7*l.*; 3, W. Keele, gardener to J. Butler, Esq., 4*l.*

CLASS XV.—Greenhouse Azaleas, single specimen: 1, Ivery and Son, Dorking and Reigate, 2*l.*; 2, M. Cooper, gardener to Mrs. Horsman, 1*l.*

CLASS XVI.—Ten Cape Heaths: 1, Robison and Son, Tooting, 10*l.*; 2, J. and J. Fraser, Lea-bridge-road, 7*l.*; 3, T. Frost, gardener to E. L. Betts, Esq., 4*l.* Extras: T. Williams, gardener to Miss Trail; C. Girdler, gardener to T. Treadwell, Esq., 4*l.*; G. Clarke, Brixton-hill, 4*l.*; Jackson and Son, Kingston, 4*l.*

CLASS XVII.—Six Cape Heaths: 1, W. Bradler, gardener to Sir S. M. Peto, 6*l.*; R. Roser, gardener to J. Bradbury, Esq., 4*l.*; 3, W. Taylor, gardener to J. Costa, Esq., 3*l.* Extras: G. Harter, gardener to A. Bassett, Esq., 3*l.*; O. Rhodes, gardener to J. Philpott, Esq.; R. Green, gardener to Sir E. Antrobus, 3*l.*; J. Harlock, gardener to R. W. Nutter, Esq., 1*l.*

CLASS XVIII.—Six tall Cacti, species or varieties of, in flower: 1, — Green, gardener to Sir E. Antrobus, 7*l.*; 2, R. Grux, gardener to A. Palmer, Esq., 5*l.*; S. W. Mortimore, gardener to J. R Scott, Esq., 3*l.*

CLASS XIX.—Six Rhododendrons (distinct kinds): 1, Lane and son, Berkhampstead, 6*l.*; 2, W. Gaiers, Surrey-lane, Battersea, 4*l.*

CLASS XX.—12 Roses, in pots (distinct kinds): 1, Lane and Son, Berkhampstead, 12*l.*; 2, C. G. Wilkinson, Ealing, 4*l.*

CLASS XXI.—Six Roses, in pots (distinct kinds): 1, Matthew Busby, gardener to J. S. Crawley, Esq.; 2, A. Rowland, Lewisham.

CLASS XXII.—Six Calceolarias, in Pots (distinct varieties): 1, J. James, gardener to W. F. W., 6*l.*; 2, Mr. Gaines, Battersea, 4*l.*; 3, John Liley, gardener to C. King, Esq., 3*l.* Extra: W. Clarke, Hoddesdon, 3*l.*; W. Carmichael, gardener to C. Tugwell, Esq., 3*l.*

CLASS XXIII.—Six Fuschias, in Pots (distinct varieties): 1, A Rousie, Stoke Park, 6*l.*; 2, Henry Carroll, gardener to F. C. Hill, Esq., 4*l.*; 3, Dobson and Co., Isleworth, 3*l.* Extra: John Wiggins.

CLASS XXIV.—Twelve Pelargoniums (distinct varieties): 1, Charles Turner, Royal Nursery, Slough, 12*l.*; 2, Dobson and Son, Isleworth, 8*l.*; J. and J. Fraser, Lea-bridge-road, 6*l.*; 4, Gaines, Battersea, 4*l.* Extra: John Wiggins, gardener to E. Beck, Esq.; J. Maher, gardener to J. M. Stratton, Esq.

CLASS XXV.—Six Pelargoniums (distinct varieties): 1, William Nye, gardener to E. Foster, Esq., 6*l.*; 2, T. Windsor, gardener to A. Blyth, Esq., 4*l.*; 3, G. W. Hoyle, Reading, 3*l.* Extra: William Meldrew, gardener to the Rev. E. Coleridge; W. Mockett, gardener to J. Ailnutt, Esq.

CLASS XXVI.—Twelve Pelargoniums (distinct varieties): 1, Charles Turner, Slough, 12*l.*; 2, Gaines, Battersea, 8*l.*; 3, Fraser, Lea-bridge-road, 6*l.*

CLASS XXVII.—Six fancy Pelargoniums (distinct varieties): 1, Archibald Boxall, Slough, 6*l.*; T. Windsor, gardener to A. Blyth, Esq., 4*l.*; 3, W. Wackrill, gardener to H. Wrestler, Esq., 3*l.* Extras: James Weir, gardener to James Hodgson, Esq.; Joseph Robinson, gardener to J. Simpson, Esq.; W. Mockett, gardener to J. Ailnutt, Esq.

CLASS XXVIII.—Twelve Pansies (distinct kinds), in eight-inch pots: 1, J. James, gardener to J. F. Watson, 3*l.*; 2, W. Holder, gardener to the Rev. R. Coleridge, 2*l.*; 3, W. Lovesey, gardener to J. Gregory, Esq., 1*l.* Extra: James August, Beddington-lane, 1*l.*

CLASS XXIX.—Twelve Pansies (distinct kinds), in eight-inch pots: 1, Mr. C Turner, Slough, 3*l.*; 2, Dobson and Son, Isleworth, 2*l.*; 3, Mr. Bragge, Slough, 1*l.*

CLASS XXX.—Twelve Ferns (exotic species) cultivated in pots: 1, Fletcher, gardener to J. F. Young, Esq., 3*l.*; 2, Veitch, and Son, Exeter and Chelsea, 2*l.*; 3, L. Hume, gardener to R. Hanbury, Esq., 1*l.*; 4, Bassett, gardener to R. S. Holford, Esq.

CLASS XXXI.—Twenty Ferns (hardy cultivated) in Pots: 1, F. Fletcher, gardener to J. F. Young, Esq., 3*l.*; 2, B. S. Williams, gardener to C. B. Warner, Esq., 2*l.*; 3, W. Bridey, gardener to Viscount Jocelyn, 1*l.*

CLASS XXXII.—Twelve Lycopodiums, not less than six species: 1, B. S. Williams, gardener to C. B. Warner, Esq., 3*l.*; 2, Veitch and Son, Exeter and Chelsea, 2*l.*; 3, R. Bassett, gardener to R. S. Holford, Esq., 1*l.*

CLASS XXXV.—New and extremely rare Orchids in flower: 1, Robinson and Son, Tooting, 3*l.*; 2, B. S. Williams, gardener to C. B. Warner, Esq., 2*l.* (In this class it may be seen that the same exhibitors competed for all the prizes.)

CLASS XXXVI.—Six plants of Nepenthes, with pitchers: 1, Veitch and Son, Exeter and Chelsea. 10*l.*

CLASS XXXVII.—Six plants of Anectochilus and Physicorus: 1, Veitch and Son, Exeter and Chelsea, 3*l.*; 2, L. Hume, gardener to — Hanbury, Esq., 2*l.*; 3, S. Woolley, 1*l.*

CLASS XXXVIII.—Six Begonias, not less than four species: 1, T. Frost, gardener to E. L. Betts, Esq., 4*l.*; 2, G. Young, gardener to W. Slaun, Esq., 3*l.*

CLASS XXXIX.—Six Gloxinias, of distinct varieties: 1, Mr. Pullen, gardener to W. J. Alsop, Esq., 4*l.*; 2, G. Young, gardener to W. Slaun, Esq. 3*l.*; 3, A Young, gardener to J. Edwards, 2*l.* Extra: Mr. Taylor, gardener to J. Williams, Esq., 2*l.*

The Floral Fête on Saturday was followed by a Musical Fête on Monday. The great attraction was imparted to it by the announcement that Madame Alboni was to sing, and that this was to be her only appearance in London. This alone was sufficient to draw crowds to the Crystal Palace, and the extent of their disappointment may be imagined when they found that the fair prima donna was not forthcoming. She had been suddenly taken ill—an untoward event which was verified by the circulation of a medical certificate. The disappointment, however, was submitted to with good humour, and the assembly appeared to taken with great enjoyment to a very excellent concert. The vocalists were Madame Fiorentini, Madame Azzadei, Mdlle. Jenny Bauer; Herr Formes, Signor Salvi, and Signor Lorenzo. The instrumentalists were Ernst, Ballé, and Bottesini. A very good selection of music was given; and, considering the vastness of the locale, both voices and instruments were heard with surprising clearness and effect

MR. HENRY RUSSELL, who has recently returned from Ireland, after a successful professional visit, is having painted a Panorama of his recent Tour through the United States and Canada, to be produced in the metropolis with a new entertainment in August next.

RUSSIAN SHORT COMMONS.—Letters from the Caucasus complain of the high prices of articles of consumption, which have risen enormously since the conveyance of them by sea has been terminated. A small wheaten loaf that used to cost no more than three copecks cannot be had now under ten copecks.

PIANORI.—A letter from Rome, in the *Messaggere* of Modena, states that further inquiries made by the Papal police about the man who lately attempted the life of the Emperor Napoleon show that his real name is Sinesio, and not Pieroni. He had been condemned to twelve years' imprisonment for a murder at Bristighella, and for arson committed at Fogiano, but succeeded in making his escape from the prison of Cervia.

A SCENE AT CHURCH.—On Sunday last a great deal of excitement was occasioned at Watford by the announcement of the Vicar (the Rev. R. L. James) to introduce changes of a Puseyite character in the service. After the Morning Prayer and the Litany a bell was rung, contrary to custom, for five minutes for Service. The Communion Service, as soon as the bell began to ring, the Hon. Mrs. Villiers rose from her seat, in a pew near the pulpit, and left the church—an example which was immediately followed by the whole of the congregation. The Rev. Lee James has held the living only since the recent demise of the Hon. and Rev. Mr. Capel.

THE AUSTRIAN RULE IN WALLACHIA.—A private letter from Bucharest of May 19 gives a curious instance of the peculiar way in which the Austrian occupation of the Principalities subserves the interests of the Western Powers. The Bucharest journal called the *Patrie*, which dares to be independent, lately received a warning for publishing something likely to be disagreeable to the Russians, and was told that it might criticise the Turkish Government as much as it pleased, but must say nothing against Russia. Lately, on the occasion of the last article in the French *Moniteur* on the policy of the French Government with regard to the Eastern Question, M. Lorent, the Hospodar's private secretary, who performs the duties of censor, desired to see the proof of the translation, and he cut out the passage which described Russia as prepared, if necessary, to follow a revolutionary policy, and also the conclusion of the article, which contained the interpretation of the Four Points, as understood by France and England

A ROMAN'S EPITAPH.—Some workmen, in making an excavation at Constantina, in Algeria, a short time back, came on an ancient tomb, which turned out to be that of a Roman citizen, Publius Sulpicius, with no peculiarity in construction; but the inscription, which is in well-written hexameters and pentameters, appears so curious that a translation of it seems worth giving. It runs thus:—"I, Publius Sulpicius, whose remains repose here state the exact truth in these verses. I have spent a life, without annoyance, exercising the calling of silversmith in my house at Cirta. I have always been of the strictest probity, and of the most upright conduct towards my friends; I have nothing whatever to complain of, for I was always gay and always happy, until the death of my chaste Valeria. I have celebrated with honour and in prosperity one hundred anniversaries of my birthday; and, at last, my final day arrived when my enfeebled frame rendered it welcome. The lines which you are now reading I composed myself during my life-time, being permitted so to do by the kind goddess Fortune, who never forsook me. Follow the path which I have taken. I await you here below; come!"

SIX YEARS IN SIBERIA.—A case has just come to my knowledge from which it would appear that the Russian authorities are not apt to relax the rigour of their despotic vigilance in favour of their "dear friends the Prussians." A young man who had just returned home, after an absence of six years, having made an involuntary journey to that happy country Siberia, where the inhabitants live for six months for their own pleasure under ground, and prisoners are doomed to work in the mines from one end of the year to the other without seeing the light of day. It appears from his statement that this young man was a clerk in a commercial house at Thorn, in Prussian Poland; and, in the year 1848, made the acquaintance of Count Perkowski, a Turkish officer who was compromised in the disorders of that year, and indeed, by him to cross the frontiers, where he was arrested by the Russian authorities, and, being without a passport, was sent back to Thorn, being a spy and political conspirator, imprisoned, and sent with a caravan of other prisoners to Siberia. On his arrival there he was forced to serve as a common soldier for three years, at the end of which his condition was improved by being employed in the military hospital at Irkutsk, as a sort of assistant or nurse. In consequence of some trifling breach of the rules, he was, however, after a few months, dismissed from this situation, and sent back to his regiment, which was soon after marched to a little fortress in Asia, the name of which he never could ascertain. Here he took an opportunity to desert; but was arrested in the province of Tomsk, and condemned to penal servitude in the mines. It was not before the beginning of 1855 that he found an opportunity of taking a step to regain his liberty. The Adjutant-General of the Emperor, Lieut.-General Annenkoff, happening to pass through Kansak on an official tour of inspection of the troops, the young man succeeded in giving him a written petition, setting forth his unhappy position and laying great stress on the fact of his being a native of Prussia. The General made inquiries about him, and ordered him eventually to be set at liberty. On the 2nd of May last year he commenced his pilgrimage homewards, and following the great military road through Tobolsk, Casan, Vladimir, Minsk, Moscow, Wilna, and Kownow, arrived at Tarroggen on Easter-day, having been nearly a whole year on his journey, and performed the distance of 7000 versts (above a thousand miles) entirely on foot.—*Letter from Konigsberg.*

THE OPENING OF THE PARIS EXHIBITION

(See the Illustrations at pages 552–555, and 556.

THE opening of the Universal Exhibition was in no way so remarkable a ceremony as that which drew hundreds of thousands of people to Hyde-park on the 1st of May, 1851. The Champs Elysées were crowded by curious Parisians, ready to defy the bad weather for the chance of seeing the Imperial cortège. Long tricolor streamers waved before the Palace of Industry; strong parties of the Paris police (who have all returned to the cocked hats of the olden time) were lounging about; and mounted dragoons charged at carriages inclined to go the wrong way with a dashing generally considered to be misplaced. The tickets of admission, coloured according to the wing at which they gave admittance, were a source of constant annoyance. But these little annoyances were soon forgotten when the cards had been delivered at their proper destination. General visitors were congregated in the Galleries—the holders of white cards (which implied evening dress) being alone admitted to the ground floor ruled off round about the throne. This arrangement gave effect to the Building, at the expense of the visitors, who could see little of the opening ceremony, and who had, behind them generally, unfinished deal counters, garnished with packages of every description. But the view from a commanding position; either in the Eastern or the Western Gallery, was imposing.

At the central point of the Nave were the raised steps, upon which thrones stood ready to receive the Imperial couple. Above, from the Galleries, rich red velvet drapery floated in massive folds to the ground, being gathered at the top by a golden crown. On each side of the throne were the seats of the Senators and Deputies; and round about, those of the Diplomatic Corps, the Foreign Commissioners, and the Jurors. In the other parts of the Nave—filled off from the state dignitaries—season-ticket-holders and exhibitors roamed amid statues, trophies, church carvings, fountains, and flowers, at their leisure, or desperately sought to perch themselves upon high counters to obtain a view of the proceedings. People who had been waiting for hours began to extract lumps of chocolate, or other popular Parisian refreshment, from their pockets, and to eat. The dignitaries, in all conceivable varieties of costume, from the bright green embroideries of the Institute to the blazing scarlet of London municipal grandeur, dropped in rapidly. Ladies in painfully light but pleasingly elegant evening dress, came leaning upon the arms of stately Senators. And then the Imperial Commissioners, with Prince Napoleon in a General's uniform, at their head, created great attention. You could see the agitation of the ladies, who beautifully fringed the light Galleries—you could hear it when the cannon of the Invalides reverberated through the Building, announcing the departure of the Emperor and Empress from the Tuileries. The cheers outside soon increased the buzz of expectation within, as the splendid state coaches, richly decorated, advanced, headed by outriders wonderfully dressed, and followed by the remarkable Cent Gardes.

With in the building the excitement became intense—partly because it was obvious that the bad arrangements of the authorities would prevent at least half of the persons present from seeing anything whatever. People became desperate, and clambered into all kinds of dangerous positions—from which they were, however, dislodged by the police.

Presently Prince Napoleon, followed by the Imperial Commissioners, moved towards the northern or public entrance; one minute afterwards a band, beautifully conducted, struck up "Partant pour la Syrie." The Emperor and Empress were in the Building.

As soon as the Imperial couple had reached the seats provided for them, the Empress bowed to her Consort, and sat down—the Emperor remained standing. The band was hushed. At this moment Prince Napoleon advanced to the steps of the throne, and read an address of some length to his relative. This address included one sentiment which has, strangely enough, been passed by without remark, so far as I know, by the English press. The Prince, referring to the reduction of tariffs to twenty per cent on all foreign manufactures sent for exhibition, declared that he would not use the word prohibition in connection with the Exhibition. The Free-trade tendency of this remark is unequivocal. The Emperor who appeared to speak without preparation, addressed the Prince as his dear cousin; and said that, in opening the Exhibition he opened a temple of universal concord—or words to this effect. All this was soon over; and as people in the Galleries (except those directly opposite the throne) could neither see nor hear anything, they had amused themselves gossiping, waiting till the procession should begin its progress along the Nave.

The procession was rapidly formed; the band struck up a stirring march; and the Emperor, with the Empress leaning on his arm, followed by Prince Napoleon and the Princess Mathilde, and the officers of the Imperial household, turned to the east, up the southern side of the Nave. The Emperor, dressed in a general's uniform, and wearing the Grand Cordon, appeared ill, and not very content with the appearance of the Exhibition. The Empress, upon whom all eyes were turned, was universally admitted to be *charmante, ravissante!* Her toilet was excitedly discussed on all sides. It consisted of a green ball-dress, with deep flounces of white lace, and a head-dress of jewels. All admired the tender smile, the graceful bow, the stately step of the lady who shares the Third Napoleon's throne. It was with the utmost difficulty that the police cleared the way for the procession; hundreds of people crowding on the Imperial footsteps; while from the galleries above crowds of pretty faces looked down curiously upon the scene. Prince Napoleon's stately figure was very conspicuous in the procession.

Having made the tour of the Nave, the Imperial couple advanced to the steps of the throne, saluted the assembled people, and proceeded slowly to the northern door, the band bursting forth with the stirring "Partant pour la Syrie." At the entrance (the retiring place having been been provided, apparently) the Empress overset her shoulders with an ermine tippet. And then the Imperial pair entered the splendid state carriage drawn by six horses, and made their way back to the Tuileries. The barriers were at once pulled down, and the brilliant crowd circulated about the Building. The variety of costumes was remarkable, because every public functionary in France has a state uniform.

Of the Exhibition, to which the 10,000 persons present at the opening ceremony were allowed access, little need be said. It was far from finished. Skilfully-disposed hangings had deal counters and carpenter's tools: the galleries generally, were about as attractive as Pickford's yard. Still, in the Nave there was a good effect, or rather a gay effect. The flags of all nations hanging from the Crystal roof; the naval trophy of England, the great lighthouse ornamented with Gerome's allegories of the maritime towns; the groups of English, French, and Prussian statuary; the great St. Gobain glass; the beautiful carved altars; the French and Belgian church sculpture; the mysterious transit circle from Greenwich (which a French writer has described as a model of the Greenwich Observatory); the Bohemian glass; the Berlin castings; the great carved bird-cage; Osler's huge crystal candelabrum; the fine candelabra exhibited by the French—all these contributions, skilfully disposed in the Nave, gave a holiday appearance to the Building—for the hour.

It was said that the Emperor was highly displeased with the state of the Building on the opening day, in spite of the endeavours of the Imperial Commissioners to replace the apathy of the Company by their own vigorous administration. Since the day on which this opening ceremony took place the Commissioners in power have been dismissed. General Morin and his factotum no longer govern the fortunes or misfortunes of the undertaking. A new set of men promise a vigorous remedy. Prince Napoleon himself may be seen in the Building, portfolio in hand, directing special managers, distributing various objects, and generally superintending the works of completion. This real government at [illegible] promises for France those happy results which we trace upon Prince Albert's personal attention to the Great Exhibition of 1851. Immediate have been made in connection with this Universal Exhibition, they are clearly traceable to individuals. The Government plan was large and liberal. It overruled custom-house—octroi everything. It gave every facility for the gratuitous transport of contributions over the French territory. It abolished the stamp upon all circulars distributed within the Exhibition walls, and, lastly, it afforded working men an opportunity of seeing the Industry of all Nations—gratis! Let us hope that this liberal spirit, sustained by the new energy infused into the Imperial Commission, will yet accomplish all the hopes which the friends of this Universal Exhibition entertained when they saw the Imperial decree authorising it in the *Moniteur*, bearing date the 8th of March, 1853.

THE FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT.

PRINCE NAPOLEON has declared that the French people owe the Fine Art Department of the Universal Exhibition to the Empress Eugénie. The idea of adding the graces of universal art to the splendours of universal industry was a most happy one, especially when applied in a nation celebrated for the fervour in which its industry has wooed art to its aid, for the production of elegant utilities. And undoubtedly this idea has, in its present realisation, been an eminently happy one. In the Dublin Exhibition there was a gallery of painting and sculpture, sent from various countries; but it was not an organised representation of the various schools of living nations. Now, the Exhibition open at the present moment in Paris is, in many respects, the most remarkable collection of paintings and sculpture ever brought within the walls of one building. The fine arts of twenty-eight nations are represented upon its walls, including Mexico, Texas, and Java. These twenty-eight nations are represented by 2054 artists, exhibiting in all 5112 works of art. Of these artists there are 1059 French, and 995 foreigners; and of the total number of works, 2810 belong to France. It is gratifying, however, to notice England at the head of foreign exhibitors; as regards numerical strength. British art is represented by 99 painters, 24 sculptors, 51 engravers, 19 architects, 9 lithographers, and 51 water-colour painters. These contributors have sent 232 oil-paintings, 76 pieces of sculpture, 164 engravings, 128 architectural drawings, 33 lithographs, and 144 water-colour drawings. Thus British art is represented by 777 works!

It must be evident at a glance that France has the fairest chance of issuing triumphantly from this competition. She crushes all the other schools by the number and size of her contributions. In all the English collection there is not a canvas like Gerome's for size; it being some feet larger than the "Marriage of Cana." The first impression made upon the visitor, as he hastily walks through the vast galleries of this universal Art Exhibition, is that the English school looks small and feeble beside the daring and colossal pictures of France. Our paintings are said by the French artists to have all the effect of careful water-colour drawings. To Continental students they appear to lack force—freedom. Then, again, the familiar subjects chosen by English artists appear trifling in galleries, where the fall of Rome, the great passages of Scripture, the horrors of war and revolution, are dealt in to the exclusion of almost every other subject. Those students of art, in short, who would like to become acquainted with the prejudices and principles of our neighbours as applied to the British school, would do well to read Theophile Gautier's feuilletons on the subject, now in course of publication in the columns of the *Moniteur*. He will here find what the critic of a school headed by Ingres, Meissonier, Couture, and Delacroix, has to say of Mulready, Landseer, Milnis, and the rest of the men prominent in the British school.

We may pass rapidly by the contributions from Spain, that once reared a Murillo and a Velazquez; even Italy sends from the great cradle of the arts only evidences of her second childhood. We pause, near the Spanish school, before some elegant portraits of beautiful women, as the Duchess de Medina Coeli, the Countess de Robersart, &c., perhaps to regret that subjects so promising have not genius of a high order to deal with them; although the Spanish portrait painter Madrazo is a more than average painter. He has in moderation some of those popular qualities which are wonderfully developed in Winterhalter.

But we cannot linger in this part of the great Collection. We would even pass direct through the German Department, were we not attracted, in common with hundreds of visitors, to three remarkable pictures from Louis Knaus, of Wiesbaden. The subjects are not new, but the treatment is equal, fully equal, to Wilkie in his best moments. The first—"An Accompaniment of Grimace, surprised by the Village Constable," who is reading to them, with great pomp, some prohibitory law—is an exquisitely conceived picture, full of character, most happily, most delicately rendered. But the second picture—"The Morrow Morning of a Village Festival"—is the artist's masterpiece: here, the sad young girl, holding the head of her senseless lover; the shrew pulling her husband homeward, the said husband insisting upon having down some very abstruse law first, and the exhausted fiddler leering into an empty glass; while two fellows, more used to these scenes than the rest of the company, keep up a fierce discussion over a flaring light—all are touches most happily drawn from life. And then the force and harmony of the colours, the vigour of the drawing, and the breadth of the composition, are alike admirable. Wiesbaden should be proud of HERR KNAUS.

As we pass through the Prussian room we are reminded of the genius of Cornelius—and are told to regard it with awe, as it lies against the walls. These cartoons, for the Campo Santo at Berlin, are, beyond doubt, finely drawn. But it appeared to us that the attitudes were strained—that every figure appeared determined to earn its place upon the canvas by the most painful activity. Some of the groups looked, to our irreverent eyes, like an exhibition of the industry of all models! We were rather inclined to turn from these pretentious performances to the sweet mountain landscape, only a little too hard and literal in the foreground, of Findlar, to the exquisitely-finished cabinet pictures of Jean-Georges Meyer, especially "The Mother and Children"; or to Auguste Lesy's Norwegian landscapes, with circular effects as good as those of Turner or Jeanron. But, after all, the contention in the Exhibition will remain between the English and French schools. The Americans have sent one or two good pictures; but then they appear to be by artists who study and live in Europe. Rossiter's "Venice" is a fine imitation of Turner; but his "Primitive Life in America"—a moonlight scene—is his happiest picture—full and pleasing in colour. The rest of the American contributions exhibit mediocrity, without promise. In the same way we may pass by the gallery devoted to Belgium—pausing to note here one man who, more or less, successfully imitates Claude; then Joseph Stevens, successfully imitating Landseer. Holland, however, sends some pretty-finished studies, reminding the visitor of her old exquisitely literal school. There are, of course, from Prussia and Austria; Belgium and Holland, from the United States, and even from Sweden, Spain, and Italy, some good pictures; but none of these countries exhibits the strength of a local school. Now, when the visitor has passed through all these States, and arrives within the French or English provinces, he at once feels that he is in a region peculiar to itself. In France, for instance, he at once recognises the masterly little subjects, wonderfully touched, of the incomparable Meissonier; the daring drawing of Vernet; the majestic severities of Ingres; the deep feeling for character and beautiful palette of Decamps; the originalities of Delacroix and De la Roche; the stately presences and happy rose-tints of the courtly Winterhalter; the mournful power of Muller, the Etty-like nudities of Diaz; the shore scenes of Isabey.

In England, come the familiar subjects of Frith and Mulready; the elegances of Leslie; the peculiarities of palette, the property of Land seer, the high finish of Milnis; the equal finish and additional tenderness of Holman Hunt, the green, fresh landscapes of Lee, studded with the wonderful goats and sheep of Sidney Cooper; the broken-up landscapes of Creswick; the blood-red sunsets of Danby; and the severities of Maclise! To these should be added the humour of Egg and Webster, and the sweet colours of Goodall; and the fine sea dramas of Stanfield. We may even make other additions to this long list, for we have the fresh sea-piece of Duncan, one of which we have engraved. These, our neighbours as vainly endeavour to imitate as they endeavour to imitate the English subjects who figure in them.

Between the English and French schools there are broad marks of distinct separation. As there is not an English artist who could paint those scenes which Decamps has brought home from Turkey (that rush from the Turkish boys' school, for instance; and that butcher's shop, with the wondrous white wall!), so there is no French artist who could produce the sea of Stanfield, nor the glorious masses of foliage of Lee, Anthony, and others. Theophile Gautier has said, with truth, that the English school is completely original—original as the people among whom it has sprung up. Therefore, to our mind, it has strong vitality in it—even stronger vitality than that of France. For, [illegible] the only sense of art [illegible] before the genius of Ingres; must acknowledge the great merits of [illegible] and Decamps; must acknowledge gratefully masters like Delacroix, Delaroche, and even Vernet; must see strong originality in Jeanron and the beautiful landscapes of Rosa Bonheur; and must acknowledge the extraordinary promise that lies in young Gerome's enormous picture: but at the same time he may notice in the paintings of the younger men of the French school or at all events in those of the less prominent men—a tendency to the extra-severe and the extra-horrible. As a specimen of the former, we would refer the visitor to Flandrin's "Study of a Figure," marked 3076; which represents a youth—completely nude, his limbs marked with the rigidity of death—sitting, with his head upon his knees, at the edge of a precipice. As instances of the extra-horrible, we may cite "A Scene of the Inquisition," by Robert Fleury; and "An Inventor" (who lies dead, having been killed by an explosion), by Pengully L'Haridon—a wretched, sickening horror. These are the extravagances of the Classic school for which the French professors of art contend. M. L. Desanges' picture, which we have engraved, may be noticed to illustrate, not the extravagance, but the care and drawing—the art, which our neighbours love beyond all poetry of subject or tenderness of colour.

We shall return to this subject; and endeavour to test, by careful and conscientious contrast, the artistic strength of the various countries represented in this most interesting and instructive Exhibition.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. H., Brixton. The composition is meritorious, but the solution too evident.

[illegible] Salisbury. It can be solved in *three* moves easily—by 1. R. to Q B 2nd.

H. J. A. We shall try to find space for one or two in an early Number.

[illegible] H. R.—The old Problem sadly lacks point. Who is the author?

[illegible] AMIRA, NEUTRE, M. G. W.—Indigestible [illegible]

[illegible] The two are received.

[illegible] Your impromptu answer to the Geological Chess Enigma in our last is neat and true; but, unfortunately, we cannot spare room for its insertion.

[illegible] Brill. 2 Oct. [illegible] Chess" is published by Harrison, of Pall-mall. 2. [illegible] there are editions and translations without number.

[illegible] Problem [illegible] intended as one by our Frenchman Maldon are in active preparation [illegible] worm. 3. We know but of two copies in England.

TYRO. 1. You place the knight upon the square where the Pawn stood when promoted [illegible]

W. G.—The problem you send is not, that we know, the "Indian problem," but a stratagem of [illegible]

R. [illegible] Norwich, A. D. L., Bayliss, J. P., Guernsey [illegible] of the late Lord Audley, has at length come to sight, and is now in the hands of [illegible]

So [illegible] Problem No. 588, by [illegible] Norwich, A. D. L., Bayliss, J. P., Guernsey [illegible] Fitz, Chubby, Lucie [illegible] Robin Hood, S. M., [illegible] Rt. D. W., Secretary, Miles, Vernon, A. Clerk, W. P., A Member of the [illegible] Club, Medicus, Louis d'Or, Gregory, Rex, O. P., are correct. [illegible] others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 587

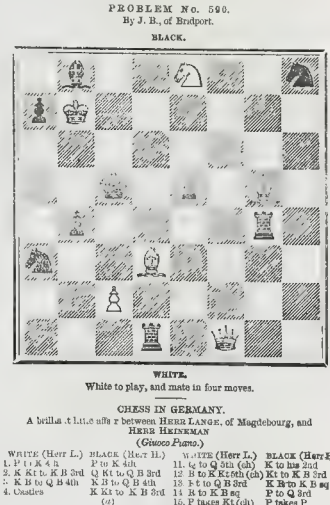
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Kt to K B 6th (double ch)	K to Q sq	3. R to Q 3rd	Anything
2. Q to K 6th	P takes Q, or (a)	4. Mates	

(a) 2. P to K Kt 7th
3. Q to Q 4th (ch), and mates next move.

PROBLEM No. 590.

By J. B., of Bridport.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS IN GERMANY.

A brilliant little affair between HERR LANGE, of Magdeburg, and HERR HEINKMAN

(Giuoco Piano.)

WHITE (Herr L.)	BLACK (Herr H.)	WHITE (Herr L.)	BLACK (Herr H.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	11. Q to Q 5th (ch)	K to his 2nd
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	12. B to K Kt 5th (ch)	Kt to K B 3rd
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	13. B x P	Q B P takes B
4. Castles	K Kt to K B 3rd	14. R to Q B 3rd	K R to K B sq
5. P to Q 4th (a)	K B takes P (c)	15. P takes Kt	P to Q 3rd
6. K takes B	Q Kt takes Kt	16. P takes Kt (ch)	P takes P
7. P to K B 4th	Q Kt to K 3rd	17. P takes R	R takes P
8. P takes P	K Kt takes again (d)	18. K takes P	R takes P
9. K R takes K B P	K takes B	19. Q to K B 3rd	P to Q 3rd
		20. Kt to K 4th	P takes P
10. K B takes Kt (ch) (e)	K takes B (f)	21. B to Q 3rd (discovering ch)	K to K 3rd
		22. Q to K B 6th (ch)	K to R 4th

And White Mates with his Queen in four Moves.

(a) [illegible] P to Q 3rd.

(b) The move [illegible] adopted by the magnanimous now is R to K sq.

(c) [illegible] Pawn would have been [illegible] would have won by moving his Queen to K B 3rd.

(d) [illegible] Kt square would not have been much better.

(e) [illegible]

(f) [illegible]

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 920.—By R. B. W.

White: K at Q sq, Q at K 7th, R at Q 6th, Bs at Q B 8th and Q R 3rd, Kt at Q Kt 4th.

Black: K at Q B 4th, Q at Q Kt 6th, Rs at Q sq and Q R 6th, B at K R 7th, Kts at K sq and Q B 8th, Ps at K B 2nd and Q R 4th.

White to play and mate in three moves.

No. 921.—By J. STONEHOUSE.

White: K at Q 3rd, Q at Q B 3rd, B at K R 3rd, Kt at K 2nd; Ps at K R 5th, K 4th, and Q 4th.

Black: K at K B 6th, R at K B 5th, Bs at K B 8th and Q R 2nd, Kt at K B 8th, Ps at K R 5th and 7th and K B 7th.

White to play and mate in four moves.

KARANJI, NEAR BALACLAVA.

OUR Artist has, in the Illustration upon the next page, sketched the village of Karanji, which is pleasantly situated about two miles and a half from Balaclava, and is now occupied by our transport service. The neighbouring hills afford excellent pasturage for horses. On the left, about midway up the hills, are stationed a heavy brigade of artillery; immediately upon the spur of the hill to the right is the Russian battery at Inkerman; on the right, upon the hill, about midway, is the division of General Vecroy; and in the distance are the plains of Balaclava.

The Illustration upon page 555 shows a picturesque group upon Sutlers Wharf, at Balaclava, with part of the landlocked harbour; the background of the picture being the bold hills by which this extraordinary place is environed.

THE VILLAGE OF KARANJI, NEAR BALACLAVA.—(SEE PAGE 583.)

AALI PACHA, THE NEW TURKISH MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MILLER, OF VIENNA.

GENERAL OSTEN-SACKEN, COMMANDER OF A RUSSIAN DIVISION AT SEBASTOPOL.

RECENT MINISTERIAL CHANGES IN TURKEY.—THE NEW GRAND VIZIER, AALI PACHA.

Before adverting to the career of this distinguished person, late Plenipotentiary Extraordinary of the Porte at the Court of Vienna, and now Grand Vizier, it may be as well to glance at that of the illustrious diplomatist whom he has supplanted. The services of Redschid Pacha to his country are universally acknowledged, and it is to be regretted that so able a Minister should be entirely removed from office. Men well acquainted with his talents, and with the spirit of the Turkish nation, consider his dismissal merely temporary. Whether this be the case or not, the good he has done will win for him honourable mention in history, and a place in the hearts of his countrymen.

Moustaffa Redschid, the ex-Vizier of Turkey, was born at Constantinople in the year 1802. Nearly related to the Vizier Ali, he learnt at an early age the arts of war and diplomacy. After the death of that Minister he received a place under Government through the mediation of the new Vizier, Izza Pacha. A volume of meritorious poems, which he published about that time, won for him the friendship of the celebrated poet, Perten, then Minister of Foreign Affairs. In 1829 he accompanied the Ottoman Plenipotentiaries on their mission to Adrianople; and in the following year he was made Assefji, or reporter of the Divan, and went in that capacity to Egypt with Khahil Pacha's expedition. On his return to Constantinople he was sent to Kutahie to confer with the Baron de Varennes, Chargé d'Affaires of France, relative to the conditions of the armistice between the Sultan and Ibrahim Pacha. Fresh honours were heaped upon him successively, till at length he was made a Pacha, and sent in the year 1834 as Ambassador to the Court of France.

"The arrival of Redschid Pacha at Paris," says M. Ubicini, in his "History of Turkey," "caused a great deal of sensation, from the fact of his being the first Turkish Ambassador sent to France since the year 1802. The easy air, polished manners, and natural vivacity of the young diplomatist—so different from what had been expected in an Envoy of the Grand Turk—won for him the friendship of every member of the high circle in which he moved, as well as the favour of the people. Most attentive at the Court, and at diplomatic assemblies and soirées, he yet found time to cultivate the acquaintance of men of art and letters, and left Paris for London universally regretted." A year's residence in the quality of Ambassador at the latter city completed his European education. One morning, on opening his despatches, he discovered a letter, totally unexpected, but most important, worded in the following terms:—

The flower of thy friendship will unfold at the news I send thee.

Khoreen smokes his *narghilé* in his solitary palace at Stamboul, and I sit to-day upon the cushions where he slept last night.

In a word I am *Sadrazam*, and my dear son Redschid is Minister of Foreign Affairs. Let him hasten, then, to quit the land of the infidel and rejoin me.

May the roses and jasmines of our friendship flourish for ever.

Perten

Redschid wound up his affairs in London, and immediately took his departure for his native country. But great was his dismay and his grief at finding, on his arrival at Constantinople, that his kind protector was no more. Perten, overthrown by the intrigues of his rivals, had received at Adrianople the fatal *cordon*, and died like a hero of old.

This unexpected event, although it saddened, did not injure, the prospects of the young Minister. He retained the portfolio of Foreign Affairs until the year 1838, when he was sent to London as Envoy Extraordinary. In the following year he visited Rome, and was presented to the Pope. The death of the Sultan Mahmoud again called him to Constantinople (3rd September, 1839), and he resumed his post of Minister of Foreign Affairs. It was thought that the reforms begun by Mahmoud would follow him to his grave. But this was not the case; for the splendid reign of Abdul-Medjid was inaugurated by many wise acts: Redschid Pacha, to whom the best reforms are attributed, was again sent as Ambassador to France, and remained there for three years. In the autumn of 1845 he was again appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs, only, however, to be advanced, a few months afterwards, to a still more important office—that of Grand Vizier. He occupied this distinguished position till the year 1853, when he was for the fourth time elected Minister of Foreign Affairs. On the 23rd Nov., 1854, he was once more elevated to the Vizierat, which he has recently resigned in favour of Aali Pacha.

Aali Pacha, the new Grand Vizier of Turkey, was, in the earlier part of his career, Ambassador at the Court of London. He was recalled to Constantinople in 1846, to fill the post of Minister of Foreign Affairs, which he did for six years. In 1852 he found himself at the head of the Government, but was soon obliged to resign in favour of Mehemet Ali. After having been for several months Governor of Broussa, he was chosen President of the Council of Tanzimat. At the end of the year 1854 he was again made Foreign Minister; and at the commencement of

SUTLERS' WHARF, BALACLAVA.—(SEE PAGE 583.)

the present year he was sent to Vienna as Plenipotentiary Extraordinary—a post which he has recently resigned on his return to the Ottoman Capital. He is a man of high character, and diplomatic [illegible].

FUAD EFFENDI, the New Minister for Foreign Affairs, is a poet, with a whole pedigree of poetical ancestors. He commenced his political career a short time after the death of Mahmoud—his first office being that of Ambassador Extraordinary at the Court of Madrid on the occasion of the Queen's majority. From Madrid he went to Lisbon, and was received in the Peninsula as flatteringly as Redschid had been at the French and English capitals. In the year 1845 he was appointed Grand Inter preter of the Porte—in which quality he gained the friendship of the Duc de Montpensier, and, through his intervention, the title of Commander of the Legion of Honour. Three years afterwards he was chosen Commissary Extraordinary of the Porte in the Danubian Principalities. He was not successful in defending those unfortunate countries against the oppression of their Muscovite protectors. In 1850 he was charged with a mission to St. Petersburg. In 1852 he was made Minister for Foreign Affairs under the Vizierat of Aali Pacha, but sent in his resignation shortly afterwards, on account of the overbearing behaviour of Prince Menschikof. He was then sent to the Grecian provinces, at that time in a state of insurrection, where, by his moderation and energy, he did much towards restoring the peace. Though abundantly occupied with military and diplomatic business, Fuad Effendi encouraged the fine arts, and became a member of the Imperial Academy, founded in 1851. He is one of the most remarkable men of Turkey; and, although his colleague, Aali Pacha, is not quite so liberal as might be wished, the Allies have no reason to be discontented with the change of Ministry in Turkey.

GENERAL OSTEN-SACKEN.

OF the Internal organisation of the Russian army less is known than of the civil departments of the State. This may account for the frequent blunders of the English press, on the subject of the *personnel* and past history of commanders in the service of the Czar. General Osten-Sacken for a long time suffered under the species of misapprehension, having been confounded with another officer, General Osten, who fought against the Turks in the campaign on the Danube. General Osten-Sacken is older in the service, and higher in grade, and in the confidence of the Emperor, than his namesake. He ranks, however, among the younger Generals of the school of which Liders and Riddiger are among the most remarkable members. Unlike other Generals now engaged in the Crimea, General Osten-Sacken cannot point to any laurels gained in the former wars of Russia, except those won in common with other officers who served in a subordinate capacity. The promotion, however, of the younger military chieftains to places of honour, is one of the characteristics of Russian policy especially developed during the present war. At all events our attention has been more drawn to this part of the system of the enemy than when we were mere observers of his campaigns, not sharers in the strife. General Osten-Sacken belongs to the German party in Russia. As his name implies, he is himself of German descent, and is one more instance of the wise policy by which Russia, when she incorporates the territory of other nations, also seeks to amalgamate with her own population and associate with her institutions the people whom she has conquered, and whom thus she seeks so easily to govern.

The past military career of General Osten-Sacken affords no salient points for biographical notice. His name does not appear in any prominent shape in the Russian campaign in Hungary, and his status in the army is too recent to permit his having been engaged in the wars of 1828-1831. He was Governor of Odessa at the time of its bombardment, and distinguished himself by the resolution with which he responded to the humane purpose of the Allies in sparing all those parts of the city that were not Imperial property. His treatment of the English who have fallen into his hands has evinced his appreciation of the motives which led the Allies to effect that change in the ancient modes of warfare In his government of Sebastopol, General Osten-Sacken has shown some of the rarest qualities of a military commander. In fertility of resource and indomitable perseverance he is not surpassed by any military commander of the present time. Should the war continue we may expect to see him hold a still more important command.

A RUSSIAN PICTURE OF SEBASTOPOL.—In spite of all the efforts which the enemy have made, our bulwarks stand as fast as ever. Long before the bombardment began, the journals of the West informed us that our walls and forts were speedily to be put to a new proof. This made us redouble our precautions, and we bore firmly the truly murderous *Ordinaire* fire which threatened all with destruction. Nevertheless, thousands were devoted to death, and it made one shudder to see the *Ekkorus* (the steam-boat) pass every two hours, during the bombardment, from the south to the north, with so many wounded that she could scarcely carry them. While standing in Bastion No. 4—the bastion which suffered most of all—I forgot the danger to which I was exposed in admiration of the cool and stoical conduct of our sailors. They fell and expired without a cry, though racked by the most fearful agonies. The southern side of our town has suffered most severely, and is scarcely to be recognised again. Five hundred houses have been totally destroyed, and grass is growing on their ruins. The beautiful theatre no longer exists. Though the upper districts of the town are not so much damaged, yet *there is not a single house to be seen which does not bear manifest traces of the bombardment.* The streets are everywhere rooted up by shot, and the pavement is totally destroyed, while at every corner stand whole pyramids of the enemy's cannon balls, and exploded shells, which were daily collected before the opening of the fire. In many streets five or six such pyramids are to be seen, each of them from eight to ten feet high. Nevertheless, business is continued, and booths are opened for the sale of goods. Prices, however, are enormously raised, and sugar costs one silver rouble (2s.) per lb. The supply of meat is more than abundant, but *bread is exceedingly scarce.* The streets are filled with people, and crowds of children run to and fro, assisting at the construction of barricades, and pelting each other with balls of clay. Our life in Sebastopol is agreeable to us, for use is a second nature. The greatest accommodation prevails in the harbour of Ekaterin, where cannon-balls, powder, fascines, sacks, and provisions are landed in astonishing quantities, as they are forwarded from the northern forts. In a word, neither the thunder of the enemy's cannon nor the siege of Sebastopol is suffered to disturb us any longer; we mourn over our adversaries, who are shedding their blood without result before our brazen walls. We read many absurd statements about the condition of the besieged; but the absurdest of all is, undoubtedly, the news that we suffer from want of supplies, and that hundreds of us are daily cut off by death—of all which no trace is to be seen.—*Letter from a Russian Officer, May 13.*

THE RUSSIAN ARMY FOR INDIA.—It seems tolerably certain that Russia intended to have tried her hand at a diversion in the direction of India, had we not deranged her plans by the invasion of the Crimea. There is a Russian officer now at head-quarters who belonged to a regiment that was actually told off for a march to India last year. There were several other regiments destined for the same expedition, but they, too, found themselves encamped on the Alma on the 19th September, and on the road to Bagtchesarai the following evening. The officers had been provided with books relating to India, and had been studying "the manners and customs" of the Hindoos and Mussulmans of the great Peninsula. It is said, to be sure, that it would be impossible for the Russians to transport an army over the torrid wastes which lie between them and India; but there was a certain Alexander, who once moved a vast [illegible] in the same direction, through regions more sparsely populated and less favorable, and the night is dark and starless, and the road is difficult, and is attended with considerable respecting greater *improvements*, we might add that, if a Russian Alexander the Great ever arose in these parts, our ideas about the value of these, as all calculations are which make nought of the inspiration and influence of military genius. The officer in question "hath a pleasant vein," and gives abundant proofs, in the present letter, to his members concerning the war, that the Russians are by no means destitute of humour. He sings one song anent the proceedings of Prince Menschikof after the Alma, which is sold by those who can appreciate it to be unknown fancy. The Prince is represented as having fled to a house in Bagtchesarai, out of the window of which he interrogates the passers-by respecting the fate of Sebastopol; and he is at last astonished to hear it has not been taken, and begins to dance with joy, to extol his grand flank march, and to boast of his splendid defence of the place. Another song, from the same mouth, puts the contest in a ludicrous light, and declares that the whole siege is only a struggle in order to see whether the Russians or the Allies are the best diggers and ditchers. "We build one redoubt, they build another; they make one trench, we make its brother, &c." The gentleman is a Pole, and was present at Alma and Inkerman. At the latter battle the company he commanded lost 75 men out of 100. He then served with the external army, but got tired of Tchorgoum and *blasé* with the monotony of life in huts. He collected all his resources, and gave a grand ball to all his friends in the Tchorgoum—champagne at 30s. a bottle; claret at 20s., and pickles at 10s.; and next day came into our cavalry pickets, with a brother officer, on the day of the races at Karanji, and has been living here ever since. *Letter from the Camp.*

THE MAINE LIQUOR LAW IN NEW YORK.—An elaborate opinion has been given by Judge Edmonds as to the power of the New York Legislature to pass a prohibitory liquor law. He argues the point at great length, and sums up with the following conclusion:—1. That it is competent for the Legislature to prohibit the domestic traffic in intoxicating liquors. 2. That the Act passed is constitutional and valid, and as applicable to imported liquors after leaving the importer's hands as any other. 3. That the means provided by the statute for the enforcement of its enactments are lawful and valid. 4. That the duty of enforcing the law is not confined to the officers specially named in it, but is devolved upon all those whose general duty it is to enforce any of the laws of the State against crime.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

LITERATURE OF THE WAR.*

AMONGST the numerous busy pens which the Turkish question and the war have already called into operation—treating the subject in the manner historic, descriptive, critical, or speculative, or all combined, as the case may be—none has produced a more decided sensation than that of the gentleman who styles himself—appropriately enough we believe—the "Roving Englishman." With opportunities for observation, both of the diplomatic and military history of the question, beyond those enjoyed by most men, he brings to bear upon it a spirit of independent, unsparing stricture, and a graphic power which few even of our acknowledged classic writers have surpassed. With a humour to condemn rather than praise; to lash with bitter denunciation and pungent sarcasm abuses and blunders, great and small, wherever he finds them; incapable functionaries, regardless of their rank and prescriptive honours; and systems, however, sanctioned by time and authority; is it to be wondered at that his pages should be eagerly perused by a public who for nearly two years have been chafing with indignant at the inexpacity and obstinacy of their rulers, and are now dearly paying the cost of their misdeeds? Truly and earnestly does the writer plead for those reforms which every friend of the country so earnestly calls for; but which our rulers appear not to appreciate—deaf to the solemn warnings which are daily pouring in their ears. "Ill does the family judge of the mournful but determined spirit of the times," says the writer in a powerfully-written preface to his "Pictures from the Battle-fields," "or they would qual before the strong clear intellects of those good and great men who are now so calmly and resolutely hostile to their corrupt and ignorant misrule. The writing which dismayed Belshazzar at his banquet is on their walls, but they read it not."

It is, perhaps, almost unnecessary to remark that in such a field, with such opportunities, and such inducements, there is always risk of overstepping the bounds of exact truth; of handling the lash a little too stoutly and too indiscriminately. This is the error which all who exercise power, without restraining influences, are liable to fall into; and from this error, we must add, the "Roving Englishman" is by no means free, and there suit is somewhat to mar the general value of his labours—not merely as regards their moral influence, but their pictorial effect. The able and fearless manner in which he has attacked the larger abuses of our State machinery; drawing aside the dark curtain behind which a family government have endeavoured to conceal the disgraceful and deplorable results of the system of trick, favouritism, and imbecility to which the councils and material interests of the country have been so long sacrificed, is worthy of the cause, and entitles him to the highest honour; but, when he goes from generals to particulars, and rents the veils of his splenetic wrath upon individuals—which he does unsparingly on persons in every department and grade of the service—he somewhat spoils his case, and leads one to suspect personal pique, and the undue influence of a jaundiced idiosyncrasy, as the source and origin of his strictures. We agree in much that he says ("Rambles in Turkey") in condemnation of our diplomatic system in the East;—as to the organisation and personnel of our consular establishments, the inefficiency of the staff of the Embassy—particularly their ignorance of languages, which obliges us to resort to hireling foreigners, chiefly Levantine adventurers, as interpreters between us and the Porte; and the impertinent self-importance, the habit of meddling interference, and, too often, the the utter bad faith and recklessness, of these mercenaries. But when we find an honest, able, and zealous diplomatist, who has represented the interests of this country at the Porte, off and on, for the best part of half a century, and who, during that period, has always seen through, and succeeded in thwarting, the intriguing policy of the common enemy—when we find a statesman of this class and character ridiculed in an unseemly manner, under the soubriquet of Sir Hector Stubble—his whole public career sweepingly denounced as either useless or positively mischievous—his personal character and domestic habits made the subject of flippant, we had almost said ribald jests—ay, even to the recesses of his "lonely dressing-room," where, as is said, "he sat angrily" the livelong day, whereas in that lonely dressing-room it would be more truthful to say that he laboured anxiously and unceasingly the live-long day, and often the live-long night;—we turn from the page with a feeling akin to resentment, that age and honoured service should be protested against such unpalatable attacks. When, in addition, we recollect that the subject of those laboured philippics is at a distance from home, in the midst of his public labours, and that official etiquette would prevent him from entering upon any defence against them, even if he felt inclined: whilst (as we have reason to believe) the opportunities for these disparaging remarks were obtained by the writer at a time when he was himself in the public service, probably in subordination to, and under the very roof of, that distinguished Minister, our charge against his bad taste almost sinks beneath the more serious charge of breach of faith. Public servants—however high, however humble, their rank—should always bear scrupulously in mind that, on quitting the service, they by no means become exempt from that pledge to secrecy, that honourable confidence, which properly exists as the basis and bond of union of all establishments. Even in private life, do we not listen with misgiving, with doubt, and with some degree of disgust, to the servant who abuses his late master or former colleague? After these observations, which we think do not exceed in severity the just requirements of the case—a case in which not only the personal reputation of an individual functionary, but a whole policy represented in his person, are involved—we may safely give, as a taste of the author's lively humour, a sketch of some of the incidents of a Council of State at Constantinople, the one in question being notably that which immediately led to the rupture between Turkey and Russia:—

There is a great Council sitting on the banks of the Bosphorus. The long hours of a bright summer day have rolled silently on, and the night is already far advanced; but it shows no signs of breaking up. The gilded coupes of the great dignitaries of the empire still remain moored along the quay, and the more modest boats of the lesser pachas still continue to glide noiselessly through them and discharge their occupants, who pace, with measured step and thoughtful looks, through the palace portals. Now and then there is a slight stir among the boatmen and servants, who are waiting so wearily outside. It is when the plain swift boats shoot rapidly up, which bear those important and excitable Levantines, who have contrived to obtain the extremely convenient births of dragomen to the foreign Embassies. It would be amusing, at any other time to notice the lofty humour of these fellows: how scornfully they elbow the most dignified Turks, and how they take advantage even of this awful moment to insult them sorely. What low-bred ignorance, what unlimited pretension they show! But the fate of a great empire is at stake, and we, at least, will not smile while the momentous game is being played out.

A rustling of robes and a louder hum of voices is at last making itself heard through the open windows, and comes gratefully to the ears of the listeners beneath. The Council is breaking up. The coupes begin to manœuvre their boats, and the tired servants stretch their weary limbs. Ricketts, the newspaper correspondent, so snubbed by the Embassies, is waiting for the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs to tell him the result of the Council. The Embassies will be making a mystery of the results of the news, which, we, at least, will not smile while the momentous game is being played out.

A rustling of robes and a louder hum of voices is at last making itself heard through the open windows, and comes gratefully to the ears of the listeners beneath. The Council is breaking up. The coupes begin to manœuvre their boats, and the tired servants stretch their weary limbs. Ricketts, the newspaper correspondent, so snubbed by the Embassies, is waiting for the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs to tell him the result of the Council. The Embassies will be making a mystery of the results of the news, which, mutinely pretending they, forsooth, know it. But the fate of a great empire is at stake, and

has had to do with him. In the long he has had to digest the last sublimated essence of robbery: for in Russia the Commander-in-Chief robs the Generals, and the Generals, after their degree, rob the Colonels, and the Colonels rob the Majors, and the Majors rob the Captains, and the Captains rob the Lieutenants, but all rob the soldier together. Russia presents, perhaps, the only example in history of a country governed by a military despotism, and in which the soldiers have been successfully kept in the same state of slavery as the rest of the community.

We have said enough to induce the reader to search further into these rattling pages of the "Roving Englishman."

"A Trip to the Trenches," was undertaken by "An Amateur" in the middle of January, and extended over a space of about two months. The author states his object to have been mere "curiosity," but there was some worthier motive than that to induce him to undertake a rough journey, at an unpleasant season; and that we believe was a sincere anxiety to know how our brave army was faring in the Crimea, and whether all the sad stories of privation and misery and mismanagement which had become so rife, were true or not. The result of his observation is to confirm all these reports to their extremest limits; and half the pages of the volume before us are occupied with a methodical iteration of sad details, which most of us have from time to time read disjointedly in the letters of newspaper correspondents, or in the evidence adduced before the Sebastopol Committee. The author's observations are marked with great feeling and good sense; and scattered through the grave revelations are sketches of camp life, and remarks upon military discipline and the policy and prospects of the war now engaged in, which are worthy of attention.

We pass over the painful account of the state of things at the hospital at Scutari, which fully confirms the worst that had been reported of them by Messrs. Stafford and Osborn, and others, only expressing a hope that, as "the sufferings of our noble sick at Scutari will fill one of the darkest pages in our history;" the fearful warning afforded by them may lead to the prevention for the future of mismanagement which occasioned them.

The "Amateur," despite all his forebodings on the subject, is absolutely startled at the ragged and wretched condition of our brave soldiers when

eye first fell upon some of them at Balaclava:—

"January 3rd.—The morning was bitterly cold—wind and snow, and twelve degrees of frost. The sight that met our eyes when we went on deck in the morning was really quite sickening. The stern of our vessel was about twenty yards from the shore, and there we saw scores of miserable, half-clothed, half-starved objects shivering on the wharfs, or trying in vain to keep their blood in circulation by shambling up and down; no workhouse could have shown a more abject set of paupers than did Balaclava that morning. Good heavens! was one's first thought, can these miserable objects, with scanty ragged coats, clothes in tatters, and boots in holes, or with none at all, be British soldiers, whom the country is informed by their rulers are at this moment actually borne down with warm clothing, and furnished with every luxury that the mind of the soldier can conceive! How fearfully have the Government been deceived, or how cruelly have they deceived the people of England!

The warm clothing was just now, on the 3rd of February, being served out, slowly enough, Heaven knows, and boots were being issued at the rate of six and seven pairs to each regiment. The distribution of warm clothing was not completed before the middle of February, and many officers' servants and bâtmen had not even received them by the 20th of the month!

Miserable as the men were when I arrived, I was assured that their condition had wonderfully improved during the last three weeks. If that was true, in what a pitiable case must they have been during January!

About nine or ten o'clock fatigue parties began to drop in from the front; gaunt, haggard, bearded men, with a reckless, desperate look that was indescribable. Many of these had sheep-skin coats; some of the artillery and cavalry good long blue great-coats, and even long boots; but the majority of the men, especially those of the line, were clothed in every imaginable patched-up, worn-out garment it is possible to conceive, there was not an atom of uniform visible amongst the lot of them.

Of the operations of the siege, and the feeling and spirit of the troops, he says:—

It is said that, when the fire opened on the 17th of last October, strict orders were given to spare the town! *Can been?* War cannot be a half-and-half measure. You cannot save both the enemy and your own men. We spared Odessa, to enable the army to raise Sebastopol; and we spare the latter in an equally unreasonable manner. And, moreover, it is rather bombastic to issue orders to spare buildings we cannot destroy.

After walking through the trenches—in which, by-the-bye, nearly all the guns were dismounted, or the embrasures filled with sand-bags—we wended our way to the advanced trench. All these martial arrangements have been so fully described by the press, and so truthfully depicted by the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, that any further description would be superfluous. If I had thought the men wretched and squalid before, those I now saw in the trenches were ten times worse; yet hardened and reckless as they seemed, they could boast of some as noble spirits as ever animated human clay. Miserable, cold, half-clothed, ill-fed, over-worked, the greater portion bearing the seeds of certain dissolution, there was not one of them whose heart-cut desire was not to have a "go at them again," as they said. They were all sick of the work, but their thoughts did not turn to *peace*, as the conclusion of what had occupied them so many weary months—it was *victory* they required

That was in January. Since then how many of these brave fellows, rendered reckless by disappointment and neglect, in the midst of severe privation, have been swept away by disease; insomuch that the whole army may have been said barely to have escaped annihilation. Yet, the old soldiers of six and ten years' service, the men who conquered at Alma and Inkerman; invaluable men, who can never be replaced, are more than half of them gone, and their places filled with boys and raw recruits; youths with sinews and joints scarcely set, with constitutions unformed, and who died off like rotten sheep before they had been many weeks in the Camp. "Of one draught of 150 which came out in January to the Scots Fusilier Guards (I think it was) all died; and many a regiment can tell the same sad tale of their recruits." However, it is to be hoped that this state of things has passed away never to return; and that the vigour and success of the coming campaign may compensate us in some sort for the disasters of that which is past.

Before we lay down the "Amateur's" well-written and interesting volume, we must make one more extract, relating an anecdote of the Scots Fusiliers, which deserves to be remembered:—

Some anecdotes I heard (the author writes) of the constancy of the troops displayed a spirit that would have done credit to the noblest of Rome's noble sons. It appears that at the battle of the Alma, where the 23rd Fusiliers were almost annihilated, the order was given out, "Fusiliers retire," the order being heard by the Scots Fusiliers, who had always been drilled as Fusiliers, and knew no other regiment of that name, they thought applied to them, and they had retreated a few paces before they discovered their mistake. At Inkerman, an officer, perceiving his men exposed needlessly to fire, said falling in numbers, called out to them to retire behind a low wall that offered some kind of shelter; but on this occasion, although the object was so evident, the men refused point blank, saying, "No, Sir, we retreated at Alma, and found it was a mistake; we will never retreat again." And there these gallant spirits fought till all, or nearly all, were compelled to make that last long retreat from which they could never be rallied!

Mr. Oliphant, the author of the able volume on "The Russian Shores of the Black Sea," has just published a pamphlet on "The Coming Campaign," which will doubtless, and deservedly so, attract attention. Having read this production with some care, we say at once that we do not participate with the author in the views which he propounds; and we will proceed briefly to state the reasons for our disagreement with him. To put Mr. Oliphant's scheme into a nutshell it amounts to this—that the Crimea was not the best point for our first attack and occupation; that the Transcaucasian provinces in Asia was the field in which we ought to have commenced the war; Redoubt Kaleh and Poti being the places of landing, and the base of operations. The writer says:—

It will hardly be questioned that, had we originally landed in the Transcaucasian provinces, a much smaller army than that which has for seven months been cooped up in a corner of the Crimea would have sufficed to drive the Russians beyond those mountain ranges which form the natural boundary of the empire in this direction.

The Crimean expedition, however, having been already actually undertaken, the writer speculates upon the difficulties attendant upon the occupation of that territory, supposing we should succeed in taking it; and upon the expediency of a partial withdrawal of our troops at the first favourable opportunity, for the purpose of commencing the proposed Asiatic campaign:—

The Isthmus of Perekop (he says), at its narrowest point, is about five miles broad, unapproachable by sea, by no means well supplied with fresh water and exposed to the Russian cannon, and swept in the cold forenoons by cutting blasts from which our army has already, in a more sheltered situation, suffered so severely. The burning sun of summer, the malaria of autumn, the snows of winter, and the stench exhaled from the Putrid Sea, would render the camp at Perekop a more disagreeable place of abode at all times; while a glance at the map will suffice to show that upon the long narrow Isthmus of Arabat troops would be exposed to still greater inconveniences. The forces at these two points, however, must necessarily be enormous, as upon them would be concentrated the whole strength of the Russian army, enjoying a free and uninterrupted communication with the interior. While, therefore, it may not follow, from a consideration of these circumstances, that a campaign in the Crimea, and the ultimate occupation of that province, is impossible, it is not to be denied that it is encompassed with grave difficulties; and at this particular stage of the war it may not be ill-timed to suggest, whether the fall of Sebastopol might not be advantageously followed by a partial withdrawal of our forces from that district, which is the strongest point of the whole Russian frontier, preparatory to a descent upon those outlying provinces, which have been universally regarded as its greatest weakness.

The reader need hardly be reminded that, since the above passage was written (about a fortnight ago), glorious successes have attended our arms, giving us the complete command of the Sea of Azoff, and of the whole eastern frontier of the Crimea; thus completely cutting off the Russian army from the source whence it has chiefly derived its supplies, and, at the same time, obviating the difficulties suggested in the way of our occupation. To proceed. Mr. Oliphant says:—

The Crimea might be temporarily occupied, but to hope permanently to annex to Turkey this distant peninsula which is now an integral portion of the Russian empire, would be as absurd as to imagine that it could be organised into an independent kingdom. But none of these objections exists in the case of the provinces beyond the Caucasus.

We apprehend that Mr. Oliphant's suggestions result from an erroneous impression as to the real scope and objects of the war, as far as they have been hitherto developed or propounded. It is not the object or intention of the Allies to permanently occupy the Crimea, much less would they be disposed to a permanent occupation of "the provinces beyond the Caucasus," engaged in an endless guerilla warfare, in company with the brave Schamyl and his mountain hordes. Neither is it their intention to "annex" that distant peninsula to the dominions of the Porte, which has already a greater extent of territory than it can well govern. The sole object now in view with the Allies is to destroy the supremacy of Russia in the Black Sea; and this will be effectually done by the destruction of Sebastopol, and the Russian fleet within its harbours and docks. This end would not even be approached or sided by a campaign in the Transcaucasian provinces; whilst, Sebastopol destroyed, and the Black Sea free from the terror of Russian armaments, apprehensions of further aggression in the Asiatic provinces of Turkey on the part of Russia, would be at an end. Sebastopol is the key to the occupation of the Black Sea, and the base of all contemplated Russian conquest; beside this, the Caucasus is a field of secondary and comparatively small importance. We wonder that when Mr. Oliphant stated that Sebastopol was "the strongest point upon the whole Russian frontier"—whilst the Transcaucasian provinces were "its greatest weakness"—he did not forsee the inevitable deduction to be drawn from this admission.

Mr. Oliphant urges his views not only in the interest of the Ottoman integrity, but of our own Eastern empire; and revives the oft-repeated threat of a Russian invasion of Hindostan. But, after referring to the fact that Lord Metcalfe and many of the best-informed and most cautious observers of Eastern politics have said much to explode that apprehension—showing its utter impracticability, and any conditions of affairs which may reasonably be supposed to occur—we need only observe that, as soon as the sting is taken out of Russia at Sebastopol, her powers for aggressive wrong in the East are gone.

A little volume, entitled "The Crimea; its Towns, Inhabitants, and Social Customs," by a Lady, resident near the Alma, although not properly speaking a war publication—making, indeed, no mention of the war, its causes, its policy, or its incidents—is entitled to notice under this head, inasmuch as it refers, and in a very useful and interesting manner too, to the grand seat of present operations. The authoress has resided during a period of nine years in different parts of the Crimea; and has travelled repeatedly over almost the whole of the peninsula; her store of information, therefore, is full and mature, not meagre and hastily collected. She is observant, has an eye to the picturesque, and to character; her style is lively, but unaffected; and those who wish for a genuine picture of the Crimea—its towns, its roads, its seasons, its natural resources, its historical associations, and the character and customs of its inhabitants, all combined within an extremely moderate compass—could not do better than procure this little volume.

THE RUSSIAN GARRISON IN SEBASTOPOL.—It is said that one of the privates of the 46th Regiment has given some very valuable information respecting the terrain of Sebastopol, and has corrected a serious misconception under which our engineers were labouring respecting the course of a creek in front of the left attack. The man had been for some years in Russia, and as a stonemason he laboured at the works of Sebastopol, and knows every street in it. He pointed out the position of the terminus of the waterworks, and of the engines working it; and it is now stated that there are no less than 300 guns all hid from view, defending these works, and raking the Redan, so that, had we assaulted and carried that formidable work, we should have met a fire on which none of our officers had calculated. The uneasiness report we receive respecting the strength of the garrison are most perplexing. But how can it be otherwise? Is Ivan Iwanowitch or Stanislas Petrosky likely to be better informed respecting the strength of the force to which he belongs than John Smith, No 2,003 of the 88th, or Daniel O'Connor, No. 609 of the 41st Welsh, are with regard to our army? And what do they know? It is ten to one if they could tell you the names of their Generals; and many men, strange as it may seem, can scarcely pronounce the name of the captains of companies. There is a strong conviction that the large camp on the north side of Sebastopol, which has been recently augmented, has very much of a dummy about it, as very few men can be detected unit. On the other hand, it is said that it is a sanitarium we are looking at; if so, there must be many sick and wounded outside Sebastopol. But why should the Russians place their hospital tents in sight of us, and put them in a hollow instead of placing them on the hill above? If I were permitted to state my own opinion, I would say that the principal body of the Russian army, under Gortschakoff, is encamped and hutted among the forests between the Belbek and the heights to the westward of Mackenzie Khutor. Their signal-posts and telegraphs would enable them to communicate either with Simpheropol or Sebastopol in a few minutes, and from these heights they could pour down with comparative ease, either to defend the north side, resist any attempt of ours to get round by Inkerman, or fill their intrenchments, camps and lines over the Tchernaya by Tchorgoun. As to the army of Baidar, it is no more to be regarded, according to all accounts, than last year's snows. It has melted away; and we hear that it has been absorbed altogether, but no one knows how or where. It is not unlikely that, finding that we were not disposed to make an attempt to force the passes on our right and rear, the corps was withdrawn to Simpheropol, or to the forts near Kertch.—*Letter from the Camp, May 21.*

PORTERS OF THE PARISIAN MARKETS.

THE "PORTS" DE LA HALLE, AND THE "DAMES" DE LA HALLE.

In the twelfth century the Governor of the Lazaretto of St. Lazarre had the privilege of holding upon the high road from Paris to St. Denys, a grand fair, which lasted a week or ten days. Philippe Auguste bought them a monopoly in the year 1183, and tranferred the fair to the Champeaux, or *Campella* in Paris—an open space between the Rue St. Denys and he Palais Royal. On the recommendation of one of his bailiffs, the King erected two covered halls or market-places, which were surrounded by a wall, and which in course of time became united to those of the city of Paris. Louis IX., who devoted himself to the encouragement of commerce and industry, made three proclamations relative to the sale of fresh and salt fish brought to the Halles, by which no one was allowed to sell those articles of food without first paying a fee, and obtaining the express permission of the Government.

Near the Champeaux stood the Cemetery of the Innocents, along the walls of which, Philippe the Hardy, son of Louis IX., stationed a number of "poor and miserable persons" to sell shoes and leathers. Later a vaulted gallery was erected, called the *Charniers*, or Charnel-houses. The pavements of tombstones, ornamented with epitaphs, were lined with linendrapers' and other shops, and offices of pubnoscribes. Beneath that sombre roof the gay world came and went, "dancing over graves."

Originally this cemetery stood in the out-skirts of Paris; but, in the course of a few years it formed the centre of one of the most populous *quartiers*. It was soon found that fumes exhaled from this den of corruption, and that the health of the living was imperilled by so close a fellowship with the dead. Numerous and loud complaints at length awakened those in authority to a sense of the danger that was incurred; and in 1785 it was decided that the cemetery should be cleared out and converted into a public market for the sale of fruit and flowers. During several months the streets leading to it were thronged with carts conveying bones and loam towards the outskirts on the southern side

At the corner of the Rue St. Denys stood a fountain, built in 1551, by the celebrated architect Pierre Lescot, and decorated with excellent pieces of sculpture, by Jean Goujon—one of the most illustrious victims of the massacre of St. Bartholomew. In order to preserve so noble a memorial of early French art, the principal stones were employed for the decoration of the fountain which now forms the centre of the market-place. Around it stand the places where the provisions are sold, and which were formerly marked only by large umbrellas fastened in the ground. In 1813 the city of Paris caused wooden galleries to be constructed, of which vestiges still remain. In a short time these again will be replaced by Halles, regularly built and covered over, of which the Emperor Napoleon III. has laid the foundation-stone. "These picturesque stalls," says a French writer—"these primitive tents of umbrellas, will soon disappear, 'like the baseless fabric of a vision,' leaving in their place a fine stone colonnade. What a transformation for the time-honoured Charnier des Innocents!

A similar and not less necessary revolution is being brought about in the manners of the inhabitants of this quarter. An old author, referring to the Halles, says:—"They are thronged with rogues, who make it a practice to rob the passers-by, and cheat their customers. But, perhaps, the worst are those who take to singing lewd songs and to selling fruit. To a poor person these harpies (generally old women) are fair dealing enough; but to the luckless young gentleman who stops to purchase an orange or an apple, they behave most shamefully. Either he must pay ten times as much as the article is worth, or depart amidst sickening imprecations and slang, that brings the blush to the cheek." Berthand in his "Ville de Paris," affords a tolerably good idea of the baneful eloquence of the women of the Halles. Vadé, whom flatterers have surnamed the Teniers of poetry, was particularly fond of heaping this jargon, which by the way, he knew how to talk too, when he liked. The sedate Dumarsais himself, after a sitting of the Academy, is said to have repaired to the Halles to let his jaded intellect run loose among the wild uncouth spirits of those haunts. It is to be hoped, however, that the purifying of their abodes will tend to the purification of their minds also, and that the time will come when the Halles will even be a respectable and a fashionable resort.

Already the greater part of the low taverns and places of vulgar haunt have fallen beneath the hands of the workmen. "Paul Niguet" is no more; and if the ragpickers and ballad-singers regret the downfal of that establishment, so famous for its vile *vin blanc*, the people of the Halles begin to appreciate the comfort and propriety of the new restaurants, and to accustom themselves to the manners of the bourgeoisie. It must not, however, be supposed that the dealers in fish, butter, fruits, and vegetables, are inferior in rank or in fortune to the bourgeoisie. Let any one who possesses the erroneous notion cast a glance at those brown fishwomen snugly ensconced in their stalls, their arms akimbo, and complacently awaiting the coming on of night. To see them in the exercise of their duties, few would imagine that among these women are fine dames who eclipse by the magnificence of their toilet and the lustre of their diamonds, the pretensions even of a *duchesse*.

This wealth, so laboriously acquired, is often squandered away in the most foolish manner by *parvenus*. Having been brought up in the faith that the sole object of life is the making of money, they find no pleasure when they retire from business, save in showing the world how much they have hoarded. But, although misers and prodigals are both abundant in the Halles, there are persons to be met with in that quarter who would be an honour to any society, and who not only acknowledge, but practise, the divine precept of charity to the poor and the afflicted. "Mauvaise tête et bon cœur" might be the motto of this singular population.

A glance at the history of France will show us that the Halles, under the ancient *regime*, furnished soldiers for all the insurrections, and that the women even have given the signal of resistance against the spendthrift Kings who exhausted the national Exchequer. During the fourteenth century Paris was the theatre of several revolts, excited by the exactions of Jean, surnamed the Good, and of Charles V. The Halles lent a firm support to the provost, Etienne Marcel, when that illustrious citizen attempted to obtain for his country a constitutional government. In 1731 it was the Halles that provided the first *maillotins*. Great excesses were committed at that time, which were punished in the most cruel manner. The inhabitants of Paris were despoiled of their municipal institutions; while immense numbers of bourgeois perished beneath the axe. The wives of those who were still in prison are said to have rushed in disordered groups—their hair about their backs, and the muddy tears trickling down their cheeks—to beseech the King to have mercy on their families. Among these wretched suppliants were many market-women from the Charnier des Innocents.

The Halles, always ready for insurrection, took an active part in the struggle between the Armagnacs and the Bourgignons, at the time when the butcher Caboch ruled over Paris. In the sixteenth century, when the religious wars broke out, the Halles declared in favour of Catholicism, and openly supported the Guise party against the Royalists. From the year 1588 to the entry of Henri IV. into Paris, they remained faithful to the Sixteen, and supported—with a courage worthy of a better cause—the hardships of a siege which reduced the capital of France to the lowest extremity. During the administration of Richelieu, when the Huguenots were advancing towards the centre of Poitiers, the inhabitants of the Halles, together with the lackeys and workmen of the town, put themselves in readiness to defend the frontiers. Other occasions were not wanting for the exercise of their energies. They did not remain neutral during the struggles between Mazarin and his enemies. They were, if not the first, certainly not the last, to exclaim "Vive Bruxvel! the friend of France! the father of the people!" In 1648, when the mother of Louis XIV. was compelled to capitulate with the insurgents, the women in the Quartier des Innocents were seen to glisten with spears and flags. The Duke of Beaufort, the unworthy successor of the popularity of the Duke of Guise, was surnamed the King of the Halles. With the exception of a few small disturbances, Paris was tranquil after the defeat of the Fronde, and the Halles do not again figure in history till the time of the first Revolution. The women of the Halles, in particular, were distinguished by the ardour and enthusiasm with which they embraced the popular cause. On the 5th of October, 1789, they assembled at the Faubourg St. Antoine, and marched in order to the Hôtel de Ville, amidst the sound of fifes and drums, crying, with voices that rose clear above the din, "Du pain! du pain!" They forced open the gates of the Commune, seized whatever weapons lay within reach, sounded the tocsin, and, armed with "clubs, broomsticks, muskets, and knives," put themselves in readiness to do battle to the body-guard. Maillart was obliged to put himself at their head, and conduct them to Versailles—a movement which led to the return of Louis XVI. into Paris. Marat, the "Friend of the People," became in a short time the favourite hero of the dames of the Halles. They crowned him with laurel-leaves; they carried him about in triumph after he had been acquitted by the Revolutionary Tribunal; they mourned for him after his death as the Martyr of Liberty. Constant frequenters of the Jacobin assemblies, they were called the "Tricoteuses" of Robespierre. The revolution which put an end to the Reign of Terror only tended to exasperate their political fanaticism; and, on the the 1st of April, 1795, they joined among the mob who penetrated, notwithstanding the soldiery, into the midst of the Convention, crying, "Give us peace, and the Constitution of 1793!" The Jacobin party was definitively vanquished. The Directory succeeded the Convention, and the Consulate the Directory. When Napoleon made himself master of Paris the Halles were not behindhand in yielding him their votes. From that time they have invariably supported the uppermost cause. Their enthusiasm for Napoleon I. did not prevent them from manifesting joy on the occasion of the Restoration; nor have they been lukewarm in their adherence to the present Emperor,

PARIS.—"DAMES DE LA HALLE."—DRAWN BY GAVARNI.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

FORTS OF LA HALLE, PARIS.—DRAWN BY GAVARNI.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

The disasters of war, a noble army wasted by overwork, disease, and the want of the common necessaries of life while within reach of our abundance of men and wealth—the national honour tarnished, and the national greatness diminished—ridicule abroad, and indignation at home, have apparently made the people forget the mal-administration of peace. It can, however, only be necessary to remind them of such matters as the public sewerage, as railway legislation, as our complicated and unequal system of taxation, to at once convince them that mal-administration of public affairs is our normal condition. War has only brought the mismanagement to a climax, and it can no longer be tolerated. Private affairs are well managed. Commerce is successful, manufactures flourish, enterprise is ever renewed with vigour, knowledge is continually extended, and labour increases in skill; but the administration of public affairs satisfies nobody. Even just before the war began, had proposed a great reform in the civil service. Long ago the Marquis of Lansdowne admitted that every business undertaken by the Government was mismanaged. Sir Robert Peel described the torpid hand of Government as unable to impart life to the things it touched. Mr. Macaulay, too, summed up an elaborate contrast between the exertions of our Government—active as in advance of other Governments—and the exertions of the people, and he emphatically and eloquently declared "that the barbarism of society belongs to the Government, and the civilisation to the people." The evil now complained of, and which it is now proposed to remedy, is not superficial and temporary but deep seated and long existing.

The contrast, be it remembered, which makes the nation dissatisfied and indignant is with the successful management of private affairs at home, not with the successful management of public affairs abroad. From the complaints continually made in the United States, we have reason to believe that public affairs are not better managed there than here. Referring to our ally and our enemy—and there are no other States in Europe in which the management of public affairs is not obviously worse than our own—it is notorious that a fine detachment of the French army perished in the Dobrutscha from mismanagement, and equally notorious, that in general public affairs are in greater disorder in France than in England. Every traveller in Russia, since Dr. Clarke, is utterly unworthy of trust, if public affairs there be not one mass of corruption. Great as are our losses, and arrowful our disasters, the sufferings and losses of the Russians from the time they entered the Principalities estimated at 250,000 men are ten times greater than ours. Even in peace, as we know from our own experience and from the testimony of others, public affairs are nowhere well and skillfully managed; and when nations go to war, in which General Napier say, "errors the rule, not the exception;" when they try to foil and defeat each other, their habitual mismanagement becomes, as we have lately experienced, terribly disastrous. Disorders so general must have a general cause; and, though found in details, must be traced up to principles. Not troubling ourselves further, however, with foreign nations—to which this brief reference is made merely as an illustration and as a warning against seeking improvement by following the system established in them—let us try, step by step, to trace our own faults to their source.

Our Commissariat has been deservedly blamed. What is the explanation of its deficiency? Hawas numerous enough for its duties, or, if not, the persons in society capable of performing them are so plentiful, that the want of proper persons cannot be alleged. But the Commissariat were really ignorant and negligent. Their duties for a long time were trivial and matters of routine. Their pay was regular and assured to them, and they had no interest in performing their duties well. Merit was not the path to promotion in the Commissariat, but parliamentary or official influence. The bulk of the commissaries were, in consequence, ignorant and supine; and, when a necessity arose for exertions dictated by knowledge, the Commissariat was found to be ruinously inefficient.

What is true of the Commissariat is equally true of every other branch of the public service. In no one is merit the invariable passport to success. In every branch, each public servant, unless he commits some flagrant offence, receives his salary regularly, and it is secured to him for life. In most offices, too, some kind of promotion goes on till it ends in a pension or superannuation allowance. In private life affairs are managed on a totally different principle. Merit there ensures success. The industrious, the intelligent, the zealous, the skilful—be they merchants, manufacturers, artists, or authors—as the rule, are sure to get on, and the reward of every man mainly depends on his own exertions. He receives what in his station and condition he honestly earns and neither more nor less. We do not mean to say there is no dishonesty in private life, that there is no fraud nor chicanery nor oppression amongst dealers and masters—but these cases are the exceptions. The business of society is, in the main, carried on honestly—and each man obtains what he deserves. The public servant is paid, whether he earns his salary or not. His reward depends very little, and often not at all, on his own exertions; and hence he does not exert himself, and the public service is ill done. In private life, whatever some unobserving grumblers may say, merit and reward go together; every man's fate depends mainly on himself. In the public service reward and merit are habitually dissevered, and the consequence is the mal-administration now with so much justice complained of. This is not the fault of individuals; it is the inevitable result of the laws of human nature, and the false system on which public affairs have been managed for a considerable period.

We must not throw the blame on the hereditary principle: the Crown is hereditary; property is hereditary; but the monopoly of office and political power is a usurpation. It begins with the oligarchy, it is continued by Parliament, and is tolerated by the people. From the accession of William III.—followed, after the reign of Anne, by the house of Hanover—in consequence of the Sovereign having been a foreigner, and having had neither property nor influence in the country, of which, till George III., the Monarch did not understand the language, the Government has really been made a property of by a few families heading political parties. The members of Parliament were not chosen, the Ministers were not appointed, subsequent to the accession of William III., because they were men of great capacity—consummate public administrators, who could and ought to regulate all the departments of the State on some reasonable and homogeneous principle—but because they served the purposes and preserved the power of the oligarchy. To that the public service has been made entirely subservient. Now and then an individual like the first Pitt or Mr. Huskisson forced himself by his merit to the top of the tree; but such cases were always exceptions to the general rule. The oligarchy which got hold of the Government when the foreign king came to the throne, kept it as long and as exclusively as possible in their own hands. They monopolised the bulk of the seats in the House of Commons, and still possess a large portion of them. They or their creatures always filled all the highest offices of the State, and appropriated to themselves all its emoluments. They were not appointed to these high places because they were efficient public servants, or men of commanding talents; but they seized them and kept them by means of their Parliamentary power. Thus the administration of public affairs has been for upwards of a century and a half vitiated at its source, and, in spite of considerable improvement continually introduced in its details, has now be[illegible] the national opprobrium [illegible] begins to be supposed [illegible] that [illegible] the natural consequence of Parliamentary government and of placing the [illegible] to [illegible] largely in the public business. But this is a gigantic error. [illegible] management prevails in Spain and Naples. The management [illegible] ning of the Revolutionary War, and all through the contest in the Peninsula, and the subsequent peace, before the Parliament was reformed and the liberties of the people were extended, than since. The Administration, in all its branches, is now purity, vigour, and perfection, compared to its condition under the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Bute, Lord North, or Lord Castlereagh. If the evil were an essential attribute of Parliamentary government or freedom, it would have increased in modern times; but unbearable as we find it, it is tested by our improved knowledge, it has very much diminished. In fact we are suffering from the neglect, ignorance, and corruption of our predecessors as much as from our own.

No persons have been more deservedly blamed, not even the Commissariat, than the Cabinet, which hastily dispatched an expedition without any adequate comprehension of the services it would have to perform, and the difficulties it would have to encounter. In their negotiations, as well as in carrying on the war, they have shown themselves inefficient. They, like all the subordinate officers of the Government, receive and hold their appointments from some other reason than their capacity, fitness, and merit. The first Secretary of State for War never evinced any talent for the post; but he had high rank and many connexions. The Ministers, therefore, receive and are assured of receiving large salaries without deserving them. They are, consequently, careless and negligent in performing their duties. They act, too, in carrying on the public service on the same principle on which they acquire office, and bestow all the subordinate situations on their friends and connections. The whole public service is made private property. Ministers endeavour to serve themselves, to secure Parliamentary influence, and to enrich their friends—not to serve the public. Throughout the service, from top to bottom—from the Prime Minister to the humblest commissary—reward and merit are, as the rule, dissociated, and no man gets what he honestly earns. A great moral laxity is the consequence. The sense of duty and of responsibility, essential in public life, is weakened; exertions are always limited, by the bare necessity of the case, and very often fall short of that. To get as much as possible out of the public, and do for it as little as possible—to plunder it whenever it can be safely plundered—has become a general rule for every class in society. This is the necessary consequence of the corrupt principle on which Ministers are appointed—on which they appoint their subordinates, and on which the whole administration of public affairs is framed. To speak plainly of the system, but making no personal allusion, it is palpably dishonest from beginning to end, and totally at variance with the system which ensures success to private undertakings, and makes the rewards of every man mainly depend on his own exertions.

From this explanation of the origin of the disorder, the theory of the remedy, however difficult may be the cure in practice, is obvious; but, not to crowd our columns with one subject, we shall postpone further remarks to another opportunity.

THE POSTAGE ON NEWSPAPERS AND BOOKS.

(From the *Gazette* of Tuesday, June 5.)

TREASURY WARRANT.

Whereas, by an Act passed in the fourth year of the reign of her present Majesty, entitled "An Act for the Regulation of the Duties of Postage," certain scales of weight and rates of postage were fixed and made chargeable and payable upon, for, or in respect of, letters, newspapers, Parliamentary proceedings, and printed papers, transmitted and forwarded by the post, and various regulations were made for facilitating the transmission of such letters and papers by the post; and by the same Act powers were given to the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, from time to time, by warrant under their hands, to alter and fix any of the rates of postage therein mentioned:

And whereas further powers were given to the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury by an Act passed in the eleventh year of the reign of her present Majesty, entitled "An Act for giving further facilities for the transmission of Letters by Post, and for the Regulating the Duties of Postage thereon, and for other purposes relating to the Post-office;"

And whereas by a certain warrant of the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, dated the 23rd day of January, 1855, it was ordered and directed that packets consisting of books, publications, or works of literature or art, might be transmitted by the post within the United Kingdom, subject to the several rates of postage and regulations therein contained;

And whereas it is expedient that the said warrant should be repealed, and that such other rates of postage should be charged, and such other regulations made, with respect to certain packets sent by the post as are hereinafter contained:

Now we, the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury, in exercise of the powers vested in us in and by the said before-mentioned Acts, or either of them, and of all other powers enabling us in this behalf, do by this warrant (under the hands of two of us, the said Commissioners, by the authority of the Statute in that case made and provided) order and direct that the said warrant, dated the 23rd day of January, 1855, and the several rates of postage and the several orders, directions, and regulations therein mentioned and set forth relating to the transmission by the post of packets consisting of books, publications, or works of literature and art within the United Kingdom shall cease and determine, and shall be, and the same are, hereby repealed and revoked. Nevertheless, no Treasury warrant repealed by the said warrant of the 23rd day of January, 1855, shall be revived by this warrant.

2. And we do further order and direct, that all packets consisting of books, publications, or works of literature or art, posted in the United Kingdom, may be transmitted by the post within the United Kingdom, subject to the several rates and regulations hereinafter contained; that is to say—

On every such packet, if not exceeding 4 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of 1d.

And on every such packet, if exceeding 4 oz., and not exceeding 8 oz. in weight, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of 2d.

And on every such packet, if exceeding 8 oz., and not exceeding 1 lb. in weight, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of 4d.

And on every such packet, if exceeding 1 lb. and not exceeding 1 lb. and one-half of another pound in weight, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of 6d.

And on every such packet, if exceeding 1 lb. and one-half of another pound, and not exceeding 2 lb. in weight, there shall be charged and taken one uniform rate of postage of 8d.

And for every additional ½ lb. in weight of any such packet above the weight of 2 lb., there shall be charged and taken an additional rate of postage of 2d.

And every fractional part of every such additional ½ lb. in weight shall be charged as 1 lb. in weight.

3. And we do further order and direct that no such packet which in length or width or depth shall exceed the dimensions of two feet shall be forwarded by the post under the provisions aforesaid.

4. And we do further order and direct that the postage of all such packets as aforesaid shall in every case be paid at the time of the same being posted, not in money, but by being duly stamped with the proper postage stamps or stamps affixed thereto, which stamps or stamps shall in every case be affixed or applied on the outside of every such packet, near the address or direction, and shall be of the value or amount of the postage payable thereon under or by virtue of this warrant, unless any such packet be sent from any department or office in or connected with the public service of her Majesty which shall keep a postage account with the General Post-office in London, in which case the same shall be forwarded post-paid, and the postage thereon shall be charged in such postage account.

5. And we further order and direct, that for the purposes of this warrant the terms "books, publications, or works of literature or art," shall mean, comprise, and include all books (whether printed, written, or plain), publications or compilations (whether in prose or verse), manuscripts, albums, music, prints, maps, charts, or plans, on paper or canvas or cloth, and whether printed or written), and any description of paper, parchment, or vellum (whether printed, written upon, or plain, or any mixture of the three), together with any binding, mounting, or covering of or upon or belonging to any book or publication or work, or any portion thereof, or of or belonging to any paper, parchment, or vellum, and any cases or rollers or pins or maps, music, or any other description of paper or otherwise, pencils, pens, or other articles usually appertaining to any such book, publication, or work, paper, parchment, or vellum, or necessary for its safe transmission, except where any such packet shall be transmitted by the post upon or in respect of which a less rate of postage than a minimum rate of 4d shall be paid, and in all cases where any such packets shall be transmitted by the post upon or in respect of which a less rate of postage than a minimum rate of 4d shall be paid, every such packet shall consist and comprise [illegible] books, publications, or works of literature or art, [illegible] or vellum, only shall be printed or [illegible] (whether bound or unbound) and shall not [illegible] or cloth, any packet consisting of [illegible] or other articles.

6. And we do further order and direct, that every such packet shall be sent open at the ends or sides, and either without a cover or in a cover or envelope open at the ends or sides, and that there shall be no letter, or be closed or open, nor any communication in the nature of a letter, or any enclosure, sealed or otherwise closed against inspection, nor any other enclosure not authorised by this warrant, sent in or with any such packet, nor shall there be any letter or communication in the nature of a letter written or printed in or upon any such packet, or on the cover or envelope thereof, nor (unless a minimum rate of postage of 4d. at all be paid upon or in respect of such packet) any writing whatever written in or upon any such packet, or upon the cover or envelope thereof, except the address.

7. And, in order to prevent any obstacles to the due and regular transmission of letters by the post, we do further order and direct that it shall be lawful for any officer of the Post-office to delay the transmission of any packet posted or forwarded by the post under the provisions of this warrant for the space of twenty-four hours after the time at which the same ought to be dispatched in due course of the post, or (at his option) until the dispatch of the mail next after that by which the same ought, in due course of the post, to be forwarded by him.

8. And we do further order and direct that the transmission of the packets aforesaid under this present warrant shall be restricted to such as shall be sent by the post between places within the United Kingdom, and by the post of any post town in the United Kingdom, and that nothing herein contained shall be construed to extend to interfere with or in any wise to affect any privileges beyond those granted by this warrant which may relate to the transmission by the post of printed votes and proceedings of Parliament, or of newspapers or other periodical publications, which are allowed to pass free by the post between places within the United Kingdom under the newspaper privilege, nor shall this present warrant be construed to extend to any packet sent by the post between the United Kingdom and places beyond the seas.

9. And we do further order and direct that if any packet, or the cover or envelope of any packet, sent or tendered, or delivered in order to be sent by the post, under the provisions of this present warrant shall not be open at the ends or sides, or shall in length or width or depth exceed the dimensions of two feet, or if there shall be any letter or any communication in the nature of a letter, written or printed in or upon any such packet, or on the cover or envelope thereof, every such packet shall and may be detained and opened, and at the option of the Postmaster-General shall be either returned or given up to the sender thereof, or be given up to the person to whom it shall be addressed, or be forwarded to the place of its destination; and every such packet, on being so returned, given up, or forwarded, shall be chargeable with a postage of double the amount of postage to which it would have been liable as a letter if the postage had been paid by stamps when posted, and such double postage may be either paid by the sender or be charged to the person to whom such packet shall be forwarded.

10. And we do further order and direct that, if any packet sent, or tendered or delivered in order to be sent, by the post, under the provisions of this warrant, shall contain any writing whatever (such writing not being a letter, or any communication in the nature of a letter), either enclosed in or written upon any such packet, or upon the cover or envelope thereof (except the address), and a rate of postage less than a minimum rate of 4d. shall have been paid upon or in respect of such packets, every such packet shall be forwarded charged with the amount of the difference between the postage paid thereon and the postage to which such packet would be liable as a book-packet under this warrant, together with a further and additional rate of 4d.

11. And we do further order and direct that, if any packet sent, or tendered or delivered in order to be sent, by the post, under the provisions of this warrant, shall contain any letter, or any communication in the nature of a letter, whether closed or open, or any inclosure sealed or otherwise closed against inspection, or any other inclosure not authorised by this warrant, every such letter or communication, or inclosure, may be taken out by any officer of the Post-office, and forwarded to the address on the packet, charged not only with the full rates of postage as an unpaid letter, but also with a further and additional rate of 4d., and the remainder of the packet, if duly prepaid with stamps, may be forwarded to the place of its address without any extra charge.

12. And we do further order and direct, that if any packet sent, or tendered or delivered in order to be sent, by the post, under the provisions of this warrant (any such packet sent from any department or office in or connected with the public service of her Majesty which shall keep a postage account with the General Post-office, and forwarded to the address on the packet, charged not only with the full rates of postage as an unpaid letter, but also with a further and additional rate of 4d., and the remainder of the packet, if duly prepaid with stamps, may be forwarded to the place of its address without any extra charge.

12. And we do further order and direct, that if any packet sent, or tendered or delivered in order to be sent, by the post, under the provisions of this warrant (any such packet sent from any department or office in or connected with the public service of her Majesty which shall keep a postage account with the General Post-office in London, and the postage thereof being charged in such account, only excepted), shall be posted, having thereon, or affixed thereto a stamp or stamps, the value of which shall be less in amount than the rate of postage to which such packet would be liable under and by virtue of the several regulations, orders, directions, and conditions hereinbefore contained, but equal in amount to 1d. at the least, every such last-mentioned packet shall be forwarded, charged with the amount of the difference between the value of such stamp or stamps so being thereon, or affixed thereto, and the postage to which such packet would be liable as aforesaid, together with a further and additional rate of 4d.; and if any such packet shall be posted without having thereon or affixed thereto any postage stamp, every such last-mentioned packet shall and may be detained and opened at any place in the United Kingdom, and, at the option of the Postmaster-General, shall be dealt with and chargeable in like manner as is hereinbefore directed with respect to any packet not open at the ends or sides, or exceeding in length, or width, or depth, the dimensions of two feet.

13. And we do hereby further order and direct, that in every case in which the postage chargeable on any packet under the provisions of this warrant, shall exceed the rates of postage to which any such packet would be liable as a letter, no higher amount than the letter rates shall be charged therein.

14. And we do hereby further order and direct that the several packets transmitted by the post under the provisions of this warrant shall be subject to the several orders, directions, regulations, and rates of postage respectively contained in a certain warrant of the Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury bearing date the 18th day of February, 1855, relating to re-directed and re-posted packets, and packets which shall be re-directed and again forwarded by the post.

15. And we do further order and direct that the terms and expressions used in this warrant shall be construed to have the like meaning in all respects as they would have had if inserted in the said Act passed in the fourth year of the reign of her present Majesty.

16. And we do further order and direct that this warrant shall come into operation on the 11th day of June inst.

17. And we do further order and direct that it shall be lawful for the Commissioners for the time being of her Majesty's Treasury, by warrant duly made at any time hereafter, to alter or repeal any of the rates hereby fixed or altered, or the regulations hereby made, and to make and establish any new or other rates or regulations in lieu thereof, and from time to time to appoint at what time the rates that may be payable are to be paid.

MONCK.
G. CORNEWALL LEWIS.

Treasury-chambers, June 4, 1855

The Principalities.—A letter from Constantinople, of the 24th May, in the *Séauphore* of Marseilles, says:—"The situation of Wallachia causes some anxiety here. In the evening of the 22nd the Ministers held a meeting on the subject; and M. Benedetti, Chargé d'Affaires of France, and other diplomatists, attended it. It is alleged that the Austrians expel from the Principalities all persons whom they consider obnoxious to their neutrality. It is said that some French subjects have received orders to leave. Complaints are said to have been addressed on the subject to the French Embassy and to the Porte; but it is this circumstance which is stated to have caused the presence of M. Benedetti at the last Ministerial Council. The English, on their part, are said to have made very strong complaints against Prince Stirby; so that this affair threatens to occasion a new complication. The Government is continuing to supply Bairam with a good deal of activity in obtaining recruits and horses in all the provinces of the empire."

Medical Practice in the East.—A very remarkable case, in which I was personally interested, has just occurred under my nose. My friend Lieutenant Pole, of the Camp, left Constantinople, ill, and in a state of complete exhaustion. I hardly knew him; his breathing laborious, a dull pain on the right side, and his general aspect such as might lead a common observer to suspect the incipient stage of a consumption. I induced him to recur, without a moment's delay, to the advice of a civilian and experienced member of the Byzantine faculty. This was done, and, after examining the symptoms, the doctor left us on Sunday evening, leaving his patient, and being called in on the following Friday, to my inexpressible surprise, I found him in that short interval "almost again." Right as his legs had restored apparently to life and vigour. The following is the course of treatment to which he had been subject, notwithstanding the extreme degree of prostration whereof my friend complained. Leeches were immediately applied across the hepatic region, which was subsequently rubbed with mercurial ointment. The pain was then somewhat subdued, and the fever likewise began to subside, and finally yielded, although of long standing, to light doses of quinine, which, however, dating from the last attack, was combined for several days in gradually diminishing proportions. No wine, brandy, nor stimulant of any description, was employed in this case to combat extreme debility, nor was one morsel of animal food tasted; and the whole diet for three consisted in a water decoction of rice and barley, for which was substituted about the fifth day weak chicken broth, with the sole sustenance allowed until my friend got finally out of bed and walked completely "admitted into life." On that day I saw him, to my great delight, up and in high spirits, and meditating an attack upon a potent dish of barley broth, with a stout red mullet in the rear.—*Letter from Constantinople.*

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WILHELM KAMPMANN.

London: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by WILLIAM LITTLE, 198, Strand, aforesaid.—SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1855.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 748.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

PARTY AND PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT.

THE Prince Consort has called public attention to the fact that the war has brought our system of Constitutional Government to "a heavy trial;" and the Prime Minister, while admitting the truth of the statement, has expressed his confidence that, notwithstanding all the difficulties created by our habit and privilege of free discussion, we shall be victorious in the struggle in which we are engaged, and conquer a peace "consistent not alone with the honour and glory but with the safety of the British nation." It would be both unpatriotic and unwise to doubt of this result, although it has become a fashion among a few at home, and among many abroad, to sneer at Constitutional Government in England as a system that works indifferently well in time of peace, but that either works intolerably ill, or does not work at all, in time of war. The enemies of popular freedom on the Continent affect to hold up our recent history as a warning to the too impatient nations of Europe, to deter them from imitating our example. They gloat over the disclosures before the Sebastopol Committee, as if neglect and mismanagement could only be found in a free country where the powers of Government are either dissipated or paralysed by the conflict of opinions and of authority. But, without stopping to prove, what every rational mind admits, that Despotic Governments have no immunity from error, even in the management of those wars which seem to be almost the only functions which they can decently perform, the British people can afford to let the sneerers continue to sneer at the liberty which they hate, and would crush if they dared. Englishmen may point with pride to the events now occurring in the Crimea, and in the Sea of Azoff, to show that there are a vigour and elasticity in the national spirit, and in the national institutions, which enable us to rectify error and mismanagement, wherever and whenever they display themselves; and to make the very obstacles and faults which might have been fatal to Governments less broadly based the stepping-stones to the noblest exertions and the most splendid triumphs. That our system of Government by Parliamentary parties has its defects, none know better than Englishmen themselves; but that that system, with all its defects, were they thrice as great as they are, can prevent, or even seriously impede, the progress of our arms when engaged in a just and necessary war, let no friend of Russia, or of the enslavement of humanity on the European Continent, be so foolish as to imagine. The freedom, if not licence, of discussion, which to them appears fraught with so much danger to our Government, is the safety of our institutions. Their abuses are hidden, and thereby perpetuated. Ours are disclosed, sometimes to our shame, but never to our discomfiture—for publicity of the evil, and the remedy to be sought, go hand in hand. Our national pride is often hurt by our own mismanagement, but we take care never to let it be hurt by anything which can be done by our enemies or our rivals. "We wash our dirty linen at home," as the old proverb recommends; and if those who see us engaged in the process fancy they are better off than we are because they have no linen, either to wash or to wear, they are welcome to the satisfaction which they may derive from their self-sufficiency—or their nudity.

Our Parliamentary and Party Government is a domestic matter; and for the benefit of those despotic rulers who fondly imagine that the populations they coerce have been cured of their admiration for British freedom by the spectacle of our mismanagement in the earlier stages of the war, and by the not very creditable displays of factious wrongheadedness which have been made in both Houses of the Legislature, but more especially in the House of Commons, it is well that they should know that the unsoundness which may be attributed to our Parliament does not extend to the popular heart. However we may squabble and dispute upon the great subject of the war, the nation would rather have such drawbacks to its complacency and comfort as its Gladstones, its Grahams, its Cobdens, its Brights, its Greys, its blundering officials, and its effete incapacities, plebeian or aristocratic, than be cursed for a single day or hour by the abrogation of its right of free discussion, and the establishment of such cut-and-dry despotisms as those under which the Russians are brutalised, and the Austrians repressed. However much its feelings may at times be outraged by the unpatriotic crotchets of some of its own children, from whom it hoped better things, the British nation, in its intercourse with the rest of the world, is true to itself. It may have occasion to be dissatisfied with many who presume to speak in its name from the benches of the Lords or Commons; but that is its private affair, and has no influence over its relationship to foreign States. These persons are in a decreasing minority, and our victorious fleets and armies are fast depriving them even of the little power which they once possessed. In the day of darkness and perplexity the voice of the croaker and the prophet of evil has a certain amount of potency derived from the temper of the people; but in the day of success the croaker and the grumbler share the fate of other anachronisms. Out of date, and out of place, their words fall powerless, and the people, proud even of their wayward children, can find time to admire the ability with which they argue a wrong cause, and the sturdy British courage, like that of John Bright, which can confront the sentiment and conviction of a whole nation.

It is quite true that our Parliamentary system is not exactly what it ought to be, and that the old dogma of Government by Party is somewhat inapplicable to our present necessities. But our Parliamentary system is in the course of purification; and Government by Party will again become possible and beneficial, when parties shall have assumed sound principle and not mere tradition as their guide of action. The old parties are broken up; but it was peace and not war which achieved their downfal. Neither Whigs nor Tories have a principle. The Whigs are not the friends *par excellence* of popular progress, as they pretend to be; nor are the Tories its enemies, as the Whigs assert. Neither do the names of Liberals and Conservatives express any real idea or governing principle. The Conservatives, so called, are often more liberal than those who arrogate the right to be called and thought true Liberals. The question of Parliamentary Reform first shattered and confounded the original elements of parties in the British Legislature;—that of the Repeal of the Corn Laws—carried into effect by a Conservative, and not by a man calling himself either a Liberal or a Reformer—achieved the destruction of Party. Perhaps the war—if, unfortunately, it last long enough—will lead to a reconstruction of parties, on a more sensible basis than these old and meaningless nicknames. But if not the war, some question of domestic and peaceful policy will afford the means whereby two parties may be formed and educated for a system of Parliamentary Government in accordance with the feelings and wishes of the people. At present parties are in the inchoate state of fermentation. They are forming—but are not formed. The old elements are so combined with new as to have lost their original characteristics and properties. But they will work themselves right in time, and this very confusion of parties and nice balancing of rival leadership, which despotic rulers, who do not understand our manners, consider as proofs of our weakness, are, in reality, the evidence of our strength. If such squabbles at home could dissolve the French alliance, or prevent the capture of Sebastopol and the discomfiture of Russia, the British nation might, perhaps, own that the ill-natured criticisms of foreign statesmen—or would-be statesmen—on our Constitutional form of Government, were justi-

GENERAL PELISSIER, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE FRENCH TROOPS BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE).

fied by its results. In the meantime, they are free to cavil if they will. They will neither disturb the equanimity of the British people, nor darken, in the eyes of their own subjects, the fair prospect of rational freedom, which shines before them, in a futurity, which may be distant, but which is certainly approaching.

GENERAL PELISSIER.

Jean-Jacques Pelissier, the present Commander-in-Chief of the French Army in the Crimea, was born at Maromme, near Rouen, in the year 1796. His father was superintendent of the powder-magazines of that city, and had among his acquaintance a great number of military men, who early instilled into his mind a love for their profession. At that time young men of courage and intelligence rose quickly in France young Pelissier possessed both these qualities in an eminent degree, and on leaving college, at the age of eighteen, was made an officer of the Etat-Major. At the Restoration, he was made a captain, and shortly afterwards a chef of division. In 1842 he was elevated to the post of Lieutenant-Colonel of the Etat-Major; and from that time his career has been one of uninterrupted success. The Government of Louis Philippe recompensed the services of Pelissier in a worthy manner. He was sent to Africa to act under General Bugeaud, commanding the army there, and distinguished himself by his soldierly qualities. The Arabs, led on by Abd-el Kader allowed their conquerors no repose. From the frontiers of Morocco to those of Tunis, and from the sea-coast to the desert, all the country was in arms. General Bugeaud, in his expedition against them, resolved to avail himself of the talents of Pelissier, and gave him an important post. In the report which he sent home of a successful excursion which had been made against the natives, he spoke of his Lieutenant-Colonel in the following terms: "Among the officers who have particularly distinguished themselves, I ought to mention Lieutenant-Colonel Pelissier, who is always to be seen in the front of danger, and wherever there is anything important to be done. He is one of the best of our Chefs d'Etat Major." In a subsequent despatch he made further—and, if possible, still more favourable—mention of his Lieutenant.

Lieutenant Colonel Pelissier was promoted to a full Colonelcy in the year 1843, and made Chief of the Corps Royal of Etat Major in the African army. A short time after his elevation he attacked the Flittas, who were in turbulent revolt, and completely defeated them. A year afterwards the Kabyles obedient to the call of S'd-el-Djoudi, rose in open revolt. Relying upon the natural strongholds of their country they braved the authority of France, and refused to pay the impost. General Bugeaud marched against them and defeated them, with little loss. In his despatches dated from the summits of the Flissar Mountains he again signalised the courage and intelligence of his Chef d'Etat Major. But the submission of the Kabyles was productive of little good. Abd-el Kader, always keeping to the mountains, harassed the French troops, and the tribes under their protection. General Bugeaud concentrated his forces in the province of Oran, gained the frontier, and encountered the Moorish army, under the Emperor Muley-Abderrahman, who was advancing to join the Arabs. The French General gained the most decisive victory leaving 800 of the enemy dead upon the field, and taking possession of eighteen of their flags and eleven pieces of artillery. In the brilliant engagement, which decided the fate of the Emir, Pelissier commanded the left column, and Colonel Cavaignac the centre. Scarcely a year had elapsed when the Arabs again broke out in open warfare. On this occasion Colonel Pelissier was vested with the command. In order to do justice to the character of the brave commander, it will be necessary to speak of that terrible drama which took place in the grottos of Ouled-Riah at that time, and which was the object of so much discussion in all parts of the world. On the 18th of June, 1846, Colonel Pelissier was engaged in a skirmish against the Ouled-Riah a tribe whose country had never been subdued, owing to the number of inaccessible caverns which it contains. The retreating hordes fled to one of their natural strongholds. The messenger which Colonel Pelissier sent to them to propose a conference was, contrary to the laws of warfare, and humanity, massacred in the cruelest manner. Combustible materials were then placed at the entrance of the grotto, and a second envoy was sent to warn them of the danger they incurred if they refused to yield themselves prisoners. The death-cries of this unhappy man, whom they were treating like his predecessor, were the signal for their own destruction. The pile was set on fire, and in a short time the cavern was enveloped in flames. What took place in this furnace can never be ascertained, as not a soul arrived. The cries of the women at length filled the hearts of the soldiers with pity, and many, at the risk of their own lives, rushed through the flames to the interior of the cave. Nine hundred burnt bodies were afterwards found stretched in heaps along the ground; nearly two hundred still breathed, but all perished in the course of the day. The news of this terrible execution made a great sensation in all parts of Europe, and in France especially. The *National*, the *Courrier Français*, and other influential papers, pleaded earnestly for the dismissal of the Colonel; even the Chamber of Peers took the matter into consideration, and on the 14th July, 1846, the Prince de la Moskowa called upon the Minister of War publicly to express his disapproval of the proceeding. The Comte de Montalembert seconded the motion of his colleague, and Marshal Soult (the Minister of War) announced "his regret for and disapproval of the melancholy event." Marshal Bugeaud, however, came forward in defence of his lieutenant, and pleaded the inexorable necessities of war. The Government acknowledged the force of his arguments, and on the 22nd April, 1846, M. Pelissier was named Maréchal de Camp.

The new General continued his operations; and, after taking possession of several towns, put an end to the campaign by the defeat of the partisans of Bou Maza. In 1851 General Pelissier was promoted by Louis Napoleon (then President of the French Republic) to be a General of Division. In the same year he was temporarily vested with the authority of Governor General of Algiers, in place of General d'Hautpoul.

A tolerable idea of Pelissier's character may be gleaned from the following extract of a proclamation which he made to his soldiers on the 19th October, 1851:—"Remember," he said, "that you owe everything to your country. You should be ever ready to sacrifice yourselves, if need be, for the grandeur of her destinies, and the defence of her laws." On the news of the *coup d'état* of Louis Napoleon, he put the whole colony in a state of siege; and in a proclamation which he published, expressed himself "determined to preserve order by every means in his power both within and without." General Pelissier was named Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour, and, leaving the government of Algiers to General Randon, took his departure for Oran, 31st December, 1851.

It was there that he distributed (in July, 1852) the eagles to the soldiers of his division:—"It is beneath these eagles," he exclaimed to the assembled troops, "that I, the oldest among you all, began my career. Around these emblems glorious heroes have gathered; let them be our models Watch over these your inseparable companions. I feel sure that all of you would face ten hundred deaths sooner than abandon your banners!"

A short time after this solemnity General Pelissier marched upon Laghouat, and took it by storm. The Emperor Napoleon wrote him a friendly letter, congratulating him on his victory, of which the following is an extract:—"My dear General,—It is with great joy that I read the account of those brilliant feats of arms which have recently been executed under your able direction. I expected no less from so good a General and so brave an army."

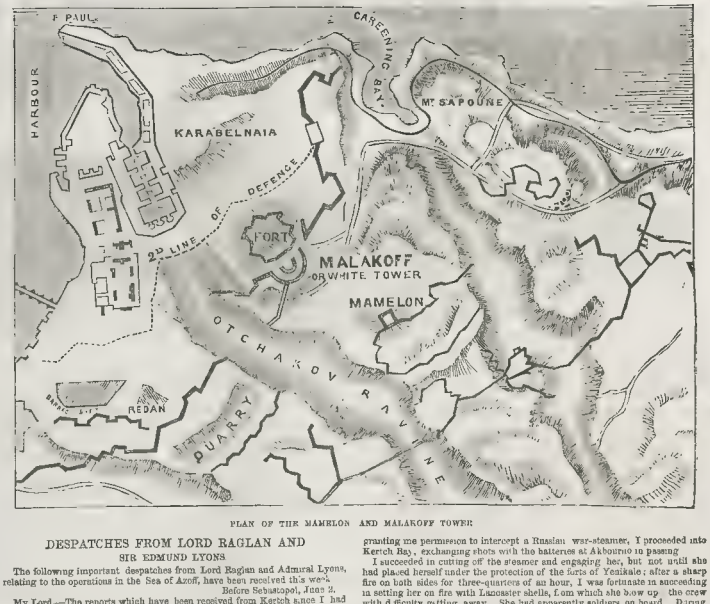
In 1854, at the special request of the Emperor, General Pelissier accepted the command of the First Corps d'Armée of the French Army in the East, of which he is now the Commander-in-Chief. General Pelissier is in his fifty-ninth year, having spent forty-one years in active military service.

THE MAMELON.

The Mamelon, as shown in the above plan, stands on the same ridge as the Malakoff and the Victoria attack, directed by the French on the right of Gordon's attack, against these Russian works. The Mamelon is about 400 yards in front of Malakoff, and has a greater command, in consequence of its superior elevation, than the work. Its capture has been long deemed essential, and the brilliant exploits of the 7th June are the realisation of long-cherished plans on the part of the Allies.

Our guns, when mounted in this newly acquired position, will have a double advantage over those of the Russians, firing in one from the direction of the Mamelon—implied in its name—and the depression of the Malakoff batteries below the general level, lying, as they do, at the bottom of a hollow. At the second bombardment it was found that while the Mamelon was greatly injured by the guns of Gordon's battery, the Malakoff batteries, although 400 yards (according to Prince Gortschakoff) behind it, suffered much more.

The Mamelon itself is a steep rocky eminence, about a mile in circumference at the base, and about a quarter of a mile at the top. Its average height from what was lately our advanced parallel is about 100 feet. The approach to it was swept by about forty guns in the Malakoff works: its own guns made its truly formidable; and when it is added that its steep sides are covered with masses of rock and loose stones, the difficulty of the enterprise of July 7 becomes apparent, and its success more striking.



PLAN OF THE MAMELON AND MALAKOFF TOWER

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN AND SIR EDMUND LYONS

The following important despatches from Lord Raglan and Admiral Lyons, relating to the operations in the Sea of Azoff, have been received this week.

Before Sebastopol, June 2.

My Lord,—The reports which have been received from Kertch since I had the honour of writing to your Lordship on the 29th May, are of the most satisfactory character

Five vessels, laden with corn, had come into Kertch, in ignorance of the capture of the place, and had fallen into the hands of the Allies

The French and Engl sh squadron had appeared before Berdansk, and the enemy, in consequence, destroyed four of their war steamers, and considerable depôts of corn.

They then exchanged a cannonade with the Russian forts at Arabat, and were so fortunate as to blow up a magazine with shells, and since, Capt Lyons, R N., of the *Miranda*, has performed a most successful operation upon Genitchi The Russian authorities of the town having refused to deliver up the Government depôt of corn and ninety vessels having on board supplies for their army in the Crimea, Captain Lyons bombarded the place with his squadron, and having driven the troops out of it, he landed the sailors and marines, and destroyed all the stores and the shipping

This brilliant and decisive success marks the resolution and daring of Captain Lyons, and fortunately was accomplished with no other loss than that of one man wounded

Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons states that in no longer a period than four days a squadron has destroyed 241 vessels, employed exclusively in transporting provisions to the Crimea; besides four war steamers and 6,000,000 of rations of flour and corn

I beg leave to offer to your Lordship my warmest congratulations on these important occurrences.

I have nothing of interest to report to your Lordship from hence, except that some more detachments of Sardinian troops have arrived.

A battery has arrived off the harbour.

I enclose the return of casualties to the 31st ult.

The Lord Panmure, &c. I have, &c., RAGLAN

DESTRUCTION OF STORES AT GENITCHI.

Her Majesty's ship *Miranda*, off the Town of Genitchi, May 29, 1855.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that I arrived here shortly after dark last night, with her Majesty's ships under my orders, and joined the *Swallow* and *Wrangler*, which ships had already destroyed or captured all the vessels in this neighbourhood outside the Straits of Genitchi; but a very great number had passed the Straits, which are only fifty yards wide, and are commanded by the low cliffs on which the town is built, and were moored inside, under the cliff.

At six o'clock this morning I sent Commander Craufurd with a flag of truce to demand the immediate surrender of all these vessels, and of the immense corn stores for the supply of the army in the Crimea, and of all Government property of every description; stating that if these terms were complied with I would spare the town and respect private property, but that, if not, the inhabitants were immediately to leave the town

Commander Craufurd was met by an officer of apparently high rank, who refused to accede to these terms, saying that any attempt to land or to destroy the vessels would be resisted.

The enemy at this time had six field-pieces in position, and with about 200 men with them, and, visible from the mast-head drawn up behind the town, a battalion of infantry, besides Cossacks.

Having allowed till nine am. for the reconsideration of the refusal to deliver up the vessels and stores, and receiving no answer, I at that time hauled down the flag of truce, and placed the steamers as near to the town and the passage into the Putrid Sea as the depth of the water would allow, but they were only able to approach within long range. Seeing that, if the enemy, who had removed his guns from their former position, could place them in the town, so as to command the passage, and that if he could place his infantry in a similar manner, it would be impossible for the boats to pass the channel and destroy the vessels and stores, I directed the ships to shell the town, which they did so effectually that the boats, as per enclosure, under the command of Lieutenant J. E. C. Mackenzie, got safely through the passage, and set fire to the shipping (seventy-three in number) and the corn stores. This service was ably performed by Lieut. Mackenzie, and the boats returned without accident.

The wind having shifted about two hours after the boats came off, some of the corn stores did not catch fire; conceiving the destruction of this corn, as well as of some more distant vessels in so favourable position for supplying the Russian armies in the Crimea, to be of the utmost importance, I sent the boats again, commanded and officered as before, although I was aware that from the enemy having had time to make preparations, it would be a hazardous enterprise. The ships accordingly resumed their fire upon the town, and the boats proceeded. Lieutenant Cecil W. Buckley, of the ship, Lieutenant Hugh Y. Burgoyne, of the *Swallow*, and Mr. John Roberts, gunner of the *Ardent*, volunteered to land alone and fire the stores; this offer I accepted, knowing the imminent risk there would be in landing a party in presence of such a superior force, and out of gunshot of the ships. This very dangerous service they most gallantly performed, narrowly escaping the Cossacks, who all but cut them off from their boat; at the same time Lieutenant Mackenzie pushed on and burned the remaining vessels, the enemy opening a fire from four field-guns and musketry, placed almost within point blank range of the boats. Everything being now effectually accomplished, the boats returned. Although several of them were struck by grape and canister shot, most fortunately only one man was slightly wounded. Lieutenant Mackenzie speaks in high terms of the coolness and excellent behaviour of all employed under his orders; and I trust I may be allowed to bring to your notice the conspicuous merit of Lieut. Mackenzie himself on this occasion, when more than ninety vessels, and also corn for the Russian army of the value of £100,000 were destroyed, owing to his gallantry and ability, with so trifling a loss as one man slightly wounded.

Since the squadron entered the Sea of Azoff, four days ago, the enemy has lost four steamers of war, 246 merchant vessels, also corn and flour magazines to the value of at least £150,000. I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. M. LYONS, Captain.

NAVAL ENGAGEMENT IN KERTCH BAY.

Her Majesty's ship *Snake*, off Yenikale, 24th May, 1855.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that, in obedience to your signal granting me permission to intercept a Russian war-steamer, I proceeded into Kertch Bay, exchanging shots with the batteries at Akhourio in passing

I succeeded in cutting off the steamer and engaging her, but not until she had placed herself under the protection of the forts of Yenikale; after a sharp fire on both sides for three-quarters of an hour, I was fortunate in succeeding in silencing her fire with a lucky shot, from which she broke up the crew with difficulty getting away. She had apparently soldiers on board. During this engagement the forts at Yenikale hulled the ship, and kept up a well-directed and continuous fire the whole time, which was returned with apparent good effect with our leeward shell.

Three steamers also came down from the entrance (to the Sea of Azoff) and opened fire on us with very long range guns, their shot frequently passing over us at about 4000 yards. I continued to engage the batteries and steamers after the arrival of the ships sent up to my assistance, until recalled by signal from the *Miranda*.

The whole of the sailing-vessels standing towards the Sea of Azoff were intercepted, and afterwards captured; two steamers, also intercepted in Kertch Bay, were blown up by their own crews, and a gun-boat sunk

The batteries along the coast, which fired upon us whilst chasing the steamer, also were blown up.

I should feel I was neglecting my duty unless I mentioned the zealous and creditable manner in which the officers and crew performed their duties; being very short handed rendered working the guns for so many hours a work of great labour. I beg to recommend for your favourable consideration Mr N. B Herbert (second master in charge), who with much skill conducted the ship through the intricate and comparatively unknown passage, under the guns of Akhourio, and inside the shoal of Yenikale, without any accident.

I am equally indebted to Mr. Sydney E. Wright, assistant-paymaster (an officer of long and meritorious service) for his assistance as a volunteer executive, who, with Dr. Roche and Mr. George Wilson (senior engineer), manned and worked the 12-pounder howitzer, sinking a gun-boat.

I am happy that no casualties occurred, and the *Snake* received but little damage, one shot through the mizen rigging, carrying it away, and one through the hull at the water-line.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) H. F. M'KILLOP, Lieutenant and Commander.

Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart., G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief.

OPERATIONS IN THE STRAITS OF KERTCH.

Royal Albert, Straits, June 2, 1855.

Sir,—In my letter, No 598, of the 26th ult., I stated that we had captured fifty of the enemy's guns It now appears that more than a hundred guns have been taken from the different sea-defences, many of them of heavy calibre, and remarkably well cast. These which may not be required for the land defences which the Allied armies are now constructing, will be shipped and sent to England and France.

It has been ascertained from the Custom-house returns that the enemy, on evacuating Kertch, on the 24th ult., destroyed 4,166,000 lbs. of corn and 508,000 lbs. of flour. This quantity, taken together with what has been destroyed by the Allied squadrons in the Sea of Azoff, comprises nearly four months' rations for an army of a hundred thousand men; and it seems that shortly before our arrival the enemy had commenced sending towards Sebastopol daily convoys of about fifteen hundred waggons, each containing half a ton weight of grain or flour.

A Sir George Brown confidently expects that by the 7th instant Yenikale will be in such a state of defence as fully to justify his leaving it in charge of the Ottoman troops now here, under the command of Hadji Reschid Pacha, and that the British and French forces will be at liberty to proceed to the attack of Taganrog and Soujuk-Kalé, in order to drive the enemy out of his last holds on the coast of Circassia. I am, &c., E. LYONS, Rear-Admiral.

To the Secretary of the Admiralty

LIST OF OFFICERS KILLED AND WOUNDED, AND NUMBER OF RANK AND FILE KILLED AND WOUNDED, ON THE 7TH AND 8TH INST.

KILLED.

Lieutenant-Colonel. 62nd Foot: Sheaman

Majors 42nd Dickson. 88th Bayley

Captains—2nd Battalion Royals. Muller. 42nd Forster 88th Corbett. Wray.

Lieutenants—34th Lawrence. 50th Stone. 62nd Machell. Royal Engineers Lowry.

WOUNDED

Lieut Colonel 90th Foot Campbell

Majors—7th Hussars 47th Villiers 49th Armstrong

Captains—Royal Artillery M Alex 30th Pennefather. 34th John Peel, Westhead 47th Lumsden H ther 41st Luton 62nd Ingall 77th Hills

Lieutenants 9th Evans 7th Halifax 34th Bennett 49th Young. Rustace 77th Dickson 89th Kenny 97th Mackey 2nd Battalion 1st Royals Bellew, Stewart. 47th Tyler 17th Boyd 48th Irwin 3rd Rifles 2nd Battalion 1st Royals Legge. 7th Jones, J. P Jones, Walter 55th Scott 88th Grier 96th Anderson

Assistant Engineer L J B Keen

Mr. Rawlinson is going on very favourably

The loss of the English on the 7th and 8th amounted to—non-commissioned officers, drummers, and privates, killed, 122; wounded, 510; missing, 15.

RETURN OF OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND PRIVATES KILLED, WOUNDED, AND MISSING, FROM 25TH TO 31ST MAY, INCLUSIVE.

KILLED

Corporals Rifle Brigade: W. C Smith 1st Foot: John Lee

Privates 1st Foot John Wyres 3rd John Dolan. 4th: Thomas Russell 18th: John Lynch 19th John Thompson 44th William M'Manus 68th: Michael Deeds 87th Daniel Dunn 88th Patrick Fitzgerald 77th George Woodward, Thomas Murphy, Alfred Dodd 97th James Ford

WOUNDED

Captains. 3rd Foot: W. Pownall, slightly. 34th: James Maxwell, severely.

Lieutenants 34th Regiment F C. Dayrn, severely

Colour-Sergeant.—68th Foot: James Whelan, severely

Sergeant.—7th Foot: George Beddoph, slightly.

Lance-Sergeants 4th Foot: John Good, dangerously 34th John Simlas, severely

Corporal—18th Foot: Dennis Murphy, slightly

Privates. 3rd Foot: William Bartlett, severely: John Mitchell, Edmund Day, slightly; 4th Edward Brady, dangerously; Robert Morris Henry Johnson, severely: Cornelius O Brien, slightly 7th: Thomas Graham, severely. 14th: Robert Dillon, severely. 17th: Andrew Nicholson, slightly. 18th: Owen Sweeney, severely: Peter Hughes, slightly. 30th: Samuel Mountain, slightly 34th: James Willcox, slightly. 39th Thomas Gallagher, slightly 44th. Christopher Ferguson, dangerously; Henry Jackson, severely: William Hulachy, slightly: Allen M'Alpine, slightly. 48th: John M'Manus, severely. 57th: James Ward, John Powell, severely: Denis M'Donald, slightly. 68th: Joseph Tomlin, Walter Lawlor, Thomas Walsh, James Harris, slightly. 88th: John Branghall, severely; Patrick Madden, James Atherton, William Hall, slightly. 89nd: Patrick Early, severely 77th George Greenway, slightly. 89th. John O'Hara, severely, George Smith, slightly 90th William Stirling, dangerously. Rifle Brigade. George Pitts, dangerously. Royal Sappers and Miners George Clubb, slightly

Gunners Royal Artillery: William Evans, severely. Samuel Burton, slightly James Legg. A.B., *Rodney*, severely; William Davey Coal, *Queen*, slightly.

Total—8 wounded

MISSING

Private—68th Foot: Robert Wooley

Total—15 rank and file killed; 3 officers, 3 sergeants, 43 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file missing.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

The Earl of DERBY called attention to the elevation to the Irish peerage of Mr. B. Roche under the title of Baron Fermoy. The Crown had the power of creating one Irish Peer for every three peerages which became extinct; but two of the titles, the extinction of which were presumed to authorise the creation of the peerage in question, were held by one person, and did not, in his opinion, warrant the course pursued.

A discussion ensued as to the legality of the new creation, in which Earl Granville, Lord St. Leonards, Lord Brougham, and other noble Lords took part, and ultimately the matter was referred to a Committee of Privileges.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBERS.

The SPEAKER, after thanking the House for their consideration in excusing his absence during his recent illness, drew attention to the fact that doubts had arisen as to whether Lord Haddo and Mr. Tite had taken the oaths and their seats according to law, in his absence—it is not of Parliament statute that the oaths should be taken at specified hours, while the House was sitting, and *in the presence of the Speaker*. He offered no opinion on the point, but threw it out for the consideration of the House, as actions might be brought against those hon. members for taking their seats without having taken the oaths according to law.

Sir G. GREY said, he had consulted several authorities, all of whom concurred that the point was doubtful, and under these circumstances he thought a bill should be immediately brought in to prevent any evil consequences resulting, and that it should be passed as rapidly as possible.

A short discussion took place, and, in the course of the evening, Sir G. GREY obtained leave to bring in a bill to enable Lord Haddo and Mr. Tite to take their seats as soon as possible, and also to protect them against any proceedings which might be instituted against them.

The bill was read a first time.

ADMIRALTY DESPATCHES.

In reply to a question from Mr. Bellew, Sir G. WOOD said, he was prepared to lay upon the table the despatches to Admiral Dundas which, by leave of Lord Palmerston, had been read by Mr. S. Herbert in the recent debate on the prosecution of the war, together with extracts from letters from Admiral Dundas, in reply. (The right hon. Baronet subsequently laid the papers on the table.)

EDUCATION (NO. 2) BILL.

The adjourned debate on the second reading of this bill was resumed by Mr ADDERLEY, who replied to some of the arguments of Mr. Henley, and, while supporting the bill, regretted that Sir J. Pakington had introduced the supplementary clauses for schools already in existence. The right hon. Baronet had sought for a theoretical perfection for his bill, which brought him to a practical contradiction. The bill of the right hon. Baronet and that of the noble Lord were based on the same principle, and, if both were referred to a Select Committee, as had been suggested, he thought a very good bill might be the result of its labours.

Mr. S. Davison said, the suggestion was to send all three bills (the two named and that of Mr. M. Gibson) to a Select Committee. He recommended to the attention of the House the last report of the Education Committee, from which it appeared that great expenses were incurred in the training-schools in order to have a junior class of teachers and assistants on the one hand, while, on the other hand, the children in the schools were becoming younger and less suited to such acquirements—the parents imagining that the teaching was so very good that it was unnecessary to leave the children so long at school as before. He adverted to Mr. Price's factory at Vauxhall as an admirable example of the beneficial results of a mingled system of labour and instruction; and thought that the plan there in operation would be well worthy the consideration of the Committee to which those bills might be referred.

Lord J. MANNERS said, it gave him great pain to oppose the bill of his right hon. friend (Sir J. Pakington), but he could not understand his objections to the existing system, though he had given the utmost attention to his speech. If he were to have his choice amongst the three bills, he would unhesitatingly select that of Mr. M. Gibson; but he called upon the House to reject them all, as being no improvements on the present system.

Mr. W. J. FOX thought the best course would be to send all three bills to a Select Committee; and, by an amalgamation, an eligible one might be brought before the House.

Sir J. PAKINGTON replied to the arguments of Mr. Henley, which was, for purposes of debate, a reply to his (Sir J. Pakington's) published speech, and contended that, in those arguments, he passed over all the stronger points of that speech, upon which his bill was mainly founded, containing hints with controversial points which were decidedly unparliamentary. He had brought forward his bill in no spirit of rivalry to Lord J. Russell, but because he thought that, owing to circumstances, the noble Lord had abandoned the subject. He was sorry to do so, he did feel most happy to act in conjunction with the noble Lord in performing a duty they owed to God and man, in removing the stain of such gross ignorance from the national character.

Mr. EWART moved the adjournment of the debate.

This was agreed to.

Lord J. RUSSELL moved that it be adjourned until Monday next.

Mr HADFIELD moved, as an amendment, that it be adjourned until Monday four weeks, in order that more important public business might not be interfered with.

Eventually the adjournment until Monday was agreed to.

HOUSE OF LORDS. TUESDAY.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP BILL.

The report on the amendment of the Religious Worship Bill being brought up,

The Bishop of OXFORD opposed the further progress of the measure, which, he urged, would obliterate the line of demarcation between the Established Church and Dissent. He moved that the bill should be recommitted that day six months.

The Earl of Harrowby, the Duke of Argyll, and the Earl of Shaftesbury supported the bill; which was opposed by Lord Carnarvon.

On a division there appeared—For the bill, 31; for the amendment, 39: majority in favour of the bill, 1.

The bill was then ordered to stand for a third reading

The Administration of Oaths Bill was read a second time.

The Education of Poor Children Bill was passed through Committee

HOUSE OF COMMONS. TUESDAY.

The Validity of Proceedings (House of Commons) Bill was read a second time.

Some further progress was made in Committee with the discussion of the clauses of the Metropolis Local Management Bill.

An arrangement was made by which Mr. Layard's proposition on the question of Administrative Reform would be brought forward as a substantive motion, to which Sir E B. LYTTON announced his intention of moving an amendment.

DECIMAL COINAGE.

Resolutions on the subject of a decimal coinage were moved by Mr. BROWN, who, in the first place invited the House to express their opinion that the initiation of the principle, by the issue of the florin, had been eminently successful, and that the further extension of the system would be of great public advantage. Further, the honourable member proposed that an address should be presented to the Crown, praying for the completion of the decimal system, by authorising the issue of silver coins representing the value of one hundredth of a pound, and of copper coins to represent one thousandth of a pound, to be called cents and mils respectively, or such other names as her Majesty might deem advisable. Respecting the principle of a decimal scale, he contended no difference of opinion existed. All authorities in commerce and science coincided on this point, and nothing remained but to select the most expedient method of carrying the system into practical effect.

Lord STANLEY seconded the motion, remarking upon the large concurrence of authorities in favour of the decimal principle of coinage.

Mr. J. B. SMITH moved, as an amendment, that a general congress of representatives of all nations should be invited to consider the practicability of adopting a common standard of money, weights, and measures. He considered that the suggestion of taking the pound sterling as the standard too high, and argued that if the monetary system alone was altered, without a corresponding modification in the general system of mensuration, much confusion would ensue, and serious injustice be inflicted on the lower classes of purchasers.

Mr. LOWE contended that the natural standard of value was assigned rather by habit than by science. Infinite disturbance in the existing arrangements of business transactions must follow any attempt at a change, for which no theoretical advantages in the system of notation could compensate

Mr. P. M'GREGOR advocated the immediate adoption of the decimal system of notation; as did

Mr. T. HANKEY, who considered the existing divisions of the English coinage to be altogether disgraceful—being utterly unsystematic in theory, and cumbrous in practice.

Mr. J. L. RICARDO supported the motion

The Chancellor of the EXCHEQUER reviewed the various schemes proposed for bringing the decimal system into coincidence, as far as possible, with the existing denomination of coins in currency. Among them, the plan suggested by Mr. Brown did not seem the most free from difficulties or objections; and he recommended the withdrawal of the present motion on the distinct assurance that the Government were seriously considering the subject.

Mr. CARDWELL, defending the scheme proposed in the motion before the House, remarked that no opponent of that scheme had ventured to express a preference for any other. The question was complex, and the practical difficulties involved were considerable; but the alternative lay between the adoption of the suggested system of decimal coinage, or leaving matters as they stood at present. With due preparation, he thought it as the public mind might be prepared for the great change that must ensue, but he acknowledged that the transition must be accomplished with extreme caution, for fear of hazardous consequences. For the present, he concurred in the recommendation of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the motion should be withdrawn, and the question left with the Government.

Mr. BROWN, in replying, consented to modify his resolution so as to have a simple enunciation of the opinion that the attempt to introduce the decimal system, by the issue of the florin, had proved successful.

After a few words from Mr. HEADLAM,

Lord PALMERSTON pointed out the inconvenience of pledging the House to a course which they were not ready at once to carry out in a practical shape. He urged the withdrawal of the motion.

On a division there appeared—For the resolution, 135; against it, 56: majority for the motion, 79.

NATIONAL EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

Mr. KENNEDY moved an address for a commission to inquire into the arrangements most desirable for rendering national education in Ireland more comprehensive and complete. The hon. member was proceeding to offer argument in support of his motion when the House was counted out at half past eleven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. WEDNESDAY.

SUNDAY-TRADING METROPOLITAN BILL.

On the order of the day for the House going into Committee on this bill, Mr. MASSEY moved that the bill should be committed that day six months. He contended that the bill would affect most seriously the working classes. He quoted the statement of an honourable member on the bench of the bill, to the effect that 999 out of every 1000 of the working classes were in a position to make their purchases on a Saturday night; but that honourable member did not go to the extent of saying that the whole of the working population were similarly situated. Again, it was true that some large employers, like Messrs. Marshall, paid their workpeople on a Friday night; but until it could be shown that such was a general practice the reverse of which was the case, no general argument could be founded upon it.

Lord STANLEY said that, notwithstanding what the hon. member who last addressed the House had said, he must support the bill. He contended that ample facilities were afforded to the working classes to purchase their provisions on a Saturday.

Mr. W. J. FOX supported the amendment.

Mr. K. SEYMER supported the committal of the bill; and said he had visited Houndsditch on a Sunday, and he considered that the whole of the open of Charles Dickens could describe the class of men who were frequenting the bazaar there, who were mostly of that class who were only seen in periods of political excitement. He learned from a policeman that there was nothing particularly immoral going on there except thieving (A laugh)

Sir J. SHELLEY thought there was a necessity, not for the prevention, but for the restriction, of Sunday trading. This bill was required as much for the working class as for the tradesmen, and he said that as the representative of a borough comprising a large number of the former class.

Mr. T. S. DUNCOMBE objected to an experiment being tried on the metropolis, continuing, as it did, three millions of persons. He thought the hon. gentleman who had escaped from the dangers of Houndsditch, and from his contact with greasy persons in long-tailed coats, whom he had seen nowhere else, would have been much better employed in his parish church (A laugh). He thought the powers of the Lord Mayor were sufficient to put down the immorality the hon. gentleman described in that district where he had extended his Sunday researches. He admitted that in many parts of the metropolis the Sabbath was unnecessarily desecrated, and he thought the more common-sense way in which they should deal with the question would be to prohibit all trading on a Sunday after eleven o'clock in the morning

Mr. WILKINSON opposed the measure. The farther they proceeded in their attempts to legislate on the present question, the greater they would find their difficulties

Sir G. GREY was in favour of going into Committee.

Mr. DRUMMOND would support any proper measure, but he must oppose the present

Mr. BENTINCK said, the bill would increase, instead of diminishing, the evil it sought to remedy.

Mr. MAGUIRE contended that the tradesmen who kept open their shops on Sundays chiefly administered to the necessities of the very poorest classes; and he denounced the measure as severe, stringent, and unchristian.

Mr J. WALMSLEY said that this bill would really have the effect of injuring the poorer classes from buying their food at a convenient period.

Lord R. GROSVENOR asserted that the upper classes had set the working classes a good example on Sundays. He (the Statistician) knew that on Hyde Park there was a large decrease in the number of private carriages and saddle-horses on Sundays, while the number of omnibuses and carriages in the same neighbourhood was undiminished. This he asserted corroborated his statement

The House having divided, there were—For going into Committee, 153; against it, 31: majority, 107.

Mr. W. J. FOX moved the words "provided always that no person of the Jewish race and religion shall in any case whatever be liable to any of the penalties inflicted under this Act" should be added to clause 1. He thought that this measure would operate unjustly on members of the Jewish persuasion, by interfering with their profits and depriving them of two days of trade instead of one.

The amendment was negatived without a division.

Mr. WILKINSON moved that the words restricting the sale of milk to the hours before nine o'clock in the morning, and after one o'clock in the afternoon, should be omitted from the third clause.

A short discussion ensued, after which the House divided, and the amendment was negatived, there being—For the original motion, 109; against it, 123: majority, 46.

Mr. CRAWFORD moved that ten o'clock should be substituted for nine o'clock in the same clause.

The House divided, and the amendment was lost by a majority of 107 to 100.

In the clause limiting the sale of newspapers to ten o'clock in the morning on Sundays.

Lord J. MANNERS moved that the sale should be restricted to nine o'clock.

Mr. T. S DUNCOMBE was opposed to any restriction at all.

Sir J. SHELLEY considered it would be better to omit the words *in toto*.

Mr. W. J. FOX was opposed to any such restriction.

Mr. SPOONER was in favour of the omission of the clause altogether, as he was opposed to the sale of newspapers or other periodicals on Sundays.

The House then divided, when there appeared—For the amendment, 51; against it, 169: majority, 116.

Mr. DUNCOMBE then moved that the words "ten in the morning" should be left out, and the words ten in the afternoon be substituted (Laughter).

The House divided, when there appeared—For the amendment, 61; against it, 154: majority, 93.

Mr. CRAWFORD moved the insertion of the words in the clause, "or after two in the afternoon," which he thought would be only just with respect to newspapers. This would permit of newspapers being sold out of church time.

The House divided, and the numbers were—For the amendment 67; against it, 140: majority, 78.

The Chairman then reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on the 8th of July.

SUMMER CIRCUITS OF THE JUDGES, 1855.

HOME CIRCUIT.—Judges, Mr. Justice Wightman and Mr. Justice Cresswell. Hertfordshire, July 10, at Hertford. Essex, July 13, at Chelmsford Sussex, July 18, at Lewes. Kent, July 23, at Maidstone. Surrey, July 26, at Croydon.

NORTHERN CIRCUIT.—Judges, Mr. Baron Platt and Mr. Justice Crowder. Yorkshire, July 10, at the Castle of the City of York; City of York, the same day, at the Guildhall of the City. Durham, July 24, at Durham. Northumberland, July 30, at Newcastle-on-Tyne. Town of Newcastle, the same day, at the same place. Cumberland, August 2, at Carlisle. Westmoreland, August 6, at Appleby. North Division of Lancashire, August 8, at Lancaster Castle. South Division of Lancashire, August 11, at Liverpool.

NORFOLK CIRCUIT.—Judges, Mr. Baron Parke and Mr. Baron Alderson. Buckinghamshire, July 11, at Aylesbury. Bedfordshire, July 13, at Bedford. Huntingdonshire, July 18, at Huntingdon. Cambridgeshire, July 20, at the County Court of Cambridge. Norfolk, July 24, at the Castle at Norwich. City of Norwich, the same day, at the Guildhall of the city. Suffolk, July 28, at Ipswich.

MIDLAND CIRCUIT.—Judges, Mr. Justice Coleridge and Mr. Justice Maule. Northamptonshire, July 10, at Northampton. Leicestershire, July 13, at Leicester; Borough of Leicester, the same day. Rutlandshire, July 17, at Oakham. Lincolnshire, July 18, at the Castle of Lincoln. City of Lincoln, the same day, at the Guildhall. Nottinghamshire, July 21, at Nottingham; Town of Nottingham, the same day. Derbyshire, July 25, at Derby. Warwickshire, July 28, at the Castle of Warwick. The Coventry Assize has been abolished.

OXFORD CIRCUIT.—Judges, Sir Frederick Pollock and Mr. Justice Erle. Berkshire, July 10, at Abingdon. Oxfordshire, July 12, at Oxford. Worcestershire, July 16, at Worcester; City of Worcester, the same day, at the Guildhall of the city. Staffordshire, July 19, at the Castle of Stafford. Shropshire, July 26, at Shrewsbury. Herefordshire, July 28, at Hereford. Monmouthshire, August 1, at Monmouth. Gloucestershire, August 4, at Gloucester; City of Gloucester, the same day.

WESTERN CIRCUIT.—Judges, Mr. Justice Williams and Mr. Justice Crompton. County of Southampton (Hants), July 10, at Winchester. Dorsetshire, July 16, at Dorchester. Devonshire, July 19, at the Castle of Exeter: City of Exeter, the same day, at the Guildhall. Cornwall, July 23, at Bodmin. Somersetshire, July 30, at Wells. Wiltshire, August 4, at Devizes. City of Bristol, August 8, at Bristol.

NORTH WALES AND CHESTER CIRCUIT.—Judge, Sir John Jervis. Montgomeryshire, July 17, at Newtown. Merionethshire, July 20, at Dolgelly. Carnarvonshire, July 23, at Carnarvon. Anglesea, July 26, at Beaumaris. Denbighshire, July 28, at Denbigh. Flintshire, August 1, at Mold. Chester and City, August 4, at Chester

SOUTH WALES AND CHESTER CIRCUIT.—Judge, Lord Campbell; who, after proceeding through the Circuit, will join the Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas at Chester, and the assizes for that city and county. The following are his Lordship's arrangements:—Cardiganshire, July 19, at Cardigan. Pembrokeshire, July 14, at Haverfordwest; Town of Haverfordwest, the same day. Carmarthenshire, July 15, at Carmarthen. Glamorganshire, July 18, at Cardiff. Brecknockshire, July 23, at Brecon. Radnorshire, August 2, at Presteign. Cheshire, August 4, at the Castle of Chester; City of Chester, the same day, at the Guildhall.

VACATION JUDGE.—Mr. Baron Martin will remain in town as Vacation Judge, and preside daily at chambers during the absence of the Judges on Circuit.

NEWSPAPER AND PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS.

The Board of Inland Revenue has issued the following notice:—"The Board of Inland Revenue, considering that a misconception exists as to the period at which newspapers may—under the bill which passed the House of Lords, but has not yet received the Royal assent—be printed without stamps, think it right to give notice that it will not be lawful to print any newspaper with it stamps until after fourteen days from that on which the bill mentioned shall have received the Royal assent, and that the bill will not, as seems to be supposed, take effect in that respect from the passing thereof."

SUCCESSFUL ENTERPRISE IN THE IRON TRADE.—The following estates have been purchased by Messrs. Baird, of Gartsherrie Iron Works, in the central iron district of Scotland, within the last five years:—The late Mr. Douglas Baird, Cleeshom and Shawsburn, £325,000; Mr. William Baird, Elie, £145,000; ditto, Rosemount and Whitefield, £50,000; Mr. William Baird, Bury, £120,000; Mr. James Baird, Cambusdoon, £50,000; Mr. George Baird, Belgrave, £140,000; Mr. David Baird, Stonyhill, Lanarkshire; Mr. Robert Baird, Auchmedden, £9,000: total, £895,000. The Messrs. Baird have been in all respects the architects of their own fortunes. The sons of a respectable farmer in Lanarkshire, their patrimony was but small; but, as it was, aided and guided by judicious enterprise, courage, integrity, and perseverance, they have fought their way manfully to fortune, and are at present among the largest iron manufacturers in the British empire.

SPANISH MULETEERS FOR THE CRIMEA.

Of the innumerable deficiencies by which the machinery of the Crimean expedition in its early stages was so unfortunately impeded, probably not one has been so prominent, or productive of so many evils, as the imperfect, or rather non-existent, ambulance, or hospital transport corps. All the witnesses who were examined on this point before the Sebastopol Committee were unanimous in their lamentations of the oversight which left so essential an auxiliary to the efficient working of the army unprovided for; and, though some of the home officials ostensibly responsible for the duty alleged that every precaution had been taken at the War and Ordnance and Commissariat Offices to ensure what was required, there can be little doubt that the forthcoming report of the Committee will stigmatise the incompetency, and perversity of their arrangements in a manner commensurate with the evils chargeable upon them in the respect we speak of. However, when these evils became so glaring that it was impossible for even official stolidity any longer to ignore them, it was resolved to make what provision for the shortcomings complained of that circumstances would permit. Accordingly, one of the first quarters turned to, both on account of its comparative proximity to the scene of operations, and its fruitfulness in the commodity desired, was Spain, where mules and muleteers were obviously most suited to the nature of the ground to be traversed, and of whose utility, under somewhat similar exigencies, the records of the Peninsular War furnished ample evidence. It was resolved, therefore, to organise a complete corps of animals and drivers, and it is to be hoped that, if the war continues, they will fully answer a purpose which it is lamentable to think they had not been long ago employed for. Our Sketch represents a group of muleteers on board the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's vessel, the *Doro*, in which our Artist, Mr. Mahoney, was a passenger on his way to Lisbon. These men come for the most part from Galicia, and certainly seem to have but small affinity, either in look or bearing, to those "young muleteers of Granada," of whom Moore sings as the embodiment of Iberian picturesqueness and animal vivacity: still less do they conjure up the Byronic portrait:—

How carols now the lusty muleteer!
Of love, romance, devotion, is his lay,
As without he was wont the leagues to cheer,
His quick bells wildly jingling on the way.

They do not carol at all; nor do they look as if they ever did or could carol; though they have unaccustomed incentives to hilarity, for the £3 bounty which they each receive is regarded as quite a little fortune, many of them never having seen so much money in their lives before, and deeming it quite inexhaustible, especially in connection with good wages ensured them, and the liberal scale of diet of excellent, and to them wholly unaccustomed, quality, provided gratuitously by the Company on the passage from Vigo to Gibraltar; from which latter place they are conveyed to the Crimea in the transports constantly proceeding to Balaclava. Up to the present time three detachments of these men have been forwarded from Vigo: the first consisting of only thirteen, the second a larger number, and the third of thirty—of whom the group represented in Mr. Mahoney's Sketch form a part.

These Spaniards will almost complete the representatives of the European nationalities which the fortunes of the present extraordinary contest have brought before Sebastopol and within its beleaguered walls Already there are Russians, Poles, Finns, Cossacks of the Don and the Black Sea, with varieties of the nations subject to the Muscovite rule from the White Sea to the Caspian, and probably to the very borders of China; whilst the lines which now almost enclose the doomed city bristle with the bayonets of the British and French and Turkish regiments; the latter containing a most miscellaneous assemblage of Africans and Asiatics, as well as of Europeans—including Egyptians, Tunisians, Arabs, Tartars, and Moslem races of one kind or another; besides the Sardinian Contingent, the Swiss of the Light Legion, Greeks, Corsicans, Maltese, Ionians, and other delegates to the great military congress now assembled to solve the old Napoleonic problem, whether the Cossack or the Liberal element shall be in the ascendant in the world during the remainder of the nineteenth century at all events. Add to these the reinforcements now being raised in Roumelia and Anatolia, under the recently promulgated Hatti-scherif of the Sultan for enrolling the Christian subjects of the Porte, and the number less individual specimens of Teutonic humanity constantly being contributed from the German States, and we may form something like a notion of the Babel in the Taurie Peninsula at the present moment.

EMBARKATION OF THE KING OF PORTUGAL AT LISBON FOR FRANCE.

As was expected, the recent visit of his Portuguese Majesty to our own and the other Quadruple Alliance Courts has given rise to a renewed and more prolonged tour. Upon this the King set out from his capital on Sunday, the 19th of May, under circumstances of great éclat and impressiveness—one feature of which our Sketch represents. The Lisbonians are passionately enamoured of all unusual spectacles, and certainly not often with more justice than on this occasion. Seldom has the glorious old Castle of Belem, overhanging the river, looked out upon a scene more picturesque. The day was beautiful, and the coup d'œil all that could be desired by the most fastidious light-seeker, and there are few more enjoyed than those who witnessed this. They possess one invaluable ingredient in the formation of a judgment on such a matter, viz., patience! They are content to wait, uncomplainingly, any reasonable, or rather unreasonable, time for an exhibitionately enamoured of all unusual spectacles, and certainly not often with more justice than on this occasion. Seldom has the glorious old Castle of Belem, overhanging the river, looked out upon a scene more picturesque. The day was beautiful, and the coup d'œil all that could be desired by the most fastidious light-seeker, and there are few more enjoyed than those who witnessed this. They possess one invaluable ingredient in the formation of a judgment on such a matter, viz., patience! They are content to wait, uncomplainingly, any reasonable, or rather unreasonable, time for an exhibition they expect it will be worth the delay; although well aware of official dilatoriness, they themselves are always punctual in their attendance at the advertised time. Thus they flocked in great crowds, and in their ultra-gala finery, to the vicinage of the Arsenal before nine o'clock in the morning, being apprised that that was the period for which the steamers were ordered to be off the gardens of the Castle; and the steamers accordingly were so, and with their steam up, prompt to the minute. But it was half-past eleven before his young Majesty, his brother, the Duke of Oporto, the King Regent (their father), and a numerous and brilliant staff, made their appearance, when they were greeted with tumultuous *vivas*, which the august personages acknowledged very graciously.

The Royal brothers were very plainly dressed; but the costumes of

SPANISH MULETEERS ON THEIR WAY TO THE CRIMEA.—SKETCHED ON BOARD THE "IBERIA" STEAM-SHIP.

the attendants of the Court, the great officers of the household, the uniforms of the military officials, and the sumptuous robes of a Bishop and of some minor ecclesiastics, presented an array of stars, crosses, laces, bijouterie, embroidery, and decoration of one sort or other, that the sense of sight almost ached at the effulgence. In the Sketch the figure on the right, conspicuous from his black beard, is the King Regent, who was greatly gratified by the cordiality of the reception of his sons; next him is the young King; behind whom is seen the Duke of Oporto; and below those Royal personages are two ecclesiastics, on the steps leading to the Royal barge. This antique vessel was canopied with crimson damask, embroidered with gold in the most elaborate manner; the state cabin being fitted up in a style of splendour truly regal, the gilded furniture covered with crimson satin, while the rose-coloured silk curtains were relieved by white and gold caryatides. Externally the barge was a mass of carving and gilding to the river's edge, and might truly be said to "burn on the water," like Cleopatra's galley on the Cydnus. The rowers, no less than eighty in number, were attired in scarlet jackets, slashed with yellow, and having badges on the breast; with crimson velvet caps, and white trousers, with a broad stripe of blue down the outer seam of the leg. There were two other state barges, less sumptuously decorated, however; and three Portuguese and two French steamers were awaiting the Royal party in the river, with steam up, anchors weighed, and the flags of their respective nations flaunting gaily in the sunlight.

Having taken leave of those who were not to accompany them on the voyage, and having received the episcopal benediction, the young King and the Duke entered the principal barge; at which moment the flag-ship, moored directly in front of the Arsenal, fired a Royal salute, which was responded to enthusiastically by the multitude on shore, with all the usual demonstrations of waving of hats and handkerchiefs. The three barges, glittering in the sunbeams, then rowed into the stream and round the flag-ship, to the steamers. The *Mendilla* had the honour of receiving his Majesty and his brother, with a few attendants, the remaining portion of their suite being divided between the other two Portuguese vessels. The two French steamers were sent by the Emperor to convoy his illustrious guests to Bordeaux; from which port, as the reader is already aware, they proceeded to Paris by railway; and one of these vessels, which kept steaming up and down the river while waiting for the Royal party, was a principal object of attraction until the King and his brother made their appearance. As soon as the Royal travellers were aboard the *Mendilla*, the French convoys placed themselves on each side, and the squadron immediately steamed down the Tagus, the two Portuguese steamers bearing the Royal suite following in the wake of the others. The whole affair was exceedingly brilliant; the charming weather, the gay attire of the spectators on the quays, especially the feminine portion, enhancing the general effect.

EMBARKATION OF THE KING OF PORTUGAL, AT LISBON.

THE "MAGICIENNE" OFF CRONSTADT, WITH RUSSIAN PRIZES IN TOW.

CAPTURE AND DESTRUCTION OF RUSSIAN VESSELS IN THE BALTIC.

We have been favoured by a Correspondent with the accompanying Sketch of H.M.S. *Magicienne*, with four prizes astern, captured on the preceding day by her and the *Merlin*, destroying in Biskopo Sound, near Wyborg, two Russian transports, laden with huge blocks of granite for a casemate battery at Cronstadt. The transports were, on Monday morning, the 28th May, towed by a small Russian man-of-war steamer to within three miles of where the *Magicienne* and her prizes lay hidden. On observing the English man-of-war, the Russian immediately cast off the transports, and made away with all speed towards the narrows leading to Wyborg, distant not more than six or eight miles. The navigation of the Bay of Wyborg being dangerous from numerous sunken rocks, and the narrows altogether impracticable for a vessel of the *Magicienne*'s size, prevented the chase being continued, which alone saved the Russian from capture.

On taking possession of the transports they were found to be unfit to be sent to England, and were consequently destroyed on the spot; one of them being for a time made a target for the *Magicienne*'s gunners. The prizes taken were chiefly laden with ryemeal for the use of the troops at Cronstadt, and are now on their way to England for condemnation.

ANTIQUITIES FROM KERTCH.

The curious relics which we have engraved are from Kertch (the ancient Panticapæum), and form part of a collection which was brought to this country a few years since by Mrs. Cazdley, and deposited in the British Museum; and they may be said to have acquired a new interest by our recent capture of the locality in which they were discovered. They were procured from tombs opened during some extensive excavations in the immediate vicinity of the present town, and consist of the following specimens:—1. Necklace of glass beads. 2. Copper coin of Mithridates. 3. Part of a wooden comb. 4. Fragment of stone moulding. 5. Silver coin of an ancient King of Kertch. 6. Plate-moulding, coloured. 7. Piece of wood-carving. 8. Ancient gold fibula, found in a tomb. 9. Ancient gold ear-ring, found in a tomb. 10. Wood-carved leg of a chair.

According to history it appears that the kingdom of the Cimmerian Bosphorus was founded by Archæanax, about 458 B.C., and passed, in 438 B.C., into the hands of the Thracian Spartacus, whose descendants reigned over it till the year 115 B.C., when Mithridates the Great, at that time King of the neighbouring country of Pontus, received it from the last of the preceding dynasty.

Panticapæum itself was probably founded in the sixth century B.C

ANTIQUITIES BROUGHT FROM KERTCH DEPOSITED IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

and continued under the kings of the Bosphorus, the capital of the country, down to the time of Justinian. Under Justinian, the town was surrounded by new walls; and, though it was taken twice (in the years A.D. 465, and A.D. 528) by the Hungarians and the Huns, it was too valuable an appanage of the Constantinopolitan empire, not to be immediately retaken by the Emperors of the East.

From the time of the Council of Nice, Panticapæum became the seat of a bishopric, and was the residence of the episcopal Bishop of the Goths, which in the ninth century was erected into an archiepiscopacy. In A.D 1333 this town was the seat of a Latin archbishopric, whose jurisdiction comprehended Georgia. In the fourteenth century the Genoese took possession of it, and from that time Panticapæum bears the differing titles of Cerco, Bospro, Pandico, and Aspromonte; in 1746 the Turks obtained it, and changed the name again to Ghersèée, whence is probably derived its present title of Kertsch, or Kertché, which it has borne since its last capture by the Russians, in 1771.

The position of Kertch is peculiarly beautiful. It is situated at the foot of a small hill, called Mount Mithridates, on the shores of the Cimmerian Bosphorus leading from the Sea of Azoff into the Black Sea, and the coupé-d'œil of the traveler who comes from the east is rendered, the town, the colonnade of the Museum built half-way up the hill, and a cenotaph raised to the memory of a former governor, Stempkowsky. The new Museum is itself a remarkable building for a place so remote. It is an exact copy of the Temple of Theseus at Athens, and is approached by five successive terraces of stone. It is ornamented with griffins, one of the most common symbols on the coins of ancient Panticapæum. This handsome structure was erected a few years since by the Governor, Prince Kherkeoulidzeff.

The whole of the ground around the town of Kertch bears testimony, in the number of its *tumuli*, or graves, to the long existence on that spot of a numerous and wealthy population; while the whole of the part of Mount Mithridates which fronts the sea is one immense mass of broken pottery, proving beyond a doubt that, as at Samos and Miletus, whence the first Greek colonists are said to have come to Panticapæum, this town, too, must in ancient times have had very extensive establishments for the manufacture of pottery. During recent years very considerable excavations have been made round Panticapæum, and a vast collection of valuable objects have been discovered in some of the larger tombs. The two most celebrated bear the local names of Tsarsky-kourgan and Koulobs. In these a vast quantity of golden and other valuable trinkets have been met with—some of which appear to have gone to St. Petersburg, some to have been placed in the Museum at Kertch, but the greater part to have been secreted by those who first broke into the tombs, and to have subsequently been sold piecemeal to strangers.

An excellent work has been published at St. Petersburg, by M. Sabatier, entitled "Souvenirs de Kertch," in which are several admirable engravings of some of the finest things which have been discovered there, and especially of a splendid sarcophagus of wood which is preserved in the Museum at that place, and is a unique specimen of antique work

We may be allowed to express a hope that the late attack on Kertch by the Allies has not resulted in the wanton destruction of any works of ancient or modern art in the town itself; but think, at the same time, a careful search will be instituted in the private houses of the inhabitants, in which it is well known that there are still a great number of valuable objects, originally taken from the tombs.

PRINCE ALBERT ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

At the annual dinner of the Trinity Corporation on Saturday evening last, at the Trinity-house, his Royal Highness Prince Albert proposed the health of her Majesty's Ministers in the following terms:—

Gentlemen, The toast which I have now to propose to you is that of her Majesty's Ministers (Cheers) If there was ever a time at which her Majesty's Government, by whomsoever conducted, required the support, ay, not the support alone, but the confidence, good will, and sympathy of their fellow-countrymen, it is surely the present (Loud cheers). It is not the way to success in war, to support it, however steadily and enthusiastically, and at the same time to tie down and weaken the hands of those who have to conduct it (Cheering). We are engaged with a mighty enemy, who is using against us all those wonderful powers which have sprung up under the generating influence of our liberty and our civilisation. You find him with all that force which unity of purpose and action, impenetrable secrecy, and uncontrolled despotic power have given, while we have to contend him under a state of things intended for peace, and for the promotion of that very civilisation, the offspring of public discussion, of the friction of parties, and of the popular control on the Government and the State (Hear). The Queen has no power to levy troops, nor has she any at her command but such as offer their voluntary services (Hear). Her Government can take no measure for the prosecution of the war which it has not beforehand to explain in Parliament. Her armies and fleet can make no movements, nor even prepare for any, without their being publicly announced in the papers. No mistake, however trifling, can occur, no want or weakness exist, which is not at once denounced and even sometimes exaggerated with a kind of morbid satisfaction (Loud and continued cheering). The Queen's Ambassador can enter into no negotiations without the Government having to defend him by entering into all the arguments which that negotia or, in order to be successful, ought to be able to shut up in the innermost recesses of his heart (Loud cheers). Nay, at the most critical position, when the delicate diplomatic relations may be at their height, an adverse vote in Parliament may at a moment deprive the Queen of the whole of her confidential servants. Gentlemen, our Constitutional Government is undergoing a heavy trial, and we shall not get successfully through it unless the country will grant its confidence—patriotic, intelligent, and self-denying confidence—to her Majesty's Government (Loud cheers). Gentlemen, I propose to you to drink the health of Viscount Palmerston and her Majesty's Ministers

The toast was drunk with great cheering.

Viscount Palmerston replied: May it please your Royal Highness, my Lords, and Gentlemen—I beg, on the part of my colleagues and myself, to return to you our best and sincere thanks for the honour you have done us in drinking the toast which his Royal Highness has been kind enough to propose, and for the flattering manner in which you have been kind enough to receive it. I can assure you that there is no roof under which that toast could be more agreeable to our feelings than the roof under which we have now had the honour to have it proposed. We are assembled under the roof of a body whose duties are intimately connected with those arrangements which form one of the most important elements of our national wealth, and which also lay the foundation for one of the most important sources of our national strength. There is, indeed, a unity of operation between the Government that may have to administer the affairs of this country and the body which has done us the honour to receive us, which also tends to make that honour which has been conferred more agreeable to us, for it is the function of the Trinity Corporation to provide pilots for those thousands of keels that plough the waves that wash our shores; and, on the other hand, to erect those lights which warn navigators from dangers which they would otherwise have to encounter, and which point out to them the havens where safety is to be obtained (Hear, hear). Well, gentlemen, the duty of Ministers is of a somewhat similar description. It is the duty of Ministers to guide and to enlighten, and we well know, taking the example from yourselves, that, properly to guide, we must begin by enlightening. Gentlemen, we are now entrusted with the command of the vessel of the State, and I am proud to say that that noble vessel was never in better "trim," was never better forwarded, never better on board a more noble crew than at the present moment. It is full of men animated by the most exalted devotion to their duty, and determined to bear in the "battle and the breeze," with honour and safety, that Royal standard which floats nobly and gloriously over their heads (Cheers). We have certainly up to the present moment had storms and difficulties to encounter; I am convinced that, with the assistance of that crew which I have mentioned, those difficulties and disasters will be surmounted, and that by a "strong pull, a long pull, and a pull altogether," we shall be able to bring the vessel of the state safely through and under her in the harbour of honourable and permanent peace. His Royal Highness had been pleased to say that a Government, especially in such perilous as the present, ought to receive the generous confidence and support of the nation. I am bound to say that we have received that support, honourably and generously, from the country, and that the unanimous feeling of the nation is the most important source of the confidence we feel in our duty to pursue; and we should indeed be unworthy of that support—we should be little deserving the high position in which it has pleased her Majesty to place us, and in which we are supported by the confidence of the Parliament and by the support of the whole British nation—we should be unworthy of that confidence and support, if we were not determined to exert our best energies, and to direct the best energies of the country, towards obtaining that victorious result of the conflict in which we are engaged, which alone can be consistent, I will not say with the honour and glory, but with the safety, of the British nation.—The noble Lord resumed his seat amid much cheering.—*Daily News*

The King of Portugal and the Duke of Oporto, accompanied by their suite, and attended by the Comte de Niewerkerke, visited Versailles on Tuesday, and, after going over the Chateau and the Great and Little Trianon, were present at the playing of the grand water-works.

The Princess de Sagan has commenced an action, at Berlin, against Governus, for having stated, in his "History of the Nineteenth Century," that she had been seen on horseback, seated *en croupe* behind a Cossack!

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.—THE REMEDIAL PRINCIPLE.

To trace the errors of our Administration to their source is obviously easier than to reform them. One reason of this is that the real power of the State has silently passed out of the hands of the oligarchy; and the public, which has acquired it, though the victim of the old and mischievous practices, has never till now taken into consideration the means of reforming them. As the body moves obedient to the mind, not of itself, so nations are moved by opinion as it "points the path to good or evil." Putting aside all technicalities, therefore, and assuming that public opinion as declared by the press is now the real governing power—and we have of late seen the Ministers, and even Lord Hardinge, very obedient to it—the first thing needful in order to obtain Administrative Reform is to enlighten public opinion. The process is slow but sure, the fruit may be long in ripening, but by no other mode can it be successfully matured. Such, too, seems to be the view of the Administrative Reform Association, for it says few people know anything about Government offices, and it proposes—auxiliary to the newspapers—to get information and lay it before the public. At the enthusiastic meeting held at Drury Lane on Wednesday this was stated to be its great object; and hoping, by this means, to promote reform in the Army, in the Navy, in our Diplomacy, and in the Civil Service. On all these subjects we cannot enter: we only aspire to elucidate a principle, which must be carried out, according to times and circumstances

It is apparent that—subordinate to the separation of men into different classes and conditions, a point essential to be remembered—public opinion, now to be brought systematically to bear on the administration of public affairs, is the means of securing to each individual in private life his proper reward. All exchangeable value, by means of which every kind of mutual service is paid for, is always settled by the conflicting estimates of buyers and sellers. A certain definite proportion of the produce of the national industry by the higgling of the market is given to the landowner as rent, to the capitalist as profit, and to workmen as salaries or wages. The smallest sum of money which pays for the bread, cheese, tea, or sugar, sold in pennywortbs over the counter, is divided amongst these classes, each in proportion to the public estimate of the value of the services rendered. New classes such as bankers, engineers, authors, artists—as society progresses, continually rise to wealth and honour, and their rewards are, in all cases, determined by the value which the public, well served by the banker and the engineer, and delighted by the author and the artist, sets on their respective labours. Public opinion can, and must, in like manner, determine the rewards if not the functions of all public officers. Roused at this time, and on this topic, into unwonted activity, if judiciously directed it will achieve, to the public benefit, the much-desired Administrative Reform; if not judiciously directed it may ere long stagnate in hopeless disappointment or explode into ruin. What we are about to propose is auxiliary to the reform suggested at the meeting, or the means of obtaining them, and is definite and precise.

One principle of the Constitution is, that the money for all administrative purposes is to be voted by the House of Commons, and, in fact, it does actually hold the purse-strings of the nation. The portion of the national resources devoted to pay the National Debt is placed beyond its power; but all the money which pays the Army and Navy, and the Civil Service, is by it annually voted. Here is the means by which public opinion can exercise a minute and effective control. Hitherto, no part of the Administration has been so slovenly and negligently performed as that of imposing taxes and disbursing the public money. No principle has dictated its proceedings; and hence, at the end of thirty years' peace, we have a multitude of incongruous taxes—direct and indirect, unfair to individuals and unjust to the nation—which hamper industry and promote fraud. Now, this is the essential duty of the House of Commons; and, as a notable example of the manner in which it has been performed, let us mention that it ordains three kinds of rates—the Property-tax, the County-rate, and the Poor-rate—to be all levied from the same property, and for each rate the same property is estimated at a different value. The House of Commons works a sum in addition three different ways, and obtains three different results—two must be wrong—and it sanctions and ordains all three.

Again, as to the Estimates—the Minister brings down his thick folios, in which the whole sums required are stated at the beginning, and distributed into numberless minute details through many pages, throws them on the table, and the investigation of them is left to chance. They are, in due time, put to the House, are read hastily short by the almost breathless Chairman of the Committee of Supply, and hurriedly assented to by members who are chattering, talking, and running backward and forward the majority of whom are generally mere hangers-on of the Government. As the money is voted that the Minister asks for, so the means of raising it are also adopted at his recommendation and thus the most important part of the duty of the House of Commons, the basis of all administration, is actually done by the Ministers and their clerks. This is a scandalous deviation from what is right. Every part of administration suffers from it: control and responsibility are alike destroyed. By money the services which men render to one another are measured and rewarded; and only by dealing carefully and justly with the national funds can the public, operating by the House of Commons as its instrument, mete out for public services encouragement and reward as they are meted out in private life. A reform of the great neglect, the practical source of every administrative abuse, should at once be demanded. Some persons may suppose that till the Parliament be reformed, in a democratic sense, it will never take effectual care of the public money; but even in its unreformed state it is obedient, like the Ministers, to public opinion, when distinctly expressed. Till now the public has not taken—as was admitted by Mr. Layard on Wednesday—sufficient interest on the subject. When it does, the House of Commons, badly as it is constituted, will obey its voice. We are not disposed, therefore, though friendly to Parliamentary Reform, to wait for that before we urge the public to require our present representatives to use the power they rightfully possess over the national revenues, to secure a reform in every branch of administration.

At the beginning of every Parliament, the House of Commons appoints certain standing committees—as one of privileges, one for the library, one to arrange petitions, and other matters that in relation to the public welfare are utterly insignificant. Let the public insist on its appointing every session a Finance Committee, including merchants and others, with clever well paid accountants as clerks; and insist on the House making a rule that it will vote no money whatever until the estimate for it has been examined by the standing Finance Committee. To this Committee the Ministers, as the condition of receiving any money, should be required to submit both an account of the expenditure of the money previously voted, and their estimate of the money required to be voted; and both should be carefully examined by the Committee before a single new estimate should be submitted to the House. At present the House neither knows what it votes nor why the money is voted. There is no real check on the outlay of the Ministers. Preserving to itself the full power to control the Committee, only adopting its recommendations if approved of, the House of Commons ought to find means by some delegation of its supreme authority—which, for want of such an organisation, is now wasted and lost—to exercise its power in a suitable and worthy manner.

The control of the Commons over the public money neither does nor ought to end with voting the Supplies and the Ways and Means. By the continuance of an old custom, after the reason for it has come to an end, the revenue is claimed as belonging to the Sovereign, and is paid into the Exchequer. Ministers are answerable to the Commons for expending it according to each Appropriation Act as it is passed every year; but otherwise the Commons part with the control after voting the Supplies. By this means the Treasury, combined with the Exchequer, gets into its possession all the money voted and all the revenues; and thus all the means of corruption, and a control over all the other departments, which necessarily follows the possession of the money, are all centred in one board This should be altered. Leaving for the present the collection of the revenue in the hands which now gather it, though this much requires improvement, and causing all the money to be paid as collected into the Bank of England because by the progress of society the real Treasury and Exchequer—the House of Commons could and should give to each officer who submits the estimates the control, independent of the Treasury, of the money which it votes for each special service. Thus, instead of placing all the national funds in the hands of the First Lord of the Treasury, the chief of the Ministers who cannot be to chief without breaking up the Government—they would be placed by the House of Commons under separate and several accounts in the Bank of England, to be drawn on by the chiefs of the several departments, and each of these chiefs would become directly accountable to the House of Commons, through the instrumentality of its Finance Committee, for every shilling he expended.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, instead of being answerable for the whole revenue, should be answerable only for the sums paid to the Customs and other departments immediately under his orders; or perhaps for a portion of the Miscellaneous Expenditure, some portion of which should belong to the Board of Trade, and another portion to the Home office. The First Lord of the Admiralty should be answerable for every shilling of the naval expenditure, without any reference to the Treasury: the Minister for War should in like manner be answerable for the Army and Ordnance expenditure; the Home Secretary for the expenditure on Courts of Justice and domestic institutions, &c.; and so every chief of a department who came to the House for money by an estimate should be exclusively entrusted with the expenditure voted to carry his duties into execution. Partially, such an appropriation to each service now takes place; but it is necessary, in order to make it complete, to remove the public money from under the authority of the Treasury, and make each chief of a department stringently responsible for the expenditure in his department to the House of Commons. Without entering into details, this seems to us the spirit of the reform that is required. The bulk of the public money should be removed from under the control of the Treasury, and be placed by the House of Commons under the control of the several Ministers authorised to disburse it. Instead of now having too little, we have on this point too much, centralisation, the centralisation of the power of governing by corruption.

Some difficulty may be supposed to arise from the fact that the Treasury now plans the expenditure as a whole, and selects the taxes to meet it, but under such a system as we recommend these duties would fall to the active Finance Committee of the House of Commons, in conjunction with the Ministers, working in open day, having no motives for corrupting any body, and not being itself liable to corruption. The Committee would—as is the duty of the House of Commons, not of the Ministers—select and ordain taxes, settle loans if necessary, and be the substitute for the Treasury in every thing that concerned the regulation of the national finances as a whole. Each chief of a department, being openly responsible to the House for the whole expenditure and the whole management of his department, would have, and ought to have, the appointment of every one of his subordinates; and the Secretary Treasury would cease to exercise that undivided patronage now so deservedly executed, on which Ministers rely rather than on an efficient performance of their duties, to secure the votes of the House of Commons. Each chief, too, being supreme in his own department, but strictly responsible to the House of Commons, we might expect that between the several chiefs a spirit of emulation and of competition would arise, and they would all try to give satisfaction to their great master the public, operating through the Finance Committee, by each conducting that portion of the public service entrusted to him in the most efficient and most economic manner. We should have much better public servants, but fewer of them, and we want, and we must have, Ministers more alive to their responsibility before we can have the public affairs reasonably well administered; and to have such Ministers we must have Departmental Ministers, each of whom, instead of answering to the Treasury and the Crown for the money expended, shall be responsible to the House of Commons. Noble Lords and right hon. gentlemen will then have an opportunity of showing their administrative skill, and acquiring, according to their merit, the public approbation

Such a principle implies that every head of a department responsible for the public money should be a member of the House of Commons It would, however, by no means deprive the Peers of their fair share of the Government. The First Lord of the Treasury considered as the Prime Minister, and having no longer any control over the funds devoted to particular departments might be a Peer, retaining the patronage of the Church, and directing the exertions of the heads of all the departments to one common end When he is deprived of the power of bribing the Commons, the necessity for his sitting amongst them would cease. The Lord Chancellor would necessarily be a Peer. The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, the Lord President of the Council, and even the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who ought not to have much of our money to spend, might be Peers. But the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Minister of War, the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Home Secretary, the President of the Board of Trade, the Foreign Secretary, every great officer who has to propose an estimate and to disburse the public money, should be a member of the House of Commons, and strictly answerable to the Commons and the people for every shilling of the public revenue of which he sanctioned the expenditure.

It cannot be asserted that this or any such scheme would put an end to the maladministration of which the public justly complain. All laws, it must be remembered, depend for their efficacy on the spirit and patriotism of the people; and a self-denying ordinance on their part, as has been said, is necessary to give effect to any scheme of reform. It is, however, evident that the real power of the State has passed from the oligarchy to the whole people; that it is their money which is misspent and their power which is misemployed; that they suffer and are thus made responsible for the wrong. They, therefore, must apply the remedy; and we believe that the great Democratic principle in all its integrity, of the Commons controlling the expenditure, can our popular Government be saved from discredit and shame. Any reform which does not begin by placing the Ministers more under the House of Commons and more under the public—which is confined to subordinates and clerks, and expects to procure efficient service by scholastic examinations—will be nugatory, and will cheat the public with hopes never to be realised.

To have the right man in the right place we must have good Ministers; for, though the public may occasionally designate some individual as suitable to some specific office, it is not practicable nor desirable for the public to watch over, still less to make, every appointment. This implies an unseemly interference between the public and individuals very often in an humble sphere. The public should confine itself mainly to securing a good House of Commons and efficient and responsible Ministers, by some such scheme as the one we propose, and must trust to them to select proper persons for all the subordinate offices. Any reform, however, which leaves the Ministers to determine what they shall undertake, and how much money they shall spend, will be a mere mockery. It is quite consistent with the national manners, and with the genius and principles on which all the business of private life is successfully conducted, to consider the Government as a bargain to which the Ministers and all their subordinates are one party, and the public, represented by the Commons, are the other. As long as one party to the bargain decides both what he shall do, and how much money the other party shall give him, the bargain is essentially unfair and unsatisfactory, and the business never will be honestly done. Our suggestion goes, therefore, to make the public, through the House of Commons, and through a permanent Finance Committee, effectively a party, always active and watchful, which it is not now, to this great bargain. By means of controlling the estimates for all work it would have something to say both as to what should be done, as well as what money the people should pay.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE meeting this day of the Royal Corporation of the Literary Fund is the first that has been held for legislative purposes in the broad daylight of public opinion, and therefore the first that has been removed from the Bloomsbury-square influence—so detrimental to the interests of the Society. The meeting is one at which it especially behoves all authors who are members of the Corporation to be present; nay, it is one at which it is incumbent on all well-wishers to the real welfare of authors and of literature to attend and vote. The move for administrative reform in this mug borough of well-meaning people is made by authors in favour of authors—by authors (nor let this be forgotten) who are liberal contributors to the funds of the institution—by authors who are never likely to ask one penny from the funds for themselves. We cannot but regard the upshot of this gathering as one in every way important to the advancement of letters. Successful authors were never in a better position than now; but there are many unsuccessful but most meritorious authors (unblameable in every relation of life) who are unwilling to seek contribution from a society that is managed as the Royal Literary Fund is at present managed. The meeting of this day is to determine the way in which thirty thousand pounds in the Funds, two hundred pounds a year in land, a large annual subscription, and a large public sympathy, can be best administered. These are more than Town and Table Talk subjects on Literature and Art.

An old friend of the late Mr. Lockhart reminds us that Mr. L. enumerated two Sir Henry Ellises in his list of friends; and that one Sir Henry Ellis—though not *he* of the Museum, and of Letters Illustrative of English History; but one less known in letters, though a Privy Councillor—is a contributor, with many others, to the Lockhart Monument. The *Athenæum* is therefore right in including "the Right Hon. Sir Henry Ellis" among the contributors to the Lockhart Monument, though not in giving such undue prominence to his name when copying, under pretence of correcting, a paragraph from this paper. We will add, while on this subject, that the friends of Mr. Lockhart north of the river Tweed are not altogether satisfied with the exclusive nature of the subscription.

The week has given birth though not as yet printed publicity—to an anecdote connected with letters and the examination of clerks for the Civil Service. The *Times* has been referring to some slips committed by candidates under examination for the public service, and it was in connection with the *Times* examples that the anecdote we refer to reached our own ears. One of the subjects, very properly, of examination is writing from dictation as a test of orthography and of something more. A wretched candidate wrote measure and pleasure in every instance without the letter *a*, on which one examiner remarked to the other, "This candidate in his spelling gives us neither full measure or full pleasure." We relate what we heard, and while we attest to the accuracy of the remark we will leave our readers to decide on its brilliancy.

One of the best printing presses in England has just put forth its last work—we allude to the Shakspeare press of Bulmer and Nicol, to which we are indebted for that magnificent edition of our great poet edited by Stevens, and known as Boydell's Shakspeare. The last production is before us while we write. It is in verse, and entitled "A Fragment; a State Bedchamber in the Castle of Pau. Napoleon III. asleep; the Shade of Henry IV. appears and speaks." The imprint will be read with interest:—

Written and printed by William Nicol,
Shakspeare Press,
October, 1854.

This, the last issue from the above Press, affords a specimen of the page and type (cut by William Martin) of the great edition of Shakspeare's Dramatic Works, edited by George Stevens, and projected and published by John and Josiah Boydell and George Nicol, for the printing of which the office was established, under the management of William Bulmer, who successfully competed with Bodoni and Didot, and who now stands with them in the annals of Typography.

There is a vein of poetry throughout the "Fragment" which makes us regret that we have no room for an extract. Mr. Nicol—now, we suspect, in his eightieth year—has continued with the authors of the last and present era that intimacy which his father held with Dr. Johnson and his friends. The author of the "Fragment" from whose *now* scattered types the verses before us are printed, remembers to have seen Gibbon in Pall-mall.

Our contemporaries, in common with ourselves, have fallen into an error in attributing a clever landscape in the present Royal Academy Exhibition to the elder Linnell, and not to William Linnell, a younger son of a very favourite painter. "I have no doubt," says the elder Linnell, in a letter to ourselves, "that the mistake has arisen through my not sending any work this season to the Royal Academy." Mr. Linnell will, we are sure, pardon us in saying that the mistake has arisen from the hereditary excellences so apparent in the picture. It is not often that an eminent father has an eminent son—"like trees too closely planted (the image is in Ben Jonson), the shadow kills the growth."

Within a very narrow circle there may have been seen during the present week a complete overflow of canvas and panel, covered with the creations of ancient and modern masters. The British Institution opened on Monday last its always interesting and instructive collection of pictures of deceased artists. Messrs. Christie and Manson have had on sale the late Mr. Dennistoun's gatherings in early art; and Messrs. Foster and Son have been exhibiting and scattering, at great prices, sixty examples of our English school. The collection at the Institution added another great evidence to what Mr. Wagen calls the treasures of art in England. Messrs. Christie's distribution showed to what excess a really able man could carry his fondness for early examples of Italian schools; and the sale at Foster's evinced most remarkably that the Turner mania in England is by no means on the decline. Let us quote the prices given for the two Turner pictures. Of course they were submitted as the last lots in the sale. And how did they sell? Lot 59, "The Burning of the Houses of Parliament," exhibited in 1835, sold for 810 guineas; and Lot 60, exhibited in 1841, "The State Barges conveying the Pictures of Gian Bellini to the Church of the Redeemer," brought, for such a picture, the fabulous price of 1360 guineas. Both were bought by Mr. Wallace, descendant (of course) of that

Great patriot hero, ill-requited chief,

of whom (in Sir Robert Peel's language of the present Prime Minister) "we are all proud." What does Mr. Ruskin think of these Turners, when taken in connection with his savage criticisms on Mr. Boxall's portraits in the present Exhibition? The froth of Miss Copley's dress is of the same *frize*-like character so offensively conspicuous in the Turner pictures.

A HORSE TAMER.—On the voyage to England the *Sinda* experienced some heavy weather in the Bay of Biscay, in which the horses suffered severely, and some, including a charger of General Scarlett, became unmanageable. A valuable mare was so very bad that a pistol was got ready to shoot her to end her misery, when a Russian officer recommended a Cossack prisoner to be sent for, as he was a "juggler," and could, by charms, cure any malady in a horse. He was sent for, and immediately said he would cure it at once. He was closely watched, but the only thing they could observe him do was to take his cash off, and tie a knot in it three several times. However, the mare in a few minutes got on her feet and began to eat heartily, and rapidly recovered.

PENNY STAMPS.—A Parliamentary return issued this week supplies some statistics regarding the new penny receipt and draft stamps since their first issue in October, 1853. Of the penny receipt stamps there were sold in the last quarter of 1853, 21,078,886; in the first quarter of 1854, 14,856,587; in the second, 12,756,493; in the third, 13,940,138; making a total during the year of 62,320,603, at a cost of £260,670 0s. 3d. Of the penny draft stamps, there were sold in each of the above four quarters respectively—3,122,474, 1,520,613, 607,688, and 1,332,065: making a total of 6,462,900, at a cost of £27,403 18s. Of the penny receipt and draft stamps first issued in October, 1854, there were sold up to the 31st of March, 39,806,213—viz., 15,284,125 in the last quarter of 1854, and 14,522,088 in the first of 1855. The cost of this six months' issue was £128,369 4s. 5d.

CHESS.

SAINTFIELD.—It would save us much trouble, and, what we grudge more, space, if correspondents would "feet a little before writing. There is no error in Problem 569. If Wh to play K to B K 7th, the Black King obviously goes to his K 3 sq.

ANUS, Havre.—Your solutions are, unfortunately, all failures.

SIGMA.—Such a discourse as you recommend might possibly prove of interest to many of the amateurs assembled at the Leamington meeting; but we doubt the gentleman named would relish it; will have quite enough upon his hands without so serious an addition to his labors.

ALPHA, Antwerp.—Drawn games are not counted in matches "X" has not, therefore, a winning game.

P. H., Stamford.—The true solution of Problem No. 569, by Digby, Somerset, B. B., Fehr, J. A. M. of Fakenham, A. J. H. Stone is correct. All others are wrong.

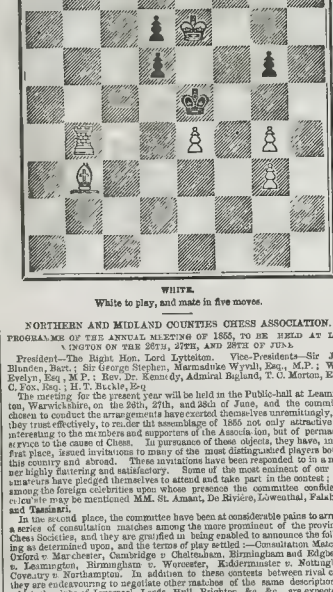
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 569, by Melancy Zulla, Ernest, F. R., Norwich, J. A. M., Leicus, C. W., Sunbury, T. W. F., Cheltenham, J. P. W., Max, F. R. S., D. F. M., O. F., Brevet, are correct. All others are wrong.

*** Press of other matter obliges us to defer the answers to many Chess Correspondents until next week.

PROBLEM No. 571.

By E. B. C., of New Jersey, U. S.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

NORTHERN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES CHESS ASSOCIATION.

PROGRAMME OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF 1855, TO BE HELD AT LEAMINGTON ON THE 26TH, 27TH, AND 28TH OF JUNE.

President—The Right Hon. Lord Lyttelton. Vice-Presidents—Sir John Blunden, Bart.; Sir George Stephen, Marmaduke Wyvill, Esq., M.P.; W. J. Evelyn, Esq., M.P.; Rev. Dr. Kennedy, Admiral Bagland, T. C. Morton, Esq.; C. Fox, Esq.; H. T. Buckle, Esq.

The meeting for the present year will be held in the Public-hall at Leamington, Warwickshire, on the 26th, 27th, and 28th of June, and the committee chosen to conduct the arrangements have exerted themselves unremittingly, and they trust effectively, to render the assemblage of 1855 not only attractive and interesting to the members and supporters of the Association, but of permanent service to the cause of Chess. In pursuance of these objects, they have, in the first place, issued invitations to many of the most distinguished players both in this country and abroad. These invitations have been responded to in a manner highly flattering and satisfactory. Some of the most eminent of our own amateurs have pledged themselves to attend and take part in the contest; and among the foreign celebrities upon whose presence the committee confidently calculate may be mentioned MM. St. Amant, De Rivière, Löwenthal, Falkbeer, and Tassiani.

In the second place, the committee have been at considerable pains to arrange a series of consultation matches among the more prominent of the provincial Chess Societies, and they are gratified in being enabled to announce the following as determined upon, and the terms of play settled:—Consultation Matches: Oxford v. Manchester, Cambridge v. Cheltenham, Birmingham and Edgbaston v. Leamington, Birmingham v. Worcester, Kidderminster v. Nottingham, Coventry v. Northampton. In addition to these contests between rival clubs, they are endeavouring to negotiate other matches of the same description, in which the clubs of Liverpool, Leeds, Hull, Brighton, &c., &c., are expected to take part.

In the third place, they have for some time been occupied in carrying out arrangements for a Match by Electric Telegraph, to be played between four or five of the best players of Scotland, to be stationed at Edinburgh, and an equal number of English amateurs, of the same force, at Leamington. The obstacles in the way of this very novel sortie are not entirely surmounted, but they are not invincible, and the committee confidently hope to succeed in their object.

In the fourth place, the committee have completed arrangements for a Grand Consultation Match, in which their foreign visitors, MM. St. Amant, Falkbeer, Löwenthal, and De Rivière, and Mr. Wyvill, Captain Kennedy, and Mr. Buckle, and they hope Mr. Buckle, will take part.

The committee are further in a position to announce a Ladies' Tournament, and have appointed a Tournament Committee. They are gratified in being able to announce that four ladies have already entered the field, and others are expected to join the lists before the contest. The gallery of the hall will be set apart exclusively for lady combatants.

To add to the attractiveness of the various matches, the committee have ventured on the experiment of issuing a limited subscription among the unattached friends of the Leamington Club, for the purchase of prizes to be presented to the victors in each match, and the success attending this experiment, together with the funds arising from an augmented increase of new members, already numbering nearly 200, has been such, that they have been enabled not only to add to the number and value of these prizes, but to procure translations of the excellent treatises on the "Laws of Chess," by Messrs. Van Jacobsen and Van Heydebrand der Lasa, an opinion of which, embodying the opinions of these gentlemen and of their colleague Mr. Staunton on this interesting subject, will be read to the Association on Thursday, the 28th, at two o'clock in the afternoon, and form a subject, it is hoped, of general and lasting discussion.

The meeting will open and the play begin on each day, at 10 in the morning.

Finally, the committee, mindful of the importance, in meetings of this description, of securing to visitors the most comfortable and refreshment at reasonable charges, have taken pain themselves to make arrangements with the proprietor of the chief hotel, the "Regent," to supply everything that may be required, specimens of which, good, bona fide, and strictly moderate. A tariff of charges will be exhibited in the hall of meeting.

For the greater convenience of non-residents, a luncheon will be prepared each day at one o'clock in the public hall, and on Tuesday the 26 h, and Wednesday the 27th, a table d'hote will be provided at the Regent Hotel, at half-past six.

Upon the termination of the play on Thursday the 28th a dinner will take place at the same hotel, at seven o'clock, the Right Hon. Lord Lyttelton in the chair. (Signed) WILSON BIGLAND, H. STAUNTON, G. M. GOWAN, W. S. TEMPLE.

June, 1855.

THE CLOSE OF OLD SMITHFIELD.

ON Monday, the 11th of June, the last market (a more than usually crowded one) was held on this memorable site, which for many centuries has been so well known as the scene of historical events, and a place of bustling commerce.

Wishing to see the last of this ancient institution, we progressed at midday to the spot, and found the place occupied by hundreds of sheep and oxen. To the uninitiated, mysterious processes seemed going on, and scores of animals and hundreds of pounds of sterling currency changed hands hourly. Men learned in the qualities of meat were seemingly mesmerising the devoted beasts, most of which bore the handling with innocent patience. We have never been able to get acquainted to old Smithfield; and, notwithstanding the unfitness of the position and space for its purposes, it has never failed in interest. The immense area was bustling with life. Looking from the quarter nearest to Snow-hill towards Long-lane, almost as far as the eye could reach, it was dotted with blue coats and grey, nisely yet not too strongly relieved by the brownish red of the cattle—the colour, in fact, very like one of the cold coloured pictures of Teniers. The scarlet coat of the postman, hurrying through the crowd, was too powerful even for the rich deep red of the oxen to harmonise with. Wandering in a dreamy manner from pen to pen, the lowing and bleating might have taken us in memory to green pastures, but for the strange and strong oaths of the drovers, and the peculiar bark of the vulture-headed sheep-dogs. The mind became confused with calculations as to how many millions' worth of human food had here been sold? How many pounds of good English roast beef at Christmas time in the days of "good Queen Bess"? How much in those of Queen Victoria? What in the interval between, and what since? How many noble men, and even women, have perished not far distant from the Priory Gate? How many witches and others? Who e ashes were they which we saw turned up a few years since on the ancient place of execution? Tournaments—* * * * "*Take care of your pockets, Sir!*" whispered to us by a policeman, together with sundry hustles we have had from both animals and passengers, served to bring us back to everyday life.

Although the Market was comparatively emptied, the scene of confusion would have been to a stranger overwhelming. Hacks and other carriages were stopped. "Why did you back, Jack? You'll be run over if you do not get out of that! Mind yourself! Whoop! whoop!" Dogs yelped and ran over the backs of flocks of sheep. One of the most unpleasant sounds which helped to make the Babel-like confusion was the sharp knocking on the tender part, the horns of the oxen. "Why, Mr. Drover, do you strike the animals so sharply when it seems so unnecessary; why prick them so savagely in the tender parts near the eye; why twist their tails? That poor animal has stood there tied to the stake without food or water and not allowed to lie down since one o'clock this morning, it is now two in the afternoon?" "Mind yourself, mister. Heup; heup!" and off goes Mr. Drover, more savagely than ever bent upon his business.

The old women who sell substantial leather and other purses the venders of periwinkles, whelks, and such like dainties—who have, from times immemorial, pitched in old Smithfield, wondered if they would be allowed in the new one. The shopkeepers, with somewhat solemn faces, popped out in front, and conversed gloomily together;—a great deal of hand-shaking went on between them and well-known customers. As the market began to clear, very small boys—and some of larger growth, of the Whitechapel cut—began to disport themselves in the empty pens; Sergeant A., from a well-chosen position, kept a watchful eye over the ground—notwithstanding, a great deal of pitch-and-toss was going on.

Three o'clock.—Still many animals left—some of Pharaoh's lean kine—and long legged, razor-backed sheep, so thin as almost to be transparent, and which a butcher from the eastern parts pronounced to be "rum uns."

Great and beneficial as will be the change effected by the removal of Old Smithfield market—as the time came for the ringing of the last bell—we felt a sort of indescribable regret, something like that occasioned by the necessity which causes us in its old age to change our hack horse for a young one, or of adopting the swift, strong, and wonderful locomotive for the pleasant and sociable stage-coach. This feeling, in different degrees, seemed to be shared by all, but generally in a somewhat jolly manner. The countenances of the drovers had, by numerous potations, become more like the animals who were beside them.

"The last day of the Old Market!" was repeated on all sides; some obstinate individuals, however, persisted that it was not the last, and bet half a sovereign to that effect

"Good by, old man! we shan't see you any more in the Old Market—come, old fellow!" and friends rushed into the Rose and other neighbouring hostelries.

A quarter-past three.—The last bell of Old Smithfield-market was rung. Soon after the stock on hand slowly moved off, the sweepers began to clean the ground, the six or seven banking-houses were closed, and this immense space was left in as much silence as such a place can be in this great and populous city. This, which has been a Fair and Market for more than 800 years, was closed without any ceremony—a printed order from the Home Secretary, stuck amongst the notices of dead bodies found, &c., on the door of the police-station, was all that we saw of an official character.

Leaning on our staff, and pondering over these matters, a voice said, "What is to be done with Smithfield?" This question we repeat; and considering the form and meaning of the charter which granted this ground to the Corporation, it must only be for such a purpose as will be evidently beneficial to the metropolis at large that a single building should be allowed to be here placed. Dwellings are, however, wanted for those who have been driven from Clerkenwell, &c., by the demolition of habitations of a wretched nature, but which were suitable in rent to their means. Dwellings are wanted suitable for the families of porters, warehousemen, &c., employed in the City—for married clerks, &c., with an income of £100 a year. We want more baths and washhouses, schools, and similar establishments. Here is an area which, if wisely occupied, may not only be made profitable to the Corporation and to the surrounding neighbourhood, but also to the community at large.

We strongly ask those in whom the power rests to consider carefully—WHAT IS TO BE DONE WITH SMITHFIELD?

THE LAST DAY—SMITHFIELD.

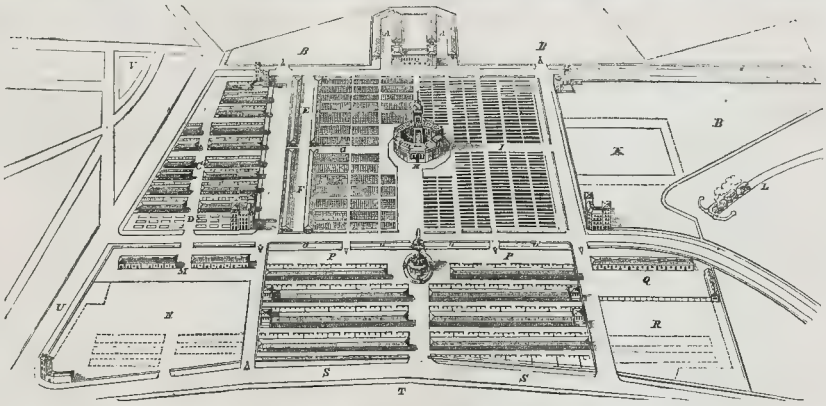
BADGE No. 79 *loq.*

Don't speak to me, Nat—I can't bear it! I'm fifty-four year old come to-morrow;
And of course, in my time, in this walley of tears, I've had my 'lowance of sorrow.
I've buried three wives, but that's nothink—I mean nothink at all in comparasin—
To the high-pressure-burster-of-biler-like feelings that now is my bosom a harressin'.
To think that old Smiffield's done up! that the days of its glory is over!
As Miss Carrolwell sings at the consart, in her beautiful song, "The Disconsolate Drover."
Why doesn't I like the new market! Why, Nat, bless my heart, can you ask it?
Warn't I born here, in Smiffield? or, at least, what's as good, I warn't I born hereabouts?
Warn't the happiest days of my life spent in John-street and Long-lane a goading
The bullocks as would lag behind, and make themselves so incommoding;
Or else hunting young pigs up the courts, which there is not a doubt had misled 'em,
Being much dirtier than the pigsties where their country sow-mothers had bred 'em;
Or twisting calves' tails to make 'em go straight, being a sort of boy at the weal a steering—
(Now I dont mean that for a joke, Mister Nat, so let's have none of your jeering);
Or else "prodding" the sheep which had come up to town for the first time that season,
And whose wits had gone wool-gatherin', though I don't think sheep is actuwated by reason,
'Cos they will run a-muck. Let 'em see a cart, cab, or coal-waggon, and under they scrambles,
As though they wanted sudden death and a inques', and not a slaughterhouse and the shambles.
I knew how 'twould be when they was about to do away with the fair of old Bartlemee,
And I says to a mediest stud (as stands early purl) "Bartlemee's wotes vulgar, so after that nothing'll startle me."
"Well," says he, "that's a blister; and was I a man in your highly respectable station
I'd do what Wat Tyler did years ago here in Smiffield—pitch into the Lord Mayor and Corporation.
Why," says he, "they've done horrid things here afore burnt heretics when con—trary!"
"Heretics," says I, "what was they?" "O," says he, "a breed that went out with Queen Mary."
"But what was that to bursting up Bartlemy Fair? It's really past bearin':
They'll move Smiffield Market next, and we shall lose the true art of swearing."
And they've done it! The last market-day is to-morrow, and I can't speak for exasperation.
But mark my words, Nat—we may take Sebastopol, but we've lost Smiffield, and it's up with the British nation!
I'm a "down pin," Nat—Yes I am! When I croak will you go to the Ram Inn and ask Mr. Farey,
If he'll let you nail up my badge in the tap-room, and find room for me in his arey?
I think I might rest there, but if my ghost should walk it shall ask his pardon.
But I've heard—THE WEGETARIANS HAS BOUGHT SMIFFIELD AND INTENDS TO CONVERT IT INTO A KITCHEN GARDEN.

THE LAST DAY OF OLD SMITHFIELD MARKET.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE).

THE NEW METROPOLITAN CATTLE-MARKET, COPENHAGEN-FIELDS.

THE MARKET-BANKS, PENS FOR CATTLE AND SHEEP, SHEDS FOR CALVES, PIGS, ETC.



GROUND-PLAN OF THE NEW METROPOLITAN CATTLE-MARKET.

MARKET-FOUNTAIN, WATER-TANKS, LAIRAGE FOR BULLOCKS, ETC.

THE METROPOLITAN CATTLE-MARKET.

The New Market, which will, for the future, take the place and rank of ancient Smithfield, is situated in Copenhagen-fields—fields no longer, except brick-fields—on the summit of the hill overlooking Camden-town, east of the Brecknock-road, and subject to the Brecknock turnpike!—a very few years ago a truly rural situation; but at present surrounded by a plentiful crop of streets, in a more or less advanced stage of progress.

The Market, or rather the whole space laid out by the City authorities, consists of a quadrangle of about thirty acres, rendered accessible by two broad cross-roads, and effectually protected from the intrusion of persons or animals not connected with the trade by four substantial walls. It will be remembered that Smithfield contains little more than six acres; and that limited space includes one principal thoroughfare to the Barbican, and many minor street.

The bricks used in the construction of the New Market have been mostly supplied by Messrs Wood and Son, from their works at Portway, near Olbury; they are the Staffordshire blue bricks, made entirely by machinery; and upwards of three millions have been employed in this great metropolitan improvement.

The thirty acres of the New Market include not only separate sections for the sale of cattle, sheep, calves, and pigs, but vast rows of sheds for the lairage of those animals, a series of slaughter-houses, a dead-meat market, a hide and skin market, a house for bankers, and many other accommodations for the trades interested in the meat supply of London, which will thus be all conveniently concentrated in one space, easily accessible from the chief railway stations.

The cattle market (with upwards of 13,000 feet of rail, to which about 6000 beasts can be tied comfortably) and 1800 pens (in which 25,000 sheep can be penned) are finished, as well as a considerable extent of sheds for lairage, and two spacious slaughter-houses, arranged on a very good plan. A complete system of drainage, water and sewerage has been executed, which will be assisted by a supply of water ample for all purposes.

The London and North-Western Railway Company is preparing to erect a cattle station on a spare close adjoining the Market; the Great Northern will follow the same example, and the City Junction Lines, uniting at Bow, will enable the Eastern Counties—the greatest cattle line of all—to do the same. When these arrangements are complete, the live stock arriving on Saturday from distant counties will be able to rest and feed in the lairage without disturbance on the market-day, instead of being herded in confined town yards, or goaded into market from suburban pastures on the morning of the sale. Of these lairages, one for horned cattle includes eight acres, divided into yards with five sheds, supported on iron pillars, with troughs with a constant supply of fresh water, and will accommodate 3000 head—or more than the supply of an ordinary market-day; while six acres, also supplied with sheds and water-troughs, will accommodate 8000 sheep.

Two hotels, the Queen's Arms and the City Arms, and several public-houses within the Market, beside a number flanking the communicating roads, already afford the refreshment which will be required by hungry graziers and thirsty drovers, from four a.m. to five p.m.

The total cost of the Market and its adjuncts has been stated at £300,000, but we should think that it must be more, as the contract for paving fourteen acres was taken at sixty thousand pounds.

There will be ample room to receive and advantageously display 30,000 sheep and 5000 head of cattle, the largest number ever sent to a Christmas market, and enable all the graziers, head drovers, carcase and retail butchers, and others whose business lies in the live-meat market, to transact their varied business in an orderly manner

Live stock sold and not slaughtered on the spot which may be required for the south side of the Thames will still be driven through London; but the abominable nuisance of driving thousands of sheep and bullocks through the heart of the City to Smithfield, and all the injury and cruelty inflicted in order to pack three in the space for two, will be rendered unnecessary, if not impossible.

The accompanying Ground plan shows the arrangement of the Market, as it will appear when completed; from details by Mr. F. Fenton, by permission of Mr Bunning, architect of the Market

The transfer from Smithfield to Copenhagen fields has not been effected without a long and stoutly contested struggle. In 1818 a bill was introduced into the House of Commons by the Aldermen and Court of Common Council for removing Smithfield to the suburbs. Had it passed, the Market would have been again surrounded by houses But so violent an opposition was raised by the parties who had property round Smithfield, and the carcase and other butchers, that the measure was withdrawn. In 1828 a Committee of the House of Commons heard evidence on the insufficient extent of Smithfield market, and the cruelty of drovers. At this time the Market was only three acres and a half in extent, and much blocked up by butchers' carts. Vested interests were too strong for the removers; but the Market was somewhat enlarged, butchers' carts were ordered to be excluded, and drovers and their sticks were put out certain regulations. In 1848 a Committee was again appointed to investigate the state and abuses of Smithfield. In the intermediate twenty years several changes, all tending to improvement, in addition to the increase of population, had taken place. Steam boats and railroads have brought oxen and sheep from regions which were quite beyond the influence of London prices, as long as the high road was the only way to London. Ten days' travel were reduced to twelve hours, and a bullock fed fat in the Lothians could meet black-faced sheep from Aberdeenshire, neither having paused to feed on grass on their way. Our ports had been opened to foreign cattle The attempt to establish a competing market at Islington had failed, after an enormous expenditure in building and Parliamentary contests. Smithfield enlarged to six acres, was obviously insufficient for the live stock of London

The decided Report of the Committee in favour of removing the cattle market from Smithfield not being sufficient to overcome City influence, a Commission was appointed to make further inquiry, and, on the strength of the confirmatory report of the Commission, a bill was introduced, and passed through both Houses of Parliament in spite of City resistance, by which Smithfield-market was to be abolished within three years and six months, and power was given to the Government to appoint three Commissioners to establish and manage a new market in case the Corporation of the city of London declined to act. But the City authorities, after a little cry consideration, decided to accept the transplanted authority which they had exercised in Smithfield for more than three hundred years; and the result is the work of which we give an illustration decidedly one of the most creditable, in design, execution, and practical utility, which has hitherto originated in the City.

It was indeed high time that something like system was introduced into the live-stock market of London, where packing sheep into hayloft, slaughtering them in cellars, filling sewers with garbage, driving mad bullocks down the Old Bailey, and blocking up the Barbican with footsore, worn-out beasts had become an intolerable nuisance

The mere figures of annual cattle sales prove the necessity of a radical change. The first year that we have any return of the sales in Smithfield—or Smoothfield, as it was once called—is 1732, when 31,200 oxen were sold; of sheep we have no return. In 1731 the number of oxen had increased to 88,300; sheep, 480,000. In 1828 the numbers stood—oxen, 161,600; sheep, 1,438,000. In 1847: oxen, 213,200. sheep, 1,527,000. And, in 1853: oxen, 234,600; sheep, 1,500,000; calves, 36,700; pigs, 29,500—in round numbers.

These numbers are by no means in proportion with the increase of the population; for, in addition to the live stock sold in Smithfield, a considerable number are consigned direct to butchers and slaughtered in the suburbs, besides a trade in dead meat which has sprung up since steamboats from Scotland and railroads from various parts of England have afforded easy transit for whole carcases and prime joints. 56,000 tons of dead meat are brought by railways, and nearly 1000 tons by steam-boats. The increase of the London dead-meat market may be judged from the facts, that forty years ago there were but 20 salesmen in Newgate-market, and that now there are 200

Since the extension of railroads to our manufacturing districts it commonly happen in the height of the London season that the prime joints are retained for metropolitan consumption, and the cheaper parts sent off to the iron and clothing districts. Tons of saddles of mutton are sent by rail to supply the demand of the London chophouses. The author of the amusing article on the "Commissariat of London," which appeared lately in the *Quarterly Review*, calculates that the meat consumed in London would make, if ranged each in its class ten abreast—the ox, a procession 72 miles long; the sheep, 17 miles long; the calves, 7½ miles; and the swine, 9 miles. Of these, speaking in round numbers—

	Oxen.	Sheep.
The Eastern Counties Railway brings	81,000	270,000
London and North-Western	70,000	240,000
Great Northern	15,000	120,000
Great Western	6,200	104,000
South-Western	4,000	100,000
South-Eastern	800	58,000
South Coast and Brighton	800	13,800
By steam-packet, from North of England and Scotland	14,000	11,000
Imported from the Continent	[illegible]	229,000
Driven by road	19,000	450,000

It will be seen from these figures that the Eastern Counties line—which after traversing the rich feeding counties of Essex, Cambridge, and Norfolk, at Peterborough, affords the readiest way to Smithfield for Lincolnshire and the north—stands at the top of the list. But this pre-eminence will probably be shortly disputed by the Great Northern. All the railways on the north side of the Thames will have cattle stations at the Copenhagen market, except the Great Western. The South-Western, if needful, can communicate by the North London Junction

The importation of foreign live stock, which was very insignificant for several years after Sir Robert Peel's tariff removed the prohibitive duty, is assuming considerable importance. The greatest export (40,500 oxen, and 172,000 sheep) is from the Dutch ports at present, though, we may include many head from the Rhine. The completion of the railroad system of Denmark and Holstein will tend to increase the live-stock exports of that country; but a very considerable number will find their way by the North of Europe Steam Navigation and Grimsby to the Midland manufacturing districts without touching London. With few exceptions the foreign cattle are very coarse, and bad feeders; but the steady demand for the English market is leading to great improvement, by the introduction of male animals of our best breeds

Railroads, again, have had an important effect on the calf and lamb trade, as those animals could not travel by road. The consumption of lamb has, it is supposed, increased tenfold in the last century; but no lambs are named with sheep, there are no means of obtaining accurate return

The consumption of London, to a certain degree, affords a gauge of the increased meat consumption of other districts. The percentage of increase per head of population has been much greater in the country than in London London has always been a great meat-devourer; but in the country thousands of head of stock formerly sent to the London market are now consumed at home.

Agricultural improvement and successful breeding have enabled the supply to keep pace with the demand without any serious enhancement of price. The quantity of beef has been multiplied by the art of breeding, which sends beasts to market at three years, which were, 100 years ago, four years old and upwards, and Tomkins' time, only rejected at six years old We may calculate the increase of weight by comparing the Short-horn or Hereford and their crosses with the Highland cattle as to gross weight, and as to percentage of good meat over all The Short-horn and Hereford will weigh gross 1000 lb.; a Highlander about 560 lb. The latter will have 52 per cent of offal—the former only 37 per cent. Now, at the present day the Highland Kylloe is an improved breed, and it is fair to presume that 100 years ago the majority of the cattle slaughtered weighed less than 500 lb.—as that is the average weight of grass-fed Australian cattle of the best breeds.

At present the herd is sent to market fat every two years, which a hundred years ago was only sent every four or six years, and the flock which was fed and sold once in three years is now sold fat every fourteen months. Mutton has been increased in weight on an average at least 25 per cent; while early maturity has been also obtained. But early maturity would have been useless if we had continued dependent on grass for fattening our stock, since grass grows only in the summ Root crops, in the shape of turnips in their varieties, carrots, mangold-wurtzel, and green crops, like rape and lucerne, were introduced to aid the grass crops, and feed stock fat in winter, spring, summer, and autumn. To help them out commerce gave us oil-cake and linseed, and guano to stimulate our root crops. Finally, and most important of all, the art of under drainage rendered it possible to feed sheep and grow crops on thousands of acres which were once strong wet clay. But all our art, science, and ingenuity can only multiply, it cannot exceed nature. The Norman and Saxon breeders are the beef and mutton for the million; but the indigenous Kylloe, or Highland Scot, are the favourites with the West-end butchers, and can only be competed with by the North Devons, another ancient pure breed. And the Southdown, an improved indigenous breed, can claim great superiority in flavour over the Leicester varieties; but none over mountain sheep, Welsh or Dartmoor if fat.

THE INAUGURATION.

The inauguration took place on Wednesday, under the most auspicious circumstances. His Royal Highness Prince Albert—who is known to take the deepest interest in agricultural matters, and who is himself one of our most successful cattle breeders, having recently won the first prize at the Paris Exhibition—presided, supported by the Lord Mayor and the whole of the Corporation, a large circle of distinguished personages, and numbers of provincial mayors in their official robes. A spacious marquee had been erected by Mr. Benjamin Edgington on one side of the market, capable of accommodating 1100 persons, and the decorative skill of Mr. Fenton had been called in to supply it with appropriate decorations. Amongst the arms were the medallions which decorated the Guildhall on the occasion of the Emperor's visit, and in addition fanciful designs of ploughs, sickles, scythes and other agricultural implements. Heraldic emblems and bearings of the great grain counties were prominently displayed, as also those of the foreign countries from which of late years we have, thanks to Free-trade, drawn such abundant supplies of cattle; and within the tent, the various supporting poles were decorated with trophies, in which the union jack and the friendly tricolor were tastefully intermingled. Music was provided by the band of the Caledonian and Chelsea Asylums and Foundling Hospital, and the performance of the juvenile artists was highly creditable both to themselves and to their teachers. Messrs Staples, of the Albion, furnished the long tables with a substantial and elegant repast, which was partaken of by considerably upwards of 1000 visitors.

The Common Council arrived early in an imposing cortége of forty-seven carriages, and at one o'clock the Lord Mayor and Corporation proceeded to the principal entrance of the Market, to receive H.R.H. Prince Albert, who was attended by several persons of distinction, and a numerous suite. They then proceeded slowly round the market, amid the cheers of the vast concourse of well-dressed persons that filled the area, having inspected the arrangements, as minutely as time would permit, the whole of the distinguished party repaired to the pavilion, in the upper end of which a spacious estrade had been re-erved, upon which was placed in magnificent chair of state recently used at the Guildhall On arriving here his Royal Highness stood in front of the chair, and a semicircle of the civic functionaries having been formed, the Recorder proceeded to read the following address:—

TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT.

May it please your Royal Highness,—We, her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled, desire, by the warmest expression of our gratitude, to testify to your Royal Highness the value which we attribute to your gracious presence on this occasion. The proceedings of this day are of deep interest and importance to the great interests of the metropolis, and to the country at large. These costly and extensive works have been undertaken by the Corporation of the City of London in deference to the suggestions of the national Legislature, and under a strong sense of the responsibility attaching to paying the trust and means confided to them by their fellow-citizens. If the transfer of the chief metropolitan market to this new and spacious locality shall be successful, it will not only have removed all ground of complaint arising from the character of its ancient site, but will also have conferred essential benefits upon the population of this vast capital, as well as on those important branches of our national industry which are concerned in supplying with food the increasing masses of its inhabitants and the countless numbers who frequent it. In the happiness and prosperity of all classes of her Majesty's subjects your Royal Highness has always evinced the warmest and most active interest, and we know nothing more likely to secure success to this great undertaking than the sanction and encouragement afforded in its inauguration by the illustrious consort of the Queen. We, therefore, humbly rejoice in the opportunity thus given us of welcoming your Royal Highness on this spot, and expressing our heartfelt gratitude for your Royal Highness's attendance, and of manifesting anew our affectionate and respectful attachment to the person and family of the beloved Sovereign of these realms.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert replied as follows:—

My Lord Mayor and Gentlemen,—Accept the expression of my hearty thanks for your kind welcome, and for the gratifying assurance of your loyal and affectionate attachment to the Queen and her family

I have been much pleased by the opportunity which your kind invitation has afforded me of seeing and admiring the great work which you this day open to the public—a work which not only deserves all admiration in itself, on account of the excellence of the arrangements and the magnificence of the design, but which, will, I trust, be productive of numerous benefits to the comfort and health of the City of London. That its success will be commensurate with the spirit in which it has been undertaken and carried out I cannot doubt. A certain dislocation of habits and interests must inevitably attend the removal of the great City market from the site it has occupied for so many centuries, and this may possibly retard for the moment the fullest development of the undertaking. But any opposition arising from such causes will soon cease, and the farmers will doubtless soon learn to appreciate the boon thus conferred upon them by the London Corporation, in the increased facility which will be afforded to them for the transaction of their business, and the comparative security with which they will be enabled to bring up and dispose their valuable stock in the Great Metropolitan Cattle-market.

This reply which was beautifully delivered by his Royal Highness, elicited loud and repeated cheering. His Royal Highness, accompanied by the Lord Mayor, proceeded to the head table, which was most tastefully arranged, and abundantly decorated with natural flowers; and, grace having been said by the Rev. F. Moon, chaplain to the Lord Mayor, the company proceeded to discuss the *déjeûner*. Amongst the more distinguished visitors were—Right Hon G. C. Lewis, Bart., M.P., the Earl Spencer, the Marquis of Breadalbane, Viscount Monck, Viscount Dunsany, the Hon. H. B. W. Brand, Lord Stanley of Alderley, Rear-Admiral Hon. M. F. F. Berkeley, Rear-Admiral Henry Eden, Capt. A. Milne, Marquis of Salisbury, Lord Redesdale, Right Hon. W. G. Hayter, M.P., J Wilson, Esq., M.P.; Hon. W. F. Cowper, M.P.; R. Waddington, Esq., John Masterman, Esq., M.P.; the Solicitor-General, Hon. Frederick Byng, Robert Ellis, Esq.; the Duke of Newcastle, the Marquis of Westminster, Earl of Macclesfield, Earl Lonsdale, Earl Yarborough, Lord Berners, Lord Portman, Lord Feversham, Lord Southampton, Lord Wenlock, the Belgian Minister, the Bavarian Minister, the Sicilian Minister, the American Minister, the Prussian Minister, the Right Hon. Sir J. Pakington, Bart., M.P.; R. A. Christopher, Esq., M.P.; W. A. Mackinnon, Esq., M.P.; W. Ormsby Gore, Esq., M.P.; Sir Edward Sherbrooke Gooch, Bart., M.P.; Melville Portal, Esq., M.P.; Edward Ball, Esq., M.P.; T. W. Bramstone, Esq., M.P.; Sir E. Palmer, Bart., M.P.; W. Masters Smith, Esq., M.P.; Hon. P. J. L. King, M.P.; W. J. Evelyn, Esq., M.P.; W. W. E. Wynn, Esq., M.P.; Philastephen Frenich, Esq., M.P.; W. A. Wilkinson, Esq., M.P.; Sir W. Clay, Bart., M.P.; C. S. Butler, Esq., M.P.; Right Hon. Sir B Hall, Bart., M.P.; Sir John V. Shelley, Bart., M.P.; Aspley Pellatt, Esq., M.P.; H. J. Knyvett, Esq.; C. R. Fitzgerald, C. Erskine, Esq., Hon. A. Dillon, R. Everest, Esq., S. Redgrave, Esq.; the Mayors of Southampton, Plymouth, Tiverton, Barnstaple, South Molton Tarrington, Birmingham, Norwich, Leicester, Windsor, Ipswich, Colchester, Brighton, Lewes, Salisbury, Yarmouth, Lincoln, Northampton, Cambridge, Reading, Oxford, Eye, the Lord Mayor of Dublin, &c.

The first toast was "The Health of the Queen, proposed in appropriate terms by the Lord Mayor, and which was received with the most enthusiastic cheering.

In reply his Royal Highness said —

My Lord Mayor, my Lords, and Gentlemen,—For the very kind and flattering manner in which you have received this toast I sincerely thank you I have had the greatest pleasure in accepting the invitation of the Lord Mayor to be present at the opening of this splendid and useful work—(Cheers)—and I beg to assure his Lordship that no effort he invites me to the inauguration of similar undertakings the better I shall be pleased (Continued cheering and laughter). Such enterprises can only be undertaken by public bodies, and carried out to success by public spirit (Hear, hear). I accept the present occasion, therefore, as an earnest of your determination to perform the duties which your position has imposed on you, and as a proof that success will at all times follow skilful conceptions and prompt and vigorous execution (Cheers). I beg to propose "The Health of the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London, and Prosperity to the Metropolitan Cattle-market" (Loud cheers)

His Royal Highness retired immediately after this toast; and, one or two other toasts having been disposed of, the company separated.

MUSIC.

The performances of "Il Trovatore," interrupted by the long and severe illness of Mdlle. Jenny Ney, have been resumed. This opera was given on Saturday last, and repeated on Tuesday, to crowded houses both nights The fair prima donna had regained the full possession of her vocal powers, and was received with greater enthusiasm than ever. This opera, though very unequal, certainly contains some of the finest music that Verdi has ever written; but the permanent success of the piece will be prevented by the revolting horrors of the subject, which is fitter for an Adelphi melodrama than a tragic opera. A remark somewhat similar may be applied to Mr. Henry Smart's new opera, "Berta." Its music, beautiful as it is, can never keep afloat such a mass of dulness and absurdity as its dreary libretto. In the wretched state of our musical stage we dreamed that we could not condescend to write an opera; and our English musicians, if they compose for the stage at all, must take what they can get. Not having, like their more fortunate Parisian brethren, a Scribe to write for them, they must content themselves with a Fitzball.

The Philharmonic Society's Concert, on Monday evening, was honoured by the presence of Her Majesty the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Princesses of Hohenlohe. The Royal party were attended by a numerous and brilliant suite. The concert being "by command," the programme, of course, was accommodated to the wishes of the illustrious visitors, and hence Wagner's overture to "Tannhauser" was repeated, though it had been performed only a few weeks before. In regard to it we have only to add to what we have already said, that it was admirably executed, and more favourably received than before. The Royal visitors were evidently gratified. After the performance they send for Wagner, with whom they conversed for a considerable time. The novelty of the evening was Macfarren's overture, "Chevy Chase;" a piece which has hitherto remained unknown to the public. It is a great pity, and very unjust to our native composers, that works of such merit as this should be allowed to remain unknown. It is a piece of musical painting, on the subject of the fine old Border ballad on the "wasteful hunting," where the best blood of the English and Scottish chivalry was spilled in mutual strife. The way in which Mr. Macfarren has made use of the ancient ballad tune, working it into the heart of his subject, is most ingenious and effective This overture received the greatest justice from the conductor of the band, and was warmly applauded. The rest of the concert consisted of well known pieces, viz. of the highest order, including Mozart's "Jupiter" symphony, Beethoven's eighth symphony in F; the grand scena, "Ocean, thou mighty monster," from "Oberon," sung by Madame Clara Novello with transcendant power; the air, "Di tanti palpiti," from "Tancredi," sung by Signor Beletti; Schumann's "Ave Maria," sung by Madame Novello, with Mr. Williams's fine clarinet accompaniment; and the beautiful and expressive duet, "Quel sepolcro," from the "Agnese" of Paer. The room was crowded; and the concert, taken altogether, was the best brilliant and successful of the season.

The English Glee and Madrigal Union terminated their series of concerts at Willis's Rooms on Monday morning last. The room was not merely crowded it was full to overflowing, many people finding it impossible to get within the doors. It gives us the greatest pleasure to notice the gradual and now splendid success of this excellent society, the members of which—it is scarcely necessary to tell our musical readers are Mrs. Enderstohn, Mr. and Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Hobbs, and Mr. H. Phillips. It is a pity that they should conclude their London performances so early, and while they are at the height of their attraction; but they are compelled to do so, we understand, by the long course of provincial engagements on which they are now about to enter.

The Concert of the Musical Union, on Tuesday morning, was of even more than usual interest. It consisted of Mozart's sixth quartet, in C—one of the most graceful and melodious of his works; Beethoven's pianoforte trio, in B flat (Opera 97), in which, by means of three instruments, the composer has produced the grand effects of a great orchestra; and Mendelssohn's posthumous quartet, in E—a fragment, consisting of an andante and a scherzo, found unfinished at his death, and containing some of his most beautiful thoughts. The performers (or executants, as Mr. Ella calls them) were Ernst and Cooper, first and second violin; Hill, tenor; Piatti, violoncello; and Charles Halle, pianoforte. As it is always the case at these concerts, Willis's great room was crowded to the doors.

Herr Kuhe and Madame Bassano gave their annual concert on Monday morning. It was an elegant selection of vocal and instrumental music, admirably performed. Herr Kuhe is an accomplished pianist, and a good composer for his instrument; and he appeared to great advantage in his capacities in a grand fantasia on airs from the "Etoile du Nord." Madame Bassano's fine contralto voice was displayed in several well-chosen solo and concerted pieces, especially in Beethoven's "In questa tomba oscura," and Mozart's terzetto, "Le faccio un inchino." The other lady-performers were Madame Clara Novello, Madame Gassier, Mdlle. Krall, Miss Stabbach, and Madame Weiss. Mdlle. Krall (newly arrived in England) delighted the audience by her charming performance of German songs by Mozart and Mendelssohn. Herr Reichardt obtained immense applause in an air by Donizetti, and a German song by Roliquet. Reichardt stands in the first rank among the tenor singers of the day: his voice, his taste, his expression, his style, are all of the highest order. This concert attracted a great concourse of fashionable company.

The Crops in the United States.—From all quarters at the north and west and the middle States, the accounts of the growing crops are full of promise. If the season should continue as favourable as it has been hitherto, a much larger aggregate of breadstuffs will be raised this year in the country at large than was ever known before The months of July and August will be stopped with abundance, and prices will come down.—*New York Journal of Commerce.*

THE THEATRES, &c.

HAYMARKET.—Once more the poetic drama has gained a foot'ng on these boards, and this time we hope with better assurance of success than hitherto. Mr. John Saunders's play of "Love's Martyrdom," which was produced on Monday, is a step in the right direction. It is a poem full of beauties, which should be permitted to compensate such defects of structure as necessarily belong to a tentative drama, and ensure a hearty welcome to the experiment. We also trace marks of imitation, which should be excused on the same score. A hunchback is the hero of the piece—not a father, but a lover—and in this the character differs from Knowles's celebrated hero. The deformity of *Franklyn* is the source of doubt and jealousy to more than himself. *Margaret*, whom he passionately loves, grateful as she is for his having taught her to think, begins to suspect that, after all, she does not feel towards him as his affianced bride ought to do, and may, perhaps, cherish a lurking preference for his handsome brother, who had once professed an affection for herself. Out of these doubts arise vague apprehensions and desires, and an attempt to renew the relations of an earlier time, until, at length, the brothers are hurried into a duel. But *Franklyn* is as generous as he is irascible; and, having wounded his brother *Clarence*, gives way to his fraternal tenderness, and resigns to him the disputed object of his love. At the turn of *Margaret*, who, having on a sudden impulse rejected the magnanimous Hunchback, begins now to reflect on her situation, and with too evident reluctance transfers her hand to *Clarence*. Gradually her state of mind clears, and she finds that she not only esteems, but profoundly loves, the deformed *Franklyn*, as the teacher of her mind, and trusty interpreter of her heart. But her fate seems fixed. Meanwhile *Franklyn* has wandered into the solitudes of nature; and in the midst of a storm receives influence which convulse and purify his inner spirit—a scene improperly omitted in representation. He resolves on the noblest of sacrifices, and to be present at his rival's wedding, that *Margaret's* reputation may not suffer from his apparent displeasure. *Margaret*, too, has her martyrdom. She would not do *Franklyn* the wrong to impose so fickle a woman as herself on him, and, therefore, consents to complete the contract with *Clarence*. But other events are transpiring. The state of miscreations from the beginning of the drama has been produced by one *Freelove*, from a selfish motive; and, through his contrivance, a lady whom *Clarence* had deserted for *Margaret* is removed from the scene of the marriage. But an artist-friend of *Franklyn* discovers the fraud, and arrives in time to forbid the banns. By this discovery *Margaret* is released from all obligation; and, being, once more free, bestows her hand, "with her heart in it," on the worthy, though deformed *Franklyn*. Built on a slender basis of domestic intrigue, rather comic of its kind, this drama, in consequence of the vehement nature and passionate nobility of the deformed hero, grows into a tragic expression such furnishes scope for the finest action. *Franklyn* is a part for a first-rate performer. Both in its subtlety and its energy it challenges the power of his intellect and the strength of his physique. *Margaret*, too, is a character of great force, but also of great difficulty. The first is impaired by the irresolution of her will, and her ignorance of the state of her heart; and this dramatic weakness has to be supplied by the psychological insight of her professional representative. Miss Faucit fully entered into the character, and, in all its phases, performed with a subtlety and precision such as only genius for the demonstrative art and long practice in it can supply. The fourth act, where she discovers the state of her affection towards *Franklyn*, was a triumph, and, it may be truly said, saved the play. It was, indeed, a glorious rendering of all previous shortcomings both on the part of the author and some of the actors, who were painfully inferior. This is partly owing to there being a great number of full-length characters in the play, which always increases the difficulty of the cast. Yet, surely, some person more efficient than Mr. Walters might have been found for *Freelove*, who not only understated, but was unintelligible throughout; in a word, a gentleman wholly incompetent for his profession at present, and who ought not to have been permitted to imperil a new and original poem by any participation in the honours of its success. Mr. Sullivan, as the deformed hero, laboured hard, and gave a mechanical outline correct enough to a part which, in the hands of Edmund Kean, would have been instinct with fire and electricity. For his vigorous and good intentions he shall receive full praise from us, and we trust that, by steady practice and submission to criticism, he may become an improving actor. Let him, however, shove all, resist a tendency to exaggeration. Mr. Howe shone on the occasion like "a bright particular star" as the artist-friend of the Hunchback gave an energy and a pathos to some of the situations, which went far to conciliate the audience. The new drama has been placed on the boards in regard to costume and scenery, with admirable taste and this, with the poetic excellence that pervaded much of the dialogue, obtained the approbation of the audience. Miss Faucit, at the end of the fourth and fifth acts, was summoned before the curtain; and the author was vigorously called for: he bowed from a private box, and thus ended an evening of considerable excitement, doubt, and difficulty, but of ultimate success. Mr. Saunders must have learned something from the progress of this his first trial before an audience; and, having so far proved his possession of a dramatic genius, may proceed with safety to study the laws of dramatic structure, and practise dramatic production as an art.

MARYLEBONE.—"The Lady of Lyons" was produced on Wednesday, with an excellent cast. Miss Edith Heraud, in the character of *Pauline*, so gradually won on the admiration of the house, that she was summoned before the curtain at the end of the fourth, as well as of the fifth, act. It was, indeed, a performance of great power and beauty, and frequently told with electric effect on the audience. Mr. Charles Pitt, who enacted *Claude Melnotte*, played with energy and taste, and displayed considerable encouragement. There is much in his acting that reminds us of Edmund Kean, without any positive imitation of his style. His transitions are skilfully managed; his voice is fine in tone, and his bearing thoroughly artistic. A permanent place ought to be found for him on our London boards. Mr. Wild and Mr. T. Lyon, in the parts of "Very Suspicious" and "The Omnibus," exhibited a fund of humour which seemed inexhaustible. The latter is one of the few Irishmen we have left who personate the character with discretion as well as unction. The boxes on this occasion were crowded, and nationally attended.

THE CITY THEATRES.—We can only note this week the appearance of Mr. C. Mathews at the City of London, and of Mr. Wright and Paul Bedford at the Standard. The former has introduced to an East-end audience "The Game of Speculation," with "Patter v. Clatter;" and the latter, the pastoral drama of "Harvest Home," and "Jack Sheppard." We regret the recent reproductions of this objectionable criminal drama, and trust that it will find without delay its place, not on the stage, but on the shelf, where its previous slumbers should not have been disturbed.

BERLIN GOSSIP.—Yesterday being the anniversary of the late King's death, the Royal family repaired to Berlin from Potsdam at an early hour, and were present at the commemorative funereal service held in the new chapel of the Schloss here. The whole Royal party, among whom were also the Crown Prince and Princess of Wurtemberg, just arrived on their return from St. Petersburg, repaired to Charlottenburg, where, as in their wont, they visited the Mausoleum, in Charlottenburg garden, where the remains of the late King, and beside him his Queen Louisa, lie interred. The state of the King's health is still such that his physicians forbade him entering the Temple, in which are the well-known marble statues of the late King and Queen, and he was therefore compelled to remain behind in the palace, while the rest of the family went through their filial devotions—a duty which the King has never before failed to do. His complaint appears to be certain ague, but the return of the fever seems not to be in all cases regular. His medical advisers have recorded in consequence the whole plan of the Royal visit to the Rhine, and in prevailing on the King to agree to stay at the Royal Schloss at Erdmansdorff at the foot of the Giant Mountains in Silesia. The statement that has been so long and perseveringly circulated, that while on his travels the King would have an interview with his Imperial nephew of Russia on the sly, is in a fair way of vanishing at last; another, also, that the Emperor of Russia is about to visit Berlin on some part of Germany. The information is now put forward officially that the Emperess not only will not come, but never had any intention of coming, it being contrary to Imperial Russian etiquette that the Dowager Emperess should travel during the year of mourning.—*Letter from Berlin, June 8*

IDIOTCY FROM EXCITEMENT.—The Military Commission instituted to judge the prisoners accused of the late conspiracy in San Domingo, sentenced General Pelletier (a Frenchman by birth, and formerly Master of Wax and Foreign Affairs to the Dominican Republic), as well as Generals Aybar and Francisco Ruiz, to death. In the morning of the 2nd May priests were sent to the prisoners, to confess them. At three o'clock in the afternoon the military marched to the usual place of execution. General Santana, with his Staff, was at the place when they arrived, and, having made his arrangements, he ordered the prisoners to kneel down. Their sentence was read over to them, and the firing party were commanded to load, and to point their muskets upon the unfortunates, when Santana cried "Halt!" and ordered his Aide-de-Camp to read a proclamation pardoning the three accused. The hurrahs of the soldery could not subdue the terror that the preceding moments had caused. Francisco Ruiz, one of the persons condemned to death, rose from his knees an idiot.

THE UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION OF FINE ARTS.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

THE BELGIAN CONTRIBUTIONS.

WE have already noticed, in our general observations on this remarkable Exhibition, that there are, in the various *salons* into which it is divided, hardly more than two distinct, broadly-marked schools, viz., the French school and the English school. There are infinite varieties of these; but beyond them nothing really greatly original. They appear here, in the teeth of all the artists of the world, undoubted leaders. If they can be said to be closely followed—to be in danger of successful rivalry from without—this danger is apparent in the German space. Neither the Italians, the Spaniards, the Swedes, the Americans, nor the Dutch offer the strength of a body of disciplined artists, painting, with fixed principles, peculiar to themselves. Nor can it be said that our friends of Belgium may claim to rank as a school. They have some excellent painters—men who are practised draught-men—artists with fresh and pleasant palettes. But there is not a canvas among the two hundred and twenty-three which they exhibit that shadows forth an original view of art—that reveals a mind which approaches Nature as no other mind has approached her. The three walls devoted to Belgian paintings exhibit the successes of mediocrity—in some instances accomplished and conscientious; in others flat and poor, to the level of ice-tray art. We find nearly every school, ancient and modern, more or less successfully imitated. The sacred subjects look like raw copies from the Louvre. There are little panels reminding us, in spirit and manipulation, of Ostade. Landseer's palette tricks' are imitated, while his spirit and freedom are lost. This latter observation applies particularly to Charles Verlat's large picture, representing "Buffaloes Attacked by a Tiger." To us the tiger looks like a stuffed animal, the buffaloes are unreal, the accessories coarse and hard. There is vigour in the drawing, but you are constantly reminded of the care which must have been taken to get these convulsive attitudes correctly. There is no free force in the picture; the painter has not seen through his own eyes, but has looked on at a mimic fight through the spectacles of Landseer. He is, we repeat, a careful and an ambitious artist: but he is not an original thinker, with a palette of his own, to interpret the novelty of his thoughts.

We will pass carefully along the Belgian lines. We are first attracted to some queer landscapes, hard and angular in outline, and raw in colour, into the authorship of which we are not anxious to inquire. But we may pause before the "Misty Morning" of Theodore Fourmois. It is a carefully-painted effect. The silver greys of early sunrise float over the scene: every point is touched, is almost frosted, with the pale eastern light. There is a rich penetrable atmosphere over the view. This would be a charming work if the foreground were better broken up, and had a little more variety of colour about it. As it is, its weakness gives a little flatness to the distance. A close study of nature, and an avoidance of schools, would, we believe, raise this artist to the rank of an original landscape-painter. But we entreat the visitor to glance upward, and a little to the right, from M. Fourmois' performance to that of M. De Jonghe, marked 288. It is entitled "La Musique." Be pleased to observe, in the first place, the composition—a straight, horizontal line. Three women and a boy are sitting across the picture, listening to the musical performance of a conventionally enraptured youth at the piano. They are all backed by opaque shades; the pervading colour is muddy; and the inquirer, having examined every separate part of the performance, really pauses to ask himself why such a picture has been conveyed all the way from Brussels to Paris, in all of the reputation of Belgian art. The subject is old; the composition and colour are indisputably bad. Let us at once turn from it to examine Dyckmans' pair of cabinet pictures, viz.—"The Marquise," and "The Embroideress" Undoubtedly these little pictures are charmingly painted. The colours are fresh and pleasing: and Dyckmans' touch has the smoothness and finish of enamel. The "Embroideress" especially pleases us. The mechanical way in which her work proceeds, while she looks over it with tender eyes fixed upon some happy fellow the spectator is not allowed to see, are touches of real art, most charmingly rendered. She may well wear this contented look, surrounded by these elegant accessories; her pretty head relieved by that rich amber silken curtain, most minutely and truthfully rendered, and her shoulders covered with a lace tippet, picked out with a marvellously minute pencil. We should have preferred a little more carelessness in the figure, which appears to be posed expressly for the artist. It wants some simple touch of nature to make it perfect. But the Belgians may be proud of M. Dyckmans.

From these bright little revelations of elegant life we turn to a homely subject, where the picturesque qualities of humble life and humble homes lend a charm to the artist. The scene before which we now pause represents the "New Year" Flanders, by Henri Leys, a Belgian artist, who studied, we believe, in Paris, and has indisputably paid considerable attention to the smooth and finished intricalities of the Dutch school. In this picture we have a most picturesque old house front: at the door are an old couple greeting children, who have come to pay the compliments of the season. The incident is in no way remarkable, save as giving the artist an opportunity of rendering the character, the costume, and an exterior to be found in Flanders, and perhaps in Flanders only. There is an unmistakably Flemish aspect about the group: the painting is careful and correct; the colour fresh, and relieved by the dark grey shades peculiar to the Dutch school: and the effect is pleasing, if not striking. We shall meet M. Leys again. From his Flemish subject we turn to a view in the Ardennes, by Wilhem Roelofs, a Dutch subject, apparently resident at Brussels. His landscape may be remarked for some good passages of colour; it may also be remarked for its general heaviness—its want of atmosphere. From its unequal surface we turn to some of Alfred Stevens' performances. This artist, with a certain power that might be promising in a beginner, presents to the visitors of all nations pictures which are not simple promises. They exhibit to us the artist confirmed in his artistic principles, who is presenting to us works as good as any he intends to produce. Of these, the two important pictures are what is called "Vagabondage," and the "First Day's Application." The first is an elaborated bit of sentimentality. Some Chasseurs de Vincennes are conducting a poor woman, obviously accused of begging, with her haggard children, to the police-office. The snow is deep upon the ground—the poor woman looks very cold and very unhappy. The scene is peculiarly French, let us notice. Winter visitors may have remarked groups of fierce little soldiers, their bayonets ominously fixed, surrounding groups of forlorn children accompanied by women of unhappy aspect—all very closely resembling the group marching before us. The fierce soldiers about the weak and trembling prisoners are a good contrast, at once excellently illustrative of the social laws of the time, and capable of producing a most interesting picture of character. The material has been sentimentally handled by the artist. He has introduced a lady, comfortably covered in crimson velvet mantle and bonnet, who is in the act of giving her purse to the woman, *en passant*. A carpenter, who looks on at the strange episode, and, alas! it is a strange one—is, perhaps, the best figure in the composition. This figure of Charity in velvet is a mistake; an ugly mistake, too, for it is ill-drawn, or awkward, or both. Still, there are points to commend The Chasseur in the left-hand corner of the picture, who has half turned round to see what is going on, is a good study from life. There is force, also, in the general treatment; but the straight, horizontal line, unbroken, save by the Charity in velvet, is an ugliness which it is difficult to get over. The "First Day's Application," by the same artist, is a good study of a thoughtful head, and is painted with an originality of touch that is more effective in other pictures by the same hand. The indistinctness of outline—which reminds us strongly of Inskipp—has its charm, because it cheats by giving a sense of the artist's power, just as the random touches of a field sketch charm. But let the spectator once suspect that this careless outline is a trick, a hardly-studied trick, and it ceases to be pleasing, if it does not become completely repulsive. There are points of undoubted strength about Alfred Stevens to render these hints worth the trouble we are at in making them.

In the neighbourhood of "The Good Shepherdess," in red velvet, is a glowing picture. The air is heavy with the mid-day heat. We have the desert before us, as it has been before us in some shape every year, at the Royal Academy, in Suffolk street, or elsewhere. The scene is tempting to the colourist—the appropriate figures attract the pictorial draughtsman. The golden sands—the dun camel, laden with a richly tinted burden—the folds of the Arab dress—the white linen contrast to the swarthy features of the wearer; these are among the Eastern effects with which hundreds of modern artists have familiarised Art-exhibition visitors. M. Portaels has added a "Caravan in Syria" and a "Funeral in the Desert of Suez" to the long list of sand pictures. His "Funeral in the Desert" is a carefully-painted picture: in no way strikingly original, but pleasing for certain good touches. Sand and sky are not new, as represented by the pupil of Delaroche; but the woman who tenderly supports the head of the body which lies across the camel's back, is happily conceived. The drawing is careful—as becomes the pupil of a French master. There are, however, mistakes. The Arab boy has the conventional grief of the undertaker about him; and the Arab at a distance, with his bowed head, is too sad. Had the artist shown the women grieving, without thought of the spectators; while the boy, forgetting the occasion, grasped at some bauble upon the ground, he would have made a nearer approach to nature. Children never nurse their grief, they cast it from them, after a burst of tears, and go again to their toys.

From M. Portaels we may turn to another artist, into whose mind the methods of other men have sunk deep. "The Trouble-Fête"—a Flemish scene, at the end of the 18th century—is a picture crammed with figures, all grouped as we have seen figures grouped a hundred times before. We look in vain into every part of the peopled scene for some happy thought—some real human episode. Each figure appears to be wondering what on earth its neighbour does there. There are the overturned household utensils filling up a corner in the foreground just as they have filled up foregrounds in every exhibition we can remember. And then the colour is as conventional as the drawing: it wants life, thought; just as the portrait of Madame R. de C., by De Keyser, the accessories of which are well painted, wants but some touches to make it a really fine portrait. The coral bracelets and the black lace shawl are well rendered; the head is solid and pleasing, but the flesh wants transparency; the colour is good and the drawing exact, but the flesh texture is untrue to nature.

We pass on to the "Interior of a Silk Mercer's Shop in 1660"—a charming picture, by Florent Willems, who is a Belgian by birth, but appears to be a French artist by education. The whole charm of this composition is centred in the figure of the young woman, who, with a piece of silk in her hand, is appealing to the taste of her seated companion; while a young man looks on from a distant part of the shop, and a boy hastens to hand the fair purchaser a seat. The head of the old mercer, with its expression of experience, is capital. But still, as we have declared, we hold, that the charm of the picture is centred in the purchaser, whose face and attitude are delightfully natural. The simple story lies broadly told in her sweet inquiring face This is, indeed, the most truthful bit of nature we have yet noticed in the Belgian Saloon. But Willems' is hung near the view of the "Cathedral of Seville," by Bossuet—a piece of painting, parts of which are equal to Decamps—and this is not giving the painter faint praise. "Il est assez difficile de chappeler Bossuet," said a Frenchman who hovered over one shoulder at the glowing walls of the crumbling cathedral. Finely the great mass of red wall here and there broken down, stands out from the distant parts of the building. And then let the visitor closely observe how excellently minute the parts are without detracting from the broad strength of these parts when taken in the mass. Bossuet has triumphed over the difficulty said to lie in his name.

We are now near a clever imitator of Ostade. It is difficult to believe that this little village scene is not absolutely copied line for line by Ignace Van Regemorter. The copy would be generally accepted as clever; just as this picture, miscalled original, and therefore exhibited here, may be called a clever imitation. A careful student of Pope, who has studied only to copy him, if he have ordinary intelligence, will, in the course of his imitations, probably hit upon some good lines of sharp and humorous antithesis; but this accident will not entitle him to take place either as a poet or as a humourist. Let us say that M. Van Regemorter has stumbled upon some good passages of colour, in the course of his imitative struggles; and we shall say all that he deserves to have said about him.

We shall close with the Belgian contributors next week.

ROYAL LONDON YACHT-CLUB.

THE first match of the season of this distinguished club took place on Saturday last; and, viewed either in a sporting light or in a maritime point of view, as presenting the finest nursery for seamen, yachting races and yachting possess, at the present moment, a more than ordinary claim to patronage and support; and the recent important and large additions to the ranks of the various sailing clubs indicate, beyond all doubt, the general appreciation of the advantages to be derived from such institutions, not only as promoting and encouraging a feeling of honourable emulation amongst owners, but as giving an impetus to science in the construction, rig, and navigation of craft. Amongst those whose advancement has made rapid strides within the last two years, is the Royal London Yacht-club, whose sporting début took place as above, with all those advantages which attention to the comfort of the visitors and their friends could throw around it.

The course to be sailed was, from Erith round the Nore Light and back to Erith, a distance of nearly sixty-two miles, which was considerably increased by the boards necessarily made on the return home. The prizes were in specie—the first being for a purse of fifty sovereigns, and the second a ditto of thirty sovereigns, besides five guineas as the second prize in each class. The following were the entries:—

FIRST CLASS.

Name.	Tons.	Owner
Phantom	31	S. Lane, Esq.
Water Lily	28	J. Fancourt, Esq.

SECOND CLASS.

Kitten	14	R. Leach, Esq.
Vampire	14	C. Wheeler, jun., Esq

All those who take an interest in yachting matters must long ere this have been familiar with the celebrity of the *Phantom*, and of her many beautiful races on the London river, and in the regattas at the westward. Opposed to her was the *Water Lily*, a fine boat, which acquitted herself most creditably under the disadvantages of being anything but in trim, and out of which, by judicious alteration and management, there is little doubt more in pace might be got Her owner is certainly entitled to great compliment for his spirit in bringing her out against so powerful a rival.

In the second class the *Vampire* had decidedly the call, for though the half-minute handicap allowed for difference of tonnage was instituted to promote a degree of equality, the great power of the *Vampire* rendered her chance of success far superior to that of the *Kitten*.

The club had provided the *Mora* steamer to accompany the race, and the prospect of more settled weather than that which it has been our lot to experience till within the last few days, aided by the high position and influence of the club, produced an assemblage on board of ladies and gentlemen of some distinction. The flag of the club was displayed by the following schooner and cutter yachts, accompanying the race—The *Noelce, Aquaine, May Fly, Amazon, Valentine, Thought, Antagonist, Maud*, and several others.

Captain Andrews, Vice-Commodore of the club, was the commander of the day; and on the arrival of the steamer at Erith the competing yachts were found at their moorings, the *Kitten* to windward, but neither possessing any advantage in station worth speaking of.

At 11 h. 56 m. a gun was fired to get in readiness. There was a fine stiff breeze from S.W., with occasional squalls, accompanied by heavy showers, until noon. There was consequently but little work to do in going down, there not being the necessity even for a single board. At 11 h. 58 m. 20 s. the starting signal was given, and they all canted round in the next moment. The *Kitten* was first in trim, the *Vampire* next, followed by the *Water Lily*, the *Phantom* having stiff work to perform in getting her enormous mainsail up. Topsails there were none, as it was too equally to try the experiment With a leading wind all the way down, the boats retained these relative positions, the interest of the scene being materially aided by the *Amazon* and *Thought* suddenly making their appearance near the leading

PHANTOM. VAMPIRE. LILY. KITTEN

ROYAL LONDON YACHT-CLUB MATCH.—THE START FROM ERITH.

yacht in the race. No change or any sort occurred down to the Nore light, where they rounded in the following order :—

FIRST CLASS.

	h.	m.	s.
Phantom	2	7	30
Water Lily	3	15	22

SECOND CLASS

Kitten	3	22	0
Vampyre	3	24	0

After jibing round they proceeded with a leading wind up Sea Reach, and at the Lower Hope began to beat to windward. In the running and reaching the little *Kitten* had done wonders, but when it came to the turning she was overmatched by the *Vampire*, which weathered her at Holehaven. At Gravesend, Grays, and Purfleet they were all about at the same distance as at the finish, which was as follows :—

FIRST CLASS.

	h.	m.	s.
Phantom (the winner)	5	36	40
Water Lily	5	45	0

SECOND CLASS

Vampire (the winner)	6	6	0
Kitten	6	12	30

The prizes were subsequently presented to their respective owners by Captain Andrews, with appropriate encomiums upon the skill they had displayed. The *Mars*, on board of which there was the very excellent band of the Royal Artillery, then proceeded to Blackwall and London-bridge, to land her passengers, which was done at a very convenient and early hour of the evening. The fineness of the weather from midday rendered the trip altogether a most agreeable one, to say nothing of the pleasurable excitement occasioned by the sport itself.

Mr. Gore, the Soyer of the deep, catered, as usual, with the utmost satisfaction.

In the course of the day, a gun-boat, bound for the East, was an object of interest and admiration, and followed in the wake of the steamer, for some time.

DESTRUCTIVE STORM AT HASTINGS.

On the morning of the 7th inst. the town and neighbourhood of Hastings were visited, between six and seven o'clock, by a thunderstorm, which, though of short duration, was of extraordinary violence. A small house situate on an eminence about half a mile from the town, was struck by the lightning, which completely destroyed the chimney and staircase, shivered all the windows, displaced a stove in an upper room; and, although a woman and her four children were in bed at the time, in one house, and one woman in the adjoining dwelling (it being a double house) they escaped uninjured, one of the women being only stunned for a short time. Their preservation is, perhaps, attributable to their being in bed—the clothes acting as a non-conductor, and the walls of the house, being of wood, offering little resistance to the passage of the lightning. A pair of scissors and umbrella were broken—the latter set on fire; the window-curtains and a woman's mantle were torn to shreds, and every bit of crockery in both houses was smashed.

REMAINS OF A HOUSE STRUCK BY LIGHTNING AT HASTINGS.

MADEMOISELLE JENNY NEY.

Mademoiselle Jenny Ney was born in Presburg (Hungary). Her mother, an excellent artist, educated her and her elder sister with great care for the stage, where Mdlle. Ney made her début as a mere child. Her sister, meanwhile, having enjoyed great reputation as a singer, she endeavoured to emulate her; and, after laborious studies under the sole care of her mother, entered into a favourable engagement with the Imperial Opera at Vienna in 1851, where she remained for three years, becoming every day a more decided favourite of the public. Perhaps she would never have thought of leaving the Austrian capital, but in 1853 her mother, with whom she had lived till then, died. She felt lonely and miserable amongst all that reminded her of her loss, and resolved to leave Vienna, the scene of her first great triumphs, of her first and greatest sorrow.

Her fame having spread throughout Germany, there was no lack of engagements. She decided upon Dresden, where an engagement was offered

MDLLE. JENNY NEY, OF THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

to her for seven years on terms so flattering and lucrative as hitherto hardly any German prima donna could boast of in her native country. From Dresden she made her first excursions to Hamburg, Frankfort, Cologne, Brunswick, Berlin, &c. In all these towns she was greeted as the first living singer of the German stage; and on her last return to Dresden, shortly before Mr Gye engaged her for the present London season, she was honoured with the title of *kammer-sangerin* (chamber singer) of the Court of Saxony.

The severe and dangerous illness with which Mdlle. Ney was seized after her brilliant appearance in the "Trovatore," at the Royal Italian Opera, interrupted for a time the successful performances of that opera; but they have now been resumed with more éclat than ever. She has been requested to prolong her engagement (now near its close) to the end of the season; but this she is prevented from doing by her duties at Dresden

SCENE FROM THE NEW OPERA OF "BERTA," AT THE HAYMARKET THEATRE.

MR. SMART'S OPERA OF "BERTA."

OF the success of this meritorious opera we gave a review in our Journal of last week. We now engrave the last scene, the "Cave of the Gnome-King;" in which the *Count* (Mr. Weiss), disguised as the *Demon*, suddenly appears before the terrified lovers (Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves), who have taken refuge in the haunted ruins.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

AT a recent meeting of this Society, Sir R. I. Murchison, Vice-President, in the chair, announced that the Geographical Society of Paris had very

MEDAL, PRESENTED TO CAPTAIN M'CLURE BY THE PARIS GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

courteously submitted to the Council, through its Vice-President M. Jomard, in Roquette, three medals, for presentation to three members of the Society, to whom they had been awarded by the French geographers. To Captain M'Clure, R.N., the gold medal had been awarded, for his discovery of the North-West passage; to Captain Inglefield, R.N., a silver medal had been awarded, for his discoveries of the Arctic regions; and to Mr. Francis Galton a silver medal had been awarded, for his explorations in the Namaqua, Damara, and Ovampo countries, northward of the Orange River, in South-west Africa. The Chairman expressed his conviction that the Society would join in the cordial feelings with which the Council appreciated the honours which France had so liberally conferred; and the meeting had the gratification of witnessing the presentation of the medals to Captain M'Clure, Captain Inglefield, and Mr. Galton—who severally offered their acknowledgments.

HOLOTHURIDÆ, OR SEA-CUCUMBERS, IN THE MARINE AQUARIUM OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

SEVERAL fine specimens of these interesting and little-known animals are now exhibited in the Aquarium of the Zoological Society, in the Gardens in the Regent's-park, having been sent up from Shetland by Mr. M'Andre, and safely placed in the tanks

The *Holothuridæ* belong to the same order of the animal kingdom as the star-fish and sea-urchin (*Echinodermata*); but, although they accord with the radiate type in the disposition of their dentrilic oral tentacles, and retain the ambulacra, or suctorial feet, of the sea star, their general form, as well as internal structure, indicate an approximation to the lower forms of the next great division of invertebrate animals (*Articulata*)

Species of *Holothuridæ* are found in almost every sea, and some are esteemed highly as food. The *Holothuria Anonan*, which attains a length of upwards of eighteen inches, is eaten in the Moluccas; the trepang (*Holothuria edulis*) is considered quite a delicacy in China; and some of the Mediterranean species are eaten by the poorer classes on the coast of Naples

Highly interesting to the scientific observer, these animals appear also to claim much attention from the numerous visitors to the Marine Aquarium; and we trust that they will become permanent residents in its submarine pasture-grounds—to the many attractions of which they are a considerable addition.

AMERICAN INTERVENTION IN EUROPE.—A rumour has been going the rounds of the newspapers to the effect that ex-President Tyler was about to proceed to Europe, there to join Messrs. Van Buren and Fillmore, and that the three were to mediate between Russia and the Western Powers. Of course there was no truth in it. The idea was seriously entertained at one time by several leading personages in Congress, and was briefly discussed in that body But it was understood from the representatives of the Western Powers that no intervention in the quarrel was desired or could be entertained; and the project was dropped immediately. It is doubtful, had it been carried into effect, whether anything could have been achieved by the ex-Presidents. A knot which the ablest intellects in Europe have been unable to unloose would present some difficulty to three gentlemen, one of whom has been very many years out of public life, and the other two never possessed any intimate acquaintance with foreign politics. There are many men in this country who would be better able to conduct a mediation between the belligerent Powers than the ex-Presidents —*New York Herald*.

SEA-CUCUMBER, IN THE AQUARIUM OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, REGENT'S-PARK.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Her Majesty's second State Concert takes place on the 20th, which is also the day for the second Chiswick Horticultural Fete. The last Levee for the season is appointed for the 27th inst.

The Emperor and Empress of Austria have left Vienna for the Castle of Laxenburg, where they will pass the summer.

The Princess Royal and the Princess Alice honoured the Crystal Palace with a visit on Saturday morning.

The Duke and Duchess of Brabant are expected to arrive at Brussels on the 20th.

King Leopold has received an autograph letter from the King of Portugal, announcing the intention of his Majesty to visit Brussels with the Duke of Oporto on leaving Paris.

Her Majesty will visit Fort Pitt in a few days, to distribute the Crimean medals.

The Archduke Maximilian returned to Ancona on the 2nd inst., to resume the command of his squadron.

The Princess Charlotte of Belgium completed her fifteenth year last week—having been born at Laeken on the 7th June, 1840.

On Saturday last, when the French Emperor was going to Vincennes, a courier overtook his Majesty with despatches from Sebastopol. The Emperor immediately announced the news of the taking of the Mamelon Vert, &c., and handed the despatch to the King of Portugal, who, after reading it, put it in his pocket as a souvenir.

The Marquis of Salisbury, as Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Middlesex, gave an entertainment on Saturday evening, at his residence in Arlington-street, to the magistrates of the county and the officers of the several regiments of local militia.

The Count de Chambord goes to Bohemia this month. He intends taking the baths at Teplitz, and will remain there about six weeks.

M. Fould has gone to Biarritz, to take apartments there for the Empress Eugenie.

The Lord Mayor and the members of the City Corporation were presented to the Emperor of France by Lord Cowley on Sunday last. On Monday the grand water-works of Versailles played *par extraordinaire*, in honour of the deputation.

Prince Frederick William of Prussia, only son of the Prince of Prussia, intends to visit London on the 20th inst.

The King of Naples makes open court to Russia, and longs to welcome the fleets of the Czar in the Mediterranean. His Sicilian Majesty has conferred the order of St. Andrew, the highest on a Russian Grand Duke, and the Czar of the Court is as Muscovite and anti-English as it well can be.

The anniversary dinner of the noblemen and gentlemen educated at Eton College was celebrated on Saturday evening, at Willis's. The Earl of Malmesbury presided, and a very large number of Etonians supported the noble Earl in the chair.

The King of Portugal is about to visit Turin. It is said he will be betrothed to the Princess Mathilde, eldest daughter of the King of Sardinia, who is now in her thirteenth year.

Mr. W. Atherton, Q.C., is appointed to the office of Judge-Advocate of the Fleet, as well as Counsel to the Admiralty, vacant by the resignation of Mr. Phinn, appointed the permanent Secretary to the board.

During the visit of the King of Sardinia to Paris, the Regency of the kingdom will be entrusted to his Royal Highness Prince Eugène of Carignan.

Prince Alexander of Hesse-Darmstadt, brother of the Empress of Russia, has arrived at Berlin from St. Petersburg.

The Right Hon. Sir George Cornewall Lewis, Bart., was sworn into office on Saturday last, in his own Court of the Exchequer, before the Right Hon. Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Ex-King Louis of Bavaria has returned to Munich from his tour in Italy.

The Prince and Princess of Prussia are staying at Coblentz.

Field Marshal Prince de Schwartzenburg, Civil Governor of Transylvania, and Count Jellachich, the Ban of Croatia, have arrived at Vienna.

Captain Fox Maule Ramsay, of the 56 h Regiment, is appointed private secretary to Lord Panmure, and has entered upon his duties at the War Department, in conjunction with Lord Gifford.

Mr. Soulé, the late American Minister to Spain, is going to Mexico with a mission supposed to have connection with the affair of Spain and Cuba.

A correspondent of the *Dumfries Courier* hints that Lord Murray is the generous donor of the annuity of £1200 to Mr. T. P. Kennedy.

M. Lamartine is about to become "editor" of the *Siècle*. He will merely contribute philosophical and literary articles.

Aali Pacha has had a private audience of the Emperor of Austria, at which he received the Grand Cross of the Order of St. Stephen. Aali Pacha was to leave Vienna on Saturday.

The beautiful estate of Lauriston, the property of the late Lord Rutherfurd, has been sold to Mr. G. H. Ingis, of Greenland, for £22,000.

Redschid Pacha has been reconciled to Mehemet Pacha, who is said to have received 500,000 piastres from the Sultan as an indemnity.

The British Association for the Advancement of Science will hold its twenty-fifth meeting in Glasgow on Wednesday, September 12, 1855.

The *Journal de St. Petersbourg* publishes above four columns of "les passages les plus remarquables," in the "éloquent discours" lately delivered in Parliament by Mr. Gladstone.

The indefatigable Barnum has just favoured the prodigy-loving public of New York with the announcement of a "new marvel, i.e. the "Infant Esau, two years old, covered with hair, and has already a full beard and whiskers!"

The heaviest India Overland mail ever dispatched from this country was conveyed from Dover to Calais on Monday in the French and English mail steam-packet *Queen*.

On the 29th ult. there were 210 cases of cholera at St. Petersburg.

The British subject arrested at Hamburg on suspicion of being a recruiting agent has been released.

The publishers of the *Melbourne Argus* have raised the price of that paper from ten to twenty dollars per year. They say it costs them half a million of dollars per year to carry on their establishment.

Messrs. Edward T. Bellhouse and Co., of Manchester, have undertaken the contract to light the whole of the city of Buenos Ayres with gas, amounting to nearly £70,000.

The Vienna garrison is to be henceforth 30,000 infantry and cavalry.

The harvest in Van Diemen's Land had been completed and got in with little difficulty. For labour the wages generally paid have been 12s. per week and rations.

The old soldiers belonging to Switzerland who claim legacies under the will of the Emperor Napoleon amount in number to 1417.

The Third and final Report of the Cathedral Commission, just issued, recommends twelve new bishoprics.

The growth of pineapples in the Bahamas is checked for want of rain.

The amount of East India Five per Cent Stock converted into Four per Cents during the last two years is returned at over £22,000,000 sterling.

The Canada Government has agreed to grant £500 to the Agricultural Societies of Lower Canada, by way of loan, to enable them to furnish seeds to farmers.

The French Government has granted a fresh delay of three years for the completion of the two dictionaries—French and Arabic, and Arabic and French—for which two prizes of 5000f. each were offered by a decree of the 49th November, 1852.

During the thunderstorm in Lancashire last week a boy, aged eleven years, was struck by lightning, at Turton, near Bolton, and died instantly.

A steam company has been formed for the purpose of a regular communication between Lisbon and the Azores—a line that was much required.

The shops were all open in Kertch when the Allies went in, and the ladies walking about.

An Order in Council appoints Western Australia as a place to which felons and other offenders may be transported.

The Government of Saxony has informed the Chambers that the session will close on the 19th of next month.

A convention between Greece and Turkey to put down brigandage on the frontier has been discussed at Constantinople.

A free library is in course of formation at Kidderminster, the Corporation having furnished a room for that purpose.

FINE ARTS

THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.—WORKS OF ANCIENT MASTERS. The Exhibition of the Works of Ancient Masters and Deceased British Artists, just opened, is as miscellaneous as, and even more unsatisfactory in character than, usual. The works by artists of the highest renown are comparatively few, and, individually, by no means superior class. Mediocrity is the prevailing quality, and disappointment is the inevitable result of the inspection. We confess we are at a loss to account for this, unless upon the principle that what is everybody's business is nobody's business, and that the contributions to the Gallery are regulated very much by chance. Surely if the noble Governors of this once-influential Institution were sincerely devoted to the accomplishment of its professed object—that of "Promoting the Fine Arts in the United Kingdom," and if they considered that an exhibition of chefs d'œuvre of ancient masters would be conducive to that end, they might find material ample in the galleries of noble and wealthy patrons to form a display—a succession of displays—at once gratifying, elevating, and instructive in character. Surely, too, the owners of private collections, if they had a proper pride in their art-possessions, a proper sympathy for the art-aspirations of the public, and a proper sense of the responsibilities which possession of such treasures involves, of the influences which they would undoubtedly exercise when utilised in an extended sphere; surely, if these things were considered by them, they would wish to see their collections represented by the very best examples they contained, and not by specimens purposeless in themselves, and very often of doubtful genuineness.

Apart from the considerations of the intrinsic demerits of the great bulk of the pictures here exhibited, we have to repeat our regret at their miscellaneous character, when viewed as a collection. Amongst the 168 pieces, we find specimens of every possible age and school (except only the very best), from the Late immediately preceding Raphael down to that of Collins, and placed in juxtaposition with the most extraordinary disregard of propriety in the arrangement;—Guido, surrounded by Terborgh, Vander Neers, and Huysdael—a dry, formal Pinturicchio next door to a more than usually florid Sassoferrato; two small Raphaels (attributed) in the rear room, close to a tame and pale production ("Saying Grace"), by Sir W. Allan; and these, as well as a small "Virgin and Child," by Fra Bartolomeo, smothered under gigantic full-length portraits, by Lawrence. The effect is only to bewilder the sense, and to offend the eye with sudden shocks of contrast. How much might be done, even in this small, but well-proportioned and admirably-lighted Gallery, if the Directors would only take the trouble to organise a series of exhibitions of art in schools; and if, in addition, they would accompany them by catalogues, in which something more than the meagre information of name and ownership was vouchsafed. Who knows—perhaps the hint may be taken; and if it be, we will engage that the experiment will be amply rewarded by the plaudits and shillings of the public.

In proceeding to take a survey of the walls of the Exhibition, we observe at the outset that the specimens of Italian art form but a small proportion of the mass; in which the Dutch, Flemish, and Spanish schools, and modern English art, vastly preponderate. Over the chimney piece in the first room is a Guido, the "Meeting of David and Abigail," belonging to Lord Feversham, a fair specimen of the master, and of that mannered transitional style which preceded the rapid decline of Italian art. Two full-length portraits of the Earl of Strafford, by Vandyke, are in this room: one belonging to the Countess of Jersey, in which a dog is introduced; the other to the Duke of Portland. The latter is the finer picture of the two; the head admirably expressive of courage, resolution, and firmness; and the hands, particularly the right, which is elevated, finished in the artist's best manner. Beneath the Guido is a very pretty Terburgh, from the collection of Mr. H. T. Hope: it represents "A Lady with a Guitar," and is remarkable for that quite expression of real life which the artist so happily hit off, and for the successful execution of a rich white satin dress, a textural surface which he was so fond of representing. Two small and unimportant Claudes, from the collection of the Duke of Wellington, and a Ruysdael, belonging to Mr. J. E. Fordham, are also seen at this end of the room. In other parts of the room we noticed a clever Cotade, "The Advocate," belonging to Mr. C. S. Bate; "The Temptation of St. Anthony," by Teniers, belonging to the Hon. C. C. Cavendish; several portraits by Velasquez, and a landscape by the same artist (belonging to W. Ellis, Esq.)—a composition of trees, and a ruin in a wild mountain district, remarkably sombre in tone, with a little light in the distance on the left; two small "Boar pieces" by Wouvermans, from the collection of the Duke of Wellington; a questionable Rubens representing "An Old Woman and Boy, by candle light," contributed by Lord Feversham; and a large picture attributed to A. Carracci, belonging to the Duke d'Aumale, subject "Venus Asleep"—a heavy, ungraceful figure, surrounded by a whole family of Cupids, disporting in various ways—some flying, some swimming; the whole garish and unsatisfactory in effect.

In the Middle Room are two Salvator Rosas; one of "A Soldier," to be hanging to the Duke of Northumberland, a single figure boldly thrown upon canvas; the other, contributed by Col. Hugh D. Baillie, representing "Job and his Friends"—an extraordinary conception, full of expression and power, but painful from the severe truth with which the sores which cover the body of Job are realised. Next to this is an equally remarkable specimen of Rembrandt's treatment of Scriptural subjects—"Joseph's Garment brought to Jacob;" belonging to the Earl of Derby. It is well known that this wayward and original genius took a pride in resisting the claims of the ideal, and in introducing, even into the most sacred subjects, the coarsest and most commonplace specimens of humanity which he met with in every-day life. This principle he has in the present picture carried to an extreme which almost provokes a feeling of irreverence. Jacob, a little square-built Dutchman, sprawls on his back on the ground, in a paroxysm of vulgar grief, whilst those of his household blubber in concert, their homely features displaying every variety of extravagant contortion—the Patriarch's dog, too, joining in with a piteous howl; on the other side stand the brethren of Joseph, with strongly marked Jewish physiognomies, putting a good face on the matter, and gravely asserting the truth of their story. By N. Poussin, the Earl of Derby contributes two pictures, which will illustrate his peculiar sculpturesque style, and his love of architectural *entourages*—"The Arts inquiring of the Genius of Modern Rome why they do not flourish as in the Days of Ancient Rome;" and "The Woman of Megara Gathering the Ashes of Phocion." Mr. H. T. Hope contributes two good Teniers—the "Corps de Garde" and "Backgammon Players;" Earl Spencer, a "Venus and Adonis," attributed to Titian, and if so, after—a long way after—the brilliant picture of the same subject in our National Gallery; and Mr. S. Rogers, the venerable poet, a spirited Velasquez—"The Infant Son of Philip IV. at the Manège"—the figure of the little princely equestrian being similar in treatment to the well known picture on the same subject, by the same artist, in the Dulwich Gallery.

In the South Room, with the exception of the fine cartoon of "The Virgin and Child, St. Elizabeth and St. John," by Leonardo da Vinci, justly prized by the Royal Academy as one of their noblest treasures; and three or four comparatively unimportant specimens, attributed to Raphael, Fra Bartolomeo, Fiesole, Mola, dotted in here and there like plums in a "milestone pudding"—modern British, or quasi-modern British, art hems usual the domain to itself, and pentrait is in the ascendant. Her Majesty contributes two Zoffanys, curious specimens of the dry Dutch style of that fortunate Royal protégé. That of "Queen Charlotte, the Prince of Wales, and the Duke of York," is a formal group, the Queen sitting, her face seen nearly in full, and again in profile in the toilet-glass; the young Princes are in fancy costume, the Prince of Wales with a helmet and feathers, the Duke of York in Turkish garb, with a turban. The other group of the "Princess Royal and the Duke of Clarence" is of less pretensions; the execution crude in the extreme. In contrast with this work we observe near at hand a very masterly sketch, the "Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Gloucester" (heads only), by Vandyke, contributed by the Hon. C. C. Cavendish.

To conclude. The Landseer family contribute a striking view of the "Falls of Niagara," by Wilson; the Duke of Sutherland, a "Panoramic View from Richmond hill," painted in 1750 by Tillemans; and the Royal Academy, selections from their presentation pictures, by Lawrence, Collins, Stothard, &c.

M. MONTI'S LECTURES ON SCULPTURE. M. Monti's third lecture on Sculpture brought us to the period of pure Greek art. The lecturer commenced by expatiating upon the noble character of the early colonisers of Greece—their spirit of enterprise, their fine poetic sentiment, their just appreciation of the beautiful, their veneration for the great and heroic—which rendered them the civilisers of surrounding contemporary peoples, and the admiration of the world in all succeeding ages. Importing with them the traditions of art from Egypt, from Assyria, and other parts, they speedily modified them according to the dictates of their spontaneous genius, preserving all that was grand in those ancient creations, but adding to it the beautiful, and infusing into it a majesty, a poetry, and a truthfulness which commanded the admiration whilst it addressed the sympathies and convictions of men. The warm, bright clime of Greece was well adapted both for the development of the human form in the perfection of proportion, whether in the symmetry of muscular strength, or the delicate outline of female beauty; and, as if to acknowledge the special favour of Heaven in this respect, no people ever had a keener sense of the beautiful, or attached higher honours to the possession of it. The establishment of the Olympic Games tended much to promote that ripe appreciation of beauty and propriety in the representation of the human form, whether in action or repose, which enabled the sculptors of those days to represent bodies in the very transitional attitudes of action with a truthfulness which made them almost seem endowed with life—a thing which could never be done from the study of a model attempting to imitate the position. In a word, the Greeks were endowed, by nature and position, with an instinctive sense of the beautiful in form, the true poetry of living and expressive form. In adopting the principle of the ideal in the forms and proportions, they were guided by no vain imaginings or arbitrary rules, but that comprehensive appreciation of general beauty which constituted the very essence of their intellectual character. With such a people, art—the sculptor's art—became a matter of natural necessity; and all over Greece the architect and the sculptor were employed erecting temples and statues to gods and heroes; that being the highest honour that could be shown to the most eminent merit. It was in the middle of the sixth century before the Christian era, at a time when Assyrian art had disappeared, and that of Egypt was on the decline, whilst that of India had reached its climax, that art in Greece asserted its position; soon attaining a point of excellence from which it bade defiance to the rest of the world. Phidias, Polycletus, Scopas, Alcamenes, and Myron were the chief masters of this grand style, the influence of which was soon spread over all the isles of Greece, and the colonies where their renown was felt. This style was distinguished for its power, its dignity, its exact truth, its direct appeal to the intelligence in those ages when the beauty was always used as a means, not as the end, it never obtruded itself upon the eye as the essence and purpose of the work. Types of this style, in its finest manifestations, survive in the ruins of the Parthenon, the Temple of Olympia, &c. After the close of the Second Peloponnesian War a new style prevailed, in which roundness, softness of outline, grace of action, and beauty of form were the chief essentials a style more adventitious and florid in all respects than any which had preceded it. Of this style Praxiteles and Lysippus were the great the unrivalled exponents. Praxiteles was the first who presumed to represent Venus unrobed, and in the hands of the masters of this school that deity lost much of the heroism of her character, as the goddess of valour and fecundity, and degenerated simply into the ideal of feminine beauty. From this date, which was little more than a century later than that of the grand style, art began to lose daily more and more its simplicity and severe purpose; until finally, on the misfortunes which overtook the Greek nation, it took refuge in Asia Minor, where it suffered still further decline. M. Monti took occasion to expatiate warmly upon the beauty and importance of the Elgin marbles, the value of which could not be over-estimated. He illustrated his lecture with numerous drawings and casts after the principal works of Greek sculpture in the British Museum, the Louvre, and the principal galleries of Italy.

BUST OF MR. LAYARD, M.P., BY PATRICK PARK.—Mr. Park has just completed a very fine model for a bust of Mr. Layard, M.P., which is now temporarily on view at the rooms of Messrs Colnaghi, Pall-mall East. The bust is quite simple in treatment, without drapery or addition of any kind. The head is turned a little upward to the right, the brows slightly knit, as in thought, and the mouth compressed. The expression altogether is extremely animated, and the likeness is a very good one.

THE CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION.—Although the Emperor and Empress walked this morning in the Corpus Christi procession it was less brilliant than in olden times, when Vienna was itself, which it has never been since the revolution. The fine figure and the military bearing of the Emperor greatly attracted the attention of foreigners, of whom there are now great numbers in Vienna. The Empress was the principal *point-de-mire* of the Viennese. Her Majesty, who had on a Court dress of white damask, wore some magnificent new jewels, consisting of a diadem, a pendant, a stomacher with tassels, and a rich set of diamonds and rubies. Although somewhat pale, her Majesty looked (if it is the word employed by the people—"charmante. It may be observed that some of the centre rubies in the crown, necklace, and girdle, are nearly as large as a five shilling piece. The sixteen or eighteen ladies who were in the suite of the Empress also wore splendid jewels, and as the sun shone brightly on them they reflected all the colours of the rainbow. All the trains were borne by pages of noble birth. In front of the canopy, under which walked the Archbishop of Vienna with the Host, where the chief members of the Imperial family, and directly before them Count Bach and Baron Brück, the Ministers of the Foreign and Finance Departments. Immediately after the Archbishop came the Emperor, and behind him the Empress; Baron Bach, the Minister of the Interior, walked somewhat to the right of her Majesty. The German Guard closed the procession, but the lady-world would certainly have preferred to see the Hungarian and the Italian Guards with their handsome and fiery horses, and equally handsome and fiery riders. This two-fold question fell to pieces during the procession, and have never been reformed. No cavalry of the line, excepting some ten Dragoons, were present in the ceremony this morning. [illegible] and Vienna [illegible] send such fellows to assist them after the battle of the Alma.—*Letter from Vienna, June 7.*

THE WILKINSON TESTIMONIAL. Totteridge Park was the scene on Thursday of a festival in honour of the learned president of the school—Robert Wilkinson, Esq., M.C.P., M.R.I.B.M.S., whose educational career presents features of considerable interest. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Lee, of Doctors' Commons, when, after the annual recitations of the scholars had taken place, a portrait of Mr. Wilkinson, painted by Mr. Sayer, was presented to his wife and family, as the gift of his pupils and friends. Dr. Lee, in an address, stated that Mr. Wilkinson had devoted his great energies and learning to the cause of education for twenty-eight years, as a Licentiate of the Royal College of Preceptors, and had promoted worthy feelings among the boys while awakening them to honorable emulation. Other speakers followed, particularly G. Thompson, Esq., late M.P. for the Tower Hamlets, who dilated in eloquent terms upon the rightful position of the educator in society. Among the guests were two of the Indian Princes now in this country and ex-President Fillmore; and the company in general much admired the very beautiful park and grounds, which formed during the day a varied and highly-picturesque promenade. This fine estate, it seems, is the property of Dr. Lee, who has thus consecrated it to educational purposes of an unsectarian character.

The present war footing of the Austrian army is said to involve an expense of £650,000 florins (say £65,000) a day. The annual cost, therefore, is calculated, will carry the deficit in the Budget to about 200,000,000 florins (say 30 millions sterling).

CHART OF THE SEA OF AZOFF.

THAT inland lake of salt water known to antiquity as the Palus Mæotis, and to the moderns as the Sea of Azoff, scarcely noticed by ancient geographers, and rarely explored by ancient navigators, has suddenly started into fame, and become to all classes of politicians one of the most interesting regions of the globe. The victorious flags of united England and France now float over this *mare incognitum*, and invest it with an historical character. The accompanying Chart not only illustrates the scenes of the late naval operations, but exhibits a distinct and accurate view of all the shores and headlands of the Sea of Azoff, and of the most prominent points on the coasts of Taurida and the Caucasian provinces. For the purpose of illustrating the Chart we shall avail ourselves of the latest national survey embodied in the work of M. Coreard, and then make some historical remarks on the principal towns which stud the shore.

The bed of the Sea of Azoff is muddy and slimy, and has a tendency to rise; and it is highly probable, this elevation continuing, that the sea may become dry land in the course of a few centuries. According to M. Coreard, the depth of water has diminished three feet between the years 1766 and 1808; in the succeeding quarter of a century the shallowing was two feet; and in the last seventeen years another foot: making a total of six feet in a period of 142 years. The sandbanks are increasing, and new ones are in a state of formation. The greatest depth, as marked in our Chart, is 7½ fathoms, or 44 feet. From Kertch to Taganrog the distance is 260 miles, and from Genitchi to the latter about 250 miles. In the Gulf of the Don the water shoals to 26 feet, which is the roadstead of Taganrog, which lies within that gulf, it falls to about 8 or 10 feet. The water is thick and turbid, and in many places has scarcely a resembling pea-soup. This sea was well named by antiquity as a *Paludes*, or marsh. It is bounded on the south by the Crimea and the Isle of Taman, between which lies the straits of Kertch or Yenikale, called by the ancients the Cimmerian Bosphorus.

(*Continued on page 608.*)

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, LOVE'S MARTYRDOM, in which Miss HELEN FAUCIT will appear. Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, last nights but three of the new Opera of ROSINA and Mr SIMS REEVES. ONLY A HAPPENING, every Evening. Mr. Buckstone's Benefit, Friday, June 29th.

MR. SIMS REEVES begs respectfully to announce that his BENEFIT and last appearance at the THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET will take place on SATURDAY EVENING, JUNE 23, on which occasion will be performed Henry Bertram's new musical Opera of ROSINA, to be followed by a favourite Farce, in which Mr. Buckstone will appear, to conclude with the new Act of LUCIA DE LAMMERMOOR. Tickets and Private Boxes to be had of Mr. Sims Reeves, 123 Gloucester-street, Hyde-park, and at the Box-office.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Under the Management of Mr. Charles Kean.—On MONDAY, and during the week, will be presented HENRY VIII., preceded by AWAY WITH FANCIFULNESS.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. The DIORAMA Illustrating Events of the WAR is now including Daily at Three and Eight. The Lectures by Mr Stoppelaer. Admission 1s., 2s., and 3s.

MRS. FANNY KEMBLE will give TWO READINGS from Shakspeare's Plays TWELFTH NIGHT, and the Second Part of HENRY IV. at the MARLBORO' INSTITUTION, 17 Berners-street, Portman-square. The Readings commence at Eight o'clock, on THURSDAY, 28th JUNE, and FRIDAY EVENING, 29th. The latter one is applicated for FRIDAY EVENING, 29th, at Eight o'clock precisely. Tickets—10 Reserved Seats, 10s. 6d.; Unreserved, 7s. 6d. Tickets may be obtained at the Library.
JOHN A. WARNER, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER-COLOURS.—The 21st ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the Society is NOW OPEN, at Mr. Pennell's, 53, Pall-mall, opposite St. James's Palace, DAILY, from Nine till dusk.—Admission, 1s.; season ticket, 5s.
JAMES FARRY, Secretary.

THE CHALON EXHIBITION, SOCIETY of ARTISTS.—This Collection of the Paintings, Drawings, and Sketches of the late JOHN CHALON, Esq., R.A., with a selection from the Works of ALFRED E. CHALON, Esq., R.A., will be OPENED for the Society's Rooms, Adelphi, on THURSDAY, JUNE 21. Admission, 1s.

MUSICAL UNION.—Director's Matinée.—TUESDAY NEXT, JUNE 19, Three o'clock. WILLIS'S ROOMS. Instrumental Performers—Mons. Sainton and Sainton Dolby played by Herr Goepp, Mr. Pratten, Bottesini, and Halle. A Vocalist will also be engaged. Tickets to be had of the Director and Co., Chappell and Olivier, Bond-street. Extra seats will be provided; and free admission for Artists suspended. J. ELLA, Director.

BIRMINGHAM MUSICAL FESTIVAL, in aid of the FUND for the GENERAL HOSPITAL, on the 26th, 27th, 28th, and 31st days of AUGUST next.
Under the Special patronage of
Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN,
His Royal Highness the PRINCE ALBERT,
Her Royal Highness the Duchess of KENT.
Pres dent—The Right Hon. Lord Wolverhampton.
Vice-Presidents—The Nobility and Gentry of the Midland Counties.
J. F. LEDSAM, Esq., Chairman of the Committee.

THE LONDON POOR: A History of the People from their own Lips; giving a Literal Description of their Labour, Earnings, Trade and Suffering in their own "Vernacular" Illustrated by large, and portraying the Condition of their Homes and Families, from Personal Communication with the Individuals at their Dwellings. Edited by HENRY MAYHEW. With Illustrations of the Scenes and People described, from Special Daguerreotypes by Mr. Beard. 1s., or with Sixteen Coloured Plates, 2s. Who will do it? Who, 2s.
GEO. NEWBOLD, 2, 3, Strand, and 8, Regent-street, Westminster.

FISHER'S DRESSING-CASES, 188, STRAND, Catalogues post free.

LADIES, ask at your Berlin Shop for the NEW PATTERNS for BOOKMARKERS for perforated cardboard, prettier than ever before imagined. Sculpture Marble, Wax, or Footo Mottoes. Two for six stamps, to G. C. HOPE, Hastings.

HOOKHAMS' LIBRARY.—Established 1764. —THE NEWEST BOOKS. The best and cheapest supply to Single Subscribers, Families, Book Societies, and Clubs, in Town or Country. Full particulars on application.—15, Old Bond-street, 10 doors.

A RESPECTABLE MAN and his WIFE wish to TAKE CHARGE of a HOUSE or OFFICES. Each can produce most satisfactory testimonials from their late Master, who has gone to the Colonies. Direct, J. Fletcher, 4 Hercules-terrace, Lea Bridge.

SISAL CIGARS! SISAL CIGARS!! at GOODRICHS, 416, Oxford-street, London (nearly opposite Pomeroy's). Box, consisting fourteen cigars, beautifully wrapped, and sent free, for 1s. 4 stamps (4d.). None are genuine unless signed H. N. Goodrich.

BOULOGNE-SUR-MER.—BRIGHTON HOTEL. M. MARTINI begs to announce to the nobility and gentry about to visit Boulogne, that on the Paris establishment, that he has made additional provision for the accommodation and comfort of those persons who may be pleased to honour his establishment by their patronage. M. M. is confident the delightful situation of his hotel, the immensely spacious and fine beautiful pleasure grounds, cannot fail to obtain the approval of all strangers that may visit Boulogne en route to Paris.

SMARTS WRITING INSTITUTION, 5, Piccadilly, between the Haymarket and Regent-circus.—Open from Ten till Nine daily. Persons of all ages received (privately) and taught at any time, suiting their own convenience. Lessons one hour each. No classes; no extras. Improvement guaranteed in eight to twelve lessons. Separate rooms for ladies, to which department (if preferred) Mrs. Smart will attend. Apply to Mr. Smart, as above.

AT the CRYSTAL PALACE and the ensuing PARIS EXHIBITION—STAREY'S PATENT REVOLVING Self-Invented COTTAGE PIANFORTES, of various shapes, and COTTAGE DOUBLE ACTION, on two or four wheels. They each turn four years, as some carriages in a novel, simple manner. Different from all others. The head is quite enclosed when not required, not unsightly or cumbrous, forming a close carriage when wanted. Greater accommodation, simplicity, and economy, with much less weight, are the chief characteristics. Also, FORT BASKET CARRIAGES, holding four persons, made and sent for a few sovereigns per luggage-train, to any part of the Kingdom. All cash.—STAREY, Coachmaker, Nottingham.

W. CALLAGHAN, OPTICIAN, for many years established in Great Russell-street, opposite the British Museum, begs leave most respectfully to inform the Nobility and Gentry that he has REMOVED to No. 23A, NEW BOND-STREET (corner of Conduit street), where the business will in future be carried on under his own personal supervision, with much precisely the same principles so long and so successfully adopted at his old established Stand. Note—New Bond-street, corner of Conduit-street is Sole Agent for the celebrated Opera Glasses and Race Glasses, used by Voigtlander, Vienna Patented by her Majesty, H.R.H. Prince Albert, H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge, &c.

AMERICAN TRUNKS, BOXES, &c.—A new Stock of these light, convenient and durable Travelling Cases just received at the American Warehouse, Nos. 54b and 56b, New Oxford-street, together with a large Stock of American Patent Cloth, Clocks, Axes, Carpet brooms, Pails, and Cooking Stoves, at reduced prices.—J. T. BAKER.

THE SOLUTION of the DIVINE ENIGMA, 66, the Number of the Beast of Revelation, and Revolution has just been discovered. It is the name of a man (not Letters), and affords a key to the mysterious numbers of the 13th and 17th Revelation prophecy. The above pamphlet, containing the Solution &c., will be forwarded to any address, by Mr. Hallows, Bookseller, St. Helier, Jersey, on receipt of Seven Postage Stamps.

STOOPING or GROWING OUT of the SHOULDERS has been removed in many thousand cases the last ten years by the use of BINYON'S PATENT CHEST PANTIGE, which is forwarded by post, for the chest measure, on receipt of a postage-stamp, by Mr. ALFRED BINYON, Tailor, Wellington-street, Strand.

SHOWER and all DOMESTIC BATHS. The Cheapest and Best. DEANE, DRAKE, and CARTER's Patent Showers, Engravings and Prices of the above, may be had gratuitously on application and post-free. Improved Shower Baths, Extract from Baths. Estimates given for fitting up Bath Rooms.—Deane, Drake, and Co., London-bridge. Established A.D. 1700.

TO CAPITALISTS, ENGINEERS, &c.—The Inventor of various Plans wishes to meet with persons willing to carry them into effect on any one table terms. He will exhibit a NEW SYSTEM of PERMANENT INVISIBLE, producing a Internal without, Rails, if by regular Principles only, or by solicitors, may apply (between ten and four) to the Inventor, T. WILKINS, 80, Harley-street, Cavendish-square.

INDIA, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, and CAPE of GOOD HOPE. W. O. YOUNG will dispatch the following fast-sailing A1 Clipper SHIPS at the dates named as under:—

Ships.	Tons.	Commanders.	Destination.	Docks.	To sail.
H. Fearon	421	W. Good	Calcutta	London	June 15
H. Hillas	600	J. Creighton	Calcutta	Liverpool	June 15
Robert Sloper	690	J. Simpson	Bombay	No. India	June 20
Thomas Campbell	630	Robt. Clark	Sandy Hook	London	July 12
Planet	449	W. P. Buckham	Hong-Kong & Shanghae	London	June 7
Dolphin	388	G. Murray	Hong-Kong & Wampoa	W. India	June 27
Balmoral	500	J. Clarke	Shanghae	London	June 23
Sea Witch	357	H. Pent sath	Shanghae	London	July
Kent gate	600	Wm. Kipling	Port Phillip	London	June 2
Ballister	501	Richard Pill	Geelong	London	Jun 15
Gentoo	400	Edward Pill	Sydney	London	Jun 15
Maid of Judah	655	J. Merchant	Sydney	London	July 20
Sea Queen	549	W. Rowe	Adelaide	St. Kath.	June 12
Roehampton	488	R. Bradshaw	Cape Gd. Hope	London	June 9
Sir Robert Peel	570	Beadle	Cape Gd. Hope	London	June 29
Lord Goderich	300	J. Robinson	Cape Gd. Hope	London	June 20
Clifford	300	J. Davis	Mossel Bay	St. Kath.	June 20

These ships have been selected specially for their high-class and fast-sailing qualities, and will be found well worth the attention of Shippers and Passengers.—W. O. YOUNG, 54, Cross-street, Manchester; 19, Dale street, Liverpool; and Sun-court, Cornhill, London.

ROYAL ASYLUM of ST. ANN'S SOCIETY, for Children of those once in prosperity, Orphans or not. By voluntary contributions.
The HALF-YEARLY ELECTION will take place at the LONDON TAVERN, on THURSDAY, the 21st of JUNE, at Two.
New candidates should be nominated immediately.
Forms may be obtained at the Office; or are forwarded by post, with a List of Governors, on receipt of 12 postage stamps.
2, Charlotte-row, Mansion House.
F. S. LEWIS, Secretary.

CITY of LONDON LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, for General Assurances and Self-providing annuities.
Head Office—7 Royal Exchange-buildings, London.
Capital, a Quarter of a Million.
TRUSTEES.
The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor | The Hon. W. F. Campbell
Sir Rob. Comm. West | John Thomas, Esq.
This Society, guaranteed by a capital fully equal to the Company, offers the Public the security of a Mutual Society with the advantages of a Proprietary Company.
ROBERT ROBERTSON, Actuary. F. S. LEWIS, Secretary.

NOTICE.—GRESHAM LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, 26, Old Jewry, London. The Board of Directors return their thanks to the many gentlemen who have obliged them by their services on the Board of Directors, and advertisement for a principal officer.
After mature investigation of the several applications, the choice has fallen on Mr Edwin James Farren, from his general acquaintance as such on Insurance subjects, and from the written and personal testimony of the very highest character received in his favour.
The testimonials of other gentlemen have been mislaid, and will be forwarded at the course. (Signed) W. TAYLOR, Chairman.
June 5th, 1855.

ECONOMIC FUNERAL COMPANY, 28, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.
The resources of this Company enable them to conduct Funerals of all classes with strict economy in the most satisfactory manner.
Prospectuses upon application.
West-End Branch, 326, Oxford-street, Hyde-park.

THE NEW ASYLUM for FATHERLESS CHILDREN, Stamford-hill.—The INTERESTS of the Society are very earnestly requested on behalf of EMMA JANE ANNE COLE, who is in a distressing case, and possesses peculiar claims on the sympathy of the public at the present time. If there is any person who knows Mr. Henry Cole, formerly a sergeant in the 1st Foot Guards, who died at Malta, in the hurricane which swept the Mediterranean, in November last. The Commissioners of the Fatherless Fund have not admitted the claims of the family for assistance, and the widow and her little children are at present old, in dependence and the precarious savings at shortcomings. The Board of the Charity have at once received it as a case of emergency subject to the rules in force, and if not these successful, she must, by the rules, leave the Institution. Proxies will be thankfully received by Edward Bevan, Esq., Lombard-street.

THE ROYAL-EXCHANGE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—For Fire, Life, and Marine Assurances, and for Annuities. Established A.D. 1720, by Charter of King George the I. Capital Stock, Three Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pounds, with the security of a stability of an office which has been tested by the expiration of nearly a century and a half.
Tables of Premiums, and of the Bonus in the Life Department, may be obtained at the offices of the Corporation, or from its Agents in the principal towns of the United Kingdom.
JOHN A. HIGHAM, Actuary and Secretary.

TO MEDICAL MEN and OTHERS.—Provision against Permanent Debility by Sickness or Accident. Insurance—Apply at 1, Pall-mall-place, Pall-mall, opposite the Opera House. Fee, 1s. 6d., secure £100 per annum for life, during the continuance of such disability.
Partl ulars sent free, on application to the Law, Property and Life Assurance Society, 30, Essex-street, Strand, London.
EDWARD S. BAINES, Secretary.

FOREIGN VINEYARD ASSOCIATION.—(Capital £300,000.)
President—Right Hon. Lord MUSKERRY.
A Joint-Stock Company, formed for the purpose of supplying private families and establishments with foreign wines and spirits, in large or small quantities, at really wholesale prices—from 9s. from 25 to 50 per cent under those of wine-merchants. Example: the finest Champagne, at £6 6s. per three-dozen case, instead of £10 10s.; Claret, finest Chateau Margaux wines, at £7 7s., instead of £12; Sherry, at 24s., 30s., 36s., and 42s. (pure old wine, and 36s.); Ports, same ratio, and the finest pale or brown Cognac, 36s. per gallon. Apply to T. W. STAPLETON, Esq., Secretary and Manager, 31, King-street, Regent-street, for prospectuses and detailed price lists. The principal clubs in London supplied. All wines sent out on approval, or samples forwarded free if desired. Terms, cash or reference.—And at 6, Boulevard des Italiens, Paris.

THE HONOURABLE ARTILLERY COMPANY of LONDON, the most ancient Corps of Volunteers in England, CONSISTS of ONE HUNDRED GENTLEMEN who are willing to give a portion of their time to Military Service.
The Corps is armed with the Minie Rifle, and has received from her present Most Gracious Majesty, and her Majesty's Royal predecessors, to trade pursuant to the use of arms, and to the practice of military exercises and manœuvres.
The Corps possesses a Parade-ground of several acres, a Rifle-gallery 90 yards, suitable drill-rooms, Arms, and every facility for efficient military training.
The Officers are selected from the Corps, and hold her Majesty's Commissions.
Gentlemen under twenty-one years of age are admitted as Cadets, but must produce the consent of their parents or guardians.
Members have to be proposed, balloted for, and take the Uniform of the Corps.
The expenses of the Band, Arms, Ammunition, &c., are defrayed out of the funds of the Company.
Gentlemen desirous of joining, can obtain any further information on application, by letter, to Mr William H. White, Secretary, 16, Artillery-place, Finsbury.

FOREIGN BIRDS for SALE.—Thirty species of splendid Parrots, from 1s. to £5 each; Virginian Nightingales in song, and other Assortment; also, Monkeys, Foxes, Guinea-pigs, Rabbits, Dogs, &c. A LAW, Naturalist, 152, Edward-street, Hackney-road.

SOUTH DEVON.—Mansion and Lands for Sale, about seven miles from Plymouth, and two miles from the Plympton and Cornwood Stations of the South Devon Railway. Eligible Investment for Capitalists and Lodging House Keepers.

TO BE SOLD by PRIVATE CONTRACT, THE MANSION-HOUSE and GROUNDS called BERCHWOOD (the Residence of Lieut.-Gen. Sir T. E. Peyton, Bart.). The Farms and Lands, adjoining, situate in the Parish of Plympton St. Mary, and Lands in the Parishes of Plympton and Plympton Maudit, containing 237 acres.
The Mansion comprises a spacious entrance hall, billiard-room, library, drawing and dining-rooms, housekeeper's room, and all requisite offices; on the first floor bed-rooms (besides servants' apartments), and three dressing-rooms. The stable yard (which is attached) comprises double coach-houses, two three-stalled stables, and loose boxes. The Gardens contain double green houses, melon, cucumber, and other frames and forcing houses, kitchen and other Gardens, fruit trees, and vines. The Gardens are well walled fully stocked, and in good cultivation. The House, which stands in an extensive park, is situate in a southern aspect, commands fine picturesque views of the adjoining country, and is connected with woods and plantations, which form a most delightful retreat. Particulars (of which immediate possession may be obtained) will be forwarded on application, and a large or small set of Sale Notes sent, such required for the personal occupation of the owner. Gentlemen the property presents peculiar attractions. The game on the estate has been preserved, while the pond are well known as the water resort of almost every description of wild fowl. Fox-hounds and harriers are kept in the neighbourhood.
Cards of admission for viewing the house will be furnished on application to Messrs. Roger and Brewer, at the Manor office, Stonehouse, from whom and from Messrs Hurrell Dymond and Sons, Surveyors, 16, Bedford circus, Exeter plans and further particulars may be obtained.—Dated June 6th, 1855.

THE FRENCH MUSLIN COMPANY SEND PATTERNS FREE.
1, OXFORD STREET, and CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE FRENCH MUSLIN COMPANY, 16, OXFORD-STREET, AND CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE FRENCH MUSLIN COMPANY.—Patterns have just received—the Are home MUSLIN BOOKS, free on application. The price is 10s. Guineas. Ladies for the Ball, 1s. 6d. Patterns free on receiving a Post-office Order to J. A. 1, Oxford-street.

THE PRINCESS ROYAL.—The Patterns of the Dresses worn by her Royal Highness at present morning, may be obtained gratis by the FRENCH MUSLIN COMPANY, 16, Oxford-street.

MOURNING MUSLINS.—The most beautiful as well as the most exclusive variety of MOURNING MUSLINS and BAREGES, by the FRENCH MUSLIN WAREHOUSE, 16, Oxford street. Patterns sent free.

TO LADIES.—CUT-OUT EMBROIDERY PATTERNS, suitable for under-sleeves, &c. Three Elegant Designs sent for thirteen postage-stamps. Address ROBERT PEYERS, Tooth, Maidstone, Kent.

TO LADIES.—THE SHREWSBURY WATERPROOF TWEED CLOAKS may be had of the maker, JAMES PHILLIPS, SHREWSBURY. Patterns of the Material, and Prices sent post free. Gentlemen's Overcoats and Capes of the same material.

THE LADIES' LIGHT WATERPROOF Registered TWEED CLOAKS, now so much used for Summer Carriage, may be had of the Manufacturer, JENNILL, 41, Lord-st., Liverpool; Patterns of Material, with Prices sent post free. Londonderry.

LADIES' WEDDING ORDERS and INDIA OUTFITS are supplied on a very superior style, at moderate prices, by CHRISTIAN and BATHSON, 11, Wigmore-street, Cavendish-square. Estd. 1792.

GLENNY'S PRIZE MEDAL BALBRIGGAN HOSIERY.—Soft, Light, Cool, and Elastic. Balbriggan Stockings, 3s. 6d. per pair.

LADIES' TRIMMINGS of every description: Lace and Silk Fringes, 3d. per yard; Mechlin Lace, from 1d. per yard, stamped, embossed, and plain Ribbon Velvets, Braids, Gimpings, Bracings, &c. Dresses made and trimmed, according to the latest style of fashion, guaranteed. Elegant Crochet Collars and Sleeves, from 1s. to 3s. 6d. Orders by post promptly attended to.—BARKER'S, 60, 191, Borough, London.

INDIA SHAWLS.—A splendid assortment of superb INDIA and all other descriptions of elegant SHAWLS are constantly on SALE at W. HART'S, Silk Mercers and Shawl, India Warehouse, 67, Fore-street, where persons desirous to purchase or exchange India Cloth Shawls, Delhi Scarfs, Kincobs, Turbans, Gold and Silver Embroidery Muslins, &c., from India, British, and French Shawl, Lace, Dress, and Silk Warehouse, 69, Fleet-street.

A SINGLE STAMP.—A Carriage free to any part of the Country, on receipt of a Post-office Order. Waist measure only required.
Drawings and Prices on receipt of a Postage Stamp.
The Lower Belgrave-street, Pimlico, Waterproofs, 10s. 6d.
The Elastic Cloth, with simple Coming in front, a strongly recommended by the Faculty.
CAPES and HOODS, 10s. 6d. Boys' Capes, 6. Silk Mitts-road 5, Stockwell street, Greenwich, and Crystal Palace.

MARION'S RESILIENT BODICE and CORSALETTO DI MEDICI. By Royal Patents.—Infinitely superior to any other Bodice ever introduced, and in comfort, style and workmanship it is alike unexceptionable.—Ridge, 4, Leicester-place, Leicester-square, Sole Inventor and Patentee.
They combine firmness with elasticity, fit closely, fasten easily in front, and are adapted for every age, figure, and habitude. Enlarged prospectus, illustrations, details of prices, explicit directions and papers for self-measurement, &c., on receipt of two stamps for post-paid letters; orders post-paid, carriage free, and cash free.
Mesdames MARION and MAITLAND, Patentees and Sole Manufacturers, 24, Connaught-terrace, Hyde-park, London.

Established A.D. 1778.
CAPPER, SON, and CO., 69, GRACECHURCH STREET, CITY, LINEN DRAPERS to the QUEEN, and Manufacturers of
INFANTS' BASSINETTES, Baby Linen, Children's Dresses, and Ladies' Outer Clothing, for Home, India, and the Colonies.
All Parcels carriage free, within the range of the London Parcels Delivery Company.
Parcels of £2 value free of railway carriage throughout the kingdom, with PRICE CURRENT (POST-PAID), by application, as above, or to
CAPPER, SON, and CO., 164, REGENT-STREET, LONDON. (nearly opposite New Burlington-street.)

JAY'S MOURNING ESTABLISHMENT.—The Proprietors respectfully announce that the Long General Mourning Warehouse offers advantages for the supply of MOURNING to Families of the highest distinction, and also to those of the most limited means. Ladies' Mourning Outfits, of the best and suitable qualities, may be had on the most reasonable terms and at the shortest notice, and suited to any grade or position in the country, at the LONDON GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE, Nos. 247, 249, and 251, Regent-street. W. C. JAY and CO.

COOPER and WOOLLCOTT, Family Linen-drapers, Silk-mercers, &c., 122, REGENT-STREET, respectfully beg to solicit the nobility and gentry that, in compliance with the wishes of many of their customers, they have opened a Room exclusively for Ladies' READY-MADE UNDERCLOTHING. The department is under the management of experienced hands, and will be found to embody the newest patterns, and at the most moderate prices. Manufacturers of the Elastic Woollen Belt, so extensively used in the Crimea.—29, Regent street.

BEDDING.—Economy, Durability, and Comfort.—J. and B. STEER'S SPRING and PRENCH MATTRESSES take the most marked lead. A Price List of every description of Bedding, Blankets, and Quilts, sent free. Bedsteads of every description, in Wood, Iron, and Brass; Cots, Sofas, Elder-down Quilts in Silk and Cotton Cases.—J and B. STEER, Bedding, Bedstead, and Bedroom Furniture Manufacturers, 18, Oxford-street.

ONE THOUSAND BEDSTEADS to CHOOSE FROM.—HEAL and SON have just received extensive Premises, which enable them to keep upwards of One Thousand Bedsteads in stock, one hundred and fifty of which are fixed for inspection, comprising every variety of brass, iron, and wood, and Danish furniture, complete. Their new Warerooms also contain an assortment of BED-ROOM FURNITURE, which comprises every requisite for the present fashion, and at the most moderate prices. Manufacturers of the Elastic Wooden Belt, so extensively used in the Crimea.—29, Regent street.

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(*Continued from page 606.*)

Kertch, the ancient Panticopæum, was founded by the Greeks 2000 years ago, though the modern town was built by the late Czar Nicholas, and it contains 12,000 inhabitants. It was a most important place under the Kings of the Bosphorus. When it was in the possession of the Turks they kept a strong garrison there under a Pacha.

Taman, on the opposite side of the strait, was the ancient Phanagoria Kopil is now the capital of the island, and was formerly the residence of a Seraskier, who commanded all the Tartars of the Kouban for the Khan of the Crimea. The Kouban is the Hypanis of the Greeks, and one of the largest rivers of the Caucasus, having its source in the Spat or Elborus, one of the largest mountains in this part of the earth. Between the Kouban and its branch, the Tchernoi and Protok, Taman is completely insulated. Protok means a rivulet, and Tchernoi black; and, in comparison with the Kouban, it may be called a rivulet.

Arabat is built on the sands between the Sea of Azoff and the Sirwash, or Putrid Sea. A sort of natural dyke, starting from the very foot of the ramparts of Arabat, runs directly northwards, between dashing waves on one side, and, on the other, stagnant and pestilential waters. This narrow causeway is intersected towards the northern extremity by a canal of about 300 feet long, forming a communication between the two seas, and is designated a strait. This dyke is known as the Tongue of Arabat, and called Tonks. It is fifty-two miles long, and is but a few feet above the level of the sea. "The Sirwash is divided into two sorts of gulfs, one of which to the west bounds the Isthmus of Perekop; and the other, which is called Bikis, bends to the south towards Theodosia.

Perekop is the portal of the Crimea, and in the days of Tartar rule was called Or-Gapy, or the Golden Gate. Its present name, derived from a Russian word, signifies "a trench between two seas," and exactly describes its position in the geography of Taurida. Herodotus, Strabo, and Pliny were of opinion that, in former ages, Taurida was completely severed from the Caucasus, which is highly probable, for the Isthmus of Perekop is now only five miles in length.

Kaffa is the ancient Theodosia. In very early times it was named Ardenda, or the Town of the Seven Gods. While in possession of the Genoese, it was styled Crim Stamboul, or the Constantinople of the Crimea.

At the end of the tongue of Arabat, and on the other side of the canal or strait, is Genitchi—a modern town, growing into commercial importance. Berdiansk also is a new emporium of trade: and, higher up on the coast of the government Ekatarinoslaf so named in compliment to the Empress Catharine II.—stands the rising city of Marioupol, on the embouchures of the rivers Kaltchouk and Kalmious, backed by a productive territory.

Taganrog is situated at the head of the Sea of Azoff, and celebrated for its salubrity. Here Alexander I. died, having repaired it, in the hope of renovating his shattered health. In a letter from Catharine II. to Voltaire, dated 14th March, 1771, she says that, "After the capture of Azoff, Peter the Great, wishing to have a port on the Sea of that name, fixed on Taganrog. He hesitated for some time after its foundation as to whether he should build the city of St Petersburg on the Baltic, or raise one at Taganrog. Circumstances finally decided for the former, but no advantage was gained with respect to climate: at Taganrog there is scarcely any winter, while ours is exceedingly long."

Rostoff is washed by the Don before the waters of that river are divided and distributed among the channels which form its mouth, and is a great emporium of trade. This region is one of the most important in the Russian empire. Among other cities it contains Voronetz, seated on the high banks of the river from which its name is derived, and a few versts from the spot where it falls into the Don. It is one of the largest, finest, and most populous towns within the dominions of the Czar, and lends its name to a government characterised for its fruitfulness, especially in corn. It is accounted one of the most ancient towns; but the exact epoch of its foundation is unknown. It is spoken of, however, as existing in the twelfth century. Its importance dates from the reign of Peter the Great, who resided there for some time to superintend the construction of his ship. From Voronetz a few vessels were floated into the Don, and thence into the Sea of Azoff, which were of great service in the expedition against the town of that name. The dock was afterwards removed to Ustia, at the confluence of the Voronetz and the Don, and finally to the fortress of Rostoff, at the embouchure of the Don. Voronetz contains some cloth manufactories, tanneries, and soap and tallow works, and, during peace, carries on a considerable commerce with the Black Sea.

The town of Azoff lies south-east of Rostoff, and its possession was the earliest military and naval exploit of Peter the Great; but he was repulsed from its walls after losing 30,000 men. Two years afterwards, or in 1695, he made a second and completely successful attack; but was obliged to surrender his conquest to Sultan Achmet III., in 1711, by the treaty of the Pruth. It was again ceded to Russia, in 1774, by the treaty of Kainardji; by virtue of which, and the subsequent convention of 1799, Russian vessels were allowed to navigate the Black Sea, and the passage of the Dardanelles was opened to them. From that period the commerce of Russia spread itself extensively and rapidly both in the Sea of Azoff and in the Euxine.

The eastern shores of the Sea or Azoff are guarded by a military line, which extends from the mouth of the Kouban to the mouth of the Terek, which empties itself into the Caspian. This line is guarded by the Cossacks, now called Tchernomorskii. By the ukase of the 30th June, 1792, the Empress Catharine gave up to them the peninsula of Taman, which depends on the government of Taurida, and all the territories lying between the river Kouban and the Sea of Azoff, up to the rivers Yea and Laba. Ekaterinodar, marked on our Chart, is the capital of these Cossacks

The success of our fleets in these waters has given us as complete command of the Sea of Azoff as we have possessed of the Euxine; and the export trade of the whole of the territory bordering its shores, and far away into the interior—whether it be the produce which finds its way down the Don into the Palus Mæotis, or into the Black Sea down the Dnieper, or the Dniesterlies—at the mercy of the Allied fleets.

ANAPA—SOUJAK-KALE—GHELENDJIK.

The evacuation of Anapa by the Russians, as reported by the Electric Telegraph, is one of the most satisfactory proofs of the breaking down of the great Northern despotism. In surrendering Anapa to the Circassians, the Russian General abandons not merely a strong fortress, but breaks up one of the chief lines of communication with the Transcaucasian provinces. A few weeks ago the *Invalide Russe* contained a report from General Khotomontoff, in which he stated that he had inspected the fortifications of Novorossisk (Soujak-Kalé) and of Anapa, and found them in good order, and "the troops full of ardour, and ready to receive the enemy." A very short time has shown what reliance to place on such reports. After twenty-five years of incessant warfare, in which the Russians are said to have lost 20,000 men annually, they have been forced to give up Circassia to its brave inhabitants.

The position of Anapa is of very considerable importance, both in a military and commercial point of view. The fortress occupies the northern extremity of the Circassian mountains on the shore of the Euxine, and is only forty-six miles from Kertch, at the entrance of the Sea of Azoff. The fortifications consists of a long sea-wall, a citadel on a perpendicular calcareous rock, and some bastions on the land side. The town is inhabited by a miscellaneous population of Circassians, Tartars, Greeks, Jews, Armenians, Russians, and others, to the number of five thousand. The adverse relations of its masters with the tribes inhabiting the mountain country in its rear have almost neutralised the great advantages offered by its situation, and prevented its growth. Its exports are at present grain, tallow, butter, hides, peltries, wax, &c. It is, however, as a military post that it has been most prized by Russia, most deplored by Turkey. The fort, built by the Turks in 1784, was taken by the Russians in 1791 and in 1807, and only given up with the greatest reluctance. In May, 1828, a detached Russian corps, under Prince Menschikoff, assisted by the fleet, consisting of eight ships of the line, four frigates, and twenty-one corvettes, laid siege to Anapa, and with great difficulty surrounded the place with a strong line of circumvallation, intersecting the neck of land on which Anapa is situated, and extending on each side to the sea. In a few days the works were advanced to the glacis, and, three breaches having been made, the Governor was summoned to surrender. The garrison had consisted of three thousand men; they had defended the fort for forty days; the "untoward event" at Navarino had destroyed the fleet which might have brought them relief; and nothing remained but to surrender.

Upon the conclusion of the war Anapa was not restored; at the peace of Adrianople it was ceded to Russia, with all the coast towns and forts, from the Kouban to Fort St. Nicholas. The name of this last fort will be remembered (although its Turkish denomination of Shaf-tatil is, perhaps, better known) as having been taken by the Turks at the opening of last year's Asiatic campaign. Anapa, at the other extremity of the coast line, closes the list. At any other time the transfer of this military position from the Russians to the Circassians—the most vigorous and constant of their enemies—might have been deemed an event of considerable importance; but its evacuation at the present moment is important.

Soujak-Kalé, or Novorossisk, as the Russians call it, was abandoned by the Russian garrison a few weeks ago, the troops falling back on Anapa, and, not finding themselves safe even there, they are said to have retreated beyond the Kuban, that is, if the Circassians allowed them to do so, as a retreating army would find some difficulty in fighting its way through a hostile population.

Baron Haxthausen, in his "Transcaucasia," speaks of the first view of the harbour of Soujak-Kalé as extremely beautiful. It lies very advantageously, the sea forming a small and deep bay, surrounded by lofty mountains, the narrow entrance being formed by two projecting headlands. As a harbour it possesses little value, the bottom of the sea within it being so rocky that anchors have difficulty in holding. The Bora, or north-east wind, is also said to set in frequently with unexpected fury, and strand the vessels with a fearful shock.

Ghelendjik, another of the Russian military posts on the Circassian shore, of which we have given an Engraving this week, was abandoned to the natives last summer. It is described as being a place of more importance in a military point of view than Novorossisk, and as possessing the advantage of a more secure anchorage than is to be found at some of the other harbours on that coast.

The accompanying Views are from sketches by Captain Gordon, of the Royal Engineers.

RUSSIAN FORTRESSES ON THE COAST OF CIRCASSIA.

ANAPA, EVACUATED BY THE RUSSIANS.—(SEE PAGE 608.)

SOUJAK-KALE.

GHELENDJIK.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Thursday.

The King of Portugal and the Lord Mayor stand as rival lions in the estimation of the Parisian public: both are alike followed and feted, both have alike their sayings and doings chronicled in the *salons* and the papers, and both enjoy in a pretty equal degree the attention and interest of society. A magnificent ball has been offered to the King of Portugal and the Duc de Porto by the Préfet de la Seine; and a variety of other fêtes are taking place, or are in contemplation. Last week, after the presentation of the Lord Mayor's address to the Préfet and the Municipal Commission of the Seine, took place a magnificent banquet of nearly 400 covers; at which appeared—besides the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, and the French Civic authorities—the English Ambassador, the Ministers, the high functionaries, and various foreigners of distinction. The orchestra and a chorus, on the health of our Queen being proposed, struck up "God Save the Queen;" and a cantata was performed, composed by M. Gounod expressly for the occasion. Nothing could be more complete than the *entente cordiale*, which has manifested itself on all occasions, between our municipal authorities and the French of all classes with whom they have come in contact. The King of Portugal and his brother, attended by the officers who accompanied them, went to visit the Lord Mayor and the Préfet de la Seine, at the Hôtel de Ville. The young King and the Duc de Porto have already visited nearly all the principal public monuments and institutions in Paris, and show the most intelligent interest in all that is displayed to them; they have also appeared at several of the theatres, in company with the Emperor and Empress.

It is announced that the young Archduke Ferdinand of Tuscany is about to visit this capital.

It appears that change of air being considered necessary for the health of the Empress, she purposes, on the departure of the King of Portugal, which is expected to take place on or about the 25th, to proceed to the Eaux Bonnes, for a month or five weeks. She will return to complete the preparations for the arrival of Queen Victoria, whose visit is looked forward to with the utmost anxiety.

On Sunday, on the occasion of the display of the Grandes Eaux at Versailles, took place a curious assemblage of the physiognomies, languages, and costumes of the various nations now assembled here. The day was lovely, and nothing could exceed the gaiety and brilliancy of the scene. In fact Paris, since the arrival of the fine weather, has assumed a new aspect, and looks as gay as before it was gloomy; and since the revolution of 1848 it has never worn the same outward aspect of prosperity and luxury as it at present displays, despite war calamities and war prices.

The Cattle and Poultry Show in the Champ de Mars has created great interest and attention among the public here, though the high price of entrance, three francs, has had the evil effect of preventing its proving useful to the class most interested in such exhibitions—the cultivators and country people. The English exhibitors were, as may be supposed, peculiarly successful. The fancy fowls, which are, for the most part, almost unknown in France, were the objects of particular interest and attention, especially those of Prince Albert

Grievous accounts arrive from some of the provinces of the inundations taking place there. At Toulouse, in the department of Cher, at Tarbes, Albé, Carcassonne, Pau, &c., crops, buildings, and bridges have in many places been destroyed, railroads damaged, and communication, for the moment, entirely obstructed.

The plan, mentioned some time since, of establishing subterraneau railways in Paris has been brought before the Minister of Public Works, the Préfet de la Seine, and the Préfet de la Police. The object of this plan is to establish a communication, for the transport of heavy merchandise, with all the principal quarters and all the railway stations. The traction is to be operated by means of cables or chains, which will prevent the possibility of any of the accidents occurring where steam is employed as a propeller.

On Saturday evening the Emperor, the Empress, the King of Portugal, and the Duc de Porto, attended a brilliant soirée offered them by the Prince Napoleon, the honours of which were as usual performed by the Princess Mathilde. The King of Portugal presented to the Prince the grand cordon of the Order of the Tower and the Sword, which the latter wore during the evening. The reception was most brilliant.

The preparations for the Queen's reception are already far advanced—the choice of furniture, liveries, and persons to attend upon her Majesty, being already decided upon. The Préfet de la Seine, the Municipal Councillors, and some of the Aides-de-Camp of the Emperor, are to proceed to meet the Queen on her landing at Calais

On Sunday took place the opening of a new *restaurant* which promises to have a prodigious success. This is in the *salle* Montesquieu, built some years since for a bazaar; it is capable of containing upwards of 500 to dine with ease. The dinner is simple, but reasonable in price, and served with the utmost celerity. The bill is presented, paid at a counter, receipted, and serves as a passport at the door of *sortie*. On the first day upwards of 1000 persons breakfasted and dined in the establishment

THE FINAL VIENNA CONFERENCE.

The last of the Vienna Conferences took place on the 4th inst, and was attended by the following parties: For Austria, Count Buol-Schauenstein and Baron Prokesch-Osten; for France, Baron Bourqueney; for Great Britain, the Earl of Westmoreland; for Russia, Prince Gortschakoff and M. de Titoff; for Turkey, Aali Pacha and Aarif Effendi. Count Buol stated that, as a last resource, Austria was prepared to make another proposition intended to settle by way of compromise the disputed point of the limitation of the naval forces of Russia in the Black Sea. In the eleventh Conference, held on the 19th of April, M. Drouyn de Lhuys had suggested that, as Russia peremptorily objected to treat with the other great Powers on the limitation of her own naval forces, an expedient might be found to meet this difficulty, by bringing about a direct arrangement between Russia and the Porte to adjust the balance of their respective forces, which arrangement should have the same validity and effect as the general acts of the Conference. To this was added Lord John Russell's most unfortunate declaration of the 19th of March, that the best and most admissible conditions of peace would be those which should be most consistent with the honour of Russia, as well as with the security of Europe. Upon these hints, which certainly do no credit to the sagacity or firmness of our negotiators, the Austrian Cabinet set to work to construct its final scheme, to the following effect:—It proposed, in the first place, that the great Powers should bind themselves to respect the independence and territorial integrity of the Ottoman empire, and should bind themselves to consider every act or event of a nature to infringe upon it *as a question of European interest*. Secondly, that the Plenipotentiaries of Russia and Turkey should propose by common agreement to the Conference the equal amount of the effective naval forces to be kept up by them in the Black Sea, such amount not to exceed the number of Russian ships now afloat in that sea, and that this agreement should form an integral part of the general treaty; that the Straits remain closed, but each of the other Powers to be authorised by firman to station two frigates in the Black Sea, and in case of attack the Sultan to open the passage to all the naval forces of his allies.

A considerable amount of diplomatic tongue-fence took place, the net result of which was that Prince Gortschakoff condescended to say that "he finds in the general principles of Count Buol's project the basis of a possible solution of the third guarantee." The English and French Ambassadors both declared that their instructions were exhausted; and thus the solemn farce ended.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The retreat of the Russian army across the Kouban appears to have been in consequence of an apprehended attack by the natives, assisted by a detachment of French troops. A private letter from the Crimea, dated the 2nd inst., states that the Allied Admirals in the Sea of Azoff had demanded of General Pelissier a reinforcement of troops, in order to continue their operations on the coast of Asia. Their demand had been complied with, and four battalions of French troops had embarked at Kamiesch on the 31st ult. The object of the Admirals was said to be to attack Anapa, where the Russians had concentrated all their forces. It was on the 5th inst. that the Russians evacuated the last of their strongholds in Circassia, and the news of their having done so would, no doubt, enable the four battalions of French troops to return to Kamiesch, where their services will, probably, soon be required in a much more hazardous undertaking than the storming of Anapa. It appears, however, that the Allies now see their way to the accomplishment of the great object upon which they have been so long engaged. The letter of the 2nd inst. states that the division which crossed the Tchernaya, under the command of General Canrobert, supported by General Bosquet, had established and fortified a *tête du pont* in front of the Russian fortifications. The Turks were encamped to the right of the hillock in front of the Tchernaya, while the Piedmontese occupied the heights which extend from the Tchernaya to the sea. It was said that General Pelissier would advance when he had received a sufficient supply of horses and mules. In the meantime the garrison of Sebastopol is described as having become demoralised. The troops now perceive that they are losing ground every day, and that, notwithstanding their tenacity, the town must fall at no distant period.

The correspondence between the Governors of Sebastopol and Kertch, found in the latter town, shows the Russians to be very tired of the war, and that there is much sickness among them. One of the letters found orders the preparation of 16,000 beds in the different hospitals of the peninsula. The *Presse d'Orient* of the 4th states that the French prisoners who have returned from Odessa estimate the total number of Russian invalids throughout the Crimea at 100,000. They say that the typhus fever, which broke out at Sebastopol in the spring, carried off an immense number. They confirm the fact that all the provisions for the Russian army were drawn from Kertch and Kaffa, while the reinforcements arrive from Perekop.

General D'Autemarre, who has been left in command of Kertch, corroborates this statement, which must be very discouraging to the Anglo-Russian party. He says:—"The Russian army, deprived of Kertch, and disturbed at Arabat, will be reduced to the Perekop road only, which is insufficient for their supplies." Rear-Admiral Lyons states also that the transit of rations from the Sea of Azoff to Sebastopol, which is now put down, has been going on at the rate of fifteen hundred carts daily. The quantity of Government stores destroyed by the Allies he estimates at four months' rations for 100,000 men. If the soldiers in Sebastopol were actually short of bread six weeks ago, as the letter of a Russian officer in that place represented them to be, we may be quite sure that they will have to give in very soon, if a general engagement do not take place.

As regards the total number of Russian troops in the Crimea, they seem to have been greatly exaggerated. General D'Autemarre says:—

The force which had been charged with the defence of the peninsula [of Kertch] may be estimated at 6000 men. General Wrangel, who commanded them, had several times applied for reinforcements. A letter from General Gortschakoff which has fallen into our hands informs him that not only will no reinforcements be sent to him, but orders him to send all his cavalry to Sebastopol.

CAPTURE OF THE MAMELON.

The brief announcement in our last publication that the bombardment was recommenced on the afternoon of the 6th was speedily followed by news of a most important and brilliant movement by our gallant Allies on the Mamelon and its supporting works, which were carried, in a short but bloody fight, on the evening of the 7th. The Mamelon, as most of our readers must be aware from the frequent references made to it in the course of the siege, was one of the most formidable of the exterior defences of the town. It is a hill, in front of the famous Malakoff Tower and batteries, strongly fortified by the Russians, and before which many of the extensive rifle-pits, recently captured by the French, were situated On the eastern side of the hill lies the Careening Bay, and therefore to the north east of the Mamelon, the external defences of the town were completed by two formidable redoubts which figure in the Russian despatches as the Selinghinsk and Volhynian Redoubts, and these also were attacked and carried on the 7th. The assault was made at the unusually early hour of half-past six in the evening, and in the course of an hour the assailants were masters of the entire works, having captured no fewer than 73 guns and 502 prisoners, of whom 20 are officers. The battle seems to have been desperate, but the importance of the position attained justifies even the risk and the loss on the side of the Allies. General Pelissier had apparently been guided in his decision to attack early in the course of the bombardment, and in force, by the fact of the Russians on former occasions so speedily repairing damages to their works, and then recommencing to annoy the Allies by night sorties. The latest despatch from General Pelissier is of the 9th inst, announcing that "all the demonstrations of the enemy against the conquered works have been fruitless," and that they had "completely abandoned to us the right shore of the Careening Bay," while we were also ready to harass or destroy by the fire of our mortars the Russian vessels which had sought refuge in the Artillery Bay, near the mouth of the harbour.

The line of the defences of Sebastopol on the eastern face were, as our readers probably know, confined, previously to February last, to the grounds south of the Careening Bay. The whole south coast of the Great Harbour had, up to that time, been quite in the power of the enemy; but when the French broke ground from the hills above Inkerman, and began to erect batteries intended to command the Great Harbour, the Russians threw up these redoubts on Mount Sapoune. This is a steep hill, with a slope towards Inkerman, and a precipitous descent in its rear towards the waters of the roadstead. At the time they were begun the operation was regarded as one of great daring, because there was no retreat from the position; at the same time its occupation was a decided and annoying check to the advance of our Allies. Consequently General Canrobert ordered an attack upon the redoubts in February and March last, but without success, because it was found that the works were exposed "on every side to the Russian artillery." We therefore conclude that the faces of the Russian batteries which swept this rugged hill were silenced by the heavy fire of the 6th and 7th June.

Nor have the English force been without their share of honour, risks, and losses. They attacked a position in front of the Redan, known as "the Quarries," and succeeded in taking and maintaining the place, though not without considerable loss, including, it is said, ten officers. The result of these operations is to bring the besieging force nearer and nearer to the town, and to hem the garrison closer within the line of batteries that gird it, and to bring these, of course, more immediately under the influence of our fire.

THE BALTIC FLEET.

The only events to be recorded in the Baltic this week are the taking of a few coasting vessels belonging to the enemy, and a reconnaissance of Cronstadt by Admiral Dundas and his French colleague. From the survey taken, the position of the submarine piles outside the entrance to the harbour on the north side is said to have been ascertained. Three line-of-battle ships and two frigates are moored across the harbour's mouth. Along the line of coast leading to it several additional earthworks have been thrown up, and the defences generally have been materially strengthened since the fleet was at anchor off Cronstadt in 1854. In addition to the line-of-battle ships lying under shelter of the forts, there is a large flotilla of gun-boats; the harbour is so thickly studded with them that it is impossible to count them accurately, but their number is estimated at little short of 200.

On a previous occasion the two British Rear-Admirals made a reconnaissance on the northern side of Cronstadt. The *Merlin* having stood in shore as far as practicable, they embarked in their respective gigs and proceeded within 1400 yards of the spot where the enemy's vessels blockading the channel leading to the harbour at anchor. The Russians, however, did not fire on them, their object being to make them prisoners, which they attempted, but fortunately were prevented in accomplishing by the officers on board the *Merlin*, who, observing the enemy's intention, promptly made signal "that two Russian boats were in chase," hoisted the "recall" for all boats, and fired a gun to enforce immediate obedience to the signal, as is the custom in the service on important occasions. This circumstance was sufficient to convince the Admirals that their opponents were making some important movement, and induced them to return to the *Merlin*, where they were apprised of their narrow escape.

It appears that not one of the larger class of vessels can approach the north side of Cronstadt nearer than two and a half miles, a distance far too great for the heaviest shot they can throw to produce any impression on the batteries. The class of ships required is such as can carry four of Nasmyth's wrought-iron guns, now in course of formation, which are to throw shot 14 inches in diameter, of a cylindrical shape, and of a weight of from 4 cwt. to 10 cwt., with a maximum charge of powder of 50 lb. A dozen of these ships, constructed to draw not more than ten feet of water, in conjunction with an adequate number of steam-gun-boats, will be able to penetrate the narrow channels and creeks, and soon smash to atoms the strongest works of masonry built by the hands of man.

AMERICA.

The Mail steam ship *Baltic*, which left New York on the 30th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday.

Several persons, who had been committed to gaol charged with enlisting recruits within the United States for the purpose of serving in the war in the Crimea, had been examined before the United States Commissioners' Court. The result was an adjournment. Three persons had also been examined in the same Court, charged with fitting out a brig at the port of New York for the purpose of the African slave trade. This case was also adjourned, on the parties finding bail to a large amount.

The election held to fill vacancies in the Legislature for Kansas had resulted in favour of the pro slavery candidate.

Accounts from the plains, received through various channels, agree that the Indian tribes were assuming a very hostile attitude against the whites, the combination of the Sioux Indians for this object was confirmed.

The Canadian Legislature had been prorogued by his Excellency Sir Edmund Head. A bill for applying the principle of popular elections to the House had been thrown out.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

On Monday last the steamer *Calcutta* arrived at Trieste, in 118 hours, from Alexandria, with advices from Calcutta to May 4th; Madras, 9th; Bombay, 12th

There is nothing new from India. Lord Dalhousie's health was indifferent. Trade was very depressed, and limited.

THE COURT.

The Court has been again enlivened this week by a Drawing-room—the last of the season—which took place on Thursday.

On Saturday her Majesty received a visit from the Duchess of Cambridge, and afterwards drove out in an open landau. Prince Albert visited Sir Edwin Landseer's studio in the afternoon, and in the evening went to the Trinity house, on Tower-hill, and presided, as Master of the Corporation, at the dinner of the Elder Brethren. His Royal Highness afterwards joined her Majesty at the Royal Italian Opera

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and Prince Alfred, the Duchess of Kent, the Princess of Hohenlohe Langenburg, and the Princesses Adelaide and Feodore of Hohenlohe, attended Divine service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated

On Monday Prince Albert, with the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, rode on horseback and visited the Surrey Zoological Gardens. His Royal Highness drove out with her Majesty in the afternoon, and in the evening the Queen and the Prince honoured the concert of the Philharmonic Society at the Hanover-square Rooms with their presence. The Queen and Prince Albert were accompanied by the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, and the Princesses Adelaide and Feodore of Hohenlohe

On Tuesday the Queen held a Court at Buckingham Palace, at which the Hon. Millard Fillmore, late President of the United States, was presented to her Majesty, at an audience by the Earl of Clarendon, the Queen's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Sir James Hudson, the Queen's Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Sardinia, and Mr. Percy Doyle, her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Mexico, were also presented to the Queen, by the Earl of Clarendon. In the afternoon her Majesty and Prince Albert went to Twickenham, to visit the Duke and Duchess d'Aumale, accompanied by the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg

HER MAJESTY'S DRAWING-ROOM

The Queen held a Drawing-room on Thursday afternoon, in St. James's Palace. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert arrived from Buckingham Palace at twenty minutes past two o'clock, escorted by a detachment of Life Guards

The Queen wore a train of alternate stripes of light blue moiré antique and white satin, the whole embroidered in a running pattern of blue and white flowers, trimmed with white blonde and bouquets of red, white, and yellow carnations. The petticoat was white satin, trimmed with white blonde, bows of white satin ribbon, and bouquets of carnations to match the train. Her Majesty's head-dress was composed of diamonds and feathers

The Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz wore a train of blue and white striped moiré antique, trimmed with point lace and bows of white satin ribbon. The petticoat, of blue silk, was entirely covered with white point lace. The stomacher of the dress was ornamented with diamonds and pearls. Her Royal Highness wore a pearl diadem, and also white ostrich feathers and lace lappets.

The Foreign Ministers were first introduced; and afterwards the general circle, which was very numerous

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

Appointments.—*Archdeaconry:* The Archdeaconry of Carlisle has been conferred upon the Rev. Dr. William Jackson, Rector of Lowther, and domestic chaplain to the Earl of Lonsdale. *Rectory:* The Rev. W. P. Goode to Earsham, otherwise Earsham All Saints', in Norfolk. *Vicarages:* The Rev. W. W. Trumper to Clifford, Herefordshire, the Rev. A. Boodle to Little Allington, Northamptonshire; the Rev. H. O. J. Thorpe to St. Catherine's, Chelsea, the Rev. W. H. Blunt to Bracely, near Grantham. *Perpetual Curacies:* The Rev. B. Simpson to Bassenthwaite, near Keswick; the Rev. J. J. Manley to Horsham, Surrey

Consecration of St. Andrew's Church, Westminster.—A new church, the foundation stone of which was laid on the 26th of May, 1854 (Ascension-day), situate in Ashley-place, at the western end of Victoria-street, Pimlico, was consecrated on Tuesday morning by the Bishop of London.

Watford Church.—We regret to record the repetition on Sunday last of the painful scenes presented on the 3rd instant at Watford Church. At twelve o'clock all the school children left the church, and with them many families. Immediately following the sermon the move became general, and the minister had but at most fifty of his flock left out of a densely crowded congregation.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

Another ship-of-war, of the largest dimensions, is about to be laid down the Dockyard at Pembroke. She is to carry 130 guns, and one pivot-gun, and is to be called the *Howe*, in the room of the ship of that name of 60 guns, broken up a few years since. The *Howe* will be several feet longer than the *Duke of Wellington*, and, in order to lay her down, one of the slips is to be lengthened; and this is being rapidly effected, and when completed her building will be immediately proceeded with.

New barracks are to be erected in the immediate vicinity of Hobbs' Point, and it is said that a contract for huts to accommodate 1000 men has been taken by the Ordnance, such erection to be finished in two months, it being the intention of Government to concentrate a large Militia force at this point.

Orders have arrived at Sheerness for the *Geyser*, 6 guns, paddle-wheel steam-sloop, to receive on board, in addition to her present armament, one 42-pounder 10 feet 6 inches, 85 cwt., gun, to be used as a bow chaser between decks. During the use of this gun the men will be entirely sheltered from the fire of an enemy. The *Geyser* is under sailing orders. She is to take with her the *Blade* gun-boat, Lord Edward Henry Cecil, Acting Lieutenant, in command. The *Blade* is armed with two 32-pounders, one on the pivots—one forward, the other aft. She also takes the mortar-vessels, *Blazer* and *Surly*, with her direct to the Baltic.

A New Dock was opened in Portsmouth Dockyard on Tuesday, by the entrance into it of her Majesty's new yacht, to be coppered. Its length is 355 feet; breadth, 82 feet; ditto, at high water, 23 feet (spring tides); width of the entrance, 70 feet. It is 50 feet longer than any other of her Majesty's docks, and has cost in the aggregate £65,000.

The British Foreign Legion is now being vigorously recruited by detachments arriving daily from the Continent. The dépôt is to be removed from Dover to the Camp at Shorncliffe.

Orders were received at Portsmouth Dockyard on Tuesday to prepare and render fit for immediate service the whole of the ships' boats and others capable of carrying guns or armed men in a boat expedition being wanted for the shallow waters of the Sea of Azoff. The utmost activity prevails in their equipment. The dockyard battalion's armed launches are already pressed into this important service. Powerful steamers will carry out this formidable and numerous flotilla to the scene of their contemplated operations.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 595.)

HOUSE OF LORDS. THURSDAY.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY, in moving to refer his bill to limit the hours of work in respect to needlewomen to the Select Committee on bills for regulating trade, gave an appalling account of the sufferings endured by those poor women, who were frequently obliged to labour for seventeen or eighteen hours a day, and who were, consequently, prey, victims to consumption, loss of sight, and other dreadful casualties.

Earl GRANVILLE would not object to the motion of the noble Earl; but he thought that the same principle which justified legislation on behalf of milliners and needlewomen would equally justify legislation in respect to domestic servants

After some conversation the motion was agreed to.

The Gold Finger Rings Bill was read a second time.

The Cambridge University Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Administration of Oaths Abroad Bill passed through Committee.

The Brighton Incorporation Bill and the Ecclesiastical Courts Bill were severally read a third time and passed.

The County Palatine of Lancaster Bill passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The House met at twelve o'clock, and was occupied up to four o'clock discussing the Scotch Education Bill. The preamble, after much opposition, having been agreed to, the first clause was under discussion when the House adjourned at four o'clock.

The House resumed business at six o'clock.

THE VICTORIA GOVERNMENT BILL.

Lord J. RUSSELL moved the second reading of this bill.

Mr. BELL asserted that the bill was opposed to the wishes of the majority of the colonists, and moved, as an amendment, that it be read a second time that day six months

Mr. HIALL seconded the amendment.

Mr. LOWE objected that in the bill this House encroached upon the functions of the Colonial Legislature, and it allowed the Colonial Legislature to encroach upon the Imperial functions. The noble Lord called upon the House to legislate upon matters of which they knew nothing, and upon which they ought to take evidence, or they would be legislating altogether in the dark. He thought that they ought not to proceed further with this bill, but to send it out for the consideration of the Colonial Legislature.

Mr. J. BALL defended the bill

Mr. ADDERLEY said, his objections to the measure would be removed if power were given to the Colonial Legislature to alter the bill so far as related to the portion contained in the bill of 1850, without being again obliged to send it home for approval; otherwise he would give the measure his unqualified opposition, believing that it would create disaffection in the colony, and eventually, perhaps, its alienation.

Sir J. PARINGTON supported the bill, as he considered it a measure in conformity with the arrangement entered into between the colony and the Government of Lord Derby a few years ago.

Mr DUFFY had many objections to urge to the bill, but would reserve them until the measure was in Committee

Lord J. RUSSELL replied to the objections that had been urged.

After a few words from Mr. A. PELLATT and Mr. HADFIELD,

Mr. HILL withdrew his amendment, and the bill was read a second time.

The New South Wales Government Bill was read a second time, after considerable opposition on the part of Mr. Lowe (who moved the postponement of the measure for six months) and on that of several other hon. members.

Several other bills on the paper were advanced a stage.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

Their Lordships met at half-past ten o'clock this morning, when the Validity of Proceedings (House of Commons) Bill, which came up from the other House, was passed through all its stages

ROYAL COMMISSION.

At four o'clock, their Lordships again met, when the Royal assent was given, by commission, to the following bills, viz., Newspaper Stamp Duties, Sewers (House Drainage), Registration of Births (Scotland), Ecclesiastical Property (Ireland), Brighton Incorporation, Validity of Proceedings (House of Commons), and about forty other local or private bills.

The Royal Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Argyll, and the Earl of Harrowby.

RELIGIOUS WORSHIP BILL.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY having moved the recommittal of this bill,

The Earl of DERBY moved, as an amendment, that the whole question as to the expediency of altering the law, prohibiting more than twenty persons assembling in a house for the purpose of prayer, be referred to a Select Committee. He thought that the bill of the noble Earl, however well intentioned, was one of the gravest importance. The noble Earl, in his chivalry to clear away any obstacles in his path, was prepared to attack any object he cared not whether it was a windmill or a giant. He (the Earl of Derby) thought it would be much the safer course to refer the question to a Select Committee.

After some discussion, their Lordships divided; when the numbers were—For Lord Derby's amendment, 47; against it, 30: majority in favour of the amendment, 17.

The bill was then ordered to be referred to a Select Committee.

The Education of Pauper Children Bill was read a third time.

The Administration of Oaths Abroad Bill, and the County Palatine of Lancaster Trials Bill were also severally read a third time and passed.

The Gold Finger-Ring Bill passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

Lord NAAS asked whether the Government had sent out instructions to the Governor-General of Canada to make application to the Colonial Legislature for a grant of 1,000,000 acres of land, to enable her Majesty to offer settlements to such of her Majesty's foreign Legionaries as might be willing to settle in Canada? and, if so, whether it was the intention of the Government to offer similar settlements to the officers and soldiers of her Majesty's own army?

Lord J. RUSSELL, referring to the first portion of the inquiry, said that the matter was under the consideration of the Canadian Assembly.

Mr. P. FEEL, in reply to the latter portion of the question, said there was no such intention in the minds of the Government.

Mr. BRIGHT asked whether it was intended by the Government to rescind the order of Sir R. Gardiner, prohibiting, under heavy penalties, all unlicensed printing in the town and garrison of Gibraltar?

Lord J. RUSSELL could not give any distinct answer to the question. At the same time, he might observe that it was perfectly competent for the governor of a fortified place to suppress any printing operations which he considered dangerous to the place.

MINISTERIAL EXPLANATIONS.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Otway, admitted that, on the subject of the settlement of the war, certain communications had taken place between himself and those members who had seceded from his Government at the time his Administration was formed; but, at the same time, he expressed his unwillingness to reopen the question.

Mr. DISRAELI thought that the noble Lord should have been prepared with a more satisfactory answer to the question.

Mr. GLADSTONE agreed with Mr. Disraeli, and expressed his regret at the repeated explanations which took place in that House, and which went up to a certain point and then stopped short, on the plea of official reserve. Speaking for himself, however, he begged to say that, at no time, either directly or indirectly, had he had affiliated with the noble Lord at the head of the Government as to what conditions should or should not be kept in view in treating with Russia.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

Mr. LAYARD rose to bring forward his resolution on the subject of Administrative Reform, and which was as follows—viz.: "That this House views with deep and increasing concern the state of the nation, and is of opinion that the manner in which merit and efficiency have been sacrificed in public appointments, to party and family influences, and to a blind adherence to routine, has given rise to great misfortunes, and threatens to bring discredit upon the national character and to involve the country in grave disaster." The hon. member, in commending his resolution to the favour of the House, proceeded to state, in the first place, that there were in this country many men of talent and efficiency who had been sacrificed to those family influences which had of late years been found to work so prejudically to the State, and which many powerful parties out of doors were at length beginning to distrust so thoroughly as to clear himself from the imputations that had been cast upon him in reference to the cases of Colonel Hardinge, Lord Burghersh, and Col. Wilson; and informed the House that in the observations he had made he had not made any personal attack, his object being only to attack a system. He then entered into a variety of illustrations with the view of showing how poor men, in all departments of the public service, and particularly in the Army, laboured in vain for promotion, while the sons and relatives of the dignitaries of the State were promoted with the most reckless disregard of their efficiency and previous achievements. Favouritism and partiality existed in high quarter. He next proceeded to analyse the constitution of the staff of the Army and to show that in several instances the Army Regulations as to their constitution were fatally disregarded. Only seven of the members of the body had obtained certificates from military colleges, and out of nine thousand others promoted during the present war sixty-five were on the staff and the great majority of these had been promoted to the rank of colonel or major. He (Mr. Layard) thought he had looked to, as he knew from personal knowledge, that the officers were not coming disheartened. He compared the officers to good racehorses, but how could the officers, when they were ridden by jockeys, not be expected to do what they never might be found? What was the situation of Army Reform was mooted, it was always met with the cry of "Not a word more." The obstruction was so great that it was only by the efforts of those who were putting an end to the purchase system. The government had made a beginning in the matter except and that was forced upon them—opening the Artillery service. In the face of such a signal sympathy he felt himself fully justified in the course he was then taking

Mr TITE seconded the motion.

Sir S. NORTHCOTE admitted the inefficiency of the Civil Service, but pointed out the difficulties in the way of a reforming Government from the short period which the heads of departments were allowed to remain in office, and partly from the outcry which would be made in the House itself if one man were raised over the heads of his seniors, or if a man were dismissed from what his chief considered incapacity. The great evil in the Civil Service was this—that there was no promotion by merit to the higher appointments, and the consequence was that there was no energy or ability among the clerks. He condemned the scale of remuneration by which the hard working man was paid much below what he ought to receive. He also found fault with the superannuation system, and expressed his opinion that unless the system was altered in these respects the public could feel no confidence in the Government.

Mr. LEVESON GOWER, although an advocate for Administrative Reform, could not support the resolution before the House; because, in the first place, it speaks in a tone of despondency, which he thought most objectionable at that moment; and, in the next place, it does not point out any remedy to meet the evil complained of.

Mr. PEACOCK supported the resolution.

Mr. GLADSTONE said that, though friendly to Administrative Reform, he could not support either the resolution or the amendment. He contended that we never could have a satisfactory system when the principle of patronage or nomination was destroyed, and an efficient examination instituted before admitting young men into the service. It was only by such a system that they could determine the merit that prevailed among the Civil servants themselves, that they were entitled to promotion according to their length of service and not according to merit.

Sir E. B. LYTTON then rose to submit the following amendment—"That this House recommends to the earliest attention of her Majesty's Ministers the necessity of a searching revision of our various official establishments with a view to simplify and to facilitate the transaction of public business; and, by instituting judicious tests of merit, as well as by removing obstructions to the fair promotion and legitimate reward, to secure to the service of the State the largest available proportion of the energy and intelligence for which the people of this country are distinguished."

The hon. baronet referred to the possession of power by the Whigs for the last twenty-four years, during which period the Cabinets were of a most exclusive character

Mr. LABOUCHERE defended the appointments he had made when presiding over the Board of Trade.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER was glad that the question of Administrative Reform was brought before the House, where it would meet with a fairer examination than it would have at a public meeting to which admission could only be obtained by ticket, and where, if there could be but one opinion expressed. The resolution of Mr. Layard was practical enough, for its success must be the resignation of Ministers, because it would be fully equivalent to a declaration of want of confidence. The right hon. gentleman then went into details, to show that the Government were proceeding in the right direction, and he assured the House that they would make every exertion to remedy the evils complained of

Lord GODERICH moved the adjournment of the debate.

The House having divided, the motion for adjournment was carried by a majority of 240 to 29. The debate was then adjourned.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

MEETING IN DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

On Wednesday evening a public meeting, convened by the Association for the Promotion of Administrative Reform, was held at Drury-lane Theatre. The pit, boxes, and galleries were well filled, and the stage was occupied by a number of members of Parliament and gentlemen, supporters of the movement, among whom were Austin H. Layard, M.P.; James Bell, M.P.; Jacob Bell, Esq.; W. K. Norway, Esq., Secretary to the Reform Club; A. G. Otway, M.P.; Apsley Pellatt, M.P.; George Stagg, John Lowrie, E. Lovaine, W. Tite, M.P.; F. Bennoch, Mr. Critchley, M.P.; D. Mackenzie, W. Jackson, Esq., Hartlepool; Leigh Smith, D. Brown, W. Leaf, J. A. Nisbetby, M. Travers, H. Ingersoll, W. L. Ogilvie, H. Bateman, R. Henderson, Sir Charles Napier, Norman Wilson, John Lupton, F. Hooton, W. A. Lyon, Captain Dawson, George Moore, J. B. Bentons, R. Chamberlain, W. Edgar, Jun., Edwin Jones, Q.C.; D. Sibson, F.R.S.; W. Jackson, M.P.; Major Reed, M.P.; Captain Eastwick, Rev. J. B. Gray, M. Hullah, W. Kirk, Peter Graham, Whalley, Esq., Johnstone Neal, &c

Samuel Morley, Esq., who occupied the chair, said he had little idea a month ago that he should have been called to occupy his present position. He was one of a few earnest thoughtful men who believed that there was positive danger in the excitement of the public mind with regard to the existing state of things, and that there would be safety only in concentrating the danger with reference to that state of things which a nation they complained of. They had consequently taken on themselves to call a meeting at the London Tavern, and how that invitation was responded to was well known. He denied that they had any wish to injure the aristocracy. A member of a noble family said to a friend of his, "If Administrative Reform goes on, what is to become of our younger sons?" Now, he (Mr. Morley) believed that question was one in the right solution of which the people was deeply interested. He would ask the question, if the present state of things of which we complain was not altered, what was to become of our younger sons? At the same time he denied that there was any desire to attack the aristocracy, but held that it was a duty to their children to remedy the existing evil, and if they let the opportunity pass it would be difficult to say what would become of their sons. The best thing the youthful aristocracy could do was to fit themselves for the government of the country.

Mr. Layard, who was hailed with immense and long-continued cheering, said, the present movement represented the intelligence, the wealth, and the enterprise of England. If he were called upon to divide England into two parties, in connection with this movement, he should say, "On the one side you have all men of common sense and of good sense, all men of responsibility and of wealth, all men who, by their own toil, by their own perseverance, and by the sweat of their own brow, hoped to raise themselves, and to do good public service; on the other side you have a small party who claim for themselves a monopoly of government, and who live, grow fat, and vegetate upon those corruptions and evils, which we, please God, are determined if possible to reform." Why, if that were not the case, was the chairman there that evening? As he told them, he was a man of business—he was a man who constantly depended upon tranquillity and public quiet to enable him to accumulate that wealth, and to acquire that position, to which he was so justly entitled. From him he saw other gentlemen of the same class. He saw there representatives of literature, of art, and of science; and the chairman had read a letter from a gentleman who was the most distinguished man in literature in this country, intimating that it was his intention to join the movement. What was it that drew such persons from their ordinary avocations? It was the conviction that these were times when agitation, however dangerous it might be, was necessary to correct greater evils than agitation itself produced. After referring to the doctrines of the Peace party as un-English and dangerous, Mr. Layard showed that even those politicians who were most earnest in their desire for peace must see the necessity of carrying the war on with vigour and efficiency, so as to bring it most speedily to a safe and honourable conclusion. It was argued by some that the late successes in the Crimea had done away with the necessity for the present association, but it must not be forgotten that many of these successes had beenowing to the adoption of the grand rule which they urged upon Government—putting the right man in the right place. After a long period of inactivity, a new and vigorous man was appointed to the command of the French army. What followed? His name was scarcely mentioned in the united camps till success followed. The fact of the right man having been appointed encouraged the troops, and success followed, and would always follow if things went on on the same principle. In following out the principles of the association the people must do their part. In every large town where a committee was organised they ought to call upon their representatives, in the words of Lord Goderich, "not to darken the doors of Mr. Hayter." The House of Commons had hitherto been divided into two parties, neither of whom relied upon popular support. He wanted to see a new party—a middle party—which would look after the interests of the people. Hitherto the House of Commons had been carrying on a great struggle unmindful of the people. The members were struggling for place, and knew nothing of what happened out of doors. They were like gamblers; everything was staked upon a throw; but the police were already at the door, and, if they went on much longer, the cards, the players, the lights, and the dice would all be taken. The Whigs had staked very heavily on the Liberal card, and they had won; but they showed no gratitude to the Liberal card. The moment they had pocketed the stakes they left the card to its fate.

The meeting having been afterwards addressed by Mr. Lindsay, Mr. Tite, M.P., Mr. Otway, M.P., and Sir C Napier, the chairman announced that the next meeting would be held on that day fortnight.

THE SILENT MEMBER. (No. XXI.)

PUBLIC opinion expressed itself long ago on the case of practical joking among the officers at Canterbury, but the opinion of the Commander-in-Chief has only just been published. As no new facts seem to have been brought under the notice of the authorities, there appears to be no very good reason for the delay that has occurred in coming to a decision at the War-office. Of course the habit of practical joking is condemned, and while two of those officers who have been guilty of it are to be punished by removal from the Army, a third in consideration of the punishment inflicted on the other two—is permitted to retain his commission. This mode of apportioning a penalty between three offenders, on a principle which involves the exercise of great severity upon two culprits as a reason for leniency towards a third, is not very satisfactory.

The law reports of the past week do not present a very encouraging view of the morality of the legal profession. Now and then we hear of the desire of the Judges to purify the practice of the law; but we are continually meeting with cases which prove that this desire is not very earnestly gratified. A few days ago the conduct of an attorney who had sworn a false affidavit was brought under the notice of the Court of Queen's Bench; when the Lord Chief Justice pronounced the judgment of the Court, that, after the lapse of a year, the attorney might be readmitted. It would, perhaps, be thought harsh to object to this decision, which implies a charitable hope that the false swearer may yet become worthy of the confidence of clients. That he will be quite as trustworthy as many other practitioners whose names are allowed to remain on the roll of attorneys is probable enough, for in the newspapers of a single day there are reports which show that lawyers may misconduct themselves, and that their misdeeds may be brought in vain under the notice of the Judges.

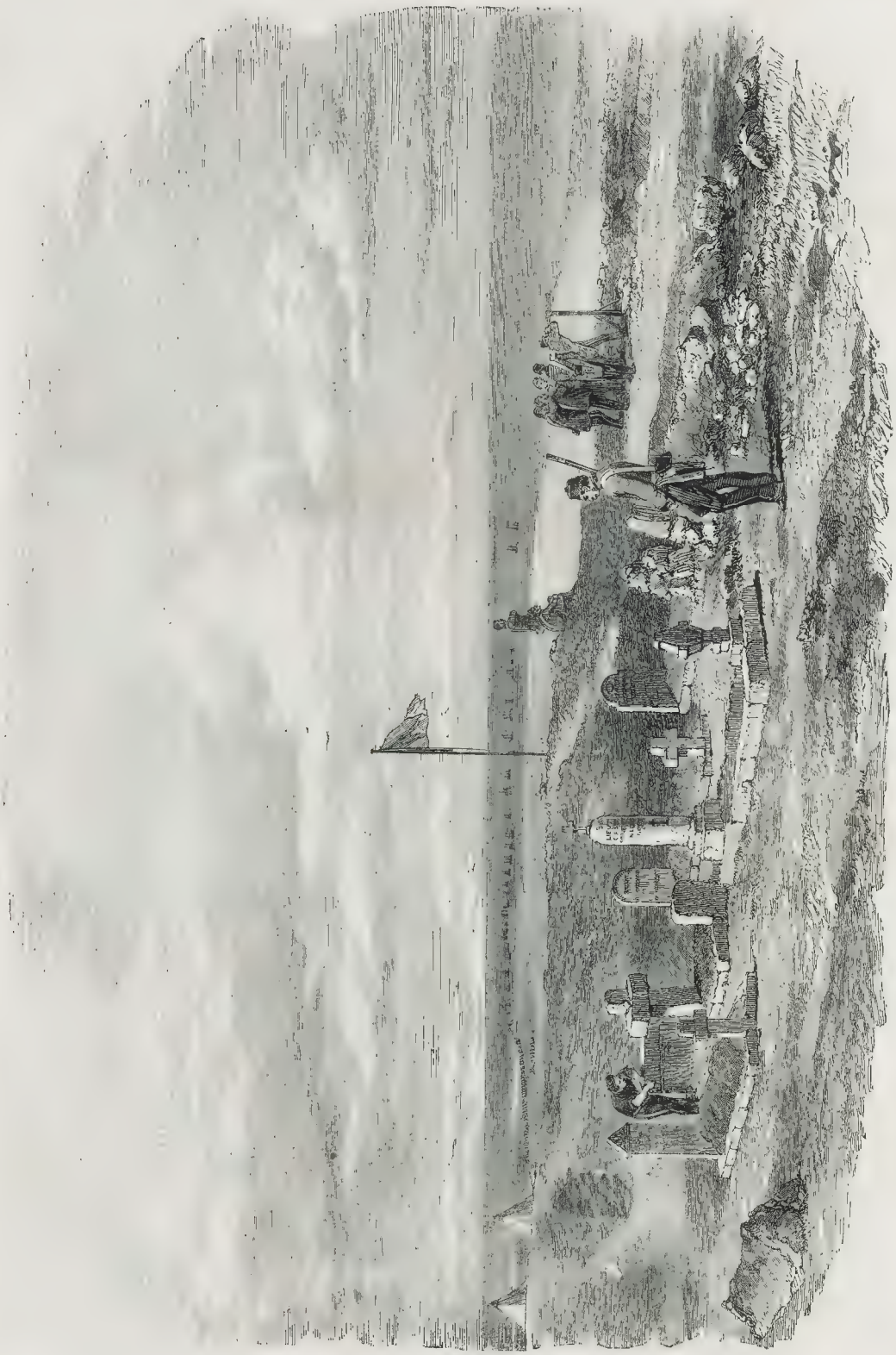
In one of the cases alluded to, an attorney had been entrusted with a bill to get it discounted, which he declared himself unable to do, though he pawned it for twenty pounds, which he put into his own pocket. Another attorney was employed to prosecute for the fraud—a duty he performed with all the zeal of virtuous indignation till the bill was restored to its right owner. At this point a lull came over the feelings of the attorney employed to prosecute, who made out his bill for the steps he had taken in the vindication of public morality. Finding himself unable to get his costs, the storm of virtuous indignation arose once more in his breast, and raged to such an extent that he could not reconcile it to his conscience to consent to the compromise between the owner of the bill and the attorney who had made an improper use of it. The Court of Queen's Bench refused to interfere against the original delinquent on the ground that others had committed faults subsequently to the offence of the first evil-doer. According to this principle it would seem to be the doctrine of the courts that an accumulation of wrong is a diminution of evil, and that, while in logic two negatives make an affirmative, two affirmatives in law constitute a negative. The fact of a plurality of delinquents shows a necessity for severity rather than for laxity, inasmuch as society would become rapidly demoralised if impunity were to be allowed to evil-doers on the plea that "one's as bad as the other." It is true that one attorney may have sought to bring another attorney to justice, because the former was disappointed of his costs. And this is no reason why justice should refuse to deal with a matter so brought before it, and thus repudiate the advantage which the quarrels of knaves are said to confer on the cause of honesty.

While on the subject of the morality of the legal profession, I cannot help alluding to a rather amusing incident which occurred the other day in the Court of Queen's Bench, when a barrister was urging the release of a tailor who had been committed to prison for not completing a contract he had entered into with his employer. Of course there was a learned gentleman on the other side; for where is the question that has not two sides, when a fee may be given on either? In arguing for the imprisoned tailor, the barrister exclaimed, "It might as well be contended that his learned friend on the other side came within the Acts and might be committed to gaol for not adhering to his client's case." This was no doubt intended as a *reductio ad absurdum*; for what can be more ridiculous, in the eyes of a barrister, than the notion of committing counsel to prison for neglecting the interest, after having pocketed the money, of a client? The question, however, is rather suggestive to the non-professional mind, which is strongly disposed to ask why a tailor should be sent to prison for disappointing his master's customer of a suit, while there is no penalty whatever on a barrister who neglects a suit of a far more important character. The tailor's omission may have postponed the putting on of a new coat, but the barrister's neglect may have stripped the coat from the back of the unfortunate victim. The Court decided in support of the legal obligation on the tailor to complete his work; but at present there is nothing more binding than a moral obligation on the part of the barrister to fulfil his contract. Should the more stringent mode be adopted with reference to the gentlemen of the bar, there must either be a reform in the habits of many professional men, or the committals of learned culprits would be numerous.

As the season for travelling will soon be coming on, it is as well to bear in mind a decision that has just been given in favour of the right to refuse a steward's fee on a steam-boat, or rather in opposition to the assumed right of a Steam-boat Company to detain a passenger who refuses the payment of such an exaction. A student, travelling without luggage, was called on to pay eighteenpence for landing some imaginary luggage which he did not possess, and was detained on board the boat, just as a visitor to a tavern, after ordering and paying for a pint of sherry, might find himself arrested for a shilling for a bottle of stout which he had never had and never asked for. The people on board the boat, acting, as they believed, in the interest of their employers, not only detained the passenger, but abused him into the bargain, for which the Steam-boat Company will have to pay seventy-five pounds damages, and probably as much again to the lawyers on both sides; for some of these gentlemen "advised" an attempt—which has failed—to disturb the verdict. The jury appeared to think seventy-five pounds not at all too much by way of compensation for a couple of hours' detention on the deck of a steam-boat, with the running accompaniment of a volley of abuse from the authorities on board, who pointed him out as a "shabby fellow" to the lookers-on, because he did not exactly see why he should pay a fee for the imaginary landing of some mythic luggage. Let companies charge what they please for what they really do—taking it for granted, however, that people are always free to wait on themselves if they are disposed to do so; but it is carrying matters with somewhat too high and too exorbitant a hand to insist on a payment of eighteenpence for doing nothing. I will leave it to the company to calculate how many eighteenpences will be absorbed by the payment of damages and costs in this little affair, and the result may teach them that, while a fixed charge for a fixed service is a very good thing, it will be safer in future to make no charge at all where no service has been rendered.

THE OFFICERS' CEMETERY, CATHCART-HILL.

THE large Engraving upon the next page represents a spot in the Encumbered before Sebastopol which is halloweed with melancholy interest. It is removed from its being the earthly resting place of a few of the brave officers who have fallen in the war. The group of memorials is picturesque, while it is affecting from its very simplicity. We need only state the names with these memorials bearing. Commencing from the left, the grave with the pointed headstone and the low cross at the feet is the "narrow home" of Brigadier-General Fox Strangways. Next, with the head-cross and the plain footstone, is the grave of Sir George Cathcart, after whom the hill is named. The column, surmounted with a cross, is inscribed to Lieutenant-Colonel Seymour, of the Scots Fusilier Guards. Beyond it, leftward, is the grave of Brigadier-General Thomas Leigh Goldie; and that to the right is the resting-place of Lieut. Tryon, of the Rifle Brigade. Beyond the tombs a group are on the look out. How impressive is the juxtaposition of life and death!



THE OFFICERS' CEMETERY, CATHCART-HILL, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—ZOUAVES MAKING GABIONS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE)

GABION-MAKING BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

Gabions are a very important material in the structure of field-works. They are large hollow cylinders of basket-work, which, being placed on end, and filled with earth, serve to strengthen the faces of batteries. They are generally placed in two rows, one above the other, and should reach to a height sufficient to protect the men in the batteries. In the siege of places where the ground is light and stony, as at Sebastopol, gabions come more largely into demand, than in places where the soil is heavier and adapted for the construction of solid embankments. Our Engraving represents a party of Zouaves occupied in making gabions. The process will be easily understood. The staves forming the ribs of the gabion are fixed in the earth, in a circle of the required size, and the osiers are then interlaced through them, as in basket-work: when completed they are carried off to the field of active operations.

The illustration upon the preceding page has been engraved from a sketch by Mr. Armitage, by permission of Messrs. Gambart, who have dispatched this clever artist to the Crimea, to sketch the most eventful scenes of the war.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

Sunday, June 17.—2nd Sunday after Trinity.
Monday, 18.—Battle of Waterloo, 1815.
Tuesday, 19—Inigo Jones died, 1652.
Wednesday, 20—Queen Victoria's Accession, 1837.
Thursday, 21—Queen Victoria married, 1857.
Friday, 22.—Battle of Vittoria, 1813.
Saturday, 23 Letitia Porter, 1643 Akenside died, 1770.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,

FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 23, 1855.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M h m 3 26	A h m 3 49	M h m 4 12	A h m 4 37	M h m 5 4	A h m 5 34	M h m 6 7
A h m 4 18	M h m 4 42	A h m 5 14	M h m 5 51	A h m 6 36	M h m 7 23	A h m 8 16

Great National Standard Theatre, Shoreditch. Engagement of the glorious Wright, and PAUL BEDFORD, of the Adelphi; Miss JULIA POWER, of the Lyceum; and Mr. CHARLES VERNON. Adelphi Pieces, with Adelphi effects, including the immense favourite, "Harvest Home."

Signor Giulio Regondi's Matinee Musicale will take place at WILLIS'S ROOMS on FRIDAY, JUNE 22, to commence at Three o'Clock precisely. Vocalists, Madme. Clara Novello, Madlle Emilie Ronzi (Her opera singerin first Week), Miss Lowelles, and Sig. de Meras. Instrumentalists: Harp, Mr. Boleyne Reeves; Violoncello, Mons. H. Blagrove; Violin, W. Evans, jun. Leader, Sig. Giulio Regondi. Pianoforte-Accompagnateur, Sig. Li Calzi. Reserved Seats Half-a-Guinea, to be had only of Signor Regondi, 24, Upper George-street, Bryanston-square. Unreserved Seats 7s., to be had at the principal music sellers.

Royal Polytechnic Institution.—For One Night only, TUESDAY, the 19th inst., at Eight o'clock.—A grand MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT will be given by Mr GEORGE BUCKLAND, assisted by the following celebrated artists:—Messrs. T. Young, Montem Smith, Henry Buckland, and George Lake, consisting of selections from the Glees and Songs of the late Sir Henry Bishop, and other Composers.

The Zoological Gardens, Regent's-Park. The collection of Living Animals includes a magnificent series of Lions, Lion Whelps, Clouded Tigers Hunting Dogs and other Carnivora Elands, Dromedaries, Kangaroos, and a pair of Hippopotami, together with an immense number of Birds, Reptiles, Fish, and other Marine Animals. The Aviary of the Bat Life Insects will, perhaps, by permission of Colonel Parker) every Saturday at four o'clock until further notice. Admission 1s.; Monday, 6d.

Royal Surrey Zoological Gardens.—Danson's Colossal Picture of the Siege of Sebastopol. Extensive Menagerie. Marine Aquarium. Godfrey's Band. Grand Spectacle of the Siege of Sebastopol, in which the various scenes are represented by a party of our wounded soldiers from the Crimea. For full particulars see bills of the day.

Adam and Eve.—This great original Work, by Joseph Van Lerius is now on View at St. Paul's-hall, opposite Marlborough-house, from Eleven to Six daily. Admission, One Shilling.

London Season, by Day.—Saturday, at Three, Mr. Love begins his New Entertainment called The London Season, by Day. Mr. Love appears every Evening at Eight, except Saturday—Saturday at Three. UPPER HALL, ROBERT GALLERY, 6, Quadrant.

Mont's Lectures on Ancient and Modern Sculpture.—The FOURTH of these Lectures will be delivered on WEDNESDAY, June 20th. Subscribers' and Single Night Tickets to be had at Messrs. Colnaghi's, Pall-mall East.

Westbourne College, Porchester Lodge, Bayswater-road, commenced on the 23rd of April, 1855, under the highest Scholastic and Educational Patronage. The PUBLIC OPENING of the NEW ROOMS of this College will take place on TUESDAY, the 19th inst. The grounds will be open from Two till Six, and at Three o'clock on Inaugural Address will be delivered by the Rev. the Principal. Invitations will be sent to any one who may desire to be present.
June 14, 1855. C. MACKENZIE, A.M., Principal.

By permission of the Board of the Royal Caledonian Asylum their Band will play on the lawn from Two to six o'clock.

London and Westminster Bank.—Notice is hereby given that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Proprietors of the London and Westminster Bank will be held at the BANK-HOUSE, in Lothbury, on WEDNESDAY, the 18th day of JULY next, at One o'clock precisely, for the purpose of considering a Half-yearly Report from the Directors, and to declare a Dividend. By order of the Board,
Lothbury, June 6, 1855. J. W. GILBART, General Manager.
The Transfer-books of the Company will be Closed from the 1st to the 23rd July, to prepare for the Dividend.

West London Dispensary, 29, Duke-street, Manchester-square. President, EARL FITZWILLIAM, K.G. With a view to raising a Fund of Two Hundred Pounds, to meet the preliminary expenses of furnishing the Charity, fitting up and furnishing the Dispensary, a Gentleman has promised Five Pounds, if twenty others will subscribe in a similar manner. To effect this benevolent object, the Committee rely on the aid of the poor man's friend, and they feel assured that the wish, not entirely, in vain. Fifty have already agreed, and the whole number to be complete by Monday next, the day of the festival.
29, Duke-street, June 14, 1855.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1855.

The electric wire has been well charged from the Crimean batteries since we last wrote. Success upon success, bloodless and the reverse, has been signalled with a speed unparalleled in history, even in the glorious Peninsular days—

> When in the mart the busy couriers met,
> When the loud cannon said the merry chime
> Told news in news, as field on field was won.

While the House of Commons, after multitudinous talk, was agreeing that the war ought to be carried on with vigour, Pelissier had closed with the Russians, and thrust them, with fierce slaughter, out of their strongest positions; and Lyons had swept the Azoff, and "crowned the fray" with a ring of burning cities.

Gallant as have been the exploits of the soldiery, and steady as is the advance of the Allies upon the doomed stronghold, the effect of the operations in the Azoff will have most influence upon the people of Russia. The nation receives such information as to the events of the campaign in the Crimea as the authorities choose to issue; the Russian journals have no Special Correspondents, nor is the Russian soldier the kind of person capable of producing those letters from the ranks which have proved so interesting an illustration both of the condition of the war, and of the improvement of the English soldier. Except among a certain class in the capital, a very general and inadequate idea of the relative positions of the Allies and of their enemy is believed to prevail throughout the empire. The impression is that the maddened heretics and infidels are dashing themselves to pieces against the adamantine ramparts of Sebastopol; and that, though the cunning of the Russian commanders prevents their immediately annihilating the invaders, one of these days they will be swept into the sea. Such is, assuredly, the conviction which the Government has sought to propagate; and though some truths must have oozed upwards into the provinces south of Moscow, and though the servile system of the Court of St. Petersburg has been unable to compel entire suppression of facts there, "it is felt that the less said about the Alma and Inkerman the better." Still, the millions whose sons, brothers, and lovers are being torn away by the new levy have a belief that at all events these unlucky conscripts are departing for a scene of glory. The fires of Taganrog, of Mariupol, and of Kertch will kindle a new set of emotions in the heart of Russia. A city set upon a hill cannot be hidden; and when in a blaze is specially a candle not to be put under a bushel. The moral effect of this revelation of the real state of the war, and of the inability of the Russian Government to protect its cities, will, of course, be incalculably less than it would be in a nation where men were permitted to think. But the reports which will henceforth be constantly ascending and diffusing themselves throughout the southern provinces will tend to shake the faith of the people in the divinity of the Emperor's mission; and the result may be no unimportant adjunct to the revolutionary element in the day when beggared nobles join with bankrupt traders in denouncing a ruinous war.

The direct action of the Azoff operations will be very important in spite of the cavils of the mortified Cobden, who affects to consider the success slight, and the destruction of property unjust. Looking over the inventory to be gathered from the Despatches, especially those published on Thursday, it is difficult to say what necessary of war has not been destroyed—to an amount enormous in the abstract, but ten times more valuable from its position and from the circumstances of the time. Cannon, gunpowder, vessels of war, transports, small-arms, naval stores, and food for man and beast, have all been taken or sacrificed—taken at the points where they were most wanted by the enemy, sacrificed at the crisis when most of them became most costly and needful. Looking at what has been done, in practical fashion, and with due regard to military requirement, and it may be said unhesitatingly, that it would have been better for Russia had an army of 50,000 men been slaughtered by the Allies than that this sea should have been forced and these posts destroyed. Military authority will, ere long, confirm this view of the case with technical proof and evidence. The destruction of public buildings and other edifices is rather an item of humiliation than of profit, and Mr. Gladstone may be left to make his lamentations over it. The year 1774 formally ceded to Russia the sea of which the year 1855 has, for the time at least, deprived her, and the first retributive blow has been struck at the empire of violence and fraud. Considered, both strategically and in connection with the grander question, the seizure of the Sea of Azoff is the most important event which has yet marked the war. We insist upon this the rather because a bloodless victory produces less impression upon the popular mind than a triumph to which the victors have waded in blood—such a triumph as we fear France and England will learn has been achieved elsewhere.

Pelissier is more than vindicating his reputation for energy; and the brief, stern story of the recent assault upon the Russian works indicates to Europe that the leadership of the French army is at length in the right hands. He has closed in fierce earnest with his foe—the struggle was long, and its fortune was various—but the French were in hands that master fortune, the works were finally wrenched from the Russians, and their own guns have been turned upon them. The Mamelon is crushed, and by this time it is probable that the bombardment has cleared other obstacles away. All now betokens the speedy coming of the final struggle; and, direful as may be its incidents, the heart is a poor one that does not feel, in the last events of the strife, an assurance that the cause of right and of liberty is on the eve of triumph.

The gallant achievements of our own soldiers in the last affray must not be forgotten. They have already been acknowledged by the French General in terms of admiration. We await the details, but we know that the work was stern, and the list of the fallen officers shows that it was accomplished at a heavy price. But the magnificent advantages which have been gained by these late operations are recognised by all who are watching the siege; and our noble countrymen (happier, though not more meritorious, than the thousands sent to their last sleep by the crimes of an accursed system) have not flung away their lives in vain. Let those who mourn them remember that their funeral guns are dealing ruin on Sebastopol.

A sense of weariness comes over the mind at the bare mention of any new protocols from Vienna, or of any new diplomatic notes from Berlin. Yet, notwithstanding this weariness, we must confess to a feeling, certainly not of overpowering interest or of edification, but of something akin to that with which we regard a clever mountebank or charlatan when he seems to have exhausted agility in the one case, or impudence in the other, when we hear that Count Buol has issued a new circular, or that M. de Manteuffel has once more darted the rays of his dark lantern into the obfuscated corners of German diplomacy. Two such documents have seen the light during the present week, and, as bearing in some degree upon the history of our time, they demand a certain amount of notice from those who study it. First in order of merit—shall we say demerit?—is the circular of Count Buol, to which we directed attention last week, and which has since been published *in extenso*. This document becomes more intelligible than it would otherwise have been, if we read it in conjunction with the papers presented to Parliament containing the *procès verbal* of the final sitting of the Vienna Conference on the 4th inst., at which were present the representatives of Great Britain, France, Austria, Turkey, and Russia. From these we learn that an unlucky proposition of M. Drouyn de Lhuys, supported as it was by a still more unlucky *lapsus* on the part of Lord John Russell some weeks previously, to the effect that the Allies ought to consider the "honour" of Russia, gave satisfaction to the cowardly councillors of the Court of Vienna. This proposition was that Russia and Turkey might be trusted to draw up together the terms of a compromise by which the future navigation and occupation of the Black Sea might be arranged to their mutual satisfaction, and to be afterwards submitted for the approval of the Allies and of Europe generally. This proposition, when formally brought forward, was as formally rejected by Lord Westmoreland and Baron de Bourqueney; and the Conferences closed in due course, in default of anything further to debate about. This notable proposition (which very naturally and properly led to the retirement of M. Drouyn de Lhuys from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) having been unceremoniously rejected—much to the credit of M. de Bourqueney and Lord Westmoreland—the Austrian Government appears to have considered it expedient to hold back, and, if not to disavow its participation in the Treaty of the 2nd of December, to take no further steps in redemption of its pledged promise. Count Buol, in his circular, declines further responsibility—leaving that to the Western Powers; but declares that Austria "maintains the principles admitted in the Conferences, and will continue to protect the integrity of the Ottoman empire against any fresh attack. In this state of things Austria will wait for the moment when she can throw all her weight in favour of peace at the time when negotiations shall be reopened. She will support the execution of the Four Points of guarantee, *such as she interprets them*." In other words, Austria expects to have as much weight in the final settlement of Europe, when Great Britain and France have conquered peace without her assistance, as she would have had if she had courageously and honestly borne her share of the struggle. But Austria reckons without her host. She must stand aside—like Prussia, or Holland, or Portugal, or Switzerland. As she has chosen to be neutral in war, she must take her proper place, and learn to be neutral in peace also. She will have reason to be thankful if she comes off without material damage in the fray, which she might have ended if she had been true to her instincts and to common honesty, but which she has exasperated by her hesitation, and confused by her blundering.

M. de Manteuffel's despatch is chiefly interesting for the hard hits which it deals against the Court of Vienna. When Austria appears as if it would join the Western Allies, Prussia leans to Russia; but when Prussia suspects Austria of an intention of aiding the Russians, Prussia leans to the side of Great Britain and France. "If Austria," says M. de Manteuffel, "reserves to herself to judge in her own point of view of what the interests of Europe and of Germany demand, we also shall have to form a similar appreciation, and also to judge how far the views of Austria and the arrangements which the Cabinet of Vienna may have entered into without consulting us may be in accordance with our convictions, and consequently be calculated to prepare the way for that active union of Germany and the two great Allied Powers, a union in which not only the efforts of the German Governments, but the hopes of the nation, would find their accomplishment."

"A plague on the houses!" both of Hohenzollern and Hapsburg, is the exclamation that might be wrung from England and France on the perusal of such documents. Germany has indeed sunk low, and deserves to be the vassal of Russia that she is. Perhaps, however, when the master is humiliated and downstricken, the slave may think the time come for the assertion of his independence. When Sebastopol is taken, the Governments of Austria and Prussia—or one of the two—will seek to make common cause with the Allies; but, if we can do without both or one of them now, why not then?

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

ADMIRAL BOXER, C.B.

Rear-Admiral Edward Boxer, C.B., one of the heroes of the present war, died off Balaclava, on the 4th inst. The gallant Admiral had spent a life of energy and ability in the service of his country. He entered the British Navy, as Midshipman of the *Dorset*, at the beginning of the present century; he assisted in 1801 in cutting out a French 20-gun corvette from Cancaret Bay; he commanded, as Lieutenant, of the *Tigre*, a detachment of the seamen who landed in Egypt in 1807; and he was at the destruction of the convoy at Rosas, in 1809. Boxer also directed the gun-boats at the siege of Tarragona in 1813. He was Captain of the *Pique* in the operations on the coast of Syria, and at the bombardment of St. Jean d'Acre in 1840, and in that year he was made a C.B. He became Rear-Admiral of the Blue in 1853, and subsequently Rear-Admiral of the White. His recent valuable, but too brief, services in the Black Sea and the Crimea are familiar to all. His death is generally felt as a sad and severe naval loss.

J. J. HEYWOOD, ESQ.

John Joseph Heywood, Esq., late her Majesty's First Deemster, or Chief Judge of the Criminal and Civil Law Courts of the Isle of Man, died at his residence, Bernahague, near Douglas, on Saturday, the 26th ult., having held his office, with high honour and ability, for the extended period of thirty-four years, a term of judicial service which has, perhaps, never been exceeded by any British judge. Deemster Heywood was the second son of the late Robert Heywood, Esq., of Glencrutchery, near Douglas, whose sister, Mary Heywood, married the distinguished Admiral, Sir Thomas Pasley, Bart. The Deemster descended from Robert Heywood, of Heywood, Lancashire, who was appointed Governor of the Isle of Man in 1678* by William, ninth Earl of Derby, from which time to the present several members of the Heywood family have had important positions in the insular legislature. The late Deemster was the last of the male branch of that family resident in the island. He was married to Eleanor, sister of the present General Rowan, and the late Sir Charles Rowan, by whom he leaves issue two daughters, Deemster Heywood was nephew of the late Captain Peter Heywood, R.N., a name of credit in naval annals and familiar to our readers. The remains of the Deemster were interred in the family vault in Kirk Onchan parish churchyard, Isle of Man. The Lieutenant-Governor of the island, the Council, the members of the House of Keys, those of the Insular Bar, and many of the respectable merchants and tradesmen of Douglas, as well as numerous country gentlemen, farmers, and peasantry from various parts of the island, attended the funeral, at which the Bishop of Sodor and Man officiated.

* In the American edition of Sir Walter Scott's novel, "Peveril of the Peak," there is reference made to an old document of that date, by which it appears that horse races occurred even at that time in the Isle of Man, and that the prize—a piece of plate—was awarded to "Loggerhead, ane horse of Rt. Heywood, Esq., ye governor."

Wills and Personalty.—The will of George Heathcote, Esq., of Caudall Manor, Yorkshire, was proved in London under £80,000, within the province of Canterbury. William Clowes, Esq., of Bloomsbury, £50,000. Chas. Webb, Esq., of Streatham and Coleman-street, £45,000. Joseph Ellis, Esq., Streatham, £30,000. David Riddal Roper, Esq., £35,000 Samuel Ferris, Esq., Bulkington, £30,000. George Henderson, Esq., Southampton, £30,000.

A Militia armoury and storehouse are to be provided by the county of Flint, and it is intended that they should be enclosed within an acre of ground. The accommodation will embrace orderly and guard-rooms, magazine, and good apartments for the permanent staff, rooms being provided for a sergeant-major and four sergeants. The whole will be surrounded by a wall nine feet in height. A new Militia armoury and barracks are also to be erected by the county of Carnarvon, the sum of £4000 being applied by the county for the purpose; and similar buildings are to be provided by the county of Denbigh.

The Prefect of Police has just issued an ordinance which enacts that in the Champs Elysées ordinary chairs shall be let for 10c. and arm-chairs for 20c.

Attempts are making by the Customs department to compel the water-side patrol force to wear gilt crowns in front of their caps. It is opposed by the force on account of the expense, which falls on the men, and not on the Government.

The number of pilgrims from Algeria who have visited Mecca this spring amounts to 4000; in former years it has only been from 1200 to 1500.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The only news from the Crimea yesterday (Friday) was a despatch from Varna, dated Wednesday, June 13, which says that the French troops had been recalled from Kertch, probably to assist in some great blow against Sebastopol.

Letters from the Crimea to the 5th state that General Morris had made another reconnaissance, in which he captured a Russian convoy of spirits, flour, and tobacco, and two pieces of cannon.

The wells of Arabat have been filled up and the road destroyed. The losses suffered by the Russians at Berdiansk were considerable. The corn destroyed was worth more than 18,000,000 francs. The number of vessels destroyed in the Sea of Azoff amounts to 340, besides six steam-

ST. PETERSBURG, June 13.—General Gortschakoff writes from the Crimea, under date of the 9th, that on that day the cannonade of the Allies against the Kornilloff Bastion No 3 continued. "The enemy," says the General, "has demanded an armistice to bury his dead. His losses in the combat of the 7th are more severe than I at first imagined."

THE BALTIC FLEET.

A letter from Elsinore of the 24th ult., in the *Moniteur*, says:

The day before yesterday twelve more vessels, captured by the squadron of Admiral Dundas, arrived here in charge of the *Cygnus* corvette, which has since left with them for England. Among these prizes seven were sailing under the Mecklenburg flag, four under the Danish, and one under that of Holstein. They are all [illegible] they belong, and [illegible]

Yesterday the Her Majesty's steam frigate *Retribution*, 26, carrying the flag of Rear-Admiral Baines, has arrived in the Belt, with the 60 gun screw block-ships *Hawke*, *Cornwallis*, *Hastings*, *Pembroke*, *Russell*, and nine gun boats. The squadron is at anchor at Kadetten.

BERLIN, June 14.—An Imperial manifesto, dated St. Petersburg, June 2nd, ordains that, in case of the decease of the present Emperor, the Grand Duke Constantine shall be Regent during the minority of the Crown Prince. The Regency is to continue during the minority of the second son, should the Grand Duke Constantine be guardian.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

Papers in advance of the Overland Mail have reached town, but they are destitute of interest. India was generally tranquil. The disputes between Rajah Goolab Singh and his nephew have been amicably arranged. Irregularities in the Nizam's dominions continue, and the Government troops are constantly engaged in suppressing them. The news from Burmah is to the effect that the chief Moung Bo had declared against the English, but nothing serious was expected to arise out of such a circumstance. The camp belonging to the Meeranzaie expedition had been attacked by 2000 Lullooks, who were repulsed with the loss of fifteen killed and a great number wounded.

The reports from China are, as usual, very contradictory; but the Imperialists appear, on the whole, to have obtained some trifling advantages over the insurgents.

THE *Gazette* of yesterday (Friday) evening contains a first report from the Patriotic Fund Commissioners, on their proceedings and the result. They state that they have now lodged a sum exceeding a million sterling in the Bank of England. All classes, all parts of the country, the Colonies, British subjects resident abroad, natives of India, North American Indians, and natives of many foreign countries, have contributed liberally. The number of applicants is considerable each was duly aided from 70 to 100 widows as recipients of relief; and, in most cases, through recent bereavement, but through recent *information* of the bereavement. The total number now is 1487 widows, 1862 children, and 33 children who have lost both parents. Steps have been taken for the effectual education of the children

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE prices of the Royal yearlings at Tattersall's last Monday present a marked contrast to those obtained last year. Fourteen of them in 1854 produced 4183 guineas, or 641 guineas a piece; whereas the seventeen this year only realised 2871 guineas, or 168 guineas a piece! The blood of Inigo and Alarm is by no means popular; and the indifferent Derby settling, added to the mediocre qualities which have been displayed by some of the high-priced ones of last season, not a little contributed to depress the market. Lord Derby bid in person for two or three of the lots, and there was also some sharp competition between Lord Maidstone and Admiral Rous. A filly by Orlando out of Eulogy realised the highest price, viz., 480 guineas; and the most valuable colt—a chestnut one, by Slister out of Iodine's dam—fell to Mr. R. E. Cooper, the owner of Autocrat, for 350 guineas. The Flea filly went into John Scott's stable for 350 guineas; Sister to Grapeshot was bought by Mr. Kirwan, and Slister to Bruiser by Mr. Rose, each of them fetching 300 guineas.

Although the Ascot Cup produced a very exciting finish, it was one of the [illegible] slowest races of the kind on record. Tedrington and Stockwell run the distance in about 50 seconds less time; but we consider that the absence of a pace was rather against Pandemonium otherwise. We do not expect that he will be stripped again before the Great Yorkshire Stakes, at Rattle (Sat. 5th.) is a serious impediment to all comers in the Goodwood Cup. Knight of St. George and Andover, neither of whom likes a long distance with a pace, might have been suited at Ascot this year, but both of them shrunk from essaying that great Cup test of Derby and St. Leger winners which brought fresh laurels to Meunnon, Touchstone (twice), Van Tromp, Flying Dutchman, Teddington, and West Australian, while Mameluke, Cotland, Pelaljo, Bloomsbury, Attila, Cossack, Faughabellagh, The Colonel, Voltigeur, Rowton, and Rockingham, essayed it in vain. Virago is, we fear, a confirmed roarer; but her performance in the Ascot Hunt Cup under St. 7lb. proves that she has still much of her former left. Very little betting has as yet taken place about the St. [illegible] and it seems just a fine point whether Rifleman can be got ready in time for it

Aquatics will be well represented in all parts of the kingdom during the ensuing week. Monday will be a busy day for Father Thames, as there some four-oared races at Wandsworth, and a regatta at Chelsea. Durham Regatta is also fixed for Monday and Tuesday, with thirteen prizes between the two days. On Tuesday the Nautilus Club will have four-oar races from Putney to Chelsea at seven p.m.; and on Saturday the Birkenhead Model Yacht Club gives a £10 prize for a sailing-match. The Etonians have also their sculling matches on Wednesday and Friday; and on the former of these days the Marylebone Cricket-club come down to Eton to play their school eleven. The University crews inaugurate their long vacations by matches at Lord's. On Monday sixteen Cantabs play the United All-England eleven; and on Thursday the eleven of Cambridge and Oxford will meet for the annual combat. After a week's rest the All-England eleven (among whom G. Parr is as great with the bat as ever) will take the field on Monday at Nottingham, and on Thursday at Broughton.

HAMPTON RACES.—WEDNESDAY.

Staid Plate.—Cranbourne, 1. Banstead, 2.
Claremont Stakes.—Sugarcane, 1. Tomtes Ditton, 2.
Hurst Plate.—Spunaway, 1. Usurer, 2.
Surrey and Middlesex Stakes.—Dock Pheasant, 1. Rodo-Mell, 2.
Innkeepers' Plate.—New Brighton, 1. Punchbox, 2.

THURSDAY

Bushy Plate.—Spinaway, 1. Adeline, 2.
Queen's Guineas.—Whitfield, 1. Lord Clarendon, 2
Railway Plate.—Usurer, 1. Swallowfield, 2.
Richmond Plate.—Spinaway, 1. Warwick, 2
Visitors' Plate.—Rodo-Mell, 1. Palmerston, 2

The Plymouth Royal Hotel, the property of the Corporation of that borough, was let on Tuesday to Mr Bate, of the Golden Lion, Ashburton, at a rental of £1155 per annum, being an increase of £406 a year over the sum paid by the retiring lessee.

ERRATUM.—The inscription line of the Engraving of Mr. Desanges' picture, at page 581 of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of last week, should read "The Emperor Napoleon, King of Rome, King of France," and not "Philip, King of France," as stated there.

NEW WROUGHT-IRON GUN. On Monday was shown on the open space before the War-office a beautiful nine-pounder gun, of polished steel, on its carriage, with limber complete. This gun, which in the course of the day was minutely examined by Lord Panmure and by many members of both Houses of Parliament, is of malleable or wrought iron, invented and manufactured by Mr. Dundas, of Dundas Castle, North Britain. The principle is such that it can be extended to cannon of the largest calibre, and the inventor is confident that he can construct with ease and rapidity guns to throw shot of a ton weight, if desired. In the course of Monday evening the gun was, by Lord Panmure's order, conveyed to Woolwich, under the charge of a party of artillerymen. At Woolwich, it is understood, the gun will undergo a severe ordeal to test its efficiency.

It is said that the concordat between Austria and the Pope is already signed.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JUNE 14

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 32 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.							Inches.
June 8	29.[illegible]47	71.0	49.3	55.5	+ 0.6	85	S.S.W.	0.03
" 9	29.[illegible]77	67.2	47.6	55.7	— 2.4	88	S.W.	0.01
" 10	29.[illegible]61	71.5	4[illegible].0	55.2	+ 0.9	78	S.W.	0.00
" 11	30.14	73.1	45.1	58.9	— 0.4	82	N.E.	0.00
" 12	30.047	68.6	48.1	56.1	— 1.8	85	E.	0.00
" 13	29.[illegible]29	72.8	52.5	59.7	+ 1.0	94	S.W.	0.15
" 14	29.[illegible]5	64.5	49.2	54.7	— 3.8	93	S.S.W.	0.01

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average and the sign — below the average.

The reading of the barometer increased from 29.36 in. at the beginning of the week to 30.18 in. by noon on the 11th; decreased to 29.[illegible] in. by the 14th; and increased to 29.80 in. by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.880 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 57½°, being 1° below its average value.

The range of temperature during the week was 34½° being the difference between the highest and lowest readings of the thermometer, on the 10th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 22.4°. The greatest was 34½° on the 10th; and the least, 10½°, on the 14th.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of two-tenths of an inch.

The weather during the week was observed to vary frequently and the mean daily temperature was above average values.

Lewisham, June 16, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON. During the week ending last Saturday the births of 1710 children were registered within the metropolitan districts: of these, 870 were boys, and 840 were girls, exceeding the average of the ten corresponding weeks of the ten preceding years by 144 and 151 respectively. The number of deaths during the week was 1057; of whom 555 were males, and 502 were females; exceeding the averages of the ten corresponding weeks of the ten preceding years—corrected for increase of population—by 29 and 54 respectively.

ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY. REGENT'S-PARK.—The exhibition which took place at these gardens on Wednesday was of the usual profuse and magnificent kind. The weather, however, was sadly unpropitious, and the thousands of gaily dressed fashionables who were present were compelled to drive for shelter into the large conservatory at the termination of the esplanade, and the tents containing the flowers and fruits. Between the showers the military bands played with their accustomed excellence.

THE RAGGED SCHOOL MOVEMENT AND THE DUKE OF ARGYLL.—On Monday evening the annual meeting of the supporters of the Brewer's-court Ragged Schools was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen street; the Grace the Duke of Argyll in the chair. The report having been read by the secretary, his Grace addressed the meeting at considerable length. At the conclusion of his address the noble Duke retired from the meeting, and Sir Adam Hay, Bart., was called to the chair, and moved a vote of thanks to his Grace, which was carried by acclamation. On the motion of Professor Smith the report was then adopted; and the meeting, having been addressed by the Rev. Dr. Cumming, Mr. Payne, and other gentlemen, concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

In nearly all national securities only a moderate business has been transacted this week. Prices, however, have been tolerably firm, with but trifling fluctuations in them. Very few *Bear* operations having been entered [illegible], it is fair to presume that the feeling is in favor of present rates being supported. There is no immediate prospect of any serious decline in them is evident from the continuous arrivals of bullion, the large amount of specie held in the Bank of England, the stock being now about £18,000,000, and the state of the exchanges. Nothing short of unfavourable news from the Crimea appears likely to depress prices. The shipments of gold to the Continent and all other quarters have been under 300,000, including £45,000 to the Brazils, while the imports have exceeded 1,000,000 dollars from New York, £200,000 from Australia, and about £40,000 from France, Holland, and Belgium.

Another instalment of £1,600,000 on the new loan of £18,000,000 falls due on Tuesday next. We have to announce the stoppage of the banking-houses of Messrs. Strahan and Co. for £300,000, and of Messrs. Halford and Co., Guernsey. The latter firm will, we fear, be still carried on under a new name.

There was a moderate demand for Stock on Monday, and the quotations were tolerably firm. The Three per Cents, for the Account, were 91¼ ⅛; and Three per Cents Reduced, 92½ up to 92¾; and the New Three per Cents, 92¾ ⅛. [illegible] Stock, 210¼; Long Annuities, 1859, 3 11-16; India Bonds, [illegible] Exchequer Bills, 1st. to 12th. press.; Exchequer Bills, 13th. to 24th. press.; Ditto, Bonds, 1000. On Tuesday Consols were flat. Bank Stock realised 210¾. The Three per Cents Reduced were 92¾ ⅛; the New Three per Cents, 92¾ ⅛; and for the Account, 92 to 91¾. Long Annuities, 3 11-16; India Bonds, 2s. to 3s.; Exchequer Bills, 9s. to 18s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 100¾ ⅛. The transactions on the Stock Exchange yesterday were dull. The Three per Cents Reduced marked down to 92¾; the New Three per Cents, 92¾ to 93; Consols for Account, 91¼ to 93. Long Annuities, 1860, 3 15-16. India Bonds, 2s. to 2s.; Exchequer Bills, 10s. to 15s. prem.; Ditto, Bonds, 100¾. On Thursday the Bank of England Directors, at their weekly meeting, reduced the minimum rate of discount from 4 to 3½ per cent. This change was so generally anticipated that it had very little influence upon the Consol market, but it which ruled tolerably firm. Consols were 91¾ ⅞ to 92; the New Three per Cents, [illegible] to 93; and the Reduced, 92½ to ⅞. Bank Stock advanced from 209¾ to 211. Exchequer Bills, 18s. to 15s.; and Bills, 15s. to 12s. prem.

Foreign Securities have been devoid of animation, and we have very little change to notice in their values. Mexican Three per Cents have marked 21¾; Peruvian Three per Cents, 49¾; Russian Five per Cents, 100; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 89¾; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 93; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 64¾; Dutch Four per Cents, 95¾; Sardinian Five per Cents, 86¾ ex div.; Spanish Three per Cents, 34¾; Ditto, New Deferred, 19¾; Ditto Scrip per Cents, 19¾; Chilian Six per Cents, 102¾; Buenos Ayres Six per Cents, [illegible]; Brazilian Five per Cents, 100¾; Portuguese Four per Cents, [illegible].

Railway stock has seen but little firm as to price, but the business done in them [illegible] extensive.

Owing to the settlement of the half-monthly account, the Railway Market has ruled inactive. The rates of accommodation for carrying over have been from [illegible] up to 8 and ¾ per share. The following are the official closing money prices on Thursday:

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 26; Caledonian, 69¾; Chester and Holyhead, 14¾; Eastern Counties, 12¾; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 58; Great Northern, 95¾; Ditto, A Stock, 77; Great Western, 65¾; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 86; London and Brighton, 102¾; London and North-Western, 104; London and South-Western, 84¾; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 27¾; Midland, 75¾; North British, 31¾; North-Eastern, Berwick, 76; Ditto, Leeds, 14¾; North Staffordshire, 12¾; South-Eastern, 63; South Wales, 29¾.

PREFERENCE SHARES. Great Northern Four-and-a-Half per Cent, 104¾; Lancashire and Yorkshire, Six per Cent, [illegible]; Midland Consolidated, Six per Cent, 140; Ditto, Four per Cent, [illegible]; North British, 10¼; North-Eastern Berwick, 94¾; South Wales Four per Cent Half per Cent, 19¾.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 4¾; Belgian Eastern Junction, 1¾; East Indian Five per Cent, 21¾; Great Central Belgian, 1¾; Great Western of Canada Shares, 20¾; Paris and Rouen, 41¾; West Flanders, ½; Western of France, 24¾.

Mining Shares have been steady. On Thursday the Copper Miners of England were 24; General, 16; Nouveau Monde, ¾; United Mexican, 4¾.

Friday Evening.

The Funds opened flat to-day, and prices were about ¼ per cent lower than yesterday; but they subsequently somewhat recovered, and the quotations slightly improved. The Three per Cents were 91¾ ⅞; the Three per Cents Reduced, 92¾ ⅞; and the New Three per Cents, 92¾ ⅞. India Bonds, 2s.; Exchequer Bills, 13s. to 18s. prem. In Foreign Bonds and Railway Shares very little change has taken place.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE (Friday).—During the present week there has been a decided increase in the arrivals of wheat coastwise, they having amounted to 1420 quarters. Although the show of samples here to-day was not to say large, the demand for all kinds ruled heavy and, in some instances, in per quarter less money was accepted by the trade. Foreign wheat—the supply of which was tolerably good—met a very dull inquiry, and to have effected sales lower rates must have been submitted to. Barley was slow in sale, but not cheaper. The inquiry for malt was confined to immediate wants, at late currencies. We had a moderate sale for oats, the prices of which were fairly supported. Beans, peas, and flour moved off sowly at late rates.

Arrivals this week. [illegible] wheat, 1190; barley, 920; malt, [illegible]; oats, 800 Irish; oats, 1750 Foreign; wheat, 14,160; oats 10,800; flour, 3750 sacks [illegible].

English. Wheat, Essex and Kent red, 68s. to 72s.; ditto, white, 72s. to 76s.; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 70s. to 72s.; rye, 40s. to 42s.; grinding barley, 34s. to 36s.; distilling ditto, 38s. to 39s.; malting ditto, 39s. to 36s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 68s. to 70s.; brown ditto, 62s. to 64s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 70s.; [illegible] 71s. to 72s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 22s. to 23s.; potato, [illegible] Youghal and Cork, black, 24s. to 26s.; ditto, white, 25s. to 28s.; tick beans, 34s. to 40s.; grey peas, 37s. to 40s.; maple, 40s. to 42s.; white, 41s. to 46s.; boilers, 45s. to 47s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 65s. to 70s.; country marks, [illegible] per sack. Australian flour, 30s. to 45s. per barrel.

Seeds. We have no change to notice in prices and the amount of business doing is limited.

Linseed, English, sowing, 74s. to 76s.; Baltic, crushing, 70s. to 72s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 68s. to 69s.; Brownseed, 68s. to 70s. per quarter. Coriander, 20s. to 21s. per cwt. Brown Mustard seed, 12s. to 14s.; white ditto, 8s. to 10s. Tares, 9s. to 10s. per bushel. English rapeseed, £38 to £39 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, £12 to £12 10s.; ditto, foreign, £11 10s. to £12 10s.; rape cakes, £8 10s. to £8 15s. per ton. Canary, 45s. to 50s. per quarter. Red clover seed, 1 cwt. 5s. to 60s. per cwt.

Colonial Produce. Sugars.—Wheat, 7s. 1d.; barley, 3s. 7d.; oats, 2s. 10d.; rye, 4s. 1d.; beans, 4s. 8d.; peas, 4s.

English Grain sold last week.—Wheat, 39,997; barley, 11,569; oats, 12,931; rye, 81; beans, 3905; peas 352 quarters.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 10d. to 10½d. of household ditto, 8d. to 9d. per 4lb. loaf.

Tea.—The business doing in our market is very moderate, yet we have scarcely any sellers of every an sound congou under 1s per lb.

Sugar.—There has been only a limited inquiry for most kinds of new sugar. In prices, scarcely any change has taken place. Refineries have realised 34s. to 40s. 6d.; Jamaica, 34s. to 38s.; brown Manila, 34s. to 35s.; and white ditto, 34s. to 36s.; grainy, 40s. to 41s. 6d. per cwt. Refined goods improved slowly at from 43s. to 53s. per cwt.

Coffee.—An improved demand having sprung up, our sales to-day may be considered firm, at full currencies. Good and ordinary Ceylon, 5s. 6d. to 6s. per cwt.

Tea.—Activity business is doing in our market, and interests are fairly supported.

Provisions.—Trade for Irish butter is very sensitive, and prices continue to give way. Foreign qualities have declined 2s. to 3s. per cwt; and all English qualities are very dull. There is no change to mention in bacon, the prices of which are upward tending. Hams and lard are quite as cheap as last week.

Tallow.—Our market is very quiet. P.Y.C., on the spot, 51s. 6d.; October to December, 52s. per cwt. Town tallow is [illegible] per cwt, net cash.

Oils.—Linseed oil, on the spot, is quoted at 38s. 6d. to 39s. 6d.; and for forward delivery, 40s. to 41s. per cwt. Most other oils are a slow sale, on former terms. Turpentine is rather easier.

Spirits.—The market for rum is steady. Proof Leewards, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 5d.; East India, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. per gallon. We have a fair sale for brandy, at full quotations. Malt spirits are advanced to 10s. per gallon, with a good demand for British spirits.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £3 6s. to £5 5s.; clover ditto, £3 3s. to £6 10s.; and straw, £1 8s. to £1 10s. per cwt.

Wool.—There is very little inquiry for any kind of wool. In prices, however, no change has taken place.

Potatoes.—Most sands, the sap, lies of which are falling off, are inactive. Prices rate from 60s. to 80s. per ton.

Hops (Friday).—The show of hops is very moderate and the demand [illegible] Prices [illegible] Kent pocketts, £14 to £18 10s.; ditto of Kent £13 10s. to £15 10s.; Sussex £12 to £14 10s. per cwt.

Oils.—Linseed, 37s. 6d.; Rapeseed, 37s. 6d.; Hempseed, 37s. 6d.; Rape, 37s. Brandy, 18s. 6d.; Hazelnut, 36s.; Dantzic, [illegible] Half, 18s. 6d.; Jews, 28s. per ton.

Leadenhall Market (Friday). The market was opened to-day for business, and there was a fair attendance of visitors in attendance, while the arrivals generally gave much satisfaction. As a supply of beasts came very moderate the best trade at prices [illegible] to 6s. per stone advance in the quotations for the week, on Monday last. Per stone of 8 lbs. The top figure was 4s. 10d. per 8 lbs. Sheep—the show of which was by no means extensive—meeting a brisk demand, at prices which [illegible] Lambs were in fair request, at full prices. We had a good demand for calves, at late quotations. In pigs, very little doing. Prices were sold at from 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d. per 8 lbs. net, including their sinkings.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the offals.—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.; prime large oxen, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime Scotch ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; second quality ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; prime ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime Scotch ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; coarse and inferior calves, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; prime small ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; large pigs, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; small pigs, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 0d.

Per 8 lbs. net.—Inferior beef, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; middling ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; prime ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; prime Scotch ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; coarse and inferior mutton, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; middling ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 0d.; prime ditto, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; small ditto, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; small ditto, [illegible] lambs, 7s. 0d. to 8s. 0d.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12.

BANKRUPTS.

T. and E. SCULLY, Curtain-road, hardware, wholesale cheesemongers.—W. SKINNER, [illegible] PAUL, Bart., and H. HALES, Strand, bankers; and Norfolk-street, Strand, brewery agents.—T. BLIBEK, North-terrace, Bath-street, Pentonville-square, wine merchant.—J. YOWE, Surrey place, Old Kent-road, oilman.—H. BURKHAUT, Middlesex street, Aldgate, and Mount-terrace, New-road, Whitechapel, shoes.—W. JARVIS, Birmingham, tool and shoe [illegible].—A. BIRCH, Buckingham, grocer.—H. PEARL, Bessus, grocer.—J. WATSON, [illegible] Tavistock, Devonshire, [illegible].—J. [illegible], Wakefield, [illegible].—J. [illegible], Low-[illegible].—J. HALL, [illegible] ALKSON, Liverpool, draper.—J. [illegible] PEAT, Manchester, [illegible] and shoe manufacturer.—J. MOTTERSLEAD, Macclesfield, [illegible].

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

J. KIRK, Glasgow, smith.—J. LOGAN, [illegible] grain dealer.—A. DAVIDSON, Muirtown of Dunsy, wright.—J. J. MINTO, Collinton Mains, farmer.—R. REID, Arbroath, merchant.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1[illegible].

WAR-OFFICE, JUNE 15.

Royal Horse Guards A [illegible] Phillips to be Captain; Cornet and Adj. J. Sellman and [illegible] W. Berry to be Lieutenant.

Royal Artillery Second Capt. [illegible] Colonough to be Captain, Lieut. G. A. Milman to be Second Captain, C. Sanderson and [illegible] W. Bayne to be Lieutenant-Colonel.

Royal Engineers Second Capt. J. F. M. Browne to be Captain; Lieuts. W. H. Noble and [illegible] Schaw to be Captains.

Coldstream F[illegible] Phillips to be Ensign and Lieut.

1st Foot Capt. G. W. Blathwayt to be [illegible] mission of Lieut.-Col. A. Maxwell to be Adjutant to [illegible].

2nd. J. W. Harrel to be Ensign.

5th Foot, Major J. L. Inglis to be Lieutenant-Colonel, Major W. Lee to be Captain.

[illegible] Bart. to be Ensign.

[illegible] Major J. L. Inglis to be Major, Lieut. W. Lee to be Captain.

7th Assist.-Surg. E. Hale to be Assistant-Surgeon.

[illegible] Capt. G. Holmes to be Lieutenant-Colonel, Major [illegible] to be Major.

[illegible] H. Sherwood to be Captain.

[illegible] Major C. Kelly to be Lieutenant-Colonel, Lieuts. S. Chisholm, F. S. Aitree, E. [illegible] to be Captains.

[illegible] Lieutenant-Colonel [illegible] to be Major, Lieut. [illegible] to be Captain.

[illegible] Lieut. [illegible] to be Captain.

[illegible] Lieut. [illegible] to be Captain.

[illegible]

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 749.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1855. [WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM DEBATES.

"ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM" has many friends. Indeed, it would seem to have no enemies. Mr. Disraeli claims the paternity of the name. Mr. Gladstone asserts, not simply his adherence to its principle, but informs the world that the Government of which he was a member, and "all Governments for some time past," including that immediately preceding, "had been directed to effecting some improvement in this respect." Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton agrees, not in the terms by which he seeks to elicit the approval of the Commons, but in adherence to the principle involved or supposed to be involved in the phrase. Lord Palmerston supports Sir Bulwer Lytton; and there is such a general chorus of assent, that, were it not for the grotesque and discordant croak of Mr. Drummond, there would be complete harmony and unanimity on all sides of the House. Even this modern "Rabelais," as Mr. Disraeli calls him, might have no particular objection to "Administrative Reform" if he knew what was meant by it, and if "ship-brokers, stock-brokers, railway directors, railway contractors, and God knows who," were not to be put into the Government instead of the Lords and Lords' brothers and cousins who have hitherto had the lion's share in the Administrative spoil of the nation. Mr. Drummond excludes his own craft from his sneer; and would doubtless like the world to believe that bankers share with Lords the right divine to govern such ignoble people as ship-brokers and other snobs who make their fortunes by their energy and their enterprise.

But Mr. Drummond—the privileged joker, the man who has made it his business to utter wisdom in the garb of folly, like the ancient jesters in the Courts of our mediæval Kings—often tells the truth that other men lack the courage to enunciate. He hits the right nail on the head when he asserts that the cry for Administrative Reform has no generally-recognised meaning. Almost every speaker has his own private interpretation of the phrase. Mr. Layard means one thing, and Mr. Disraeli another. Mr. Gladstone seems to be as much and no more o. an Administrative Reformer than that presumptuous Baronet who was not ashamed to criticise the excellent appointment of Mr. Albany Fonblanque to the secretaryship of the Board of Trade. Lord Palmerston, agreeing neither with Mr. Layard nor Mr. Disraeli, nor with any other speaker, has notions of his own, which appear to be far more in accordance with those o. Mr. Drummond and Sir Stafford Northcote than with those of any other person. As for the Administrative Reform Association, his Lordship does not even think it worth while to be angry with it, as he was with Mr. Layard, but speaks of "the private theatricals at Drury-Lane" with undisguised contempt. At the same time he "does not hesitate to say that any improvements which we (the Government) can make in the administrative reform of the different departments it will be our pride, as well as our pleasure, to adopt."

All these speechifications have the taint of evident insincerity. Neither Parliament as a body, nor the Government, nor even a majority of individual members of the Legislature, have any real desire for such a system of Administrative Reform as the country requires. When Mr. Layard attempts to prove, by individual examples, that general case which is too notoriously true to admit of dispute, he raises a hornets' nest about his ears. The country knows full well that favouritism is the rule in every department—fom the Ministry itself, through such great substrata as the Horse Guards and the Admiralty, down to the lowest grades of the Post-office, the Customs, or the Excise. It knows that promotion by merit is considered an affront not only by all existing but by all those expectant functionaries who rely upon the good offices of obliging borough and county members, and the all-potent influence of Mr. Hayter. If not, why should Red Tape, personified by Sir Stafford Northcote, dare to rebuke genius in the person of one so immeasurably his superior in mental gifts and in public services as Mr. Albany Fonblanque? Though the higher grades of the Army are—as hundreds and thousands of gallant men can prove to their sorrow—the hotbeds of favouritism and nepotism, yet Mr. Frederick Peel—who, like the rest of them, is an

THE MASSACRE AT HANGO-HEAD.—THE "COSSACK'S" BOAT LEAVING WITH A FLAG OF TRUCE. FROM A SKETCH BY J. W. [illegible]

Administrative Reformer—attempts to prove, by "Cocker," by chapter and verse,—by names and dates, and by a whole array of seemingly unanswerable authorities—that the system acted upon at the Horse Guards is, if not quite perfect, as nearly so as it is possible for any human system to be. So with every other branch of the public service. Diplomacy, of which the object is, or ought to be, the assertion of the national honour and dignity, and the protection of national interests in foreign States is not a profession, in which a man may hope to rise by merely qualifying himself for its onerous and delicate duties. Everybody knows and feels this; every Attaché knows it; whether he have or have not a powerful peer, or a minister, to back his claims and to bear his merits or high birth in remembrance. But when Mr. Layard proves the case—which did not need the proof—Lord Palmerston, whose "pride and pleasure" it will be to act as an Administrative Reformer, if he can see how, amuses the House by his dexterity in making it plain to the meanest capacity that in the diplomatic service everything is as it ought to be. He asserts, what nobody denies, that Lord Stratford de Redcliffe was not made an Ambassador because he was a Peer, but that he was made a Peer because he was an Ambassador, and that the Peerage which adorns his brow is the reward of long and distinguished services. He speaks with equally high, and we must say with almost equally well-deserved, eulogium of the services of Lord Cowley; and because he has done this seems to think that he has disposed of Mr. Layard and all other remonstrants, and rescued the diplomatic branch of the public service from the unmanneriy assaults of Drury-lane and the City.

The truth is, that there is not sufficient earnestness in the country on the subject of Administrative Reform to beget a corresponding earnestness in Parliament. Were our arms disgraced in the Crimea by mismanagement either in London or in Balaclava—were any great calamity to befal us in the war there would arise a cry throughout the land which would not be trifled with. But there is no such danger. Victory seems almost within our grasp. Much mismanagement has already been rectified; and the capture of Sebastopol, on which Lord Palmerston and the large majority of the House of Commons seem to calculate as the salvation of the old citadel of nepotism and favouritism, will in all probability dissipate into thin air the agitation commenced by the Drury-lane reformers. But those who uphold administrative abuses need not flatter themselves with the delusion that the question will be thus summarily disposed of. It will rise again in a new shape. The earnest and practical men who have taken hold of it, will not let it drop; but, profiting by experience, will manage their agitation with a deeper insight into the real causes of the evil. They will then admit, what they ought to admit now, if they wish to see the cause they have taken in hand make the progress which it ought, that Administrative Reform is a one-sided and imperfect thing, when it merely attacks the present or any other Government for giving places to its friends and dependents, and when it does not attack the meanness and corruption of the people themselves. How can the constituencies complain of mismanagement of the national affairs, if voters for small if not large boroughs and counties, beg places for themselves or their sons; and the more earnestly in proportion to the hopeless incapacity of the applicants for success in other walks of life; and if when begging fails, they resort to bullying their hapless and sorely-victimised representatives? Lord Goderich says he will "never again darken the doors of Mr. Hayter" to ask for an appointment. If three hundred other members of this or any other House of Commons will take and keep the same pledge, Administrative Reform will make a real progress; and the easy wit of Lord Palmerston, and the Rabelaisian humour of Mr. Drummond, and all attacks whatsoever, will fall harmlessly against the defenders of the sound principle of the first Napoleon, and of all men of common sense, that in public as well as in private life talent and merit ought to meet with a free field and an adequate reward. No one wishes to disqualify Lords for the public service. No one has any quarrel with the aristocracy. Its only foes are those ultra exclusives who act upon the principle, both in and out of power, that no genius, no talent,—no skill,—no virtue whatsoever, can exist beyond the narrow palings of the aristocratic preserve. But at the same time the people are not blameless. They have sold their votes, and ought not to be very greatly surprised if they have been sold in return.

THE MASSACRE AT HANGO-HEAD.

Recent letters from the Baltic, with more complete information, show that the telegraphic message of last Saturday regarding the massacre at Hango-head was no exaggeration. The narrative will awaken strong feelings in the heart of every Englishman, and excite universal and just indignation against those who are concerned in the commission of such a wholesale and cold-blooded assassination. Actuated by motives of humanity, Admiral Dundas directed Captain Fanshawe to land the poor inoffensive prisoners taken by the *Cossack*—in other words give them liberty, and show that it is not with wretched fishermen that England makes war. To effect this, Captain Fanshawe was compelled to have recourse to a flag of truce—that sacred signal which all honourable nations treat with respect. The prisoners were put on shore, and their baggage was landed, the white flag flying conspicuously all the time. At this stage some three hundred brigands made their appearance. The person who headed this band could speak English, but in reply to the statements of the officer in command of our countrymen, and of the prisoners who had been landed, the chief brigand said that he did "not care in the least for a flag of truce, but would show how Russians can fight." In exemplifying the Russian mode of fighting, he immediately gave his men orders to massacre, not only the British sailors on the jetty, but the Pilots they had landed; and to complete the bloody work, he dragged the wounded from the boat, and bayoneted them on the jetty. One man, wounded in two places, alone survived to tell the tale.

The following are copies of letters from Rear-Admiral the Hon. R. S Dundas, reporting the proceedings of her Majesty's ship *Cossack*, and the loss of officers and men at Hango:—

Duke of Wellington, at anchor, Tolbuskin Lighthouse E.S.E. three miles, June 9, 1855.

Sir,—I had the honour to transmit on the 2nd instant, with my letter, No. 130, a report of proceedings received from Captain Fanshawe, of her Majesty's ship *Cossack*, who, in compliance with my directions, had satisfactorily examined the anchorages and channels in the vicinity of Hango-head; but it has now become my most painful duty to forward, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a report which I have received from that officer, detailing occurrences in the same locality which have led, in the most distressing manner, to the sacrifice of the lives apparently of not less than sixteen officers and men, though I am still disposed to indulge the fainter hope that some few may yet be alive.

In explanation of this report, it may be proper for me to inform their Lordships, that, in the destruction of coasting vessels in the course of hostilities within the Gulf of Finland, I have considered that I am carrying out the views of her Majesty's Government, in endeavouring to visit with as little severity as possible the evils of war upon the poorer classes of the inhabitants, who are in the habit of earning a living in the smaller vessels upon the coast, and it may be useful that I should transmit upon this occasion a copy of a general memorandum which I had issued upon the subject. It was in accordance with the spirit of this instruction that I had given permission to Captain Fanshawe to take a favourable opportunity to release two persons who had been detained by the Russians on one of the prizes taken in the vessels in former report of the 8th May, and who had expressed a wish to be released near Hango; and it is one matchlessly to consider that, consequent on the act of humanity, an opportunity has been afforded to the enemy to inflict upon us a blow, more, or less, under circumstances of extreme cruelty, if not a direct violation of the ordinary usages of war.

I transmit, however, for the Lordships' further information, a copy of a letter which I have forwarded to Captain Fanshawe, ordering him forthwith to repeat my flag, and to wait long for further communications upon the subject.

Their Lordships will gather from the questions I have addressed to him, the views which I am at present disposed to adopt in reference to this melancholy loss; but I abstain for the present from communication with the military authorities of the district in the absence of further information.

(Signed) R. S. Dundas,
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

The Secretary of the Admiralty, &c.

H.M. Steam-ship *Cossack*, Hangen Islands, 6th June, 1855.

Sir,—It is with the deepest concern that I have to report to you the destruction of a cutter, a crew and the officers which we went into Hango with a flag of truce yesterday, the 5th inst., in order to land the three prisoners who had been taken with some merchant vessels by her Majesty's ships *Cossack* and *Esk*, and also four others to whom I gave a passage to Nargen, they having received their Liberty from the prize officers of the vessels captured by her Majesty's steam-ship *Magicienne*.

The ship having arrived off Hango Island yesterday afternoon, the boat was despatched at eleven a.m., in charge of Lieut. Genesée, with orders to land the above persons, and to return without delay, taking care that no one straggled from the boat. The officers' stewards were allowed to go in the boat on the same conditions, as was also, at his request, Mr. Easton, surgeon of this ship.

The enclosed statement of what occurred on the boat's return, is all I have to report, there is that of the only man who has returned alive and I have every reason to believe it correct.

Finding that the boat did not duly return, I sent the First Lieutenant, about half past four p.m., in the gig, also with a flag of truce, to ascertain the cause of the delay; and, as neither had returned at the close of the day, I anchored with the ship and the Esk in the inner roads.

The gig returned about half-past eight, after a long search, having discovered the cutter hauled within a small jetty, and contain the dead bodies of two or three of her crew.

It being then late, I made arrangements that the ships should weigh at half-past two o'clock a.m., and take position close to the inner village, and telegraph station as possible; and, as I then supposed that the rest of the crew and officers had been made prisoners, I proposed to send me a letter to the nearest military authority, demanding that they and the boat should be given up.

But we just getting under way the cutter was observed to leave the shore with one man at the stern, who was endeavouring to scull her out. He was immediately sent a boat to his assistance, when, on his reaching the cutter, she was found to contain the dead bodies of four of her crew, all horribly riddled with musket balls.

The man who came off in the boat made the accompanying statement of the details of this atrocious massacre: he is very dangerously wounded in the right arm and shoulder, and was left for dead in the boat; but the account he gives of what he saw before he was struck down is clear and consistent.—I fear, that, on the boat reaching the jetty, Lieutenant Genesée, Mr. Easton, surgeon, Mr. Sullivan, master's assistant, and the Russian prisoners, stepped on shore, and, as the men were in the act of getting the boat's anchor, they were ridiculed

vivor of the boat's crew, he states that, immediately on the sold ers appearing they commenced firing on the officers and landed prisoners who were with them on the wharf. Their first fire did but little injury; but as they approached he saw, first, Mr. Easton, surgeon, and then Lieut. Genesta, full dead. He also saw the Flag-Captain (who spoke English) fall; and feels perfectly certain the rest were all shot, as he saw them leaning and screaming. He is confident that all (by this time the soldiers, having approached within ten or fifteen yards of the boat, were firing into her also, and the whole of the men were very soon struck down. They then rushed into the boat, and threw overboard several of the bodies; but finding James Gliddon [illegible] wounded, was not dead, they hauled him on the wharf and shot him. He states that he was wounded early, that, though faint, he had a perfect perception of what was going on around him, and a sense of his own danger, which induced him to feign dead, and also that he was twice dragged from one part of the boat to the other in the search for arms, but, fortunately, not pitched overboard. Gliddon was close to him when he was dragged on the wharf. He conceives that the whole affair, from the time the soldiers fire d first out until they finally retired, might have occupied about fifteen minutes. He distinctly heard everything that was said on the wharf by Lieutenant Genesta and the Russians.

I may here mention that the body of one of the men found dead in the boat had two shots through the leg, which he had had time to bandage with a silk handkerchief before he received two other fatal wounds, in the abdomen and head.

I omitted to state in my letter of [illegible] occurrence that the following morning, when scuttling the boat, we found and a number of men in the usual dresses as those who fired upon them coming down the telegraph hill. They stopped several times, turning round and pointing to the cutter and the flag which was approaching.—I have, &c. (Signed) E. G. FANSHAWE.

Rear-Admiral the Hon. E. G. Dundas, Commander-in-Chief, &c.

The following letter, from our own Correspondent, gives some particulars of the outrage; which, if correct, render the case still more black than it was represented at first.—

Within 15 miles of Cronstadt, June 7, 1855, five p.m.

We arrived at Nargen last evening, at half-past twelve o'clock. There were only two vessels of war, viz., [illegible] and the *Cossack*. Some of the officers of the latter vessel brought us some very unlucky news this morning early. On Tuesday, about eleven o'clock a.m., a boat was got ready, with a crew of thirteen men and three officers on board, ship, to convey eight prisoners on shore at Hango. When they approached the shore, a Russian officer, who spoke English well, invited them to land. They had no sooner done so, than the sergeant-major, with his boat's crew, mercilessly murdered both the English and their own people, although the *Cossack* had carried a flag of truce, which they totally disregarded, the officer saying, "We want no flag of truce here." One black man in the boat was badly wounded, he feigned was covered over with the dead bodies of the gallant fellows. They therefore supposed him dead, and consequently left him unmolested. The boat was picked up the next morning by the *Cossack's* gig, and he was the only one left to tell the melancholy tale.

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, June 18.

Lord Panmure has this day received the following despatches and their enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.

Before Sebastopol, June 5.

My Lord,—I am deeply concerned to have to inform your Lordship that Rear-Admiral Boxer died on board the *Jason* last night, outside the harbour of Balaclava, after a very short illness.

He was removed to that ship in the hope that the pure sea air might prove beneficial to him; but this expectation was not fulfilled. His malady made rapid progress, and early in the afternoon of yesterday it was intimated to me that he was desperate.

His nephew died of cholera last week, and this melancholy event so deeply affected him that his health at once gave way, and he sank under the same disease.

It is well known that this officer devoted his whole life to the public service. Since he undertook the appointment of Admiral Superintendent of the harbour of Balaclava, he has applied himself incessantly to the discharge of his arduous duties, exposing himself in all weathers; and he has rendered a most valuable service to the army by [illegible] the piers and roads to the wharves on the west end of the port, whereby the transport of stores and troops has been greatly accelerated, and communications with the shore have been rendered much easier. I have, &c., RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c.

Before Sebastopol, June 7.

My Lord,—I have great satisfaction in informing your Lordship that I received intelligence this morning of the evacuation of Sinpatoria by the Russians on the 5th.

It appears that, previously to their retirement from the place, the troops destroyed the principal buildings and the armament, which consisted of about sixty heavy guns and six mortars, and it is concluded that they have joined the garrison of Anapa, from whence many of the inhabitants have removed.

Sir Edmund Lyons has been so good as to send me the detached report of the naval operations in the sea of Azoff, which will reach England either before or at the time of this despatch. They reflect the highest credit on Captain Lyons, of the *Miranda*, and the officers and men serving under his command, and are remarkable for the intelligence, [illegible] and judgment with which they have been conducted; and [illegible] which will be peculiarly felt by her Majesty's Ships, which [illegible] has been inflicted on the enemy in the loss of resources of every description, the most brilliant and unwonted success has been achieved in an incredibly short time, with only one casualty; and that not of a serious nature.

These gallant exploits of the navy have spread joy in our camps, and afforded vast satisfaction to every individual in the army.

A body of French troops, under the command of General Morris and General Canrobert, and a column of the Sardinian corps under General La Marmora, made a reconnaissance on Baidar, on the morning of the 3rd.

The former proceeded along the Woronzow road and pushed their cavalry several miles beyond Baidar; the latter operated on the left through a mountainous district, and advanced into Baidar, after a fatiguing march, only a small number of Cossacks showed themselves.

Nothing has occurred in front of the town.

I enclose the return of casualties to the 3rd instant inclusive.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c.

RETURN OF OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED FROM THE 1ST TO THE 3RD JUNE INCLUSIVE.

KILLED.

Sergeant Rifle Brigade: George Hale.

Privates. 1st Foot: James Sadler. 33rd: James McCrory. 33rd: William King. 49th: Owen White. 88th: Michael Sherlock. 97th: Michael Conroy. Royal Sappers and Miners: John Wright.

WOUNDED.

Brevet Lieut.-colonel [illegible] 33rd Foot: [illegible] Malcolm, slightly.

Lieutenants. 24th Rifle Brigade: [illegible] Thompson, slightly.

CASUALTIES IN THE ROYAL NAVAL BRIGADE BEFORE SEBASTOPOL ON THE 3RD JUNE.

KILLED. Stephen Webb, A.B., John Hewitt, ditto, Queen.

Before Sebastopol, June 5.

My Lord,—I have the honour to enclose a letter from the Inspector-General of Hospitals, forwarding the weekly state of the sick of the army.

The cholera has sensibly diminished in the Camp before Sebastopol, but it has attacked the Guards and the 31st Regiment, near Balaclava, and some of the new batteries, as well as the followers of the army in that town. It is hoped that the disease will pass from them as it has from the stations where it first appeared.

I am grieved to have to say that it has fallen heavily on the Sardinian Contingent, and that General La Marmora is in great anxiety about it. I am rendering him all the assistance in my power. Whilst writing to your Lordship an officer has brought me a letter from him, announcing that his brother, General La Marmora, who commands his Second Division, has been severely attacked. He has been accommodated with a quarter at Kadikoi, and every attention shall be paid him. I have, &c., RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO ALDERSHOTT.—Her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert and the Duke of Cambridge, paid a visit of inspection to the newly-formed camp at Aldershott, on Saturday last. The Royal party left Buckingham Palace shortly before three o'clock, and, after a pleasant run over the South-Western Railway to Farnborough, drove thence to the Camp, which, from the wild beauty of its situation, will, no doubt, speedily become a highly attractive place for London sightseers. The two battalions of the Guards, which have recently arrived in the Camp, together with the five regiments of Militia, including the 5th West Lancashire, the 1st Surrey (Royals), the Royal Middlesex, and the West Kent, received her Majesty with the usual military honours. The troops presented a soldier-like appearance. The visit of her Majesty being perfectly unexpected, there were none of those outward demonstrations which, on the occasion of some of the Royal visits to Chobham, marked her Majesty's progress.

In order to establish direct telegraphic communication between Austria and Russia, the Austrian line has been joined to the Russian one on the frontier between Gratzca and Szczakowa, and communications may be transmitted by it in German or French.

THE SILENT MEMBER. (No. XXII.)

THE result of the division on Mr. Layard's motion for Administrative Reform may be attributed, in the first place, perhaps to a want of sympathy on the part of the House of Commons with the feeling of the public, of which he was undoubtedly an exponent in the views he put forth. Some part of his failure must, however, in candour be set down to the fact that he had lost ground by his want of caution in making statements which he was not in a condition to prove. Though the tone of public morality is not yet very high, there is [illegible] in seeing a tendency to improvement in this respect. [illegible] difficult for men of doubtful principle to carry with them the support of the country; and it is high time every one acquits Mr. Layard of wilful misrepresentation, he has still left his opinions from an over-zeal in endeavouring to establish great general truths by bringing forward specful instances the accuracy of which he had not clearly ascertained. These checks are some times who come, for they prove that in statesmanship as well as in ordinary business matters honesty is the best [illegible].

While men of business are calling [illegible] amount of morality in the conduct of public affairs, there seems to be some reason for believing that commercial matters are not always managed in the purest manner, even by men whose "standing in the City" has long been one of high repute. The recent failure of an old-established private bank has brought to light a system of trading on fictitious means and keeping up credit on a footing far more extensive than is commonly known, those who still reverence the traditions of the "integrity of the British merchant" would suppose. The bank that has lately stopped is said to have been for some time insolvent, thou h its operations might have been carried on if its expedients had not been exhausted, for the suspicions of its customers had not been aroused. Those who have implicit faith in the universal "honour of the English tradesman," and *a fortiori* of "the British banker," may be surprised to hear a story which is current in commercial circles, and is as well authenticated as it is generally believed. A highly respected London banker, on his death-bed, called his children round him, and told them if they believed in his reputed wealth? They answered that they shared the general opinion as to his large fortune, and he then surprised them by the announce that he had been insolvent for the last thirty years. He, however, entreated them not to be depressed by the intelligence; but recommended them to go to Doctors' Commons immediately after his decease and swear his property under half-a-million. The advice was taken. The customers of the house were agreeably edified on hearing of the enormous wealth of the late partner, and the bank was firmer than ever, in the opinion of those who trusted their money to its keeping. There is not much to be apprehended for the future from the failure of private bankers, for the Joint-Stock system is gradually but surely superseding the few that remain. The private firms that still exist are, for the most part, known to be thoroughly sound and amply solvent, but there is no question that the practice of publishing accounts, and the security afforded in the entire property of a large body of more or less wealthy shareholders, will eventually carry all the banking business of the country to the Joint-Stock concerns.

This is about the period of the Parliamentary Session when members begin to announce the abandonment of their promised measures, and to lack out of the engagements they have determined to leave unfulfilled. The excuses made by the Government for the non-ratification of their pledges consist generally in the announcement that the time of the Session has been chiefly consumed in debate, and that, before the promises of Ministers, like the business of legislation, must end in talk. The Bill for the Reform of the Corporation of London is to be postponed till the early part of next Session, though we have heard of its having been long "in preparation," and even of its being "ready," but something has prevented Sir George Grey from bringing it in. It is difficult for one who is not a Cabinet Minister to appreciate the difficulty of bringing into the House a bill that is already prepared. One would think that if it were not too bulky it might be put in the coat pocket, and carried down to the House, or even sent by post, or Parcels Delivery, or left at the door of the Commons by the footman of the Minister, who thus would have nothing whatever to do but to "bring in." People of common sense will naturally ask why a bill is not brought in at once when it is ready, and some will inquire whether it has been put away in a drawer and forgotten, or left in a Minister's pocket, or fallen into the waste-paper basket, or somehow or other got mislaid? Nobody can doubt that debating is a very great evil, and though, as a Silent Member, I perhaps judge partially, I cannot help feeling that if, instead of electing those who are likely to be great speakers, some constituencies were to elect those who are not likely to speak at all, a great advantage would be gained.

As prolixity is the fault of our debates, bulk is the great objection to our Statute-book; and though we have had a paid Commission to remedy the evil, it is not likely to be very soon removed. The Commissioners, who ought to have been occupied in producing harmony in the laws, did little or nothing besides quarrel; and it was hopeless to expect the conciliation of the Statutes from men who are always creating divisions among themselves. Instead of working together towards one common end, they pulled in different directions; and the Statute-book in their hands, so far from meeting with compression, appears to have been the subject of a struggle in which the leaves may be said to have been torn and scattered about on all sides. It is one of the beautiful fictions of the law of England that every one is acquainted with its provisions, and that every Act of Parliament has been accurately remembered as well as conscientiously perused. Lest any one should begin to read the Statute-book with a laudable desire to make himself acquainted with the laws of his country, it may be as well to state the fact that he will find no less than between ten and eleven thousand Acts of Parliament which are either obsolete or have been repealed. These will not by any means "perusal," but it is difficult to intimate to the student of the statutes "what to avoid." It might be useful to print a list of the laws which are no longer in force, under the head of *Rococo*.

It is evident that legislators do not always know the provisions of the laws they assist in making, nor is it likely that such a very numerous acquaintance could be easily kept up. There are, however, some laws which might be thought to be familiar, even to legislators; and the Police Act, which provides against obstructions in the public thoroughfares, might fairly be presumed to be one of these. Nevertheless, it appears from the newspapers that the Bishops of London and Winchester have been giving their encouragement to street-preaching by ministers of the Established Church. It may be said that the Police Act applies to the thoroughfare only; but causing an obstruction in a public thoroughfare is generally an offence against the local act in every large town. The subject has been illustrated in the course of this week by the appearance before the magistrate of Mr. Boatswain Smith, who was brought up to the Thames Police-court for the act of street-preaching, which the Bishops of London and Winchester encourage—but which the law forbids. It is not very judicious to recommend a practice which the police authorities are bound to suppress if it should lead to an obstruction of a thoroughfare; and, indeed, the habit is one which encourages the vanity of ignorant fanatics, who generally do a great deal more harm than good. We have already rather too much cant to contend against, and street-preaching is likely to produce a great deal more of the same obnoxious article. Considering the exposure of religious impostors which one sometimes sees in the police reports, it is not unreasonable to expect that, as a fight is often got up to favour a street robbery, a sermon may sometimes be commenced in order that, while the preacher is calling on them to get rid of the burden of their sins, his accomplices may be relieving them of the contents of their pockets.

A wholesome decision was lately given by a jury on the trial of an action by a servant against a master who had stated in writing the reason why the servant had been discharged. It would have formed an unfortunate precedent if the jury had declared the master guilty of libel, for there is already too much mischief done to society by the laxity with which good characters are given—out of what is called good nature, but which is merely a want of moral firmness, when bad characters have been deserved. In these matters of minor morals there is not half enough strictness exercised, and, though it may seem hard to deprive a servant of a place for some trifling fault, the fact is that, if faults were fairly stated, those who take servants would know the extent of their responsibility, instead of feeling, as they now do, that errors are generally concealed; and, consequently, when they are admitted, they are, perhaps, believed to be greater than they really are. The proper method to proceed is to give a character with truth on the one hand, and on the other to be ready to take a servant without looking for that faultlessness which a culpable good nature often bears testimony to without sufficient cause. After all there is no little amount of selfishness in these matters, for it is thought likely to save a great deal of trouble to give a discharged servant an excellent character at once, and leave the new master or mistress to find out at leisure the defects that exist.

With reference to some remarks in his last week's article, the Silent Member has been assured, on very good authority, that the attorney engaged in support of an application against another member of the profession, with reference to the alleged improper use of a bill, was "altogether and always opposed to any compromise." The Silent Member did not say otherwise; but he seems to have been mistaken in a belief that a full update one time come over the feelings of the attorney; a belief which the Silent Member is most happy to renounce, and to give the attorney every credit for having throughout conscientiously discharged his duty. His own client admits having agreed to a settlement against the advice of his attorney. Though a client is bound by the act of his attorney, the attorney cannot always be answerable for the act of his client, who in this instance would certainly have done better had he followed implicitly the recommendation of his professional adviser.

TRIPLE FETE IN PALERMO.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

SICILY may be called almost the brightest jewel in the crown of its Sovereign. No unimportant event, therefore, is the choice of its Viceroy, and his first entrance on the scene of his duties. Prince Castelcicala, for a long time the Sicilian Ambassador in England, is the man whom the King has dignified to honour. He succeeds General Filangieri, Prince of Satriano, who has governed the island for five or six years with great firmness, wisdom, and justice. On the 27th May, Prince Castelcicala left Naples on board the steam-frigate the *Archimedes*, and landed amidst cheers of welcome in Palermo on the 28th. It is well understood here that such cheers may be always held for a consideration; let something, however, be put down to the generous desire of giving the stranger a fair [illegible]. Attended by the Consular Body, and the authorities, civil and military, and surrounded by military, the Viceroy went first to the Cattedrale to hear the "Te Deum" [illegible]. That Cathedral, how full of architectural interest! how full of thrilling and interesting historical [illegible]! This is the first scene in the recent festivities of Palermo. The 15th of May is the "Name Day" of the Majesty of the Two Sicilies. Sicily could not be without its Viceroy on such an occasion, and every effort was made, therefore, to raise the Prince from a bed of sickness, to witness and encourage the affection which the Sicilians feel for their liege Lord. It had been determined also on this same day to erect in the Foro Borbonico four colossal statues of the Bourbon dynasty, executed by the first sculptors of Naples. The pedestals on which they stood were thrown down and broken to pieces during the revolutionary disturbances of 1848. Ferdinand II. has erected them—on what some think their dangerous and doubtful elevation. On the morning of the 30th the ceremony took place. Two tents were erected—one a square, for the Viceroy, the Consular body, and the authorities; the other circular in shape, for the ecclesiastics. As soon as the benediction had been given, the Viceroy gave the word of command; and, amidst the firing of cannon and the flourish of trumpets, the draperies fell, and the statues of the Bourbons were revealed. As far, however, as the sensations of the multitude were concerned, nothing could be cold er, there was almost silence.

The scene of this ceremonial is represented in the Sketch. It is the delizia of Palermo, and nature and art seem to have combined to unite on this locality all that can fascinate the eye. The mountains in the background are in the neighbourhood of Bagaria; and the road both a walk and a drive—by the side of the sea, and full a mile in length, is the Foro Borbonico, or an extension of it. An attentive observer will discover the statues of Carlo III. Ferdinando I., Francesco I., and Ferdinando II. Beginning at the Fort of Garitta, this promenade terminates at the Casina of Cuto, and opens on the city through the Porta Felice, which was erected by the Marchese Felice Orsini, wife of the Viceroy Marcantonio Colonna. Rising above this exquisite road are other promenades, which, shaded by the trees and adorned with flowers in vases, have the appearance of hanging gardens. The palaces of Prince Butera, d'Aceto and Dangio, are on the right, whilst a bank of sainfoin terminates the walk in the direction of the sea. On the upper walk where the walls open at the Porta dei Greci, is the palace of the Marchese de Forcella; then comes a garden, and then the Flora, a beautiful public work of the last century. During the clear bright mornings of winter there is not in the world a more delicious walk or drive than the Foro Borbonico of Palermo; and in the summer evenings and nights the scene has all the magic of Oriental life. It is the drawing-room of Palermo; here the inhabitants of all classes meet, and linger on till almost early dawn, surrounded by all the embellishment of art, and gazing, through the transparent veil of a Sicilian night, on the wondrous natural beauties around them. Those, however, who desire to see it at its season of greatest enchantment, should visit it during the Fête of Santa Rosalia.

FESTIVAL AT NAPLES.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

THE scene which we here present to our readers is the interior of the Church of Sta. Chiara, in Naples. It has a twofold interest from its historical associations, and from the fact that the miracle of the liquefaction of the blood of St. Januarius takes place annually in this Church, on the first Saturday in May. It was founded in 1310 by King Robert, who dedicated it to the Host; whilst his wife attached to it a monastery for the Sisters of Sta. Chiara. In this monastery are now educated the daughters of the first families of the kingdom. The architect of this splendid church, which was built in the Gothic style, was Masuccio; and Giotto painted it. In the four following centuries the innovations made by Vaccaro, San Felice and others, at an expense of 60,000 dol., converted what was once a venerable Gothic pile, into what may now rather be compared to a magnificent ball-room. By command of Barrionuovo, the works of Giotto were destroyed, and the actual frescoes are the productions of Cosca, Muro, Bonito, and Maio, pupils of Solimena. There yet remain, however, as proofs of the former grandeur of the building, five superb monuments, in the Gothic style, to the memory of Princes of the House of Anjou—namely, of Robert, who died in 1343; Charles, his son; Maria; Joanna I.; and of Agnesa and Clemenzia, daughters of Maria. The Kings of the Two Sicilies are buried in this church; and the body of the last Queen of his present Majesty is not only the subject of a continual miracle, but works miracles—*Ipse dixit*. The Barons of the kingdom did homage to several of the Anglevin Princes in this church. Joanna I. was crowned here, 28th Aug., 1344. By order of Charles III., of Durazzo, Cardinal Cifoni was here despoiled, and his robes and mitre thrown into the fire, because he had been invested by the Antipope Clement; and hence he was sent prisoner to Urban IV. in 1381. Thomas Sansevermo, the head of the Anglevin party, declared himself the Viceroy of Lewis II., and received homage in his name in this church 1386. In 1399 a Parliament was held here in order to grant the King a thousand lances and ten galleys; and Ladislaus, having repossessed himself of the kingdom by arms, here assembled the Barons, to ascertain those who were contumacious. Such are the artistic and historic associations which render this church one of the most interesting in Naples. We now consider it under another aspect (the immediate object of this article), as the site where once a year it is wrought the miracle of the liquefaction of the blood of St. Januarius. I premise, however, by saying that King Robert commanded that the procession, on occasion of the grand fête of Corpus Domini, should walk from the Cathedral to this church, followed by the Sovereign and the grandees of the kingdom. That custom is still observed.

On the first Saturday in the past month we went to see the blood of St. Januarius liquefied, and took up our station near the gallery erected for musicians on the right. The body of the church and aisles of nave was crowded with curious or devout spectators; on the left of the altar, in the best reserved seats, were women of the lowest classes, who claim (and have their claims allowed) to be relatives of the Saint, who suffered martyrdom A.D. 305. Above the aisles, through three graded and highly-ornamented windows, or openings, we could catch a view of the nuns, who were looking down on the scene below. Poor creatures! it was their great field day. The choir performed some fine sacred music, and then at intervals the relations of the Saint raised their voices in the loudest and most unearthly shriek, and some said they were praying or saying a rosary. The statue of the Saint had been brought to the church in the morning, and now reposed on the high altar. It is entire, which was presented to him by the Council of Naples in 1713, cost 20,000 scudi. It is ornamented with

TRIPLE FETE AT PALERMO.

3328 diamonds, 198 emeralds, and 168 rubies. The pallium is of silver, and was made by Domenico Vinaccia, at an expense of 8200 scudi. After a long suspense, a general hush announced the approach of the procession from the Cathedral. The spectacle was magnificent. One after the other, forty-seven statues of saints (who are the protectors of churches or religious bodies in Naples), followed by their respective orders or devotees, were taken round the church, and then carried back to the Cathedral. As each passed the altar the relatives of St. Januarius yelled or shrieked a prayer. The wealth expended on these statues must be immense; so great, indeed, that, though made at the expense of the several parishes of Naples, they are all kept in the Cathedral, and are not permitted to leave it even for the annual *fêtes* performed in their honour at the respective churches, unless a deposit has been made to the full amount of their value. The statue of the Archangel Michael, the special protector of Ferdinand II., was surrounded by the Regal Guard. The procession closed with the ampulla containing the blood of the Saint in a golden shrine, and under a canopy of gold and crimson cloth. It was carried by the Cardinal, and immediately preceded by the Seminarist, Municipality, gentlemen of Court, and dignitaries of the Cathedral, whilst a military band followed, playing several selections from the "Traviata." Prayers were offered on the high altar by the Cardinal, who, then taking the ampulla in both hands, worked it

MISS NIGHTINGALE VISITING THE HUT HOSPITALS, AT BALACLAVA.

round and round. Immediately behind was a light, at which his Eminence, stopping every now and then, examined the blood to ascertain if it were liquefied. At each disappointment there were murmurs and shrieks, and prayers uttered. The words it was difficult to distinguish; but they generally are as follows

Tu sei morto per la Santa Fede,
Impetra a noi la grazia della Santa Fede,
Efacci il miracolo

If the miracle is delayed longer than usual these words are uttered:—"Faccia giallinta, come tu sei dispettosa! Campione di Christo, tu sei un bello santo!" "You yellow-faced fellow, how spiteful you are! Champion of Christ, you are a pretty saint!" A little bell in twenty minutes announced that the miracle was wrought, and from doubt, remonstrance, and despair, everything was changed in a moment to rejoicing There was a buzz of congratulation throughout the church. "Thankee, thankee, St. Gennarino," said a man by my side. "We shall be safe from the cholera and make plenty of wine this year," said a young priest. "Last year, Sir, it took a long time to liquefy, it became indurated again, and, and we had the cholera." We have no farther concern with this *miracle* than as a spectacle, and therefore suspend all other observations. The Neapolitan populace, who believe it most profoundly, never think of inquiring about it, and seem to have adopted the maxim of the ancient Germans—"Sanctius ac reverentius de Diis credere quam scire." The King, too, during the following week goes in state with all his Court to the Cathedral, to kiss the ampulla.

MISS NIGHTINGALE.

Among the most interesting intelligence recently received from the Crimea are the accounts of the unwearied exertions of Miss Nightingale in the cause of suffering humanity. This excellent lady has, during her stay at Balaclava, visited the Camp Hospitals, and examined the arrangements in each. Throughout her inspection she was warmly greeted by the soldiers. On one of these visits Miss Nightingale went up to the Hut Hospitals, on the Castle (or Genoese) heights, to settle three nurses, escorted by the Rev. Mr. Bracebridge, one of the Chaplains, Captain Kearne, R.E., Dr. Sutherland, a Sergeant's guard, a boy, and eight Crests carrying baggage for the hospital. The party wound up a steep path from the harbour under the old Castle—which scene an artistic Correspondent has enabled us to represent in the accompanying Illustration. One week afterwards our Correspondent saw the humane lady carried up to the same spot on a litter. The hospital huts, twelve in number, stand against the limestone cliffs On the mountain side are the Marines, Rifles, and Turks; the harbour on one side, the steep cliff where the *Prince* was lost on the other. The Genoese castle rises on a lofty crag in front: the site is 700 feet or more above the sea, and is very airy and healthy—admirably adapted for its purpose. Here is placed Miss Nightingale's hut, beyond a small stream, the water of which is excellent, and the banks are enamelled with gay flowers. There is room for at least 800 wounded, with the best chance of recovery. By a subsequent account we learn that on June 2 Miss Nightingale left Balaclava, Lord Ward having placed his steam-yacht at her disposal to enable her to recruit her health by excursions to sea. It is stated in the *Times*, of date May 30, that Miss Nightingale, being convalescent from her late severe attack of fever, and being recommended change of air by her medical attendant, Dr. Hadley, principal medical officer of the Castle Hospital, Balaclava, under whose care she has been throughout her illness, was carried down from the heights, accompanied by that officer and the Rev. Mr. Parker, and put on board the *Jura* for England. Miss Nightingale, however, remains at Scutari, in preference to coming home. Although extremely weak, she is out of danger, and has no remains of fever.

FIRE ON BOARD THE "MANILLA."

A Correspondent writes from Balaclava, May 31st:—"I enclose a Sketch of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's iron screw-steamer *Manilla* on fire in the fore-hold, discovered about two this morning. Around the burning ship are boats hurrying to and fro in Balaclava Roads, receiving cargo, powder, &c. In the background are the heights, which were until lately (a week) occupied by the enemy, but are now in our possession, as denoted by a British ensign on the left hand hill. About twenty large transports, both steam and sailing, were in the bay at the time, and some not very far from the *Manilla*. The Sketch only takes in the mere vessel and background. The hills are principally covered with brushwood, rock cropping out here and there."

Our Correspondent adds—"That, to quench the fire, the fore part of the vessel was filled with water, which makes her so deep forward."

We are happy to add that all the powder was safely landed, and the ship was saved.

THE IRON SCREW STEAM-SHIP "MANILLA" ON FIRE IN BALACLAVA ROADS.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS—Monday.

FEES IN COUNTY COURTS.

Lord Brougham called the attention of the Lord Chancellor to the County Courts. The point which he had to complain of was not the amount of the fees taken by the principal officers of the court, [illegible] by Government, amounting to £770,000 a year. He held it to be utterly inconsistent with the [illegible] administration of justice, that the fees should be in proportion to the amount of work done. [illegible] the County Court Judges were fixed at £1200 a year at the lowest, and other £800 at the discretion of the Lords of the Treasury, according to the amount of work which they had to perform. It found, however, that in many instances the person who did the most work was paid the least, and the parties who had the least work and the least trouble received the largest salary.

Lord Granville observed that the Lord Chancellor had recently brought the matter under the notice of the Government, and it was certainly worthy [illegible] would receive, their serious attention, although the present was not quite the proper moment to think of making any considerable alteration in the [illegible].

The Lord Chancellor reminded the Earl of Harrowby, he, when there was a considerable outcry against the amount of the Judges' salaries, Lord Denman, who he was sorry was not in his place, with the honourable feeling which always characterised every one of his acts, offered to accept a [illegible] of £10,000. That was thought to be a very [illegible] at the time; but he had always thought that the right of calling for the other £20,000 he thought that the present state of County Court salaries was even more objectionable than that state of things; for it was not right that the Treasury should have the power of saying to one Judge, "You shall have £1500 a year," and to another, "You shall have but £1200."

The Incumbered Estates of Settled Estates Bill was reported, with the Amendments.

The Insurance on Lives Abatement of Income-tax Continuance Bill was read a second time, as was the Company Bill.

The Gold Finger-Rings Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday.

The Report of the Sebastopol Inquiry Committee was brought up by Mr Roebuck; and, on the motion of Mr Disraeli, the document, which was of considerable length, was read by the Clerk at the table.

Sir C. Wood laid on the table a despatch explaining the circumstances under which a body of Russian troops had fired upon a boat's crew sent from H.M.S. *Cockatrice* under a flag of truce and engaged in landing some prisoners at Hangö, [illegible] Baron Brunnow, and the circumstances attending the occurrence, and moved that the despatch should be printed.

The statement of the First Lord was listened to amidst much emotion by the House, and the motion was agreed to unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

[illegible] debate on Mr Layard's resolution respecting Administrative Reform, was then resumed.

Lord Goderich [illegible] Government was attended as a vote of censure upon the [illegible] recited to abuses which existed long before the present Government was formed. But he could not agree to the argument of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, or any [illegible] that the [illegible] all they could to remove the abuses. He traced the origin of them [illegible] to the system of [illegible] besieging for places [illegible] for their particular friends, and urged that [illegible] should detest [illegible] to apply for another. He objected to the [illegible] conduct of the present Government according to [illegible] fair prejudice [illegible] class to which he belonged, for which Lords were still more [illegible] which he objected as grossly unpolitical. He complained of the practice of leaving unfit persons in official positions, and [illegible] Minister would deserve well of his country who should set himself to [illegible] which he complained [illegible] could not be remedied in a day, but it must be [illegible] and honestly carried out if England was to [illegible] preserved a free [illegible].

Mr Peel replied in detail to the specific charges [illegible] the statement [illegible] the number of promotions on the Staff had taken place in the Crimea, compared with those of regimental officers. He very [illegible] promotions were exactly double those given to the [illegible] honourable gentleman who [illegible] though all the [illegible] of uncertainty [illegible] wards, giving the [illegible] promotion in each case; and said that, if [illegible] able gentleman could produce, he [illegible] in the imperfection of all human things, there was no [illegible] would produce strange instances of individual hardship [illegible] in all cases essential [illegible] Secretaryship of War [illegible] Lord Hardinge's Staff appointment for his own brother, who had not held such a certificate. In conclusion, he objected to the [illegible] he suggested the national feeling, but he [illegible] himself entirely [illegible] to a vigorous reform of all our departments.

Mr Drummond differed [illegible] proposition contained in Mr. [illegible] Administrative Reform were either unwise or impossible of proof. A [illegible] of Administrative Reform [illegible] Mr Layard, [illegible] neglected to the resolution, and to the whole [illegible] as a delusive one, which was believed in by certain classes of people, because they expected it to destroy the [illegible].

Sir J. Graham [illegible] the administrative abilities of Lord Palmerston, Lord Derby, and Sir C. Wood, but complained of the [illegible] of the other Ministers. He recommended that the House should get rid of these motions, and come as quickly as possible to the real business of the country.

Colonel Lindsay entered into some explanations with regard to promotion in the Guards.

Sir J. G. Phillimore concurred in the opinion expressed by Sir J. Graham that Government by party was the only way by which the affairs of this country could be successfully administered.

Mr. Disraeli declared himself the credit of having originated the phrase "administrative reform;" and contended in opposition to Mr Layard, that it was capable of a very clear definition. He enumerated administrative reforms which Lord Palmerston's Government had instituted, and the still larger reforms which they contemplated and which have carried into effect had they continued in office. He [illegible] of this would have been to [illegible] a Royal Commission to inquire into all the [illegible] departments of the Administration, and he still thought that was the course which [illegible] to precede all others. With regard to the question now before the House, he would express no opinion which he could not entertain three years ago. He thought it was due to the public service that [illegible] subjected to a real test of fitness. He thought the rewards of our public services should be on a higher scale, not merely of a pecuniary nature, but that they should be educated to look up to those more spiritual rewards which [illegible] public men. He thought, lastly, that the public service should be a profession into which [illegible] to pass from the heads of others. He [illegible] Lord Derby's view [illegible] which he did not believe in. The disorganisation, he contended, was attributed, not to the deficiencies of clerks in public offices, but to an incapable Government. That was the verdict of the House some months ago, and they were yet the Report of the Committee read at the table that evening had ratified and confirmed. Mr. Layard's motion he considered as a sort of "vote of no confidence" in the Government, and he preferred the resolution of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton. The Government accepted that resolution, as he understood they meant to accept it; [illegible] right to take it as a vote that they had not the confidence of the House, which, he thought, it could only do by issuing a Royal Commission. He had his suspicion that the Government were not sincere in [illegible] amendment, and he gave [illegible] the point [illegible] civil departments of the War-office of men who, [illegible] were passed over the heads of men [illegible] Ministers resign a division of [illegible] were carried against them; and said that as soon as the Chancellor of the Exchequer made that announcement on Friday night he had the greatest difficulty in [illegible] the House from moving the adjournment [illegible] Mr Layard's motion, so eager were they to put the Government in a minority, and [illegible] them to resign.

Lord Palmerston, in the most emphatic manner, denied a charge made against him by Mr. Layard at Drury lane, that he sported with the interest of the country, and that he was never in earnest, but when visiting the north. There was not a word of truth in that statement. On [illegible] was more proud than of belonging to the noble English people. He denied that he had formed his Government on aristocratic principles; and he pointed to the Ministerial appointments at the Foreign office as a proof that merit without patronage had no difficulty in making its way. After ridiculing Mr. Disraeli's announcement of his intuitive reform in [illegible] which he would apparently have swept a large area in that place that was said to be paved with good intentions, he defended the orders recently issued by his Government, which he hoped would do much good, though he had not meant to abandon the public offices to the chances of competition. He denied that his Government had been condemned by the House; on the contrary, the right hon. gentleman himself, who, on a late occasion, had [illegible] to use the Government, but remained to bless—had test-d the feeling of the House in the most striking manner, and elicited a strong vote of confidence in the Government. He did not believe ten men would vote for Mr. Layard's motion; and as to the amendment, the Government were prepared to accept it in all sincerity.

Mr. Lindsay moved the adjournment of the debate.

A division took place, when the motion was negatived by a majority of 34 to 5.

Mr. Layard then rose to reply, and while he said his speech at Drury-lane was not accurately reported, he appealed to the House as to the general levity of the Noble Lord's tone, which, however, had improved of late. He did not think Mr. Peel had invalidated his remarks on the Army, and complained of the want of returns, which would have strengthened his case.

The House then divided on Mr. Layard's resolution, which was negatived by a majority of 259 to 46.

The debate on the amendment was adjourned till Thursday next.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND THE WESTERN POWERS.

Lord Lyndhurst: I wish to take this opportunity of stating that it is my intention to postpone the motion of which I have given notice in reference to the relations between Austria and the Western Powers.

The Earl of Minto: Indefinitely?

Lord Lyndhurst: No; I will, on a future occasion, name the day on which I will bring it forward.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES BILL.

Lord Portman moved the second reading of this bill, which, he said, was the measure which, under the auspices of Mr Villiers, had passed the House of Commons, and urged its importance upon the House, by referring to the fact that there were no [illegible] than 600 of these societies in the country, each averaging, according to the last quinquennial returns, 145 members, making together nearly 3,000,000 of the population directly interested in the subject. He asked their Lordships to consent to the second reading, and invited suggestions for the amendment of the bill in Committee, in order to make it effective for its purpose.

Lord Monteagle contended that the clause which had been introduced into the previous bill for guarding against a crime which had been shown to prevail some few years ago—viz., of insuring children in benefit societies, and then murdering them for the sake of the money paid at their death by those societies, were omitted in the present bill. He thought it was not intended to re-enact those clauses. [illegible] should be given why they were no longer necessary.

Lord Ravensworth complained of a clause which would have the effect of removing the exemption now enjoyed by members of building societies from the Stamp-duties on mortgage and other deeds in connection with those societies.

Lord Campbell observed that the clause in question, being a money clause, could not be altered by their Lordships without interfering with the privileges of the other House.

The bill was then read a second time, and ordered to be committed.

The Insurance on Lives Abatement of Income-tax Continuance Bill and the Cinque Ports Bill severally passed through Committee.

The Duchy of Lancaster Lands (1855) Bill and the Militia (No. 2) Bill were severally read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—Tuesday.

TENANTS' IMPROVEMENT COMPENSATION BILL.

On the motion for going into Committee of the Tenants' Improvement Compensation (Ireland) Bill,

Lord Galway, in the absence of Mr. Disraeli, moved that the bill be postponed, in order [illegible] for proceeding with the Metropolis Local Management Bill.

Sir J. Shelley supported the motion, deeming it useless to proceed with the Compensation Bill, as no progress could be made in it at that sitting.

A conversation ensued, terminating in a division, which defeated the motion of Lord Galway by a majority of 117 to 66.

Mr. Peacocke then moved an amendment that the bill be committed that day three months.

Sir G. Grey hoped the House would at once divide, so as to get into Committee as soon as possible. At all events he hoped [illegible] the bill would obtain fair [illegible].

Sir J. Walsh supported the amendment.

After some observations from Mr. I. Butt, Mr. George, and other hon. members,

The House divided, and the amendment was negatived by a majority of 123 to 46.

The House then went into Committee, and several clauses of the bill were agreed to.

LONDON CORPORATION REFORM.

In reply to a question from [illegible] Sir G. Grey said that owing to the accumulation of important bills, and the protracted debates upon them, he feared he should not be able to bring forward the bill for the Reform of the Corporation of the City of London during the present session.

NORTH-WEST PASSAGE EXPEDITION.

Mr. Mackinnon moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the circumstances of the expedition to the Arctic seas, commanded by Captain M'Clure of the Royal Navy, with a view to ascertain [illegible] what reward may be due for the services rendered to that ocean.

Lord Palmerston, in assenting to the motion, spoke very highly of the services of Captain M'Clure.

The motion was agreed to.

LANCASTER-SHOT MANUFACTORY.

Captain L. Vernon moved for a copy of the report of Major-General Hardinge, Assistant Inspector-General of Fortifications, on the build-ing erected for the Lancaster-shot manufactory, at Woolwich, and the report on that building forwarded to the Clerk of the Ordnance by Sir Charles Fox, of the firm of Fox and Henderson, the contractors for the erection. The hon. and gallant officer complained that the [illegible] the corps of Engineers had been set aside to make way for a [illegible] system of contracts.

Mr. L. Butt [illegible] short time in which the contractors had undertaken the work at the request of the Board of Ordnance, and moved the insertion of the words "Also of the letter addressed by the Board of Ordnance by Fox, Henderson, and Company, [illegible] tively the 23rd and 24th day of April and 8th day of May [illegible] report to the Board of Ordnance of Mr. John Anderson, Inspector of Machinery, dated the 11th day of May, on the subject of the building for Lancaster shells."

After some observations from Mr Monsell and Colonel Dunne, the returns were agreed to.

THE STATUTE LAW.

Mr. L. King moved some resolutions relative to the report of the Statute Law Commission, declaring that it was the opinion of the House that it would greatly conduce to the improvement of the statute law of the country if the preparation of a "declaratory bill," of which the said special and detailed report should form the groundwork, were no longer to be delayed, and that such bill ought to be forthwith prepared, for the purpose of being laid before Parliament.

The Attorney-General remarked upon the magnitude of the task to be accomplished before an accurate digest of the statute law could be prepared. The work, he intimated, was now under investigation by Commissioners, whose labours, however, were too recently commenced to admit any practical result which could be used at present. Under these circumstances he deprecated any interference with the exertions of the commission, from which much good was anticipated.

After some brief remarks from Mr. Napier, Mr. Malins, Mr. Massey, Mr. M'Mahon, Mr. Hadfield, and Mr. Cranbourne, Mr. Locke King replied, and the House divided:—For the resolutions, 81; against, 36; majority, 17.

Mr. Headlam moved a resolution designed to result in an Address to the Crown, praying for such alterations in the rules of the military service as might secure the return of the regulation value of commissions purchased by officers in the Army who might die or be killed in action, to the relations or representatives of the deceased, with an accompanying assurance that any expenditure incurred for such a purpose would be made good by the House. The repayment contemplated by his motion was advocated by the hon. member as being an act of mere justice as well as a suggestion of expediency, especially in time of war.

Mr. R. Peel thought, if the principle were a just one, it ought to be extended to every case—to the cases of officers killed in the Kaffir war, as well as the war in the Crimea. The pensions given in cases that required it were more than an equivalent for the value of the commission. He was not prepared to acquiesce in the motion, but he admitted that the hon. member had presented it to the House in a very forcible point of view, and it should certainly receive every consideration.

Colonel Dunne said, the equity of the proposition was clear, but so many officers had been killed in the Crimea, and so far to ask Parliament for such a large sum of money as it would require to carry it into effect.

Lord A. Paget supported the motion of Mr. Headlam. He could not see the justice of allowing one officer to sell out and retire from the service, while the one who remained in the service and was killed lost not only his life, but had to compensate the value of his commission. He did not think the pension an equivalent for the commission. In the case of Colonel Moore, who was drowned on his passage out, Government would have been only £70 a year and the pension would have cost £1,000 for his commission.

Lord Palmerston said the question was only part of a very difficult subject. Mr. Headlam had made the mistake that the country was debtor to the officer; but this was not so, for the country received the money which he paid for his commission, and he was at a loss to know from what fund the repayment should be made. It might, perhaps, be made optional for the officer to state beforehand whether the value of his commission should be given to his personal representative in the event of his death, or allow the pension to be given as at present.

After some observations from Mr. M Cammond, Mr Hadfield expressed his [illegible] of Lord Palmerston, and withdrew his motion.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Wednesday.

MARRIAGE LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

The House having gone into Committee on the Marriage Law Amendment Bill,

Sir J. Shelley said, after the discussion, which he had listened to with great interest, on the second reading of the bill, he should not have risen on the present occasion, except to move an amendment, to prevent the bill from having a retrospective operation. Nothing could be more [illegible] than to [illegible] this bill [illegible] which had been contributed by parties with the full knowledge that they were not only illegal, but absolutely null and void. Willful transgressors of the law were not entitled to the benefit of Parliament. The Legislature was not prepared to pass a law making such marriages null and void, and it was the duty of every [illegible] to obey the law. [illegible] the parties who had so [illegible] did so with the full knowledge that they were acting in [illegible].

Mr Heywood did not agree with the hon. and learned member that there was no precedent. There was a direct precedent in the [illegible] forward by Lord Lyndhurst, which gave to priests power to marry, and also legalised all the marriages of the priests who had [illegible] taken place prior to the law at the time they were [illegible]. He was of opinion that the marriages were not against morality, and therefore he could not consent to the proposed amendment.

After a short discussion the Committee divided, when there appeared—For the amendment [illegible] 47.

The amendment was consequently lost, and [illegible] was agreed to.

Sir J. Shelley (after being defeated twice by a large majority) said that [illegible] their object to prevent the retrospective operation of the bill [illegible] two courses, as he [illegible] divisions on the [illegible] he wished to defeat [illegible] which he had [illegible] a bill already proposed, he should [illegible] with them (Hear, hear).

On the motion of the Attorney-General, the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Tuesday, July 3rd.

Boyle v. Cardinal Wiseman. This case, which, it will be remembered, attracted, brought by Mr. Boyle against Cardinal Wiseman for a libel contained in the [illegible] of the *Times*, the *Morning Chronicle*, and the *Catholic Standard*, [illegible] was tried before Mr [illegible] and a verdict was returned for the plaintiff [illegible] Mr Serjeant Shee, on the part of the [illegible] on the ground that the learned Judge [illegible] and that the damages were excessive. The rule came on for argument in the Court of Queen's Bench [illegible] Mr Bovill, Q.C., and Mr Serjeant Wrightson were heard against the rule, and Mr. [illegible] Serjeant Shee, Mr Hawkins, [illegible] rule was made absolute for a new trial.

A Hint to Artisans and Mechanics. The Commissioners of Patents have [illegible] a committee [illegible] of specifications of Patents [illegible] drawers of patents [illegible] other works printed by them (embracing [illegible] time), to the Museum, No. 27, Gloucester [illegible] them that they [illegible] gratuitous consultation, and [illegible] of notes or sketches, every [illegible] week, from ten in the morning [illegible] p.m.

Riot among the "Navvies" at Crystal Palace. On Wednesday evening a very serious disturbance took place [illegible] Crystal Palace [illegible] one of the navvies died from injuries received in the [illegible] his legs broken, [illegible] the navvies were about to fight in the railway, when, one of the constables on duty came up to them and ordered them [illegible] work, and about a quarter [illegible] the navvies [illegible] and threatened [illegible] they were [illegible] surrounded by [illegible] men, more than a hundred navvies [illegible] and forty of the [illegible].

Horse-racing in New Zealand. Our sporting readers will no [illegible] horse-racing is not confined to our own metropolis [illegible] New Zealand. We have just [illegible] Pat-one, [illegible] Te Nui Tarenu, 18.5. As [illegible] Zealander, 1855, [illegible].

Fraud in High Classes in Russia.—On the occasion of one of [illegible] to Berlin, the Emperor Nicholas wished to present [illegible] was in the employment of the Imperial family, which [illegible] offered to the artist by [illegible] so well with the lofty reputation of the Imperial [illegible] reported to the Czar, and it was perceived that the officer changed with the [illegible] kept the difference for himself. [illegible] knowledge of the fact, with a view to [illegible] tender, [illegible] if you please [illegible] Paris.

It is said that certain corn-merchants of Birmingham and Gloucester [illegible] having bought [illegible] has been burnt or taken by the Allies.

Another British Journal. A new paper in the Russian [illegible] the point of being started at Odessa [illegible] by Bulgarians and Frenchmen [illegible] of the Russian cause [illegible] of the Sixth [illegible] 200,000 have been attached by wealthy Russians [illegible] operations, and it [illegible] baby reader [illegible] from the Russian Government [illegible] the Continent does not quite realise the [illegible] French Government [illegible] it is said to [illegible] French Government [illegible] contributors in the [illegible] be engaged. It has, therefore, to prepare an edition expressly for Russia [illegible] The edition for [illegible] be submitted to the [illegible] *Nord* will be entirely Russian and [illegible] entirely Russian [illegible] of its being allowed [illegible] France.—*Letter from Paris.*

Interesting Missions. Several missions of the highest interest [illegible] recently given by the French [illegible] Lenormant, member of the [illegible] mission of language [illegible] charged to seek [illegible] the history and literature of the western departments of France. M [illegible] Ministry of Public Instruction [illegible] Hamel, Malle. Marrast, Gardien, Lucchesi, and Lallemand.

Chemung. Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales [illegible] Alfred, paid a visit to Chemung-gardens last Monday [illegible] The Royal Highnesses were [illegible] Queen of Oude and Exeter, and Mr. St. Paul and Son, of Chertsey—the former for a collection of orchids, the latter for [illegible] with the Lycian and the [illegible] Madame Ida Pfeiffer [illegible] Madame Dumas is charged with a literary mission [illegible] collect the popular poetry of the south of France.

Meyerbeer.—The famed composer of the "Robert le Diable," the "Huguenots," and the "Prophète," arrived in town on Tuesday, from Berlin. Meyerbeer has not visited Paris [illegible] the "Etoile du Nord," now in active preparation [illegible] Italian Opera, the cast of which will include Mdme. Bosio, Mdme. Ruffini, Malle. Marai, Gardoni, Lucchesi, and Lablache.

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RICHARD COBDEN AND CHARLES JAMES FOX.

THE honourable member for the West Riding, while complaining that he has been stigmatised as the enemy of his country for opposing the war with Russia, consoles himself with the reflection that Chatham, Burke, and Fox were equally abused, in former days, for denouncing a war supported by popular clamour. In making this comparison between himself and the great statesmen of the last century, Mr. Cobden ought to have confined the parallel to Mr. Fox, whose factious conduct in opposing Mr. Pitt's anti-Russian policy bore a very striking resemblance to that which the honourable member for the West Riding has lately pursued in support of Russia.

The nominal ground of dispute between Pitt and Fox on that occasion was, whether the Navy Estimates should be increased. The real question was whether we should not interfere by a decided demonstration in favour of Turkey, and in opposition to Russian encroachment. On the 20th of March a Message from the King informed the House of Commons that the efforts which he had made to effect a pacification between Russia and the Porte having failed, and the consequences which might result from the future progress of the war being highly important to this country and to Europe in general, it was deemed requisite, in order to add weight to our representations, to make some addition to the naval force. In moving the answer to the Royal Message, Mr. Pitt stated the serious dangers which threatened the balance of power in Europe from the encroachments of Russia, and urged the necessity of throwing our weight into the opposite scale. "By uncommon strides of power, and of achievements, the Russian empire was not only spreading its vast boundaries throughout half of Europe, but was actually endeavouring to extirpate a whole nation, and extend its conquests over the richest and most fertile country of Asia . . . Unlimited sway appeared to be the only object of its all-conquering force and all-subduing machinations." At that period the Empress Catherine, flushed with victory, and relying upon English connivance, made no secret of her determination to take possession of the Ottoman Empire as soon as her plans were matured. She had baptised her grandson, the present Grand Duke, by the name of Constantine, and openly declared that she would yet crown him in Constantinople. The point on which the negotiations turned between Russia and the Porte was the retention of the fortress of Oczakow. Great stress was laid by Mr. Pitt upon the importance of that place, as commanding the road into the Turkish provinces. Fox, on the other hand, in much the same tone as Mr. Cobden assumed last week, ridiculed the notion of going to war for so paltry a matter. According to him, the sole point in dispute was whether Russia should retain possession of a barren tract of country and a useless fortress, or give them back to Turkey at the solicitation of England.

The Peace party in Parliament mustered much more strongly in those days than it does now. In the House of Lords, the Earl of Carlisle and the Marquis of Lansdowne opposed the Address, on the ground that "Russia was the natural ally of this country;" that no sufficient explanation had been given by Government, and that Russia was "totally unconquerable and independent." "Her armies of Cossacks and Tartars," said the Marquis of Lansdowne, "could not be exhausted; her territories could not be ruined; her cities could not be attacked. She had no occasion for allies; and when she united herself with them, it might be rather considered as a grant of protection than as a stipulation for mutual succour upon terms of equality." The enormous expense of a war with Russia was another reason for refusing to comply with the proposal to increase our naval forces. "Where was the money to carry on such a war to be procured? The lately-imposed taxes proved that the money was not to be had. The poor and laborious order of the people were starving alive."

In the House of Commons the question was debated over and over again. After being defeated on the amendment to the Address, the Whigs fought the battle of the Empress in a new form. On the 12th of April Mr. Grey, father of the present Earl Grey, moved a series of resolutions in favour of peace, on the grounds that "this House has hitherto considered the interests of Great Britain as not likely to be affected by the progress of the Russian arms on the borders of the Black Sea;" "that the expense of an armament must be burthensome to the country;"—"that this country is not bound by treaty to interfere in the matter;" and for various other reasons of a less important character. He contended that "the only three causes for going to war were—to redeem a right, to provide against danger, and to repel an attack." "These were the only just causes of war, on the established principles of the law of nations," and none of these causes could be urged in defence of the course proposed by Government. They were told that the balance of power was in danger; and he admitted that that was a serious consideration. "But, before he consented to plunge this country into all the horrors of war, he must be convinced that the danger was suited to the case. It must be shown to him that the possession of the town of Oczakow was such as would materially affect the interest of this country, and would endanger the balance of power in Europe." The resolutions, though warmly supported by Sheridan, Whitbread, and the Whigs generally, were rejected by a large majority. The division list showed only 173 votes in favour of and 203 against them.

But the Peace party of 1791, although not strong enough to turn out Ministers, succeeded in doing the work of the Empress of Russia quite as effectually by their ill-advised speeches in favour of that Power. In the face of such an opposition as Mr. Fox and his followers had manifested, Mr. Pitt found himself unable to make any impression upon the Court of St. Petersburg, and, therefore, the Porte had to give way, as on many other occasions. Confident in the hold which he had upon the people of England at that period, Mr. Fox even adopted the unwarrantable course of sending a representative to St. Petersburg, with secret instructions to encourage the Empress in resisting the remonstrances of England. This was going rather farther than the Peace party of the present day would venture; but no one will be astonished at such a step on the part of Mr. Fox, after reading his speech in favour of Russian aggrandisement, on the 29th of March, 1791. On that occasion, after showing that England had never felt any jealousy on account of Russia, he made the following remarkable statement, which has a very special interest at the present moment:—

After the independence of the Crimea had been established by the peace of Kainardji, the Empress informed the Porte and other Powers, that she found it impossible to secure her old dominions, if she was not complete mistress of Caban Tartary and the Crimea: and by a kind of Royal syllogism, she said, "and therefore I must have them." This syllogism, which was made soon after the Peace of 1783, greatly alarmed the Court of Versailles, and Count de Vergennes immediately applied to the King of Great Britain, proposing that he should join in remonstrances against the acquisition of these provinces by Russia. "I" (said Mr. Fox) "was one of his Majesty's Ministers at that time, and the answer which I advised was that his Majesty would not make any remonstrances on the subject, or throw any difficulty in the way of the Empress. Upon this the Court of Versailles desisted, not thinking it prudent to attack Russia single-handed: the consequence was that the Porte ceded by a solemn treaty the sovereignty of the Crimea to Russia, who for some time was suffered to enjoy it undisturbed." It might be said that the former conduct of Ministers towards Russia was wrong; and that the present Ministers acted on another system. But was Russia obliged to know this? Was it her business to inquire what were the opinions of this Lord of the Treasury, and that Secretary of State?—or to look to the general policy and conduct of the country? In all their remonstrances it did not appear that England apprehended anything from Russia; on the contrary, she countenanced her in her plans for raising her aggrandisement upon the ruin of the Turkish empire." *Hansard's Parliamentary History*, V. 28, pp. [illegible]

What a change in public opinion since that period! The leader of the great Whig party, in 1791, backed by the ignorant and self-interested clamour of the manufacturers of Lancashire and the West Riding, openly declared that "England countenanced Russia in her plans for raising her aggrandisement upon the ruin of the Turkish empire." Where is the statesman of any party who would dare to utter such an opinion now? Twenty years ago Mr. Cobden, in his pamphlet on Russia, expressed his conviction that the cause of freedom, of progress, and civilisation would be promoted by making Russia master of Constantinople; but even he would shrink from the open avowal of such a doctrine at the present day.

PETER DICK.—A DIALOGUE.

(A new version of an old song to be sung in all Government offices between the hours of ten and four o'clock daily.)

DEDICATED TO W. S. LINDSAY, ESQUIRE.

PETER DICK, Peter Dick! how seedy and how sad you look—
We fellows in the Treasury have nothing sure to fear;
Your hair, I declare, makes you wild as a Bashi-bozouk*:
Your collar, too, is wrinkled, and, my gracious! what—a tear?

Cecil Fox, Cecil Fox! you're a father and you're fortunate,
The howl of the Reforming pack falls harmlessly on you;
Your Pater, Mr. Hayter, yields not to the importunate—
Who has no friend in Parliament I've none, what shall I do?

Peter Dick, Peter Dick! you are better off than most of us—
You write, you spell, and reckon well—how few of us that can?
If at Pool you're a fool, and precious green at Pitch-and-toss,
You're safe in your arithmetic—a hero with your pen!

Cecil Fox, Cecil Fox! I know my own deficiency:
How seldom men are equal to the work they undertake;
How few of our crew would show a high proficiency,
Were knowledge indispensable—examiners awake.

Peter Dick, Peter Dick! your words are dread and ominous:
By Jove! I do believe you're a Reformer in disguise.
What! work like a Turk, have Trevelyan to examine us?
You know that all the *gents* born would office then despise.

Cecil Fox, Cecil Fox! our duty's clear and definite;
We cannot check the flood of light with ban is before our eyes:
Merit is the spirit of the era, and I have faith in it,
'Tis "down with incapacity—ability arise!" F. B.

* Political father.

PERSECUTION OF RUSSIAN DISSENTERS. There is a large sect in Russia, called the Raskolnikoff (the old faith) Greeks, who used to be hated chiefly in Courland and Livland. The late Emperor had at different times offered very severe measures to be taken against that sect, which is considered prejudicial to the State, they must [illegible] or carrying on any trade or calling, or possessing landed property; they were not to be [illegible] patent to the enjoyment of anything higher than the rights of peasants. The intentions of the late Emperor in this respect were, however, never fully carried out. The present one seems desirous of attaining a "had pro-eminence" over his "[illegible] predecessors" parent, and is striving to work out these measures to their fullest extent. The cases on the subject have been brought to the recollection of various Dissenters of this denomination in Riga: in consequence of the shops and [illegible] losses of a number of them have been closed, and the *stare-starts* are in despair. Some have been admitted to the full enjoyment of their civil and [illegible] rights by being baptised into the Orthodox Church; but the heads of two considerable houses of business, rather than renounce their "old faith," have given up their business and changed their standard of living to that of peasants; they have, however, had their children [illegible] Church.

THE BALTIC FLEET. THE FIRST GUN FIRED FROM CRONSTADT.—RUSSIAN INFERNAL MACHINES.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

OUR Artist writes, June 11, on board H.M. gun-boat *Starling*, Baltic Fleet, off Tolbukin:—

"I arrived here in the *Royal Adelaide*, on Friday morning, and asked the Captain for the loan of two or three of his people to go in search of a ship. The fleet are spread out in a straight line across the narrow part of the gulf, with Cronstadt in sight. The line reaches about three miles: pulling across it, I hailed a gun-boat under the *Duke of Wellington*. This proved to be the *Starling*, Lieut. Shute Piers, to whom I had an introduction, and he gave me a hearty welcome. Next morning, as I was sketching the *Duke of Wellington*, the Captain of that ship came on board the *Starling*, and I was introduced to him by Captain Piers. He left, and shortly afterwards returned to offer me a passage in the *Merlin*, to accompany the French Admiral, his officers, and the chief English officers of our fleet, who were going in as near as they could to Cronstadt, to survey the town, shipping, and forts. We weighed at one p.m., accompanied by the *Firefly* and the *Dragon* (English), with a French frigate. We took the lead for about a mile, or more; as we got near, the weather turned somewhat hazy, but I distinctly saw every building by aid of the glasses which the officers lent me. Cronstadt is a most formidable place, with lots of men-of-war. We counted thirteen gun-boats, nearly twice the size of ours: their length appeared about 200 feet—breadth, 30, or more. They are very low, shallow-looking vessels, and appear to have four large guns each. After laying-to for some time, and taking a good view of the place, we proceeded towards the Lighthouse, about three o'clock, when the ship was going at the rate of about five knots an hour, we received a tremendous shock, which made the guns and the shot dance out of the lockers, and the mast shake like a concussion's whip. The engines were immediately stopped, but the ship still kept her way through the water, which convinced every one that it was the explosion of an infernal machine under her bottom. The watch below, alarmed by the shock, came rushing to the fore ladder—some without caps, and others without frocks, all in the greatest excitement. A broadside would not have effected half so much; but this was mystery, a hidden something, which no one knew the extent of. Orders were now given to reverse the engines, when something like a pile was seen from the port paddle-box, about six or seven feet from the top of the water. The leadsman dropped his lead upon it, and said that it felt like wood, with an iron spike at the top-end. At this instant we received another shock much heavier than the first: the shot were too ed out of the rack, and rolled about the deck, the guns danced, and the mast tottered with a column of water thrown up above the bow. At this moment the *Firefly* was coming up astern, and in order to prevent her getting into danger, all hands abaft set to work—waving and shouting, to prevent her coming up. By this time the open pennant was shown, and the *Firefly* put her helm to port, and thus stopped coming near us, but it was not long before she herself got a taste. We all felt the effects of the shock on board our vessel, it lifted so much. There was a general smash in the engineers' mess-room, the effects of which will be best understood by the accompanying Sketch.

We still, however, showed the Russians that a little would not intimidate us; for we coolly went round the point, and thus got a sight of all the forts. There have been several new forts built, with lines of mudforts, like those at Sebastopol. The place is, unquestionably, very strong the Risbank fort has in it 400 guns. Having seen all, we steered towards the fleet. I forgot to say, that while surveying the north side, a gun-boat fired one of her heavy guns at us—but it fell short. The officers told me I was a lucky fellow, and that I had seen more that day than Napier saw all last summer. *This was the first gun fired at the British fleet from Cronstadt.* Our vessel's side was a good deal bulged in, and had eight sheets of copper displaced. After the explosion, the French Admiral came to me, and said in English: "I am very glad that we now know what the power of an infernal machine is."

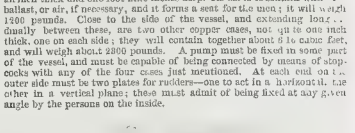
(We have received from our Artist, in addition to the scene engraved upon the next page, three other Sketches, which we shall engrave next week.)

THE DUMMOW FLETCHERS.—On the 18th July, the day appointed for the presentation of Mr. W. Harry Ansell's prizes, all the tradesmen in the town have agreed to close their shops, and give their assistants a holiday to see the procession. Le Chevalier de Chastelain, and his wife, are accepted as partakers of the time-honoured custom of Dummow, confidently with James Barlow and Rachael his wife, a worthy English couple.

SUBMARINE NAVIGATION.

THE vessel proposed for this object ought, for the facility of moving under water, to approach to the shape of certain fish. For the purpose of calculation it may be considered as a hollow copper prism, about twelve feet long, five feet high, and three feet wide, having two triangular prismatic ends, and entirely open at the bottom.

The lower part of each of the triangular ends is filled by a copper case half an inch thick and one foot nine inches deep. Its use is to contain water for ballast, or air, if necessary, and it forms a seat for the men; it will weigh 1200 pounds. Close to the side of the vessel, and extending lengthwise between these, are two other copper cases, not quite one inch thick, one on each side; they will contain together about 6 16 cubic feet, and will weigh about 2800 pounds. A pump must be fixed in some part of the vessel, and must be capable of being connected by means of stop-cocks with any of the four cases just mentioned. At each end on the outer side must be two plates for rudders—one to act in a horizontal, the other in a vertical plane; these must admit of being fixed at any given angle by the persons on the inside.



SECTION OF SUBMARINE APPARATUS FOR THE EXPLOSION OF VESSELS.

Thick flat glasses must be fixed on the top, and at some parts in the sides of the diving-boat, in order to admit light, and to allow those within to see objects around them. Several hollow copper spheres must be provided, twelve inches in external, and fifteen inches in internal, diameter. Each of these will contain about one cubic foot, and will weigh about 400 lbs. The boat made of copper, one fifth of an inch thick, will, together with the apparatus, weigh about 2400 lbs, and will displace a quantity of sea-water equal to nearly 3650 lbs. If four men navigate it, we shall have for the weight of the whole equipment—

	lbs
Boat and apparatus	2400
Air-cases	1600
Oxygen cases	2800
Three spheres	1200
Four men	600
Triangular air-cases filled with water	1000
	8700

In this state, as the boat is fifty pounds heavier than an equal bulk of water, it will, of course, sink; but as any part of the 1000 pound weight of water may be pumped out, the whole apparatus may be reduced to such a specific gravity as just to sink. Some mechanism must be adapted to the vessel, by which the men within may be able to propel her through the water. Probably the most advantageous system would be to have a long metal bar passing out of the boat through a stuffing-box, to the outer end of which two planes may be attached by joints, in such a manner as to extend themselves completely when pushed from the boat by the men within, and nearly to close themselves when drawn in the contrary direction or towards the boat. Thus, in the first case, they would present a wide surface when making the stroke, and a very small one on the returning stroke; another advantage would be, that the act of propelling the vessel would be very similar to that of rowing. When the boat is reduced to such a specific gravity as just to sink, the two rudders, the axes of which are parallel to the horizon, must be fixed at such an angle, that that part of the propelling force which is thus converted into a vertical one, may just counteract the gravitation of the machine. The most important point in the employment of such a vessel, is the securing a supply of air, to enable the men to remain under water a sufficient time. The quantity of oxygen usually consumed by an individual is, according to the experiments of Messrs. Allen and Pepys, 26.55 cubic inches per minute, which agrees very nearly with the quantity assigned by Sir H. Davy; an allowance of 30 cubic inches per minute will, therefore, be ample. Every cubic foot of oxygen which can be carried in the vessel will supply one man during $\frac{1728}{30}$ = 57.6 minutes, or about one hour. The two air-vessels at the sides, as also the three spheres, may be filled with oxygen, condensed into thirty atmospheres. Oxygen is easily prepared from the black oxide of manganese; and the condensation of gases to the density mentioned, is practised every day by one of the London Gas Companies. The quantity of oxygen would stand thus:—

	Cubic Feet.
Two air-cases	6.16
Three spheres	3.00
	9.16
Atmospheres	30
Number of hours' supply for one person . .	274.80

Supposing four persons in the vessel, they would take down with them sufficient oxygen to last them above sixty-eight hours, or more than two days and a half.

In order to get rid of the carbonic acid which would be produced, it would be necessary to employ a cream of lime just slaked, or a strong solution of ammonia; either of which would absorb it almost as quickly as it would be produced.

Another method of procuring a fresh supply of air might in some cases be had recourse to, particularly when the vessel is near the surface; a

THE ENGINEERS' MESS-ROOM, H.M.S. "MERLIN," AFTER THE EXPLOSION OF TWO INFERNAL MACHINES UNDER THE SHIP.—FROM A SKETCH BY J. W. CARMICHAEL.

leathern hose, connected at one end with the pump, and having a light substance to enable the other end to float on the water, might be pushed out under the edge of the vessel, and it would instantly rise to the surface; the first few strokes of the pump would draw water, which would immediately be got rid of, and fresh air might now be pumped in, either for immediate use, or it might be condensed in one of the cases for future service. If it should be feared that the float would discover the boat to an enemy, it might easily be disguised in the form of a sea-bird. The method of supplying a vessel under water with oxygen might perhaps be applied with economy at our dockyards, where the force for condensing might be derived from the steam-engine: it would be particularly useful if the diving-bell should ever be employed at much greater depths, as the difficulty of using the air-pump then becomes considerable.

The diving-boat may be employed for two different objects, either as a moveable diving-bell, or as a mode of crossing undiscovered a considerable distance of water.

Sir,—The above plan of Submarine Navigation was published in the "Encyclopædia Metropolitana" (Art. Diving-Bell), about the year 1826. The great principles on which it is founded are:—

1st. That the vessel should be open, so as to have nearly an equal pressure within and without, as well as to enable the drivers to travel out of it, and to have easy access to any contingent objects.

2nd. That it should be supplied with condensed air, or condensed oxygen, by portable reservoirs, and also with the means of pumping down air through a tube floating on the surface of the water.

3rd. That the carbonic acid resulting from the breath of the crew should be absorbed by chemical means.

4th. That the crew should be enabled to move their vessel in any required direction.

5th. That it should have a self-acting apparatus to maintain it at any given depth.

The vessel may be moved about either by the means above described, or by a screw, or by pumping water out at one end: in this latter case it might be readily turned round on its axis by the opening or closing four apertures placed respectively at the two sides of each end.

If the object be to enter an enemy's harbour, a boat might be sent close in during a dark night, and, dropping an anchor, thus lay down a mooring connected with the ship or with some distant buoy, upon which the submarine boat might at any time haul itself up to the entrance of the harbour.

The present state of our knowledge has added little to these means, except, perhaps, that the path of the submarine vessel and the work its crew have in hand might be illuminated by electric light; and communications might be kept up with a vessel in the offing by electric telegraph, contained, if necessary, in the mooring-rope itself.

The Russian Government can scarcely be unacquainted with this plan, for no country so speedily avails itself of any discovery of science which can contribute to its advancement.

The French Government in 1847 made experiments on Submarine Navigation both in Paris and at Cherbourg. These experiments were conducted by Dr. Payerne, upon plans of his own, which seem to have embodied several of the principles just stated. Many persons descended in a vessel of this kind, and remained under water during several hours. The vessel was employed in examining the bottom of the harbour of Cherbourg, and in removing obstructions. An account of it was published in the French newspaper *La Presse*, about 1847. The only difficulty seems to have arisen from the slowness of the motion communicated to it by means of its screw propeller.

The same gentleman, Dr. Payerne, was afterwards, and perhaps still is, employed with the same means in the harbour of New York.

These facts must have been unknown to the English Government in the autumn of last year; for it was stated that diving-bells, divers, and apparatus, were sent out to enable the fleet to blow up the obstructions at the entrance of the harbour of Sebastopol, as soon as the army should succeed in taking that fortress.

Yet, if these long-known means had been used for a season or two in destroying the remains of the *Royal George*, our divers would have gained experience, and have been enabled to enter with safety any harbour, at any hour, and have destroyed the obstructions at the entrance of Sebastopol, and possibly also removed some of the batteries which protected them.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Dorset-street, Manchester-square, May 8, 1855. CHARLES BABBAGE.

SUBMARINE APPARATUS FOR THE EXPLOSION OF VESSELS, PROPOSED BY MR. BABBAGE

"THE GEYSER" TOWING TEN PRIZES OUT OF FARO SOUND.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

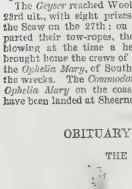
H.M.S. "GEYSER," AND RUSSIAN PRIZES.

The large illustration on the preceding page represents one of the early results of the present campaign in the Baltic—the *Geyser*, 6, paddle-wheel steam sloop, Commander R. Drew, taking ten Russian prizes in low tow off of Faro Sound. The scene was very striking; and our Correspondent, Mr. G. L. Bridges, of the *Geyser*, has represented the vessels turning to go out of the harbour. The taking in tow of ten vessels of 200 tons and upwards is a rare occurrence.

The *Geyser* reached Woolwich on the 1st last. She left Elsinore on the 23rd ult., with eight prizes in charge, towing six of them. She passed the Scaw on the 27th; on the 28th, during a heavy gale, five of them parted their tow-ropes, the other was cast off, about half sea over, it blowing at the time a heavy gale from east-south-east. The *Geyser* brought home the crews of the late brigs *Commodore*, of Montrose, and the *Ophelia Mary*, of South Shields, except the masters, who remained by the wrecks. The *Commodore* was wrecked on the Lesoe Island, and the *Ophelia Mary* on the coast of Sweden: both crews, sixteen in number, have been landed at Sheerness.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

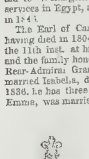
THE EARL OF CARYSFORT



General John Proby, second Earl of Caryfort in the Peerage of Ireland, and first Baron Caryfort in that of the United Kingdom, was the second son of John Joshua, the first Earl, by his wife Elizabeth, only daughter of the Rev. William Osborne, Rector of Newtown, county Tipperary. He was born in 1780, and in the early age of fifteen he entered the British Army, having previously spent a portion of his juvenile course at the Military School of Angers, in Brittany, where the Duke of Wellington had also studied. The military career of John Proby, Earl of Caryfort, was one of long toil and brilliant repute. He first came into notice when serving with the army of the Archduke Charles; and he was a busy share in the various sieges, skirmishes, and occurrences of that period in Italy and Germany. He was soon after in Ireland acting under Lord Cornwallis during the rebellion of 1798; where he displayed both humanity and consideration towards the wretched insurgents, so much so indeed, that many listened to his counsels, returned to their allegiance, and went to be good soldiers of the Crown ever after. Proby was with the Russian army at Zurich, and he accompanied Sir Ralph Abercromby in his celebrated Egyptian campaign. He shared in the labours of Sir John Moore, and in the glory of Corunna. He was also in the unfortunate campaign of Walcheren, and he led his old and favourite corps, the Grenadier or 1st Foot Guards, at the storming of Bergen-op-Zoom. In 1811 he went to Spain, and was present in many actions under His Grace Wellington. He was second in command at Tarifa, and rendered essential aid to Wellington at the siege of Burgos. He received a medal for his services in Egypt, and he also held an old war medal. He became a General in 1843.

The Earl of Caryfort, who (His elder brother, Captain Lord Proby, R.N., having died in 1804) succeeded his father, as second Earl, in 1828, died on the 11th inst. at his residence near Bristol. His Lordship was never married, and the family honours are therefore inherited by his only surviving brother, Rear-Admiral Granville Leveson Proby, now third Earl of Caryfort, who married Isabella, daughter of the Hon. Hugh Howard; by whom, who died in 1836, he has three sons and four daughters; of whom the second, Elizabeth-Emma, was married in 1844 to Lord Claud Hamilton, M.P.

SIR CHARLES BLOIS, BART



Sir Charles Blois, the seventh Baronet of Grundisburgh-hall, Suffolk, and the representative of the very ancient family of Blois of Normandy origin, died a few days since at his residence, Cockfield-hall, Suffolk, in the sixty-second year of his age. Sir Charles was the eldest son of Sir Charles, the sixth Baronet, by his wife, Clara, daughter of Jocelyn Price, Esq., of Camblesforth-hall, Yorkshire. He succeeded his father as seventh Baronet the 20th August, 1850. He had previously been in the Army, in the Dragoons, and had served at Waterloo. He was Lieutenant Colonel of the East Suffolk Militia from 1844 to 1853, and was appointed a Deputy-Lieutenant of Suffolk in 1853. He was never married, and is succeeded by his next brother, John Ralph, a Commander in the Royal Navy, of Ballycastle, co. Antrim, now the eighth Baronet, who married Eliza Knox, second daughter of the Rev. John Barrett, and has three sons and two daughters.

GEORGE NATHANIEL CURZON, ESQ.

This unfortunate gentleman, whose premature death was occasioned on the 17th inst., by a fall from his horse in Hyde-park the previous afternoon, was the nephew and heir-apparent of the present Lord Scarsdale, being the elder son of his Lordship's half-brother, the Hon. and Rev. Alfred Curzon, by his wife, Sophia, second daughter of R. Holden, Esq., of Nuttall Temple, Notts. He was born the 5th October, 1826. His brother, Alfred Nathan el Holden, born the 12th July, 1851, becomes, by this untimely demise, the heir apparent of the Barony of Scarsdale, and, indeed, with the exception of the present Peer, the only male descendant of the first Baron now existing.

SIR G. H. ROSE.

The Right Hon. Sir George Henry Rose, G.C.H., of Sandhills, Hants, Lord of the Manor of Christchurch, was the eldest son of the Right Hon. George Rose, Clerk of the Parliaments, and grandson of the Rev. David Rose, of Sethnet, a presumed descendant of the old Nairnshire family of Rose. Sir George Henry Rose commenced a long public career, by being elected M.P. for Southampton in 1796. He was shortly after appointed Secretary of Legation to the Court of Berlin. He was made one of the Paymasters-General of the Army in 1803, and was sent on a special mission to America in 1807. In 1814 he went as Envoy Extraordinary to Munich, and subsequently to Berlin. He was returned to Parliament in 1818, by the borough of Christchurch, and eventually succeeded his father as Clerk of the Parliaments; he retired in 1844. Sir George was made a Privy Councillor in 1818, and was knighted in 1819. He was known in literature as editing "A Selection from the Papers of the Earls of Marchmont, illustrative of Events from 1685 to 1750." Sir George married, in 1796, Miss Duncombe, but has had no issue. He died at his seat, Sandhills, near Christchurch, Hants, on the 17th inst.

Lieut.-Colonel Squires, an old and gallant officer, for many years connected with the 13th Foot (Prince Albert's Own), died on the 10th inst. at the age of 74. He saw much hard service in the Peninsula and in the Burmah campaign. He subsequently commanded the 13th Foot during the Afghanistan war. He acted under Sir Robert Sale, and next under Lord Keane; and he received a medal for Ghuznee.

Wills, Personalty, and Bequests.—The Rev. C. Milman Mount, M.A., Prebendary of Wells, £30,000 personalty.—Mrs. Allston, Esq., of Suffolk-street, Pall-mall, £50,000. William Pollard, Esq., Cornwall, £20,000.—The Rev. John Goode Foyster, M.A., Rector of St. Clements, Hastings, £14,000; and bequeathed £300 to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts; £200, Propagation of Christian Knowledge; £300, Clergy Aid Society; £200, Society for Enlarging, Building, and Repairing Churches and Chapels; £200, Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge; £100 to the Hastings Infant School, St. Clements; the Hastings Literary and Scientific Society, St. Leonards Loan Fund, and £100 to the Society for Relief of Widows and Orphans of Clergymen of the Archdeaconry of Lewes.

Louis Napoleon vice Nicholas.—Sir Charles G. Young, Garter Principal King at Arms, with his assistants, was engaged at the Chapel Royal of St. George, Windsor, on Monday, in rearranging the insignia of the Knights of the Garter—consisting of the helmet, surcoat, sword, and banner—which are suspended over their respective stalls; this arrangement being rendered necessary by the late election of Knights of this most noble Order. The insignia of the late Emperor of Russia, and also those of the late King of Saxony, have been removed, and the insignia of the Emperor of the French is placed opposite to that of the King of Prussia, and next to that of the King of Wurtemberg.

SEBASTOPOL COMMITTEE REPORT

The Report of the Committee to Inquire into the Condition of the Army before Sebastopol, which was brought up by Mr. Roebuck on Monday evening, and read to the House by Sir D. Le Marchant, commences with a confession that the complicated nature of the inquiry, the variety of subjects, the number of witnesses examined, and "the frequent inconsistency and contrariety of evidence," render it difficult to present a definite and just exposition of the matters submitted to them. To add to these difficulties, the Committee has not been able to obtain the evidence of certain persons who might have furnished important information; and from the same cause some persons are left under imputation, in regard to which the Committee regret that they can pronounce no conclusive opinion. The fulness of the investigation has, moreover, been restricted by considerations of State policy, so that in the outset of their report the Committee admit that they have been compelled to end an inquiry which they have been unable satisfactorily to complete.

The opinions formed by the Committee relate to "the condition of our army before Sebastopol," and "the conduct of the departments, both at home and abroad, whose duty it has been to minister to the wants of that army." On the first of these two heads the following brief statement is given:

THE CONDITION OF OUR ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

An army encamped in a hostile country, at a distance of 3000 miles from England, and engaged during a severe winter in a siege [illegible] which from want of numbers, it could not at first, was not necessarily pushed [illegible] tion, where unremitting fatigue and hardship had to be endured. [illegible] mittee are, however, of opinion that this amount of unavoidable suffering has been aggravated by causes hereafter enumerated, and which are mainly to be attributed to delicacy and itself [illegible] army with necessaries and comforts to its healthy and effective [illegible] In arriving at this opinion, they have made allowance for the unexpected severity of the season on the 14th of November, and they have not been unmindful of the difficulties which a long period of peace must inevitably produce at the commencement of a campaign.

In order to obtain an adequate notion of the painful condition of the army, the evidence must be perused; and your Committee will only refer to such details as may be requisite to sustain their opinion.

From the 14th of September, when the army landed in the Crimea, until the end of October, or, as witnesses state, until about the middle of November, the troops suffered from overwork and from dysentery, but were not, upon the whole, ill provided with food; even at this period there was a want of clothing for the men in health, and a painful deficiency of all appliances for the proper treatment of the sick and wounded. As the season advanced the cause of sickness increased, and the army, with its number of effective men daily diminishing, became more and more disproportioned to the amount of duty which it had to perform.

From the middle of November the army was, during a period of many weeks, reduced to a condition which it is painful to contemplate, and which was endured both by officers and men with a fortitude and heroism unsurpassed in the annals of war. They were exposed under simple canvas to all the severities and inconveniences of cold, rain, mud, and snow, on the ground and in the depth of winter. They suffered from overwork, exposure, want of clothing, insufficient supplies for the healthy, and imperfect accommodation for the sick.

The first great calamity arose from the inadequate force for the task assigned to it. The British army was a portion of an allied force. The whole scheme of the siege, the extent of front to be defended, the positions to be maintained, and the works to be undertaken, depended on military considerations, and were decided upon in conjunction with our allies. Your Committee regard these matters as beyond the limits of their inquiry.

The second department of inquiry resolves itself into various branches. First of all, the report treats of

THE CONDUCT OF THE GOVERNMENT AT HOME.

The responsibility of the expedition to the Crimea rests upon the Home Government. On the 10th of April, 1854, Lord Raglan was directed to obtain information as to the strength of Sebastopol, and the number of Russian soldiers in the Crimea. On the 29th of June Lord Raglan was directed to concert measures for the siege of Sebastopol; and in the same despatch the Duke of Newcastle says, "There is no prospect of a safe and honorable peace until the fortress is reduced and the fleet taken or destroyed." It does not appear, however, that the Government had any very definite information as to the state of affairs in the Crimea at the time they ordered the expedition. As regards the Russian forces, for example, one account estimated them at 30,000, another at 120,000 men. Lord Raglan does not appear to have been favourable to the expedition. In a despatch of the 19th of July he states that "the descent on the Crimea is decided upon more in deference to the views of the British Government than to any information in possession of the naval and military authorities, either as to the extent of the enemy's forces, or to their state of preparation. The Cabinet, however, was confident of success; the general impression being, according to Lord Aberdeen, that "Sebastopol would fall almost immediately by a *coup-de-main*." The result of this confident opinion was the neglect of all due provision against a reverse. The order to attack Sebastopol was sent to Lord Raglan on the 29th of June; the formation of a reserve at Malta was not determined upon until early in November.

The Committee express their regret that the formation of a large reserve at home, and also in the proximity of the seat of war, was not considered at a much earlier period, and that the Government, well knowing the limited number of the British Army, the nature of the climate in the East, as well as the Power we were about to encounter, did not at the commencement of the war take means to augment the ranks of the Army beyond the ordinary recruiting, and also that earlier steps were not taken to render the Militia available both for the purpose of obtaining supplies of men, and also, in case of necessity, for the relief of regiments of the Line stationed in garrisons in the Mediterranean—measures which they found themselves compelled to adopt at a later period.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR

The very difficult position of the Duke of Newcastle, on accepting the Secretaryship for War, is described in strong terms:—"He had no documents prescribing his new duties, no precedents for his guidance, and his under-secretaries were new to the work." Then again, as regards his colleagues:—"His interference was sought for in matters of detail, wherein his time should not have been occupied, and he was left unacquainted with transactions of which he should have received official cognisance. Feeling his large responsibilities, he took upon himself to remedy innumerable deficiencies which were brought to his notice, and, in the meantime, matters of paramount importance were postponed." The passing passage in reference to the ignorance of the Government of the state of affairs in the East is the best reply to these Ministerial statements which were made last winter regarding the injury done by faithful reports from the seat of war:

The evidence, moreover, shows that the Duke was long left in ignorance, or was misinformed, respecting the progress of affairs in the East. He was not, until a late period, made acquainted with the state of the hospitals at Scutari, and the horrible mode in which the sick and wounded were conveyed from Balaclava to the Bosphorus. Lord Aberdeen has significantly observed, that the Government were left in ignorance longer than they ought to have been of the real state of matters in the East. The Ministers, he says, were informed of the condition of the army from public papers and private sources long before they heard it officially, and, not hearing it officially, they discredited the rumours around them. Thus, while the whole country was dismayed by reports, and was eagerly looking for some gleam of intelligence, the Cabinet, according to the statement of Ministers, was in darkness.

THE ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

This branch of the public service has been very grossly misunnanged. During the summer and autumn of 1854, at the very time when the pressure of business was heavier, and the expenditure of this department was larger than in any previous year, two officers were wanting—the Master-General and the Surveyor-General whose functions the most economical administration had been unable to dispense with in times of peace. The Committee charge Lord Aberdeen with having neglected his duty in regard to this department; at least they say that "Lord Aberdeen would have acted more beneficially for the public service if he had appointed another Master-General when Lord Raglan could no longer discharge the duties of the office, and they are of opinion that a vague intention of remodelling the Ordnance office affords no justification for the course pursued. If this office were deemed to be imperfect, and ill adapted for its functions, there was the more need during its continued existence of an able man to superintend its proceedings. The Ordnance-office strikingly exemplifies the disordered state into which a department may fall when there is no able hand to guide it."

TRANSPORT AND COMMISSARIAT.

As regards the management of the Transport department at home the Report speaks favourably. Within a year conveyed about 150,000 men, and above 7000 horses were conveyed, principally by steam, a large portion of them to a point 3000 miles distant from this country; besides which vessels had to be provided for stores to an enormous amount, for the purposes of war, for the sustenance of both army and navy, and for the effective maintenance of a steam fleet. Sudden requisitions for huts and other urgent necessaries had also to be met. The forwarding of stores, however, which falls under this head was not so well ordered. The unnecessary sufferings of the soldiers directly referable to the neglect of proper arrangements, are described as forming "one of the most painful portions of the evidence."

The Transport service in the Black Sea and in the Bosphorus was characterised by great confusion and inefficiency, owing to a want of a proper understanding as to who was responsible for the management of that department. Want of system being the rule, and no person being responsible for anything, the greatest disorder prevailed at Balaclava; but the Report does not decide as to whose shoulders the blame ought to fall upon.

The land transport appears to have been a system of blundering from the first; and, even after its deficiencies had become apparent to every one, no adequate measures were adopted for its improvement. In connection with this important branch of the service the state of the road from Balaclava to the Camp was considered.

So much of the suffering of the troops having been ascribed to the almost impassable condition of the seven miles of road, the Committee endeavoured to ascertain who was responsible for its maintenance, and what insuperable obstacles impeded its repair. After stating that the duty of making and maintaining roads for the army falls upon the department of the Quartermaster-General, but that he was about the beginning of winter disabled by severe illness, the Report says:

As far as the information obtained enables your Committee to form an opinion, it appears to them that on this matter there was a want of due foresight and decision. Early in November, when the probable necessity of wintering in the Crimea was contemplated, energetic means should have been taken to provide and maintain an effective communication between the Camp and Balaclava. The road had then already been injured by the traffic, and its condition had excited the apprehensions of the Commissary-General, who had called attention to the subject. If a military force could not be spared, measures should have been taken to obtain other labour in the East, or application should have been made to the Home Government, who might have sent labourers from England. Such precautions would have saved much loss of time and many valuable lives, and would have enabled the land transport service in an effective condition. The probable failure of the communication was not, however, brought to the notice of the Duke of Newcastle until too late to enable him to take measures in England to prevent the serious calamities which subsequently arose.

The evidence relating to the Commissariat is said to have been of a contradictory character. Until the end of October the rations were furnished with regularity, and consisted of fresh meat twice or thrice in the week. After that time the soldiers generally appear to have suffered very much from want of rations and from irregularity in their issue. The explanation given with regard to the raw coffee is not deemed satisfactory by the Committee. The more immediate comfort of the troops appears to have been overlooked, while ingenious arguments on the volatile aroma of the berry, and on the Turkish mode of packing coffee, were passing backwards and forwards between Commissary-General Filder and the Treasury.

The Medical Department in the East appears to have been very ill managed, owing to the want of a proper system. Dr. Smith, the Director-General, states that he was under the immediate authority of five different superiors—the Commander-in-Chief, the Secretary of State for War, the Secretary at War, the Master-General of the Ordnance, and the Board of Ordnance. It is easy to understand how confusion and neglect should have prevailed under these circumstances. In addition to so many masters, also, there was the fear of incurring too much expense. "The strict economy enforced during a long period of peace, by means of a rigid system of audit and account, may doubtless, at the first outbreak of war, have still fettered Dr. Smith, as well as other public servants, who dreaded to incur responsibility for any expenditure, however urgent, which was not guarded by all the forms and documents usually required. An excess of caution, in the first instance, led probably to some evils, which a lavish outlay could not afterwards repair."

In conclusion, the Committee, after stating that they have adverted to the chief points contained in the replies to above 21,000 questions, make the following remarks:

Your Committee report that the suffering of the army resulted mainly from the circumstance under which the war in the Crimea was undertaken and executed. The Administration which ordered that expedition had no adequate information as to the amount of the forces in the Crimea. They were not acquainted with the strength of the fortresses to be attacked, or with the resources of the country to be invaded. They hoped and expected the expedition to be immediately successful, and, as they did not foresee the probability of a protracted struggle, they made no provision for a winter campaign.

The patience and fortitude of the army demand the admiration and gratitude of the nation on whose behalf they have fought, bled, and suffered. Their heroic valour, and equally heroic patience under sufferings and privations, have given them claims upon their country which will doubtless be gratefully acknowledged.

Your Committee will now close their Report with a hope that every British army may in future display the valour which the noble army has displayed, and that none may hereafter be exposed to such sufferings as are recorded in these pages.

State of Sebastopol. The official reports of the state of Sebastopol received in St. Petersburg at the beginning of this month no longer exhibit the same satisfactory picture of things as previous to the last bombardment. The south side of the town has suffered very considerably; a number of houses are piles of ruins, of others only the external walls are distinguishable; the theatre, which is endeared to the Russians by so many recollections, has ceased to exist. The northern portion of the town has by no means suffered so much; there are hardly a house where the walls or roof of which have not been perforated by grenade, shell, ball, or rocket, or the window-panes and frames of which have not been destroyed by fragments of exploding shells. The inhabitants of Sebastopol have, however, by no means deserted the town; with few exceptions, they continue to occupy their houses, even though battered. In the shops and warehouses traffic is represented as being kept up with but little diminution; the hotels were not shut. The only promenade which is left the fashionable world in those parts is the new Boulevard in the neighbourhood of Kasarski's monument, from which there is a fine view—on the one side of the surrounding moorlands, with the Allied camp, its trenches, and its fortifications; on the other side, over the sea, with the Allied fleets keeping ward and watch over the Crimea. On the northern side steamers and boats are seen all day and all night plying to and from the Catherine Harbour, laden with gabions, fascines, balls, shells, powder, and *matériel de guerre* of all sorts; while on the landing-places stores of cannon and carriages, mortars, beams, and other artillery materials, are piled up. *Letter from Berlin.*

Riza Pacha, the Turkish ex-Minister of War, does not appear to have fallen into disgrace. An Imperial decree of the 4th inst. allows him monthly pension of 60,000 piasters per month—equal to £3000 per annum.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

PARISH vestries, boards of management of charitable institutions, club committees, all being assemblies of gentlemen who do a good deal of not very agreeable work gratis, from a sense of duty, mingled perhaps with a little love of power, sometimes do, and sometimes do not do, their work well. When they do, it will generally be found that they contain some two or three active, clear-headed men, who like business for its own sake, and who do not dislike ruling, and, to some extent, domineering, over their more indolent or less practical colleagues, who are well content to follow where the others lead. When they don't, the cause is usually that in the choice of their members social position and high respectability have been consulted, rather than practical business habits. Then you get only good intentions: all improvements are shunned as unnecessary and dangerous—the steward or the secretary becomes the manager—the concern languishes;—in a parish, rates increase; in a hospital, the funds diminish; in a club, members suffer under a stereotyped bill of fare, and the coffee-room never pays its expenses. The Literary Fund, certainly one of the most admirable institutions of the century, appears to have fallen into this last-described condition. Although literature, as a profession, has attained a development at this day which its professors of the last century or their Mecænases—the Tonsons, Lintots, Davies, Dodsleys could never have contemplated, yet the fund for the relief of indigent literature by no means flourishes in the same proportion. At the annual dinner we were told that the Literary Fund flourished, that it had done much good in the past year; yet somehow we felt that the good it did do was not as much as could be expected from an institution with such high claims, and that its flourishing was more like that of the hymn of the poet than that of the young bay-tree. A few clear-headed, practical men—one of the most clear-headed, most practical, Mr. Charles Dickens, in the van—took the feeling to heart. They examined and discovered many things that should not have been, especially that the dispensing of £1500 worth of charity in the year cost £500. A committee was appointed, and, through the chairman (Mr. Dickens), made certain recommendations to the general meeting of the society on Saturday last. They advised—in the first place, that the administrators of the Fund should be empowered to grant revocable annuities to distressed men of letters; secondly, that they should have the power of granting relief by way of loan. It is wonderful to me how any one could object, as Lord Stanley did, to such reasonable propositions. A third proposal was made, of a very different kind—one which, with much deference to its originators, I do not think likely, if carried out, to meet with success. This was to make the Fund a social as well as a charitable society—in fact, to use its rooms as the place for meeting of a literary club. My objection is this:—A club is a grand institution, and helps us more than almost anything to float comfortably down the stream of metropolitan life. That stream is violent and turbid enough, and the club saves us from many a graze and bump on the sandbanks and rocks in its course. But this pleasant cushion, this haven of repose, what would it be if the first, the only recognised claim for admission, were not that a man should be what Doctor Johnson called clubbable? Many a man of great talent—a scholar—a thinker—is by no means clubbable. You would rather be out in the rain than read your newspaper by his side. He is disputatious, perhaps—has a theory, and will vivisimate you to its development; in short, an insufferable bore. But if this proposed Literary Club were formed, would he be kept out? Then is another thing. I am quite aware that literary men are the most enduring, the gentlest, the most lamblike of mankind: if they do not all love one another, their disliked are of the mildest kind—they never vilify, attack, or slander their brother pennmen. Yet is it not too much to expect that the much-belabored author shall enjoy his cup of souchong, with a perfect gusto, under the very nose of the scarifying critic? Journalists, indeed, are necessarily so much thrown into all sorts of company, that we may trust the *Herald* not to tweak the nose of the *Daily News*; but will the lion of the *Quarterly* lie down with the lamb of the *Westminster*? Finally, there would be wanting the great charm of a club, its feature of society—a quality not only agreeable, but extremely useful to authors, whose pursuits incline them too much to live in coteries.

The failure of a West-end banking-house is a fact which from its rarity must excite astonishment. In twenty years I recollect only two cases—that of Messrs. Cocburn, an exceedingly small concern, and that of Hammersley's. The latter was a curious case. There were no partners—the "firm" was Mr. Hammersley only, who was childless. He died in a fit, entirely without warning, on a Sunday afternoon. Of course the bank could not open on the Monday; it first ceased to be a bank. On examination of the books it was found that the concern was insolvent, had been so for twenty years, although the proprietor had always lived on his private fortune, and applied the profits of the business, which were large, to the redemption of its debt. It was calculated that, had he lived three years longer, all the liabilities would have been cleared off. As it was, a very large dividend was paid. The late failure of Messrs. Strahan appears to be in many ways an exceedingly bad case. The debts are said to amount to nearly three-quarters of a million, and the assets to be little or nothing. They seem to have kept open to the very last moment; for it is a fact that on Friday evening their insolvency was notorious among the City bankers, yet they went on during Saturday. On that day £24,000 was paid over the counter by them to depositors who had got a hint of the state of the case, to the direct injury of less well-informed creditors. Such a failure must necessarily be a heavy blow to the confidence reposed in private bankers in general. The worst part of the business is that, not content with the deposits of their customers, Messrs. Strahan and Paul have made away with their securities, and, consequently, warrants for their apprehension on the charge of felony have been issued; but the senior partner is not to be found. Sir John Paul, after having been actually in custody, was, by extraordinary mismanagement, allowed to escape; and only Mr. Bates, the junior partner, has as yet fallen into the clutches of the law.

If ever there was a deed calculated to make the blood of the whole nation boil, and to charge the feeling of national enmity with the more virulent elements of personal hostility, that deed is the atrocious massacre of our sailors at Bango. If the Emperor of Russia would not leave to posterity the reputation of an accomplice in an act which can hardly be paralleled by any tales of African or Malay warfare, he will visit with an awful retribution the ruffians who perpetrated it. There is, there can be, no *audi alteram partem* here. Twenty men, bearing a flag of truce, unarmed, are fired upon, dragged on shore, bayoneted, murdered to the last man (as the assassins thought), by three or four hundred. In the sack of a town taken by assault, when, if ever, men become fiends, such abominable savageness was never heard of. If the Czar and his chief officers wish to have the credit of carrying on the war as civilised nations should; we shall soon hear that the globets on which the bodies of these murderers are suspended will give the promontory of Hango an especial right to its name.

The principles of the division of labour—that which teaches that every man does best what he has been specially educated to do—is about to be further carried out in the Crimea. The sufferings of the past winter have taught us that it is desirable, as far as possible, to reserve the soldier for fighting: that to employ him in drawing waggons, sinking wells, or making roads, not only exhausts his strength, which is wanted for other purposes, but injures his discipline and general efficiency. It is bad economy, too, to use him in this way. A thousand navigators will make a better road in a week than five thousand soldiers in a fortnight, and will get far upon it. The new "Army Works Corps" will in a few days be on its way to the Crimea. It is, for the present, to be 1000 strong; and contains 500 navvies, 70 carpenters and smiths, and 65 artificers—including shoemakers, tailors, harness-makers, even barbers. By the way, as nobody shaves in the Crimea, these last will have an easy time of it. Any one who has seen an army on active service must know how useful such a corps will be. They will do the hut-building, draining, cleansing, bridge-making, grave digging; leaving the soldier to husband the plenitude of his strength for the battle-field or the assault. Nor will they be in any way a cause of weakness to the army by increasing the number of non-combatants. I will back 1000 navvies, the most powerful men in the world, with their revolvers in their pockets and their pickaxes on their shoulders, to give a good account of any Russians that may try to interfere with their "working parties."

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

P. P. (Pontefract).—The rule is, that should a player take one of his adversary's pieces, or leave himself "in check," or move to a forbidden square, he must be compelled to capture it, but if it cannot be legally taken, he may oblige him to move the King. Should it so happen that the king cannot legally be moved, then no penalty can be inflicted.

ALBERT AND COUNTANT SOUTH RIVER.—1. The Problems shall be examined. 2. The fine three-move Problem, you mention, by the Rev. H. Bo. on, appeared in our Number for March 7th. 3. A Pawn can take en passant, as well in a Problem as in a Game. 4. Your Solution of Eckstein's stratagem is correct. 5. No. 580 cannot be solved in three moves.

H. R., W. C. S. Stockbridge.—Your solutions of the Poetical Enigmas are correct.

HON. SECRETARY.—Such a publication in the hands of men of authority, experience, and competence as out, would at least deserve success. It should certainly have our cordial support.

DELTA, Paris.—A packet was despatched to you early in the week, and an acknowledgement as extensively requested.

GERMANICUS.—Chess amateurs are under great obligations to Dr. Forbes for the light his Essays have thrown upon the early history of the game. He has contrived to clear away a whole mass of absurdities which writer after writer has accumulated on the subject, and presented us, for the first time, with a much fuller and intelligible edition of what is now another form of the game, towards the end of the translations it underwent prior to its introduction into Europe.

W. G.—Your solution of the "Native's" Problem is correct. The other two are wrong.

L. M. H.—Your policy in future the solutions shall be given with more pleasure. Mr. H. Jeffreys Lawrence on Chess Matches.—The best course is, any further replies to be made in the Chess Field, and inquiries for the Rev. W. Temple, who has kindly undertaken the Department of Solutions for the occasion, and who will furnish the unprovided with Problems.

R. TOD.—The return match between Liverpool and Manchester comes off on Monday last. We will probably give one or two of the games next week.

W. S. H.—Chess Tactics, or Practical Chess Lessons, during the Leamington meeting, will be the Chess Chronicle, where every arrangement will be made by the Committee to ensure a speedy and fair publication.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS.—No. 586, by Mr. P. J. of Hanworth, Philip, G. T. M., H. T., F. R. Norwich, Intrepid, A. B. Ely, Ely, Ely, S. W. Inspector, Leo, Leo, N. L. S. P. C. H., Meg-ery, Tom Bee, J. C. S., L. D., Art, Vivas, Sandford, G. F., Trevor Jacob, H. P. W., Sam, Tom, Pat, Pat, S. W. M. A. Will, G. T. F. Germanicus, Derevon, and Cecil. All others wrong.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS No. 587, by Peter, K. M., Knight, Lynx, Box, Lacy, P. R. S., M. P., Pell, Chap, Cax, and Omega. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 588

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Kt takes Q P	B takes B (best)
2. Q to K Kt 2nd	Anything
3. K takes P (ch); or, K to K 4th, or B 5th, according to Black's play, and then Mate follows next move	

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 589.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to Q 3rd (ch)	K to K B 6th
2. Q to K 2nd	K to his 5th
3. Q to her sq	Anything
4. Q mates.	

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 590.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B to K 3rd (ch)	K moves, or *
* 1.	R interposes
2. Q to K B 8th	P to Q Kt 6th (best)
3. Q to K 7th (ch)	K moves, or B interposes.
4. Q or Kt mates.	

WHITE.	BLACK.
2. Q to K B 5th	B checks
(Black may play also R takes B, or R to K Kt 3rd; but mate equally follows in four moves.)	
3. Kt takes B	Anything
4. Q mates	

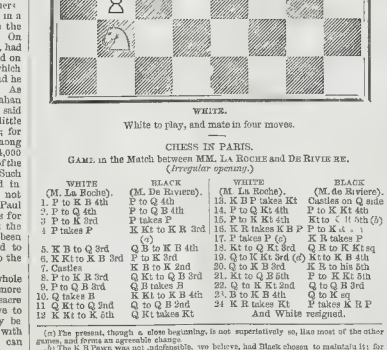
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 591.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B to K Kt 8th	P to K Kt 4th	4. K to B 7th	K takes P
2. R to Q B 4th	P to Q 4th.	5. K to B 6th—Mate.	
3. P takes P	P to Q 3rd		

PROBLEM No. 592.

By Mr. H. TURTON

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS IN PARIS.

GAME in the Match between MM. LA ROCHE and DE RIVIE RE.

(Irregular opening.)

WHITE (M. La Roche).	BLACK (M. De Riviere).	WHITE (M. La Roche).	BLACK (M. de Riviere).
1. P to Q 4th	P to Q 4th	13. K B P takes Kt	Castles on Q side
2. P to Q 4th	P to Q B 4th	14. P to Q Kt 4th	P to K Kt 4th
3. P to K 3rd	P takes P	15. P to K Kt 5th	K to Q R 2nd (b)
4. P takes P	K Kt to K B 3rd (a)	16. K R takes K B P	P to K 4th
5. K B to Q 3rd	Q B to K B 4th	17. P takes P (c)	K R takes P
6. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to K 3rd	18. Kt to Q Kt 3rd	Q R to K Kt sq
7. Castles	K B to K 2nd	19. Q to K Kt 3rd (d)	Kt to K B 4th
8. P to K R 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	20. Q to K B 3rd	K R to his 5th
9. P to Q B 3rd	Q B takes B	21. Kt to Q B 5th	P to K R 5th
10. Q takes B	K Kt to K B 4th	22. Q to K Kt 3rd	Q to Q B 3rd
11. Q Kt to Q 2nd	Q to Q B 3rd	23. B to K B 4th	Q to K sq
12. K Kt to K 5th	Q Kt takes Kt	24. K R takes Kt	P takes K R P
			And White resigned.

(a) The present, though a close beginning, is not superlatively so, like most of the other games, and forms an agreeable change.

(b) The K B Pawn was not defendable, we believe, and Black chosen to maintain it: for so opinion.

(c) Kt to K R 3rd would have saved him from much of the peril in which this move exposed him; but it would not have obviated the great evil of his position, which was the not having the Q Rook and Bishop in play.

(d) M. La Roche was naturally fearful of the consequences of his opponent advancing the K Kt Pawn any further, and thus seek to obtain, apparently the most difficult but to his immediate progress. We have a notion, however, that, by pursuing his own plan of attack, regardless of the dreaded Pawn, he might have escaped from the present predicament, and have come off, if not victorious, yet without any serious damage, in the end. Suppose, for example, he had boldly played

	19 Kt to Q B 6th
	Black for his best would have moved
19	P to K Kt 5th
20 P takes P	

(This looks fearful, we know, and requires no ordinary amount of courage in a Match Game; still it strikes us as preferable to the timid course really adopted.)

20.	Q R takes P (ch)	26. K to Kt 2nd	Q takes K R
21. K to B sq	Kt to K B 4th (best)	27. K takes Kt	Q to K R 4th
22. B to K 3rd	K R to K R 6th (ch)*	28. Q to K R 3rd	Kt to K Kt 6th (ch)
23. K to his 2nd	Q R to K Kt 7th (ch)	29. K to R 3rd	Q to K 7th (ch)
24. B to K B 2nd	Q takes B (ch)	30. Q to K R 2nd	Q to K 4th
25. K takes R	B to K B 5th (ch)	31. K to K Kt sq	
	And Black has no longer any resource.		

* 22.	Kt takes R (ch)	26. Q to K R 8th (ch) B to Q sq	
23. Q takes Kt	K R to K R 8th (ch)	(best)	
24. K to his 2nd	K R takes R	27. R takes Q Kt P	K R to K Kt 8th (best)
25. Q to K B 6th	Q to Q B 3rd (best*)	28. P to Q Kt 6th, &c.	

A tablet to the memory of Sir John Franklin and his devoted companions, of the *Erebus* and *Terror*, is to be taken by the Kane expedition, and erected on the White Cliff, at Beechey Island, by the side of that commemorating the fate of Lieutenant Bellot, of the Belcher expedition.

The *Venice Gazette* states that the cholera has broken out in that city. On the 7th inst. there were 24 cases, and 16 death.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

It is said that the day officially fixed for Queen Victoria's visit to Paris is August 13.

The Emperor of the French has recovered from his indisposition. He went, on Monday night, with the Empress and the King of Portugal, to the Ambigu Comique.

The Emperor of Austria arrived at Cracow on the 13th inst., from Vienna.

The Right Hon. Sidney Herbert has been advised by his medical attendant to abstain from all public business for a time, in order to recruit his health, for which purpose he is now on a tour in Scotland.

The Imperial yacht *Reine Hortense* sailed from Toulon during the night of the 17th inst., and entered the next day the port of Marseilles, where she is to remain at the disposal of the King of Portugal.

Sir W. Heathcote, M.P., has been elected a governor of the Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy, in the place of the late Sir R. H. Inglis.

The Prince and Prince Royal of Wurtemberg returned on the 12th to their villa near Stuttgardt, from St. Petersburg. The Queen is at Hamburg, with the Princess Frederica.

The French Emperor and Empress are to proceed to Biarritz next month incognito, and the Emperor will return to Paris, leaving the Empress to benefit from the change by a longer stay.

The One Hundred and First Anniversary Dinner of the Society of Arts is to be held at the Crystal Palace, on Tuesday, the 3rd of July, when the Duke of Argyll will preside.

The Duchess of Orleans, accompanied by the two Princes, her sons, arrived at Leipsic on the 8th inst., on her way to Dresden, whence she will make excursions to various places in the neighbourhood.

The Duchess of Genoa left Turin on the 11th inst. for Dresden, on a visit to her father and mother, the King and Queen of Saxony.

The château of Stolzenfels, on the Rhine, is being put in readiness for the reception of the King of Prussia.

The Hon. Millard Fillmore, late President of the United States, visited Chester, with a party of friends, a few days ago.

The King of Portugal was expected at Turin this week.

The Prince Royal, son of the Prince of Prussia, arrived at Memel on the 9th inst.

The Duke and Duchess of Brabant arrived at Malta on the 8th inst., and left the same night for Sicily.

Lieutenant Augustus C. Murray, R.N., has accepted the command of a troop of horse artillery in the Turkish contingent force.

Horace Vernet has been charged to execute, for the Palace of the Tuileries, a picture representing Napoleon I. surrounded by his principal officers who died on the field of battle during his immortal campaigns.

There has been a case of cholera in the Palace at Aranjuez. They would have removed the patient, who was a lady, but the Queen insisted on her remaining.

A proposal for a general and permanent encampment on Salisbury Plain, has been addressed to Lord Panmure.

The Princess de Hohenlohe has arrived at Brussels, accompanied by her two daughters.

During the absence of the Emperor of Austria, a State courier leaves Vienna daily, in order to convey to him the State despatches.

M. Uzielli, of London, and several French and English bankers, have gone to Vienna to treat for a concession of a new railway, in which M. Rothschild will be concerned.

The Hon. Mr. Dodge, the new American Minister at Madrid, has presented to the Queen of Spain his letters of credence.

Admiral Fremantle, the successor to Admiral Boxer, being prevented by his appointment from presiding at the dinner by the Navy Club to the First Lord of the Admiralty, fixed for the 28th, Rear Admiral Spencer will take the chair.

The Countess de Lavalette, daughter of the Marquis de Beauharnais, and co-sin-german of Queen Hortense, died in Paris, on the 18th inst. She was the wife of Count de Lavalette, Postmaster-General under the first Empire, whom she saved from the scaffold, in 1815, by her energy and presence of mind.

Henry Smith, Esq., chief clerk in the cash account office of the Ordnance, has been appointed to fill the newly-created office of Accountant-General to the War Department.

Abd-el-Kader has accompanied his mother and his wife as far as Constantinople, on their way to Mecca, on a pilgrimage.

Dr. Waller Lewis, one of the Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers, has been appointed Medical Officer to the Post-office.

The Queen Mother, at the Hague, who has been for some time residing on her estate at Soestdyc, was seized with giddiness on the 8th instant, and fell to the ground and hurt herself seriously.

Mr. Charles Saunders, of the Western Circuit, will be the successor of Mr. Phinn in the Recorders up of Devonport.

General David Khan, a native of Persia, who filled the office of Persian Interpreter at the Persian Court, is at present in Vienna. He has embraced the Christian religion, and is about to marry a Vienna lady.

A gentleman of the name of Delle Cose has just died at Verona, leaving a million of francs as a fund for the relief of poor workmen unable from sickness or other causes to maintain their families.

The Canadian Parliament has adjourned without definitely concluding a proposition to donate lands to soldiers enlisting in the Foreign Legion for the Crimea.

The Captain-General of Cuba has raised the blockade and state of siege which had been for some time past in full force.

All accounts from the Highland moors concur in the assurance that there will be a full average stock of grouse this season.

The Communal Council of Liège has unanimously voted a sum of 50,000 fr. towards the erection in that city of an hospital for lunatics.

The cholera is raging as an epidemic in New Orleans, and the Board of Health of the city have made a public declaration of the melancholy fact.

An elephant 120 years old, now in Birmingham, is to be shot, in consequence of extreme age and physical weakness.

The ground left disposable by the demolition of the buildings of the Temple, in Paris, is to be transformed into a public garden in the English style, in the centre of which will be erected a monument to Louis XVI. and Marie Antoinette.

During the year 1854, 388,714 cwt. of foreign cheese was imported into the United Kingdom. Of this 349,695 cwt. came from other parts of Europe; 38,987 cwt. from the United States, and 30 cwt. from British possessions abroad.

The number of persons who visited the Paris Exhibition Palace on Sunday last was 61,819; and the Palace of the Beaux-Arts, 18,572: making a total of 80,391—11,134 more than on the preceding Sunday.

The Germanic Diet has rejected the proposal from Prussia for the suppression of gaming carried on in most of the German watering-places.

A marriage party from Washington county, Maryland, was poisoned the other day by eating custard in which arsenic had been placed. Some twenty-five of them were not expected to live, the bride among the number.

A sea eagle, weighing 6lb. 8oz., was killed by a gamekeeper, on Berwyn mountain, in Wales, a few days ago.

The Imperial Brazilian decree for the construction of a railway in Bahia has arrived in England. The maximum capital on which a premium is at present guaranteed is £1,800,000.

Three French missionaries have arrived at Lyons from Claudiopolis, in Texas. They give a sad account of the famous Communist colony founded in that State by Cabet.

There is now in flower at Woodland Castle, near Swansea, a fine specimen of the Paulownia Imperialis. It was planted about six years ago; is now 16 feet high, with branches extending upwards of 20 feet across; and has 168 spikes of bloom.

The Financial Report of the Government of Buenos Ayres shows a present balance of receipts over expenditure of nearly £1,800,000.

The examinations for the Ashburton Prizes for Instruction in Common Things will be held on Monday next—that for men, at Wolvesey College, Winchester; and that for women, at the Salisbury Training Institution.

A monument to Daniel O'Connell, executed by Benzoni, at the expense of Mr. Bianconi, the well-known car proprietor in Ireland, has been completed, and is to be placed in the church of Sant' Agata della Suburra, belonging to the Irish College at Rome.

A strong shock of earthquake, which lasted four seconds, was felt at La Spezia (Piedmont) on the 11th inst.

"HAROLD."—PAINTED BY GEORGE LANCE.—FROM THE [illegible]

"HAROLD," BY MR. LANCE.—FROM THE ROYAL [illegible]IBITION.

[illegible] quisite gardens, though abounding in more associations of historical interest than any other county on the east coast of England. He was born in the year 1802. His father was in the Army; his mother was from Yorkshire. How he took to art no one has told us, and we should be glad to learn. He, however, took to it early, and worked under Haydon, who foretold, it is said, his future excellence. "Lance will leave a name," said Haydon, in his emphatic way. Nor was he wrong, though he foresaw fame to his pupil in a different line than Lance was destined to make his own. [illegible] k and Peache [illegible] hat he be [illegible] e a fruit [illegible] m which [illegible] of the hot- [illegible] studies of every portion of his inte [illegible] is said, promised well; but his ind [illegible] e than realised the expectations of his w [illegible] He transferred Benvenuto Cellini and Coven [illegible] quarles, and fru [illegible] n Mr. Lance Mr. Hunt [illegible] t Mr. Lance achieves in oil- [illegible] The fruit pieces of t [illegible] gentleman look like admirable re- [illegible] ous of the things r [illegible] ted, but Mr Lance's fruit-pieces are [illegible] lves. [illegible] I thank us for [illegible] nnding them tha [illegible] ation of the ex [illegible] that it is difficult [illegible] communices [illegible]

OPENING OF THE NEW METROPOLITAN CATTLE-MARKET. THE PROCESSION TO THE TENT. (SEE NO. 1.)

OPENING OF THE METROPOLITAN CATTLE-MARKET.

In the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of last week we fully detailed the inauguration of the New Market in Copenhagen fields. We now engrave the very effective scene of the processional portrait of the ceremonies, with the front of the pavilion, which was fitted up with considerable taste. Upon huge pedestals flanking the entrance, the supporters of the City arms were the principal objects; and above the entrance was a gorgeous arrangement of drapery, with pennons, and a group of banners, upon which was placed a medallion portrait of her Majesty; and the Royal standard floated gloriously from the roof of the booth.

It may be interesting to add a few details of the opening of the Market for business—the first day being Friday.

A fine herd of bullocks, consigned to Mr. Neve, salesman, Norfolk, was the first that entered the Cattle market, and was not long until part was purchased by Mr. William Bee, of Newgate Market, and paid for to the Messrs. Hall and Sons, bankers; and one fine bullock taken to the pen in slaughter house, and slaughtered by Mr. W. I. Parey, of the Ram, Smithfield; so that the bullock may be said to have been the first entered for sale, the first sold, the first weighed, the first paid for, the first delivered, the first removed, and the first slaughtered in the slaughter-houses of the New Market. The ox was fattened and consigned by Mr. More, Neatshead, Norwich, Norfolk.

A little before noon cows were entered at the north-east corner of the Cattle market allotted for them, when sales were immediately commenced, and at two p.m. the Horse market commenced at the opposite or south-eastern corner.

The concourse of butchers' carts was immense: so that the relief in the neighbourhood of Smithfield must have already been great.

For Friday the market hirs were not very liberally patronised; but on the evening of that day some fine lots arrived from the north for the Monday market, while fresh arrivals swelled the num ber by almost every train on Saturday, so that, considering the change of the Market site and the season of the year, and the want of experience, the Corporation, we presume, are satisfied with this part of the experiment.

All gether, the trade have expressed themselves favourably toward, the first day of the New Market.

THE ROYAL LITERARY FUND SOCIETY.

There was a change in the management of the Literary Fund Society on Saturday, at a meeting to receive the report of the special committee appointed to consider the policy of the charter. The chair was taken by Mr. B. B. CABBELL, M.P., who, in introducing the business, read a letter from the Marquis of Lansdowne, the President of the Fund (who was unable to be present from having to attend a Cabinet Council), expressing doubts as to the policy of the proposed changes in the constitution of the society.

Mr. Chad. Hickens, as the chairman of the special committee, then read the report, which recommended—that henceforth the administrative body of the society should be enabled to grant revocable annuities to distressed men of letters and scientific writers, to the extent of a certain limited proportion of the income derived from the society's real property or vested funds; and also, that they should have the power of granting relief by way of loan. The report proceeded to explain the plan for remodelling the powers and functions of the council, and comprised a project for superadding to the present objects of the society, in conformity with the alleged intentions of its founders, the holding of evening meetings and *conversaziones* in the rooms of the institution, and the establishment of a library for purposes of reference. It was also designed that if the success of the institution should hereafter be further developed, if the experiment met with an quite encouragement, into "a hall or college for the honour of literature, and the service of literary men." To effect these purposes, according to the opinion of counsel (Mr. Serjeant Merewether), a new charter was necessary.

Mr. Dickens moved that the report be adopted.

Mr. Forster seconded the motion.

Mr. Monckton Milnes, M.P., proposed, as an amendment, "That this meeting acknowledge with gratitude the labours of the special committee appointed to consider and report upon the question of a new charter for the Literary Fund, and recognise the value of some of their suggestions as subjects for future deliberation; but, considering the proposals therein contained to involve an entire alteration of the nature and intentions of the society, and that its means are inadequate to the attainment of those purposes, this meeting is not prepared to recommend the application for a new charter to carry them into effect." The first clause contained two, viz., that, instead of granting assistance to authors when in circumstances of distress in sums sufficient to enable them to start afresh in their career, and depend upon their own exertions for their future support, they should spread the aid they now gave at one time over a period of years in the shape of annuities—was a proposition of very doubtful wisdom, and it was even questionable whether the present mode was not adapted to afford more sort leable relief to the recipient than the one suggested as a substitute; but, be that as it might, no alteration in the charter was demanded to enable the society to carry their practice in this respect should a modification be thought advisable. Then, as to the granting of pecuniary loans, there would be the greatest difficulty in carrying out such a proposition. How, for instance, were they to secure their repayment? Secrecy and confidence were now of the very essence of their operations; and could they seriously mean to sue a literary man who was a defaulter in respect of a loan at the County Court?

Mr. Pollock, in seconding the amendment, cited the preamble of the original charter, obtained in 1818, declaring that the objects of the Fund were to "protect and relieve persons of genius and learning or their families, who shall be in want," and contended that they would not be justified in now introducing organic changes into this constitution.

Mr Lake supported the adoption of the report, on the ground that the present practice of the society sanctioned the principle of revocable annuities, which only required to be extended. With regard to loans, that system had worked well in other institutions analogous in their nature.

Lord Stanley was willing to leave the matter of annuities and loans in the hands of the Executive. As to any delicacy of feeling in regard to the acceptance of gratuities, instead of loans, by distressed authors, such persons had it now in their own power to convert any relief they received in the former shape into a loan by subsequently making a donation to the society, or otherwise reimbursing it.

Mr C. Dickens regarded the complaint of the lamentable deficiency of their funds, after the astounding and unanswered statement made by Mr. Dilke of their financial resources, as about the most bitterly ironical thing which the human mind could conceive of that society. Mr. Milnes had approached the question of loans entirely in the character of a lender; but let him approach it in the character of a borrower, and put it to them as a matter of feeling, whether they could not imagine the case of a high-spirited literary man who would come to them, not for a gift, but for a loan. The noble Lord (Stanley) said, "Oh, he can leave a loan, and can pay it back again." But how? "By subscribing to the institution." Bos was there a man in that room, who after being relieved with—say £100, would have the audacity to put himself down as a donor of £100 to the fund? Why, such an idea argued an amount of misconception of the honour and dignity of the literary profession which it was amazing to hear from such lips. Then they were told that there was the Athenæum, and that they spoke to them. So also was that respectable establishment the London Tavern (A laugh), which was about as accessible to literary men, and pretty much as expensive, as the Athenæum. All that the report suggested was that an experiment on a limited scale, and at a very small additional cost, should be tried in the present rooms of the society; and then, if unfortunately the thing did fail of exciting among the profession an increased interest in the objects of the institution, and so did not gain an accession of subscribers, no possible harm would have been done, and the project need not be carried any farther.

Sir E. Forbes was in favour of extending the field of the society's operations, but regarded the report as somewhat indefinite in its recommendations.

The Bishop of Oxford considered the report as rather enigmatical, and, even after the forcible speech of Mr Dickens, must say that his doubts of the wisdom of its main proposition were only the more confirmed. Supposing they had a comfortable club house, and some of those *expenses* which he confessed that he thought would be necessary, how were they to compete with the Athenæum and other institutions of that class, which were not weighted in the race, as this society would be, with elemosynary burdens? If, therefore, they were to enter the field with these monetary levels with any chance of success, they must incur great risk of forfeiting the first condition of their existence—viz., the application of a great portion of their funds to charitable purposes. For the interests of literature would be better served if they keep the twofold functions which they were now asked to combine entirely separate and distinct, and experience of his showing that the cultivation of the social institutions and the relief of distress were objects which indeed commended themselves to altogether different classes of minds (Hear). With respect to the plan of loans or of revocable annuities, no adequate [illegible] the charter was really required, inasmuch as it enfranchised the managers of the fund to modify its distribution in the manner recommended.

Sir E. B. Lytton thought the recommendations of the report had been somewhat misrepresented, or at least misunderstood. The [illegible] the hard working literary man received otherwise than Mr. Milnes seemed to suppose, and it would therefore be most [illegible] with the objects of that institution that he should receive a certain assured amount of income, without having to come knocking at their doors with repeated applications for relief, and exposing his wounds at each return of his distress (Hear).

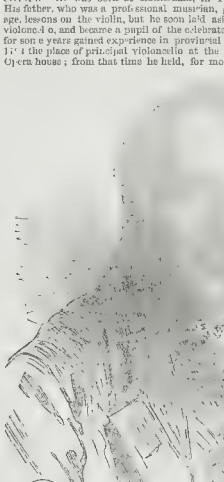
Mr. Forster appealed to the managing committee to give some assurance that they would favourably entertain the recommendations of the report as to loans and annuities.

The Chairman could assure the meeting that the governing body had no other desire but to promote the comfort and well-being of the literary profession, and that they would give the suggestions that had been made their best and most serious consideration (Hear).

The division upon the amendment was taken, and the amendment was declared to be carried, and the proceedings terminated.

MR. ROBERT LINDLEY.

ROBERT LINDLEY, the great violoncellist, died on the 13th inst. at his house in Percy-street, in his eighty third year. During his long and brilliant career as an artist, his life has been very quiet, uniform, and uneventful. He was born at Rotherham, in Yorkshire, in the year 1772. His father, who was a professional musician, gave him, at a very early age, lessons on the violin, but he soon laid aside that instrument for the violoncello, and became a pupil of the celebrated Cervetto. After having for some years gained experience in provincial orchestras, he obtained in 1811 the place of principal violoncello at the King's Theatre, or Italian Opera house; from that time he held, for more than half a century, and



THE LATE MR. ROBERT LINDLEY, THE VIOLONCELLIST.

till within these few years, when his growing infirmities made him retire from the exercise of his profession, undisputed pre-eminence as the greatest master of his instrument that England had ever seen. The most celebrated performers of the Continent arrived in succession and entered the lists with him, but none of them could shake for a moment the firmness of his position, or the unanimous belief of his countrymen in his unrivalled excellence. And this belief was well founded. In the richness and volume of his tone; in his strength of hand, and boundless powers of execution; and in the unaffected manliness of his style he has never, even to this day, had a rival. During his whole career no great orchestra was considered as complete without him; and his presence at the provincial music-meetings in all parts of the kingdom was deemed as indispensable as in the orchestras of the metropolis. Lindley was a plain, unassuming man, of quiet habits and simple manners. He was of a kindly and benevolent nature; and his memory, as a worthy member of society, will long be cherished by his friends and professional brethren.

MONUMENT TO THE LATE SIR HENRY BISHOP.

Two propositions have just been made for the accomplishment of this object, which may truly be called a national one. They have originated, one in the metropolis, the other in a provincial town, and without any previous concert or communication between the parties.

The provincial proposition has the priority of time. It has its origin in a part of the country which has often been called the Germany of England from the musical character of its inhabitants and the almost universal cultivation among them of the art in its highest and purest forms. A meeting, consisting of lovers of music, was held at Huddersfield on the 5th of this month, at which it was resolved.

That it is desirable that a monument should be erected to the memory of the late Sir Henry Bishop, in such place as shall be hereafter determined upon and

That a subscription be commenced for effecting the above object; no subscription to exceed five shillings.

The following gentlemen were named a committee to collect subscriptions:—

Mr. Freeman.	Mr. Henry Hartley.
— J. D. Kelner.	— Sam. Howell.
— James Battye.	— Joseph Wrigley.
— E. Battye.	— Jos. Batley, jun.
— Joseph Wood.	— R. D. Eldridge.
— T. J. Wigney.	— Edgar Fenton.
— James Peace.	— Joseph Rayner

The London proposition emanates from the same gentlemen who set on foot the subscription for the orphan children of the lamented artist—a measure (as was announced) rendered unnecessary by a private friend, who undertook to make a provision for the children. The same gentlemen have now published an advertisement to the following effect:—"It being proposed to erect a monument to the memory of the late Sir Henry Rowley Bishop, the friends of the lamented composer and the public generally are respectfully invited to aid by their contributions the accomplishment of this object; and the Committee appointed to superintend the arrangements, consisting of Sir George Smart, Mr. Mitchell, Dr. Daniels, and Mr. Addison, earnestly hope that appeal will not fail to secure the erection of a suitable record in honour of one who, by his skill in the profession, earned extended fame, and spread deep gratification through a wide circle." It is added that subscriptions will be received at certain specified places; and that the monument is proposed to be erected at the St. Marylebone Cemetery, where Bishop lies buried.

The thanks of the public are equally due to the gentlemen who, independent of each other, have originated these propositions, for the spirit they have shown, and the example they have set to the rest of the kingdom. We do honour to ourselves in doing honour to the memory of our great artists; and that Bishop was one of our greatest artists—and that, too, in one of the noblest and most beautiful of the arts—is felt by all his country men, and acknowledged wherever England and her music are known. To enlarge on Bishop's merits, so fully recognised, would be idle and superfluous. It is enough to repeat what we have said before that the whole annals of the art in England prior to his time were greater than his; the name of a man too, to whom his genius was nearly akin, the immortal Henry Purcell. They were akin in originality of mind, richness of imagination, and, above all, in the true, genuine English character of their strains, which will endear both of them to the English people long after the foreign affectations now in vogue shall have died away.

We have no doubt that the gentlemen of Huddersfield, on being aware of the correspondent movement now begun in the metropolis, will determine to second and aid the proceedings of the London committee, instead of going on with a separate plan of their own; for we cannot suppose that they will bestow a moment's thought on their own claim of priority. One object only is in view—to erect a monument to the memory of a great artist, worthy of his country and himself; and this can be effected only by one combined effort of his admirers throughout the whole kingdom, but of which the natural centre is the metropolis—the place of his birth, the scene of his triumphs, and the resting place of his remains.

MUSIC.

THE performances at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA since our last notice have presented little that calls for remark. Mr Gye has adopted the practice invented by Mr. Lumley, of "long Thursdays" extending, when non-subscribers are tempted by the profusion of the entertainment. On Thursday, last week, the first act of "Norma," with Grisi for the attraction, was followed by the whole of "Rossini's Stabat Mater," which included Madame Viardot, Mario, Tamburini, and Formes. This is a practice which, in an artistic point of view, is most objectionable; but it gives money, and that must be received as a sufficient answer. "Norma," a grand lyrical tragedy, with the Siddons of the musical stage as the heroine, stopped in the middle, and just as the interest has arrived at its climax! Suppose a tragedy of Shakespeare so treated, what would he said? And then sup h but long comic opera, begun at ten o'clock, and concluded at nearly one in the morning! Both pieces were equally injured—Rossini's sparkling music being performed to an audience worn out and jaded by the heat and fatigue of a long night. Who, however, went home, we suppose, persuading themselves that they had been delighted, and had received ample entertainment for their money! This gayest of all comic operas has rarely, perhaps, been better performed, and seldom, perhaps, went off more flatly. Its most remarkable feature was Madame Viardot in the character of *Rosina*—a fine display of dramatic and vocal art, but too much elaborated, and less pleasing than the more simple and unpretending performance of Rosina. Tamburini's *Figaro*, as a piece of acting, was as fine as ever: he was the bustling, intriguing Spanish barber to the very life; but alas for his once magnificent voice! Mario's *Count Almaviva* was perfection; and Lablache's *Bartolo* is still the best on the stage, and would be better still if he would curb his propensity to indulge in buffoonery. In this respect, by the way, he uses greater freedom in London than in Paris, where he is more cautious and circumspect. The shrewd Neapolitan knows how to "take the measure" of his audiences. Mdle. Jenny Ney was announced to appear on Tuesday last in *Donna Anna*, said to be one of her greatest characters; but, for some unexplained reason, the "Trovatore" was given instead. This opera, with the help of the splendid acting and singing of Ney and Viardot, is in undiminished favour.

THE ROYAL OPERA, at Drury-Lane, continues to be carried on with activity and success; and it appears that the low-price system, which Mr Smith has carried further than has ever been done before in a theatre of such magnitude, is working well, for it enables him to engage a strong vocal company, and to maintain his orchestra, chorus, and other accessories, on an efficient footing. During the present week, the operas have been "Norma" and "Lucia di Lammermoor;" both pieces are extremely well acted and sung. M. and Mdme. Gesser have been favourites from the beginning; and Mdlle. Arga has grown in public estimation. Her *Norma* is a powerful performance; and she well supported by Armandi as *Pollio*, and Mr. Hamilton Braham as the priest *Oroveso*. The engagements of M. and Mdme. Gassier, Mdlle. Arga, and Signor Bettini, terminate this week; these performers being about to visit the United States. But the two *prima donne* are about to be replaced by two ladies of note—Mdlle. Schmidt of the Grand Opera, Frankfort, and Miss Lucy Escott, our countrywoman whose high qualities both as an actress and a singer have recently produced a great sensation in the principal theatres of Italy.

BENEDICT's Concert, at the Royal Italian Opera, on Friday (last week), was a magnificent affair. The whole constellation of the theatre shed its lustre upon it, together with many other "bright particular stars" of scarcely less radiance. In truth, almost all the eminent vocal and instrumental performers in London gave their assistance in contributing to an entertainment at once ample, varied, and recherché. The theatre, crowded with rank and fashion, had the appearance of a brilliant opera night.

HERR DEICHMANN, a violinist of great talent and rising reputation gave a Concert at the Hanover-square Rooms on Saturday morning. He was in this country some five or six years ago, when he was regarded as a young performer of great promise; and this promise, on his second visit, he has fully made good. On this occasion he showed his strength in Mendelssohn's celebrated violin concerto, and in a brilliant fantasia of Vieuxtemps—both of which he executed in a finished and admirable manner. A pianoforte quartet by Rubinstein (a composer as yet little known in this country), played by Messrs. Schlosser, Deichmann, Vogel, and Paque, gave great pleasure to the audience. The Concert was varied by several fine vocal pieces, sung by Madame Clara Novello and Mdlle. Emilie Narli. The audience was numerous and fashionable. The Royal box was occupied by the Duchess of Cambridge, the Princess Mary of Cambridge, and the Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz.

MR. ELLA, the able director of the Musical Union, had his *matinée* at Willis's Rooms on Tuesday. There was, as usual, a fine selection of classical instrumental music, performed by Messrs. Ernst, Cooper, Hill, Piatti, Bottesini, and Hallé; with two beautiful vocal pieces—"Laura," by Rastrelli, and "O, who can guess my emotion," by Mendelssohn; sung with great taste and expression by Herr Reichardt. The room was crowded to overflowing.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF FEMALE MUSICIANS, a most praiseworthy and useful institution, had its annual concert at the Hanover-square Rooms on Monday evening. It was an excellent concert. There was a small but effective orchestra, conducted by Mr. Sterndale Bennett; the principal vocalists were Madame Clara Novello, Madame Bohkolz Falconi, Mdlle. Arnall, Misses Birch, Taylor, Lascelles, and Dolby; Messrs. Reichardt, Benson, Herberte, Lawler, and Bodda; and instrumental solos were performed by MM. Sainton and Hallé. The room was well filled by a fashionable audience.

THE TURKISH CONTINGENT.

WE think we present our readers with an Illustration representing a group of officers who are to command what is termed the Turkish Contingent—a force intended for a reserve, in anticipation of the continuance of the war. The Legion (if we may take the term) is to consist, if possible, of about 35,000 men. The officers and leading non-commissioned officers are to be of the British or East India service; but of the general management little is known. Indeed, the officers who have reached the East know not what they are to command. The latest supposition is, that the Contingent will be manned from the Turkish troops lately on the banks of the Danube.

The officers of Cavalry will wear a long blue jacket, laced with gold, in the manner shown in the Illustration; over this will be thrown a pelisse, also laced with gold, in hussar style—by the way, a style which will soon cease in the British Army. The trousers will be blue, with leather strappings and overalls. The cap, for the present, will be of undress shape; the crescent being displayed in front. On the left arm of the inner jacket will be embroidered the crown and crescent; on the shoulders will be knots of gold. The belts and other fittings will be similar to ordinary cavalry. The arms will consist of a sword and Colt's revolver. The dress of the non-commissioned officers will be similar to that above, but the ornamental portion will consist of black braid, in lieu of gold.

The dress for the Artillery will be somewhat similar, but the Infantry will be void of the quantity of lace and the leather fittings; nevertheless both officers and non-commissioned officers in the foot corps will be mounted, and consequently will wear spurs. The dress, on the whole, which is from the design of the Queen's accoutrement-makers, Messrs Hetherington and Rogers, is simple but soldier-like. As we stated some months ago, the corps will be commanded by an able East Indian officer, Major-General Vivian—the scion of an old military house. Major Templar Graham will be the military director in England. It is intended to send out in all eighty eight non commissioned officers, all of whom are to have the rank of Sergeant-Major. Twenty have already left for the East, and but sixteen were wanted a few days since to make up the entire number. The selections in the latter rank were made by Captain Phillips, formerly of the Hon. East India Company's Service, with the able assistance of a deserving non commissioned officer, Sergeant O. H. Wheeler, formerly of the 10th Hussars. All are under engagements for two years.

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Mon-[illegible] HELEN FAUCIT will appear, Friday, Mr. Buckstone's Benefit: ONLY A BAUBLE. Every Evening.

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HEREFORD MUSICAL FESTIVAL for the Benefit of the WIDOWS and ORPHANS of the FALLEN of the Crimean Army, and Worcester, will be held in the Cathedral, and Sarah Hall, on AUGUST 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11, 1855. [illegible] Mdlle. Lucca, Mdlle. Ney, Mdlle. Lablache, Mdlle. Reeves, Signor Marai, Mr. Montem Smith, Mr. [illegible] TOWNSHEND SMITH, C.

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WATFORD HORTICULTURAL and FLORICULTURAL SOCIETY. THE FIRST GRAND FLOWER SHOW of this Society will be held, by permission of the Earl of Essex, in CASSIOBURY PARK, near Watford, on WEDNESDAY, July 4th, 1855. An Elegant Band in attendance. Tickets, 5s. each. Tickets for Stewards are now ready, and can be had on application to the Secretary, Mr. J. Taylor. By order of the Committee. JOHN PEAR, Hon. Sec. J. TAYLOR, Sec.

TOURS in IRELAND in 1855, commencing 1st June, and terminating 30th September. [illegible] Tourist Tickets, Second Class, Dublin to Belfast and back for the Tour to the Giant's Causeway.—First-class, £1 8s.; Second-class, £1 2s. Available for seven Days.

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"Gentlemen,—Last night some thieves broke into our office, and made a violent attack upon your safe, which, in the opinion of my and their proof manufacture, and contained a large sum of money, amounting to £1,000. From the disjointed condition of the safe, and the appearance of several very strong house-breaking instruments found on the premises, I have no hesitation in saying, that it is certain that the thieves spared no efforts in their endeavours to force it open, but we have much satisfaction in informing you that, owing to the great strength of your safe, their object was entirely defeated.

"We are, gentlemen, your obedient servants,

"Messrs Chubb and Son, 57, St. Paul's Churchyard, London."

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THE BEST FOOD FOR CHILDREN, INVALIDS, AND OTHERS. ROBINSON'S PATENT BARLEY, for making very delicious BARLEY-WATER in three minutes, has not only obtained the patronage of her Majesty and the Royal Family, but has become a general use in every class of the community; and is acknowledged to stand unrivel ed as an eminently pure, nutritious, and light food for infants and invalids; much approved for making a delicious custard and cakes; and is prepared "Barley and Manchester" and "Barley and Wheat" sorts.

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F. R. Y., who left Sheffield, with an appointment, on Saturday, the 26th May, will write his friends, his address [illegible]

THE BRITISH OVERLAND, an Improved [illegible] CHARLES MARSHALL, 237, Oxford street.

LIGHT SPRING CARTS; also, DOG CARTS, of the most approved, at the lowest Prices. W. DEAY and CO., Manufacturers, Swan-alley, London-bridge.

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TO SPORTSMEN. F. JOYCE has the pleasure of announcing that he will have ready for the coming season an IMPROVED PERCUSSION CAP, combining the Waterproof quality in the highest degree, without disadvantage in separating from metal-lined Caps. These Primers have been adopted to the severest tests, and are brought forward not only for Sporting but Military purposes, where durability and certainty are essentially necessary.—Wholesale, Warehouse, 27, Tiger-street, London.

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CROGGON'S PATENT ASPHALTE [illegible] PAVEMENT, [illegible] for preventing a reduction of heat and damaging sound; and SHEATHING FELT, for ships bottoms, on which the copper does not stick. Samples, directions, and testimonials sent by post.—Croggon and Co., 2, Dowgate-hill.

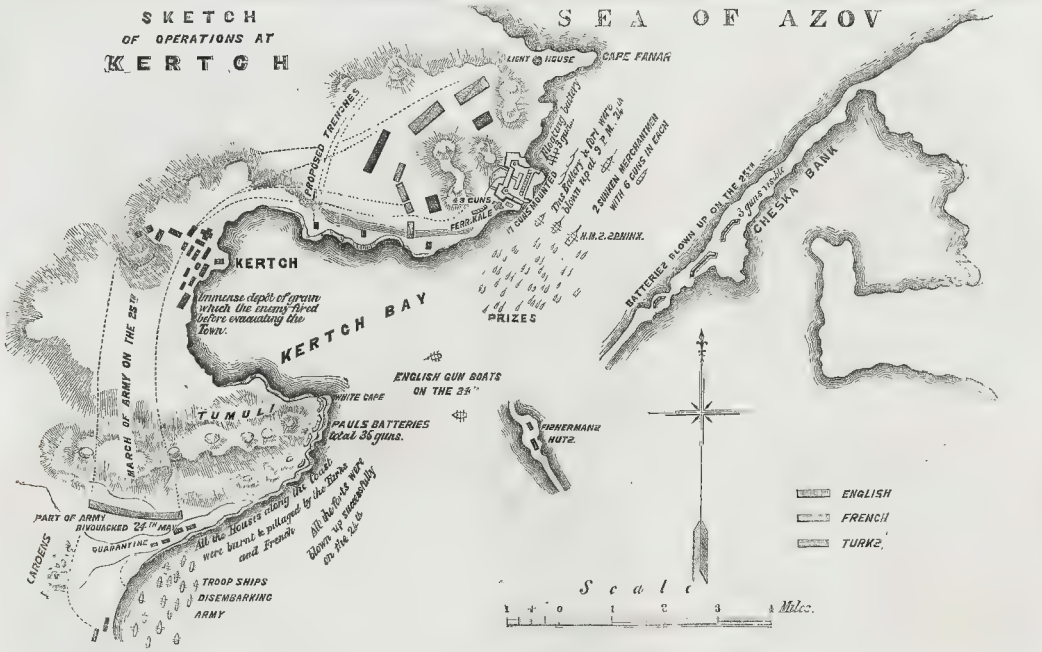
HOMŒOPATHIC CONSULTING-ROOMS, 15, St. Martin's Courtney-place, Hanover-square, Lunar, and Bond Directors Brightly DERBY, Author of the renowned Inscribable under the old school of [illegible] Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, from Two till Three. Fee 5s. the course at one late Dr Curie.

STERL BISCUITS, the most valuable Diet for Invalids, Convalescents, and Delicate Children. Highly recommended by the profession and medical press as "a beautiful and useful invention." Sold by J. ALLSOP, 364, Highstreet, Southwark, in boxes, at 1s. 6d., 3s. 6d., and 5s.

THE BEST BED for a CHILD is one of TRELOAR'S METALLIC COTS, 4 feet long, 2 feet wide, with moveable sides are, pillars, castors, and brass vases, price 31s. including a cocoa-nut fibre mattress.—T. TRELOAR, from Bedstead Manufacturer, 42, Ludgate-hill, London.

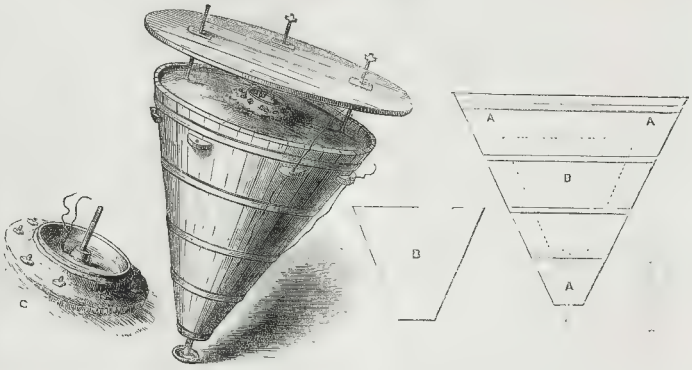
SCHWEPPE'S SODA, POTASS, MAGNESIA WATERS, and AERATED LEMONADE continue to be manufactured as usual, upon the largest scale at their several Establishments in London, Liverpool, Bristol, and Derby. Every bottle is protected by a label with the name of their Firm, without which none is genuine. German and Seltzer Water constantly found. At Berners-street.

PURE DEVONSHIRE CYDER, 33s.; Cockager Cyder, 48s.; Hereford Perry, 48s. each, in three-dozen hampers; Raspberry Gin, 30s. each, two dozen in three-dozen hampers, 28s. per dozen. The above are all delivered free to the Paddington station, hampers and baskets included, by BENJAMIN VICKERS, Newton Abbott, Devon. Cheque or Post-office order to accompany the order.



RUSSIAN INFERNAL MACHINE.

We have engraved, from the Sketch of a Correspondent, the Infernal Machine found in the dockyard at Kertch, on the Allied expedition taking possession of the town. A is the outer case of the machine; B, inner case, containing the charge of fine gunpowder; C, thick ring of gutta-percha, fitting closely to an inner iron ring above it; within are the wires for igniting the charge. In the entire Machine is shown the table-top for protecting the wires, &c. The Machine is about four feet in depth, and the circumference of the top about three feet. The whole is made with staves about three inches thick.



RUSSIAN INFERNAL MACHINE.

THE KERTCH EXPEDITION.

The importance of our bloodless victories at Kertch and Yenikale, and of the great blow which has been struck in the Sea of Azoff, appears more striking every day. It would seem that Russia, aware of her real weakness in these seas, or ignorant of the truth, allowed the most extraordinary statements to go forth respecting the completeness and magnitude of her preparations for defence. It was imagined that the channel was blocked up at Kertch, or below it; and for some time back it was sedulously stated that the passage had been obstructed by sunken ships, heaps or stones, piles of timber, and artificial banks; but our vessels got up easily in 2½ fathoms of water, at the very lowest, along a channel laid down and buoyed by the *Spitfire*. If any of these obstructions really do exist, they will no doubt be encountered in the old channel, to the eastward, and nearer to Taman, which is still marked with Russian buoys. The Allied fleet did not use that channel, but sailed close to the land from Ambalaki and Panlovskaya, and then stood across the entrance to Kertch, and got 4 fathoms to 2½ fathoms of water all the way to Yenikale.

Sir Edmund Lyons returned to the fleet on the evening of the 26th ult., and Sir George Brown went on shore, where he has taken up his quarters in a very humble house at Yenikale. It was expected that the Russians might return and attack our army in force, and that a portion of the Allies, after its excesses, would have been but little fit to repel them. Yenikale was set on fire in two places, and it required all the exertions of the authorities to prevent the flames spreading and devastating the whole place. The houses were smashed open, the furniture broken to pieces, and "looting" and plundering were the order, or disorder, of the day. The quantity of bedding, clothes, looking-glasses, coarse furniture, household chattels, and useful implements of all kinds carried off by the sailors to the ships off Yenikale was enormous. The English placed sentries over such buildings as they could protect, and the French also established order to a certain extent among their men; but our soldiers were much more amenable to discipline on such occasions than troops accustomed to African warfare and familiar with the traditions of conquest. The French have also an old grudge against the Russians, and perhaps feel a more bitter personal animosity against them than we do. Sir George Brown gave orders that any person found in the town after dark should be put in the guardhouse, and that any one in the guardhouse in the morning should be flogged.

Kertch is described by those soldiers who marched through it as a beautiful town, full of fine buildings, with clean wide streets, and excellent houses, quays, promenades, and Government institutions—worthy, in fact, of a well-ordered European State. The only injury inflicted on it was the destruction of a large granary by the Russians, and the demolition by fire of a manufactory of rifle-balls and munitions of war, belonging to an Englishman, which was found in full play by our troops. The proprietor, as well as two other countrymen of ours, who have been long settled in Kertch, was seized. All the people remained in the town. They were well-dressed and respectable, nor did they differ in appearance from the inhabitants of a Belgian or German town. As our troops marched through, the inhabitants came out to look at them, and offered them bread and salt, the tokens of submission and friendship. An English officer, who went into a chemist's shop, and asked for something to drink, was agreeably surprised at receiving a bottle of excellent soda-water, with a dash of liqueur in it. A great number of vessels fell into our hands, and all the Government stores and many guns, some of which were found loaded and shotted. The corn which the enemy failed to burn had been sprinkled by them with lime and water, to render it unfit for use; and it was feared that the poorer part of the population of Kertch, which is sufficiently numerous, would be reduced to great straits for want of food, as the public granaries have been laid waste and ruined. A small force of men was left to guard it, or rather to protect the inhabitants from marauders of the army. The Austrian Consul, whose flag is flying on the principal quay, exerted himself to procure protection for life and property. In a strategical point of view it is objected by some that we have relied too much on the ignorance and cowardice of the enemy in leaving such an important position as Kertch open to a sudden assault,

(Continued on page 640.)

THE TURKISH CONTINGENT FOR THE CRIMEA.—SEE PAGE 633.

ENGLISH AND FRENCH LINE-OF-BATTLE SHIPS.

ENGLISH GUNBOATS DISEMBARKING TROOPS.

ENGLISH GUNBOATS DISEMBARKING TROOPS.

VILLAGE ON FIRE.

FRENCH LANDING THEIR TROOPS.

HOUSES BURNING, SET ON FIRE BY THE RUSSIANS.

RUSSIANS BLOWING UP THEIR CHIEF FORT.

"VIPER" SHELLING THE FORT.

KERTCH BAY.

YENIKALE.

RUSSIAN MERCHANTMEN

GENERAL VIEW OF THE OPERATIONS AT KERTCH.—SKETCHED FROM THE "CARADOC," BY W. S. M. WOLFE, R.A.—(SEE PAGE 632.)

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

It is said that a magnificent entrance is projected for the Queen into Paris entirely of a military character. A double row of troops will form a line on the Boulevards, from the station of the Strasbourg Railway, by which her Majesty will pass in coming from the chemin de fer du Nord.

Last week took place a brilliant though not very numerously-attended concert at the Tuileries. The Queen Christina, the Prince Jerome, the King of Portugal and his brother, and the Princess Mathilde were among the guests. The principal vocal success of the evening was that of Mdme Marie Cabel, which was complete. One of the performances was the chorus of the "Vêpres Siciliennes," at the first representation of which their Majesties had appeared on the previous evening. After the execution of the *morceau*, M. Verdi was honoured by a conversation of some length with the Empress, who, as well as the Emperor, addressed various compliments in person to the different performers.

A project was entertained for the giving, by the *Monde Officiel*, a Venetian fête on the water at St Cloud. Forty young choristers, men and women, were to perform a concert in gondolas; and there was even an idea of the Venetian costume being adopted by the guests. But the badness of the weather, which, since the middle of last week, has been wretched in the extreme, has compelled the necessity of postponing, if not abandoning, the project.

The Prince Napoleon has been for some days confined to his room by a somewhat severe indisposition, which prevented his usual reception taking place on Saturday evening; he is, however, recovering, and hopes to be abroad by the end of this, or beginning of the next, week.

It is supposed that the Emperor and Empress will proceed quite privately to the Eaux-Bonnes at the end of the month. The Emperor will we believe, conduct her Majesty thither, and return at the expiration of her stay to bring her back to Paris.

It is only at present that the Exhibition is beginning to be complete in its internal arrangements. The aspect it presents is certainly most brilliant, and nothing can exceed the beauty and rarity of much of its contents; but its extremely defective organisation in various respects becomes daily more apparent. Every day that the sun condescends to make his appearance is decidedly rare event at present—the heat of the Building, the drawings and fountains, is intolerable; while each day that the close's pour forth their tribute a circumstance which we would desire should be much rarer—their impartiality induces them to bestow on the interior, as well as exterior, of the edifice a watery benefit highly conducive to the beauty of the wares displayed, to the dresses of the visitors, as well as to their comfort and enjoyment. As a fresh instance of the amiable hospitality of the Administration, on the days that it rained most incessantly they closed the passage of the Panoramas, thus forcing the visitors to cross the open space between the Palace and the *annexe* under torrents of rain, and through mud and sand ankle deep. The Emperor and Empress generally visit the Exhibition on the Fridays; they are observed to pay particular attention to the English produce, especially some of the Manchester goods, and the articles in caoutchouc.

A *Camp de Manœuvres* is being established near Golfe, in the environs of Paris.

A trial which produces the utmost sensation is about to be judged at Orleans. An officer in the 78th Regiment, himself a Protestant, has a son who (his mother having been Roman Catholic) has been brought up to the age of eleven in the latter faith. The father, having since married a Protestant, wishes the boy to adopt that religion, which the mother's family oppose: hence the grounds of the present trial, which cannot fail to be highly interesting and important, in a civil as well as in a religious point of view, as testing the limit and extent of the paternal authority, and that appertaining to the family in general.

AMERICA.

The mail-steamer *American*, which left New York on the 5th inst., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday.

A grand Know Nothing Convention was to be held at Philadelphia on the 5th inst. The Democratic party were making a great struggle to cope with the know Nothings, and their organs boast that a considerable reaction is already visible. A municipal election at Washington had resulted in favour of the Know-Nothings by only a small majority. At Norwich and New Haven the Democratic candidates for city offices were chosen by handsome majorities. Only six weeks since the know-Nothings carried Norwich by 300 majority. On the 4th inst. they were beaten by 200 votes. The Know Nothing State Convention at Bangor (Maine) had adjourned after passing strong anti-slavery resolutions, with only three dissenting votes, and appointing delegates to the National Council at Philadelphia.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.*)*

"Banquet-D'H.-Lers," Balaclava Harbour, Crimea.
June, 185-.

Allow me, in reference to the description you gave of the opening of my Kitchen at Scutari, in your number of the 14th May, to correct an error, occasioned by the omission of a word, which entirely alters my sentiment, and, if not contradicted, would reflect discredit on the authorities of Scutari, and thereby inflict a serious injustice. The sentence to which I refer appears in your journal thus:—"That I prepared my bill of fare according to the provisions allowed, which at all times of an inferior quality;" whilst the passage should have run as follows:—"That I prepared my bill of fare according to the provisions allowed, which at all times are of an inferior quality at *Constantinople*." It is due to the Scutari authorities that I should mention that they took every means in their power to provide the best food that could be obtained, and on many occasions allowed me to choose the articles myself before purchasing them. Upon discovery of the mistake in the report I immediately rode to head-quarters, though nearly dusk, and solicited an interview with Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, who kindly promised to explain the matter, and exonerate me. In conclusion, I must beg the favour of your kind insertion of this communication in your next; and, in further edification for your readers, I would add that the best meat, bread, butter, milk, &c., in Constantinople are hardly equal in quality to the third-class provisions obtainable in the London market—a fact that occasioned the remarks with respect to the provisions, in my former letter.

I am, &c.,
A SOLDIER.

THE testimonial to the late Lord Dudley Stuart is to be "a distinct department in one of the unendowed metropolitan general hospitals."

NEW CORN-EXCHANGE AT WATFORD.—On Monday the building of a corn-exchange, which some public-spirited ladies of the district have caused to be built by a company to raise, was formally commenced at Watford. The shareholders, to give a prestige to their undertaking, invited the Freemasons of Hertfordshire to attend the ceremony, and the call was most readily answered. Mr. William Stuart, the Provincial Grand Master of Freemasons of Hertford, summoned a special grand lodge for the occasion, and deputed Brother John Sedgwick, the Provincial Secretary, and Brother Hoyt, to arrange the proceedings. The Vicar of Watford having granted the use of his church, the Brethren, at two o'clock, walked thither in order, preceded by several gentlemen connected with the undertaking. Prayers were read by Bro. the Rev. W. Brandon, the Curate of Bushey; and Bro. the Rev. O. F. Owen, Grand Chaplain of Surrey (whose services the Grand Master had solicited for the occasion), delivered a discourse, taking for his text Psalm cxxiv, verses 1, 2, 3, the point and end of which was that without God's aid what would be a people's fate in times of trouble, or rather that without a religious-minded people nations and empires must fail, and with the decay of the virtues of a people their liberties must perish. After the service, the procession re-formed, and in the same order walked to the site of the building, where the usual Masonic ceremonies were gone through. A sealed bottle containing coins of the day and a parchment describing the event, as well as printed documents concerning it, thereon, were placed in a cavity of the stone. Mr. Murray, the architect, presented the trowel with which the cement was spread by the Provincial Grand Master; the upper stone was placed and rendered secure; corn, wine, and oil were scattered; and the Grand Chaplain invoked a blessing on the work. A cold collation was provided in the noble Masonic Hall, to which about eighty gentlemen sat down, the greater number being Freemasons. Brother Stuart, the Provincial Grand Master, presided, and was supported by Thomas Abel Ward, his deputy.

WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

RECOMMENCEMENT OF THE BOMBARDMENT.

By the *Euphrate* steamer, which arrived at Marseilles on Tuesday afternoon, ample accounts of the gallant actions before Sebastopol on the 7th inst. have been received. The news of the successes achieved by the fleet had raised the spirits of the Allied army before the attack was made, and the same news had no doubt had a depressing influence on the Russians. On the 5th inst. the general order (which we have given in another part of to-day's paper), announcing the victories of the fleet, was read before the brigades, and on the following night Lord Raglan and General Pelissier rode through the camps amidst the hurrahs and acclamations of both their armies.

As we stated a fortnight ago, the bombardment recommenced on the afternoon of the 6th inst. Our fire was kept up for the first three hours with extreme rapidity, the Russians answering by no means on an equal scale. On our side the predominance of shells was very manifest, and distinguished the present cannonade in some degree even from the last. The superiority of our fire over the enemy became apparent at various points during the day, especially in the Redan, which was under the especial attention of the Naval Brigade. The Russians displayed, however, plenty of determination and bravado. They fired frequent salvos at intervals of four or six guns, and also, by way of reprisals, threw heavy shot up to our Light Division, and on to the Head-house-hill. Shortly after sunset the Russians ceased firing from their batteries. An incessant shelling was kept up all night from our works, to prevent the enemy from repairing damages. So silent were the Russian works that it seemed probable the guns had been drawn from the embrasures and placed behind the parapets, and that the gunners themselves had also retired to places of shelter.

MUSTERING FOR THE ASSAULT.

The excitement in both Camps throughout the day was extreme. At noon a deputation of French officers, commissionaires and officers, and men of every regiment of General Bosquet's troops waited on him to state that they wished and desired to be led to the assault. Every one was on the *qui vive*, and even the artificers attached to each regiment, who generally are exempted from fighting, were under arms. In the afternoon it became known that operations were to commence in earnest in the evening. The French were to assault the Kamschatka Redoubt on the Mamelon hill, and also the redoubts on the east side of Careening Bay. As soon as the Mamelon was secured, the English were to take the Quarry work in front of the Redan, and the Russian trenches in front of Frenchman's-hill. The French had served out to them cooked rations for forty-eight hours, and a pint of wine each. All were in high spirits, eager for the struggle, and confident of the result.

About five p.m. the French divisions marched to the attack. The Second Division, with General Camot in front, led the way. About six or seven hundred yards from the entrance to the Karabelnaia ravine the regiments were halted, and shortly afterwards General Bosquet arrived, with his staff, and addressed a few words to each regiment in turn. It, each, at the conclusion of his remarks, the General was greeted with loud cheers. The order to move forward was then given. A battalion of the Algerian troops led the way. They were followed by three battalions of the 50th Regiment of the Line. The 3rd Regiment of Zouaves came after—powerful, active, sunburnt Europeans—in their Eastern costume and agile movement seeming the twin brothers of the Algerian troops, and preceded them. The Chassaurs à pied, who followed, with their Russian, they were advanced towards the Redan, and perhaps, had they been in force, such was the confusion and alarm of the Russians, they might have carried this important work. As it was the enemy returned with comparatively powerful reinforcements, and suddenly opened a flanking fire, which compelled our men to abandon the Quarry. It was not armed as had been anticipated. A second time our men moved against this work, and took it from the enemy, who had again entered it; nor was this the last time, for still later in the evening a third contest for its possession took place, which ended, as before, in our being victors, but at a severe expense. No less than eighteen officers, and a large number of men, amounting to upwards of half the original attacking force, were placed *hors de combat*, including killed and wounded. Colonel Campbell behaved with the most determined gallantry. He was struck no less than four times, and once so severely by a musket-ball, much providentially was prevented from inflicting a more serious wound by striking the front of his sword-belt, that he fainted. Nothing but the unflinching bravery of the troops could have enabled them to retain the Quarry after they had wrested it from the enemy. The ground at the back of the Quarry was fortunately found to be loose and soft, so that the working party were enabled to throw up some cover in this direction without much difficulty.

During the night repeated attacks, six in all, were made upon our men in the Quarries, who defended their new acquisition with the utmost courage and pertinacity, and at a great sacrifice of life, against superior numbers, continually replenished. The strength of the party told off for the attack was only 1000, of whom 600 were in support. At the commencement 200 only went in, and another 200 followed. More than once there was a fierce hand-to-hand fight in the position itself, and our fellows had frequently to dash out in front and take their assailants in flank. In one of the attacks the Russians experienced some difficulty in bringing their men again to the scratch. At length one Russian officer succeeded in bringing on four men, which Corporal Quin, of the 47th, perceiving, made a dash out of the work, and with the butt end of his musket stunned one, bayonetted a second, and, the other two taking to their heels, brought in the officer a prisoner, having administered to him a gentle prick by way of quickening his movements. After delivering him up he suggested to his comrades that there were plenty more to be had.

On Saturday morning, the latest date of any of the letters from the Camp, the Russians moved one of their line-of-battle ships over on the other side of the harbour, so as to command the ravine between the Redan and the Malakoff Tower. If this speaks of defence, there are other things which most suggest the idea that the Russians seem no more to consider as impossible the taking of the town by the Allies, for quantities of materials, ammunition, and balls, have been taken over to the north side.

Russian prisoners and deserters represent the loss of these battles as enormous. 20,000 men are spoken about as their loss since the reopening of the bombardment; 15,000 alone during the attack on the 7th.

Two despatches from Lord Raglan, dated June 9, have been received, in which he gives an account of the capture of the Russian works, and confirms the above reports of the gallantry and high military qualities of the French and English armies, as displayed in the severe engagements of the 7th and 8th inst. One of the despatches contains a list of the officers killed and wounded, but that we gave in our last Number.

THE WAR IN ASIA

The intelligence received from the seat of war in Asia, by the last steamer from Constantinople, is of a vague description. At Kars an attack of the Russians was considered inevitable. The Turks have evacuated Batoum and Chouroukh-su. Nassif Pacha has advanced with his general staff to Kars. The French Consul has quitted Batoum. The Russian forces have advanced and encamped near Redout-Kale.

THE HANGO MASSACRE

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

DANTZIC, Thursday, June 21.—The *Lightning* has arrived with the mail. Lieutenant General, Dr. Easton, and Mr. Sullivan are prisoners, but wounded. The fleet was lying off Seskar Island.

RUSSIAN VERSION

The following appears in the *Journal of St. Petersburg* of the 19th:—

The Commander of the Forces in Finland, Adjutant General von Berg, reports a very successful skirmish, which took place not far from Hango Udd, between our volunteers and a second battalion of the King of Prussia Grenadier Regiment and a part of the crew of the English frigate *Cossack*. The affair took place as follows:—On June 5th, at noon, the frigate *Cossack* appeared in the roads of Hango Udd, and sent off a boat, which came ashore in the vicinity of the lighthouse, and landed a small party, under the command of some officers, there. Ensign Sawertschkoff, of the King of Prussia Grenadier Regiment, to whom this portion of the coast is entrusted, having been early informed of the enterprise of the enemy, concentrated some volunteers at his disposal behind a building opposite the landing-place, and another portion, under the subaltern officer, Peter Pawloff, he detached along the beach to cut off the retreat of the English. The enemy, attacked on a sudden, defended himself but feebly, and laid down his arms. The success of this affair must be ascribed to the coolness and the foresight of Ensign Sawertschkoff. The loss of the enemy amounts to five killed: there were taken prisoners, one officer, one surgeon, one marine (*garde marine*), and eight sailors, of which latter four were wounded. In addition to the above our troops made spoil of the flag of the boat, seven muskets, and seven cutlasses. The boat itself, with one cannon on board, was sunk. On the following morning the English frigate came in close to Hango Udd, and fired at the buildings for about an hour and a half, but without doing them any great harm.

THE RUSSIAN DIFFICULTIES.

The general tenor of the accounts from Russia show that the resources of that great empire are becoming exhausted; indeed, the evacuation of Soujak kaléh and Anapa, taken in connection with the small number of troops at Kertch and Yenikale, is enough to show that even maternal of war, the Russian supplies of which were said to be inexhaustible, is falling very far short of the demand. A few weeks ago it was stated in a Berlin paper, that the number of local commissions issued for the execution of the last Imperial ukase, ordering a further levy of 12 recruits per 1000 souls in the western provinces of Russia, has been quadrupled from what it was at the beginning of this year, and that even as far back as January last General Tschodoieff had represented that the *cadres* of his reserve battalions (5th and 6th) had been so thinned by the draughts sent off to the exterior provinces that he had been obliged to draw upon the dépôts for many thousands, and that, consequently, the 7th and 8th battalions must now be made up again to their complement.

A telegraphic despatch from St. Petersburg announces that a fresh ukase has been issued for the purpose of expediting the levy of recruits lately ordered in the seventeen western governments of Russia to the extent of 12 in every 1000 registered "souls;" the tenor of which ukase is to suspend all the hitherto existing exemptions from military services as regards the populations of towns and hamlets, to extend the age at which men have hitherto been liable to serve up to that of 37 years, and to empower the military boards entrusted with the business of conscription even to set aside the exemption hitherto existing in favour of only sons.

Advices from Konigsberg state also that a recent Imperial ukase orders that baptised Jews, who have hitherto been exempted, shall furnish 30 recruits for every 1000 souls to the Russian army.

Worse than all, however, for the Russian Government is the threatening aspect of affairs in the Ukraine and the adjoining provinces, where the disturbances among the peasantry, so far from being suppressed, as was lately said in the St. Petersburg journals, are becoming more and more alarming. A letter from Posen, dated the 14th inst., states that the landed proprietors from Volhynia and the Ukraine continue to flock to Warsaw, in anticipation of serious disturbances in those districts. The movement, however, has not as yet been that of hostility to the proprietors; it is mainly directed against the Russian Government, who are regarded by the peasants as the most effective agents of the Russian Government. A detachment of from 300 to 400 recruits for the Russian army from Radom, the chief town of the Palatinate of Sandomirz, in Russian Poland, is said to have revolted, and, while on their march to the East, to have joined the malcontents.

A letter from St. Petersburg, of the 5th, in the *News* of Hamburg, says—"The synod of St. Petersburg (the highest ecclesiastical authority in Russia) has presented an address to the Emperor, earnestly praying him to show himself more disposed towards conference of peace, in so far as the political interests of the State would permit. It is not known how the Emperor has received this address." The clergy are no doubt alarmed at the dangers which threaten "Holy Russia," from the foreign influences now at work.

THE RUSSIAN PEACE DOCUMENT.

The *Journal de St. Petersbourg* of the 12th inst. devotes six columns to a reply to Count Walewski's circular despatch of the 23rd May. This new Russian document is simply a repetition of the former sophistical casuistry, though more moderate in tone. It brings forward no new arguments, nor does it throw any new light upon this vexed question. It concludes by attributing the rupture of the Vienna Conferences to France and England, and expresses the hope that the negotiations may be resumed, and the blessing of peace so eagerly desired be assured to Europe. After stating that "the moment seemed to have arrived when the wisdom of the Cabinets assembled in Conference at Vienna was to put an end to this crisis," "and that Russia has the satisfaction of knowing that she did all that was in her power to contribute towards the work of peace, in the plausible manifesto, which has been drawn up for the use of the Oxford-Manchester party, winds up in the following terms:—

Such are the considerations which present themselves to our mind at the moment we learn the closing of the Vienna Conferences. It was provoked by the refusal of the Plenipotentiaries of France and England to accede to the propositions of the Court of Austria, made with the object of an arrangement. On this refusal Count Buol declared the sittings closed on the 4th June.

The blame of the rupture falls then upon the Western Powers. Their fill will put an end to the negotiations. The Russian Cabinet is not responsible for it. If, on the one hand, it opposed to France and England the firm resolution of not putting up with exactions which exceed the limits laid down at the open ng of the Conferences, on the other hand it offered to the friendly Powers the proof of its sincere desire to continue loyally towards a pacification conformable to the sentiment of the dignity of Russia. Constant to these principles, it will leave the path open to an honourable reconciliation, when the desire of peace shall have made itself more generally evident in France and in England. Our fellow-citizens will understand the opinion of the two countries on the mistake of a war without an object—of a bloody war without a cause. The resumption of negotiations may then be allowed, with the hope of success, to assure to Europe the blessings so long disavowed, of general repose.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

Two hundred of the dépôt of the 72nd Highlanders left Dublin on Monday morning for Queenstown, there to embark to join the service company ones at the seat of war.

A STAFF CORPS, consisting of twelve companies of 120 men each, is to be organised on a similar system to that attached to the Quartermaster-General's Department during the Peninsular War, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Robe, who superintended and conducted the military roads and other extensive works connecting the martello towers on the coasts of Kent, Sussex, and Hampshire. The corps will be composed of mechanics, carpenters, shoeing smiths, blacksmiths, masons, bricklayers, and excavators, and will be attached to the Quartermaster-General's Department.

ALL the French gun-boats and floating-batteries destined to operate in the Baltic are to rendezvous at Cherbourg. Fourteen are completely armed and manned, and ready to put to sea—viz., the floating battery *Lave*, the steam gun boats *Eclair*, *Etincelle*, *Dragonne*, *Aigrette*, *Fulminante*, *Tempête*, and *Tonnerre*; the steam gun-vessels *Tonnin*, *Torch*, and *Bombe*; and the steam-sloops *Pélican*, *Tonnerre*, and *Aigle*. Ten other vessels belonging to the Baltic squadron are daily expected at Cherbourg viz, the floating-batteries *Congrève*, *Foudroyante*, *Tonnante*, and *Lave*, and the steam gun-boats *Avalanche*, *Flamme*, and *Grenade*, the steam mortar-vessel *Cassini*, and the sailing mortar-vessels *Fournaise* and *Trombe*.

THE Government having decided on concentrating 4000 troops in the neighbourhood of Exeter, General Eden, the Commander of the West-of-England district, inspected Woodbury, Lympstone, and Blackhills, on Saturday last, for the purpose of ascertaining the best spot for the proposed Camp. He was accompanied by Captain Hanley, of the Royal Engineers.

IN addition to the immense reinforcements of cavalry, infantry, and artillery about to embark from England, the following regiments are under orders to proceed to the seat of war, immediately on being relieved by line and militia regiments, viz.—13th Light Infantry, from Gibraltar, 54th Foot, from Malta; 49th Foot, from Malta; 82nd Foot, from the Ionian Islands; 1st Battalion 91st Foot, from the Piræus; and 92nd Highlanders, from Gibraltar. The following regiments of infantry of the line are under orders to embark for foreign service, but it is believed they will proceed in the first instance to Gibraltar, Malta, or the Ionian Islands previously to joining the army in the East, viz.—19th Foot (recently returned from Cork); 31st Foot, Sir Edward Kerrison's Light Infantry, from Manchester; 56th Pompadours, from Dublin; 3rd Battalion 60th Rifles (newly raised), from Dublin; 80th Foot, from Portsmouth; 96th Foot, 1300 strong, recently returned from India; 30th Foot, from Dublin; 89th Foot, from Weedon; and 3rd Battalion (newly levied) of the Rifle Brigade, from Gosport.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories*: The Rev. J. S. Mulcaster to Great Salkeld, near Penrith; Rev. W. P. Goodie to Earsham, near Bungay. Rev. C. R. Harrison to Feldon, Essex; Rev. G. R. Mackharness to Honiton, Rev. T Clarkson to Wyverstone, Suffolk. *Vicarages*. Rev. W. Cooper to Wakefield; Rev. G. C. Hodgson to Barton, Westmoreland; Rev. A. Wyman to Harlington, near Bakewell; Rev. W. W. Trumper to Clifford; Rev. A. Rogers to Avenbury; Rev. W. G. Holmes to Little Hampton, Sussex; Rev. H. Walker to Ludham, Norfolk. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. W. Carr to All Saints' Church, Lambeth, Rev. R. H. Davies to Old Ch. Ilsa Church, Rev. E. W. H. Bartholomew to Dundry, near Bristol; Rev. T. Pager to Knowle St Giles, Somerset.

AFTER a sermon preached on Sunday last at St. John's, Paddington, by the Bishop of Oxford, on behalf of St. Mary's Hospital, the collection amounted to £336 12s. 11½d.

THE new church of St. Margaret, at Durham Massey, in the parish of Bowden, Cheshire recently erected at the sole charge of the Earl of Stamford and Warrington, at a cost of upwards of £13,000—was consecrated by the Bishop of Chester on Wednesday week.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from page 632.*)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

THE MASSACRE AT HANGO.

The Earl of MALMESBURY rose to call attention to the painful case the massacre of the boat's crew of the *Cygnet*, on the 6th of June, Hango, in violation of the flag of truce. The noble Earl reapitulated the circumstances of this melancholy affair, which have acquired so great a notoriety, and proceeded to compare with them the Russian version of this affair, which, even if true, he (the Earl of Malmesbury) considered, did not at all justify the conduct of the Russian officer. He, therefore, inquired of her Majesty's Government what course they should think it their duty to follow with regard to this matter?

The Earl of CLARENDON could not believe that an outrage so horrible and infamous as that which his noble friend had put quite correctly before the House was done under the sanction or with the approbation of the Russian Government. He had sent instructions to her Majesty's Minister at Copenhagen to put himself in communication with the Danish Minister at St. Petersburg, of whose friendly offices he had many proofs, for the purpose of laying the matter before the Russian Government. Her Majesty's Government awaited with extreme anxiety the result of such a communication to the Court of St Petersburg, and their course of action would be in a great measure regulated by it.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH said that what her Majesty's Government had done in respect to this matter was, no doubt, very proper; but he apprehended that Admiral Dundas, upon his own discretion, had already made a communication upon the subject to the Russian Government.

The Earl of CLARENDON said that her Majesty's Ministers had of course communicated to the gallant Admiral the nature of the steps which they had taken.

The Earl of MALMESBURY said that, if the Russian Government did not deal with this atrocious outrage in a proper manner, he trusted that her Majesty's Ministers would be prepared to take further steps in the matter—not by way of reprisals of a similar character, which could only bring dishonour upon us without obtaining satisfaction, but in such a way as would bring the force of public opinion throughout Europe to bear, in the shape of a general protest, against this outrage on the part of the Russians.

The Measurement of Merchant Steamers Bill was thrown out on the second reading by a majority of seven.

The Leases and Sales of Settled Estates Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Stamp Duties Repeal on Matriculation and Degrees (Oxford) Bill was read a second time.

The Charitable Trusts Bill passed through Committee.

The Grants of Lands Bill, and the Public Libraries and Museums (Ireland) Bill, were severally read a second time.

The Insurance on Lives Abatement of Income-tax Continuance Bill, and the Cinque Ports Bill, were severally read a third time, and passed.

The Derby of Lancaster Lands Bill, and the Militia (No. 2) Bill, were severally passed through Committee.

The Consolidated Fund (£10,000,000) Bill, and the Spirits of Wine Bill, were severally read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The House sat at twelve o'clock, when they went into Committee upon the Metropolis Local Management Bill. The discussion upon the clauses occupied the attention of the Committee up to a quarter before four o'clock, when the House adjourned.

The House resumed business at six o'clock.

THE CRIMEA.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Captain KNOX, said that the Government had received information from the Crimea that day. The telegraphic communication had been for some days stopped, but it was now put to rights. Lord Raglan stated that up to the morning of the 17th inst. there had been a great deal of firing upon each side, but nothing of importance had occurred.

TENANTS' IMPROVEMENTS COMPENSATION (IRELAND) BILL.

The House then went into Committee upon the above bill.

Almost the whole of the night was occupied by a discussion of the clause No. 4, and several additions to the clause proposed by Mr Serjeant Shee were rejected by large majorities.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM.

The order of the day for resuming the debate having been read, the amendment of Sir E. B. Lytton was agreed to without any division. The House at the time (twenty minutes past one) was exceedingly thin. Only a solitary voice, behind the Ministerial benches, which cried "No to the amendment, was greeted with much laughter.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

The following bills were passed through Committee, viz.—Union of Contiguous Benefices in Cities and Towns, Weights and Measures, Stamp Duties Repeal on Matriculation and Degrees (Oxford), Grants of Lands, Public Libraries and Museums (Ireland), Consolidated Fund, and Spirits of Wine Bills.

The following bills were read a second time, viz.—Carnegie Restitution, Assizes and Sessions, and Edinburgh Lands Bills.

The following bills were read a third time and passed, viz.—Infants' Marriage, Duchy of Lancaster Lands, and Militia (No. 2) Bills.

The Church Patronage Transfer Bill and the Charitable Trusts Bill were reported, with amendments.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE asked the Government whether they had availed themselves of the invention of Colonel Bethune for the destruction of the forts of the enemy in the Baltic?

Lord PANMURE said that the Government were deluged with propositions of that sort when the war broke out. The invention in question had been referred to Sir C. Napier, who stated that it was a most dangerous weapon to make use of. The Ordnance reported unfavourably upon it, and, consequently, it was not adopted.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH said that the Government ought to refer all such matters to a Select Committee to examine and report on them.

Lord PANMURE said that there was a Scientific Committee at Woolwich to whom all such inventions were referred, who investigated their merits and reported upon them. The Government adopted such as appeared to be of advantage to the service.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

NOTICE OF CENSURE UPON THE GOVERNMENT.

Mr ROEBUCK gave notice of his intention, on the 3rd July, to move the following resolution—viz., "That this House, deeply lamenting the sufferings of the Army during the winter campaign in the Crimea, and coincidingwith the resolution of the Committee upon the state of the Army before Sebastopol, that the conduct of the administration was the first and chief cause of the calamities which befel that Army, hereby visits with its severest reprobation every member of the Cabinet that counselled the proceedings which led to such disastrous results."

Mr. PEEL, in reply to Mr. W. O. Stanley, said, it did not appear that the superior officers of the regiment were to blame in the affair of practical joking at Canterbury, and therefore no ulterior proceedings were in contemplation.

Admiral BERKELEY, in reply to General Harcourt, said that the Admiralty had received no official information relative to the massacre at Hango since the despatch of Admiral Dundas.

On the motion that the House at its rising should adjourn until Monday, Sir J. PAKINGTON expressed his regret at the delay in the way of proceeding with the Education Bills, and asked the Government when the discussion would be resumed, not that he expected any of the bills to pass in the present Session, but he thought some practical advantage would arise from their being read a second time, and sent to a Select Committee.

Mr HADFIELD hoped that the observations of the right honourable Baronet might be regarded as his funeral oration over his own bill.

Lord J. RUSSELL said that neither the Government nor the House was responsible for the delay, which was entirely caused by the overwhelming mass of business before them. He hoped, however, that the discussion might be renewed while they could still hope for a large attendance of members.

Mr. STAFFORD called attention to the non-payment of wages to the sick and wounded troops that had returned from the Crimea with arrears due to them since last August.

Mr. PEEL said, they had no accounts as to the amount due, and were obliged to depend upon the mere statement of the men, which had been in some instances incorrect, and the public was of course defrauded.

Mr LINDSAY entered into a lengthened statement to prove that he had had said at Drury Lane he was not guilty of uttering "virulent untruths as was stated by Admiral Berkeley. He also read in support of his statements some returns which he said were untrue and most degrading.

Sir C. WOOD replied to the statement of Mr. Lindsay, and contended that the speech at Drury Lane had so mixed up fact and fiction that anyone who knew the naked truth would find it difficult to recognise it in the guise in which it was presented by the hon. gentleman.

After a few words from General EVANS,

Admiral BERKELEY hoped that this would be a warning to the hon. gentleman who had made those charges. He had himself made use of some strong expressions under feelings of great indignation which he regretted, though he felt they were justified by the circumstances of the case.

Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. Crawford, said that no other telegraphic message had been received from the Crimea since that which had been sent by the Government to the morning papers. Any further intelligence that might arrive the Government would immediately communicate.

EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) BILL.

The motion for the adjournment of the House until Monday having been agreed to, they went into Committee upon the Education (Scotland) Bill, and the discussion of the clauses occupied the remainder of the night.

MESSRS. STRAHAN, PAUL, AND CO'S BANKRUPTCY.

CRIMINAL CHARGE AGAINST THE PARTNERS.

A meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Strahan, Paul, and Bates was held at the Law Institution, on Tuesday, to consider the steps to be taken to secure a full investigation of the petition recently opened in Bankruptcy. Between fifty and sixty persons were present, nearly the whole of whom are connected with the legal profession. It was agreed to support the choice of assignees proposed—namely, Mr. Barwis, an accountant and navy agent; and Mr. Montagu Tatham, a proctor; and adding the name of Mr. Appleyard, of Lincoln's-inn. Surprise was expressed that the partners should on Saturday, the 9th inst., have continued to pay out over the counter, knowing that they were on the eve of stopping; and that they closed their doors on the Saturday instead of on the Monday, the general body of creditors would have participated in a sum of £20,000, instead of about £2000, which remained in the till when the officer of the Court of Bankruptcy took possession. The house was kept open to the very last minute, and not opened on Monday, the 11th inst., for the simple reason that they had no funds to open with. A bankers' meeting was held on Friday, the 8th inst., to take into consideration the expediency of giving assistance to the house, and the result of their deliberations was not to grant them any aid.

Another meeting of creditors of the bankruptcy was held on Wednesday at the office of Mr. Bennett, solicitor, of 11, Essex-street, Strand, for the purpose of considering what steps should be pursued with respect to the position of creditors, and to arrange about further proceedings. Reference was made to the meeting of Tuesday, with the results of which the creditors present seemed to be satisfied. A creditor present said that he paid money into the bank a few minutes before payment was stopped; another gentleman stated that money was received from him at three o'clock; and a fourth stated that at about o'clock in the morning of stopping it was known that the Committee of Bankers in the City had refused to grant them credit. A case was related of one gentleman who had deposited all the money he had in the world in the bank, and was about to be married, having giving instructions for the withdrawal of the money, but the cheque was stopped. The solicitors in the locality, both themselves and clients, are heavy sufferers. The great mystery seemed to be how so many persons could manage to draw out their balances within other cheques were dealayed. One nobleman had received the hint the day before, and managed to draw out £5000.

On Wednesday afternoon Mr Robert Meakin Bute, the third partner in the above banking firm, was placed at the bar, before Mr. Jardine, at Bow street Police-court, to answer the charge of having, in conjunction with Messrs. Strahan and Paul, unlawfully negotiated, or otherwise disposed of, certain deeds or securities of the value of £6000, which had been entrusted to them for safe keeping by Dr. Griffiths. On Tuesday afternoon warrants for the apprehension of the three defendants had been placed in the hands of Blundell and Ticknor, the warrant officers attached to the court, who proceeded to execute them in private clothes. Mr. Strahan was arrested at his residence, at half-past seven, at 41, Norfolk street, Strand; after which the officers started by the Brighton Railway for Nutfield, near Reigate, the country residence of Sir John Dean Paul. They found Sir John at home, and succeeded in serving the warrant upon him; but, it being too late to return to London the same night, they allowed their prisoner to go to bed, and, sitting up all night themselves within view of Sir John's room, arranged to accompany him to London by an early train the next morning. Accordingly, they conducted the prisoner on Wednesday morning from his residence at Nutfield to the Reigate station, arriving at the latter barely in time to save the train. Tickets were procured hurriedly for the three; and, according to the statements of the warrant officers, the train was actually in motion when Sir John took his seat in a second class carriage. The constables were in the act of following him into the same carriage when a railway porter pulled them back, exclaiming, "Here's a gentleman, and you can't get in!" The officer replied, "We are police-constables; he is our prisoner, and we must accompany him. Resist us at your peril." To this the porters merely replied that they were only carrying out their orders "to prevent any one entering a carriage while the train was in motion;" and having closed the carriage-door against the officers, the train went off without them. A telegraphic message was sent to the London station by desire of the officers, who proceeded to town by the next up-train, which reached London-bridge only ten minutes after the one they had missed. On inquiry, however, of the station-master at London-bridge, their prisoner had been detained, he replied he did not know Sir John Paul by sight, and had taken no steps in the matter. As the officers had been equally unsuccessful at their pursuit of Mr. Strahan, Mr. Jardine agreed to postpone the case till Friday.

On Thursday forenoon Mr. Strahan, the first partner in the firm, was placed at the bar at Bow-street, at twelve o'clock, charged, in conjunction with Messrs. Paul and Bates, with unlawfully disposing of securities to the value of £6000 and upwards, the property of Dr. Griffiths, of Rochester.

Mr. Humphries stated that he proposed only to go into the case sufficiently to justify his Worship in remanding the prisoner till next day, to be then brought up with Mr. Bates. With this view he stated

Dr. Griffiths, the prosecutor, who stated that he had an account with Messrs. Strahan and Co., the bankers, of the Strand, who were directed by him to purchase certain securities, amounting altogether to £22,000, and to keep them on his behalf, for safe custody, at the bank. From information he had received he had reason to know that these securities had been either pledged or sold; and he was prepared to give full evidence of the particulars whenever called upon to do so.

Mr. Strahan, who had offered to surrender himself at once to meet the charge, was remanded till yesterday (Friday), when the three partners were placed in the dock, at Bow-street police-court, Sir John Dean Paul having surrendered himself on Thursday evening. In the course of the examination it transpired that Sir J. D. Paul, with the consent of his partners, had disposed of securities amounting in value to near £100,000, including the £22,000 belonging to Dr. Griffiths. The securities had been placed in the hands of Overend and Gurney, Burnett, in the City, six weeks ago. Mr. Strahan, in a private communication made to Dr. Griffiths, on Wednesday, stated that both he and Sir John Paul would by-and-by have money sufficient to redeem his securities. The whole of the prisoners were remanded until Wednesday next.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JUNE 21.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°	°		
June 15	29.209	65·7	49·8	55·4	− 2·8	92	N.	0·09
„ 16	29.305	63·6	44·6	51·3	− 8·1	95	N.W. & W.	0·18
„ 17	29.671	64·8	46·0	51·3	− 8·2	89	N.	0·07
„ 18	30.040	59·6	40·0	47·7	− 12·0	89	S.W.	0·00
„ 19	30.049	64·2	47·7	53·6	− 6·3	89	N.E.	0·02
„ 20	30.351	66·5	39·8	51·2	− 8·9	86	N.E.	0·00
„ 21	30.255	71·5	38·3	53·7	− 6·5	91	N.E.	0·00

Note.—The signs denotes below the average.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 29.30 in. at the beginning of the week to 29.24 in. by the afternoon of the 16th; increased to 29.94 in. by the 18th; decreased to 29.82 in. by the afternoon of the same day; increased to 30.35 in. by the 20th; and decreased to 30.29 in. by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.844 in.

The mean temperature of the week was 52°—being 7.7° below the average value.

The range of temperature during the week was 33.2°.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 21.1°. The greatest was 33.8°, on the 21st; and the least, 14.6°, on the 19th.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of four-tenths of an inch.

The weather has been unusually cold for the season, and but little rain has fallen.

Lewisham, June 22, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON. Within the week ending June 16 the births of 1474 children were registered: of these, 718 were boys and 756 girls. The average number in the twenty fourth week of the year, from the records of ten years, are 684 boys and 661 girls. The deaths within the week were 1000 in number, and 100 less than the average number in the week of the year, from the registers of ten years, was 1100, and it increased in proportion to increases of population to 1036. So that the number of deaths last week was rather less than the estimated number—a more favourable result than the bills of mortality have for some time disclosed. One person died of disease caused by intemperance; besides two who were suffocated in a state of intoxication. One person died from want.

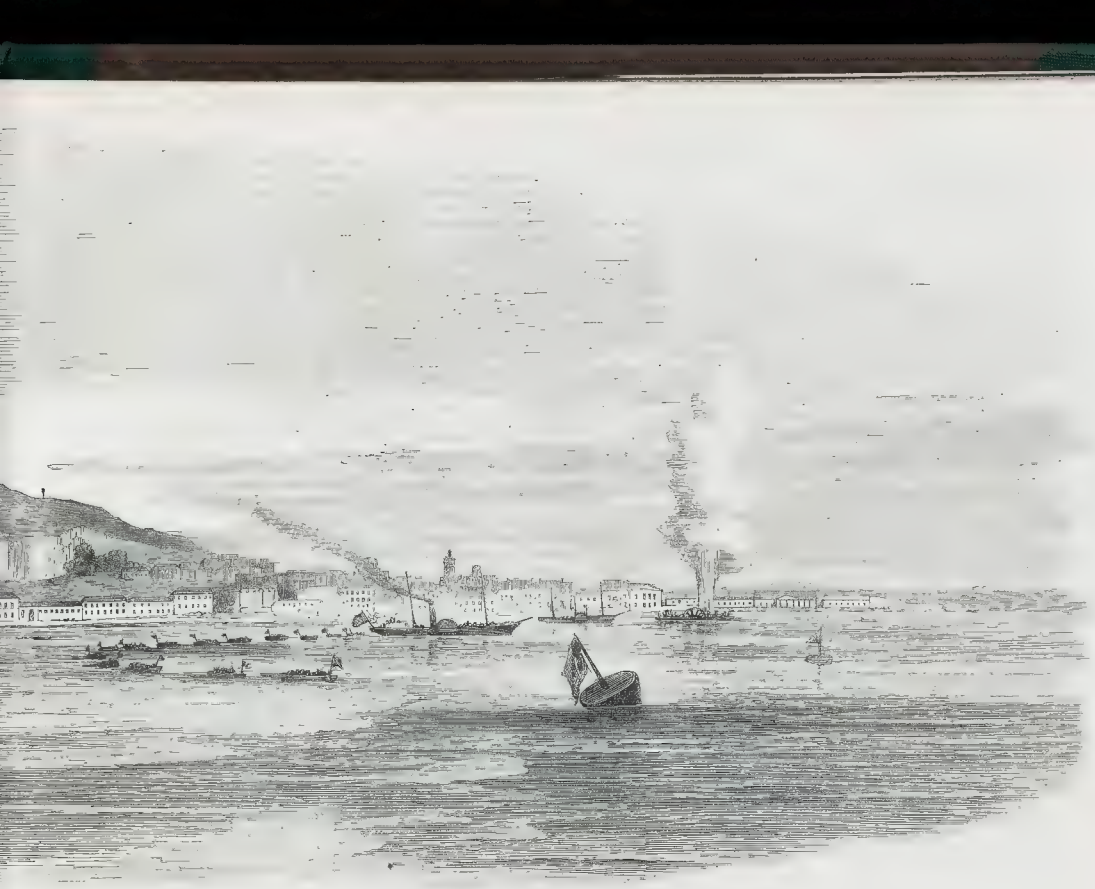
ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—The last meeting of the session will be held on Monday evening, when a paper will be read by Captain Collinson, R.N., on the geographical results of his late researches in the Arctic Regions, in her Majesty's ship *Enterprise*. We shall give an abstract of this paper, with a series of illustrations.

THE TOWN AN

We have been avoured by a Correspondent with the accompanying View of the Town and Harbour of Kertch, made after the place was taken. The details of the expedition have been given in a previous page; but we may here state, in addition, in explanation of our Correspondent's View, the line-of-battle ships lie about nine miles from the town: several steamers are there, and the *Minerva* and *Danube* frequently go backwards and forwards, towing long strings of boats to the fleet. Our Correspondent went up to the town. The objects of most interest to him were the "Infernal Machines": five or six were lying on the jetty in the dockyard. At first sight they appear like ordinary buoys, but a nearer inspection soon shows their real character and purpose. Although only a few of these machines were found, they were numbered as high as 57; and it is supposed that the remainder of them had been laid down. Just as our Correspondent landed there was an explosion of one of the Machines which was employed by the Allies to destroy a Russian steamer; which incident is shown on the extreme right in the long View of the Town and Harbour. We have engraved the Machine above named at page 632.

The town of Kertch is finely situated in a beautiful bay. Many of the buildings which skirt the shore are built in a tasteful style of architecture. Upon the rising ground behind is the Museum; and a small curious temple crowns the hill. To the left of this temple is the so-called Tomb of Mithridates; and upon the several hills around the bay are numerous tumuli

THE TOWN OF KERTCH.



THE STEAMER "MINNA" TOWING UP BOATS FROM THE FLEET — EXPERIMENT UPON A RUSSIAN VESSEL WITH AN INFERNAL MACHINE.

BOUR OF KERTCH.

Many of these have been opened, and a variety of articles taken rom them have been placed in the Kertch Museum; and it denotes the love of the inhabitants for these antiquities to find that the most valuable articles had been removed before the place was taken. It will be recollected that last week we engraved several specimens of antique art brought from Kertch, and deposited in the British Museum.

We may here mention, by way of correction, that the coin engraved last week (p. 597, No. 5), and described as a regal coin of Kertch, is, we are informed, a *civic* coin of ancient Kertch, then called Panticapæum: obverse head of Pan, with a wreath of ivy reverse P A N, surrounding a bull's head.

This Correspondent adds:—"I may mention that the operations in the Sea of Azoff, under Captain Lyons, son of Sir Edmund Lyons, have been most successful, and are of the highest importance."

The two lower Views of the town are from Sketches taken by our own Artist, and represent a closer view of the principal buildings upon the shore, with an interior view of the Market-place. Our Artist writes:—"When our fleet first appeared off Kertch, a courier was dispatched to Sebastopol for assistance, when he was half-way on the road he was met by another messenger, from Sebastopol to the Governor of Kertch, stating that he was hard pressed, and required reinforcements. Kertch was given up to the enemy almost without their having fired a shot. After our troops had passed through the town the inhabitants were in a state of great alarm. The Tartars began to plunder, and the Turks to commit various excesses: and three of the latter were shot by the French guard. A deputation of the inhabitants having waited upon General Brown, after three days a guard was granted them."

KERTCH, NEAR THE MARKET-PLACE.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, June 24.—3rd Sunday after Trinity. Midsummer day.
MONDAY, 25.—Battle of Bannockburn, 1324.
TUESDAY, 26.—Attempted Insurrection at Guadaloupe, 1849.
WEDNESDAY, 27.—Dr. Dodd executed for forgery, 1777.
THURSDAY, 28.—Queen Victoria crowned, 1838.
FRIDAY, 29.—St. Peter.
SATURDAY, 30.—Earl of Argyll beheaded, 1685.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 30, 1855.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.	M.	A.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
8 52	6 21	9 40	10 18	10 46	11 18	1. 45	No Tide	0 12	0 38	1 2	1 30	1 52	2 15

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK.—The collection of living Animals includes a magnificent series of Lions, Lion Whelps, Cheetahs, Spotted Hunting Dogs, and other Carnivora, Giraffes, Hippopotamus, Reptiles, Fish, and other Marine Animals. The band of the 1st Life Guards will perform (by permission of Colonel Forster) every Saturday at four o'clock. Admission, as Monday, 6d.

ADAM and EVE. This great Original Work, by JOSEPH VAN LERIUS, is now on VIEW at 67, PALL-MALL, opposite Marlborough-house, from Eleven to Six daily.—Admission, One Shilling.

LUMINOUS and CHROMATIC FOUNTAIN, 100 feet in height, at the ROYAL PANOPTICON, Leicester-square, daily at 4.35 and 9.55. The Institution is open Morning, 12 to 5. Evening, 7 to 10. Echo is and children half price.

MDLLE. CECILIA MARES' CONCERT. SIGNOR BOTTESINI will perform a Solo on the Double Bass at the evening Concert, which will take place at the BEETHOVEN ROOMS on WEDNESDAY Evening next, the 27th inst.

MASTER ARTHUR NAPOLEON'S (the celebrated Portuguese Pianist) GRAND EVENING CONCERT, at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, on TUESDAY, June 26, 1855, to commence at Eight o'clock, positively. Vocalists: Madame Sauvage, Madame Mestres de Fontaine, Signor Ruffini, Mr Sims Reeves, Signor Bettesini, etc. M. Lasser Pianoforte: Master Arthur Napoleon. Violin, Mr. Kettenus, Violoncello, M. Lasser. Conductor, Herr Wilhelm Ganz. Master Arthur Napoleon will perform in the course of the Concert, Beethoven's Sonata Pastorale, a Grand Concertante Duet with M. Lasser, Mendelssohn's Andante and Rondo Capriccioso, and Thalberg's "Moses in Egypt." Stalls, half-a-guinea; Tickets, 7s. each; may be had at all the principal Music Warehouses, and of Master Arthur Napoleon, 30, Oxford-terrace, Hyde-park.

ANERLEY POULTRY SHOW.
TRUSTEES—The Right Hon. the Earl of Verulam.
VICE-PRESIDENT—Sir John Peter Boileau, Bart., F.R.S., Vice-President of the Zoological Society.

The First EXHIBITION of POULTRY and PIGEONS will be held in the ANERLEY GARDENS, adjoining the Anerley Station of the London and Croydon Railway, and near the Anerley entrance to the Crystal Palace grounds, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, July 3, 4, 5.

The value of the Prizes will exceed 300 Guineas. A detailed list of the Prizes and certificates of entry may be had on application to the Secretaries, at the Office, Anerley, Surrey.

By special permission the Band of the Royal Artillery will attend each day during the Exhibition.

EDGAR SHALLCROSS } Hon. Secs.
HENRY F. WEBB }

INDIA, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, and CAPE of GOOD HOPE.—W. O. YOUNG will dispatch the following fast-sailing A 1 Clipper SHIPS at the dates named as under:—

Ships.	Tons.	Commanders.	Destination.	Docks.	To Sail
Thomas Campbell ..	637	R. Clark ..	Bombay	London ..	July 10
Dalphin	588	G. Murray ..	Hong-Kong & Whampoa	W. India ..	June 26
Bolivar	357	A. Clarke ..	Shanghae ..	London ..	July 10
Sea Witch	337	R. Pentreath ..	Hong-Kong & Shanghae	London ..	July 10
Kensington ..	1,000	W. King ..	Port Phillip	London ..	June 30
Adelaide	504	Richard Pill ..	Geelong	London ..	June 26
Centurion	650	W. Sparks ..	Sydney	London ..	June 26
Maid of Judah ..	665	J. Marchant ..	Sydney	London ..	June 26
Sea Queen	418	W. Hawes ..	Adelaide	St. Kath. ..	June 26
Meteor	570	J. Hall ..	Cape of Good Hope	London ..	Jan. 27
Ocean Gem	362	F. Jackson ..	Cape of Good Hope	London ..	July 10

These Ships have been selected specially for their high-class and fast-sailing qualities, and will be found well worth the attention of Shippers and Passengers.—W. O. YOUNG, 54, Cross-street, Manchester; 18, Dale-street, Liverpool; and Sun-court, Cornhill, London.

ON SATURDAY, JULY 7TH, 1855,
THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS
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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1855.

THE silence which the leaders of the Crimean expedition have observed for some days so far as the English and French public is aware—in regard to the progress of the siege, is held to be ominous of a decisive movement. The bombardment is understood to have recommenced; and it is stated that, though, at the moment we write, unofficially, that a brilliant attack upon the Redan, by our own men, was successful to the extent of enabling the assailants to spike all the guns. But Lord Raglan has sent nothing that the War Minister has "had pleasure" in communicating to the journals, and General Pelissier is asserted to have refused to send a despatch until he should have something important to say. Any moment, of course—even one which may occur between the reader commencing these remarks and his concluding them may throw them out of date, but while we write the proceedings at Sebastopol are but matter of conjecture. Everything, however, unites to make it probable that the final rush of the Allies upon the robber's den and its utter destruction cannot be far off. The Russian defences gradually crumbling before us, the stronghold exposed to a withering storm of fire, the town in a state of ruin and pestilence, the *morale* of the garrison giving way under the conviction that determined enemies—never defeated either by force or by fraud—are making their way onward to victory; the food, so largely and carefully stored, all destroyed; the "nursery sea" swept by the victors—all these things seem to lead, almost by logical inference, to the conviction that the sternest conclusions of the grim logic of war are about to be tried on the felon fortress.

Meantime the Russians have been doing their best to obliterate any sentiment of admiration a chivalric foe might feel for those who have long resisted his attack. The termination of the first act of the war, like its commencement, has been marked by an act of treachery and barbarity never paralleled in a Christian country, and seldom even among savages. The murder of the boat's crew at Hango—full details of which will be found in another column—has aroused the indignation of the country in a way which must make the friends of Russia eager in their hope that Sebastopol may be taken before the news can reach the army. It will be a black day for Russia if the British bayonet has not done its work before these tidings reach the Crimea. The blood of those murdered sailors will be fearfully avenged by their soldier countrymen. The hideous story is best told in the fewest words. A boat's crew of Englishmen left their ship to set on shore some Finnish prisoners, whom, from motives of humanity, they wished to release. The boat, of course, exhibited a flag of truce. A large body of Russian soldiery, under the command of a ruffian who understood English, to show the errand was explained, uttered a curse upon the flag which all but savages respect, and opened fire upon the boat, slaughtering not only the English sailors, but their own countrymen and fellow-subjects; one coloured man only escaping to tell the tale.

This cowardly and brutal massacre appears to be a crime of such foulness that we doubt whether even the most wayward and crotchetty peace-monger in Great Britain will be able to extenuate it. The leading members of the Peace party have never had a word to say against the treacherous brutality committed by the Russians at Sinope; let us hope, for the honour of Englishmen, that they will join with the rest of their countrymen in stigmatising the Hango murders as they deserve. There is not the slightest pretext for supposing that the British sailors were committing the slightest act which could deprive them of the protection of the flag of truce. It has been suggested that the unfortunate men who have been murdered might have been trying to obtain soundings; but this remote probability (for there was nothing to be gained by soundings in the locality in question) is negatived by the only evidence which can be procured. But, even if they were actually doing this, there is not the faintest justification for the massacre. They came to land—this handful of men, with their prisoners—and every one of them could have been captured by the overwhelming force of the Russians. Resistance would have been madness. But the revolting circumstances of the whole case leave it but too clear that the slaughter was premeditated. The ruffian in command perfectly understood the whole affair, and, declaring that it should be seen "how the Russians could fight," proceeded to the murder of the helpless; and, in utter outrage of all the humanities of war, destroyed his own fellow-subjects, rather than that the English should escape. We do not see how even Mr. Gladstone can place this piece of Russian treachery and cruelty in a favourable light.

But the work is all of a piece. The whole history of the campaign shows that civilised nations, in dealing with a half-civilised nation as if it were one of themselves, have committed a blunder. Napoleon knew Russia better than we seem to do. "Scratch the skin from the Russian, and you find a savage," said the great Emperor. The sham refinement, the mock courtesies, the hollow bearing of the Russian, are but the assumptions of the wily "savage." Excite him, terrify him, show him blood, and you will see the mask of civilisation dropped. Both in negotiation and war Russia has been alike treacherous; and yet the Allies have dealt with her as with an honourable antagonist. Napoleon knew Russia, and Wellington knew Nicholas. We have quoted the opinion of the Emperor. Has not the Duke left *his* on most emphatic record? When cheated by the Sovereign in whose honour he had confided, the Duke simply remarked, "I could not know that the fellow was such a liar!" Yet, with the Liar of the North we diplomatised and negotiated, until every artifice of delay was exhausted, and Russia had obtained all the invaluable advantages of that delay; and then his negotiators, fulfilling the will of the dead tyrant and impostor, rudely burst the bubble with which they had been amusing Europe. As in peace, so in war. The conflict was inaugurated by a similar outrage upon the flag of truce to that at Hango; though, when the guns of the Imperial harbour at Odessa opened upon the flag, they did no murder—the white flag was not then stained with blood, though the brutality was well nigh as flagrant. The maritime Herald was equally outraged—the Herald who, whether on land or sea, has been held sacred, from the remotest ages, by all save savages. This was done at Odessa. Need we speak of the dastardly massacre at Sinope; need we speak of the hideous scenes at Inkerman, when Russian officers slunk about the field, murdering the wounded English? Hango is but a fitting climax to the series of treacherous and barbarous deeds. And this is the Russia whom we have treated as a noble enemy—this is the Russia whose "honour" has been so sedulously tended by English statesmen, at the peril of that of Britain.

The Russian is a savage, and must be treated as a savage. Our mistake has been in ever dealing with his hypocrisy and cruelty in any other fashion. But sham statesmen may now gabble at their will; the work is in other hands. Round that whole Baltic fleet, we hear, has gone a deep fierce vow that Hango shall be avenged; and, despite all the obstacles which official obstinacy or a deeper purpose has opposed between our navy and the northern fortresses, these will be reached at last. And if the news of this crowning barbarity have time to gain the Camp before Sebastopol—the wire should have delivered it ere this, and no Englishman who hears the news but will give it indignant utterance—who will keep back the bayonets when the stronghold goes down? Not Omer, with Sinope in mind—not Pelissier, "who sees little use in prisoners." If Lord Raglan can do it—well the soldiers may have forgotten Inkerman; but let him, if he can, keep the last news from the blue-jackets and marines. If the word "Hango" be heard in the trenches before the day of the storming, Sebastopol will be as Troy—pardoned only

When her last flame is quenched in her last gore.

THE Newspaper-stamp Abolition Bill, which will come into operation on the 30th inst., promises, or threatens—we hardly know which phrase is the more appropriate of the two—to create a revolution in the newspaper press of this country. The changes as yet announced in the metropolis amount to but few; but in the provinces they are many and important. Liverpool, Manchester, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and many other cities and towns far smaller and less populous than these, will, in a few days hence, share with London the privilege of a daily and—as far as present appearances indicate—an able and honest press. Whether the success of these journals will raise them to the same level of influence and power as that to which the leading daily newspapers of the metropolis have raised themselves by their long-continued exertions in the popular cause remains to be seen; or whether the diffusion of local daily papers will endanger the quasi monopoly hitherto possessed by London is a point on which it would be premature to express an opinion. But we have this confidence in the sound common sense and right feeling of the British people, that they will not encourage any low, scurrilous, and unworthy journals, but will give their best support to such as combine cheapness of price with honesty of conduct and independence of opinion. Possibly in a few years hence the cause of good government, of rational liberty, and of steady social progress, will be greatly advanced by the efforts of a well-informed provincial press; and the London daily press, too often dictatorial and tyrannical, and endowed with too much power, will share with its formidable rivals in our larger cities the privilege of directing and influencing public opinion. In such a result there will be cause for rejoicing. The more the light of sound opinions is diffused throughout the land the better for the people of all ranks and grades; and the better for the Government charged with the direction of their destinies.

There is, however, one point in connection with the recent change in the law which has not yet been brought with sufficient force under the notice of those who have it in their power to remedy the defects and supply the omissions of the Act. The principle of the change is clear and precise—that newspapers may stamp or refrain from stamping, as they please; but that, if they refrain from stamping, they shall not be entitled to the privileges of postal transmission. If the law had ended here, the public, who buy, and read, and wish to post newspapers, would have had no reason to complain. But the Lords of the Treasury, by their recent minute, have introduced a new element into the question. With the best of intentions, and as a boon to the public, they have decreed that any printed matter whatsoever—book, pamphlet, placard, circular, &c.—not weighing above four ounces, may be transmitted through the post, if labelled with a "Queen's head," or penny postage stamp; but that such matter, if weighing upwards of four and less than eight ounces, shall only be entitled to the same privilege for two postage stamps. This will operate as a serious inconvenience upon the purchasers of unstamped newspapers weighing, like the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS or the *Times*, upwards of four ounces. The question resolves itself into this: If the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS will take the trouble to send to Somerset-house to get its sheets stamped with the red mark of the Government—if it, like others similarly circumstanced, will compel the Government to keep up a staff of stampers, clerks, and other officials and *employés*, to do the work of stamping, at considerable expense to the nation—the impressions so stamped will be forwarded free through the Post-office, not only once or twice, but a dozen or twenty times; but that if it will give the Government and its officials no such trouble, but will allow every purchaser to be his own stamper, by affixing a "Queen's head" upon the unstamped paper, the Post-office will decline all concern with it, and refuse to take it, if it weigh more than four ounces. The Post-office will transmit a common placard, or any printed sheet, pamphlet, book, or bill, weighing less than four ounces, for a penny; and will also transmit the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, with a Somerset-house red stamp, costing a penny, as many times as purchasers may desire; but will not transmit it once for a penny, if the penny be paid by means of a postage stamp. Surely this is very absurd in itself, and only requires to be pointed out to the Lords of the Treasury to be no longer insisted upon. If the Somerset-house stamp answered any purpose not answered by the ordinary postage stamp, the managers of the Post-office might be excused for making the distinction. In seeking to induce the authorities who have it in their power to make the change to reconsider this anomaly, and remedy it by a new Order in Council, we do not seek to impose any burden upon the Post-office or the Revenue. On the contrary, we show them how they may add to the revenue of the Post-office by many millions of pence which might not otherwise accrue. If it be worth while to give facilities for the transmission of newspapers with the ordinary red mark—price one penny—causing trouble and expense to the Government, surely it will be worth while to transmit the same paper with the postage stamp—price one penny also—but causing neither trouble nor expense to any one. The Treasury minute, in fact, injures the newspaper press, while affecting to grant facilities for the transmission of other printed matter, and affixes a disability where it meant to confer a boon. We trust that the oversight will be rectified. It requires no Act of Parliament, and may be put right in five minutes by the same authorities who issued the original minute. We trust that they will not lose sight of it, but remedy at once a defect so obvious, and so calculated not only to impair the usefulness of the press, but to diminish the public revenue.

THE COURT.

The Queen and the Prince Consort continue in the enjoyment of excellent health, and with the Royal children have taken daily drives during the week. Her Majesty's illustrious relatives, the Princess of Hohenlohe Langenburg, and the Princesses Adelaide and Feodore of Hohenlohe, took leave of the Queen on the 15th instant, and left town for Dover, *en route* to Brussels.

On Saturday her Majesty paid a visit to the Camp at Aldershott.

On Monday evening the Queen went to the Princess' Theatre, and was afterwards joined by Prince Albert, who had honoured the members of the Statistical Society in St. James's square with a visit.

On Tuesday the Queen went to Chatham to inspect the invalids at the military barracks. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert left Buckingham Palace, with Viscount Hardinge, General Commanding in Chief, at five minutes past two o'clock. On their arrival at Chatham the Queen was received by Colonel Eden, commanding the garrison, and was conducted over the hospital at Fort Pitt, and afterwards minutely inspected a large party of invalids recently returned from the Crimea and the Colonies. Her Majesty then inspected the invalids at Brompton Barracks and the Casemates, and went over the Marine Hospital. Nearly 1000 sick and wounded men were seen by the Queen; who questioned many of those who had suffered most severely as to the actions in which they had been wounded, and the nature of their injuries. The Queen returned at half past seven o'clock to Buckingham Palace; and at a later hour honoured the Royal Italian Opera with her presence. The Princess Royal and the Princess Alice accompanied their Royal parents.

On Wednesday evening her Majesty gave a concert, at which their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Cambridge, and the Princess Mary, the Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Duke of Cambridge, and a party of about 400, including the whole of the foreign Ministers, were present. The concert commenced in the Saloon shortly before ten o'clock and terminated at midnight.

On Thursday evening the Queen and the Prince honoured the Opera with their presence.

Colonel Sir Thomas Troubridge was presented to the Queen, on Wednesday afternoon, at Buckingham Palace, by Lord Byron, Lord in Waiting. Major-General Torrens was also presented to her Majesty, on Wednesday, by the Earl of Clarendon.

SIR E. LANDSEER'S PICTURE OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON AT WATERLOO.—It was a pretty idea to think of representing the veteran hero as revisiting the scene of his crowning triumphs, in company with a beloved relative (his daughter-in-law), to whom he points out all the principal spots, and records in impressive terms his reminiscences attached to them; and very pleasingly has Sir Edwin Landseer carried it out in the fine picture before us. The figure of the Duke is admirable for correctness of portraiture and poetic dignity of character. The picture is now exhibiting at Messrs. Jennings'—a fine engraving from it will shortly be published.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

ATTACK ON THE REDAN AND MALAKOFF TOWER.

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 22nd

Lord Panmure regrets to have to state that he has received information that the English troops attacked the Redan and the French troops the Malakoff Tower, at daybreak on the morning of the 18th inst., but without the success which has heretofore attended our efforts

Both the French and ourselves have suffered considerably.

The names of the officers who have fallen will be forwarded immediately, but it will be impossible to receive complete returns of all the casualties before the 30th inst at soonest

The *Moniteur* of yesterday (Friday announces that on Thursday the Government received, almost simultaneously, two telegraphic despatches from General Pelissier. The first, dated June 17, is as follows

The combined movements agreed upon with our [illegible] are to be carried out To-day the Turks and the brigade of Chasseurs made a reconnaissance towards Akhtar. General Bosquet occupies the Tchernaya. To-morrow, at day[illegible], in concert with the English, I attack the Grand Redan, the Malakoff Tower, and the bay cross connected with them

The other despatch is dated June 18, and contains the following

The attack of to-day was not successful, although our troops, who showed very great intrepidity, penetrated into the Malakoff works. I was obliged to order a retreat into the parallels The retreat took place in order, without our being harrassed. It is not possible for me to-day to state our precise loss

NATIONAL SPORTS.

John Day's retirement from the charge of the Findon stable—an event which has been in a measure anticipated ever since his misunderstanding last April with Mr. Padwick about betting a portion of his St. Hubert Derby money—has been the great sporting topic of the past week. He has only trained for his late employer for two seasons and part of a third, and yet he has won a Chester Cup, two Queen's Vases, the One Thousand Guineas, a Goodwood and a Doncaster Cup, and some £20,000 to boot. He will in future assist his favourite son William, in his stable at Woodyeates; and no man knows better how to buy a yearling or to train a two-year-old. It is said that Mr. Padwick made an offer of his late situation to an eminent Newmarket trainer, but that he declined to leave his present residence for Findon. Charlton, the celebrated jockey, has, under Jockey Club compulsion, published his regret for having publicly advertised after Chester races that he "declined to ride in future for Mr John Stanley" an unusual announce ment, which was, we are told, made in the first instance, not without considerable provocation.

While Doncaster is rejoicing over 83 entries for her new Portland Plate, the Liverpool Cup once "the great fact of July, in the days when General Chapple and Inheritor were living monsters—is fain to content itself with 17 acceptances! The Cumberland Plate, on the contrary, has 21 acceptances; and the Goodwood stakes 42; and we hear that the beautiful two-year-old, Dembe, who has a malformed hock, is struck out of his engagements at the latter place. The sport for the ensuing week is not of a very varied character Lenham (Mid Kent) has its little *fête* on Wednesday; and Cheltenham contrives to eke out a promising day, in spite of strong opposition, on Thursday. The Ring, so to speak, will be found at Newcastle, where Mr. Richard Johnson, clever handicapping and Mr. Gray's unwearied exertions will furnish [illegible] very good days' sport on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday The betting at Newcastle promises are the North Derby, for which Cocoboss will probably have to encounter Blooming Heather (who is said to have been sold for 1000 gs.), Lord Alfred, Saraband, Dame Judith, &c. The Tyro, on the same day, includes Early Morn, Sister to Broughton, and Mr. Morris's very promising colt, Artillery. The Northumberland Plate, on Wednesday, will bring the colliers for twenty miles round out of the bowels of the earth for a day, and thirty-four out of eighty-five owners have said "Content" to the weights Of the fourteen animals or so who are likely to come to the post, Vindex, at 9lb., is the highest-weighted among the old horses, but we fancy that the three-year-olds will be in the front rank at the finish, and that Rotherham, st. 6lb., has not been kept back so long for nothing. We have, nevertheless, been told that this is to be Courtenay's day, and that he was not scratched so late in the Epsom Handicap without an object. However, we cannot hope to place first and second in their places, as we did in the Ascot Cup. On Thursday the Gateshead Lottery Stakes has a nice entry; and, though we do not expect either Germander or Rouge Croix to meet Courtenay, Coronia, Vandal, Lady Tatton, and Courtenay are still left in the fray. We should not be surprised to see Cocoboss run remarkably well both for this and the Derby, as the "two miles" will suit him much better than the new mile Ascot

The Gold Cup—which is associated in the minds of the dwellers by "Cosly Tyne" with so many recollections of Beeswing, X. Y. Z., and Tomboy—has no such "prides of the North" in it this year. Goorkah, Sharavogue, King of Trumps, and Wild Hunt-man, represent the elder-, and Lady Tatton, Blooming Heather, Sally, and Rambling Katie, the junior division

By the latest accounts, the "Meetings before Sebastopol" had lost none of their attractions for our brave fellows, whose hearts are always with "a bit of horse-racing:" and Captain Preston on his little Bashi bozouk was earning as many laurels as Job Marson on Teddington was wont to do.

Passing from land to its sister element, we have the Henley Regatta on Monday and Tuesday, with prizes amounting in all to about £450. On Thursday the pensioners by the Serpentine will witness the manœuvres of the London Model Yacht Club; and the Chester Regatta is fixed for the same day.

Lord's ground will be a scene of perpetual interest during the week. On Monday, the Gentlemen of the Marylebone Club play the Gentlemen of England; and on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday Rugby School thrown down the glove first to Marlborough College and then to the Mary Ivbone Club. Great, therefore, will be the *réunion* of the whilom lovers of Lawrence Sheriffe, the patron saint (as Dr. Arnold termed it) of "the little town with the eight fairs." Surrey, also, plays Sussex at Brighton, on Monday; and the All England Eleven will "show how fields are won" at Liverpool on Monday, and at Seaford on Thursday.

STOCKBRIDGE RACES. THURSDAY

Fifth Triennial Stakes.—Scythian, 1. Bracken, 2
Sixth Triennial Stakes.—Cowbus, 1. Paros, 2
Mottisfont Stakes.—Mauzepie, 1. Indindanon, 2
Stewards' Fate Oulston, 1. Kingstown, 2.

On Wednesday last the General Screw Steam-shipping Company's steam-ship *Golden Fleece* took on board 160 horses and nearly 100 men, belonging to the 1st Royal Dragoon Guards and the 4th Light Dragoons, for conveyance to the Crimea. The *Golden Fleece* has accommodation for nearly 300 horses, the remainder of which she will take on board at Cork. The horses, without any accident, had their inspection, arrived during the day by three special trains, and were immediately conducted into the Southampton Dockyard, and walked on board, on a level gangway, the *Golden Fleece*, lying in the Inner dock, from which the water had been allowed to flow until her deck was on a level with the quay.

COLONEL STEEHLIN, of the Royal Engineers, in company with Captain Cotty, of the 6th Regiment, surveyed Woodhouse Moor, in Yorkshire, with the view of ascertaining its fitness for a camp of 1000 men. The examination last week was satisfactory, and, if no objections are raised by the lords of the manor or the public of Leeds, the camp will be formed, and the 4th West York Militia are likely to be its occupants. It is said that there will also be a camp formed at Westwood Common, near Beverley, for 5000 men; and that, altogether, it is intended to encamp 20,000 men in the north of England.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—Mr. Tom Taylor presented a new drama to the public on Wednesday. It is in two acts, and entitled "Helping Hands." The two persons thus named are *William Rufus*, with divers shades, a converted member of the Shoeblack Brigade, by Mr. Keeley, and "*Tibbs*, a lodging-house servant, Mrs Keeley. They are "helps" in more senses than one—not only as menial office-bearers, but by virtue of their sympathies and benevolent instincts, and are enabled to assist their "betters" out of difficulties by means which they would themselves have despised They are, however, successful—weak instruments though they appear. We remark a pious tone in Mr. Taylor's productions; it is evident he believes in a Providence, and there is a consoling influence pervading the situations and scenes of his pieces. The superior characters are one *Lorentz Hartmann*, a German violinist (Mr. Webster), and his daughter, *Margaret* (Madame Celeste). Once affluent, they are now in poverty, living in a garret, and on the point of being distrained upon by a harsh and vile dun landlady; but the pity of *Tibbs* is excited, and she ministers to their wants A long-lost lover, whose appeal above had been formed in poetry, but who has now changed his names of *Vidal* and *Sherley for Rufus*, enters just in the nick of time, and [illegible] how matters stand, by his wisdom even from his criminal experience, and purchases the goods which had been seized in execution. The sum for which he is obliged to do so is the lucky number of one hundred and fifty pounds, which, in the little parts with it for two hundred and fifty to *Lord Quarterly* (Mr. Garde), *Rufus* intended to hand over the money to *Margaret*, who he knew was working for her living but before this can be accomplished the musician (who is blind) has discovered the loss of his fiddle, and is inconsolable. We are here reminded of some of the effects of Monsieur Jacques. But the pecuniary difficulty is now ingeniously worked, and the suspense is prolonged to exhaustion. In the second act, through the agency of a benevolent physician in love with *Margaret*, the missing prized fiddle is recovered. *Mr Merton* (Mr. Farrell) has offered the recovery of *Lord Quarterly*, and is offered the choice of his approved stock of victims in return: of course he chooses the disputed "Stradivarius." Poor *Hartmann* accordingly gets back his fiddle, and has handed to the one hundred and fifty pounds, to enable him to visit Italy, and thus restore his daughter and himself to health Besides the characters that we have named, which were all superbly acted, there was that of the fop, the *Hon. Cuthbert Heathcote* (Mr Paul Murray), who attempts an intrigue with *Margaret*, to which may be added the parts of *Isaac Wolf* and *Lazarus Salmon* These were personated by Mr. Selby and Mr. C. J Smith, who hit off the Jewish dialect admirably The merits of the play, which occupied three hours in performance, are high, and it was deservedly [illegible]

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The dealings in most national Securities this week have been very moderate, and at one time prices showed a disposition to give way. The fluctuations in them, however, have been trifling, although rather strong efforts have been made to depress current rates by large sales of stock for the Account. The want of additional news from the Crimea, and the payment of another instalment upon the new Loan of £10,000,000 have led to a partial suspension of Money business. The payment in question was, of course, easily met, and the transfer has been scarcely felt in the market. The Unfunded Debt now keeps at a high premium, notwithstanding the reduction in interest; and India Bonds have been up to 30s

There is still an immense accumulation of capital waiting employment, and it is intimated that a large portion of the reserve of notes in the Bank of England will shortly be invested, as it is found that the Bank has had no increase in its deposit business since the reduction in the minimum rate of interest to 3 per cent. In Lombard street, first-class paper is readily taken at 3 per cent, and loans for short periods may be had in the Exchange at 2½ per cent per annum

We have had only one arrival of gold, viz. £29,000 from New York To the Continent a very small amount of the precious metals have been made, but about £380,000 has been forwarded to India, China, Egypt, and Lisbon. The supply of silver continues good, and sales of Mexican have been made

TWO SUNKEN MERCHANTMEN, OPPOSITE YENIKALE.

(*Continued from page 632.*)

the success of which would expose our transports, in the absence of the smaller men-of-war, to considerable risk and damage The guns in Paulovskaya, at Ak-Bournou, and in battery at Kertch, have not been destroyed they are spiked, and that is all; but several explosions which took place along the coast during the night, and which were at first attributed to an attack by the enemy, may have arisen from their being burst by our men, in order to prevent the enemy making use of them, in case they succeed in again establishing themselves on the coast below us; of course, such a step on their part would lead to the destruction of Kertch, which is now intact

There were few regular troops in proportion to the numbers in and about Kertch and Yenikale, and there is said to have been a large proportion of invalids, local militiamen, and pensioners among the soldiers who made such a feeble and inglorious defence. The appearance of our armada as it approached must have been most formidable. The sky above it was rendered as dark as night with the pall of black smoke which rose from the funnels of the steamers, and the narrow straits must have seemed to the enemy as though they were bridged over by the great armament which was advancing against them They might well be excused for thinking that the Allies had 40 000 troops on board, and that resistance would be hopeless. A decent force of cavalry landed at Ambalaki would probably have enabled us to boast of several thousand prisoners, for the flight of the Russians was disorderly, and, for the first time, they were seen to retreat without discipline or creditable steadiness Their loss could not have been great One man was found dead in the battery at Yenikale, lying as he fell, with the match in his hand, close to the gun he was about to fire; and two more Russians were found dead on the beach, but they looked as if they had been killed by the explosion of the magazine. The guns in Yenikale are new and fine. Some of them are mounted on a curious kind of swivel the platforms are on the American principle. One brass piece, which is lying near the guardhouse, is said to have been taken from the Turks at Sinope. Our shot did comparatively little damage. One our shells smashed the carriage of a gun to pieces, and one of our round-shots knocked a gun clean over and broke the trunnions, but there is no other actual proof of the severity or accuracy of our fire.

YENIKALE, FROM THE SEA OF AZOFF, WITH RUSSIAN VESSELS ON FIRE.

As regards the operations of the Allies in the Sea of Azoff, the following "General After Order," which was read to the troops before Sebastopol on the 4th inst. gives a pretty good summary:

Head-quarters, before Sebastopo June 4

In continuation of former general orders, the Field Marshal now announces to the army the further gallant exploits of the Allies, which this time have chiefly been accomplished by the ships of the French and English navies.

Berdiansk has been destroyed, with four war steamers.

Arabat, a fortress mounting thirty guns, after resisting an hour and a half, had its magazine blown up by the fire of our ships.

Genitchi refused to capitulate, and was set fire to by shells. Ninety ships in its harbour were destroyed, with corn and stores to the amount of £100,000.

In these operations the loss to the enemy during four days has amounted to four war steamers, 246 merchant vessels, and corn and magazines to the amount of £150,000 Upwards of 100 guns have been taken. It is estimated that four months' rations for 100,000 men of the Russian army have been destroyed

On the Circassian coast the enemy evacuated Soujak-Kalé on the 28th of May, after destroying all the principal buildings and 60 guns and six mortars.

The fort on the road between Soujak-Kalé and Anapa is also evacuated.

General officers commanding divisions will be good enough to direct the above order to be read to each brigade at the first convenient opportunity.

By order, S. SIMPSON, Chief of the Staff

The accompanying Illustrations are from spirited Sketches by W S M. Wolfe, Royal Artillery.

PART OF THE 17-GUN BATTERY, IN THE CITADEL OF YENIKALE, AS LEFT BY THE RUSSIANS.

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Stamped Edition.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

No. 750.—VOL. XXVI.] SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1855. [TWO SHEETS, FIVEPENCE. STAMPED (POST-FREE,) 6d.

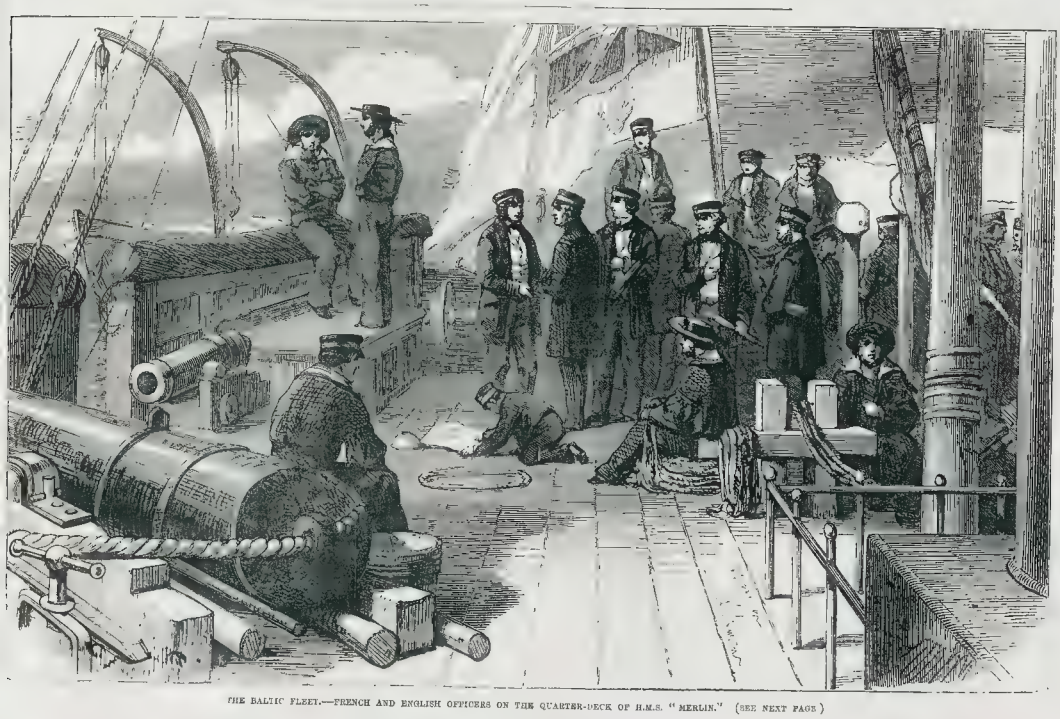
ABOLITION OF THE COMPULSORY NEWSPAPER-STAMP.

PERMANENT ENLARGEMENT OF THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."

THE little—or, perhaps, large—world of newspapers is in a state of revolution. The stupidity of successive Administrations, which could not define in strict legal phraseology what a newspaper meant, and the consequent neglect of Attorney-Generals to prosecute the cheap unstamped press, which boldly and systematically set the law at defiance, led, as a necessary consequence, to the abolition of the compulsory stamp. But, even when matters reached this point, the Government and the House of Commons had neither the inclination nor the capacity to consider the question in all its relations. Swayed, to some extent, by a dislike or hatred of existing newspapers, which had spoken home truths of men in office, rendered the tenure of office uncomfortable and precarious, and aided in the overthrow of Administrations and parties, as well as of abuses, one portion of the House was only too happy to countenance any project of change that afforded a reasonable prospect of inflicting damage upon those too powerful and too independent leaders of public opinion. Another and larger portion of the House, not understanding the subject, mixed up as it was with a question of postage, with which, strictly speaking, it had no real connection, consented to be led by the party which hoped to swamp the respectable press by the creation of a swarm of piratical journals, and quietly acquiesced in a settlement proposed by such an authority as the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and which satisfied such a great legal personage as the Attorney-General. And thus the law which was intended to remove confusion only made confusion worse confounded. For three weeks before the measure had the force of law, before it had received the consent of the Sovereign, or even of the House of Lords, a flood of cheap newspapers—imitating the titles, style, and general appearance, and stealing the news of existing journals—was let loose upon the land, to live a short life, no doubt, but to do sensible mischief, by bringing the law into contempt. And, as if to show an animus against the existing press, the very Government which tolerated breaches of the law on the part of these pirates and interlopers, actually took the trouble to make a public and official announcement to this and every other established journal in the metropolis, warning us that publication without the stamp was illegal, and would subject us to a prosecution! Surely, administrative reform is needed, if it were only to make such officials act with common sense and common justice.

But, bad as this state of things was, the confusion thus created would soon have cleared itself, if the Government, by means of its Treasury minute regulating the transmission of books, pamphlets, and all other printed matter by post, had not introduced a new complication—of which the result will, in all probability, be a great and utterly useless sacrifice of the public revenue. By the joint operation of the Newspaper Act, and of the Treasury minute, the two sheets of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, weighing more than four ounces, may be transmitted fifteen times through the Post-office for the charge of one penny, provided the penny be paid to the Stamp-office; but, if the penny be paid by a postage-stamp, affixed on the paper itself, or on its cover, it will not be conveyed at all. Somerset-house is glad of the penny, but St. Martin's-le-Grand—if Somerset-house be ignored in the transaction—insists upon twopence, for performing once the identical service which it might be compelled to perform fifteen times, had the small but troublesome formalities of the Stamp-office been complied with. The result is that newspapers using good, thick paper, like the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS and the *Times*, and weighing more than four ounces, are denied the privilege accorded to journals which use inferior paper. If the Government levied no Excise-duty upon paper, it might possibly find some justification for supporting the refusal of the Post-office to carry more than four ounces of book, pamphlet, or unstamped newspaper, for a penny. But the Government ought not to look at such a question through the spectacles of the Post-office. The Post-office is but one branch of the public revenue; and the Public Income, derived from many sources, ought to be the one object of the solicitude of a wise administrator. If, to secure for that portion of our subscribers who desire unstamped papers the privilege already accorded to all those who purchase papers weighing less than four ounces, we should feel it necessary, or desirable, to diminish the weight of the paper on which we print the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, we should inflict a loss of revenue upon the Government. The Excise-duty on paper paid by this journal, at its present weight, amounts to nearly £30,000 per annum. If we could diminish the weight of our journal to four ounces we should deprive the State of £10,000 a year, or as much as would pay the official salaries of the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer. We are not alone in this condition, as the proprietors of the *Times* and many other journals can prove. But is such a sacrifice of revenue what the Government desires? If not, we think we are justified in designating its recent Treasury minute as stupid; and if it be, we think the same epithet will be found equally appropriate.

But, as regards this journal, we shall do our best to accommodate ourselves to the new circumstances thus created. On a careful consideration of the whole case, and of the wishes of the great bulk of our subscribers, we have come to the determination of en-



THE BALTIC FLEET.—FRENCH AND ENGLISH OFFICERS ON THE QUARTER-DECK OF H.M.S. "MERLIN." (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

larging the Illustrated London News to double its original size and of reducing the price of the unstamped copies to Fivepence. By this means we shall give the purchasers of unstamped copies a double advantage—that of a reduction in price to the full amount of the abolished Stamp-duty, and of increased bulk. To subscribers who desire stamped copies for postal privilege the price will remain at sixpence, as before; but the size, the copiousness, and the general efficiency of the paper will be increased. To meet as far as possible the convenience of subscribers in the country, who may not always be able to obtain stamped copies, we shall hold ourselves in readiness, at any time within a week after publication, to exchange unstamped for stamped copies. By this means we shall do all that lies in our power to obviate the inconvenience caused by the joint bungling of the Post-office, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Lords of the Treasury.

Were it worth while we might expatiate at greater length upon the absurdity of which the Government has been guilty. We will only add to the statement we have already made the fact that a circular of a proposed penny daily paper has been brought under our notice, which unblushingly professes to rob the London press of the day previous to its own publication of its leading articles or "spirit," and which will be printed on paper so thin and small that a packet of four copies will go free for one penny under the Treasury minute. "If, therefore," says the circular alluded to, "four readers residing in small places, where regular news agencies do not exist, will combine and order a regular daily parcel, it will be forwarded free by post, upon postage-stamps for the amount being received, the publisher charging nothing for the postage." In other words, an unstamped cheap and flimsy paper, weighing one ounce, and contributing very slightly to the revenue in the shape of Excise-duty, may be conveyed for a farthing to any part of the country; when such a paper as the *Times* stamped would be charged three-halfpence, and if unstamped twopence!

But leaving, for the present, this part of the subject, and all its anomaly and injustice, we refer our readers with pride to the present Number of the Illustrated London News, as a specimen of what it will be for the future. Compared, not only for quantity of paper and print, but for quality of paper, of engravings, and of literary matter—for excellence in every department, mechanical as well as intellectual—we think it will be universally acknowledged that it is incomparably cheaper than any of the swarm of low-priced journals that have suddenly sprung into existence. There may be room for such journals, or there may not; and no doubt they will attain as much success as their enterprise and intelligence may deserve—and no more. At all events, the Illustrated London News fears no rivalry, either in price or quality. It stands upon its own grounds in the favour of the public. It is known and esteemed wherever the English language is spoken, and has its friends, correspondents, and artists in every part of the world. It will be the constant study of its proprietors, not simply to maintain, but to extend this high character and this great usefulness; to make the Illustrated London News a welcome guest in every family in the realm, and the most dearly prized of all newspapers in those remote dependencies and possessions where Englishmen are building up new Englands, and spreading the name and race, the literature, language, laws, manners, religion, and power of the old country. The extension of our space will give us the means of recording and illustrating more fully than we have ever done before the events of this remarkable epoch. We may add in conclusion that we have already received not alone the assurance, but the positive proof, that the public fully appreciates the efforts we have made to keep pace with its requirements; and that a largely-increased sale will tax the mechanical genius of our age to provide a weekly supply that shall keep pace with the demand upon us. Even on this point we hope to be prepared for all emergencies and contingencies that may arise.

A NEAR SURVEY OF CRONSTADT.

The Illustration upon the preceding page, sketched by Mr. J. W. Carmichael, our Artist in the Baltic Fleet, represents a group of officers on board H.M.S. *Merlin* taking a near survey of Cronstadt. The following are the names of the officers present:—The French Admiral Penaud; Captains Codrington, Munday, Hope, Robb, Erskine, W. H. Hall, Glasse, Warren, Ramsay, Sullivan, Nugent; Commanders Boyd and Miller; Lieutenants Piers and Gordon. Our Correspondent's letter, describing the reconnoitre, and the explosion of a Russian infernal machine under the *Merlin*, was given in our Journal of last week.

A Correspondent of the *Times* describes a reconnaissance within eight miles of the point of Lobouskin:—

From this spot we perfectly surveyed the fortifications on the south side of Cronstadt, and particularly the huge batteries of Riabank, entirely constructed with granite, and mounting 100 guns of the heaviest calibre. We perceived with the naked eye, lying in the harbour, six ships-of-the-line, of which four are three-deckers, with their masts up; thirteen others, of which six are three-deckers, with their masts down; two frigates, and seven steamers. With a spy-glass we clearly saw the spires of the churches of St. Petersburg glittering in the sun. Three ships-of-the-line and two frigates are moored at the northern entrance of the harbour, which is, besides, defended by long and strong batteries, and various other works, protecting on all sides that part of the coast. Finally, a considerable flotilla of gun-boats is anchored under the protection of the forts. Those gun-boats are so close to each other that it is impossible to count them. They resemble a bridge of boats as broad as it is long. I do not exaggerate by estimating their number at 200. You cannot, accordingly, form an idea of the multiplicity of forts, batteries, redoubts, &c., which defend the place. Cronstadt is really the heart of the Russian power, and the Emperor naturally endeavours to heap Pelion upon Ossa to obstruct the entrance of his capital. With a little patience we shall probably find out the weak point of those granite walls behind which those Muscovite fleets obstinately shelter themselves which, two years ago, ruled unrivalled from the bottom of the Gulf of Finland to the extremity of the Baltic.

The Late John Black, Esq.—We regret to announce the death on Tuesday last of John Black, Esq., formerly and for nearly twenty-five years editor of the *Morning Chronicle*. Mr. Black was the "father" of the London press, which he adorned no less by his ability than by his manly and independent character. He had just completed his seventy-second year. We propose to engrave his portrait next week.

Death of General Estcourt.—On Tuesday evening last Lord Panmure received intelligence per telegraph from the Crimea announcing the death of Major-General J. Bucknall Estcourt, Adjutant-General of the Forces in the Crimea, of cholera, on the 23rd inst. His Lordship immediately communicated the mournful intelligence to the deceased's eldest brother, Mr. Sotheron, M.P., of Eaton-place. The deceased went out last year with the staff of Lord Raglan, and throughout the severe winter campaign he enjoyed tolerably good health, indeed, his last letter from the Crimea, which was received in London on Monday morning, was written in the most confident and cheerful tone possible, giving the fullest assurance that, according to his judgment, Sebastopol would soon be in the hands of the Allies. Mrs Bucknall Estcourt has been visiting her husband, and for the last few months has been at Constantinople and Balaclava. General Estcourt served in the expedition to the river Euphrates from January, 1836, to 1837, and for his services on that occasion he was promoted to the brevet rank of Lieut.-Colonel.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(*From our own Correspondent.*)

Paris, Thursday.

Paris is still under the effect of the painful results of the late events in the Crimea. It is in vain that the public papers endeavour to present affairs in the most favourable point of view; but little faith is put in these reports, and it is with the utmost anxiety that further intelligence and more minute details are looked for. For ourselves, we doubt the wisdom of keeping back the truth in these matters, as it is now becoming the plan to do; it must declare itself at last: and the difference between the earlier statements of the facts and the ultimate revelations destroys all confidence, and, if possible, adds to the anxiety and perturbation that is generally experienced, from the idea it creates that, whatever may be related, "yet worse remains behind."

It is now currently whispered here that the Emperor seriously returns to the project of going to the Crimea: some even assert that the plan is decided upon, and that his departure will take place as soon as it is possible to arrange matters here to enable him to undertake the voyage. The Empress, previous to her departure for the Pyrenees, has appeared constantly in public, but frequently unaccompanied by the Emperor, who is said to be gravely occupied by the state of affairs. His Majesty is entirely recovered from his recent indisposition, and has appeared two or three times at the theatre.

Paris is very much fuller than it was a fortnight ago; and the price of furnished lodgings, which had fallen at least a third below the average first demanded, is rising again.

The Exhibition may now be considered about complete, and is very much better attended than it was, though on the five-franc days the attendance is certainly of the thinnest. Among the latest attractions added to the Exposition are the epaulettes and the *chapeau* of the Duke of Brunswick, and the boudoir of the Empress. The epaulettes in question and the *cordon de chapeau* are entirely composed of diamonds, and the cockade is formed of sapphires, surrounded by a row of splendid brilliants. The salon and boudoir of the Empress are *chefs-d'œuvre* of taste and elegance. The furniture of the former is in the style of Louis XIV., covered with an exquisite tapestry, representing figures in medallions, surrounded with rich arabesques. This tapestry was executed, under the direction of Madame de Maintenon, by the Demoiselles de St. Cyr, but never employed, and laid by in the *garde meuble*. In the revolutions that succeeded, it repeatedly changed hands, and at last fell into those of M. Mégard, who has turned it into its present use. Having never been employed, it is now as fresh as when first executed, and is of singular beauty of design and workmanship. On a table, covered with one of the finest specimens of Gobelins tapestry, is the *presse-papier* habitually employed by Napoleon at St. Helena. The mirrors and ornaments of the salon are singularly beautiful. In a corner stands the little carriage presented by Prince Albert to her Imperial Majesty, in which she is wheeled about when she visits the Exhibition. The boudoir is hung with pink moiré antique; the roof, which rises in the form of a cupola, with the same material in pearl grey, and the curtains and furniture are in moiré antique, grey and pink. The carpet of both the apartments is of white damask, and, as may be supposed, visitors are required carefully to walk only on the foot-cloths placed to save them. There are special *gardiens* stationed at the door of this sanctuary, who explain the nature and origin of the different *chefs-d'œuvre* which it contains. It is surprising to observe the immense number of articles marked "sold" in the Exhibition, more especially among the specimens of British manufacture. Minton and Elkington have sold nearly the whole of their stocks of china and of bronzes, and various other English exhibitors have been almost equally fortunate. Last week the Princesse Mathilde visited the Building incognita, and made a variety of important purchases, among others a set of magnificently-executed ice pails from the manufactory of Elkington. The astonishment and admiration of the country people and agriculturists at the construction and uses of some of our farm implements is not the least remarkable and flattering homage to British industry. The sight of many of these opens a new era to the minds of the intelligent farmers and peasants, and most of them are anxious to benefit by the discoveries for the first time revealed to them.

Here is a curious fact in statistics. At Elbeuf, the principal cloth-manufacturing town in France, it is computed that, taking the whole population, men, women, and children, each individual consumes at the rate of eight *petit verres* (liqueur-glasses) of brandy a day. As, however, many women and more children drink none, it is believed that the number of persons who do indulge in this beverage, which is of the most detestable quality, swallow upwards of twenty *petit verres* per diem!

The journals of the week announce the death of a woman whose name has already gloriously figured in the annals of contemporary history—Louise Emilia de Beaubarnais, Comtesse de Lavalette—whose heroic conduct through various phases of the Revolution, but more especially on the occasion when, by an act of courage and intelligence which has had few parallels, she rescued her husband from the scaffold in 1815, has formed the theme of historian and poet. The mind that suggested this noble woman through the dangers and difficulties of her position failed when the excitement was over; and from thence till the period of her death, at the age of seventy-five, her intelligence remained obscured, though her sweetness of temper and extraordinary goodness of heart never failed her to the end.

Colonel Fleury, one of the favourite and most distinguished officers of the Emperor's household, is about to marry Mlle. St. Paul, a young lady who possesses wealth, beauty, and distinction of manners and education.

The Electric Telegraph Across the Atlantic.—The telegraphic communication between America and Europe, precedent to its extension round the globe is too large a theme for any single hero. It is an idea. And yet the parties engaged in its realisation regard it as already certain to be carried out. The experience of the Black Sea telegraph, for instance, is thought to be conclusive, if shorter lines previously established were not. From Balaclava to Varna the wires stretch under water more than 350 miles, and not the slightest difficulty is experienced in using them. There can, then, be no difficulty in sending electricity across the Atlantic by the same means. The length of the wires from Ireland to Newfoundland will be some 1750 miles; they will lie on the sandy plain which the soundings of our Government have shown to stretch from land to land for the whole distance, with the exception of about 200 miles next to the Irish coast, where the bottom becomes irregular and the water deeper. The actual distance is some 1600 miles only, but it will be necessary to make a detour with the wires in order to carry them round the Banks, where icebergs often ground, and where the cable might be broken by their weight and friction. Of the company which has undertaken the cis-Atlantic portion of the work we have often had occasion to speak. It is composed of some eight or more wealthy gentlemen, who propose to lay the entire line from St. John's, Newfoundland, to New York with their own resources. Peter Cooper is the president, and Moses Taylor the treasurer of this company; and Cyrus Field, one of its members, has just returned from Europe, where he went to consummate the arrangement with the European company. The American part of the line will be 1200 miles in length, 71 of which will be under the Gulf of St Lawrence, and the cost of the whole is estimated at a million and a half of dollars. The wires across Newfoundland will make 400 miles of the line, running through a country hitherto uncouped and unknown. In the cutting of the path, and other preparatory labours the company have had 600 men employed during the past year in that island alone. They have been liberally aided with grants of land from that colony, and have obtained advantageous charters and grants elsewhere. From our last English journals we learn that the cable to go under the Gulf of St. Lawrence was about to be shipped, and we may accordingly soon expect to be able to receive despatches from St. John's as easily and regularly as we now do from New Orleans. This cable contains three electric wires only, it being contemplated to lay down another of the same size when the European wires have been brought across and the business between New York and London requires it.—*New York Tribune*.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

The telegraphic despatches from Sebastopol, which come down to the 27th, though brief, show plainly enough that the Allies are busily preparing for what we trust will prove to be the last deadly struggle before Sebastopol. Nor are the Russians idle, every effort is making to bring forward troops to the support of the beleaguered garrison. On our side the most energetic efforts have been made within the last eight or ten days.

Orders were transmitted on the 22nd inst. to the regiments in England and Ireland under orders for foreign service to prepare for immediate embarkation—viz., the 16th, 51st, 80th, and 84th Regiments of the Line, besides detachments from the various dépôt companies, and 1200 cavalry. Orders per telegraph were also transmitted to Marseilles, to be forwarded to the Governors of Malta, Gibraltar, and the Ionian Islands, to send as many efficient men, not only of the regiments stationed in those fortresses, but of the reserve of the Household Brigade and reserve battalions, as can be conveniently spared previously to the arrival of the reliefs of regiments of the Line and the Militia. These reinforcements will augment the British force before Sebastopol by upwards of 12,000 men; and, in addition, four field batteries, a troop of Horse Artillery, and a reinforcement for the siege-train are in readiness, and only waiting for transports to embark.

The fleet in the Black Sea, also, which has performed such valuable services in the Sea of Azoff, is to be greatly strengthened. The gun-boats fitting out at Portsmouth are nearly complete. Fifteen or sixteen have their rig nearly finished, and a few days will see them ready to leave for the Black Sea. They are to be conveyed out in steamers.

One of General Pelissier's last bulletins states that the works in front of the Malakoff were nearly completed. To show how little confidence the Russians had gained from the repulse of the Allies, General Pelissier, in a bulletin of the 19th, says:—"The besieged, notwithstanding our failure of yesterday, grew alarmed in the night, and for a long time they kept firing in the air from their guns." On the 20th he says:—"The besieged, closely pressed on the side of the Central Ravine, are setting fire to the little faubourg at the extremity of the southern port." Another despatch says:—"The enemy have abandoned their third five-gun battery on Mount Sapoune." Up to the 27th the preparations were going actively forward. We may expect, therefore, to hear important news before many days—perhaps before many hours.

THE REPULSE OF THE 18TH

The letters from the Camp received by the last steamer give some interesting details relating to the preparations for the attack on the Russian works which ended so unfortunately. It appears that the Russians had made extraordinary preparations, in the belief that an attack would be made. On the afternoon of the 16th a considerable force of the enemy was observed to leave the north camp, to march along the heights towards the great roadstead, and afterwards cross to Sebastopol. A steamer brought over a portion of these troops, and at the same time had a barge crowded with soldiers secured to each side. This vessel, after disembarking the troops at the landing place near Cape Nicholas, returned to the north side, and subsequently again conveyed a similar number across. Between thirty and forty large rowing-boats also crossed with troops. As no soldiers were observed to leave the south side, the very obvious inference was that these troops were reinforcements in anticipation of an expected attack, or for the purpose of assuming the offensive. It was calculated that five or six thousand had come across up to the time when the darkness prevented further observation of the enemy's movements. Just before midnight a very sharp musketry fire occurred near the Mamelon Redoubt. The Russians advanced against the French works from both sides of the Malakoff. Their skirmishers were, however, notwithstanding the darkness, observed, and the enemy found our allies fully prepared. They were compelled to retire after about ten minutes' fighting, and must have suffered immense loss. Not only the line of musketry fire from the French advanced parallel, but also some field-pieces which had been brought forward and were kept ready loaded with canister and grape, poured a deadly fire into their ranks. The severity of their loss was best shown by the fact that they fell back after their first failure, and did not repeat the attempt during the night. The attack was made just at midnight. The French casualties were very few. Both the English batteries on the right attack, and the French works on the other side of the Careening Bay ravine, opened against the enemy as they pushed forward to the attack, and kept up a fire against them as they were retiring.

The following letter shows that the intention to attack the Malakoff on the 18th was known two days previously:—

Before Sebastopol, June 16

We are still at work with renewed ardour at the armament of our batteries of the Mamelon Vert and the White Works. All will be ready for the attack on the Malakoff on the 18th. The troops that are to take part in the affair are already told off. It is hardly necessary for me speak to you of their spirit, which is, as ever, excellent. In spite of the numerous loss we sustained on the 7th, the Zouaves have not been discouraged, though their ranks have been thinned. They again reopened their theatre on the 8th, and with the same spirit: the receipts are productive, and continue to be sent to Constantinople, to alleviate the sufferings of their wounded comrades. General Pelissier still displays the greatest energy. We expect the attack of the Malakoff on Sunday or Monday, and, if we succeed, we then attack the place itself. In the meantime we are assured that the corps of the Tchernaya, composed of the divisions Canrobert, Camon, and Dulac, under the orders of General Bosquet, to whom considerable reinforcements have been sent, is to turn Liprandi's army, and to cut it in two if possible. It is also said that the fleet will be ready to take on board 30,000 men to land at Perekop, and to cut off the retreat of the Russians who may have retreated to the other side of the country. General Pelissier has discovered the means of starving up Lord Raglan. He simply said to him, "I have given such and such an order. I have indicated a certain part to your troops; if you are not decided let me know without any delay, and I shall lose no time in providing for the necessity." Lord Raglan, who is naturally decisive, that his army should bear a part in all the important actions with the French, yields to the desire of the General-in-Chief. When General Canrobert used to communicate a plan to Lord Raglan, the latter invariably replied, "I shall give you my answer in writing in three days." All this slowness has been exceedingly hurtful to us, and it was high time to put an end to it.

EVACUATION OF ANAPA.—THE INVALIDE RUSSE

The *Invalide Russe*, that most inventive organ of the Russian Government, has found it necessary to manufacture the following account of the evacuation of Anapa, for the satisfaction of those loyal subjects of the Czar who believe that "the Russians can die, but never run away":—

As far back as March of last year, Novorossisk, defended only by mud fortifications, guarantee against the attacks of the mountaineers, and Anapa itself, an old Turkish fortress, of irregular construction, offered none of the desired conditions for any chance of success against a double attack by land and sea, made by an enemy with a powerful artillery and naval force at command. Consequently, a longer occupation of those points and the defence of their lines of communication could not have had any other result than to prevent us giving to a considerable portion of our troops a destination more suitable to the season.

From these considerations, Aide-de-Camp General Chomoutoff, Ataman *ferme troupe* of the Cossacks of the Don, who holds the chief command in the territory of the Cossacks of the Black Sea, resolved on the 17th (29th) May to evacuate first, Novorossisk as the point most distant from the Kuban, and then submitted to a council of war convoked by him the question of how far the occupation of Anapa was necessary.

Conformably to the decision of that council of war, Anapa was immediately evacuated; everything connected with the hospital and offices that could be easily carried was carried off; the guns were rendered unserviceable; the fortifications blown up, the buildings set fire to, and on the 26th May (9th of June) the garrison was finally withdrawn. Its retreat was happily effected. Simultaneously with the evacuation of Anapa, the neighbouring stanitsas of the military transkuban colonists were suppressed.

Like all the statements made by the Russian *Gazette*, when a defeat has to be explained, this bulletin is full of glaring falsehoods. The conditions offered by General Chomoutoff are evidently not of a nature to excuse the military stigma which must attach to him for abandoning, without resistance, a fortress of the strength and importance of Anapa. The Ataman of the Don Cossacks describes Anapa as an old Turkish fortress, of irregular construction, that offered none of the desired conditions for any chance of success against a double attack by land and sea, made by an enemy with a powerful artillery and naval force at command. Now the truth is, as we lately showed, that Anapa, so far from being an old Turkish fortress of irregular construction, was a solid position, fortified by every resource possessed by an active and intelligent enemy. To the batteries of stone had been added earthworks, which would have offered serious opposition to an assailing army. The shallowness of the Black Sea in the Bay of Anapa prevented the co-operation with any chance of

success of the naval resources commanded by the Allies. The Russian General, with characteristic veracity, has denied the power possessed by Anapa of being able to resist with any success the efforts of the Allied land force. Unfortunately for him, the despatches of Admiral Houston Stewart disprove this statement; and the number of cannon, and their heavy calibre, abandoned by the Russian garrison, sufficiently betray the real motive of the evacuation, which was dictated by nothing less than that prudent caution which makes a Russian General always avoid an engagement unless he has a greatly superior force. No less than 158 guns and mortars of the heaviest calibre were mounted either on the land or the sea front of Anapa; which was, moreover, garrisoned by a force of 5000 bayonets. Grain in abundance was found in the deserted fortress, so that fear of famine could not have influenced the decision of the garrison. Another reason advanced by General Clonmoutoff for the evacuation of Anapa is the absence of sufficient water for a garrison of any great strength. This is no less false than is the alleged weakness of the place. The river Bakan, a tributary of the Ruban, flows close to Anapa, and afforded that fortress plenticous supplies of water. We are, therefore, justified in considering the evacuation of Anapa by the Russians as a measure betraying timidity we had not been led to expect.

The evacuation by the enemy of Anapa has permitted the return of the Allied expedition to the heights before Sebastopol. Instructions have been given by the Admirals to destroy the remnants of that fortress; consequently the dominion of Russia over the Circassian shores of the Black Sea has now terminated.

FUTURE NAVAL OPERATIONS.

The Allied gun boats and smaller steamers, after destroying the fortress of Anapa, were to conclude their errand of destruction in the Sea of Azoff by annihilating Arabat, when their service will be required on more important points. The allied Admirals have determined on inspecting the mouths of the Dnieper and the Bug, which will doubtless destroy the last resources possessed by the Russians of feeding their armies in the Crimea. Kherson will be probably destroyed, and an attack directed against Nicolaieff, which is scarcely of less importance than Sebastopol itself. At Nicolaieff exist the dockyards and stocks which have launched into existence the Russian fleet of the Black Sea, and the total destruction of that place is imperative.

An Allied force, four thousand strong, has been left at Yenikale, and the remainder of the troops who took part in the capture of Kertch have returned to assist in the approaching operations against Sebastopol. From the latest information from the Allied Camp we learn that an army not less than 60,000 strong is prepared to take the field against the enemy, whilst a sufficient force will be left before the town to prosecute the siege, and repulse any attack directed by the enemy against the lines of the besiegers.

THE HANGO AFFAIR.

The *Merlin*, Captain Sulivan, which has been sent on to Helsingfors, in order to ascertain the fate of the officers and men supposed to be murdered under a flag of truce at Hango Head, returned on the night of the 17th inst., and we learn that on approaching the shore a flag of truce was hoisted at the main, and the ship was anchored between 3000 and 4000 yards off the forts. An hour elapsed ere a boat was observed to stand out towards the *Merlin*, pulled by fourteen fine-looking sailors, all dressed in picturesque red serge shirts, and armed with long knives attached to a black belt round the waist. An officer, in full dress, with a gilt helmet as a head-dress, occupied the stern; a white flag in the bows, and the Russian ensign aft. They did not pull on board, but it appears they laid on their oars a couple of hundred yards off, when Captain Sulivan and Mr. Crowe pulled in to meet them. What passed between them does not transpire, but the interview was of short duration. However, the *Merlin* lay six-and-twenty hours off the place before she obtained an answer to the despatch. The same parties met, and received a letter of very formidable dimensions in return, addressed to the Commander-in Chief.

From this it appears that the officers, Lieutenant Geneste, Mr. Easton (surgeon), and Sulivan (master's assistant), and all but four men, are prisoners of war, most of them wounded. The four returned as killed were those that the Consul found in her cutter. Nothing is said regarding the fate of the Russian prisoners; it is consequently presumed they fell. No explanation is given as to the cause of their conduct, though it is rumoured that one reason was the parties in the boat were sounding the whole way in; and other accusations of the same nature are made, the correctness of which remains to be proved. The result of the flag of truce per *Merlin* is so far satisfactory that it relieves the families and friends of the officers and men of the suspense they must have been in regarding their fate.

BLOCKADE OF THE WHITE SEA.

A letter from Hammerfest, dated June 5, states that the British squadron destined for operations in the White Sea—consisting of the *Meander*, 44, Captain Baillie (Commodore); *Phœnix*, 9, screw, Commander Hayes; and *Ariel*, 9, screw, Commander Lucas—passed that port to the northward on the 4th inst. The French frigate *Cleopatra* was lying in Hammerfest harbour, waiting for two steamers to join her, when they would also proceed to their destination. A letter from Bergen, in Norway, dated the 12th inst., mentions that a French man-of-war steamer, bound for the White Sea, arrived there on the 11th, and after coaling proceeded on her way.

The actual blockade began on the 11th, at least a letter received at Lloyd's, from Archangel, dated the 13th inst., states that "the blockade of all ports, roads, havens, and creeks in the White Sea has been notified on the 30th May (11th June), 1855, by the Commander of her Britannic Majesty's forces in the said sea."

THREATENED ATTACK ON PETROPAULOVSKI.

A letter from an officer in the *Dido*, dated Sandwich Islands, April 13, states that the British squadron in the Pacific was about to pay another visit to Petropaulovski, where they hoped to do something great. The intended plan of operations is said to be, that the *Dido* and *Pique*, from the Sandwich Islands, shall meet the *Encounter* and *Barracouta*, the beginning of May, in Awatska Bay; and this squadron, under the command of Captain Moorhead, is to establish a close blockade. Should the defences be not stronger than before, we may attack it, but we are not to do so unless success is certain. The Admiral, in the *Monarch*, with the *President*, *Amphitrite*, *Trincomalee*, and *Brisk*, with two French frigates and a steamer, was to follow, and then the place was to be taken. The squadron was then to go to the Sea of Okhotsk, when it would probably meet the China squadron, and attack a very strong settlement the Russians have at the mouth of the river Amor.

Later accounts from the Sandwich Islands state that the British squadron composed of the corvette *Brisk*, and the frigates *Dido*, *Alcaste*, and *President*—had left Honolulu for Petropaulovski, and it was supposed that another attack on that fortress would shortly be made. They expected to reach there by the 29th May.

AMERICA.

The American mail steamer *Pacific*, which left New York on the 18th inst., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday.

The political news is exclusively of a domestic nature. The majority of Wise, the Democratic candidate for Virginia, had been considerably reduced. The returns, however, were not yet complete

A majority of the committee appointed by the Convention at Philadelphia to frame a platform of principles for the government of the Know-Nothing party in its action bearing upon national interests, had reported resolutions accepting the existing laws upon the subject of slavery as a final and exclusive settlement of that subject in spirit and in substance, and denying the power of Congress to exclude any State from admission into the Union because her constitution does or does not recognise the institution of slavery as a part of her special system. The members of the committee who voted for this platform were all from the slave-holding States—the State of New York, the district of Columbia, and the territory of Minesota. Those who dissented from it represented the six New England States, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin. Iowa was not represented. It was predicted that the resolution would be carried in the Convention

Letters from Mexico to the 2nd of June state that Santa Anna had taken possession of Zamora, the insurrectionists leaving on his approach. The fugitives were, however, pursued, routed, and 2000 taken prisoners. Santa Anna returned to Morelia on the 21st, for Aris, where Comonfort was posted with 2500 men. Several smaller bands of the revolutionists had also been routed by the Government troops.

Intelligence has been received of an outbreak in San Louis Potosi, in consequence of the arrival of an emissary of Santa Anna with orders to arrest some of the leading citizens in the place. The whole country is in arms. An attempt had been made to take Monterey. The governor of Nueva Leon had fled. Information reached Matamoras of the pronunciamento of San Luis Potosi on the 17th ult.: troops were preparing to leave that place to quell the insurrection. Chihuahua is also reported to be on the eve of a revolution.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM MOVEMENT.

THE second great meeting of the Administrative Reform Association, which took place on Wednesday, at Drury Lane, where every speaker sought and found the applause of the meeting by denouncing the incapacity of the Government, by narrating tales of its inefficiency, and giving examples of its mode of slighting merit and bestowing undeserved rewards on the scions of great families, was for us a proof of a most important change in the relations between the Government and the people. The sentiments of the orators and audience at Drury Lane are in unison with the sentiment of the majority of the nation, and they are those of undisguised contempt and dislike of our general system of Administration. Every office, it is now said, is given to family connections, and the public service is sacrificed to private considerations. Our whole system is condemned. This sounds strange, however just, to those who remember, and to those who have read, the history of former periods. It used to be the eulogium of England that the humblest-born man in the land could rise by merit to the highest station; and in our books we were told of the cabin-boy who became the most renowned navigator of the last century; of the great Admiral who was a poor parson's son; of the great Lord Chancellor Hardwicke, who was an attorney's boy; of the great Chatham, a mere ensign, with scarcely £200 a year, who afterwards ruled both Court and people; and we were taught to believe that England was the single land of Europe where merit could fight its way to the highest place. This, too, was perfectly true to the era of the first French Revolution; but that turned all the States of Europe topsy-turvy, and opened in other countries the road—before closed in all but England for merit to preferment. If since then military and scientific skill have elevated individuals humbly born to high places in France and other countries, great civil dignities have here still rewarded men of talent, though born in the lowest ranks of life. The renowned brothers (the coal-viewer's sons) the two Scotts—one of whom became Lord Eldon, the other Lord Stowell; Lord Chief Justice Abbott, Lord Chief Justice Campbell, and Lord Chancellors Lyndhurst, Truro, and Sugden; the two Sumners, Archbishop and Bishop, are all examples—and many more might be quoted in public offices as well as in the walks of private life—of men obscure and even uneducated obtaining great eminence, renown, and wealth in England, such as they reach, whether in the service of the State or in private business, in no other country of Europe. Let us not, therefore, from the pressure of present temporary difficulties, or beguiled by the honeyed tongue of eloquence, forget our ancient honour, or doubt for one moment, even while we recognise fully the necessity for further improvements in our Administration, that the old free system of England was and is better than any of the systems of the Continent, to which some of the gentlemen even at Drury Lane would have us look for improvement. Bad as our present Administration may be, it has not been deteriorated, but much improved, since it was universally lauded, and since it really was for Britain much more beneficial, more consistent with national greatness than the Administrative systems of the Continent. Great as we must all admit our present difficulties to be, they are less the result of our free system than of the negligence of individuals, or the supineness of the public, or of the national attention being turned to other subjects which are only noticed on the Continent after England has led the way.

We are not in the slightest degree disposed to extenuate the carelessness or the neglect to which a long peace has naturally given birth in all the departments connected with war; but we must remind our readers that on this point, as on many others, our Administration has had many things on its hands which other Governments have not had to do. For example, great alterations in our fiscal and trade systems, in our criminal and civil jurisprudence, in our religious and constitutional laws, have been continuously and successively made through a number of years; and made after long and serious debates in Parliament—all these measures having been agitated for years, and having encountered great opposition. Questions of this kind have occupied the attention of our statesmen and our people, and we can with confidence assert that the sentiments promulgated in our debates, and the measures taken by our Legislature, have enlightened all Europe, and helped materially to meliorate the condition of the people. Our long debates, and the perhaps slowly-matured measures to which they led, have been for us well-timed reforms, and have saved England from those violent revolutions which—caused in part by our progress, and the neglect of statesmen abroad to imitate it—have convulsed France, Prussia, Austria, Spain, Italy, and nearly all the continent of Europe.

These statesmen have had little else to do than to keep up old systems and maintain military power; and the very revolutions which were brought on by the want of reform only made them devote more attention to keeping their armies efficient. Whatever progress civil society may make, our Ministers and all the subordinate members of Administration have, as the rule, no means of acquiring knowledge and skill in administering national affairs and organising armies which are not possessed by the Ministers of Austria, of France, or of Russia; and it is therefore to be expected that our Administration, when required to compete with that of Russia in waging war—the single object which has ever engaged the thoughts of Russian statesmen—should be scarcely up to its duties. To give this explanation of present deficiencies is not to apologise for them or to defend them, but it suggests their origin, and may lead us to the most suitable means of supplying them. Neither of these topics was touched on at Drury Lane, where much eloquence, much delightful wit, many charming anecdotes highly gratified the audience; and we rather help to fill up the little vacancies which the eloquent men who spoke there had not time to notice than run counter to anything they said, and the Administrative Reform Association proposes to accomplish.

If the general devotion of the public and statesmen through a long period to peaceable civil reforms be one of the causes of our administrative deficiencies in war, we may hopefully expect that the mere circumstance that the attention of the public and our statesmen is now necessarily directed to provide for the emergencies of war will speedily ensure for us great administrative improvements. In fact, they are already practically in progress, as Mr. Layard showed on Wednesday evening, in relation to mentioning sub-officers in despatches; and the pressure of the public by the declaration of opinions elicited at such large assemblies as that of Drury Lane will hasten them. What the public, however, can do—except by advocating the sterling principles of bestowing honour and reward according to merit—in amending the details of Administration is not so clear. It cannot constitute itself a permanent committee to control all appointments. It must trust Ministers under their responsibility to the Commons, which we desire to see more stringently enforced, and, in accordance with what the Chairman of the meeting said, have already pointed the way in which (by a more careful organisation of departments, and the control of the public money) it may be done. The public must trust the Ministers to carry on the Administration as it trusts merchants to import the corn and wine it requires. The public necessarily has its own peculiar business to attend to, and it must not pay Ministers and do their business for them. Administrative Reform requires continual improvement. It is not one thing, like Catholic Emancipation, or the repeal of the Corn-laws, that can be done in one session of Parliament; it is a succession of many things to be continually done as society develops itself, and not an object which a league or association can otherwise promote than by expounding the principles of sound and good government, and making them the creed of the people. Not entirely distrusting the general honesty of our rulers, subjected as they continually are to the influence of the press and of public opinion; not believing that the public, or any part of the public, however wisely energetic now in seeking improvement, is wholly blameless for the faults of the Administration and the discredit into which our War Administration has fallen; not concluding, therefore, that all truth and all virtue are monopolised by one class of men, some of whom have become vigorous reformers in rather a suspiciously sudden manner; we rather regret to see the assembled companies of Drury Lane and St. Stephen's playing against each other, both wasting time and strength in rivalry which might be better employed in sustaining the national cause, and smothering the perception of our mistakes, and the means of rectifying them—in wordy, and personal, and frivolous contentions, when the public interest now comparatively demands that both companies should only be emulous in fostering patriotism, in strengthening the sentiment of self-denial, and in making us, by "holding the mirror up to nature," sensible of our true defects.

THE COURT.

The Levee on Wednesday last brought to a close the formal receptions of her Majesty for the present season.

On Monday Prince Albert went to the rooms of the Royal Society in Somerset-house to inspect the calculating machine invented by Mr. Scheutz. In the afternoon his Royal Highness, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, went to Epsom, for the purpose of opening the Royal Medical Benevolent College. In the evening the Queen had a dinner party, the company at which included the Duchess of Kent, the French Ambassador, Earl Granville, Lady Alfred Paget, Lord Churchill, the Right Hon. Sir William and Lady Molesworth, General Sir Howard Douglas, and Major-General Wetherall.

On Tuesday the Queen held a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace. Viscount Palmerston, Earl Granville, Sir Charles Wood, and Sir George Grey had audiences of her Majesty. On the same day her Majesty and the Prince Consort honoured Mr. Burford with a visit, in Leicester-square, and viewed his panoramas of Sebastopol and the Battle of the Alma. Prince Albert also honoured Baroness Marochetti with a visit at his studio. In the evening her Majesty and the Prince honoured the Olympic theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday, after the Levee, her Majesty dined with her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, at St. James's Palace.

On Thursday the Queen drove in the Parks, and in the evening honoured the Royal Italian Opera with her presence.

Lord Alfred Paget has relieved Major General the Hon. Charles Grey in his duties as the Equerry in Waiting to the Queen.

THE LEVEE.

The Queen held a Levee on Wednesday afternoon in St. James's Palace. Her Royal Highness and the Royal Highness Prince Albert arrived from Buckingham Palace about two o'clock, and were received by the Lord Steward, the Lord Chamberlain, and the Master of the Horse.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge attended the Levee, and entered the Throne-room with her Majesty, who was attended by the Duchess of Sutherland, Mistress of the Robes; Lady Churchill, Lady in Waiting; the Marquis of Breadalbane, Lord Chamberlain; and the other Lords and Ladies of the Royal household.

The Queen wore a train of lilac and silver moire antique, trimmed with white blonde. The petticoat was white satin, covered with tulle, and was trimmed with lilac and white fringe. Her Majesty wore a diadem of emeralds and diamonds.

The diplomatic circle were first introduced, and several foreigners of distinction were presented to her Majesty.

The following were among the more noticeable presentations in the general circle:—

Earl Stanhope, on succeeding to the title, by the Earl of Harrington.
Major-General the Viscount Mevagh, on promotion and appointment to the staff in North Britain, by the second Hardinge.
Viscount Hawarden, on succeeding to the title, by Lord Sudeley.
Major-General Chichester, on promotion, by Viscount Hardinge.
Lieutenant-Colonel Warren, on appointment as one of her Majesty's Chaplains in Ordinary, by the Lord Chamberlain.
Captain Kellett, R.N., on return from Arctic service, by Sir C. Wood.
Mr. Thomas Grahn, Master of Lee Bilas, by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.
Mr. W. R. Inglis, President of the Parks' Islands, by Lord John Russell.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester gave a juvenile ball to the Queen and members of the Royal family yesterday (Friday), at Gloucester-house.

The Marchioness of Breadalbane's ball, on Thursday last, was honoured with the presence of their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, and the Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, &c.

The marriage of Lady Henrietta Somerset, eldest unmarried daughter of Emily Duchess of Beaufort, with Mr. John Morant, eldest son of Mr. and Lady Caroline Morant, of Brockenhurst-house, Hants, was celebrated on Tuesday, at St. George's Church, Hanover-square. The ceremony was honoured with the presence of their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, and the Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz; and the church was crowded with members of the aristocracy.

BOGUE *v.* ROUTLEDGE AND CO. In the Vice-Chancellor's Court, on Tuesday, this case came on for trial, in the shape of a motion for an injunction to restrain the defendants from publishing or selling any further copies of "Every Boy's Book," or anything copied or colourably altered from a work called the "Boy's Own Book," the property of the plaintiff. Mr. Craig and Mr. Reilly were heard in support of the motion. The defendants denied having committed the alleged infringement of the plaintiff's copyright, and stated that they had employed Mr. William Martin, the author or editor of many of the works published under under the name of "Peter Parley;" and the Rev. J. G. Wood, M.A., the author of the well-known work, the "Illustrated Natural History," and other gentlemen, to write and compile; and Mr. William Harvey, Mr. Harrison Weir, and Messrs. Dalziel to illustrate the same, at a cost of upwards of £1000. After the plaintiff's counsel had addressed the Court for more than three hours, Mr. Bacon rose for the defence, but was stopped by the Vice-Chancellor, who said, in delivering his judgment, "That it was impossible for the plaintiff to claim an exclusive right to publish works relating to the games and amusements of boys. The case as to the plaintiff's exclusive right to the contents of his book had completely failed upon the evidence, and his Honour was of that it had been proved to his complete satisfaction that the gentlemen employed by the defendants to write 'Every Boy's Book' had honestly bestowed their labour in so doing. It was impossible to say that the Court ought on any sound principle to restrain the defendants until the plaintiff had established his right at law." Mr. Bacon: The order will contain also liberty to apply in case the action is not brought. The Vice Chancellor: Of course, there will be liberty to apply in case an action is not brought. But the plaintiff is the best judge of his own interest; and I should think that, by some alteration in his title, he might secure to himself all the legal advantages which he may claim from any originality in his work.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE ADMIRAL BOXER.—REMOVAL OF THE REMAINS FROM "THE JASON," IN BALACLAVA HARBOUR.

FUNERAL OF ADMIRAL BOXER.

The Funeral of Admiral Boxer, which took place on the afternoon of June 5, two days before the capture of the Mamelon and the Quarry, was attended by a large number of officers of both services, who were desirous to testify by their presence the respect in which they held the gallant Admiral. He was buried near the Naval Hospital above Balaclava.

The death of Admiral Boxer following so quickly after that of his nephew, who was serving in his staff, combined with the fact of both having been previously in the enjoyment of robust health, sufficiently point to local causes as the source of the fatal disease which has so rapidly carried off these two officers. To the pernicious influence of a vitiated atmosphere Admiral Boxer's decease is no doubt in a great degree attributable, for, inscrutable as is the disease of cholera in its essence, no one now who has studied the subject hesitates to receive the assertion that its development is favoured by the same circumstances that assist in diffusing typhus and other such pests.

It was the Admiral's boast that he had never taken a dose of medicine in his life; an assertion illustrative of the general vigour of his frame. Though rough in manners, and in appearance and conversation a sailor of the "old school," yet every one knew that he was as honest as he was blunt, and that under the rugged exterior lay a large amount of kindliness of disposition. At Quebec, in which port he performed the duties of Harbour-master from the time of his retirement from active service in the Mediterranean, where he so much distinguished himself under Admiral Stopford, until his own promotion to Admiral's rank, he was universally respected, both in his private and public capacity. At Constantinople and at Balaclava he met with difficulties of a complicated and peculiar kind—very different in nature and degree from those of the great port, much frequented as it is, of the St. Lawrence, and requiring a very different character and temper to grapple with them. Judging from the reports of those who have most intimately mixed with Admiral Boxer of late in business, it would appear that he never spared himself any trouble; on the contrary, that one of his chief faults in administration was his trusting too much to his own personal exertion, and depending too little on that general supervision and direction which more properly belonged to his rank and position.

We are sorry to learn that the widow of Admiral Boxer is suffering from a most dire accumulation of misfortunes. The first of these was the death from cholera of her nephew, at Balaclava. This was followed by the decease, from the same cause, of her husband. The next intelligence she received was to the effect that her house in the country had been burnt to the ground. Scarcely had she been made acquainted with this fact when the failure of Messrs. Strahan's bank deprived her of an amount of not less than £30,000; and, to crown all her misery, she has now a son before Sebastopol who, it is feared, cannot long survive.

PRESENTATION OF MEDALS TO THE 80TH REGIMENT (STAFFORDSHIRE VOLUNTEERS).

The very interesting ceremony of presenting Medals to the 80th Regiment, to which they were entitled for the campaign in Burmah, took place on Friday week, on Southsea Common, Portsmouth, before a numerous concourse of spectators, mainly composed of the *élite* of the town and neighbourhood. The different regiments in garrison were assembled in companies on the ground, to witness their comrades in arms receiving the reward of their services.

The Medals were arranged on a table placed in the centre of the troops and surrounded principally by ladies.

The Colonel of the Regiment Lieutenant-General Robbins, presented the Medals to the officers and men; addressing in terms most happy and suitable to the occasion a few words to each of the recipients, as he came to the table.

Lieutenant-General Robbins, who is a distinguished Peninsular and Waterloo hero, wore on his breast his own well-earned medals, and assured the gallant fellows, who appeared to have seen much service, and many of whose breasts were also covered with medals and clasps, "that the Medal which he then presented would add another to the many honours which decked their brows, and that an opportunity would soon be afforded them of merting another medal."

The Medal has a clasp attached for the capture of "Pegu, where her Majesty's 80th gallantly led the assault."* Several of the *decorés* were honoured by having their medals immediately pinned on by their fair friends who graced the scene. A splendid banquet was given by the officers, and many distinguished personages invited to meet Lieutenant-General Robbins, Colonel of the 80th, at dinner, on Friday evening. Among them were General Breton and his Staff, the Mayor of Stafford, Mr. O'Malley Irwin, Mr. Phibbs, &c.

About 500 Medals were given. Among the recipients were:—Colonel Hutchinson; Majors Christie, Ormsby; Captains Hawkes, Hardinge, Smith; Lieutenants Amiel, Fraser, Nunn, Whitehead, Crawford, Batchelor, Mortimer; Paymaster Bodle; Lieutenant and Adjutant Burrowes; Assistant-Surgeon Lane.

* On the 4th of June 1852, Major Ormsby, Lieutenants Amiel and Fraser with a detachment of the regiment, carried by assault the Pagoda at Prome under the command of Major Ormsby, and assisted by the 67th Native Infantry and the sailors of H.M.S. *Fox*, under Captain Tarleton, C.B.

FUNERAL PROCESSION OF THE LATE ADMIRAL BOXER TO THE HEIGHTS ABOVE COSSACK BAY, BALACLAVA.

PRESENTATION OF BURMESE MEDALS TO THE 80TH REGIMENT (STAFFORDSHIRE VOLUNTEERS), ON SOUTHSEA COMMON.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

COLOSSAL CANDELABRA.

A SET of four colossal Candelabra, magnificent specimens of British manufacture in metal, as well as of tasteful design, is now in course of completion by Messrs. Charles Williams and Co., late Catchpole and Williams, 230, Oxford-street. These Candelabra were ordered by the late Viceroy of Egypt, Abbas Pacha. They are made of white metal very strongly coated with silver. The ornamental base is composed of shells, beautifully chased in relief with Egyptian ornaments; above which rises, in three sections, a column of flat and hollow flutes—each section surmounted with acanthus leaves, shells, and other ornaments, as on the base; and the summit of pillars is surmounted with a vase, richly ornamented. Each Candelabrum is 17½ feet high, and has 24 branches, with ground glass shades for wax candles—a large supply of which is being manufactured by Messrs. Brocknell and Turner, Haymarket. The diameter space of the branches of each Candelabrum is 86 inches, circumference, 258 inches; diameter of plinth, 64 inches. The weight of each Candelabrum, including the plinth, is 3360 lb

We understand that Messrs. Charles Williams and Co. have also in progress several magnificent State Bedsteads, in silver, for the Egyptian Court.

COLOSSAL SILVER CANDELABRUM FOR THE PACHA OF EGYPT.

PARIS FASHIONS FOR JULY.

WE have been very fortunate of late in securing novelties from the private exhibitions at the principal shops of the articles intended for the Great Exhibition. First, of the laces · their depth is very remarkable, and never have toilets displayed such luxury. Simple lace no longer suffices; but the rich patterns are profusely embroidered with the needle Gugelins exhibited a superb Court Mantle of a new shape, and rounded off at the sides—a very great improvement, that renders the mantle much more convenient to wear. It is white, with white and gold silken embroidery, and trimmed with frizzled white fringe and golden ornaments

PARIS FASHIONS FOR JULY.

The price of this mantle is from fifteen to twenty thousand francs. It is said to be intended for the Empress. Debiles also made a costly display of splendid patterns and materials. The Empress is stated to have selected several of these robes. The first was of a black ground of *gros de Tours*, of a pyramidal pattern, worked in gold flowers in a pyramidal pattern. Next came a robe called "Cleopatra," of a sky-blue *gros de Tours* ground, ornamented with three white and gold silk flounces. Next, a robe *étoile du Nord*, of white silk, completely covered with Indian white silken embroidery; the robe Stradella, *vert céladon* ground, with worked arabesques; and, lastly, the robe Fornarina, of *vert chou*, with white pattern imitating the *point d'Alençons*.

Among the less costly novelties were the grenadines, with black, white, sky-blue, and pearl grey ground, ornamented with garlands or bouquets of the most brilliant spring flowers. Next, the barèges, *gazes de Chambery*, *mousselines de soie*, which are the stuffs most *recherchés* this year.

Bonnets are not inferior to the robes in luxurious taste: rich laces ornament the front as well as the curtain, and the flowers that encircle the face render them excessively dear. The *paille d'Italie* and *paille de Riz* are almost the only materials worn.

White muslin robes are still worn, covered with embroidery, the richest being placed upon the edges of the flounces; and, if the robes are of simpler pattern, they stream upon the front of the skirt from the corsage down to the bottom, ornamented with ribbons of transparent shades. Many of these robes are also made with two or three tunics.

Ball handkerchiefs are almost entirely of worked on Brussels point lace, with a simple muslin ornament in the middle, in place of the hand bouquet, which is no longer used.

Chapeau de paille de riz, with a tuft of wild red poppy flowers and green leaves, and white lace trimming upon the border of the front. Mantle of silk network, separated by four rows of taffetas ribbon, puffed, and long black silk fringe. This mantle may also be worn of coloured silk, to match the dress. Robe of *mousseline de soie*, printed with three flounces, edged with garlands of flowers. Parasol of light-coloured silk, either blue, rose, or pearl-grey, covered with black lace, a flounce on the edges, and ornamented in the centre with a knot of ribbons, and often with a tuft of lace of the same depth as the flounce.

Chapeau de paille d'Italie, ornamented with flowers. Scarf Mantle of Chantilly lace, with the front corners rounded off. Taffetas robe, with large bands, black and violet, without flounces; high corsage, closed up to the neck, with trimmings arranged like braces, and made with a *ruche* composed of two ribbons of the same shades as the robe.

Chapeau de tulle blanc. Robe *à volants en Chambery Gauze*. Mantle, with lace body, is very narrow; above is a silk trimming, as well as the upper part of the flounce of the deep lace, which itself alone composes all the mantle; the rich pattern of which should stand out upon a light colour

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

Sunday, July 1.—4th Sunday after Trinity. Battle of the Nile, 1798.
Monday, 2.—Hungerford Market opened, 1833.
Tuesday, 3.—Oxford Act and Cambridge commences.
Wednesday, 4.—Translation of St. Martin.
Thursday, 5.—Sovereigns first current, 1817.
Friday, 6.—Cambridge Term ends.
Saturday, 7.—Fire Insurance due. Oxford Term ends.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 7.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
2 49	3 6	3 32	3 55	4 19	4 45	5 9	5 35	6 1	6 32	6 57	7 30	7 59	8 30

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1855.

Misadventure has hitherto preceded each of the successful assaults of the Allies upon Sebastopol, and the cases of the Redan and of the Malakoff Tower were to be no exception to the rule. We are reminded by a contemporary that, previously to the carrying the ambuscades before the Central Bastion, and previously to the capture of the Mamelon, of the Volhynia, and of the Selinghinsk Redoubts, efforts were made and failure was the result. Then the besiegers returned to the work, reinforced, and with better knowledge of the mode in which their force should be directed, and the defences fell. It is a deplorable thing that a sufficient reconnaissance can, apparently, be made only at the price of much gallant blood; but it may be permitted to us to accept the omen, deduced from what has gone before, and, in the check before the Redan and the Malakoff, to see the promise of certain victory. We have a still higher and better augury in the perseverance and indomitable courage of the armies who have learned to look upon a repulse as a thing to be avenged at the earliest moment.

The first statements that were made—or, it would be fairer to say, the first surmises that were generally risked—as to the extent of our losses, have, happily, been proved greatly to have exaggerated the casualties in question. These are, however, very grave, and, unless they are regarded as part of the terrible price which the nations pay for the victory about to be achieved, it is hard to say by what arguments those who already mourn, and the far larger number whom the arrival of the next despatches will place in mourning, can be brought to own that the lives of those whom they loved have not been sacrificed in vain. After the fearful experiences of the siege, and especially after the lessons which must have been taught by the series of repulses to which we have adverted, it is strange, indeed, that any attack should fail, except from incidents of some unexampled character, and for which even the Generals of France and England could scarcely be prepared. In the absence of more information it would be unjust to attribute blame; but if it should appear that the Allies have been repulsed from works presenting no other obstacles than those which have been previously surmounted, or differing from these only in degree, and if such repulses have been occasioned by the want of aught which precaution and calculation should have supplied, the epitaph on the heroes of the Redan and of the Malakoff will not lack its "one accusing line." But we must await details before its place in the history of the siege can fairly be awarded to the daring feat of those English and French who, on the anniversary of Waterloo, sought, the one noble hand to emulate the other to eclipse, the glories of that day.

It may be well to remember that the first belief was that the slaughter of the 18th June had destroyed or disabled in our own ranks four thousand men. Now we know that this number covers the loss of both armies, and that the total of the English loss, that is, killed and wounded, is 1295. Of these 19 officers and 144 non-commissioned officers and men are all that are hitherto known to have been slain; though, out of the enormous number of wounded, many to whose names are appended the significant words "dangerously" and "severely" have, too probably, already died; and, in round numbers, after deducting the loss of these glorious fellows, the British army is weakened by one thousand men. This is the price at which we have learned the real strength of the Redan. The nation is now feverishly eager to learn to what good use that dearly-bought lesson is being put. It is satisfactory, so far as it goes, to know that the tremendous onslaught of the Allies has greatly astounded the defenders, and that they could not believe themselves safe from another attack, but kept firing at random during the night of the 19th, and next day burned the little faubourg at the bottom of the southern harbour. More to the purpose, we were constructing batteries, with very heavy guns, on such of the works conquered on the 7th as directly menace the great fort. So stands the siege, up to the time of the last transmission of news of importance.

The complete story of a complete triumph—the mastery of the Sea of Azoff—is now before the country; and is, in its entirety, the most satisfactory episode of the war. "A victory is twice itself," says Leonato, when the achiever brings home full numbers." In the Azoff, in a few days, nearly 300 vessels, "an immense quantity of stores, and four months' provision for an army of 100,00 men," have been destroyed or captured; the "dignity" of Russia has received an incurable wound, the waters of the nursery sea have been lighted by all the flames of a circle of blazing cities, and the Allies have the command of the whole eastern coast of the Crimea. *Si sic omnia.* In this quarter the fortunes of the war are all with us.

In the third sea in which British ships are riding, and menacing a foe afraid to fight, except from behind stone walls, the cowardice of that enemy, and the clumsiness of our own vessels, combine to prevent any collision. There is an old chivalric story about a champion who, being warned that his sword was too short to enable him to cope with a better-armed antagonist, replied that it only wanted one step nearer his adversary to make up that disadvantage. The same chivalrous feeling exists on board the Baltic fleet, but it is physically impossible to bring our colossal batteries within reach of the Russians; and whether the wisdom of Government will, at any period during the war, provide Admiral Dundas with the means of doing more than Admiral Napier was permitted to do, has yet to be seen. The last reports upon the subject, and the experiment on the first floating battery that has been launched, are anything but satisfactory. There liest the noblest fleet ever sent from these shores, manned by the best officers and the boldest sailors the country can produce,

> The sea-built forts in dreadful order move.

But we have reversed the description of the Annus Mirabilis, and Britain has now the "high-raised decks," and "guns of mighty strength," and

> The "Russians" hope that with disordered haste
> Our deep-cut keels upon the sand may run.

We have only to hope that one of those happy accidents which usually occur in the presence of Nelsons and others of that kind who are ready to avail themselves of such chances may favour Dundas.

And at the least let us hope that he will find or make a way to vengeance for the Hango atrocity. Details on this subject have been received, and we now know that the murder was incomplete. Four only of our sailors and two of the Russians' fellow-subjects were slaughtered, and a similar number were wounded the remainder, supposed to have been killed, being prisoners. The Governor of Helsingfors has put forth that species of defence which might be expected from a Russian official, namely, double lying; but his pleas contradict each other, and Russia is convicted, out of her own mouth, of committing and vindicating the most brutal outrage of modern times. It is alleged that the flag of truce was not seen. This deliberate falsehood can be contradicted by the evidence of all the survivors of the massacre; but such contradiction is not necessary, for the Governor proceeds to say that the boat was fired on because the Russians had been irritated at hearing that soundings had elsewhere been taken under a flag of truce. The answer is obviously an insolent defiance by men who are contemptuously careless of the inconsistency of their statements. The rejoinder must be made by the guns of the first vessel that can manage to place itself within reach of a Russian fortress—or, better still, must be entrusted to the first body of marines and blue-jackets that can be thrown on shore. It is improbable that such a party will have any prisoners whose release may expose their merciful captors to be brutally murdered. We may add that the story of soundings having been obtained at Kertch by means of the carriage stratagem is flatly contradicted. Nothing of the kind took place; and soundings could have been obtained, without the least difficulty, by day or night. The House of Lords spoke out upon the Hango affair with an energetic indignation which did them honour; and Lord Clarendon stated that explanations had been demanded of Russia, through Denmark. Lord Brougham declared that "if the nation had ever called for blood, it was now." And, if such cry is raised, it is not the cry of frantic rage at the murder of our brothers—it is the stern demand that the claims of our common humanity shall not be slighted, even in the hour of conflict.

Hyde-park offered a singular spectacle on Sunday last. We expect that to-morrow will not offer a repetition of it, but that the pedestrians will have exclusive possession, not only of the green sward, but of the paths and carriage-roads. The working classes, aggrieved by the recent legislation of Lord Robert Grosvenor, Mr. Patten, and other ultra-sabbatarian successors of Sir Andrew Agnew, have given a proof of the indomitable spirit of Englishmen, by showing that there shall not, if they can help it, be one law for the rich in this matter and another for the poor. While disapproving of riotous assemblages for any purposes whatsoever, and disapproving as highly and as earnestly as Lord Robert Grosvenor, or any other man, lay or clerical, who has given utterance to his opinions on the subject, of any desecration of the Sunday by any class of the people, it yet seems to us that the attitude assumed by the working classes on the question is exceedingly natural, and in accordance with the sentiment and feeling which gave birth to the Reformation, and produced in England that great and ever-to-be-blessed amount of religious liberty which we all enjoy. If it be right, as members of Parliament assert, that the poor should not purchase necessary refreshment at all times when they may need it, and that no work whatever should be done on the Sunday, it is not right that carriages should drive in the Park on that day, or that clubhouses should be kept open. Carriage-driving necessitates the labour of cattle (forbidden by the fourth commandment) and the labour of coachmen, and possibly of footmen, also plainly forbidden by the Jewish law. If we are to attempt to make poor people pious by Act of Parliament, rich people must be taught that the Act of Parliament applies to them as well as their inferiors in worldly station. From the manner in which the toiling classes took up the question last Sunday, we should not be in the least degree surprised if they bestow upon the rich who go to their clubs in Pall-mall and St. James's-street to-morrow a taste of the opinion which they expressed to the equestrians in the Park on Sunday last. The legislation which allows one class to frequent houses of public resort (for clubs are nothing more) all day on the Sunday, and prohibits another class, who have no other day for repose and refreshment but that one, from taking, except at some particular, and it may be inconvenient, hour, the sustenance and refreshment which nature requires, or which the sense and feeling of liberty may suggest, cannot but be acknowledged even by Lord Robert Grosvenor to be one-sided and oppressive. And we should also remember that this is a question both of civil and religious liberty. This is a country where, luckily, it is free to dissent. If any body of men think it desirable to keep the Sunday in a Jewish sense, they are at liberty to do so. If Lord Robert Grosvenor thinks it right in a Christian land to adhere to the Sabbatarianism of the Jews; to eat cold victuals, to shave in cold water, to go unshaven, and to dispense with servants altogether on that day; he will do no more than exercise the common right of every Englishman to enjoy his own opinions in matters of religion, and to act upon them. But the liberty which such persons claim they must accord, or they become, instead of free Christians, the persecutors of other people for conscience sake. St. Paul says, with reference to Sabbath observance, "Let every man be fully persuaded in his *own* mind;" but nowhere says that a man must be forced to act on the subject from the persuasion of another person's mind. If it be free for Lord Robert Grosvenor to sigh on the Sunday, it should be free for any one else to smile. Besides, even the strictest Sabbatarians—supporting themselves upon the authority of the Divine Word—admit that works of necessity and mercy may be done on the Sunday. But who is to judge of the necessity and the mercy? The poor man, working for six days in the week, alleges that the country air on the seventh day is a necessity of his existence. Who shall deny it? He would be indeed a hard-hearted person who should presume to deny, not the necessity only, but the mercy of allowing the toiling slave of our modern civilisation the only chance of inhaling the fresh air (imbibing gratitude to God along with it) that his hard circumstances allow him. But, strictly speaking, all legislation upon the subject is persecution, and nothing less. It cannot be alleged that the Sunday is less decorously observed in our times than it was even ten or twenty years ago. On the contrary, there has been a marked improvement; and if our amateur lawmakers would have a little faith in the principles of freedom, and content themselves with setting a good example, the Sunday would be still better observed amongst us from year to year, as knowledge and education increased among the people. In no country in the world is the Sunday better observed than in the British Isles; and the friends of a rigid observance of the Sabbath should learn to be more Christian and more tolerant, and allow to others some portion of the right of free opinion which they enjoy and claim for themselves. The Jewish Sabbath is one thing;—the Christian Sunday or Lord's-day is another. The people of England wish to keep the Sunday with decency and piety; but not with the Mosaic strictness, which would stone a man to death for lighting a fire, or gathering a bundle of sticks within the prohibited hours. If we are to have legislation, it must be applied against all classes alike. There should be no carriage-drives in the Parks; no open clubhouses; no labour of coachmen and grooms; no cooking of dinners in sumptuous houses on the Sunday,—if there are to be no excursions to the country, or purchasing of needful sustenance and refreshment, by the poor. Let us have liberty; and the people of England, the most religious people in the world, will prove in due time that true liberty and sincere religion are not antagonistic, but the reverse, and mutually uphold and adorn each other. The present is a bad time to raise such invidious questions as these between rich and poor, and the sooner that Parliament allows them to drop into quiet oblivion the better for all parties.

Later Departure of the Day Mail for France.—General Post-office, June, 1855.—On and from the 1st proximo the departure from London of the day mail to France will be postponed from 11.30. a.m. to 1.30 p.m.; by which arrangement the delay to which the correspondence for France, &c., arriving in London by the day mail from Ireland, Scotland, and the north of England, has hitherto been subjected, will be obviated. The following are the regulations under which letters and newspapers for France, or intended to be forwarded through France, may henceforth be posted in London:—At any of the ordinary receiving-houses, letters, 11.0 a.m.; newspapers, 11.0 a.m. At the branch-offices in Charing-cross, the Borough, and Old Cavendish street, letters, 11.0 a.m.; newspapers, 11.0 a.m. At the Chief Office, and at the branch-office in Lombard-street, letters, 11.45 a.m.; newspapers, 11.15 a.m. Letters and newspapers for the Mediterranean and India, intended to be sent by the Overland Mails, which are made up in London on the 10th and 26th of each month, as well as letters and newspapers for the British forces in the East, to be sent by the supplementary mail made up on the morning of every Tuesday, may be posted until the hours above mentioned.

Board of Trade Returns.—The Trade and Navigation Returns, published on Thursday, inform us that the articles of British produce exported during the month of May amounted in value to £8,049,216, the sum for the month ending 5th June, 1854, being £8,422,196. For the period from the 5th of January to the 31st May the exports were valued at £34,943,727; and during the five months ending June 5, 1854 (a period longer by five days), at £40,425,689

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JUNE 28

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer. Highest Reading.	Thermometer. Lowest Reading.	Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Mean Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
	Inches.	°	°	°	°	°		Inches.
June 22	30.196	76.6	42.1	56.9	— 3.5	85	N.	0.00
" 23	30.28	70.0	53.8	61.9	— 0.6	89	N.W.	0.00
" 24	30.05	68.7	49.1	56.4	— 4.3	78	N.W.	0.00
" 25	30.12	68.6	47.8	57.1	— 3.8	85	W.	0.00
" 26	30.15	75.0	51.6	62.9	+ 2.7	87	N.W.	0.00
" 27	30.10	78.5	55.0	65.4	+ 4.2	82	N.E.	0.00
" 28	30.25	78.4	49.2	64.2	+ 2.9	83	CALM.	0.00

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average and the sign + above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are counted on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100

The reading of the barometer has varied but little during the week, the lowest reading being 30.01 in., on the 26th; and the highest, 30.30, on the 27th. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 30.170 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 0.020 being 0.70 below the average.

The range of temperature during the week was 36°.9, being the difference between the lowest reading, 49°.10, on the 22nd, and the highest, 78°.0, on the 28th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 22°.9. The greatest was 28°.7, on the 22nd; and the least, 11°.0, on the 23rd.

The weather throughout the week was fine, and there was no rain.

Lewisham, June 25, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending June 23 the births of 1771 children were registered within the metropolitan districts, 887 boys, and 884 girls; the average numbers from the preceding ten years for the twenty-fifth week are 736 boys and 677 girls—so that 135 children were born above the estimated average. Within the same limits of time and space 1075 persons died, numbering 548 males and 527 females. The average rate of mortality, as calculated for the week, was 1015; so that the actual number was sixty in excess. The number of deaths in the three preceding weeks were 1072, 1087, and 1047. Within the week the number of deaths by small-pox were 28; measles, 16; scarlatina, 54; hooping-cough, 41; diarrhœa, 25; and typhus, 47. So that scarlatina was the most fatal of this class of disease. diarrhœa, which only averaged 15 in the last six weeks, rose to 25

GREAT DEMONSTRATION AGAINST THE LONDON SUNDAY-TRADING BILL. A monster demonstration, such as has not occurred in or near the metropolis for some years past, took place on Sunday, in Hyde-park. A few days before, placards had been displayed throughout the metropolis inviting the working classes and others to attend in Hyde-park on Sunday afternoon, to see "how the aristocracy observed the Sabbath." In obedience to this call, several thousand persons had assembled in the Park between two and three o'clock on Sunday. A great number of policemen were distributed throughout the Park, but did not interfere with the free movement of the persons assembled, a large majority of whom appeared to be of the better class of artisans, accompanied, in numerous instances, by their wives and families. The equestrian ride in Rotten-row was totally deserted, but soon after three o'clock a variety of carriages began to make their appearance in the Drive running along the right bank of the Serpentine. The vast crowd at once took up a position on each side of the road, extending from the Achilles Statue to Serpentine-bridge, and as such carriage passed along indulged in loud hissing and groaning, accompanied by deafening cries of "Go to church!" "Why do you allow your servants to work on Sunday?" "Shame on you!" "Down with the Sabbatarians!" "Away with the Sunday Bill!" In one carriage a lady stood up, and held in her hand a prayer-book, but the only effect it had on the crowd was to make them shout out, "Walk, walk, and let your horses rest, and your coachman go to church!" Lord and Lady Wilton, Lady Granville, and several others of the nobility and gentry were obliged to leave their carriages at the demeanit of the multitude. In the majority of instances the occupants of the carriages did not venture to return down the Park, but went home by another route. The crowd remained until nearly eight o'clock. A great number of the members of the Legislature were present, looking on. It is said that a similar demonstration will be repeated to-morrow. A correspondent of the *Times* writes:—"After all, we cannot wonder at such popular ebullitions and demonstrations—nor can we prevent this ratiocinative process of 'the million'—hasty, harsh, and unsympathetic though it may be—when we witness, on one hand, the perpetual attempts of the Legislature to torture the poor into an observance of the Sabbath, and notice, on the other hand, the unfettered enjoyment by the rich of comforts and liberties on the very same day. Thus, for instance, after leaving the Park I called at my club, and, at a time when not a poor wretch in the metropolis might purchase a drop of beer, obtainable for love or money, I had whatever liquid refreshment I fancied, and found other gentlemen similarly engaged and similarly privileged. Two minutes afterwards a bishop's carriage, drawn by a pair of well-groomed horses, attended and guarded by coachman and footmen in elegant liveries, and conveying two reverend gentlemen (who might, for aught I know, have this very day preached from the text "Thou shalt keep holy the Lord's-day"), dashed by the door of the club, and I really could not help feeling that, after all, the Park demonstration was neither unaccountable nor unnatural, seeing that both Sunday trading and Sunday labour are practised with impunity by the Bishops themselves, and that Lord Robert Grosvenor's bill does not contain a clause which will, in the remotest degree, interfere with the Sabbath enjoyment of the rich."

ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S CORONATION.—Thursday last being the anniversary of her Majesty's coronation, the usual display of flags, ringing of bells, and other loyal demonstrations took place throughout the metropolis

CITY ORTHOPŒDIC HOSPITAL, HATTON-GARDEN. A *fête champêtre*, under most distinguished patronage, took place in the beautiful grounds of St. Margaret's, Isleworth, near Richmond, on Wednesday, in aid of the funds of the above institution, founded for the gratuitous medical and surgical treatment of poor persons afflicted with clubfoot and other deformities

VISIT OF THE ROYAL CHILDREN TO THE ROYAL PANOPTICON.—Their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, Prince Alfred, the Princess Alice, the Princess Helena, and the Princess Louisa, attended by their suite, paid a visit to the Royal Panopticon, Leicester-square, on Wednesday evening, between the hours of public visitation.

HYDE-PARK COLLEGE.—The second annual meeting of this College took place on Wednesday last, before a large and influential attendance of the neighbourhood. The report, which was read by the secretary, stated that the number of pupils had been very encouraging, and the funds were in such a position as to warrant the repayment of a portion of the preliminary fund, and the establishment of a guarantee fund. Several admirable speeches were made by the gentlemen interested in the College.

STRAHAN, PAUL, AND BATES.—The general impression seems to be that they will escape all consequences from the criminal charge against them, owing to the technicalities of the Act of Parliament under which they have been arraigned. This result, however, is not at present quite certain. Should it occur, the only authority to take cognizance of their offences will be the Court of Bankruptcy. The commissioners, the power to refuse a certificate to a bankrupt who has contracted debts by fraud, and the effect of the refusal entitles any creditor to cause the bankrupt to be arrested and imprisoned. He cannot then obtain his discharge under a year except by order of the Court. The measures on the part of Strahan, Paul, and Co. are considered to have been conducted with great art, the inference being that they committed a voluntary act of bankruptcy in order to get proceedings instituted by a friendly creditor, and with the view to make the disclosure which should exempt them from the criminal penalties due to their conduct.—*The Times' City Article.*

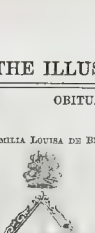
DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN SHOREDITCH.—Between the hours of one and two o'clock on Thursday morning a most extensive fire took place on the premises of Mr. W. O. Marchant, cabinet-maker, Curtain-road, Shoreditch, whereby property to the amount of upwards of £3,000 was destroyed. The premises in question were very commodious, and were filled with cabinet-work of a costly description. The flames were not perceived until they shot forth in a huge body, endeavoring to the extinction of the extensive works. The engines speedily got to work, but in spite of the exertions of the firemen the flames spread, and caught the premises of Mr. G. Newton, confectioner, which were severely damaged by fire, and six houses under repair, belonging to Mr. J. Smith, Worship-street, were considerably damaged by fire. The cause of the calamity is at present unknown.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.—A special general meeting was held at Exeter-hall, on Wednesday; Viscount Ranelagh presided. The noble chairman read the report, which stated, as evidence of onward progress, increased investments in land, and extension of building on the allotted estates. The whole of the Old Ford, Retford, Alford, and a considerable part of the Malvern estates, had been sold. The sale of land for the quarter amounted to £5427 10s., making a total since the commencement of the society of £109,111 10s. The Hounslow and the first and second portions of the Brighton estate would be allotted under novel and advantageous circumstances, on the 19th of July. The report adverted to the approaching proceedings in the Registration Courts, which would be conducted by the society for its members as formerly, free of expense. The report was adopted by acclamation, and a vote of thanks to the noble chairman was passed

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

MADAME LAVALETTE.

EMILIA LOUISA DE BEAUHARNAIS, Countess de Lavalette, who, familiarly known as Madame Lavalette, established a name memorable for ever in the annals of female heroism died in Paris on the 18th inst. It is not said whether she ever recovered the mental prostration of mind consequent on the sufferings she endured for her act of devotion, but, at any rate, her glory has never been obscured, and is as brilliant now, at the time of her demise, as when what she did first won universal acclaim.



The Countess de Lavalette was a near relative of the present Emperor of the French, being the first cousin of his mother, the Queen Hortense. She was the daughter of Queen Hortense's father's elder brother, Francois, Marquis de Beauharnais, who died in 1846, leaving a daughter by each of his marriages: the younger of these daughters is the Chanoinesse and Marchioness Hortense, now Madame de Lauty; and the elder was the heroine, the subject of this notice.

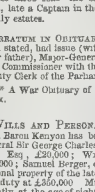
In accordance with the expressed wish of Napoleon, then First Consul, Emilia Louisa de Beauharnais, after receiving her education at the justly-celebrated seminary of Madame Campan, was married in 1802 to Bonaparte's favourite Aide-de-Camp, Antony Marie Chamant Lavalette. Her husband was a remarkable man. He had shared with acknowledged ability in much of the toil and trials of his great master, to whom he was warmly attached. His life, indeed, seemed a charmed one. He once was shipwrecked, and had a wonderful escape from drowning, off the coast of Egypt; he remained unscathed during the six weeks' plague in Alexandria and that passed for a miracle; but the last preservation of his life, the act of his wife, was far more marvellous still. When Napoleon became Emperor he made Lavalette a Count, and appointed him Director-General of Posts. This office he held when Napoleon abdicated in 1814, and he then gave in his adhesion to the restored dynasty of the Bourbons—most probably, it is supposed, that he might the better serve the cause of the Imperial exile. The moment the news of the return from Elba took effect in Paris, Lavalette forcibly resumed himself in his directorship of Posts, which had been temporarily occupied by the Count de Ferrand, and he here made use of his thus-acquired power to stop the Royal proclamations, so as to secure the utter discomfiture of the King. For this act Lavalette, after the second restoration, was tried and capitally convicted. He was sentenced to be guillotined, and his doom appeared inevitable. The Government was inexorable to all applications, and they were many, to spare his life. His wife threw herself at the feet of LOUIS XVIII.; but the Monarch, himself a man of humanity, could only regret that his advisers insisted on a severe example. The execution was fixed for the 21st December, 1815. The night before, Lavalette escaped from his dungeon in the clothes of his wife, leaving her there to be stead. The details of her almost superhuman skill, intelligence, and presence of mind, in the conduct of this affair, form a surprising narrative—too long for insertion here, but the reader may be referred for it to "Chambers' Miscellany," and for further incidents to the recent edition of "The Romance of the Aristocracy." Lavalette, once out of prison, lay concealed in a curious hiding-place, where his enemies never thought of looking for him—viz., in a chamber of the very office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. There, through the aid of his friend the cashier, he rested secure for nearly three weeks, and baffled the police completely. He owed his final preservation to the generous gallantry of three English gentlemen—Sir Robert Wilson, Captain Hutchinson (since Earl of Donoughmore), and Mr Michael Bruce. They took him from his precarious place of refuge, and conducted him, in the disguise of an English officer, across the frontier into Belgium. For this they were tried in Paris, and sentenced to the minimum of punishment accorded to the offence—three months' imprisonment—and underwent it amid general applause. Lavalette, after an exile of six years, was pardoned by LOUIS XVIII., and returned to France: he died there in 1830. His heroic wife fared the worst. The cruel prosecution and the six weeks' severe imprisonment to which the Government, in its wrath, subjected her to for having foiled them, proved too much for her; the agony, bodily and mental, she endured (she was kept uncertain of her husband's safety) laid the foundation of complaints which afterwards unsettled her reason. Her daughter Josephine, named after herself, when he got back, did all that could could be in human power to administer comfort and alleviation to her in her unhappy condition. Lavalette's letters on the subject display intense feeling and sorrow. When he died, the Countess continued under the devoted care of her daughter. The recollection of her great example of a wife's attachment was not to be in this life: she now passes to her reward, leaving behind her a strange history, the saddest and yet the brightest amid all the recorded vicissitudes of the Imperial family of France

F. ADDENBROOKE ADDENBROOKE, ESQ.

EDWARD ADDENBROOKE ADDENBROOKE, Esq., of Kingswinford, county Stafford, was the representative of an ancient staffordshire family formerly seated in Wollaston-hall, in that county, being eldest son of the late John Addenbrooke Addenbrooke, Esq., of Wollaston-hall, High Sheriff for Worcestershire in 1798 (whose patronymic was Homfray), by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Michael Gatacre, Esq., of Audnam, and grandson of John Homfray, Esq., of Wollaston-hall, by Mary his wife, daughter of the Rev. Jeremiah Addenbrooke, M.A., and heir of his uncle, the Very Rev. John Addenbrooke, D.D., Dean of Lichfield. The family of Homfray descends immediately from Francis Homfray, Esq., of Aston, county York, who was supposed to have been killed at the siege of Clonmel, under Cromwell. The late Sir Jeremiah Homfray, Kt., of Llandaff-house, High Sheriff for Glamorganshire in 1809, was the representative of one branch of this family

Mr. Addenbrooke, the subject of this notice, married Emma, third daughter of the late John Pidcock, Esq., of the Platts, Staffordshire, J. P. and D. L. for that county, by whom he leaves a large family to deplore his death, which occurred at his residence, Kingswinford, on the 16th ult.

THOMAS GEORGE WARRINGTON CAREW, ESQ.



THIS gentleman, a magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for Somerset, died at his seat, Crowcombe Court, Somerset, on the 21st ult., in his 59th year. Mr. Carew succeeded to the old family estates of Carew Castle, Pembroke, and Crowcombe Court, Somerset, on the death of his mother, an heiress of the family of Carew, in the year 1832 He was the eldest son of George Henry Warrington, Esq., who assumed the name of Carew in the year 1811; and from his father he inherited the Warrington family estate of Pentrepant Hall, Salop. The Carews are one of the few families now remaining who can trace an uninterrupted descent from the Anglo-Saxon period. Mr. Carew married, in 1827, Elizabeth Hannah, only daughter of the late John Read Clarke, Esq., of Furnham-house, Somerset; and by this lady he leaves three sons—the eldest of whom, George Henry Warrington Carew, Esq., late a Captain in the 1st King's Dragoon Guards, now succeeds to all the family estates.

ERRATUM IN OBITUARY OF LAST WEEK.—Sir George Rose, it should have been stated, had issue (with several other children, most of whom died before their father), Major-General Rose, late Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople, and now Commissioner with the French Army in the Crimea, William Rose, Esq., Deputy Clerk of the Parliaments, and the present Countess of Morton.

*** A War Obituary of the Officers who fell on the 18th will be given next week.

WILLS AND PERSONALTY.—The will of the Right Hon. George Lord Stuart de Rothesay, late British Ambassador, personalty £18,000; Lieut.-General Sir George Charles d'Aguilar, K.C.B., £18,000; Augustus Keppel Gifford, Esq., £20,000; William Devonshire Saull, wine merchant, London, £20,000; Samuel Berger, colour manufacturer, London, £160,000. The private personal property of the late Bennett Gosling, Esq., has been estimated for probate duty at £350,000 Mr Arthur Guinness, the eminent brewer, who died recently at the age of eighty-eight, is stated to have left upwards of half a million sterling

THE Duke of Northumberland laid the foundation-stone of a new church at Isleworth on Thursday morning, with the usual ceremonies.

TESTIMONIALS. To the Rev. George Jennings, on his retirement from the curacy of Bishop Wearmouth, a purse containing above £70. To the Rev H. F. Ralph, curate of Stretford, a silver salutand, with a suitable inscription, by his congregation.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from page 653.*)

HOUSE OF LORDS. THURSDAY.

INCREASE OF PAY TO THE ARMY.

Lord PANMURE, in reply to the Duke of Richmond, said that in the construction of the new barracks he was fully alive to the importance of affording to the married soldier convenient and decent accommodation. He was, however, of opinion that the Army would be much improved by the absence of women altogether, and that the young soldier should be taught to do that for himself which was on ordinary occasions performed by women. He did not think that a young soldier of eighteen years of age should be permitted to marry until he had passed through his ten years' service. In respect to the subject of recruiting, instead of increasing the bounty, which was at first proposed, her Majesty's Government had at a considerable sum to grant an additional shilling a day to all soldiers engaged in field operations; such shilling not to be paid them at once, but to be placed to their credit in the savings-banks, and there left to accumulate in the event of their death such money to be paid to their nearest surviving relatives. But if they survived it was to be paid to them, in addition to the pension to which, after a certain term of service, they would be entitled

The Assizes and Sessions Bill passed through Committee, as did also the Spirits (Ireland) Act Amendment Bill, the Accidents on Railways Bill, and the National Gallery, &c. (Dublin) Bill

The Woolmer Forest Bill was read a second time.

The Militia (No 2) Bill was read a third time, and passed

The Friendly Societies Bill was reported, with amendments

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

In the morning sitting, the House in Committee disposed of several clauses in the Local Management (Metropolis) Bill.

In the evening sitting, Lord PALMERSTON, in reply to Mr. T. Chambers, said that the correspondence with the Portuguese Government on the subject of the Barons of Yullie, Shortridge, and Co., for breach of treaty, had not yet been brought to a conclusion.

TENANTS' IMPROVEMENTS COMPENSATION (IRELAND) BILL.

The House having gone into Committee upon this bill, Lord SEYMOUR moved that the Chairman report progress, with the view of discharging the order altogether, as he saw no probability of the measure being passed in the present Session

After some conversation, Serjeant SHEE said he considered the amendments of the Government so mischievous, he was of opinion that the bill was not worth having.

The Committee having divided, Lord Seymour's motion was negatived by a majority of 97 to 7

The discussion of the clauses was then proceeded with; but little progress was made in the bill

About midnight the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Several bills upon the paper were then advanced a stage

WINDSOR POULTRY SHOW.

THE first Exhibition of Poultry took place at Windsor this week under Royal and other very distinguished patronage; and, but for the incon venient site selected for the tents, and some want of experience in the construction of the Poultry pens errors which may be excused on a first attempt—the exhibition would have been much more attractive. It is, however, understood that another year better arrangements will be made, and the gathering will take place in the Home park.

Upwards of £150 was distributed in prizes; and a handsome silver cup, value ten guineas, was awarded to H. D. Davies, Esq., of Springgrove-house, Hounslow, the exhibitor of the best collection of adult birds, and also the most successful competitor in the adult classes. Amongst the competitors for prizes we noticed H.R.H. Prince Albert, and a long list of the nobility and gentry.

THE CAPTURE OF YENIKALE.

THE taking of this place was a very brief affair. The instant the Russians deserted Pavlovskaia, the *Snake*, in the most dashing manner, made a rush into one of the Russian steamers past the opening of the Bay of Kertch up to Yenikale. Captain M'Killop pushed his vessel into the cross bank, shoals, and narrows after his prey. A large and heavily armed schooner, sailing beautifully, came bowling down from Yenikale to aid her consort, and at the same time several merchant vessels slipped from the Bay of Kertch and tried to run up to the Sea of Azoff, but the *Snake* had her eyes wide open, and gave them a gun here and there, which soon induced them to abandon the attempt. As she went up to Yenikale she got under fire from the batteries on the shore and on the second sandbank, but she danced in among the Russian vessels, and spliced one side of her long guns and holding her own against ships, gun-boats, floating batteries, shore forts, and block-houses till her consorts went to her assistance, and soon made the place too hot for the enemy. They blew up their magazines and spiked their guns at Yenikale that evening, and the next morning the batteries on the spit were abandoned by the enemy after firing a few shots. The *Snake* was only hit once; a round shot went through her, but no one was hurt. None of the other vessels received any injury. The schooner and steamer were driven on shore, and were burnt by the enemy

From Kertch to Yenikale the distance is five miles and a half. Yenikale derives its importance from its position on a promontory close to the entrance of the Sea of Azoff, at the northern extremity of the Straits of Kertch. Another of the singular banks to be found in this part of the world, shooting from the north-eastern extremity of the Taman Peninsula, runs through the Straits in a southerly and westerly direction for several miles and a half towards Yenikale, and contracts the strait to the breadth of a mile and three quarters, just ere it opens into the Sea of Azoff On this bank, which is full of salt-water marshes, and is two or three miles broad in some places, the Russians had a strong battery, commanding the ferry station, armed with long and heavy 36-pounders, and a number of Government buildings of a mean description, and there were great numbers of fishing-huts and curing-sheds also upon it. The principal battery at Yenikale crowned fire with the fort on the sandbank, which is called Sayernaia, and it was thought that a stout resistance would have been offered to our gun-boats, but the batteries on land were abandoned and the magazines blown up by the enemy as soon as the allied fleet made its appearance; the battery on the sandbank followed the example next morning, and Yenikale was surrendered without a blow. The town consists of two parts—one suburb of houses close to the water's edge, and commanded by a ridge of high land rising gradually from the sea. The church, which is a handsome building in the Byzantine style, stands on the height, in the midst of this suburb. The other part consists of the Fort, which is formed by a quadrangular rampart, armed at the angles with bastions and small turrets. Each side of the square is about a quarter of a mile long. The side parallel to the sea wall is on the top of the ridge into which the ground rises gradually from the sea, and the sea-wall itself has its base broad quay by the water's edge. The ridge once gained the country lies before one in a spacious plateau, with conical mounds and tumuli, forming natural advanced posts for videttes in the distance. On the land side the ramparts are provided with embrasures, and are crenellated for musketry the walls, though very old, are of great solidity, and are tolerably well preserved. Beside the barracks are the hospital, the Government-house, the barrack, the batteries, and the stores and magazines. One of these magazines, which was blown up, completely destroyed about 200 feet of the curtain of the work on the land side. There are marks of cannon, intermediate outside the walls, and the moats, ditches, covered ways, &c are still well defined

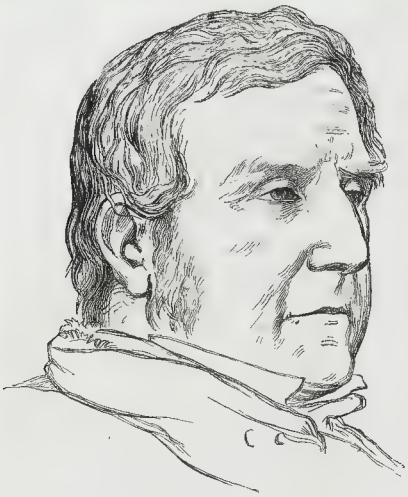
(*From our own Correspondent.*)

In my last I wrote that our gun-boats had done good service in the Sea of Azoff. The number of shipping and craft taken or destroyed is said now to amount to 500; and Taganrog, a strong fortress about fifteen miles from the river Don, laid in ruins. At Taganrog, in the reign of Peter the Great, and as late as Catherine II., the Russians had a fleet of flat bottomed line-of-battle ships; but since its foundation the water has diminished in depth about three feet. On the 12th inst. orders were received for the expedition to return to Balaclava

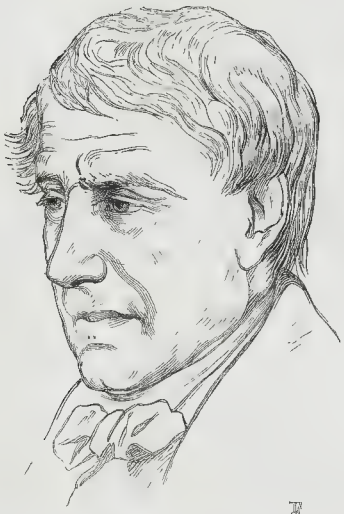
The Russians have destroyed Anapa.

On Wednesday last 1500 women from Kertch were sent across the Sea of Azoff by our Admiral, they having expressed great fear of the Turks; between 3000 or 4000 of whom, in conjunction with the 71st Highlanders, will remain to defend Yenikale. The poor inhabitants have had, I am sorry to say, good grounds for their fear; as the Turks have committed various excesses, several of whom have been punished by death.

THE LANDING OF THE TURKS AT YENIKALE. (SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



LORD RAGLAN, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE BRITISH ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.—FROM A DRAWING BY ARMITAGE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



SIR EDMUND LYONS, ADMIRAL COMMANDING-IN-CHIEF OF THE BRITISH NAVY. FROM A DRAWING BY ARMITAGE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE 71ST REGIMENT AND TURKS THROWING UP INTRENCHMENTS AT YENIKALE.—(SEE PAGE 647.)

BOMBARDMENT OF FORT ARABAT BY THE SEA OF AZOFF SQUADRON.—EXPLOSION OF THE MAGAZINE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

BOMBARDMENT OF FORT ARABAT.

It was on the afternoon of the 25th ult. that the squadron of light steamers entered the Sea of Azoff, and on the morning of the 28th they came in sight of Fort Arabat. The squadron consisted altogether of the following vessels:—*Hirondelle*, screw, 15 guns; *Viper*, screw gun-boat; *Stromboli*, paddle, 6; *Swallow*, screw, 8; *Medina*, paddle, 4; *Wrangler*, screw gun-boat, 2; *Beagle*, screw gun-boat, 2; *Recruit*, paddle, 6; *Vesuvius*, paddle, 6; *Curlew*, screw, 8; *Ardent*, paddle, 4; *Snake*, screw gun-boat, 2; *Lynx*, screw gun-boat, 2; *Arrow*, screw gun-boat, 2. The French squadron consisted of four steamers.

On the morning of the 28th, at 7.30, the *Snake* fired a gun at Fort Arabat, which was soon returned, and soon after all the ships were engaged. On our side the firing was good—shot and shell were sent into the fort, while the Russians were unable to reach the Allied vessels; most of their shots fell short, but they still kept up a good fire, and, had the fort been within range, would have caused it considerable damage. At 8½ the magazine exploded and the fire slackened considerably. About 9 the Arabat fleet cleared out, and steamed out of action, having caused some damage and made the enemy show his forces, without any loss on our part, save one shot which struck the *Medina*, and very slightly wounded one man. No good could have resulted from taking the ships into closer action, as the fort could not have been destroyed without the co-operation of a land force, and some of our steamers might have been crippled, for which even the destruction of the fort would have been but a poor compensation. Captain Lyons expected to have found a number of vessels at anchor near the fort, but there was not one to be seen. There was a large store of grain on the tongue of Arabat, near the fort, but any boats going on shore would have been exposed to fire; and, as saving time conduces to success in this sea, it was left uninjured. After the action the four French steamers returned to Kertch, and the English squadron proceeded along the tongue of Arabat to Genitchi, at the entrance to the Putrid Sea.

Captain Lyons, in a despatch, announcing the capture, says

The Commanders of the vessels employed deserve every credit for the skilful manner in which they manœuvred their vessels in a very strong breeze and shoal water, without a single accident; and I may be permitted to say none were more distinguished than our gallant allies. The large garrison at Arabat rendering any attempt at landing out of the question, I now proceeded for Genitchi, parting with regret from Captain de Sédouze and his squadron, who left at the same time for Kertch. I take the opportunity of mentioning the efficient, cordial, and hearty co-operation I received on every occasion from M. de Sédouze and the ships under his orders, and my hope that it may again be my good fortune to have him for my colleague.

PORTRAITS OF LORD RAGLAN AND SIR EDMUND LYONS.

By the courtesy of Messrs. Gambart we are enabled to present our readers with the accompanying *facsimile* Engravings from Portraits of the above distinguished Commanders, executed by Mr Armitage during their present campaign. At home these presentments of the two mariners who are commanding our forces, by land and sea, will be regarded with peculiar interest; they are characteristic of the firmness and energy which are indispensable to their glorious termination of the mighty struggle in which we are now engaged.

The reader will find in the Illustrated London News, No. 606, a Memoir of the Life and Services of Lord Raglan; and, in No. 691, of Sir Edmund Lyons.

NEWSPAPER POSTAGE IN INDIA.

(To the Editor of the Illustrated London News.*)*

65, Cornhill, June 28, 1855.

With reference to the announcement of your intention to publish an unstamped Supplement with each number of the Illustrated London News, we beg leave to invite your attention to a circumstance connected therewith of considerable importance to your Subscribers in the interior of India.

The Illustrated London News, with the Supplement, will exceed twelve tolahs (about five ounces) in weight, which is the limit allowed for the transmission of newspapers by Tolee Dâk, as we understand the Act for the Regulation of the Indian Post-office, which came into operation last year, consequently, until some alteration is made in these regulations, the Illustrated London News will be forwarded by Dâk Bhargy (parcel post), and thus delayed for some days or even weeks beyond the period at which newspapers of a less weight are received.

As it is impossible for us to communicate with each of our constituents in India receiving the Illustrated London News through our agency, and as the postal regulations of India are not generally known in this country, we would suggest that you should insert a notification on this subject in your next publication, in order to explain to your Indian Subscribers the delay which will probably occur in the receipt of the Illustrated London News by them.—We are, dear Sir, your faithful and obedient servants,

Smith, Elder, and Co.

NEWSPAPERS TO CANADA.

(To the Editor of the Illustrated London News.*)*

Permit me to earnestly call your attention to the circular issued yesterday by the Post-office with reference to the transmission of newspapers from the United Kingdom to British Colonies and Foreign States.

Hitherto, as the public were aware, stamped newspapers could be transmitted free between Great Britain and her Colonies, with the exception of Canada, upon each newspaper for which there has been a rate, for transit through the United States, of 1d. currency (about a fifth less than 1d. sterling), paid at destination, but by the new circular every British Colony will henceforth be subjected to a postal rate, in addition to the newspaper-stamp, of 1d. for each newspaper posted in Great Britain, and in the case of Canada to a postal rate of 2d.

At present the cost per annum of receiving the *Times* in this last-named country varies, according to the arrangement made with the London newsvendor, from £4 16s. 8d. per annum to £3 12s. 8d., which latter sum would be the full price of each publication, with the transit penny currency added; but by the new circular £3 8s. must be added, or about 50 per cent on the present average price of your journal. In the case of stamped newspapers published for 4d. the Post-office is about to impose a new tax of 50 per cent upon those sent to Canada, and of 25 per cent on those sent to all other British Colonies; and on 3d. stamped papers the proportion of the new tax will be 66⅔ per cent for Canada, and 33⅓ for all other Colonies.

It should be understood that while British possessions are to be subjected, under the price of postal rate, to the new taxes, no such restriction or alteration is to be made in the postal rates charged on newspapers forwarded to foreign countries, for they can be sent to France, Belgium, Prussia, &c., free, as heretofore.

It is clear that, unless energetic steps be at once taken, the Post-office will endeavour to reduce the loss of revenue to be occasioned by the partial remission of the Newspaper-stamp Duty in this country by the imposition of a tax of which the British Post-office revenue will alone get the benefit, for the circular states that the "rates must, in all cases, be prepaid, otherwise the newspapers cannot be sent."

In fact, while, under pressure, newspaper free trade is extended in one part of her Majesty's dominions, it is counteracted by discreditable restrictions as regards all others, and thus, too, at the very time that England's most important colony has passed a law ensuring the free transmission of its unstamped newspapers throughout its entire extent.

Having some experience of colonial life, there is no difficulty in my predicting the displeasure that will be felt in every colony on the receipt of this circular, and a few weeks will certainly bring back to England indignant remonstrances from every one of them.

You will yourself, no doubt, deal with that part of the circular by which an additional annual registration fee is to be paid by each newspaper claiming the privilege of transmission abroad.

I am, Sir, your very obedient servant,

London, June 27. Cusack P. Roney.

[Note of the Editor.—With reference to the letter of Messrs. Smith and Elder, we hope the Indian Government will be induced to relax its postal regulations in favour of the transmission of Newspapers, and thereby set a good example to the authorities at home. The officials at St Martin-le-Grand, as we well know, learn with no favour upon newspapers sent by post, and would rather not be encumbered with the duty of forwarding them. They have taken advantage of the recent changes in the law—changes which will no doubt lead to a great increase in the number of newspapers—to impose an additional postage on newspapers for Australia and several other Colonies. The Government of India is somewhat wiser, as Sir Cusack Roney informs us; for, looking at newspapers as the best instructors of the people, it has, within the last two months under taken without imposing a stamp-duty, to convey the Canadian news papers free to every part of the Colony. We have yet some things to learn, even from our Colonies.]

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM ASSOCIATION

MEETING AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

The second meeting of the Administrative Reform Association was held on Wednesday evening in Drury-lane Theatre. Amongst those present were—Messrs. Charles Dickens, W. Scholefield, M.P.; F. Maxwell, M.P.; Apsley Pellatt, M.P.; Sir Joshua Walmsley, M.P.; J. Hutchinson, M.P.; J. A. Wise, M.P.; Major Reed, M.P.; A. H. Layard, M.P.; W. Tite, M.P.; J. P. Gassiot, W. J. Hall, G. Bishop, jun., J. Ingram Travers, R. Ogilby, W. Lister, B. Wilson, J. S. Allen, W. Cubitt, J. Browning, G. Morgan, F. Bennett, Donald Nicoll, J. P. Foster, T. Pollock, W. Edgar, jun., Peter Graham, George Stagg, Forster Graham, Rev. Robert Walpole, J. C. Dalcibum, J. Deitzman, C. George, A. Abbott, A. Whitaker, R. Mitchell, Jacob Bell, Joseph Harvey, J. Fennings, R. L. Fennings, W. S. Burton, J. G. J. Greene, J. W. Marshall, John Wade; John Yaux, of Harwich; John Norton, of Lincoln; Henry Railway, of Smethegarth; H. E. Hoole, of Sheffield; W. Burnley Hume, F. L. Sloss, A. S. Ayrton, Johnston Neale, Colling Jones, M. J. Higgins, Travers Buxton, B. L. Smith, Dr Bell, Dr Pearson, &c.

Mr Morris, the President of the Association, occupied the chair.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said they could do nothing without the aid of the press (Cheers). A different class of men was wanted in the House of Commons (Cheers). Until the country placed men there who would not care about blackballing at the clubs—men who could stand up for the rights of the Hut perfectly upright—it would be vergin anything essential. It might be thought odd—but he had to bring it to a common sense responsibility to the House of Commons the most two [illegible] which had taken up the position which he was in—[illegible] and not upon it to the letter (Cheers). Unless the large constituencies sent faithful men to Parliament, it was no use to ask for Administrative Reform.

Mr. C. Dickens, on presenting himself to the meeting, was received with loud and protracted cheering. He said he could not better express his sense of the kind reception that had been awarded to him by that great assemblage than by promising to compress what he should address to it within the closest possible limits. It was more than eighteen hundred years since there was a set of men who to the great that they should be heard for much speaking. As they had provided by the privilege very much since that time, and, as he observed, they flourished at the present moment to a surprising extent about Westminster, he would do his best to avoid adding to the number of that population. The noble Lord at the head of the Government, when he wondered in Parliament about a week ago that Mr. Layard should not be ready for having stated in that place what the whole country knew perfectly well to be true—(Cheers)—and what no one could by possibility better know to be true than those distinguished supporters of the noble Lord who had the advantage of hearing him and cheering him night after night, he thought

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

LAST Sunday a number of people—(thinking, as I do, that they did a thing which, however ill-mannered, is likely to have very good results, I will not call them a mob) hooted and groaned at the carriages in Hyde-park, and told their occupants to "go to Church." The meaning of this unusual proceeding was that the servants of London wished to show that beyond a certain point, they would not willingly submit to being dragooned into Sabbath-keeping, or made righteous by Act of Parliament. Lord Robert Grosvenor, Lord Ebrington, and their followers, have succeeded by their Sunday Trading Bill in driving the usually submissive race of London labourers into what in more excitable countries is called a "manifestation." The scene was far more laughable than dangerous—quite in accordance with the character of the most good-humored mob in the world, but the object sought and probably is gained by it for, at a cheap cost to the land, the bill is not abandoned by its introducers, there is little doubt that, though rather late in the day, the House of Commons will give it its *quietus* on the third reading. Surely no bill ever went so near to passing into law that was so tyrannical, so unequal, and so unnecessary as this. Can it be said with the least appearance of truth that the Sunday is disobserved in London? The empty streets, the crowded churches, the proverbial dullness of the day, attest the contrary. Would Lord R. Grosvenor and suite wish to model all men on the fashion of which Drunken Barnaby, in his journal (*Rh 4 Barnabe Itinerarium*), tell us he saw an example

> at Lazeham,
> Where I saw a Puritane one
> Killing of his cat on Monday,
> For killing of a mouse on Sunday?

The suggestion of some of the rigidly righteous, that poor men might easily avoid desecration of the Sabbath in the way of purchasing meat and drink by laying in their Sunday stores on the Saturday, reminds one of the sophistry with which some gentlemen argued at the Literary Fund meeting last week that authors could not want another club, as the Athenæum was open to them; which, as Mr. Dickens said, was equally true of the London Tavern. It never occurred to those good people to consider at what time of night the poor man's wages are often paid, or in what an effete and exhausted condition he may be when that desirable operation does take place; nor yet to calculate that a single, or, perhaps, two, ill-ventilated rooms, populous with children, damp with drying linen, musty with inevitable dirt, is not exactly the most desirable larder for preserving not at first too fresh meat or vegetables. The slight pressure from without exerted in Hyde-park has had the effect of making the opposition the further progress of the bill will meet with almost certain of success. His opposition exercised Mr Otway would relieve the bill altogether, leaving that the third reading be deferred for three months—while Mr Roebuck prefers the *ne exeat dominum*—the extension of its action to club-houses, private houses, Stars and Garters, Crowns and Sceptres, and Trafalgars.

Simultaneously with this late-found opposition to the Sunday Trading bill, there came Mr H Berkeley's outbreak on Mr W Patten's Beer Bill of last Session, that celebrated *bona fide* traveller Act which has been made the groundwork for several good farces, and has given rise to a vast number of magisterial decisions which read like Jokes in the aforesaid comic interludes. Mr. Berkeley gave an amusing list of conflicting definitions of the *bona fide* traveller. One of the queerest was that of a Liverpool Rhadamanthus, who laid it down that a sailor going to join his ship was a traveller, but when returning home at the end of his voyage was not. There seemed to be a pretty general feeling in the House that the Beer Bill ought to be altered even its godfather, Mr. Patten, seemed to assent to this), if not abrogated. It would be well if members of Parliament would bear in mind that, however desirable the result intended to be produced may be, it is always dangerous to make laws whose action affects only the poor, and from which the rich necessarily escape. The distinctions between wealth and poverty are already quite sufficiently marked in this country without deepening them by legislative enactments. The compelling poor men to observe the Lord's-day by law, under penalties, is extremely likely to defeat its own object, and make them take refuge in the Church altogether, by connecting in their minds the pulpit with summary convictions, and the ministry of the Gospel with thirst, hunger, and discomfort; just as the practice of teaching children the rudiments of Latin out of Horace or Virgil has given many a man a dislike to the works of those gentlemen, from which in his mature years he has never been able to recover.

The Administrative Reform Association held their second meeting on Wednesday at Drury lane Theatre. There was an immense attendance—in fact, there never was a better "house," except, perhaps, at the amateur pantomime. Mr. Dickens was the star of the evening; no doubt a great many people went principally, if not solely, to hear him speak. Those who did could not have been disappointed, for it would be difficult, anywhere, to find a better speaker than Mr. Dickens, and on this occasion he outdid himself. The easy command of simple and appropriate language, the perfectly balanced sentence, the pleasant mingling of humour with gravity—*seria mixta jocis*—the tact which teaches exactly where to leave off, and never endangers a strong position by one word too much, the perfect voice and pronunciation—all qualities possessed in the fullest degree by Mr. Dickens—make it a pleasure of the highest kind to listen to him. There are very few men in either House of Parliament who come up to him as a public speaker. It is impossible to doubt that the Administrative Reform movement is assuming serious proportions. Even Lord Palmerston will not like to sneer at it much longer as the "Peace Lane Private Theatricals" yet it is not easy to imagine what practical result it can have, beyond what one speaker on Wednesday frankly confessed was all he expected from it, namely, that it would make Ministers more earnest in what they did, and more particular as to whom they appointed.

As to the appointment of merchants or manufacturers to the higher posts of Government, it is mere nonsense to talk of it. Admit anything of the sort, and it would be a good one that a man whose chief attention through life has been turned to one particular branch of commerce is likely to be well adapted to preside at the Exchequer or the India Board, or the Colonial-office, we know very well that even the second-rate men of the mercantile classes would not indeed could not afford to accept the offices. More than this, it must be admitted that certain recent disclosures do not place the commercial character of the country in a very favourable light. The case of Davidson and Gordon, for instance, who, bankrupt in 1849, were allowed to do business to the amount of two millions sterling in 1853, or the even more scandalous case of Strahan and Paul do not encourage the belief that it would be well to put the affairs of the nation entirely into the hands of Lombard street or Austin-friars. With regard to inferior appointments, no doubt some jobbing exists; but it argues very little knowledge of human nature to suppose that, with a popular House of Commons, this can ever cease. Public opinion has done much to diminish it, and will do more. For one milk-and-water piece of jobbery that takes place now, there were a dozen barefaced ones in the days of Sir Robert Walpole. But even here the chief fault lies in the constituencies—far less in the members themselves—and least of all in the Ministers, who, as a country gentleman would rather engage a clever lad from Westminster or Eton to be his farm bailiff than a Hodge or a Dobbs of our country towns renouncing the privilege of using their votes at election times as an impelling power to their cousins and nephews in their careers in the Excise or Customs.

BRIGANDAGE AT SMYRNA.—The abduction of Dr. M'Craith, an English physician resident here, by a band of brigands on Sunday last, is now the engrossing topic of conversation. A band of some thirty robbers, armed to the teeth, established themselves about half a mile from Boujanbat, on the road side, and waylaid a number of persons, whom they robbed of money, [illegible] Dr. M'Craith, who was on his way to Smyrna, was [illegible] across a plain some eight miles in width to the mountains, where they arrived at midnight, and sent M. Macopoy back with letters from Dr. M'Craith and M. Maute, saying that the robbers demanded 2,000 for ransom. He fell in at daylight with Colone, Stirks, Hamdi Bey, and a large body of armed police, in pursuit of the robbers, and delivered his letters, but absolutely refused to act as a guide, or to give information as to the whereabouts of the band, under fear probably of their menaces and vengeance, and, when forced to proceed, it is now believed that he led the pursuers [illegible] well, or Mr Smith on a donkey, and his friends confidently [illegible]

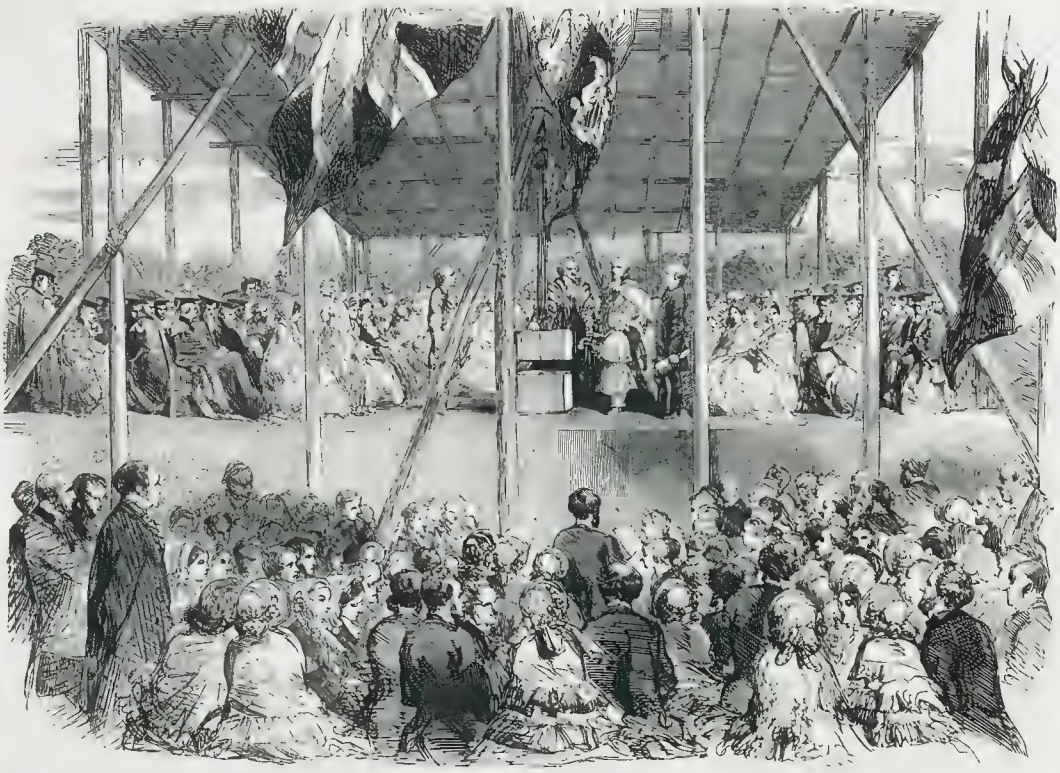
MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The fall in the price of Consols, consequent upon the receipt of news from Sebastopol that the Allied troops had been repulsed in the attack upon the Redan and Malakoff Tower, has, this week, been recovered; but the transactions in a "Natural" Security [illegible] Although [illegible] healthy state, all parties are very cautious in their operations, and, no doubt, will continue so until after the fall of Sebastopol, when, from the possibility of peace being restored at no distant day, we may anticipate large purchases of stock, and, with them, material improvement in prices.

There has been rather more inquiry for money in consequence of the [illegible] Lombard-street at 4½ per cent below the minimum rate of the Bank of England. There was some firmness in the Consol-market on Monday, on which day prices rose [illegible] However, the demand [illegible] and Consols for Account, 90⅞ to 91⅛. Long Annuities, 1860, were 3⅞ 4; Ditto, 1885, 16-16. India Bonds ruled firm, at 27s. to 30s.; and Exchequer Bills, 15s to 18s prem. The Quotations were [illegible] Bank Stock remained 214 to 211½; The Three per Cents Reduced marked 91⅛ to 91⅝; the New Three per Cents, 92½ up to 92⅞; and Consols for Account, 91⅛ to 91⅝. Long Annuities were stationary. Exchequer Bills were done at 15s. to 19s. prem. Exchequer Bonds, 1858, 100⅞; Ditto, 1859, 101 to 100⅞. The following prices—which differ but little from those realised in the previous day—were marked on Wednesday:—Bank Stock, 211½ to 210½; Three per Cents Reduced, 92⅛ [illegible] Consols for Account, 91⅛; Long Annuities, [illegible] Ditto, 1885, 16⅞; Exchequer Bills, 15s. to 20s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 1858, 101 to 100⅞. On Thursday the Consol-market was very quiet, yet prices rallied [illegible] Three per Cents, for the Account, were 91⅛ [illegible] closing at 91⅛. The Three per Cents Reduced realised 92⅛; and the New Three per Cents, 92⅞. Exchequer Bills, 15s. to 23s prm.; Bank Stock, 211 to 211½.

The transactions in the Foreign House have been very moderate. In the quotations [illegible] Ditto, 1822, [illegible] per Cents, 103½; [illegible] Turkish 6 per Cents, [illegible] Ditto, [illegible] Ditto, [illegible] Ditto



THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE UNIVERSITY MUSEUM, OXFORD.

the stone was laid, was raised about the height of five feet from the ground. Upon this were ranged two rows of seats in the form of half an octagon: these were appropriated to the various dignitaries of the University. In front of these were ranged a set of chairs for ladies with spe cial tickets. Chairs were placed at the back of the stone for the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor; and near to the ladies was placed a chair for the Countess of Derby.

At about three o'clock the procession arrived on the platform, the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor taking their places, followed by the Doctors, Fellows, and dignitaries, all in full costume, presenting—from the varied colours of black, red, white, and gold, mixing with the light and elegant costume of the ladies—a really rich and striking scene. The coup-d'œil beyond the platform was scarcely less striking. The banners of the various countries in alliance with ours floated proudly in the breeze from the angles and in front of the tented scene.

The ceremony began with a chant and an appropriate prayer and service for the occasion; after which Lord Derby addressed the assembled audience in a clear voice, pointing out the advantages which he hoped would result from such a foundation, and asking for contributions—either to enrich the Museum or to decorate the building. The trowel, borne on a cushion by two interesting children (the son and daughter of Dr. Acland), was then handed to the Earl; the architects, Sir Thomas Deane, his son, and Mr. Woodward standing round. Mr. Lucas, the contractor to the works carefully adjusted the stone; after which Lord Derby, in true masonic style, spread the mortar; the plates of lead, and one with the inscription, were then placed in their resting-place in the under stone, the upper one was lowered into its place; after which his Lordship tapped it with a mallet, and used the level. The ceremony closed with the National Anthem.

The trowel, which is of silver and bronze, is highly finished, and novel in form. It is enriched by an engraved Gothic pattern on the upper, or silver, side: it was made by Skidmore, of Coventry, who has contracted for the foliated wrought-iron work which will decorate the quadrangle of the building. The trowel bears the following inscription:—

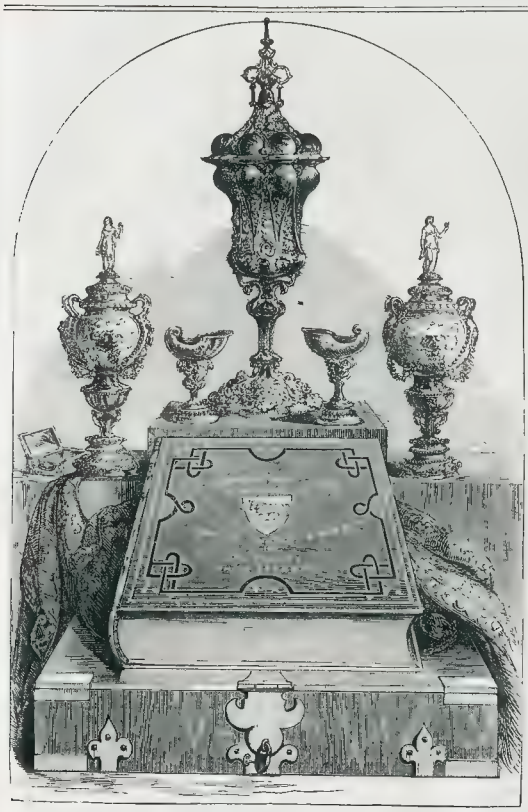
Oxford University Museum. Chief Stone laid 20th June, 1855, by the Right Hon. Edward Geoffrey Earl of Derby, Chancellor. Thomas Deane, Kat.; Thomas N. Deane, and Benjamin Woodward, Architects.

The plan of the new Museum building consists of a quadrangle 112 feet square, to be covered with an iron roof, hereafter to be described, and surrounded by a double or two-storied cloister, with open arcades, giving access to the several apartments on each floor. These apartments are lecture-rooms, professors' sitting and work rooms, and occupying the entire length of the western or principal side seen in our View. On the upper floor are the apartments devoted to the Entomological Collection, munificently presented by Mr. Hope, and the library, intended to contain the books, &c., also chiefly presented by him. These rooms are open to the roof, and are separated by an ante-chamber in the tower. On the northern side, on the same floor, opening to the cloister (upper), is a lecture-room for 500 persons. The building seen in the centre of the View, with the four chimneys, is the great laboratory, and on the extreme right is the private residence for the Curator. The quadrangle forms the Museum; and this portion of the building, it is expected, will be peculiarly beautiful and striking, as the whole of the shafts in the two arcades surrounding it are in a fair way of being executed (by the aid of private contributions) in beautiful marbles, serpentines, &c., of this country, and the capitals carved in the same way.

It is proposed to adorn the interior of the building with statues of eminent men, by means of individual donations; and Lord Derby stated, that a certain number of these had been already subscribed for by the Queen, the Bachelors of Arts, and Undergraduates.

At the annual meeting of the Oxford Architectural Society, on the 13th inst., Dr. Acland said, with reference to the new Museum, that Oxford was about to perform an experiment: it was about to try how Gothic art could deal with those railway materials—iron and glass; and he was convinced, when the interior court of this Museum was seen, with its roof of glass supported by shafts of iron, while the pillars and columns around were composed of variously-coloured marbles, illustrating different geological strata and ages of the world, and the capitals represented the several descriptions of Floras, that it would be felt that a problem had been solved of the greatest importance to architecture.

SOUTH-WEST VIEW OF THE UNIVERSITY MUSEUM, OXFORD.



TESTIMONIALS PRESENTED TO MR. ALDERMAN SPIERS, LATE MAYOR OF OXFORD.

PRESENTATION OF TESTIMONIALS TO

MR. ALDERMAN SPIERS,

LATE MAYOR OF OXFORD.

OUR readers will recollect that about twelve months since Mr. R. J. Spiers generously did his best to honour art and literature. In return, art and literature have done their best to honour Mr Spiers. On the 16th inst. there was a great gathering of artists and men of letters at Oxford, to carry out the plan of presenting to the late Mayor an Album of superb and costly character. The idea of this testimonial originated with Mr. John Leighton. It consists of a solander case of Levant morocco, splendidly hand-tooled, and illuminated in coloured leathers, and lined with Spitalfields silk of the richest manufacture. Its size is about 24 inches by 18. It is protected by an outer case of finely-grained oak, chastely ornamented and bound with brass-work. The contents number about 125 compositions, literary and artistic; and among the contributors are some of the most eminent men of the time.

In return for his eminent services the citizens of Oxford presented, on the same day, to Mr. Spiers, several pieces of Plate of the value of 300 guineas. These magnificent examples of presentation plate show an amount of taste in design and skill in execution rarely seen in such works The principal cup is made of silver, partially gilt, and in the cinque-cento style of decoration. It is thirty inches high, and covered with bulbs and arabesque ornaments of the most elaborate character. The cup itself has been copied from an exquisite example in the Print room of the British Museum, and which is attributed to Cellini. The two smaller cups are in the same style, equally elaborate and elegant, and stand eighteen inches high.

In addition to these vessels, there are two salt-cellars, standing seven inches high, of a very graceful nautilus form, presented to Mrs Spiers, as a civic compliment in consequence of her having given birth to a son during the mayoralty of her husband

To these valuable articles was added a richly chased snuff-box, bearing this inscription "This snuff-box, with five other pieces of plate, was presented, June 16, 1855, to Richard James Spiers, Esq., Alderman and late Mayor of Oxford, by his friends, as well in testimony of their personal regard and of their admiration of his public conduct, as in remembrance of the splendid and graceful hospitality which distinguished his mayoralty, A. D. 1854" The salt-cellars bear inscriptions of a similar nature. The armorial bearings of the city and of Mr. Spiers appear on the large grace-cup, and those of Mr. and Mrs. Spiers on the smaller ones.

MR. LEONE LEVI.

MR. LEONE LEVI, Lecturer on Commercial Law at King's College, London, was born at Ancona, in Italy, in the year 1820; and, being intended to follow mercantile pursuits, his education was essentially practical. For several years he was commercially occupied in his native town, an important port of the Adriatic. In 1844 he arrived in Liverpool, and by laborious study he overcame the difficulties of our language in the incredibly short period of two months. In 1847 he received his certificate of naturalisation, and became a British subject. In Liverpool, Mr. Levi entered into several contracts, and he first experienced the inconvenience resulting from the absence there of a Chamber and Tribunal of Commerce. He proposed their introduction in a pamphlet on the subject and the question soon became one of public interest, and was freely discussed in the columns of the Liverpool press. A public meeting was ultimately held, and in November, 1849, the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce was established, and Mr. Levi was appointed the Honorary

MR. LEONE LEVI.—FROM A DAGUERREOTYPE BY BEARD.

Secretary. In that capacity he issued circulars to foreign merchants requesting information on similar institutions abroad. The answers received were in various languages, and chiefly related to legal anomalies respecting mercantile matters, which suggested to Mr. Levi's mind the idea of a work on the commercial law of the world. With his usual energy he immediately began to collect the necessary information. While pursuing his researches he introduced himself to the Earl of Harrowby (formerly Lord Sandon, Member for Liverpool for sixteen years, whose influential support soon became of inestimable value. The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce being firmly established, Mr. Levi received the thanks of the merchants; and soon afterwards similar institutions were founded, and such as existed received new life, at Leeds, Bradford Bristol, and other places. The condition of our commercial code was engaging the attention of the Liverpool Chamber, and Mr. Levi addressed a letter to the President on the Law of Arbitration, with the foreign laws on the subject. The materials for his great work having

ANNIVERSARY OF THE WINDSOR ROYAL ASSOCIATION, IN THE HOME PARK.—HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT AWARDING THE PRIZES. (SEE NEXT PAGE.)

been collected, he removed to Edinburgh to arrange them for publication, and the first part of the "Commercial Law of the World" appeared in October, 1850. In the preface he proposed the introduction of an international code of commercial law, and suggested that a conference of deputies from all nations should be held for the consideration of the subject. This was addressed to his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and resulted in Mr. Levi being summoned to Windsor Castle to explain his views more fully. Soon afterwards the Lord Provost of Edinburgh invited him to deliver a lecture in that city, and explain his novel scheme. The lecture was repeated at Glasgow; and afterwards in London, at the rooms of the Law Amendment Society, the Earl of Harrowby in the chair. The best proof of the influence of the commercial laws and lectures may be found in the fact that, whenever they were delivered, committees were immediately formed to promote the views suggested. The second part of the work was published in November, 1850; the third part in October, 1851; and the fourth part in October, 1852. During the time completed forms a monument of persevering industry and laborious research seldom equalled, and never surpassed. Meanwhile, as a relief to his sterner duties, he delivered lectures on commercial law, commercial statistics, and the importance of assimilating the commercial laws and statistical documents of all nations, at Birmingham, Dublin, Hull, Bradford, Leeds, Belfast, Dundee, Aberdeen, and other influential towns and cities. This comparatively unknown agitation resulted in a conference held in London, at which deputies attended from every town which Mr. Levi had visited. This was designated "the first mercantile Parliament," and led to the appointment of a Royal Commission in June, 1853, to inquire into the expediency of assimilating the mercantile laws of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

In December, 1852, the Council of King's College, with exemplary forethought and liberality, appointed Mr. Levi lecturer on commercial law. The lectures, which were also addressed to mercantile men, attracted the attention of several of the leading merchants of the metropolis, and suggested the formation of a Mercantile and Maritime College in the city of London; in furtherance of which a public meeting was held at the London Tavern in April, 1853—the Earl of Harrowby in the chair—when a large and influential committee was appointed to endeavour to establish the scheme. In March, 1853, the Emperor of Austria granted to Mr. Levi the golden medal for scientific merit; and in August, 1853, the King of Prussia awarded the great gold medal reserved for works of distinguished merit to Mr. Levi's book on commercial law. At the Statistical Congress held at Brussels, last year, Mr. Levi was appointed to represent the Liverpool and Hull Chambers of Commerce, and the Edinburgh Law Reform Committee, and subsequently reported the proceedings of the Congress to the Statistical Society of London.

In June, 1851, the Council of the Society of Arts issued an advertisement announcing that the Society's Swiney prize of 100 sovereigns, in a silver goblet of like value, would, in January, 1854, be awarded to the best published Treatise on Jurisprudence, which was more especially to relate to arts and manufactures. The advertisement was circulated through out Europe and America; and on the 20th of January, 1854, the prize was awarded to Mr. Levi's book, which may be thus described. It exhibits the commercial law of the United Kingdom and Ireland reduced into the form of a code, and compared with the codes and laws of commerce of about forty mercantile countries, placed side by side something in the manner of a polyglot Bible. Most of the foreign laws are now for the first time rendered into English. It also contains a statistical chart in which appears at a glance the area, population, revenue, expenditure, public debt, produce, manufactures, imports, exports, shipping, currency, money, weights, measures, and railways, of all countries. The long list of works studied occupies a space sufficient to appal the student least, and make the head ache with wonder at the indomitable courage required and exerted to carry a man through so many dry details, written in almost every European language. The wonder is increased when we know that nearly all have been translated by Mr. Levi's own hand.

Undismayed by difficulty, and encouraged by past success, he has recently published a popular exposition in a "Manual of the Mercantile Law of the United Kingdom;" a work much needed, and which cannot fail to be of great advantage to this thoroughly mercantile community.

Mr. Levi was recently elected a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, as he is of the Statistical Society of London, and member of many other scientific societies, and honorary life member of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce.

The gentleman whose career we have thus slightly sketched is another instance of what may be accomplished by a man steadily pursuing the course he has chosen, and suggests the importance of men devoting their powers to the fulfilment of one work, rather than spreading their energies over a large number of studies—becoming ready great in none.

THE WINDSOR ROYAL ASSOCIATION.

The sixth anniversary of the Royal Association for Improving the Condition of Labourers and the Working Classes living at Windsor, Eton, Clewer, Holy Trinity, Old Windsor, Sunninghill, Sunningdale, Windlesham, Ustchet, and Egham, was held on Friday week, in the usual part, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Patron and President of the association, arrived at the Windsor station of the South Western Railway, from Buckingham Palace, at four o'clock, attended by Colonel Hood, Colonel Biddulph, and Captain the Hon. D. de Ross, and proceeded in a pony phaeton to the inclosure in the Home-park, where he was received by the committee of management, amidst the cheers of a large assembly of the nobility and gentry, and the happy exhibitors and candidates. The Prince took his station on a dais in front of the centre tent, surrounded by his commitee and a brilliant company. The report of the society for the past year was then read by the hon. secretary; and the presentation of prizes to each successful candidate immediately commenced—the Prince presenting them with some pleasing and suitable remark, which must have been alike gratifying and encouraging to the deserving recipients. Upon the suggestion of his Royal Highness Prince Albert, Thomas Arthur Moore, Esq., and Mr. Wright, the honorary secretary and actuary of the Windsor and Eton Savings-bank, attended on the ground, having prepared about 100 pass or depositors' books, in which the amounts of all prizes of 10s. and upwards were entered as so much money deposited in the bank; the Prince wisely conceiving that many persons would be induces to add to their little stock rather than diminish it whenever they felt the consequence of having a bank book in their possession. These books were received from the Prince with evident satisfaction.

The arrangement of the tents—twelve in number—was generally the same as in former years; but the flower-tent was a new feature, and the exhibition of plants, &c., was a great and very pleasant addition to the cottagers' productions which constituted the exhibition of former years. This display of flowers and fruit was invited to test the capabilities of the neighbourhood, and to ascertain if a horticultural society could not be successfully established. On the point there appears no two opinions after the experience of Friday. It is also well known that more *first prizes* from the great metropolitan exhibitions come to this neighbourhood than to any other district.

The specimens of handicraft and needlework included, besides plain needlework, marking, wearing apparel generally, collars, pincushions, and mats; there were crochet-work and embroidery, and a hearth-rug, a quilt, and a carpet, composed of innumerable pieces. Then, in addition to chairs, a work-table, a wheelbarrow, &c.; there was a model of a cottage, a set of miniature blacksmith's tools, and a number of images well executed.

At two o'clock about 250 candidates, men and women, sat down to an excellent *el fresco* dinner, prepared for them in a very commodious saloon, and their requirements were well attended to by the committee; the tables were decorated with vases of flowers, and literally groaned with the good old English cheer; afterwards the scene became most interesting, when it might be truly said, now that his departure had taken place, the rich and the poor, were mingled together, "as children of one great father," in the enjoyment of a gay and happy holiday. The exhibition of vegetables was very creditable, considering the lateness of the season; and the needlework and specimens of housewifery surpassed those of former years. At the close of the distribution of the prizes his Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by the leading members of the committee, inspected the whole of the exhibition, and expressed himself well pleased with its general character, and as he had on his departure told the Prince and the rich again loudly cheered. In the evening a dinner of the patrons and friends of the society took place in the Town hall, under the able presidency of Mr. John Alves Arbuthnot, of Cowartl-park, the venison being liberally supplied by her Majesty.

The society, which is under the patronage of her Majesty, Prince Albert, and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, is supported by Royal contributions, and also those of the inhabitants of Windsor, Eton, and the neighbourhood, amounting annually to about £250, which this year has been principally expended in providing the dinner, and in the prizes awarded.

The Philippine Monks of Turin have determined to proceed judicially against the Royal decree which comprises their convent among those to be suppressed.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

Turffites had hardly ceased to talk about "Honest John's" departure from London, when it was officially announced that Lord Eglinton, out of disappointment at Dirk Hatterall's running, had also bidden good-bye, for the present at least, to the Turf, on which his "tartan" has been so conspicuous for upwards of three-and-twenty years. He came on it at nineteen, and since 1841 his stud has been in the hands of Robert, who has placed £75,000 to his credit; £19,426 of which was won in 1849. Doncaster was his favourite course, and three St. Legers have fallen to his lot, besides one Derby, two Emperor's Plates, and one Goodwood Cup. His head-roll of English winners begins with Black Diamond, and extends through Potentate, Bellona, St. Bennett, St. Martin, Aristides, Pompey, Dr. Calus, Opera, Blue Bonnet, Van Tromp, Nerissa, Eryx, Elthiron, Knight of Avenel, Vanderdecken, Flying Dutchman, &c. The latter horse won him in stakes alone £18,256, which, added to the winnings of Van Tromp, De Witt, and Vanderdecken, make a sum of no less than £32,880 from the progeny of Barbelle alone. Mr. John Stanley has "bought" his Lordship's stud, but some fancy that the change of quarters betokens a "conference" rather than a "retirement."

Oulston's defeat of Kingstown at Stockbridge, whose jockey did not choose to make anything like a pace, has caused many to consider the St. Leger a foregone conclusion; and it is said that Mr. Popham is so confident that Oulston's starting in the Doncaster derby would not have affected Wild Dayrell's chance, that he has offered Mr. Padwick to run the horses in October for an even thousand a side over the *T. M. M.* at Newmarket.

Unless De Clare's suspensory ligament strengthens marvellously, and Hillman gets round, Oulston will be present to have very few competitors worth speaking of in the St. Leger

The fixtures for the ensuing week lie north-east and west of "the tight little island." Carlisle has wisely reduced its meeting to two days, Tuesday and Wednesday, which have six events apiece, an immense improvement on the old system. All the stakes are remarkably well filled, and sixty pounds will not fail to attract plenty of stalwart wrestlers into the ring on the Swifts, in which Irving, Weightman, Jackson, Gordon, and Chapman have earned so many champion-belts, by the strength of their sinews and the neatness of their "chips." Worcester has also two days' sport on Thursday and Friday, which will be far beyond an average character; while the Newmarketers (whose Second Spring has been very wisely abolished) in spite of their petition to the Jockey Club hold their July meeting on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. The July Stakes is the great feature of Tuesday, but, with the exception of Alastor and Cerva, it does not contain the name of a winner of note among its twenty-seven. Tumbler's Axom break-down seems to have left the Mammmer Stakes on Wednesday, to Treachery and Pugnator, who carry even weights. The race of the week will be the Chesterfield Stakes on Thursday. Among its thirty six are Bird in Hand, Sister to Exact, Flyaway, Maid of Mariam colt, Brother to Orphan, Katherine Logie, and Victoria—in short, crosses of the very choicest blood we have in the kingdom. Unfortunately, Lord Chesterfield has nothing in it, not even Peter Wilkins, for a proof of whose alleged wings we must wait till the Glasgow Stakes in the Autumn. Prices were a little more brisk at Tattersall's last Monday, when a most extraordinary hollow-backed colt—brother to the Bar—fell into Lord Maidstone's hands for ten guineas; and next Monday Sir R. Pigott's stud comes to the hammer there. Lord Orford's horses, ten in number, will also be sold at Newmarket on Wednesday, as well as several of Captain Lane's. It is rumoured that this gentleman, as well as Mr. Mare, who has built the best stables in Newmarket, both think of retiring.

The "sky-blue" of Cambridge has at last triumphed over the "Waterloo blue" of Oxford, for the first time since 1849. The average weight of the man was 11 st., and the Oxford boat carried 29 lb. the heaviest hamper. All other regattas seem to pale before that at Henley; and we have never seen more delightful sport there than we did this year. Money is devoted to the Lambeth regatta, as well as to another entitled "The City, Temple, and Strand." On Tuesday the Anglesey Yacht-club has a sailing-match, and the Thames Unity club a four-oar race and a cruisers' race, at five p.m., from Putney to Barnes. Wednesday is claimed by the Royal Harwich Yacht-club; and on Saturday the London Royal Yacht club sail their third class yachts.

Lord's will be a sort of extempore Oxford Club on Monday, as sixteen of the University are to play the United All England eleven. The cricket match will be changed to Vincent-square on Wednesday, where the Marylebone Club will play the "present gentlemen of Winchester School." Amateurs in the metropolis will have "a divided duty" on Thursday, as Surrey and Sussex play their return match at the Oval, while the Marylebone Club and Eton are also occupied in playing a return match with the Oxford Undergraduates at Lord's. The Eleven of All England still continue to brave "the warmth of its July." Salisbury Plain will be their trysting-place on Monday, and on Thursday they adjourn to Reading, where cricket recollections have been embalmed for all time in the pages of Miss Mitford.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE RACES.—TUESDAY.

Trial Stakes. Hesperus, 1. Fanny Bedgum f, 2
North Derby. Rutherham, 1. Dame Judith, 2
Tyne Stakes.—Van Galen, 1. Hero, 2
Members' Plate.—St. Andrew, 1. Cardsharper, 2.
Selling Stakes.—Octave, 1. Hazby, 2

WEDNESDAY

Grand Stand Stakes.—Tilly, 1. Hero, 2
Northumberland Plate.—Whitenose, 1. Vanlex, 2
Commercial Visitors' Stakes.—Chisel, 1. Bilingham, 2
Five Handicap.—Elcanore, 1. Aesop, 2
Queen's Plate.—Balmbra, 1. Belton, 2

THURSDAY

Gateshead Stakes.—Courtenay, 1. Neoptolemus, 2.
Tyne Stakes.—Plumpton, Maid, 1. William the Third, 2
Gold Cup.—King of Trumps, 1.

Anglo-Saxon Antiquities. Mr. Hillier has terminated his successful excavation on Chessel Down, in the Isle of Wight, by the acquisition of additional objects. The antiquarian discoveries, which are really of national importance, have been transferred to the collection of Lord Londesborough, and will be deposited at Grimston.

Scottish Antiquities.—The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland lately addressed the Government, through their President, the Marquis of Breadalbane, requesting that instructions should be given to mark the position of all remains of antiquity on the maps of the Ordnance Survey now in progress. A letter from Lord Panmure to the Marquis of Breadalbane announces the ready compliance of the Government with the wishes of the Society of Antiquaries.

Destructive Fire at St. Petersburg.—Intelligence has been received of a severe loss by fire on the 4th inst. at the Nova Sezanne Works, St. Petersburg. Insurances exist in English offices for £16,800 viz., in the Northern, £7400; Royal, £3800; Monarch, £3800, Anchor, £2200; also in three offices at St. Petersburg, and at Hamburg and Amsterdam. It is estimated that the loss will be nearly total.

THE UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION OF FINE ARTS.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

THE BELGIAN CONTRIBUTORS (Concluded).

We resume our review of the Belgian artists before Hamman's picture of "Christopher Columbus, on Board the *Santa-Maria*, Discovering the First Point of American Land." This artist enjoys considerable reputation; and has been said, by a recent French critic, to have discovered "some of the sparkling secrets of Veronese." If this discovery have been made, the old master's secret is well kept in the picture before us. An artist is seriously damaged when he is indiscriminately praised. Now, while we fully and cheerfully admit that in this picture there are some good passages of colour; while we cannot withhold our admiration from some careful drawing, we must make serious deductions from the measure of commendation due to a great work. We complain that M. Hamman parades his art—that he has not the strength to hide the machinery by which he produces his effects. The figures cannot remind us of the memorable 11th of October, 1492, for we are unable to forget the models. Every man appears to have been studied certainly from the life, but from model life, which is almost still life. It is here where the broad line runs that separates greatness from mediocrity in art. The man without imagination copies his model, having placed him in a certain attitude; the imaginative man uses the same model, simply as the poet uses the fields that stretch away to the horizon, from the buttercups at his feet. No, M. Hamman is not a great artist. He is a careful painter—with a pleasant palette one of the list of artists who will never offend you, but neither will be once delight or astonish you. He may rank with M. Madon. Far before the performances of these artists: far before the pretentious Scriptural subjects of Messrs Mathieu and Co.—where the antiquated forms and established lights and shades, and reds and blues of the Italian school are preserved, and where nothing is added to the ballet imitations—are pictures like that of M. Florent Willems "Interior of a Silk Shop in 1660," noticed in our previous article on the Belgian school. On the one hand you have all the mechanism of art: you have its spelling correctly written, but the letters fairly put together have little or no meaning. The Belgians,—following the French, it must be owned, at a most respectful distance—appear inclined to forget the soul, the vital essence of art, in the correct elaboration of muscles, and the fair flow of drapery. To this correctness every other consideration gives way, till you have the same man, brought up in mediocre French *ateliers*, talk contemptuously of colour, as something fit to keep a child quiet. Say to French artists that the English are good colourists, and many of them will willingly concede the fact, because they have told that "the figures are intelligently grouped," and that "the composition is not without a certain strength." This verdict, lately pronounced by M. Chalons d'Argé, is a very safe one. You may turn it in which way you please—for or against the painter at Calais. Let the poet, the lyric poet, the Dichter, shall be marked out as a star rising to glorious heights in the realms of art, the critic is with you; if, on the contrary, it be your painful duty to set aside the artist as a polished mediocrity, the critic is still on your side. To trim in criticism is a proceeding to be watched with suspicion. Now it appears to us that no unprejudiced man can throw himself upon the settee opposite this extensive work and fairly examine it without having a very decided opinion on its merits. It is French in every detail—in colour or want of colour, in composition and drawing. But the M. Biefve is the pupil of M. David d'Angers, a French sculptor. You see it at a glance. There is not a figure that does not recall the fact to your mind. The performance should have been in one of the French salons—if the French Hanging Committee could have been persuaded to pass it at all! For while we declare the treatment to be French, we cannot add that this treatment has all the strength which young Jérome of the French Classic school displays. The drawing is pretty correct, but neither bold nor original. The figures are all set artificially again, as in other pictures of the Belgian collection already noticed. The contrast between the calm solemnity of the middle-aged men, and the wild gestures of the young actors in the scene, is about the only evidence of thought throughout the entire performance. This is a touch of study—something which the pupil cannot get either from the round or from the model. All the rest of the picture may be taught. We remember witnessing an interview between a well-known painter and a young fellow who had arrived with a panel in his hand, to submit a copy he had made from an old picture to the judgment of this well known man. The interview was, to the young fellow, an important one. The artist's verdict was to decide the boy's parents to give him up to, or turn him from, art. Only those men whose early dream has been a life before an easel, can understand the agitation with which the copy was held up to the light for the critic's judgment. The boy was astonished at the coolness of his judge. He was, however, intensely excited when this judge, giving him back the panel, told him that any person of common sense might be taught to copy, and that, if he meant to give him an idea of his power, he might bring him a pocket-full of any rough, original pen-and-ink or pencil sketches he happened to have at home. The boy went away, but never returned with the sketches. Now, I can imagine that if M. de Biefve had been presented to such a judge with his early works, he would have been similarly dismissed. He would have been told that he had a taste for art—that his eye was true—his pencil likely to become flowing. The picture before us might have been seen hanging in the dormitory of his early Academy studies. But taste is not strength. To have a fine appreciation of poetry is not to have the power of distilling the poetic essence! This point is too often neglected, and the result is a collection of paintings like that exhibited by the Belgians. There is Joseph Stevens, brother of the artist we have already noticed to quote another notable instance from the Belgian department! Are not his cats and dogs plain plagiarisms from Landseer? Even the title of his pictures are drawn from the Royal Academy catalogue! The "Good Mother," representing a bitch with two or three pups before a wooden bowl—is an effective copy. Then again the "Intelligent kids as regard an "Unconscious Philosopher," we turn to the number indicated, and find a dog contentedly gnawing a bone. In pictures like these, the force is in the title. Call this picture a dog gnawing a bone, and half its charm is lost. The title should be engraved upon the frame, therefore, as part of the work. Without this precaution the fable loses all its force, it becomes a bit of literal precision. We then have to notice whether there is a charm in the simple treatment of the dog in the contemplation of the bone! With the sense always present to us, that the spirit of the performance is one which children have; viz., imitation it is difficult, perhaps, to pay the moderate share of praise due to M. Stevens's free hand, and pleasant colour. He is a good pupil, who can never become a master

We have now rapidly reviewed the important pictures sent by Belgian artists to this first Universal Exhibition of the Fine Arts. We have seen where Leopold's subjects have borrowed from the Dutch, the Flemish, and the Italian schools; we have watched the influence of the French Academy, with its Classic rage, upon them; we have seen where they have wandered to England for models. But we have traced few really original conceptions in the list of works. Alfred Stevens, Florent Willems, and Dyckmans, although not exhibitors of pictures painted by the yard, are the men of strength who have advanced from Brussels to the universal competition in Paris. Of this trio we should be disappointed, if called upon, to give the palm to Willems. The girl selecting the silks is a figure that lives in the mind, that comes back to us as the memory of mountain heights and wealth of architecture returns at intervals to charm once more. The French hardly deign to notice this picture, undoubtedly it is to *mesquin* to them, and they prefer the Biefve's Impuing Genius. This performance is one against which it is almost vain to do battle. The French picture-market has created, and will sustain, the cultivation of the colossal in painting. Every parish church gives a commission for an altar piece, or a church picture of some kind. And in churches small pictures would be intolerable. Thus the market has created the style. The cultivation of the Classic is one in which its professors have regard rather to their interest than to the vital principles of their art. In Belgium similar influences govern art. Pictures are painted chiefly to decorate churches. Hence the pretensions of De Biefve and Co., and the little attention paid to the really superior claims of men like Willems

I have briefly noticed the progress accomplished in the Palace of Industry. We will now proceed, through the southern doors, round the Panorama Building through a gallery—into the wonderfully-long *avenue*, or Machinery and Raw Produce Gallery. It was only on Sunday last that this gallery was entirely thrown open to the public. It is the feature of the Exhibition undoubtedly. It is unlike any other preceding exhibition of raw produce or machinery. The visitor is wearied with the extent and variety of things exhibited: with the endless lumps of coal, the colossal cakes of soap, the thousands of labelled bottles filled with grain, the endless array of various ores, the blue and red agricultural implements, the colossal engines, web like spinning machinery, and the curious models. It is difficult to disentangle the wheels and cranks of one machine from those of its neighbours. In the Raw Produce Department the passages left are too narrow. The central space is, however, pretty arranged, with a fountain playing from the cups of bronze flowers, painted to imitate nature. Of course, eagles and tricolor flags abound.

Canada has here a rich collection of raw produce. At the eastern end a Canadian timber trophy is being reared; and not far off is the great clock of Mr. Bennett, of Cheapside, hung with velvet, and adorned with showy fringe. Near the clock, Price and Co. exhibit candles; behind lies the pride of England in decorative chronometers. Hence the pretensions of De Biefve and Co., and the little attention paid to the really superior claims of men like Willems

(Continued on page 656.)

AMUSEMENTS.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—Under the Management of Mr Charles Kean.—On MONDAY, and during the Week, will be presented HENRY VIII., preceded by AWAY WITH MELANCHOLY.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—Last Two Nights of MISS HELEN FAUCIT. Shortly, LADY OF LYONS. Wednesday, LOVE'S MARTYRDOM. Friday, KING RENE'S DAUGHTER, being Miss Faucit's Benefit. The MISS FAUCITS, Miss Rosa and Marion Dair with a new cast. Every Evening, commencing, on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, with THE BEST BOY.

MISS HELEN FAUCIT begs to announce that her BENEFIT and Last Appearance at the THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET, will take place on Friday NEXT, JULY 6th, when she will appear in a Translation from the Danish of King René's Daughter, by Theodore Martin, Esq., and also in the "Tragedy Queen," by John Oxenford, Esq.

ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street. The DIORAMA, Illustrations of Wales now on view, daily at 3 and 8. Admission, 1s. Stalls, 2s. Reserved Seats, 3s. Children half price.

LOVE, the First DRAMATIC VENTRILOQUIST, is at Home, at the UPPER HALL, Quadrant, every Evening at Eight o'Clock, and Saturday at Three. Piano, Harp, and Warbler.

ADAM and EVE. This great Original Work, by JOSEPH VAN LEWIS, is NOW VIEW OF CALL, Adelphi, Morning and Afternoon from Eleven to Six daily. Admission, One Shilling.

THE NEW SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—The 21st ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace, DAILY, from Nine till dusk. Admission, a Season Ticket, 5s.

JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

MONTH'S LECTURES on ANCIENT and MODERN LITERATURE, SIXTY and SIXTY-ONE, Fleet-street. The Lectures delivered on WEDNESDAY, JULY 4th. Tickets to be had at Messrs. Cunningham, Pall-mall East.

DR. KAHN'S GRAND ANATOMICAL AND MORAL MUSEUM, 4, Coventry-street, Leicester-square. Open for gentlemen only, daily, from Half past 10 to 5, and from 7 till 10. Lectures by Dr Sexton. Admission, One Shilling.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—THE GREAT SUBMARINE EXPLOSION, on Large Tank at One and a Quarter-past Seven o'Clock daily, illustrating the EFFECT OF RUSSIAN INFERNAL MACHINES on VESSELS.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—Mr. ALFRED MELLON respectfully announces that the LAST ORCHESTRAL MATINÉE CONCERT this Season will take place at the above Hall, on FRIDAY NEXT, JULY 6. Vocalists Madlle. Rose, Madlle. Lucy Ward Dolby, and Signor Bianchi. Soloists: M. Alexandre Billet, Mr. F. Edward Jaeke, M. Sainton and Bottesini. Conductor Mr. Alfred Mellon.—Stalls, 7s; Reserved Seats, 3s; Gallery, 2s. 6d. Admission to be had at all the Music Shops, and of Mr Mellon, 9, Sussex-place.

HEREFORD MUSICAL FESTIVAL for the Benefit of the WIDOWS and ORPHANS of the CLERGY of the Dioceses of Hereford, Lichfield, and Worcester, will be held in the Cathedral, and Barn Hall, on AUGUST 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and 24th, under the patronage of her Majesty the QUEEN, Principal Vocalists Madame Clara Novello, Madame Grisi, Madame Weiss, Mesdames Miss Lolly, Mr Sims Reeves, Signor Marlo, Mr. Montem Smith, Mr Weiss, &c.

BIRMINGHAM MUSICAL FESTIVAL, in AID of the FUNDS of the GENERAL HOSPITAL, on the 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st days of AUGUST next.

Under the especial Patronage
Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN,
His Royal Highness the PRINCE ALBERT,
Her Royal Highness the Duchess of KENT
President—The Right Hon. Lord Lyttelton, Lord High Steward.
Vice-Presidents—The Nobility and Gentry of the Midland Counties.
J. F. LEDRAM, Esq., Chairman of the Committee.

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK. The Collection of living Animals includes a magnificent series of Lions, Lion Whelps, Crocodiles, Elephants, Hogs, and other Carnivora, Islands, Kangaroos, Rhinoceros, and a pair of Hippopotami together with an Immense menagerie of Birds, Reptiles, Fish, and other Marine Animals. The band of the 1st Life Guards will perform the performance of Mr Sims Reeves, Mr Sims Reeves, at four o'clock until further notice. Admission, 1s. Monday 6d.

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THE CRYSTAL PALACE FLOWER SHOW is established in the CRYSTAL PALACE, Sydenham, for the Special and other rewards of Prizes, on WEDNESDAY, JULY 4, at the Week Days, Sundays excepted, from Ten to Five. Dr. Forster's Band, CONSERVATORIES and Avenues filled with Work in all its varieties. Game and garden Prizes—Parrot cages and all others. WINDOW BOXES of every possible description, of the very best materials and workmanship.

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TO CAPTAINS AND MERCHANTS.

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IMPORTANT to RAPID WRITERS.—H. T. COOKE and SON beg to call attention to their GOLD PENS. These Patent Diamond-pointed Pens are very durable, being a alloy of extraordinary very much at an earnest of which they are guaranteed against deterioration except by violence for Twelve Months. Sent post-free for Thirty Stamps; or with Silver Pocket Holder, post-free for Sixty Stamps.—H. T. COOKE and SON, Stationers, High street, Warwick.

SMARTS WRITING INSTITUTION, 5, Piccadilly, between the Haymarket and Regent-street.—Open from Ten till Nine daily. Persons of all ages received (privately) and taught at any time, suiting their own convenience. Lessons not hour but. No classes; no extras. Improvement guaranteed in eight to twelve lessons. Separate rooms for Ladies, to which Department (if preferred) Mrs. Smart will attend.—Apply to Mr Smart, as above.

INDIA, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, and CAPE of GOOD HOPE.—YOUNG will despatch the following fast-sailing A1 Clipper SHIPS at the dates name, as under:—

Ships.	Tons	Commanders.	Destination.	Docks.	To [illegible]
Thomas Campbell	837	G. Clark	Bombay	London	[illegible] 10
Balmoral	757	A. Carson	Sydney	London	June 30
Sir Wm. Wallace	1,000	[illegible]	Shanghae	London	[illegible]
Adelaide	561	Jno. Field	Geelong	London	[illegible]
Lord Raglan	650	W. Lowndes	Sydney	London	[illegible]
Blanch	865	[illegible]	Sydney	London	[illegible]
Judah	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Jessie	42	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
John Bright	900	W. Stewart	Melbourne	London	July 20
Mariner	379	J. Allen	Port Phillip	London	[illegible]
Ann Duncan	400	[illegible]	Sydney	[illegible]	[illegible]
John Knox	858	James Mason	Cape Good Hope	London	[illegible]

These ships have been selected specially for their high-class and fast sailing qualities, and will be found well worth the attention of Shippers and Passengers.—W. O. YOUNG, 34, Cross-street, Manchester; 18, Dale-street, Liverpool; and San-street, Cardiff, London.

MEXICAN and SOUTH AMERICAN COMPANY.

Patronage Her Most Gracious MAJESTY.

THE TWENTIETH DIVIDEND of 7 per cent on the Capital of this Company, free of Income-tax, will be PAID on the 20th INST., being the Balance of Eleven and [illegible] Months.

Forms for claiming the dividend, may be obtained by the holders of our Deposit Receipts.—Office, [illegible] Bank-buildings, 17 Threadneedle-street, June 23, 1855.

THE ASYLUM for IDIOTS, Earlswood, Red Hill, Surrey.

Patronage Her Most Gracious MAJESTY.

Trains run to Red Hill hourly. It is half an hour distant from Town, and about a mile to Red Hill. Special Trains will be provided, and will run to and from the Asylum at [illegible]. They will depart at One and return at Five and a Quarter for return tickets, 2s. 6d. Fare, 1st class, 2s. 6d. Ladies having parcels to present to distribute [illegible] Tickets will be [illegible].

The Medical arrangements, instrumental and vocal, are in the hands of M. Bizet, who will be glad to see the friends of the Institution. Any other pledge need be given of their excellence and propriety.

Refreshments will be provided by Mr. Bathe, of the Lebanon Tavern, at regulated charges.

Admission, 1s. 6d. and 2s. 6d. Tickets to be had at the Office, or to the stewards.

All contributions will be thankfully acknowledged. Every information will be given at the Office.

We plead for a very important purpose for themselves. Those who have much will gladly share with those who have little. The greater the necessity, the greater the charity. It is in a benevolent view that we plead.

STEWARDS FOR THE DAY.

The Right Hon. Lord Langdale.
The Right Hon. Earl Jersey.
The Right Hon. Lord Ashley.
The Right Hon. Lord Ebrington.
The Right Hon. Viscount Palmerston, M.P.
The Right Hon. Earl Granville, M.P.
The Right Hon. Viscount Ebrington, M.P.
The Right Hon. Viscount Kilmorey, M.P.
The Right Hon. Lord Wensleydale.
The Right Hon. Lord Alfred Hervey, M.P.
The Right Hon. Lord James Stuart.
Sir Henry C. Blake, Bart.
Sir John P. Boileau, Bart.
Sir James Duke, Bart., M.P.
Sir Morton Peto, Bart.
The Right Hon. Sir Chas. Mayor.
Sir Charles D. Crosley, Knight.
Sir Peter Laurie, Knight, Sheriff.
Sir George Carroll, Add. mann.
Sir Joshua Jebb, M.A., F.R.S.
Sir James Pearson.
Lieut.-Colonel Kennedy, M.P.
John Bagshaw, Esq., M.P.
T. W. Bramston, Esq., M.P.
Samuel Gurney, Esq., M.P.
C. A. Moody, Esq., M.P.
Richard Neville, Esq., M.P.
Mr. Lord mayor Sidney.
Mr Alderman Wire.
James Abbiss, Esq.
Mr. A. Baker, Esq.
Robert Bensley, Esq.
Edward Bentley, Esq.
Joseph Chaney, Esq.
James Cliff, Esq.
Lieut.-Colonel Lewis, M.D., D.C.L.
Thomas Dakin, Esq.
W. D. Dunn, Esq.
J. H. Devonshire, Esq.
James Hogg, Esq.
William Dennison, Esq.
William Jackson, Esq.
W. Frederick Jones.
Charles Fitzgerald, Esq.

JOHN LOCKE, M.D., D.C.L., Gratuitous Secretary.

N.B. The Board requests a perusal of the last Report, which may be had gratuitously at the Office, 26, Poultry, where Subscriptions and Donations will be thankfully received, and all papers and needed information cheerfully given.

Bankers—Smith, Payne and Smiths, Lombard street.

Donations and Subscriptions will be received by Messrs. Drummond, 49, Charing-cross; Messrs. Hoares, Fleet-street; Sir Samuel Scott, Bart., and Co., 1, Cavendish-square; and Messrs. Lubbock Forster and Co., 5, Strand.

Office, 29, Poultry, June 18, 1855.

GRESHAM LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, Head Office, 37, Old Jewry, London.

Matthew Marshall, Esq.
Stephen Gibbs, Esq.
William Tyler, Esq., Chairman.

THE ATTENTION of the Public is hereby directed to the Facility of its accounts and Security afforded by the Deposit of Policies, certified copies of its annuals may be readily had at the Government Registry, and copies of the Deed of Settlement, &c.

Policies may be effected without loss of time, for sums of [illegible] and upwards, every day, from Ten to Four; for sums from [illegible] to Two, and residence daily at Eleven. The Board assembles on Tuesdays and Fridays at Twelve.

Agents, Officers of the Society, Policies are open [illegible] Not the Office, or Agents, being required to Authorize [illegible] Assurance of distinct details of age, and temperate habits [illegible] may be secure on the Assurance of Life, Great [illegible] Assurance [illegible] Capital Stock. They enjoy the advantages of modern practice, with the stability of an office which has been tested by the experience of nearly a century and a half.

Tables of Premiums, and of the Bonus in the Life Department, may be obtained at the offices of the Corporation, or from its Agents in the principal towns of the Kingdom.

JOHN A HIGHAM, Actuary and Secretary

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Also, Part I. of HARRY COVERDALE'S COURTSHIP AND ALL THAT CAME OF IT, showing how it commenced.

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GALIGNANI'S PARIS GUIDE, 1855.—Now ready, the Twenty-first Edition of the above, compiled from the best author [illegible] and contains an accurate [illegible] PARIS, with Maps and Plans [illegible] Shillings, 6d. bound. [illegible] be had without Plates, 7s. 6d. bound.

Galignani's Paris Guide appears to [illegible] Editor of the work from the necessity of entering [illegible] present, of the Proprietor of the Original Work of France.

London: SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, and Co.

THE ART-JOURNAL FOR JULY, price 2s. 6d., [illegible] Edition of the Art-Journal Catalogue of the Manufactures at Paris. The Royal Palace [illegible] The Princess Amy, by Mrs T. Lawrence, R.A.; The Gate of the Metropolis, by [illegible] Page; Angels' Heads, from a bas-relief by J. Gibson, R.A.; [illegible] Monuments—Sculpture of Pictorial Art, Prints, and Books of the Year, Sydney Smith, Frank Dillon, Superior Book Art, Welsh Article, Joe Bell, R. Hunt, [illegible] Illustrations—Paris Exhibition, Sculpture, Jewellery, [illegible] Bronzes, Sèvres Porcelain, Tapestry, Glass, Metal Work, Carvings.

London: VIRTUE and CO., 25, Paternoster-row.

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Contains numerous Original Articles, amongst them is the Sweet and Bitter of the Sabbath, Sketches of Spanish Peasantry and Industry, The new tale, Revenge—A Trip to Paris, and Tour through the French Provinces—Dean Swift's Every-day Life—Other Sketches—Poetry of Nature—Remarks on Lord Ashley's Speech—Sunset at Naples—Midnight on the Ocean—New Table Talk, Anecdotes—Incidents and Reflections of the Day, Sydney Smith, Frank Dillon, Superior Notices—and Designs for the Lady's Work-table form a [illegible] attractive Frontispiece, Price 1s. post-free, 1s. 2d.

The June Quarterly Part, price 6d., post-free 7d., explains the set Mr. Hunt's Lectures, and Lord Ashley's speech in the shortest [illegible] at the best style.

London, WARD and LOCK, 158 Fleet-street. Sold everywhere.

THE NEW QUARTERLY REVIEW, AND JOURNAL OF CURRENT LITERATURE. Price Half-a-crown. The New Quarterly Review returns to the principles upon which it [illegible] Series. It continues in each number, and [illegible] a review of such new works of permanent interest, but a [illegible] the history of the preceding quarter, and careful [illegible] of the productions of this periodical has been, and will ever be, its aim. Regarding it as a record of the literature of our country, and to have a full acquaintance of literature within time [illegible] that desire has also led the Editors to give a quarterly [illegible] may have a full record of the performances of literature [illegible] challenge all may have in the review, combined [illegible] perfect history of the literature of the past year, and a [illegible] of last year's new volumes is [illegible]

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Retrospect of the Literature of the Quarter
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Olympia
You have heard of them. By a Journeyman
Lessons from the Mass—table and the Sick
Miscellaneous Notices
Notices of New French Books
Notices of New German Books
History of the Year (continued)

London: THOMAS BOSWORTH, 215, Regent-street.

SALE of a MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION OF ENGRAVINGS and ETCHINGS, formed with a view to [illegible] of Painting and Engraving from the earliest [illegible] Masters, for which Subscriptions have been received [illegible] Hundred and Forty Pounds, and which [illegible] Sale, the [illegible] are presented by specimens of Nanteuil, Edelinck, Masson, Drevet, Desrochers, Desnoyers, Ragot, Flagelleur, Bervic, Bonnemaison, the finest impression in existence, many [illegible] prints in black, Rembrandts, and an immensity of [illegible] Masters, and Modern Artists. In the early German school are examples of the master of 1466, "The Passion," [illegible] Martin Schongauer, Albert Durer, Lucas Cranach, [illegible] Van Meckem, Marc, Zevel, Aldegrever, Lucas Van Leyden, Wenceslaus, Hollar, Vorsterman, Bolswert, Pontius, Holbein, &c. English schools there are many of Hogarth's finest works, and [illegible] Wilkie, Mulready, Landseer, Turner, Burnet, Bell, Cousins, Lupton, &c., are proofs or in first states. The collection is rich in the Italian and Spanish, and extraordinarily variety. The Flagelleur, by Mannozzi, the finest impression in existence, many [illegible] prints in black, Rembrandts, and an immensity of [illegible] Masters, and Modern Artists. In the early German school are examples of the master of 1466, "The Passion," [illegible] Martin Schongauer, Albert Durer, Lucas Cranach, [illegible] Van Meckem, Marc, Zevel, Aldegrever, Lucas Van Leyden, Wenceslaus, Hollar, Vorsterman, Bolswert, Pontius, Holbein, &c. English schools there are many of Hogarth's finest works, and [illegible] Wilkie, Mulready, Landseer, Turner, Burnet, Bell, Cousins, Lupton, &c., are proofs or in first states. The collection is rich in the Italian and Spanish, and extraordinary variety. The Flagelleur, by Mannozzi, the finest impression in existence, many [illegible] others, while the finest of the modern school of Engravers is [illegible] represented by a splendid series of proofs by the Rembrandts, Wolf, Bervic, Desnoyers, Desrochers, Ragot, Flagelleur, Bervic, Bonnemaison

PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.

THE FINE ARTS BUILDING.

(*Continued from page* 654.)

tion a huge crystal chandelier, the contribution of Messrs. Defries and Sons, of Houndsditch. This is believed to exceed in magnitude any chandelier hitherto manufactured: it is composed of very rich cut-glass; the height from the top vase to the finial knob is 24 feet, and its circumference 1150 feet.

We quote the following from the *Morning Post* of Wednesday:—

"The number of visitors is increasing daily. On the day of the gratuitous entrance accorded by the Emperor, on the last Sunday in May, the number visitors was 80,118. The crowd at the Beaux-Arts yesterday was also very considerable, amounting to 19,656. The following account of the receipts of the Universal Exhibition, including the Beaux-Arts, may prove interesting. From the 16th to the 21st of May, when the ticket was 5f., the largest sum received on any one day was 12,100f., and the smallest 5996f.; on the 1f. days—from June 2 to June 18—the largest sum received was 14,532f., and the average 13,000f., showing a very slight difference in the daily receipts. On the 20-centimes days the receipts were:—June 3, 11,843f.; 10th, 14,307f.; 17th, 16,200f.; and since daily about 20,058f.

"The Emperor and the Empress visited the Exhibition Palace on Saturday. The Empress, as well as the Countess de Montebello and the Marquise de Las Marismas, were drawn through the various parts of the building in rolling chairs. That in which her Majesty was seated is a present from the Queen of England. Their Majesties in particular passed a considerable time in the interior of the Panorama. The long *annexe* was also examined by the Imperial party. M. Fould, Minister of State, was in attendance. The Fine Arts Galleries are crowded daily; and, in fact, the Universal Exhibition is at length attracting the attention it merits."

THE "ANNEXE" FROM THE GALLERY.

KING ALFRED THE GREAT TEACHING THE ANGLO-SAXON YOUTH.—DRAWN BY JOHN GILBERT.—(SEE PAGE 661.)

ALFRED THE GREAT TEACHING THE ANGLO-SAXON YOUTH.

Alfred's plans for the intellectual cultivation of his country were directed, in the first instance, to the diffusion of knowledge amongst the great body of the people. Hence he earnestly recommended the translation of "useful books into the language which we all understand; so that all the youth of England, but more especially those who are so rich or so gifted and in such easy circumstances, may be grounded in letters—for they cannot profit in any pursuit until they are well able to read English." This opinion is extracted from a document appearing to have been a circular letter addressed by Alfred to the Bishops; and the desire which it expresses is the best proof of the sincerity of his intentions, and the grasp and comprehensiveness of his mind. The general tendency of the Middle Ages was to centre all erudition in a particular caste, severed from the rest of society. Alfred's labours, on the contrary, were directed to enable every individual to have a share, according to his station and degree, in the common inheritance of wisdom.—*Sir F. Palgrave's History of England, Anglo-Saxon Period.*

Throned midst the children of his land,
God's law within his just right hand,
Behold the sage, whose righteous rule
Made of fair England one wide school!
O, worthy he to fill a throne;
He counts their need who felt his own;
And in his light that they may bask,
He bends his great soul to the task.

"O youth, that goeth forth to fight
Life's holy battle for the right;
O man, that shall be in the day
When I must cast this crown away;
Through fair and foul—through good and ill—
Heed thou this one true maxim still:
Let God's high law and will be done,
And other law thou needest none.

"Be simple as the flowers ye press
With lowliest foot; be slow to guess
The evils that come all too soon.
Beware to harp on glory's tune:
Yet count him conqueror alone
Who points his sword to God's great throne.
Who dies for Faith is not foredone;—
Kingdoms so lost are kingdoms won.

"Take counsel of the good and sage;
Be lovers of God's glorious page
Vain are all joys in life's poor reach
If ye should lack what this doth teach.
The body's sense is dull and slow
To that fine wit the mind doth show.
Though life may perish as the grass,
Learning and wisdom shall not pass.

"Be truthful aye in deed and word;
Dumb deeds have lied, but God hath heard.
If ye be false, dread more than death
The message-winds that bear your breath:
These shall lend tongues to each low sigh
These shall betray ye, though ye lie!
Remember still, at Jesus' nod,
The Twelve stand jury before God!"

E. L. Hervey.

Election of Sheriffs.—A common hall was held on Monday for the election of two fit and proper persons to act as Sheriffs of London and Middlesex for the ensuing year. The Lord Mayor, accompanied by several of the Aldermen and Sheriffs, and attended by the principal officers of the corporation, proceeded in state to the Guildhall, and commenced the proceedings at ten o'clock. The choice of the Livery fell upon Alderman Kennedy and Alderman Rose, who were accordingly declared Sheriffs for the ensuing year amidst the acclamations of their fellow-citizens. The hall was then, after the unanimous re-election of Sir John Key, Bart., as Chamberlain, and of the other officers in their appointment of the Livery, dissolved.

M. Monti's Lectures on Sculpture.—M. Monti delivered his fourth lecture on ancient and modern sculpture on Wednesday, the 20th inst., and last fifth on Wednesday last. He commenced his fourth lecture by reverting to the sculpture of the Greeks, a subject which he had not entirely exhausted in his previous discourse; and illustrated their genius and practice by a long series of examples, offering an appropriate artistic comment upon each. The fifth lecture was confined to the rise of Christian art from the time of Constantine to the end of the fifteenth century. The lecturer commenced by remarking that ancient art had decayed before religious art had sprung up. When the world was reborn, the mind of man had entered upon a new state of existence, and Christian art came to introduce Faith, Hope, and Charity to the knowledge of mankind. Thus, the new religion gave the final blow to the art of the ancients, by banishing mythology, which was found inconsistent with the new light, which naturally required the pure aspect of nature and symbolic expression of thought, illustrative of a future state—an idea to which the types of man turned as a plant does to the sun. The hatred of idols kept Christian art in a subordinate state, and was probably the cause of bas-reliefs being preferred to figures, also painting and mosaic work has more sacredness than sculpture. The art of the new religion began its first step in Rome, and was in the symbolic form. The first of a series of interesting diagrams was here exhibited by M. Monti, which represented some of the sculptures from the catacombs in Rome, executed during the fourth century. It was a graceful figure of the good Shepherd, intended to represent the Redeemer, and is found to have been repeated many hundred times. The next subjects shown were enlarged diagrams from specimens of art at this period found in the dipteyche, the one of Rome and the other of Grecian origin. Two centuries after this the storm which had been gathering round the Roman empire burst by the incursions of the barbarians. But Christian art still lived and grew, and gradually assumed a character of its own. During the sixth century an immense number of artists spread over Europe. In this way the lecturer traced the progress of art down to the change effected by the introduction of Greek art in it by the mixture of the German element, which will be found most strongly indicated in France and on the borders of the Rhine. He also remarked upon the combination of the French and German style; also the change of those two engraffted upon the gravity of the English. In the thirteenth century, also, with the German feeling became softened and blended with that of Italy. This brought us to the time of Giotto and Dante, when M. Monti concluded his entertaining lecture by saying that his next would commence with the great name of Michael Angelo.

A Chinese Artist and Poet.—There is at present in this country an artist, with the American missionary, the Rev. Dr Hoffer, a Chinese gentleman named Cheuk-see-lan, a native of Canton, but whose family originally lived in the province of Sze-chuen. His age is about thirty-five, and he speaks with fluency all three of the principal dialects of the empire—the Kwanhwa, Mandarin, the dialect of Pekin, and that of Canton. His mind has received great cultivation in the literature and accomplishments of the Celestial Empire, for he is not only a very clever Chinese artist, but also a poet and musician, and well acquainted with the history of these arts as developed in China. Although he has not graduated, he is devoted to literary pursuits, and is preparing a volume of poems, which he intends to publish on his return home. He visited the British Museum last week in company with Dr Hoffer, and examined the large Chinese Collection which forms part of the great Library of that institution.

Apartments are being arranged at St. Cloud for the reception of her Majesty and Prince Albert, who are expected in Paris early in August. The château will form a delightful residence for her Majesty. The interior is very beautifully furnished, and rich in Goblein tapestry, Sèvres china, and other elegancies which the Queen is known to appreciate so highly. The Park of St. Cloud will afford an agreeable promenade for the Royal visitors, and the château being so near Paris ensures every convenience to be desired. Her Majesty will certainly meet with a hearty reception.

The *Piedmontese Gazette* states that the submarine cable, which is to connect Sardinia with the African coast, will arrive at Genoa at the close of July, and that its immersion will take place on the first day of August. M. Brett has signed a contract to that effect with Captain Roberts, of the British Royal Navy. The works of the telegraph, along the coast of Algeria, from La Calle to Rosa, have been undertaken by the French Government. They are conducted with the greatest activity, and will be terminated at that period.

DESPATCHES FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, June 25, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B. His Lordship has also received from Lord Raglan a numerical list of officers wounded on the 18th June, and a numerical list of non-commissioned officers and privates killed, wounded, and missing on the same day; copies of which are subjoined:—

Before Sebastopol, June 12, 1855

My Lord,—In my despatch of the 5th instant I informed your Lordship that the Russians had evacuated Soujak Kale on the 28th May.

I have now the honour to inform your Lordship that they withdrew from Anapa on the 6th inst., and thus they have abandoned their last stronghold on the coast of Circassia.

Intelligence of this event was brought to Sir E. Lyons by Captain Hughes, who, in his zealous endeavour to give the Admiral the earliest information of it, went from Soujak to Kertch in an open boat, and on passing Anapa observed it was burning, it having been set on fire by the Circassians. Captain Hughes, who arrived here yesterday, entertains no doubt that the enemy have retired across the Kouban. The news has caused great joy here, and it is clear that the attack and capture of Kertch, and of the brilliant operations of the Allied naval forces in the Sea of Azoff, where no flag now flies but that of England and France.

Nothing material has occurred here since I had the honour of addressing your Lordship on the 9th inst. Both our allies and ourselves are taking advantage of our success to push forward our advances, and erect new batteries on the ground which was gained on the 18th, a most glorious occasion, and I hope I shall soon be able to report further progress.

I have had a second report from Colonel Shirley, in which he begs to draw my attention to the services of officers whom he omitted to mention in the first mission, and who have since been employed in the trenches, working at our ship's notice. They are the following: Major Macdonnell, Rifle Brigade, who commanded a portion of that corps, and of the 41st, 47th, 49th, 77th, and 90th Regiments, detached from the guard of the trenches; Captain Ambrose, who had charge of 200 men of the Rifle Brigade, and was himself wounded; and Major Captain Dixon, also wounded, who commanded a large detachment of the 41st. Captain Shiffner, of the 34th; Captain Hunter, and Lieutenants Lucas, Gaynor, and Stokes, of the 47th; Lieutenant Beresford, of the 88th, who succeeded to the command of a part of that regiment, his seniors being either killed or wounded; Lieutenant Pearson, of the same corps; and Lieutenant H. M. Jones, of the Royal Fusiliers. Colonel Shirley likewise eulogises the conduct of the 62nd under Colonel Sheppard; and here I must be permitted to express my regret at the death of that officer, who fell mortally wounded; and of Major Dickson, of the same regiment, who was unfortunately killed upon the occasion. Both these officers are serious losses to her Majesty's service.

I enclosure of the killed and wounded on the 8th to the 7th, and those of the casualties that have since occurred up to the 10th inst. These lists, I much lament to state, are very heavy.

The *Alma* has returned from Kertch, having on board the 72nd and 63rd, whose services ceased to be required as soon as it was known that Anapa had been abandoned.

I have, &c., Raglan.

The Lord Panmure, &c

THE LOSS AT THE QUARRY

NOMINAL RETURN OF OFFICERS WHO HAVE BEEN KILLED FROM THE 4TH TO THE 7TH JUNE, 1855, INCLUSIVE.

Royal Engineers: Captain G Dawson, Lieutenant T G. Lowry. 2nd Battalion 1st Foot: Captain R H. B. Thomson. 34th: Lieutenant H. M. Lawrence. 50th: Lieutenant Richard J. T Stone. 63rd: Major W. F. Hickson, Captain J. S. Tyrwhitt. 68th: Lieutenant James Marshall. 88th: Brevet-Major Edward Bayley, Captain Edmund Corbett, Captain [illegible] Wray, Lieutenant E. H. Webb

NOMINAL RETURN OF OFFICERS WHO HAVE BEEN WOUNDED FROM THE 4TH TO THE 7TH JUNE, 1855, INCLUSIVE.

Royal Artillery: Captains Mortimer Adye, severely; A. Gordon, slightly. 2nd Battalion 1st Foot: Lieutenants W Bellew, dangerously; W. E. Stewart, severely; M. A. Lage, slightly. 3rd: Captain G. J. Ambrose, dangerously; Lieutenant H A. Breedon, slightly. 7th: Major Frederick Mills, slightly, Captain W. Power, slightly; Lieutenants H. M. Jones, slightly; L. J. F. Jones, slightly; G. H. Walker, slightly. 17th: Lieutenant J. B. Boyd, slightly. 19th: Lieutenant E. W. Evans, severely. 30th: Lieutenant and Adjutant F Padfield, severely. 34th: Captain M Lawrence, slightly. 41st: Captains J. Peel, severely; G. E. B. Weatherall, severely; Lieutenant T H Saunders, severely. 41st: Captain J. B Dixon, slightly. 47th: Major J. Villiers, severely; Captain J. H. Lovett, severely; F. W. F. Hunter, severe contusion; Lieutenant J. J. C. Irby, dangerously. 49th: Lieutenant J. O. Trant, slightly. 49th: Major J. F. Ramsay, severely; Captain Lord Ashley, severely; Lieutenants W. Young, severely; T. P. Kastner, severely. 50th: Lieutenant James [illegible], slightly. 63rd: Lieutenant-Colonel Sheppard, severely; Captain [illegible] W. T. Leigh, severely. 77th: Captain B. D. Gilby, slightly; Lieutenant M. W. [illegible], slightly. 90th: Lieutenant-Colonel N. F. Campbell, severe contusion. 88th: Lieutenant C. Anderson, slightly; Captain Hamilton, slightly; Lieutenant E. R. Mackesy, severely. Royal Artillery: Lieutenant J. E. R. Cameron, slightly.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED FROM 4TH TO 7TH JUNE, 1855, INCLUSIVE.

18th Foot: Private William Ireland. 14th, Private Lawrence Malcahay. 4th: Private Michael Dennen. Royal Artillery: Bombardier Lawrence Byron, Nathaniel Stevens, Thomas Pagdrick, Thomas Brown.

June 7.—2nd Battalion 1st Foot: Lance-Sergeant William Richardson; Privates Bernard Wares, John Anthony, Alfred Davis, John Martin, John Vial, John Fagan, Patrick Dean. 7th: Corporal-Sergeant William B. A. Dobbie, Corporal George Parsons, Privates Thomas Lathey, James Gregory, James Gilgan, William Cook (2), Stephen Jagger, Thomas Wilson, William Thompson, James Ward (2), John Brown, Joseph Burnside. 23rd: Private Robert Robinson. 34th: Private Thomas Hawkins, Edward Gaynor, William Stewart. 34th: Privates Joseph Bradford, Henry Stevenson, Peter Kelly, Thomas Mutrad, John Murphy, Athanasius Neal, Thomas Gaynor, Thomas Hawkins. 41st: Lance-Sergeant John M'Gee. Sergeant John M'Morah, Corporal William Lenn, Lance-Corporal Robert Thompson, Privates Lewis Brown, Thomas Henry, Patrick Mahoney, Abraham Bryson, Nathaniel Bryson, Jacob Frederick Chitock, John Murphy, Patrick Kenny, William Brown, Charles Murray, Thomas Walsh, Hugh O'Neil, Edward Walsh, Richard Hughes. 49th: Sergeant Robert McCoy, Lance-Corporal James Roughan, Privates George Kenny, Thomas Kearney, Patrick Kearney, Thomas McCarthy, Michael Jaddy, John Parker, Patrick Leary, John Hooper, Patrick O'Halloran, Michael Carney, John Ashmore, James Addison, Patrick Ryan, [illegible] 50th: Private Thomas Bailey, Jean Boylan, John Aylen. 63rd: Privates Hugh Dorney, Michael Corcoran, Charles Watson. 8th: Corporal Michael Sherlock, Privates James O'Donnell, Richard Sim, Dennis Fleming, Henry Johnson, Michael Ryan, Patrick O'Neill, Thomas Kelly, Francis Cassidy, Thomas Brereton, James Burke, Owen Mescorley. 97th, Privates Moses Mason, Matthew Freeman. 3rd Battalion 1st Foot: Sergeant Thomas Wright. Royal Artillery: Bombardier Samuel Wilson. Sappers and Miners: Sergeant William Beasten. Gunners and Drivers Samuel Kelsey, Joseph Jackson, Richard McKenna, George Baker, William Farr, James Harris. Royal Sappers and Miners: Corporal James Fraser. 34th Foot: Dates not, were not included at "missing" in the Casualty Lists, of June 7, 1855. Sergeant Martin Mount, Corporal Thomas Hindson, Privates John Lotter, Hugh Flannery, Thomas Higgins, Robert Craig, William Mallett, George Watson.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES WOUNDED FROM THE 4TH TO THE 7TH OF JUNE, 1855, INCLUSIVE.

18th Foot: Privates John Lolan, mortally, James Hamilton, severely, Thomas Green, slightly, Thomas Hayes, severely, Michael Hogan, severely, Edward Ford, slightly; [illegible] 34th: Privates Daniel Brennan, severely, Michael Ryan, severely. 47th Corporal [illegible] 49th: Privates [illegible] 50th: Corporal [illegible] 63rd: Drummer Edward Power, mortally. 68th: Private Charles Ferrier, severely. 2nd Battalion 1st Foot: Privates Charles Seymour, severely, Patrick McLaughlin, slightly. 3rd: Sergeant John Dugan, slightly; Privates Michael Gallagher, severely, Patrick Kearney, slightly. 7th: Sergeant Martin, severely, William Meldson, slightly; Isaac Brierton, slightly, Thomas Purcell, slightly; John Dwyer, slightly. 7th: Private Thomas Mitchell, severely. 23rd: Corporal [illegible] 34th: Private William Durant, dangerously. 34th: Private Richard Lynch, slightly. 41st: Private Jacob Pegley, dangerously. 41st, Privates Thomas Hall, dangerously; John Lewis Jones, dangerous (since died); George Squires, dangerously; William Percival, dangerously; James Brown, severely; Thomas Cutwright, severely. Royal Sappers and Miners: Lance-Corporal L. M'Leod, slightly, Privates John Murphy, slightly; George Carter, slightly. 7th: Privates John Gallagher, severely, Patrick Hughes, slightly. 34th: Corporal Murphy, severely; Private Michael Gannon, dangerously. 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade: Privates Peter Gavin, dangerously; Thomas Cutwright, severely. Royal Sappers and Miners: Colour-Sergeant A. M'Leod, slightly, Privates John Martin, slightly; George Hack, slightly, William Bayne, slightly. Royal Artillery: Sergeant George Symons, severely, Corporals James Falls, severely, Joseph Hughes, severely; Bombardiers William Halstead, slightly, Stephen Hugh, slightly. Gunners and Drivers Samuel Hughes, slightly; George Hack, slightly, William Bayne, slightly. Royal Artillery: Gunners Joseph Hughes, slightly; Robert M. Kenney, severely, John Wilson, slightly, Daniel Murphy, dangerously.

June 7.—1st Battalion 1st Foot: Sergeant John Swiney, slightly. Lance-Sergeant Harvey Moore, slightly. Privates John George Gaynor, severely; Thomas Thompson, slightly; Patrick Sullivan, slightly; Robert Quail, slightly; James Fox, slightly; James Donton, slightly; James Barker, severely; John Sheridan, slightly; Robert Vincent, slightly; John Swan, slightly; Thomas Bixby, slightly; Robert Black, slightly; Henry M Donough Slattery; Chas Gosling, slightly; John Madden, dangerously; Thomas Cullen, slightly; [illegible] severely; John Stone, slightly; James [illegible] M Cormack, slightly; [illegible] Crozier Porter, severely, John Joe [illegible] M Dermott, severely; Thomas Mullen, slightly; [illegible] Finnlam, slightly; William Anderson, [illegible] Johnson, severely; John Gough, slightly; Jeremiah Wall, slightly; Thomas Ellis, severely; James Gaynor, William Dole, slightly; Henry Cowan, severely; Patrick Mahoney, slightly; Chalmers, severely; Patrick M'Laughlin, severely; Charles Seymour, dangerously; James Fattis, slightly; George Fatterson, severely; Martin Sharman, severely; Patrick Sullivan, severely; Joseph Hancock, slightly; Hugh Murray, dangerously. 3rd Foot: Privates John Fahey, severely; Patrick Quigley, slightly; Michael Mahoney, severely; James Dunlan, severely; John Lee, severely; John O Brien, dangerously; John M'Connell, dangerously; Arthur Grimes, slightly. 7th: Sergeants Patrick Kane, slightly; John Stocks, slightly; Jonathan Richmond, slightly. Corporal John [illegible] Privates Peter Martin, severely, Robert Adams [illegible] severely; James Bedrash, severely; John Smith, severely; [illegible] slightly; Daniel Donnelly, slightly; John Sullivan, severely; [illegible] Thomas Kane, severely; Henry Sullivan, severely; Thomas Fowler, slightly; John Sullivan, slightly; George Barker, severely; Hugh Murphy, slightly; John Fox, severely; Robert Hanson, slightly; James Gordon, severely; [illegible] John Stocks, severely; John Stocks, severely; George Sanders, severely; [illegible] Thomas Cullen, severely; Owen Smith, slightly; Robert Cross, slightly; John Lacey, severely; [illegible] Thomas Brown, slightly; William Smith, slightly; James Dunn, slightly; Joseph Footerth, slightly; James Murphy, severely; Thomas Slater, slightly; Arthur Doyle, slightly; Patrick Maginn, severely; William Mitchell, slightly; James George, severely; John Cronin, severely; James Lumpar, slightly; Thomas Mcmillan, dangerously; George Robinson, dangerously; William Saines, dangerously; John Madden, dangerously; William Bennett, slightly; Patrick Fox, slightly; William Johnson, slightly; Thomas Glover, slightly; William Barrett, severely; Alfred Dickson, slightly; Patrick Friery, slightly; James Franklin, severely; Thos. Owens, severely; Frederick Reeder, slightly; William Godling, slightly; John McDermot, slightly; Martin Kavanagh, slightly; Peter Anderson, slightly; Charles Williams severely; John Keenan, severely; Thomas Clarke, slightly; George Adams, slightly; Charles Wisham, severely; Michael McLean, slightly; [illegible] John Bancroft, severely; Thomas Hagerty, slightly; William Normoo, severely; William Bagnowlow, slightly; John Arnold, dangerously; John Bath, severely; Richard Hanson, severely; John Falmous, severely. 17th: Sergt John Connolly, slightly; Privates Thos Connolly, slightly; Peter Brown, slightly; Jas. Burns, severely; Wm Moore, slightly. 19th: Lance-Corporal Jas. Rudd, severely, Privates Jas. Kenna, slightly. 23rd: Corporal Hugh Campbell, slightly. Privates Michael Coyle, slightly; Wm Clarke, slightly; Richard Eddon, slightly, Thomas Roberts, dangerously; Richard Dowe, severely; Joseph Downey, slightly; William Halloran, slightly; Thomas Barnes, severely. 33rd: Lance Corporal Henry Hodale, severely. Privates Edward Kantanar slightly, Alexander Paul, slightly; Timothy Murphy, severely. 34th: Sergeant Thomas Lambert severely. Corporals John Stanson, slightly; Joseph Wharton, dangerously; James and [illegible] William Hughes, severely; Edward Ross, severely; Alexander [illegible] gerald, severely, Michael Norton severely; Peter Lynch severely; [illegible] Thomas Connor, severely; Henry Farrar, severely; James McKenna, severely; Charles Kelly, severely; John Brennan, severely; John Brennan, severely; George Hadden, severely; Joseph Rostron severely; Patrick Higgins, severely; John Malone, severely; George Lawrence, slightly; Charles Wilson, severely; John Flaherty, slightly; Donald M Donald, slightly; Daniel M'Carthy, slightly; Charles Byrne, slightly; John Bank [illegible] severely; Sergt Corporal John Quinn, slightly; Private Adam Baxter, slightly; [illegible] Corporals Thomas Peter, severely; Corporal Charles Harper, dangerously (since died) Privates Jas Meade, slightly, John Phillips, slightly, H my Rowan, slightly; James Collins, slightly; Andrew Gunnes, severely; John Carran, slightly; William Doolan, slightly; Michael Ennis, slightly; John Kennale [illegible] Michael Lawrence, slightly; John McLaurent, severely; James Mckeough [illegible] Thomas McMahon, severely; Joseph Matthews, slightly; Samuel Stubbs [illegible] Thomas Underwood, slightly. 47th: Sergt [illegible] Donald Brodan [illegible] Lang, slightly; Wm Sutherland slightly; John Fitzpatrick slightly. Lance Corporal Cleary, slightly; George Beattie, slightly. Privates Jas Harrington, dangerously; James Mc Sweeney, severely; Thomas Hughes, severely; Peter Gallagher, severely; [illegible] Keefe, severely; Patrick Carey, severely; John Gilmann, severely; George Burwell, severely; Thomas Merle, slight; Peter Fraser, dangerously (since died) Richard Phelan, severely; John Bailey, slightly; James Brennan, severely; Daniel Cowan, dangerously; Patrick Kennedy, slightly, John Murphy severely; Patrick Mason, slightly; William Kennedy, slightly; James [illegible] slightly; John Chapman, slightly; Arthur Frederick, slightly; Patrick Cullen, dangerously, Daniel Foley, severely; Thomas Ryan, slightly; Thomas [illegible] Patrick Cawley, slightly, Joan Walsh, [illegible] William Howard, slightly; Michael Lynch, [illegible] Kelly slightly, John Pitman, severely; [illegible] Griffin, slightly; [illegible] Henry Freeman, severely; John Shaw, severely; [illegible] severely; William Harrington, severely; Solomon Weston, slightly; John Reagan, severely [illegible] Robert Walsh, severely; John Gilchrist, slightly; [illegible] John Campbell, slightly, Isaac Connors, slightly; William Schofield, slightly; Philip Clarke, slightly; [illegible] Creary, slightly; Patrick Mc Gill; Peter Fitzsimmons, slightly; John Stanman, slightly 68th. Colour-Sergeants William Grundy dangerous; John Langman dangerously; Sergeants Charles Barnes, severely; George Leonard, severely; William Cooper, slightly, Patrick Murphy, slightly; Richard Shea, dangerously; Corporals James [illegible] dangerously; [illegible] slightly; [illegible] Patrick Mc Cormick, severely; John Cuttinin, severely Mc [illegible] slightly; James Lowry, slightly; Thomas Lewis, severely; Thomas Lee, severely; Michael Bergin, severely; Thomas Mc Cormick, severely; Thomas Brown, dangerously, James Gavin dangerously, James [illegible] slightly; James [illegible] Edward Haley [illegible] Edward Sullivan, severely; Patrick Kelly, slightly; Luke Kinner severely; Michael Sheehan, dangerously; John Lawrence, severely; James Morath, severely; John [illegible] dangerously; [illegible] Mc Gough, severely; Patrick Martin, severely; William Mc Cormick, severely; Bernard McAuley, severely; James McKewer, slightly, Patrick O'Brien severely; Richard Trudge, severely; James Reay, slightly; Patrick Shannon, severely; Thomas Stack, severely; James Stratford, severely, James Stevens severely William Townsend [illegible] Charles Weatherson, severely; James Wright, severely; Patrick Curry, slightly; Thomas [illegible] slightly; Martin Wheelan, severely; John Ward, slightly; James Curry, slightly; Patrick Ryan, severely; George Bear, slightly; George Crouch, slightly; [illegible] Patrick Mc Cormick, severely; Hugh Murray, severely; [illegible] Thomas Lee, severely; Donald M'Donald, slightly; Alexander Salmer, severely; Patrick Walsh, slightly; Jn Drawey, severely; Thomas Brown, dangerously, James Bent, dangerously; [illegible] William Freeman, severely; Martin Dehn severely, William Brinton, severely. Privates William Hoare, slightly; Allen Bowles, dangerously, Peter Lewis, dangerously; Donald M'Donald; Alexander Salmer, severely; Patrick Walsh, slightly; [illegible] William Townsend, severely; Corporal

Hayes, slightly; Richard White, severely; John Smith, slightly; William Hudson, slightly; John Davies slightly. 33rd: Private William Woodthorpe, severely; James Gallagher, dangerously (since dead); William Cale, severely. 49th Corporal William Nash, slightly. 50th: Private John Hall, severely. 63rd: Private Thomas Robinson, slightly. 77th: Private John McBarth, severely; Thomas Adcock, slightly. 90th: Sergeant Henry Hall, severely; Corporal John Dolton, dangerously; Privates James Robinson, slightly; William Hunter, slightly. 97th: Privates Patrick Gillanan, severely; William Quinn, severely. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Privates Frederick Thomson, severely; Henry Coles, severely; Charles Kelly, dangerously; Robert Muir, dangerously (since dead); Thomas Carter, severely; William Edwards, severely. Royal Sappers and Miners: Private William Lamb, severely.

A RETURN OF CASUALTIES IN THE ROYAL NAVAL BRIGADE, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, ON THE 18TH JUNE, 1855.

Wounded: Edward Perry, Ord., Queen, slightly; William Richards, Ord., Queen, slightly; William Hoskins, Ord., Rodney, slightly; Edward Warner, A.B., Leander slightly; George Hay, C.P., Leander, severely, slightly; Peter Dennett, A.B., Wasp, slightly; Samuel Williams, A.B., Leander, slightly; Joseph Irving, Ord., Queen, slightly; Robert Cooper, Ord., London, mortally; Henry Jones, A.B., Leander, severely; John O'Donnell, A.B., London, severely; Griffith Evans, Ord., London, severely; Peter Conway, Ord., London slightly; Willis Murray, A.B., London, slightly; John Selden, Ord., London, slightly. *Contused*: Lieutenant A. Mitchell, Diamond, severely; John Millar, Gunner's Mate Wasp, severely; Sir James Edward Home, Bart., Queen, slightly; Mr. E. Kewley, Assistant Surgeon, severely; Edward Colley, Ord., Wasp, slightly. *Killed*: Robert Jones, Ord., Queen.

A LIST OF OFFICERS KILLED AND WOUNDED IN THE NAVAL BRIGADE, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

Killed: Lieutenant J. O. Judd. *Wounded*: Captain W. Peel, Lieutenant O. W. Dalyell, W. B. Hinston, slightly.

THE LOSS AT THE REDAN

Non-commissioned officers and rank and file killed, 144; wounded, 1088; missing, 170

NOMINAL RETURN OF OFFICERS WOUNDED

SECOND DIVISION: Lieutenant-Colonel Goodwyn, 4th Foot, severely. SECOND COMPANY 3RD BRIGADE. THIRD DIVISION: Major-Gen. Wm. Eyre, C.B., severely. Coldstream Guards: 2nd Lieut. Hon. Hugh Ward, severely. 9th Foot: Capt. F. Smith, dangerously (since dead); Lieut. Adjutant M'Queen, severely; Lieut. A. G. Dempsey, slightly. 30th: Major Clark, severely, slightly; Capt. J. Cornick, dangerously; Capt. A. Arnold, slightly; Capt. M. L. Hogan, dangerously; Capt. W. Hall, severely; Lieut. W. O'Brien Twiss, slightly; Lieut. W. Kemp, severely; Lieut. Harris, severely, slightly; Lieut. Chambers, slightly. 34th: Lieut. H. Darby, severely; Capt. J. G. R. Aplin, slightly; Capt. J. D. Malcolm, severely; Lieut. F. Brodigan, severely. 41st: Lieut. Hon. C. Abington, dangerously; Capt. H. Hamilton, severely; Lieut. F. Fitzgerald, severely; Lieut. H. Pitt, severely. 47th: Lieut. J. Rogers, slightly; Lieut. C. Hay, slightly; Capt. W. H. Mansfield, dangerously; Lieut. J. Logan, severely; Lieut. T. Hutchinson, severely. 57th: Lieut. Colonel Handfield, severely; Capt. A. Snodgrass (38th), severely; Lieut. H. Image (21st Foot), slightly. 62nd Foot: Major Park, severely; Lieut. Jones, severely; Lieut. Hon. A. Vereker, severely; Lieut. R. Lowe, severely; Lieut. H. Bowen, severely; Lieut. G. H. Walker, severely; Lieut. W. L. Wallace, severely; Lieut. Appleyard, severely; Lieut. Hon. A. Lindsay, slightly; Lieut. J. S. O. Schneider, severely; Lieut. R. G. Hewson, slightly. 68th: Lieut.-Col. D. Lyons, severely; Lieut.-Col. H. V. Mundy, slightly; Capt. Crawley, dangerously; Captain Chetwin Wickham, severely; Lieut. J. Bagot, slightly; Capt. J. Clyde, slightly; Capt. J. Jordan, severely; Lieut. Harman, severely; Lieut. F. Pool, slightly; Lieut. F. B. Carson, severely. 79th: Lieut.-Col. H. Shadwell, severely; Capt. Norman, severely; Capt. Lee, severely; Capt. Cameron, severely; Lieut. Venables, severely; Lieut. A. F. A. Slade, severely. 95th: Capt. G. F. Browne, dangerously; Lieut. C. A. P. Bulkeley, severely. 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade: Lieut. C. A. P. Bulkeley, severely; Lieut. J. S. Knox, dangerously. Royal Artillery: Second Captain W. Wallace, severely; Lieut. Hay, slightly. Royal Engineers: Commissioner Hay, Lieut.-Colonel R. Tylden, severely; Brevet-Major and Lieutenant-Colonel Jervois, slightly. Marines: 7th Foot: Lieut. N. D. Robinson. 33rd: Lieut. Cleveland.

War Department, June 28, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received two despatches and their enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, June 14, 1855.

My Lord,—Your Lordship will be concerned to learn that the Army still suffers from cholera, and that it has increased since the last report.

The men in general, however, look healthy, and I hope that the duration of this and unhealthy cold not be long.

The reports of the state of the Sardinian Army are to-day a little more satisfactory. I have, &c., RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c. &c. &c.

Before Sebastopol, June 16, 1855.

My Lord, I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown and Admiral Sir E. Lyons returned from Kertch yesterday, having fully and successfully accomplished the objects of the expedition to that part of the Crimea.

I have the highest satisfaction in drawing your Lordship's attention to the manner in which the Lieutenant-General conducted the duties I entrusted to his charge; and I entertain no doubt that, if no fad encountered the resistance which it was led to meet with, the result would have not only been more decisive, but would have equally advantageous, and would have reflected the same credit upon his arrangements, what the efficiency and gallantry of the troops would have been brought into stronger light. But it is a matter of great joy that so much should have been done without the loss of a single life.

He feels greatly indebted to General Dantemarre and Redschid Pacha, who commanded the French and Turkish troops respectively, for their ready co-operation and assistance.

It has afforded me the most sincere pleasure to have this opportunity of personally congratulating Sir E. Lyons on the success of the expedition, for which he was from the first so warm an advocate, and to which he always attached the highest importance, and on the important and decisive blow to the enemy's possessions in the Sea of Azoff. The excellence of the arrangements for the bombardment of Taganrog does infinite honour to Captain Lyons, of H.M.S. *Miranda*, and at once testifies his ability, determination, and gallantry.

The progress of the works against Sebastopol, which I reported to your Lordship on the 12th has been perfectly satisfactory, and new batteries are completed, which will enable both the English and the French Armies to resume the offensive with the utmost vigour.

I enclose returns of the casualties which have arisen to the 14th instant.

I have, &c., RAGLAN.

The Lord Panmure, &c. &c. &c.

P.S.—I have just received a letter from Colonel Shirley, in which he expresses his regret at having omitted the name of Capt. Peel, 34th Regiment, who was severely wounded in the successful attack of the Quarries on the 7th ult., where he highly distinguished himself. RAGLAN.

NOMINAL RETURN OF OFFICERS WHO HAVE BEEN WOUNDED FROM THE 11TH TO THE 14TH JUNE, 1855, INCLUSIVE.

3rd Foot: Lieut. A. W. Boyce, slightly.

NOMINAL RETURN OF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND PRIVATES KILLED FROM THE 11TH TO THE 14TH JUNE, 1855, INCLUSIVE.

1st Foot: Private John Kelly. 46th: Private Peter Martin. Royal Artillery: Gunner William Cassidy. Royal Engineers: Lieut. Hon. Thomas M. Ewan, Bernard Fagan, Henry Rocke, Sergeant Mason. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private William Cramp. 33rd: Private Wm. Cooper, Thomas Wilkes. 34th: Private Samuel Briggs. 47th: Sergeant John Mawson. 57th: Private Patrick Quinn, severely; Patrick O'Donnell. 62nd: Sergeant Michael Carroll, slightly. 68th: Lance-Corporal William Varney, slightly. 88th: Private John Mc Cormick. 97th: Corporal Denis Hagan, slightly. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private William Cowan, slightly. 3rd Foot: Private John Andrews and John M'Kenna, severely. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private Henry Herbert, slightly. Royal Artillery: Bombardiers Thomas R. Evans and Joseph Symons, slightly. Gunners William Bennett, John McKay, and Patrick Redmond, severely; James Connor, slightly. Drivers Haddon and Hugh Lyndsay, severely. George Langdon, dangerously. Robert M'Cross, slightly. 3rd: Private John Aranyd, dangerously. Gunner and Duncan Mellan, slightly. Drivers Bennett and Nicholls and Corporal Mudigan, dangerously. Privates F. Mai slightly; Pregan, Preston Poole, Daniel Buckley, and Patrick Sullivan, dangerously. Thomas Crosby, William Graham, and James M'Dermott, slightly. 47th: Sergeant William Cross, severely. Privates Richard Blake and Patrick Quinn, severely. Patrick O'Donnell. 57th: Private Thomas Sutton, severely. 62nd: Corporal William Varney, slightly. 88th: Private John Mc Cormick. 97th: Corporal Denis Hagan, slightly. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private William Cowan, slightly. 3rd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Privates Henry Herbert, slightly. Royal Artillery: Bombardiers Thomas R. Evans and Joseph Symons, slightly. Gunners William Bennett, John McKay, and Patrick Redmond, severely; James Connor, slightly. Drivers Haddon and Hugh Lyndsay, severely. George Langdon, dangerously. Robert M'Cross, slightly. 3rd: Privates

MOHAMMED BASHA, THE NEW BEY OF TUNIS.

MOHAMMED BASHA, THE NEW SOVEREIGN OF TUNIS.

(From a Correspondent.)

There is much in the past history of that stretch of country on the North African Coast, claimed for so many centuries by the Moslem Conquerors who followed Abdallah, the Civil and Ecclesiastical Missionary-General of the Prophet of Mecca, which, in point of importance, is not inferior to that of any territory in the world. In it is comprised that immense coast from the Atlantic Ocean to the Bashalic of Egypt, and within its limits is the site of the ancient Phœnician colony, Carthage, which, though it may yield to Rome, is not inferior in interest to any other city or country of antiquity. Carthage! Where is the student of classic lore who, at the very mention of that "colony," does not conjure up to his mind a host whose heroic exploits in the field of battle—whose patriotism, valour, virtue, and talent, have been the theme of writers whose fame will never die? Not only Pagan but Christian Carthage has also had its illustrious worthies who, though dead, ever live. Christianity, however, as well as Paganism, had to give way to the religion of the Koran. Just before the close of the seventh century, the great city of Dido fell for the third time before the conquering hosts of Hassan, and with that fall Christianity was swept away from the land which gave birth to Augustin, Tertullian, and Cyprian.

The scenes enacted, and the devastations perpetrated, and the misery and wretchedness which, with few exceptions, successive rulers have heaped upon that magnificent country, are only partially chronicled by the historian; but these few entries exhibit in a fearful degree the dark ingredients of the human heart. It is, therefore, with unmixed pleasure that one records the accession to the throne of a Prince like Mohammed, the eldest son of Hassem, the penultimate ruler of Tunis. On the 1st of the present month his cousin, Ahmed Basha, died, and on the same day Mohammed was proclaimed his legitimate successor.

Mohammed Basha is now bordering upon fifty, and is above the middle stature. He has a fair complexion, blue eyes, and a kind and benevolent expression of countenance.

When his uncle Mustapha died, eighteen years ago, it was commonly believed that he would assume the reins of government; and, so resigned was his cousin (the Prince who has just died) to a cruel fate, that when he entered his apartment, followed by his suite of Mamelukes, Ahmed fell upon his knees and implored for mercy. But Mohammed bade him rise. "Fear not, my Lord," said the noble Prince, "I come to do thee no harm. I deplore the demise of my Lord, but I rejoice now to render to thee what is thy right." And, taking hold of his cousin's arm, he led him into the great hall, where he placed him upon the throne, and proclaimed him the legal Sovereign of the Regency of Tunis; and the roar of artillery from the fortresses announced to the inhabitants of the capital a successor to Mustapha Basha.

The history of this Regency presents us with instances where the parties acted very differently from Prince Mohammed. The country was in his favour; but, Ahmed having been his senior, he was determined not to infringe upon a custom which has been in practice from the days of Hassan Ben Ali, the founder of the present dynasty, who was elected by the army at the commencement of the last century.

The resources of the regency of Tunis are very great; these were not only neglected by the last ruler, but his perverse mode of administration had the effect of impoverishing the country to a fearful degree. Often have I heard the people ejaculating the brief but comprehensive prayer, "Would to God Sidy Mohammed ruled over us!" A year ago I expressed my conviction in my last work, "Evenings in My Tent," to this effect:—"I have little or no hope of Ahmed Basha's ever changing his policy. The only hope this wretched country has is concentrated in his successor, Prince Mohammed Bey, who sees the absurdity of keeping up a large army. . . . He is, moreover, passionately fond of agriculture, and has a natural taste for science, which he not only cultivates, but even now zealously encourages, whenever an opportunity offers itself." He is more fond of seeing cultivated fields, well-stocked storehouses, than thousands of useless and starving soldiers. He prefers to listen to the blessings of his subjects rather than to their curses; and is far more anxious to behold a flourishing and happy population than deserted villages, abandoned fields, neglected gardens, and multitudes of wretched and miserable creatures seeking for shelter and protection within the boundaries of French Africa.

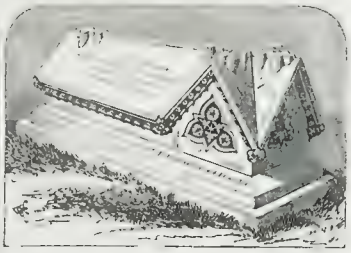
From my intimacy with this Prince—having travelled with him a good distance into the interior of Africa—I have reason to believe that by his just and mild rule he will not only do much to raise his 3,000,000 subjects from their degraded condition, but he will likewise use every effort to further commerce. The "Society for Exploring and Evangelising Central Africa by Means of Native Agency" may also look upon him as its friend; and I earnestly hope that the funds of that institution will soon enable it to send out agents to commence the noble work contemplated. Carthage may also now be resuscitated, and who can estimate the amount of light its monuments may serve to throw upon the famous ruins of Nineveh with which the dauntless and persevering Layard has enriched Britain's noble Museum, and upon sacred and profane history in general. We have Roman, Grecian, Egyptian, Babylonian, and Moorish architecture represented in various public institutions in this country; and, in the Crystal Palace, many of these specimens are restored. Why should we not also now have specimens of Phœnician architecture? And what prevents us now from having a Phœnician Court within that miniature world at Sydenham? Let efforts now be made, and I have every reason to believe that they will be crowned with success.

A letter from Tunis of the 6th inst. in the *Moniteur* states:—

Mohammed Bey has inaugurated his accession to power by some administrative reforms which are [illegible] said, only the prelude to others still more important which he has [illegible] meditation. The duty levied by the Government on the corn crops has been considerably diminished, the reduction amounting to as much as 50 per cent on wheat and 69 per cent on barley. This duty is estimated before the harvest by agents who examine the crops and fix the quantity to be paid in kind by each grower. Another measure, not less advantageous, is a reduction of from 25 to 6¼ per cent of the duty on cattle, camels, mules, &c., sold in the public markets, and which is paid by the seller. Two monopolies, those of the manufacture of lime and of bricks, have also been abolished, so that any one may now make those articles. The new Bey has set at liberty a prince of his family, the only son of Sidi Othmar Bey, assassinated in the night of the 20th of December, 1814. This prince, who was at that period only five years of age, has been ever since kept in close confinement in the palace of the Bardo by the different Beys who have succeeded to the throne of Tunis since the tragical death of his father. Mohammed Bey has also reopened the courts of justice, which had remained closed for nearly three years, during the illness of his predecessor. Every day, except Friday, any one who has complaints to bring forward may be heard by the Bey himself, who immediately decides on the various cases. This measure has given the greatest satisfaction.

TOMB OF SIR M. H. HICKS BEACH, BART., OF WILLIAMSTRIP PARK.

This tomb has just been erected over the grave of the late Sir Michae Hicks Hicks Beach, Bart., M.P. for East Gloucestershire, in the churchyard of Coln St. Aldwyn. The effect is striking, and the design presents



MONUMENT TO SIR M. H. HICKS BEACH, BART., COLN ST. ALDWYN.

a beautiful model of a Christian tomb. The intersection of the gables forms a floriated cross. In the panels on the north-west and south sides are carved lilies and passion flowers. At the east end are the arms of the family emblazoned upon a shield, lying appropriately at the foot of the cross. A text of Scripture is inscribed on each side of the plinth.

The work has been well executed in Ancaster stone, by Mr. S. Cundy of Pimlico, from a design by Mr. George Row Clarke, architect.

The inscription is as follows:—

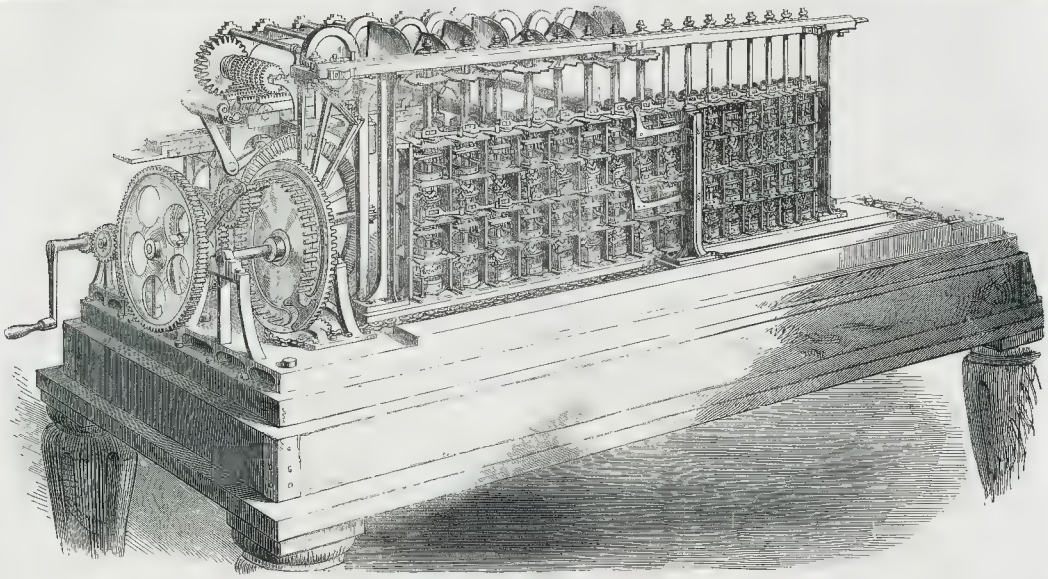
In memory of Sir Michael Hicks Hicks Beach, Bart., M.P., who died 22nd Nov., 1854, aged forty-five years.

On the plinth is inscribed:—

In thy presence, Lord, is fullness of joy; at Thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

PALACE OF THE BEY OF TUNIS.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



MESSRS. SCHEUTZ'S NEW CALCULATING MACHINE.

LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE FOR THE PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.

AN Express Engine, destined for the Paris Exhibition, and appropriately entitled the Eugène, has been constructed by Messrs. Fairbairn and Sons, of Manchester, upon the design of Mr M'Connell, of Wolverton, combining all the latest improvements of that gentleman viz., prolonged firebox, combustion-chamber, solid wrought-iron piston, hollow axle, &c. The general contour of this engine is symmetrical, suggesting the idea of stability and lightness. It has been running express and mixed passenger trains on the southern division of the London and North-Western Railway, and has amply realised all expectations as to its performance. Subjoined is an account of the experiments, which show very good results, the engine consuming a moderate quantity of fuel per mile, with a corresponding good evaporation.

In a journey of 280 miles, with express and other passenger trains, with an average load of 41.5 tons, the consumption of coke was 19.6lb. per mile, evaporating 6.8lb. of water per 1lb. of coke.

The following are the principal dimensions of this Engine:—Diameter of cylinder, 18 in.; length of stroke, 22 in.; diameter of driving-wheel, 7 ft.; ditto of boiler, 4 ft.; length of boiler, 10 ft. 6 in.; ditto of firebox proper, 3 ft. 8½ in.; ditto of combustion-chamber, 4 ft. 7½ in.; heating surface in combustion-chamber and firebox, 159 sq. ft.; ditto in tube, 731 sq. ft.; total heating surface, 890 sq. ft. The boiler contains 414 tubes, 6 ft. long, 1½ in. outside diameter. Area of firegrate, 13 sq. ft. Weight of engine in working order, 21.18 tons.

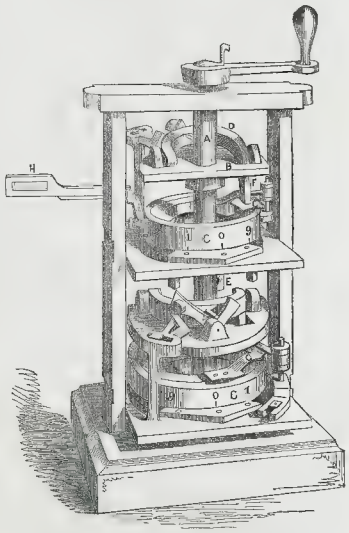
NEW CALCULATING MACHINE.

THIS Calculating Machine which has created great interest in the scientific world, is the invention of Messrs. George and Edward Scheutz, of Stockholm, and is called by them a Tabulating Machine. It calculates any table not requiring more than four orders of differences to fifteen places of figures, and stereotypes the results to eight places of figures, with proper correction for the last figure, besides five places of figures in the argument. The whole machine is about the size of a small square piano.

The calculating portion of the machine, as appears in the front of the Drawing, consists a row of fifteen upright steel axes passing down the middles of five rows (fifteen in each row) of silver-coated numbering-rings, each ring being supported by, and turning concentrically on, its own little brass shelf, which has a hole in it sufficiently large to allow the steel axis to pass through without touching. Round the face of each ring are engraved the ordinary numerals, one of which appears in front at a time; and the numbers shown in any horizontal row of rings are read as in ordinary writing. The first row shows the resulting number or answer to fifteen places of figures, eight places of which the machine stereotypes. The second row of rings expresses the first order of Differences, if necessary to fifteen places of figures; and the third, fourth, and fifth row of rings similarly show the second, third, and fourth orders of Differences. Any row can be made to show and calculate with any numbers expressed according to the decimal scale, such as the number 865543210567 9; the first eight figures of which if in the top row would be stereotyped. Or (by simply changing two perpendicular rows of rings) it can show and calculate with numbers expressed in the sexial system -degrees, minutes, seconds, and decimals of a second—such as 87 deg. 43 min. 24.6873564 02 sec., which result, if it appeared in the upper row of rings, would be stereotyped 87 deg. 43 min. 24.69 sec.

The proper argument to each result is also stereotyped at the same time, and in its proper place. Nothing more is required than to set each row of figure-rings to Differences calculated from the proper formula, and place a strip of sheet lead on the slide of the printing apparatus; when, by turning the handle (to do which requires not so much power as can be exercised by a small turnspit dog), the whole table required is calculated and stereotyped in the lead. By stereotyping in the lead is meant that the strip of lead is made into a beautiful stereotype mould, from which any number of sharp stereotype plates can immediately be produced ready for the ordinary printing-presses. At the usual rate of working, 120 lines per hour of arguments and results are calculated and actually stereotyped ready for the press. The Machine which has been brought to England by Messrs. Donkin, has been kindly shown and explained on several occasions to various scientific persons at the rooms of the Royal Society, by Mr. Gravatt, F.R.S.

The following are the details of the explanatory model:—A is a shaft on which are fixed the stages or platforms B. C C are circular rings on which the indices appear; these rings are in no way attached to the shaft, but are worked by the trigger-pieces (D D), which come into gear with the cogs (E) at the time when the revolution of the shaft brings the tail-piece (F) of the trigger (D) in contact with the rising piece (G) upon the lower ring. It will be seen that, if the shaft still revolves, it will give motion to the ring, and produce the index required. The circular ring (C) has upon it a projecting piece, which, when a carrying operation is required, throws out the switch lever (H), and, by a beautiful contrivance, not shown here, produces the required carriage. It would occupy too much



MESSRS. SCHEUTZ'S NEW CALCULATING MACHINE.—EXPLANATORY MODEL.

space to give a complete idea of the Machine; but what has been given will convey to the reader a general idea of this beautiful invention. The Machine is consigned to the care of Messrs. B. Donkin and Co., engineers, London.

It will be seen by the specimen tables here given, which are from the plates produced by the Calculating Machine itself, how perfectly it does its work. Plate No. 1, represents the Arc to the Sine. Plate No 2, the No. and its Logarithm.

Sin.	Arc.	No.	Log.
230	13 17 49,46	1101	3.0417873
231	13 21 21,43	1102	3.0421816
232	13 24 53,46	1103	3.0425755
233	13 28 25,53	1104	3.0429691
234	13 31 57,66	1105	3.0433623
235	13 35 29,84	1106	3.0437551
236	13 39 02,08	1107	3.0441476
237	13 42 34,36	1108	3.0445398
238	13 46 06,70	1109	3.0449315
239	13 49 39,10	1110	3.0453230

On Monday morning, about ten o'clock, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by Captain the Honourable D. C. F. De Roos and Dr. Becker, inspected the Calculating Machine at the apartments of the Royal Society, at Somerset-house, where the Prince was received by Mr. Gravatt and Mr. Donkin, by whom the Machine was explained to his Royal Highness.

M'CONNELL'S EXPRESS LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE FOR THE PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.

BANKRUPTCY OF STRAHAN, PAUL, AND BATES.

Since the forgeries of Fauntleroy and the flight of Rowland Stephenson, no banking cata trophe in the metropolis has excited so much painful interest, or roused so liv.ly an indignation, as the failure of Strahan and Co. With the exception of the firm of Messrs. Child and Co., it was the oldest establishment of the kind in London, having been founded by Mr. Jeremiah Snow, one of the goldsmiths whose money in the Exchequer was seized by King Charles the Second to the extent of £59,780 18s. 8d. Mr. Lawson, in his "History of Banking," states that he was permitted to inspect the books of this bank kept in the year 1672, which showed that "the nobility of the land were in the habit of frequenting their shop, and borrowing money on the deposit of various gold and silver articles, such as gold and silver tankards, golden thimbles, and other valuables of a miscellaneous, and sometimes comical, description."

The head of the late firm dropped the name of Snow, and took that of Strahan, on receiving a large part of the fortune of his uncle, Mr. Strahan, who had held the patent of King's printer. The constituency of this bank was numerous and opulent, chiefly consisting of the aristocracy, clergy, and members of the legal profession; and implicit confidence was reposed in the prudence and integrity of the partners. They received large deposits in trust; and on these securities they confess to have raised £113,000 by fraudulent sales. As navy-agents they traded under the firm of Halford and Co.; and of course that establishment is involved in the ruin of the bank; though it appears from the proceedings in Basinghall-street that, could the accounts be legally separated, Halford and Co. would be solvent, with a considerable surplus. The total amount of the liabilities is £680,603. The assets are set forth at £160,000 or £170,000; and some £276,000 advanced on foreign railways may be, in part or in the whole, recovered; but on such realisation the creditors will be wise not to place much dependence.

The immense loss to individuals incurred by this failure is not the only evil by which it has been attended: it has shaken confidence in all private banks, and struck a withering blow at mercantile honour. Already many accounts have been transferred to joint-stock banks; and, to allay the panic kindled by suspicion, several of the houses of Lombard-street and its moneyed neighbourhood have invited their constituents to inspect their deposits periodically—the most convincing proof of the terror that has been inspired. This is a wise and honest procedure on the part of those persons, who, conscious of their own rectitude, challenge investigation; and it is one of which the constituents should avail themselves, in justice not only to themselves but to their bankers, whose credit may have been wrongfully impaired by the recent disclosures. It is a false delicacy that does not earnestly respond to this manly invitation. By inspection, public confidence will be restored; justice will be done to trustworthy bankers; and those among the fraternity who are addicted to speculation will be taught a lesson of prudence and restraint. The legitimate business of a banker is to receive and pay money, acting as an agent and accountant to his customers, and he never can be justified in deviating in the least degree from this rigid rule. Strahan and Co. deserve the severest condemnation for advancing cash on foreign railways, for such operations do not fall within the province of banking; and it is evident that, to extricate themselves from the difficulties in which this most culpable course involved them, they fraudulently sold or pawned the securities of their clients, deposited with them for safe custody. Had a periodical supervision or inspection been exercised, they would have been saved from the crimes they have perpetrated.

We ought not to quit this branch of the subject without referring to a fact connected with the failure of Messrs. Remington, Stephenson, and Co., who were suspected in December, 1828; and we specially allude to it that the customers of banks may be induced to make a rigid, not a nominal, inspection of their accounts. The following circumstances are narrated in Mr. Lawson's "History of Banking," p. 252:—

> The mode adopted by Stephenson to deceive his partners with respect to the various deposits of Exchequer Bills was, by having sealed packets with the name and address of the depositor, and amount of Exchequer Bills, endorsed thereon; so that the bankers who examined the state of affairs at the bank, concluding that the actual securities were enclosed in the envelopes, did not examine them further. Had they done so, they would have discovered that the Exchequer Bills had all been abstracted, and slips of paper substituted.

This trick was more base than ingenious, for men of ordinary caution would have broken at least some of the envelopes; but it appears that though five of the principal bankers in London investigated the affairs of Remington, Stephenson, and Co., all of them were completely thrown off their guard, and satisfied with the mere production of fictitious documents. Such was their confidence, or their infatuation, that each of them actually advanced £20,000 on such securities as they found the bank to possess, and made a declaration that they were fully satisfied of the solvency of the house. The consequence was that many persons who had withdrawn their accounts returned them, and ultimately fell victims to the fraud, when Stephenson absconded, and the flat of bankruptcy was issued out against the firm on the 10th January, 1829. We may add to this statement that the guilty man, and his confidential clerk Lloyd, escaped from the hands of justice, and reached Savannah on the 27th of February. The extent of his defalcations at the Bank was £200,000, besides the abstraction of Exchequer Bills to the amount of £70,000. From these facts depositors in banks who intend periodically to inspect their securities may learn a useful lesson; and if any dishonest bankers are still in existence, which we are not willing to suppose, they may be warned by this exposure, which is written in the interests of the public, that they must be prepared with realities, not with fictions.

However painful the confession, however it may wound national pride, it is not to be denied that, at the present period, mercantile honour and the integrity of retail traders are sadly compromised. The failure of Strahan and Co., frightful as it is, does not stand alone in the circle of delinquencies. The case of Davidson and Gordon assumes a character equally hideous as far as good faith is involved; and their liabilities were stated by Sir Peter Laurie, on Tuesday last, to amount to £500,000. In the last number of the *Quarterly Review*, in an article on the adulteration of food, it is shown to be a general practice to vend not only spurious, but in many cases poisonous, ingredients for genuine and wholesome commodities; and this wickedness is even carried to medical drugs, so that the prescriptions of physicians fail to cure, the medicines being too feeble to expel disease. Surely such a crime falls little short of murder. It is gratifying to state that Mr. Scholefield has obtained a Select Committee of the House of Commons to investigate this subject: the honourable member stated that, "if fraud had increased so as to outstep existing legislation, the means of destroying fraud had been still more increased by the knowledge which had been acquired of organic chemistry." All these circumstances show a state of demoralisation which it is appalling to contemplate.

The renewal of the Bank Charter Act, which expires next year, provided Government gives the Bank notice, will afford an opportunity of entering fully into a consideration of the remedial measures which are still required to give stability to our banking institutions, and inspire the public with a wise confidence. We are warned by the cases now pending to prepare for the future without delay, and ripen a sound opinion on the subject before another catastrophe takes us by surprise. It should be borne in mind that the Act of 1844 does not wholly, but only partially, provide for the convertibility of notes into gold; for it enacted, among other provisions, that an aggregate amount of notes circulating through the country during four weeks after the 10th of October, 1843, might still be circulated, without calling on the issuers to hold at command an equivalent amount of bullion—a permission which violated the principle on which the Act was found; that principle affirming that the obligation to pay a pound meant, neither more nor less, the obligation to pay a definite weight of gold of an ascertained fineness. One of the most desolating results of this laxity was the failure of Mr. Rufford's banks, which appear to have been insolvent when the law was passed. His bank at Stourbridge owed £225,000, and paid a dividend of 4s. in the pound; while his Broomsgrove bank owed £227,000, and its assets only yielded 1s. in the pound. We are quite aware that the case of Strahan is very different from that of Rufford, as the former was not a bank of issue: but at a crisis of this description it is the duty of a watchful and independent journal to encourage caution in all departments of banking, and recommend a system impregnable to fraud. As far as possible we should buoy the rock before vessels strike on it and the crews are wrecked. In this spirit, then, of premonition, we would refer to a letter addressed by the first Sir Robert Peel to both Houses of Parliament, on the 3rd of April, 1826, in consequence of the frightful panic of 1825, in which he reminded them that he had advised that all banks should give security to Government, in land, the public funds, or other tangible property, amounting at least to half the value of their bills or notes in circulation. He adds these words:—"My proposition was not favoured with any notice; yet, had it been adopted, I am of opinion that most of the panic and distress now so severely felt in the nation would have been avoided." It is very probable that in these days of routine these remarks of our own may also be disregarded; but it is a consolation to to know that we are endeavouring to fulfil our duty by placing facts before our numerous readers. How many families have been reduced to ruin, how many fair prospects have been blighted, by the frauds of Strahan? Would not these have been avoided if the press long since had advocated the practice of depositors examining their securities? Has not the advice come too late to save the criminals and their victims? The bankers themselves now invite their constituents to examine their securities, and it redounds to their honour to have promptly taken this course; and sure we are that every honest and solvent banker, issuing his own notes, would give security to Government, for such a plan would protect him against a run in all cases of panic, whether they arose from groundless alarm or reasonable apprehension.

PRESBYTERIAN ANNIVERSARY.—THE WAR AND AMERICAN SLAVERY.

On the 21st inst., the two hundred and tenth anniversary of the Provincial Meeting of Presbyterian Ministers of Lancashire and Cheshire was held in Renshaw street Chapel, Liverpool, and in the evening the several clergymen attending above meeting, with many lay-members of the congregation, dined together at the Adelphi Hotel. After the usual loyal toast, the Chairman proposed "Our country: its free institutions, and beneficial progress; may she be moderate and just in the exercise of her power, while ever in sympathy with the modest aspirations of other lands." The sentiment was responded to by the Rev. J. Martineau in a most eloquent speech. With reference to the war he said:

> For my own part I have no hope for the future of the world from any vague trust in the Providence of God apart from the action and exertion of man (Applause). As far as I can understand, there is no Providence of God for the moral concerns of this world, except through the soul and will of man (Hear) This earth is committed to our care; we stand here stewards of God's bounty and Heaight; and if we suppose a state of things will be brought about by submission and fear, by consenting if we refuse to see before us, and expect that something miraculous and supernatural will bring about and restore the right we desire—I believe we shall find ourselves deceived. I am firmly persuaded not merely are our natural, not merely are our intellectual, but our physical forces—God has given us all to be held in trust for those very purposes; and as we wield that force in the case of the policeman to control the disturbers of society at home, so we are bound to wield it equally in the case of the police of all nations to preserve the law of international right (Loud applause).

The Chairman next gave "Civil and Religious Liberty all the world over: and may England and America, the first to start the problem, work together for its solution."

The Rev. W. H. Channing, from the United States, who was called upon to reply, said it was utterly impossible to do justice to so great a theme. Let them, therefore, bear in mind the old Lancashire proverb—"A man cann do what a mann cann, but a mann cann do what a mann cann." After a rapid glance at English history, in which he remarked that "Great Britain had won her three great victories over oppression under the rule of Queens," and that "now when the nation was struggling with the great northern avalanche, and when bristling bayonets were directed to the preservation of European liberty and civilization, it was a bright omen that the name of the Queen of Great Britain should be Victoria." He alluded in eloquent terms to the necessity and value of England and America co-operating, in working out the problem of civil and religious liberty over all the world. The chairman had alluded to the great check upon this liberty in the United States by the institution of slavery. He (Mr. C.) would refer to it only in one word. He would honestly confess the wrong—(hear, hear)—and, having done that, would boldly assert his confidence that that great wrong was in process of being righted (Loud cheers). He looked not upon it with a moment's apprehension. The signs of the times were so critical that every true lover of his country might be shortly called hence to defend his fatherland by her; but, as sure as he was a living man, liberty would have slavery banished from the bounds of the great republic (Cheers). Let people but once acknowledge a great wrong, and then earnest men would be found to make a common sacrifice for a common right, and America would give an example to the world, higher even than that of Great Britain, for the slaves emancipated by Great Britain were not the slaves of their own soil (Loud hear). One word more. Having thus frankly confessed the evil which prevented his country from being true to the principles of civil and religious liberty, he would remind his hearers that Socrates said of the Athenians being which was sent as a gadfly on the side of a generous but sluggish horse—he believed that the best friend of Great Britain would admit that the great wrong acting as a gadfly to her conscience was pauperism! pauperism! (Hear, hear.) It had been said by one of the best writers that pauperism was the dry-rot in the edifice of national prosperity (Hear, hear). There was work while they were fit to do—there was work while they had the strength and the manhood to do it. He had spoken his confidence with regard to America (Hear, hear)—he would take leave to speak equally his confidence in respect to Great Britain. The time had come when the words of Sydney Smith could be no longer applied to her—"This is a land in which pauperism is infamy!" but when it could be said "This is a land famous for not having a pauper within its limits" (Loud cheers).

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS. Monday.

The following bills were severally read a third time and passed:—The Stamp-duties Repeal on Matriculation and Degrees (Ireland) Bill, the Charitable Trusts Bill, the Grants of Lands Bill, the Public Libraries and Museums (Ireland) Bill, the Consolidated Fund (£10,000,000) Bill, and the Spirit of Wine Bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday.

PUBLIC BUSINESS.

Lord Palmerston made a statement on the subject of public business. The Government does not intend to go on this session with the Jurors and Juries (Ireland) Bill, the Grand Jury Assessment Bill, the Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill, the Church Discipline Bill, and the Court of Session (Scotland) Bill. It is intended, should the House approve, to read the Education Bills a second time, and to refer them to a Select Committee. There are some bills coming from the Lords which it is in the power of the House to postpone without inconvenience, four bills of which are the Colonial Bills, the Tenants Compensation (Ireland) Bill, the Ordnance Board Bill, and the Limited Liability Bills.

THE BANGO AFFAIR.

In answer to Captain Duncombe, Sir Charles Wood stated that he had Government the gratifying intelligence from Admiral Dundas that some of the boat's crew at Bango were not killed, and some were not even wounded. The Admiral demonstrated with the Governor of Helsingfors on the subject, and received for answer an excuse for the act, stating that the flag of truce was not seen by the troops on shore, and referring to the reports about soundings having elsewhere been taken under flags of truce. On this subject Sir Charles gave a direct contradiction to the report on the authority of the Captain who was said to have taken the soundings of the Kertch Channel. That officer entirely denied having made use of a flag of truce for that purpose, which, he said, was quite unnecessary, as soundings could be taken at any time. He added that five men and the Finnish captain were killed at Bango; that four of our seamen and two Finns were wounded; in all, the three officers, four seamen, and two Finns were taken prisoners. The wounded man who escaped was doing well.

THE SUNDAY-TRADING BILL.

Mr. Otway asked whether the Government intended to use its influence with Lord Robert Grosvenor to induce him to withdraw his Metropolitan Sabbath Bill?

Lord Palmerston answered that the Government had no desire to interfere in the matter. The House would deal with the bill as it thought best.

THE ATTACK UPON THE REDAN.—LOSS OF THE ENGLISH.

Lord Ebrington, in answer to Mr. Francis Scott, was understood to say that the latest telegraphic despatch gave the number of non-commissioned officers and men killed in the recent operations at 143, the wounded at 1368; officers killed and wounded, 38: in all, killed and wounded, 1528.

REPRESENTATION OF THE CITY.

Mr. T. Duncombe asked whether Baron Rothschild had not forfeited his seat in that House by contracting with the Government for the late loan?

The Attorney General answered that the question was one rather for the House itself than for him. Should Mr. Duncombe bring forward a motion on the subject, he would be ready to tender his advice.

The House then proceeded to consider the Victoria Government Bill in Committee, and passed all the clauses.

The New South Wales Government Bill, and the Waste Lands (Australia) Acts Repeal Bill, also passed the Committee.

After some conversation it was agreed to defer till Monday next the consideration of the course to be taken with the Education Bill.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday.

CONDUCT OF AUSTRIA IN RELATION TO THE ALLIED POWERS.

Lord Lyndhurst rose to call the attention of the House to the Treaty of the 2nd December, 1854, and the recent Conferences at Vienna with reference to the position of Austria in her relation to the Allied Powers. After a preliminary statement of what he had hoped from Austria (or Prussia he never had any hope), Lord Lyndhurst said—I consider the actual position of Austria to be in some degree one of humiliation. The weakness of Austria may be traced to her position—a position which I trace to that lamentable event the partition of Poland, one of the greatest crimes of modern times. By that partition the position of Russia is one of perpetual menace to Germany, and practically as much so to Austria as her position at Sebastopol is one of menace to Turkey. On this account it is clear that Austria runs great risk by taking an open part against Russia, but risks must be incurred when great interests are at stake, nor is it likely the position of Austria will be improved by delay. As regards the past conduct of Austria, I do not feel that we have derived no advantage from it. The large army which she placed in Galicia occupied a corresponding Russian army, but there are symptoms and appearances that lead me to believe that this occupation will not be continued. With respect to Prussia, I believe we owe its support not to the wish of the Government, but to the strong feeling of the people of that country (Hear, hear). With respect to Austria I believe, on the contrary, that the spirit in which the Government has acted has been sincere, earnest, straightforward, has arisen from a deep sense of the conduct of Russia, and a strong sense of her interest in restraining the ambition of that Power. In June, last year, Austria made a demand upon Russia to evacuate the Principalities. At that time the Russians in the Principalities had suffered severely; their army had been decimated by disease, and had been defeated in several encounters by the Turks; they were pursuing at the time, not very successfully, the siege of Silistria, while the Allied troops were concentrating at Varna; there was a large force of fresh troops at Adrianople; and it was under these circumstances that Austria ventured for the first time to make a demand. Russia refused to acquiesce. She abstained from doing anything for a period of several weeks; and at length, when the siege of Silistria was raised, when the Russian army was in retreat, and when the Russian Government had served notice that she would retire behind the Pruth, and there act on the defensive, then, and not until then, did Austria venture to cross the boundary, and take upon her present position in the Principalities. No attempt was made to cross the Pruth after the retreating Russians. The consequence was that the whole of the army of Bessarabia was set free to act against the Allies in the Crimea. Lord Lyndhurst, after considering the conduct of the Austrian soldiers in the Principalities, went on to point out that the treaty of December, as understood by the Allies, pledged Austria to concert armed co-operation with the Allies in case the negotiations failed. What occurred at the close of the negotiations? Count Buol declares in precise terms his opinion upon the proposition made by the Allies, and says that it was a proper and reasonable basis of settlement. He further says that the proposals made on the other side by Russia were wholly insufficient. Nothing could be more clear and distinct than these statements. Russia had, according to the opinion of Count Buol, refused to do that which was reasonable and proper. Austria was, therefore, bound to take active measures. The last proposal of Russia, if accepted, would have left Turkey had already refuted it, and Russia had already refused limitation. Now, my Lords, in what position do we stand? Is the Treaty of the 2nd December not? Is it reminds one of the sailors' "phantom ship"—this shifting and turning in sight and out of sight. I do not imagine that Austria will enter into an actual treaty of neutrality. But I do believe this, that Austria will have a secret understanding with Russia, and withdraw her forces from the frontier; that Russia will do the same, and thus substantially a state of neutrality will be the result. The only Power which gained any advantage in the late negotiations was Russia, for by expressing her attention of adhering to the two first points she had secured the Lesser German States. I don't intend to go into the consideration of the propositions made in the Conferences; but I will say this, that in my opinion, and according to the best of my judgment, none of those propositions were worth aught. The proposed reduction of the power of Russia in the Black sea could never substantially be carried out; it would always be evaded, and the attempts to evade it would lead to continual disputes, which in the end would without doubt involve us in fresh wars. The independence of Turkey was the great object of the war as explained by Lord Aberdeen, yet Mr. Gladstone, Sir J. Graham, and their friends, who lately seceded from Lord Aberdeen's Cabinet, had expressed opinions directly opposed to that independence. I rejoice that they have retired from the Government. They are not suited to the present conjuncture of events. Now, my Lords, what is our duty? Persevere, persevere, persevere. If you had made peace on the terms proposed, not only would you not have attained the object for which the war was undertaken, but you would have disgraced yourselves in the eyes of the world. Character is power. Russia would have ascended in the scale. Among the Eastern nations she would have been considered irresistible; no one would thenceforth have dared to oppose her will. In the West the influence she has acquired in Germany would have increased a hundredfold; the chains of the lesser States there would have been rivetted, and a severe blow would have been struck against civilisation and freedom. I rejoice, therefore, my Lords, that the terms were not acceded to. Now, my Lords, what do I look forward to? I am as sensible as any man can be of the arduous nature of the struggle in which we are engaged, but I feel confident as to the result (Cheers)—not, my Lords, from any vain notion, but on this ground, that, having at the seat of war the command of the sea, we can maintain and support a much larger army than any which can be brought against us (Hear, hear). Under such circumstances I do not fear the result. But, my Lords, what are we to do? I will quote the words of one man of as cool intellect as was ever evinced by a member of this House,—I refer to the late Prime Minister. Those words

are material. "I humbly beg to submit, says the noble Earl, "that i there be one thing more vital than another to the safety and independence of the Turkish empire, and clearly injurious to the power of Russia, it is the destruction of the fortress of Sebastopol; and that, therefore, the next direct object of the war which every end must have had in view from its very commencement was the attack and destruction of Sebastopol." Lord Lyndhurst then referred to the sufferings of the army before Sebastopol, and condemned the failures of the expedition—laying all the blame on the Government, who were absent from the metropolis during the most critical periods of the campaign. Can you be surprised at the indignation which was felt by the people at such conduct on the part of the Government? The noble Earl at the head of the Government, with remarkable candour, said he was not surprised at the feelings of the people. If these events had occurred in the time of the ancient Romans, the people would have looked out for a Dictator. In this instance the nation looked out for some eminent statesman—some man of powerful intellect—to retrieve their disasters, and their voice was in favor of the noble Viscount (Lord Palmerston). How far he has satisfied them I cannot say. But I must remind that noble Lord that he who relies upon popular favour rests upon unstable and often dangerous foundations. I must remind him that the people, like children, are soon, after a certain interval, to break the toys which have pleased them for a time, and that nations suffering under disappointments have been known to destroy the idols on which they rested for support and protection; and I would urge upon him that nothing but the greatest vigour and success can maintain him in his position (Hear, hear).

The Earl of CLARENDON was not aware of any practical utility in the course which his noble friend had adopted, particularly in the severe censures which he had passed upon the proceedings of Austria. At the same time he was glad to observe that his noble friend who passed these censures had adopted a very different course from that which, during the last two years, he had seen adopted both in Parliament and by the press. He was sorry to say that the course so taken had made us many enemies abroad, particularly in Germany, and had caused a good deal of embarrassment. He agreed that Austria would have better consulted her dignity and interest if she had at first adopted a firmer tone and more decided attitude; but she was a great and independent Power, and we had neither the right nor the means of controlling her policy. It was, however, of the utmost importance to secure her alliance, and he saw nothing to lament in the exertions made for this purpose. But the communications to this end had in no way interfered with or retarded our military or naval preparations. On the contrary, the Duke of Newcastle, long before the Vienna negotiations began, wrote to Lord Raglan in the first week of January, telling him not to relax his efforts, as the negotiations might be accelerated by a vigorous prosecution of the war, and nothing would so much tend to bring them to a successful conclusion as a great military success. He contended there were really no grounds for doubting the sincerity of Austria. She had made great sacrifices by increasing her army, at an expense of no less than £60,000,000 sterling. Another proof of her sincerity was to be found in the letters of congratulation from the Emperor to the Emperor of the French, on the occasion of the Allies' successes in the Crimea. But when the Conference had ended, the Government thought the time had arrived when Austria should be called upon to fulfil her engagement under the Treaty of December. Her answer, however, was that we had not agreed to the other proposals she had made for giving effect to the third basis, and that there were other modes of settling the question. As regarded the position of France and England, they were now disengaged from the late bases of negotiation, and freed from all parts connected therewith them. In any future negotiations they would insist only on such precise terms as they might think most advantageous to themselves and their ally.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH thought the ill judged expedition to the Crimea had paralysed the natural bias of Austria towards the Allies, by withdrawing from her neighbourhood the force upon which the night have relied in the event of a rupture with Russia. She was thus forced to adopt a temporising policy.

After some observations from the Duke of Argyll, Lord Denman, the Marquis of Clanricarde, and Earl Granville, the subject dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

The House went into Committee on the Metropolis Local Management Bill, the remaining clauses of which were agreed to with amendments.

Mr. ROEBUCK postponed from the 3rd of July to the 10th his motion founded upon the report of the Sebastopol Committee.

SUNDAY TRADING.

In reply to a question from Mr. Otway, Sir G. GREY said he was not responsible for the Sunday Trading Bill, but he would state his opinion on certain amendments when the bill should again come under consideration of the House.

In reply to a question from Mr. Massey, Lord R. GROSVENOR said he would press the Sunday Trading Bill, and it would be for the House to adopt it, or otherwise, as it might think proper

REPRESENTATION OF THE CITY.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE moved "that Mr. Speaker do issue his warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a new writ for the electing of a citizen to serve in this present Parliament for the city of London, in the room of Baron Lionel Nathan de Rothschild, who, since his election for the said city, has entered into a contract for the public service."

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL did not admit the case of Mr. J. W. Harvey, who had accepted the office of Registrar of Hackney Carriages, in which the matter was referred to a Select Committee, and advised a similar proceeding in the case of Baron Rothschild, as doubts existed whether contracts for loans were not exceptional. He therefore moved, as an amendment, that the contract entered into by the Baron be referred to a Select Committee to consider and report whether such contract did not render his seat in the House of Commons void.

Mr WALPOLE seconded the amendment

Sir E. LIBERIAN saw no necessity for a Committee, for he did not think that either lawyer or layman could entertain the slightest doubt that Baron Rothschild by accepting the contract had vacated his seat.

Lord J. RUSSELL supported the amendment, and said that many hon. members of that House had contracted for loans without vacating their seats; and this proved that the point was at least doubtful

Mr. M. GIBSON thought it likely that all the members of that House who had taken parts in the loan were similarly compromised as far as regarded their seats; and, not seeing clearly his way, he would support the amendment.

After some further discussion, Mr. T. DUNCOMBE withdrew his motion, and the amendment was put and agreed to.

THE SUNDAY BEER BILL.

Mr. H. BERKELEY, in moving for a Select Committee to inquire into the Act of last session for Regulating the Sale of Beer and Other Liquors on the Lord's-day, enlarged upon the difficulties which the bill threw in the way of those who sought recreation by leaving town on the Sunday, unless they were clothed in broadcloth and attended by servants. It operated most unfairly against the poor, while the rich were put to no inconvenience whatever. He referred to the contrary decisions come to by police magistrates as to the meaning of the bona-fide travel clause, which he placed in an amusing point of view; and some of those decisions, he said, justified him in saying that no Russian serfs could be worse treated than were licensed victuallers by the tyrannical decisions of the magistrates in such cases. The bill might have checked drunkenness in public-houses, though that was doubtful; but it had increased it in lanes and corners, and thus created a greater amount of immorality.

Mr. CORBETT seconded the motion, contending for the necessity of an inquiry, and requesting Mr. W. Patten, who was called the father of the bill, to give a definition of the words "bonâ fide travelling."

Sir G. GREY, although he could not agree in all that had fallen from Mr. Berkeley, yet he would give his consent to the inquiry on the part of the Government, thinking it desirable that the conflicting opinions regarding the operation of the bill should be brought to the test, and also that some mode should be devised of setting at rest the conflicting opinions respecting the "bonâ-fide travellers" clause.

Mr. BRADY had last year warned Mr. W. Patten that the bill would not give satisfaction, and that he would find it impracticable to put a stop to drunkenness by legislation.

Mr. W. PATTEN was favourable to inquiry, and if it could be proved that the bill had increased instead of decreasing drunkenness he would support its repeal.

After some observations from Mr. Wilkinson, Sir J. Walsh, and other honourable members, the motion was agreed to.

EXTENSION OF THE SUFFRAGE.

Major REED moved for leave to bring in a bill for conferring the elective franchise upon persons (not being aliens) who are assessed to the Income-tax, but are not upon a register of electors for any part of Great Britain and Ireland.

UNFAIR TAXATION.

General WYNDHAM brought under the consideration of the House the state of the supply of troop and artillery horses, and the effect of the duties levied on stage-carriages and omnibuses in diminishing the supply of useful and seasoned horses suitable for the service, and in discouraging the breed of horses generally; and moved that, in the opinion of the House, the laws relating to the assessment of duties on stage-carriages in England, Scotland, and Wales should be modified. He said that the Government had, in some instances, reduced the duty from 1½d. to 1d. a mile. Thus, on twenty omnibuses, this reduction was granted to Messrs. Chaplin and Horne, and also to the Messrs. Greenwood, of Manchester, while the rest of the trade were left to the ruin incident upon a hopeless competition against such an overwhelming advantage. The trade asked only to be placed on a footing with their more favoured rivals

Sir J. SHELLEY, in seconding the motion, dwelt upon the unfair burden of taxation thrown upon stage-carriages, amounting to 15 per cent, as compared with the 2½ per cent paid by railways.

Mr. BROTHERTON said the reduction to the Manchester proprietors was advantageous to the public as well as to the revenue.

Lord R. GROSVENOR complained of the extraordinary proceeding on the part of the Chancellor of the Exchequer of reducing the duty to some parties, while maintaining it as against the trade in general.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER was not aware that the duty operated prejudicially to the breed of horses for the cavalry forces, and contended that the pressure on the stage-carriage trade was not to be attributed to the mileage duty, but to the high price of horses and forage, the competition of steam-boats, and the increase in the number of cabs owing to the reduction of the fares. If he were about to submit a new budget, the mileage duty would be entitled to a prominent place in it. The reduction of the duty to one penny would imply a sacrifice of revenue to the extent of £60,000 per annum.

Mr. DISRAELI wanted to know why the right honourable gentleman had modified the tax in Manchester, and had refused to modify it generally?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said the Board of Inland Revenue had given the abatement to the Manchester omnibuses because they had to compete with an iron railway.

Mr. WALPOLE indignantly commented upon this proceeding, and hoped upon this ground alone the motion would be agreed to.

Mr. WILCOX said the Board of Inland Revenue acted in accordance with a power given them to modify the stage duties in certain cases.

Mr. E. ELLICE, jun., recommended the Chancellor of the Exchequer to agree to the motion.

Lord PALMERSTON said the modifications were made by the Board of Inland Revenue without consulting the Treasury, and, as it was plain the Government would have the assent of the House—(Shouts of laughter)—to the modification of the duty, he would not oppose the motion.

The motion was then agreed to.

Mr. SCHOLEFIELD moved for a Select Committee on the adulteration of food, drinks, and drugs.

Sir G. GREY assented to the motion, which was agreed to.

Mr. I. BUTT proposed leave to bring in a bill to regulate the employment of females and young persons under eighteen in bleaching, finishing, and dyeing works.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The Marquis of BLANDFORD moved the second reading of the Formation of Parishes Bill. A short discussion took place, and ultimately, on the suggestion of Sir G. Grey, the bill was withdrawn.

MAYNOOTH COLLEGE.

The debate, adjourned from May 1st, was resumed by Mr. MAGUIRE, who said it was not the fault of the Catholic members of that House that the debate dragged its slow length along. The hon. member for North Warwickshire had been appealed to to withdraw his motion, but he had refused to do so, and had expressed his determination to go to a division He thought that, so far from the grant to Maynooth being withdrawn, it should be liberally extended to Protestants as in a miserably dilapidated condition. So surely as Parliament withdrew the grant, a tremendous agitation would spring up, and down would go the Established Church.

Captain STUART considered that, as it was wicked to propagate a religion which we believed to be idolatrous, the House should at once withdraw the grant

Mr. J. B. STANHOPE brought many charges against the Roman Catholic clergy in reference to their interference with late elections.

Mr. V. O'BRIEN defended the Catholic body from the charge of disloyalty which had been made against it, as well as from the charge of undiffidence and opposition to the Scriptures I was idle to suppose that the House would put down Popery in Ireland by withholding the grant.

While the hon. member was speaking the clock pointed to a quarter to six, when the debate was adjourned.

MUSIC.

THE eighth and last concert, for this season, of the PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY took place on Monday evening. The programme did not present a single article of novelty, every piece which it contained, vocal and instrumental, being well known to the musical world. Probably the concert (as we have occasion to observe on other occasions) was all the better on this account; for, in the present state of musical composition, no new works appear which approach in excellence the standard productions of earlier times. The symphonies were Spohr's third, in C minor, and Beethoven's fourth, in B flat; and the overtures were Mendelssohn's "Midsumer Night's Dream" and Weber's "Oberon." Hummel's Pianoforte Concerto in A flat was played with consummate excellence by Pauer. Mdlle. Emilie Krall sang, in German, the great scena from the "Freischütz," best known by its English words "before my eyes behold him." Miss Dolby gave Haydn's pathetic "Spirit Song;" and the two ladies joined in the duet, "Della Mosa," from the "Prophète." The performance of these fine pieces was as admirable as their selection was judicious; and the whole concert was received with every mark of cordial approbation.

SIGNOR PIZZI had his annual benefit on Tuesday evening at the St. James's Theatre, when a miscellaneous concert was followed by the "Barbiere di Siviglia." The concert consisted of well-known Italian and French vocal pieces, sung by Madame Clara Novello, Madame Amedei, M. Gassier, Signors Burdini, Belletti, and Ciabatta. M. Ascher played, with great excellence, a fantasia on the Irish melodies, of his own composition. The "Barbiere di Siviglia" was performed as at Drury Lane Madame Gassier being *Rosina*, Signor Bettini *Count Almaviva*, and M. Gassier *Figaro*. The whole entertainments of the evening were received with great favour by a crowded audience.

AT the meeting of the MUSICAL UNION, on Tuesday morning, much interest was created by the appearance of Mrs. Joseph Robinson, a most accomplished young pianiste, who performed, with Ernst, Beethoven's beautiful Sonata in F for the Piano and Violin, and charmed everybody present by the brilliant, graceful, and expressive manner in which she executed it. Mrs. Robinson, who was formerly known to the English public by her maiden name of Arthur, made her début a few seasons ago in Dublin, where she had great success, and soon afterwards became the wife of Mr. Robinson, an eminent musical professor of that city. She has established in Dublin a regular series of classical concerts similar to those of the Musical Union; and has also made herself favourably known by the publication of several very elegant compositions for the pianoforte. At the last concert Moscheles, Cooper, Hill, and Piatti performed Spohr's Quartet in E flat, Op. 58, and Beethoven's Quartet in E minor, Op. 59; and Mrs. Robinson played Chopin's Scherzo in B flat minor. The whole concert was of a most refined and classical character, and every piece was warmly applauded by a crowded assemblage. Meyerbeer was present, and on being recognised was greeted with a general burst of applause. The illustrious *maestro* has arrived in London for the purpose of superintending the rehearsals of "L'Etoile du Nord," which, it is understood, will be produced the week after next.

THE THEATRES, &c.

OLYMPIC.—Mrs. Stirling returned to this theatre on Friday week, having recovered from her long and severe indisposition. She performed *Lady Teazle* in the "School for Scandal;" Mr. Wigan giving a new reading of *Joseph Surface*—thus once for all, we hope, delivering the character from the mechanical routine of stage personation, and restoring it to that place in human individualities which alike secures its originality and truth Mr Robson, as the Jew merchant, Abednego, demonstrated how a minor character can make a great part of a short one, and throw much variety into a small space. The evening was devoted to Mr. Wigan's benefit; on which occasion a large portion of the pit was converted into stalls, an arrangement that excited a violent demonstration of dissatisfaction among the audience.

HAYMARKET.—We are glad to find that Mr. Buckstone has resolved on conceding to dramatic authorship one of its ancient privileges—that of an "Author's Night." Mr. John Saunders, at Mr. Buckstone's suggestion, will accordingly take his benefit on the author's success appears to us one the reintroduction of which is highly desirable.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION AT AMSTERDAM. The science of photography is now assuming such universal dimensions that we find the large cities and towns on the Continent are following the example set by London in holding their "Expositions Photographiques." At the recent exhibition at Amsterdam we were pleased to remark that M. Claudet and Mr. Maxwell Lyte received each the first-class silver medal, only fifteen of which, and twenty-six in bronze, were awarded amongst the numerous competitors.

THE SILENT MEMBER. (No. XXIII.)

THE tendency of modern legislation to attempt to make men moral by Act of Parliament has received a check from some proceedings which took place on Sunday last in Hyde-park. A large number of persons belonging to the humbler classes met, professedly, for the purpose of noticing how the higher classes observed the Sabbath; and the assembled crowd uttered discordant yells, by way of protest, as well-dressed persons in private carriages passed along the drive. This proceeding has been praised by some of the papers, on the old principle—or no principle—that one wrong justifies another wrong; and that, if the rich won't let the poor enjoy their Sunday, the poor ought not to let the rich enjoy theirs. This system, if carried out to the utmost, would end in everybody attempting to destroy the happiness of everybody else. Besides its other inconveniences, the plan has the bad effect of punishing the innocent as well as the guilty; for the probability is that the majority of those who were hooted and annoyed on Sunday last were unfavourable to the Sunday Bill, and opposed to restricting the harmless enjoyments of the people in the least degree. The affair is wholesome as an indication of public feeling, but it is not very satisfactory as an indication of popular judgment, though it is probable that by the majority of the working classes the mode adopted for expressing a general opinion will be condemned. "Live and let live" is the maxim usually acted on by the humbler classes in this country, who look with pleasure rather than envy on the gaieties of the rich as long as they have the means of subsistence and very moderate recreation for themselves It is right that the wealthy should reciprocate this good feeling, and not convert it into an opposite sentiment, by an undue interference with the enjoyments of the people, which are already so limited as to require to be expanded rather than contracted on almost every side

The Sunday Trading Bill is already unpopular, and not without reason, for it is intended as a piece of class legislation, which will not do in these days. It may be true enough that in some clubs very little wine is sold on Sunday; but there is one law for the rich and another for the poor as long as the member of the club can purchase, if he pleases, what the working man is not able to procure. If the consumption of wine or spirits in clubs on Sundays is insignificant, it is because the members are prevented, by education, from intemperance; and education is the only legitimate remedy for the evil among all classes of society. It would seem, from a discussion in the House of Commons on Tuesday evening, that nobody is willing to take the responsibility of the Sunday Trading Bill, though no one with the power to put a stop to it has the courage to come forward and oppose it with such influence as would cause the bill to be thrown out or withdrawn. The Government, which might easily put a quietus on the measure, leaves the House to deal with it; and Lord Robert Grosvenor will not abandon his production, though he shows something of the spirit, or want of spirit, of Frankenstein, in looking on the monster he has made. It is evident, however, that the framers and supporters of the bill have not their hearts in the cause; and, without the moral courage to admit a failure, they have not the confidence necessary to lead to success. It may be expected, therefore, that the obnoxious measure, which is already half disowned by its parent, and repudiated by its supposed friends, will perish for want of support.

It is strange that the men who are continually engaged in making the laws are frequently found asking the meaning of the laws they have made. It is hardly fair to the Attorney-General to call upon him to tell the House of Commons what it meant by its own acts, when, on the contrary, it should be for the House to declare its own intentions when any ambiguity has arisen. Sir Alexander Cockburn was placed the other night in a rather embarrassing position by being asked to interpret a statute which prohibits a Government contractor from occupying a seat in Parliament. The Act seems clear enough; but an attempt was made to throw on the Attorney-General all the responsibility of saying whether it should be carried out. Scarcely any one denied that the meaning of the Act was obvious; but many honourable members argued that it ought not to be put in force, because it had been for some years neglected. This may or may not be a good reason for repealing it, but can be no reason for allowing it to remain on the Statute book as a dead letter, to be perused, but not used. No law should be allowed to exist in feebleness if it is not to be put in force. It is obvious that if Acts of Parliament are to remain in abeyance, instead of being repealed, they may be converted by a bad Government into instruments of injustice, by being brought suddenly into operation to serve some particular end In addition to this objection there is the fear that the laxity manifested in reference to a bad law may be justified in reference to a good law, and it is dangerous, as well as unconstitutional, to allow the Government to have the power of selection as to the laws that are to be disregarded or carried into effect. Let the Legislature, if it pleases, suspend the operation of a law for a given period, or repeal it altogether; but nothing can be more unsatisfactory than to retain in the Statute-book an Act of Parliament that is not intended to be put in operation when the circumstances to which it is applicable happen to arise.

Everybody is talking of the failure of the banking-house whose partners have already appeared at Bow-street, for unlawfully disposing of securities entrusted to them for safe custody. As the affair is *sub judice*, it would not be proper to make the criminal charge the subject of comment, though the newspapers are freely performing the office of a jury without hearing the evidence, and pronouncing the accused guilty, of everything—and, indeed, more than everything with which they stand charged. It may, however, be allowable to suggest that of any parties have received any of the misapplied securities, under circumstances that would have naturally led to suspicion as to the honesty of the transaction, there is as much moral, if not as much legal, guilt in accepting as in transferring the property that has been misapplied. Of course, if the pawning of the securities was thought to be a fair and legitimate transaction, these remarks cannot apply to anybody; but, if a man brings me an article which I think he has no right to pawn or sell, and I either lend money on it or purchase it, I am not much better than himself. As these securities are said to have been parted with and pledged to a frightful extent, it may be worth while in the interest of public justice to inquire whether any of the various parties into whose hands they have fallen had reasonable cause for suspecting that all was not right. The law has a wholesome provision for the punishment of those who are proved to have or to have had possession of property that may be reasonably suspected to have been stolen or unlawfully obtained, and marine-store dealers are constantly being sent to prison for the possession of all sorts of articles that they might have supposed to have been unfairly come by on the part of the persons offering them for sale. Surely the sort of property dealt with by the delinquent bankers should be as much protected as old brass, old iron, or other metal of trifling value; and the marine-store dealers of the moneyed world, if any such there be, should be called upon to show the *bona fides* of their transactions when found in possession of articles of great value that have been dishonestly dealt with by the persons to whom they were confided as a sacred trust. Every calamity has its compensation, of which society gets the benefit, though individuals may suffer. The late lamentable disclosures, and the ruin that has resulted from them, will at all events have the good effect of warning the public against trusting too much to "respectable" appearances; and a still better result will be accomplished if a check is given to a system which is supposed to be rather prevalent, even among men of high standing in the mercantile world, of making advances on goods of which the parties pawning them cannot honestly dispose.

"[illegible]"—PAINTED BY A. SOLOMON.—EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY [illegible]

"THE LAST DAY OF HARVEST—THE ROMAN CAMPAGNA."—PAINTED BY ALFRED FRIPP.—EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS. (SEE NEXT PAGE)

"A CONTRAST." BY MR. A. SOLOMON.

FROM THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

MR. SOLOMON has chosen the explanatory motto for his picture of "A Contrast," engraved in our present Number, in these words:—

Will Fortune never come with both hands full?
* * * * *
Such are the poor in health; such are the rich,
That have abundance and enjoy it not.

His picture forms No. 555 of the Middle Room of the present Royal Academy Exhibition, and, much to the discredit of the Hanging Committee, is hung, as we have already had occasion to observe) too much above the line of sight to be seen to ordinary advantage.

His motto very ill explains his picture. It is said, indeed, that he himself had considerable difficulty in determining what name he should give it, and it was not until the last moment that the present title was adopted. It would seem at first sight that a suitable name was a very easy matter. Look at the picture in our Engraving, and see (at first sight) if it is not. How admirably are the two stories told in this well-balanced picture—you see at once what the aim of the artist has been, and how completely he has carried it out. Here we have the pleasures of hope and the pleasure of health, and yet no one name that Mr. Solomon's friends have selected for his adoptum suits his picture. But art speaks all languages, and the spectator feels that he does not want words to tell him the story of Mr. Solomon's single contribution to the Academy.

If Mr. Solomon failed in satisfying the Hanging Committee of the Academy that his picture possessed merits that demanded a better recognition at their hands, he has not failed in satisfying Mr. Ruskin that his picture merited a better position on the walls of the Academy. "It is difficult," writes Mr. Ruskin, "to see this picture, at the height at which it is placed; but it seems to me better than most of its class in the rooms; and the face of the invalid is very beautiful."

Mr. Solomon is a young, conscientious, and promising painter, of whom England has every reason to be proud. He does not set about a picture as if he were undertaking an easy matter, a mere holiday task. It is easy to see that he is telling a story that he has weighed well, and that every part is the result of careful consideration harmoniously adjusting itself to the whole of the composition. He has looked on nature (there is no doubt of this) with a scrutinising eye; is too honest and painstaking to trust to a retentive memory; but places himself before the very things he is anxious to represent. The distant sea of the picture is exquisitely truthful, and the very breeze that passes over the foreground seems to be adding fresh colour to the cheeks of the beautiful invalid, who looks with hope at the healthy faces and active figures of the group of fish girls that support the right of the composition. Here, in Mr. Solomon's "Contrast," is a picture that will stand the test of Mr. Curistie's hammer.

"THE LAST DAYS OF HARVEST THE ROMAN CAMPAGNA."—BY ALFRED FRIPP.

FROM THE OLD WATER-COLOUR SOCIETY.

THE Bristol people are fond (and with reason) of the Fripps. The merchant princes of the west, who neglected Savage and Chatterton, and suffered Bard of Bristol to pass from among us with very little encouragement, are properly and penitently proud of Mr. Baily, the sculptor of "Eve," and of Alfred and George Fripp, of the Old Society of Painters in Water-Colours. And Bristol has every reason to be proud of the Fripps, ornaments as they most unquestionably are to our English School of Water-Colour Art.

During the past year Mr. George Fripp has been in Essex and Argyleshire, but Mr. Alfred Fripp has extended his range of study, and sought subjects with success in Rome. It is with the latter, however, that we have this week to deal.

Mr. Alfred Fripp has sent five contributions to the Old Water-Colour Society:—1. "A Vegetable-seller—Naples;" 2. "Going Home—Woman from the Mountains of Subiaco;" 3. "The Vintage, a Sketch;" 4. "Peasants of Olevano Returning from Labour;" and 5. "The Last Day of Harvest—The Roman Campagna." The latter we have engraved for our paper of this week.

The names of these five pictures suggest at once to the many admirers of Mr. Alfred Fripp the peculiar excellences they are likely to possess. All are masterly in point of conception and execution, and all provoke honorable comparison in the same line of art with the productions of Mr. P. Williams and Mr. Thomas Uwins. Mr. Fripp fully maintains his name for excellence with the two favourites with whom he must necessarily be compared. If anything, Mr. Fripp has a superiority over his predecessors in point of freedom of execution. He is no timid artist. It is not necessary to tell Mr. Fripp, what Vandyck was fond of insisting as absolutely necessary, "Be bold—be bold."

DEAD LARK, IN RELIEVO LEATHER-WORK.

IN the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of July 3, 1852, we drew attention to the novel and ingenious accomplishment occupying the attention of ladies in the fashionable circles, of modelling in leather; and we engraved a very elegant specimen of this elaborate fancy work, in the form of a bracket, ornamented with vine-leaves and grapes. We explained in our notice of this tasteful bracket that the relievo leather-work could be applied to picture-frames, baskets, fire-screens, vases, and, in fact, to every kind of article imitative of the most finished wood-carving; but we certainly did not anticipate that the artiste who executed this bracket could have attained the perfection she displays in a Dead Lark, now on view at Messrs Banting and Son's, 27, St. James's-street.

This bird—the whole of which has been cut, carved, and chiselled out of leather—has won the admiration, not only of the fairer portion of the creation, but also of eminent artists, who have pronounced it to be a superior work of art. The lark is extended on the back lifeless on a mound, with wings outstretched, and the feet and legs drawn up from the last struggle. The *pose* is remarkably effective, and the artiste has evidently closely copied nature in the attitude. What particularly strikes every observer is the accuracy with which every minute feather is depicted. The mound, which is also composed of leather, equally attracts attention, by the correct and finished details in the fern leaves, ivy, &c. There is another attractive evidence of the relievo leather-work, by the same clever artiste—namely, a Roman Bacchanal chariot, with a group of fruit, consisting of a pine, grapes, apple, filberts, ornamented with vine-leaves, to be seen at Dalton's, in Rathbone-place, showing the variety of ways in which this most useful accomplishment can be applied. The relievo leather work of the present date is, however, by no means a modern invention; it is simply a resuscitation of the most ancient mode in which women employed their time. The dried and died skins of animals were used in the construction of the Tabernacle, and leather modelling is referred to frequently in Holy Writ. The Egyptians were well acquainted with the art, as may be perceived at the British Museum, where figures in embossed leather, supposed to be the oldest in existence, and dating more than 800 years before Christ, will be found in the Egyptian Room. The Dead Lark is well worthy the inspection of every lady with "nimble fingers" who desires to apply leather modelling to ornamentation and decoration.

THE QUEEN OF SPAIN AND HER MINISTERS.—In the Privy Council held yesterday at Arnujuez the Duke de la Victoria spoke very seriously to the Queen respecting her wish to go to La Granja, expressing his regret that she should continue to take counsel of others than her constitutional advisers, of persons by whose machinations her throne and even her life had been endangered, and said that it was the decided opinion of her Ministers that she ought not to go to La Granja. The Queen urged the health of her child, and declared that that alone was what she thought of, but that she knew it had been said she intended to escape from La Granja. The reply to this was, that the welfare of the nation was to be considered even before that of the Princess, that the Ministers knew very well that her Majesty had no such intention as that which she believed to have been attributed to her, but that Espartero's desire for her safety rendered him most averse to be separated from her by so great a distance as that from La Granja to Madrid—which latter place is 18, of course, out of the question that he should at present leave. These are the principal points of what passed upon that subject. The result is, that the Queen is expected in Madrid this evening at six o'clock. It is not probable that she will remain here all the summer, but will probably seek refuge from the great heat (when it comes) at the Pardo, which is but two leagues off. Under present circumstances it is here generally considered that it would have been highly imprudent and improper that she should be allowed to take up her residence at a place comparatively so remote as La Granja.—*Letter from Madrid, June 18.*

The former Ministers of Russia at London and Paris, Baron Brunnow and M. de Kisseleff, are about to receive a new mission. The former, it is said, will be the accredited representative of Russia at Hesse-Darmstadt and to the Frankfort Diet; M. Kisseleff will go to Rome and Florence, replacing M. de Bojetsaeff, who returns to Russia as a Member of the Council of the Empire.

HOAXES ON 'CHANGE.

PERHAPS the mere fact of the construction of a line of telegraph three thousand miles long would not now-a-days be a subject of very great wonder; it is the importance of this mode of communication having become an indispensable adjunct to the prosecution of such a war as we are engaged in that excites our astonishment. Before we were six months old in the mighty struggle, we found it impossible to get on without calling to our aid the two most remarkable inventions of modern times the railway and the telegraph; and the facility with which both were constructed, the enterprise and perseverance which first planned and then carried them into execution afford a bright example of the ability of the Western world.

In a few hours we learn what is taking place at the seat of war, and we are thus placed in a position promptly to meet any difficulty, or supply a want, or take advantage of a success. But we fancy there is another good it will produce—and that is the annihilation of that system of political hoaxing so rife during the period of the last war. Looking at the slow means of communication, and the difficulty of obtaining intelligence at that time, and comparing it with the almost instantaneous flash by which it can reach us now-a-days; considering, moreover, that the Government has it in its power to verify every item of news which reaches it through the medium of a cipher known only to those in authority; looking, too, at all the precautions that have been and will be taken to prevent imposture, we may hope that the days of this species of hoaxing are fairly at an end, and that we have only now to recur to them as the curiosities of a past age. The electric telegraph, therefore, we repeat, will produce this subsidiary benefit; it will, no doubt, effectually destroy those opportunities for coining false intelligence, which, in a moment, made one man's fortune, and marred another's, and which oftentimes puzzled both the Government and the people, leading them to doubt even the truth, when the truth came.

This species of lying grew at one period into a perfect science: schemes were planned with all the dramatic sequence of a well-constructed comedy, in which the actors were often as numerous as in a stage play, and the parts they had to perform as various; and of which "men in high places" did not sometimes disdain to be the authors, dividing their *droits d'auteur*—or, more properly speaking, the spoil—with subordinates of the lowest stamp. False news was frequently concocted by members of Parliament; forged letters from abroad were handed about, or inserted in the newspapers, with a view to propagate some fiction; and every art was practiced to obtain the first inkling of any news, whether true or false. The servants of men in office were said to be in the pay of the great speculators in the Funds, and even the wives of Ministers were supposed to have been the willing instruments, for "value received," of those to whom a piece of fresh intelligence was worth thousands.

The most favourite fiction was the rumour of the death of Bonaparte. In 1804 a despatch was received by the Prime Minister, Lord Grenville, giving an account of his assassination by one of the wild chiefs of the Desert, and detailing the circumstances with all the minuteness of the most perfect narrative. The chief, it was said, had professed attachment to him, until an opportunity offered, when, on a signal being given, numerous tribes had set upon Napoleon and his followers, and cut them to pieces. This flimsy story remained current for a considerable time, owing, of course, to the want of ready communication, and the impossibility, therefore, of its being speedily contradicted or confirmed; church bells were set ringing for joy; no doubts were entertained as to the authenticity of the story; and the Funds rose proportionally. The originators of the forged despatch were never publicly declared, nor does a thorough inquiry seem to have been pressed; it was merely hinted at the time that they were "two State speculators" and one or two "members of the Lower House." On one occasion (1805) Lord Moira, a member of the Cabinet during Lord Grenville's Administration, was definitely accused of using his official information for the purpose of speculating in the Funds. His accuser was a clerk in the Bank of England; but it does not appear that he was able to substantiate his allegation; and the matter dropped, after having excited considerable attention.

The frequency with which the game was played of reporting the death of Napoleon Bonaparte naturally induces an expression of wonder that so stale a trick came at last to be believed at all, or to have the slightest effect upon the Funds. Yet we find it the stock piece of intelligence up to almost the last year of the war. Early in 1814 large purchases were made in Consols and Omnium for the *Account*—that is to say, for a future settling day. The persons making these purchases were not known to the brokers as speculators, having been purposely selected for that reason. The first act of the drama having been thus performed, it only remained to proceed to the second. Accordingly, one morning, there landed at Dover from an open boat some persons wearing the uniform of "French officers" (so the story goes, though why dressed as French officers we do not clearly see), who immediately proceeded to an inn there, and ordered a post-chaise and four to be got ready, that they might proceed to London with the utmost dispatch. They *accidentally* let fall the purport of their mission, which was to communicate the death of Bonaparte. The news spread like wildfire; some persons rushed to the semaphore station, near Dover, with the intention of having the news telegraphed to London; but the day happened to be very foggy, and it was found impossible to transmit the important intelligence to the next station. This failure in the working of the telegraph was a severe blow to the schemers, who had calculated upon its conveying the story not only with celerity, but clothed with all the semi-authority of an official mode of communication. They therefore started at once in the post-chaise and four, dashing into the towns at every stage of their journey, with all the appearance of the utmost dispatch, ordering fresh horses with the greatest *empressement*, and dropping hints as they passed, of the astounding intelligence they were carrying to head-quarters. In this way they reached the suburbs of London, when the drivers were ordered to stop, the pseudo French officers got out of the chaise, and, after dismissing it, walked quietly to a lodging close by to divest themselves of their masquerade. Their part in the drama had been played, and those who had originated the scheme had therefore merely to watch the effect of their plans.

In a short time the news of the death of Bonaparte reached the Stock Exchange, and, like the snowball—*vires acquirit eundo*—the story had lost nothing in detail from the distance it had travelled. Numerous particulars came to be added to the original bare *fact*, until almost every man was ready to vouch for each minor detail of his version, and to contribute his quotum of "further intelligence," and "latest news." The Funds rose, as a matter of course, but not so rapidly or so high as the plotters of the trick had reason to calculate upon, considering that, during the latter part of Bonaparte's career, prices frequently varied from 8 to 10 per cent in an hour. Some of the more prominent dealers in the market doubted the authenticity of the report, and hung back accordingly. Nevertheless, the stock which had been bought for the speculation was sold out at a good profit before the falsehood of the report was discovered. When it

In the rapidity of obtaining intelligence private enterprise has always managed to outstrip the Government. One would naturally suppose that, with all the means and appliances at the beck of a department of the Administration, whatever was desired could be done more effectively than it could possibly be within the scope of an individual to achieve. Yet such has never hitherto been the case; and in the conduct of the present war we have seen instances in which both time and money might have been saved by entrusting to the enterprise of individuals what a Government failed to effect. During the last war it was surely within the power of a Ministry, by paying liberally, to acquire the earliest information; and yet, it is said, that Rothschild knew of the victory at Waterloo *some days* before it was made public, and in July, 1830, he was the first to announce the Paris Revolution to Lord Aberdeen.

The man who, perhaps the earliest, saw the advantage and profit to be derived from immediate intelligence of events, was Sir Henry Furnese, a Director of the Bank of England in the time of William III. He established a complete train of communication throughout the Continent; and, in his means of intelligence, and his modes of operating on the Money-market, he may be said to have been the pattern which Rothschild followed at a more distant period. Yet even Furnese, with all his means of correct information, very often acted on, or promulgated, false news, and, it is said, the temptation to gain not unfrequently led him into insinuating the fiction first, that he might afterwards profit by the publication of the truth when he chose to let it out.

In the reign of Anne, Medina, a Jew of great wealth, was one of those who spent immense sums in gaining intelligence from abroad. Not content with maintaining agents or correspondents in various places, he himself accompanied Marlborough in all his campaigns, and actually paid to the avaricious Duke (who was proverbially greedy of money) £6000 per annum for the permission; repaying himself by transmitting, express, the first news of any victory, or other circumstance of importance. His profits must certainly have been enormous to have sanctioned so great a cost.

In many of the hoaxes played by speculators in the Funds, there appears very great similarity; as though either the subject would not permit of great variety, or the sets of the schemers was inferior in novel expedients. During times of political excitement, and especially during a struggle between contending dynasties, or a war between nations, the rumour sought to be promulgated commonly related to the sudden capture, or death, of the chief opponent in the contest. Thus, we have already remarked what a favourite scheme was the report of the death of Bonaparte; and, in like manner, during the memorable outbreak in 1715, the news of the taking of the unfortunate Stuart was every now and then, the grand *pièce de resistance* on which the cheats of "the Alley" hoped to found their fortunes. Nor was there anything very novel, or particularly ingenious, in the mode of carrying out some of these pretences. On one occasion, a carriage containing four persons is seen proceeding at a great pace towards the seaport of Montrose; but, before reaching there, while halting for a short time at a small town, the carriage is surrounded by officers and soldiers of the king's troops, and after a slight show of resistance the travellers are arrested, and conveyed on their way towards London. Of course the news flies rapidly—as rapidly as it could fly in those times—that the Pretender, attempting to escape, after his late disasters, by embarking at Montrose, has been intercepted, and is now a prisoner, *en route* for the Tower. The originators of the trick, and the actors in the little interlude, reaped a sufficient harvest in the Stock-market delighted, of course, at the success of their stratagem

Sometimes the false intelligence promulgated would be the rumour of a peace, or a declaration of war with some State not already engaged in the then almost universal turmoil. Sometimes a Prime Minister had just died suddenly; occasionally the King was taken seriously ill, or a Cabinet had been dismissed. Some months after the battle of Marengo, and the subsequent truce of Amiens, the public mind was in the greatest state of suspense as to the probability of the war again breaking out. The people in the City, therefore, were proportionately pleased when, one morning, in May, 1803, they observed the following notice posted outside the Mansion House:—"Lord Hawkesbury presents his compliments to the Lord Mayor, and has the honour to acquaint his Lordship that the negotiation between this country and the French Republic is brought to an amicable conclusion."

The notice was a fabrication; the concoctors of it, however, "took nothing by their motion," as, although they succeeded in raising the price of the Funds, and making a great (nominal) profit on their operations, yet the whole of the bargains being declared void they realised nothing.

The latest hoax played was the "Tartar hoax" of the "taking of Sebastopol," and we trust it will be the last! That men who would recoil with a becoming horror from the commission of any act of "recognised" dishonesty should nevertheless, without scruple, embark in schemes which are indefensible under any phase of the most lax code of morality, is certainly surprising. We could not, perhaps, have hoped for any amelioration or extinction of the system so long as the temptation to gain by it existed, and the difficulties against a rapid mode of communication were in full force; but now that the Government has a controlling power over the means of acquiring intelligence, and those means cannot be surpassed by private speculation, we may conclude that political hoaxes are among the category of things "that have been," or must necessarily become very, very infrequent.

THE ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE. On Monday the Royal Medical Benevolent College, at Epsom, was opened by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, who was accompanied by the Prince of Wales. The nature and purposes of this institution have already been explained and an illustration of the Building given in this Journal (June, 1853). It may, therefore, suffice to repeat that it is destined for the reception of decayed medical men and their widows, and the education of their children. The building, of which only a portion is completed, is one of large dimensions, pleasantly situate on a rising ground, about a mile from the town of Epsom. At about a quarter to four his Royal Highness Prince Albert, preceded by Earl Manvers, the president of the institution, and accompanied by the chairman, gentleman of his suite, arrived, and was received by the company with loud cheers. His Royal Highness having entered the building, the ceremony of inauguration was gone through. The Bishops of Winchester, Oxford, and St. Asaph, with Lord Ebrington and other members of Parliament, took part in the proceedings. The ceremony being brought to a close, the Prince adjourned to the large hall of the building, where the general company, passing in review before him, and the ladies, handed in their five-guinea purses. The Prince departed about a quarter-past five, amidst loud cheers, the band of the Royal Marines, which did all in attendance throughout the day, playing the National Anthem. A large portion of the company then adjourned to a very spacious marquee, where an elegant dejeûner was served by Mr. Engleheed, who did all in his power to give satisfaction, when Earl Manvers, the members of the council, and others who had been to see the Prince off the grounds, entered the tent; and the noble Earl, as president of the institution, took the chair—the Bishop of St. Asaph saying grace. At the close of the dejeûner a variety of toasts were drank and speeches made; after which the greater part of the company adjourned to the hall, dancing commenced, and was kept up with spirit until dusk. We ought to add, that owing to some want of proper arrangements very great dissatisfaction was expressed by many of the company at the way in which the dejeûner was managed.

THE CORN TRADE IN THE PRINCIPALITIES.—A great crisis is feared to be impending in the commercial world here. The principal trade in these Principalities is in cereals. But our grain merchants are threatened with utter ruin, for, as they are unable to export, not only do the capitals they have have invested in the purchase of corn remain unproductive, but they run the risk of losing the grain itself, for there is such an accumulation of it in the ports of Braila and Galatz that the magazines cannot receive the whole, and much of it is left in the open air, and begins to be damaged. Vessels dare not enter the Danube in search of cargoes at Braila and Galatz. It is true that within the last few days they have begun to shove themselves, and already about 400 may have reached these ports, almost all of them under Greek and Austrian flags; but not above 10 are taking in cargo, for they are only allowed to load for the port from which they have sailed—viz., for Austrian or Greek ports. It is estimated that there are at present 400,000 kilos of corn at Braila, and 300,000 at Galatz. The kilo contains 400 okas—each oka being about 3 lb. English. The prices current are—1st quality, 135 to 140 piasters per kilo at Bucharest, and 140 at Braila. The kilo of maize is from 70 to 75 piasters at Bucharest, and 100 to 102 at Braila. The kilo of barley sells at from 60 to 66 piasters. For 650 okas of hay 65 piasters are paid at Bucharest, and 40 in the rural districts. The Wallachian piaster is worth about 2½d. English. The quantity of hay in the Principalities is excessive, great part of the cattle having perished in consequence of the Russian and Austrian occupations.—*Letter from Bucharest, June 8.*

GOVERNMENT OFFICES.—A movement is on foot for obtaining the permission of the Government to close their offices at one o'clock on Saturday, so as to give the clerks in their service advantages similar to those which are accorded by most of the leading merchants in the city of London. The practice sought to be established has for some time past prevailed in the Audit-office, and has been found to be productive of no inconvenience or delay to public business.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE talk about the mob in Hyde-park on Sunday last has taken a literary and antiquarian turn. There was a mob of a somewhat similar character in St. James's-park just a century ago. The Mall was then the fashionable part of London, and walking, or rather sauntering, was then the polite amusement. Now Hyde-park is the centre of fashion, and a chariot and pair the perfection of female happiness. A young lady reminds us that there is a passage in the letters of Horace Walpole very much to the point.—"My Lady Coventry and my niece Waldegrave," he writes to his friend Montagu, June 23, 1759, "have been mobbed in the Park. I am sorry the people of England take all their liberty out in insulting pretty women." . . . "Only remember," says our fair friend to whom we are indebted for the reference, "the Countess of Coventry and the Countess of Waldegrave were the two leading beauties of that time. Who has not heard of Maria Gunning and Maria Walpole?"

Another lady (and this is a matter in which ladies have been unnecessarily mixed up) has called our attention to a second illustration of the mobbing scene in St. James's-park to which Walpole has thus cursorily referred. The beautiful Countess of Coventry was not to be stopped in her Sunday's walk upon the Mall. She must be protected from the mob, and in a most extraordinary fashion did King George II. give orders for her protection. We must suffer the story to be told in the very words of the time. It is thus Mr. Jenkinson writes to George Grenville:—

> The only particular that is worth sending you is a very silly action of Lady Coventry, who, having been insulted in the Park Sunday was sennight, the King heard of it, and said that to prevent the same for the future he would have a guard. Upon this foundation her Ladyship ventured boldly again into the Park on Sunday evening, but she was attended by two sergeants of the Guards in front, with their halberds, and no less than twelve followed her. The whole guard was ready to have turned out if there had been occasion, and the Colonel of the Guards in waiting kept at the proper distance. With this ridiculous parade she walked there from eight of the clock to ten; and as all this could not prevent the mob from having curiosity, some impertinent things were still uttered, though at some little further distance, and some of Fielding's men that attended took up the most troublesome.

Here is a picture for Mr. Frith, or some other artist in his pleasant line of art. We hope we shall see no Duchess driving on Sunday with a guard of honour before and behind, or a second scene enacted in Hyde-park like that which took place last Sunday.

Booksellers and printers have managed for a time to maintain the undue interest they possess in the Royal Literary Fund. The meeting (to which we called attention) was, as far as voting goes, a triumph of the Row and Albemarle-street over Bulwer and Dickens. The Committee mustered to a man, and the booksellers and printers assembled thicker than authors. As one looked round the room it was easy to see that the "whip-in" had been carefully and successfully done by the Committee, and poorly done, if not altogether neglected, by the New Charter party. The Committee (taught a lesson by the previous meeting) determined not to be caught napping; and the New Charter party went to work evidently in the belief that the day was theirs. Most grievously were they mistaken. Mr. Milnes (whose interest in the welfare of men of letters no one can doubt) moved an ingenious amendment, which the Bishop of Oxford backed up in a speech—in no other way to the point than that it caught the majority of his hearers. Pursy publishers and printers enjoyed immensely the prelate's belief that authors cared little about tea—in short, that authors could not exist otherwise than with the best of the good things of the earth before them. As the right reverend Prelate chuckled over this imaginary condition of authors, it was easy to imagine that his Lordship had little thought of the condition of his curates. The Bishop of Oxford would not build a rectory, because, forsooth, every clergyman should possess a Cuddesden. The speech to every author in the room was extremely painful.

Authors lost, but there was a kind of tacit understanding, not very gracefully surrendered by the Committee, that the Old Charter should be construed hereafter in a larger sense, and that loans and annuities would be granted in accordance with the opinion of Mr. Willes, the learned counsel of the New Charter party, who had given his opinion against the learned counsel of the Committee, Mr. Serjeant Merewether. It is particularly due to the Bishop of Oxford to state that his opinion went with that of Mr. Willes. It is more than time that the Committee should be reformed. We saw in the room, among the authors not on the Committee, Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Mr. Dickens, Mr. Forster, Mr. Ford, Mr Sterling, Mr. Oxenford, and others of note; while on the Committee we saw hardly anybody of literary reputation. The fact is the literary composition of the Committee was admirably represented by the chairman chosen by the Committee—Mr. Benjamin Bond Cabbell—a good, well meaning subscriber to many funds; but for an author his pretensions are even less than Lord Lansdowne's, whose letters threatening that he would resign the Presidentship, if the resolution were carried, savoured too much of dictatorship.

People interested in this really interesting subject to men of letters are talking of the hint which Sir Bulwer Lytton let fall in his speech that the money of the Guild of Literature and Art (some £5000) would be handed over to the fund should the resolutions be carried. As Lord Lansdowne's letter was a threat, this half-promise of Sir Edward on behalf of his friends was a kind of bribe. The threat told; the bribe had no effect.

Mr. Gordon Cumming is about to turn lecturer in the manner of Mr. Albert Smith. For this purpose he has taken the Salle Robin at the top of the Haymarket. He is to commence immediately.

Mr. Faed's "Mitherless Bairn," to which we introduced our readers in our Journal of June 9, is about to be engraved in a style and size commensurate with its many merits. Mr. Graves has bought the copyright, and on these conditions, that it is to be rendered either in line by Mr. R. Graves, A.E.R.A., or in mezzotint by Mr. Atkinson.

Mr. Joseph Hunter, whose knowledge of English topography and of English biographies is in every respect so remarkable, will be the new Vice-President of the Society of Antiquaries, vacant by the death of Viscount Strangford. Mr. Hunter's steady adhesion to the Society will do much to extend its usefulness.

The Cathedral Commissioners in their Report just presented to Parliament recommend (most properly) that periodical visitations should be made to our Cathedrals by persons of high architectural knowledge, deeming it worthy of serious consideration whether some such provision may not be necessary with a view to the preservation of the Cathedrals according to the original designs of those who built them. This periodical visitation will include the approval of all monuments to be hereafter erected in any of the Cathedrals. Architects want as much looking after as sculptors or churchwardens.

The secretary to the new Civil Service Commission is Mr. James Spedding, the unsparing castigator of Lord Campbell's "Life of Lord Chancellor Bacon," and one of the editors of the forthcoming edition of Bacon's works. The selection is in every way satisfactory.

ACCOUNTS from Constantinople state that a loan is to be contracted by the Western Powers on account of Turkey, to the extent of £4,000,000. The general impression is that one half of this will be raised in London under the guarantee of the English Government, and the other half in Paris by the French Government.

THE Prussian Government is looking well to its arms. Orders have been given to convert as speedily as possible 280,000 weapons of the old system into Minié rifles. As soon as this is accomplished 600,000 others are to be altered after the same fashion. A mechanic in Zelle has taken a contract binding himself to deliver 120,000 rifle-sights within a year.

CHESS.

Our curious any Notes to Chess Correspondents are unavoidably postponed.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 592

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. P to K 4th	P takes P (best)	3. Q takes R P (ch)	P takes Q
2. Q to Q B 2nd	K takes R (c)	4. Kt Mates	

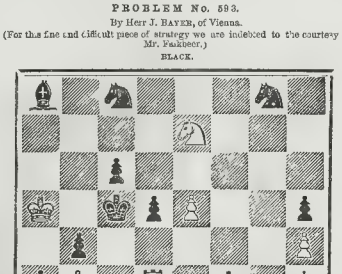
(c) P to Q R 6th
3. Kt to K R 4th (ch), and then the Queen mates.

PROBLEM No. 593.

By Herr J. BAYER, of Vienna.

(For the fine and difficult piece of strategy we are indebted to the courtesy of Mr. Faulkner.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

The following smart little game has just been played between M. FALKBEER, the Austrian Professor, and M. DE RIVIERE, of Paris, while *en route* for the Leamington meeting. This *partie* is lively and pleasant enough in itself, but it derives additional interest from being the first played between these eminent combatants.

(Guioco Piano.)

WHITE (Mr. F.)	BLACK (M. de R.)	WHITE (Mr. F.)	BLACK (M. de R.)
1 P to K 4th	P to K 4th	21. Q takes B	K R to K Kt 3rd
2 K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	22. P to K B 4th	P takes K P
3 K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	23. Kt takes P	Q to her 4th
4. Castles	P to Q 3rd (a)	24. P to K B 3rd	B to K B 4th
5. P to Q Kt 4th (b)	B takes Q Kt P	25. Kt to K Kt 3rd	B takes K R P (ch)
6 P to Q B 3rd	B to Q B 4th	26. P takes B	P to K R 5th
7 P to Q 4th	P takes P	27. K R to K 5th	Q to her 3rd
8 P takes P	K B to Q Kt 3rd	28. K R to K Kt 5th	R takes R
9. Q B to Q Kt 2nd	Q B to K Kt 5th	29. P takes R	P takes Kt
	(c)	30 Q to K 3rd	R to Q Kt sq
10 K B to Q Kt 5th (d)	P to Q R 3rd	31. R to K sq	R to Q Kt 7th
11 K B to Q R 4th	K to B sq (e)	32. Q to her 3rd	Q to Q B 3rd
12. K B takes Kt	P takes B	33. R to K 2nd	R takes R
13 Q Kt to Q 2nd	P to Q 4th	34. Q takes R	Q to Q B 8th (ch)
14 Q to Q B 2nd (f)	Kt to K 2nd	35. K to Kt 2nd	Q takes Q Kt P
15. K Kt to K sq	Kt to Kt sq	36 Q to K 8th (ch)	K to R 2nd
16 K Kt to K 5th	P to K R 4th	37. Q takes K B P	P to Q B 3rd
17 Kt takes Q B P	Kt takes Kt	38. Q to K B 3rd	Q to her 4th
18. Q takes Kt	K B to Q R 4th (g)	39. Q takes Q	P takes Q
19. R to Q B 3rd	K R to his 3rd	40. K takes P	
20. Q to Q B 5th	B takes B		

And after a few more moves the game was resigned in favour of White.

(a) The "Handbook" gives the subjoined variation as the consequence of B's play:
4 K Kt to K B 3rd— | K Kt to K B 3rd | 7. P to Q 4th | R to Q Kt 3rd
4 | Castles | 8 Kt to K 5th | R to Q Kt 3rd
6. P to Q B 3rd | K R to K sq | White has the better game.

(b) This brings about the well-known Evans opening.

(c) K Kt to K B 3rd is preferable. By playing the Bishop thus, Black subjected himself to considerable difficulty, if not danger.

(d) An embarrassing move.

(e) He was compelled to play the King or do worse, for White threatened to push forward her Q P, an which terrible effect may have.

(f) We should have preferred playing B to Q R 3rd, checking, and then moving the Q to her B 4th.

(g) A very good move, gaining Black important time, and causing the attack to change hands completely.

(h) Had he played the very natural move of K R to Q R 3rd, it would have cost him the Game, since White would have taken the Bishop with his Kt, winning at least a Piece.

CHESS IN PARIS.

A spirited skirmish between M. DE RIVIERE and M. SCHULTEN.

(Sicilian Opening.)

BLACK (M. S.)	WHITE (M. de R.)	BLACK (M. S.)	WHITE (M. de R.)
1 P to K 4th	P to Q B 4th	20. Q R P takes P	Q R P takes P
2. K B to Q B 4th	P to K 3rd	21. P takes Q P	P takes P
3. P to K 5th	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	22. K Kt to Q 3rd	P to K R 4th
4 K Kt to K B 3rd	K Kt to K 2nd	23. P to K 6th	Kt takes P
5. P to Q Kt 3rd	Q Kt to Q R 4th	24. K Kt to K 5th	Q to her B 2nd
6. Q B to Q Kt 2nd (a)	Kt takes K B	25. Q Kt takes K R P	P to Q 5th
7. P takes Kt	Q to her Kt 3rd		(e)
8. Q to Q B sq (b)	Kt to K B 4th	26. K Kt to Q B 4th	K R to K B sq
9. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	Q to Q B 3rd	27. K Kt takes P (ch)	Q takes Kt
10. Q Kt to A 2nd	K B to K 2nd	28. Kt to K Kt 3rd	K B to Q 3rd
11. Castles	P to K Kt 4th	29. Kt to K 4th	K B to Q Kt sq
12 Q Kt to K Kt 3rd	Kt to K R 5th (c)	30. P to Q B 3rd	Kt to K B 5th
13 K Kt to K sq (d)	P to Q Kt 3rd	31. Q to her Kt sq	P to Q 6th
14 Q Kt to K R 5th	Q B to Q Kt 2nd	32 P to Q B 4th	Kt to K 7th (ch)
15. P to K B 3rd	Castles (Q's side)	33. K to R sq	Q to Q B 2nd
16 P to Q R 4th	K R to K Kt sq	34. P to K B 4th	B takes K B (ch)
17. P to R 3rd	Kt to K B 4th	35. P takes R	B takes Kt (ch)
18 P to Q R 5th	Kt to K Kt 2nd	36. K to K R 2nd	Q takes K B P (ch)
19. Q Kt to Kt 3rd	P to Q 4th	37 R takes Q	B takes R

Checkmate.

(a) Q Kt to Q B 3rd would, perhaps, have been better.

(b) Was not this a needless precaution? Why not have played out the Q Kt? If White had then taken the Bishop, he would have gained a loss, we fancy. For suppose—

8. Q Kt to Q B 3rd | Q takes B | 10. Q Kt to his 5th | Q to Q R 4th
9 Q R to Q Kt sq | Q to Q Kt 4th | 11 Q Kt to Q 6th (ch) | K to Q sq

Black may win the K Book, or play his K Kt to K Kt 5th, or take the Q Kt P with his Q Rook—in any case having a superior game to his antagonist.

(c) An odd-looking move, but one not without purpose.

(d) A little exhaustion of the game will show that Black could not exchange pieces safely.

(e) A fatal error.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 922.—By J. STONEHOUSE

White: K at Q 3rd, Q at K B 3rd, Rs at K sq and K 2nd, B at K R 5th, Kt at Q Kt 4th.
Black: K at Q Kt 7th, Kt at Q Kt 8th; Ps at Q 6th, Q Kt 4th and 6th.
White to play and mate in three moves.

No. 923. By J. B., of Bridport.

White: K at K Kt 5th, B at Q Kt 5th, B at K sq, Kt at Q B 3rd; Ps at K 2nd and Q 5th.
Black: K at Q 5th, Ps at K Kt 3rd and Q B 5th.
White to play and mate in four moves.

No. 924.—By WIENER SCHACHZEITUNG.

White: K at his 2nd, Q at K R 7th, Rs at Q 8th and Q Kt sq, Kt at Q B 5th.
Black: K at Q 4th, B at Q R sq, Kt at Q R 3rd.
White to play and mate in three moves.

THE RUSSIAN EMPEROR.—The late arrangements of the Emperor Alexander II., relative to the succession to the Russian throne, appear to be of more importance than might have been at first supposed. It is said that they were caused by the desire of the Czar to withdraw from affairs as soon as he possibly can. The Emperor, it is said, is of the opinion of the German party, that Russia can only lose, materially and morally, by a continuation of the war. It is added that the late events in the Crimea have produced a very marked effect on his Majesty, and have led him more than ever to wish to retire.—*Letter from Presburg.*

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Her Majesty has signified her commands that the Thames Regatta shall be under her Royal patronage, and adopt the title of the "Royal Thames National Regatta."

The King of Prussia continues to keep his room in spite of the continued improvement that the *Staats Anzeiger* assures us takes place daily in his health.

The new Royal yacht, *Victoria and Albert*, is about to go out to sea on a trial trip as far, it is reported, as Gibraltar.

A new apartment in the Vatican is hung with tapestry presented to the Pope by the Sultan.

On the 21st inst. the Earl of Westmoreland left Vienna for Ischl, where Lady Westmoreland has been for some time. His Lordship has never before quitted the walls of Vienna since his first arrival in Vienna in 1851, excepting for a few days, when he was summoned to England to attend the funeral of the late Duke of Wellington.

From a correspondence which appears in the papers, it appears that Lord Panmure sent a message by telegraph to Lord Raglan, requesting him to give orders for the protection of the Museum and other works of art at Kertch.

The Emperor of Austria has given orders to the Academy of Art to prepare a magnificent mass-book to be sent as a present to the Pope.

The Empress of Austria arrived on the evening of the 20th inst. at Possenhofen, in Bavaria. The Duke and Duchess, her parents, went to meet her. It is expected that her Majesty will return to Vienna on the 17th July; and that the Emperor will arrive in that capital on the 9th, from his tour of inspection to Galicia.

At the demonstration in Hyde-park on Sunday, Lord and Lady Wilton and Lady Granville were obliged to leave their carriages at the demand of the multitude. Several horses bolted, and three or four difficult escapes took place.

An assurance has been given to the King of Sardinia that a representative of his Government shall be admitted to the next Conferences, which, it is suggested, may probably be held at Frankfort instead of Vienna.

The Committee of the House of Lords appointed to consider Earl Shaftesbury's bill for the limitation of the hours of labour amongst needlewomen report that it is inexpedient to proceed with the consideration of the measure.

The King of Portugal and the Duke of Oporto have determined to proceed from Marseilles to Rome, his Majesty being desirous of obtaining the blessing of the Pope on the reign he is about to commence.

On the 20th inst, the Grand Duke Nicholas reviewed the troops at Helsingfors and Abo, and inspected the fortifications of Sveaborg.

On the late anniversary of the battle of Waterloo, Lord Seaton caused a gratuity of 5s. to be given to each survivor of the memorable conflict at present residing in Kilmainham Hospital.

The mission of Count Azeglio to the Courts of Paris and London is connected with the demand of Sardinia to be allowed a voice in any future negotiations for peace.

Prince Napoleon is sufficiently recovered from his indisposition to hold his usual weekly reception.

The Attorney-General for Ireland entertained a number of his friends at dinner on Saturday at the Crown and Sceptre, Greenwich.

It is said that there will probably be a vacancy in the Professorship of Natural Philosophy in Queen's College, Cork, in October next, as it is the intention of Professor Shaw to accept a tutorship in Trinity College, Dublin, at the end of the long vacation.

The President and Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians postponed their advice on Wednesday last, on account of a severe domestic affliction which has befallen the President.

Riza Bey, who acted as secretary to Aali Pacha at the Vienna Conference, has been appointed first secretary to the Turkish Embassy at Paris.

On Saturday morning the Roman Catholic Bishop of Galway, the Right Rev. L. O'Donnell, sat down to breakfast in apparently sound good health. Suddenly he was seized with illness, and within a very brief time ceased to exist.

The Bishop of Poitiers ordered prayers to be offered up in his diocese, last week, for the cessation of the unseasonable weather.

The illustrious composer, Meyerbeer, was graciously received at Buckingham Palace last week. The maestro is daily engaged presiding at the rehearsals of "L'Etoile du Nord."

Sir E. N. Buxton, Bart., late M.P., is lying dangerously ill at the residence of his father-in-law, Samuel Gurney, Esq., Ham-house, Upton-park.

Colonel A. Bundi has been definitively appointed to the command of the Anglo-Swiss Legion, with pay amounting to £800 a year.

A private reformatory for juvenile criminals whose term of punishment has expired has been established in the New Forest, by Mr. Compton, M.P. for South Hants.

Mademoiselle Rachel, it is expected, will visit this country on her way to the United States, and perform four of her principal characters at the St. James's Theatre.

The statue of Allan Ramsay is to be erected in Edinburgh, where a memorial to the poetical barber has long been a desideratum. It will stand at the end of a terrace near the head of the Mound.

Abd-el-Kader has received the permission of the French Government to reside at Constantinople, in consequence of the partial destruction of Brousse by earthquakes.

The Arctic expedition in search of Lieutenant Kane sailed from New York on the 3rd inst. The expedition will proceed up Baffin's Bay, visiting the most prominent headlands.

The price for the Bath-chairs which are to be allowed to circulate in the Paris Exhibition Palace has been fixed at 1s. 8d. the hour, including the remuneration to the man who conducts the vehicle.

As it is feared there will be a deficiency of water at Liverpool this year it has been resolved to water the streets with sea water.

A society for enabling liberated convicts to emigrate to America was formed two years ago at Drammen, in Norway, and it has already sent out thirty-two persons, all of whom are doing well.

The gambling establishment near Thonon, on the banks of the Lake of Geneva, has just been closed by order of the Sardinian Government. It is also said that a general measure will shortly be adopted for closing all the places of play in the Sardinian States.

The corn inspectors in the market towns have received orders from the Board of Trade to enforce the penalties against corn-dealers who do not furnish particulars of sales of corn as to quantity and prices.

In order to afford the public greater facility for viewing the Paris Exhibition Palace and the Beaux Arts, the doors will henceforth be opened at nine o'clock in the morning—instead of eleven, as heretofore—and remain open till six.

The British Association will meet in Glasgow on the 12th September. Trips to Arran, Ben Lomond, and Loch Lomond will be included in the programme of the week.

The *Journal de la Corse* announces the discovery of a mine of mercury in the district of Ajaccio.

A comparison of the sums insured against loss by fire, in the different assurance societies of the country, shows that property exceeding in value one thousand millions sterling is thus protected.

A proclamation has been published in Altona prohibiting enlistments for the Foreign Legion. The penalty for disobedience is eight years' imprisonment and hard labour.

The United States Post-office department has had its attention directed to the fact that vessels were preparing to carry letters across the ocean at postage rates less than those established by law.

Three Jews have been arrested at New York and committed to prison for enlisting soldiers for the British Foreign Legion.

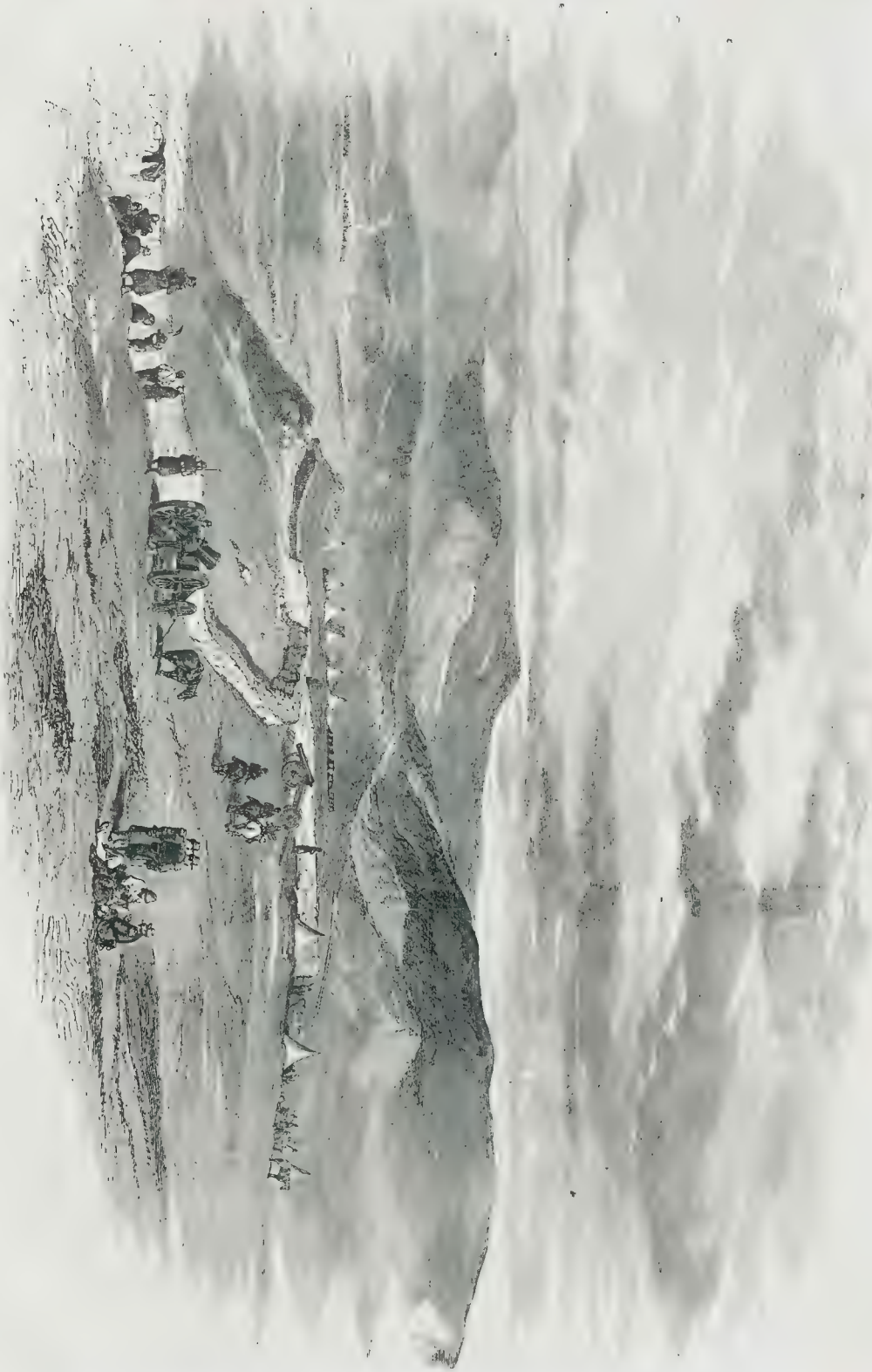
A loan is to be contracted by the Western Powers, on account of Turkey, to the extent of £4,000,000. The general impression is that one-half of this will be raised in London under the guarantee of the English Government, and the other half in Paris by the French Government.

The typhus fever is making fearful ravages amongst the Russian army in Poland.

Above two hundred eminent scientific foreigners have been invited by the local committee to attend the meeting of the British Association in September next. Among the names are those of Louis Agassiz, Prince Charles and Lucien Bonaparte, Baron Humboldt, M. Leverrier, Baron Liebig, M. Quetelet, Chevalier Bunsen, Professor Encke, Dr. Freund, &c.

The *Journal de St. Petersbourg* of the 15th prints at full length Mr. Cobden's and Sir James Graham's speeches in the sitting of the House of Commons on the 6th inst. The speech of the hon. member for the West Riding is plentifully garnished with "Bravos!" "Longs et bruyants bravos!" &c., conveying the notion that the sentiments were peculiarly palatable to the assembly.

THE VALLEY OF DEATH," BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—(SEE PAGE 676.)



THE REDOUBT CANROBERT, BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

SKETCHES BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

THE two large Views engraved upon the preceding pages will be best described in the words of our artist:—

"I send you (he writes) a drawing, which I think interesting, not only for its extraordinary subject, but from its being a well-known spot to all going down to the trenches, and constantly referred to in private letters home. It is called 'The Valley of Death,' and a most appropriate name you would say it was, could you see it as I have seen it at twilight. Just as the night relief have passed, the enemy invariably blaze away; shot and shell come spinning over the right side of the ravine (as may be seen by referring to my sketch), striking the ridge, sending a cloud of dust and stones into the air, or, clearing the top, pitch into the valley, where they either ricochet or bury themselves in the middle of the ravine. The accompanying Sketch I made entirely from nature; and the number and position of the shot and pieces of shell have conscientiously been drawn from nature; of necessity a great quantity were behind the rocks, or hidden in the hollows of the ground or long grass; which accounts for a remark of some officers who knew the spot, that I had not put a sufficient number of shot into my drawing. It may, however, serve to give you some idea of the quantity of ammunition that our enemies have expended, when it is taken into consideration that nearly all in this portion of the ravine must have come from the Redan, and very few from the Flagstaff (two only of the Russian batteries); and, further, that our men have at different times collected the shot, the sizes of which suited our guns, and thus enabled them politely to return the shot to the Russians.

I next send you a view of the Redoubt Canrobert, near the small town of Tchergunna, looking over the Tchernaya on the one side, and the plains of Balaclava on the other. The guns of the redoubt are manned by our artillerymen; but the covering party, the men for the trenches and advanced pickets, are supplied by the French. They often exchange shots with the outpost of the enemy, who are posted, and can be seen, on the opposite side of the Tchernaya.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN LYONS, R.N. We deeply regret to announce, as the latest casualty of the war, the death of this gallant officer, while in command of his ship the *Miranda*, in the Sea of Azoff. The intelligence reached the Admiralty on Wednesday afternoon, and was immediately communicated by Sir Charles Wood to the Countess of Arundel, sister of the lamented officer. The precise circumstances under which Captain Lyons met his death have not yet publicly transpired, but we believe it may be correctly stated that his life has fallen a sacrifice to his devotion to the service of his country. A rifle-ball, while on the paddle-box of his ship, is stated to have been the cause of his lamented death, after a too short but glorious career.—*Post.*

THE QUEEN AND OUR WOUNDED SOLDIERS.—An official order from the Horse Guards was received at Chatham on Tuesday by the commandant of Chatham Garrison, directing that returns are to be made and forwarded to her Majesty, as soon as possible, of the names of all the wounded soldiers from the Crimea who were paraded for her Majesty's inspection on her recent visit to Chatham, on the 19th inst. Each man's corps is to be given, how he is wounded, in what battle he fought, and his age and length of service. Invalids who are the last, and were inspected on the former visit by her Majesty in March last, are to have a cross placed against each name. This order, which is so promptly to be attended to, leaves no doubt but that it is her Majesty's intention to distribute medals for service in the Crimea to all those non-commissioned officers and soldiers at the invalid depôts, from nearly every regiment engaged in the campaign in the East, as soon as everything is ready.

On Wednesday between fifty and sixty non-commissioned officers and gunners and drivers of the Royal Artillery were discharged from the service. Most of these men were wounded in the battles of the Alma and Inkerman, and in the trenches before Sebastopol. Some have lost an arm, others a leg, and one poor fellow, named Davis, lost both his arms.

On Tuesday orders were issued from the Horse Guards for a return of the entire number of effective men now attached to the Brigade of Guards, for draughts of men to be told off to proceed immediately to reinforce the battalions of the Guards now at the seat of war. The return is not to include those men who have over eighteen years' service. The number of men to go out from the Guards by this draught is—Grenadiers, 350 rank and file; Scots Fusiliers, 250 rank and file; and Coldstream Guards, 250 rank and file—giving a total of 900. The draught is expected to embark early in July at Portsmouth, proceeding direct to Balaclava.

On Saturday evening the *Golden Fleece* left her moorings at Queenstown, and steamed to the man-of-war roads, where she took up her berth for the night, and on Sunday morning she took her departure for the Crimea. Her entire living freight on leaving Queenstown was, besides her crew, 450 men and 200 horses.

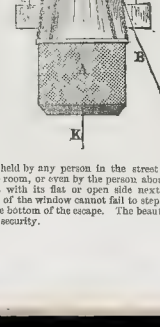
THE *Calcutta* has landed the guns belonging to the floating batteries *Gustton* and *Meteor*. Bedding, &c., has been sent on board for 100 supernumerary seamen, and she is under sailing orders to proceed to the Baltic with all possible dispatch. This ship has been converted into a store-ship of considerable magnitude.

NEW FIRE-ESCAPE.

A PHILANTHROPIC gentleman who has long deplored the helpless condition in which by far the great majority of persons, rich and poor alike, find themselves in the event of a sudden outbreak of fire, has just succeeded in perfecting an Escape which, from its simplicity, as well as from its cheapness, is calculated for universal adoption.

An aversion to anything conspicuous is one of the characteristics—perhaps, to a certain extent, one of the weaknesses—of the English character; and this point has not been lost sight of. The Family Fire-Escape is so contrived that it can be placed in a box, and form part of the ordinary furniture of a bed-room, where it is always at hand, and at a moment's notice ready to perform the duty of saving valuable lives.

The Escape in question possesses most important advantages over any that has ever been placed before the public. It is most moderate in price; so simply constructed as not to be able to get "out of order," and, as will clearly appear from the following description, no persons, be they ever so old, ever so weak, ever so timid, can go wrong in the use of it.



The View in the Engraving is a front one, and shows the window of a house with the Fire-Escape fitted to it.

A is a cradle of wire-work or other suitable material, consisting of a lower portion, which is closed at the sides and bottom and open at top, and connected by chains or rods to a hood or dome, which is open on the side next to the house. The cradle is lined with canvas, which has been steeped in alum, or otherwise rendered uninflammable.

An ordinary rope or wire rope (B) is attached to the top of the hood and passed round the pulley (C), which is furnished with a hook for the purpose of suspending it from the cross bar (H H), which bar has a loop (G). When a fire occurs the window is thrown open, and the block (C) hooked on to the loop (G).

The rope (B) is thrown out and held by any person in the street. It may also be held by a person in the room, or even by the person about to descend. The cradle is pushed out with its flat or open side next the window, and a person stepping out of the window cannot fail to step into it. A guide-rope (K) is fixed to the bottom of the escape. The beauty of the invention consists in its perfect security.

MESSRS. STRAHAN, PAUL, AND CO.'S BANKRUPTCY. EXTRAORDINARY DISCLOSURES.

A meeting for the proof of debts and choice of assignees in the bankruptcy of William Strahan, Sir John Dean Paul, Bart., and Robert Makin Bates, who had carried on business as bankers at 217, Strand, and also the business of navy-agents, at 41, Norfolk street, Strand, under the style of Halford and Co., took place at the Court of Bankruptcy, Basinghall street, on Monday last, before Mr. Commissioner Evans. The petition was filed on the 11th of June. The petitioning creditor is Montague John Tatham, proctor, of 26, Great Carter-lane, who is a creditor for £1134, in respect of the balance of an account of moneys had and received by the bankrupts as bankers, in respect of which no security or satisfaction had been given. The public are aware that criminal proceedings are pending against these bankrupts under the 7th and 8th of George IV., sec. 29, by which any person convicted of unlawfully disposing of securities is liable to be transported beyond the seas for any term not exceeding fourteen nor less than seven years, or to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding three years. The case caused intense interest, and the court was crowded to excess.

The proceedings were commenced by Mr. Lawrance, the solicitor to the petition, who stated that, for the sake of convenience, sundry proofs of debt had been taken and marked in the ordinary usual manner.

His Honour then directed that the names of the respective creditors, who had thus proved their debts out of court should now be read aloud in open court, so that it might be ascertained if there were any opposition to them.

Mr. Lawrance said that, in order to mitigate the pressure in this court, which was extreme, the registrar (Mr. Bramall) was taking proofs in another court. Mr. Ballantine appeared for Mr. Strahan and Sir John Dean Paul, Mr. Parry for Mr. Bates; Mr. Chidley for the Marquis of Clanricarde, Lord Galway, and other creditors, the aggregate in amount being about £250,000; and Mr. Linklater for Sir Lucius Curtis and other creditors; and Mr. Cooper for several noblemen. Mr. Lawrance said, as a great many of the creditors were present, it might be satisfactory to them to have the figures, which were an approximation at least to the correct sums, so far as he had been able to ascertain them. The following statement was then handed in by Mr. Lawrance:—

Total creditors unsecured			£592,372 3 4
Add Earl Fitzwilliam's balance of debtor and creditor account	£1454 5 0		
Sir J. D. Paul	1288 15 6		
			2,743 0 6
			£595,115 3 10
Deduct m Sir J. D. Paul's separate account		£72,950, of this	
—Loan	£27,000 0 0		
Ditto	[illegible]		
		£37,000 0 0	
Namur and Liége Railway ..		4910 8 4	
Offley estate		2,737 16 7	
			£44,698 4 7
Amount raised on securities		.. ...	113,000 0 0
Halford and Co.		... ...	26,522 0 0
Liabilities, value received		... .	68,250 0 0
Ditto, no value		... ...	12,500 0 0
			£680,658 13 3
ASSETS.			
Debtors on loans considered good, say		...	...£100,000 0 0
Ditto, overdrawn account		...	... 20,000 0 0
Debtors, bad and doubtful		..	... 276,445 17 0
Not carried out			
Halford and Co., debtor balance ...		..	19,009 5 0
Bad and doubtful, not carried out ...		.	119,922 0 0
Sundry bad debts		...	31,413 0 0
Sundry debts secured—			
By policies of insurance	£4,500 0 0		
" " "	9,000 0 0		
" " "	6,000 0 0		
	£19,500 0 0		
Say value ...	6,000 0 0		6,000 0 0
	£13,500 0 0		
Bills discounted, supposed good		...	9,000 0 0
Sundry shares and securities at bankers, say		...	5,000 0 0
Debts due to Halford and Co., say ...		...	35,000 0 0
	£460,998 12 2		
	180,000 0 0		
	£640,998 12 2		
Liability for which no value received	12,500 0 0		
	£653,498 12 2		

Mr. Lawrance said it would appear that the gross amount of debts against the firm was £680,000; that was quite irrespective of any deficiency which might be found in the security held by creditors, and irrespective of any surplus which might come from those securities. The assets were, as nearly as possible—debtors on loans, £100,000; ditto, amount due on overdrawn account, £20,000; bad and doubtful debts not carried out, £276,446; Halford and Co., £19,009, which was not an asset; and bad debts, £31,400. These items are rather as a matter of account, for, of course, as assets, much had depended on realisation. With respect to Halford and Co., the account kept at that house were principally kept by a clerk who were in the habit of drawing in anticipation of their credit. They expected from Halford and Co. about £20,000 upon overdrawn accounts, independent of the debts due to Halford and Co. But all to be proved against the estate; the same partners constituted both firms; the £20,000 would be in addition to the sums already given. The firm of Halford and Co., if it stood alone, would be solvent with a surplus, inasmuch as the debts proved against that estate were less than the assets by the sum of £20,000; but of course, from the fact that the same men were in both firms, it was really one common account. There were bills discounted, and supposed to be good, in the hands of the official assignee, to the amount of £9000. Sundry shares and securities at the banking-house were estimated at £5000. If all the separate debts of Mr. Strahan were paid in full, there would be a surplus to the joint estate of £50,000. The preceding figures were of course liable to alteration on subsequent investigation. The assets would be, speaking in round numbers, and judging from present appearances, £150,000 or £160,000, without referring to the large sums advanced on foreign railroads, and which would represent an item of £270,000.

The Official Assignee: So I have guessed; but I cannot speak positively.

Mr. Cooper said he appeared for several noblemen and gentlemen who had proved their debts against this estate, and, as the case was one of no ordinary character, he hoped the Court would direct a full and searching investigation. Several of the creditors might have larger claims than those for which they had proved, but they could not discover the exact amount until the accounts of the bankrupts had been examined, and the bankrupts themselves, to see what securities had been disposed of by them without the knowledge of their customers. He had to ask the Court, on behalf of those creditors, and for the convenience of the estate at large, to adjourn the choice of assignees to some future day, and to let the present sitting be devoted to the reception of proofs, as far as they went, and to the examination (if necessary) of the bankrupts. This step was the more necessary, as there would be a severe contest as to what gentlemen should be appointed assignees, and that contest ought not to be got rid of. Another reason for adjourning the meeting was because, on looking through the proceedings, it would be found that there were many affidavits that had been taken at the private houses of individuals, some of whom had given proxies giving certain people right to vote on their behalf to-day. It might turn out right and proper that that should have been done, or it might turn out that those persons who had made affidavits to an itinerant commissioner were not aware they had the opportunity of proving and voting in person for the choice of assignees. No inconvenience could arise to this estate from an adjournment, as, practically, the duties of the assignees would be discharged by the official assignees until trade assignees were appointed, or any perishable goods might be sold by special rule of the Court. That room and the next were crowded with creditors, and most likely many of those who proved would go away without voting. There were grave charges against the bankrupts,—rounded or unfounded he would not venture to say; but, at all events, there were charges which involved the necessity of a full investigation. Those charges might involve some of the creditors who had not proved, and until the examination of the bankrupts it could not be said the proofs were without objection, and that the creditors were all entitled to vote for the choice.

Mr. Lawrance did not know whether he need occupy the Court in replying to the very vague and unsatisfactory statement made by Mr. Cooper, without mentioning the names of the creditors to whom that statement applied.

His Honour: I do not see the least reason for an adjournment.

Mr. Parry said he appeared for Mr. Bates, who was very desirous, as were the other two bankrupts, to disclose for the benefit of the estate certain transactions which had taken place in reference to the securities deposited with the bankrupts by various creditors who had proved their debts to-day. The conduct of the bankrupts would, no doubt, be fully discussed before his Honour, who would have to decide upon it; but, on the part of Mr Bates, he now asked permission to examine him as to certain transactions, believing that the disclosures he would make would be beneficial to the creditors. In reference to what had been said as to some of the creditors not knowing what had become of their securities, Mr Bates had prepared the following perfect statement of every security, whether Exchequer Bills, shares, or other kind of security, and this he was anxious to lay before the Court. He was desirous to take the first opportunity of placing it before the Court, and depositing it in the hands of the official assignee.

His Honour: Has he given it to the official assignee?

Mr. Bell: No.

His Honour: I now hand it in.

The following is the statement referred to:—

LIST OF PARTIES WHOSE SECURITIES ARE SOLD.

Exchequer Bills: Lady Carnarvon, 500; Admiral Aylmer (H. and Co.), 500; Captain Frederick (H. and Co.), 800; Duke of Rutland (Milita account), 100; Tollemache and Cobbold, 500; Lord Manners, 300; A. J. W. gnel, 5000; Brahan and Co., 2800. Brazilian Four-and-a-half per Cents: C. A. Caldwell, 12,000. Brazilian Five per Cents: Mrs. Weir, 7700; Mrs. Hare, 600; J. Tregonwell, 24,000; Mr. Herbert, 2500; Mrs. Yalman, 200. India Bonds: R. K. Nevile, 10,400; Mrs. Strickland, 300; W. C. Morland, 3000; Sir A. Gifford, 1900. Canada Five per Cents: Wynn, Tyler, Brown, and Kirwan, 6000. Danish Five per Cents: Dr. Griffith, 10,000. Danish Five per Cents: Dr. Griffith, 5000. Dutch Two-and-a-half per Cents: Dr. Griffith, 150,000 fls.; Amelia Baillward, 34,000; E. S. Bailward, 42,000; J. Jas Bailward, 34,000; Miss Churchill, 34,000; Sir A. Gifford, 36,000; G. S. Gough, 11,000; R. H. B. Hall, 30,000; Dalton, 7,000; Burton (Halford and Co.), 76,000; Captain Jones, (Halford and Co.), 166,800; Morris (Halford and Co.), 9000; Heringham (Halford and Co.), 26,000; Bailey (Halford and Co.), 19,000; Hopson (Cruise), 66,000; Miss Reynolds, 19,000; E. Sawbridge, 24,000; Mrs. J. Streatfield (Trustee), 57,200; Mrs. F. Streatfield, 40,000; John Tregonwell, 50,000; George Willis, 12,000. Dutch Three-and-a-Half per Cents: Madame Charotte, 89,000. Dutch Four per Cents: Colonel Peacocke, 20,000fl.; Mrs. Boyd, 13,000; Miss Mytrook, 12,000; Admiral Aylmer, 6000.

LIST OF SECURITIES SOLD OR DEPOSITED.

583,000 fls. Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents		Peppercorn	..£23,000 0
14,500 India Bonds	...	Ditto	... 15,500 0
10,500 Exchequer Bills (March) ...	...	Ditto	... 10,500 0
130,000 Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents	...	Sold	... 6,137 10
10,000 Danish Three per Cents	...	Ditto	... 7,487 10
150,000 Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents			
50,000 Dutch Three-and-a-Half per Cents ...	Overend, Gurney, and Co.		27,000 0
50,000 Dutch Four per Cents ...			
6,000 Canada Bonds			
5,000 Danish Five per Cents ...			
2,700 Brazilian Five per Cents ...			
12,000 Brazilian Four-and-a-Half per Cents...	Barnard and Co.		20,000 0
10,000 Ditto Five per Cents ...			
1,000 India Bonds		Sold	
			£113,625 0

Mr. Ballantine said the three bankrupts were prepared to swear to this.

His Honour. Are there any more proofs? If so, let them be disposed of first.

Mr. Lawrance said the following were prepared to act as trade assignees: Mr. Barwis, navy-agent, New Boswell court; Mr. Charles Appleyard, solicitor, of Lincoln's-inn; and Mr. Edmund Waller, stationery, Fleet-street.

These gentlemen were subsequently appointed. No other creditors were proposed in opposition to them.

Mr. Parry (to Mr. Lawrance): Do you wish to ask the bankrupts any questions?

Mr. Lawrance (to Mr. Bates): Have you signed that statement?

Mr Bates: I have.

Mr. Lawrance: By whom was it prepared?

Mr Parry: By the three bankrupts jointly. It was prepared by Mr. Bates, and signed by Sir J. D. Paul and Mr Strahan.

Mr. Lawrance (to the other bankrupts): You have heard that declaration read over and signed it?

The Bankrupts: Yes.

Mr. Parry renewed his application for Mr. Bates to be examined, stating that his client was anxious to disclose everything he knew as to all the transactions. Mr. Evans refused the application: he could see no reason for granting it. In reply to various questions put by Mr Lawrance, the bankrupts said the statement handed in by Mr Parry had been prepared by Mr. Bates, and signed by Sir J. D. Paul and Mr. Strahan. It contained a full account of all the securities which have been sold, dealt in, or pledged by them, which they understood to be the property of their creditors, and finally that all the other securities in their hands were safe, except those contained in the list.

Debts to the amount of about £224,465 were proved during the day. Messrs. Lawrance, Plews, and Boyer, are solicitors to the assignees, and Mr. Turquand, of Old Jewry-chambers is accountant to the estate.

Among the creditors are—Lord Palmerston, the Duke of Devonshire, Earl of Carnarvon, Viscountess Melbourne, Earl of Dysart, Sir Aylmer, Sir Charles Young, Lord Lilburne, Wadham Wyndham, Lord Cavendish, Earl of Burlington; Mr. W. Spottiswoode, Queen's printer, the Duke of Rutland, Lord J. R. Manners, the Right Hon. C. C. Manners, Lord Galway, Countess Craven, Countess of Verulam, Marquis of Clanricarde, Sir Lucius Curtis, Lieutenant-General Thomson, Lord Muncaster, Lieutenant-General Buller, Sir B. Macnamara, Lady Manners, Earl of Bradford, &c.

The following particulars, from "Dod's Peerage, Baronetage, and Knightage," will be read with interest at the present moment.—

Paul, second Baronet (United Kingdom). Created 1821. Sir John Dean Paul, son of the first baronet by his second wife, the relict of Sir Charles Marsh Marsh, Bart., of Pennard House, Somerset (she died 1842). Born at 218, Strand, 1812; married, first, 1826, third daughter of Charles Gee Beauclerk, Esq., of St. Leonard's-on-the-Sea, Sussex (she died 1847); secondly, 1852, surviving daughter of the late John Ewens, Esq., of Brighton; succeeded his father in 1832; is a partner in the banking firm of Snow, Strahan, Paul, and Co. Is grand-nephew of Sir Lucius Curtis, bart., first baronet, who was created in 1782, and became extinct in 1820. Residences—218, Strand, London; Hill House, Strond, Gloucestershire; Pennard, Shepton Mallet, Somerset. Heir, his son by the first marriage, John Fiske of Halford, born in 1827; married, 1851, the second daughter of Sir John Lister Lister Kay, Bart.

Sir J. D. Paul, Mr. Strahan, and Mr. Bates were brought up from the House of Detention, in the custody of Lieutenant Hall, the Governor of the prison, on Wednesday, and placed at the bar before Mr. Jardine, at Bow-street, charged with fraudulently disposing of Dr. Griffith's securities, valued at £22,000. It was arranged between the Bar and the Court at the previous examination that the remand till Wednesday should be merely of a formal character, to comply with the provisions of the Act limiting all remands to eight days, it being the intention of the learned counsel for the prosecution, Mr. Bodkin, to defer the progress of the inquiry till Wednesday next in spite of the publicity given to this understanding, there was no apparent diminution in the anxiety of the public to be present, the court being crowded to excess immediately after the doors were opened. They had scarcely, however, secured the positions respectively taken up, after the struggle for admission, when the three prisoners were ushered from the dock—the whole proceeding scarcely occupying five minutes. Mr. Jardine said it would be understood that the prisoners were again remanded till Wednesday next, at the same hour. They were accordingly taken back to prison.

THE SIEGE OF BADAJOZ.—On more than one memorable occasion in his career in the Peninsula the Duke of Wellington not only employed similar means, but staked the fate of his army on their success, and especially on the third siege of Badajoz, in 1812. Assembling his all, calculation, the Puissant, an outwork of the town somewhat resembling by its position the Mamelon or Kamtchatka Redoubt before Sebastopol, was forced with it being battered, and the breach made ready for assault before the counterscarp was blown and the fire of the place silenced. No man who has ever read it can have forgotten the language in which the historian of that great contest relates the most terrible part of the story. The ramparts, crowded with dark figures and glittering arms, just illuminated by the glare of the flames from below; the red columns of the British, deep and broad, coming on like streams of burning lava; the stubborn survival of the Light Division and the Fourth Division on the brink of the yawning chasm, into which they dashed with incredible fury, some to be smothered in the wet ditch beneath, some to be dashed by the shot against the strong palisades, some to be torn upon the jagged range of sword blades fixed in ponderous beams which defended the top of the breach. For two hours did our men persevere with indomitable courage in the attempt to force their way through this scene of sin, glitter, and death, and it was not until hundreds of the boldest and bravest had perished that they were compelled to acknowledge that the breach of the Trinidad was impregnable. It was past midnight, and 2000 men had already fallen, when the Duke of Wellington ordered the remainder to retire and re-form for a second assault. Even that order was executed with difficulty, and the fate of Badajoz might have been undecided that night if other portions of the troops had not found means to scale the Castle and to carry a bastion, and enter the town at a different point. Out of the Anglo-Portuguese army of 22,000 men no less than 5000 fell at the siege of Badajoz, and 3750 at the assault alone. *Times.*

RUSSIAN SPIES.—It is affirmed in political circles here that information, if was passes in France is regularly transmitted from Paris to St. Petersburg. It appears that a certain Russian Prince (one of three or four brothers who had been more or less implicated in the earlier conspiracies against the Emperor Nicholas, and who had been condemned to exile in Siberia), has long resided, and is still residing, in this capital, notwithstanding the war with Russia. The person in question, though some years older than the present Czar, was his playmate and intimate friend; and, notwithstanding their separation, they have not ceased to be on terms of the greatest intimacy. It is this person who is said to carry on the correspondence in question with the Court of St. Petersburg. The letters are sent by Denmark and Sweden, and thence to Russia with the greatest regularity. Every particular, however minute, is faithfully noted and communicated for the information of the Emperor Alexander, who, I dare say, is as well informed of all that occurs in Paris and the seaports as I am on the spot himself. I believe that the movements of this person have been watched for some time; and the importance of the question at issue requires that every precaution should be adopted against the system of Russian espionage which is still known to exist, and in high quarters, in the capital of one of the belligerent Powers.—*Letter from Paris.*

THE FRENCH MUSLIN COMPANY have just received the hands-most MUSLIN ROBES, Sashes, Lace Mantles, and Collars, Ladies in the country may obtain one by sending a Post-office Order to JAMES REID, 16, Oxford-street.

THE PRINCESS ROYAL.—The Patterns in MUSLIN the Princess Royal is at present wearing, may be seen by applying to the FRENCH MUSLIN COMPANY, 16, Oxford-street, and the Crystal Palace. Patterns sent free.

MOURNING MUSLINS.—The most beautiful, as well as the most extensive variety of MOURNING MUSLINS and Muslin Robes is at the FRENCH MUSLIN WAREHOUSE, 16, Oxford-street. Patterns sent free.

THE ALLIANCE GLOVES. — FOSTER, PORTER, and CO.'S New Lapped Kid Glove, 1s. 6d., in every Size and Colour. Sold by WRIGHTMORE, No. 350, Regent-street.

TO LADIES.—The SHREWSBURY WATERPROOF TWEED CLOAKS may be had of the maker, JAMES PHILLIPS, SHREWSBURY. Patterns of Material and List of Prices sent post free. Gentlemen's Overcoats and Capes of the same material.

THE LADIES' LIGHT WATERPROOF TWEED CLOAKS, now much used for Summer Travelling, may be had of the Makers, BUCKNALL and SON, 1, 2, 3, Bunhill-row, Liverpool. Patterns of Material, with Prices, &c., post free.

LADIES' WEDDING ORDERS and INDIA OUTFITS are carried out in a very superior manner, at moderate prices, by CHRISTIAN and RAILBONE, 21, Wigmore-street. Established 1732.

WHITE and COLOURED KID GLOVES. The real Alpine Kid Glove, with the registered Eugenie Latchet Button attached, at the extraordinary price, 10½d. per pair, sent post free for twelve stamps. BAKER and CRISP, 226, Regent-street.

JOHN WELLS and CO., 210, Regent-street, [illegible] CHINTZES, DAMASKS, and CHINTZES, for Drawing-room Furniture, at most cash prices.

SPENCE and BUCHANAN, from Glasgow (late Jas. Stout and Co.), SILK MERCERS and GENERAL DRAPERS, British and Foreign Shawl and Mantle Warehouse. Patterns free, by post, on application, 77 and 78, St. Paul's Churchyard.

PATTERNS of SILKS, &c., Post-free.—KIN and Co. beg to announce that their new SPRING and SUMMER STOCK is now ready for inspection, and that they will forward Patterns, post free, to any part of the United Kingdom or Colonies. Address to King and Co., 243, Regent-street, London.

TO the PUBLIC.—STAGG and MANTLE, having purchased very largely in SILKS, SHAWLS, FANCY DRESSES, LINENS, RIBBONS, LACE, &c., during the immense sacrifice of trade lately, are now enabled to offer unusual novelty in the above lots. The prices are considerably below present value. Stagg and Mantle, 1, 2, and 3, Leicester-square, and 8, Leicester-street.

CARPETS! CARPETS! CARPETS!!! [illegible] Brussels Carpets, 2s. 3d. per yard. [illegible] Kidderminster, 2s. 9d. per yard. [illegible] Drugget, 1s. 4d. per yard. MAPLE'S House Furnishing Linen, sheets—the largest, cheapest, and best, in the world—14s to 14l. Table-cloths (real Scotch), and 1 to 7, Tottenham-court.

INDIA SHAWLS. A splendid assortment of Cashmere INDIA and all other descriptions of SHAWLS are now fully suitable at W. HAYS (late Gowers and Hart) India Warehouse, 5, Portman-street, two minutes from the Exchange, Oxford and Cambridge, Delhi, Scotch, Kabous Turbans, Gold and Silver Embroidered Muslins, Silks, &c. India, British, and French Shawls. Ladies, Gents, and Children's Wear for 50, Cornhill.

RICH SILKS, at low prices, LAMBETH-HOUSE, Brocades, Moire Antiques Checked and Striped Glacés, Plaited Robes, Black Satins, Satin-de-Rhines, Satin-de-Lyons, Gros Grains, and Stock of the latest Novelties, including Bonnets. This superfine collection of first-class Silks are given on reasonable terms, and are offered at low prices, and 16 half-guineas, at 4s. 6d. per yard. HARVEY and CO., Lambeth-house (near the Railway arch), Westminster-bridge-road.

WOOL BAREGE and ELEGANT MUSLINS.—Two cases of PRINTED WOOL BAREGES and Wool Foreges are now offering at 12 Hd. the dress, or any length cut at the yard. They are the newest patterns, fast colours, and cannot be had elsewhere. Hoyle's best Jaconet Cambrics now reduced, only 5d. the yard. A lot of French Muslins, the silkworks, bought at a great sacrifice, in fine and rich patterns, 6d. the full dress, only 1s. 6d. the yard. Patterns sent free.—HOLLIS, Muslin Printer, 25, Cornhill, Bank-side.

PURE Mr. JOSEPH CHADWICK'S, SILK Manufacturer, Manchester.—In consequence of the above firm Mr. Chadwick's Stock has been bought by retailers of the Manchester Silk Warehouse Company. It is not old stock, the accumulation of years but all new designs, intended for the present season. The following is lists are at all changed of fire—Silk GLACES SILKS, chaste stripes, 17½d., ditto, the wide width, 23½d., any length; observe brocaded ditto, the wide width, 30s. the robe, is now offering at HOLLIS'S, Muslin-row street.

THE FRENCH MUSLIN COMPANY'S MUSLINS surpass anything ever yet seen. The colours are most harmoniously blended; and there is a quality, a delicacy, and refinement about them which one can scarcely conceive. They strike the attention of every one, what effect they will have on ladies may be easily conceived. We recommend every lady to take the earliest opportunity of calling to view of them. Patterns sent free.

16, Oxford-street, and at the Crystal Palace.

HODGE and LOWMAN, GENERAL DRAPERS, TAILORS, MERCHANT-TAILORS, Silk Mercers, Manchester, Registered Linens Carpets, Damasks and British Damasks, German, Scotch, and Nottingham Curtains, Chintzes, Printings, and every article required for furnishing. Norwich and Foreign Crapes, Ribbons, Lace, Hosiery, and Fancy Goods of every description. N.B. H. and L. beg to call attention to the fact that they have it their constant study to obtain every novelty as soon as produced.—ARGYLL HOUSE, 256 to 262, Regent-street.

INDIA, FRENCH, and BRITISH SHAWLS. JOHN [illegible] and CO. beg to call attention to their [illegible] Cashmere Shawls, comprising of the newest [illegible] from Paris, and Palais India Shawls, China Shawls, Rich Satins, Damas, Barege, and every description of summer Shawls, from 10s. Gentlemen's Dressing Gowns, Cashmere, 17s. 17½, 17s. Regent-street. India Shawls bought and exchanged.

MAISON de CONFIANCE pour la COMMANDE des TROUSSEAUX.—Madame BRIE recommends her celebrated Corsets and Dames de Santé Jupons, Jupons en Baleine, Jupons de Corset, les Chemises d'Amazone, Bas que sera Jolie. Nouveau faire pour la saison. N.B. Madame BRIE's Corsets, les Dames de Santé, chemises depuis 7s. la demi-douzaine. 43, Conduit-street, Regent-street.

TO LADIES.—A Model (Copyright Invention), Mrs. BARNETT, to impart knowledge of the skill of a teacher, a 1s. Set Method of Fitting and Making Clothes on the French and English Systems. For this Model, combined with an illustrated book of instructions and patterns, apply to Mrs. Susan Barnett, 9, Upper Berkeley-street, Portman-square. Price 5s., or sent by post free on receipt of an order for 5s. 6d., payable in Oxford-street. Lessons as usual.

THE FAVOURITE HIGHLAND CLOAK, so justly celebrated as a guarantee against wet and cold.—Have you got one of MACFARLANE'S favorite HIGHLAND CLOAKS? If not, you should at once order one. They are most suitable for the rail, the steamer, and for every wear. Take your chest, hat, and height of person, in a sealed envelope. Patterns of wear they are made can be sent by post. Price from 25s. to 40s. These Cloaks, first class, are sent 2 Highland Tweeds, Tweed Cloaks, Rugs, Leven at 21s. per wear-proof, in 3 the well tomahawk-street, Regent-street, London, from Two to Six a week, until 1st July when Regent-street, returns to Inverness.

JAY'S MOURNING ESTABLISHMENT.—The Proprietors respectfully announce that the London General Mourning Warehouse offers advantages for the supply of MOURNING to families of the highest gentility and also to those of the most limited means. Any expense for London Mourning Attire, of all suitable qualities, may be had on the most reasonable terms and at the shortest notice, at a fixed or a trifle for consideration of the Community, at the LONDON GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE, Nos. 247, 249, and 251, Regent-street.—W. C. JAY and CO.

TABINET, or IRISH POPLIN, WAREHOUSE. Water (not Air) proof LADIES' YACHTING CLOAKS, and Dress Lengths, all Colours and Styles.—DOUDNEY, 17, Old Bond-street, 25, Burlington Arcade; 49, Lombard-street. Patterns by post.

PARIS GLOVE WAREHOUSE. BAKER and CRISP. Guarantee every Pair the best made at 1s. 6d. the Half-dozen. Free from [illegible]. If not approved money returned. 221, Regent-street (Corner of Maddox-street).

REAL CHINA GRASS HANDKERCHIEFS, Beautifully Embroidered in each Corner, With the New Scollop Borders, Sent post-free for Three Shillings, Or Six 6d. per Dozen. BAKER and CRISP, 226, Regent-street, London.

PATTERNS SENT POST-FREE.—BAKER and CRISP'S MUSLINS, BAREGES, CAMBRICS, &c., at Half-price. Every Novelty in British, French, and India Organdie Muslins. Beautiful Chintz Dressing-gowns, 4s. 6d. the full dress. French and Swiss Cambrics, 3s. 6d. Printed Balzarines, 6½d. per yard, worth 1s. Best Free Barège, 11½ 9d. full dress, worth double. BAKER and CRISP, 221, and 226, Regent-street. N.B.—Ladies' Muslin and Cambric Morning Wrappers, 7s. 6d., complete.

THE PARIS GLOVE WAREHOUSE. Just imported, 4500 Dozen real French Kid Gloves. At the New Spring Colours Made by Jas Pons and Co., of Paris. At One Shilling per Pair. Sample Pairs sent for 14 Stamps. BAKER and CRISP, 221, Regent-street (corner of Maddox-street).

THE BLACK SILKS at KING'S, 243, REGENT-STREET. Patterns sent post-free. Best Lace Silks from [illegible] 2s. 6d. the full dress. Gros Grains, Gros Lessons, and Widows' [illegible] 1 11 6 " Richest Black Silk Gros Grains, and other [illegible] 2 10 0 " Shawls, Glacés, Ribbons, Gloves, Hosiery, &c. [illegible] Address (as Patterns) to King and Co., Regent-street, London.

THE SPRING SILKS at KING'S, 243, REGENT-STREET. Patterns sent post-free. Rich French Silks .. .. £1 1 6 the full dress. Striped Glacés and Poults de Soie .. 1 5 6 " Brocaded and Ombre Ditto .. 1 15 0 " Moiré Antiques, and other costly styles .. 3 0 0 " Address (for Patterns) to King and Co., Regent-street, London.

THE SUMMER DRESSES at KING'S, 243, REGENT-STREET. Patterns sent post-free. Finest Muslins .. .. 3s. 6d. the full dress. " Jaconet Muslins .. .. 5s. 6d. " " Organdie Muslins .. .. 7s. 6d. " " Brilliant Muslins .. .. 8s. 6d. " Barege de Laine (new fabric) .. 12s. 6d. " Fancy Materials in Silk and Wool .. 17s. 6d. " Address (for Patterns) to King and Co., Regent-street, London.

SILK, MUSLIN, and BAREGE DRESSES; MANTLES, SHAWLS, LACE, &c. Patterns post free. Selling off at KING'S, 243, Regent-street, the remaining Spring and Summer Stock, at half the usual prices. Richest French Fancy Silks, £1 5s. 6d. the full dress. Richest Brocaded Poult de Soies, £1 15s. the full dress. Finest Scotch Muslins (in muslin of seven), 3s. 6d. the full dress. Finest French Muslins, 3s. the full dress. Finest Barege, 12s. 6d. the full dress. Richest Silk Mantles, £1 1s. each. Finest Lace Paisley Shawls, 17s. 6d. each. Mourning and Half Mourning Silks, £1 2s. 6d. the full dress. Address (for Patterns) to KING and CO., Regent-street, London.

TO LADIES. CLOSE of the SEASON.—At Jennings' celebrated Cheap Silk Office, to make room for AUTUMN NOVELTIES, for which large orders have already been given. 1000 rich embroidered Italian Silks, 1s. 11½d.; samples by post, 2s. 1d. Rich Ribbon Brocades .. .. 1½d. to 9½d. .. 1s. 2d. Cashmere Opera Cloaks, lined throughout with silk (all colours), One Guinea. Waterproof Linen Mantles, One Guinea. Patterns free. Ring and Brooch by post. French Lustrings, from 9s. 6d. the full dress. Ditto Linens, very fine, 10½d. per yard. Swiss Cambrics, 3s. 6d. the full dress. Opera Cloaks, lined with silk, 1 guinea. Real Valenciennes Lace, from 3½d. per yard. Real Valenciennes Collars and Sets. Rich Bayadere Parasols (in all colours), lined with silk, 7s. 11d. Patterns post-paid. WHITE and COMPANY, 192, REGENT-STREET. Samples of the Victoria Paris Kid Gloves, postage free, upon receipt of 13 stamps.

THE REAL CHINA-GRASS HANDKERCHIEFS, Beautifully Embroidered in each Corner, with Wreath Borders, and LADIES' CHRISTIAN NAMES ENCIRCLED IN THE CORNERS, PRICE ONE SHILLING and a Halfpenny each. Sample Handkerchief sent by return of post upon receipt of Fourteen Stamps. ROBERT ARD OWEN, PANTHON HALL OF COMMERCE, 77 and 78, OXFORD-STREET.

PANTHEON HALL OF COMMERCE, Opposite the Pantheon Theatre. Delivery of the REAL ALPINE KID GLOVE with the Patent Latchet Button, PRICE ONE SHILLING PER PAIR, Latchet Extra. In the undermentioned Colours for the Spring Season:—

No.		No.	
1.	Drops Fines—Fixed Drab.	18.	Alma—Copper Brown.
2.	Chocolate	19.	Black.
3.	5ets Pratinant—Mid Slate.	20.	Thebs—very Light Tan.
4.	Lovender	21.	Myrtle.
5.	Tan 6ty Golden Tan.	22.	Cobalt—Sky.
6.	Emerald	23.	Pink.
7.	Citron—Deep Lemon.	24.	Paddy—Straw.
8.	Violet.	25.	Croquée very Light Brown.
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